

Ronald Reagan Presidential Library
Digital Library Collections

This is a PDF of a folder from our textual collections.

Collection: Deaver, Michael: Files
Folder Title: [Decision Making Information] A
Study of National Attitudes, 04/27/1983-
04/28/1983
Box: 65

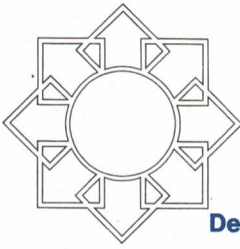
To see more digitized collections
visit: <https://reaganlibrary.gov/archives/digital-library>

To see all Ronald Reagan Presidential Library inventories visit:
<https://reaganlibrary.gov/document-collection>

Contact a reference archivist at: reagan.library@nara.gov

Citation Guidelines: <https://reaganlibrary.gov/citing>

National Archives Catalogue: <https://catalog.archives.gov/>



Decision/Making/Information®

Intelligent alternatives
for today's decision makers

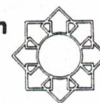
6803 Poplar Place, Suite 300, McLean, Virginia 22101, (703) 556-0001

A STUDY OF NATIONAL ATTITUDES

April 27-28, 1983

RNC83-5

#29401



SURVEY SPECIFICATIONS

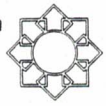
The following tables contain the aggregate results for questions asked of the American public on behalf of the Republican National Committee on the dates indicated below.

Project Director:	Richard B. Wirthlin
Internal Project Directors:	Lori A. Forman Elizabeth Hawkins
Universe:	Adult Americans (persons aged 18 and over)
Mode of Interview:	Telephone
Date(s) of Interviews:	April 27-28, 1983
Sample Size:	1000
Confidence Interval:	<u>+3.1</u> in 95 out of 100 cases

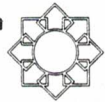


TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE
<u>POLITICAL CLIMATE</u>	
Right Direction/Wrong Track.....	2
Number One National Problem.....	4
<u>PERCEPTIONS OF PRESIDENT REAGAN</u>	
Job Rating - General.....	7
Job Rating - Economy.....	10
Job Rating - Foreign Affairs.....	12
Reagan's Characteristics - Change.....	15
Reagan's Characteristics - Excellent/Good.....	16
Reagan's Characteristics - Only Fair/Poor.....	17
<u>PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS</u>	
Presidential Speeches: Exposure and Impression.....	19
Reason for Impression.....	25
Democratic Response: Exposure and Impression.....	45
<u>OTHER DOMESTIC ISSUES</u>	
Rating Reagan's Economic Program - Help or Hurt the National Economy.....	47
Reagan's Job Rating: Social Security.....	49
Social Security Benefits -- Increased or Decreased?.....	51
<u>CENTRAL AMERICA</u>	
Reagan's Job Rating: El Salvador.....	53
Reagan's Job Rating: Nicaragua.....	54
El Salvador - National Elections.....	55
El Salvador - Solve Problems.....	56
El Salvador - Another Vietnam.....	57
El Salvador - Threat to U.S.....	58
Troops in El Salvador.....	59
Aid to El Salvador.....	60
Cuban Goals.....	61
Central America will Fall.....	62
El Salvador - Keep Promises.....	63
El Salvador - No Threat.....	64



POLITICAL CLIMATE



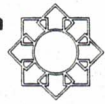
Right Direction/Wrong Track

=====

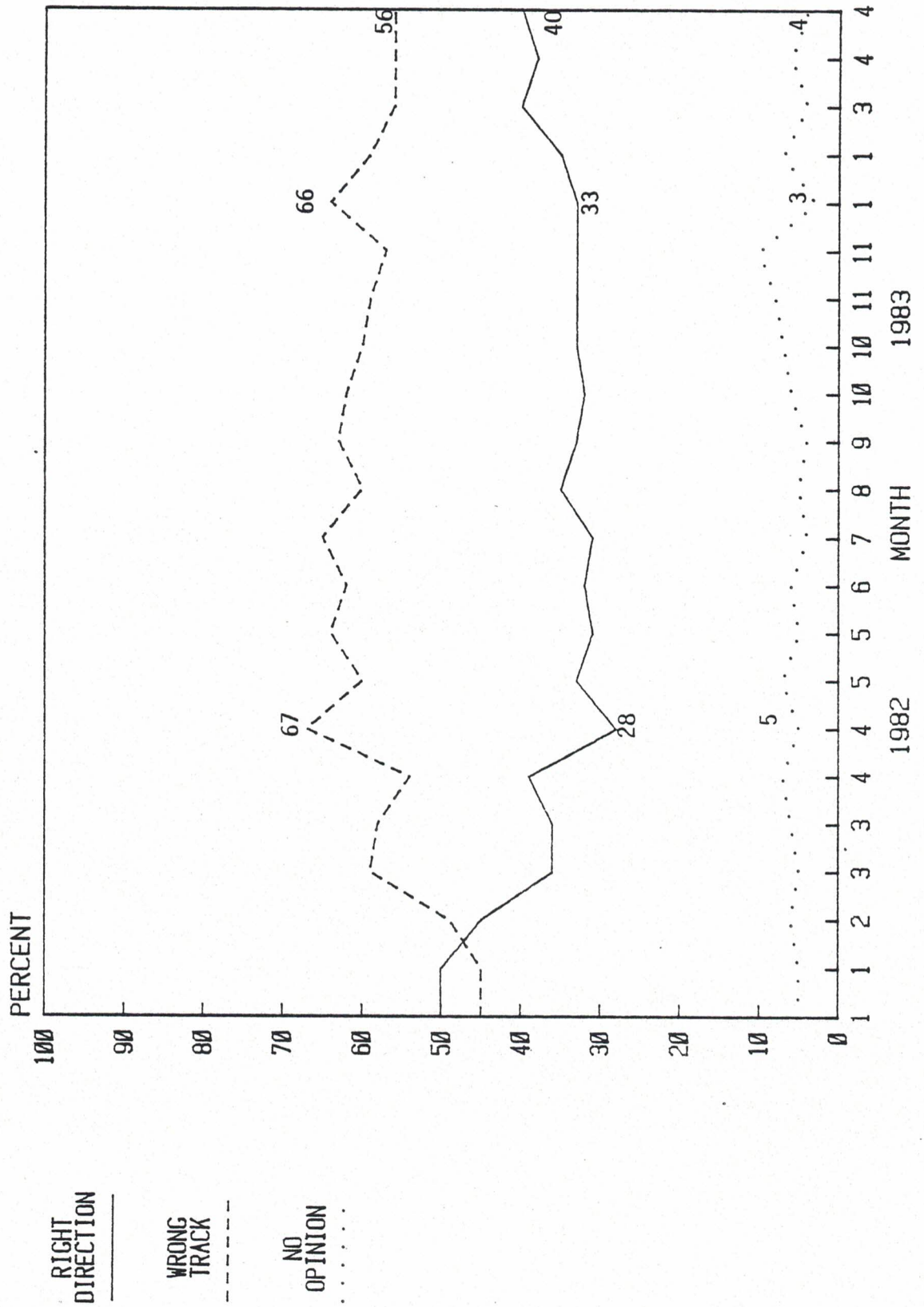
"Generally speaking, would you say that things in this country are going in the right direction, or have they pretty seriously gotten off on the wrong track?"

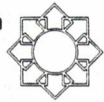
	<u>Feb 20-22 1981</u>	<u>Jun 12-14 1981</u>	<u>Sep 18-28 1981</u>	<u>Jan 11-19 1982</u>	<u>June 15-22 1982</u>	<u>Sep 23-27 1982</u>
Right direction	42	41	46	50	32	33
Wrong track	51	51	47	45	62	63
No opinion	8	8	7	5	6	4

	<u>Jan 7-10 1983</u>	<u>Jan 27-29 1983</u>	<u>Mar 17-21 1983</u>	<u>Apr 7-10 1983</u>	<u>Apr 27-28 1983</u>
Right direction	33	35	40	38	40
Wrong track	64	59	56	56	56
No opinion	3	7	4	6	4



RIGHT DIRECTION OR WRONG TRACK?





Number One National Problem

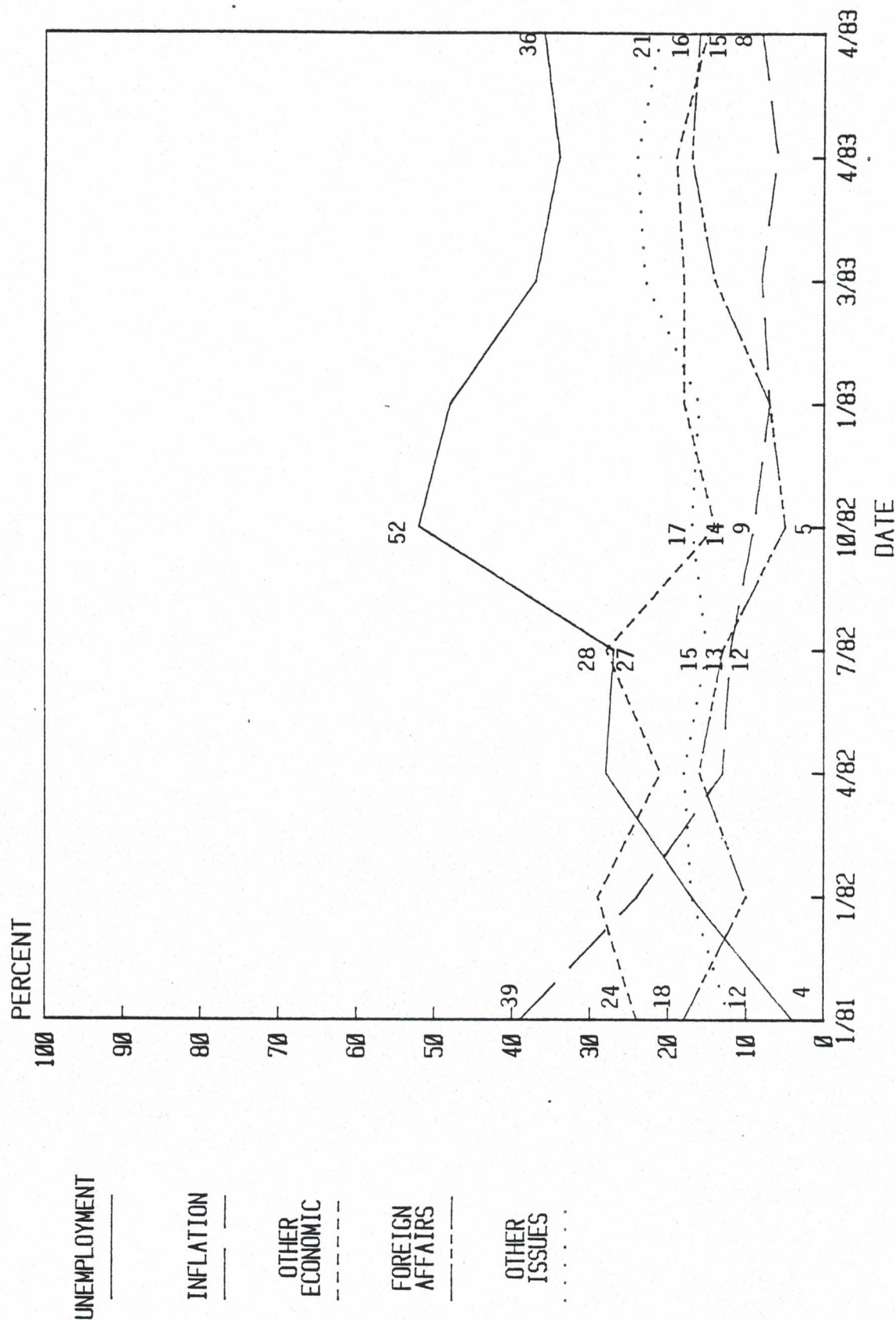
=====

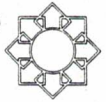
"What would you say is the single most important problem facing the United States today, that is, the one that you, yourself, are most concerned about?"

	Feb 20-22 1981	Jul 16-18 1981	Sep 18-28 1981	Jan 11-19 1982	June 15-22 1982	Sep 23-27 1982
Unemployment	5	6	7	24	28	36
Inflation	38	31	30	17	15	12
Economy/Other	33	26	33	29	19	22
Domestic/Social	7	13	11	5	5	6
Crime/Drugs/Morals	8	10	8	10	15	7
Foreign Affairs/Defense	6	10	8	10	15	9
Government leadership	3	3	3	3	4	4
No problems/No opinions	1	2	1	3	4	4

	Jan 7-10 1983	Jan 27-29 1983	Mar 17-21 1983	Apr 7-10 1983	Apr 27-28 1983
Unemployment	51	48	37	34	36
Inflation	5	7	8	6	8
Economy/Other	18	18	18	19	15
Domestic/Social	7	7	7	7	9
Crime/Drugs/Morals	4	5	9	9	8
Foreign Affairs/Defense	11	7	14	17	16
Government leadership	1	4	4	4	4
No problems/No opinions	2	3	3	4	4

NUMBER ONE PROBLEM (NATIONAL)





PERCEPTIONS OF PRESIDENT REAGAN



Reagan Job Rating -- General

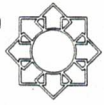
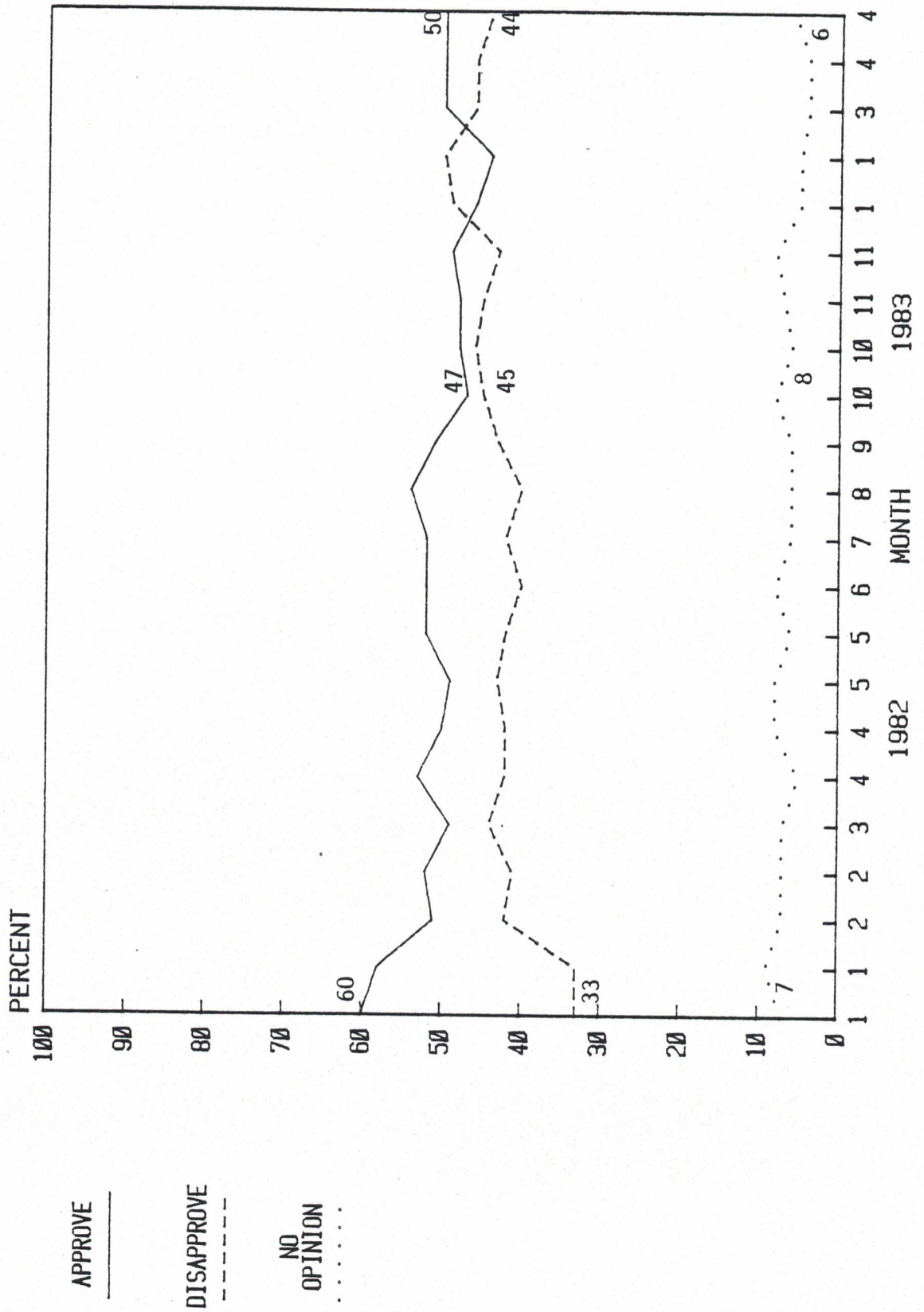
=====

"Do you approve or disapprove of the way Ronald Reagan is handling his job as President?"

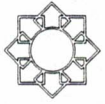
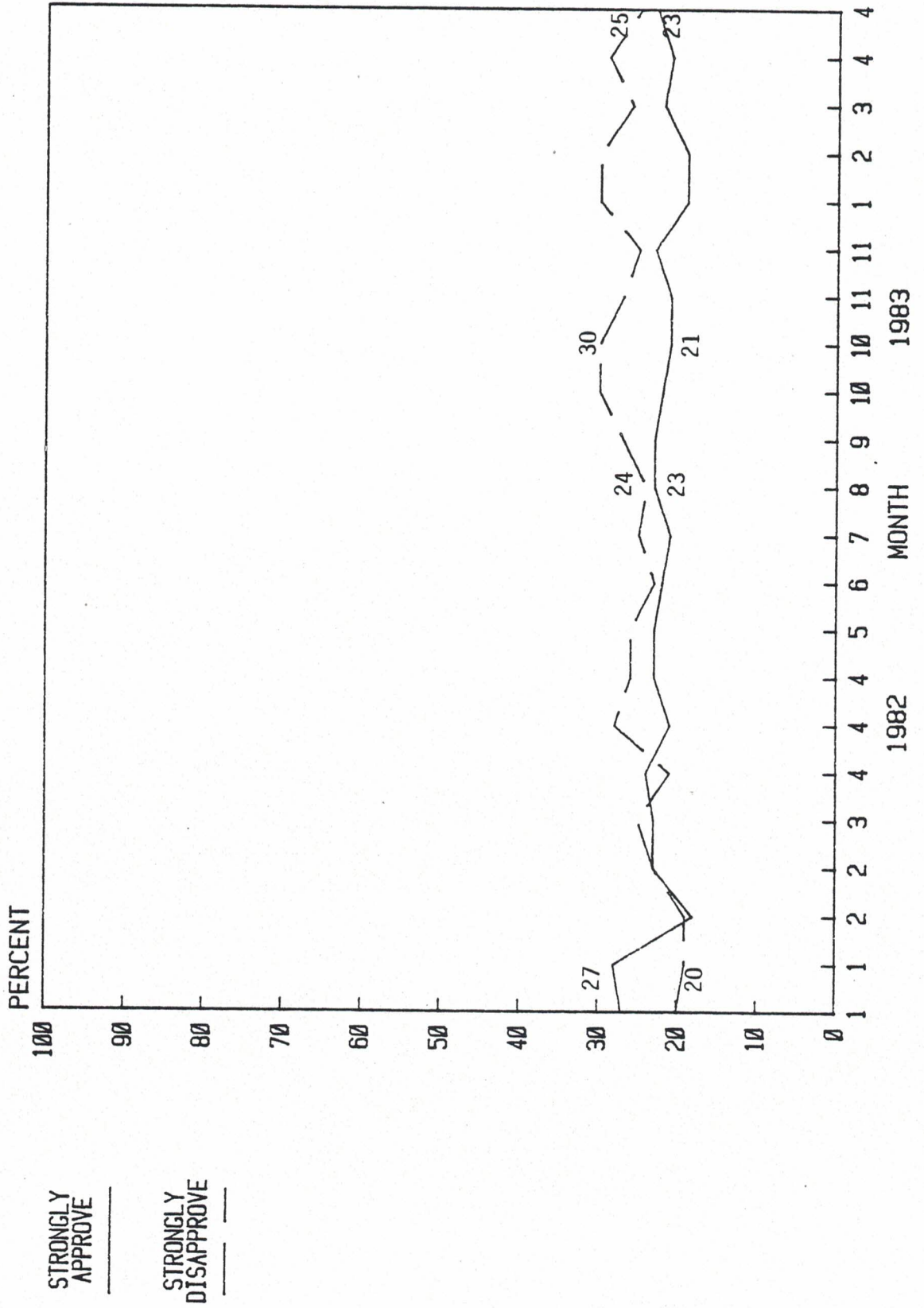
	<u>Feb</u> <u>20-22</u> <u>1981</u>	<u>Jun</u> <u>12-14</u> <u>1981</u>	<u>Sep</u> <u>18-28</u> <u>1981</u>	<u>Jan</u> <u>11-19</u> <u>1982</u>	<u>Jun</u> <u>15-22</u> <u>1982</u>	<u>Sep</u> <u>23-27</u> <u>1982</u>
Approve	70	67	60	60	52	51
Disapprove	14	27	33	33	40	43
No opinion	16	6	7	7	8	6

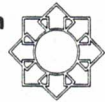
	<u>Jan</u> <u>7-10</u> <u>1983</u>	<u>Jan</u> <u>27-29</u> <u>1983</u>	<u>Mar</u> <u>17-21</u> <u>1983</u>	<u>Apr</u> <u>7-10</u> <u>1983</u>	<u>Apr</u> <u>27-28</u> <u>1983</u>
Approve	46	44	50	50	50
Disapprove	49	50	46	46	46
No opinion	5	5	4	4	4

REAGAN JOB RATING GENERAL



JOB RATING: REAGAN STRONGLY APPRV VS STRNGLY DSPPRV





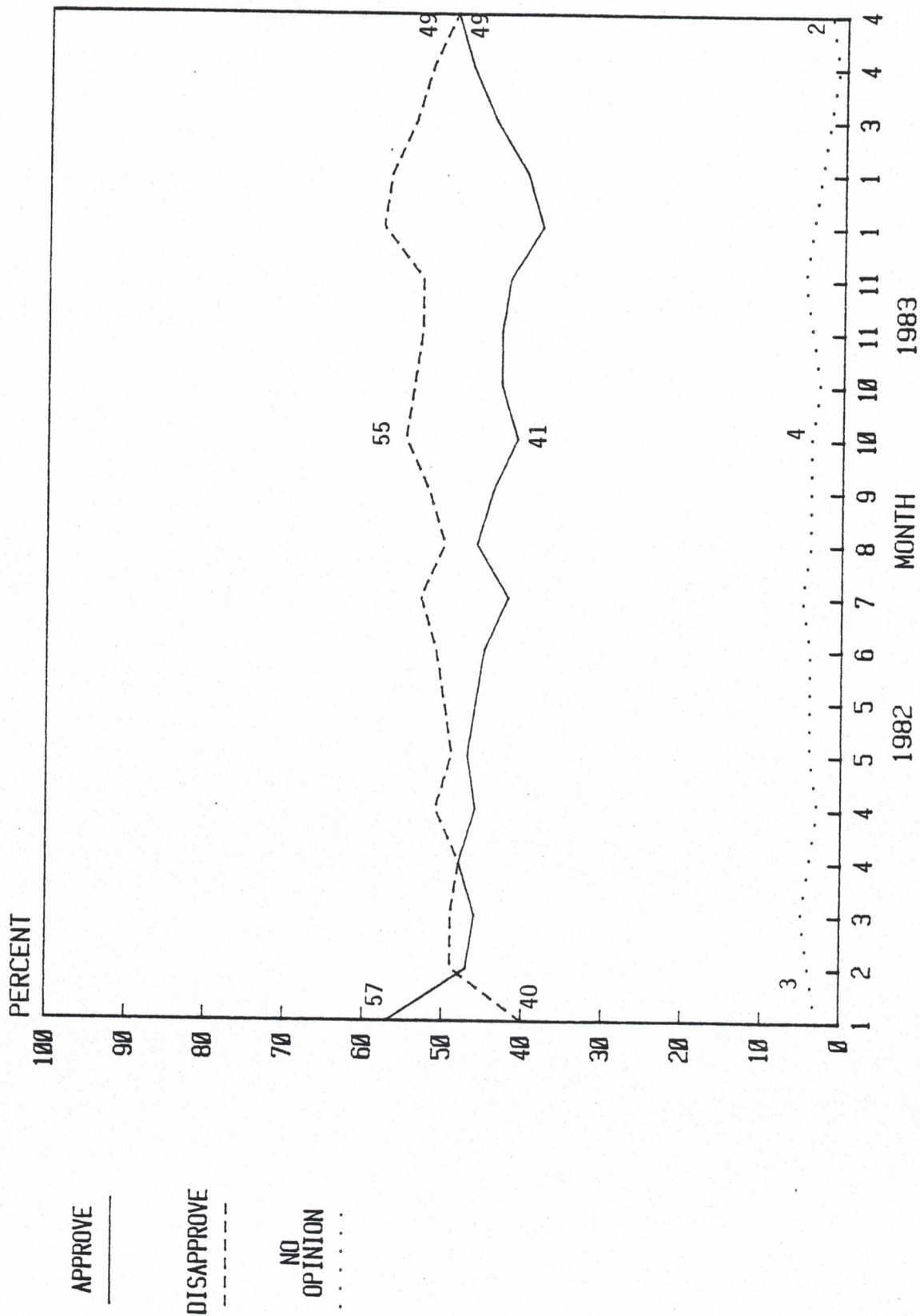
Reagan Job Rating Economy

=====
"Do you approve or disapprove of the way Ronald Reagan is handling _____?"

	Mar 6-9 <u>1981</u>	Jul 16-18 <u>1981</u>	Oct 5-14 <u>1981</u>	Jan 11-19 <u>1982</u>	Jun 15-22 <u>1982</u>	Sep 23-27 <u>1982</u>
Approve	63	61	66	57	45	44
Disapprove	23	33	28	40	51	52
No opinion	14	6	5	3	4	4

	Jan 7-10 <u>1983</u>	Jan 27-29 <u>1983</u>	Mar 17-21 <u>1983</u>	Apr 7-10 <u>1983</u>	Apr 27-28 <u>1983</u>
Approve	38	40	44	47	49
Disapprove	58	57	54	52	49
No opinion	4	3	2	1	2

REAGAN JOB RATING THE ECONOMY





Reagan Job Rating Foreign Affairs

=====

"Do you approve or disapprove of the way Ronald Reagan is handling foreign affairs?"

	Jan 7-10 1983 (%)	Jan 27-29 1983 (%)	Mar 17-21 1983 (%)	Apr 7-10 1983 (%)	Apr 27-28 1983 (%)	Change (%)
Approve	46	45	41	44	46	+ 2
Disapprove	44	40	49	48	46	- 2
No opinion	10	14	10	8	8	0



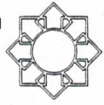
Reagan Job Rating Foreign Affairs

=====

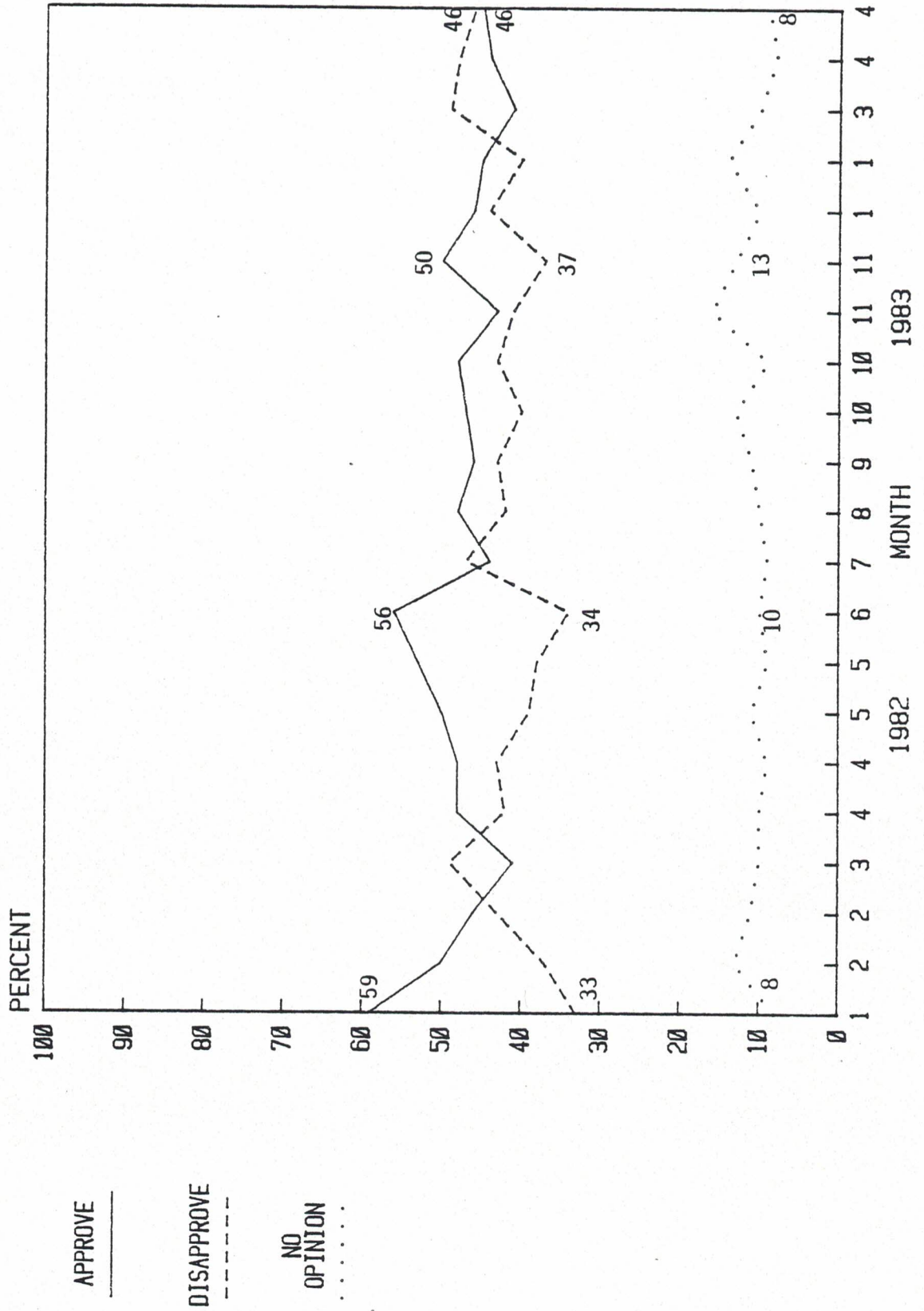
"Do you approve or disapprove of the way Ronald Reagan is handling _____?"

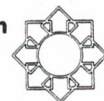
	Mar 6-9 <u>1981</u>	Jul 16-18 <u>1981</u>	Oct 5-14 <u>1981</u>	Jan 11-19 <u>1982</u>	Jun 15-22 <u>1982</u>	Sep 23-27 <u>1982</u>
Approve	60	56	65	59	56	46
Disapprove	19	27	23	33	34	43
No opinion	21	16	12	8	10	11

	Jan 7-10 <u>1983</u>	Jan 27-29 <u>1983</u>	Mar 17-21 <u>1983</u>	Apr 7-10 <u>1983</u>	Apr 27-28 <u>1983</u>
Approve	46	45	41	44	46
Disapprove	44	40	49	48	46
No opinion	10	14	10	8	8



REAGAN JOB RATING FOREIGN AFFAIRS



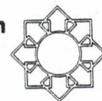


Reagan's Characteristics

=====

"Would you say that this is an ... excellent, good, only fair, or poor description of Reagan?"

	Excellent/Good			Only Fair/Poor			
	Jan 27-29	Apr 27-28	% Imprvmnt or (Erosion)	Jan 27-29	Apr 27-28	% Imprvmnt or (Erosion)	Net Change
<u>Positive Characteristics</u>							
Cares about the needs of the elderly and poor	33	30	(3)	67	69	(2)	(5)
Effective in getting things done	39	47	6	59	52	7	13
Has the strong leadership qualities this country needs	45	49	4	53	49	4	8
<u>Negative Characteristics</u>							
Will start an unnecessary war	20	23	(3)	76	73	(3)	(6)



Reagan's Characteristics -- Excellent/Good

=====

"Would you say that this is an ... excellent, good, only fair, or poor description of Reagan?"

	May 12-17 1981	Sep 18-28 1981	Jan 11-19 1982	Jun 15-22 1982	Sep 23-27 1982	Jan 7-10 1983
Cares about the needs of the elderly and poor	47	*	40	37	33	32
Will start an unnecessary war	19	27	25	23	23	23
Effective in getting things done	78	71	69	51	52	45
Has the strong leadership qualities this country needs	77	68	*	54	51	48

	Jan 27-29 1983	Mar 17-21 1983	Apr 7-10 1983	Apr 27-28 1983
Cares about the needs of the elderly and poor	33	30	30	30
Will start an unnecessary war	20	22	24	23
Effective in getting things done	39	44	46	47
Has the strong leadership qualities this country needs	45	45	47	49

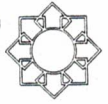


Reagan's Characteristics -- Only Fair/Poor

=====
 "Would you say that this is an ... excellent, good, only fair, or poor description of Reagan?"

	May 12-17 1981	Sep 18-28 1981	Jan 11-19 1982	Jun 15-22 1982	Sep 23-27 1982	Jan 7-10 1983
Cares about the needs of the elderly and poor	52	*	59	62	65	66
Will start an unnecessary war	70	70	73	72	70	73
Effective in getting things done	20	28	30	47	46	53
Has the strong leadership qualities this country needs	21	23	*	44	47	51

	Jan 27-29 1983	Mar 17-21 1983	Apr 7-10 1983	Apr 27-28 1983
Cares about the needs of the elderly and poor	67	69	69	69
Will start an unnecessary war	76	72	73	73
Effective in getting things done	59	55	53	52
Has the strong leadership qualities this country needs	53	54	52	49

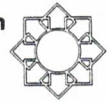


PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS



Presidential Speeches: Exposure and Impression

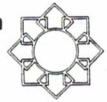
	<u>Joint Session of Congress</u>	<u>Televised Address</u>	<u>State of the Union</u>	<u>Televised Address</u>
	2/18/81	9/24/82	1/26/82	4/29/82
<u>Exposure</u>				
Saw all	39	25	33	19
Saw part	25	20	22	21
Heard/Read later	18	19	14	15
Heard nothing	18	36	31	45
(TOTAL AUDIENCE)	(82)	(64)	(69)	(55)
<u>Impression (Based on Total Audience)</u>				
Favorably	78	56	61	42
Unfavorably	15	27	32	40
No opinion	18	17	7	18
<u>Impression (Based on Total Public)</u>				
Saw/Favorable	64	37	42	23
Saw/Unfavorable	12	17	22	22
Saw/No opinion	6	10	5	10
Heard nothing	18	36	31	45



Presidential Speeches: Exposure and Impression

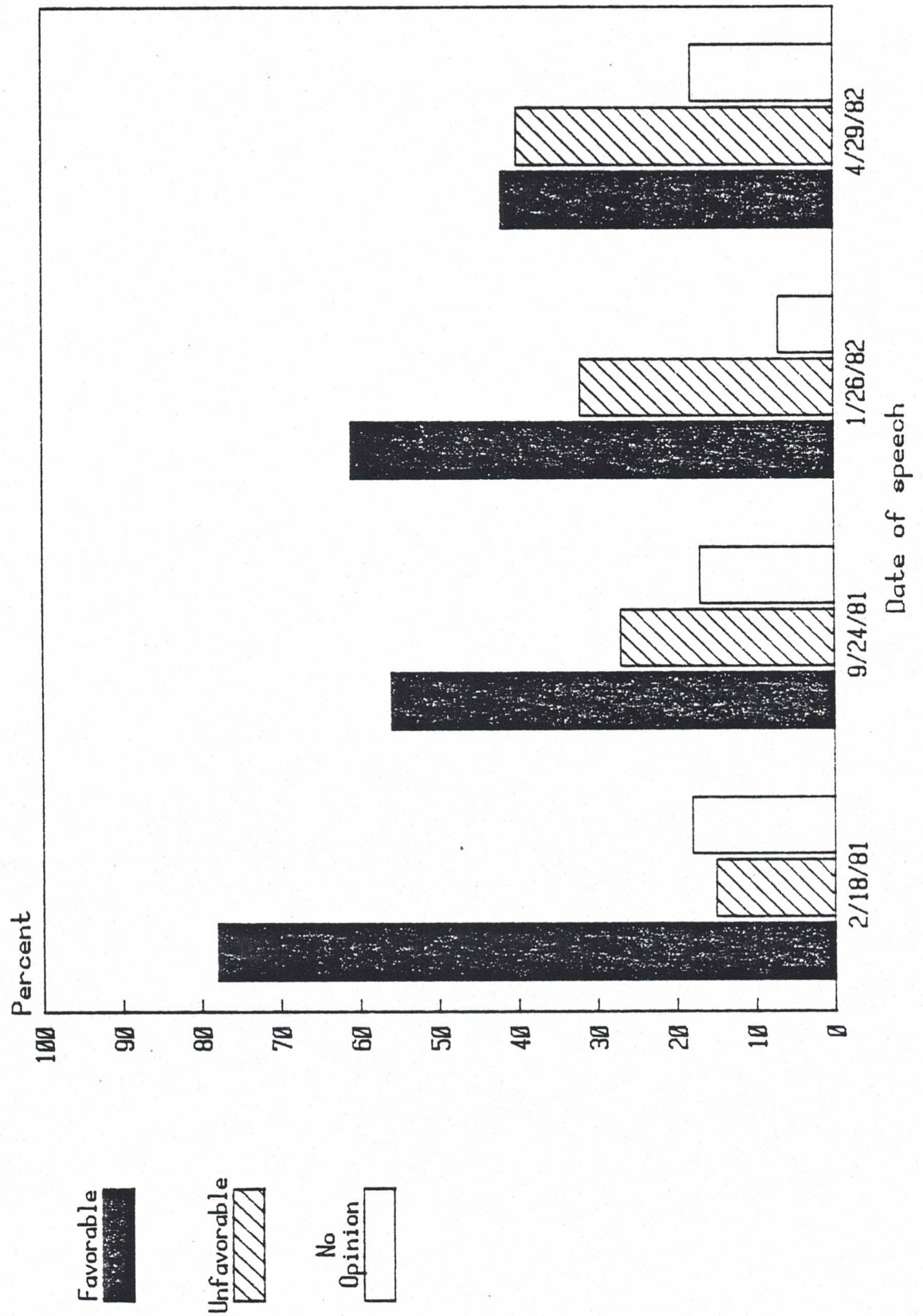
=====

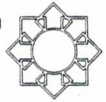
	<u>Tax Proposal</u>	<u>Unemployment</u>	<u>MX Missile</u>	<u>State of the Union</u>	<u>Central America</u>
	8/16/82	10/13/82	11/22/82	1/25/83	4/27/83
<u>Exposure</u>					
Saw all	20	10	18	23	15
Saw part	18	20	27	27	20
Heard/Read later	14	14	10	14	6
Heard nothing	48	56	45	36	59
(TOTAL AUDIENCE)	(52)	(44)	(55)	(64)	(41)
<u>Impression (Based on Total Audience)</u>					
Favorably	44	43	48	49	57
Unfavorably	43	45	38	43	33
No opinion	13	12	14	7	10
<u>Impression (Based on Total Public)</u>					
Saw/Favorable	23	19	26	31	23
Saw/Unfavorable	22	20	21	28	14
Saw/No opinion	7	5	8	5	4
Heard nothing	48	56	45	36	59



PRESIDENTIAL SPEECHES

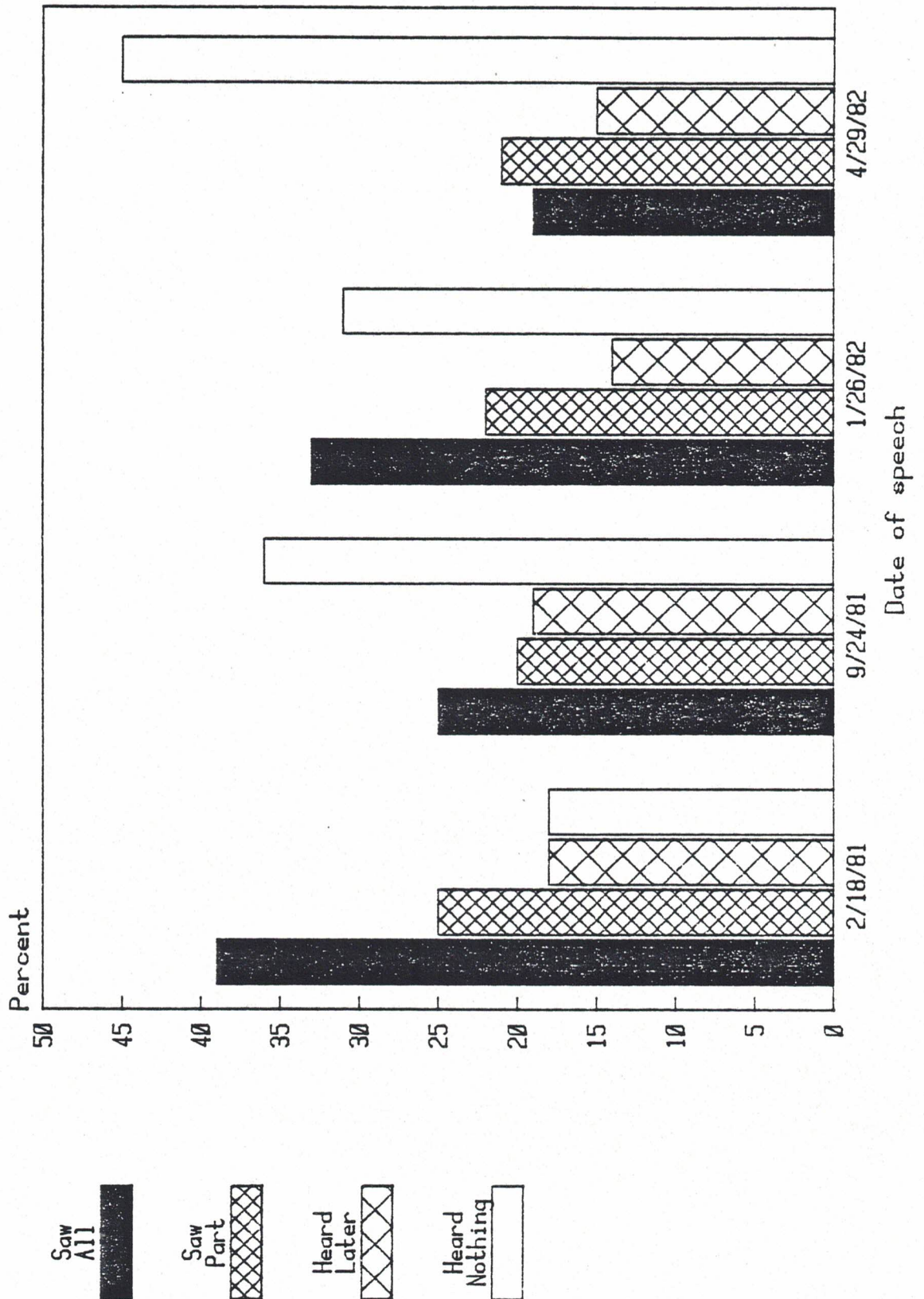
Impression

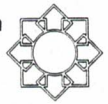




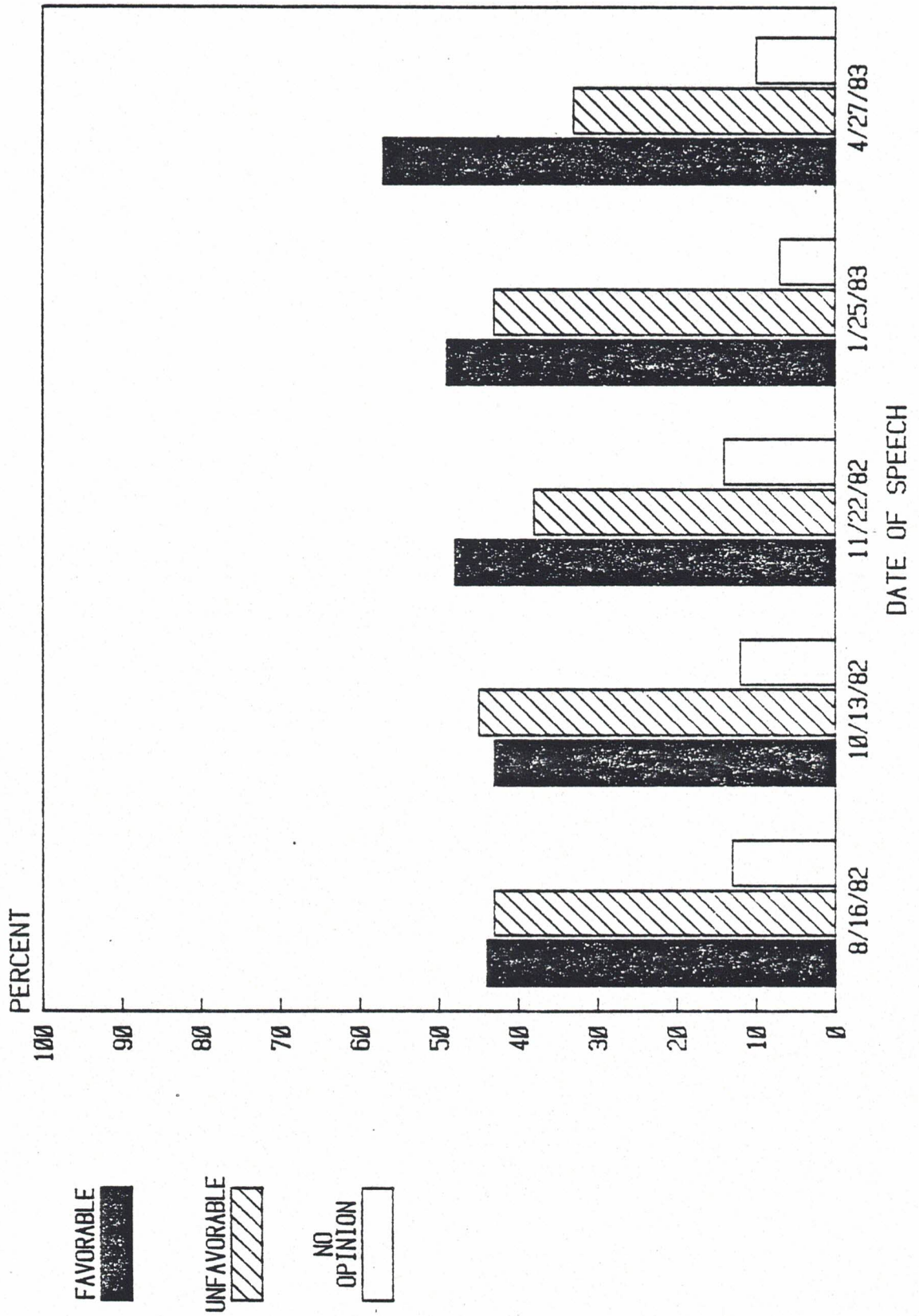
PRESIDENTIAL SPEECHES

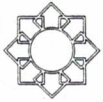
Audience



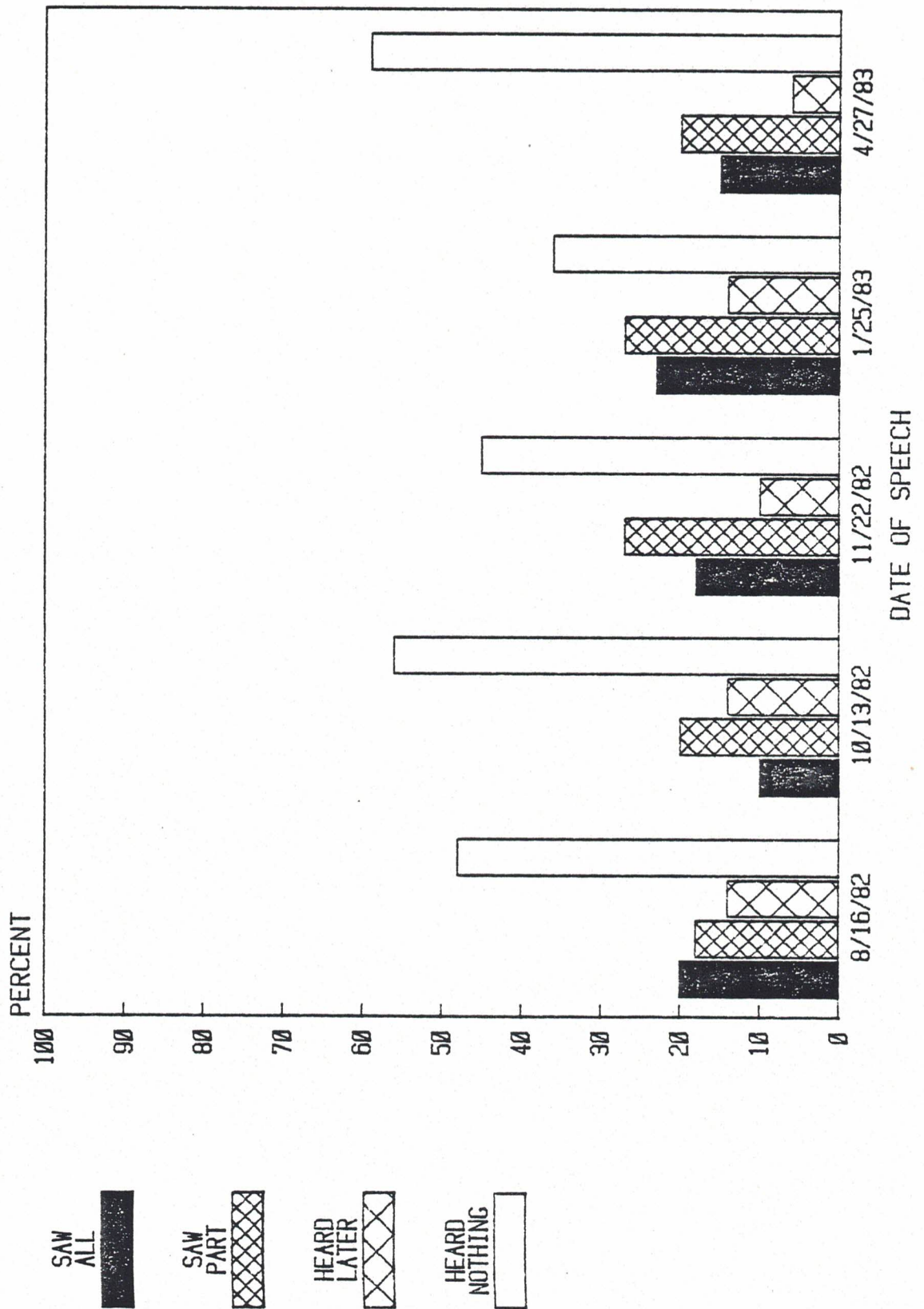


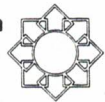
PRESIDENTIAL SPEECHES IMPRESSION





PRESIDENTIAL SPEECHES AUDIENCE



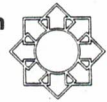


Reason for Impression

=====

"And why were you favorably or unfavorably impressed with the speech (or what you have heard about it)?"

	<u>Percent</u>
Foreign Policy in Central American / El Salvador - Positive	8
Foreign Aid to Central American / El Salvador - Positive	6
Block Communism / Defend Our Continent / Oppose Russia/Cuba	12
Averting War / Maintaining Peace	5
Good Speech / Doing a Good Job - General	14
Strong Leader / Outspoken / Straightforward	6
General Positive	5
Foreign Policy in Central America / El Salvador - Negative	5
Foreign Aid to Central America / El Salvador - Negative	9
Military Aid to Central America / El Salvador - Negative	3
Possibility of War / Another Vietnam	4
Government Corruption in Central America	1
Poor Speech / President Reagan Not Doing a Good Job - General	8
General Negative	5
Other / Refused / No Opinion	9



Question 14A.

Were you favorably or unfavorably impressed with the speech (or what you have heard about it)?

And why is that?

01. Foreign Policy in Central America / El Salvador - Positive -
because he's shown what he wants to do with El Salvador and those other things. He stays with what he says. He may give in a little but he still stays with what he wants / I believe he's doing the right thing in El Salvador. I agree with his Monroe Doctrine approach / he explained things I didn't understand. I didn't know what was going on or whose side we are on and now I understand why we need to be involved. We are on the El Salvadoran government's side / I just don't think you can expect one man to be able to do everything. I like his concern for other people and people as a whole / he did a good job on his speech. He really showed a lot of concern for the people of El Salvador / he's meeting this issue head on and trying to do what's best and what's right as the cockeyed Congress and the other people let him do / I agree mostly on all the ideas even though I'm a strong Democrat. All the issues on helping out in El Salvador / he was telling people that we need to pay more attention to El Salvador. People don't realize how close we are to El Salvador and we need to help them out / he wants to help in the situation over there in El Salvador. It's like the fighting and bombing of the U.S. Embassy and if the U.S. should step in or not / I have visited Central America. I'm familiar with the problems there and I agree with Reagan's point of view / he made strong points about the welfare of the country. He had good views / it shows some insight into a logical thought out foreign relations policy / there is some of those issues in there that were important and some that weren't. It's neither here nor there. Where he's sending that ambassador-at-large down there is better than sending the military down there / he was holding his ground on what he wanted for El Salvador. Standing firm on what he wanted for El Salvador and I agree with that / I went along with what he said. I agreed with his views on El Salvador / I feel that he knew what he's talking about and he's doing what's right for the country / I'm all for Reagan, he made sense to me. I like the way he's handling the situation in El Salvador / I agree with him that the situation in Central America is dangerous and we should help them get out of it before it gets too out of hand / it's time to do something, things are getting pretty close to a hard landing. Something should have been done long ago / I thought he presented the issue rather forthrightly. People have accused us of doing things covertly and I was impressed with how he brought it out in the open. What we are trying to do in El Salvador / because he was trying to explain to the people why he is doing what he is doing, why we should help El Salvador / I think he's doing it from his conscience, getting involved with Central America / he knows more than we know about El Salvador and Nicaragua / mainly his speech was about Central America. I do believe America should do something to protect that country.

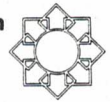


Question 14A continued.

Were you favorably or unfavorably impressed with the speech (or what you have heard about it)?

And why is that?

01. (Continued) Again, I think that anything happens in the future will have a repercussion on the United States / I liked the part where he emphasized the importance of helping Latin America / I go all with what he is doing. I'm a little scared of the Russians and Cubans in there. They claim they are not responsible, but they are / I think he's right in trying to help the Salvadorans and in protecting the U.S. / I think he is right about what he is doing with El Salvador, good man, he knows what he is talking about / mainly because a decision had to be made on the foreign policy / he covered the situation in El Salvador and Nicaragua very effectively. He used facts and photos, air strips for logistical support / well he outlined his plans of how he was going to handle the crisis in Nicaragua. He talked about sending a, I believe, Democratic senator over to negotiate. He is a very good speaker and it's easy to follow and understand him / he (Reagan) recognizes a need for strength in the Caribbean. the so called Democrats including Kennedy didn't use the Monroe Doctrine and we got in trouble / the closeness. Proximity of Central America the emphasis. I approve of the U.S. policy in Central America / I agreed with what he said. Just in what he's trying to do. In the policies he stated.
02. Foreign Aid to Central America / El Salvador - Positive - Reagan presents himself well. He seemed to have a lot of support for his views by Congress. I'm not in a position to know what is going on in Nicaragua or El Salvador but if what Reagan says is true I fully support his actions. Giving monetary support was the way I took it / because I believe what he said is correct. I think something has to be done to help those people and people of other countries / I just heard a commentary on the radio about the speech which I agreed with overall. I agreed on what they were saying that we need to send help to Central America and that we didn't want any missiles within five minutes of our border / basically his idea for aid to Central America is good. They do need some aid and we shouldn't just give them cold hard cash / because he told us what was going on in Nicaragua and Central American and where our money would go. He told us things other presidents wouldn't have. He gave us more information on things we should know about / he talked more in favor of economically giving aid to Central America rather than giving them guns / he talked about the poor people chased out of their homes in El Salvador and we need to help them. He remarked a couple of times that he has no intention of sending troops / because he thinks like I do, he said that 77% of every dollar is spent for economic reasons, and they have free elections. He spoke of them getting help from Cuba and I agree with him / he seem to have a good plan on how to help the people in El Salvador and still have them help



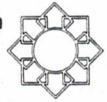
Question 14A continued.

Were you favorably or unfavorably impressed with the speech (or what you have heard about it)?

And why is that?

02. (Continued) themselves. He assured us there wasn't going to be another Vietnam. He was honest, he put the decision on Congress' lap about whether or not aid was going to be given to El Salvador / because it gave us an insight into some of the things down there. I don't think we know or he knows the true picture down there but I was impressed by the way he pointed it out down there. I think we're a long way off but who can measure money against lives / I think he hit the key that we really have to be involved in and care, in other words it's in our front yard, have to be concerned. We have to do something about it. The involvement is funding and we need funding for Central America / because I believe the man is honest and I believe that the man is right in trying to do something down there. I don't know that our money will do anything or not but we need to do something and I don't want us to send our fighting men down there / I think the military aid should be sent as long as we don't send any troops / he's asking lots of money, I agree if we do nothing to help get those people on the right track there's trouble. Russia and Cuba should keep the hell out of it and everyone else / he seems to know what he's talking about. He said what needs to be done and how to do it. The government in El Salvador needs our help, money / I can't think of anything right off hand. This is an oppressed country, somebody has to keep us out / instead of sending men, he will be arming them militarily, spiritually / Central America mainly. I don't think we should keep giving them money. I think we should give them weapons. I think we should put some men down there and get it over with / because he wanted to help those people get started. His heart was in the right place / he thought along the line that we have to help those South American countries down there / because what he's doing is helping these people so that in the future these countries won't be destroyed. His intentions are good / at first I was favorably impressed at the President's determination to save El Salvador. His want to send them aid. Then Senator Dole came on and he seemed to have some good arguments. Overall I was favorably impressed. I have a gut feeling that Reagan is right.

03. Block Communism / Defend Our Continent / Oppose Russia / Cuba - communism. I don't want communism getting into this country. I was in Vietnam and I know what it's like. If missiles were allowed and they decided to attack us we wouldn't stand a chance. It would put us in a prime attack position / because of what he said about making a stand on issues like Russia and stopping communism. Our neighbors have to know our position on this. It would be terrible if we could not help our neighbors. We need to help the countries that are close and protect them in defense and from any propaganda from the communists. Geographically we should take care of Central America / he gave a good description



Question 14A continued.

Were you favorably or unfavorably impressed with the speech (or what you have heard about it)?

And why is that?

03. (Continued) of problems and how to handle El Salvador and Nicaragua and its neighboring countries held by Cuba. The only way to help is send more aid and teach military instructions / I think when any group of people are out to stop a free election they cannot be for the people. This country is based on freedom. We can't sit back and let dictators take over the world / all the different things and how he brought them out like things in different countries and the military. You wonder what is going to happen and what are we going to do in South America? It is a thorn in our side unless we do something about it. It's that or Russia or Cuba / he seems to have a good understanding of the situation in South America and he wants to educate the people of this country as to why we should be concerned with what is happening in that area and how it relates to our safety and security / I like the idea of a working democracy and keeping communism out of the United States. Nicaragua is not far away and it is a good place to have on our side / he described the situation correctly in Central America. It appears that people from Russia and Cuba are instigating the problems there and he exposed them / because I have lived through it so long. Cuba is behind all this. During the Bay of Pigs the pilots were ready to go in and then Kennedy wouldn't let them go in there. When we called off our air force Castro went in and all our men were prisoners. If we don't help Central America who is at our back door we'll have another thing that happened in Europe. A take over by the Russians and the Balkan states were given away / I think the illness is with Congress and laid at Congress' doorstep. How can we defend ourselves if we're not willing to do so at home. Reagan laid the problem at Congress' doorstep. How can we defend ourselves abroad if we are not willing to do so at home / I think he said some things that needed saying. He told the people some of the things that are going on down there that maybe people didn't realize like the way that Cuba and other communist governments are trying to cause the Latin American countries to go communist too and how close the Latin American area is tied to the U.S. It's not so far away as people think / I agree with him. The problems are getting close to home and something has to be done / the vulnerability of the U.S. vs. a communist government and the democracy of the U.S. / the point being that we're talking about defending this continent as adverse to one abroad. Close to home. Training and support is the main issue and not American bodies / he came over beautifully, it was the best speech he'd ever given. He sold me that the communists were coming in and it's a real problem / I liked it because we do have responsibilities to take position considering where this country stands. Whether we should get involved any more is questionable / he's straight on the issue of Central America and the things that could happen in this area could hurt us and cause communism

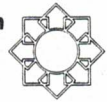


Question 14A continued.

Were you favorably or unfavorably impressed with the speech (or what you have heard about it)?

And why is that?

03. (Continued) to spread through out Central America and Mexico therefore endangering the security of the United States / because he is doing what we have to do. He said we need to help El Salvador's government and all governments in that region to prevent communism / he explained everything, he gave more details than he normally does. El Salvador and what's really going on. They need for us to help them or there could be a take over by the Cubans / I agreed that we shouldn't let the Central American countries go into the communist hands. Since Vietnam everyone is afraid to stand up for their rights / seems we have to do something to keep Castro away from Florida and the United States. I think it is important to send more money but not more troops / everyone has their head in the sand, they don't realize the problem of communism. We lost Cuba and some of the other places in Latin America and we can't afford to loose any more to communism / if we don't do something we'll have Russia in our backyard. Already Cuba has all those missiles / I believe what he said is true, we will have the Russians in short order in a little while if they keep on, they'll be here / we don't want the communists to take over us and he made that plain in his speech / I'm against world communism, I'm conservative but slightly militant. Straighten out problems in Nicaragua and protect the United States / he laid out what's going on down there, the fact that Cuba and Nicaragua have too strong of a foothold down there / I think we need to stop El Salvador somewhere before they come over here / because from what I've read what he said seemed to made a lot of sense. Particularly when he said the communists are making so many inroads and that we must do something to counteract it and bolster democracy in that country / I feel there is a need to do something about the countries that are near our borders. Can't put our heads in the sand. He needs more support from the people of this country / he kept recalling back to World War II. Why couldn't we realize the importance of the Latin American conflict. How the communists could take over. When he said he wouldn't send any of our troops there, they don't need them / I thought he articulated the issue very well, what he said made sense. He said about need for U.S. troops, right to democracy, country beset by outside folks, which is true, from watching Russia and Cuba / I think we should keep Central America Anti-communist. Just don't want any communists on this planet / I think something has to be done about El Salvador, I am worried about the spread of communism / I saw what he was trying to do and he showed other countries that we would not be taken over like other little countries. We will help other countries to protect freedom and by doing so make us stronger / the President's promise to help Mexico. These people are our neighbors and their problems should be ours as well.



Question 14A continued.

Were you favorably or unfavorably impressed with the speech (or what you have heard about it)?

And why is that?

03. (Continued) Strategically, they serve as a buffer to all the Communist infiltration in Central America. It will give our own country more protection / because he used good reason. There's no sense in us letting the communists get into Central America. We need to protect ourselves / I feel that our neighbors to the south are areas where we had to be involved. Since they are so close to us. It could be difficult because the communism there would affect us / he tried to make the people aware of what is going on there. The communists are taking over / I agreed with his text. If we don't get it stopped pretty soon it will be at our own back door. "It" is the spread of communism. We have to hold our ground. We have to get the politicians out of it / It was a move to get aid to El Salvador which I think they need. He's looking out for the Country and he knows that Communism is at the back door and we have to do something about that / I agree with the policy dealing with San Salvador. We should support the government to resist communism / he wants to send money down to Central America and keep the communists out. He wants to stop the rebels / because he has to stop the communists before they get to our back door. You can't stop them by talking about it. We need to help stop the communists / his plans for our economy. I believe that our economy is turning around right now and I believe that it is now time to get behind our President. His plans for Mexico. We should help them to protect us from Cuba / I think he is absolutely right. It is a vital place and what happens to it directly affects. We will be in real trouble if we lose out there / I agree it is necessary that citizens know the situation in Central America is serious / you cannot have Russia or Cuba getting too close to El Salvador or our border lines / I like the point that the country has to remain strong especially in our own hemisphere. We need to show Europe that we still have power and guts / I felt he was trying to give a decent explanation of our involvement in Central America. We can not afford to have a communist threat in our backyard.
04. Averting War / Maintaining Peace - I just watched his address and it seems he doesn't want to get us into a war / he has to protect the country and hold the peace / I think something has to be done in South America and Central America. There needs to be more humane treatment to the people to stop this war down there and get the guerillas out / being against the border line country of Nicaragua and trying to keep the whole western hemisphere away from war / the right approach to stop war in the future and putting the money into our country and democracy. Like he said in his speech, they're closer to Texas than Washington / if the facts as presented this evening are true then I'm in favor. That we will try to reach a peace negotiation in Central America / I agreed with everything he said about the problems in El Salvador.



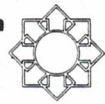
Question 14A continued.

Were you favorably or unfavorably impressed with the speech (or what you have heard about it)?

And why is that?

04. (Continued) I'm sure he will take care of all the problems there without having to start an unnecessary war / he said he was gonna keep us out of war. Help El Salvador, why, maybe that'll help them since they're our allies / I think he will try to keep us out of a war / he wants to help other countries out but still keep us out of war / he made sense, I heard him talk about foreign affairs and he said that he didn't want to go to war and I approve of that because I am of age to go to war if we had one / to impress people necessarily, something to do with freedom, to keep us out of war, doing whatever to keep us from going / it seems like there's a chance of something happening, but he said he wasn't trying to start a war. He said it was moral support to the other countries. I don't think that we should be giving them money, but if that's the only way we're going to be secure, then I think he's doing the right thing / because he wants to keep peace. He tries to avoid war and conflict / he claims to be doing things to help the country. He's trying to keep us out of war and at peace / we don't want to send our boys to war, because we don't want another war / Reagan says he won't put us in war and my husband is in the National Guard and I don't want him to go to war. This is what impressed me most about his whole speech / I thought he talked mighty good. He's trying to do right and help them stop a war. We need to help those people / it seems he does not try to do everything he says he will. He makes a statement and tries his best to do what he said. If he says that he will do his best to keep us out of war, he will / I was favorably impressed that Reagan will not send troops to El Salvador.

05. Good Speech / Doing a Good Job - General - it was a good speech. he means what he says. He's doing his best / it seems that he is trying to tell us what's going on and the dangers involved. It seems he is trying to prepare us for something / because of the way he explained the situation like it was never explained that way before in the media. It's a little easier for the American people to back somebody who presented the facts / well, I believe everything he said. We should give him a chance to do a good job. Those Democrats won't give him a chance / I think that the problem with this country is if everyone doesn't approve of his speech then maybe other countries will have trouble accepting it. I just agree with the President / doing right things by what he said in his speech. I agreed with his views / he seemed to be handling things pretty well on his part / I think he's doing good. He did a very good job on it. He spoke good / he just gave a good speech. He came across favorably / because he doesn't shout and he is a good man. He does his work very well / he is taking a different approach, committed and doing what he has to do / I think he's a good President as far as I am

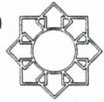


Question 14A continued.

Were you favorably or unfavorably impressed with the speech (or what you have heard about it)?

And why is that?

05. (Continued) concerned. I was impressed with it / he's always showing good on TV. He's a professional actor. I give him credit. I'll say he does a fair job / I agree with what Reagan has to say and I also enjoy the way he says it / I think he's trying to keep trouble out of our country / said right thing, we'd better do something about Central America, agree 110% with everything in speech and everything Ronald Reagan does as President / the senators all thought the speech was very good. He wants to protect Central America / on the issues of El Salvador situations he had some really good points. He was letting the country know / I think he is doing all that can be expected at this time, nothing can happen overnight / fairly candid, that was the main thing. I guess I agree with some of the views / the man is trying to do good for the country. I feel congress and the senate are put in for the use of the people but are not helping. When a person is put in there they should work for the people / he sounds sincere, I think that he would really try to do what is the best thing, what is fair and reasonable. I don't think he is trying to rush and get into a war / it sounded like he was very concerned about what he said / he's sincere in his work, means what he says, he keeps promises and he's alright / he has so much opposition for the country and certainly knows what he's doing, he's got my back up / everything he said was positive and it sounded good and the Congressmen seemed impressed with what he had to say / he sounded sincere / things were brought up I didn't know anything about. Things were explained in greater detail. I didn't know other countries were helping Nicaragua. I didn't know anything about an airstrip on a small island / he comes across as if he knows what he's doing. He seems like when he speaks he relates to the everyday person. I've heard other political leaders talk and it seems like they're talking to the rich people. I like the way he comes across with his ideas, it seems like he's leveling with the American people / I think he has an air of authority that comes across very well. I was impressed because he stays up on what is going on and doesn't depend on anyone else to let us know / he sounded good. He sounded like he had thought through what he wanted to say and he said it very well / I thought he was articulate, he was well versed in his subject, considering he knew Senator Dodd was going on right after him. I wish Reagan would have come on a little stronger than he did in his views, I'm for Reagan all the way / I feel he is trying. It takes a good man to do the best he can, I liked his speech / I believe that some of the things he said were applauded very much by the people listening to him. He had to wait to go on, that impressed me very much / I agreed completely with the format, I feel he got the point across to the congress / I think his presentation is excellent. Probably one of his best delivered speeches. He said problems in Latin America could

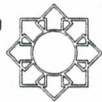


Question 14A continued.

Were you favorably or unfavorably impressed with the speech (or what you have heard about it)?

And why is that?

05. (Continued) affect our nation. One of the best speeches he made, very convincing / I am very much in agreement with Mr. Reagan and I feel he is the best man we've had in office for many years. He is on top of situations and very knowledgeable. The foreign countries and of course this country / he's a positive speaker and he seems real positive. We'll just have to see how it comes out, it could all turn into hamburger or chop suey, we'll just have to wait and see / Reagan was well informed on El Salvador issue. He had sound reasoning about what he said. He way he approached his plan to take on El Salvador issue / because he was more stressful and able to sell his idea to congress in the speech he made / mostly because of his presentation, what I like about is that he's not overly concerned with his political image. He's consistent yet flexible and he's trying to do what he thinks is right / I liked what he said, he's the right man / he is trying to do what is right and I am behind him 100%. He is a good President, we as Americans need to get behind him and back him up / I like the way he talks. I like listening to him, he makes a lot of sense, he is a very fluid speaker. I also think he isn't memorizing anything. I think he knows what he is saying without reading it / I think he reiterated what he said all along with which I agree / he got up there and told it exactly like it is. He put it direct to the American people / it was well accepted by the people, this is Reagan country / over all he is trying to do something to get the country back on its feet. I don't feel anyone could do any better considering the shape the country was in when he took office / he comes across pretty good. When he gives a speech he uses graphic illustrations which is very effective. No, just he is all right / he was wellspoken. I like the way he presented himself. His overall presentation was strong. He clarified himself very well / he's an excellent speechmaker and actor. I can't remember the context of the speech, just Reagan's appearance. / I liked his delivery last night. He got his point across, I thought. I didn't watch the whole thing so I really couldn't get too specific / I don't know a lot about it but I think that he (Reagan) is operating under difficult conditions and he's doing as well as he can. No, there's nothing specific that I could name that I was favorably impressed by / he's a good speaker, honest. He's trying to do what's best for his country. He's doing the best he can / he presented himself very well. He is good in front of the T.V. camera / he defended his views on El Salvador and his manner of speech makes his viewpoint convincing. He is a good talker and holds your interest.



Question 14A continued.

Were you favorably or unfavorably impressed with the speech (or what you have heard about it)?

And why is that?

06. Strong Leader / Outspoken / Straightforward - to me he seemed very straightforward. I feel he tells you what he feels. I feel he's lived long enough to have some experience and insight / I think he is an honest politician. When he says something you can believe him, like he said he was going to lower taxes and even though the Democrats stood in his way he did it. He is trying to create jobs to get the people off welfare and unemployment and on the job / because he lays out to Congress exactly what should be done and that's what I would do / I find him to be a very sincere individual. He doesn't play politics as much as his predecessors and discusses issues honestly / because he is very firm and in control. He believes that what he is doing is right. America needs a leader like him. He is doing what he thinks is best. When he finishes a speech you know exactly where he stands. He states firmly his decisions and informs the people of his policies. At the present time America can do no better than Ronald Reagan / the man is very good at what he does running the business of the country. He is very well prepared and puts his point across better than any President. He can make a simple man understand the issues and gets his point across / he makes a lot of sense and is very supporting / we know what we're up against and where we're going in life. I think President Reagan has got us on the right track / usually he presents the issues fairly and clearly. Nicaragua is opposing the other Central American countries / I think he's very determined where he's going to go. He said exactly what he was going to do. He's very straightforward and I like that / because he is a very convincing person, but as far as the facts of what he is telling you, you start to wonder / Reagan is especially articulate. He sells very well. He knows how to market and sell his ideas and programs / he put everything in order and he sounded so sure of himself and made a lot of sense to me / he's an honest man and a man of his convictions. I have a strong feeling for Ronald Reagan. I support his ideas strongly. We're better off than a few years ago before he got elected / I think he's finally taking a sense of leadership. He's finally giving the congress a definite precise meaning of what he's going to do. In other words he's not his same old wishy-washy self. It kind of defined who our friends are and who are not, it gave us all quite a bit to think about as far as defending our own continent / because he is a strong leader and he's trying to make congress see the light. He knows what has to be done and he's the best president we've had in years. He has gotten more things done than any other President / I thought he was straightforward and honest and told the people how he stood. I thought he answered the questions that were thrown at him fast and direct and I think a lot of people agree with me / he laid it on the line, what we got to do / I believe in the man. I think he's a strong leader, he's got money



Question 14A continued.

Were you favorably or unfavorably impressed with the speech (or what you have heard about it)?

And why is that?

06. (Continued) so he's not in it for that, maybe a little self-esteem / I am basically pro-Reagan. I feel that his leadership qualities are great, and he will stand up for what is right / he tells people the way things are / Ronald Reagan is putting out a lot of "strong" talk and that's what we need. We need to let other countries know what we will do and what we won't do. We need big bad talk and that's what Ronald Reagan has done / I believe everything he says. I believe the man means everything he says. I don't think he says things just cause he wants to be president again.

07. General Positive - I just thought it wasn't very interesting but it seemed like he had some good topics to talk about / I only saw the beginning of his program, starting with El Salvador with the United States / I was favorably impressed. I heard it but no one thing stands out / he basically has all the right ideas but he's not quite sure how to carry them out / I think he has a good idea of what the situation is down there. I don't think that his plan is the right one but there might be a better way / the main reason is that he answered questions more the way you wanted him to answer them / I was very impressed from what the news said / I liked some suggestions that were said / I am a strong believer in him and he made a lot of sense / I find what he says makes sense. I agree that there are problems there / I think he's got the right ideas on what we need to do in the country. He's helping the farmers with government programs. He's trying to get money back into circulation -- like the Pick Program to try to reduce produce -- we've taken a cut in milk prices, but we know what he's trying to do / because of the way the majority of the people reacted on TV to the show / this was about El Salvador / I think he's closer to the situation than anyone else and I trust him to do what he thinks is best / I believe in what he says on any issue. I think he's a good president and I believe in what he says / I didn't know too much about what he was talking about but I think he got his point across / I think Reagan has a strong stand on foreign policy, but then a poor stand on the domestic policy / I liked what he said about El Salvador but I can't tell you exactly what / I have experience on Central America and I speak Spanish. I would do what he is doing, but I think there are better answers. I don't have those answers / he says he is going to do better and I'm looking forward to that.



Question 14A continued.

Were you favorably or unfavorably impressed with the speech (or what you have heard about it)?

And why is that?

08. Foreign Policy in Central America / El Salvador - Negative - I think the facts he gave were impressive but I don't think we should get involved. He wants us to get involved but we have enough problems at home that we need to take care of. We can't be big brother to everyone / it's just double-talk. He should stay away from the Latin American countries. He should help Mexico because they are our closest neighbor. We could work with Mexico on the natural gas they have and in doing so help the U.S. and its economy / I think they should stay out of El Salvador's problems / I think he is blowing it out of proportion. I am not impressed with the way he is handling Central America / I agree with some of his viewpoints on social security, like make some of the more wealthy pay so everyone gets benefits. I disagree with his stand in the El Salvador situation / it's the same stuff I've heard peddled for the past four or five years. It's the same damned policy we heard since Nixon. We could have done a lot better for the past 18 or 19 years. It's been one goof right after another. Just like Kissinger letting the Shah of Iran raise the price of oil from \$2 a barrel to \$30 a barrel and it almost broke our country / I just don't agree with his policies and the way he's handling the situation / I feel he's just running a communist scare tactic. He should let other Central American countries take care of it -- the problems that Reagan's trying to handle / from what I understand, the situation is not as bad in El Salvador as Ronald Reagan tells the American people. I don't think Reagan really knows what's going on either. I'm afraid Reagan will convince the public to get involved in the war / I don't like the way he's handling the problem in El Salvador. I wonder if he's really sure of what he's doing and how much trouble it's going to get us into / I agree with Reagan that there is a real threat of a communist government, but I disagree with Reagan's approach. Reagan's backing of the present government is hypocritical -- that government is not humane, it keeps the rich powerful families in power. They prolong the suffering of most of the people of El Salvador / he wants to raise the American flag and get us in trouble. We're not getting the truth, this American doctor who started 2 hospitals and 15 clinics said that he's never seen any Cuban's there and no Moscow backed troops. He's only seen American weapons, we're just not getting the true story / he has a way of simplifying issues. He's a good public speaker but I just don't agree with his philosophy or how to handle El Salvador. He amplifies his view, without giving credence to other views / I don't think the way he's handling the situation in El Salvador is right / just on general principles of how he's running the government and getting involved in the policies of other countries / because he's taking care of El Salvador's problems. Well we should take care of our own problems before any other country. We shouldn't get to



Question 14A continued.

Were you favorably or unfavorably impressed with the speech (or what you have heard about it)?

And why is that?

08. (Continued) involved or it might lead us to war / I was unfavorably impressed with his politics. I don't agree with the president that guerilla activity is linked with the communists / my main concern is that there is more involvement in El Salvador. I do not agree with that. The involvement / I just can't understand why we should get involved with such a small country / Reagan's concentration should be at home rather than abroad. He was too concerned with foreign countries benefit.
09. Foreign Aid to Central America / El Salvador - Negative - well, the money he wants for El Salvador. He's giving it to the wrong people. He's giving it to the rich. He just has a lack of knowledge of how to deal with foreign affairs / well, I think he's spending the taxpayer's money very foolishly. He should stay home and mind his own business. It looks like another Vietnam episode / there's less money going to El Salvador than there is going into video machines -- I doubt that / I just didn't like it. The idea of El Salvador and the aid that he wants to give them. Because there are more things that need to be dealt with / I tried to listen very carefully and liked his views. But I think we have too many problems here at home that should come first. I think the amount of money we give out to other countries is way too much. Other countries are always in trouble. There are too many people out of work and on welfare for us to give so much money. We should come first / try to get more money for the multi-industrial complex / because Reagan didn't give a complete answer to the problem of El Salvador / the same old thing he's trying to make El Salvador a bigger thing than it really is. He's trying to shift the public's attention. The real issues in this country are the domestic issues. Instead of giving all this money away in aid to some country that's really not going to do us a whole lot of good, why not give it to the people in our back yard. Just disagreed with him wanting to give aid to El Salvador / I don't agree with the foreign policy in that region of the world. I don't agree with the amount of money they're spending there because they won't get a return from what is spent there / I don't think we should give out aid, to other countries, we don't consider human rights / mainly because I don't agree with his views. Because he's spending too much money on military purposes in El Salvador / it seems what he does normally in face of rampant communism. He panicked simply because of USSR movements in Central America. Being in our front yard is the phase he used, a panic location. I don't think it's the way he says it is / he wants to do too much for foreigners and not enough for us / I am against giving money to Central America in any case / I disapprove of his ideas in Nicaragua and in El Salvador. I don't approve of giving military aid, I do approve of economic and medical aid / he should take care of the poor



Question 14A continued.

Were you favorably or unfavorably impressed with the speech (or what you have heard about it)?

And why is that?

09. (Continued) and the elderly here instead of giving money to all these other countries / don't believe he is going on the right road to solving the problem. Spending extra money is not going to solve the problem / I don't like Reagan or his speeches. I believe the man has good intentions to bring about peace in South America but history repeats itself. We sent over money and advisors to Vietnam and then had to send over troops because our advisors were being killed and that is what will probably happen here. Our government is justified in sending over money because of communism but all the communists will do is move into Honduras or some other place. We shouldn't send money to anyone, period. We have enough problems at home to take care of / because of what he had to say about El Salvador. He wants to send more aid to them. We are spending enough already / I strongly disagree with his tactics in foreign affairs because of politicking with U.S. money to start a police action so he could be re-elected. We need to stay out of the Middle-East and their affairs, we should stay clean of this / the spending arms, use money somewhere else, maybe in something in our country or space technology / the speech was good but the more money we put down there the more killing they're going to do / because of the money he wants to send out I can see training El Salvador but not sending them money. I also think it's good to help them in terms of building and cropping, but not just giving them free money / he's trying to do what's right I don't think he's right in asking for more money, but overall his speech impressed me / could be spent in other ways, like helping starving people, things like farmers / I don't quite understand the things he does, can't see why he wants to help foreign countries when there are hungry children here in the U.S. / well, we can afford to spend 600 million dollars for a war in South America but we can't create jobs / I don't approve of what he's doing, he's spending our money needlessly. There are other places to spend our money right here / I thought the Democrats told it like it is. It's the wrong track, the wrong way to go. Putting 6 million down in Central America isn't right, he didn't get his message across like the Democrats did / I am sure he is going about this thing the wrong way. He can intervene more peacefully. He can send people instead of arms. I don't approve of all that money being spent / I think we need more money spent here in the U.S. before we spend it overseas. I'm afraid we might have to go to war. My husband is a sailor and I wouldn't want to see him go to war. We have plenty of problems right here that have to be solved / the way he talks. It ain't no good. He's spending it on war and he's taking it away from the old people. He's spending all that money on war and he's cutting medicare, social security and all that from the old folks / they are spending too much money in foreign countries when so many people here need money and jobs. You



Question 14A continued.

Were you favorably or unfavorably impressed with the speech (or what you have heard about it)?

And why is that?

09. (Continued) can't buy friendship. America should come first when it comes to tax money / I sort of feel like the Democratic guy said. We are giving money out to El Salvador but the money is going in someone else's pockets / I thought it was ridiculous with him constantly sending all that money overseas to improve their lives, when he has so many out of work and going hungry. He has cut the food stamp program and little kids and old people are going hungry / I don't like the way he wanted to do stuff. We should stop giving money away to countries. All countries. Let us start at home where we are and people need food and housing / he is handling the situation wrong. He wanted to add more money and that won't work.
10. Military Aid to Central America / El Salvador / Arms - Negative - he seems to still be saying we should supply arms to El Salvador. I don't agree. He says there would not be war but it has gone in that direction / I don't think we should be too involved in Central America. We need to use methods available to us such as negotiations. We don't need arms / because I don't think we need to send guns and ammunition down to El Salvador. They should fight their own battles. I just didn't agree with it / the commentator for ABC news, David Brinkley, said the Democrats had a far less emotional appeal. Reagan used a more dramatic appeal having the congressional audience clapping thunderously to his remarks. We have no business sending arms to El Salvador. I disagree with Reagan's position totally / although he said we would stay I have mixed emotions. I know if we don't help to arm them well then Russia will. I really don't want anyone else in there / I don't believe we should be sending any troops over or any aid to El Salvador / as far as the country is concerned they need more food, housing and education rather than tanks and military supplies. It just isn't going to solve anything. I feel they could be fighting a very long time. The country needs leadership and to get this they need to be educated / because I think he is using the military to solve the problems in foreign affairs, with the situation in El Salvador / he is trying to do something for those people but I don't know if he is going about it in the right way. We shouldn't send them guns / we should not get involved in that aspect of that government. The military we should not be involved that deeply / he's for more arms and military training for El Salvador / I disapprove of the military solution. I do not think we should be sending money to El Salvador. The problems there is that their economy is in a shambles. We should send economic not military aid / I don't think that the problems in Central America can be solved by interference. The problems are economic not military / I don't care for his proposals for El Salvador. The military escalation. I don't like it because it doesn't get our Latin American allies involved in the negotiations. We don't ask their advice and they are closer to it.



Question 14A continued.

Were you favorably or unfavorably impressed with the speech (or what you have heard about it)?

And why is that?

11. Possibility of War / Another Vietnam - I don't agree with his policies in Latin America. I think he might get us involved in a war / he brought out the fact that El Salvador and the guerillas aren't treating the civilians right. The countries have turned against us. The only thing I dislike is that we send military people there and it could be like Vietnam / about the Soviets. He's worried about who has the most bombs. We're all gonna die anyway. That's the part I'm most worried about / I think that he's leading us in the same direction that we went with Vietnam. Instead of helping those people he's getting them deeper in trouble and wasting our money too / I think he is a movie actor and I don't believe the man or anything he says. The way he talked about what's going on in El Salvador and the Middle East. I think he's a war monger / I just don't think we should be there at all. I just don't think we should be involved at all. I feel it could lead us into another Vietnam. I go along with the Senator from Connecticut / I feel that the only difference between El Salvador and Vietnam is that now were pouring money into El Salvador and Vietnam we sent soldiers / it just sounds like he's trying to get a war started / because he's going into affairs which shouldn't concern him it will lead to another Vietnam. The U.S. should try to remain absolutely neutral, on account of the Vietnam war / regardless of what he has said about El Salvador not being a Vietnam. I feel that if he is going to have advisers there it could go more military / I don't believe what he said. And it looks like another Vietnam. He has said too many in the past that were wrong / because all this help we are giving El Salvador I feel it can get us into another Vietnam war. I think we need to insist on human rights and they should improve themselves more before we give them anymore help / He is a great speaker but the content of the speech was not what I wanted to hear. He is probably going to get us into another war down there. That country is just too far away for us to be involved and wasting all that money down there, we should be spending that money here at home / I feel that Ronald Reagan knows that we need to stimulate the economy but I don't think it should be at the cost of someone else's life. America has always been stimulated by war (I, II, Korea, Bay of Pigs, Vietnam). The economy was on the upbeat. He is trying to stimulate the economy / I doubt the information. I wonder how far the U.S. can get involved. If they couldn't manage Vietnam, how can they handle this? South America and Central America / he is going to start a war there and nobody in America wants that to happen.



Question 14A continued.

Were you favorably or unfavorably impressed with the speech (or what you have heard about it)?

And why is that?

12. Government Corruption in Central America - I think that he needs to have someone advise him about what is going on down there. The government is all corrupt / the people who we are supporting don't have a good track record. The people have a history of corruption / because of the explanation Mr. Dobbs made after his speech, Dobbs made more sense to me. The corruption of the El Salvadoran government. He's backing the wrong government, they are corrupt.
13. Poor Speech / President Reagan Not Doing a Good Job - General - I don't think he's doing his job right. He's more concerned with the rich. I don't like him / he's trying to push the blame on other people in government to a certain extent. He's not taking all the blame / because I don't think he knows what he is doing. He's been saying that things are getting better but there are no results. Like the economy, he says he's been doing things to help but like I said there's no results / I don't agree with most of the things he said / I don't approve of the way he's doing things. For instance, the cut in social security. I used to get it and then they cut me out and I can't find a job / I just think that he talks alot but doesn't do what he is talking about / just think he thinks he's still acting, he did not impress me / because he was careless about our incomes in regard to social security / the speech didn't jive with the facts. Senator Dodd thought its the wrong approach that Reagans taking by sending money to El Salvador / from the parts that I seen I just don't think it was as effective in communication skills to me. He didn't keep my attention, I've heard it all before, nothing new / because I disagree with him on all issues / I am wondering about what his purpose was. He tells people he wants peace and not have the communists take over but I wonder what he's able to do, he has so much conflict in Washington / don't know why, I voted for him things to do he didn't do he increased taxes on gas / just because he is not getting everything done that he should be doing he is taking away benefits from senior citizens / I think he is a poor president. He got us in a depression. he has lied to us before and I assume he is lying now / I really didn't like what he said / I disapprove of mostly what he's doing. I don't like what he plans on doing either, I don't agree with what he says / He didn't tell us too much / don't believe he can predict everything, he tells you one thing and does another / because he didn't define his policies well, he didn't offer any solutions / he is just talking not hitting the core of what he does offer / I just think he is incapable, he can't handle his job, he does not impress me at all. He is wishy-washy he says one thing and does another / everything he says he doesn't do, he started like he was going to be a good president. he made the U.S. worse than it has ever been. There is no work for people and helping people of



Question 14A continued.

Were you favorably or unfavorably impressed with the speech (or what you have heard about it)?

And why is that?

13. (Continued). other countries is no good. He should worry about America / living in New Mexico I know a lot of people who are in Central America and I don't think Reagan knows a thing about Central America. There is a high class and a low class of people and Reagan doesn't understand that / I think the man talks through his hat. He acts as if he is on a stage. He says he's going to do things for the elderly and get jobs but he hasn't done anything about it. He can, but doesn't / he is not an impressive person. He is a sorry leader. He has not done for the economy. He also has not done anything for the poor or the people who need it / I cut him off. I turned off the T.V. I was annoyed. He is more concerned with foreign people and not American people / because I don't think Ronald Reagan is telling the truth. He's bringing out the good points - not everything. It was a political speech. He's running for President again / I think he misrepresented his whole act. I don't think he completely explained our role and involvement with the El Salvador thing / he's lying to the people about defense. He's saying that the military is in worse shape than it actually is / he says one thing and jumps to another conclusion. He never comes out with the right points. He keeps skipping around in his speeches. He should be direct with his points / he decided one thing and sticks to that. He does not budge whether an alternative is present or not. He has the right goals in mind but is overlooking the fact that military confusion will continue. He "used" the media to get his point across. His plans are not cognizant and he is going over congress' head to get them done.
14. General Negative - I really don't know who is telling the truth. He is saying one thing and the Democrats are saying another / he seems to be talking about the same problems but although he is trying it seems a solution is never reached. I didn't hear the whole speech / I'm prejudiced against Ronald Reagan / most things he said, he's going to do he can't because they won't let him / I don't like anything about him. A lot of things that he said were true like the condition of our country, El Salvador and all that / just a couple of comments that I heard were from Democrats and they were downgrading the statements about aid / he talks with a forked tongue. He talks about the same things all the time, just politics is all / you get his point of view when you watch him, but when you get the other side you have to evaluate it. That's why my feelings are mixed. Ronald Reagan is too one sided / it was just a political speech. it was a movement of politics / it was all a lot of hogwash / because we served in Guatamala in the mission it's grossly mishandled / the things he said / didn't think that the speech was important, it didn't cover nothing important / I don't think we're getting the whole story / I don't



Question 14A continued.

Were you favorably or unfavorably impressed with the speech (or what you have heard about it)?

And why is that?

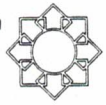
14. (Continued) think he's dynamic or forceful enough. I think he's playing a role, that's not good for America, his administration frightens me / I don't think I can remember any specifics. I just didn't like the whole speech. Maybe because I don't like so many things that he does / I just read a paragraph about the speech. I am a Democrat. I do not really remember much about what Reagan said / he talks, he's play acting. He's on stage. I can't take him sincerely. He says things now - then later he does something else.
15. Other / Refused / No Opinion - the way I understand it this country is going to go into 2 school systems, private and public. The elite will get the best teachers and students and the rest about 80% will suffer. This country can not afford this / I was impressed until I heard the comment by the senator. The aid is skimmed by the elite money is being put away in Swiss banks. It's all pretty confusing. I hope we don't become involved in there. El Salvador.



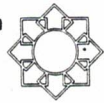
Democratic Response: Exposure and Impression

=====

	1982 <u>State of Union</u>	1983 <u>State of Union</u>	1983 <u>Central America</u>
<u>Exposure</u>			
Saw all	11	9	10
Saw part	12	15	10
Heard/Read later	6	6	3
Heard nothing	71	70	77
(TOTAL AUDIENCE)	(29)	(30)	(23)
<u>Impression</u> <u>(Based on Total Audience)</u>			
Favorably	42	48	43
Unfavorably	42	38	36
No opinion	16	14	21
<u>Impression</u> <u>(Based on Total Public)</u>			
Saw/Favorable	12	14	10
Saw/Unfavorable	12	11	10
Saw/No opinion	5	4	3
Heard nothing	71	70	77



OTHER DOMESTIC ISSUES

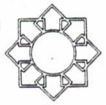


Reagan's Economic Program

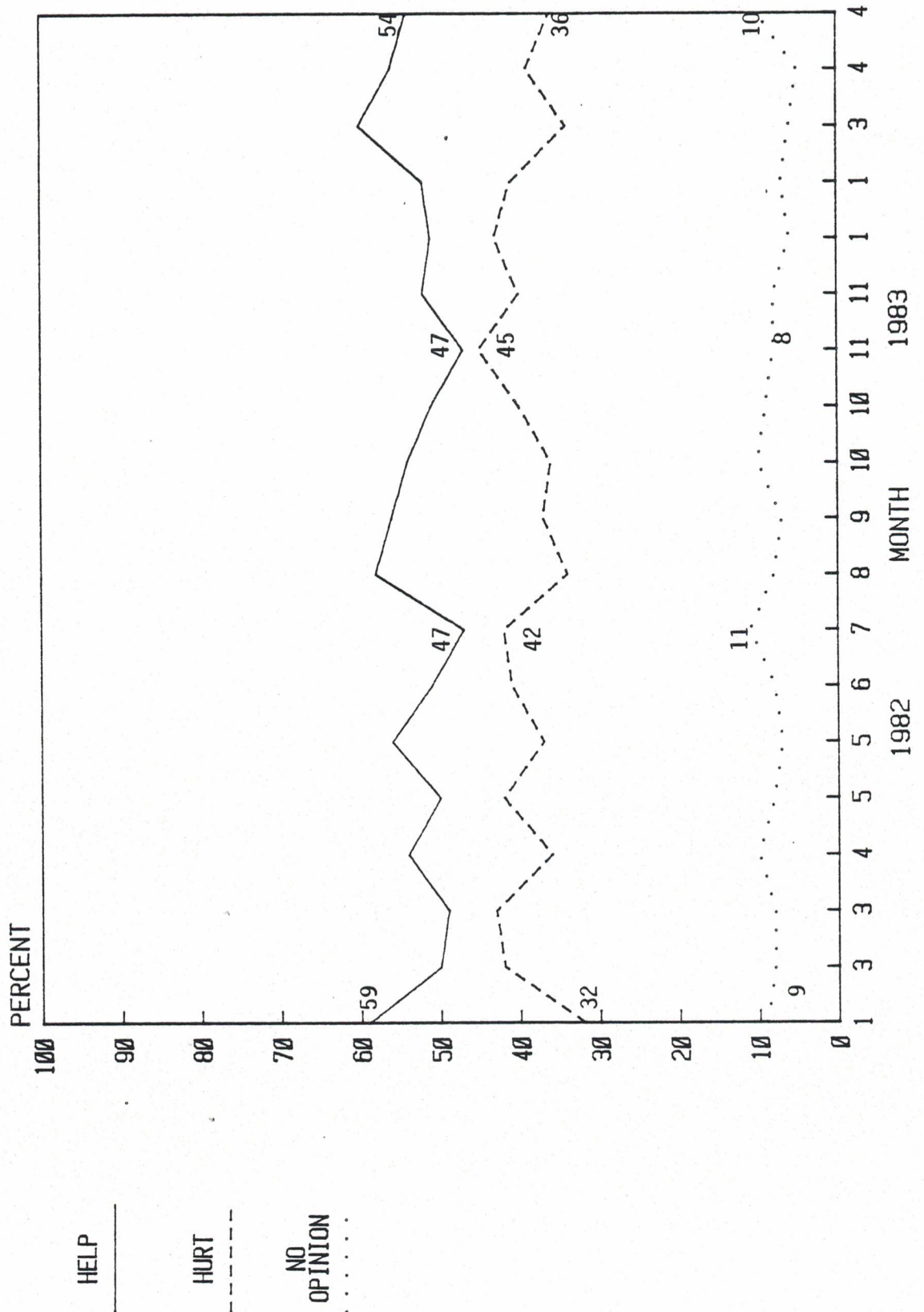
=====

"From what you've heard and read, do you feel that, on the whole, Reagan's economic program will help or hurt the economy?"

	Feb 20-22 <u>1981</u>	Jun 12-14 <u>1981</u>	Sep 9-13 <u>1981</u>	Jan 11-19 <u>1982</u>	Jun 15-22 <u>1982</u>	Sep 23-27 <u>1982</u>
Help	78	60	71	59	51	56
Hurt	13	29	21	32	41	37
No opinion	8	11	8	9	8	7
	Jan 7-10 <u>1983</u>	Jan 27-29 <u>1983</u>	Mar 17-21 <u>1983</u>	Apr 7-10 <u>1983</u>	Apr 27-28 <u>1983</u>	
Help	51	52	60	56	54	
Hurt	43	41	34	39	36	
No opinion	6	7	6	5	10	



REAGAN ECONOMIC PROGRAM HELP OR HURT THE NAT'L ECONOMY?





Reagan Job Rating Social Security

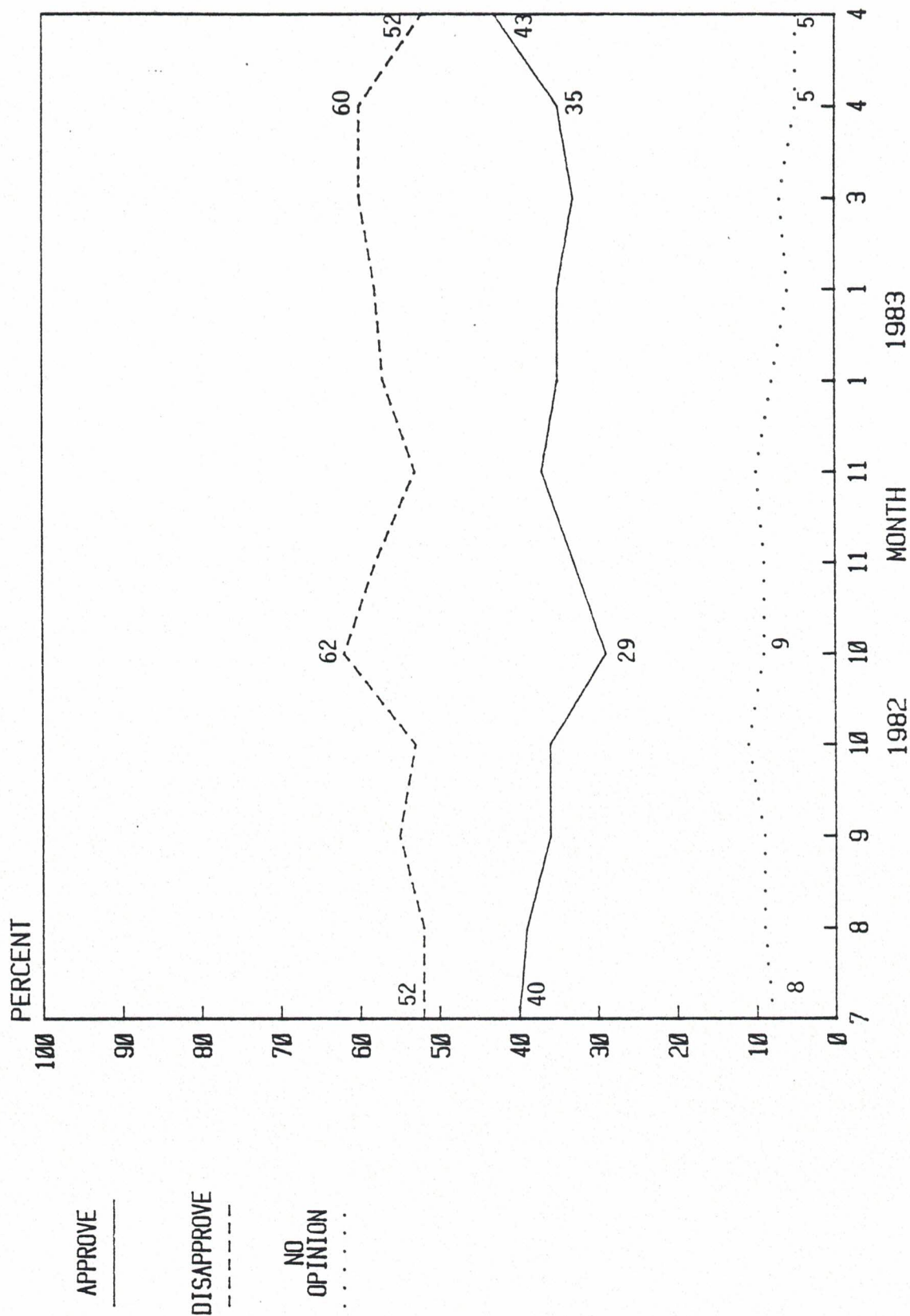
=====

"Do you approve or disapprove of the way Ronald Reagan is handling _____?"

	<u>Jul 16-19 1982</u>	<u>Sep 23-27 1982</u>	<u>Jan 7-10 1983</u>	<u>Jan 27-29 1983</u>	<u>Mar 17-21 1983</u>	<u>Apr 7-10 1983</u>
Approve	40	36	35	35	33	35
Disapprove	52	55	57	58	60	60
No opinion	8	9	8	6	7	5

	<u>Apr 27-28 1983</u>
Approve	43
Disapprove	52
No opinion	5

REAGAN JOB RATING SOCIAL SECURITY





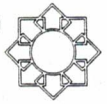
Social Security Benefits -- Increased or Decreased?

=====

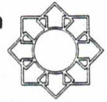
"In regard to social security payments, is it your impression that Ronald Reagan has increased or reduced social security benefits?"

	Feb 25-6 <u>1982</u>	Jun 15-22 <u>1982</u>	Sep 23-27 <u>1982</u>	Jan 7-10 <u>1983</u>	Jan 27-29 <u>1983</u>	Mar 17-21 <u>1983</u>
Increased	12	17	27	20	*	*
Reduced	54	49	50	45	*	*
No change	26	34	18	25	*	*
No opinion	8	-	5	10	*	*

	Apr 7-10 <u>1983</u>	Apr 27-28 <u>1983</u>
Increased	19	21
Reduced	60	55
No change	15	17
No opinion	6	7



CENTRAL AMERICA

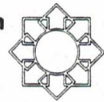


Reagan Job Rating -- El Salvador

=====

"Do you approve or disapprove of the way Ronald Reagan is handling the situation in El Salvador?"

Approve	36%
Disapprove	44
No opinion	20



Reagan Job Rating -- Nicaragua

=====

"Have you heard or read anything recently about Nicaragua? And do you approve or disapprove of the way Ronald Reagan is handling the situation in Nicaragua?"

	<u>April 7-11</u>	<u>April 27-28</u>
	(%)	(%)
No	57	62
Yes/Approve	13	17
Yes/Disapprove	22	15
No opinion	8	6



El Salvador -- National Elections

=====

"The fact that the leftist guerrillas in El Salvador refuse to take part in national elections is strong evidence that they, themselves, believe that most of the citizens of El Salvador do not support their cause and they must continue to resort to violence rather than to the ballot box."

	<u>April 7-11</u>	<u>April 27-28</u>
	(%)	(%)
Agree strongly	25	27
Agree somewhat	33	24
Disagree somewhat	15	16
Disagree strongly	11	17
No opinion	16	16



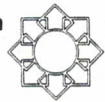
El Salvador -- Solve Problems

=====

"The problems in El Salvador have been very much in the news recently. I'm going to read you a series of statements others have made about the situation there and our relations with the Salvadoran government. For each statement, again tell me whether you agree or disagree with what is said."

We should let those who live in El Salvador solve their problems without any help from the United States.

	March 6-9 1981 (%)	March 25-29 1982 (%)	March 17-21 1983 (%)	April 27-28 1983 (%)
Agree strongly	27	30	33	28
Agree somewhat	22	21	24	18
Disagree somewhat	29	24	25	25
Disagree strongly	17	18	15	25
No opinion	5	7	3	4



El Salvador -- Another Vietnam

"The problems in El Salvador have been very much in the news recently. I'm going to read you a series of statements others have made about the situation there and our relations with the Salvadoran government. For each statement, again tell me whether you agree or disagree with what is said."

The kind of help we are now providing El Salvador could easily get us into another Vietnam.

	March 6-9 1981 (%)	February 13-14 1982 (%)	March 17-21 1983 (%)	April 27-28 1983 (%)
Agree strongly	37	36	45	35
Agree somewhat	28	32	30	28
Disagree somewhat	17	16	11	14
Disagree strongly	11	9	9	17
No opinion	7	7	5	6

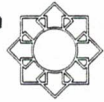


El Salvador: Threat to U.S.?

=====

"Suppose the rebel forces take over El Salvador and set up a pro-communist government. Would that endanger the national security of the United States, or not?"

	ABC 3/18-21/82 (%)	D/M/I 4/27-28/83 (%)
Yes	66	67
No	27	26
No opinion	5	7

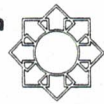


Troops in El Salvador

=====

"If the El Salvadoran government cannot defeat the Cuban-backed rebels, Ronald Reagan will send American soldiers to fight in El Salvador."

Agree strongly	21%
Agree somewhat	23
Disagree somewhat	18
Disagree strongly	32
No opinion	6

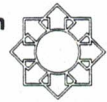


Aid to El Salvador

=====

"Three-quarters of the aid we give to El Salvador is in the form of food and fertilizers, only a quarter of it is military assistance."

Agree strongly	13%
Agree somewhat	23
Disagree somewhat	17
Disagree strongly	18
No opinion	29

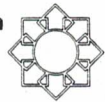


Cuban Goals

=====

"The goal of Cuba and Nicaragua is to set up communist governments in the entire region from the Panama Canal to Mexico."

Agree strongly	37%
Agree somewhat	28
Disagree somewhat	11
Disagree strongly	9
No opinion	15



Central America Will Fall

=====

"If the U.S. does not stop Russian and Cuban efforts to set up a communist government in El Salvador then Honduras, Guatemala and other countries in Central America will be next."

	Harris 3/12-16/82 (%)	DMI 4/27-28/83 (%)
Agree	66	75
Disagree	26	16
No opinion	8	9



El Salvador: Keeping Promises

=====

"Not only has the new government of El Salvador promised reforms, democracy and free elections, but it has also begun delivering on those promises."

Agree strongly	6%
Agree somewhat	23
Disagree somewhat	23
Disagree strongly	19
No opinion	29



El Salvador: No Threat

=====

"El Salvador is so small and so far away that it can't possibly constitute a threat to our well-being."

Agree strongly	9%
Agree somewhat	11
Disagree somewhat	26
Disagree strongly	49
No opinion	5