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News Summary

OFFICE OF THE PRESS SECRETARY

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1985 -- 6 a.m. EDT EDITION

TODAY'S HEADLINES

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Shultz, Soviet Hold Long Talks -- Secretary of State Shultz and Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze met for four hours and twenty minutes at the United Nations Wednesday but did not narrow the wide gap between the arms control positions of the two nations, according to U.S. aides.

(Washington Post, New York Times, Washington Times, Baltimore Sun, AP, UPI, Reuter)

NATIONAL NEWS

Effort For Alternative farm Bill Is Bipartisan -- Agriculture Secretary Block said Wednesday that Administration officials are working with a group of Senate Democrats to develop an alternative to the farm bill approved by the Senate Agriculture Committee last week.

(Washington Times, Washington Post, AP, UPI)

NETWORK NEWS (Wednesday Evening)

HURRICANE GLORIA -- With top winds of 150 mph, for the Atlantic Coast it could be the storm of the century. Hurricane Gloria is threatening the Eastern Seaboard.

(All Nets Lead)

ARMS CONTROL -- After it ended, Secretary Shultz said his meeting with Shevardnadze resulted in an exchange of ideas but nothing new was put on the table.



INTERNATIONAL NEWS

SHULTZ, SOVIET HOLD LONG TALKS

NEW YORK -- Secretary Shultz and Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze met today but did not narrow the wide gap between the arms control positions of the two nations, according to U.S. aides.

A U.S. official who participated in the meeting said it "broke no new ground on either side." The official declined to say whether the Soviets might present a new proposal in the meeting with Reagan.

(Don Oberdorfer, Washington Post, A1)

Shultz, Shevardnadze Talk Freely, But Don't Agree

Shultz said (he and Shevardnadze) did not agree on a thing, even though they appeared to get along wonderfully well in a four-hour meeting.

(Gregory Nokes, AP)

Shultz Says Soviets Offer Nothing New

UNITED NATIONS -- Secretary Shultz, after a meeting with Shevardnadze, said Wednesday the Soviet Union offered no new proposals.

"The atmosphere was frank and our capacity of concentration was easy. We concentrated on security issues, most particularly the issue discussed by our negotiators in Geneva," Mr. Shultz said.

"We looked for points of contact and agreement but we did not reach" any agreement, Mr. Shultz added.

(Bill Kritzberg, Washington Times, A1)

Soviet Aide Offers No New Arms Plan In Meeting Shultz

"I think it was most worthwhile," (Shultz) said, "and in addition represents a continuation of the ability of the Secretary of State and the Soviet Foreign Minister to exchange views in an easy and frank atmosphere."

(Bernard Gwertzman, New York Times, A1)

Shultz Calls Talks At U.N. 'Useful, Frank'

The four-hour meeting focused, according to Mr. Shultz, on the security issues that will dominate the November summit between President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

(Gilbert Lewthwaite, Baltimore Sun, A1)

MOSCOW'S 'STAR PEACE' PROPOSAL IS DISMISSED BY WHITE HOUSE

The White House yesterday dismissed Shevardnadze's proposal for a program of international cooperation in space he called "Star Peace" as having no relationship to President Reagan's proposed Strategic Defense Initiative, often called "Star Wars."

(Lou Cannon, Washington Post, A1)

WEINBERGER SAYS "STAR WARS" OFFERS GREATEST STRATEGIC HOPE

Secretary Weinberger said Wednesday that a "star wars" missile defense system "offers mankind the greatest hope of any strategic concept of at least 100 years."

Pentagon spokesman Robert Sims said Mr. Weinberger also discussed the defense budget ... and denied reports he planned to make deep cuts.
(Washington Times, A5)

Weinberger Optimistic About 'Star Wars' Future

A Pentagon spokesman said Weinberger made the comment during a luncheon on Capitol Hill Wednesday with 50 members of the Senate Republican Conference of Administrative Assistants.
(Daniel Gilmore, UPI)

SOVIET KGB OFFICIAL REPORTEDLY DEFECTS

NEW YORK -- U.S. Intelligence sources have confirmed that a Soviet Foreign Ministry official who disappeared last month in Rome is a KGB officer who has defected to the West, according to an NBC news report Wednesday.
(AP)

SHIP SINKING CRISIS BUILDS HEAT ON U.S.

The United States remained tight-lipped Wednesday as pressure mounted on the Reagan Administration to take a stand on the French sinking of a nuclear protest vessel, the Rainbow Warrior, and to act against French nuclear tests in the South Pacific.

State Department spokesman Peter Martinez told reporters Wednesday the "Greenpeace Affair" is a matter between France and New Zealand."
(Dave Doubrava, Washington Times, A7)

U.S. REDUCES BIRTH CONTROL UNIT'S FUNDS

The Reagan Administration withdrew a \$10 million grant to the U.N. Fund for Population Activities yesterday and cast all future funding in doubt because of UNFPA's involvement in China's family planning program, which the Administration concludes involves coercive abortion.

(Lionel Barber, Washington Post, A1)

U.S. Shifts Family Planning Aid

Population control lobbyists in Washington immediately condemned the action, saying it would lead to a total end of American support, which provides about one-third of the agency's financing.

(New York Times, A11)

SKEPTICAL OFFICIALS AWAIT SOVIET ARMS-CUT OFFER

Skeptical Reagan Administration officials said yesterday that an anticipated new Soviet proposal to reduce strategic nuclear weapons could be, as one arms control analyst put it, "either a small step forward or a large step backward" from earlier Moscow proposals.

"The devil is in the details," a key Pentagon official said yesterday, voicing what several officials said was the initial reaction to the "vague" descriptions of the offer hinted at by Soviet officials and now circulation within the U.S. government. (Walter Pincus, Washington Post, A21)

President Reagan was expected to hear from Secretary Shultz on his meeting in New York with Shevardnadze.

Reagan will meet in the Shevardnadze in the oval office Friday and the whole range of summit issues -- from arms control to human rights -- was on the agenda.

Spokesman Larry Speakes said Wednesday said Wednesday, "We are not at all concerned about the Soviet propaganda blitz that has taken place over the last several months." (Ira Allen, AP)

SOVIET PLAN FOR SUMMIT PREPARATION: CRITICIZE U.S. AND COURT ITS CRITICS

MOSCOW -- The Soviet Union has adopted a two-pronged public relations strategy leading up to the Geneva summit meeting, increasing anti-U.S. rhetoric at home to lower expectations, while abroad it is avoiding direct confrontation with the Reagan Administration and appealing to critics of U.S. arms control positions, according to western analysts here. (Gary Lee, Washington Post, A20)

TERMS FOR DUARTE'S DAUGHTER SET

SAN SALVADOR -- Rebels who claim to have kidnapped the daughter of President Duarte made apparently new demands Wednesday in a radio conversation with the government.

The (rebel group) previously demanded the release of 34 people it said the government had jailed on rebellion charges.

The government has refused to comment on the case. (AP)

REAGAN ADVISER GIVES ELECTION TIPS TO FRENCH OPPOSITION

FRANCE -- The man who masterminded President Reagan's 1984 election campaign, Ed Rollins, has been teaching French Liberals how to win votes.

"There may be great differences between the political systems in France and the United States, but the techniques of communication are the same," the 42-year-old Rollins told an eager Republican Party (PR) audience.

The PR hopes these basic techniques will enable it and its right-wing allies to oust the Socialist government from power in parliamentary elections next March. (Andrew Higgins, Reuter)

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NATIONAL NEWS

FARM POLICY DEBATE MOVING TO CENTER STAGE IN CONGRESS

The House plans to begin voting today on a 1985 farm bill, beginning with controversial amendments that would pay dairy farmers not to produce and would continue to prop up sugar producers. The Senate is scheduled to begin debate on its bill on Oct. 15.

The Reagan Administration contends that federal support must end now, requiring farmers to adjust to lower prices and diminished markets. The other side, which includes sizable numbers of Republicans, argue that the government put farmers in their present fix and must help extract them with compassion and generosity.

(Ward Sinclair, Washington Post, A1)

Effort For Alternative Farm Bill Is Bipartisan

Secretary Block said Wednesday that Administration officials are working with a group of Senate Democrats to develop an alternative to the farm bill approved by the Senate Agriculture Committee last week.

(Stephanie Nall, Washington Times, A5)

USDA CRITICIZED FOR PROMOTING FARM POLICIES

The Agriculture Department agency that handles farm programs is under fire for using its network of state and county officials to promote the Reagan Administration's "market-oriented" farm policies.

But the agency, the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, says its actions are legal and not out of the ordinary. The National Farmers Union also chided the agency for easing travel restrictions so state and local officials could spread the word.

(Don Kendall, AP)

PRESIDENT TO SEND HECKLER TO IRELAND

President Reagan has made a final decision to name HHS Secretary Margaret Heckler to be ambassador to Ireland, clearing the way for the White House to replace her in the important cabinet post, a source said Wednesday.

The final decision was made Tuesday, but Mrs. Heckler's departure from the cabinet has long been in the works because of White House dissatisfaction with her performance, a senior U.S. official said.

"We don't figure she can get into too much trouble in Ireland," one Administration official said. (Jeremiah O'Leary, Washington Times, A1)

REAGAN NAMES FRIED TO BECOME SOLICITOR GENERAL

President Reagan named Charles Fried to be solicitor general, a post Mr. Fried has filled temporarily since June.

Mr. Fried, 50 years old, was a professor at Harvard Law School before becoming a deputy solicitor general last February.

(Stephen Wermeil, Wall Street Journal, 64)

ROSTENKOWSKI'S PROPOSAL WOULD SHIFT TAX-REVISION BENEFITS AWAY FROM RICH

The alternatives to President Reagan's tax proposal that will be submitted to the House Ways and Means Committee by Chairman Dan Rostenkowski Thursday will attempt to shift some of the financial benefits of tax revision away from higher-income taxpayers and "traditional" families, congressional sources said yesterday.

The White House, meanwhile, insisted that support for tax revision is increasing as Reagan promotes it in his series of trips around the country. Spokesman Larry Speakes took issue with a Washington Post-ABC News poll that found 22 percent of the respondents in favor of the Reagan tax plan, 22 percent opposed and 56 percent with no opinion. Slightly more people oppose the plan now than did in June, just after it was proposed.

Speakes blamed public cynicism chiefly on the news media.

"There has been a fairly steady drumbeat of skepticism in this press room, and in other press rooms, for two years on the President's tax plan," Speakes said. He added that built-in bias toward a tax-reform plan is augmented by special-interest groups beating the drums in favor of their various interests.

(Anne Swardson, Washington Post, A7)

BENNETT BRANDS NATION'S BILINGUAL EDUCATION PROGRAM A FAILURE

Secretary Bennett, labeling the government's bilingual education program a failure, said today he will press for changes to allow more schools to offer intensive English classes instead of instructing in student's native languages.

(Christopher Connell, AP)

For Release at 10:00 a.m. EDT September 26, 1985

Bennett Speech Renews Bilingual Teaching Row

There are cases in Texas ... where non-English speaking Asian immigrant children are sitting in bilingual education classes where spanish is being taught.

(Carol Innerst, Washington Times, A1)

Bennett said it will be up to the school districts to see what method works best. But he made it clear that he feels the schools have been devoting too much time and too many resources to teaching in Spanish and other foreign languages.

(Christopher Connell, AP)

U.S. Wants To Let States Run Bilingual Education

James J. Lyons, legislative counsel to the National Association for Bilingual Education, called the proposals, "a smoke screen for cutting bilingual programs."

(Baltimore Sun, A16)

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ADMINISTRATION WANTS JUDGES WHO WON'T MAKE SOCIAL POLICY, MEESE AIDE SAYS

The Reagan Administration wants federal judges who will avoid pushing social policies -- be they liberal or conservative -- according to a Justice Department official who interviews candidates for the bench.

Grover Rees, a special assistant to Attorney General Meese, says allegations by administration critics that President Reagan wants to "pack" the federal bench with conservative ideologues is untrue, and that candidates aren't being asked their personal views on such controversial issues as abortion and school prayer. (Merrill Hartson, AP)

GSA TO SHIFT BUILDING CONTROL TO OCCUPYING AGENCIES

Authority for renting, managing and maintaining the 6,980 federally leased or owned buildings will be transferred by the General Services Administration next year to the agencies occupying them.

The landmark change in the duties of the federal government's housekeeping agency is the product of an executive order signed earlier this year by President Reagan and is being implemented by GSA Administrator Terence Golden through that agency's \$2.6 billion Public Buildings Office. (Mark Tapscott, Washington Times, A4)

FBI DIRECTOR SUBPOENAED IN AGENT'S ESPIONAGE TRIAL

FBI Director Webster has been subpoenaed has been the defense to testify in the trial of Richard Miller, the only agent ever charged with espionage, it was revealed in court yesterday. (Washington Times, A4)

CONGRESS INVESTIGATES BANKING CHAIRMAN

The House Ethics Committee has launched into an investigation into allegations that Banking Committee Chairman Benjamin St. Germain amassed a multimillion dollar personal fortune with investment help from those he aided as committee chairman, according to congressional sources.

(George Archibald, Washington Times, A1)

CONGRESS SOFTLY BRIDGES FISCAL GAP

Congress, acting with unusual speed and restraint, gave final approval yesterday to a no-frills, 45-day extension of spending authority to fund the government after the new fiscal year starts next Tuesday.

The Senate gave voice-vote approval to a House-passed continuing resolution and sent it to President Reagan, who has indicated he will sign it. (Helen Dewar, Washington Post, A4)

Senate Passes 'Clean' Stopgap Bill

The Senate Wednesday quietly passed a stopgap measure to pay for most government operations after Monday, the last day of the government's fiscal year, postponing a fight with the Administration and the House.

(Thomas Brandt, Washington Times, A3)

CONGRESS GETS OPPOSITE VIEWS ON ECONOMY'S FUTURE

President Reagan's top economic adviser is sticking by the Administration forecast of strong growth next year but a leading private expert is warning Congress that too many unknowns cloud the future.

Despite slow growth this year, Beryl Sprinkel, head of Reagan's Council of Economic Advisers, told a Joint Economic Subcommittee Wednesday that he stood by the Administration's prediction the economy would jump 4 percent in 1986.

But Sprinkel's rosy outlook was not matched by Alan Greenspan, who argued, "Growth prospects at present depend critically on a rebound in inventory investment, which has been significantly retarded in some quarters."

(Joseph Mianowany, AP)

9 KLAN MEMBERS ACCUSED OF PLOT TO VIOLATE RIGHTS

Nine Ku Klux Klan members in North Carolina have been indicted on charges of conspiring to violate the rights of interracial families in a series of cross burnings and shootings, the Justice Department said yesterday.

William Bradford Reynolds, chief of the department's civil rights division, said the charges followed a two-year probe by the FBI of racial violence in two North Carolina counties.

(Washington Post, A14)

Federal Jury In Carolina Indicts 9 In Klan After 2-Year Probe

Reynolds announced the indictments in Washington.

(John McCaslin, Washington Times, A2)

BLACKS ENCOURAGED TO PRESSURE MEDIA

Dwight M. Ellis, President of the National Association of Broadcasters, said the Reagan Administration's opposition to affirmative action has been a signal to whites in broadcasting and journalism that they no longer have to make special efforts to treat blacks equitably.

(Juan Williams, Washington Post, A1)

EDITOR'S NOTE: Page 1B of the Washington Times contains a lengthy excerpt from Bill Adler's new book, "Ronnie and Nancy: A Very Special Love Story."

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NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY

(Wednesday Evening, September 25, 1985)

GLORIA

CBS's Dan Rather: With top winds of 150 mph, for the Atlantic Coast it could be the storm of the century. Hurricane Gloria is threatening the Eastern Seaboard. The hurricane is still 550 miles out in the Atlantic, but already it's drawing a bead on the Outer Banks of North Carolina. (ALL NETS LEAD)

ARMS CONTROL

Rather: After having their separate say in public about who has the better ideas on arms control, Secretary Shultz and FM Shevardnadze met at the Soviet U.N. Mission to word-wrestle about it in private. All the talking and hard-sell on both sides is a rehearsal for the main event, the Reagan-Gorbachev summit in November. And on that score, diplomatic sources told Lesley Stahl that Shevardnadze is carrying a new arms control proposal for the summit. At the very least, it would allow the two leaders to announce that they will continue to abide by the SALT II and ABM treaties even though each side believes the other may be violating the treaties with its latest military research programs. (CBS-3)

ABC's John McWethy reports from the Soviet Mission in New York: While waiting for Secretary Shultz to arrive, FM Shevardnadze surprised reporters inside the Soviet Mission by coming over to chat, one of many indications of a new public relations and image consciousness by the Soviets. When the seven-man American delegation arrived, Secretary Shultz drew cheers from Jewish worshippers at a synagogue across the street. Shevardnadze, again showing media savvy, broke with tradition and came out onto the sidewalk to greet Shultz. Inside, while posing for still more pictures, Shevardnadze again surprised observers by apologizing to Shultz for missing the Secretary's speech at the U.N. on Monday. U.S. officials anticipated at today's session they would receive the broad outlines of a new Soviet arms control proposal -- one that the Kremlin has been dropping hints about for the last two months. After today's session, which lasted for more than four hours, both Shultz and Shevardnadze came out to talk to reporters.

(Shultz: "We did not reach an agreement on any of these items, but we certainly did discuss each other's positions with great care.")

According to Shultz there was no new proposal advanced by the Soviets today. (ABC-4)

NBC's Tom Brokaw: Both countries see the Shultz-Shevardnadze meeting as an important step on the road to November's summit between President Reagan and Mikhail Gorbachev. Both Shevardnadze and Shultz said they expected some concrete results from today's meeting, but after it ended, Secretary Shultz said there was an exchange of ideas but nothing new was put on the table. (NBC-4)

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(Wednesday, September 25, 1985)

KGB DEFECTORS

Brokaw: Intelligence sources in Washington have confirmed reports that a very high KGB official defected to the West in Rome this summer. He is said to have detailed knowledge of Soviet operations in the U.S., Western Europe and Latin America. And this is one of only several KGB setbacks recently.

NBC's John Dancy: The expulsion of 31 Soviets for spying has devastated the KGB's operations in Britain. American intelligence sources confirm that the Soviet KGB chief in England, Oleg Gordievsky, has already revealed the names of more than 100 Britons working for the Soviets. The Gordievsky affair is only the latest in a long run of setbacks for the KGB. Since 1983, American intelligence sources say 216 Soviets have been expelled for spying from countries ranging from Austria to Zaire. That compares with 204 expelled in the preceding eight years. The reason: the Soviet drive to steal Western high-tech secrets. Many experts say it has made the KGB reckless. Then too, there is the good life in the West, seductive to KGB agents who tend to be increasingly well-educated and worldly. (Former CIA Director William Colby: "In the old days it used to be we had people who would work for them for ideological reasons. But they don't have any ideological appeal anymore to any sensible person. Soviet society is a disaster.") All of this has encouraged the American intelligence community. After the Walker spy case, suddenly it is the KGB that is taking heavy losses. (NBC-5)

RAINBOW WARRIOR

Rather: The State Department said it would be inappropriate to comment on or condemn France for its involvement in the bombing of the Greenpeace flagship that killed one person. And Vice President Bush, head of a presidential task force on terrorism, was asked today if he thought the French action was terrorism. Said Bush: "I'm not going to go into that." (CBS-4)

AIDS

ABC's Richard Threlkeld reports the fear of AIDS is much more contagious than the disease. (Gay man: "I beg my President to care. I beg my President to be moved. I beg my President to act.") The President did mention it the other night. (President in news conference: "Yes, there's no question about the seriousness of this and the need to find an answer.") The government's been taking precautions. It will soon be screening all military recruits to see if they have been exposed to AIDS. But it's been slow in committing money and resources to find an answer. (ABC-7)

(Wednesday Evening, September 25, 1985)

TERRORIST ATTACKS

Rather: Two separate terror attacks, in Italy and Cyprus. In Rome, a 16-year-old Palestinian bombed a British Airways ticket office. Fourteen were wounded, some seriously. The bombing was within a block of the U.S. Embassy. In the Cyprus attack, police closed in on a yacht where three Palestinians held three Israeli hostages. The Palestinians eventually surrendered, police discovering they had already killed the three Israeli hostages hours earlier.

(ABC-6, NBC-3, CBS-5)

CHINA/FAMILY PLANNING

Rather: Word tonight of a major switch in the quarter-century-old U.S. program to provide family planning help overseas, a switch that may also cause major problems between Washington and Peking. The Reagan Administration made an official determination that Mainland China's policy of limiting couples to just one child amounts to a policy of "coercive abortion and involuntary sterilization."

(CBS-8)

BLACK AMERICA/CRIME

NBC's Noah Nelson reports that in many black communities, the danger is real. In black America, crime has become a life-draining force. The leading cause of death for black men under 25 is murder. Crime's thrust has not gone unanswered. Across the country, community groups are inspiring people to fight back as well as work in tandem with the police. But even the best of intentions haven't slowed the growth of the criminal subculture, which some fear is sucking up an entire generation of black youth.

(NBC-6)

BLANKSTEN

ABC's Chris Burie reports college professor George Blanksten was declared dead in February when the Social Security sent a letter addressed to George's estate saying it wouldn't pay a medical bill because, according to their records, he was dead. Each month for five months, George filled out forms saying he was alive. George says he went to the local Social Security office twice to prove it, but discovered that details of his death were confidential. Fed up, George contacted his congressman, who got Social Security to investigate. In July, it wrote, "A specially trained person reviewed this claim and we have found the decision was correct." In other words, they said George was still dead. So he wrote Chicago columnist Mike Royko, who printed the story. This week, Social Security officially brought George back to life, blaming the mixup on computer error. Now back from the dead, Blanksten faces a cold fact of bureaucratic life. He'll have to pay the Medicare premiums he didn't pay while Social Security had him dead.

(ABC-8)

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EDITORIALS/COLUMNISTS

EXCHANGE RATES/PROTECTIONISM

Free Trade -- "The only way to remove the trade war menace is to get our economic house in order by reducing the budget deficits which are the source of just about all of the world's economic afflictions; and the only way this can be achieved is to restrain the increase in entitlement programs, scale back defense spending, and increase revenue -- in roughly equal amounts." (Baltimore Evening Sun, 9/24)

The Plaza Accords -- "The protectionist surge of recent weeks has been unnerving to those with a memory of the Great Depression, which was caused in large part by high tariffs. If the Plaza agreement is for real, it's a far better way of cutting through the array of economic problems that beset us." (Detroit News, 9/24)

Targeting The Dollar -- "The Reagan Administration's planned attempt to rein in the superdollar may work well, it may work a little bit or it may not work at all. But it is worth a try." (Chicago Sun-Times, 9/24)

The U.S. Has The Power To Cure Its Own Trade Problems -- "The astonishing thing is not that the finance ministers of five major industrial nations agreed Sunday that something has to be done about the high dollar and the U.S. trade deficit. It is, rather, their implicit acknowledgment that the United States under Ronald Reagan isn't going to do it: Somebody else must help bail us out of our difficulties, because neither Congress nor the President is prepared to deal with the federal deficit, which is the prime cause of our boggling trade deficit and our overmuscled dollar." (Detroit Free Press, 9/24)

A Presidential Shift -- "Rep. O'Neill and his fellow congressional mossbacks in both parties can think of no other way to help the U.S. economy except more and bigger trade barriers. That was tried before, in the 1930s. Some people call it protectionism, others call it the Great Depression. In either case, it's a proven method of punishing consumers, lowering the standard of living, killing existing jobs and preventing the creation of new ones.... The President won't provide lasting help unless he attacks the root cause of the trade imbalance and the overvalued dollar, and that is the killer deficit in the federal budget. To do that, he must be willing to increase government revenue as well as make further cuts in spending. If he can't bring himself to take this third step, the mossbacks will get their way after all." (Chicago Tribune, 9/25)

Exchange Rate Interruptus -- "...the trade imbalance will likely remain as long as the deficit does. To that end, the Administration remains as hypocritical as its Capitol Hill opponents. Cutting taxes and raising expenditures was a joint effort. Reversing those mistakes will also be a joint effort. There are cuts available in social spending, and many more in defense. Combined with a reasonable tax increase, the deficit could be reduced substantially-and quickly." (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 9/24)

ACID RAIN

U.S. Sees Light On Danger Of Acid Rain -- "It appears the Reagan Administration has finally realized that it won't solve the acid rain problem by hoping it will go away or studying it to death.... The problem has been studied enough. Now we have to do something about it. And it appears Drew Lewis, the President's special acid-rain envoy, agrees. In a meeting with New England governors, Lewis told them that he would recommend a cleanup program." (San Diego Union, 9/23)

Out Of The Blue -- Drew Lewis, President Reagan's special envoy on the acid-rain issue, has really muddled the waters. He told a New England governors' meeting recently that 'saying sulfates do not cause acid rain is the same as saying that smoking does not cause cancer.' Up until now, of course, the Administration has been urging more scientific research before proposing any massive cleanup program. But Mr. Lewis is signaling some sort of compromise -- a 'modest' \$1 billion program. His totally unexpected compromise idea makes no economic, political or scientific sense.... Mr. Lewis's plan for a compromise on acid rain not only lacks a sound scientific base, but politically it's likely to backfire.... The Administration should stick to its position that acid rain requires more research before any federal action is contemplated. That is not evasion of the issue. The ones who are evading the issue are those who, like Mr.(Drew) Lewis, think, quite erroneously, that the acid-rain case has been made." (Wall Street Journal, 9/24)

SDI

Reagan's Scary Position on Star Wars -- "If President Reagan really meant what he said Tuesday night when he ruled out negotiations on the development and testing of his Star Wars missile-defense program, he dealt a crippling blow to the cause of arms control....Previously, Reagan and other officials had said they would simply share Star Wars technology with the Soviets, not bargain it away. That suggestion has been almost universally derided, and it is perhaps significant that Reagan did not repeat it Tuesday night. Actually, the whole idea of Star Wars is faulty. In order to make nuclear weapons impotent and obsolete, the defense system would have to be virtually airtight....Only in the absence of missile defenses can the two sides feel safe enough to cut their missile forces. The logic of deterrence is bizarre and macabre, but it has stood the test of time and -- however precariously -- preserved the peace." (Milwaukee Journal, 9/19)

AIDS

Gay-Rights Movement's Failure to Face Real AIDS Issue -- "Rep. Gerry Studds' criticism of President Reagan for not doing enough to find a cure for AIDS is a good illustration of why the gay movement is losing credibility among politicians as well as among the public....Knocking Reagan is a popular local pastime that sells well among the ultra-liberal voting blocs that have contributed so much to the national slide of the Democratic Party in recent times. But attacks from Studds and other gay spokesmen won't change the fact that homosexual activity is the most common risk factor in the spread of the disease...." (Boston Globe, 9/23)



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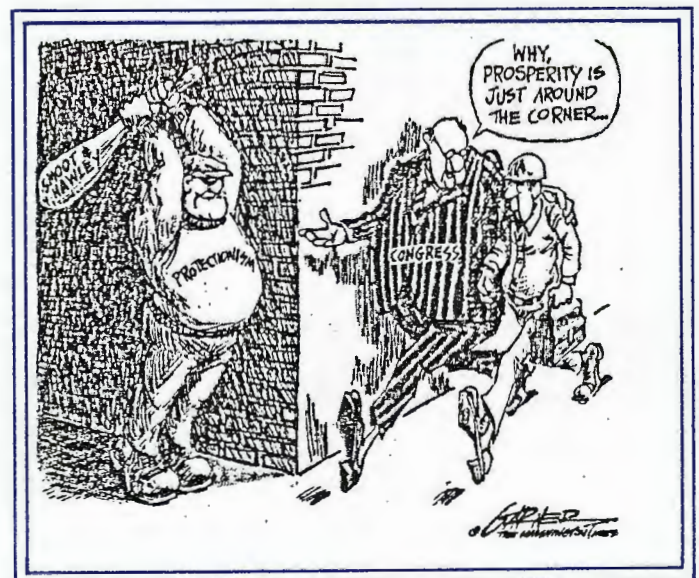
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(All Nets Lead)

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A U.S. official who participated in the meeting said it "broke no new ground on either side." The official declined to say whether the Soviets might present a new proposal in the meeting with Reagan.

(Don Oberdorfer, Washington Post, A1)

Shultz, Shevardnadze Talk Freely, But Don't Agree

Shultz said (he and Shevardnadze) did not agree on a thing, even though they appeared to get along wonderfully well in a four-hour meeting.

(Gregory Nokes, AP)

Shultz Says Soviets Offer Nothing New

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"The atmosphere was frank and our capacity of concentration was easy. We concentrated on security issues, most particularly the issue discussed by our negotiators in Geneva," Mr. Shultz said.

"We looked for points of contact and agreement but we did not reach" any agreement, Mr. Shultz added.

(Bill Kritzberg, Washington Times, A1)

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"I think it was most worthwhile," (Shultz) said, "and in addition represents a continuation of the ability of the Secretary of State and the Soviet Foreign Minister to exchange views in an easy and frank atmosphere."

(Bernard Gwertzman, New York Times, A1)

Shultz Calls Talks At U.N. 'Useful, Frank'

The four-hour meeting focused, according to Mr. Shultz, on the security issues that will dominate the November summit between President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

(Gilbert Lewthwaite, Baltimore Sun, A1)

MOSCOW'S 'STAR PEACE' PROPOSAL IS DISMISSED BY WHITE HOUSE

The White House yesterday dismissed Shevardnadze's proposal for a program of international cooperation in space he called "Star Peace" as having no relationship to President Reagan's proposed Strategic Defense Initiative, often called "Star Wars."

(Lou Cannon, Washington Post, A1)

WEINBERGER SAYS "STAR WARS" OFFERS GREATEST STRATEGIC HOPE

Secretary Weinberger said Wednesday that a "star wars" missile defense system "offers mankind the greatest hope of any strategic concept of at least 100 years."

Pentagon spokesman Robert Sims said Mr. Weinberger also discussed the defense budget ... and denied reports he planned to make deep cuts.
(Washington Times, A5)

Weinberger Optimistic About 'Star Wars' Future

A Pentagon spokesman said Weinberger made the comment during a luncheon on Capitol Hill Wednesday with 50 members of the Senate Republican Conference of Administrative Assistants.

(Daniel Gilmore, UPI)

SOVIET KGB OFFICIAL REPORTEDLY DEFECTS

NEW YORK -- U.S. Intelligence sources have confirmed that a Soviet Foreign Ministry official who disappeared last month in Rome is a KGB officer who has defected to the West, according to an NBC news report Wednesday.
(AP)

SHIP SINKING CRISIS BUILDS HEAT ON U.S.

The United States remained tight-lipped Wednesday as pressure mounted on the Reagan Administration to take a stand on the French sinking of a nuclear protest vessel, the Rainbow Warrior, and to act against French nuclear tests in the South Pacific.

State Department spokesman Peter Martinez told reporters Wednesday the "Greenpeace Affair" is a matter between France and New Zealand.
(Dave Doubrava, Washington Times, A7)

U.S. REDUCES BIRTH CONTROL UNIT'S FUNDS

The Reagan Administration withdrew a \$10 million grant to the U.N. Fund for Population Activities yesterday and cast all future funding in doubt because of UNFPA's involvement in China's family planning program, which the Administration concludes involves coercive abortion.

(Lionel Barber, Washington Post, A1)

U.S. Shifts Family Planning Aid

Population control lobbyists in Washington immediately condemned the action, saying it would lead to a total end of American support, which provides about one-third of the agency's financing.

(New York Times, A11)

SKEPTICAL OFFICIALS AWAIT SOVIET ARMS-CUT OFFER

Skeptical Reagan Administration officials said yesterday that an anticipated new Soviet proposal to reduce strategic nuclear weapons could be, as one arms control analyst put it, "either a small step forward or a large step backward" from earlier Moscow proposals.

"The devil is in the details," a key Pentagon official said yesterday, voicing what several officials said was the initial reaction to the "vague" descriptions of the offer hinted at by Soviet officials and now circulation within the U.S. government. (Walter Pincus, Washington Post, A21)

President Reagan was expected to hear from Secretary Shultz on his meeting in New York with Shevardnadze.

Reagan will meet in the Shevardnadze in the oval office Friday and the whole range of summit issues -- from arms control to human rights -- was on the agenda.

Spokesman Larry Speakes said Wednesday said Wednesday, "We are not at all concerned about the Soviet propaganda blitz that has taken place over the last several months." (Ira Allen, AP)

SOVIET PLAN FOR SUMMIT PREPARATION: CRITICIZE U.S. AND COURT ITS CRITICS

MOSCOW -- The Soviet Union has adopted a two-pronged public relations strategy leading up to the Geneva summit meeting, increasing anti-U.S. rhetoric at home to lower expectations, while abroad it is avoiding direct confrontation with the Reagan Administration and appealing to critics of U.S. arms control positions, according to western analysts here. (Gary Lee, Washington Post, A20)

TERMS FOR DUARTE'S DAUGHTER SET

SAN SALVADOR -- Rebels who claim to have kidnapped the daughter of President Duarte made apparently new demands Wednesday in a radio conversation with the government.

The (rebel group) previously demanded the release of 34 people it said the government had jailed on rebellion charges.

The government has refused to comment on the case. (AP)

REAGAN ADVISER GIVES ELECTION TIPS TO FRENCH OPPOSITION

FRANCE -- The man who masterminded President Reagan's 1984 election campaign, Ed Rollins, has been teaching French Liberals how to win votes.

"There may be great differences between the political systems in France and the United States, but the techniques of communication are the same," the 42-year-old Rollins told an eager Republican Party (PR) audience.

The PR hopes these basic techniques will enable it and its right-wing allies to oust the Socialist government from power in parliamentary elections next March. (Andrew Higgins, Reuter)

-more-

NATIONAL NEWS

FARM POLICY DEBATE MOVING TO CENTER STAGE IN CONGRESS

The House plans to begin voting today on a 1985 farm bill, beginning with controversial amendments that would pay dairy farmers not to produce and would continue to prop up sugar producers. The Senate is scheduled to begin debate on its bill on Oct. 15.

The Reagan Administration contends that federal support must end now, requiring farmers to adjust to lower prices and diminished markets. The other side, which includes sizable numbers of Republicans, argue that the government put farmers in their present fix and must help extract them with compassion and generosity.

(Ward Sinclair, Washington Post, A1)

Effort For Alternative Farm Bill Is Bipartisan

Secretary Block said Wednesday that Administration officials are working with a group of Senate Democrats to develop an alternative to the farm bill approved by the Senate Agriculture Committee last week.

(Stephanie Nall, Washington Times, A5)

USDA CRITICIZED FOR PROMOTING FARM POLICIES

The Agriculture Department agency that handles farm programs is under fire for using its network of state and county officials to promote the Reagan Administration's "market-oriented" farm policies.

But the agency, the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, says its actions are legal and not out of the ordinary. The National Farmers Union also chided the agency for easing travel restrictions so state and local officials could spread the word.

(Don Kendall, AP)

PRESIDENT TO SEND HECKLER TO IRELAND

President Reagan has made a final decision to name HHS Secretary Margaret Heckler to be ambassador to Ireland, clearing the way for the White House to replace her in the important cabinet post, a source said Wednesday.

The final decision was made Tuesday, but Mrs. Heckler's departure from the cabinet has long been in the works because of White House dissatisfaction with her performance, a senior U.S. official said.

"We don't figure she can get into too much trouble in Ireland," one Administration official said. (Jeremiah O'Leary, Washington Times, A1)

REAGAN NAMES FRIED TO BECOME SOLICITOR GENERAL

President Reagan named Charles Fried to be solicitor general, a post Mr. Fried has filled temporarily since June.

Mr. Fried, 50 years old, was a professor at Harvard Law School before becoming a deputy solicitor general last February.

(Stephen Wermeil, Wall Street Journal, 64)

ROSTENKOWSKI'S PROPOSAL WOULD SHIFT TAX-REVISION BENEFITS AWAY FROM RICH

The alternatives to President Reagan's tax proposal that will be submitted to the House Ways and Means Committee by Chairman Dan Rostenkowski Thursday will attempt to shift some of the financial benefits of tax revision away from higher-income taxpayers and "traditional" families, congressional sources said yesterday.

The White House, meanwhile, insisted that support for tax revision is increasing as Reagan promotes it in his series of trips around the country. Spokesman Larry Speakes took issue with a Washington Post-ABC News poll that found 22 percent of the respondents in favor of the Reagan tax plan, 22 percent opposed and 56 percent with no opinion. Slightly more people oppose the plan now than did in June, just after it was proposed.

Speakes blamed public cynicism chiefly on the news media.

"There has been a fairly steady drumbeat of skepticism in this press room, and in other press rooms, for two years on the President's tax plan," Speakes said. He added that built-in bias toward a tax-reform plan is augmented by special-interest groups beating the drums in favor of their various interests.

(Anne Swardson, Washington Post, A7)

BENNETT BRANDS NATION'S BILINGUAL EDUCATION PROGRAM A FAILURE

Secretary Bennett, labeling the government's bilingual education program a failure, said today he will press for changes to allow more schools to offer intensive English classes instead of instructing in student's native languages.

(Christopher Connell, AP)

For Release at 10:00 a.m. EDT September 26, 1985

Bennett Speech Renews Bilingual Teaching Row

There are cases in Texas ... where non-English speaking Asian immigrant children are sitting in bilingual education classes where spanish is being taught.

(Carol Innerst, Washington Times, A1)

Bennett said it will be up to the school districts to see what method works best. But he made it clear that he feels the schools have been devoting too much time and too many resources to teaching in Spanish and other foreign languages.

(Christopher Connell, AP)

U.S. Wants To Let States Run Bilingual Education

James J. Lyons, legislative counsel to the National Association for Bilingual Education, called the proposals, "a smoke screen for cutting bilingual programs."

(Baltimore Sun, A16)

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ADMINISTRATION WANTS JUDGES WHO WON'T MAKE SOCIAL POLICY, MEESE AIDE SAYS

The Reagan Administration wants federal judges who will avoid pushing social policies -- be they liberal or conservative -- according to a Justice Department official who interviews candidates for the bench.

Grover Rees, a special assistant to Attorney General Meese, says allegations by administration critics that President Reagan wants to "pack" the federal bench with conservative ideologues is untrue, and that candidates aren't being asked their personal views on such controversial issues as abortion and school prayer. (Merrill Hartson, AP)

GSA TO SHIFT BUILDING CONTROL TO OCCUPYING AGENCIES

Authority for renting, managing and maintaining the 6,980 federally leased or owned buildings will be transferred by the General Services Administration next year to the agencies occupying them.

The landmark change in the duties of the federal government's housekeeping agency is the product of an executive order signed earlier this year by President Reagan and is being implemented by GSA Administrator Terence Golden through that agency's \$2.6 billion Public Buildings Office. (Mark Tapscott, Washington Times, A4)

FBI DIRECTOR SUBPOENAED IN AGENT'S ESPIONAGE TRIAL

FBI Director Webster has been subpoenaed has been the defense to testify in the trial of Richard Miller, the only agent ever charged with espionage, it was revealed in court yesterday. (Washington Times, A4)

CONGRESS INVESTIGATES BANKING CHAIRMAN

The House Ethics Committee has launched into an investigation into allegations that Banking Committee Chairman Benjamin St. Germain amassed a multimillion dollar personal fortune with investment help from those he aided as committee chairman, according to congressional sources.

(George Archibald, Washington Times, A1)

CONGRESS SOFTLY BRIDGES FISCAL GAP

Congress, acting with unusual speed and restraint, gave final approval yesterday to a no-frills, 45-day extension of spending authority to fund the government after the new fiscal year starts next Tuesday.

The Senate gave voice-vote approval to a House-passed continuing resolution and sent it to President Reagan, who has indicated he will sign it. (Helen Dewar, Washington Post, A4)

Senate Passes 'Clean' Stopgap Bill

The Senate Wednesday quietly passed a stopgap measure to pay for most government operations after Monday, the last day of the government's fiscal year, postponing a fight with the Administration and the House.

(Thomas Brandt, Washington Times, A3)

CONGRESS GETS OPPOSITE VIEWS ON ECONOMY'S FUTURE

President Reagan's top economic adviser is sticking by the Administration forecast of strong growth next year but a leading private expert is warning Congress that too many unknowns cloud the future.

Despite slow growth this year, Beryl Sprinkel, head of Reagan's Council of Economic Advisers, told a Joint Economic Subcommittee Wednesday that he stood by the Administration's prediction the economy would jump 4 percent in 1986.

But Sprinkel's rosy outlook was not matched by Alan Greenspan, who argued, "Growth prospects at present depend critically on a rebound in inventory investment, which has been significantly retarded in some quarters."

(Joseph Mianowany, AP)

9 KLAN MEMBERS ACCUSED OF PLOT TO VIOLATE RIGHTS

Nine Ku Klux Klan members in North Carolina have been indicted on charges of conspiring to violate the rights of interracial families in a series of cross burnings and shootings, the Justice Department said yesterday.

William Bradford Reynolds, chief of the department's civil rights division, said the charges followed a two-year probe by the FBI of racial violence in two North Carolina counties.

(Washington Post, A14)

Federal Jury In Carolina Indicts 9 In Klan After 2-Year Probe

Reynolds announced the indictments in Washington.

(John McCaslin, Washington Times, A2)

BLACKS ENCOURAGED TO PRESSURE MEDIA

Dwight M. Ellis, President of the National Association of Broadcasters, said the Reagan Administration's opposition to affirmative action has been a signal to whites in broadcasting and journalism that they no longer have to make special efforts to treat blacks equitably.

(Juan Williams, Washington Post, A1)

EDITOR'S NOTE: Page 1B of the Washington Times contains a lengthy excerpt from Bill Adler's new book, "Ronnie and Nancy: A Very Special Love Story."

-end of A-Section-

NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY

(Wednesday Evening, September 25, 1985)

GLORIA

CBS's Dan Rather: With top winds of 150 mph, for the Atlantic Coast it could be the storm of the century. Hurricane Gloria is threatening the Eastern Seaboard. The hurricane is still 550 miles out in the Atlantic, but already it's drawing a bead on the Outer Banks of North Carolina. (ALL NETS LEAD)

ARMS CONTROL

Rather: After having their separate say in public about who has the better ideas on arms control, Secretary Shultz and FM Shevardnadze met at the Soviet U.N. Mission to word-wrestle about it in private. All the talking and hard-sell on both sides is a rehearsal for the main event, the Reagan-Gorbachev summit in November. And on that score, diplomatic sources told Lesley Stahl that Shevardnadze is carrying a new arms control proposal for the summit. At the very least, it would allow the two leaders to announce that they will continue to abide by the SALT II and ABM treaties even though each side believes the other may be violating the treaties with its latest military research programs. (CBS-3)

ABC's John McWethy reports from the Soviet Mission in New York: While waiting for Secretary Shultz to arrive, FM Shevardnadze surprised reporters inside the Soviet Mission by coming over to chat, one of many indications of a new public relations and image consciousness by the Soviets. When the seven-man American delegation arrived, Secretary Shultz drew cheers from Jewish worshippers at a synagogue across the street. Shevardnadze, again showing media savvy, broke with tradition and came out onto the sidewalk to greet Shultz. Inside, while posing for still more pictures, Shevardnadze again surprised observers by apologizing to Shultz for missing the Secretary's speech at the U.N. on Monday. U.S. officials anticipated at today's session they would receive the broad outlines of a new Soviet arms control proposal -- one that the Kremlin has been dropping hints about for the last two months. After today's session, which lasted for more than four hours, both Shultz and Shevardnadze came out to talk to reporters.

(Shultz: "We did not reach an agreement on any of these items, but we certainly did discuss each other's positions with great care.") According to Shultz there was no new proposal advanced by the Soviets today. (ABC-4)

NBC's Tom Brokaw: Both countries see the Shultz-Shevardnadze meeting as an important step on the road to November's summit between President Reagan and Mikhail Gorbachev. Both Shevardnadze and Shultz said they expected some concrete results from today's meeting, but after it ended, Secretary Shultz said there was an exchange of ideas but nothing new was put on the table. (NBC-4)

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(Wednesday, September 25, 1985)

KGB DEFECTORS

Brokaw: Intelligence sources in Washington have confirmed reports that a very high KGB official defected to the West in Rome this summer. He is said to have detailed knowledge of Soviet operations in the U.S., Western Europe and Latin America. And this is one of only several KGB setbacks recently.

NBC's John Dancy: The expulsion of 31 Soviets for spying has devastated the KGB's operations in Britain. American intelligence sources confirm that the Soviet KGB chief in England, Oleg Gordievsky, has already revealed the names of more than 100 Britons working for the Soviets. The Gordievsky affair is only the latest in a long run of setbacks for the KGB. Since 1983, American intelligence sources say 216 Soviets have been expelled for spying from countries ranging from Austria to Zaire. That compares with 204 expelled in the preceding eight years. The reason: the Soviet drive to steal Western high-tech secrets. Many experts say it has made the KGB reckless. Then too, there is the good life in the West, seductive to KGB agents who tend to be increasingly well-educated and worldly. (Former CIA Director William Colby: "In the old days it used to be we had people who would work for them for ideological reasons. But they don't have any ideological appeal anymore to any sensible person. Soviet society is a disaster.") All of this has encouraged the American intelligence community. After the Walker spy case, suddenly it is the KGB that is taking heavy losses. (NBC-5)

RAINBOW WARRIOR

Rather: The State Department said it would be inappropriate to comment on or condemn France for its involvement in the bombing of the Greenpeace flagship that killed one person. And Vice President Bush, head of a presidential task force on terrorism, was asked today if he thought the French action was terrorism. Said Bush: "I'm not going to go into that." (CBS-4)

AIDS

ABC's Richard Threlkeld reports the fear of AIDS is much more contagious than the disease. (Gay man: "I beg my President to care. I beg my President to be moved. I beg my President to act.") The President did mention it the other night. (President in news conference: "Yes, there's no question about the seriousness of this and the need to find an answer.") The government's been taking precautions. It will soon be screening all military recruits to see if they have been exposed to AIDS. But it's been slow in committing money and resources to find an answer. (ABC-7)

(Wednesday Evening, September 25, 1985)

TERRORIST ATTACKS

Rather: Two separate terror attacks, in Italy and Cyprus. In Rome, a 16-year-old Palestinian bombed a British Airways ticket office. Fourteen were wounded, some seriously. The bombing was within a block of the U.S. Embassy. In the Cyprus attack, police closed in on a yacht where three Palestinians held three Israeli hostages. The Palestinians eventually surrendered, police discovering they had already killed the three Israeli hostages hours earlier.

(ABC-6, NBC-3, CBS-5)

CHINA/FAMILY PLANNING

Rather: Word tonight of a major switch in the quarter-century-old U.S. program to provide family planning help overseas, a switch that may also cause major problems between Washington and Peking. The Reagan Administration made an official determination that Mainland China's policy of limiting couples to just one child amounts to a policy of "coercive abortion and involuntary sterilization."

(CBS-8)

BLACK AMERICA/CRIME

NBC's Noah Nelson reports that in many black communities, the danger is real. In black America, crime has become a life-draining force. The leading cause of death for black men under 25 is murder. Crime's thrust has not gone unanswered. Across the country, community groups are inspiring people to fight back as well as work in tandem with the police. But even the best of intentions haven't slowed the growth of the criminal subculture, which some fear is sucking up an entire generation of black youth.

(NBC-6)

BLANKSTEN

ABC's Chris Burie reports college professor George Blanksten was declared dead in February when the Social Security sent a letter addressed to George's estate saying it wouldn't pay a medical bill because, according to their records, he was dead. Each month for five months, George filled out forms saying he was alive. George says he went to the local Social Security office twice to prove it, but discovered that details of his death were confidential. Fed up, George contacted his congressman, who got Social Security to investigate. In July, it wrote, "A specially trained person reviewed this claim and we have found the decision was correct." In other words, they said George was still dead. So he wrote Chicago columnist Mike Royko, who printed the story. This week, Social Security officially brought George back to life, blaming the mixup on computer error. Now back from the dead, Blanksten faces a cold fact of bureaucratic life. He'll have to pay the Medicare premiums he didn't pay while Social Security had him dead.

(ABC-8)

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EDITORIALS/COLUMNISTS

EXCHANGE RATES/PROTECTIONISM

Free Trade -- "The only way to remove the trade war menace is to get our economic house in order by reducing the budget deficits which are the source of just about all of the world's economic afflictions; and the only way this can be achieved is to restrain the increase in entitlement programs, scale back defense spending, and increase revenue -- in roughly equal amounts." (Baltimore Evening Sun, 9/24)

The Plaza Accords -- "The protectionist surge of recent weeks has been unnerving to those with a memory of the Great Depression, which was caused in large part by high tariffs. If the Plaza agreement is for real, it's a far better way of cutting through the array of economic problems that beset us." (Detroit News, 9/24)

Targeting The Dollar -- "The Reagan Administration's planned attempt to rein in the superdollar may work well, it may work a little bit or it may not work at all. But it is worth a try." (Chicago Sun-Times, 9/24)

The U.S. Has The Power To Cure Its Own Trade Problems -- "The astonishing thing is not that the finance ministers of five major industrial nations agreed Sunday that something has to be done about the high dollar and the U.S. trade deficit. It is, rather, their implicit acknowledgment that the United States under Ronald Reagan isn't going to do it: Somebody else must help bail us out of our difficulties, because neither Congress nor the President is prepared to deal with the federal deficit, which is the prime cause of our boggling trade deficit and our overmuscled dollar." (Detroit Free Press, 9/24)

A Presidential Shift -- "Rep. O'Neill and his fellow congressional mossbacks in both parties can think of no other way to help the U.S. economy except more and bigger trade barriers. That was tried before, in the 1930s. Some people call it protectionism, others call it the Great Depression. In either case, it's a proven method of punishing consumers, lowering the standard of living, killing existing jobs and preventing the creation of new ones.... The President won't provide lasting help unless he attacks the root cause of the trade imbalance and the overvalued dollar, and that is the killer deficit in the federal budget. To do that, he must be willing to increase government revenue as well as make further cuts in spending. If he can't bring himself to take this third step, the mossbacks will get their way after all." (Chicago Tribune, 9/25)

Exchange Rate Interruptus -- "...the trade imbalance will likely remain as long as the deficit does. To that end, the Administration remains as hypocritical as its Capitol Hill opponents. Cutting taxes and raising expenditures was a joint effort. Reversing those mistakes will also be a joint effort. There are cuts available in social spending, and many more in defense. Combined with a reasonable tax increase, the deficit could be reduced substantially-and quickly." (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 9/24)

ACID RAIN

U.S. Sees Light On Danger Of Acid Rain -- "It appears the Reagan Administration has finally realized that it won't solve the acid rain problem by hoping it will go away or studying it to death.... The problem has been studied enough. Now we have to do something about it. And it appears Drew Lewis, the President's special acid-rain envoy, agrees. In a meeting with New England governors, Lewis told them that he would recommend a cleanup program." (San Diego Union, 9/23)

Out Of The Blue -- Drew Lewis, President Reagan's special envoy on the acid-rain issue, has really muddled the waters. He told a New England governors' meeting recently that 'saying sulfates do not cause acid rain is the same as saying that smoking does not cause cancer.' Up until now, of course, the Administration has been urging more scientific research before proposing any massive cleanup program. But Mr. Lewis is signaling some sort of compromise -- a 'modest' \$1 billion program. His totally unexpected compromise idea makes no economic, political or scientific sense.... Mr. Lewis's plan for a compromise on acid rain not only lacks a sound scientific base, but politically it's likely to backfire.... The Administration should stick to its position that acid rain requires more research before any federal action is contemplated. That is not evasion of the issue. The ones who are evading the issue are those who, like Mr.(Drew) Lewis, think, quite erroneously, that the acid-rain case has been made." (Wall Street Journal, 9/24)

SDI

Reagan's Scary Position on Star Wars -- "If President Reagan really meant what he said Tuesday night when he ruled out negotiations on the development and testing of his Star Wars missile-defense program, he dealt a crippling blow to the cause of arms control....Previously, Reagan and other officials had said they would simply share Star Wars technology with the Soviets, not bargain it away. That suggestion has been almost universally derided, and it is perhaps significant that Reagan did not repeat it Tuesday night. Actually, the whole idea of Star Wars is faulty. In order to make nuclear weapons impotent and obsolete, the defense system would have to be virtually airtight....Only in the absence of missile defenses can the two sides feel safe enough to cut their missile forces. The logic of deterrence is bizarre and macabre, but it has stood the test of time and -- however precariously -- preserved the peace." (Milwaukee Journal, 9/19)

AIDS

Gay-Rights Movement's Failure to Face Real AIDS Issue -- "Rep. Gerry Studds' criticism of President Reagan for not doing enough to find a cure for AIDS is a good illustration of why the gay movement is losing credibility among politicians as well as among the public....Knocking Reagan is a popular local pastime that sells well among the ultra-liberal voting blocs that have contributed so much to the national slide of the Democratic Party in recent times. But attacks from Studds and other gay spokesmen won't change the fact that homosexual activity is the most common risk factor in the spread of the disease...." (Boston Globe, 9/23)



News Summary

OFFICE OF THE PRESS SECRETARY

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1985 -- 6 a.m. EDT EDITION

TODAY'S HEADLINES

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Shultz, Soviet Hold Long Talks -- Secretary of State Shultz and Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze met for four hours and twenty minutes at the United Nations Wednesday but did not narrow the wide gap between the arms control positions of the two nations, according to U.S. aides.

(Washington Post, New York Times, Washington Times, Baltimore Sun, AP, UPI, Reuter)

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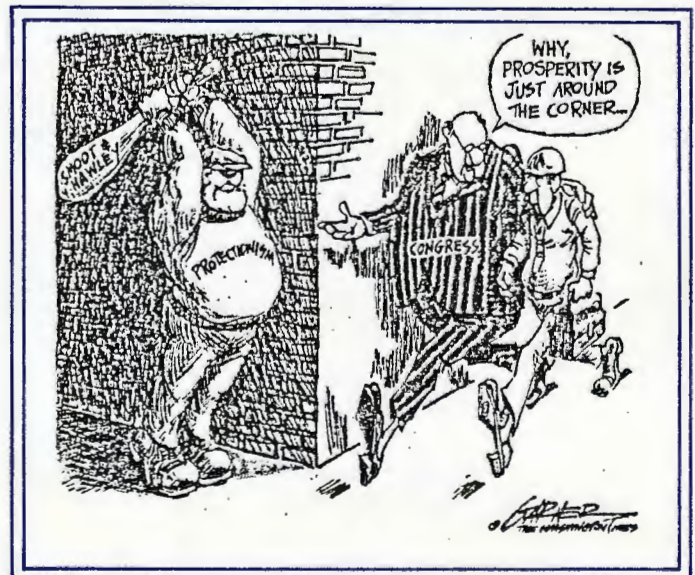
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NETWORK NEWS (Wednesday Evening)

HURRICANE GLORIA -- With top winds of 150 mph, for the Atlantic Coast it could be the storm of the century. Hurricane Gloria is threatening the Eastern Seaboard.

(All Nets Lead)

ARMS CONTROL -- After it ended, Secretary Shultz said his meeting with Shevardnadze resulted in an exchange of ideas but nothing new was put on the table.



INTERNATIONAL NEWS

SHULTZ, SOVIET HOLD LONG TALKS

NEW YORK -- Secretary Shultz and Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze met today but did not narrow the wide gap between the arms control positions of the two nations, according to U.S. aides.

A U.S. official who participated in the meeting said it "broke no new ground on either side." The official declined to say whether the Soviets might present a new proposal in the meeting with Reagan.

(Don Oberdorfer, Washington Post, A1)

Shultz, Shevardnadze Talk Freely, But Don't Agree

Shultz said (he and Shevardnadze) did not agree on a thing, even though they appeared to get along wonderfully well in a four-hour meeting.

(Gregory Nokes, AP)

Shultz Says Soviets Offer Nothing New

UNITED NATIONS -- Secretary Shultz, after a meeting with Shevardnadze, said Wednesday the Soviet Union offered no new proposals.

"The atmosphere was frank and our capacity of concentration was easy. We concentrated on security issues, most particularly the issue discussed by our negotiators in Geneva," Mr. Shultz said.

"We looked for points of contact and agreement but we did not reach any agreement, Mr. Shultz added.

(Bill Kritzberg, Washington Times, A1)

Soviet Aide Offers No New Arms Plan In Meeting Shultz

"I think it was most worthwhile," (Shultz) said, "and in addition represents a continuation of the ability of the Secretary of State and the Soviet Foreign Minister to exchange views in an easy and frank atmosphere."

(Bernard Gwertzman, New York Times, A1)

Shultz Calls Talks At U.N. 'Useful, Frank'

The four-hour meeting focused, according to Mr. Shultz, on the security issues that will dominate the November summit between President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

(Gilbert Lewthwaite, Baltimore Sun, A1)

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SOVIET PLAN FOR SUMMIT PREPARATION: CRITICIZE U.S. AND COURT ITS CRITICS

MOSCOW -- The Soviet Union has adopted a two-pronged public relations strategy leading up to the Geneva summit meeting, increasing anti-U.S. rhetoric at home to lower expectations, while abroad it is avoiding direct confrontation with the Reagan Administration and appealing to critics of U.S. arms control positions, according to western analysts here. (Gary Lee, Washington Post, A20)

TERMS FOR DUARTE'S DAUGHTER SET

SAN SALVADOR -- Rebels who claim to have kidnapped the daughter of President Duarte made apparently new demands Wednesday in a radio conversation with the government.

The (rebel group) previously demanded the release of 34 people it said the government had jailed on rebellion charges.

The government has refused to comment on the case. (AP)

REAGAN ADVISER GIVES ELECTION TIPS TO FRENCH OPPOSITION

FRANCE -- The man who masterminded President Reagan's 1984 election campaign, Ed Rollins, has been teaching French Liberals how to win votes.

"There may be great differences between the political systems in France and the United States, but the techniques of communication are the same," the 42-year-old Rollins told an eager Republican Party (PR) audience.

The PR hopes these basic techniques will enable it and its right-wing allies to oust the Socialist government from power in parliamentary elections next March. (Andrew Higgins, Reuter)

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NATIONAL NEWS

FARM POLICY DEBATE MOVING TO CENTER STAGE IN CONGRESS

The House plans to begin voting today on a 1985 farm bill, beginning with controversial amendments that would pay dairy farmers not to produce and would continue to prop up sugar producers. The Senate is scheduled to begin debate on its bill on Oct. 15.

The Reagan Administration contends that federal support must end now, requiring farmers to adjust to lower prices and diminished markets. The other side, which includes sizable numbers of Republicans, argue that the government put farmers in their present fix and must help extract them with compassion and generosity.

(Ward Sinclair, Washington Post, A1)

Effort For Alternative Farm Bill Is Bipartisan

Secretary Block said Wednesday that Administration officials are working with a group of Senate Democrats to develop an alternative to the farm bill approved by the Senate Agriculture Committee last week.

(Stephanie Nall, Washington Times, A5)

USDA CRITICIZED FOR PROMOTING FARM POLICIES

The Agriculture Department agency that handles farm programs is under fire for using its network of state and county officials to promote the Reagan Administration's "market-oriented" farm policies.

But the agency, the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, says its actions are legal and not out of the ordinary. The National Farmers Union also chided the agency for easing travel restrictions so state and local officials could spread the word.

(Don Kendall, AP)

PRESIDENT TO SEND HECKLER TO IRELAND

President Reagan has made a final decision to name HHS Secretary Margaret Heckler to be ambassador to Ireland, clearing the way for the White House to replace her in the important cabinet post, a source said Wednesday.

The final decision was made Tuesday, but Mrs. Heckler's departure from the cabinet has long been in the works because of White House dissatisfaction with her performance, a senior U.S. official said.

"We don't figure she can get into too much trouble in Ireland," one Administration official said. (Jeremiah O'Leary, Washington Times, A1)

REAGAN NAMES FRIED TO BECOME SOLICITOR GENERAL

President Reagan named Charles Fried to be solicitor general, a post Mr. Fried has filled temporarily since June.

Mr. Fried, 50 years old, was a professor at Harvard Law School before becoming a deputy solicitor general last February.

(Stephen Wermeil, Wall Street Journal, 64)

ROSTENKOWSKI'S PROPOSAL WOULD SHIFT TAX-REVISION BENEFITS AWAY FROM RICH

The alternatives to President Reagan's tax proposal that will be submitted to the House Ways and Means Committee by Chairman Dan Rostenkowski Thursday will attempt to shift some of the financial benefits of tax revision away from higher-income taxpayers and "traditional" families, congressional sources said yesterday.

The White House, meanwhile, insisted that support for tax revision is increasing as Reagan promotes it in his series of trips around the country. Spokesman Larry Speakes took issue with a Washington Post-ABC News poll that found 22 percent of the respondents in favor of the Reagan tax plan, 22 percent opposed and 56 percent with no opinion. Slightly more people oppose the plan now than did in June, just after it was proposed.

Speakes blamed public cynicism chiefly on the news media.

"There has been a fairly steady drumbeat of skepticism in this press room, and in other press rooms, for two years on the President's tax plan," Speakes said. He added that built-in bias toward a tax-reform plan is augmented by special-interest groups beating the drums in favor of their various interests. (Anne Swardson, Washington Post, A7)

BENNETT BRANDS NATION'S BILINGUAL EDUCATION PROGRAM A FAILURE

Secretary Bennett, labeling the government's bilingual education program a failure, said today he will press for changes to allow more schools to offer intensive English classes instead of instructing in student's native languages. (Christopher Connell, AP)

For Release at 10:00 a.m. EDT September 26, 1985

Bennett Speech Renews Bilingual Teaching Row

There are cases in Texas ... where non-English speaking Asian immigrant children are sitting in bilingual education classes where spanish is being taught. (Carol Innerst, Washington Times, A1)

Bennett said it will be up to the school districts to see what method works best. But he made it clear that he feels the schools have been devoting too much time and too many resources to teaching in Spanish and other foreign languages. (Christopher Connell, AP)

U.S. Wants To Let States Run Bilingual Education

James J. Lyons, legislative counsel to the National Association for Bilingual Education, called the proposals, "a smoke screen for cutting bilingual programs." (Baltimore Sun, A16)

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ADMINISTRATION WANTS JUDGES WHO WON'T MAKE SOCIAL POLICY, MEESE AIDE SAYS

The Reagan Administration wants federal judges who will avoid pushing social policies -- be they liberal or conservative -- according to a Justice Department official who interviews candidates for the bench.

Grover Rees, a special assistant to Attorney General Meese, says allegations by administration critics that President Reagan wants to "pack" the federal bench with conservative ideologues is untrue, and that candidates aren't being asked their personal views on such controversial issues as abortion and school prayer. (Merrill Hartson, AP)

GSA TO SHIFT BUILDING CONTROL TO OCCUPYING AGENCIES

Authority for renting, managing and maintaining the 6,980 federally leased or owned buildings will be transferred by the General Services Administration next year to the agencies occupying them.

The landmark change in the duties of the federal government's housekeeping agency is the product of an executive order signed earlier this year by President Reagan and is being implemented by GSA Administrator Terence Golden through that agency's \$2.6 billion Public Buildings Office. (Mark Tapscott, Washington Times, A4)

FBI DIRECTOR SUBPOENAED IN AGENT'S ESPIONAGE TRIAL

FBI Director Webster has been subpoenaed has been the defense to testify in the trial of Richard Miller, the only agent ever charged with espionage, it was revealed in court yesterday. (Washington Times, A4)

CONGRESS INVESTIGATES BANKING CHAIRMAN

The House Ethics Committee has launched into an investigation into allegations that Banking Committee Chairman Benjamin St. Germain amassed a multimillion dollar personal fortune with investment help from those he aided as committee chairman, according to congressional sources.

(George Archibald, Washington Times, A1)

CONGRESS SOFTLY BRIDGES FISCAL GAP

Congress, acting with unusual speed and restraint, gave final approval yesterday to a no-frills, 45-day extension of spending authority to fund the government after the new fiscal year starts next Tuesday.

The Senate gave voice-vote approval to a House-passed continuing resolution and sent it to President Reagan, who has indicated he will sign it. (Helen Dewar, Washington Post, A4)

Senate Passes 'Clean' Stopgap Bill

The Senate Wednesday quietly passed a stopgap measure to pay for most government operations after Monday, the last day of the government's fiscal year, postponing a fight with the Administration and the House.

(Thomas Brandt, Washington Times, A3)

CONGRESS GETS OPPOSITE VIEWS ON ECONOMY'S FUTURE

President Reagan's top economic adviser is sticking by the Administration forecast of strong growth next year but a leading private expert is warning Congress that too many unknowns cloud the future.

Despite slow growth this year, Beryl Sprinkel, head of Reagan's Council of Economic Advisers, told a Joint Economic Subcommittee Wednesday that he stood by the Administration's prediction the economy would jump 4 percent in 1986.

But Sprinkel's rosy outlook was not matched by Alan Greenspan, who argued, "Growth prospects at present depend critically on a rebound in inventory investment, which has been significantly retarded in some quarters."

(Joseph Mianowany, AP)

9 KLAN MEMBERS ACCUSED OF PLOT TO VIOLATE RIGHTS

Nine Ku Klux Klan members in North Carolina have been indicted on charges of conspiring to violate the rights of interracial families in a series of cross burnings and shootings, the Justice Department said yesterday.

William Bradford Reynolds, chief of the department's civil rights division, said the charges followed a two-year probe by the FBI of racial violence in two North Carolina counties.

(Washington Post, A14)

Federal Jury In Carolina Indicts 9 In Klan After 2-Year Probe

Reynolds announced the indictments in Washington.

(John McCaslin, Washington Times, A2)

BLACKS ENCOURAGED TO PRESSURE MEDIA

Dwight M. Ellis, President of the National Association of Broadcasters, said the Reagan Administration's opposition to affirmative action has been a signal to whites in broadcasting and journalism that they no longer have to make special efforts to treat blacks equitably.

(Juan Williams, Washington Post, A1)

EDITOR'S NOTE: Page 1B of the Washington Times contains a lengthy excerpt from Bill Adler's new book, "Ronnie and Nancy: A Very Special Love Story."

-end of A-Section-

NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY

(Wednesday Evening, September 25, 1985)

GLORIA

CBS's Dan Rather: With top winds of 150 mph, for the Atlantic Coast it could be the storm of the century. Hurricane Gloria is threatening the Eastern Seaboard. The hurricane is still 550 miles out in the Atlantic, but already it's drawing a bead on the Outer Banks of North Carolina. (ALL NETS LEAD)

ARMS CONTROL

Rather: After having their separate say in public about who has the better ideas on arms control, Secretary Shultz and FM Shevardnadze met at the Soviet U.N. Mission to word-wrestle about it in private. All the talking and hard-sell on both sides is a rehearsal for the main event, the Reagan-Gorbachev summit in November. And on that score, diplomatic sources told Lesley Stahl that Shevardnadze is carrying a new arms control proposal for the summit. At the very least, it would allow the two leaders to announce that they will continue to abide by the SALT II and ABM treaties even though each side believes the other may be violating the treaties with its latest military research programs. (CBS-3)

ABC's John McWethy reports from the Soviet Mission in New York: While waiting for Secretary Shultz to arrive, FM Shevardnadze surprised reporters inside the Soviet Mission by coming over to chat, one of many indications of a new public relations and image consciousness by the Soviets. When the seven-man American delegation arrived, Secretary Shultz drew cheers from Jewish worshippers at a synagogue across the street. Shevardnadze, again showing media savvy, broke with tradition and came out onto the sidewalk to greet Shultz. Inside, while posing for still more pictures, Shevardnadze again surprised observers by apologizing to Shultz for missing the Secretary's speech at the U.N. on Monday. U.S. officials anticipated at today's session they would receive the broad outlines of a new Soviet arms control proposal -- one that the Kremlin has been dropping hints about for the last two months. After today's session, which lasted for more than four hours, both Shultz and Shevardnadze came out to talk to reporters.

(Shultz: "We did not reach an agreement on any of these items, but we certainly did discuss each other's positions with great care.") According to Shultz there was no new proposal advanced by the Soviets today. (ABC-4)

NBC's Tom Brokaw: Both countries see the Shultz-Shevardnadze meeting as an important step on the road to November's summit between President Reagan and Mikhail Gorbachev. Both Shevardnadze and Shultz said they expected some concrete results from today's meeting, but after it ended, Secretary Shultz said there was an exchange of ideas but nothing new was put on the table. (NBC-4)

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(Wednesday, September 25, 1985)

KGB DEFECTORS

Brokaw: Intelligence sources in Washington have confirmed reports that a very high KGB official defected to the West in Rome this summer. He is said to have detailed knowledge of Soviet operations in the U.S., Western Europe and Latin America. And this is one of only several KGB setbacks recently.

NBC's John Dancy: The expulsion of 31 Soviets for spying has devastated the KGB's operations in Britain. American intelligence sources confirm that the Soviet KGB chief in England, Oleg Gordievsky, has already revealed the names of more than 100 Britons working for the Soviets. The Gordievsky affair is only the latest in a long run of setbacks for the KGB. Since 1983, American intelligence sources say 216 Soviets have been expelled for spying from countries ranging from Austria to Zaire. That compares with 204 expelled in the preceding eight years. The reason: the Soviet drive to steal Western high-tech secrets. Many experts say it has made the KGB reckless. Then too, there is the good life in the West, seductive to KGB agents who tend to be increasingly well-educated and worldly. (Former CIA Director William Colby: "In the old days it used to be we had people who would work for them for ideological reasons. But they don't have any ideological appeal anymore to any sensible person. Soviet society is a disaster.") All of this has encouraged the American intelligence community. After the Walker spy case, suddenly it is the KGB that is taking heavy losses. (NBC-5)

RAINBOW WARRIOR

Rather: The State Department said it would be inappropriate to comment on or condemn France for its involvement in the bombing of the Greenpeace flagship that killed one person. And Vice President Bush, head of a presidential task force on terrorism, was asked today if he thought the French action was terrorism. Said Bush: "I'm not going to go into that." (CBS-4)

AIDS

ABC's Richard Threlkeld reports the fear of AIDS is much more contagious than the disease. (Gay man: "I beg my President to care. I beg my President to be moved. I beg my President to act.") The President did mention it the other night. (President in news conference: "Yes, there's no question about the seriousness of this and the need to find an answer.") The government's been taking precautions. It will soon be screening all military recruits to see if they have been exposed to AIDS. But it's been slow in committing money and resources to find an answer. (ABC-7)

(Wednesday Evening, September 25, 1985)

TERRORIST ATTACKS

Rather: Two separate terror attacks, in Italy and Cyprus. In Rome, a 16-year-old Palestinian bombed a British Airways ticket office. Fourteen were wounded, some seriously. The bombing was within a block of the U.S. Embassy. In the Cyprus attack, police closed in on a yacht where three Palestinians held three Israeli hostages. The Palestinians eventually surrendered, police discovering they had already killed the three Israeli hostages hours earlier.

(ABC-6, NBC-3, CBS-5)

CHINA/FAMILY PLANNING

Rather: Word tonight of a major switch in the quarter-century-old U.S. program to provide family planning help overseas, a switch that may also cause major problems between Washington and Peking. The Reagan Administration made an official determination that Mainland China's policy of limiting couples to just one child amounts to a policy of "coercive abortion and involuntary sterilization."

(CBS-8)

BLACK AMERICA/CRIME

NBC's Noah Nelson reports that in many black communities, the danger is real. In black America, crime has become a life-draining force. The leading cause of death for black men under 25 is murder. Crime's thrust has not gone unanswered. Across the country, community groups are inspiring people to fight back as well as work in tandem with the police. But even the best of intentions haven't slowed the growth of the criminal subculture, which some fear is sucking up an entire generation of black youth.

(NBC-6)

BLANKSTEN

ABC's Chris Burie reports college professor George Blanksten was declared dead in February when the Social Security sent a letter addressed to George's estate saying it wouldn't pay a medical bill because, according to their records, he was dead. Each month for five months, George filled out forms saying he was alive. George says he went to the local Social Security office twice to prove it, but discovered that details of his death were confidential. Fed up, George contacted his congressman, who got Social Security to investigate. In July, it wrote, "A specially trained person reviewed this claim and we have found the decision was correct." In other words, they said George was still dead. So he wrote Chicago columnist Mike Royko, who printed the story. This week, Social Security officially brought George back to life, blaming the mixup on computer error. Now back from the dead, Blanksten faces a cold fact of bureaucratic life. He'll have to pay the Medicare premiums he didn't pay while Social Security had him dead.

(ABC-8)

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EDITORIALS/COLUMNISTS

EXCHANGE RATES/PROTECTIONISM

Free Trade -- "The only way to remove the trade war menace is to get our economic house in order by reducing the budget deficits which are the source of just about all of the world's economic afflictions; and the only way this can be achieved is to restrain the increase in entitlement programs, scale back defense spending, and increase revenue -- in roughly equal amounts." (Baltimore Evening Sun, 9/24)

The Plaza Accords -- "The protectionist surge of recent weeks has been unnerving to those with a memory of the Great Depression, which was caused in large part by high tariffs. If the Plaza agreement is for real, it's a far better way of cutting through the array of economic problems that beset us." (Detroit News, 9/24)

Targeting The Dollar -- "The Reagan Administration's planned attempt to rein in the superdollar may work well, it may work a little bit or it may not work at all. But it is worth a try." (Chicago Sun-Times, 9/24)

The U.S. Has The Power To Cure Its Own Trade Problems -- "The astonishing thing is not that the finance ministers of five major industrial nations agreed Sunday that something has to be done about the high dollar and the U.S. trade deficit. It is, rather, their implicit acknowledgment that the United States under Ronald Reagan isn't going to do it: Somebody else must help bail us out of our difficulties, because neither Congress nor the President is prepared to deal with the federal deficit, which is the prime cause of our boggling trade deficit and our overmuscled dollar." (Detroit Free Press, 9/24)

A Presidential Shift -- "Rep. O'Neill and his fellow congressional mossbacks in both parties can think of no other way to help the U.S. economy except more and bigger trade barriers. That was tried before, in the 1930s. Some people call it protectionism, others call it the Great Depression. In either case, it's a proven method of punishing consumers, lowering the standard of living, killing existing jobs and preventing the creation of new ones.... The President won't provide lasting help unless he attacks the root cause of the trade imbalance and the overvalued dollar, and that is the killer deficit in the federal budget. To do that, he must be willing to increase government revenue as well as make further cuts in spending. If he can't bring himself to take this third step, the mossbacks will get their way after all." (Chicago Tribune, 9/25)

Exchange Rate Interruptus -- "...the trade imbalance will likely remain as long as the deficit does. To that end, the Administration remains as hypocritical as its Capitol Hill opponents. Cutting taxes and raising expenditures was a joint effort. Reversing those mistakes will also be a joint effort. There are cuts available in social spending, and many more in defense. Combined with a reasonable tax increase, the deficit could be reduced substantially-and quickly." (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 9/24)

ACID RAIN

U.S. Sees Light On Danger Of Acid Rain -- "It appears the Reagan Administration has finally realized that it won't solve the acid rain problem by hoping it will go away or studying it to death.... The problem has been studied enough. Now we have to do something about it. And it appears Drew Lewis, the President's special acid-rain envoy, agrees. In a meeting with New England governors, Lewis told them that he would recommend a cleanup program." (San Diego Union, 9/23)

Out Of The Blue -- Drew Lewis, President Reagan's special envoy on the acid-rain issue, has really muddied the waters. He told a New England governors' meeting recently that 'saying sulfates do not cause acid rain is the same as saying that smoking does not cause cancer.' Up until now, of course, the Administration has been urging more scientific research before proposing any massive cleanup program. But Mr. Lewis is signaling some sort of compromise -- a 'modest' \$1 billion program. His totally unexpected compromise idea makes no economic, political or scientific sense.... Mr. Lewis's plan for a compromise on acid rain not only lacks a sound scientific base, but politically it's likely to backfire.... The Administration should stick to its position that acid rain requires more research before any federal action is contemplated. That is not evasion of the issue. The ones who are evading the issue are those who, like Mr. (Drew) Lewis, think, quite erroneously, that the acid-rain case has been made." (Wall Street Journal, 9/24)

SDI

Reagan's Scary Position on Star Wars -- "If President Reagan really meant what he said Tuesday night when he ruled out negotiations on the development and testing of his Star Wars missile-defense program, he dealt a crippling blow to the cause of arms control.... Previously, Reagan and other officials had said they would simply share Star Wars technology with the Soviets, not bargain it away. That suggestion has been almost universally derided, and it is perhaps significant that Reagan did not repeat it Tuesday night. Actually, the whole idea of Star Wars is faulty. In order to make nuclear weapons impotent and obsolete, the defense system would have to be virtually airtight.... Only in the absence of missile defenses can the two sides feel safe enough to cut their missile forces. The logic of deterrence is bizarre and macabre, but it has stood the test of time and -- however precariously -- preserved the peace." (Milwaukee Journal, 9/19)

AIDS

Gay-Rights Movement's Failure to Face Real AIDS Issue -- "Rep. Gerry Studds' criticism of President Reagan for not doing enough to find a cure for AIDS is a good illustration of why the gay movement is losing credibility among politicians as well as among the public.... Knocking Reagan is a popular local pastime that sells well among the ultra-liberal voting blocs that have contributed so much to the national slide of the Democratic Party in recent times. But attacks from Studds and other gay spokesmen won't change the fact that homosexual activity is the most common risk factor in the spread of the disease...." (Boston Globe, 9/23)