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News Summary

OFFICE OF THE PRESS SECRETARY

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1985 -- 6:00 a.m. EDT EDITION

TODAY'S HEADLINES

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

U.S Officials Say Soviet Arms Plan Is Not Balanced -- The Soviet Union formally proposed Monday the U.S. reduce its long-range and medium-range nuclear weapons by 50 percent, while offering a reduction that would cover only Soviet long-range weapons, according to American officials. (New York Times, Washington Post, Washington Times, Reuter, UPI, Baltimore Sun)

NATIONAL NEWS

Reagan Asks Heckler To Quit Cabinet -- President Reagan asked Margaret Heckler to step down as Health and Human Services Secretary to take the less significant position of United States ambassador to Ireland.

(Baltimore Sun, New York Times, Washington Post, Washington Times, UPI, AP, Wall Street Journal)

NETWORK NEWS (Monday Evening)

HECKLER TO IRELAND? -- After denying persistent reports that Secretary Heckler was about to be sent packing, the President met with her and offered her a job as ambassador to Ireland.

ARMS CONTROL -- The Soviet side presented its latest proposals to the U.S. side in Geneva.

SOVIET HOSTAGES -- Three Soviet diplomats and the embassy doctor have been kidnapped in Lebanon.

BLACKS

TIME, OCTOBER 7, 1985

Not Following the Leaders

The Reagan Administration has long contended that black leaders do not represent the views of the black community as a whole. Last week that argument got some support. A poll in *Public Opinion* magazine, the journal of the American Enterprise Institute, indicated that a majority of blacks do not support liberal prescriptions favored by most of their leaders.

More than three-fourths of the 105 black leaders polled favored affirmative-action preferences in hiring and college admissions; by the same percentage, the survey's 600 black citizens rejected the notion that race should be the main criterion. Leaders heavily favored abortion, busing to achieve school integration and a ban on school prayer, while large percentages of all blacks opposed those views. Benjamin Hooks, executive director of the N.A.A.C.P., claimed that despite the survey's findings, most leaders were in tune with the sensibilities of the black community. The split indicated in the poll holds true for attitudes toward the man in the White House. Nearly a third of all blacks said they liked the way Ronald Reagan is doing his job, while only 13% of black leaders felt that way.

SOVIETS CALL ARMS PROPOSALS THEIR 'DRASTIC SOLUTIONS'

GENEVA -- The Soviet Union today began the long process of officially placing its new proposals before U.S. negotiators at the arms control talks here, according to Soviet and American sources.

Specifics of the actual Soviet proposals were not made public, and there was some speculation, both here and in other capitals, that the full details may not be available until Soviet leader Gorbachev arrives in Paris for a visit on Wednesday. (Walter Pincus, Washington Post, A1)

Soviets Propose 50% Arms Joint Arms Cut, Kill SDI

The Soviet Union formally offered the United States a plan for mutual cuts of up to 50 percent in superpower nuclear arsenals at the Strategic Arms Reduction Talks (START) here yesterday in exchange for U.S. abandonment of its "star wars" missile defense program.

But a U.S. official in Washington familiar with details of the Soviet

proposal called it disappointing and unfair.

This is the first time in the history of U.S.-Soviet relations that Moscow has proposed arms reductions of such magnitude.

(Michael J. Bonafield, Washington Times, A1)

Soviets Outline Arms Reduction Proposal

Soviet negotiators called a second full session today at the Superpower talks to present more details of Moscow's proposed nuclear arms reduction deal. National Security Adviser Robert McFarlane said Moscow may be seeking to limit U.S. weapons programs while remaining free to continue work on new systems of its own.

(John Callcott, UPI)

Soviet Union To Complete Presentation Of Arms Initiative

Chief Soviet negotiator Viktor Karpov, who met U.S. arms negotiator Max Kampelman Monday, said he offered proposals "directed at drastic solutions on all the problems" now under negotiation in Geneva.

(Claude Fillet, Reuter)

U.S. Officials Say Soviet Arms Plan Is Not Balanced

These officials said the Soviet proposal in Geneva made such cutbacks conditional on a ban on research into space-based defenses, which the Soviet Union calls "space strike weapons," and a ban on testing or deployment of space-based defenses or anti-satellite weapons.

(Hedrick Smith, New York Times, A1)

Soviet Said To Ask U.S. Arms Cuts

The Soviet Union formally proposed in Geneva Monday that the U.S. reduce its long-range and medium-range offensive nuclear weapons by 50 percent, while offering only a parallel reduction that would cover only Soviet long-range weapons, according to American officials here.

(Baltimore Sun, A1)

HUSSEIN, REAGAN CONFER HERE

King Hussein of Jordan assured President Reagan in a White House meeting yesterday of his willingness to enter direct peace talks with Israel. But Hussein's continued insistence that the talks be part of an international conference left unclear whether there was any progress toward reviving the peace process.

Reagan was upbeat in praising Jordan for "moving steadily and courageously forward" in the search for peace.

(John Goshko/David Ottaway, Washington Post, A14)

Hussein, At White House, Discusses Mideast Peace Talks

President Reagan and King Hussein Monday continued the slow and difficult search for Middle East peace talks.

In public remarks after his meeting with the king, Mr. Reagan reaffirmed U.S. support for Jordan's peace efforts. "Jordan has not wavered from this course, despite terrorist attacks against its diplomats and its interests abroad, and the threat of worse to come," Mr. Reagan said. (Mary Belcher, Washington Times, A4)

U.S. And Jordan Still Apart On Peace Negotiations

Jordan, the United States and Israel, all sought direct negotiations under "appropriate auspices" before the end of the year, Reagan said.

But the Administration believes King Hussein's ideal for an international conference to include the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council is not the way to go, because it would give the Soviet Union a role. (William Scally, Reuter)

REAGAN: SOVIETS BREAK ABM PACT

President Reagan, in an interview with a French newspaper, said the Soviet Union's attempts to improve the ballistic missile defense system around Moscow have violated the ABM treaty and raise serious questions about their intentions.

"They have an extensive and long-standing strategic defense research program which is exploring many of the areas in which the United States is interested, and they have a sizable head start," Mr. Reagan said in an interview with Le Figaro released yesterday.

Mr. Reagan also made it clear that the U.S. Strategic Defense Initiative will not be confined to a defense against intercontinental missiles but will examine technologies against shorter-range missiles that threaten Europe. (Jeremiah O'Leary, Washington Times, A3)

SHULTZ ASKS WEST TO BOOST TRADE WITH LATIN NATIONS

UNITED NATIONS -- Secretary of State Shultz called yesterday on industrialized nations, particularly the European Economic Community and Japan, to boost trade with Latin America to help the region resolve its debt crisis. (Washington Times, A7)

GORBACHEV'S "CHARM OFFENSIVE"

PARIS -- The four-day visit of Mikhail Gorbachev that begins here Wednesday is being viewed as part of the new Kremlin chief's "charm offensive," as French officials put it, prior to the U.S.-Soviet summit meeting in Geneva in seven weeks.

French officials expect Gorbachev to use his official visit to France to try to turn governments and public opinion in Western Europe against President Reagan's Strategic Defense Initiative.

(Michael Dobbs, Washington Post, A12)

PRE-SUMMIT ALLIED TALKS SET

President Reagan will confer with leaders of six industrialized democracies at the United Nations this month in an effort to demonstrate allied unity in advance of his November summit meeting with Gorbachev, White House officials said yesterday.

White House deputy press secretary Ed Djerejian announced Monday the meeting, saying that "the President wanted to have a dialogue with the leaders of the western summit nations" in advance of his meeting with Gorbachev and that their presence at the United Nations in October provided "a timely opportunity for a working session."

(Lou Cannon, Washington Post A13)

FRANCE REBUFFS SOVIET UNION OVER DENUNCIATION OF SDI

MOSCOW -- French President Mitterrand has rejected a Soviet proposal for a joint Franco-Soviet communique, to be issued during the visit to Paris this week by Gorbachev, that would have included a denunciation of Reagan Administration plans to push forward with its strategic Defense Initiative, western diplomatic sources said here today.

Although France is the staunchest opponent of Reagan's "Star Wars" missile defense research program among the major western powers in Europe, the French "still want to avoid being used by the Soviets on the issue," a senior western diplomat said.

(Gary Lee, Washington Post, A1)

GUNMEN IN BEIRUT SEIZE 4 OFFICIALS OF SOVIET EMBASSY

BEIRUT -- Three Soviet diplomats and the embassy doctor were seized at gunpoint in the Moslem-controlled sector of Beirut Monday in the first known kidnapping here of officials from the Soviet Union.

There was no further information here today about purported plans, announced Sunday by a caller also claiming to speak for Islamic Jihad, for a press conference with some of the six Americans being held hostage.

(Nora Boustany, Washington Post, A1)

EDITOR'S NOTE: Page A2 of the Washington Times contains a news analysis on the mounting Soviet rhetoric against the Strategic Defense Initiative. It is written by Yossef Bodansky and is entitled, "SOVIETS SPENT YEARS READYING SPACE DEFENSE."

U.S. URGES CAUTION ON SOVIET OFFER

The Reagan administration sounded a note of caution yesterday about the Soviet Union's new arms proposals as U.S. and Soviet negotiators sat down to discuss them in detail in Geneva.

Spokesman Larry Speakes told reporters to "look very closely at what you hear and see concerning this offer, and particularly the 50 percent." The Soviet Union, in a proposal delivered to President Reagan last week, called for the superpowers to cut strategic "nuclear charges" in half.

(Don Oberdorfer, Washington Post, A13)

U.S. Now Cautious On Soviet Arms Proposal

The White House, leery of Soviet intentions and motives, has warned that the Kremlin's new offer of a 50 percent cut in nuclear weapons may not be as attractive as it seems.

"Look very closely at what you hear and see regarding this offer," spokesman Larry Speakes told reporters.

Another senior Administration official, known for his hardline views on arms agreements with Moscow, was more blunt. "It's a rotten proposal," he groused. "The way they define 50 percent is not the way Americans do."

(Norman Sandler, UPI)

POPULATION FUNDS

A federal judge ordered the State Department Monday night to temporarily withhold granting to other agencies or foreign countries \$10 million originally earmarked by Congress for the United Nations Fund for Population Activities.

U.S. District Judge Louis Oberdorfer ordered a hearing Oct. 9 on the merits of a lawsuit brought by two congressmen and the population institute. (Tom Seppy, AP)

BOTHA HINTS AT FEDERATING ETHNIC UNITS

PORT ELIZABETH, South Africa -- President Botha, in a speech couched in imprecise language, hinted Monday that he wanted to change South Africa's apartheid system of white-minority rule into a form of federation based on geographic "units" that he said would cease to be discriminatory but would still require segregation.

(Allister Sparks, Washington Post, A1)

S. Africa Offers Blacks Wider Rights, But No Vote

President Botha last night offered some concessions to South Africa's black majority, including the possibility of seats on the President's Council, but ruled out full voting rights for blacks.

(Washington Times)

HECKLER OFFERED IRISH AMBASSADORSHIP

President Reagan Monday asked Health and Human Services Secretary Margaret Heckler to take a "promotion" to become ambassador to Ireland, but Heckler asked for a few days to consider the move, White House spokesman Larry Speakes announced.

Speakes announced that Reagan had made the decision to ask Heckler to leave. However, other White House officials said they were aware of "talking points" prepared for the President earlier in the day by White House Chief of Staff Donald Regan or his subordinates. These points were nearly identical to the language used in the announcement of Reagan's request later in the afternoon.

Speakes said Reagan made no other offer to Heckler, apparently leaving her the choice of accepting it or leaving the Administration.

Earlier Monday, Reagan, appearing angry, told reporters ... "There has never been any thought in my mind to fire Margaret Heckler. I don't know where those stories come from. They are not true."

(David Hoffman, Washington Post, A1)

Heckler Ponders Envoy Job In Ireland

President Reagan Monday asked Margaret Heckler, the embattled secretary of Health and Human Services, to serve as ambassador to Ireland, but the 54-year-old former congresswoman has asked for a few days to decide.

The President's offer, termed a promotion by the White House, amounted to a dismissal of Mrs. Heckler from the important Cabinet post.

Donald Regan, the White House chief of staff who was the chief architect of the plan to replace Mrs. Heckler, did not meet with the secretary.

(Speakes) said Mr. Reagan did not express dissatisfaction with Mrs. Heckler's performance. The decision to "promote" her out of the cabinet was the President's alone, Mr. Speakes said.

The Heckler affair is widely regarded as a test of the power of Mr. Regan, who faced the difficult task of firing a woman who recently went through a messy public divorce and even more recently recovered from surgery.

(Jeremiah O'Leary, Washington Times, A1)

Reagan Requests Heckler Yield Her Cabinet Post

Mr. Reagan's action stopped short of a formal dismissal and some White House officials tried to portray it as a "promotion." But for several months ... Mrs. Heckler has been struggling to keep her keep her Cabinet position... (Gerald Boyd, New York Times, A1)

Reagan Asks Heckler To Quit Cabinet

(The President said) that not firing her "does not mean I don't have something else I would want her to do."

(Robert Timberg, Baltimore Sun, A1)

Heckler Considering President's Request To Leave Cabinet

Mrs. Heckler had asked to meet with Reagan in a last-ditch effort to keep her job after days of rumors that she would be given the ambassadorship to ease her out of the Cabinet.

Spokesman Larry Speakes insisted the President was not dissatisfied with her performance and that she was not being fired. But when asked if Mrs. Heckler could choose to remain in her post, he replied, "I do not have an answer to that."

(William Kronholm, AP)

Heckler Thinking Over Ambassadorship

HHS Secretary Heckler is thinking about whether to accept an appointment to be U.S. ambassador to Ireland, a job President Reagan proposed apparently to ease her out of his cabinet.

"The President would consider this a promotion," (Larry Speakes)

said, and the White House press room erupted in laughter.

Asked what would happen if Heckler does not accept the new post, Speakes said, "We'll have to wait and see." (Helen Thomas, UPI)

President Asks Secretary Heckler To Quit Cabinet Position, Offers

Ambassadorship -- President Reagan, who has been loath to fire any of his staff, yesterday told HHS Secretary Heckler that he wants her out of her Cabinet post. (Jane Mayer/Joe Davidson, Wall Street Journal, 64)

EDITOR'S NOTE: Page A6 of the Washington Post contains a story on Secretary Heckler entitled, "HECKLER OFTEN AHEAD OF WHITE HOUSE IN FACING TOUGH ISSUES." It is written by Spencer Rich and details Heckler's 2 1/2 years at HHS.

REAGAN EXPECTED TO VETO 16-CENT TAX ON CIGARETTES

President Reagan is expected to veto Monday's move by Congress to keep the federal cigarette tax at 16 cents a pack through Nov. 14. The tax is part of an omnibus bill to extend a half-dozen programs that were scheduled to expire when the 1985 fiscal year ended last night.

In a separate bill, Congress approved a 45-day extension of dairy price supports and related farm programs that also had been due to lapse

that night.

Administration officials said there was "a distinct possibility" that Reagan would veto the bill containing the cigarette tax extension, although they said he intends to sign the dairy price-support bill.

(Helen Dewar/Margaret Shapiro, Washington Post, A1)

Reagan OKs Rise In Cigarette Tax

Congress voted Monday to keep the federal cigarette tax at 16 cents a pack through Nov. 14, and President Reagan subsequently sighed signed the bill into law despite reports that he might veto the measure.

Spokesman Rusty Brashear announced early Tuesday that Reagan had signed the bill before midnight Monday, when the new fiscal year took effect.

(Jim Luther, AP)

Stop-Gap Money Measures Approved By House, Senate

The House and Senate passed without debate legislation to tax cigarette sales, keep dairy price supports at the existing level, continue federal job training and pay for food stamps.

With only hours to spare, Mr. Reagan signed separate legislation that keeps the federal government in business for another 45 days while Congress struggles to pass money bills for fiscal 1986.

(Stephanie Nall, Washington Times, A3)

JOINT CHIEFS VESSEY RETIRES IN CHARACTER

Gen. John Vessey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the last four-star combat veteran from World War II on active duty, retired in character yesterday as he bade farewell to 46 years of life as a soldier: "Thanks. Thanks, troops."

A smiling President Reagan ... (said) "Gen. Vessey will be remembered for many things," but one accomplishment stands above all the rest: "Jack Vessey always remembered the soldier in the ranks..."

(George C. Wilson, Washington Post, A3)

EDITOR'S NOTE: A large captioned color photograph of the event marking Gen. Vessey's retirement adorned the front page of the Washington Times. Pictured were: President Reagan, Vice President Bush, Gen. Vessey and Secretary Weinberger.

'GUEST WORKER' OPTION OFFERED

The Reagan Administration, pushing for an overhaul of the nation's immigration laws, yesterday outlined a compromise "guest worker" proposal to allow an unspecified number of foreign workers to enter the United States temporarily to harvest perishable crops.

Meanwhile ... (a Congressional Hearing on the proposal) turned into a partisan shouting match after (Delores Huerta of United Farmworkers of America) charged that Deputy Agriculture Secretary John Norton, who had testified earlier on the Administration proposal, kept workers in inhumane living conditions and had been found in violation of California's Agricultural Labor Relations Law.

(Mary Thornton, Washington Post, A5)

Compromise On Migrant Workers Offered

Administration officials offered Congress Monday a compromise to a Senate-approved plan to allow 350,000 foreign farm workers into the country to help harvest highly perishable crops.

As proposed by the officials at House hearings, the Administration proposal would allow the entry of the seasonal workers but would let a special commission determine how many should be let in.

(Washington Times, A4)

USDA'S FARM-BILL LOBBYING HIT

Sen. David Pryor (D-Ark.) accused the Reagan Administration Monday of a "flagrant" abuse of power by mobilizing its nationwide network of Agriculture Department employees to lobby for passage of a farm bill acceptable to the White House.

"The Administration on one hand is telling farmers to be frugal, but is taking away travel restrictions for federal employees to sell the John Block farm policy," he added. (Ward Sinclair, Washington Post, A5)

SHUTTLE TO LAUNCH TWO PENTAGON SATELLITES

The Defense Department will send two military communications satellites this week on the second supposedly secret military mission of the space shuttle, John Pike, a spokesman for the Federation of American Scientists said yesterday. (Washington Post, A7, Reuter)

Defense Satellites Readied

Secretary Weinberger has in recent months attacked leaks of information about secret military shuttle missions. But space expert John Pike said, "The mission will be chiefly to put two DSCS-3 (Defense Satellite Communications System) satellites into stationary orbit 22,000 miles out in space for routine military communications." (Washington Times)

-end of A-section-

SECRETARY HECKLER

CBS's Dan Rather: A major change at the top in the federal agency that affects the daily lives of millions of Americans, the \$300B-a-year Department of Health and Human Services. After denying persistent reports that Secretary Heckler was about to be sent packing, President Reagan met with Heckler and offered her a job as ambassador to Ireland.

CBS's Bill Plante: Secretary Heckler, who went to the White House this afternoon amid rumors that she was about to be fired, was offered the job of ambassador to Ireland.

(TV Coverage: Various shots of Heckler.)

A White House spokesman, calling the offer a promotion, said Heckler had asked for a few days to think it over. Heckler had been the target of White House aides, particularly Donald Regan, who maintained that her job performance has been less than desirable. The President, however, says that she is satisfied with Heckler's performance, but had something else in mind for her.

(President: "I'm going to be talking to her about something that I have had in mind for some time, and then you will have all the details. This time they won't be a leak, they'll be correct.")

But Mr. Reagan's critics saw this as an ideological battle.

(Rep. Waxman, D-Cal: "I have to believe that this is an ideological problem, that she's not pure enough, she hasn't passed the ideological litmus test for the right-wingers. They want one of their own in there to slash these programs that help many of the elderly and the poor in this country.")

(NOW President Eleanor Smeal: "Secretary Heckler was one of the women that the Reagan Administration showcased before the election, in fact all during the election period, on how good they were on women. And now, after the election, they're dumping her rather unceremoniously.")

(Rep. Gregg, R-NH: "It appears that she has stepped on the sensibility of some of the individuals, the unelected individuals, down at the White House. She has been, according to them...disloyal, and for this she must be burned at the stake or, at the minimum at least, sent to Ireland.")

White House aides insist that ideology isn't Heckler's problem, but its management. But since the disagreement is now so public, the main concern here is saving face -- both for Heckler and for Donald Regan, the Chief of Staff who wants here out. The White House would rather have cleaned this up today, but now hopes that it will die down for a day or two while Heckler decides whether to go quietly or go out fighting. (CBS-Lead)

ABC's Peter Jennings: To put it gently, Secretary Heckler has been having a difficult time. A lot of her critics, and some of them are in the White House, think she should be doing something else -- like, for example, being ambassador to Ireland, or some other distant post. Today Mrs. Heckler had a meeting with the President.

ABC's Sheilah Kast: Even bidding farewell to a foreign dignitary,

President Reagan was bombarded with questions about the future of Secretary Heckler. Earlier, he had vehemently denied reports he intended to fire her.

(President on South Lawn: "I'm going to be talking to her about something that I have had in mind for some time, and then you will have all the details. This time they won't be a leak, they'll be correct.")

Late today, Heckler came to the meeting she had requested with the President, where he asked her to leave her Cabinet post to become ambassador to Ireland. His spokesman said the President considers that a promotion, but Heckler has said before she doesn't want the Dublin job and left telling the President she needed several days to think it over.

(TV Coverage shows Heckler arriving; still photos of Heckler, then Larry Speakes.)

The spokesman said President Reagan is pleased with Heckler's performance, but some of the President's top aides believe Heckler has been ineffective in pushing Administration goals such as cutting the budgets of Medicaid and Medicare. Heckler supporters on Capitol Hill contend she's a loyal supporter of Ronald Reagan.

(Sen. Hatch: "I think it's really been just an effort by, I think, some clunkers in the White House who basically don't know what is decent.")

Even some Democrats said she's being hounded.

(Rep. Waxman, D-Cal: "Evidently she hasn't passed some ideological litmus test that they expect from her.")

President Reagan is angry about leaks from his staff which describe him as displeased with Heckler. But despite his sympathy, odds are she will not remain part of his Cabinet. (ABC-5)

Margaret Heckler is not being fired as Secretary of Health and Human Services. The President, however, has offered her a new job: ambassador to Ireland. He called that a promotion. Mrs. Heckler would not comment to waiting reporters. She'll reportedly take a few days to make a decision, but correspondent Andrea Mitchell tells us the decision to remove Mrs. Heckler is final at the White House. (TV Coverage of Mrs. Heckler arriving at White House.) (NBC-2)

U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONS/ARMS CONTROL

Rather: The public-relations battle between the superpowers over arms control proposals went from full speed ahead to warp-speed overdrive. The Soviet side presented its latest arms control proposals to the U.S. side in Geneva.

CBS's Tom Fenton reports from Geneva: Chief Soviet negotiator Viktor

Karpov brought the new proposals to the Geneva arms talks today.

The Soviets are reportedly now offering a 50% cut in nuclear weapons in return for curbs on President Reagan's space defense program.

(Karpov: "It takes two for cuts.")

The timing of the new Soviet proposals has been well orchestrated, iust before Gorbachev's visit to France. Hostile demonstrations and preparations are already well underway for Gorbachev's arrival Wednesday in Paris. In an interview with a French newspaper, President Reagan put out a warning about the Gorbachev visit. He said for a long time the Soviet Union has tried to divide the Western allies. President Mitterrand is said to be well aware of Mr. Gorbachev's likely intent -- that he'll try to use this visit to split the allies on the issue of the so-called star wars program. But aides say Mr. Mitterrand will do his best to avoid taking a pro-Soviet position or embarrassing Mr. Reagan before the Geneva summit. (CBS-2)

ABC's Barrie Dunsmore reports from Geneva: The U.S. delegation was clearly on instructions not to be negative, but not to be too positive either.

(Max Kampelman: "We're hoping, it's about time as a matter of fact.") On their arrival, the Soviets said they had a drastic proposal, but were guarded about chances for agreement.

(Karpov: "Let's hope so, but it takes two for cuts.")

What has begun to leak out of the Soviet plan seems tough and one-sided. First, in proposing a 50% cut in each side's arsenals, it lumps together all types of nuclear weapons from giant missile warheads to small bombs. The Soviets say the U.S. approximately 12,000 of these and that they have fewer than 10,000. Of course the key point in reducing these numbers is what gets cut, the small bombs or the megaton warheads. And under the Soviet plan, it would keep most of its big missiles like the SS-18. Second, the Soviets want a ban on new weapons, which would stop the U.S. from developing the Midgetman missile and the Stealth bomber, but not the production of two new kinds of Soviet missiles and a submarine which have recently been tested. Finally, the Soviets make their 50% cuts conditional on a ban on testing and development of The President says research into star wars is not negotiable. The question is, where does research end and testing begin? may be negotiable. As is, the Soviet proposal would seem to be quite unacceptable to the U.S., but it does provide a basis for negotiation. And in the propaganda war the two sides are now so vigorously engaged in, the U.S. does not want to be the side to say, "Nyet."

ABC's Sam Donaldson: President Reagan did say no today, but not to the Soviet proposal. He said no to the question of whether he had any better assessment today of its real worth.

(President on South Lawn: "No, not at all. Today it is being presented in Geneva to our arms negotiators.")

But already some officials, including Kenneth Adelman, are saying the Soviet proposal is a mixed bag.

Donaldson continues: (Adelman: "I know that some of their elements in their proposal are blatantly and almost laughably, ludicrously one-sided." Donaldson: "Which ones?" Adelman: "Gutting SDI, for one, and certain other categories that I'd like not to get into in this kind of open forum." Donaldson: "But categories of warheads and who's cutting where?" Adelman: "That is correct, that is correct. And they have fashioned it in such a way as to blatantly preserve their forces and blatantly try to cut into our forces.")

What U.S. officials like Adelman are saying is that the SDI is not negotiable, and they say any cuts -- 50% or otherwise -- must be of equal value, not just magnitude. They can't get us to cut most of our heavy warheads while they keep most of theirs, say these officials. The President appeared in public today with the U.S. Armed Forces. It was a retirement ceremony for General John Vessey, outgoing Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

(TV Coverage shows President reviewing troops.)

But it served to underscore the U.S. military buildup the President contends will back up the U.S. negotiating position. It is clear U.S. officials find the Soviet proposal as presented unacceptable. But what they want to know is whether there's any give in it, or whether Gorbachev was simply trying to make propaganda points in advance of the November summit. (ABC-2)

Brokaw: When President Reagan and Soviet leader Gorbachev meet in Geneva in mid-November, it could be the most important gathering of this decade, and the maneuvers leading to the summit are picking up speed now fast.

NBC's Marvin Kalb: For months now in Geneva the American negotiators have been making proposals -- six of them -- but getting little in return. Today the much-heralded Soviet counter-proposal was finally put on the table.

(Max Kampelman: "We hope this will be the time when we'll hear what they've got to say in a serious manner.")

The chief Soviet negotiator said that his government's proposals were far-reaching. It was a surprisingly brief meeting. The serious explaining begins tomorrow. But U.S. officials say the Russians presented a very comprehensive set of proposals, highlighted by a call for a 50% cutback in strategic weapons on boths sides —including space weapons, medium-range missiles fired from land, sea or air, and long-range missiles. The Russians also called for a ban on the development of new strategic weapons systems such as star wars, and they accepted the concept of specific limitations on land, sea or air-launched weapons. The Administration was pleased — so far.

(NSC Adviser McFarlane: "There is something there on the table that hasn't been and that's something the President very much welcomes. It is an offer of reductions, and that's good.")

The Administration's line is cautiously upbeat for the public. Neither side wants to be seen as the spoiler. But a senior official said the devil is in the details. The sense of the U.S. Government is that if at the end of the day the Russians continue to insist on a ban on star wars, a breakthrough agreement at the summit may prove to be impossible.

Brokaw: Chris Wallace is at the White House tonight, where he's been keeping track of the increased Reagan Administration activity on the road to the summit. Chris, this meeting with the Western allies in New York in late October -- is that more public relations or is there a new scheme the President will tell them about?

Wallace: A British diplomat I talked to this afternoon said that public relations and substance are becoming almost interchangeable at this point, and White House officials largely agree. They say that it is important from a substance sense for the U.S. to be consulting with its Western allies, but they also say it's important to show that it is consulting and that the West is staying united against Soviet efforts to divide it. So the U.N. summit accomplishes objectives in both areas.

Brokaw: Former Chancellor Schmidt was in New York City today and he was saying the Soviets are having great success now in Western Europe in making their case as to being more reasonable in the area of arms control. Does that concern the White House?

Wallace: It does concern them. U.S. official point out that that's an old Soviet trick. In a moment like this as you approach a summit or a key point in negotiations to try to divide the U.S. from its Western allies — in this case on the issue of star wars, the SDI, or by proposing a moratorium on all testing — U.S. officials disagree with Schmidt. They don't think it's having much impact in Europe now. But Gorbachev's efforts have clearly gotten the U.S.'s attention. And they are taking nothing for granted at this point, not even the Western alliance. (NBC-Lead)

WESTERN SUMMIT

Rather: The White House said that President Reagan will host an October
Western summit in New York as a prelude to his Geneva summit with
Gorbachev. The President will meet October 24 with the leaders of
Britain, Canada, West Germany, France, Italy and Japan.

(ABC-3, NBC-Lead, CBS-3)

GORBACHEV IMAGE/TRIP TO FRANCE

ABC's Walter Rodgers reports from Moscow: When Gorbachev goes to Paris this week, he will be trying to project the same image there that he shows on the streets of Leningrad and Kiev -- a supremely confident leader -- proud, energetic, and a fierce defender of the Soviet cause which he sees himself embodying. Gorbachev's recent interview with Time Magazine demonstrates clearly a sophisticated understanding of how to use the Western media to his advantage. His visit to London last year amounted to a love feast with the British media, and a similar triumph is expected in France when he holds a joint news conference with President Mitterrand. Western reporters in Moscow predict Gorbachev's sure sense of self-projection will certainly challenge President Reagan for the title of Great Communicator at the Geneva summit.

Rodgers continues: And behind his media blitz, Gorbachev has staged a quiet revolution that's gone largely unnoticed in the U.S. Gorbachev has changed the entire thrust of Soviet foreign policy—de-emphasizing relations with Washington but ardently courting Japan and Western Europe for trade and technology. And his trip to France now is aimed at convincing the Europeans they have more in common with his Russia than with Ronald Reagan's America. In all of this, Gorbachev has a secret weapon—his wife, a doctor of Marxist philosophy at Moscow University. It's on trips west that Gorbachev's wife becomes a more visible asset. She's expected to dazzle the French.

(British journalist: "The Gorbachevs are the nearest that Russia has ever had to a Camelot, to a Kennedy couple...")

But among the people back home, Gorbachev's policies have not produced the same favorable image he enjoys abroad. His campaign against alcohol consumption has produced long lines at liquor stores and has earned him the derisive nickname "General Juice." Russian women have been heard to grumble that Gorbachev's wife likes French perfume and expensive clothes. And one Russian worker complained, "He's urging us to work harder for the same old wages."

(TV Coverage shows workers digging up a street.) (ABC-4)

HUSSEIN

Rather: King Hussein was at the White House for an hour-long meeting with President Reagan. The President said he is optimistic that Arab-Israeli peace talks can open this year. But Hussein stuck by his call for an international conference, which the Soviet Union would attend. The U.S. and Israel both oppose this proposal. Hussein will start lobbying tomorrow in Congress, where President Reagan's new proposed arms sale to Jordan faces tough opposition.

(TV Coverage: President and King Hussein in Oval Office.)

(NBC-5, CBS-11)

Jennings: Both agree that Jordan should participate in peace talks with Israel. They have still not been able to agree on other the parties to such talks, but despite their continuing differences on the subject Mr. Reagan said today's talks were very productive. (ABC-13)

LEBANON/SOVIET HOSTAGES

Jennings: Three Soviet diplomats and the embassy doctor in Beirut have been kidnapped. That is the first time it has happened to the Soviets.

ABC's Charles Glass reports from Beirut: Large-scale fighting in Tripoli this week apparently lies behind the abductions. An anonymous caller told a Western news agency that the Islamic Jihad group was holding the four Soviets and would execute them if Moscow does not put pressure on Syria to stop the killing of Moslem fundamentalists in Tripoli with Soviet weaponry. (CBS-4, NBC-4, ABC-Lead)

ECONOMY

Rather: The Index of Leading Economic Indicators rose a strong 0.7% last month. Coupled with a similar newly-revised increase for July, these numbers point to possibly an improving economy in the coming months. However, some prominent economists still believe the rebound won't last for long. A new survey by the National Association of Business Economists found that about half its members predict a recession by the end of 1986. (ABC-15, CBS-7)

SOUTH AFRICA

ABC's Jim Hickey reports from Johannesburg: What President Botha did tonight was try to set down in one package what his government has said it is willing to negotiate on the road to apartheid reform. (Botha: "My party, my government, are committed to the principle of a united South Africa with one citizenship and universal franchise.") Botha again did not address specific measures to dismantle the structures of apartheid, but he clarified his proposal for a united South Africa, describing in effect a federalist system -- maintaining autonomous black and white communities with eventual black representation in the national government. Bishop Tutu was skeptical of much of Botha's speech. He was, however, encouraged by the talk of a unified South Africa.

(Tutu: "I think for the first time he has committed himself to universal suffrage.")

Botha has come under increasing internal pressure, especially from the business community, to move forward with specific reform. White shop owners in Port Elizabeth and other cities are hurting from a black consumer boycott. Some stores have been forced to close. Big business is also feeling the pinch from economic pressure. This weekend, 91 key South African business leaders bought a newspaper ad urging Botha to accelerate the reform process.

(Businessman Zak DeBeer: "We as business people are desperately disappointed that the government doesn't achieve more along the road to reform.")

In the past, Botha has demanded black leaders renounce violence as a prelude to negotiations. Tonight, he did not restate that condition, seeming to open the door a little more to talks. (ABC-14)

NBC's John Cochran reports from Johannesburg: (President Botha: "We are the party of reform, we are the party of liberty, we are the party of hope in South Africa.")

Much of the world may dispute that, but tonight for the first time Botha did commit himself, vaguely, to votes for blacks. But not one man-one vote. That, he said, would result in black dictatorship. Botha's most specific promise was to consider inviting blacks to join the whites who advise him on policy.

(Botha: "I am willing to reconsider the structuring and the functions of the President's Council to make provision for their participation in that President's Council.")

Cochran continues: That reform was popular with a white audience which included businessmen who had threatened to heckle Botha if he didn't announce reforms. Botha was speaking in Port Elizabeth, a city economically crippled by a black consumers boycott, which has forced a score of white merchants into bankruptcy. Throughout South Africa, black boycotts are closing down white stores at the rate of one a day. And 91 top business executives ran newspaper ads yesterday urging an end to all race discrimination laws. One executive was South Africa's leading banker, Chris Ball.

(Ball: "I think that the business community at this point is frustrated, it is angry, and it understands what the risks are and the pressure will intensify. It is inevitable that the government has to do something.")

And tonight Botha did something. But many blacks just don't trust him, like Bishop Tutu.

(Tutu: "Because we have been fed a diet of wonderful promises which have never been fulfilled.")

Government's problems with young people continued today in Capetown when 300 students of mixed race protested their schools are vastly inferior to white schools. What followed was familiar.

(TV Coverages shows rioting.)

No one was killed here, but elsewhere in South Africa today mobs killed three blacks suspected of collaborating with the police.(NBC-3)

AUTOS

CBS's Frank Courrier reports it is the start of a new model year, and a new round in the battle against foreign competition. In its struggle to lure buyers back from overseas imports, Big Three automakers are spending a record \$15B on the 1986 models, and for the first time in years competing without any quotas on Japanese imports. (CBS-8)

LIQUOR TAX

CBS's Ned Potter reports that starting tomorrow, the federal tax on hard liquor will be raised sharply as part of the deficit-reduction package.

(ABC-17, CBS-9)

CIGARETTE TAX

Rather: Congress voted to keep up the 16¢ tax on a pack of cigarettes, which otherwise would have dropped to 8¢ a pack at midnight.

(ABC-18, CBS-10)

CHILD SUPPORT PAYMENTS

CBS's Fred Graham reports on a new federal law designed to make people pay their child support. The law requires judges in every state to dock the paycheck of any parent who has failed to pay. (CBS-14)

STOCKS

Jennings reports the Dow was up nearly 8 points in fairly heavy trading.
(ABC-16)

AIDS

CBS's Barry Peterson reports on people with AIDS-Related Complex

(ARC). AIDS experts estimate that 10-20 times as many people have the complex as have AIDS, and they pose an even greater danger in the spread of the disease than those with AIDS.

(Expert: "People with AIDS, for the most part their immune system is already pretty much destroyed by the virus. AIDS-related conditions have more immune system, therefore more home for the virus, and they are probably more contagious even than people with AIDS.")

One reason: those with ARC are often well enough to continue (CBS-12) working and to continue an active sex life.

BUREAUCRAT ARTIST

ABC's Charles Gibson reports on James Boren, the founder of the National Association of Professional Bureaucrats -- the ones with the motto, "When in doubt, mumble." To mark the occasion of the new fiscal year, Boren has fashioned sculptures that depict the various parts of government. The congressional sculpture, for example, has plenty of posturing flag-wavers and works at slow speed or crisis speed. But at any speed the productivity is nothing. The White House sculpture has lots of layers to transgress before reaching the top. At the top, there's plenty of policy tilt.

(TV Coverage shows the various contraptions. White House sculpture

is made of paper clips and tilts at the top.)

The OMB sculpture, a hodge-podge of dingalings. The Justice Department sculpture, made up of yo-yos. The Air Force-sculpted plane is powered by one of those thousand dollar coffee pots. piece of art dedicated to the committee structure has arrows pointing And what would a sculpture to tax reform be but in all directions. an exercise in moving loopholes around.

mostly made up of (TV Coverage of tax reform sculpture, (ABC-19)

different-sized rings.)

U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONS & ARMS CONTROL

Soviet Peace Offensive: Has Trading Time Come? -- "If they mean it, and if the cuts are really big (the USSR is talking about 40%) and can be verified, then the U.S. should grab it. Let them win the propaganda exchange: They would give up a real advantage in exchange for a future threat. It would be a huge diplomatic triumph for Reagan. Every President since Lyndon Johnson has tried to reduce the numbers of Soviet missiles and warheads. The best they have achieved, SALT-1 and SALT-2, were freezes in some missiles....Reagan insists he won't trade Star Wars for cuts in Soviet missiles -- but he can change his mind and should consider it....It would mean U.S. cuts, too: Cancel the MX and freeze the Trident submarine and B-1 bomber programs. That would help the U.S. economy."

USSR on Defense and Arms Issues -- "Americans, from President Ronald Reagan on down, have become so hung up on the image of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev that we are in danger of forgetting that substantively it is the Soviet Union, not the United States, that is on the defensive on the dominant issue of our times, arms control....It is Gorbachev who is having a fine time these days waving to the crowds from the back, but it is Reagan who is in the driver's seat as both men start down the road to Geneva. Reagan has what former President Nixon has called 'the ultimate bargaining chip' in the Strategic Defense Initiative because whether the system works or not, developing it would break the Soviet economy long before it would break the American one."

(Richard Reeves, Canon City Daily Record, 9/25)

Hope for the Summit -- "Defense technologies now in sight cannot conceivably provide the nuclear shield that President Reagan seeks. But if developed and tested, even these limited technologies would almost certainly preclude the possibility of a new arms agreement and drive the nuclear arms race to an even higher level. The last five American presidents have negotiated arms control agreements with the Soviet Union. It is time for President Reagan to end five years of dangerous stagnation..."

(Gerard Smith and Paul Warnke, New York Times, 9/26)

Prediction: Reagan Won't Compromise on SDI -- "The U.S. won't budge on its determination to proceed with its Strategic Defense Initiative program at the Reagan-Gorbachev summit meeting in November. We can't in a way. We've committed ourselves too far. Dropping it now would be an admission that it is not a perfect shield, which, of course, it is not. This won't mean failure for the (Geneva) session. Too much is at stake for the leader of either the United States or Russia to return home and acknowledge that the meeting of the mighty moved the second hand of the nuclear clock a couple ticks closer to midnight. So Americans will be told our President stood firm. The Russians will be told that their premier did, too. World peace has thereby been assured, they will insist."

(L.S. Clemens of Copely News Service, Dixon Telegraph, 9/28)

U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONS & ARMS CONTROL (continued)

Treating Star Wars Fairly -- "A long-awaited report from the congressional Office of Technology Assessment poses numerous troubling questions about the wisdom of Reagan Administration programs in space weaponry....The Office of Technology Assessment is respected for political neutrality and analytical expertise. Its analysts conclude that an 'extremely capable' Star Wars system -- one that would provide a nearly leakproof shield over all U.S. cities and nuclear-weapons bases -- could possibly reduce the risk of But the OTA doubts that such a system can be built and points to unwelcome side effects. One logical response to a crash-program in space weapons by one superpower would be for the other to compensate by increasing its attack forces. This would guarantee a double-barreled race in both offensive and defensive systems.... The report tries to treat Star Wars fairly. Yet despite the courteous, middle-of-the-road spirit imbuing the analysis, the OTA's implicit and explicit conclusions about a crash program in space weaponry are damning." (Boston Globe, 9/26)

Reagan Contradicting Himself -- "Some people think President Reagan is right about the dangers of trade protectionism. Others agree with him about the virtues of his Strategic Defense Initiative, or Star Wars anti-nuclear missile program. But he can hardly be right about both, because the argument he uses to justify one is flatly contradicted by the rationale for the other. Reagan says that you can't build trade barriers at your borders without inviting retaliation, but you can erect a nuclear fence in space and no one should mind. That does not compute....To suppose that the Soviet Union will respond to the Strategic Defense Initiative...by anything except the redoubled effort to increase the credibility of that nuclear attack force is to imagine the impossible."

(David Broder, Sarasota Herald-Tribune, 9/23)

The Summit Could Have Good Results -- "SDI is a dangerous enterprise, given the context of nuclear stability. If the United States acts to perfect a strong defense, the Soviets will counter with steps to improve their offense. To assure penetration of some offensive missiles, Moscow would have to start things in an all-out attack. Thus SDI presents the peril of a renewed arms race, and the threat of apocalypse if anything goes wrong....

(But) there is every chance that Reagan and Gorbachev will dance around the idea of an agreed mix of offensive and defensive missiles. They would then agree to discuss the matter further at a later summit. In the interim they might also agree to abide by the provisions of the unratified SALT II treaty for another year, even though the treaty will expire at the start of 1986. Such an accord would not only ensure a whittling down of the (Defense Secretary) Weinberger clout, it would also provide a start on arms control, and ensure the one thing that both leaders clearly want -- a successful summit."

(Joseph Kraft, Los Angeles Times, 9/27)

U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONS & ARMS CONTROL

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(L.S. Clemens of Copely News Service, Dixon Telegraph, 9/28)

FOREIGN MEDIA REACTION

ARMS CONTROL

Pentagon: Space Defense Could Pose Hazards -- "Washington's great debate on space defenses gained fresh impetus yesterday when the Pentagon admitted that moving from present reliance on offensive missiles toward deploying defensive weapons would pose hazards to world peace. This notion is (not) new, but it is significant that it came from the Defense Department, the arch-supporter of President Reagan's space-based Strategic Defense Initiative. In other respects, the Pentagon was naturally critical of the latest 325-page study of SDI issued by a Congressional research group." (Daily Telegraph, Britain)

Pressure on Reagan to Abandon SDI Grows -- "Even in the United States, the opposition to Star Wars is growing.... The experts have confirmed that this space defense will not work unless the Soviets accept a heavy reduction in its offensive forces.... The pressure on Reagan to abandon his stand on SDI thus is becoming stronger and stronger.... Reagan is playing the tough guy. He needs to come to some understanding on SDI so as not to risk failure at the Geneva meeting with Gorbachev."

(Liberation, France)

Does Decision on SDI Rest in Soviet Hands? -- "The Congressional institute's 324-page report is shaking up the Administration. It influences the lawmakers as they are taking up the debate on financing the antimissile plans. But what is worse is that it pushes its criticism to a point where one might suspect that its authors are seeking to wrestle SDI out of the President's hand....If the 21-person study group is right, the decision of whether America should put a missile defense system into the skies is, for the better part, in the Soviets' hands. This conclusion ought to be the most painful one for the U.S. Administration."

(Frankfurter Rundschau, West Germany)

Moscow is Right on SDI Issue -- "Every public relations expert will have to admit that the man from Soviet Georgia hit the bull's eye when he advocated 'Star Peace' instead of Star Wars....That the Soviet Union rather than the United States can decide what this initiative is called is probably due to the fact that Moscow is right on this issue. This will cause a lot of headaches for the White House." (Arbeiter-Zeitung, Austria)

TRADE

Positive Factors in Dollar's Devaluation -- "There are...positive factors in the (dollar's) devaluation because recovery of U.S. export competitiveness will ease protectionist sentiments, and the U.S. economic recovery will increase demands for imports...." (Joongang Ilbo, South Korea)

U.S. Shifts to Consensus -- "(Now) instead of going it along with a hardline, isolationist position, the United States can be expected to take more positive initiatives in international economic forums such as next month's annual meetings of the World Bank and the IMF in Seoul."

(Financial Review, Australia)



News Summary

OFFICE OF THE PRESS SECRETARY

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1985 -- 6:00 a.m. EDT EDITION

TODAY'S HEADLINES

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

U.S Officials Say Soviet Arms Plan Is Not Balanced -- The Soviet Union formally proposed Monday the U.S. reduce its long-range and medium-range nuclear weapons by 50 percent, while offering a reduction that would cover only Soviet long-range weapons, according to American officials. (New York Times, Washington Post, Washington Times, Reuter, UPI, Baltimore Sun)

NATIONAL NEWS

Reagan Asks Heckler To Quit Cabinet -- President Reagan asked Margaret Heckler to step down as Health and Human Services Secretary to take the less significant position of United States ambassador to Ireland. (Baltimore Sun, New York Times, Washington Post, Washington Times, UPI, AP, Wall Street Journal)

NETWORK NEWS (Monday Evening)

HECKLER TO IRELAND? -- After denying persistent reports that Secretary Heckler was about to be sent packing, the President met with her and offered her a job as ambassador to Ireland.

ARMS CONTROL -- The Soviet side presented its latest proposals to the U.S. side in Geneva.

SOVIET HOSTAGES -- Three Soviet diplomats and the embassy doctor have been kidnapped in Lebanon.

BLACKS

TIME, OCTOBER 7, 1985

Not Following the Leaders

The Reagan Administration has long contended that black leaders do not represent the views of the black community as a whole. Last week that argument got some support. A poll in *Public Opinion* magazine, the journal of the American Enterprise Institute, indicated that a majority of blacks do not support liberal prescriptions favored by most of their leaders.

More than three-fourths of the 105 black leaders polled favored affirmative-action preferences in hiring and college admissions; by the same percentage, the survey's 600 black citizens rejected the notion that race should be the main criterion. Leaders heavily favored abortion, busing to achieve school integration and a ban on school prayer, while large percentages of all blacks opposed those views. Benjamin Hooks, executive director of the N.A.A.C.P., claimed that despite the survey's findings, most leaders were in tune with the sensibilities of the black community. The split indicated in the poll holds true for attitudes toward the man in the White House. Nearly a third of all blacks said they liked the way Ronald Reagan is doing his job, while only 13% of black leaders felt that way.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

SOVIETS CALL ARMS PROPOSALS THEIR 'DRASTIC SOLUTIONS'

GENEVA -- The Soviet Union today began the long process of officially placing its new proposals before U.S. negotiators at the arms control talks here, according to Soviet and American sources.

Specifics of the actual Soviet proposals were not made public, and there was some speculation, both here and in other capitals, that the full details may not be available until Soviet leader Gorbachev arrives in Paris for a visit on Wednesday. (Walter Pincus, Washington Post, A1)

Soviets Propose 50% Arms Joint Arms Cut, Kill SDI

The Soviet Union formally offered the United States a plan for mutual cuts of up to 50 percent in superpower nuclear arsenals at the Strategic Arms Reduction Talks (START) here yesterday in exchange for U.S. abandonment of its "star wars" missile defense program.

But a U.S. official in Washington familiar with details of the Soviet proposal called it disappointing and unfair.

This is the first time in the history of U.S.-Soviet relations that Moscow has proposed arms reductions of such magnitude.

(Michael J. Bonafield, Washington Times, A1)

Soviets Outline Arms Reduction Proposal

Soviet negotiators called a second full session today at the Superpower talks to present more details of Moscow's proposed nuclear arms reduction deal. National Security Adviser Robert McFarlane said Moscow may be seeking to limit U.S. weapons programs while remaining free to continue work on new systems of its own.

(John Callcott, UPI)

Soviet Union To Complete Presentation Of Arms Initiative

Chief Soviet negotiator Viktor Karpov, who met U.S. arms negotiator Max Kampelman Monday, said he offered proposals "directed at drastic solutions on all the problems" now under negotiation in Geneva.

(Claude Fillet, Reuter)

U.S. Officials Say Soviet Arms Plan Is Not Balanced

These officials said the Soviet proposal in Geneva made such cutbacks conditional on a ban on research into space-based defenses, which the Soviet Union calls "space strike weapons," and a ban on testing or deployment of space-based defenses or anti-satellite weapons.

(Hedrick Smith, New York Times, A1)

Soviet Said To Ask U.S. Arms Cuts

The Soviet Union formally proposed in Geneva Monday that the U.S. reduce its long-range and medium-range offensive nuclear weapons by 50 percent, while offering only a parallel reduction that would cover only Soviet long-range weapons, according to American officials here.

(Baltimore Sun, A1)

HUSSEIN, REAGAN CONFER HERE

King Hussein of Jordan assured President Reagan in a White House meeting yesterday of his willingness to enter direct peace talks with Israel. But Hussein's continued insistence that the talks be part of an international conference left unclear whether there was any progress toward reviving the peace process.

Reagan was upbeat in praising Jordan for "moving steadily and courageously forward" in the search for peace.

(John Goshko/David Ottaway, Washington Post, A14)

Hussein, At White House, Discusses Mideast Peace Talks

President Reagan and King Hussein Monday continued the slow and difficult search for Middle East peace talks.

In public remarks after his meeting with the king, Mr. Reagan reaffirmed U.S. support for Jordan's peace efforts. "Jordan has not wavered from this course, despite terrorist attacks against its diplomats and its interests abroad, and the threat of worse to come," Mr. Reagan said. (Mary Belcher, Washington Times, A4)

U.S. And Jordan Still Apart On Peace Negotiations

Jordan, the United States and Israel, all sought direct negotiations under "appropriate auspices" before the end of the year, Reagan said.

But the Administration believes King Hussein's ideal for an international conference to include the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council is not the way to go, because it would give the Soviet Union a role.

(William Scally, Reuter)

REAGAN: SOVIETS BREAK ABM PACT

President Reagan, in an interview with a French newspaper, said the Soviet Union's attempts to improve the ballistic missile defense system around Moscow have violated the ABM treaty and raise serious questions about their intentions.

"They have an extensive and long-standing strategic defense research program which is exploring many of the areas in which the United States is interested, and they have a sizable head start," Mr. Reagan said in an interview with Le Figaro released yesterday.

Mr. Reagan also made it clear that the U.S. Strategic Defense Initiative will not be confined to a defense against intercontinental missiles but will examine technologies against shorter-range missiles that threaten Europe. (Jeremiah O'Leary, Washington Times, A3)

SHULTZ ASKS WEST TO BOOST TRADE WITH LATIN NATIONS

UNITED NATIONS -- Secretary of State Shultz called yesterday on industrialized nations, particularly the European Economic Community and Japan, to boost trade with Latin America to help the region resolve its debt crisis.

(Washington Times, A7)

GORBACHEV'S "CHARM OFFENSIVE"

PARIS -- The four-day visit of Mikhail Gorbachev that begins here Wednesday is being viewed as part of the new Kremlin chief's "charm offensive," as French officials put it, prior to the U.S.-Soviet summit meeting in Geneva in seven weeks.

French officials expect Gorbachev to use his official visit to France to try to turn governments and public opinion in Western Europe against President Reagan's Strategic Defense Initiative.

(Michael Dobbs, Washington Post, A12)

PRE-SUMMIT ALLIED TALKS SET

President Reagan will confer with leaders of six industrialized democracies at the United Nations this month in an effort to demonstrate allied unity in advance of his November summit meeting with Gorbachev. White House officials said yesterday.

White House deputy press secretary Ed Djerejian announced Monday the meeting, saying that "the President wanted to have a dialogue with the leaders of the western summit nations" in advance of his meeting with Gorbachev and that their presence at the United Nations in October provided "a timely opportunity for a working session."

(Lou Cannon, Washington Post A13)

FRANCE REBUFFS SOVIET UNION OVER DENUNCIATION OF SDI

MOSCOW -- French President Mitterrand has rejected a Soviet proposal for a joint Franco-Soviet communique, to be issued during the visit to Paris this week by Gorbachev, that would have included a denunciation of Reagan Administration plans to push forward with its strategic Defense Initiative, western diplomatic sources said here today.

Although France is the staunchest opponent of Reagan's "Star Wars" missile defense research program among the major western powers in Europe, the French "still want to avoid being used by the Soviets on the issue," a senior western diplomat said.

(Gary Lee, Washington Post, A1)

GUNMEN IN BEIRUT SEIZE 4 OFFICIALS OF SOVIET EMBASSY

BEIRUT -- Three Soviet diplomats and the embassy doctor were seized at gunpoint in the Moslem-controlled sector of Beirut Monday in the first known kidnapping here of officials from the Soviet Union.

There was no further information here today about purported plans, announced Sunday by a caller also claiming to speak for Islamic Jihad, for a press conference with some of the six Americans being held hostage.

(Nora Boustany, Washington Post, A1)

EDITOR'S NOTE: Page A2 of the Washington Times contains a news analysis on the mounting Soviet rhetoric against the Strategic Defense Initiative. It is written by Yossef Bodansky and is entitled, "SOVIETS SPENT YEARS READYING SPACE DEFENSE."

U.S. URGES CAUTION ON SOVIET OFFER

The Reagan administration sounded a note of caution yesterday about the Soviet Union's new arms proposals as U.S. and Soviet negotiators sat down to discuss them in detail in Geneva.

Spokesman Larry Speakes told reporters to "look very closely at what you hear and see concerning this offer, and particularly the 50 percent." The Soviet Union, in a proposal delivered to President Reagan last week, called for the superpowers to cut strategic "nuclear charges" in half.

(Don Oberdorfer, Washington Post, A13)

U.S. Now Cautious On Soviet Arms Proposal

The White House, leery of Soviet intentions and motives, has warned that the Kremlin's new offer of a 50 percent cut in nuclear weapons may not be as attractive as it seems.

"Look very closely at what you hear and see regarding this offer," spokesman Larry Speakes told reporters.

Another senior Administration official, known for his hardline views on arms agreements with Moscow, was more blunt. "It's a rotten proposal," he groused. "The way they define 50 percent is not the way Americans do."

(Norman Sandler, UPI)

POPULATION FUNDS

A federal judge ordered the State Department Monday night to temporarily withhold granting to other agencies or foreign countries \$10 million originally earmarked by Congress for the United Nations Fund for Population Activities.

U.S. District Judge Louis Oberdorfer ordered a hearing Oct. 9 on the merits of a lawsuit brought by two congressmen and the population institute. (Tom Seppy, AP)

BOTHA HINTS AT FEDERATING ETHNIC UNITS

PORT ELIZABETH, South Africa -- President Botha, in a speech couched in imprecise language, hinted Monday that he wanted to change South Africa's apartheid system of white-minority rule into a form of federation based on geographic "units" that he said would cease to be discriminatory but would still require segregation.

(Allister Sparks, Washington Post, A1)

S. Africa Offers Blacks Wider Rights, But No Vote

President Botha last night offered some concessions to South Africa's black majority, including the possibility of seats on the President's Council, but ruled out full voting rights for blacks.

(Washington Times)

HECKLER OFFERED IRISH AMBASSADORSHIP

President Reagan Monday asked Health and Human Services Secretary Margaret Heckler to take a "promotion" to become ambassador to Ireland, but Heckler asked for a few days to consider the move, White House spokesman Larry Speakes announced.

Speakes announced that Reagan had made the decision to ask Heckler to leave. However, other White House officials said they were aware of "talking points" prepared for the President earlier in the day by White House Chief of Staff Donald Regan or his subordinates. These points were nearly identical to the language used in the announcement of Reagan's request later in the afternoon.

Speakes said Reagan made no other offer to Heckler, apparently leaving her the choice of accepting it or leaving the Administration.

Earlier Monday, Reagan, appearing angry, told reporters ... "There has never been any thought in my mind to fire Margaret Heckler. I don't know where those stories come from. They are not true."

(David Hoffman, Washington Post, A1)

Heckler Ponders Envoy Job In Ireland

President Reagan Monday asked Margaret Heckler, the embattled secretary of Health and Human Services, to serve as ambassador to Ireland, but the 54-year-old former congresswoman has asked for a few days to decide.

The President's offer, termed a promotion by the White House, amounted to a dismissal of Mrs. Heckler from the important Cabinet post.

Donald Regan, the White House chief of staff who was the chief architect of the plan to replace Mrs. Heckler, did not meet with the secretary.

(Speakes) said Mr. Reagan did not express dissatisfaction with Mrs. Heckler's performance. The decision to "promote" her out of the cabinet was the President's alone, Mr. Speakes said.

The Heckler affair is widely regarded as a test of the power of Mr. Regan, who faced the difficult task of firing a woman who recently went through a messy public divorce and even more recently recovered from surgery.

(Jeremiah O'Leary, Washington Times, A1)

Reagan Requests Heckler Yield Her Cabinet Post

Mr. Reagan's action stopped short of a formal dismissal and some White House officials tried to portray it as a "promotion." But for several months ... Mrs. Heckler has been struggling to keep her keep her Cabinet position... (Gerald Boyd, New York Times, A1)

Reagan Asks Heckler To Quit Cabinet

(The President said) that not firing her "does not mean I don't have something else I would want her to do."

(Robert Timberg, Baltimore Sun, A1)

Heckler Considering President's Request To Leave Cabinet

Mrs. Heckler had asked to meet with Reagan in a last-ditch effort to keep her job after days of rumors that she would be given the ambassadorship to ease her out of the Cabinet.

Spokesman Larry Speakes insisted the President was not dissatisfied with her performance and that she was not being fired. But when asked if Mrs. Heckler could choose to remain in her post, he replied, "I do not have an answer to that."

(William Kronholm, AP)

Heckler Thinking Over Ambassadorship

HHS Secretary Heckler is thinking about whether to accept an appointment to be U.S. ambassador to Ireland, a job President Reagan proposed apparently to ease her out of his cabinet.

"The President would consider this a promotion," (Larry Speakes)

said, and the White House press room erupted in laughter.

Asked what would happen if Heckler does not accept the new post, Speakes said, "We'll have to wait and see." (Helen Thomas, UPI)

President Asks Secretary Heckler To Quit Cabinet Position, Offers

Ambassadorship -- President Reagan, who has been loath to fire any of his staff, yesterday told HHS Secretary Heckler that he wants her out of her Cabinet post. (Jane Mayer/Joe Davidson, Wall Street Journal, 64)

EDITOR'S NOTE: Page A6 of the Washington Post contains a story on Secretary Heckler entitled, "HECKLER OFTEN AHEAD OF WHITE HOUSE IN FACING TOUGH ISSUES." It is written by Spencer Rich and details Heckler's 2 1/2 years at HHS.

REAGAN EXPECTED TO VETO 16-CENT TAX ON CIGARETTES

President Reagan is expected to veto Monday's move by Congress to keep the federal cigarette tax at 16 cents a pack through Nov. 14. The tax is part of an omnibus bill to extend a half-dozen programs that were scheduled to expire when the 1985 fiscal year ended last night.

In a separate bill, Congress approved a 45-day extension of dairy price supports and related farm programs that also had been due to lapse

that night.

Administration officials said there was "a distinct possibility" that Reagan would veto the bill containing the cigarette tax extension, although they said he intends to sign the dairy price-support bill.

(Helen Dewar/Margaret Shapiro, Washington Post, A1)

Reagan OKs Rise In Cigarette Tax

Congress voted Monday to keep the federal cigarette tax at 16 cents a pack through Nov. 14, and President Reagan subsequently sighed signed the bill into law despite reports that he might veto the measure.

Spokesman Rusty Brashear announced early Tuesday that Reagan had signed the bill before midnight Monday, when the new fiscal year took effect.

(Jim Luther, AP)

Stop-Gap Money Measures Approved By House, Senate

The House and Senate passed without debate legislation to tax cigarette sales, keep dairy price supports at the existing level, continue federal job training and pay for food stamps.

With only hours to spare, Mr. Reagan signed separate legislation that keeps the federal government in business for another 45 days while Congress struggles to pass money bills for fiscal 1986.

(Stephanie Nall, Washington Times, A3)

JOINT CHIEFS VESSEY RETIRES IN CHARACTER

Gen. John Vessey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the last four-star combat veteran from World War II on active duty, retired in character yesterday as he bade farewell to 46 years of life as a soldier: "Thanks. Thanks, troops."

A smiling President Reagan ... (said) "Gen. Vessey will be remembered for many things," but one accomplishment stands above all the rest: "Jack Vessey always remembered the soldier in the ranks..."

(George C. Wilson, Washington Post, A3)

EDITOR'S NOTE: A large captioned color photograph of the event marking Gen. Vessey's retirement adorned the front page of the Washington Times. Pictured were: President Reagan, Vice President Bush, Gen. Vessey and Secretary Weinberger.

'GUEST WORKER' OPTION OFFERED

The Reagan Administration, pushing for an overhaul of the nation's immigration laws, yesterday outlined a compromise "guest worker" proposal to allow an unspecified number of foreign workers to enter the United States temporarily to harvest perishable crops.

Meanwhile ... (a Congressional Hearing on the proposal) turned into a partisan shouting match after (Delores Huerta of United Farmworkers of America) charged that Deputy Agriculture Secretary John Norton, who had testified earlier on the Administration proposal, kept workers in inhumane living conditions and had been found in violation of California's Agricultural Labor Relations Law.

(Mary Thornton, Washington Post, A5)

Compromise On Migrant Workers Offered

Administration officials offered Congress Monday a compromise to a Senate-approved plan to allow 350,000 foreign farm workers into the country to help harvest highly perishable crops.

As proposed by the officials at House hearings, the Administration proposal would allow the entry of the seasonal workers but would let a special commission determine how many should be let in.

(Washington Times, A4)

USDA'S FARM-BILL LOBBYING HIT

Sen. David Pryor (D-Ark.) accused the Reagan Administration Monday of a "flagrant" abuse of power by mobilizing its nationwide network of Agriculture Department employees to lobby for passage of a farm bill acceptable to the White House.

"The Administration on one hand is telling farmers to be frugal, but is taking away travel restrictions for federal employees to sell the John Block farm policy," he added. (Ward Sinclair, Washington Post, A5)

SHUTTLE TO LAUNCH TWO PENTAGON SATELLITES

The Defense Department will send two military communications satellites this week on the second supposedly secret military mission of the space shuttle, John Pike, a spokesman for the Federation of American Scientists said yesterday. (Washington Post, A7, Reuter)

Defense Satellites Readied

Secretary Weinberger has in recent months attacked leaks of information about secret military shuttle missions. But space expert John Pike said, "The mission will be chiefly to put two DSCS-3 (Defense Satellite Communications System) satellites into stationary orbit 22,000 miles out in space for routine military communications." (Washington Times)

-end of A-section-

SECRETARY HECKLER

CBS's Dan Rather: A major change at the top in the federal agency that affects the daily lives of millions of Americans, the \$300B-a-year Department of Health and Human Services. After denying persistent reports that Secretary Heckler was about to be sent packing, President Reagan met with Heckler and offered her a job as ambassador to Ireland.

CBS's Bill Plante: Secretary Heckler, who went to the White House this afternoon amid rumors that she was about to be fired, was offered the job of ambassador to Ireland.

(TV Coverage: Various shots of Heckler.)

A White House spokesman, calling the offer a promotion, said Heckler had asked for a few days to think it over. Heckler had been the target of White House aides, particularly Donald Regan, who maintained that her job performance has been less than desirable. The President, however, says that she is satisfied with Heckler's performance, but had something else in mind for her.

(President: "I'm going to be talking to her about something that I have had in mind for some time, and then you will have all the details. This time they won't be a leak, they'll be correct.")

But Mr. Reagan's critics saw this as an ideological battle.

(Rep. Waxman, D-Cal: "I have to believe that this is an ideological problem, that she's not pure enough, she hasn't passed the ideological litmus test for the right-wingers. They want one of their own in there to slash these programs that help many of the elderly and the poor in this country.")

(NOW President Eleanor Smeal: "Secretary Heckler was one of the women that the Reagan Administration showcased before the election, in fact all during the election period, on how good they were on women. And now, after the election, they're dumping her rather unceremoniously.")

(Rep. Gregg, R-NH: "It appears that she has stepped on the sensibility of some of the individuals, the unelected individuals, down at the White House. She has been, according to them...disloyal, and for this she must be burned at the stake or, at the minimum at least, sent to Ireland.")

White House aides insist that ideology isn't Heckler's problem, but its management. But since the disagreement is now so public, the main concern here is saving face -- both for Heckler and for Donald Regan, the Chief of Staff who wants here out. The White House would rather have cleaned this up today, but now hopes that it will die down for a day or two while Heckler decides whether to go quietly or go out fighting. (CBS-Lead)

ABC's Peter Jennings: To put it gently, Secretary Heckler has been having a difficult time. A lot of her critics, and some of them are in the White House, think she should be doing something else -- like, for example, being ambassador to Ireland, or some other distant post. Today Mrs. Heckler had a meeting with the President.

ABC's Sheilah Kast: Even bidding farewell to a foreign dignitary,

President Reagan was bombarded with questions about the future of Secretary Heckler. Earlier, he had vehemently denied reports he intended to fire her.

(President on South Lawn: "I'm going to be talking to her about something that I have had in mind for some time, and then you will have all the details. This time they won't be a leak, they'll be correct.")

Late today, Heckler came to the meeting she had requested with the President, where he asked her to leave her Cabinet post to become ambassador to Ireland. His spokesman said the President considers that a promotion, but Heckler has said before she doesn't want the Dublin job and left telling the President she needed several days to think it over.

(TV Coverage shows Heckler arriving; still photos of Heckler, then Larry Speakes.)

The spokesman said President Reagan is pleased with Heckler's performance, but some of the President's top aides believe Heckler has been ineffective in pushing Administration goals such as cutting the budgets of Medicaid and Medicare. Heckler supporters on Capitol Hill contend she's a loyal supporter of Ronald Reagan.

(Sen. Hatch: "I think it's really been just an effort by, I think, some clunkers in the White House who basically don't know what is decent.")

Even some Democrats said she's being hounded.

(Rep. Waxman, D-Cal: "Evidently she hasn't passed some ideological litmus test that they expect from her.")

President Reagan is angry about leaks from his staff which describe him as displeased with Heckler. But despite his sympathy, odds are she will not remain part of his Cabinet. (ABC-5)

NBC's Tom Brokaw: The White House was trying to find a way to say

Margaret Heckler is not being fired as Secretary of Health and Human
Services. The President, however, has offered her a new job:
ambassador to Ireland. He called that a promotion. Mrs. Heckler
would not comment to waiting reporters. She'll reportedly take a few
days to make a decision, but correspondent Andrea Mitchell tells us
the decision to remove Mrs. Heckler is final at the White House.

(TV Coverage of Mrs. Heckler arriving at White House.) (NBC-2)

U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONS/ARMS CONTROL

Rather: The public-relations battle between the superpowers over arms control proposals went from full speed ahead to warp-speed overdrive. The Soviet side presented its latest arms control proposals to the U.S. side in Geneva.

CBS's Tom Fenton reports from Geneva: Chief Soviet negotiator Viktor

Karpov brought the new proposals to the Geneva arms talks today.

The Soviets are reportedly now offering a 50% cut in nuclear weapons in return for curbs on President Reagan's space defense program.

(Karpov: "It takes two for cuts.")

The timing of the new Soviet proposals has been well orchestrated, before Gorbachev's visit just to France. demonstrations and preparations are already well underway for Gorbachev's arrival Wednesday in Paris. In an interview with a French newspaper, President Reagan put out a warning about the Gorbachev visit. He said for a long time the Soviet Union has tried to divide the Western allies. President Mitterrand is said to be well aware of Mr. Gorbachev's likely intent -- that he'll try to use this visit to split the allies on the issue of the so-called star wars program. But aides say Mr. Mitterrand will do his best to avoid taking a pro-Soviet position or embarrassing Mr. Reagan before the Geneva summit. (CBS-2)

ABC's Barrie Dunsmore reports from Geneva: The U.S. delegation was clearly on instructions not to be negative, but not to be too positive either.

(Max Kampelman: "We're hoping, it's about time as a matter of fact.") On their arrival, the Soviets said they had a drastic proposal, but were guarded about chances for agreement.

(Karpov: "Let's hope so, but it takes two for cuts.")

What has begun to leak out of the Soviet plan seems tough and one-sided. First, in proposing a 50% cut in each side's arsenals, it lumps together all types of nuclear weapons from giant missile warheads to small bombs. The Soviets say the U.S. approximately 12,000 of these and that they have fewer than 10,000. Of course the key point in reducing these numbers is what gets cut, the small bombs or the megaton warheads. And under the Soviet plan, it would keep most of its big missiles like the SS-18. Second, the Soviets want a ban on new weapons, which would stop the U.S. from developing the Midgetman missile and the Stealth bomber, but not the production of two new kinds of Soviet missiles and a submarine which have recently been tested. Finally, the Soviets make their 50% cuts conditional on a ban on testing and development of The President says research into star wars is not negotiable. The question is, where does research end and testing begin? That may be negotiable. As is, the Soviet proposal would seem to be quite unacceptable to the U.S., but it does provide a basis for negotiation. And in the propaganda war the two sides are now so vigorously engaged in, the U.S. does not want to be the side to say, "Nyet."

ABC's Sam Donaldson: President Reagan did say no today, but not to the Soviet proposal. He said no to the question of whether he had any better assessment today of its real worth.

(President on South Lawn: "No, not at all. Today it is being presented in Geneva to our arms negotiators.")

But already some officials, including Kenneth Adelman, are saying the Soviet proposal is a mixed bag.

Donaldson continues: (Adelman: "I know that some of their elements in their proposal are blatantly and almost laughably, ludicrously one-sided." Donaldson: "Which ones?" Adelman: "Gutting SDI, for one, and certain other categories that I'd like not to get into in this kind of open forum." Donaldson: "But categories of warheads and who's cutting where?" Adelman: "That is correct, that is correct. And they have fashioned it in such a way as to blatantly preserve their forces and blatantly try to cut into our forces.")

What U.S. officials like Adelman are saying is that the SDI is not negotiable, and they say any cuts -- 50% or otherwise -- must be of equal value, not just magnitude. They can't get us to cut most of our heavy warheads while they keep most of theirs, say these officials. The President appeared in public today with the U.S. Armed Forces. It was a retirement ceremony for General John Vessey, outgoing Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

(TV Coverage shows President reviewing troops.)

But it served to underscore the U.S. military buildup the President contends will back up the U.S. negotiating position. It is clear U.S. officials find the Soviet proposal as presented unacceptable. But what they want to know is whether there's any give in it, or whether Gorbachev was simply trying to make propaganda points in advance of the November summit. (ABC-2)

Brokaw: When President Reagan and Soviet leader Gorbachev meet in Geneva in mid-November, it could be the most important gathering of this decade, and the maneuvers leading to the summit are picking up speed now fast.

NBC's Marvin Kalb: For months now in Geneva the American negotiators have been making proposals -- six of them -- but getting little in return. Today the much-heralded Soviet counter-proposal was finally put on the table.

(Max Kampelman: "We hope this will be the time when we'll hear what they've got to say in a serious manner.")

The chief Soviet negotiator said that his government's proposals were far-reaching. It was a surprisingly brief meeting. The serious explaining begins tomorrow. But U.S. officials say the Russians presented a very comprehensive set of proposals, highlighted by a call for a 50% cutback in strategic weapons on boths sides — including space weapons, medium-range missiles fired from land, sea or air, and long-range missiles. The Russians also called for a ban on the development of new strategic weapons systems such as star wars, and they accepted the concept of specific limitations on land, sea or air-launched weapons. The Administration was pleased — so far.

(NSC Adviser McFarlane: "There is something there on the table that hasn't been and that's something the President very much welcomes. It is an offer of reductions, and that's good.")

The Administration's line is cautiously upbeat for the public. Neither side wants to be seen as the spoiler. But a senior official said the devil is in the details. The sense of the U.S. Government is that if at the end of the day the Russians continue to insist on a ban on star wars, a breakthrough agreement at the summit may prove to be impossible.

Brokaw: Chris Wallace is at the White House tonight, where he's been keeping track of the increased Reagan Administration activity on the road to the summit. Chris, this meeting with the Western allies in New York in late October -- is that more public relations or is there a new scheme the President will tell them about?

Wallace: A British diplomat I talked to this afternoon said that public relations and substance are becoming almost interchangeable at this point, and White House officials largely agree. They say that it is important from a substance sense for the U.S. to be consulting with its Western allies, but they also say it's important to show that it is consulting and that the West is staying united against Soviet efforts to divide it. So the U.N. summit accomplishes objectives in both areas.

Brokaw: Former Chancellor Schmidt was in New York City today and he was saying the Soviets are having great success now in Western Europe in making their case as to being more reasonable in the area of arms control. Does that concern the White House?

Wallace: It does concern them. U.S. official point out that that's an old Soviet trick. In a moment like this as you approach a summit or a key point in negotiations to try to divide the U.S. from its Western allies — in this case on the issue of star wars, the SDI, or by proposing a moratorium on all testing — U.S. officials disagree with Schmidt. They don't think it's having much impact in Europe now. But Gorbachev's efforts have clearly gotten the U.S.'s attention. And they are taking nothing for granted at this point, not even the Western alliance. (NBC-Lead)

WESTERN SUMMIT

Rather: The White House said that President Reagan will host an October
Western summit in New York as a prelude to his Geneva summit with
Gorbachev. The President will meet October 24 with the leaders of
Britain, Canada, West Germany, France, Italy and Japan.

(ABC-3, NBC-Lead, CBS-3)

GORBACHEV IMAGE/TRIP TO FRANCE

ABC's Walter Rodgers reports from Moscow: When Gorbachev goes to Paris this week, he will be trying to project the same image there that he shows on the streets of Leningrad and Kiev -- a supremely confident leader -- proud, energetic, and a fierce defender of the Soviet cause which he sees himself embodying. Gorbachev's recent interview with Time Magazine demonstrates clearly a sophisticated understanding of how to use the Western media to his advantage. His visit to London last year amounted to a love feast with the British media, and a similar triumph is expected in France when he holds a joint news conference with President Mitterrand. Western reporters in Moscow predict Gorbachev's sure sense of self-projection will certainly challenge President Reagan for the title of Great Communicator at the Geneva summit.

Rodgers continues: And behind his media blitz, Gorbachev has staged a quiet revolution that's gone largely unnoticed in the U.S. Gorbachev has changed the entire thrust of Soviet foreign policy—de-emphasizing relations with Washington but ardently courting Japan and Western Europe for trade and technology. And his trip to France now is aimed at convincing the Europeans they have more in common with his Russia than with Ronald Reagan's America. In all of this, Gorbachev has a secret weapon—his wife, a doctor of Marxist philosophy at Moscow University. It's on trips west that Gorbachev's wife becomes a more visible asset. She's expected to dazzle the French.

(British journalist: "The Gorbachevs are the nearest that Russia has ever had to a Camelot, to a Kennedy couple...")

But among the people back home, Gorbachev's policies have not produced the same favorable image he enjoys abroad. His campaign against alcohol consumption has produced long lines at liquor stores and has earned him the derisive nickname "General Juice." Russian women have been heard to grumble that Gorbachev's wife likes French perfume and expensive clothes. And one Russian worker complained, "He's urging us to work harder for the same old wages."

(TV Coverage shows workers digging up a street.) (ABC-4)

HUSSEIN

Rather: King Hussein was at the White House for an hour-long meeting with President Reagan. The President said he is optimistic that Arab-Israeli peace talks can open this year. But Hussein stuck by his call for an international conference, which the Soviet Union would attend. The U.S. and Israel both oppose this proposal. Hussein will start lobbying tomorrow in Congress, where President Reagan's new proposed arms sale to Jordan faces tough opposition.

(TV Coverage: President and King Hussein in Oval Office.)

(NBC-5, CBS-11)

Jennings: Both agree that Jordan should participate in peace talks with Israel. They have still not been able to agree on other the parties to such talks, but despite their continuing differences on the subject Mr. Reagan said today's talks were very productive. (ABC-13)

LEBANON/SOVIET HOSTAGES

Jennings: Three Soviet diplomats and the embassy doctor in Beirut have been kidnapped. That is the first time it has happened to the Soviets.

ABC's Charles Glass reports from Beirut: Large-scale fighting in Tripoli this week apparently lies behind the abductions. An anonymous caller told a Western news agency that the Islamic Jihad group was holding the four Soviets and would execute them if Moscow does not put pressure on Syria to stop the killing of Moslem fundamentalists in Tripoli with Soviet weaponry. (CBS-4, NBC-4, ABC-Lead)

talk of a unified South Africa.

ECONOMY

Rather: The Index of Leading Economic Indicators rose a strong 0.7% last month. Coupled with a similar newly-revised increase for July, these numbers point to possibly an improving economy in the coming months. However, some prominent economists still believe the rebound won't last for long. A new survey by the National Association of Business Economists found that about half its members predict a recession by the end of 1986. (ABC-15, CBS-7)

SOUTH AFRICA

ABC's Jim Hickey reports from Johannesburg: What President Botha did tonight was try to set down in one package what his government has said it is willing to negotiate on the road to apartheid reform.

(Botha: "My party, my government, are committed to the principle of a united South Africa with one citizenship and universal franchise.")

Botha again did not address specific measures to dismantle the structures of apartheid, but he clarified his proposal for a united South Africa, describing in effect a federalist system -- maintaining autonomous black and white communities with eventual black representation in the national government. Bishop Tutu was skeptical of much of Botha's speech. He was, however, encouraged by the

(Tutu: "I think for the first time he has committed himself to universal suffrage.")

Botha has come under increasing internal pressure, especially from the business community, to move forward with specific reform. White shop owners in Port Elizabeth and other cities are hurting from a black consumer boycott. Some stores have been forced to close. Big business is also feeling the pinch from economic pressure. This weekend, 91 key South African business leaders bought a newspaper ad urging Botha to accelerate the reform process.

(Businessman Zak DeBeer: "We as business people are desperately disappointed that the government doesn't achieve more along the road to reform.")

In the past, Botha has demanded black leaders renounce violence as a prelude to negotiations. Tonight, he did not restate that condition, seeming to open the door a little more to talks. (ABC-14)

NBC's John Cochran reports from Johannesburg: (President Botha: "We are the party of reform, we are the party of liberty, we are the party of hope in South Africa.")

Much of the world may dispute that, but tonight for the first time Botha did commit himself, vaguely, to votes for blacks. But not one man-one vote. That, he said, would result in black dictatorship. Botha's most specific promise was to consider inviting blacks to join the whites who advise him on policy.

(Botha: "I am willing to reconsider the structuring and the functions of the President's Council to make provision for their participation in that President's Council.")

Cochran continues: That reform was popular with a white audience which included businessmen who had threatened to heckle Botha if he didn't announce reforms. Botha was speaking in Port Elizabeth, a city economically crippled by a black consumers boycott, which has forced a score of white merchants into bankruptcy. Throughout South Africa, black boycotts are closing down white stores at the rate of one a day. And 91 top business executives ran newspaper ads yesterday urging an end to all race discrimination laws. One executive was South Africa's leading banker, Chris Ball.

(Ball: "I think that the business community at this point is frustrated, it is angry, and it understands what the risks are and the pressure will intensify. It is inevitable that the government has to do something.")

And tonight Botha did something. But many blacks just don't trust him, like Bishop Tutu.

(Tutu: "Because we have been fed a diet of wonderful promises which have never been fulfilled.")

Government's problems with young people continued today in Capetown when 300 students of mixed race protested their schools are vastly inferior to white schools. What followed was familiar.

(TV Coverages shows rioting.)

No one was killed here, but elsewhere in South Africa today mobs killed three blacks suspected of collaborating with the police.(NBC-3)

AUTOS

CBS's Frank Courrier reports it is the start of a new model year, and a new round in the battle against foreign competition. In its struggle to lure buyers back from overseas imports, Big Three automakers are spending a record \$15B on the 1986 models, and for the first time in years competing without any quotas on Japanese imports. (CBS-8)

LIQUOR TAX

CBS's Ned Potter reports that starting tomorrow, the federal tax on hard liquor will be raised sharply as part of the deficit-reduction package.

(ABC-17, CBS-9)

CIGARETTE TAX

Rather: Congress voted to keep up the 16¢ tax on a pack of cigarettes, which otherwise would have dropped to 8¢ a pack at midnight.

(ABC-18, CBS-10)

CHILD SUPPORT PAYMENTS

CBS's Fred Graham reports on a new federal law designed to make people pay their child support. The law requires judges in every state to dock the paycheck of any parent who has failed to pay. (CBS-14)

STOCKS

Jennings reports the Dow was up nearly 8 points in fairly heavy trading.
(ABC-16)

AIDS

CBS's Barry Peterson reports on people with AIDS-Related Complex

(ARC). AIDS experts estimate that 10-20 times as many people have the complex as have AIDS, and they pose an even greater danger in the spread of the disease than those with AIDS.

(Expert: "People with AIDS, for the most part their immune system is already pretty much destroyed by the virus. People with AIDS-related conditions have more immune system, therefore more home for the virus, and they are probably more contagious even than people with AIDS.")

One reason: those with ARC are often well enough to continue working and to continue an active sex life. (CBS-12)

BUREAUCRAT ARTIST

ABC's Charles Gibson reports on James Boren, the founder of the National Association of Professional Bureaucrats -- the ones with the motto, "When in doubt, mumble." To mark the occasion of the new fiscal year, Boren has fashioned sculptures that depict the various parts of government. The congressional sculpture, for example, has plenty of posturing flag-wavers and works at slow speed or crisis speed. But at any speed the productivity is nothing. The White House sculpture has lots of layers to transgress before reaching the top. At the top, there's plenty of policy tilt.

(TV Coverage shows the various contraptions. White House sculpture is made of paper clips and tilts at the top.)

The OMB sculpture, a hodge-podge of dingalings. The Justice Department sculpture, made up of yo-yos. The Air Force-sculpted plane is powered by one of those thousand dollar coffee pots. A piece of art dedicated to the committee structure has arrows pointing in all directions. And what would a sculpture to tax reform be but an exercise in moving loopholes around.

(TV Coverage of tax reform sculpture, mostly made up of different-sized rings.) (ABC-19)

U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONS & ARMS CONTROL

Soviet Peace Offensive: Has Trading Time Come? -- "If they mean it, and if the cuts are really big (the USSR is talking about 40%) and can be verified, then the U.S. should grab it. Let them win the propaganda exchange: They would give up a real advantage in exchange for a future threat. It would be a huge diplomatic triumph for Reagan. Every President since Lyndon Johnson has tried to reduce the numbers of Soviet missiles and warheads. The best they have achieved, SALT-1 and SALT-2, were freezes in some missiles....Reagan insists he won't trade Star Wars for cuts in Soviet missiles -- but he can change his mind and should consider it....It would mean U.S. cuts, too: Cancel the MX and freeze the Trident submarine and B-1 bomber programs. That would help the U.S. economy."

USSR on Defense and Arms Issues -- "Americans, from President Ronald Reagan on down, have become so hung up on the image of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev that we are in danger of forgetting that substantively it is the Soviet Union, not the United States, that is on the defensive on the dominant issue of our times, arms control....It is Gorbachev who is having a fine time these days waving to the crowds from the back, but it is Reagan who is in the driver's seat as both men start down the road to Geneva. Reagan has what former President Nixon has called 'the ultimate bargaining chip' in the Strategic Defense Initiative because whether the system works or not, developing it would break the Soviet economy long before it would break the American one."

(Richard Reeves, Canon City Daily Record, 9/25)

Hope for the Summit -- "Defense technologies now in sight cannot conceivably provide the nuclear shield that President Reagan seeks. But if developed and tested, even these limited technologies would almost certainly preclude the possibility of a new arms agreement and drive the nuclear arms race to an even higher level. The last five American presidents have negotiated arms control agreements with the Soviet Union. It is time for President Reagan to end five years of dangerous stagnation..."

(Gerard Smith and Paul Warnke, New York Times, 9/26)

Prediction: Reagan Won't Compromise on SDI -- "The U.S. won't budge on its determination to proceed with its Strategic Defense Initiative program at the Reagan-Gorbachev summit meeting in November. We can't in a way. We've committed ourselves too far. Dropping it now would be an admission that it is not a perfect shield, which, of course, it is not. This won't mean failure for the (Geneva) session. Too much is at stake for the leader of either the United States or Russia to return home and acknowledge that the meeting of the mighty moved the second hand of the nuclear clock a couple ticks closer to midnight. So Americans will be told our President stood firm. The Russians will be told that their premier did, too. World peace has thereby been assured, they will insist."

(L.S. Clemens of Copely News Service, Dixon Telegraph, 9/28)

U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONS & ARMS CONTROL (continued)

Treating Star Wars Fairly -- "A long-awaited report from the congressional Office of Technology Assessment poses numerous troubling questions about the wisdom of Reagan Administration programs in space weaponry.... The Office of Technology Assessment is respected for political neutrality and analytical expertise. Its analysts conclude that an 'extremely capable' Star Wars system -- one that would provide a nearly leakproof shield over all U.S. cities and nuclear-weapons bases -- could possibly reduce the risk of nuclear war. But the OTA doubts that such a system can be built and points to unwelcome side effects. One logical response to a crash-program in space weapons by one superpower would be for the other to compensate by increasing its attack forces. This would guarantee a double-barreled race in both offensive and defensive systems.... The report tries to treat Star Wars fairly. Yet despite the courteous, middle-of-the-road spirit imbuing the analysis, the OTA's implicit and explicit conclusions about a crash program in space weaponry are damning." (Boston Globe, 9/26)

Reagan Contradicting Himself -- "Some people think President Reagan is right about the dangers of trade protectionism. Others agree with him about the virtues of his Strategic Defense Initiative, or Star Wars anti-nuclear missile program. But he can hardly be right about both, because the argument he uses to justify one is flatly contradicted by the rationale for the other. Reagan says that you can't build trade barriers at your borders without inviting retaliation, but you can erect a nuclear fence in space and no one should mind. That does not compute...To suppose that the Soviet Union will respond to the Strategic Defense Initiative...by anything except the redoubled effort to increase the credibility of that nuclear attack force is to imagine the impossible."

(David Broder, Sarasota Herald-Tribune, 9/23)

The Summit Could Have Good Results -- "SDI is a dangerous enterprise, given the context of nuclear stability. If the United States acts to perfect a strong defense, the Soviets will counter with steps to improve their offense. To assure penetration of some offensive missiles, Moscow would have to start things in an all-out attack. Thus SDI presents the peril of a renewed arms race, and the threat of apocalypse if anything goes wrong....

(But) there is every chance that Reagan and Gorbachev will dance around the idea of an agreed mix of offensive and defensive missiles. They would then agree to discuss the matter further at a later summit. In the interim they might also agree to abide by the provisions of the unratified SALT II treaty for another year, even though the treaty will expire at the start of 1986. Such an accord would not only ensure a whittling down of the (Defense Secretary) Weinberger clout, it would also provide a start on arms control, and ensure the one thing that both leaders clearly want -- a successful summit."

(Joseph Kraft, Los Angeles Times, 9/27)

U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONS & ARMS CONTROL

Soviet Peace Offensive: Has Trading Time Come? -- "If they mean it, and if the cuts are really big (the USSR is talking about 40%) and can be verified, then the U.S. should grab it. Let them win the propaganda exchange: They would give up a real advantage in exchange for a future threat. It would be a huge diplomatic triumph for Reagan. Every President since Lyndon Johnson has tried to reduce the numbers of Soviet missiles and warheads. The best they have achieved, SALT-1 and SALT-2, were freezes in some missiles....Reagan insists he won't trade Star Wars for cuts in Soviet missiles -- but he can change his mind and should consider it...It would mean U.S. cuts, too: Cancel the MX and freeze the Trident submarine and B-1 bomber programs. That would help the U.S. economy."

(New York Daily News, 9/26)

USSR on Defense and Arms Issues -- "Americans, from President Ronald Reagan on down, have become so hung up on the image of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev that we are in danger of forgetting that substantively it is the Soviet Union, not the United States, that is on the defensive on the dominant issue of our times, arms control....It is Gorbachev who is having a fine time these days waving to the crowds from the back, but it is Reagan who is in the driver's seat as both men start down the road to Geneva. Reagan has what former President Nixon has called 'the ultimate bargaining chip' in the Strategic Defense Initiative because whether the system works or not, developing it would break the Soviet economy long before it would break the American one."

(Richard Reeves, Canon City Daily Record, 9/25)

Hope for the Summit -- "Defense technologies now in sight cannot conceivably provide the nuclear shield that President Reagan seeks. But if developed and tested, even these limited technologies would almost certainly preclude the possibility of a new arms agreement and drive the nuclear arms race to an even higher level. The last five American presidents have negotiated arms control agreements with the Soviet Union. It is time for President Reagan to end five years of dangerous stagnation..."

(Gerard Smith and Paul Warnke, New York Times, 9/26)

Prediction: Reagan Won't Compromise on SDI -- "The U.S. won't budge on its determination to proceed with its Strategic Defense Initiative program at the Reagan-Gorbachev summit meeting in November. We can't in a way. We've committed ourselves too far. Dropping it now would be an admission that it is not a perfect shield, which, of course, it is not. This won't mean failure for the (Geneva) session. Too much is at stake for the leader of either the United States or Russia to return home and acknowledge that the meeting of the mighty moved the second hand of the nuclear clock a couple ticks closer to midnight. So Americans will be told our President stood firm. The Russians will be told that their premier did, too. World peace has thereby been assured, they will insist."

(L.S. Clemens of Copely News Service, Dixon Telegraph, 9/28)

ARMS CONTROL

Pentagon: Space Defense Could Pose Hazards -- "Washington's great debate on space defenses gained fresh impetus yesterday when the Pentagon admitted that moving from present reliance on offensive missiles toward deploying defensive weapons would pose hazards to world peace. This notion is (not) new, but it is significant that it came from the Defense Department, the arch-supporter of President Reagan's space-based Strategic Defense Initiative. In other respects, the Pentagon was naturally critical of the latest 325-page study of SDI issued by a Congressional research group." (Daily Telegraph, Britain)

Pressure on Reagan to Abandon SDI Grows -- "Even in the United States, the opposition to Star Wars is growing.... The experts have confirmed that this space defense will not work unless the Soviets accept a heavy reduction in its offensive forces.... The pressure on Reagan to abandon his stand on SDI thus is becoming stronger and stronger.... Reagan is playing the tough guy. He needs to come to some understanding on SDI so as not to risk failure at the Geneva meeting with Gorbachev."

(Liberation, France)

Does Decision on SDI Rest in Soviet Hands? -- "The Congressional institute's 324-page report is shaking up the Administration. It influences the lawmakers as they are taking up the debate on financing the antimissile plans. But what is worse is that it pushes its criticism to a point where one might suspect that its authors are seeking to wrestle SDI out of the President's hand...If the 21-person study group is right, the decision of whether America should put a missile defense system into the skies is, for the better part, in the Soviets' hands. This conclusion ought to be the most painful one for the U.S. Administration."

(Frankfurter Rundschau, West Germany)

Moscow is Right on SDI Issue -- "Every public relations expert will have to admit that the man from Soviet Georgia hit the bull's eye when he advocated 'Star Peace' instead of Star Wars....That the Soviet Union rather than the United States can decide what this initiative is called is probably due to the fact that Moscow is right on this issue. This will cause a lot of headaches for the White House." (Arbeiter-Zeitung, Austria)

TRADE

Positive Factors in Dollar's Devaluation -- "There are...positive factors in the (dollar's) devaluation because recovery of U.S. export competitiveness will ease protectionist sentiments, and the U.S. economic recovery will increase demands for imports..." (Joongang Ilbo, South Korea)

U.S. Shifts to Consensus -- "(Now) instead of going it along with a hardline, isolationist position, the United States can be expected to take more positive initiatives in international economic forums such as next month's annual meetings of the World Bank and the IMF in Seoul."

(Financial Review, Australia)