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News Summary

OFFICE OF THE PRESS SECRETARY

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4, 1985 -- 6 a.m. EDT EDITION

TODAY'S HEADLINES

TRIP NEWS

President Reagan receiving a drink as he had lunch with workers at Procter and Gamble in Cincinnati. (Photo caption, front page of the New York Times, Cincinnati Enquirer, Northwest N.J. Daily Record, UPI, Newark Star-Ledger)

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Terrorists Say They Executed U.S. Hostage -- A Lebanese terrorist group says it has executed an American hostage in retaliation for alleged U.S. involvement in this week's Israeli air raid on Tunis, Middle East sources told Washington Times sources Thursday. (Washington Times, AP, Baltimore Sun, Wall Street Journal)

NATIONAL NEWS

GOP Leaders Back Plan To Legislate Statutory Limits On Federal Deficits -- House and Senate Republican leaders jointly endorsed an amendment to the debt-ceiling bill, setting statutory limits on federal deficits as part of a six-year plan promising a balanced budget by 1991. (Wall Street Journal, Washington Post, Washington Times)

NETWORK NEWS (Thursday Evening)

EAST-WEST RELATIONS -- Gorbachev's proposals brought a quick response from the President, who didn't think much of the Soviet offer to pull some intermediate-range missiles out of Europe.

NATO MEETING -- The U.S. agreed to a special NATO foreign ministers meeting in Brussels to discuss the upcoming Reagan-Gorbachev summit.

ALLIED NUCLEAR POWER -- Gorbachev's proposals are not likely to appeal to the French or the British.

ON TAX REFORM

"America has a responsibility to the future -- and our children are our future. We're a Nation of Immigrants who labored and sacrificed to give their children a better life. That's the American dream. We can't let big-Government tax policies kill that dream."

President Ronald Reagan
St. Bernard, Ohio, October 3, 1985

TRIP NEWS

REAGAN SPEECH ADDRESSES DEFICIT

President Reagan brought his tax reform crusade to Cincinnati Thursday and added an unexpected item to the agenda -- federal budget deficits.

In a three-hour visit to the city, his first since last summer's campaign rally, Mr. Reagan toured Procter & Gamble's Ivorydale plant and ate lunch in the company cafeteria. Then he headed for the Clarion Hotel downtown to bring his tax reform message to 1,300 business leaders invited by the Greater Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce and the Cincinnati Business Committee. (Cincinnati Enquirer, A1)

NOTE: The Cincinnati Enquirer also ran a story of the President's tour of the Ivorydale P & G plant. The story appeared directly below the main one, and was largely the same as the UPI story below. It included a photo of the President accepting a glass of iced tea from a cafeteria worker. The Cincinnati Enquirer also ran the complete text texts of both of the President's speeches.

The New York Times also ran the photo on its front page, but no accompanying story

PRESIDENT TOURS SOAP FACTORY AND TAKES SOAPBOX

CINCINNATI -- President Reagan toured the Ivory soap factory Thursday and -- like the soap's slogan -- said the visit was "99 and 44-100 percent pure fascinating." Reagan's trip to the gigantic Procter & Gamble Co. plant also was about 99 and 44-100 percent pure politics. He got on the political soapbox and urged workers to support his federal income tax reform proposals. Reagan spent 90 minutes of his three-hour Cincinnati visit at the soap plant and seemed to thoroughly enjoy it. At noon, Reagan walked into the plant cafeteria and was given a standing ovation by about 160 workers. Reagan sat down at a small round table with six P&G employees and chatted through a 20-minute lunch with them. Then, Reagan launched into purely political remarks -- urging the employees to support his tax plan. Only one protester showed up at the P&G gates to criticize the president -- a 79-year-old Cincinnati minister who previously was arrested twice while demonstrating outside the White House. (Rick Van Sant, UPI)

REAGAN'S VISIT EXPECTED TO HELP GOP IN ASSEMBLY

TRENTON (AP) -- New Jersey Republican leaders predicted that GOP legislative candidates will be the major beneficiaries of a visit to the state by President Reagan later this week. Kenneth Connolly of the Republican State Committee said Reagan's speech at a \$250-a-plate luncheon in Parsippany on Friday will stress the importance of electing a Republican majority to the Assembly this year. John Samerjan, a spokesman for Friends of Tom Kean, the governor's re-election committee, described Reagan's visit as a "pep rally." (Northwest N.J. Daily Record, 4/1)

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REAGAN A CASH, PUBLICITY BOOST FOR GOP

TRENTON, N.J. -- The Republican State Committee hopes President Reagan's attendance at a luncheon Friday will add \$250,000 to its war chest and bolster the GOP's attempt to seize control of the Assembly from the Democrats Nov. 5. Frank Holman, chairman of the state committee, says he expects 1,000 people to attend the \$250-a-plate luncheon at the Parsippany Hilton. Holman says he is also trying to arrange a photo session at which party supporters can meet and be photographed with the President for an additional \$1,000 each. Republican Gov. Thomas Kean, running in one of two gubernatorial elections in the country this year, will be in attendance along with every GOP Assembly candidate. Democrats now hold a 44-36 advantage in the Assembly, with 41 votes needed for passage of any bill. Kean is expected to win re-election easily and the conventional wisdom is that a governor who wins in a landslide can sweep a majority into the Legislature with him. Republicans complain the Democrats have stonewalled Kean administration initiatives, kidnapped Republican bills and sponsored them as their own and failed to seriously consider Republican legislation. They argue Kean will be able to accomplish more the Republican majority, but the Democrats still control the Senate. (UPI)

MORRIS GOP WILL BASK WITH REAGAN

President Reagan can expect a crowded dais Friday when he appears at a \$250-per-person fund-raising luncheon in Parsippany-Troy Hills, officials said yesterday. More than three dozen state and local candidates are expected to bask in the presidential spotlight, at least long enough to get their pictures taken, as the President makes his only scheduled campaign swing through New Jersey this year, Morris County Republican Chairman Richard Kamin said. (Bill Cannon, Newark Star-Ledger, 4/1, A30)

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NATIONAL NEWS

MOVE TO BALANCE BUDGET BY 1991 GAINS MOMENTUM ON HILL

Senate and House Republican leaders Thursday close ranks behind a plan to balance the budget within six years, and Speaker O'Neill said Democrats, as well, may embrace "something of that nature."

President Reagan said he was "in agreement" with goals of the plan. While he stopped short of an outright endorsement, White House and Sen. Dole said they expect Reagan to do so today.

(Helen Dewar, Washington Post, A1)

GOP Gets Together On Balanced Budget

President Reagan joined House and Senate Republican leaders Thursday in endorsing a sweeping balanced budget plan created by Sen. Gramm, that would force the government to stop deficit spending within five years.

Sen. Dole said the Gramm plan could be adopted as early as today as an amendment to a bill increasing the ceiling on the federal debt to over \$2 trillion.

(Thomas Brandt, Washington Times, A1)

GOP Leaders Back Plan To Legislate Statutory Limits On Federal Deficits

Congress would preserve its power to influence the priorities in federal spending, but the legislation would empower the President to make across-the-board cuts if an agreement wasn't reached on meeting the annual targets.

(David Rogers, Wall Street Journal, 4)

HOUSE PANEL AGREEING ON SMALLER ISSUES IN MASSIVE TAX OVERHAUL

The House Ways and Means Committee, prodded anew by President Reagan to write a federal income tax bill that will "give us a new burst of economic achievement," has reached its first agreements on fairly minor changes in the present tax system. In the first round of votes, the committee approved two Reagan recommendations and rejected a third.

(Jim Luther, AP)

Rostenkowski Plan Threatens Tax Overhaul Bill By Alienating Some Business, House Supporters

The chairman brushed aside the wishes of many on his committee in order to honor the President's request that the top tax rate be lowered to 35 percent.

But he also ... would allow a partial deduction for state and local taxes, provide more generous tax cuts than the President's plan to those earning \$30,000 to \$75,000, and give less of a cut to those earning more than \$100,000. (Alan Murray, Jeffrey Birnbaum, Wall Street Journal, 46)

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PRAYER MEASURE CLEARS COMMITTEE

The Senate Judiciary Committee Thursday voted 12-6 to allow silent prayer in public schools, less than a month after the full Senate decisively rejected a broader measure to allow organized, spoken prayer.
(Combined dispatches to Washington Times, A4)

Senate Panel Approves School Prayer Amendment

The proposal would reverse a 6-to-3 ruling of the Supreme court last June 4. The decision said public schools may not set aside daily moments of silence if students are told that prayer is one possible activity during the silence.
(Larry Margasak, AP)

FARMER REFERENDUM IS DELETED FROM BILL

Pushing toward final passage of a new farm bill, the House Thursday sided with the Reagan Administration and agribusiness by rejecting a controversial proposal that would have allowed farmers to vote to limit grain production.

The 251-to-174 vote to strike the farmer referendum provision from the bill represented the first time during debate that the chamber turned against its Agriculture Committee and the first Administration victory on a key amendment.
(Ward Sinclair, Washington Post, A5)

House Gives Reagan Farm Bill Win As It Kills Grain-Production Curbs

Handing President Reagan his first victory in the current farm bill debate, the House yesterday bucked its Democratic leaders and killed a proposal to let grain farmers vote on the future shape of their subsidy programs.
(AP story, Washington Times, A3)

BILL TO LIMIT TEXTILE IMPORTS LEAPS FIRST HURDLE IN HOUSE

The House Rules Committee, reacting to pleas to save American jobs, Thursday cleared the way for House consideration of a textile import bill just one day after a similar measure survived its first test in the Senate.
(UPI story, Washington Times, A2)

MEESE TO CONGRESSWOMEN: SCHEDULE FULL FOR TWO MONTHS

When Attorney General Edwin Meese III was asked to meet with leaders of a congressional caucus on plans to scrap affirmative action requirements for federal contractors, he claimed his schedule was full for the next months, two congresswomen say.

"I really find it amazing that nowhere in the next two months could he possibly meet with congresswomen," said Rep. Pat Schroeder Thursday.
"It's all a dodge."
(Jill Lawrence, AP)

FAA TO ORDER INSPECTION OF OLDER 727s.

The Federal Aviation Administration will order special inspections of older Boeing 727s to ensure that the rear wall of the passenger cabin remains structurally sound and capable of sustaining the huge air pressures that build as a plane climbs to high altitudes, aviation sources said Thursday. (Douglas Feaver, Washington Post, A3)

OMB ILLEGALLY BLOCKED EPA PLAN FOR ASBESTOS BAN, REPORT SAYS

The Office of Management and Budget illegally blocked federal efforts to ban most uses of asbestos, with the help of a high-ranking Environmental Protection Agency official who "capitulated to pressure," according to a new congressional report.

The report, issued Thursday by the House Energy and Commerce subcommittee on oversight and investigations after a six-month inquiry, said that OMB, in "an unlawful abuse of power," pressured EPA deputy administrator A. James Barnes late last year to refer asbestos to two other agencies with less authority to regulate hazardous substances.

In a statement, the EPA called the charges against Barnes "a harsh and unfair personal assault" and said it still intends to propose rules to control asbestos. (Cass Peterson, Washington Post, A20)

EDUCATION SECRETARY MOVES TO IMPROVE ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Secretary Bennett unveiled two initiatives Thursday night aimed at improving the quality of elementary schools, including a new study group that will make a "report to the nation" next summer.

(Washington Post, A21)

KIRK PREDICTS PARTY REVIVAL IN 1986 AND 1988 ELECTIONS

Democratic National Committee Chairman Paul Kirk Thursday predicted a comeback for his party in the 1986 and 1988 elections, arguing that the Republican party will by its policy failures, particularly the huge federal budget and trade deficits.

Democratic party's defeats since 1980 are due to President Reagan's personal popularity rather than a nationwide shift to the Republican party, and now, "the actor is leaving the stage," Kirk told an audience at Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government.

(James Dickensen, Washington Post, A4)

SHUTTLE ATLANTIS IS LAUNCHED ON SECRET MISSION

A crew of five military men flew the space shuttle Atlantis into orbit yesterday on a mission classified secret by the Defense Department. It reportedly will put two new communications satellites into permanent positions above the equator. (Thomas O'Toole, Washington Post, A9)

DEFENSE FREEZE ADVANCES IN HOUSE

A House Appropriations Subcommittee agreed Thursday to freeze defense outlays this year, impose a moratorium on further testing of antisatellite weapons and reduce President Reagan's request for a "Star Wars" space defense system. (Margaret Shapiro, Washington Post, A12)

Pentagon Budget Clears House Subcommittee

A House subcommittee has approved a Pentagon budget of \$292 million, a spending plan that is in line with earlier House budget-cutting actions but one that falls far below President Reagan's original proposal.

(Tim Ahern, AP)

KIRKPATRICK TO SIT OUT SENATE RACE

Maryland Republicans Thursday received a blow to their hopes of holding on to the seat of retiring Sen. Mathias when former U.N. ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick announced that she would not be a candidate.

(Sandra Sugawara, Washington Post, D4)

GOP LAWMAKERS BOOST AID FOR ANGOLA REBELS

Two key House Republicans swiftly joined a Democratic colleague in a movement to to persuade President Reagan to rush humanitarian aid to rebels fighting Angola's Marxist government.

Reps. Jack Kemp (R.-NY) and James Courter (R.-NJ) started collecting signatures on a letter a day after Rep. Claude Pepper (D.-FL) introduced a bill calling for \$27 million in food, clothing, medicine and other humanitarian assistance for the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola, known as UNITA. (Charles Wheeler, Washington Times, A1)

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

TERRORISTS SAY THEY EXECUTED U.S. HOSTAGE

There was no independent confirmation of Islamic Jihad's claims Thursday night and, in the nearly 20 months the U.S. diplomat has been missing, there have been other unsubstantiated reports of his death.
(Combined dispatches, Washington Times, A1)

Paper Receives Claim That Buckley Was Killed

The Lebanese capital's leading independent newspaper said Friday that Shiite Moslem terrorists claimed to have killed American hostage Buckley in retaliation for Israel's raid on PLO headquarters in Tunisia. (AP)

Group Reports Execution Today Of U.S. Hostage

Mr. Buckley, 57, of Medford, Mass., was kidnapped March 16, 1984, outside his home. He has been in captivity the longest of the six American hostages who are believed held in Beirut. (Baltimore Sun, A1)

GORBACHEV PUBLICLY PRESENTS MISSILE REDUCTION PROPOSAL

PARIS -- Soviet leader Gorbachev publicly launched a new Soviet arms control initiative by proposing that the United States and the Soviet Union agree to cut their strategic missile forces by half and negotiate a total ban on the development and deployment of space-based weapons.

Unveiling the wide-ranging arms control proposals in a speech to French legislators, Gorbachev altered several previous Soviet negotiating positions in an apparently calculated bid to rally European public opinion behind him before he meets President Reagan in Geneva on Nov. 19 and 20.
(Michael Dobbs, Washington Post, A1)

Gorbachev Bids To Cut Europe-Aimed SS-20s

President Reagan expressed skepticism about Gorbachev's offer to negotiate with France and Britain reductions of medium-range nuclear weapons in Europe.

Administration arms control experts also expressed concern that the Soviets may be attempting an end run around the United States to divide the NATO alliance by going directly to the allies.

Some arms control officials, however, were encouraged by Gorbachev's Paris offer Thursday, which closely followed an initial Soviet proposal in Geneva Monday. (Walter Andrews/Jeremiah O'Leary, Washington Times, A1)

Gorbachev Unveils New Arms Control Package

French officials said President Mitterrand would answer questions on his reaction to the package at a joint news conference with Gorbachev today. But an official with the U.S. Arms Control Development Agency in Washington, who spoke on condition he not be identified, said he believed Gorbachev's proposal for separate talks with Britain and France had not been revealed to Reagan.
(David Mason, AP)

REAGAN EXPRESSES SKEPTICISM ON SOVIET ARMS-CUT PLAN

President Reagan Thursday described the newly unveiled Soviet arms proposal as a "change in their position" but questioned whether Moscow would follow through on an announced cutback in Soviet missiles targeted on Western Europe.

Reagan, answering questions from reporters as he toured a soap manufacturing plant in St. Bernard, Ohio, said Britain and France are free to negotiate separately with the Soviet Union over their nuclear forces in Europe, as proposed by Gorbachev.

(David Hoffman/Don Oberdorfer, Washington Post, A1)

NEW STYLE, OLD CONTENT

PARIS -- Stripped of much of their language of flexibility and examined solely in numerical terms, Gorbachev's proposals on reducing nuclear weapons in Europe are strikingly similar to the numerical limits sought by his predecessors.

For many analysts, Gorbachev's emphasis on change appeared to be calculated to reawaken the strong antinuclear sentiment that coursed through Western Europe in the early 1980s, but has since grown dormant.

Gorbachev also appeared to be adopting a page from Ronald Reagan's domestic policy book by appealing to public opinion over the heads of the French and British governments, which are almost certain to reject his proposal for direct talks on nuclear weapons.

(News Analysis by Gary Lee, Washington Post, A1)

FIRED CIA PAIR TOOK REVENGE BY SPYING FOR KGB, FBI TOLD

Two former CIA operatives suspected of spying for the Soviet Union were dismissed from the agency as the result of improper conduct and then took revenge by spying for the KGB, according to administration and congressional sources.

"He was a rotten apple we got rid of in 1983," said a senior CIA official. (Bill Gertz, Washington Times, !4)

CONTRAS OBJECT TO U.S. PLAN TO SEND AID VIA SINGLE GROUP

As the State Department prepares to hand out \$27 million in non-lethal aid to Nicaraguan guerrillas, several rebel leaders are denouncing the Administration's decision to funnel the aid through a newly created "unity" group.

These leaders contend the decision amounts to an attempt to subjugate their factions under the control of the Nicaraguan Democratic Force, FDN, the largest rebel army and the one most closely tied to the U.S.

AP story, Washington Times, A4)

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SHULTZ PROPOSES MEETING IN BRUSSELS TO EASE FEELINGS
OF BELGIUM, HOLLAND

Secretary Shultz, apparently hoping to cool Belgian and Dutch tempers, offered yesterday to fly to Brussels for talks with NATO foreign ministers on the November superpower summit.

"It was extraordinarily insensitive, on the eve of a Belgian election and the Dutch decision over whether to deploy cruise, To the man in the street, it looks like America is telling us, 'You're OK as a missile launching pad but we don't need your advice...'", a Belgian official in Brussels said.
(Reuter story, Washington Times, A6)

CEASE-FIRE IS SET IN LEBANON

BEIRUT -- Syrian President Assad and a fundamentalist Islamic faction besieged by Syrian allies in northern Lebanon agreed last night to an immediate but uncertain cease-fire as the Soviet Union reportedly told its embassy here to begin evacuating dependents and some diplomats today.
(Nora Boustany, Washington Times, A1)

OFFICIAL CALLS USE OF F15 LEGITIMATE

NEW YORK -- The Israeli air raid on the PLO headquarters in Tunisia was a response to terrorism and therefore a legitimate defensive use of U.S.-provided weapons, a senior U.S. official said Thursday.

But the official, who spoke with reporters on condition he not be identified, also appeared to warn Israel not to engage in violent actions against the PLO in neighboring Jordan.

(John Goshko, Washington Times, A13)

PERES WELCOMES HUSSEIN'S REMARKS

JERUSALEM -- Israeli Prime Minister Peres Thursday welcomed signs from King Hussein in Washington that the peace process may still be alive despite Israel's bombing Tuesday of the PLO headquarters in Tunisia.

Peres put aside the fact that U.S. officials have backed away from their initial unqualified endorsement of the raid.

President Reagan's remarks on Tuesday terming the raid an act of self-defense were "crystal-clear," Peres said, regardless of U.S. attempts the next day to "deplore" the violence.

(Christopher Dickey, Washington Post, a28)

Israel And Jordan Still At War, Peres Insists

Prime Minister Peres said Thursday that Jordan's King Hussein is still at war with Israel despite his reported claim that a state of "belligerency" no longer prevails between the two countries. If the king wants to end his country's state of war with Israel, he should come out and say so, Peres said. "Hussein shouldn't be so shy about."

(Andrew Meisels, Washington Times, A6)

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PLO RETALIATION COULD HALT EFFORT FOR TALKS, U.S. SAYS

Reagan Administration officials said Thursday that a likely retaliation by the PLO for Tuesday's Israeli raid in Tunis could trigger a new spiral of violence and scuttle the U.S.-sponsored drive to revive Middle East peace talks. (David Ottaway, Washington Post, A27)

WEINBERGER CALLS SDI RESEARCH A U.S. 'NECESSITY'

Secretary Weinberger Thursday called research on SDI "an absolute necessity" for U.S. security, insisting that the controversial "star Wars" missile defense program not become a bargaining chip to achieve an arms control agreement with the Soviet Union.

"If we stop our work on strategic defense and give it away at the negotiating table, we will forever lose one of history's best chances to end the shadow and fear of nuclear weapons."

(Michael Weisskopf, Washington Post, A16)

EDITOR'S NOTE: Page A18 of the Washington Post contains 1/2 page of excerpts from Gorbachev's speech in Paris to the French National Assembly.

SOVIETS SHIFT ARMS TALKS APPROACH

GENEVA -- U.S. officials are concerned that the Soviet Union may try to end separate Intermediate-range Nuclear Force negotiations as one of the three panels at the Geneva arms talks according to American sources both in Geneva and in Washington. (Walter Pincus, Washington Post, A19)

SOMARE THWARTS NEW BID TO TOPPLE HIM

PORT MORESBY -- Papua New Guinea Prime Minister Michael Somare has thwarted a new opposition attempt to topple his government. (Reuter)

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NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY

(Thursday Evening, October 3, 1985)

EAST-WEST RELATIONS/ARMS CONTROL

CBS's Dan Rather reports from Paris: Soviet Leader Gorbachev pushes how he would reduce the threat of nuclear war. At home, President Reagan calls it a change in position but pushes back hard and fast. (President: "We're not going to retreat from the research that could deliver to the world a defense against these nuclear weapons and finally bring us to the realization that we should eliminate the nuclear weapons entirely.")

The first round was Gorbachev's, calling for an end to President Reagan's star wars program, deep cuts in some missile stockpiles and a special side deal with the French and British. His forum was a speech to French lawmakers, Gorbachev detailing the arms reduction proposals made secretly earlier this week in Geneva.

(Gorbachev, through translator: "First, a few days ago we proposed to the Government of the United States to come to terms on the total prohibition of space-strike arms for both sides and to reduce really radically, by 50%, the nuclear arms capable of reaching each other's territory.")

Gorbachev also called for reductions in medium-range missiles in Europe. Gorbachev proposed a side deal, regardless of how talks with the U.S. go.

(Gorbachev: "It is time to start between us a direct dialogue on this theme and try to find an acceptable way out through joint effort. The Soviet Union is prepared for such a direct dialogue with France, just as with Britain of course.")

And to that end, he said the Soviets will reduce somewhat the number of their missiles aimed at Western Europe.

(Gorbachev: "This means that it precisely accords with the level of June 1984, when the additional deployment of our missiles was started in response to the deployment of American medium-range missiles in Europe.")

In his speech and in subsequent talks with French officials, Gorbachev made it clear he was speaking to two audiences -- the French, with whom he suggested the Soviets can work out their own arrangements -- and American public opinion, as emphasized by his relentless attacks on star wars. At one point today, the French got in a lick of their own; Gorbachev tense as several officials complained about Soviet human rights violations.

Rather: Word of Gorbachev's speech was flashed to President Reagan as he campaigned in the American Midwest.

CBS's Bill Plante: While Gorbachev was selling disarmament in Western Europe, Ronald Reagan was selling tax reform in Southern Ohio.

(TV Coverage of the President touring soap factory)

But the Gorbachev proposals brought a quick response from the President, who didn't think much of the Soviet offer to pull some intermediate-range missiles out of Europe.

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(Thursday Evening, October 3, 1985)

Plante continues: (President: "As I understand it, the only proposal they've made is one that would not be destroying any of their weapons. It would simply be moving them. Well, that missile, the SS-20, is a mobile missile. It is transported, it can move from place to place. To simply drive them up into the Ural Mountains or someplace else and then say that they're not a threat to Europe makes no sense. They can be brought back any time they want to turn on the gas.")

Mr. Reagan welcomed the Soviet offer to negotiate British and French nuclear weapons directly with those nations and denied that would drive a wedge between the U.S. and its allies.

(President: "It certainly would drive a wedge if we arrogantly decided that we would negotiate on behalf of other countries and without their consent. No, this is between them and the Soviet Union, and more power to them.")

And Mr. Reagan resisted the suggestion that Gorbachev was trying to put him on the defensive with the Europeans.

(President: "I don't know whether they're trying to do that or not. It would be nice to hope that they may have gotten religion.")

But the President and his advisers don't really believe the Soviets are converts to the idea of arms control at truly equal levels; that they're only trying to court world opinion. And two can play at that game. CBS has been told that the State and Defense Departments will release a report tomorrow charging that the Soviet Union has a strategic defense network which dwarfs that of the U.S. The report is the Administration's justification for going ahead with strategic defense. Because when it comes to star wars, Mr. Reagan is determined to hang tough. (CBS-Lead)

ABC's Peter Jennings reports from Paris: This was the Soviet leader's big day in Paris. He was challenged by a French politician on the treatment of Jews in the Soviet Union. He was challenged on the street about Soviet political dissidents. And he made a major speech to the West on arms control.

ABC's Walter Rodgers: Gorbachev said his proposed 50% cut in superpower nuclear arsenals improves an explosive international situation. He renewed a proposal to ban space weapons, saying star wars makes reduction of nuclear arsenals impossible. And then he sprang his surprise. Bypassing the U.S., he urged two of Washington's closest allies to begin separate missile reduction talks with Moscow. He's called on Europe to force a freeze on further Pershing and cruise deployments. The French saw a Soviet leader who appealed to their common European heritage, who said he shared their fears and vowed he was not trying to decouple Europe from America.

(Gorbachev: "The question has been raised that we want to improve our relations with Western Europe in order to drive a wedge between it and the United States. But this is absurd because we want to have good relations not only with Western Europe but also with the United States.")

Gorbachev came to France because he perceived it to be the weak link in the Western Alliance. And while he now denies trying to divorce Washington from Western Europe, he's clearly embarked on a well-planned seduction of America's allies.

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(Thursday Evening, October 3, 1985)

Jennings: The White House has wasted no time in reacting to all this attention Gorbachev is getting. The President was in Cincinnati.

ABC's Sam Donaldson: Gorbachev may have gotten the first headline today, but Ronald Reagan made sure he got the last.
(Donaldson question: " -- Gorbachev has made his plan public, does that harm serious negotiations?" President: "No, I don't believe so.")

Seeking out reporters, the President answered Gorbachev point by point. On his offer to reduce the number of SS-20 missiles aimed at Europe -- the Soviets have 441 SS-20s, two-thirds of them within striking distance of Europe:

(President: "That missile, the SS-20, is a mobile missile. It is transported, it can move from place to place. To simply drive them up into the Ural Mountains or someplace else and then say that they're not a threat to Europe makes no sense.")

On Gorbachev's offer to negotiate directly with the British and French on their nuclear forces, which heretofore Moscow had been insisting should be lumped together with U.S. systems: Okay.

(President: "It certainly would drive a wedge if we arrogantly decided that we would negotiate on behalf of other countries and without their consent. No, this is between them and the Soviet Union and more power to them.")

And finally the high-stakes argument over SDI, star wars:

(Donaldson: "Gorbachev says if you don't give up SDI, there'll be hard times in the world." President: "Well, he could probably feel that way because the Soviet Union is about 10 years ahead of us in developing a defensive system themselves, but we're not going to retreat from the research that could deliver to the world a defense against these nuclear weapons and finally bring us to the realization that we should eliminate the nuclear weapons entirely." Reporter: "And the testing, sir?" President: "That goes along with research.")
To make the point, a successful U.S. test of laser rocket-tracking was announced this afternoon by the Pentagon. In this pre-summit propaganda game, Gorbachev and the Russians have been scoring points all along. Today the Great Communicator seemed to score back.

Jennings: Gorbachev's various proposals on nuclear weapons have evoked a mixed reaction. A great many European officials have tended to fall back on the Reagan Administration's theme: Let's see how it plays at the negotiating table. Still, there is a lot of meat here for an explosive political debate.

ABC's Barrie Dunsmore reports from London: (TV Coverage begins with anti-nuclear demonstrations.)

A strong anti-nuclear feeling in much of Western Europe is the apparent target of today's proposal to reduce nuclear missiles in Europe by direct negotiations between Moscow, Paris and London.

(Denis Healey of the British Labour Party on Gorbachev's proposals: "I think they're even exciting. I think they're very encouraging and open completely new ground in the discussions about arms control and disarmament.")

(Thursday Evening, October 3, 1985)

Dunsmore continues: Moscow has scored some big points in the propaganda war this week. It's all part of the smile campaign, as the critics here call it, the effort to project a non-threatening image to the Europeans.

(Conservative M.P. John Brown: "(Gorbachev is) potentially able to talk billions of dollars off the defense budgets of the Western world and even to personally charm individual leaders on a personal basis and to cause splits.")

A real potential split in the alliance exists over President Reagan's SDI. A recent poll shows nearly half of Britons and West Germans believe star wars makes nuclear war more likely. Beyond that is a growing feeling that the U.S. is as much of a threat as the Soviet Union. The British Labour Conference this week shows what can be the subtle effect when the Soviets are not seen as a threat. The debates were all over domestic issues; there was no dispute over foreign policy. A consequence of a Labour victory would be the expulsion of all American nuclear bases and missiles from Britain. And so for the U.S., the stakes in the battle for hearts and minds of Western Europe are very high. Of course all Soviet leaders have tried to divide the U.S. from its allies. But the difference is that this one may be having some success.

Jennings discusses the situation with ABC's George Will and Pierre Salinger:

Salinger: I think what Gorbachev did today was to launch a missile with four warheads and four targets. The first was the European people to convince them that the Soviets are now a country which is willing to negotiate. Second, the Netherlands, to try to prevent them from deploying cruise missiles on November 1. The third, the French, to try to engage them in negotiations on missiles -- something the French are not going to do. And fourth, to try to do something to show the world that Ronald Reagan is really not the person who's yielding when he comes to Geneva.

Will: It looks like the old strategy, now conducted with such unusual skill that it looks new. That is the old strategy of trying to convince the Europeans that they can look after their own security without depending on and deferring to the U.S. But he is doing this with such skill that he's making the Great Communicator here in Washington look rather tongue-tied.

Jennings: Does this really have a chance to lead to the uncoupling of Europe and America?

Salinger: I think it has some possibility of having an impact on the European public. I mean the way he presents himself is different than any previous Soviet leader. He talks in a way that is different. I mean, have you ever heard of a Soviet leader quoting Voltaire and Shakespeare?

Jennings: On the other hand, you could argue that the policies don't appear to change.

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Will: I don't think they do. What he is doing is successfully making arms control the exclusive topic of conversation. To the extent that we talk only about arms control, we are not talking about Afghanistan, Nicaragua, Angola, human rights, Sakharov and all the rest. We're talking about things people can barely understand to the exclusion of the emotional issues people can understand and on which the Soviet Union is vulnerable.

ABC's Don Kladstrup reports on Mr. and Mrs. Gorbachev's travels around Paris. No sooner had Gorbachev finished laying a wreath on the tomb of France's unknown soldier when he found his exit momentarily blocked by a man wielding a flag with the Star of David. Police quickly arrested the man, who said he was protesting on behalf of a Jewish friend trying to leave Russia.

(TV Coverage shows the incident.)

The issue of human rights dogged Gorbachev through much of the day, especially at Paris's "city hall," where the mayor spoke about Soviet violations of the Helsinki accords.

(Mayor, through translator: "Not all those accords on human rights and liberties have been respected.")

A similar note was sounded by Prime Minister Fabius, who hosted a lunch for the Soviet leader and his wife. Fabius said he gave Gorbachev a list of people who have been prohibited from leaving the Soviet Union for political reasons. Later, while Gorbachev strolled with Mitterrand on the grounds of the presidential palace, Mrs. Gorbachev set off in another direction -- to do some shopping at Pierre Cardin's, to visit a museum, and reveal how she has become, as one French paper called her, the Soviet Union's ambassadoress of charm.

(ABC-Lead)

NBC's Tom Brokaw: The countdown to the Geneva summit meeting between President Reagan and Mikhail Gorbachev becomes more fascinating with every passing day, and tonight there is a new equation to consider. In Paris today, Gorbachev formally offered a 50% cutback in long-range missiles if the U.S. dumps star wars. And he said the Soviets are already pulling back some medium-range missiles aimed at Europe. But his big surprise involved other medium-range weapons and an attempt to divide France and Great Britain from the U.S. Gorbachev said he would like to talk directly with the French and the British without the U.S.

NBC's Jim Bitterman reports from Paris: Gorbachev added further details to the Soviet proposal, saying that Moscow has already reduced the number of SS-20 medium-range missiles targeted at Western Europe to 243 and will dismantle some of their stationary launch facilities within the next two months. He suggested for the first time that at the Geneva arms talks, agreement can be negotiated separately on space and long-range weapons without a simultaneous agreement on medium-range weapons, the weapons most threatening to the Europeans. But when high Soviet officials, including one of the Geneva arms negotiators, began explaining Gorbachev's proposals at a news conference, it seemed there was less to them than met the eye.

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Bitterman continues: For instance, on the question of separating negotiations on intermediate range weapons -- something the U.S. has long pressed for -- the Soviet negotiator indicated it could happen, but with a time limit.

(Negotiator: "They can be settled separately, for awhile.")

Experts who pored over the Gorbachev speech thought, as one put it tonight, that it seemed something like Russian wine in a fancy French bottle -- that Gorbachev is clearly a master at dressing up the classic Soviet line in a style that might prove attractive to the West. Still, as Gorbachev and Mitterrand met for an evening of entertainment, diplomats said the French leader would be making a serious attempt to discern exactly what Gorbachev had in mind.

Brokaw: The British said they wouldn't talk separately with the Soviets until both superpowers reduce their arsenals of long-range weapons. Within the Reagan Administration, there were a number of efforts today to deal with this new Soviet offer.

NBC's Andrea Mitchell: The President was traveling to talk about tax reform.

(TV Coverage: President de-planing in Cincinnati, visiting soap factory.)

But he and his aides were clearly concerned about the impact of Gorbachev's offer. After Mr. Reagan toured a soap factory, the President said he had no objections if the Soviets negotiated separately with the British and French. But Administration officials did not think that would be likely. As for the Soviet cutback on medium-range missiles in Europe, the President suggested that could be a shell game because the Russians would be moving missiles but not destroying them and perhaps not dismantling missile launchers as Gorbachev promised.

(President: "It would simply be moving them ^{well,} for that missile, the SS-20, is a mobile missile. It is transported, it can move from place to place. To simply drive them up into the Ural Mountains or someplace else and then say that they're not a threat to Europe makes no sense. They can be brought back anytime they want to turn on the gas.")

And the Secretary of Defense said Gorbachev's offer of 50% reductions in long-range missiles would give the Soviets a big advantage.

(Secretary Weinberger: "They would leave us with systems that were not as effective and not as modern as the Soviets, bearing in mind that the Soviets have not only modernized but continue to modernize all parts of their triad of defenses.")

Skeptics inside the Administration and outside think there is more public relations than substance to Gorbachev's proposals.

(Helmut Sonnenfeldt: "I frankly wish that they would make them privately and in the negotiating forums instead of blasting them from the rooftops which, I think, suggests that perhaps they're more designed for public impact than for genuine negotiation.")

While White House officials say that Gorbachev's offer does not meet Administration concerns about Soviet missiles in Europe, they are worried that it might sound very good to the Europeans.

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Brokaw discusses the situation with former German Chancellor Schmidt, saying he asked the Chancellor if the British could be expected to accept this Soviet offer:

Schmidt: I don't think they will make separate deals. They will see to it that there is coordination between their attitudes and their negotiation aims and the attitudes and the aims and goals of the United States. This, I think, one can take for granted.

Brokaw: Doesn't this put more pressure on President Reagan to come up with something for Geneva?

Schmidt: I think they both now are jockeying with their relative public opinion and it's not necessarily so that somebody who goes to the negotiation table should present his views to the public before he meets his counterpart at the table.

Brokaw: Generally speaking, how would you say Gorbachev is doing in Western Europe in terms of improving the image of the Soviet Union?

Schmidt: I think he is doing nicely not only in Western Europe, also in the United States of America, which I did detect while traveling your country in the last couple of days. I think his interview in Time Magazine a couple of weeks ago was a magnificent piece of diligent public relations. But on the other hand, it's not public relations that matters here. What matters is what do they put on the negotiation table in Geneva...and are both of them willing to find ways in order to, in the end, reach a compromise. And this might take a long time, and certainly will not be reached in just two days talking between the two heads of state.... (NBC-Lead)

Brokaw reports that during the Paris mayor's lecture on Soviet Jews and others who suffer human rights abuses, Gorbachev's expression was "impassive." (NBC-12)

NBC's John Hart reports French television was captivated with Mrs. Gorbachev, from polished toe to polished smile. Aside from dressing and smiling well, she is largely a mystery. When she finally opened up, it was to Pierre Cardin. She offered him a chance to open an outlet in her country, after which Cardin reported far more than was previously known.

(Cardin: "She speaks English very perfectly, better than I do myself....")

He was charmed. (NBC-13)

NATO MEETING

Rather: The U.S. agreed to a special NATO foreign ministers meeting in Brussels to discuss the upcoming Reagan-Gorbachev summit in Geneva. Secretary Shultz will represent the U.S. The date has not been determined. The U.S. agreed to this meeting when Belgium and the Netherlands objected to being left out of the so-called Western Summit in New York in three weeks hosted by President Reagan.

(CBS-4)

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ATLANTIS SHUTTLE

Rather: Another part of the U.S. response to Gorbachev came at the end of a rocket -- the first launch of the Atlantis, the shuttle program's second mission devoted solely to payloads for the military. While the mission is supposed to be a secret, it's a well-known secret -- the payload believed to be two high-tech, jam-proof and supposedly attack-proof emergency military communications satellites.

(ABC-5, NBC-7, CBS-2)

LASER TEST

Rather: Also today, and it was no coincidence, the latest of one of the first star-wars related laser beam tests.

CBS's David Martin reports from White Sands Missile Range on the test on the only weapons-grade laser in the U.S. Star wars research is busting out all over, although much of it is still years away from being tested as a weapon. Secretary Weinberger warned the Soviets have 10,000 scientists working on their own version of star wars.

(Weinberger: "They've been conducting research and very advanced strategic defense technologies, particle-beam weapons and radio frequency weapons and kinetic energy and high energy lasers. This has been very extensive.")

Pentagon officials fear that if the U.S. gives the slightest hint it might be willing to bargain away star wars, Congress will cut the money for research to the bone. If that happens, Pentagon officials warn, the Soviets will have succeeded in limiting the U.S. effort without having to give up any of their own star wars programs.

(CBS-3)

ALLIED NUCLEAR POWER

CBS's Tom Fenton reports from France that Gorbachev's proposals are not likely to appeal to the French or the British. Opposition to such a deal would be especially strong in France. Public opinion here is overwhelmingly in favor of maintaining and strengthening this country's independent nuclear deterrent. (Frenchman: "We don't like Mr. Reagan's dream of doing away with nuclear weapons because we all think that nuclear weapons are the condition for which there has not been a war in Europe.")

Mitterrand did not take long to react to Gorbachev's proposal for negotiations on the French nuclear force. Tonight government sources said there is no chance it will be accepted.

(CBS-5)

DOUBLE AGENT

CBS's Bob Schieffer: Former CIA agent Edward Howard may have caused a security breach as serious as anything this country has sustained in the recent past. That assessment given by Sen. Durenburger, Chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee. Howard is now being sought by the FBI. Durenburger will not say what Howard did to compromise security, but he apparently gave the Soviets details on how the U.S. was obtaining highly sensitive information about the Soviet Union.

(CBS-6)

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POLOVCHAK

CBS's Karen Burris reports on Walter Polovchak, 17, whose five year legal battle to decide where he wants to live has ended with his being allowed to stay. He was called the littlest defector when at age 12 he decided he would stay in America and never again see his parents rather than return with them to Russia. (ABC-2, CBS-7)

FEDERAL DEFICIT

Jennings: There is major news in the Congress tonight. Just when it looked as if no one had a saleable idea on how to reduce the federal budget deficit, a powerful idea has emerged. The train is rolling in Congress and everybody wants to be on board.

ABC's Brit Hume: There is nothing so powerful as an idea whose time has come, especially in politics. And after a Republican Senate caucus this morning, two freshman members were feeling pretty powerful. (Sen. Gramm: "We're happy to be able to report that the Republican majority in the Senate is solidly behind our proposal.") (Sen. Rudman: "All of a sudden, there's a feeling here in the Congress, both in the House and the Senate, that it was time to do something. And this is spreading like wildfire.") The idea is this; a new law that would require both the President and the Congress to write budgets over the next five years bringing the federal budget gradually into balance. If Congress and the President fail to meet the budgetary targets in the law, across-the-board spending cuts, excluding only Social Security and debt payments, would automatically go into effect at year's end to bring spending into line. The rush was on today to back the plan. Even Democratic senators taking the afternoon off to go to a ceremony for the retiring Thomas Eagleton in Missouri, acknowledged the plan would pass the Senate overwhelmingly. And the President is expected to announce his support for it tomorrow. Democratic leaders, both House and Senate, were scrambling for a way to put their mark on this bill too. That shows two things: they're convinced it will pass and they're afraid it will get the deficit issue off the Republicans' backs.

(ABC-4)

INEZ DUARTE DURAN

Brokaw: Government sources said the demands of the rebels are being met. They say four prisoners have been released and that others the rebels want back will be freed as well. (NBC-4)

STOCKS

Jennings: The Dow was down about half a point and the trading was active. (ABC-9)

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WHITE HOUSE WEEK

NBC's John Chancellor -- Commentary: It has not been, shall we say, the best of weeks at the White House. In fact, it's been a disaster of a week and here's why. When Israel bombed the PLO compound in Tunisia, the White House supported the raid. But at the same time, Pentagon officials were condemning the raid. The Secretary of State was also out of synch with the White House and at one point telephoned to complain that the White House position was damaging American interests. The next day, the White House was forced to back away from its blanket endorsement of the raid. Then there was the announcement that the President would meet with the leaders of six big industrialized countries for an allied pep talk before the Soviet-American summit conference. There again, something went wrong. This will be an allied meeting, but some of the NATO allies weren't invited. Belgium has just installed nuclear missiles on its soil and Holland is debating a similar decision. Neither was asked to the meeting. They are furious because of the snub and are calling for another kind of meeting. More trouble. The Germans announced they would attend before the French had a chance to respond, so the French -- with characteristic haughtiness -- will boycott the meeting. So much for allied unity before the summit. And finally there was the unfortunate moment when the President announced the departure of Margaret Heckler from his Cabinet. Everybody knows she was forced out. The President's argument that she was being sort of promoted to ambassador to Ireland resulted in a spectacle that drew laughter all over Washington and Dublin. Whoever let Mr. Reagan get himself involved in that embarrassing appearance was giving the President bad advice. In fact, it's been a week in which good advice was notably missing from the White House. (NBC-10)

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EDITORIALS/COLUMNISTS

U.S.-SOVIET SUMMIT

The Summit Agenda: Free World's Resolve to Defend its Values is the Biggest Item -- "A quarter of a century ago this statement reverberated in American politics: 'The enemy is the Communist system itself -- implacable, insatiable, unceasing in its drive for world domination. This is a struggle for supremacy between two conflicting ideologies: freedom under God versus ruthless, godless tyranny.' Has anything changed to make this description of the evil empire less true today than when the words were uttered in the 1960 presidential campaign?" (Dayton Journal Herald, 9/25)

MIDEAST

Hussein Maneuvers -- "In his speech to the United Nations, King Hussein appeared to meet the qualifications for obtaining U.S. arms that the Congress had imposed on Jordan. He offered direct negotiations with Israel, which if successful would bring recognition of Israel and its right to security....Hussein's maneuver, however full of intricacies, is a most promising Middle East peace initiative. Mr. Peres is wise to see its constructive side. A good compromise of the differences separating Jordan from the United States and Israel would allow a greater PLO tinge to the Palestinian delegation than Israel calls acceptable, but would exclude the trouble-making Soviet Union from international auspices. Friends of Israel in Congress would want a Jordan that made peace with Israel and carried much of the Palestinian establishment along to have the arms that President Reagan seeks for Jordan now, in advance of such a peace." (Baltimore Sun, 10/1)

MARGARET HECKLER

To Dublin With Pride -- When Margaret Mary O'Shaughnessy Heckler arrives at the handsome American Embassy in Dublin's Phoenix Park, she will bring a welcome energy, charm and sensitivity....Whether Dublin is a diplomatic dumping ground is another matter. The Irish sense of perspective was suggested by (Sean) Cronin in The Irish Times: 'It casts an interesting light on how the Reagan Administration views its diplomatic relations with Ireland. It's the kind of thing that could happen with a banana, or perhaps potato, republic.'" (Boston Globe, 10/3)

TRADE

Sell More American Goods, Don't Close American Doors -- "Machinations by the central banks of those five nations aren't going to bring any long-term changes in the dollar's overvaluation....Real solutions to that problem will require real solutions to the U.S. budget deficit, and neither the President nor Congress has yet shown any sign that they are willing or able to bring that off. Meantime, though, we're glad to see President Reagan going on the offensive with a constructive approach to the trade problem, one aimed at selling more American goods overseas rather than making fewer available here at home. With any luck, it will be enough to defuse the wild and dangerous protectionism that has infected too many in Congress and the members of the public they have managed to delude." (Atlanta Journal, 9/25)