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# News Summary

OFFICE OF THE PRESS SECRETARY

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1985 -- 6 a.m. EDT EDITION

#### TODAY'S HEADLINES

#### NATIONAL NEWS

Reagan Back to Work After 'Give 'Em Hell' Speech in Independence, Mo. -- It's back to work for an exuberant President Reagan who capped a three-week California vacation with a "Give 'em Hell, Ron" tax speech in the home town of former President Harry Truman.

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

#### INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Few Dollars from Nicaraguan Refugee Dinner Go to Refugees -- A speech by President Reagan halped raise \$219,525 for Nicaraguan refugees last April, but more than half the money went to consultants who worked on the event and only a small fraction ever found its way to the refugees, according to an internal audit.

(AP, Washington Post, Washington Times, Baltimore Sun)

#### NETWORK NEWS (Monday Evening)

HURRICANE ELENA -- Hurricane Elena finally uncoiled and struck hard at Biloxi and Gulfport, Mississippi. (All Nets Lead)

REAGAN IN INDEPENDENCE -President Reagan came charging
back from vacation, flexing
his personal and political
muscle as he began confronting
the special challenges of
the next three months.

#### ON TAX REFORM - "RARIN' TO GO"

"Those vested interests just hate it when we talk about reform and they loved it when they thought I was laid up and out of action. Well, I'm back and rarin' to go, up for the battle that's only just begun."

President Ronald Reagan Tax Reform Speech at Independence, Missouri Labor Day, September 2, 1985

#### REAGAN URGES TAX OVERHAUL

INDEPENDENCE, Mo. -- President Reagan declared himself "rarin' to go" as he renewed a campaign to overhaul the federal tax system by comparing himself to Harry Truman and quoting from a Democratic report favoring his tax plan. (Lou Cannon, Washington Post, A4)

# President Assails Income Tax System as He Opens Drive

"I think Harry would be pleased," Reagan told the crowd of several thousand farmers, trade unionists and others. He said his program would benefit middle-class and working-class families but was opposed by special interests.

(Bernard Weinraub, New York Times, A1)

# Reagan Hits Trail, Fires at Tax System

"Those vested interests just hate it when we talk about reform, and they loved it when they thought I was laid up and out of action," said the President. "Well, I'm back and raring to go, and up for the battle that has only just begun." (Jeremiah O'Leary, Washington Times, A1)

# 'I'm Surprised the Statue of Harry Truman Didn't Turn His Back'

"The real irony comes in that this is the home of Harry Truman," said Rep. Wheat, whose district includes Independence. "Harry would be pretty leery of what the President had to say today."

(Wendy Lee, UPI)

#### Reagan Pushes His Tax Plan in Mo. Visit

The speech was short, and not broken often by applause by the friendly but restrained crowd.

(Baltimore Sun, A1)

#### REAGAN-RAMBO

INDEPENDENCE, Mo. -- President Reagan drew crowd cheers when he invoked once again the name of the movie hero "Rambo" in his speech appealing for support of the Administration's tax revision plan.

Reagan's reference to the movie protagonist, which had not been included in his prepared text, came after he declared that "I'm back, and rarin' to go, up for the battle -- that has only just begun."

(AP)

### PRESIDENT PRONOUNCED FIT BY LEWIS MAXON AND HIS SISTER LUCILLE NOEL

INDEPENDENCE, Mo. -- Lewis Maxon came to the courthouse square to see for himself how his friend, Ronald Reagan, was doing after his cancer operation. He liked what he saw.

"He looked as good as he did in 1984 when I retired," said Maxon, appearing pleased. "I think he'll go on to extended life. He is of a hearty stock."

Last year Reagan came to the Ford Motor Co. plant in Claycomo, Mo. and handed Maxon a plaque marking his retirement after 51 years.

(Harry Rosenthal, AP)

#### 'TRAIL BOSS' REAGAN BACK IN CAPITAL CORRAL

Likened to a "trail boss," President Reagan packed his Western gear and returned to the White House prepared to lasso congressional mavericks who might oppose his tax reform package.

The President was to attend a Cabinet meeting today to refine strategy for a three-pronged fall offensive to win passage of his tax reform bill and further spending cuts and to oppose a myriad of bills to protect various industries from foreign competition.

(Ira Allen, UPI)

# Reagan Back to Work After 'Give 'Em Hell' Speech in Independence, Mo.

He will travel to Raleigh, N.C., on Thursday to campaign for his tax revision plan and will make similar appearances at undisclosed locations Sept. 12 and 18. His schedule calls for about one such appearance a week through October, Larry Speakes said. (W. Dale Nelson, AP)

# REAGAN GOES ON OFFENSIVE WITH FAVORED ISSUES: TAX-OVERHAUL PLAN, MEETING WITH GORBACHEV

INDEPENDENCE, Mo. -- The summer dog days may be over, but President Reagan and his team will be dogged by a host of politically treacherous issues through the fall. The next six weeks could be one of the most critical times of the second Reagan term.

"I think it's a potential disaster period," says a White House political aide who describes himself as "an in-house pessimist."

White House optimistis still outnumber the pessimists, but even they acknowledge that Reagan faces numerous political dangers as he seeks to grab hold of the national agenda and set a second-term course.

(Robert Merry, Wall Street Journal, 48)

#### CONGRESS FINDS VOTERS ANXIOUS BUT DIVIDED

Several times since (President) Reagan took office in 1981, The Washington Post has traveled with lawmakers as they visited with constituents to assess the political pressures they feel and to gauge public attitudes toward Reagan Administration initiatives. Reporters did so again over the last three weeks, spending a day or more with 13 House and Senate members of both parties in all regions of the country.

Their findings suggest that the "morning-again-in-America" mood of Reagan's reelection campaign has lost some of its glow, darkened by the reality of federal budget deficits, failing farms and factories at home, trade competition from abroad and a host of other worries ranging from toxic pollution to health care costs.

(Helen Dewar, Washington Post, A1)

#### REALIGNMENT IN POLITICS SEEN

NEW ORLEANS -- Slowly, and with all the caution befitting their self-image as scientists, those who teach American politics are beginning to say that President Reagan has ushered in a major change, and perhaps a new era, in the government and politics of this nation.

(David Broder, Washington Post, A4)

#### USDA OFFICIAL BLASTS FARM BILL PENDING IN CONGRESS

In the view of one of the Reagan Administration's top agricultural policy-makers, Congress may be on the verge of adopting a bloated, ineffective farm bill that will do little to solve the problems of American producers.

Randy Russell, who is executive assistant to Agriculture Secretary Block, says in a position paper that "Congress has not learned from the lessons of the past or has chosen to ignore them" when it comes to farm legislation.

(Don Kendall, AP)

#### PROXMIRE ACCUSES JUSTICE OF MISMANAGEMENT

Sen. Proxmire says the Justice Department has mismanaged at least one probe of criminal fraud in Navy shipbuilding and tried to hide its blunders with "misrepresentations and lame excuses."

Proxmire made the allegations upon the release of a GAO report he requested that detailed three department investigations into alleged wrongdoing in Navy shipbuilding. (Robert Doherty, UPI)

#### Justice Dept. Role Target of Inquiry

The GAO reported that a lawyer in the Justice Department's criminal division had urged in August 1982 that the government continue looking into the possibility of a conspiracy by the Newport News Shipbuilding and Drydock Company to defraud the Navy.

(Wayne Biddle, New York Times, A17)

#### DOLE COULD BLOCK AIR FORCE CHOICE

A White House meeting that would either narrow the field for a new Air Force secretary to one or open the gates to a whole new horse race could be held as early as this week, government sources said.

Russell Rourke, assistant secretary of defense for legislative affairs, is the choice of Secretary Weinberger and the odds on favorite to replace Vernon Orr.

One handicapper who could send Rourke back to the starting gate, or even scratch him from the race altogether, is Senate Majority Leader Dole. Sources close to the Kansas Republican says he is still miffed over remarks attributed to Rourke during the Senate leadership contest last December.

The assistant secretary said, or the senator believes he said, that it would not be a good thing for the Pentagon if Dole was elected majority leader, the sources said. (Walter Andrews, Washington Times, A3)

# WHITE HOUSE PREDICTS DEFICITS WILL FADE BY '90, BASED ON OPTIMISTIC ASSUMPTIONS

The Reagan Administration issued new projections showing that federal budget deficits would virtually disappear by 1990. But those projections apparently assumed that Congress, and the economy's problems, also would disappear.

In its midseason budget review, the Administration said the federal budget deficit will hit a record \$211.3 billion this year, drop to \$177.8 billion next year and then narrow steadily over the rest of the decade to a slight \$17.7 billion in 1990.

(Alan Murray, Wall Street Journal, 7)

# 'SUPERDRIVE' FOR BETTER SUPERFUND STARTS

A toxic waste-laden truck dubbed the "Stringfellow Special" heads for the nation's capital to start a "superdrive" to press for stronger superfund cleanup legislation.

The National Campaign Against Toxic Hazards, a citizens' coalition of more than 300 groups, said the cross-country "superdrive" will collect water and dirt samples from around toxic waste dumps in 37 states and bring them to Washington. (Patrick Killen, UPI)

#### MASSIVE SUPERFUND BILL STALLED WITH DEADLINE APPROACHING

Members of Congress are expressing mostly pessimism about meeting a deadline to renew the "Superfund" toxic waste cleanup effort, now at a near standstill because of the uncertainty on Capitol Hill.

The House, which has the most work to do on Superfund, returns from its August recess today, with the Senate not due back until next Monday.

(David Goeller, AP)

EDITOR'S NOTE: A story by Richard Halloran on Gen. John Vessey on retiring from the chair of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, "Reflections on 46 Years of Army Service," is on page A18 of The New York Times.

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# INTERNATIONAL NEWS

#### NICARAGUANS NET \$3,000 FROM \$220,000 DINNER

Nicaraguan refugees got only \$3,000 of the \$219,525 taken in on their behalf at an April fund-raising dinner featuring a speech by President Reagan, according to an internal audit.

The Nicaraguan Refugee Fund, which received White House help in arranging the April 15 event, said costs of the dinner totaled \$218,376, including \$116,938 in consulting fees and \$71,163 to feed the nearly 700 people at the \$250- to \$500-a-plate dinner.

(Robert Parry, Washington Post, A2)

# Few Dollars from Nicaraguan Refugee Dinner Go to Refugees

Drawing from the meager dinner profit and other revenues, the tax-exempt fund spent \$3,000 to ship food and clothing to refugees in Central America. (Robert Parry, AP)

# Refugee Banquet Took \$219,525; Gave \$3,000

In addressing the Nicaraguan Refugee Fund dinner in April, Mr. Reagan denounced Nicaragua's 6-year-old Marxist government as "a communist dictatorship" that drove more than 250,000 Nicaraguans out of the country. He praised those at the dinner for helping the refugees.

(Washington Times, A1)

# Nicaragua Refugees Get \$1,149 After a \$219,525 Fund-Raiser

The audit follows an earlier disclosure that the refugee fund was started a year ago with the secret involvement of the Nicaraguan Democratic Force, or FDN. But fund officials say no money has gone to the rebels.

(Baltimore Sun, A2)

#### NICARAGUAN GUERRILLAS SHOW GREATER STRENGTH

TEGUCIGALPA -- Antigovernment guerrillas, awash in fresh supplies, have begun fighting in larger units in an effort to penetrate Nicaragua's population centers and to intensify attacks on Sandinista troops and economic targets, rebel leaders say.

The guerrillas have received special training to take cover from artillery and helicopters that the government increasingly is deploying against them. The rebels say they plan to use shoulder-fired antiaircraft missiles against the helicopters, and to obtain an undisclosed type of weapon to "neutralize" Sandinista artillery.

(Robert McCartney, Washington Post, A1)

#### CUBANS SAID INVOLVED IN COMBAT IN NICARAGUA

U.S. officials say they have received reports of increasing Cuban military involvement in Nicaragua, including Cuban participation in combat against anti-communist rebels.

New information about the Cuban role, the officials said, has been provided by two defectors from the Nicaraguan state security agency and two others from the Sandinista army. (George Gedda, AP)

#### ORTEGA SAYS U.S. GROUP WILL ABET INTERVENTION

MANAGUA -- The United States will "more unashamedly" intervene in Nicaragua through a new State Department office set up to funnel aid to anti-Sandinista rebels, Defense Minister Ortega said.

"With the establishment of the office ... it will direct more unashamedly the interventionist war which mercenaries from abroad organize and launch," he said. (Washington Times, A6)

#### AIDE SAYS KOHL WANTS TO AVOID BONN DEBATE ON 'STAR WARS' ROLE

BONN -- A senior security adviser to Chancellor Kohl says the government has adopted a low-key, somewhat skeptical approach to the Reagan Administration's space weapons research program in an effort to prevent the issue from moving to the center of political debate.

The adviser -- part of a 30-member delegation that will examine the Reagan Administration's space weapons program in the United States this week -- welcomed what he said was a "more dispassionate" discussion of the question on both sides of the Atlantic.

(James Markham, New York Times, A8)

#### GORBACHEV BUILDING A FORCEFUL IMAGE

MOSCOW -- Soviet leader Gorbachev, with his burst of fresh forceful language and vigor in this week's <u>Time</u> magazine interview, presented the unusual image of a Kremlin leader with a keen wit and a detailed grasp of American political metaphor.

At a time when Western analysts assumed that the new Soviet leader was preoccupied with consolidating power and cleaning house on domestic issues, he displayed a knowledge of topical political issues and personalities in the United States reflecting far more than a quick, surface study. "We get reports about the political atmosphere in Washington," Gorbachev said, "and that disconcerts and disappoints us."

(News analysis by Gary Lee, Washington Post, A17)

#### U.S. SENATORS TO MEET GORBACHEV IN NOVEMBER SUMMIT BUILDUP

MOSCOW -- Soviet leader Gorbachev receives a United States Senate delegation today in the latest of a series of Washington-Moscow contacts leading to a November superpower summit in Geneva.

Senate Democratic leader Byrd, who heads the delegation, said he would be delivering a letter from President Reagan to Gorbachev and that he hoped the meeting would pave the way for a constructive summit in November. (Tony Barber, Reuter)

# NIXON SAYS SURVIVAL IS ONLY MAJOR COMMON INTEREST SHARED BY U.S., USSR

Former President Nixon says a peaceful relationship between the United States and the Soviet Union will have no chance to survive unless both recognize that most of their profound differences will never be settled.

Survival is their "only major common interest," Nixon declared in the Sept. 20 issue of the biweekly National Review.

(Morris Rosenberg, AP)

#### SAKHAROV'S STEPSON CONTINUES HUNGER STRIKE

The stepson of Soviet dissident Andre Sakharov, on hunger strike to pressure the Soviet Union to allow him to see his mother and the Nobel laureate, says he fears something might have happened to them.

Alexi Semyonov, 29, sat on a folding lawn chair two blocks from the Soviet Embassy, the same spot he has occupied 12 hours a day since Friday. (Steven Ginsberg, UPI)

#### S. AFRICAN CUTS SHORT MISSION HERE

South African Central Bank Governor Gerhard de Kock abruptly left Washington after canceling a press conference scheduled for today in which he had been expected to discuss the results of a whirlwind trip triggered by South Africa's debt crisis.

Only the elusive South African banker knows why his Labor Day trip to Washington was cut short. (Neil Henderson, Washington Post, A20)

#### STUDY: U.S. MUST ATTEND TO SOUTH PACIFIC ISLANDS

The United States must end its "benign neglect" of the South Pacific island states to keep an eager Soviet Union out of the region, an area expert says in a new study.

Dora Alves, a former specialist on the South Pacific for Georgetown University's Center for Strategic and International Studies, recommends the United States reach a regional fisheries agreement with the area nations, provide help in developing the islands' all-important fishing industry and increase its diplomatic presence.

(Patrick Killen, UPI)

# (Monday Evening, September 2, 1985)

#### HURRICANE ELENA

CBS's James McManus: Hurricane Elena finally uncoiled and struck hard at Biloxi and Gulfport, Mississippi. The big storm smashed into those and other cities with winds above 120 miles an hour, spawning tornadoes and pushing 23-foot tides. (ALL NETS LEAD)

#### REAGAN IN INDEPENDENCE

CBS's Bill Plante: President Reagan came charging back from vacation, flexing his personal and political muscle as he began confronting the special challenges of the next three months.

(TV Coverage: President and Mrs. Reagan on stage, waving to crowd. Harry Truman statue in background. Some anti-Reagan signs protesting Administration policy on South Africa, trade, Reaganomics. President: "Well, I'm back and rarin' to go, up for the battle that's only just begun." Cheering.)

In Harry Truman's hometown of Independence, Missouri, Mr. Reagan pitched for one of his top priorities: tax reform, offering one reason why it's never been done.

(President: "It's hard for us to get worked up and united over something unless it's truly dramatic, like, say a very sensational murder. Well, our tax code -- present tax code -- is not a sensational murder, it's more like a daily mugging and we've begun to get used to it.")

But it's also hard for Congress to get worked up over tax reform, there are so many other potentially explosive issues coming up. (Sen. Specter: "The toughest issue after Labor Day is gonna be the issue of trade.")

The President has already refused protection to the shoe industry, and that didn't go over well here in Missouri, a major shoe-producing state. Its Republican Senator and members of Congress were invited today, but they didn't show up. And the trade issue is not the half of it. There are sanctions against South Africa, and there's the deficit, which many in Congress think is far more important than tax reform. President Reagan's solution: cut spending.

(Larry Speakes: "I think the toughest battle is going to be to hold down spending. We're approaching an election year in '86. He will be prepared to veto excessive spending bills.")

Relations with the Republican Senate majority have been tense, since the White House compromised with House Democrats on a budget bill by agreeing to not to cut Social Security.

(Sen. Boschwitz: "There was indeed a feeling that the President sold the Senate Republicans down the river.")

However the President fares in his coming confrontation with Congress, the main concern at the White House is how he looks going into the summit with Soviet leader Gorbachev. And behind this, there's a concern among many of President Reagan's advisers that these next few months offer him the last chance to use or lose his election mandate and secure his place in history.

(TV Coverage: President given model wagon with slogan, "Trail Blazin' for Tax Reform.") (CBS-4)

ABC's Sam Donaldson: There was no more partisan Democrat than Harry Truman. But that didn't stop Ronald Reagan from kicking off his fall offensive for tax reform in the shadow of Truman's hometown statue, projecting Truman's "give-'em-hell" spirit.

(TV Coverage: President at podium in front of Harry Truman statue. President: "Those vested interests just hate it when we talk about reform, and they loved it when they thought I was laid up and out of action. Well I'm back and rarin' to go, up for the battle that's only just begun." Cheering. "I'm reminded of a recent very popular movie, and in the spirit of Rambo, let me tell you, we're gonna win this time!" Cheering.)

Shielded from the sun to protect his skin, the President said under the present tax system the rich find the loopholes, and the middle class get stuck. He said his plan will correct that, if only the special interests who want reform only if their loophole is preserved can be overcome.

(President: "Well they say, 'I like it, but we can't lose state and local tax deductions,' and they say, 'I like it, but I don't like the capital gains part,' or whatever other part it is they don't like. But all I can say to the 'I like it buts' is: Our tax reform bill isn't for the special interests, it's for the general interest.") There were a few people present who didn't appear to like Reagan policies, period. (TV Coverage: People waving anti-Reagan signs, protesting Reaganomics and the shoe import decision.)

And Republican Senator John Danforth, upset over the President's refusal to impose quotas on foreign shoes, was pointedly absent. But Mr. Reagan was undaunted.

(President: "I think - I think Harry would be very pleased." Well, maybe Harry would've been pleased, although Mr. Truman was not particularly noted for throwing in with many Republican-sponsored plans. Still, President Reagan was looking for the right symbolism with which to kick off his fall campaign. And he apparently figured that with Truman on his left, and Rambo on his right, he had the perfect combination. (ABC-3)

NBC's Chris Wallace: Shedding his coat and invoking Harry Truman's fighting spirit, the President came to Truman's home town ready to reassert his physical and political strength.

(TV Coverage: President at podium in front of Truman statue.)

After a tough few months battling cancer and Congress, Mr. Reagan seemed eager to get his presidency on track, launching a new drive for tax reform.

(President: "Those vested interests just hate it when we talk about reform and they loved it when they thought I was laid up and out of action. Well I'm back and rarin' to go, up for the battle that's only just begun." Cheering.)

But there are real reminders Mr. Reagan's problems may not be over, such as the sun shade aides say Mrs. Reagan insisted on to prevent a recurrence of the President's skin cancer. The political troubles of the lame-duck President may also continue. While seeking bipartisan consensus on tax reform, Mr. Reagan plans to confront Congress on excessive spending, sanctions against South Africa and setting up U.S. trade barriers. But even congressional Republicans, still mad about past battles with Mr. Reagan, seem in no mood to give in when they return from summer recess.

(Sen. Dole: "So I would guess people will come back in sort of a feisty mood.")

Wallace continues: One example, Sen. Danforth. He says the President's decision last week not to protect the U.S. shoe industry will cost Missouri jobs. He didn't show up in his home state for Mr. Reagan's speech.

(Danforth: "I think he'll do a good job making a speech without my

presence.")

And if his friends aren't enough trouble, the President faces a propaganda battle this fall with Russian leader Gorbachev, who, in a new interview, accused the U.S. of waging a campaign of hatred against the Soviet Union. Mr. Reagan ducked that fight, saying only that he'll meet Gorbachev at the November summit in Geneva. It is an article of faith in the Reagan camp never to count the President out. But as Mr. Reagan sets out this fall, his political and physical vigor both in question, he faces one of his toughest challenges ever.

(NBC-6)

#### SOUTH AFRICA

- CBS's Bob Schieffer: The international business world reacted with caution today to South Africa's decision to freeze repayment of principal on foreign loans and impose strict foreign exchange controls. South Africa's central bank chief deKock cancelled his appointments and left Washington a day ahead of schedule. He apparently failed to persuade U.S. banks to grant new loan terms. In South Africa, one ecnonomist said the new measures have only postponed what he called the day of reckoning. (CBS-3)
- ABC's Jim Hickey: When the South African money markets opened today, the rand rose to 45 U.S. cents. That's 10 cents higher than it was last Wednesday, when trading was suspended. Dealers say that's because the government protected the Rand, preventing money from leaving the country by temporarily freezing repayment of 12 B in loans from foreign banks -- loans the banks have refused to renew. Financial experts say although the freeze was necessary to stop an economic tailspin, South Africa's credibility has been damaged.

(ABC-7)

- NBC's Roger Mudd: The success of the black mine workers' strike is the subject of claim and counter-claim. The union said 28,000 of its 60,000 workers had laid down their tools, but one of the mine owners called that absolute nonsense.
- NBC's Irving R. Levine: U.S. business is not confident of repayment of loans to South Africa by January. Besides big U.S. banks, which are owed \$3B by South Africa, the U.S. economy will be hurt in other ways by South Africa's problems. The output of South Africa's mines, besides gold, scarce materials used in auto emission controls are soaring in price because of fears supplies may be cut. And U.S. companies that sell to South Africa stand to be hurt. (NBC-2)

#### AFGHAN DETAINEES

Schieffer: Protesters in New York City demonstrated outside of a federal detention center in support of about 20 Afghans who are in the sixth day of a hunger strike. They entered the U.S. illegally but are protesting their prolonged detention, while the government considers their requests for asylum.

CBS's Ed Rabel reports that Afghans are showing up at airports and begging to get into the U.S. But instead of finding liberty, some Afghans find themselves in detention centers. There are about 1,300 people seeking asylum, like the Afghans, in nine detention centers in the U.S. Many are held for months, not entitled to release on bond. They wait, often locked up with common criminals for rulings on their appeals. To lose is to be deported.

(Assistant Secretary of State Abrams: "We've got to be the ones deciding who gets in here. Individuals cannot select themselves as refugees or as future residents of the U.S. We've got to do the choosing.") (CBS-6)