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The White House NEWS SUMMARY

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 1984 -- 6 a.m. EDT Edition

TODAY'S HEADLINES

NATIONAL NEWS

Farmers to Get Debt Restructuring Loans -- President Reagan announced a debt restructuring plan he said will give financially strapped farmers "breathing room" to repay operating loans.

(New York Times, Washington Post, Washington Times)

Reagan Refuses to Limit Imported Steel -- President Reagan rejected steel industry demands for restrictions on steel imports on the grounds they would cost more jobs than they would save.

(UPI, Reuter, New York Times, Washington Post, Washington Times)

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Russia Ready to Free Captive U.S. Seamen -- A Coast Guard cutter steamed toward a point in the Bering Strait to pick up five American seamen and their ship, seized last week when they apparently strayed into Soviet territorial waters.

(UPI, Reuter, Washington Post, Washington Times)

NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY (Tuesday Evening)

FARMERS/STEELMAKERS -- President Reagan offered financial relief to debt-ridden farmers, but only his free-market philosophy to steelmakers.

(ALL NETS LEAD)

MONDALE CAMPAIGN -- Mondale's appearance at the University of Southern California campus was interrupted by pro-Reagan hecklers sprinkled throughout the crowd.

POLL -- The CBS News-New York Times poll indicates President Reagan leads Mondale by some 22 points.

CHERNENKO -- Soviet TV showed a frail-looking Chernenko presenting the Order of Lenin to the head of Greece's Communists.

NATIONAL NEWS.....	A-2
INTERNATIONAL NEWS.....	A-6
NETWORK NEWS.....	B-1
EDITORIALS.....	B-9

NATIONAL NEWS

REAGAN, ON EVE OF MIDWEST TRIP, UNVEILS FARM AID

President Reagan, in a policy switch two days before a campaign trip to the restive Farm Belt, announced a new program of federal loan guarantees and debt forgiveness for farmers in serious financial trouble.

(David Hoffman and Ward Sinclair, Washington Post, A1)

Farmers to Get Debt Restructuring Loans

The plan was outlined at a White House briefing attended by representatives of the farm industry.

(Stephanie Nall, Washington Times, A3)

Reagan Outlines Aid for Farmers

Mr. Reagan disclosed his plans in meetings with Republican members of Congress, farm lobbyists and bankers, two days before he was scheduled to pay a campaign visit to a farm in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

(Bill Keller, New York Times, A1)

REAGAN, ON THE ROAD, TO CONNECTICUT, NEW JERSEY

President Reagan, getting two difficult economic political problems out of the way, hoped to find some encouragement in two northeastern industrial states that are solidly behind him. Reagan planned appearances at mass outdoor rallies -- events his stage managers have perfected into political art forms -- in Waterbury, Conn., and Hammonton, N.J.

(Ira Allen, UPI)

RESURGENT WATERBURY PREPARES TO GREET CANDIDATE REAGAN

WATERBURY, Conn. -- The Republicans are doing everything they can to recapture the spirit of a Kennedy visit to Waterbury in 1960. The result is a powerful example of the charisma of the presidency.

(Jeffrey Schmalz, New York Times, B1)

PRESIDENT RULES OUT STEEL QUOTAS

President Reagan refused to grant American steel makers the import protection they sought, but pledged to seek agreements with exporting nations to end the "surges" of unfairly traded steel into the United States.

(Stuart Auerbach, Washington Post, A1)

Reagan Refuses to Limit Imported Steel

Going against the recommendations of the U.S. International Trade Commission and Walter Mondale, Reagan decided not to impose a combination of higher tariffs and import quotas against foreign steel producers.

(Steven Beckner, Washington Times, A1)

Reagan, acknowledging that a recent surge in steel imports had hurt American companies, directed U.S. trade officials to negotiate voluntary cutbacks with appropriate countries.

(Kenneth Barry, Reuter)

Reagan Seeks Cut in Steel Imports Through Accords

"We don't have any doubt about their willingness to negotiate," trade negotiator Bill Brock declared. (Clyde Farnsworth, New York Times, A1)

INDUSTRY PRAISES REAGAN'S STEEL DECISION

Steel industry officials and legislators say they will be content with President Reagan's decision to seek negotiated agreements limiting steel imports, rather than impose quotas, provided the Administration follows through. (Donald May, UPI)

REAGAN STEEL DECISION POINTS UP KEY DIFFERENCE WITH MONDALE

President Reagan's decision to reject mandatory quotas and new tariffs on imported steel has brought into sharp focus an election campaign issue on which he and Walter Mondale have deep philosophical differences. (William Scally, Reuter)

STEEL AND '84 CAMPAIGN

With a pair of carefully balanced decisions aimed at helping farmers and the steel industry, President Reagan has demonstrated the capacity of an incumbent to time policy actions for potential political advantage in key states. (News analysis by Hedrick Smith, New York Times, A1)

LATEST POLL HOLDS MORE BAD NEWS FOR DEMOCRATS

NEW YORK -- Walter Mondale received more bad news with a new poll showing that President Reagan is even winning the support of voters who disagree with him on basic issues. (Reuter)

Poll Shows Many Choose Reagan Even If They Disagree with Him

Mr. Reagan is seen by prospective voters as "forceful," the New York Times/CBS News Poll shows, while Mondale is seen as "cautious." Reagan is thought to be "a strong leader." Mondale is not. (David Rosenbaum, New York Times, A1)

GOP SEES CHANCE FOR LANDSLIDE WIN

A few weeks ago, when assessing the Nov. 6 election, GOP strategists looked with trepidation at the "3Ms" -- Maryland, Massachusetts and Minnesota. Today, Republican insiders are attempting to constrain their euphoria over polling data showing President Reagan and Vice President Bush may take all three states. (Ron Cordray, Washington Times, A3)

MONDALE, OVER BOOING, DEPICTS REAGAN AS DANGEROUS

LOS ANGELES -- Walter Mondale, shouting over a din of boos and taunts, continued his efforts to paint President Reagan as a dangerous leader, saying Reagan is more committed to "prevailing in a nuclear war" than preventing one. (Milton Coleman, Washington Post, A6)

Students Heckle Mondale on Reagan Turf

The nominee contended that Reagan is "lax about Soviet compliance with the Anti-Ballistic Missile treaty because "he intends to tear it up" in favor of "a Star Wars scheme." (Alan McConagha, Washington Times, A4)

FERRARO ATTACKS REAGAN ON ARMS CONTROL

MILWAUKEE -- Geraldine Ferraro sharpened her attack on President Reagan's performance on arms control, hammering away at his lack of mastery, his longstanding hostility and what she called his "fundamental misconceptions" on the subject. (Kathy Sawyer, Washington Post, A7)

"I go slightly berserk when I see that people think Reagan is a leader and that he's a man's man," Ferraro said in a campaign speech in Philadelphia. "When it comes to arms control, it takes a leader not only to stand up to the Russians (but) to sit down with them and negotiate an agreement." (Andrew Geller, Reuter)

ROMAN CATHOLICS ARE DEEPLY TORN BY DEBATE OVER RELIGION, POLITICS

WATERBURY, Conn. -- No group of voters is larger than the Roman Catholics, and none is more deeply torn by the debate over religion and politics today. (David Rogers, Wall Street Journal, A1)

PRESIDENTIAL CHOICE PERPLEXES JEWS

SKOKIE, Ill. -- Political strategists say the uncertainty in this heavily Jewish Chicago suburb isn't atypical this year. "This vote," says Mark Siegel, who was the Carter administration's liaison with Jews, "is up for grabs." (David Shribman, Wall Street Journal, A64)

REAGAN CAMPAIGNER FEARS APATHY

BERLIN, Conn. -- J. Brian Gaffney has some things a lot of Republican campaigners in Connecticut sometimes don't have -- a candidate with a big lead in the polls and a hefty campaign war chest. Things look pretty good now for Gaffney, the state chairman of President Reagan's re-election campaign, but the New Britain lawyer isn't taking victory for granted and has at least one major concern. "Apathy," says the former Republican state chairman and veteran of GOP state campaigns. "It's getting people to do the work that has to be done to win the election. If you call me on the phone and ask me in a poll how I feel that's not meaning I'm going to get to the polls," he said in a recent interview at the Reagan-Bush state campaign headquarters in Berlin. Gaffney was named state chairman of the Reagan campaign earlier this year after Sen. Lowell Weicker Jr., recommended his name to Sen. Paul Laxalt, Reagan's national campaign chairman. "That sort of tickled my fancy. Being head of a campaign is something I like to do," said Gaffney, who is volunteering his services and is spending 30 to 40 hours or more a week working on the campaign. "I believe in Ronald Reagan," he added. (UPI)

WEINBERGER ASKS PRESS TO NOTE PROBLEM-SOLVING

Secretary Weinberger criticized the nation's press for reporting "horror stories" about overpriced spare parts and other problems without telling of the Pentagon's efforts to uncover and solve the problems.

(Fred Hiatt, Washington Post, A4)

PRIMARY DEFEAT APPEARS LIKELY FOR RICHARDSON

BOSTON -- Elliot Richardson appeared headed for defeat in a Republican Senate primary race against Ray Shamie, a conservative millionaire who campaigned on a platform of unstinting support for President Reagan.

(Margot Hornblower, Washington Post, A1)

Shamie Captures Bay State GOP Race

With 4.6 percent of the vote in, Shamie had 4,226 votes, or 62.5 percent, and Richardson won 2,534 votes -- 37.5 percent.

(Dave Doubrava, Washington Times, A1)

"What I have done is carefully illuminate the public," Shamie said just before he claimed victory. "And they say, 'Of course, that's common sense. Where did this guy come from? He makes sense to me.'"

(Lori Santos, UPI)

Richardson based his race for the Senate seat being vacated by Democrat Paul Tsongas on moderate positions on the federal deficit and environmental issues. He also repeatedly emphasized what he considered his "electability" in the general election.

(Catherine Arnst, Reuter)

MEDICINE MAN HIRED TO CHECK MX CABLE PATH

DENVER -- The Air Force has agreed to hire a Sioux medicine man to walk the route of an MX missile-system cable to look for sacred burial grounds, an Air Force archaeologist said.

(Washington Post, A2)

GOVERNMENT COVERS GRATES WITH SHEDS TO ELIMINATE 'EYESORES'

When passerby complained that homeless people sleeping on sidewalk heating grates near the State Department were an eyesore, the GSA swung into action. The federal agency put 6-foot-high metal toolsheds atop the vents.

(James Rowley, AP)

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

SOVIETS TO FREE U.S. SEAMEN

Five American seamen and their supply boat, held for a week in the Soviet Union, will be released today or Thursday to the U.S. Coast Guard on the high seas, the State Department said.

(Joanne Omang, Washington Post, A1)

Russia Ready to Free Captive U.S. Seamen

"The Soviets have informed us that they are going to release the five seamen (within 48 hours)," John Hughes said.

(Miles Cunningham, Washington Times, A1)

The Reagan Administration has protested to Moscow over the reported Soviet demand that the seaman sign a statement that their supply vessel, the Freida K, deliberately violated Soviet territorial waters.

(Jim Adams, Reuter)

In Juneau, Alaska, Coast Guard Chief Dan Dewell said the cutter Sherman would be diverted from its duty patrolling fisheries in the Bering Sea to pick up the sailors in international waters about 15 miles off the Soviet coastal town where they are being held. He said they will probably be taken to Nome, Alaska.

(Anna Christensen, UPI)

U.S. OFFERS ON ARMS DISCUSSED

President Reagan and his senior foreign-policy and defense advisers spent an hour discussing possible arms-control offers to the Soviet Union yesterday, the day U.S.-Soviet space talks would have begun in Vienna if agreement had been reached on the terms of the negotiations.

(Don Oberdorfer, Washington Post, A19)

DEVELOP NON-NUCLEAR ARMS FOR EUROPE, ADVISER URGES

The U.S. should develop non-nuclear replacements for battlefield nuclear weapons in Europe, according to the President's science adviser, George Keyworth.

(Walter Andrews, Washington Times, A2)

SOVIET DEFECTOR NOW CHARGES THAT WEST COERCED HIM

MOSCOW -- A senior Soviet journalist, Oleg Bitov, made a dramatic reappearance a year after defecting to Western Europe and said he had been drugged, tortured and coerced by the British secret service.

(Celestine Bohlen, Washington Post, A19)

Kidnapped by British, Soviet Editor Says

Bitov, a senior editor of Literary Gazette, disappeared from the Venice Film Festival in September 1983 and surfaced in London several weeks later to denounce his homeland. He disappeared from London Aug. 18 after failing to keep an appointment with a friend.

(Washington Times, A6)

Russian Who Won Asylum in Britain Is Back in Moscow

In London, the British government said Bitov came to Britain of his own free will last year and it called his statements in Moscow "absurd and offensive."
(Serge Schmemann, New York Times, A1)

He denied he was a traitor and said his year-long defection was orchestrated by British intelligence.
(Anna Christensen, UPI)

CHERNENKO MAKES SECOND PUBLIC APPEARANCE

MOSCOW -- President Chernenko, wheezing and coughing, presented an award to the leader of Greece's Communist Party in his second public appearance since rumors surfaced that he was seriously ill.
(Anna Christensen, UPI)

GAO AIDE WARNS MANY U.S. MISSILES WOULD BE USELESS

Thousands of Sidewinder and Sparrow air-to-air missiles, the mainstay of America's air combat arsenal, are useless because of defects or maintenance problems, a GAO investigator told Congress.
(Wayne Biddle, New York Times, A1)

EL SALVADOR TO USE INCREASED U.S. AID
FOR EXPANSION OF ITS HELICOPTER FLEET

SAN SALVADOR -- The Salvadoran armed forces, bolstered by a 140 percent increase in U.S. military aid, are doubling their fleet of UH1H Huey helicopters for use against leftist guerrillas.
(Edward Cody, Washington Post, A1)

The United States plans to send El Salvador "10 to 15" more UH-1H Huey helicopters during the next three months, a U.S. official told foreign journalists in a briefing session.
(Michael Drudge, UPI)

PENTAGON ADMITS SHIFT OF 3 PLANES

The Defense Department acknowledged that it transferred three light planes, which sources have said were used in a rebel bombing raid against Nicaragua, to "another government agency" at no cost.
(Fred Hiatt, Washington Post, A20)

CIA STILL ADVISES NICARAGUAN REBELS ON COMBAT

Although the CIA is out of money to buy supplies for Nicaraguan rebels, CIA officers still regularly advise rebel commanders on how to wage war against Nicaragua's leftist government, Administration and congressional sources said.
(Robert Parry, AP)

NICARAGUAN TALK SAID TO FAIL

MANAGUA -- Despite mediation efforts by Colombia's president, attempts by the ruling Sandinista National Liberation Front and opposition leader Arturo Cruz to reach a compromise that would allow Cruz to participate in Nov. 4 elections have failed, political and diplomatic sources said.
(John Lantigua, Washington Post, A21)

ORTEGA SAYS NICARAGUA STILL MAY BUY SOVIET MiG WARPLANES

MEXICO CITY -- Defense Minister Ortega said that Nicaragua "will not renounce its right" to acquire Soviet MiG-type jet fighters despite American opposition. (AP)

U.N. ASSEMBLY OPENS 36TH ANNUAL SESSION

UNITED NATIONS -- The General Assembly opened its 39th annual session with expressions of hope that the forthcoming meetings between American leaders and Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko will ease East-West tensions. (Michael Berlin, Washington Post, A17)

Mood Is Subdued as U.N. Opens Session

"The world without the United Nations would be a much more dangerous place," warned Paul Lusaka of Zambia, who was elected Assembly president. (Gus Constantine, Washington Times, A5)

ARMY TIED TO SLAYING OF AQUINO

MANILA -- The panel investigating the 1983 death of Benigno Aquino has determined that the former senator was assassinated by the Philippine military and is concerned that the release of its report, expected next week, may provoke a violent reaction from the armed forces, according to a senior official of the panel. (Abby Tan, Washington Post, A1)

The Post quoted the official as saying that ranking officers as well as soldiers had been identified in the assassination at Manila airport. But the official was quoted as saying that the panel had found no evidence that either President Marcos or his wife were involved. (Reuter)

CONGRESS COULD BALK AT AID TO PHILIPPINES, ADMINISTRATION TOLD

The Reagan Administration was put on notice that an uneasy Congress could balk at continuing large-scale U.S. military and economic aid to Philippine President Marcos' government.

(John Goshko, Washington Post, A22)

NORTH KOREA CALLS FOR BETTER RELATIONS WITH U.S., SOUTH

TOKYO -- North Korean President Kim Il-sung has called for improved ties and an end to confrontation with South Korea and the United States. The official North Korean Central News Agency reported that Kim, speaking at a banquet in Pyongyang for Japanese Socialist Party Chairman Masashi Ishibashi, renewed his call for three-way peace talks to include the United States and South Korea. (Linda Sieg, Reuter)

GULF OF SUEZ SWEEPED; NO MINES FOUND

U.S. minesweeping forces dispatched last month to clear up the cause of unexplained explosions damaging shipping in the Gulf of Suez are being returned to their bases with the mystery unsolved, the Defense Department said. No mines were found.

(Walter Andrews, Washington Times, A4)

NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY FOR TUESDAY EVENING, September 18, 1984

FARMERS/STEELMAKERS

CBS's Dan Rather: President and Candidate Reagan made two major election-year decisions affecting key sectors of the economy and blocs of voters: farmers and steelmakers. Mr. Reagan said no to steelmakers seeking government help, yes to deep-in-debt farmers.

CBS's Bill Plante: President Reagan offered financial relief to debt-ridden farmers, but only his free-market philosophy to steelmakers, which had hoped for import protection. Mr. Reagan decided a quota on steel imports was not in the national economic interest. Instead, William Brock has jawboned foreign steel producers to cut back their exports to 1983 levels. (William Brock: "What we really are seeking is a return to a market that is operated with equity and in which our people are given a chance to compete but no unfair advantages.") Brock claims the kind of protection the steel industry wanted would cost two jobs in related industry for every one it saved in steel. (Donald Trautlein of Bethlehem Steel: "Well, we'd like to have some more, but on the other hand we think at this stage this is a proper, appropriate response.") The President announced that repayment of up to 25% of government loans to some farmers could be deferred for five years, and that the Administration would provide \$630M in federal loan guarantees to encourage banks to help farmers cover their debts. Mr. Reagan denied he had acted to win votes in the economically depressed farm belt. (President: "I know that none of you standing over there on that side of the table are going to believe this. It wasn't done with that in mind. It was done because there are people out there who need help.") Total farm debt stands at \$215B and thousands of farmers are either behind on their loan payments or ineligible for loans. (Robert Mullins: "Kind of ironic that they decide there's a credit crisis six weeks before the election. There's no way that this isn't tied to the election.") Campaign strategists think all this will help Mr. Reagan in the farm belt more than it's likely to hurt him in the rust belt. And they see this as another example of how an incumbent President can make things go his way.

(CBS-Lead)

Jennings: The President was involved in two economic developments which certainly smack of politics.

ABC's Sam Donaldson: The news from the Oval Office, relayed by Brock, was not what the steel industry wanted to hear. The President had rejected proposals for new tariffs and quotas on imported steel. (Brock: "The President clearly determined that protectionism is not in the national interest. It costs jobs, raises prices and undermines our ability to compete at home and abroad.") Brock said the answer was to enforce U.S. fair trade laws and negotiate voluntary limiting agreements with other countries, and he thought doing all that would take care of the problem within the next 90 days -- this in contrast to Mondale's proposal to impose quotas tied to modernization of the steel industry. (Brock: "What Mr. Mondale would have done is to put two workers out of jobs for every one that he helped in the steel industry.")

NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY FOR TUESDAY EVENING, September 18, 1984

FARMERS/STEELMAKERS (continued)

Donaldson continues: After a meeting with the President, steel company executives gave cautious approval. The industry spokesmen made clear, however, that steel companies will continue to work for a steel quotas bill. And the United Steelworkers' Union reserved its response until tomorrow. But if Mr. Reagan said no to big steel, he said yes to debt-ridden farmers, making available more money for farmer loan guarantees and authorizing repayment stretch-out of existing government loans. Reporters wanted to know if that would help him win the farm vote. (President: "It wasn't done with that in mind. It was done because there are people out there who need help.") Politics involves everything done at this stage, so whether intended or not, the President's actions may cost him some votes around Pittsburgh but earn him support near Des Moines. (ABC-Lead)

NBC's Chris Wallace: Brock announced President Reagan is standing firm against trade protectionism, rejecting heavy pressure from the steel industry that he impose tariffs and quotas against foreign steel imports. (Brock: "The President clearly determined that protectionism is not in the national interest. It costs jobs, raises prices and undermines our ability to compete at home and abroad.") The President had a tough choice. Foreign steel imports have risen from 20% of the U.S. market in 1983 to 24% for the first half of 1984, to 33% in July. Mondale has called for trade barriers against steel imports, popular with steelworkers in the Midwest. But Brock said the President felt quotas would hurt other U.S. industries, raising prices for U.S. steel and leading other countries to block American goods. (Brock: "What Mr. Mondale would have done is to put two workers out of jobs for every one that helped in the steel industry.") To help the steel industry, Brock said the U.S. will seek voluntary agreements with three or four countries to cut back their steel shipments. A senator from a steel producing state was not satisfied. (Sen. Specter: "I'm disappointed by the decision. I think that the President has received bad advice. The American steelworker is entitled to relief from these unfair foreign imports.") A steel industry executive said he will continue to push for quotas, but that he trusts Mr. Reagan to put teeth in agreements with other countries. (Donald Trautlein of Bethlehem Steel: "The President's saying that he is going to insist that they play by our trade rules and on a level playing field, so I think you've got the power of the presidency now behind this.") Reagan advisers admit Mondale's position favoring trade barriers is better politics in the short run, but they believe once they explain what that would have cost in higher prices and lost jobs, that Mr. Reagan's stand on principle won't hurt him.

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NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY FOR TUESDAY EVENING, September 18, 1984

FARMERS/STEELMAKERS (continued)

NBC's Irving R. Levine: Farmers were demonstrating in Minnesota today against threatened foreclosure on their farms because they can't meet loan payments. The number of foreclosures is growing again this year. President Reagan was responding to farm belt pressure to help farmers hit by high interest rates, falling exports and bad weather.

(President: "I am pleased to announce today a four-part program."

Levine explains the four parts.) A question from a reporter:

(Reporter: "Will it help you win the vote in the farm belt?"

President: "I know that none of you standing over there on that side of the table are going to believe this. It wasn't done with that in mind. It was done because there are people out there that need it.")

But a Republican in a tight farm belt race saw political benefits.

(Sen. Jepsen: "Well, it certainly shows a sensitivity and an awareness and understanding of the problem, so I think it's a plus.") Requests for farmers for help will be considered on a case-by-case basis, so experts say that just how much the program actually helps farmers will depend on how tough the Administration is in administering it.

Brokaw: In any event, on Thursday the President will be campaigning in a big farming state: Iowa. (NBC-Lead)

MONDALE CAMPAIGN

Rather: Walter Mondale took his latest line of attack on President Reagan before one of his biggest crowds yet, and what turned out to be one of the most raucous rallies yet. Accusing President Reagan of trying to duck the issue of nuclear life and death, Mondale's appearance on the University of Southern California campus was interrupted for pro-Reagan hecklers sprinkled throughout the crowd. Their taunts drew a Mondale response. (Mondale: "You're going to lose this election because you're not showing respect for the American people.....We want to be heard, we will be heard and we will win this election.") (CBS-2)

ABC's Brit Hume: Mondale has held a number of these open-air campus rallies and always some Reaganites turned out to heckle and boo, but never like this. (TV Coverage: Reaganites with signs shout, "Reagan, Reagan.") (Mondale: "Mr. Reagan (Reaganites cheer)") This seemed at first another link in the chain of misfortune that has held his campaign back. But Mondale, who dislikes confrontation, seemed to welcome this one. (Mondale: "What a spectacle this is." Reaganites cheer. "What a spectacle. They've got a President who's running all over this country and not answering a single question." Cheering. "And it's not enough that they're running. They've got to bring a couple of kids here to try to heckle us and prevent us from being heard in this campaign, and they ought to be ashamed of themselves. We want to be heard, we will be heard, and we will win this election." Cheering mixed with more chants of "Reagan, Reagan.") The hecklers didn't remain silent, but Mondale just spoke over them, and at the end smiling aides were saying it was his best performance of the campaign. (ABC-10)

NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY FOR TUESDAY EVENING, September 18, 1984

MONDALE CAMPAIGN (continued)

ABC's Lisa Myers: (TV Coverage: President's supporters wave signs, shout "Four more years.") Mondale wanted to exploit student fears of nuclear war, but instead some students tried to exploit him. (Mondale: "USC is not the Republican Convention, where you can silence people who want to talk about arms control and our future." Cheering.) But USC does have a somewhat conservative student body. (Mondale: "If Mr. Reagan is reelected (interrupted by cheers, then boos) the arms race on earth will be extended to the heavens.") Mondale's supporters probably outnumbered Reagan's, but the hecklers succeeded in getting under Mondale's skin. (Mondale: "You're going to lose this election because you're not showing respect for the American people. You're not showing respect for the students of this campus. We want to be heard, we will be heard and we will win this election because we will be heard." Cheering mixed with chants of "Four more years.") With perseverance, Mondale did manage to finish an abbreviated version of his speech. (Mondale: "Let's elect a president who will control those weapons before they destroy us all. Give us your help. Let us win this for our future. Thank you very, very much. Thank you.") Mondale's aides said he was well aware he might not be a big hit on this campus, but decided to come here because it has lots of students. And they said it's these very students who Mondale is going to have to convert to have a prayer of carrying California and winning this election. (NBC-2)

POLL

Rather: The CBS News-New York Times poll indicates President Reagan leads Mondale by some 22 points. The Reagan-Bush ticket leads in every region of the country, among every age group, among more than one of four Democrats, and running almost dead even with Mondale in union households. (CBS-3)

FERRARO/POLL

CBS's Phil Jones: For Ferraro, the good news from the poll is that she's better known than she was a month ago. The bad news is more voters are less impressed. In August, more of those polled had a favorable opinion. In one month, this has reversed. The drop has taken place among both men and women. Women are now evenly divided in their opinion. Fewer voters in the poll think she is tough enough to make presidential decisions when compared to Mr. Reagan, Mondale or Bush. On the campaign trail today, Ferraro was trying to establish her own credentials on the war and peace issue by attacking the President for not meeting on arms negotiations. (Ferraro: "I take a look at those polls and I go slightly brezerk when I see that people think that Reagan is a leader and that he's a man's man.") On abortion, the poll shows that most Catholics agree with Ferraro's free-choice position, yet Mr. Reagan has a 17-point edge with Catholic voters.

NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY FOR TUESDAY EVENING, September 18, 1984

FERRARO/POLL (continued)

Jones continues: On the financial disclosure, a majority say it has not affected their opinion; yet, one quarter of those whose opinions have changed report less favorable opinions because of the way she handled the crisis. Ferraro is drawing large audiences, but so far most of her speeches are being delivered with very little enthusiasm and many of her most ardent supporters are now starting to express their disappointment with Ferraro's campaign style. (CBS-4)

TV COVERAGE

Rather: President Reagan last week again fired on the favorite target of many politicians: the press. (President: "There's never a good news economic story on the evening news that is not accompanied by finding some individuals who have not yet benefitted by the economic recovery.") Such complaints are not new, but in this election year in this television age, we thought we should address such criticism directly and specifically. We invited both President Reagan and Mondale to speak their minds about the news media. President Reagan declined. Mondale agreed to talk about political coverage and his image.

Rather commentary/discussion with Walter Mondale:

Rather: Isn't your campaign of issues, as you call it, getting the hell beaten out of it by what's being called President Reagan's campaign of images?

Mondale: What we have now is very frustrating....I'm out every day, answering questions at news conferences, maybe two or three times a day, sometimes more. The President, I believe, and I think the records will show this, is the most isolated President in modern history."

Rather: Mondale criticized what he called President Reagan's cameo appearances. He specifically cited President Reagan's trip last week to a senior citizens' center in Buffalo, N.Y.

Mondale: There was one good question to be asked, but no one could ask it of him, and that is, Mr. President, if your budget had passed, there wouldn't have been that highrise there at all...

Rather: Mondale said reporters could not get to the President to ask such questions, because he was kept at a distance.

Mondale: I think this is not just my problem. I think it's yours as well. It's all of media. Isn't that a threat to open journalism?...I think Americans understand that if politicians are protected from the questions, all we'll ever hear out of them is good news, and all the politician hears is what he wants to hear. Leadership requires listening as well as talking...

NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY FOR TUESDAY EVENING, September 18, 1984

TV COVERAGE (continued)

Rather: The other day, you had the contrast between Mondale in Tennessee, standing in a barn, coat off, and President Reagan was at the Grand Ole Opry singing Happy Birthday to Roy Acuff. This is a specific example of what the so-called experts and reporters who follow you is happening day after day with your campaign...time after time you suffer by comparison.

Mondale: Do they really suffer? Would they rather have a leader who will stand out in the heat and take questions from farmers who are in the worst year of their Great Depression, or stand next to Minnie Pearl and sing Happy Birthday? (CBS-11)

CHERNENKO

Rather: Chernenko's office was the setting for the leader's second public appearance in 13 days. Soviet television showed a frail-looking Chernenko presenting the Order of Lenin to Greece's communist party leader. Chernenko stumbled a bit while delivering a brief speech. He wore no makeup and appeared pale. He required no visible assistance in walking. (ABC-4, NBC-5, CBS-7)

REAGAN/GROMYKO

Rather: In spite of the chilliest relations since Cold War days, U.S. and Soviet officials talked with glowing optimism about next week's meeting between President Reagan and FM Gromyko. Secretary Shultz predicted a positive message would be delivered. A Soviet official mentioned hopes for a mood of trust. For awhile, though, all this was threatened by the Soviet holding of the American supply boat crew. (CBS-8)

COMMENTARY -- MONDALE/GROMYKO

ABC's George Will: Mondale seems to be putting Gromyko's visit to good use, good for his campaign and the nation. Last spring, the competition with Gary Hart pulled Mondale far to the left. But since arranging the visit with Gromyko, Mondale has found occasion to boast about his toughness toward the Soviet Union. And he has warned it may be necessary to quarantine the regime in Nicaragua. It has been awhile since many Democratic leaders talked that way, but it once was the Democratic Party's distinctive, tough tone of voice, an echo of Presidents Roosevelt, Truman, Kennedy and Johnson and of Cold War liberals Humphrey and Scoop Jackson. It is an echo of an era when Democrats won lots of presidential elections. If the Gromyko visit has caused Mr. Mondale to reaffirm his party's noble but neglected position of strong foreign policy, then the visit is good for Mr. Mondale and the rest of us. (ABC-6)

NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY FOR TUESDAY EVENING, September 18, 1984

RUSSIA/U.S. SEAMEN

CBS's Bill McLaughlin: Gromyko flew into New York today to address the U.N. General Assembly just as it seemed a potential U.S.-Soviet crisis was being diffused. Sen. Stevens has telephoned twice to the ship's captain. (Stevens tells captain the release should happen within the next 24 hours.) While Washington believes Moscow could have handled this incident better, it has kept its complaints to a minimum, perhaps to avoid putting new strains on the U.S.-Soviet relationship before President Reagan meets with Gromyko. (NBC-4, CBS-8)

ABC's John McWethy: The U.S. has formally protested to Moscow, first about the delay in obtaining release of the crew, and second, about Soviet attempts to force the crew members to sign statements that they knowingly sailed into Russian waters. The ship was apparently lost, looking for guidance. (ABC-3)

SOVIET DEFECTOR

ABC's Walter Rogers: The Soviets called a news conference to show you can go home again. A high ranking Russian journalist had been given political asylum in Britain after disappearing from the Venice Film Festival a year ago. He had been living in London, writing articles highly critical of the Soviet Union. Last month, he mysteriously disappeared again. Today, he resurfaced in Moscow, now claiming he never defected to the West. He claims he was blackmailed, drugged and kidnapped by British intelligence agents last September. (London friend quoted saying the story is "preposterous.") (CBS-9, ABC-3)

SOVIET ECONOMY

NBC's Garrick Utley reports the rigid Soviet system is beginning to bend to meet the demands of a modern world and a huge population. The main problem with the Soviet economic system is human nature. Since everyone is guaranteed a job, there is little incentive to work hard. A popular joke is, "They pretend to pay us and we pretend to work." Utley looks at one factory which has introduced an incentive system based on work, attitude and whether they come to work sober. (NBC-11)

COMMENTARY -- RELIGION AND POLITICS

NBC's John Chancellor: The President says religion and politics are necessarily related. The public disagrees; 60% in the latest NBC poll say the President is wrong. Pollster Louis Harris's figures show a majority of Catholics support Ferraro's right to take a stand on abortion even if her church disagrees. Harris says the President's emphasis on religion has helped in the South, where he doesn't need help, but has hurt him in the industrial north. (NBC-10)

NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY FOR TUESDAY EVENING, September 18, 1984

TAINTED CONGRESSMEN

ABC's John McKenzie reports on the Studts campaign in Massachusetts. Many voters are undecided.

ABC's Joe Spencer reports on the Dan Crane campaign in Illinois. Crane prefers to talk about Reaganomics. The President even sent Secretary Block to campaign for him. The latest poll shows the race a tossup.

ABC's Jerry King reports on the Hansen campaign in Idaho. Hansen faces an uphill race and a prison term for failing to disclose some of his and his wife's financial dealings. Hansen portrays his felony convictions as Washington picking on him because he battles the bureaucrats. Democratic opponent Richard Stallings is making integrity an issue, but he says he could focus on it too much and what he needs to do is "build a pro-Stallings constituency." (ABC-11)

AUTO WORKERS

Rather: UAW President Beiber said the union has given GM a revised package that "could conclude negotiations without a national strike." But as union negotiators headed for a formal meeting with GM, officials noted so-called sticking points on job security remained. (ABC-7, CBS-5)

BASEHART

Brokaw: Actor Richard Basehart died at 70. (NBC-9)

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EDITORIALS/COLUMNISTSREAGAN/GROMYKO

Meaning No Harm -- "It may be that...Soviet leaders have concluded that Mr. Reagan's re-election is a certainty, so they'll begin talking to him now on the off chance he'll be more reasonable, as they see it, before the election than after. This reasoning...does not take into account...that Mr. Gromyko is merely resuming his old habit of meeting with American presidents prior to the opening of the U.N. General Assembly; that the Soviets have no ulterior motive because the leadership can't agree on policy; that they may try to sabotage Mr. Reagan by denouncing him after the Sept. 28 meeting, or even that the date may yet be canceled."

(Hartford Courant, 9/13)

Can Reagan Melt Moscow's Man of Ice? -- "Should we be disappointed if the Reagan-Gromyko meeting does not result in a firm agreement to resume arms talks? Not necessarily. If the personal warmth of 'the great communicator' can melt Moscow's man of ice, the top Soviet diplomat since 1957, and convince him the United States truly means no harm, that would be a greater step toward peace than would a treaty inching toward nuclear disarmament."

(Tampa Tribune, 9/14)

MONDALE/GROMYKO

The Gromyko Ploy -- "It was clever of Andrei Gromyko to add Walter Mondale to his calendar when he comes to the United States later this month. It advertises the Soviet government's readiness to deal with the United States and, the Kremlin may further calculate, it puts a thumb's worth of extra pressure on President Reagan to make his session with Mr. Gromyko the next day more than 'just another meeting,' in the belittling words of a Soviet spokesman. The Russians well know that the dynamics of the campaign ensure that the closest attention will be paid to the ways in which the two candidates go into and come out of their talks with the veteran Soviet diplomat."

(Washington Post, 9/18)

Gromyko's gamesmanship -- "Gromyko obviously is hedging his bets. Yes, Reagan is trouncing Mondale in the opinion polls, but the only poll that counts is on Election Day and it makes sense for Gromyko to touch base with Mondale before the final decision is in."

(N.Y. Daily News, 9/18)

Fritz and Andrei -- "Mondale will speak only for himself and must avoid the temptation to grasp at elusive campaign profit. Summitry is for those at the summit, not for candidates hustling votes in the trenches."

(Chicago Sun-Times, 9/18)

The Russian Is Coming -- but Why? -- "It is a mark of how low U.S.-Soviet relations have fallen that expectations for the Gromyko visit have risen so high....This, then, is the real challenge to Ronald Reagan on Sept. 28: to see whether the political channels between Washington and Moscow can be unclogged, on more than a one-time basis. In addition, he will need to learn whether the Soviets can and will be responsive on matters beyond their limited objective of stopping U.S. space-weapons programs -- a Soviet ability and willingness that is not at all assured."

(Robert E. Hunter, Los Angeles Times, 9/14)