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SEPTEMBER 16, 1982 · USA TODAY

No purge in the offing, White House claims

By Ann Devroy
USA TODAY

WASHINGTON — Don't look for a wholesale purge at the top levels of the administration and in the Cabinet after the November elections, say White House officials.

There will be some changes, they say, but not many.

White House communications director David Gergen said Wednesday that a major restructuring of Reagan's top team is unlikely and that no decisions on who will go and who will stay have been made.

Gergen said changes will be "much less extensive than have been suggested." He conceded that he once thought major changes were coming, but said "it's my hunch" that the president "is likely to keep the structure in the White House."

Only one Cabinet officer, Energy Secretary James Edwards, has announced definitely that he is leaving.

Gergen insisted that changes will result more because these officials want to move on than because Reagan wants to get rid of them.

The third year of an administration is "a natural time" for people to decide whether they want to stay the full four years or move along, he said.

"The president has not focused on personnel," he said, "and will not do so until after the elections. The guy who decides is Ronald Reagan, and he hasn't considered it yet."

Gergen and other White House officials were putting out the word that President Reagan "isn't mad at anyone" among his top advisers and is, in fact, annoyed that the names of some of them have appeared on speculative "hit lists" being discussed by middle-level aides.



AP
EDWARDS: The only known departing official



UPI
DEAVER: May change his mind and stay

Prominent on those lists:

■ Raymond Donovan, secretary of labor, who was the subject of two investigations into alleged associations with organized crime figures. Investigators said they found insufficient evidence to charge Donovan with any wrongdoing.

Despite that, aides concede Donovan is "a political liabil-

ity" and the controversy surrounding him has made it virtually impossible for him to do his job. When Reagan goes campaigning for Rep. Millicent Fenwick Friday in New Jersey, Donovan's home state, the labor secretary most likely will not be along. The White House and the candidate reportedly agree that his presence would hurt, not help.

■ David Stockman, director of the Office of Management and Budget, who admitted to an interviewer that he had serious doubts about Reaganomics. Now, some congressional leaders are complaining that he misleads the president on the mood of Congress.

■ James Watt, secretary of the interior, a controversial figure since the day he walked into his office. Some White House officials accuse him of needlessly provoking confrontations with conservation and environmental groups and of hurting Reagan where the president is the strongest, in the West.

Another who has come under criticism within the administration has been Housing and Urban Development's Samuel Pierce, the only black Cabinet officer. Pierce has been so low-key that Reagan called him by the wrong name at least twice, and once greeted him as a visiting mayor.

But one official who had announced last year that he would leave after the elections now may stay after all. Aides to Michael Deaver, Reagan's deputy chief of staff, said he has not made a final decision but that the Reagans, particularly Nancy, will urge Deaver to stay. Unlike the president's other top assistants, Deaver is not wealthy, and had complained that he had to take a substantial pay cut to serve in the White House.

AP . FILED-- 3/28/1982 AM Nancy

WASHINGTON (AP) NANCY REAGAN SAYS THAT A YEAR AFTER HER HUSBAND WAS SHOT, THE MEMORY REMAINS "VERY, VERY FRESH; VERY RAW."

SHE SAID SHE AND PRESIDENT REAGAN NEVER DISCUSS THE SHOOTING BUT THAT SHE THINKS ABOUT IT "EVERY TIME HE LEAVES THE HOUSE, PARTICULARLY TO GO ON A TRIP ... I THINK MY HEART STOPS UNTIL HE GETS BACK."

IN AN ANNIVERSARY INTERVIEW WITH NBC'S TODAY SHOW HOST CHRIS WALLACE, MRS. REAGAN SAID SHE HAS PAINFUL MEMORIES OF MARCH 30, 1981, WHEN RONALD REAGAN WAS SHOT IN THE CHEST AFTER DELIVERING A SPEECH AT A DOWNTOWN WASHINGTON HOTEL.

"ACTUALLY, I REMEMBER EVERYTHING ABOUT THE DAY," MRS. REAGAN SAID. "AND I GUESS IT'S SOMETHING IT'S SOMETHING THAT YOU DON'T FORGET. I THOUGHT IT WOULD FADE A LITTLE, BUT IT DOESN'T."

MRS. REAGAN SAID IF HER HUSBAND WORRIES ABOUT BEING SHOT AGAIN, "HE DOESN'T TELL ME" AND THAT SHE NEVER ASKS HIM ABOUT IT. "NO, BECAUSE, WELL, SOME THINGS ARE JUST TOO PAINFUL TO TALK ABOUT, AREN'T THEY?" SHE SAID.

DOES SHE WORRY HE WILL BE SHOT AGAIN? "WELL," MRS. REAGAN SAID, "IT'S JUST THE WHOLE MEMORY OF IT IS VERY, VERY FRESH; VERY RAW."

ASKED IF LIFE AT THE WHITE HOUSE HAS BEEN MUCH FUN SINCE THE SHOOTING, THE FIRST LADY REPLIED, "WELL, LIFE IS ALWAYS PEAKS AND VALLEYS; AND THAT WAS CERTAINLY A VALLEY. IT'S DIFFERENT."

WHEN ASKED IF SHE WANTS HER HUSBAND TO RUN FOR THE PRESIDENCY IN 1984, MRS. REAGAN BORROWED A LINE FROM MARGARET MITCHELL'S BOOK "GONE WITH THE WIND," SAYING, "I'LL THINK ABOUT THAT TOMORROW."

MRS. REAGAN SAID SHE AND HER HUSBAND HAVE REARRANGED THEIR PRIORITIES AS A RESULT OF THE SHOOTING.

"WELL, THINGS THAT USED TO BOTHER YOU TERRIBLY DON'T BOTHER YOU AS MUCH ANYMORE," SHE SAID. "IN THE SCHEME OF THINGS, THEY TAKE THEIR PROPER PLACE. AND WHAT'S REALLY IMPORTANT IS AT THE TOP OF THE LIST."

Nancy Always Thinks Of Assassination Try

WASHINGTON (UPI) — First Lady Nancy Reagan says she and President Reagan never talk about the attempt on his life a year ago Tuesday, but she thinks of it "every time he leaves the house."

Mrs. Reagan told NBC News "the whole memory of it is very fresh, very raw." The interview was released Sunday night and is to be aired on NBC's "Today" show Tuesday, the anniversary of the assassination attempt.

Mrs. Reagan told correspondent Chris Wallace what she recalls most about that day is "the shock of it, I suppose. Actually, I remember everything about the day, and I guess it's — it's something that you don't forget. I thought maybe it would fade a little, but it doesn't."

Before the shooting, Mrs. Reagan said, she "really didn't" worry about her husband. "Yes, you always — you know that that's a possibility and so on, but you never think it's going to happen to you; and when it does, it's a shock that stays with you," Mrs. Reagan

said.

She said they never talk about the assassination attempt last March 30. Asked, however, if she thinks of it, she replied: "Oh, yes. Oh, yes, every time he leaves the house, particularly to go on a trip, I think — I think my heart stops until he gets back."

If the president worries about it, "He doesn't tell me," Mrs. Reagan said. She said they don't talk about it because, "Well, some things are too painful to talk about, aren't they?"

Mrs. Reagan said it "bothers" her that a year after the assassination attempt, John W. Hinckley Jr., accused of shooting Reagan and three others outside a Washington hotel, has not yet been brought to trial.

"I think it should be faster than that," she said. "But, personally, you try not to think of it in those terms, really. I don't know whether I'm making much sense or not, but you try to separate the personal — your personal feelings as against what you believe is right for the country."



FIRST LADY INTERVIEWED — NBC correspondent Chris Wallace, right, is shown at the White House recently interviewing First Lady Nancy Reagan for a tape to be released Tuesday. — (AP Laserphoto)

Brady Met With Cheers in Home State

CHICAGO, Sept. 15 (AP)— Presidential Press Secretary James Brady was greeted by 300 cheering well-wishers today as he arrived for his first visit in his home state since he was shot more than a year ago.

Brady, 41, giving the thumbs-up sign from his wheelchair, was accompanied on his train trip from Washington, D.C., by his wife, Sarah, and 3-year-old son, Scott.

Brady received head injuries and was critically wounded during the March 1981 assassination attempt on President Reagan.

Raised in downstate Centralia, Brady once was a publicist in Chicago.

He is to receive the United Re-

publican Fund's Lincoln Award at a "Welcome Home, Jim Brady" dinner Thursday night.

On Monday, he is scheduled to throw out the first ball at Wrigley Field when the Cubs play the Pittsburgh Pirates on Diehard Cub Fan Club Day.

Part of the proceeds from the \$125-a-plate dinner Thursday will be donated to the James S. Brady Fund, established by Congress to make contributions to persons injured in the line of duty while protecting the president, officials said.

"All Right," shouted Brady as well-wishers at the train station carrying "Miracle Jim" placards applauded and chanted, "Welcome home, Jim."

Los Angeles Times

2 Part 1/Thursday, September 16, 1982

—Presidential Press Secretary James S. Brady, giving a thumbs-up sign from his wheelchair to about 300 applauding well-wishers, arrived in Chicago for the first visit to his home state since he was shot

in the head last year during the assassination attempt on President Reagan. Brady, 41, was accompanied on the train trip from Washington by his wife, Sarah, and son, Scott, 3. The press secretary will receive the United Republican Fund's Lincoln Award at a "Welcome Home, Jim Brady" dinner tonight and he will throw out the first ball Monday when the Chicago Cubs play the Pittsburgh Pirates.

'My heart stops until he gets back'

By MAUREEN SANTINI
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — The year-old memory of the attempted assassination of her husband still "very raw," Nancy Reagan says "my heart stops until he gets back" every time he leaves the White House.

"Actually, I remember everything about the day," she said. "I guess it's something that you don't forget. I thought maybe it would fade a little, but it doesn't."

Mrs. Reagan's remarks were made in an interview with NBC News being broadcast today.

She said she doesn't know whether President Reagan worries about attempts on his life because they never

discuss it. "If he does, he doesn't tell me," she said.

And she hasn't asked him "because, well, some things are just too painful to talk about, aren't they?"

Asked whether she thinks about it, Mrs. Reagan replied: "Oh, yes. Oh, yes, every time he leaves the house, particularly to go on a trip, I think — I think my heart stops until he gets back."

"It's just the whole — the whole memory of it is very, very fresh, very raw."

Mrs. Reagan said that prior to the attempt on her husband's life a year ago today, she didn't worry about his safety. "You know that that's a possibility and so on, but you never think it's going to happen to you, and when

it does it's a shock that stays with you."

Asked whether she is bothered that defendant John W. Hinckley Jr. has not yet been tried in the attack on her husband, Mrs. Reagan replied: "Well, in broad terms, yes. . . . I think it should be faster than that. But personally, you try not to think of it in those terms really."

The president's wife reiterated what she has said many times in the past year: that the assassination attempt has changed her outlook on life.

Meanwhile, John W. Hinckley Jr. and actress Jodie Foster appeared in the same courtroom for the second time in 24 hours today as Miss Foster gave a deposition requested by law-

yers for President Reagan's accused assailant, sources told the Associated Press.

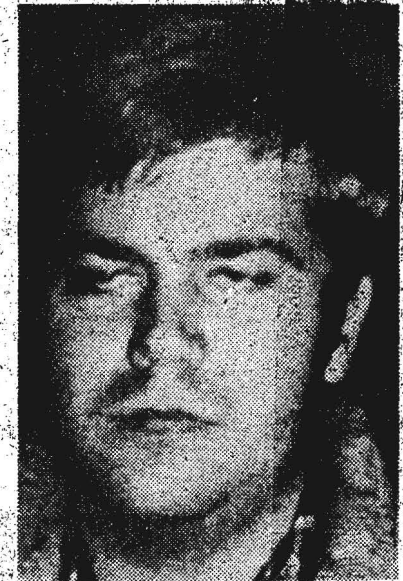
The sources, who asked not to be identified, said Hinckley was brought from his cell at the nearby Fort Meade, Md., stockade for the closed session before U.S. District Judge Barrington D. Parker.

On Friday, Parker granted a request by Hinckley's attorneys to take the deposition from Miss Foster, who will reportedly be out of the country for several months.

The actress, star of the movie "Taxi Driver," began her testimony Monday night in Parker's courtroom. The hallway outside the courtroom was cordoned off today and a half-dozen marshals stood outside to keep the public away.



NANCY REAGAN
Memory still fresh



JOHN HINCKLEY
No trial date

Mrs. Reagan Denies Report on '84

United Press International

A year to the day after her husband was shot, Nancy Reagan denied yesterday that she has made President Reagan promise he will not seek reelection in 1984.

Mrs. Reagan, still carrying memories of the assassination attempt last March 30, said recently her

heart "skips a beat" every time her husband ventures out in public.

But Sheila Tate, Mrs. Reagan's press secretary, quoted her yesterday as saying a report cited in The Washington Post that the president has promised he will not run again is "not true."

"We've never discussed 1984," Mrs. Reagan added.

Monday, March 29, 1982 Philadelphia Inquirer

NEWSMAKERS

A look back in fear

Nancy Reagan says that a year after her husband was shot, the memory remains "very, very fresh, very raw." In an anniversary interview with Chris Wallace, host of NBC's "Today" show, Mrs. Reagan said she had painful memories of March 30, 1981, when President Reagan was shot in the chest after delivering a speech at a downtown Washington hotel. She said she and the President did not discuss the shooting now but that she thought about it "every time he leaves the house, particularly to go on a trip. I think my heart stops until he gets back. Actually, I remember everything about the day. And I guess it's something — it's something that you don't forget. I thought it would fade a little, but it doesn't."

UP066

R W

PRESIDENCY

WASHINGTON (UPI) -- FIRST LADY NANCY REAGAN TUESDAY DENIED A PUBLISHED REPORT THAT INDICATED SHE DOES NOT WANT HER HUSBAND TO SEEK A SECOND TERM BECAUSE OF THE ATTEMPT ON HIS LIFE ONE YEAR AGO.

SHEILA TATE, THE MRS. REAGAN'S PRESS SECRETARY, QUOTED THE FIRST LADY AS LABELING "NOT TRUE" A REPORT IN THE WASHINGTON POST THAT CITED TALK IN REPUBLICAN CIRCLES OF AN ALLEGED PROMISE BY THE PRESIDENT TO NOT RUN AGAIN.

"WE'VE NEVER DISCUSSED 1984," MRS. REAGAN SAID.

THE POST REPORT SAID:

"MANY SUPPORTERS OF REAGAN BELIEVE THAT THE SHOOTING ALSO HAD AN EFFECT ON HIS WIFE NANCY, WHO IS SAID NO LONGER TO WANT HER HUSBAND TO SEEK A SECOND TERM IN OFFICE.

"THE REAGANS HAVE NEVER DISCUSSED THIS PUBLICLY, BUT ONE STORY, WHICH HAS BEEN FREQUENTLY REPEATED IN REPUBLICAN CIRCLES IS THAT THE PRESIDENT HAS PROMISED HIS WIFE THAT HE WILL NOT RUN AGAIN IN 1984."

THE PRESIDENT WAS MAKING NO PUBLIC APPEARANCES TUESDAY, THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE ATTEMPT ON HIS LIFE, IN WHICH HE SUFFERED A GUNSHOT WOUND IN THE CHEST IN FRONT OF A WASHINGTON HOTEL.

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NANCY-SPECULATION

WASHINGTON (AP) -- THE WHITE HOUSE DENIED A PUBLISHED REPORT TODAY THAT FIRST LADY NANCY REAGAN HAD EXTRACTED A PROMISE FROM HER HUSBAND NOT TO SEEK A SECOND TERM AS PRESIDENT.

THE WASHINGTON POST, IN A STORY ON THE IMPACT OF REAGAN'S SHOOTING A YEAR AGO TUESDAY, REPORTED:

"MANY SUPPORTERS OF REAGAN BELIEVE THAT THE SHOOTING ALSO HAD AN EFFECT ON HIS WIFE, NANCY, WHO IS SAID NO LONGER TO WANT HER HUSBAND TO SEEK A SECOND TERM IN OFFICE.

"THE REAGANS HAVE NEVER DISCUSSED THIS PUBLICLY, BUT ONE STORY WHICH HAS BEEN FREQUENTLY REPEATED IN REPUBLICAN CIRCLES IS THAT THE PRESIDENT HAS PROMISED HIS WIFE THAT HE WILL NOT RUN AGAIN IN 1984."

HOURS AFTER THE STORY APPEARED, HOWEVER, MRS. REAGAN'S PRESS SECRETARY, NANCY TATE, DENIED THAT THE FIRST LADY HAD GOTTEN THE PRESIDENT TO PROMISE NOT TO RUN AGAIN.

"WE'VE NEVER DISCUSSED 1984," MRS. TATE QUOTED MRS. REAGAN AS SAYING.

AP-WX-03-30-82 1306EST

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REAGAN-SHUTTLE

WASHINGTON (AP) -- PRESIDENT REAGAN WATCHED THE SPACE SHUTTLE COLUMBIA'S LANDING TODAY AND EXCLAIMED, "THAT'S MARVELOUS."

THE PRESIDENT AND A PERSONAL AIDE, DAVID FISCHER, WATCHED THE LANDING IN A STUDY NEXT TO THE OVAL OFFICE.

FIRST LADY NANCY REAGAN CALLED HER HUSBAND JUST BEFORE TOUCHDOWN TO TELL HIM THE SHUTTLE'S TRAJECTORY HAD TAKEN IT OVER THEIR SPRAWLING RANCH NORTH OF SANTA BARRARA, CALIF., ACCORDING TO WHITE HOUSE DEPUTY PRESS SECRETARY PETER ROUSSEL.

AP-WX-03-30-82 1158EST

President Returns to Scene of Attempted Assassination

By DAVID TREADWELL, Times Staff Writer

WASHINGTON—On Monday, the day before the first anniversary of the attempt on his life by a young drifter from Colorado, President Reagan returned to the Washington hotel where the shooting incident took place to deliver a speech to a group of realtors. This time, the President's appearance was marked by the heavy security that has surrounded him since the assassination attempt last March 30. He was escorted in a 14-car motorcade, which included a decoy limousine, and was taken in and out of the hotel through a rear underground corridor.

The stiffened presidential security measures are grim reminders of that fateful spring day when the President and three other men were seriously wounded in a hail of bullets from an assailant's snub-nosed revolver.

Despite the horror of the moment, some consequences of the shooting have worked to the political advantage of the President. Other victims of the shooting and their families have suffered continuing personal tragedy. And for the perpetrator of the assassination attempt, John W. Hinckley Jr., the special treatment accorded him has raised questions about the American justice system.

At the time of the attack, just 70 days into the Reagan presidency, the White House was smarting over a nationwide poll showing Reagan's job approval rating

lower than those given other recent Presidents two months after they took office.

After the assassination attempt, his approval rating shot up sharply—and that, in turn, helped propel his controversial economic recovery plan of deep tax and spending cuts through Congress with almost blinding speed.

In no small measure, the abrupt change in public support for Reagan stemmed from the grace under pressure that he showed during his ordeal. Americans were impressed with a President who, upon seeing his wife for the first time after the attempt on his life, blithely said: "Honey, I forgot to duck."

A banner-sized get-well message suspended from a building near the hospital where Reagan was convalescing from the gunshot wound in his left lung summed up the feelings of most citizens:

Dear Mr. President: There ain't no Republicans or Democrats now. . . . We are all family." It was signed simply "America."

More Insulated Life

But ever since the assassination attempt the President has led a more insulated life. Although he continues to make appearances both in Washington and outside the capital, when he does he is far more carefully guarded and restricted.

Other victims of the shooting have suffered even more severely. For James S. Brady, Reagan's plump, affable press secretary, and Thomas K. Delahanty, a District of Columbia police officer, the assassination at-

tempt resulted in personal tragedy.

Brady, 41, was hit in the skull with a bullet. The picture of him bleeding from the head as he lay face down on the sidewalk was one of the most vivid scenes from the carnage that day outside the Washington Hilton Hotel.

Today, although greatly recovered, Brady still suffers from slurred speech and paralysis in his left arm and left leg. He still returns for almost daily therapy.

'Feeling Just Wonderful'

"He's feeling just wonderful," his wife, Sarah, said in a telephone interview. "He's doing great."

Still, the odds against his returning to his White House post appear to be great, most observers say.

Delahanty, 48, who had been assigned to special duty at the Washington Hilton on the day of the assassination attempt, retired from the police force late last year with full disability benefits after 18½ years of service.

Delahanty never returned to duty after a bullet struck him in the neck and he underwent a series of painful operations.

For Secret Service agent Timothy J. McCarthy, 32, the fourth victim of the assassination attempt, there was a happier ending.

McCarthy, who was wounded in the liver during the shooting, returned to work on the presidential protective detail after recovering.

The memory of that day lingers whenever the President leaves the white House. "Every time he leaves the house, particularly to go on a trip, I think—I think my

heart stops until he gets back." Reagan's wife, Nancy, said in an interview with NBC News to be aired on the "Today" show on the anniversary of the assassination attempt.

The First Lady said she also is bothered because a year after the incident, the 26-year-old man accused of shooting Reagan and the three other men still has not been brought to trial.

Her sentiments have been echoed in other Washington circles and even by the defendant's father, John W. Hinckley Sr.

"John is truly ill, and we're anxious to get that across in court," the elder Hinckley, a Denver oilman, said in an interview published Sunday in Denver's Rocky Mountain News. "His rights to a speedy trial have been denied him."

Arrested With Gun in Hand

The younger Hinckley, who had said in a letter to actress Jodie Foster that he wanted to kill the President to prove his love for her, was arrested with gun in hand before several dozen witnesses.

Yet, what appeared to be an open-and-shut case of attempted assassination of the President has dragged on without going to trial. Hinckley remains in a military stockade, while attorneys for both sides haggle.

Although the President returned to the scene of the shooting Monday, he made no reference to the assassination attempt in his talk to the National Association of Realtors.

But the 3,000 realtors, spouses and children in his audience needed no reminders. As they wound into the ballroom, they were required to walk through metal detectors, briefcases and purses were searched and equipment such as tape recorders and cameras were examined by uniformed White House police.

Notes on People

An Unforgettable Day

She and her husband never mention it, Nancy Reagan said, but, a year later, the memory is still "very, very fresh, very raw," and apparently always will be.

"It's something that you don't forget," she said. "I thought it would fade a little, but it doesn't."

What Mrs. Reagan was discussing was the attempt on President Reagan's life last March 30, and in a taped interview to be aired by NBC on its "Today" show tomorrow, Mrs. Reagan needed no prompting to recall the events.

"I remember everything about that day," she said.

Until then, she said, she had been concerned for her husband's safety only in the abstract. Since then, the fear has been specific.

"Every time he leaves the house," she said, "particularly to go on a trip — I think my heart stops until he gets back."

Monday, March 29, 1982 / The Miami Herald

Nancy still feels pain of attack on Reagan

WASHINGTON — Nancy Reagan says that a year after her husband was shot, the memory remains "very, very fresh, very raw."

In an anniversary interview with NBC's "Today Show" host Chris Wallace, Mrs. Reagan said she had painful memories of March 30, 1981, when the President was shot in the chest after delivering a speech at a downtown Washington hotel.

She said she and President Reagan never discuss the shooting but she thinks about it every time he leaves the house, particularly to go on a trip. "I think my heart stops until he gets back."

UW

REAGAN-SHOOTING

BY MICHAEL PUTZEL

WASHINGTON (AP) -- PRESIDENT REAGAN SAID TODAY IT SEEMS A LOT LONGER THAN A YEAR AGO THAT HE WAS WOUNDED IN AN ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT, AND HE FEELS BETTER THAN EVER.

"I REALIZE IT WAS A YEAR AGO," REAGAN SAID ON THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF THE MARCH 30, 1980, ATTEMPT ON HIS LIFE. "IT SEEMS A LOT LONGER AND I FEEL FINE."

ASKED IF THE SHOOTING GAVE HIM A SENSE OF HIS MORTALITY AND A NEED TO HURRY HIS PROGRAM, REAGAN REPLIED, "IT'S NOT SO MUCH FROM THAT. I REMEMBER THE SAME FEELING WHEN I WAS A GOVERNOR, THAT GOVERNMENT DOES SEEM TO MOVE SO SLOWLY AND THERE IS SO MUCH TO BE DONE. I THINK YOU'D HAVE THAT FEELING EVEN WITHOUT GETTING SHOT."

HE SPOKE WITH REPORTERS IN THE OVAL OFFICE AFTER HE TALKED BY TELEPHONE WITH RETURNED SPACE SHUTTLE PILOTS JACK R. LOUSMA AND C. GORDON FULLERTON.

REAGAN TOLD REPORTERS, "I REALLY NEVER FELT BETTER."

TONIGHT, THE PRESIDENT RETURNS BRIEFLY TO HIS ACTING CAREER IN A TAPED TELEVISION SHOW ABOUT THE SHOOTING INCIDENT.

IN "THE SAVING OF THE PRESIDENT," A TELEVISION RE-ENACTMENT OF THE HOURS AFTER THE SHOOTING, A STAND-IN PLAYS THE PART OF THE WOUNDED REAGAN FOR MOST OF THE PROGRAM.

BUT IN THE CLOSING MINUTES, THREE DOCTORS WHO CARED FOR THE PRESIDENT AT GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL MAKE A "HOUSE CALL" TO VISIT REAGAN AT THE WHITE HOUSE AFTER HIS RELEASE, AND THE REAL RONALD REAGAN GREETES THEM IN HIS QUARTERS.

REAGAN AND THE SURGEONS CHAT BRIEFLY ABOUT THE MASSIVE BLOOD TRANSFUSIONS HE RECEIVED AND HE THANKS THEM FOR THEIR HELP.

"I FEEL THAT I WAS VERY LUCKY ... THAT WE WENT WHERE WE WENT WHEN WE DID, AND I AM GRATEFUL TO ALL OF YOU," THE PRESIDENT SAYS.

WHITE HOUSE OFFICIALS SAID THAT VISIT TOOK PLACE SHORTLY AFTER THE SHOOTING AND THAT REAGAN AGREED TO RE-ENACT IT FOR THE CAMERAS.

THE PROGRAM IS TO BE AIRED TONIGHT ON WASHINGTON'S WJLA-TV AND WILL BE BROADCAST NATIONALLY ON ABC-TV'S "20-20" THURSDAY.

AP-WX-03-30-82 1426EST

REAGAN-NEWS CONFERENCE
BY JAMES GERSTENZANG

WASHINGTON (AP) -- PRESIDENT REAGAN WILL HOLD HIS NINTH WHITE HOUSE NEWS CONFERENCE TONIGHT, AND HIS FIRST IN THE EVENING, AND THE PRESIDENT'S AIDES SAY HE WILL MAKE A STATEMENT ABOUT NUCLEAR ARMS LIMITS.

THE SESSION WITH REPORTERS IN THE EAST ROOM OF THE WHITE HOUSE IS TO BEGIN AT 8 P.M. EST AND WILL BE CARRIED BY THE MAJOR BROADCAST NETWORKS.

ON TUESDAY, DAVID R. GERGEN, THE WHITE HOUSE ASSISTANT FOR COMMUNICATIONS, ANNOUNCED THAT REAGAN, STARTING SATURDAY, WILL DELIVER A SERIES OF 10 WEEKLY RADIO SPEECHES, AVAILABLE FOR NETWORK USE.

HE SAID THE LIVE, FIVE-MINUTE RADIO SPEECHES, WILL BE DELIVERED FROM WHERE EVER REAGAN IS EACH SATURDAY -- THE WHITE HOUSE, BARBADOS ON APRIL 10, CAMP DAVID, MD., HIS RANCH NORTHWEST OF SANTA BARBARA, CALIF., OR VERSAILLES, FRANCE, WHERE HE WILL ATTEND AN INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC SUMMIT CONFERENCE JUNE 5.

HE SAID THE ADMINISTRATION IS SEEKING "AN EFFECTIVE MEANS OF REACHING A BROAD CROSS-SECTION OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE" AS THE PRESIDENT SEEKS TO PROMOTE HIS ECONOMIC AND FOREIGN POLICIES.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE FIRST SPEECH "MAY WELL" DEAL WITH THE ECONOMY.

THE RADIO SPEECHES WILL BE BROADCAST AT 12:05 P.M. EASTERN TIME.

GERGEN SAID REAGAN'S WILLINGNESS TO HOLD AN EVENING NEWS CONFERENCE, WHEN THE AUDIENCE MAY BE TWICE WHAT IT WOULD BE DURING THE AFTERNOON WHEN HE HAS HELD PREVIOUS SESSIONS WITH REPORTERS, INDICATED HE WAS NOT INTIMIDATED BY CONCERNS ABOUT MAKING ERRORS IN HIS STATEMENTS.

ASKED WHETHER A NEED TO BOOST REAGAN'S SAGGING POPULARITY, AS MEASURED BY PUBLIC OPINION POLLS, OVERCAME STAFF CONCERN ABOUT NEWS CONFERENCE "BLOOPERS" AND THE LARGER AUDIENCE THAT AN EVENING BROADCAST ATTRACTS, GERGEN TOLD REPORTERS:

"IF YOU FELT WE ARE SO INTIMIDATED BY PRESS CONFERENCES AND THE ERROR ISSUE, OBVIOUSLY HE MIGHT NOT CHOOSE TO GO ON IN PRIME TIME."

AT THE SAME TIME, HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT SOME ON THE WHITE HOUSE STAFF MAY HAVE BEEN DISSATISFIED WITH THE COVERAGE REAGAN IS BEING GIVEN BY THE NEWS MEDIA.

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