

The 1984 Political Conventions:
A Turning Point

Michael Greenly
Sherwin Levinson
Diane Worthington

Dedicated to the dozens
of supporters who made
TRANSCOASTAL Electronic News Service
a possibility
and to the hundreds
of interactive participants
who made history with us.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We gratefully acknowledge the support and encouragement of our interactive audience, without whose direct participation our existence would be meaningless. To them we owe our deepest thanks. At the end of each chapter of this book we have listed the "online" names of those who had "joined" that particular discussion/report.

We owe a special thanks to Lisa Carlson and Ron Tindiglia, whose constant support, encouragement, special knowledge, and ceaseless efforts on our behalf made this endeavor possible.

To Katie, for her tireless behind the scenes efforts in preparation for this event, goes our sincere gratitude.

To Della, our unabashed, outspoken right hand in San Francisco, no thanks could be enough.

We are indebted to Participation Systems Incorporated for developing the medium -- PARTI -- in which our unique type of "reporting" could flourish; to Source Telecomputing Corporation for providing the computer and communications facilities on which the PARTI software runs; and to both for financial support which allowed us to do more than we might otherwise have been able to do.

Michael Greenly
Sherwin Levinson
Diane Worthington

November, 1984

INTRODUCTION

The 1984 elections were different from any others in the history of the world. That's quite a claim to make, but it's true nonetheless. Because in 1984 the world was shown how the population at large can participate directly in the political process. No longer must they be content to passively view, read, or hear the news as others choose what to report to them from afar. Because three bright young pioneers in the field of telecommunications -- the first interactive electronic journalists ever -- chose to bring the national political conventions directly to their reader-participants through a medium that allows that audience to not only *feel* like they are right there with the reporters but also to actually discuss their coverage with the reporters and among themselves. And so TRANSCOASTAL Electronic News Service -- TENS -- presented its first national coverage.

Michael Greenly invented interactive electronic journalism in 1983, when he reported on the November Fall COMDEX show through the interactive medium of PARTICIPATE -- or PARTI -- on THE SOURCE. His open, candid, personal style matched perfectly the requirements of this new medium. His reports were eagerly awaited by an audience who had become far more than just passive readers. The other two of the TENS trio, Sherwin Levinson and Diane

Worthington, had met Mike and each other "online" long before they ever met in person. They shared a common vision of the vast potential of this new medium and possessed the ability and drive to make their common vision a reality.

On May 9, 1984 the TENS team met in person for the first time, embryonic plans hatching in their minds, but with the idea of forming their own news service not yet even a glimmer. Yet in the scarcely two months remaining before the start of the Democratic convention they had formed a news service, arranged for office space and equipment at the convention, and obtained credentialing even though the credentials process had been officially closed months before. The process of planning their convention coverage required literally hundreds of pieces of electronic correspondence between them as they arranged the myriad details -- a process that would have been impossible by any other means as they electronically spanned the thousands of miles that separated them and the erratic work schedules that made even telephone contact virtually impossible. And they accomplished all this while continuing to fulfill their obligations to job and family.

Sections One and Two contain the actual transcripts of the reports and discussion that were transmitted electronically to and by TENS' audience. No editing has been done -- it is inappropriate to a medium where reports are written as the events occur and are open to be viewed, praised, and criticized by the audience within seconds of their completion. The "header" line of each electronic note has been left intact, showing the note's author and the time and date it was entered into the PARTI system and became available for viewing by the other participants.

Section Three contains selected reprints of traditional journalists' reactions to this new form of journalism.

Section Four contains biographical sketches of the TENS team.

The balance of this Introduction contains the press releases prepared by the trio to describe their history-making endeavor.

Section One:
The Democratic Convention,
San Francisco

"DEMO PREP" Conference 84.16595 TENS, organizer, about "DIANE,SHERWIN,MIKE - TRANSCOASTAL ELECTRONIC NEWS SERVICE (TENS) PREPARE FOR DEMO '84 CONVENTION COVERAGE!" (answers: 32) MON, 06/25 08:11 (478 characters)

---> JOIN <--- us as we get ready to "make history" with all interested Parti

Subscribers who want to be part of the first **interactive** electronic coverage of a major political event. Answer 1 gives details of this **preparation** conference. Answer 2 is an Interactive Branch - "Demo Discuss" - for any comments you wish to make as we get ready for the big event in San Francisco.

Diane, Sherwin, and Mike
TRANSCOASTAL
Electronic News Team

Answer 1 (of 32) TENS, on MON, JUN 25 1984 at 08:15 (1404 characters)

Three non-political entrepreneurs are about to have a life-changing experience -- they'll be the first journalists ever to report back electronically from a major political event so that **you** can interact with them while they're on the Convention scene.

You'll also be able to comment to and hear from other journalists, pollsters, and politicians in the news.

This first **interactive** electronic coverage of the Democratic Convention is, in itself, "news". You don't have to read about it after the fact, though. **You** can be part of making journalistic, political, and telecommunications history with us!

Diane, Mike, and Sherwin are getting ready now (have been for months.) The Convention is July 16-19 in San Francisco.

This is a preparation conference - -> advance information and perspective. (e.g. Mike visits Washington D.C. July 2. Diane has Moscone Convention Center in her backyard right now. Sherwin is already preparing the technical computer details for TRANSCOASTAL's office.)

Sign up to head toward history with us! "Demo Prep" is a Read Only Conference. (We'll include subjects at the top of each answer so you can scan past when you prefer.)

Answer 2, "Demo Discuss" is fully interactive. Comments of all kinds welcome there.

The actual Convention Coverage will be in a conference called "Demo 84" which will begin in a few weeks.

"DEMO DISCUSS" Conference 84.16596 TENS, organizer, about "A PLACE TO INTERACT WITH US AS WE GET READY TO COVER THE CONVENTION. PIPE UP WHENEVER YOU FEEL LIKE IT!" (answers: 83) MON, 06/25 08:16 (276 characters)

As you follow along with us, while we prepare for sleepless -- but exciting -- days and nights of *live* convention coverage, interacting with *you* as you wish,

feel free to make comments here during the preparation phase. This branch conference is fully interactive.

Answer 3 (of 32) DIANE W., on WED, JUN 27 1984 at 03:00 (288 characters)

Tomorrow, readers, I'll begin here by telling you a little about what the three of us have planned for you, what we've done to prepare, and what's going on in the fair city of San Francisco.

Stay tuned. Things are moving at an astounding speed!

Thanks, and welcome!

Diane

Answer 4 (of 32) MIKE GREENLY, on WED, JUN 27 1984 at 08:41 (1340 characters)

What Interests Me at the Convention

You have a right to know, if I'm to be fair with you, who I am on political issues and what I (imagine) I'll be looking for at the Convention. What I actually *see* may surprise me!

I'm even more of a non-politico than non-techie, if that's possible to imagine. I have never set foot into the "Politics" conference, I don't want to get into political arguments. I'm as much of an (aging) Boy Scout as you can get in terms of wanting to be fair and honest, so that must include revealing relevant prejudices/interests/sensitivities/alertnesses.

My thought is to tell readers who I am (so they'll know what kind of eyes they're looking through) and then just go from there, as clearly and openly as I can. There will be branch conferences where you can tell any of us -- Diane, Sherwin, or me -- what you think/want/like/hate. And there'll be *separate* places for 1) short general reader commentary, 2) *heavy duty* political discussion for those of you who want to have it. <I expect to hear banging on the walls as I scan by!>

As preparation - to help me discover my own in-coming self - I'll be putting up occasional notes on personal interests I bring to covering a political

convention -- or even just attending one -- for the first time in my life.

Mike

Answer 5 (of 32) MIKE GREENLY, on WED, JUN 27 1984 at 08:42 (892 characters)

What Interests Me - I: Women in Politics

I've seen some of my earlier writings on "women in computers" reflected in subsequent magazine articles. I'm interested in "out" groups vs "in" groups. Women have been kept "out" for so long. And they've had trouble, from political commentary I've read, organizing cohesively to be able to lobby.

Some people have said that if Mondale doesn't choose *either* Hart or a woman for a VP candidate, he's got a very messy, public floor fight with women on his hands. Many people expect no woman VP candidate this year -- but *definite* runner in '88.

I've heard Geraldine Ferraro speak (at an Avon Officer's meeting). She is impressive as hell, as a *person*.

I'll be interested in seeing how women try to increase their influence, the problems they have doing so (with men and/or with each other), and their progress.

Answer 6 (of 32) MIKE GREENLY, on WED, JUN 27 1984 at 08:44 (1550 characters)

What Interests Me - II: Jackson

It's a bit scary to me that I'm going to be revealing more of myself as a political observer than I had to as a computer reporter. But those are my own rules.

I find Jackson fascinating. I don't like or trust him. Partly because of the fact that -- totally non-religious that I am -- I feel instinctively wounded and wary when he makes remarks about "Hebes".

But because I relate to people on the outside -- a la my earlier women comments -- I think I understand a lot of the psychology involved in his wanting "respect". He is making things very awkward for Mondale. Mondale doesn't seem to know how to control the situation.

My guess is that if Jackson can't win -- and he certainly knows he can't -- he wants to be able to show he has in fact "won" considerably. There could be some very uncomfortable times ahead for Mondale, for white audiences, for establishment people in the Party who think everyone should be nice boys and girls and play by the rules (why should Jackson?). It might be one of the most fascinating and volatile aspects of this convention.

That's exciting. I'm interested in *people*. Personal mistrust aside, I admire Jackson for the daring and the maneuvering he is managing to do. The way he is handling media on his Latin America trip. He's got the best instincts for milking crowd reaction.

This is a juicy situation. The question is how much of it will *we* see. My hunch: a lot. (P.S. I'm also a regular fan of "Dallas" on TV.)

Answer 7 (of 32) MIKE GREENLY, on WED, JUN 27 1984 at 09:03 (2016 characters)

What Interests Me - III: Media

I am a media freak. I am, I am, I am. I wanted baaaaaad once to work for Newsweek. (or Time). I want to be on TV. I want to be a newscaster. I want to have a 20 foot wall of holographic picture in my livingroom and bedroom with lifelike stereo sound. I want time I don't have to read and read and read every magazine I can get my hands on.

I was raised to be "polite". So I'm fascinated by those brash reporters and photographers -- how they can crash into a mob, thrust a microphone under a politicians nose, *grab* the story. Grab it! That's not me. You know -- I like those one-on-one interviews with the President of the company (or country), sitting one armchair next to another, just Mike and Mr/Ms X.

I once interviewed the Secretary to the President's Cabinet when I was 13 years old. I wrote a column called Among Our Teenagers for the Beaufort (S.C.) Gazette -- an every-Thursday paper. My family visited Washington,D.C. so I tried for the President. Eisenhower said no! (Beaufort Who?)

I wrote -- wailing -- back and said "Pleeeeeeeze. Can't you let me interview *somebody*? *Anybody*. Let me in, let me in." Was my father holding my hand as we walked down the White House Hallway? Was I wearing short pants, or did I just *feel* that way? I interviewed Robert K. Gray, now head of one of the most influential P.R. firms in Washington.

(peep) "Hello, Mr. Gray. Gosh, what's it like to be here in the White House? Gosh, what do you do all day?"

I want to see what the media does in the crush of a convention. I want to know what "real life" is like. I want to sit on Dan Rather's lap. (Can I be playful with you, reader, or not?!)

I don't smoke cigars and I don't play poker and I don't tell dirty jokes. But I'm a nice guy who's all ears and eyes and I can hardly wait.

>>>> I CAN HARDLY WAIT!!!!!!! <<<<

(peep) "Gosh, Mr. Reporter!"

Nope -- I think I can do better than that these days. . .

Answer 8 (of 32) SHERWIN, on WED, JUN 27 1984 at 11:16 (1696 characters)

I want to know what *YOU* want to hear about. So I can do the best possible job of getting it. Don't believe Mike about not being the type to *GRAB* at a story. He's just not the type to knock over a dozen other people doing it. But I can picture Mike politing and persisting his way today right up to the

president. Replay of crowd scene: Mike Greenly shocking people so much with the politeness and manners so unlike a reporter that they step back in surprise, allowing Mike to deftly slip through and invite the politician at the center of the crowd to participate in an interview.

Okay, so *I* didn't say a thing about *me*. Well, I'm not quite as apolitical as Mike. Though I've had to cut back my activities in the real heavy conferences, some of you will remember me throwing out multi-K notes with the best of them in conferences like "POLITICS" or "KAL 007" or "IP." But don't let that scare you -- I don't intend to swamp you with days' worth of reading.

But I *DO* need to know what *YOU* want.

My own interests and background? I have very strong feelings about economics and the absolute stupidity of much of what is being popularly expounded about the subject. About freedom of expression. About the need for people to be able to relate to each other on a regular basis, the enormous value of a medium like this.

Oh, yes -- and I want to be *RICH*. "Rich" meaning having the freedom to enjoy the fruits of my labor without being coerced into "donating" it to support others, to provide services I don't want and would *purchase* if I did.

That's probably more than you want to or should know about me for now.

You tell me.

Sherwin

Answer 9 (of 32) DIANE W., on WED, JUN 27 1984 at 21:05 (574 characters)

ME?? ----

I live here. I find myself in the wonderful position of getting ready to report on an event I might have been demonstrating against 8 years ago!

The things that interest me the most about the Convention are the human interest aspects, the demonstrators, the behind the scenes action. I plan to leave the political reportage to the experts, lest I show my ignorance and bias. I want to paint a colorful, 'live', exciting canvas for you. Real folks, funny stories, touching scenes, through my unique view of my unique city!

Stay tuned!

Diane

Answer 10 (of 32) DIANE W., on WED, JUN 27 1984 at 21:07 (2142 characters)

Convention Preparations Here in San Francisco:

When Mike Greenly and I sat in his hotel room here in San Francisco a few months ago, and casually discussed the possibility of covering the Democratic Convention for Parti on The Source, I didn't know what a monumental task it

would be. "It'll be great, Di," said Greenly. "Just go down there with your portable, and write up some first-hand reports of the haps!"

Here we are, less than two months later. That casual chat has spawned a mega-project, that grows every day like well-yeasted bread!

Long and intricate networking here in Parti, brainstorming sessions, late night calls and a meeting in Boston have resulted in a project of immense and exciting proportions, a fullblown and fully credentialled historic first - the electronic **interactive** coverage of the Democratic Convention here in Parti, **exclusively** for you!

Alright, that you know!

Our news organization, though in its early infancy, has been credentialled as the first EVER electronic news gathering service in the world. We're proud of the precedent, and feel it's (ahem) one small step for TENS, one giant step for telecomm. It was NOT easy!

On advice from a good friend met here in Parti, I called the Radio and TV Press Gallery in Washington. "We'd love to help, but your medium is either radio nor television! (What **are** you, anyway?) Call the Writing Press Gallery."

A call to the Writing Press Gallery proved equally frustrating. "You're not print journalists! What IS an electronic network? Call the Special Press Gallery. If you CAN be credentialled, they'll be the ones to do it."

"We don't know what you do, or who you are, and we've already allocated our credentials. But send a letter and **convince** us!" said the Special Press Gallery. (Sigh.)

What luck! What perserverence! What guts! What writer's cramps! And most of all... What connections!! (Again, made here on The Source.) Four days ago, we got the word: You're in!

Whew.

Never underestimate the **power** of networking!

Diane

Answer 11 (of 32) DIANE W., on WED, JUN 27 1984 at 21:08 (1838 characters)

TENS Finds an Office:

We're going to need a place to set up the computers, to do interviews, to demonstrate to the media what we do and how we do it."

"Ok," I said, "I'll look for an office. I'll look for parking, too, since the Convention site will be a zoo."

I pounded the pavement. I hit the want ads. I called friends and brokers. I drove the neighborhood and checked out office buldings and 'for lease' signs.

"\$60,000 for the month, and you do the improvements." "You have to take the whole floor, it's 6000 sq. ft., and only \$3.00 a foot, such a deal!" "The Secret Service beat you - they want the whole building." "Gary Hart's people have called 10 times, but I want a permanent tenent." "The Democrats got here first." And on and on.

Finally, through a friend of a friend, I found the perfect place, and with the short term lease we required. It happened just in time. I was really beginning to worry! The price is right, and our TENS office is a mere half a block from the door of Moscone Center. We have the whole first floor of a Victorian, and it makes a pleasant and personal contrast to the steel and glass high rises in the area.

We're midway between the main entrance of the center and the media 'village' that has sprung up overnight behind the center. We're safely snuggled on a side street, out of the way of marauding demonstrators (a possibility, since the KKK has been issued a demonstration permit!)

After fevered days of arranging signs, furniture, computer tables, phones, plants, food service and a hundred lesser details, we're ready to welcome one and all, from Source subscribers to Mr. Mondale himself (make us so lucky!) to our bit of San Francisco.

Won't you come by for some cracked crab and a Coffee Amaretto?

Diane

Answer 12 (of 32) DIANE W., on WED, JUN 27 1984 at 21:11 (2068 characters)

Meeting at Moscone:

While making final arrangements for our office with the owner (the bitch with the Vickie, as we've *fondly* come to call her,) I heard about a meeting taking place at Moscone Center for the residents and businesspeople in the area. I rushed over, portable in hand.

"More than 30,000 people, including 12,000 members of the media, are coming to San Francisco for the Covention," said the Chief of Police, Con Murphy. "To accomodate convention activities, temporary changes will be made in your area.

* The Convention will run from 3:00 pm - 9:00 pm. Most sessions, anyhow.

* Motorists will be asked to bypass the area. Use public transportation to come to work.

* Police will establish a perimeter and ask all persons entering the area to state their business when nearing Moscone Center.

* Parking will be difficult. Some public lots will close to accomodate media and demonstrators.

We will try to keep things as close to normal otherwise."

Sure.

People in the audience got up to express their concerns. "Will all the demonstrators have permits?" "Yes, each demonstration will be scheduled, or it will be broken up." (Uneasy rumble from the audience.)

"Will my customers be able to reach my store?" "They won't be able to drive in, and well be asked to state their business, but that won't be a problem." (Hmmm.)

"With all the demonstrations planned, will I have police protection if something goes wrong?" (How could we forget Chicago?) "There will be SO MUCH police presence in the area, you won't need to worry. The main rally days are Sunday and Monday, in the evenings."

Nancy Pelosi, City Chief of Protocol, got up to speak. "Our City will be realizing fantastic revenues from this Convention, and I know you'll do all you can to make our visitors welcome. To acquaint you more with what will be happening here at Moscone, I'd like to invite you to tour the hall when the preparations are complete."

This reporter will be there.

Diane

Answer 13 (of 32) DIANE W., on WED, JUN 27 1984 at 21:11 (80 characters)

So much for a parking space. Or even driving into the area. We'll take taxis!

Answer 14 (of 32) DIANE W., on WED, JUN 27 1984 at 21:13 (1528 characters)

Demonstrations at the Convention:

Everyone who has anything to say publically will be at this Convention. What better place to come and be heard, and enjoy a San Francisco lark at the same time?

There will be a massive demonstration by the Gay and Lesbian Coalition. Well over 100,000 participants are expected.

As I have mentioned, the Ku Klux Klan have been issued a permit to demonstrate. While it's not known when or where yet, trust that your hearty reporters will find out, and be on the scene. (I plan to tie back my hair, wear a gas mask and running shoes, and check all the fast exits in advance.)

The Coalition of Peace-Related movements will be out, too, many thousand-fold strong. Especially heavily attended will be those groups representing withdrawal of U.S. involvement in Central America and Nuclear Freeze movements.

As an aside, the Olympic torch will be arriving in San Francisco on Monday, the first day of the Convention. It will be carried over the Golden Gate Bridge, downtown to the Convention site, and out of town again over the Bay

Bridge on its way south to Los Angeles. I understand the Hells Angels have purchased a kilometer of the torch run. The police, say inside sources, are going crazy trying to provide for adequate presence at these two separate events.

WE'll cover it all! Let us know in "Demo Discuss" what you're interested in knowing about, 'seeing' covered. We'll try to accomodate you!

Diane

Answer 15 (of 32) DIANE W., on WED, JUN 27 1984 at 21:14 (1582 characters)

Convention Schedule:

We will be staffing our offices virtually around the clock, from Friday, July 13. The actual Convention runs from Monday, July 16 - Thursday, July 19.

Monday and Tuesday are expected to be the 'slow' days, when much of the Convention is taken up with rules and organization. But I understand that this is when the deals are made, the high-powered influences come into play, the talk is the most candid and the allegiances feverishly clamored for. We will try to catch as MUCH of this kind of activity for you as possible, and report candidly to you without the constraints of time and censorship the other media are subject to. We personally expect these days to be full of exciting news.

Wednesday, the Presidential Candidate is chosen. This session could run very late into the night, but again, we'll be there, fingers clicking and recorders running, to bring you as much of the behind the scenes and on the floor observations as our combined computer memories can hold!

Thursday, the Vice Presidential candidate is chosen, and the Presidential Candidate speaks to the nation. That will wrap things up.

Throughout, Mike, Sherwin and I will be casting scrutinizing eyes and roving microphones in the direction of the action. With the aid of Steve Teichner, the broadcast pollster and nationally known political journalists, we know this will be an event to remember. For you, readers, certainly for us, and for the *world*, when it looks back kindly to the pioneering days of telecomm.

Diane

Answer 16 (of 32) SHERWIN, on WED, JUN 27 1984 at 22:02 (514 characters)

Now, Diane, I *told* you not to mention the cracked crab and coffee amaretto. We'll have every Partier for hundreds of miles around dropping in! (I wonder if we could charge admission?) Seriously, we *want* every Source member who can to drop by and say "hello" both to us and to all of you who will be there via Parti. That's one of the main reasons we have the office and the computers. (but I hope that the b with the V wasn't reading this, Diane -- she might just cancel our lease!)

Sherwin

Answer 17 (of 32) MIKE GREENLY, on WED, JUN 27 1984 at 23:34 (1256 characters)

What Interests Me - IV: Convention Computers

InfoWorld's upcoming story on computers at the convention is a topic that interests me too. And the timing is right: this Convention will be witnessing some significant steps forward in the use of computers as part of "how it is" in 1984.

For one thing, obviously, our telecommunications event has never happened before.

>> *****

We are very pleased to announce that Apple Computer is supplying three complete Apple IIc systems for the TRANSCOASTAL news office/press room. So Apple IIc's will be our "official" office computers for the Democratic Convention.

>> *****

Another illustration: I've already got some interview notes on NBC's dramatic use of model 100 computers -- as part of a total news/communications system -- that I'll certainly be describing for you from San Francisco. NBC feels they enjoy the clear leadership position in the use of this kind of technology. (Will they also be leadership-oriented enough to cover what TRANSCOASTAL's striving to accomplish, on NBC network TV? for that we'll have to wait and see, won't we?!)

Computers at the Convention: I'll be on the lookout everywhere.

Answer 18 (of 32) MIKE GREENLY, on THU, JUN 28 1984 at 23:23 (2400 characters)

My Interests - Part V: Diversity of "Values", in a Fragmented Society

Once upon a time, the vast majority of citizens shared a common mentality -- Reader's Digest, Saturday Evening Post, Howdy Doody, Mary Worth, Eisenhower, Ed Sullivan.

(Want a shocking experience? Rent the "Blue Moon" video cassette -- condemned for its use of "virgin". It is watching a broadcast from an alien, sexist galaxy.)

Now, aren't things in the open with our millions of differences? Special Interest Group politics. SIG against SIG. Reflecting not just different economics -- but different *values*, too. The perceptions of life's purpose.

I've been to "new" research presentations. "VALS" (Values, Attitudes, and Lifestyles), Yankelovich, others. To learn about dwindling Protestant Ethics

-- the New Hedonists (now dwindling too) -- the New Professionals, etc, etc.

Nothing is clear and simple anymore. We are segments -- whether you think of us in marketing terms or not. Segments that change and interstice. Where each of us fits depends on the moment's topic.

Remember the Mothers who were ready to sell soul for a Cabbage Patch Doll? the *avid* ones reported in the fist fights and hair-pulls? Only a segment, a finite number of people valuing *anything* "for the children". Spurned and derided by another segment of parents.

And so it goes. With almost any trait you look at, trivial to transcendental, in a fragmented society.

How does this diverse society -- reflected even in the Democratic Party? -- work out its values differences? What are the backstage influences? the sub-parties? the hidden voices that occasionally pipe up.

What is, for example, The Green Political Movement? I've just now heard of it. Does it *do* anything relevant (but hidden from the mass media) at the Democratic Convention? Will I meet a member of it? Are there socialist delegates in Moscone Center? A Chicano Power person. Gray Panther? How do they all relate to each other, if at all. How do they impact on Party Platform wording.

Or is it all just static. Surrounding a steady throb of Party Machinery?

If the answers to *any* of these questions are available, will I even be able to spot them. Or will I only see placards. And the smooth politicians who shake my hand at the end of an earnest interview.

---- I don't know. ----

Answer 19 (of 32) MIKE GREENLY, on FRI, JUN 29 1984 at 18:46 (1358 characters)

What Interests Me -- VI: Being American

I don't think about it much. Sometimes, when I travel abroad. Sometimes in response to news.

"I'm an American."

I feel about politics the way I came to judge big business: I know too much. (Probably I don't know at all -- just have the illusion I do.)

Not about politics. I'm ignorant there.

But I know about marketing -- and I know about compromise. About people who are "practical". About bureaucracy and lack of caring. About people who "talk" ideal -- but only because it sounds good. About people who want to win -- win no matter what or how the cost.

I'm just one of the millions, a jaded American with his own selfish interests, (Although I try to be "good" as a human, notes Mike the Boy Scout.)

Lisa Carlson identified in "Demo Discuss" something I've mused on ever since this began: I'm about to witness the r-e-a-l thing, up close. It's what I learned in the history books. About *ideals* I still care about.

I won't be inauthentic -- you'll *know* what I really do feel. But I'd like to experience, in the context of "a real Convention", some American m-e-a-n-i-n-g.

Because of what happens. Of what people do together.

Maybe that's too much to hope for. But I sure would be happy to share it!

Mike ~.a "demo prep " ~

Answer 20 (of 32) MIKE GREENLY, on MON, JUL 02 1984 at 16:10 (5084 characters)

---> Computers and the Convention: NBC Takes a (technological) Lead?

This year, I hope they'll show plenty of TV "old days" footage. When I stared in wonder at the black & white spectacle. (I'm talking 50's, doo-wop, doo-wop.)

Zillions of changes. The news process now is very different than then. That much I know without going to a Convention. So I'm looking out for *new* influences of technology, things that happened in '84 first.

Here's one. The Model 100 computer.

The same small-brained (32K) little wonder on which I'm typing this story on the Shuttle to Washington. Radio Shack -- cursed with the "Trash 80" nickname and an advertising campaign of classic mediocrity -- it helps them keep the moniker, anyway.

But they's the ones who invented my (new) little pal!

When I went to Fifth Ave. and 23rd to replace the stolen <sigh>, I lucked out.

Justin White made a *cause* of learning M100, body and soul. He's the most professional Radio Shack dealer I've ever met. And he's the one who sold NBC.

Now I've spoken with Tom Wolzein, NBC's VP of News Production and Program Development.

"We're in the process of computerizing our entire news operation," he told me. "We're using leased equipment and software from Basys, a subsidiary of Independant TV News in London."

Mike: "What are the model 100's for?" (Smile into my model 100, please.)

Tom: "We're using them as the Field unit for correspondents, so they can write and transmit their stories from a field location over the phone, to the

computers in New York. Or at the Convention. At each convention, we'll have a large scale 'mirror' system to the New York setup."

Mike: "Why are you using Model 100's?"

Tom: "We are using them on a test basis. They're the least expensive and they do the job. It would be nice if they had a built in printer, but for now they do it for us."

<I had expected him to talk about the mere 3 and 1/2 pounds, but I guess they don't care about "correspondent fatigue".>

So NBC is using Model 100's. Big deal, right? That's not news. The Wall Street Journal uses them. (Justin has sold to them too.) Plenty of other clackers abound. What's so special?

Well, what the NBC reporter *gets* from his phone booth is special. Because NBC is building a master up-to-the-minute file of UPI, AP, Reuters, etc. all coded by topic. They get the "raw" news and code it themselves (faster than waiting for AP to organize it.)

The reporter can call up the central news file directly and download background on any topic of interest. (Special search programs make that easy.) He'll then have accurate, stored background in his M100 (not scribbled notes from a weary clerk in New York.)

NBC has conducted special training classes. One of the NBC techies I spoke with ("So, I understand you've been nosing around our operation, eh?" he said -- I knew he wasn't Public Relations!) suggested I go for the "human interest" angle.

He told me that many of the middle-aged reporters ("they like to be called 'correspondents'") had never touched a computer before. "They're guys over 40," the techie told me. "All they know is pencil and paper, or a typewriter. You should see 'em. They start out scared stiff -- they end up happy. We show 'em which keys to hit. They get enthusiastic."

NBC is proud of what it's achieving. "We're the only ones that have a master system like this," Tom told me. "CBS can dump scripts in and out. But we can move wires, our latest 'show rundowns'. All that data. That's a truly master system. And we own it."

"We know what ABC is doing," I was told. "They have not have computerized their inside news operation like we have. NBC news is the network leader in news computerization. And we plan to keep it that way."

Mike: "But what's the benefit? To me the viewer. Why should I care?"

Tom: "We have better utilization of manpower. The more info you have, the better your chances of being on top of a story."

Mike: "Can you give me a specific example?"

Tom: "We already know we beat out the competition by 1/2 hour because we have info through our computer faster than their wire copy. We're hooked into the

main databases of UPI, AP. We sort the stuff ourselves.

"When the Korean plane was shot down, we were able to get the list of passengers better than 1/2 hour ahead of competition -- two hours ahead of local TV crews. We had our crews on people's doorsteps before they even knew themselves." <Ugh. I wish he hadn't used that example. I hate that kind of exploitation. But I do see the point.>

"This absolutely makes us a technical leader," said the techie. "NBC and its parent compay, RCA, was a leader in developing the TV set. Now on the order of our Exec VP, we shall computerize and we're on the road." <He talks like a missionary colonel. I guess he is.>

"Eventually, others will copy us," he said proudly. "We're the wave of the future. There's no doubt about it."

Answer 21 (of 32) MIKE GREENLY, on TUE, JUL 03 1984 at 08:50 (6646 characters)

(Washington, D.C.) Interview: Labor Union Executive

He is John Sturdivant, the Exec VP of the American Federation of Government Employees. A handsome man with an easy manner. The first black ever to hold this high union office.

The AFGGE represents 700,000 federal employees in 90 different agencies. From janitorial work, blue collar air plane repair, Social Security administrators, etc. He has held his post since 1982.

His spacious office has coffee perking by the window, and jars of mini -Milky Ways and Reece's Pieces on the interview table. Paper plates and plastic forks are at the ready. The effect is like a Birthday Party welcome -- cozy.

<I love E.T., so I have some of the Reece's Pieces. Stupidly I wonder if eating them compromises my objectivity. Still a Boy Scout.>

What is the background of a man in this position of labor leadership?

Both of his parents worked in "shops". His mother did piece work manufacture of video antennas and steam irons. His step father worked on a rolling mill for Bridgeport Brass.

When he left the Air Force, John Sturdivant became a laborer (radio repair) himself. At first, he paid no attention to the union (like many of the 500,000 *non* union members he represents.) He became President of his local shop and more than quintupled union members.

Obviously, he stood out from the crowd: he was selected as the political strategist and administrative assistant to Joseph Gleason, who held Sturdivant's present job.

I notice a Sperry-Univac terminal by his desk. I'm expecting an advanced useage of some kind. Mainly what the system does, though, are tasks like looking up the names of phone callers (e.g. so as not to waste time listening

to griping from non-union members.)

He tells me that before endorsing Mondale, his union created videotapes of each candidate (there were six; Jackson wasn't yet one of them). His was one of the few unions to use video technology. Each Presidential Candidate addressed specific Labor questions, talking to members on tape.

Why Mondale? "a proven track record on the issues we're concerned with. You know a person by what they've done."

He has never been a Delegate before. Never gone to a National Convention.

I want to know what he will get out of being a Delegate. What's the advantage?

He's not sure exactly, but he knows it couldn't hurt. He's far more aware of the advantage of his being on the Platform Committee. He was one of a small group of people, touring the country and sponsoring local debates on platform issues.

The advantage wasn't only the education of personally hearing Illinois farmers complain about their problems. It was also getting to know fellow Platform executives -- like Geraldine Ferraro.

Advantage? Well, what if Ms. Ferraro becomes Vice-President? Couldn't hurt a bit that John Sturdivant helped her on the Platform Committee.

That's juicy to think about -- to have worked well and closely with someone who might become V.P. What does he think her chances are? I am shocked by the answer --> " *better* than 50% ! I think there'll be a groundswell for her."

Why? How so? "It's an idea whose time has come. Given the nature of what they claim to be the gender gap. She would add excitement to what would probably otherwise be a pretty bland ticket. The Party would have a better chance of winning."

Ummmmm. I agree. So far, to me personally, Mondale and Hart are both dull gray. <Let me *meet* 'em, if their aides are reading this!> Ferraro as a personality exudes excitement and charisma.

When she spoke to Avon Officers -- just 35 or 40 of us at a Florida Conference, with up close Q & A -- she impressed me with how "real" she seemed. No baloney. I trusted her automatically. I could tell she is smart and savvy. So, yes, I agree -- she would add excitement. Even just personally, even *before* the momentous news-plus of being "first woman in history to run for U.S. Vice President."

But -- what if Mondale does not want her? Sturdivant stands to gain, potentially, by having his friend and co-worker be Veep. And he thinks Ferraro is better for the Party. Has a better chance of winning. So would he vote against all *that* if Mondale wanted him to? Vote against what he actually believes is best?

I expect him to proclaim: "Ferraro!"

"I would probably vote for Hart." <He sees my reaction.>

"Disappointed, aren't you?" he says.

"Yes." I feel like she just lost. "Why? You just said she'd be better for everybody -- not just you, but the Party as well."

"Discipline," he says. "You learn that in the Union. There's no point in supporting someone, Mondale, and not going along with what he thinks he needs. I probably would go for the discipline. There's a value in discipline. There's a fighting force. The majority of the labor delegates would go along with what the nominee wanted."

We agree, however, that *if* his delegation were to get together in advance, before Mondale declares himself for Hart (in this example), then they could opt for Ferraro and *stick* with it, trying to influence Mondale. Then it's not being disloyal to Mondale -- it's being loyal to Labor.

Interesting political nuance. . .

I finally ask him the obvious question. Doesn't he ever feel an emotional tug, being a black man who's *not* endorsing the first significant black candidate for President.

Sure, he says. (I continually admire his openness.) But Jackson didn't declare himself early enough. And besides, I wanted to be a delegate to the National Convention. Northern Virginia did not have enough people who would get a Jackson delegate. I wanted to win. I'm an extremely pragmatic politician. I operate from the head not the heart."

I find this news a bit chilling. When I recite the Pledge of Allegiance, I put my hand over my heart, not my forehead. It's a bit sad, momentarily. Yet, of course I'm not really surprised. Don't I know already, from my own business experience, the arguments and pressures to "be smart" -- stick around so you can continue to make a difference -- play ball. And I really like this man for his clarity and directness.

"I'm the type of guy that never started out to be a politician. I'm the first black to hold this office. There were 7 other candidates running against me."

"So you *have* to be a practical guy to have won it?" I say.

"You got it."

We agree that I'll see him in San Francisco. And I'm glad.

Answer 22 (of 32) MIKE GREENLY, on TUE, JUL 03 1984 at 17:52 (2370 characters)

(WASHINGTON, D.C.) The Man Who Won't Believe in Parti

He is intense and athletic looking, just balding, and he "struts" slightly. Like he's trying to prove he's taller than he is, or grander.

I wanted to like him. First because he's a friend of a friend. Second because I like to like people. Third because he's the aide to a very famous and powerful senator. I thought it'd be neat. Maybe I could interview his boss, maybe -- well it doesn't matter now. Was he annoyed that some other man (me) was receiving lots of attention this evening?

Or does he just have a broom up his, uh, well what's his problem anyway?

"Why do people want to read your stuff?" he said. "No really, tell me. Because I haven't the faintest idea. Why do they want to do all that stuff on computers?" I know I don't remember all his exact words -- he got under my skin. He interrupts a lot. Rudely. Abruptly.

The problem most of all is: he doesn't seem to **want** to understand telecommunications. "I could have all sorts of interesting people in my livingroom, whenever I want, so why do I need the computer?" But any explanation begun was ruled out peremptorily. "Maybe it's not for you," I said. "Even television isn't for everybody."

"But I'd like to understand . . ."

Of course, we discussed my political "qualifications". Maybe that was the problem. This man is an "expert". Why should anyone want to read what I have to say? (he kept asking).

When I told him I wasn't trying to fool anyone -- that I **admitted** to my readers that I'm not a political pundit, no George Will, no Bill Buckley -- he said:

"Wow! What a scam". You know how Bill Murray can insult you as he says "nice" things? It was like that. "No, really, I **admire** you. To make people want to read your stuff when you have nothing real to say. What salesmanship. No really, I take my hat off to you. That's a great product. I wish I could invest in you. To get these people with money to buy a worthless product." I can't remember if he compared it to the pet rock or some other gimmicky foolishness.

Of course, the joke is on him. Not so much about my own work, in fact, but about why you bother to do **all** the things you do on Parti. I know one Senator's aide who doesn't get it.

The new millenium will have to begin elsewhere.

Answer 23 (of 32) DIANE W., on WED, JUL 04 1984 at 01:27 (2220 characters)

Changes in the City:

Virtually overnight, a 'media village' has sprung up around Moscone Center, site of the Convention.

Immense trailers have been moved into one of the parking lots adjacent to the hall. Fences have sprung up in the middle of streets, funneling rush hour traffic into impossible tight lanes. Construction crews with jack-hammers and cranes are working with lightening speed. Major network 'sky booths' go up, up, while telephone lines are run down.

I'm told that one major network has contracted for 57 phone lines, and are getting soaked for exorbitant connect fees. (We think we have problems?) The story is the same for the other networks.

Restaurants in the City are agreeing to stay open until midnight, to accomodate the visitors. Everyone wants a piece of the action.

Four major events are scheduled for the Bay Area this year - the Convention, the All Star Game, the Superbowl at Stanford, and the Lion's Club Convention, which is actually expected to be bigger than the Democratic Convention. These events will bring a combined revenue of \$50,000,000 into the area.

While it might be a Mecca for the tourists, and a boon to the merchants, the residents of the City are decidedly less than thrilled. Prices are zooming up. Traffic snarls. Tempers flare. It's already impossible to get a cab or a seat in the movies. Hotels are stuffed, and woe to the unwary who wander in, fresh and excited, and try to find a place to sleep!

There are ugly (and vehemently denied) tales of street people and drunks being picked up and bussed to 'outlying communities'. But at a much faster rate, demonstrators representing every conceivable group pour in. Who knows where these will camp? My guess is the Golden Gate Park.

While this is an exciting and revenue generating event for San Francisco, it's also frightening in some ways.

It's always been a tolerant city. Remember the beatniks? The hippies? Free speach movements in Berkeley? The Viet Nam anti-war rallies and demonstrations?

But really, no one wants the KKK here. That's stretching the limits of tolerance a little too far.

Diane

Answer 24 (of 32) DIANE W., on WED, JUL 04 1984 at 01:46 (1864 characters)

Press Credentials:

With 5000 delegates and up to 15,000 members of the nation's press expected at the Democratic Convention, there has to be some security in force to keep the majority of correspondents at bay while business is conducted.

For this reason, press credentials of different access levels are issued for the event.

The first, and most common credential, is the Perimeter Pass. This allows the journalist access to the general, non-security areas of the hall, and (if

s/he's lucky,) to all who come and go through the common areas.

Then, there's the News Hall Pass. This allows the reporter into the huge media area, where the action on the Convention floor is being monitored. This is the most common media credential, and most of the nation's reports come from here. (Each of the three major networks, plus CNN, AP and UPI will have special allocated space, from which you will see their reports. The rest of the media will be in a huge media/press space together.) From this area, journalists will literally stand in line for a coveted 40 minute floor pass, which will allow them that precious time right on the convention floor.

Next is the Floor Pass. This gives the select few unlimited access to the actual Convention floor. There are very few of these passes issued. Even the major networks have to make do with a scant handful - usually under 5. (TRANSCOASTAL doesn't have a Floor Pass... But we're working on it! And our REPORTER X does, so we'll have a real insider's view.)

The last in the credential hierarchy is the Secret Service Pass. These are issued by the government and/or police dept. Any reporter in immediate attendance where a presidential or vice-presidential candidate is speaking must have one of these credentials, except by special arrangement.

Diane

Answer 25 (of 32) MIKE GREENLY, on WED, JUL 04 1984 at 14:21 (8078 characters)

(WASHINGTON,D.C.) Lisa Carlson: the Electri-Flying Optimist

It's hard for me to write about Lisa Carlson. I'm too grateful to her and too fond of her, already.

I "met" her electronically when she sent me a thank you after one of my trade show reports. "Wait!" I said. "Who are you?"

That was only a few months ago. Could as easily be a year. (Electronic communication speeds up time frames. It's the immediate sharing.)

When she responded profusely and easily, when she told me she was a lobbyist in Washington, D.C., when she said what we were trying to do with "electronic journalism" and the Democratic Convention was the most important journalistic experiment of the decade --

Well, I sent one of her notes to Sherwin and Diane and told them -- "I think we've got a 'live' one here, kids!"

"Live", all right. Like a hot, glowing cable, plugged into the Hoover Dam power source.

She can be so delicate in her writing. Tossing in <grin> and <giggle>. She is effusive with her praise -- with her !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! and "Wowie Zowies". She signed "love" so quickly in her notes to me I felt embarrassed and confused. And *then* I felt embarrassed that I didn't simply accept her at face value.

Was she for real? Or was she a delicate teenage princess with "peachy pink" nail polish and a ribbon in her hair? Was she the dilettante of electronic airwaves -- a rich girl chattering away just as something to do while sipping Maybelle's lemonade?

Nooooooooooooo.

As I began to receive her 2 a.m. notes, and her torrent of tumbling ideas, I began to know she had extraordinary energy. And deep motivation. Her output suggested in fact a multiple-person operation, all writing as "Lisa Carlson".

When my friends heard about this Washington Woman, someone I'd never met -- she would say I'd just not met her in "3-D" yet, that's all --

when they learned she'd invited me to stay overnight at her place, they got nervous. "Don't sign anything," they warned me. One of them reminded me of a scene in "The Manchurian Candidate" where Frank Sinatra is hypnotized with playing cards by spies. "Be careful," they said. "She has an angle."

She has an angle, all right. It's called making a difference.

When I wrote about my non-political nature, my jaded and distant outlook -- I'm just trying to be a truly wealthy marketing guy, damn it, nags one-half of my brain -- she issued a public challenge to all of us who'll be reporting. And, really, to all our readers.

To be involved. To consider how we *can* influence what happens to us. To make a difference in government. Even now it's hard for me to write a line like that without a complex of conflicting emotions and judgements. * I * can't care who Lisa Carlson wants to get her news from. I have to care about who I really am.

But she wrote with such intelligence and strength, she forced me to think. And *that* let me know I'd not yet gotten the real picture of Lisa Carlson.

I only knew she was special.

She is funky and earthy. ("Hold the 'Princess' copy, boys!") Up close, she has an off-hand way of talking. A softened stream of words that becomes a steady current. You have the feeling of endless belief. I know, already, that she can galvanize an audience, she can make 'em gasp. I *know* it without having seen her on stage.

She is *** power *** based on belief, based on conviction, based on ideals. She believes that people -- us -- that we can matter much more. She knows (and proves in Washington) what people can do when they link up together. When they "network".

She talks like that. "Network". "Nodes". She gave a party to let people know about TRANSCOASTAL Electronic News Service. She invited journalists, political influencers, and what she calls "carriers". (She laughs at that language herself.)

I saw her "interface" with public relations people, media, and government management. The union official I interviewed had never met her. He just said he gave me the interview "because Lisa Carlson . . ."

When she spoke of her various visions of what people can do, I said, "Lisa. You * do * know what an optimist you are, don't you?" What a hearty laugh! Like Janis Joplin. (She knows, she said. She's been called an "optimist" before.)

But she laughs because she knows what's possible. "I'm optimistic because of experience," she says. "I know what we've done."

She has background as a high school activist. As a social studies teacher. In personnel. In executive training. As the wife of a rock and roll band leader.

She became interested in "cognitive development". (Not since Duke have I known people who talk like that.) So she got a second Master's Degree in cognitive psychology. She managed "resource centers" -- places where people came and could be influenced by what was there, she says.

She got a "straight" job with the Government in personnel management. Developing the rules and selection criteria for 1/5th of all U.S. Government agencies. The U.S. Navy, the Department of Education -- little accounts like that.

She did research, interviewing high performance senior executives. What made them different? What distinguished them? She learned the factor was attitude -- about the constraints of bigness and complication. The "winners" were the people who had looked at all the constraints and had figured out how to manage them anyway.

"You don't fold your hands in your lap," she says. "You don't cry the blues, you don't say 'when *they* get done and make a good system, then I'll play.' You try to find a way to change what's wrong. You just do."

Now she's the president of the Professional Managers Association. They represent 150,000 members of government management. The membership is overwhelmingly male. To have a woman represent them is significant.

She talks about what it means if Americans think that serving in the government is a dead-end spot. That it's just for low level people. What kind of people will we get, then, to run our country? She talks about her organization's work to change that public image. How one thing leads to another.

How she worked to get a public proclamation from Reagan about the importance of civil service. And how something like that -- which at first seemed quite puny and superficial to me -- can really be used as a "lever" to build something else.

Mike: But Lisa, what are * you * really after?!

Lisa: "Maximum participatin by everybody in the commmunity process. I believe that if everybody were participating, then we'd all be in a better place. The collective brain is better than the individual brain. And a lot better than 'concentrated power' brains!"

"If you care about something and go after it, you can make a difference," she says. "I'm a network believer. Among us we have the resources and creativity to solve any problem, *any* problem -- any constraints, the threat of nuclear war, the problem of allocated resources world wide. Any problem is totally soluble if people start working on it"

"I guess if i have a mission, it's to get more people to realize there's something they can do."

I don't know. I'm a fancy-schmancy marketeer. I've got my plans for no debts and all the perquisites of Luxury City. I'm gonna make a jillion someday. Me, me, me. Mike Greenly. I admit it.

But --

I can't help but be affected by her.

And of course I share her vision -- and the experience -- of the power of "electronic networking".

Yes what we do here is remarkable. And of *course* we -- and this medium -- can make a difference. In the most powerful and positive way. Funny how this experience of reporting on a political convention -- and meeting the people I'm meeting -- is working away on my brain.

I've become a fan of Lisa Carlson's.

I guess I'm now a "carrier".

Answer 26 (of 32) MIKE GREENLY, on FRI, JUL 06 1984 at 11:34 (1036 characters)

Steve Gibson pointed out that there is good coverage of what TENS is trying to do in InfoWorld, starting on page 24, Issue #30. Neat. I haven't seen it yet. One comment though:

what makes our efforts newsworthy is not simply the "electronic" nature of it. No. It is the --> interactive <-- aspect. The fact that *you* can interact with us and with each other.

That's the news. Nobody's ever done that before from an event of the magnitude and significance of the convention.

So please know what *we*, your TRANSCOASTAL news team knows: you're the news, too! Other people will be reading about what we, together, are doing. You, however, are right in here with us.

We're making history, all of us. I'm thrilled for the InfoWorld coverage, and -- honestly -- I'm just rrrrravenous for lots more from all over. When/if you see this effort being written about, let's just be clear that they're writing about *you*, too. That's what makes it all news.

Mike -- for Diane and Sherwin too

Answer 27 (of 32) MIKE GREENLY, on FRI, JUL 06 1984 at 15:28 (2554 characters)

The Difficulty of the New, Computerized Kid on the block: Ms. Ferraro's office

You know, we might well *not* be able to get that interview with Geraldine Ferraro we've been discussing. But as I learn how things work, at least I can share with you, the "Demo Prep" readers, the kinds of experiences we're having in the preparation efforts.

I just spoke with someone in Ms. Ferraro's office. The dialogue went something like this:

Mike: "Hi!!!" (very bright hello) "I'm following up, as we agreed, to see about an interview with Ms. Ferraro."

PR Representative: "Yes. Well, we're still talking about it, we don't know yet."

Mike: "We just had an article written about us in InfoWorld, an important computer magazine. It's becoming quite an exciting project!"

PR: "Yes, well. You know Ms. Ferraro receives many, many interview requests. She's been interviewed in lots of places. I just don't know. It takes a lot of time."

Mike "30 minutes?" (I had cut down the request from our original one hour.)
"Well, what if she didn't come to our offices? What if I just brought my little computer and came to *her* office? Or wherever you like."

PR: "Well, I don't know. She has a write-up on it, an objective one, but frankly I'm recommending against it. Even if there are 60,000 readers on The Source, and even if they are influential people -- those people probably also read about her everywhere else too."

Mike: "Yes, but this is historic -- it's part of telecommunications history".
(uh, oh. wrong thing to say! Can she see my mournful wincing over the telephone?)

PR: "Ms Ferraro is *already* part of history, wouldn't you say? I don't know. We haven't said no."

Mike: "If you were me, what would you do or say to increase your chances of a yes?!"

PR: (slight laugh) "Nothing, really. I accept defeat gracefully."

Mike: "ummm. Well I'm not so great at that. Or at least I want to be sure I've done everything I can! You say it's not definite."

PR: "No, it's not definite. But I'm letting you know now there's a good chance we won't grant the interview. We'll know more next week. I'll call you Monday."

Mike: "Well, actually, I'll be in Las Vegas next week, covering a computer show. How about if I call you?"

PR: "Okay."

Mike: (hollow brightness) "Okay! I'll call you Monday. Goodbye."

It's true: I forgot to mention Diane's amaretto coffee and famous San Francisco cracked crab. Nice to have some powerful ammunition in reserve!

Mike

Answer 28 (of 32) DIANE W., on SUN, JUL 08 1984 at 22:17 (5894 characters)

BAY AREA ARTISTS FOR NUCLEAR SANITY - A RALLY IN UNION SQUARE :

When I arrived in Union Square today, shortly before 1:00 pm, there were a few people sunning themselves and looking on with interest at the demonstration in front of Macy's for higher wages across the street.

A large stage was set up in the square, with a massive and compelling banner forming the backdrop. More about this image in a moment.

People gathered, slowly. Cameras and microphones were set up. A DixieLand Jazz Band played from the stage.. "Gonna lay down my weapons, down by the river side..."

A speaker took the microphone as volunteers passed literature out through the disappointingly thin crowd. Tourists, Lions Club conventioners paused on the way through the square to see what was going on. Occasionally, people would pause at the information table.

Bay Area artist and activist Jerome Carlin begins to speak. "What you see behind you will appear on billboards, on public buses and tops of taxicabs in the Bay Area over the next several months. We feel the central issue in the world today is prevention of nuclear annihilation. As artists, we felt the message would have a greater impact if it could be presented visually."

Carlin pointed to the banner behind him. A massive grid on a blood-red background, with the legend: WORLD NUCLEAR FIREPOWER 1984 above. A single dot in a square in the center. The legend, = TOTAL FIREPOWER OF WORLD WAR II. Each dot equals 200 Hiroshima bombs. The single square is surrounded by 160 squares each containing 33 dots. 5281 dots on a banner. 5281 times the firepower of World War II. Each square containing 33 dots is enough firepower to bring on a Nuclear Winter, and end life as we know it.

"All 5281 dots represent the present nuclear arsenal," says Carlin. "A nuclear exchange of just 20 MX-type missiles equals 33 dots, equals the end of the world."

This visually shocking banner will be hung in plain view of all who attend the Democratic Convention.

(At this point, my close friend, Miriam Abramowitsch, a coloratura soprano with the SF Opera, sang "America the Beautiful". Couldn't resist that plug - she has a wonderful voice.)

A series of speakers then took the podium. Below are excerpts from statements sent to the gathering:

Congressman George Miller: We are spending nearly \$100 million dollars every single day on the military. We have moved nuclear-tipped missiles into Europe.

Archbishop John R. Quinn: In the act of a single madman, whole cities could be leveled. In a single accident, millions of human beings could be exposed to the spectre of lingering radiation illness. The whole world community must do everything possible to limit the chances for nuclear catastrophe.

Senator Alan Cranston: Be assured that I will continue to do all I can in the Senate and at the grass-roots level to achieve a mutual, bilateral and verifiable nuclear weapons freeze, and to reverse the insane arms race.

Senator Edward Kennedy: The only possible solution is to end the arms race before it ends the human race.

Senator Gary Hart: There is no greater task for members of this generation... than the control and eventual elimination of nuclear weapons. ...imperative to remove Ronald Reagan from office. This is a paramount arms control goal...

Senator and Mrs. Walter Mondale: ...your artistic expression will help build political and individual resolve to make the world safer. We must end the nightmares of our children, and leave a legacy of hope for them and their children. There is no hope for our shared goal of stopping the arms race if Reagan, who unlike the last six presidents had failed to produce a single arms control agreement.

Vivian Verdon-Roe moves to the microphone. She's an award-winning filmmaker, who made "In the Nuclear Shadow". She is the most dynamic speaker of the day, bringing cheers and applause with every phrase. "Each minute, world-wide, a million dollars is spent on weapons, while in that same minute, 28 children starve to death. The people in the Pentagon were put there by US. If we can't change their minds, let's change the politicians. We are fighting for our lives and the continuation of the human species."

A cute little group of tots then sings, "Mr. Reagan, if you don't stop building nuclear bombs, you can kiss your jelly beans goodbye." A real crowd grabber. I spoke to one of the children after the performance. Luke, age 6 3/4. "Regan should be a good president and stop it...I love this world. A bomb could come and kill 100 people".

I spoke with Barbara Boxer, 6th District Congresswoman, briefly. She told me:

"The whole issue of the nuclear arms race is the number one issue of our times

I think it's very necessary to show my support for what the Bay Area Artists are doing. I will be a Mondale delegate at the Convention. People have to get involved in the issue. They should support those candidates who agree with arms reduction. If they don't, we're going to be headed for some very dangerous times."

And finally, the release of black balloons. First one, the single dot in the lone square in the center of the grid. Then, 33 black balloons, the dots in the remaining squares, representing enough firepower for a Nuclear Winter on our planet. And lastly, the release of 5281 black balloons, representing all the dots on the banner, all the nuclear firepower in the world today.

As I watched the balloons soar and black out the sky, confusing the pigeons, I heard the clang of cable cars and the chants of the Macy's demonstrators. An eerie spectacle, set against the bright sunshine and teeming life in Union Square, and one for long consideration by all of us.

Answer 29 (of 32) TENS, on TUE, JUL 10 1984 at 22:15 (648 characters)

Guess What?!!!!!!!!!!

Three intrepid entrepreneurs -- otherwise known as

TRANSCOASTAL
Electronic News Service

just received, just now, their 100% Official

C R E D E N T I A L S !

to the Democratic Party's Convention.

Thus becoming the ** first *** journalists in history to be recognized in this way in the new category of electronic journalism.

YIPPEE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Thank you -- a lot, a lot -- to those of you who helped us backstage in so many ways, and to *all* of you for being right here.

You are making history with us. And we couldn't be gladder!

Diane, Sherwin, and Mike

Answer 30 (of 32) DIANE W., on TUE, JUL 10 1984 at 22:46 (458 characters)

Amen, Mike!

What an uphill battle it's been. First we had 'em, then we didn't...

A struggle to the wire.

Tomorrow, I'm going to pick up the credentials (sorry, Mike and Sherwin, yours blew away in the wind) and go over to Moscone Center for a preview and news briefing. I'll tell you all about it in "Diane Talks". Join me there for the news.

And a 'thank you', readers, from me. We're delighted you're a part of this with us.

Diane

Answer 31 (of 32) SHERWIN, on WED, JUL 11 1984 at 03:36 (140 characters)

And, please -- join us in "DEMO 84" where the coverage commences!

This conference has run its course and served its purpose.

Sherwin

Answer 32 (of 32) MIKE GREENLY, on THU, JUL 12 1984 at 09:02 (556 characters)

From Ferraro's Office:

"Mike, I'm sorry, but we just cannot grant the interview. You don't know what's going on here. I'm afraid that's got to be definite."

I left it that maybe, sometime when I'm in Washington, *after* the convention.

Have an invitation, through Avon, to a reception for Chuck Robb, Governor of Virginia, and of course Lynda (Lynda Byrd Johnson) Robb. I'll attend, observe, and share it with you. Other chances to glimpse, interact, and report on "what it's like" at various levels in the works for all of us.

mike

Joiners of "DEMO PREP" conference:

ALAN; STC-EDIT; NORMAN KURLAND; STC.BABS; FR HAL; FTF; EVANSCLEVE; MAC; WEEHAWK; ANTHONY; STEVE DEERING; GEORGE M; DOCTOR TOM; RACOM; SDC; JAYBO; MIKE MOLONY; PSI DAVE; SHERWIN; PATO; DOM S.; DR. MEMORY; BOB SANDHAUS; RON TINDIGLIA; CRT; T/O; LORA W; J. MELLO; MIKE GREENLY; STL607; MARK-A; RITA G; DONNA DICKINSON; TIM HAIGHT; BEJAY; DIANE W.; LISA CARLSON; SHADOW; JIM ARMSTRONG; JESSE; BBP998; K SQUARED; CYNIC AL; WHMJR; BUFLOE; BCA478; CHRIS B; JIM T; TI7116; SUMMER!; BCA724; TENS; COLLIE; DV0; REPORTER X; STEVE TEICHNER; LEE W.; CHARLIEH; RLH;

"DEMO DISCUSS" Conference 84.16596 TENS, organizer, about "A PLACE TO INTERACT WITH US AS WE GET READY TO COVER THE CONVENTION. PIPE UP WHENEVER YOU FEEL LIKE IT!" (answers: 83) MON, 06/25 08:16 (276 characters)

As you follow along with us, while we prepare for sleepless -- but exciting -- days and nights of *live* convention coverage, interacting with *you* as you wish,

feel free to make comments here during the preparation phase. This branch conference is fully interactive.

Answer 1 (of 83) LISA CARLSON, on MON, JUN 25 1984 at 08:20 (222 characters)

I think what you are doing is potentially as earth shattering as the entrance of T.V. into the news environment. Absolutely inspired! I'm now actually looking *forward* to the convention. WE ARE THERE!!!! (thanks)

Answer 2 (of 83) LOUIS, on MON, JUN 25 1984 at 20:53 (18 characters)

Go to it, team.

Answer 3 (of 83) T/O, on MON, JUN 25 1984 at 23:35 (130 characters)

Am I allowed to make snid remarks about the interviewees? Not of course the interviewers---I think you are all great.

T/O

Answer 4 (of 83) DIANE W., on TUE, JUN 26 1984 at 00:01 (40 characters)

T/O: What's a 'snid' remark?

Diane

Answer 5 (of 83) DR. MEMORY, on TUE, JUN 26 1984 at 00:23 (74 characters)

HMM... COULD THAT BE SOCIETY FOR THE NEGATION OF IDEAS DEMOCRATIC?

Answer 6 (of 83) T/O, on TUE, JUN 26 1984 at 01:02 (136 characters)

Diane,

Sort of like snivl. Aftr rading "Gibson's Link" I dcided to do my part to cut down on Sourc bills by liminating e's.

Answer 8 (of 83) T/O, on THU, JUN 28 1984 at 19:38 (504 characters)

Are you sure you guys aren't violating some "News Journalist's" rules or code of ethics? I never heard Dan Rather or Ben Bradlee tell us what their perspective was or where they were coming from. I thought they just said that they were totally objective and it was really no one's business if they were ultra-liberals, because they were always totally objective.

It'd be great if you could start a trend here. I certainly think it is a much more honest way of reporting.

T/O

Answer 9 (of 83) DIANE W., on THU, JUN 28 1984 at 20:12 (148 characters)

T/O: We have the pros to bring you the objective stuff. Still, expect even that to be candid and uncensored! (Listening, STC=EDIT?!?)

Diane

Answer 10 (of 83) LIP, on THU, JUN 28 1984 at 21:24 (568 characters)

First, welcome to the Fourth Estate and best of luck. Second, how would you distinguish your brand of journalism from the other professional and novice journalists, other than the ability to receive input from your readers? And finally, if you should get the opportunity to interview Mr. Jackson, would you ask him this question "If you were nominated, would you consider a Jew as your running mate?".

Thanks guys

P.S. Have you considered videotaping your activities? I think it would make a great feature on Public Television.

Answer 11 (of 83) RITA G, on THU, JUN 28 1984 at 22:15 (212 characters)

I think I'm going to have a problem keeping up with the television coverage and your coverage too.

(Another month when the Source bill approaches the National Debt!)

Look forward to it.

Rita G

Answer 12 (of 83) SHERWIN, on THU, JUN 28 1984 at 23:13 (820 characters)

T/O, I forgot to mention that I'm **totally** objective and have absolutely no personal opinions about anything of a political nature.

LIP, there are probably at least a dozen of every brand and style of journalist already on their way to San Francisco. The fact that our readers

react to us and we react *directly* to them is distinction enough, a very big distinction. I think that a great many people here feel that they know us more or less personally. *THAT* is a distinction. The very closest you get is a talk show, but so very many more people can participate directly in Parti than in a call-in show. The welcome and luck wishes are very much appreciated. We are, after all, new to things of this scale. You imply you're a member of the Fourth Estate -- any wise words for us?

Sherwin

Answer 13 (of 83) LISA CARLSON, on THU, JUN 28 1984 at 23:40 (972 characters)

I'd be interested in getting your impressions of the extent to which folks involved in this process - the delegates - get caught up in the awesome aspects of what they're doing. We tend to be a bit jaded about the political process (for good reason much of the time) but there is *something* about participating in these pagents which stirs up feelings about the special qualities of a participatory process. I have found myself in related situations getting that lump in the throat shiver which is associated with deep cultural messages. I think you may be surprised at the extent to which something which *we* will be (on one level) enjoying as a carnival show is being taken VERY seriously by those who are the players. I think the opportunity to share and respond to those *human* feelings is one which may distinguish *your* coverage from the rest of the media - and the community here on PARTI is uniquely suited to discussing its meaning.

Answer 14 (of 83) MIKE GREENLY, on THU, JUN 28 1984 at 23:44 (324 characters)

Lisa. You read my mind. I will write about it as my final "What Interests Me" piece in "Demo Prep" -- but I've been wondering a lot about what it will feel like to me as an *American* to be there, and what I'll observe/feel/sense/report about others. More when I have a chance to write a bit (and think). Thanks. Mike

Answer 15 (of 83) STC-EDIT, on FRI, JUN 29 1984 at 13:58 (178 characters)

Diane,

I've earned my living in a newsroom before, so I hope I don't flinch when the explicatives explode from your cohorts. (Sheesh, how did I get into this....)

TW

Answer 16 (of 83) LISA CARLSON, on SAT, JUN 30 1984 at 01:32 (3422 characters)

As you know, I am IN LOVE with this project. I think it is a VERY IMPORTANT breakthrough in applications of this technology. I do have one little nagging worry about your comments that you "don't know anything (or much) about politics." While I appreciate your honesty as reporters (and this *is* one of the fantastic aspects of this project - *knowing* the source of the information) I get the feeling that this "honesty" also reflects a feeling you share with many citizens - politics is *not* something you feel good about and you don't like to think of yourself as being involved in it or taking it

seriously. My feelings about this are referred to by my friends as LISA'S DEAD HORSE: It is *not* nasty to know about politics and to take an active role in the political process from an informed standpoint. Just because *other people* have abused the process, failed to appreciate its nuances, f***ed it up,...is *not* a good reason for smart folks with good consciences like us to view it from a distance. If not us, who? If not now, when? It is really a pretty *AMAZING* set up the forefathers arranged for us here. It is complicated and difficult BUT it does provide a way for those who wish it to participate in a meaningful way. Your project is on the leading edge of enhancing and facilitating the participation of citizens in a democracy - you are dealing with the most important variable in some respects- understanding. I would hope that you would *not* send such a group of citizens the message that politics is something slightly tainted - that folks like us *in the know* are above this sort of thing - that *we* don't read about politics any more because we don't find it meaningful. Politics is a "you get what you deserve" system in many ways. It is very tempting to be somewhat cynical and it is certainly healthy to be critical of the nature of political debate in this country. The nature of that debate is what we have the opportunity to change here. You are providing a potential opportunity for us to regain our interest in and understanding of the political process - not so we can stand from afar and throw spitballs - but because we want to have the knowledge tools to roll up our sleeves and PARTICIPATE. You can give us information we trust - because we know you. We can use our collective intelligence here to develop understanding. NOW! is the time to begin seeing ourselves as *part* of the process rather than as dissatisfied observers. To do this, we need to look at the information we develop here as a resource to be used by *us* to get inside this process...change what needs to be changed...enhance what is there of value...throw out the stupid stuff...introduce creative new ideas.... Therefore, I don't want to think of this as sending folks who don't know about politics into an event to pick up the flavor of the event and tell us about some neat stuff. *I'd* like to think of this as sending some VERY ASTUTE observers to one of the most culturally loaded events in our social system to get the information we need to begin thinking collectively about how to start moving toward a more positive vision of *our* political process. To do this, we need to start thinking of political understanding as something to strive for and looking at having it as something to be proud of.

Answer 17 (of 83) MIKE GREENLY, on SAT, JUN 30 1984 at 14:09 (228 characters)

DEAR LISA CARLSON -

1) MORE AND MORE, I THINK THIS EXPERIENCE OF WITNESSING A POLITICAL CONVENTION FROM WITHIN WILL BE TRANSFORMATIONAL FOR ME, PERSONALLY.

2) ALSO, I JUST WANTED YOU TO KNOW:

I LOVE YOU.

MIKE

Answer 18 (of 83) SHERWIN, on SAT, JUN 30 1984 at 15:32 (1602 characters)

God! How I wish *I* had said what Lisa did in ans. 16. Yes, I view this experience as a way to not just get personally involved and to not *just* get more people *directly* participating in

politics, but to also give notice to those who are part of the organized political process that the time has come when individual citizens can participate **directly** in the political process.

A long time ago, like when I was in high school, one of my first reactions to what I was learning about telecommunications and computers was that it would soon be possible for every registered voter to have some sort of voter registration card that they could slide into their telephone, dial a toll-free number, and vote **directly** not just on candidates but also on major legislation. Well, "soon" was obviously not **that** soon (that was 20 years ago). But it's not far now. Not far till that **could** be. And even closer is the time when we can all make our voices heard directly.

That's one reason Steve Teichner will be part of our convention reporting. As a pollster, he understands the value of having more and more people participate directly in polls. Of being able to pass on opinions of an ever-larger portion of the citizenry to those who do vote on legislation. He's fascinated with the potential of something like Parti. I hope you share our enthusiasm with the possibilities and will help guide us to what **you** want to know about and participate in the polling we will be doing here on Parti. We can be as strong a political force as we want to be!

Sherwin

Answer 19 (of 83) SUMMER!, on SAT, JUN 30 1984 at 17:04 (438 characters)

Lisa,

I wonder if some of the diffidence our intrepid reports feel comes from the niggling feeling that this convention will be of little real moment: there is no real doubt about who the nominee will be; what happens in July is just a very expensive rubber stamp. Not only that; nobody seems to believe that **any** Democrat can unseat Reagan in November, which robs the upcoming convention of much of its interest.

Summer

Answer 20 (of 83) DIANE W., on SAT, JUN 30 1984 at 17:52 (1212 characters)

Our "Reporter X", who has attended every political convention since '64, says they're NEVER boring!

What will Jesse Jackson do?

Who will the VP nominee be? A woman? A black? A Jew? A Jewish black woman? Gary Hart?

Aside from the conventional reporting, which will be available to the nation on their TV screens, there's a whole other world of inner workings. What goes on behind the scenes? How does an event like this get organized? How does it change the city in which it takes place? What will happen at this convention that hasn't happened in the past? (I.e., Mike's notes about women in politics

and computers at the Convention.) What will Steve Teichner's polling reveal, and how far will those results be from the reality of the proceedings? Will we be duped? Will we *know* we're being duped? Will our elected officials represent our views?

On and on.

Lisa Carlson: Thank you for a wonderful point of view. I take your words to heart. You've given me an even broader perspective of this whole experience. I don't think any of the three of us will come out the other side of this the same!

We're delighted and honored to have all of you along with us.

Diane

Answer 21 (of 83) LISA CARLSON, on SAT, JUN 30 1984 at 17:55 (2184 characters)

Summer,

You are right - that *is* what many folks feel about the convention. BUT! I don't think it's true. All kinds of stuff goes on that is REAL important besides picking the nominee. Picking the nominee is the stuff that the central media covers - obviously, that is what they think the public needs to know about. But the *ideas* reflected in debate about the platform, in debate about the structure of representation among the delegates, the emergence of the new blood in the party leadership, the opportunity for us to sit at home over breakfast and *talk* about a particular speech which may reflect BASIC ideas about our political system, the reactions of people in S.F. to what is going on, keeping an ear to the ground about emerging idea trends - even though they may not play a big role THIS year.....this is the REAL STUFF and this is what *our* reporters can give us the opportunity to discuss. Many of the "old hat" concepts like the role of women in the party process, the need to deal with problems related to registration of black voters in the South, the need to get decision making out of the smoke filled room, ALL KINDS OF THINGS! were first talked about in association with a political convention and they have had no small impact on our society. NOT ONLY THAT! The *lack* of participation of many of us in this process is a story too....and....and..... (O.K. , I admit it, I'm *not* jaded about this AT ALL!!!!)..... The role of media is fascinating! You know, before the need to have all the junk related to T.V. in the convention hall, deals really *were* made in the aisles. That had to stop and the event became more of a piece of theater... Guess what portable computers and other means of electronic communication could do for a good floor organizer??? Will any of them figure this out this year???? I could go on and on. This is a HOT story! But the limitations of traditional media (*and* the norms and assumptions which have developed there) have made this story less interesting than it should be. NOT THIS YEAR!!!!!! YaaaaHooooo!!!! TENS can bring us the stuff we NEED to know. Yipeeee!!!

Answer 22 (of 83) SDC, on SAT, JUN 30 1984 at 23:04 (1112 characters)

Diane, Mike, Sherwin: Thanks, thanks, thanks for this exciting and innovative

contribution to our political *AND* media culture. Heretofore, all of our understanding of this quintessentially American event (the political convention) has come via the "MASS MEDIA". Your reporting gives us for the first time the opportunity to *participate* in the convention via an INDIVIDUALIZED media experience - we can truly communicate with you - and in fact can affect the reporting (and perhaps - gasp - the event itself!) in a real-time feedback loop. This is the realization of Alvin Toffler's insights.

Lisa Carlson: Please continue to write. Your thoughts are fascinating, stimulating and erudite.

Reporters: Don't miss one of the critical stories of this convention - the outbreak of the most virulent wave of public Antisemitism in 40 years, among the Jackson/Farrakhan adherents. The mass media will exacerbate this poisonous tension because of its sensationalist appeal. You have the opportunity for a more objective insight - if you risk traversing such dangerous ground.

SDC

Answer 23 (of 83) DIANE W., on SAT, JUN 30 1984 at 23:37 (488 characters)

While Jackson wants to keep the 'Black Power' vote, it seems to me that he's being pushed to the wall by Farrakhan's outrageous statements. I know that a Jackson aide refuted the 'gutter religion' statement in a milquetoast manner, but it IS telling that Brother Jesse remains sitting on the fence.

A volatile situation; an interesting one. Wants close watching.

For my money: Look for Farrakhan to come up with something plenty nasty during the actual convention.

Diane

Answer 24 (of 83) SUMMER!, on SUN, JUL 01 1984 at 15:10 (968 characters)

Lisa,

Please understand - I think what our intrepid TENS team is about to do is one of the most exciting things that has happened to the media (and, potentially, to the political process) for a long time. My problem is that I don't see anything that happens at the Demo convention having a lasting impact on the US of A. The nominee-apparant is boring, self-centered and petty; the debate about platform planks, while stimulating, eventuates in compromise and weasel words. Further, the platform is not binding on anybody; should Mondale prevail, he has no obligation to it. Presidents routinely ignore their party's stated aims as they practice the art of the possible; ideals I believe it is less pernicious to have no principles than to have a platform full and never put them into practice.

Nations have the government they deserve, so I guess we should expect no better. But I admire your enthusiasm; may your tribe increase!

Summer

Answer 25 (of 83) JIM ARMSTRONG, on MON, JUL 02 1984 at 00:56 (268 characters)

" The Whole World is Watching..."

" The Whole World is Watching..." Chicago, 1968

" The Whole World is Participating..."

" The Whole World is Participating..." San Francisco, 1984

Just think of the implications of this...

Jim

Answer 26 (of 83) LISA CARLSON, on MON, JUL 02 1984 at 01:20 (58 characters)

right Jim!!! that's it! BOY! is this exciting!!! WOW!

Answer 27 (of 83) HARRY, on MON, JUL 02 1984 at 12:14 (884 characters)

Lisa, I quoted your note 16 by phone just now to Peggy Ziemtara at INFOWORLD, who would appreciate your phoning at 800-343-6474 (if outside Massachusetts, or, otherwise at 617-343-6474), extension 330. Peggy phoned me about an article she's doing about copyrights (etc.), but I got her interested in interactive journalistic coverage of trade shows (I gave her your number, Mike) and the Democratic Convention (when I mentioned your name, Diane, she said she thought someone else in her office may already be doing a story there).

Lisa, if the spirit moves you to use MODIFY PHONE (etc.), then followup with you in such instances as this might be easier.

Sherwin, Mike & Diane, I've been meaning to tell you how much what you're doing is fulfilling a dream I've had ever since I was a candidate for Congress in that other year that Jim Armstrong mentions - 1968.

Answer 28 (of 83) SHERWIN, on MON, JUL 02 1984 at 13:09 (344 characters)

Well, Harry, I hope we'll have your active participation then -- you'll be able to give an insider view that few people have.

Parti and the wonderful people here are fulfilling a dream *I* have had, fulfilling it beyond my wildest dreams. So in case I sometimes forget to say it, thank you ALL for being here, for being you.

Sherwin

Answer 29 (of 83) DIANE W., on MON, JUL 02 1984 at 16:36 (304 characters)

I second Sherwin's thank you, to all of you.

Harry, it's Peggy Watt, from InfoWorld, who's covering us covering you covering them. Look for her article within the next few weeks, and another one afterwards, when Peggy comes by our office to file her impressions directly to all of you.

Diane

Answer 30 (of 83) STEVE DEERING, on TUE, JUL 03 1984 at 18:34 (288 characters)

Well, Mike that poor senator's aide must not realize he is a jerk. This medium is like a baby learning all about itself. But this baby is going to grow up to be king shit, not shithead. Too bad he doesn't see that or he would be helping it grow. He is of the unevloved.

Steve

Answer 31 (of 83) DIANE W., on TUE, JUL 03 1984 at 19:07 (122 characters)

Mike - I *love* that piece about the senator's aide! Love it! (No one here needs any further explanation.)

Diane

Answer 32 (of 83) SENTRY, on TUE, JUL 03 1984 at 21:33 (96 characters)

Mike: Re - the aide.

As my old mother once said,

"Never argue with an idiot."

Jim

Answer 33 (of 83) HARRY, on TUE, JUL 03 1984 at 21:59 (1394 characters)

Sherwin, don't get me wrong. I was hardly an "insider", as the first Independent in 50 years to get elected to the Massachusetts Legislature, where they said I held my caucus in a phone booth. But in 1964 in this state both parties were as wrong as they were corrupt, just like they were again in 1968 as wrong as they were warlike that time at the national level when I ran again as an Independent, that time for Congress.

PSI in a sense was born out of that experience, since in 1970 its first contract attracted national attention when I used computers to support a dialogue between 45,000 households and Father Robert Drinan, who defeated the 28-year congressional veteran Armed Services Committee Chairman who two years earlier had beaten me.

But enough about me, especially since I have to LEAVE "DEMO DISCUSS" now and rejoin you at the start of the Democratic Convention.

You're right on target -- everyone of you wonderful participants, who I know

are making history that none of us can truly say we anticipated - we only vaguely dreamed this would happen. The reality you're creating is gonna be lots better than the dream ever was!

The Party (and I meant that spelled this time with a "y" instead of an "i") has just begun!! (The "y" stands for You -- and I mean every one of YOU fusing your energies together through this ever-so-powerful medium>)

Answer 34 (of 83) MIKE GREENLY, on TUE, JUL 03 1984 at 22:45 (74 characters)

sentry - i could have used your mother in the first 2 minutes! (thanks)

Answer 35 (of 83) STEWART, on TUE, JUL 03 1984 at 23:16 (462 characters)

isn't it interesting that the man said it was a worthless product and in the same breath admitted he knew nothing about it? a clever man indeed! how do you intrepid reporters feel about the veep possibilities? my feelings are that mondale will go with tom bradley. bradley is a savvy politician who nearly captured the governorship of california and he's much more of a mainstream black democrat who can take the limelight away from jesse jackson.

Answer 37 (of 83) STEWART, on TUE, JUL 03 1984 at 23:39 (40 characters)

my personal choice is lisa carlson.

Answer 38 (of 83) ENTERPRISE, on WED, JUL 04 1984 at 00:47 (198 characters)

MIKE GREENLY,

THE PRAGMATIC UNION LEADER, THE SENATOR'S AIDE AND THE NEWSMAN.

I LOVE IT. KEEP IT UP. IN ADDITION TO A TERRIFIC CONFERENCE, YOU'VE GOT A BOOK WHEN THIS IS FINISHED!

Answer 39 (of 83) LISA CARLSON, on WED, JUL 04 1984 at 09:41 (118 characters)

You are RIGHT! enterprise. This would be a *great* book. (You must have been thinking that too TENS, haven't you?)

Answer 40 (of 83) LISA CARLSON, on WED, JUL 04 1984 at 12:00 (1034 characters)

The July issue of Ms. has some very interesting poll data about the "gender gap" and current political attitudes. Might be interesting to replicate some of the questions in the polling here. Same issue also has an article giving an historical perspective on women as voters which is quite revealing. I always love it when Gloria Steinem talks about her grandmother who was the first woman to be elected to the School Board in Ohio after women got the vote because *my* grandmother was the first woman elected to the School Board in Connecticut about the same time. That has always been very meaningful to me and I'm sure has had an effect on my own interest in politics. Gloria's family never talked about her grandmother - she found out from a feminist historian. *My* family treated my grandmother as a heroine. I wonder to what

extent the involvement of people's mothers and grandmothers in politics influences attitudes about a woman vice president? Could be some interesting interviews there. Answer 41 (of 83) DIANE W., on WED, JUL 04 1984 at 15:37 (334 characters)

I'm feeling, more and more, that we'll see a woman on the ticket with Mondale. What And I think the clear front-runner will be Ferraro.

What do you all think about a woman on the ticket? (Lisa - we *know* how you feel!)

About that book - there are books in at least 4 conferences right now that I can think of!

Diane

Answer 42 (of 83) MIKE GREENLY, on WED, JUL 04 1984 at 16:19 (162 characters)

the thing is, i saw a poll in yesterday's ny times that for the average voter *now* -- no woman is any where near awareness or popularity of hart for mondale.

Answer 43 (of 83) LISA CARLSON, on WED, JUL 04 1984 at 16:59 (1266 characters)

You are right Diane, I *would* love to see a woman on the ticket. But I only want to see that if it will inspire voters to action - not as a "throw away" token. I think that NOW's eleventh hour squeeze play is stupid and will do nothing but delay the time when women are taken seriously in the process. There are a number of women who would make excellent vice presidents. The fact that they have very little name recognition could be the subject of a whole other conference. We have had many vice presidents with less name recognition - and many well known ones with little to be said for their qualifications. The good news is that Gerry Ferraro and Dianne Feinstein are getting some recognition now just *because* the pressure is on to consider them for the #2 spot. That's a start. I hope that some of the other organizations which represent women - such as the National Women's Political Caucus - will continue their strategy of encouraging women to run for political office at the local and state levels (as well as nationally) so that we can have more in the pipeline. In the meantime, *this* convention is serving to highlight some good role models for young women who may be one of the women Presidents we have in our future.

Answer 44 (of 83) SDC, on WED, JUL 04 1984 at 17:55 (938 characters)

It seems to me that Mondale has absolutely no chance whatever to be elected in November short of a cataclysmic event. Therefore, the opportunity to cause cataclysmic change by running with a woman V.P. candidate is one which he logically ought not to pass by. Politics, however, does not seem to be distinguished by the logical method. Cronyism, old loyalties, and conventional wisdom seem rather to prevail. This (male) voter, long active in reform Democratic activity and a not insubstantial financial contributor to Mondale, is about as excited with his candidacy as I was with Carter the last time (around 6 on a scale of 1-to-100). With a Ferraro or Feinstein on the ticket, however, I'd bust my butt (as I believe many thousands of others would) to accomplish that miracle, and we'd have a ****REAL**** chance to win.

Ah, well one can dream.

Mike G.- Your note on Lisa Carlson is a gem, and so is she. Answer 45 (of 83) MSB, on WED, JUL 04 1984 at 19:45 (968 characters)

A woman on the ticket will be *cute*. No real power, no real responsibility, just supposed to be pretty and smile! I thought you folks were non-sexist.

Unfortunately, the choice of the running mate <sorry> for ole' Fritz is only exciting due to the phoney build up it has been given by the press. How about questions concerning the lack of any real hard points in the party plank? Not as exciting, but the idea is to announce who, and WHAT the party is all about.

The polls show <ok, the ones I have seen> that it just doesn't matter who the VP is. Fritz is a symbol of all the old democratic party ideas turned to unchanging stone. He has won the primary game <after a fight> mainly due to his being one of the principle designers of the system. I fear that RR will not cooperate with his machine.

His <and the parties> goals, and plans should be the issue not the musical chairs designed to placate his special interest connections.

Answer 46 (of 83) T/O, on WED, JUL 04 1984 at 19:56 (168 characters)

Mondales real problem with a woman on the ticket is that any who have been mentioned would out shine him so bad that he would look even duller than he does today.

Answer 47 (of 83) SUMMER!, on WED, JUL 04 1984 at 21:31 (1762 characters)

Doesn't it bother any in all this casting around for a female VP candidate that what is wanted is not an intelligent human being, not a savvy politician, not a person with practical plans for the accomplishment of important ideas, but simply a *female*? This is tokenism of the worst possible sort, hearkening back to the days of the front office Negro, of the "black 2 Jews and a cripple." That anyone should be considered for such high office on any basis other than proven merit and ability says more about our political system than any campaign speech. And that no one objects - that we have come to expect choices to be made in this way - is one of the most frightening things about modern America. What this is, people, is prejudice; only that. There is no essential difference between saying that Ms. Ferraro should be vice-president because she's a woman and saying that she should *not* be vice-president because she's a woman. Republicans, at least, have the honesty to admit their prejudices - they just don't like blacks, or the poor, and that's that. Not proud of it, particularly, but that's the way it is. How sleazy and self-righteous the Democrats seem in contrast, trying to make virtues of their vices.

Mike - after your paean to Lisa Carlson I'm afraid to disagree with anything she'd be afraid to disagree with she says, if I were bright enough to be afraid. I fear it is folks just like her who are the most cruelly used by our current system. For, despite her intelligence, drive and enthusiasm, she is going to have to choose between enjoying small and essentially meaningless

"victories" and being ferociously disappointed when she discovers at last that she cannot change the system.

Summer

Answer 48 (of 83) MIKE GREENLY, on WED, JUL 04 1984 at 22:09 (2080 characters)

Summer! Thank you. What a * juicy * entry.

I think I'd like to comment on the prejudice/Ferraro issue.

I do admit I've been turned off -- forever -- at the marketing consideration of "well, the president is a massachusetts catholic so let's have a texas baptist" type thinking. the best marketing -- truly -- goes for worth inside the product, not just the packaging. And for the Presidency and Vice-Presidency worth *should* be the s-o-l -e consideration.

to be sure, there is for me some "woman for woman's sake" operating -- i'm speaking totally personally, ok? as though passing the barrier can move us all closer to the time when women and men can *all* be evaluated for any task or opportunity on the basis of merits that are far beyond gender, race, age, religion, sexual orientation, etc, etc when those traits are not relevant to the job or need at hand. In fact, if a really *good* woman is chosen for the barrier-break, I think it can do that.

but let me clear with you that gender -- even reverse prejudice acknowledged -- is less important to me than the person.

In fact, what excites me most about ferraro the *person* -- irrespective of the fact that she's a "she" -- is that i've experienced her up close, and i'm impressed with how she seemed to me. superficial contact though it was. I was impressed with

her.
the person.

I felt she wasn't bullshitting. i trusted her (and i think i've got good instincts). she's smart. she's strong. she seems to genuinely care about being being excellent -- doing the right thing. so even though i don't know her political stands (and i'm beginning to be interested in knowing, you'll be relieved to here) -- It's the person I, so far, think she is that interests me.

Why, I'd even be excited about her if she were a man!

Summer -- happy Fourth. It takes courage to pipe up in the face of a "paen". Less, perhaps, when one uses an anonymous handle, as you do. But I nonetheless appreciated your injecting some challenge in here.

Mike

Answer 49 (of 83) SUMMER!, on WED, JUL 04 1984 at 23:17 (354 characters)

Mike,

OK, that's, lessee, you, and me, who are agin tokenism. What about the politicians we're all so busy worshipping? How come it doesn't bother them? PTBLY BECAUSE Probably because they accurately reflect their constituency - that "great beast," the public - which finds prejudice, however expressed, as American as apple pie.

Summer

Answer 50 (of 83) T/O, on WED, JUL 04 1984 at 23:19 (1440 characters)

Summer,

I agree with the major points of what you said but at the risk of starting a fight here that might be off the subject feel that I must rise in my parties defense.

Your statement that Republicans don't like blacks and the poor is wrong. Republicans are more honest about not liking someone for his ideas because more of them are registered the way that they are based on their convictions rather than as a matter of convenience as are many Democrats. It is fair to say that I do not like the ideas of many of the black leaders, but does that mean that I hate blacks? If Jesse Jackson advocates quotas, busing, affirmative action, and I think that these practices are destructive, not only to the country as a whole but especially to those that are supposedly helped and I express such an opinion then I am branded as one who hates blacks. (As are Thomas Sowell and Walter Williams and many blacks in my state and party). If Ms. Ferraro advocates comparitive worth, which I think is an idea that could eventually destroy our entire economic system and cost us our prosperity and freedom why am I identified as one who hates women? Why is it that if we, as Republicans, do not agree with every collectivist and anti-freedom idea that a minority member expresses that it is given that we must hate that minority? I'll tell you why---Demagoguery by those who aspire to obtain power over us.

T/O

Answer 51 (of 83) SUMMER!, on WED, JUL 04 1984 at 23:30 (420 characters)

T/O,

I really wasn't attacking the GOP; I was trying to suggest that they are more forthright, if that concept has any meaning to politicians, than the Democrats. I have considerable trouble telling one party from the other when I see them in action, however much their rhetoric may differ, and I've always believed that actions speak louder than words.

Basically, a plague on both their houses.

Summer

Answer 52 (of 83) TJ, on THU, JUL 05 1984 at 00:16 (1884 characters)

T/O-- yes, that is about it! <re: 46>

Summer<?> or whoever said the Republicans 'don't like blacks'-- I presume that the Democrats are rabidly pro labor? Mondale will be a pawn of organized union bosses <and the mafia>? If this type of political mythology is continued, why bother with a candidate?

I would be willing to wage a good chunk of \$ that the opinions of most persons are based on more personal matters than on simple religion, marital status, race, etc. If the economy continues good, people will vote with the person/party who seems to have created/maintained the good times.

The remark <well it bugs ME!> reminds me of a confrontation I had with a 'typical' citizen while working in a campaign here.

TC- "If you are the republicans get out, I always vote democratic!" MSB- "Oh, Would you mind explaining WHY?" TC- "because they are for the working man!" MSB-"Then you feel that SEN ***** s' activities have been good for you?" TC= "I don't know what he has done, but I will vote for him" MSB- "I see, are you aware that he sponsored bill X to raise taxes here?" TC- "NO but he is a democrat and I will vote for him!!" <retire from scene>

The myths replace inteligent thought, and we all lose. The platform is <to the best of my knowledge> a call to approve of all the myths in general, but nothing in specific. The race then becomes a beauty contest!

The framers of the constitution were well aware of the danger of government by ignorence, or by uninformed masses, the danger is greater today than ever.

The place to start a REAL revolution is by confronting the political types with hard, probing questions that make them THINK, and ANSWER. Until the people start asking, and requireing answers they can weasel word and avoid any responsability. This medium is the place, NOW is thetime to begin.

Answer 53 (of 83) MSB, on THU, JUL 05 1984 at 00:45 (914 characters)

T/O AMEN SUMMER- I grant you, the existing parties are imperfect, but they are the only game in town!

Our system is set up to cater to these beasties, and those who withdraw from the game PLAY NO PART, but reap the benifits <?> of those who do. I was told by several of the local political types <both parties, I am screwed up!> that I would be a good congress type, BUT I SHOULD STAY OUT SINCE IT IS NOT A PLACE FOR DECENT FOLKS. REsult, the smart folks stay OUT, and the maybe not so smart <NOT IQ but savey and management skills> do not participate. We then have the interesting spectical of lawyers writting laws that only they can hope to understand, that tell professionals how to do things in thier trade. Who wins??

.....: I goofed, messge #52 is from me, I was under the wrong darn name!

How do you guys with 15 names keep yourselves straight?

Answer 54 (of 83) DIANE W., on THU, JUL 05 1984 at 03:51 (808 characters)

I'm a woman, and I would NOT vote for a Democratic ticket with a woman on it just because it had a woman on it.

The woman would have to be the right person for the job.

I think the two hot front-runners are accomplished, intelligent, calm and clear. Both of them.

I think the party is making the right moves in considering women and blacks for the number two slot, and if an accomplished choice is made from among these two political minorities, I, like SDC, would bust my butt to see that ticket elected.

And I agree that a woman on the ticket - the right woman - might possibly turn the tide.

It would be a good move - the only move - in my eyes. Mondale/Hart would never carry it - it's obvious to all. But Mondale/a woman? Might surprise us all.

Diane, wishfully thinking.

Answer 55 (of 83) MIKE GREENLY, on THU, JUL 05 1984 at 04:26 (282 characters)

T/o: would you please enter a short, simple description of "comparative worth" as you understand Geraldine Ferraro to espouse it? + one more, please! If I had the opportunity to interview her, what *one* question would you wish me to ask her on your behalf? thanks. mike

Answer 56 (of 83) LISA CARLSON, on THU, JUL 05 1984 at 18:16 (2766 characters)

O.K. I can't resist making one more comment before going back to talking about the Democratic Convention.

We tend to get mesmerized by the individuals who head the ticket. That's because the media puts them in the center ring (experiments like TENS could change that right?). But we know that the 2 people who head the ticket don't run the country by themselves. We know that the important decisions being made are around the assumptions and beliefs which drive policy at levels far below the Oval Office.

Differences in political philosophy between the parties show up in policy concerning whether effectiveness of drugs should be based on research provided by the industry or by an independent government lab. Is that something you care about?

An appointee will be running the school nutrition program.

Would you rather risk feeding a child who may not need it (and, therefore, risk wasting government funds) or risk not feeding a child who does (and risk having a hungry child who cannot learn and becomes a burden on society as an adult). This is a *political* decision.

How should the social security program be handled? How will it affect the range of choices you can make as a family when your parents become old or sick or both?

We're not talking about Motherhood V. Apple Pie here! These are decisions which will make a difference to your life, the lives of people around you, the nature of life in your community. And your choice of President - even if you think that those heading the ticket are Tweedledum and Tweedledee - makes a BIG difference in thousands of policy areas which matter. So will your choice about whether or not to be an active, informed, participant in governing our community. Other *individuals* are involved in making these decisions - there is nothing arbitrary about them.

I think that one of the reasons people decide to eschew involvement is a debilitating pessimism which has become part of the shared understanding in our culture - a feeling that everything is going to hell in a hand basket and nothing you or I or anyone else does can make any difference. We police that shared understanding in all the usual ways. We only give new ideas *one* shot at implementation and, if they don't work out well, we say "I told you it wasn't any use." We ridicule those who try to change things and call them hopeless dreamers (*I* am very familiar with that one <grin>..) When problems are very complicated and difficult to solve, we bail out and look for ways to save ourselves from their inevitable impact. So who is really keeping us prisoner in a system which is less than we can imagine? And who has the power to set us free?

Answer 57 (of 83) LISA CARLSON, on THU, JUL 05 1984 at 18:17 (700 characters)

Now, back the the REAL task at hand:

Some of the non-mainstream activities around the convention may be indicators of new idea trends. How about Barbara Marx Hubbard's campaign for Vice President (she is running independently on a platform of making that office the "futurist" center for the Executive Branch to deal with the long range stuff while the President fights fires)? Lot of folks in the Iowa caucus were supporting that idea. Will anything be going on in S.F.?

What do the foreign journalists think about all this? Their perspective might be interesting. I'd like to ask some of them what they think *their* readers want to know about our

process.

Answer 58 (of 83) DIANE W., on THU, JUL 05 1984 at 19:56 (266 characters)

Lisa,

I'm printing out all your suggestions, and would love to follow up on each one! I don't know what the time constraints will be for the three of us yet.

Your ideas are *great*.

Don't you all wish we had Lisa Carlson at the Convention?

Diane

Answer 59 (of 83) MSB, on THU, JUL 05 1984 at 21:54 (1658 characters)

LISA- That is exactly the point! The philosophy of the PARTY that gains political control of the appointed members of the government.

The trend over the last administrations has been very clear they have about 6 months to try the ideas they represent then sludge hits and they get nowhere. < I reccomend a read of the new work by the Freidmans "TYRANNY of the STATUS QUO"> It is very scary when you consider the general lack of just this sort of hard planning abeing visible in the platform, or in the speeches.

Over the last 40 years the elected officials have been farming out the powers WE elect them to exercise. The career minded members of the invincable civil service have been told "you make regulations, and we will enforce them as law.

I also would like to hear if the real political activity of Barbra Hubbard is still alive, or if it has been allowed to die to make room for the show of VP candidates.

Another question, what is the attitude of Mondales labour supporters toward a female VP, Black VP, etc VP? My money is going to be on the one they will openly support. WHY? Labor unions are very fat cats, feminists

and can provide mega \$\$ in support for the ticket. Feminist groups <sorry> are not as big, <strike 1> do not have the national infrastucture to propagandize with, <strike 2> and who else will they support? The activist feminists have tended towards the democratic coalition <generalization, but basic true> and they are unlikely to vote the opposite way. So it comes down to who can do the most serious damage by NOT playing along with the ticket <possibly strike 3>

Answer 60 (of 83) T/O, on THU, JUL 05 1984 at 22:09 (1696 characters)

Mike: You seem to know me. Why is it that when anyone ask me for a response they preface it with, "keep it short and simple"? I'm getting a complex.

The comparative worth case in Washington deals with a suit that has been filed against the state on behalf of the women state employees. The suit ask for compensation based on their subjective argument that various jobs should be equally compensated as determined by a board or panal of buerocrats and that the market place should not be allowed to be a factor. NOW has expressed the desire to apply this method not only to government employment but to our entire economy. I have read that Ms. Ferraro supports "comparable worth" as a method of obtaining "equality" for women.

Please ask Ms. Ferraro if she believes that captalism has a place in our society. Ask her why she is one of the most consistant supporters in the House of increased taxes of any kind and if she thinks that there is any limit on the amount of income that the government is entitled to. Ask her if she visualizes the GNP as belonging to the government and that it is the duty of the congress to dole it out in an equitable manner.

Mike: Wish you hadn't ask don't you? I can't really think of any questions to ask her that do not deal with what I consider to be the mistaken philospfy of the liberal big spending Democrats. I know that she is a dynamic, likable, intelligent person and I might very well like her if I met her. (I did Hubert Humphrey and never agreed with him either) But while personality and ability are valid arguments for support of a candidate, they cannot out weigh opposing philosophies.

T/O

Answer 61 (of 83) MIKE GREENLY, on THU, JUL 05 1984 at 22:23 (1402 characters)

T/O: "wish I hadn't asked?" you for your question of Geraldine Ferarro? Why, you seem to know me!!

Actually my secret wish is --

- * she visits our office
- * a huge claque of eager but controllable press folks come with her
- * they take loads of photos of diane and sherwin by the Apple IIC's while I interview Ms. Ferraro --- including showing her a printout of your question
- * after the interview, we encourage her to talk directly to Parti readers over the apple iic's
- * more photos are taken
- * she stays longer than she expected, is fascinated by telecommunications, asks me to please let her know when i'm in washington next time
- * we take some more photos by the apple iic's, we all say

good bye and good luck
* i write up an interview that
everyone seems to love
and i even provide an interesting
answer from her to your
question. but -- first things first, eh?!

p.s. in the fantasy, she also goes over to di's house for dinner, and asks
sherwin to schedule some special tutelage on the use of computers. *and* i
end up richer because i learn something about her politics in particular,
politics in general, and how this country of ours really works and can work.

Thanks for your answer! mike

Answer 62 (of 83) T/O, on THU, JUL 05 1984 at 23:08 (442 characters)

Sounds great Mike, I hope you can pull something like that off. If you don't
get her grab me another tax, tax, spend, spend type. There'll be lots of them
around.

The "You seem to know me" was because I've become notorious for my long drawn
out answers to questions. And you ask for a short answer which is a real
challenge for me.

It sounds like this is going to really be fun. Keep it up guys.

T/O

Answer 63 (of 83) SHERWIN, on FRI, JUL 06 1984 at 03:46 (958 characters)

Amen, TJ! This medium **IS** the place. The **ONLY** medium where we can talk
right back at the news reporters and (despite certain aides), eventually, at
the news **makers**, too. Sure we can change things. When it becomes easy,
truly easy, to get your views to your representatives then you'll do it.
Won't you??? And if you don't, what the h*** right do you have to b**** about
the outcome? Lisa's right on the money there. Big change is the accumulation
of lots of smaller changes, changes that affect your life evry day. Don't you
think your reps hear you? Just keep reminding them that you won't forget,
haven't forgotten what they promised, how they voted, even when the next
election is a couple years off. They'll get used to the idea. They'll **have
to**. They'll know that the folks who are active enough to make their views
known are the ones who are the real influencers, who go out and campaign, who
make sure they vote.

Answer 64 (of 83) LISA CARLSON, on SAT, JUL 07 1984 at 12:57 (330 characters)

Thanks to Mike giving me the decoder ring - I have found the conference
"Electronic Journalis" (character limits forced leaving off the "t" or "m"
depending on your point of view). Very interesting discussion there about the
implications of what TENS and others are doing. I recommend it to those
following this project.

Answer 65 (of 83) CHRIS B, on TUE, JUL 10 1984 at 21:00 (482 characters)

Sherwin, Diane, and Mike,

I just want to say that those were very well written instructions in answer 1 of DEMO 84. As a customer support rep I can appreciate that. New customers, brought in specifically by the Convention coverage, will be able to use PARTI with a lot more ease thanks to that first note.

Things really look like they are heating up fast. I, for one, am getting VERY excited. Looking forward to what I know will be a major event.

Thank you.

Chris

Answer 66 (of 83) DIANE W., on TUE, JUL 10 1984 at 21:08 (204 characters)

Why, thank *you*, Chris!

We have Sherwin's fine hand to thank for the instructions, as well as the entire job of putting the conference up.

(And you're right - things ARE heating up!!)

Diane

Answer 67 (of 83) LISA CARLSON, on TUE, JUL 10 1984 at 21:13 (258 characters)

I agree with Chris! And not only are the directions good - the *structure* is so well thought out. Brings this kind of conference to a whole new level of complexity ... WOWW! It is mind boggling to think of all the things it's possible to do here!

Answer 68 (of 83) SHERWIN, on WED, JUL 11 1984 at 03:38 (308 characters)

I'd like to take the bows for the instructions and structure, but they're a joint effort. Of a kind that wouldn't be even remotely possible without this wonderful medium.

Lisa, you thinks this is complex? You should see the 1000 or so notes we've written in planning this whole thing!

Sherwin

Answer 69 (of 83) STC-EDIT, on WED, JUL 11 1984 at 15:06 (166 characters)

YIPPIE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! ???? ???

Please! Is that any way for well mannered political reporters to act!? A bit of decorum, if you will (cue the balloons...)

Answer 70 (of 83) SHERWIN, on THU, JUL 12 1984 at 01:30 (242 characters)

Who said anything about "well mannered political reporters???"

Chris, do you think that Customer Support is equipped to handle an influx of questions about Parti if we get a bunch of new Partiers in because of this coverage?

Sherwin

Answer 71 (of 83) CHRIS B, on THU, JUL 12 1984 at 01:47 (866 characters)

Sherwin,

If not, then they are getting there. I know that I am. I just put out a memo giving the reps some pointers and telling them the easiest possible commands to give the customers to get them into the system and PARTI. I am a firm believer in PRACTICE, both in the conference and the literal sense. The first answer to "DEMO 84" that you "guys" (I hope Diane knows that I'm including her when I say this) put up will help tremendously. I wish I could put it so eloquently. There are two reps in Marketing that are fairly well versed in PARTI. They will help quite a bit. I am also making myself as available as possible for any questions customers might have concerning the coverage or any other aspect of PARTI.

I see the three of you are all working late tonight (STF005 STF005 STF005). Well, *I'm* going home! See you tomorrow.

Chris

Answer 72 (of 83) SHERWIN, on THU, JUL 12 1984 at 02:15 (152 characters)

We get some of our best work done late at night, Chris -- when the time zones overlap a bit. Thanks for the great support on the STC end!

Sherwin

Answer 73 (of 83) CYNICAL, on THU, JUL 12 1984 at 03:06 (60 characters)

(drum roll..) Geraldine Ferraro! What gives, Reporter X?

Answer 74 (of 83) CHRIS B, on THU, JUL 12 1984 at 17:08 (366 characters)

Humorous note:

I was watching the CNN overnight news when I got home last night. There was (of course) reports on the happenings in SF. A reporter asked a spokesperson for the SF police department what they would do if demonstrators at a "PRO-POT" rally "lit up". The spokesperson replied that he would "stand downwind and inhale deeply."

Chris

Answer 75 (of 83) T/O, on THU, JUL 12 1984 at 20:42 (344 characters)

I can tell you that what Mr. Lance said about dual primaries helping the Democrat party is correct. Republican leaders are grinning from ear to ear at Jackson's attack on the unfair system. Of course Jackson is absolutely

correct and I hope he wins the battle.

The above refers to a report in Teichner Surveys.

T/O

Answer 76 (of 83) SHERWIN, on THU, JUL 12 1984 at 22:04 (354 characters)

IF you guys don't mind, let's move this show over to "DEMO PUBLIC", "TELL US 3", or "TELL TEICHNER" -- wherever you think is most appropriate for your particular message. That's where the newcomers are being told the action is, and I'd hate to disappoint them. Seriously, it'll be better to keep the discussions together.

Thanks.

Sherwin

Answer 77 (of 83) STEVE DEERING, on THU, JUL 12 1984 at 23:23 (70 characters)

Sherwin, why not just kill this confernce if it has run it's course.

Answer 78 (of 83) SHERWIN, on FRI, JUL 13 1984 at 04:40 (146 characters)

Because I'd like to save it for reference and historic value. I just want to kick out you old-timers so you'll go mingle with the newcomers.

Answer 80 (of 83) TENS, on SAT, JUL 14 1984 at 01:19 (354 characters)

Readers,

We didn't want to delete this conference, but in order to move the discussion to the conference where the news is current,I've modified the access to 'read only'.

To continue interactive participation in the main "Demo 84" conference, at Action prompt, type: J "Demo Discuss", and enter your comments there.

Thank you!

Diane

Answer 81 (of 83) TENS, on SAT, JUL 14 1984 at 06:04 (508 characters)

----> CORRECTION! I'm sure Diane meant join "Demo Public" for discussion, in her previous note 80.

"Demo Discuss" is now read-only.

"Demo Public" is now *active* -- your comments are invited there.

"Tell Us 3" is also active, where you can comment specifically on things that Diane, Sherwin, and Mike write.

"Demo Public" is likely to have commentary from delegates at the convention and journalists and others on-scene.

[from Mike, in NYC, a few hours before boarding the plane]
Answer 82 (of 83) SHERWIN, on SAT, JUL 14 1984 at 16:39 (120 characters)

And please don't forget "TELL TEICHNER" where you can discuss the polls and commentary by Steve Teichner.

Sherwin

Joiners of "DEMO DISCUSS" conference:

STC-EDIT; FR HAL; WEEHAWK; STEVE DEERING; SDC; PSI DAVE; SHERWIN; PATO; DR. MEMORY; RON TINDIGLIA; SML; T/O; MIKE GREENLY; RITA G; DONNA DICKINSON; DIANE W.; LISA CARLSON; SHADOW; JESSE; K SQUARED; CYNIC AL; WHMJR; CHRIS B; JIM T; TENS; COLLIE; DV0; REPORTER X; STEVE TEICHNER; DE MONSTER; RLH; TI6819;

"DEMO 84" Conference 84.18208 TENS, organizer, about "LIVE *INTERACTIVE* COVERAGE OF THE 1984 DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION" (answers: 25) TUE, 07/10 13:40 (1208 characters)

-->> You are invited to be part of a special event -- the *first* interactive, electronic journalism from a major, national political event. That's first as in "Ever!"

From the Democratic Convention, "live" in San Francisco.

This new use of telecommunications is itself being covered as news, in both the computer and popular media. *You* can do more than read about it, however. You can be part of the news yourself!

////
-o-o
> WOW!
\!

Brought to you by TRANSCOASTAL Electronic News Service, founded by Diane Worthington, Sherwin Levinson, and Mike Greenly.

This overall conference, "Demo 84" , is divided into some exciting sub-conferences.

Answer 2 gives the Conference Structure -- a "menu" that tells you which Conferences cover which topics. It lets you know which are "Read Only" and which are "Interactive" (*you* can talk back!)

NOTE: Unless you specifically JOIN a particular conference, you will not receive its contents automatically in your Parti mailbox.

The place to start?

Right now, say JOIN at the prompt you receive. Then say Read 1 if you're new to Parti, or Read 2 if you're already comfortable here.

Join us!

TENS

Answer 1 (of 25) TENS, on TUE, JUL 10 1984 at 13:44 (3668 characters)

For New Parti Users

The most important thing to know: Parti gets very comfortable with
-> PRACTICE <-

Here are a few tips to help you as you gain experience:

At any "DISPOSITION" Prompt, you can say:

Next

(to move on to the next piece of mail.)

Scan

(to see, again, the first few lines of it.)

Read

(to read the entire note.)

Write

(to send a note to the conference or author you've just read.)

Join

(to be sure you receive all future notes in a conference)

Stop

(to put all your waiting mail out of sight and go to the ACTION Prompt instead.)

When you've said: Write you enter your "scratchpad".

Write whatever reply or comment you like. (People are more likely to *read* the brief ones.)

When you've composed what you like, go over to the left hand margin.

<---- there!

That's where you give the command of what to do next. Always put a period in front of your command.

Choices include:

.Answer this
is **the** most common type of reply to a conference.
RECOMMENDED.

.Clear to
erase your scratchpad and start over.

? to
get help and to learn about other choices.

When you send an .Answer to a Conference, everyone else signed up for that Conference can read it. That's the power of this communications system.

The previous comments were for when you're at the "DISPOSITION" prompt -- telling you you're "attached" to a note or letter of some kind. (You'll get a "DISPOSITION" prompt at the end of this one.)

Whenever you are at the ACTION prompt, however, you can Write to **any** specific person or Conference you have access to. Since you're not then "attached" to a particular conference, you'll need to specify **where** your mail is to go.

In your scratchpad, after you've composed a message, go to the left margin and use this format:

.Answer "Demo Discuss"

(always put the name of the Conference you're answering in quotes).

If you're sending a message to a particular individual, use this format:

.Message Helper

.Message Diane W.

(etc.)

You can send a .Message to Helper whenever you get stuck, or want help in upgrading your knowledge of this remarkable system. Volunteer Parti Helpers check the mail daily.

Read the "Practice" Conference, as a way of becoming more familiar with Parti.

Now: At the prompt you receive, say

READ to
read this note again.

JOIN to

be sure you become a member of this main "DEMO 84" Conference.

READ 2 to
go on and read the 2nd note which is a menu of a-l-l the
Conference choices you have in our total news event.

(You will need to JOIN any branch topic that interests you
if you want to be sure to receive every Answer there)

READ 2-99 to
read a-l-l the notes in this main conference and be given the
chance automatically to join each branch topic

We are excited to have you here, making telecommunications history with us.

Answer 2 will let you decide how and where you want to plug right in!

TRANSCOASTAL
Electronic News Service

Diane W., Sherwin, Mike Greenly
Answer 2 (of 25) TENS, on TUE, JUL 10 1984 at 13:45 (1778 characters)

This is your index to our interactive coverage of the 1984 Democratic National
Convention. This main "DEMO 84" conference is where all the related
discussions begin. It will also contain notices of general interest. Each of
the branch topics contains reports or discussions of a particular nature.

The contents of "DEMO 84" are:

- 1 Instructions for
Parti newcomers.
- 2 This index.
- 3 "DIANE TALKS" Read reports by
Diane Worthington
(DEEDUB).
- 4 "SHERWIN TALKS" Read reports by
Sherwin Levinson
(SML).
- 5 "MIKE TALKS" Read reports by
Mike Greenly.
- 6 "TELL US 3" *INTERACTIVE*
discussions with
the 3 reporters.
- 7 "REPORTER X" Read reports by
top-notch profes-
sional journalists.

8 "TEICHNER SURVEYS" Read analysis and commentary by noted pollster Steve Teichner. Participate in his surveys here.

9 "TELL TEICHNER" *INTERACTIVE* discussions with Steve Teichner.

10 "DEMO PUBLIC" *INTERACTIVE* discussions with all the participants here.

To look at a more detailed description of each of these discussions, say READ 3-99 at the DISPOSITION prompt you will get when this message is done.

To look at them one at a time, ask for it by number at the DISPOSITION prompt here (for example, READ 10 will get you directly to "DEMO PUBLIC"), or ask for it by name when you're at the ACTION prompt -- for example, say READ "DEMO PUBLIC" when you're at the ACTION prompt to be able to read and participate in the public discussions. Don't forget that when asking for a topic by name, you need to enclose the name in quotes, just like in the above example.

We hope you enjoy participating with us!

T R A N S C O A S T A L
Electronic News Service

* * * *Branching off of "DEMO 84" 84.18208 as Answer 3 (of 25)

"DIANE TALKS" Conference 84.18209 TENS, organizer, about "PERSONAL COMMENTARY AND OBSERVATIONS" (answers: 27) TUE, 07/10 13:47 (1862 characters)

While not a political pundit, I *am* interested in the impact the Democratic Convention will have on my city.

I'll be following and reporting on the human interest stories here in San Francisco - the demonstrations, campaigns and platforms vying for a voice with the Democratic Party and the presidential candidate while in attendance in Moscone Center.

Carl Sagan will be here, lobbying for education about a Nuclear Winter. Senators Kennedy and Cranston will be co-hosting a reception for the National Nuclear Weapons Freeze Campaign. I'd like to cover these events and get an interview or two.

A massive demonstration is planned by 100,000 gay and lesbians. Coinciding

with this is a Moral Majority Family Forum, with Falwell and Schlafly. Each event will have its attendant grass-roots demonstrators. I hope to be there, reporting to you from the scenes of these events.

There's a national Hooker's Convention and Annual Hooker's Ball. A 'working' vacation, some say. 20,000 hippie hold-outs will camp in Candlestick Park, and hold an "un-convention". There will be an All Species Rally, for the preservation of all living things, with demonstrators dressed as plants, birds and animals. This correspondent will try to cover these kinds of events too.

I would like an interview with Mayor Dianne Feinstein, vice presidential hopeful. Police Chief Con Murphy's using Apple to help in traffic and crowd control. Perhaps I can speak with him about the SFPD's swing into the computer age, and that old bugaboo, security.

If this is what you want in a conference, look no further. We'll have some fun together, tracking the warm, humorous, interesting and poignant stories I come across during the Convention here in Bhagdad-by-the-Bay.

Join me, won't you, at the Disposition prompt below?

Diane Worthington

* * * *Branching off of "DEMO 84" 84.18208 as Answer 4 (of 25)

"SHERWIN TALKS" Conference 84.18210 TENS, organizer, about "PERSONAL COMMENTARY AND OBSERVATIONS" (answers: 28) TUE, 07/10 13:50 (1300 characters)

This has been one of the most exciting, hectic, and exhausting times of my life -- I love it! And the real excitement hasn't even begun yet.

Unlike Mike and Diane, I'm a confirmed "techie" who made a 13-year sojourn in the world of business, totally removed from computers and such. I'm back, here in the thick of telecommunications at the most exciting time ever.

There's a list of things to try and cover that's as long as your arm. And leg. And then some. We'll go after the things that most interest you -- and each of us. I'll try to get some views of what goes on behind the scenes where other media cover an event like this. There are massive technical problems in moving entire news operations from their fixed studios to temporary quarters for the week.

I'll keep an eye out for reactions of others to what we're doing here, for the ways our technology is being used at the convention, for interesting and novel applications of the latest "gadgets" in managing this gigantic gathering.

And, of course, I'll go after what *you* say you want to know about. That's what this whole thing is really about -- trying to get you the reports that you want

I hope some of the excitement I feel rubs off on you, too, and you join me in San Francisco.

Sherwin

* * * *Branching off of "DEMO 84" 84.18208 as Answer 5 (of 25)

"MIKE TALKS" Conference 84.18211 TENS, organizer, about "PERSONAL COMMENTARY AND OBSERVATIONS" (answers: 47) TUE, 07/10 13:52 (1202 characters)

Here's the "Mike Talks" Platform:

- For the first time in my life, I will witness a National political convention up close. I will share it with you as I personally see and experience it.

- I am *not* trying to be the New York Times, or the AP Newswire. Nor will I be George Will, Bill Buckley, or others who've participated in politics for decades.

Who I *am* is Mike Greenly, real citizen and avid reporter. I wrote about some of my ingoing interests in the "Demo Prep" Conference:

Answer 4: Letting you know where
I stand

Answer 5: Women in Politics

Answer 6: Jackson

Answer 7: Media

Answer 17: Computers at the
Convention
(Answer 20 in "Demo Prep": NBC's use of
M100 portables)

Answer 18: Diversity of "Values"
in a Fragmented Society

Answer 19: Being American

From here on in: spontaneous interests as they happen!

Would I love you to join me? (Tell me -- Does it show?!!)

If you want to know who I am at the other end of the experience, come along!
Say: JOIN at the prompt you now receive.

Mike

* * * *Branching off of "DEMO 84" 84.18208 as Answer 6 (of 25)

"TELL US 3" Conference 84.18212 TENS, organizer, about "*INTERACTIVE* DISCUSSIONS WITH DIANE, MIKE, AND SHERWIN" (answers: 94) TUE, 07/10 13:56 (854 characters)

You are invited here to "TELL US 3" -- a chance to interact directly with the three reporters bringing you this event. Here is where you can tell Mike Greenly, Sherwin Levinson, and Diane Worthington the kinds of things *you* want them to cover; comment on their reporting; and discuss these reports with the reporters and your fellow participants.

Be part of the action! Say JOIN at the DISPOSITION prompt below. Then say READ 1-99 to read what's happened so far and say WRITE at any DISPOSITION prompt to enter your questions and comments.

Because this is a first-time event -- interactive reporting of a major political happening -- it has attracted special media attention. You should realize that your comments here may be quoted by others. If you do not wish to be quoted, please say so here or send a message to TENS.

* * * *Branching off of "DEMO 84" 84.18208 as Answer 7 (of 25)

"REPORTER X" Conference 84.18213 TENS, organizer, about "REPORTS FROM ON-SITE PROFESSIONAL JOURNALISTS WHO MUST REMAIN ANONYMOUS" (answers: 3) TUE, 07/10 13:58 (582 characters)

Welcome to this special conference, entitled "Reporter X".

Most national correspondents are under strict contract with their primary media, and are prohibited from working for others. To circumvent this problem, the correspondent(s) writing here will do so anonymously.

Our main correspondent has attended every political convention since 1964, and promises an insider's view of events on the floor and behind the scenes at the 1984 Democratic National Convention.

This is a 'read only' conference. Please enter comments on what you read here in "Demo Discuss".

* * * *Branching off of "DEMO 84" 84.18208 as Answer 8 (of 25)

"TEICHNER SURVEYS" Conference 84.18214 TENS, organizer, about "NOTED POLLSTER STEVE TEICHNER GIVES YOU ANALYSIS -- AND SURVEYS *YOU*" (answers: 10) TUE, 07/10 14:02 (1344 characters)

Steve Teichner is President of Teichner Associates Inc. located in Philadelphia, PA. Teichner Associates is the single largest independent

provider of political polls and analysis in the country. Teichner clients, all of which are media outlets, cover the full range of media: television, radio, newspapers, and now computers.

Starting in Iowa at the very first caucus, Teichner representatives have been in almost every primary state, polled in most, and exit polled in many. At the convention, Steve Teichner will be providing analysis and commentary for clients around the country, not only on the impact of what has happened but also on how the Democrats got to this point. In addition, on two occasions surveys will be taken in different cities and metro areas to measure the impact of the events at the convention on voters around the country.

In this conference you will see Steve's analysis and commentary. You will be directed to surveys that we urge you to take part in. And, in the ***INTERACTIVE*** conference "TELL TEICHNER" you will be able to discuss the surveys, add your own comments and impressions, and view those of other participants. Please help make this the most valuable experience possible for you and the other participants by giving us your reactions in the "TELL TEICHNER" conference.

*** * * *Branching off of "DEMO 84" 84.18208 as Answer 9 (of 25)**

"TELL TEICHNER" Conference 84.18215 TENS, organizer, about ***INTERACTIVE* DISCUSSIONS WITH POLLSTER STEVE TEICHNER**" (answers: 12) TUE, 07/10 14:07 (644 characters)

You are invited here to "TELL TEICHNER" -- a unique chance to be heard in an interactive forum by national broadcast polling expert Steve Teichner.

Be part of the action! Say JOIN at the DISPOSITION prompt below. Then say READ 1-99 to read what's happened so far and say WRITE at any DISPOSITION prompt to enter your questions and comments.

Because this is a first-time event -- interactive reporting of a major political happening -- it has attracted special media attention. You should realize that your comments here may be quoted by others. If you do not wish to be quoted, please say so here or send a message to TENS.

*** * * *Branching off of "DEMO 84" 84.18208 as Answer 10 (of 25)**

"DEMO PUBLIC" Conference 84.18216 TENS, organizer, about ***INTERACTIVE* PUBLIC DISCUSSIONS, COMMENTS, QUESTIONS, OR OBSERVATIONS -- *YOU* ARE THE STAR HERE**" (answers: 80) TUE, 07/10 14:09 (824 characters)

This is the place for "DEMO PUBLIC" discussions, an interactive forum where you can make the most of this powerful new medium. Hold free-wheeling discussions here about any aspect of the convention happenings. Joining you will be your fellow participants, the three reporters of TENS, and maybe even key political figures.

Be part of the action! Say JOIN at the DISPOSITION prompt below. Then say

READ 1-99 to read what's happened so far and say WRITE at any DISPOSITION prompt to enter your questions and comments.

Because this is a first-time event -- interactive reporting of a major political happening -- it has attracted special media attention. You should realize that your comments here may be quoted by others. If you do not wish to be quoted, please say so here or send a message to TENS.

Answer 11 (of 25) TENS, on SUN, JUL 15 1984 at 11:16 (344 characters)

For a marketing view of what the Republicans might do about Ferraro, see "Mike Talks" answer 3. Be sure to say JOIN at the "Disposition" prompt if you are interested in automatically receiving future commentary of that sort.

See Answer 4 of "Mike Talks" for a perspective on Bert Lance as the new Democratic Party Chairman.

Answer 12 (of 25) MIKE GREENLY, on SUN, JUL 15 1984 at 20:11 (232 characters)

Some of you have asked how to get here. phone is (415) 543-4350. address is 381 Clementina Street -- between 4th and 5th streets, and howard st and folsom st. (it's a little alley, which they say is chic in s.f.) mike

Answer 13 (of 25) TENS, on TUE, JUL 17 1984 at 23:08 (924 characters)

IMPORTANT: For newer people on Parti.

You should not be having to read -- each time you log onto Parti -- the opener to a conference.

You may originally have entered Parti by saying, for example, "Read Demo 84". But now you need only say -- at Source command level --> Parti.

The idea is that you need read -- or scan so that you read selectively -- *only* those pieces of mail that came in since the last time you signed onto Parti. This happens automatically when you simply log on from the action prompt with: Parti

If you have a backlog of mail that you have already read, you can clear your mailbox and use the "read since" command to read only *recent* mail.

For further information, feel free to send a message to Helper, or call Source Customer Service on 800-336-3330.

By the way, we're really pleased to have so many of you with us. It's a pleasure!

Diane, Sherwin, and Mike

Answer 14 (of 25) TENS, on WED, JUL 18 1984 at 21:16 (12000 characters)

The *full* text of Senator Gary Hart's speech -- going on *right now* follows. If you don't want to read it, press control-P now.

TENS

ADDRESS BY SENATOR GARY HART

TO THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY'S NATIONAL CONVENTION

San Francisco, CA
July 18, 1984

Five hundred days ago, I began my quest for the Presidency a quest with many ideas, but with one driving theme--that our party and our nation need new leadership, new directions, and hope.

Since that day, during months of struggle and against great odds, millions of Democrats have joined this cause--and together we stand tonight at the gates of change.

Since my earliest student volunteer days 24 years ago, I have shared the ideal that one person can make a difference, and that every person should try. Together, you and I have tried -- and together, we have made a difference.

Whatever this convention's judgment, Lee, Andrea, John and I are eternally grateful to all of you who helped make our dream come true.

To our delegates who have given the word "loyalty" new meaning, to the thousands of Americans across this land who opened your homes to us, to the tens of thousands who have distributed leaflets and contributed dollars, to the millions who voted for us, you have our deepest gratitude and affection. By your acts of dedication and faith, you have created a new legacy of hope -- the hope that people -- far more than politicians and pundits -- still make the difference.

To all of you who have joined our cause to make this a better nation and a better world, I say with the poet: "Think where man's glory most begins and ends, and say my glory was I had such friends."

To my outstanding competitors -- to John Glenn, Fritz Hollings, and Reubin Askew, to George McGovern and Alan Cranston -- your contribution to the revival of our party was enormous. You make us proud to be Democrats.

To Jesse Jackson, you have been this party's voice for the voiceless, the shut-out and the let-down.

To Fritz Mondale, my friend and colleague, you have honored me by being an opponent of unsurpassed grit, perserverance, and determination.

To Geraldine Ferraro, a true political pioneer -- I only regret that I did not pick you first.

To the Republicans, I say this. Tak no comfort from this Democratic family tussle. Ronald Reagan has provided all the unity we need. Not one of us is going to sit this campaign out. You have made the stakes too high.

And to the Democrats in this hall -- in a few moments you will make one of the most important decisions of your lives. You will decide which candidate has the best chance to defeat Ronald Reagan and become the next President of the United States.

Whatever the outcome of your decision, I make to you two pledges: First, that I will devote every waking hour and every ounce of energy to the defeat of Ronald Reagan; and second, that I will continue to work for the good of our Party and our country.

This is one Hart you will not leave in San Francisco.

This is not simply another national election -- a choice between parties -- or even a contest of ideologies. This election is a referendum on our future -- perhaps even whether our children will have a future.

For we meet at an urgent national hour, when all seems well, but few are content. Upon this convention's actions will rest not simply our party's success -- but our nation's destiny.

That's why this critical challenge to recapture the White House and redirect our destiny transcends partisan politics. It creates in each of us -- as Americans, not simply as Democrats -- a moral imperative. For as long as we live, history and coming generations will ask: Did you do everything you could to defeat Ronald Reagan?

The stakes in 1984 could not be higher -- for ourselves and for our children.

Ronald Reagan must not have four more years -- in which he will not be answerable to the American people.

Consider, as we must, the costs of a second Reagan term: Do you want Ronald Reagan to appoint the next Supreme Court?

Do you want Ronald Reagan to have four more years to sell off our environment to the highest bidder?

Do you want Ronald Reagan to have four more years to turn his back on civil rights for minorities and equal rights for women?

Can we allow Ronald Reagan to keep on undermining the rights of organized labor?

Can we allow Ronald Reagan to send our sons to die without cause in another Lebanon, or to serve as bodyguards for dictators in Central America?

Can we continue to tolerate a President who urges us to love our country but hate our government?

Most important of all, can we allow Ronald Reagan four more years to accelerate a dangerous and unnecessary nuclear arms race?

We must defeat Ronald Reagan. And, we must replace the economic royalists. But we must also offer a new generation of ideas to a new generation of voters.

Adlai Stevenson said it best: What counts is not so much what we are against, as what we are for.

We Democrats are for an opportunity economy, with women as equal partners...so much for equality and justice that our sense of urgency demands immediate ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment...for school lunches for our children and health care for the elderly, paid for by cancelled weapons contracts...for a clean environment, without toxic terrorism...for campaigns free of the influence of political action committee money...for reformed and ready conventional defenses, and for an end to the folly that nuclear weapons create security.

And this is one Democrat who is ready to lead our Party in recapturing the issue of a sound defense. I say this to the President: Mr. Reagan, the American flag does not belong to you and the right-wing Republicans. It belongs to all the people.

But to achieve our goals, our Party and nation must disentrall themselves from the policies of the comfortable past that do not answer the challenges of tomorrow. The times change -- and we must change with them. For the worst sin in political affairs is not to be mistaken -- but to be irrelevant.

Promises are cheap, rhetoric is hollow, and nostalgia is not a program. Our rhetoric about jobs and fairness is but sound and fury signifying nothing, unless we have specific policies that address a dramatically-changing economy -- and make that economy grow.

There are certain facts we must face. Compassion is based on justice. Justice requires resources. Resources flow from opportunity. Opportunity is produced by creative policies. And the creative policies of our times must come -- and will come -- from the new leadership of the Democratic Party.

Our Party's greatest heritage is its willingness to change. We have failed when we became cautious and complacent. We have won America's confidence when we were bold and innovative.

Our Party's great experimenter, Franklin Roosevelt, said it best at a critical hour at the dawn of his presidency: "We will try something, and if it works we will keep it. If it doesn't let's try something else.

The Democratic Party must continue to be the Party of hope, not the Party of memory.

To honor this tradition of change in the 1980's and 90's our Party must propose new solutions for new times. We need nothing less than a blueprint for a new democracy.

We must rebuild the foundation of this nation's economy -- not merely patch over its widening cracks.

We must adopt an industrial policy to modernize our manufacturing base -- re-employing dislocated workers to rebuild our urban infrastructure.

And especially, we must invest in education, training, and research to guarantee American leadership in trade and technology.

But, we have also reached a stage in human development where opportunity is inextricably joined to brain-power, not horsepower. Our greatest asset, the human mind, must be trained and equipped for the jobs of tomorrow.

If this nation is to become the world's leading industrial democracy, and offer a bridge to emerging nations and their leaders, we have no choice but to become, not the arsenal of the world, but the university of the world.

A healthy economy cannot grow in a dirty environment. So I challenge this Party and this nation to dedicate ourselves to a new environmental decade -- a decade in which we end contamination by acid rain, clean up every toxic waste dump, and become the faithful stewards of our natural heritage.

Ronald Reagan and his pack of greedy polluters can no longer piously sing "America the Beautiful," while they scar her face, poison her air, and corrupt her waters.

Let them remember that, while we inherit this land from our parents, we merely borrow it from our children.

And it is for those children that we must learn to trade proposals, not insults, with our foreign adversaries.

For we can create a world where conflict and crisis between East and West are resolved, not on the battlefield, but at the bargaining table.

What possible greater gift can we offer our children than a more safe, sane, and secure world?

What could more ensure that world than a President committed to a negotiated freeze on all nuclear weapons and the material used to make them? I have that commitment -- and an equal commitment to a negotiated ban on weapons in space, a comprehensive test ban treaty, elimination of all new nuclear systems in Europe, and secure means to prevent the use of nuclear weapons through accident, miscalculation or terrorism.

A nuclear freeze today can prevent a nuclear winter tomorrow.

Just as our predecessors had the vision, the faith, and the energy to explore this continent, to preserve our union, and to wage two world wars against aggression, so we today must share a vision -- a vision of the day, in our time, when we dispel at last the nuclear nightmares that haunt our children, and conquer the nuclear demon that haunts the earth.

And let us abolish not only the threat of a nuclear holocaust, but the blight of human hunger as well.

This administration cannot cure a problem that it will not see.

But the next administration must set two achievable goals: to end hunger in America in this decade, and to challenge the Soviet Union to join us in a crusade to end hunger in this world in this century.

These are the great challenges we must be ready to conquer.

For a new generation of Americans is coming of age -- a generation that has unique bonds of tragedy and triumph. Our generation witnessed the deaths of John and Robert Kennedy and Martin Luther King. We witnessed the tragedies of Vietnam and Watergate.

But we also marched together in movements that altered the course of American history: the Civil Rights Movement, the Women's Movement, the Environmental Movement, the Peace Movement -- and we will make history yet again.

Many of us were drawn to public service by the most inspiring President of our time. "Let the word go forth from this time and place," he said, "that the torch has been passed to a new generation of Americans."

Today the torch from the Statue of Liberty has been taken down. And if our government continues to replace the words "Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free" -- with "What's-in-it-for-me...tighten your belts...and show us your identification card." -- Then they may as well leave that torch on the ground.

Our campaign has tried to lift and light that torch -- a torch of hope beyond the mundane politics of the moment -- a torch of hope beyond the old arrangements

Answer 15 (of 25) TENS, on WED, JUL 18 1984 at 21:28 (1720 characters)

<balance of text of Hart speech)

----- Our campaign has tried to lift and light that torch -- a torch of hope beyond the mundane politics of the moment -- a torch of hope beyond the old arrangements and the favored alliances -- a torch of hope, in this urgent hour, that parties can change, that leaders can change, that this nation can change.

This campaign has sought to touch that particular idealism that identifies us as Americans -- to keep alive the belief that each person can make a difference.

For I see an America in our time where greed, self-interest and division are conquered by idealism, the common good, and the national interest.

I see an America too young to quit, too courageous to turn back, with a

passion for justice and a program for opportunity, an America with unmet dreams that will not die.

Tonight the torch of idealism is lit in thousands of towns and tens of thousands of lives, among the young in spirit and the young in age. It cannot go out. It will not go out. It will continue to burn.

And because of that fire of commitment and hope, we will change the world. Many who before had said: it doesn't matter, there's nothing I can do; will now say, one person can make a difference, and every person should try.

So we will never give up.

For somewhere out there, in some small town, in some young life, the torch is lit. And someday that young person -- perhaps as President -- will change the world. But even if not, that person will see that the torch is passed to yet another generation.

And, if not now, someday, we must prevail.

If not now, someday, we will prevail. ---END---

Answer 16 (of 25) TENS, on FRI, JUL 20 1984 at 15:02 (1134 characters)

An Interim Bulletin to Readers -

1. Your responses have meant a lot to us. Thanks for being so encouraging and appreciative.
2. We are still finishing up some of the last stories/observations over these next few days.
3. As for the Republican Convention, you already know we wish to cover it. However, the exact form of coverage, and our degree of ability remains to be seen.

We are grateful to STC and PSI -- each --- for a partial grant toward our expenses. We are grateful to Apple for the loan of the office Apple IIC's, and to Tandy for the loan to Sherwin of a portable Model 100.

However, even with that support you'll be interested to know that the total expenses of this experience -- transportation, office rental, phone, secretary/receptionist, lodging, etc. -- cost us each about \$2,000 a piece.

We have yet to figure out exactly where and how we stand on Dallas and the Republicans. First we want the satisfaction of completing our work on the Democrats.

Please just stay tuned. And we'll let you know more when we have a chance to sort things out.

Mike, Sherwin and Diane.

Answer 17 (of 25) MIKE GREENLY, on FRI, JUL 20 1984 at 21:53 (196 characters)

FYI, Article in 7/20/84 Christian Science Monitor, p.8, on what we've all been doing here together. Photo of Diane at the Apple IIC. Written by David F. Salisbury, a joiner to this Conference.

Answer 18 (of 25) TENS, on SUN, JUL 22 1984 at 20:15 (838 characters)

Sunday San Jose Mercury News, page 17f. (Guess they forgot our names...)

Some of the best reporting of the week turned up on The Source, the nationwide telecommunications network. We wrote last week about a threesome's plans to cover the convention on The Source, then open their reports to comments.

They got plenty - over 300 entries from around the country in the last 10 days. Their coverage sparked off an electronic give and take between a Jesse Jackson friend and foe, for example. One gave him an 'F' in content. 'Too expensive politics,' the Source subscriber wrote. Another agrees with the Jackson plan to 'stop spending...on wasteful military hardware.'

Elsewhere, someone wrote that Walter Mondale had a 'backbone of Jello.'

One participant described this new medium best: 'an electronic campfire.'

* * * Branching off of "DEMO 84" 84.18208 as Answer 19 (of 25)

"DEMO READER POLL" Conference 84.20063 TENS, organizer, about "WE'D APPRECIATE YOUR TAKING A FEW MINUTES TO GIVE FEEDBACK - SHORT BALLOT!" (answers: 2) SAT, 07/28 17:13 (160 characters)

>>> "Demo 84" Readers: we ask you to participate in this short survey!

>>> Just say: Join at the prompt.

>>> Then say: Read 1 . (Thanks!)

Answer 21 (of 25) MIKE GREENLY, on TUE, AUG 07 1984 at 08:57 (1764 characters)

I'm doing this on my own. Diane might think it's tacky. Sherwin might think it's shameless. But what the heck - I'm going for it!!

Two weeks from now I'll be reporting to you from Dallas at the Republican National Convention. We haven't set up "GOP 84" yet; we are still working out exact structure, etc. Meanwhile, all three of us have been working backstage on media kits, the quest for adequate press credentials, etc. With some help

from others to be identified later.

(I've just put up into "GOP Prep" the fact that I'm likely to be granted a few minutes' walk with Senator Laxalt, "Ronald Reagan's Best Friend.")

Here's my pitch to *you*:

it's a lot of work and a lot of expense to do this. I don't want money and I don't want sympathy: I want *readers*!!!

If you valued what we did for "Demo 84", if you appreciate the genuine history being made here together -- journalistic, political, electronic --

or if you simply believe in Tinkerbelle, E.T., and/or the Good Ship Lollipop

then I'm asking y-o-u to *think* about whether there are other people you can

bring onto this system,
help get used to Parti,
and sign up for "GOP 84"
and whatever the person's
(peoples')

choices are from the
sub-conferences that

will be described therein. Of course I'm hoping you'll be back to complete Part II of the Adventure. It's the other half, and the contrast of Republicans with Democrats should be fascinating.

But if you can also bring others in with you -- to let all the effort and caring be amortized over more readers --

well, I'd be grateful.

And i'm not too embarrassed to ask, as you can see!

Mike -- who is counting the days . . .

Answer 22 (of 25) SML, on TUE, AUG 07 1984 at 13:44 (1014 characters)

I don't think it's "shameless" and if there's any way in the world that I can be in Dallas, I'll be there too! And I most certainly want to second Mike's appeal for readers. A good part of why we're doing this is because we believe in the medium, we believe in its potential, and we believe more people should know about it. (Maybe I should make that "I", "I", "I") In a way, I wish I was not formally associated with PSI so you'd believe my personal feelings more. All I can say is that those of you who have been here long enough know that I've been an avid booster of the medium since long before I had any formal relationship with PSI.

Even if I can't get to Dallas, I plan to participate. I'm privy to press materials and background information that isn't generally available and, if I can't be on the scene, I'll be trying to fill in some of that background for you.

So, send us your hopes and wishes and... your friends. We'll do our best to make you glad you did.

Sherwin

Joiners of "DEMO 84" conference:

HARRY; ALAN; STC-EDIT; LOUIS; GERRY ELMAN JD/KAVVANAH; NORMAN KURLAND; PSI; FR HAL; FTF; EVANSCLEVE; KENT M. S.; HYDRA; MAC; THE POLLSTER; ADMIRAL; JACK/N.Y.C.; WEEHAWK; FORT; KEVIN LILLARD--TI0941; GSM; GEORGE M; CMS; CYRUS; KEN; DOCTOR TOM; MOLSON; RACOM; SDC; COOK; JAYBO; BOB JENKINS; PSI DAVE; LEAH; DOM S.; DR. MEMORY; MIKE PARKER; BOB SANDHAUS; PORTLAND; RON TINDIGLIA; ELMER; RICH D; CRT; BBD941; SML; T/O; STV246; LORA W; J. MELLO; MIKE GREENLY; BBD195; STL429; STL607; STY474; DVO; RITA G; DONNA DICKINSON; BBK011; NEXI NODAL; TIM HAIGHT; BBK670; DIANE W.; STN762; CSR020; BBP372; LISA CARLSON; CSR023; P.A.T; JIM ARMSTRONG; BBQ311; PHOENIX; BCC068; AN ODYSSEY; K SQUARED; ST5028; BBQ591; CYNICAL; DEQUINCY; WHMJR; BUFLOE; BBW622; CHRIS B; BCD319; STY606; NET2; JIM FRANKLIN; STZ295; BCD762; NORMAN EPSTEIN; RUBE; JOHNNY FRIENDLY; JIM T; TENS; STT821; COLLIE; CSR026; BCJ061; BCF992; BBY516; JBF; SHARP DRESSED MAN; STAN GOLDBERG; STEVE TEICHNER; BCE542; TCZ961; STB631; DE MONSTER; RLH; STEWART; SPACE CADET; BBE301; DAVID F. SALISBURY; RD0261; BBJ550; AAB225; BCE285; ERIK; TCL832; BBY483; CHRISTOPHER DEOGBURN; AAE852; BCK088; BBC424; TCT012; STW116; SCOTT MACE; BBN187; TI6819; BBX307; BCE609; BBM560; BBE450; BCB428;

"DIANE TALKS" Conference 84.18209 TENS, organizer, about "PERSONAL COMMENTARY AND OBSERVATIONS" (answers: 27) TUE, 07/10 13:47 (1862 characters)

While not a political pundit, I *am* interested in the impact the Democratic Convention will have on my city.

I'll be following and reporting on the human interest stories here in San Francisco - the demonstrations, campaigns and platforms vying for a voice with the Democratic Party and the presidential candidate while in attendance in Moscone Center.

Carl Sagan will be here, lobbying for education about a Nuclear Winter. Senators Kennedy and Cranston will be co-hosting a reception for the National Nuclear Weapons Freeze Campaign. I'd like to cover these events and get an interview or two.

A massive demonstration is planned by 100,000 gay and lesbians. Coinciding with this is a Moral Majority Family Forum, with Falwell and Schlafly. Each event will have its attendant grass-roots demonstrators. I hope to be there, reporting to you from the scenes of these events.

There's a national Hooker's Convention and Annual Hooker's Ball. A 'working' vacation, some say. 20,000 hippie hold-outs will camp in Candlestick Park, and hold an "un-convention". There will be an All Species Rally, for the preservation of all living things, with demonstrators dressed as plants, birds

and animals. This correspondent will try to cover these kinds of events too.

I would like an interview with Mayor Dianne Feinstein, vice presidential hopeful. Police Chief Con Murphy's using Apple to help in traffic and crowd control. Perhaps I can speak with him about the SFPD's swing into the computer age, and that old bugaboo, security.

If this is what you want in a conference, look no further. We'll have some fun together, tracking the warm, humorous, interesting and poignant stories I come across during the Convention here in Bhagdad-by-the-Bay.

Join me, won't you, at the Disposition promptP J below?

Diane Worthington

Answer 1 (of 27) DIANE W., on THU, JUL 12 1984 at 02:51 (238 characters)

Today I attended a press briefing inside Moscone Center. (Clutching my precious temporary press credential to my bosom!)

It was fascinating. I'll tell you about it tomorrow, in depth.

Welcome to my conference, joiners!

Diane

Answer 2 (of 27) DIANE W., on THU, JUL 12 1984 at 23:08 (4970 characters)

Readers,

Here I am, * ONLINE * from our TENS office just half a block from Moscone Center. I've spent the better part of the day supervising installation of TV's, plants, etc.

Apple, who has graciously supplied the new IIc's for our project, *forgot* to include the modems, so I had to await arrival of a hearty soul who drove them up special from Cupertino.

Nice system the IIc. A bit unfamiliar, but I could get used to it in a hurry.

Over at Moscone, huge trucks have been moving huger trees into position all along the street - no doubt to block the demonstrators from view of the entering delegates.

In Union Square, a massive and agitated rally is taking place against Falwell and the Moral Majority, in town for Family Forum III. The 'Sisters fo Perpetual Indulgence', a street theatre group of gay men who dress as nuns, is out in force. (Only in San Francisco!) The Woman's Guerilla Theatre Group are out riding the city buses, dressed as...gorillas.

Hot time in the old town!

Yesterday, I attended a press briefing in Moscone Center. I was given a schedule of Podium events, which I'll enter in the next answer. You'll find it useful in co-ordinating your television viewing.

The following from my notes inside the center:

What an incredible transformation. Thousands of chairs and phones...blue bunting being hung, lights, scaffolding, monitors in place...

700 members of the press here in the gallery now...

There seems to be a problem with the rounded ceiling blocking off the view. Delegates seated on the sides won't see... The price they pay for meeting in the world's largest column-less convention hall.

Gene Russell, Director of Communications, DNC, takes the mike and welcomes us. "...our calculations show some 14,000 media will actually cover the 84 convention. 2000, more than earlier count... Press credentials will be a one-time issue. Most of you won't have to stand in line each morning <to get them.>"

Roz Wyman, Chair and CEO of the DNC, moves to the podium. "35 days ago, this center stood empty, surrounded by its rib cages of arches. When the first truck drove in to the hall on Tuesday, June 5th at 12:01, it brought the first load of material, which includes over 44 truckloads of scaffolding, 20 truckloads of steel... Over 100 carpenters have worked here. 50 - 60,000 feet of raw lumber have been used here. 200 telephone technicians have installed a phone system equivalent to that of a 50 story building... Hundreds of thousands of feet of cable have been laid. State of the art technology is assisting in every phase of the convention..."

Mr. Charles Manatt then moves to the front, to explain the schedule of Convention podium events, and begin the walking tour of the center."Our Democratic National convention will, in addition to nominating the winning ticket, reinforce with the national audience our differences with the Reagan record in such key issues as civil rights, agriculture, the economy, work-place safety, conservation, environmental issues and of course, the issue of war and peace in the time ahead."

The group then took questions.

Q> What about cost overrun?

A> There is, in a sense, no cost overrun. But we have added an additional \$1.5 million, because this is the first time the media has not paid for a great deal of the lighting and audio... Once we came in the building...we are ahead of schedule and on budget.

Q> The press won't really have very good access...

A> This is a very good hall, but no hall is perfect. Because we're expecting 14,000 correspondents, everyone won't have a seat on the 50 yard line. We will accomodate you as best we can.

Nancy Pelosi, City Chief of Protocol, then speaks. "The question I'm most frequently asked is, 'When is the first press party?' The next most frequently asked is 'when is the next press party?'..." (Mike, Sherwin, let's go do some...research!)

Q> Will Reverend Jackson be on prime time television?

A> As far as I know...

The walking tour:

Acres of chairs... massive network skybooths... scaffolding structures... A 'cherry-picker' placing banks of speakers... Construction still fast and furious.

And, of course, Deedub ducked away from the main tour to do a little exploring.

I found mazes of rooms. Some, with hundreds of computers in place - Atrex, AT&T, GTE... Computers in every room.

There are 3 Information Centers in the hall. There are phone lines available to use direct line modems at each.

I found the VIP lounge, with it's hasty portraits of Mondale, Hart and Jackson placed above cream and blue sofas and arm chairs.
I found viewing windows. I found the woman with the press area print-outs, and found out where to wait each morning for floor passes (issued to all on a rotation basis for 40 minutes only.)

Security guards everywhere...

Quite a day!

Diane

Answer 3 (of 27) DIANE W., on FRI, JUL 13 1984 at 01:04 (1528 characters)

PODIUM SCHEDULE

MONDAY (Tentative Order)

- o California Welcoming Speeches
- o Address by DNC Chairman Charles T. Manatt
- o Report of Credential Committee
(Chairman Richard Alatorre)
- o Report of Rules Committee
(Chairman Julian Dixon)
- o Election of Permanent Officers
- o Address by Mayor Dianne Feinstein

- o Address by Kentucky Governor Martha Layne Collins
- o Address by Jimmy Carter
- o Truman Film
- o Keynote Address by New York Governor Mario Cuomo
- o Closing Events

TUESDAY (Tentative Order)

- o Platform Committee Report
(Rep. Geraldine Ferraro, Chair)
- o Minority Reports (Votes)
- o Address by Speaker O'Neill
- o Address by Jesse Jackson
- o Presentation of 1984 Democratic Platform by Rep. Ferraro and others, including discussions on economy, environment, war and peace, etc.)

WEDNESDAY (Tentative Order)

- o Democratic Party Reports
Representatives of Democratic Party Programs
- o Government Closest to Home
State, County and local officials
- o Vietnam Veterans
- o Why I am a Democrat
A Cross-Section of Delegates Speak o Women's Rights
Eleanor Roosevelt Film
- o Senator Gary Hart Speaks
- o Nomination of Presidential Candidate
- o Roll Call Vote

THURSDAY (Tentative Order)

- o Addresses of Congressional Leadership
- o Report of House and Senate Campaign Committees
- o Nomination of Vice Presidential Candidate
- o Acceptance Speech by Vice Presidential Candidate
- o Acceptance Speech by Presidential Candidate
- o Adjournment

Answer 4 (of 27) DIANE W., on SUN, JUL 15 1984 at 17:54 (3374 characters)

AT THE PRO-POT RALLY

Civic Center Plaza

7-14-84

"What are you doing here?" I say, taking a deep breath and walking into a cloud of smoke.

"It's the Bastille Day Parade!" yell a knot of time-warp hippies, while

sucking on big marijuana stogies.

I look around. It looks like a good-time party. Perhaps 300 people, a tasteful combination of hippies, punk rockers (I scan the crowd for my daughter,) and Hells Angels, all under the noon-day sun, dancing, singing and frying their brains with the good-time weed and the muggy heat.

"Everybody's gotta do something...everybody's gotta be somewhere!" says a bare chested and bearded youth. "Do you think this will do any good?" I ask. "No," says someone, "but it sure **feels** good!"

"I notice a large police presence," I say. "Have the police bothered you at all?" "I just got here - dunno." "What about you?" "I dunno either - I'm with her - just picked her up in a bar."

The police seem disinterested. They yawn and pause in idle talk. The plaza is filled with giant cardboard marijuana plants, waving in the air, and posters of Reagan, sporting a dapper Hitler mustache.

Someone tells me the dope has been provided by the Northern California Marijuana Growers Association. (I remember the group for the \$10,000 contribution they made to the Muscular Dystrophy Telethon last year. Indeed, a van, wearing a NCGA banner seems to be the source of most of the grass.

A little girl, dressed as the Statue of Liberty on roller skates idles by. "Why are YOU here?" I ask. "So they legalize marijuana," says Heather, age 8. Sigh. The place is full of the usual contingent of frizbees, dogs and flowers. "Do you plan to go to Dallas?" "Yes, we'll be there, but you can bet the reception won't be the same... There are people here from all over the country. Even if it doesn't change anything, you have to express your opinion."

"Will this make a difference, do you think?" I ask someone else. ("No, no, I'm on the job, none for me, thanks...") "SURE it'll make a difference!" "Well, it's been done now for 20 years..." I say. "Yeah, but we're STILL doin' it. That's a difference!"

The group (sort of) assembles, ready to march to Moscone. Guitars, harmonicas, the stogies in every mouth...(Boy, it's hard to interview people who're so stoned they can't talk!) A trumpeter plays 'charge' from time to time. A boy goes by with a sign, 'Be a part of the ORAL MAJORITY'... A group behind me starts a lazy "we smoke pot" chant... "It's an UN-CONVENTION!" says someone. Someone puts a Reagan-Hitler sign in my hand. "Thanks - my son'll love it!"

"Do you plan to join the All Species Parade?" "Sure - marijuana is a species too...though NOT endangered."

The assemblage stumbles off the curb. They're (sort of) of their way.

I approach a cop. We watch the cardboard marijuana leaves bobbing by. "What do you think of all this here," I inquire over the noise. He gives me a long look. "I'd say that they're exercising their constitutional rights." "Is it the official policy not to hassle people openly smoking marijuana?" Another pause, as he looks at my recorder. "...Here, today, that's the policy."

The sixties live. (Sort of.)

Diane

Answer 5 (of 27) DIANE W., on SUN, JUL 15 1984 at 17:56 (218 characters)

Lots more coming! Stay tuned for:

the press party
the All Species Parade
the Gay and Lesbian demonstration, coming around the corner now.
thoughts and observations.
more, more, more!!!

Diane

Answer 6 (of 27) DIANE W., on SUN, JUL 15 1984 at 18:10 (830 characters)

Couldn't run out the door without telling you this:

Greenly just zipped in the door, back from a Jackson caucus in Oakland.

He walked over and put the ** official ** press credential in my fevered hand.
(Up till now, we had pre-Convention press passes. Today was pick-up day for the permanents.) Gee - I want to put it on a velvet pillow! It looks like a \$10,000 bill! It has a moving hologram in the middle:

84

Democratic
National
Convention

I heard a story on TV the other night. Seems that of the 15,000 press credentials issued for thej Convention, 12,000 were cut-and-dried, already reserved. There were less than 3,000 for the rest of the nations' press to vie for. We got 3 of them!

That's a whole 1/10 of one percent!

(Ok, ok, on to the news.) (As I see it.)

Diane

Answer 7 (of 27) DIANE W., on MON, JUL 16 1984 at 02:29 (4558 characters)

WHEREAS, the City of San Francisco grew in an environment abundantly endowed with such magnificent other species as grizzly bear, tule elk, sea otter, sea lion, bald eagle and peregrine falcon; and

WHEREAS, The City and its surrounding Bay remain the proud hosts to the California sea lion, the offshore California grey whale, San Francisco garter

snake, monarch butterfly, raccoon, and silver salmon, and also the migratory waterfowl from as far away as Alaska, Mexico, and Australia; and

WHEREAS, Other species must now depend on the special consideration of the human policy-makers and citizenry for their well-being, especially in urban settings; and

WHEREAS, Education and celebration play key roles in fostering understanding and appreciation for all beings and for our mutual interdependence, thus fostering responsible stewardship; now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT I, Dianne Feinstein, Mayor of the City and County of San Francisco, do hereby proclaim Saturday, July 14, 1984 as ALL SPECIES DAY IN SAN FRANCISCO, and do invite all those citizens who wish to express their support and commitment to maintaining the great variety of life on the earth, to participate in the All Species Parade, starting at the Ferry Building at Noon on Saturday, July 14, and proceed to the City Hall Plaza.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF...etc.

Dianne Feinstein Mayor

Ok. I was late for the All Species Parade. Got there as they were packing a giant water turtle onto a truck and dismantling the stage.

You see, Mike's plane was an hour late, and then we had to wait another hour for his bags.

I had *really* wanted to see that parade...

By the time I pulled up, River Otter and a falcon were about all of the event that remained. And a lovely, sloe-eyed organizer and filmmaker named Nancy Morita.

"It was a web of life", said River Otter. "We had 50 different species represented. The extent of the devastation of the forests of the planet is just one of the issues we're trying to represent, for example. All our pines are dying from the tops down...because of acid rain.

"Our parade was small, but excellent. Maybe 300 people. We had some of the best environmental speakers of our times. It was also designed inspirationally for children. We want them to know we actually care about the next generation, and not just the next four years of jobs and money.

"We have to start talking seriously about clean water and clean air. Not just in bureaucratic compromise, but in actual thinking for the next generation.

We had a huge number of wonderful representations of the earth, water, fire, air, plants and animals on which our lives depend. There was a huge silver salmon. There was a 6 foot lobster. There was a large body of water. (A gigantic sheet of blue fabric with bobbing heads underneath to create waves, I'm told.) Why, right here is an osprey. (Man in a bird head approaches.) We had bears. We had eagles. There was a butterfly with an 18 foot wingspan. There were redwood trees, marching down the street. There was a giant 'earth ball.'

We also had a 50 foot caterpillar, filled with children."

Nancy Morita spoke. "We had some excellent speakers. Tim Jeffries, of Earth First. Leo Kronin, of Trout Unlimited - you know, the people responsible for putting fish *back* in California streams. We had Gordon Robinson of the Sierra Club. He's their forestry advisor.

"We all have other skills," says Nancy. "I work as a filmmaker and graphic artist. Our species protection work is devotional and unpaid. We began in '78, and have had All Species parades in several locations around the world. We're beginning an elementary school program now, too."

"We like doing our work in California," says River Otter. "There are more people here inclined toward 'green consciousness.'"

(I *like* this easy and humorous group.)

"We have overstressed the eco-systems of the earth. Let's do something about it. We're proud of all those little kids in the caterpillar yelling 'save the earth'. That's satisfying."

The stage is down, and the ky turns in the ignition of the pick-up truck with the giant water turtle in the back.

It's all over, except for the notes here in my little recorder. But I come away feeling oddly moved. Maybe a little misty-eyed, even, for the gentleness of spirit of the pure-hearted folk who dress as redwoods and silver salmon...
Answer 8 (of 27) DIANE W., on MON, JUL 16 1984 at 02:47 (874 characters)

Well, Emmjay pre-empted me on the press party! That's ok. But I have a few things to add.

The conga line, for example, weaving through the thousands of bodies to the strains of "Come on baby, do the Locomotion..."

Or the 3 story champagne bottle with the bubble machine inside.

The booze flowing like water.

Mike was off giving his cards away, the eternal networker. I was doing the Jerk. (no comments please.) Sherwin was filing impressions into his recorder. I heard him say "I wonder what jerk she's doing..."

Thousands of media people who work hard, and play hard.

What a City. A class act all the way. From the reception and complimentary services at the airport, to the gala press party, to the hospitality areas around the city, to the gleam of Moscone, San Francisco does it right!

The play over, tomorrow we dig in!

Diane

Answer 9 (of 27) DIANE W., on MON, JUL 16 1984 at 02:51 (176 characters)

Coming soon, tonight I hope:

Diane meets Tip O'Neill (briefly)

Gay and Lesbian demonstration - crowd estimated at 200,000.

Tomorrow: ABC TV visits TENS!

Diane

Answer 10 (of 27) DIANE W., on MON, JUL 16 1984 at 02:55 (166 characters)

Sherwin says I exaggerated a little. It wasn't a 3 story champagne bottle. (Looked that big to me!) He's yelling from the front office. Ok, then. Tall as a house.

Answer 11 (of 27) DIANE W., on MON, JUL 16 1984 at 03:09 (1516 characters)

Sherwin's already mentioned Della, our terrific receptionist. I want to tell you what she did today.

We have a snazzy media release we've been giving out and sending to people, both in politics and in the media. About 3:00am this morning, in the shower (lots of us do our best thinking in the shower,) I had an idea.

Since all the top people in the media are now moving inside Moscone, why not have Della go over to the center and deliver our packet into the hands of such notables as Brokaw and Rather?

Today, that's what she did. Armed with 50 releases, she headed for the maze of network spaces.

She came back a short time later with a story of her own.

"Whenever anyone saw me, they automatically assumed I was with the Jackson people. 'Oh, is that something from Jesse?' they'd say, and reach for one." Della is a lovely black woman with a pleasingly throaty voice. And one who knows her computers more than a little. "I saw Roger Mudd, and gave him your release. I said, 'I want you to read this, now.' He said, 'I'll read it right now!' He took it out of the envelope and was reading all about TENS when I felt my back get hot. I turned around and saw we were being filmed - Roger and I - with your release in plain view. 'Give them a call', I said before I left."

Another person who has been tireless in her efforts for us is Katie, my office manager. There's nothing she won't do to help. "Katie," I said the other day, "would you *kill* for me...?"

Diane

DIANE MEETS TIP O'NEILL

"One of us has to go over to the Hilton and pick up our Convention press kit before 6:00 pm," Mike says, fingers flying over his M100.

"I'll go," I volunteer, "I can just pop over and run back again to cover the gay demonstration.."

It took me an hour and 10 minutes to cross Market Street. The Gay and Lesbian paraders kept coming, and coming...

Once inside the Hilton, I learned the press packets wouldn't be ready for another hour at least. I wandered around, passing idle conversation with a few people in the crowd.

Could I believe my eyes? I turned, and found myself next to Tip O'Neill. No big deal, no cameras (except mine!) and only a few serious Secret Service agents, who actually let me approach him unmolested.

"Mr. O'Neill," sez I, "how do you like San Francisco?" "Beautiful town," he replied. "Always love coming here." I got a whiff of Certs breath mints as he leaned toward me and pumped my hand with a big, beefy, sweaty one. "Coming inside?" "Yessir," I sez, and follow him into a small conference room off the ballroom lobby in the Hilton. I hadn't the vaguest idea where we were going. Suddenly, the jammed little room was on its feet, cheering and applauding. It turned out to be a meeting of the NEA, the National Education Association. As Tip moved down the center aisle with the assured stride of an elder statesman of 49 years experience in public life, and the media present in the room came to life, I patted my camera and little recorder, upon which I've become very dependent.

Someone (forgive me, dear lady,) began an introduction.

"four years ago, our nation entered a dark time. And without seeking the distinction, Tip O'Neill became the highest ranking Democrat to hold public office. Through the darkness of our time has stood Tip O'Neill.

"What does it mean to be a Democrat? It means caring - for the poor, the disabled, the children. Tip O'Neill embodies the ideal of being a Democrat... For the past four years, he has been the voice of reason, the hope of our Party... Ladies and gentlemen, the Speaker of the House of Representatives..."

The man has an easy manner. He gets the crowd chuckling with an anecdote about Henry Ford in Ireland, and makes reference to his wife begging him not to tell the same tired old story again. I look around. People are relaxed, delighted to be in the presence of the star Democrat. I somehow know his words, tailored for the room of educators, will be satisfying to this group of devoted Democrats.

"I've been wanting to talk to the NEA for years. When I first came to Washington, you had a little building behind me. I watched you grow...

"Education is the greatest resource this nation has. There's no doubt about it... Eighty percent of the business leaders today - we've researched this - the leaders of the leading nation of the world...those that are responsible for technology, industry, the advancements of everything you can possibly think of - they received their educations between 1950 and 1959. Eighty percent of them either went to a community college, a state university, or had their education paid for by the G.I Bill of Rights. (applause.)

"Back in the 30's when I was a youngster, only 3 in 100 went to college. Fifty percent of America was impoverished. Twenty-five percent were unemployed. Only thirteen percent of the nation had a pension plan. Only three percent of Americans had a health plan. If your dad was a policeman, he worked 84 hours a week. If he was a fireman, he worked 107 hours a week.

"What changed all that for America, what changed it more than any other one single thing, was the cry of the American people for education. You are the people responsible for the great industrialists of our day. You are the people that gave them their ability for knowledge...to study, to move...

"We can't stop. We can't cut back the budget on education. It's the wrong thing to do. I've seen , in these last four years, the Ronald Reagan I know, that I sit across the table from sometimes...people say he's brash. The Ronald Reagan I know truly believes that the Social Security system should be a volunteer system. He won't be satisfied till he puts it in that strata, and when it gets in that strata it disappears. He's more concerned with building military might than the health concerns of the aged or the feeding the poor or the care of disabled... Now he's cut back the educational programs of America, and I say it's wrong.

"We removed poverty from 50% in the 30's to 11.4% in 1980. It was done because Congress responded to the will of the people. I get sick in my heart when I see that the poverty level has now gone to 16%. It's wrong to turn back the clock.

"It's people like you, with your talents and your teaching ability...we need your help. We need your aid.

"We need a ticket that will help America - ALL of America."

Thomas P. 'Tip' O'Neill moves again down the center aisle to the ovation of his audience, stopping to kiss cheeks and squeeze hands, and then he's gone.

And lo and behold! the press kits have arrived in the interim!

Diane, who thinks timing is everything.

Answer 13 (of 27) DIANE W., on MON, JUL 16 1984 at 22:14 (5746 characters)

TENS GREETES MONDALE:

Your intrepid TENS news team was on the spot this afternoon to greet Walter Mondale and Gerry Ferraro at their first news conference here in San Francisco. (Yes, we were!!)

Sherwin, Mike and I were on the scene, maybe 20 feet away from Mr. Mondale and his supporters. It was exciting, and that's an understatement.

Walter Mondale looked rested and relaxed. It struck me how much younger he looks in person. TV cameras are not kind. In fact, his whole demeanor seemed more friendly, humorous, down-to-earth than the image I have of him from the traditional press.

I looked around the room. Mike and Sherwin had their fingers flying over the keyboards. Banks of cameras and microphones were in place, but actually, this was NOT a well advertised event. Acting on a hot tip, I called the DNC press office. No one there even knew he was speaking. Finally, through the Mondale press office at the Meridien, I found out we had 15 minutes to make the event, billed as a conference with Senator Lloyd Bensen. (Who was in attendance, but didn't speak.)

I was amazed that the security was so lax. A prefatory glance at our credentials let us into the inner sanctum. (Of course, we had to go through baptism by fire to get them.)

We moved to some vacated chairs in the fourth row as Mondale began to speak.

He thanked his staff and supporters in his opening statements, and introduced Ferraro, who looked calm, yet glowing. She got resounding applause, of course. "...the excitement expressed by senators and candidates for the Senate was very, very impressive and encouraging."

A few comments before the questions:

"I love the United States Senate... The Senate's had good times and bad times. But it's an institution that's sacred to the strength and the wisdom of American Democracy... It is, when it's at it's best, that single...body that permits the American people to debate issues that must be debated with candor and fullness. With all it's faults, those debates took place and always, the nation was the better for it.

"Today, in the Senate, with restored Democratic leadership, we will have that debate resumed again. In American values in Democracy, we will win again..."

Q> What do you intend to talk to Hart and Jackson about?

A> There's no agenda...general discussion...we're all anxious for a successful Convention that tells of renewed strength in the Democratic Party and our plans for the future. Matters of platform will be discussed, matters of credentials rules. I'm willing to discuss anything they want to discuss.

Q> Do you think Senator Hart will withdraw his votes and recommend that you be

nominated by acclimation?

A> I'm not familiar with that... This town today is the ultimate rumor factory
Don't believe everything you hear.

Q> What are your plans for Jesse Jackson?

A> We would like to program an approach that appeals to all Americans, including black Americans. One of the strengths I bring...and one of the strengths that Geraldine Ferraro has, is a lifetime commitment to social justice and opportunity... I certainly want his help in such areas as voter registration, because everybody should participate in this election.

Q> About an hour ago, Governor Mario Cuomo commented, on the Manatt-Lance affair with 'I wish he hadn't done it.' Comment?

A> That's not the information I have. I have to make the choice how best to structure my campaign. The proof of the pudding will be in the eating. But I think we'll see that this structure we're putting in place will be very successful.

Q> Are you considering a reversal?

A> What you see is what you get.

(A member of the Children's News Team stands and asks:)

Q> What children's issues will you be emphasizing?

A> This whole campaign is about you, because you're going to inherit this country. We must use our strength to keep the peace. If the bombs go off there may be no world. We need a healthy economy that grows so there are good jobs and opportunities for your generation. That there's good education, science, training in skills. So that we protect the air, water, land, so that the beauty of this country is for you as well as my generation. That we remain true to values of justice, so the country you live in is a fair, stable and kind country. Above all, America is for our children.

Q> How did you decide you wanted to replace Chuck Manatt, and why did you change your mind?

A> I will concede that was not handled very well for two reasons: One, it wasn't, and two, it's obvious it wasn't. (applause and laughter.) I thought I would call Chuck Manatt and let him know what I had in mind. Unfortunately, that conversation became public, which was an embarrassment to Manatt, which I regret. We moved as quickly as we could to work out an arrangement that was fair to Mr. Manatt... The arrangement now is perfectly satisfactory to me, and I think to Manatt. We have resolved a dispute that we did not need. We moved swiftly and everyone's satisfied.

Q> You have substituted Governor Dukakis for Mrs. Ferraro...

A> Mrs Ferraro has other plans for the next eight years...

So. Mr. Mike Greenly then gets up and asks his question - while I sat there with a thrill in my heart. ** Bigtime **!! There's Mike, displaying his M100 to Walter Mondale and a hushed room with cameras rolling. A TENS first. A TENS scoop. The FIRST ever electronic news team in the world, making history for you, readers!

I had to suppress a victory giggle.

Hard act to follow!!

Diane

Answer 14 (of 27) DIANE W., on TUE, JUL 17 1984 at 15:08 (1436 characters)

Mike and I took a tour around the hall this evening as things were winding down. Coretta King was speaking from the podium, and a Martin Luther King commemorative film was showing on the monitor. People were gathered into small knots, ignoring it.

One could get snatches of conversation while walking along - an angry few words from a Jackson delegate...a directive from the Hart staff...

"Look," Mike says, "there's Jimmy Carter, two feet away from you!"
"Interview!! I say, but Mike says, "See all those Secret Service? You can't get near him." (I almost tried, but the moment was gone as he was hustled away.)

Continuing our walk, we brushed past many nationally known faces...anchormen and newsmen. We had many acknowledging nods from others on the 'inside'...

Tomorrow, we'll be out hunting down stories again for you. But tonight...tonight the feel of it all is wonderful. We didn't know what we could or would be able to do for you till we got here. We didn't want to let you (or ourselves) down.

Today, I think we didn't let any of us down.

** That ** feels truly wonderful.

In fact, as the fingers hit the keys here in the office, all three of us in a working triangle, I've never felt more pleased or proud of anything.

I know, I know. You're only as good as your latest story, and tomorrow's another day.

Ah, but tonight we're flying!

(Tuesday night, July 17, 1984)

Diane

Answer 15 (of 27) DIANE W., on TUE, JUL 17 1984 at 16:01 (446 characters)

Flash:

Word from the inside is, the delegate spread is at about 109 between Hart and Mondale.

Oliver Hinkle, Hart Campaign manager, says it's 55.

The Mondale camp says it's 210.

My source says 109, no more, no less. And that's NOT very much!

The same source says that the Jackson word is "It's not yet time to compromise." He is expected to play to "party unity and white guilt" in his speech tonight, word is.

Diane

Answer 16 (of 27) DIANE W., on WED, JUL 18 1984 at 12:59 (1140 characters)

I think I cannot find the time to attend events, write about them, and sleep!
There's too much to do.

But here's the plan. I'm going to turn in now, and get up early and head down to the office, so I can tell you about:

being on the Convention floor when Jackson spoke last night.

Attending the Gary Hart press conference tonight - Diane asks a question and pumps another hand.

The gay demonstration.

Mayor Tom Bradley, and learning about interview protocol the hard way.

Security at the Convention - inside and out.

The 'haps' at the office - Christian Science Monitor, InfoWorld, delegates and more.

(Sherwin's and Mike's stories - my impressions.)

more, more, more.

I'll do it ALL in the morning, *really* I will!

And I'll give you my impressions of the three candidates, after being in close proximity to them all.

More coming attractions:

Diane's dad calls Dan Rather

The infamous Deborah Campbell of the Special Press Gallery, or how TENS gets a credential up-grade.

Night now. Sweet dreams all.

Diane

p.s. I tried to enter the above when Parti went down last night.

Answer 17 (of 27) DIANE W., on WED, JUL 18 1984 at 19:21 (4490 characters)

Jesse Jackson - An Eye-witness Account from the Convention Floor:

The hall was packed and steamy. Everywhere I looked, armloads of JESSE JACKSON signs were being carried in and distributed. The crush was incredible, and I didn't know how to get through, until a channel 7 team, carrying 'heavy metal', came through yelling "emergancy" and split the crowd. I fell into the void behind and ended up in the center of the California alternates, in a group of Jackson supporters.

The excitement was high. Rumors had been flying on the floor all day that the Reverend would cast with Hart. No one knew what to expect. (I found out later from my reliable source that Jackson himself had actually written two speeches and didn't know till the last minute which he, himself would give.)

Someone got into a hassle with a Chicano carrying a BLOCK SIMPSON MAZZOLI sign. No one could get through. I thought it would end in a fist fight. On closer examination, the sign-bearer was a 'special guest', and the blockee was wearing a 'U.S. House of Representatives' credential.

The convention hall was a divided house - the war of the signs - while the crowd waited through the pre-Jackson speeches. A fight broke out in the Alabama delegation, complete with a biting incident. The heat was overwhelming I saw Steve Teichner. "You have to be a masochist to go out there now," he said as he headed for his command post in the high seats. The signs pumped in the air around me.

The no smoking on the floor rule was being blatantly broken by a young man standing next to me. No one stopped him. It was Ted Mondale, Walter's son, and no one was *about* to stop him.

A person in a donkey suit passed me. "Bet you're hot in there!" I said. "You better believe it", said a high-pitched young girl's voice from inside the donkey's mouth.

Charles Manatt just passed, looking unhappy and distracted. One of his personal bodyguards looks like Mr. T.

A proud black couple with C-Span TV, leaning intently into the monitor... Pages running all over the floor like worker bees... A Republican senator walks past, news at the Democratic Convention... Security tightens as Ted Sorenson begins to speak... I pass time and gossip with a college kid from Philly, here covering the event for his paper... The Children's News Team passes, and I grab one of their papers, with the headline story of the Mondale response of the day before... There's a rumor that the Hispanics will abstain on the first vote, or maybe even walk out in their displeasure over the voter

registration issue... The Hawaii delegation wearing wilted orchid leis... Ron Tindiglia comes by for a moment and says "I wish I were at home..." Sala Burton, whose office helped us get credentials, introduces Tip O'Neill... A group of disabled Democrats bottlenecks at the stairs behind me - there's no ramp... A California alternate stretches out on the stairs, then gives up to the heat and lies back to rest... Tip's speech doesn't really move the crowd today; they're waiting for Jackson...

The Rainbow Coalition speeches begin...

A black, blind college boy from South Carolina: "Jesse Jackson understands people like myself... He was not born with a silver spoon in his mouth. Reverend Jackson represents all people..."

A Jewish woman from New York City: (I can't help but wonder what moves her to support him, in light of the 'hymie' statements and Farrakan scandal) " I am deeply committed to a homeland for the Jewish people and the struggle against anti-Semitism. The persecution of Jews is inseparable from the persecution of all oppressed people. There has been pain and mistrust within the Rainbow. But we have a religious mandate to overcome the division among us. Reverend Jackson speaks for us, all of us..."

An American Hispanic from Texas: "Today among us there is a corageous man who has spoken for the minorities...for our poor, for our elderly, for our women, for our young...for those who are locked out..."

(Some of the security guards leave their posts, to move closer for a view of Jackson...)

A Chinese American speaks: "We're getting the cheese without the crackers..."

I watch Jesse's face, just off view of the cameras. Someone says he looks nervous, but to me, he looks angry, grim, jaw clenched.

(continued next answer)

Answer 18 (of 27) DIANE W., on WED, JUL 18 1984 at 19:33 (4596 characters)

Jesse Jackson, Part II:

The faces were a myriad of emotion as Jackson approached the podium. I saw concern, even fear written on some. Rapt attention, glowing pride, toothy smiles on others. Thousands of feet stomped the floor in unison, and I thought briefly about a cave-in at the underground Moscone Center.

The ovation lasted fully five minutes, during which Jesse Jackson surveyed the room absolutely stone-faced. Only at the end of the ovation did his face crease in a brief smile.

He began in his hoarse and compelling voice:

"This is not a perfect party. We are not a perfect people. Yet we are called

to a perfect mission..."

"My constituency is the desparate, the damned, the disinherited, the disaffected and the despised... The Democratic Party must send them a signal that we care... Leadership must heed the call of conscience..."

"There is a proper season for everything. There is a time to sow, and a time to reap. There's a time to compete, and a time to co-operate. I ask for your vote on the first ballot as a vote for a new direction for this Party and this nation. (Cheers go up, and cries of Jes-SIE, Jes-SIE!) I will support the nominee of this Convention for the presidency of the United States."

His eyes are piercing as they look in all directions. The sweat flies off his face as he moves. A collective sigh goes up among the California alternates surrounding me.

"I have tried to offer leadership for the Party and the nation. If, in my high moments I have done some good...this campaign will not have been in vain..."

"If in my low moments, through some error...I caused anyone discomfort, created pain or revived someone's fears, that was not my truest self...Please forgive me. Charge it to my head, and not to my heart. I am not a perfect servant, I am a public servant... God is not finished with me."

A young white man standing next to me wiped tears from his cheeks. The black California alternates had shining faces. It was the finest hour for black Americans. I saw wet eyes everywhere. I was utterly moved by the sight of a hall of thousands, worried minutes before about the possibility of a Party in shambles, rocking together as if at a prayer revival. It was a transformation on a scale the likes of which I had never experienced before.

This eloquent speaker, minister, candidate without hope, had single-handedly unified his Party before my eyes.

"This campaign has taught me...that leaders must be tough enough to fight, tender enough to cry, human enough to make mistakes, humble enough to admit them, strong enough to absorb the pain and resilient enough to bounce back and keep on movin'."

Open cries now of 'Right-on, Jesse' and 'Amen'. The crowd on its feet.

Jackson tells of Hubert Humphry calling Richard Nixon to his bedside three days before he died. When asked why, Humphry said, "...when all is said and done, we must forgive each other and move on..."

"Our flag is red, white and blue. But our nation is rainbow..."

As Jackson mentions the different races and factions that make up the country, a group stands up behind me and cheers at the mention of "...the gays, the lesbians..." Everyone turns to look at them. They look absolutely proud. "...all of us fit somewhere..." Jackson continues.

It was 100 degrees on the floor. People were mesmerized, cheering, listening with tears rolling down their cheeks...

You know the rest. You saw it on TV. I saw it here, for you, with you, your eyes and ears on the Convention floor.

Reverend Jesse Jackson played the crowd. He preached them. He worked them. He was powerful, believable, credible. His strong voice, with its hoarseness and cracks at emotional moments, held everyone with its perfect orchestration. Hands of all colors joined and swayed. It reminded me of peeking through the window at the black church near my home in Texas as a child. It always sounded like people were having such a good time in there - I was drawn by the resonant voices and the seductive music.

As all the black delegates for Hart and Mondale cheered, as people cried openly and held hands, as the celebration - dancing and clapping - erupted, it occurred to me that Jesse Jackson owned his piece of history. He owned the nation. For the night, anyway.

Diane Worthington, from San Francisco

P.S. While this was going on at Moscone, an effigy of Jackson was being burned at St. Patricks Church here in town by the Jewish Defense League.

Answer 19 (of 27) DIANE W., on WED, JUL 18 1984 at 20:36 (2976 characters)

"How can I work?? Let me WORK!!" I cry to those around me.

"InfoWorld photographer here - time for a picture?" "Do you have time to talk to George at PSI?" "Shall I go down and get the credentials for the day?" "Can you just get a print-out of that?" "Your dad's on the phone with Dan Rather's number." "

Gee. Wish I could actually type.

Deborah Campbell of the Special Press Gallery has turned out to be our special guardian angel. I thought she'd never want to see me again after all those pressure calls about our credentials, but to the contrary, she's solidly in our corner, and has given us credential up-grades every day. A tough, no nonsense black woman, thin and hard as a whip to the uninitiated eye, she softens inexplicably at the mention of TENS. She ushers us to the front of the crowded lines, and slips us the treasured news hall passes without a wait. I can't

I can't understand it. Perhaps she's softened because she was so hard on us to begin with. Perhaps it's because she's for the new kids, the late starters instead of the good-old-boy network.

I don't question it. I accept the magic.

Thanks Deborah Campbell, of the Special Press Gallery. You'll never see this, most probably. But maybe someone will tell you it's here.

I came around a corner in Moscone yesterday and almost tripped over Mayor Tom Bradly.

He was surrounded by the press. The first thing I noticed is how TALL he is. The second thing is how gentle and quiet he is. One had to strain to hear his words, and I couldn't. I popped out my little recorder and moved forward. An angry woman turned on me. "This is NOT your interview," she hissed. "Oh, sorry," I mumbled, embarrassed.

Ron Tindiglia told me later: You can always try to get in on an interview. Be prepared to be rebuffed. If the TV lights are on, don't go near. If it's a loner with a mike, keep away. If it looks at all like you can join, try to. All they can say is no.

Quick lesson in Interview
Protocal.-----

I was going to do a long piece on security at the Convention and at the demonstrations, but really, things have run so smoothly there's not much to say. The mayor has diffused any potential violence by providing a public area with stage, lights and public facilities for the demonstrators.

Metal detectors are in place at every entrance, and everyone gets the intense scrutiny only the Secret Service can give as he or she descends the long stairs. The presence on the floor is visible, but understated.

I feel no weirdness or disquiet in the vast hall.
The Ku Klux Klan never showed up for their 'demonstration'. Thank God there was no need of the mounds of riot helmets and night sticks piled in an empty storefront on 4th Street.

Diane

Answer 20 (of 27) DIANE W., on THU, JUL 19 1984 at 01:16 (4440 characters)

Gary Hart at the Colorado Delegation Caucus:

"Quick! Hart's at the Holiday Inn on Market Street! Let's GO!!" I said, the jaded, seasoned reporter on a hot story.

We pulled up on a side street in front of a hydrant and lept out of the car. The police, limos and Secret Service told us we were right on the money - the man was inside.

We pushed inside, along with the crowd. As we approached the conference room, it became apparent that we wouldn't get anywhere near. The room was pitifully small to accomodate the milling din of delegates, staff, supporters and press.

"Back, everyone back. The room is full. No one else allowed." said the agent in front, the first of a wall of guards. Sherwin went to check out the exits

while I plastered myself against the closest wall.

A little old lady approached the agents tentatively. She was rouged and rose watered, looking her finest for the occasion. "Excuse me, sir..." she began. "I'm a Hart delegate, and also on the staff. Do you suppose... I know your job is difficult. Could I get inside?"

"No, sorry, ma'am, " said the Beef. "Room's full."

"Let the little lady in," I said. "People are coming out. Look - here come two more. There's room for her."

"Welllll...you'll have to convince that guy there," says the Beef. I wink at him, and move past. "Wait," he says, "where are YOU going?"

"Why, I'm escorting her *in*," I say. "Come on, dear," I tell the little thing as we move past the final guard. "I'll see you safely in..."

And I did.

It was 110 degrees in the jammed room.

I looked around as best I could, and saw the crowd was composed of mostly young and upwardly mobile people - the 'yuppies' the media is so fond of attaching to Hart's name. I held my recorder aloft in the steam bath of the tight room.

"Partickley (sic) for those of you who have yet to make up your minds, I say to you that the decision you make tomorrow will be one of the most important you will ever make in your life..."

(The room erupts in the vacant, mindless chanting I've grown used to: Ga-RY, Ga-RY, Ga-RY... It makes me nervous. Especially in looking out over the thousands on the Convention floor. It comes to me that these are the nation's finest, the creme-de-la-creme, our elected officials. I see a sea of open mouths, the stomping and chanting, incessant...)

He sweats under the strong lights. He looks intensely around, making as much direct eye contact as he can, his eyes piercing and sharp. I feel he doesn't miss a trick, and begin to see why he has such ardent followers. There are a large number of teenagers in the room - kids too young to vote. I ask one next to me why he's there. "Because Gary Hart will keep me from going off to fight and die in a foreign place in another war that makes no sense," he says simply. "Hmmm," I respond.

"We're not here to have fun..." Hart says, but he's cut off by the laughter and cheers of "yes we are!"

"Maybe a little," he says...

He goes on to rally his supporters in the usual ways, most especially by extolling his followers to remove Ronald Reagan by any means possible.

"I love you, Gary," shouts one woman.

He wraps it up. I wonder how he'll ever get out of the room, until I see two guards with stout lines, actually roping back the crowd.

"Press," I say. "Let me through, please." And they do. I position myself outside the door, and wait for Hart to reach me. And he does.

"Gary," I say, feeling entirely comfortable calling this candidate by his first name. (I can't imagine calling, "Oh, Walter?") "How you doin'?" he says, looking directly at me in that disconcerting way. (No matter what's going on around him, he has the ability to really focus on you, give you his total attention.) "Just fine," I say as he pumps my hand with a tense grip, almost too strong. But it figures in the big picture of intensity that flows from him. He's like a coiled spring,

"Gzry", I say, feeling foolish now that I have his (and everyone's attention,) are you going to win it tomorrow?" "You BET I will!" he says. I look in his eyes. Damned if I don't think he believes it. "Would you choose Geraldine Ferraro?" I detain him another moment. "Wish I'd thought of it first," he said, giving me an unrecognized scoop on his speech of tonight, and was gone.

Diane

Answer 21 (of 27) DIANE W., on THU, JUL 19 1984 at 01:31 (1188 characters)

The Three Candidates:

Fritz Mondale, the 'old guard' politician: I thought him older, stiffer, until I saw him in person. While he's supported by all the traditional Democrats, and has, as of this moment, won the nomination on the first ballot, he's made a historic move by choosing a woman as a runningmate.

I like the man. He has an easy laugh. He comes across much better in person, which is a pity in an age of media star politicians.

Gary Hart, the 'yuppie' candidate: Young, forward-thinking, the 'new tech', newage candidate. (I wonder why he wanted to cut back on the space program, though?) Intense, serious, convinced he would win, and might have, had history been a little kinder after the New Hampshire primary.

The Reverend Jesse Jackson: The 'Conscience of the Party'. The dark horse, the candidate of the underdog. Grim, determined, and responsible for the unity of the party as a result of his compelling speech last night at the Convention.

Who knows what, if any, posts or positions these two defeated candidates will be offered by Walter Mondale.

And who knows if either of them would accept?

Answer 22 (of 27) DIANE W., on THU, JUL 19 1984 at 21:30 (7622 characters)

I wanted to tell you on Monday about the big Gay Rights March, but so much has happened during the ensuing days, I put it on the back burner till now. Still, it was a moving event, the largest demonstration of the Convention, and deserves coverage.

I tried to cross Market Street during the march, and was hung up in traffic in the sweltering heat for better than an hour. They kept marching in droves, waves of people as far up the street as I could see. I finally had to turn around and find another crossing.

In a city with an estimated gay population of from 1/4 to 1/3, I knew it would be a BIG rally. The City officials were a bit tense, anticipating that things might get out of hand. Again, no one knew quite what to expect. There is a strong gay vote here, and there are a number of gay City officials. San Francisco couldn't risk offending them, yet was worried what the event would appear as to the rest of the nation.

We have a reputation as a city of 'kooks'. San Franciscans have a long tradition of tolerance, and an established live-and-let-live attitude which has fostered an openness to any social and racial strata. No wonder the gays make up such a large part of the picture.

They gathered in the massive parking lot across the street from the center. The police presence was understated and friendly. (There are a number of openly gay cops on the force.) The event was monitored by an extremely efficient self-trained force from within the gay community. There was no trouble whatsoever.

I know there were 6 hours of speeches. I excerpt comments from several below:

First speaker is Perry Watkins, a young black homosexual, who chronicles his trouble with the army, and delivers a message of encouragement to all gays: I was drafted in May of 1968. I was expelled from Chaplin's Assistant School because I said I was homosexual, however my request for discharge for the same reason was denied... <Perry goes on to talk about an attack against him by 4 other enlisted men, numerous psychiatric examinations, recommendations for discharge and denials of same.> He was finally 'denied the right to re-enlistment.' Three of the questions that I was asked...in violation of a persons constitutional right to privacy:

1. Do you intend to engage in homosexual acts, or acts of sodomy in the future?
2. Do you have a steady lover, a steady partner with whom you are engaging in homosexual acts or acts of sodomy?
3. If reassigned, especially to a restricted area, do you intend to continue

to engage in homosexual acts or acts of sodomy?

(You will note the last question presupposes something as fact that has never been proven.)

<Perry refused to answer the questions, and was brought before a court. It was finally determined that he would be discharged.>

With all due respect to those officers, I was not questioning their wisdom, I was questioning their stupidity. It is often stated that people are willing to die for their beliefs. I am willing to LIVE for mine, until I die.

I am an American. I am black, and I am gay. And now I would like to be free.

('Bullshit', said a black lesbian with a white woman who was standing next to me. "Why did you say that?" I asked. "I don't agree - it's personal." "Will you tell me?" She turned in anger. "Get away from me. Go ask that *white* woman over there." "But," I said, "you're with a white woman." "Get the hell away," she snarled.)

A lesbian state official from Wisconsin: Greetings from Wisconsin, the only state in the Union that has a state-wide civil rights law which protects gays. I'm a mid-western dyke. I'm not a hero, I just got good and angry about our laws. I've been arrested and thrown in jail because I'm a gay activist. I've seen my friends get arrested for walking down the street holding hands, for disorderly conduct.

I thought about all this when I marched down your streets today. And I'm close to tears, because we don't have to be scared anymore. Thank you, San Francisco!

You are here to say that you are part of the Democratic process, the governmental process of America. There's a need for gay liberation. Start talking to people won't listen to you. Start talking to those who turn away. My challenge to you is, I'll see you in Dallas, in the march on the Republican Convention. We are going to be gay, proud and free.

Danny Williams, a San Francisco gay comic, comes out and does his schtick. His reception is luke-warm. He has that exaggerated, affectatious demeanor that everyone perceives to be the gay badge of behaviour. There are too many liberated, serious gays in the crowd today, and he falls short. Snatches of his lines: We had the Gay Games here - something I've been playing for years! I went down to sign up for my two favorite events - Coffee Table Decoration and Sarcasm... I understand the San Francisco waiters lost the Attitude event to the Neiman Marcus employees... Police Chief Murphy said they're not going to use the usual restraint during the Convention. What, neutron bombs and flame throwers?... The books in the library when I was a kid - they made me feel real good. They had titles like 'Homosexuality: Crime or Illness.'... When I told my father I was gay, he said, "But who's going to carry on the family name?" I said, "Our name is Williams, I don't think it'll be a problem."...

Mark Stevens, past president of Bay Area Gay Fathers: Thousands of us gather here to speak for the millions across the country who cannot. Perhaps the quietest among us are the more than two million gay fathers in this country.

Most are still married and support their families like any other fathers. Most cannot expose themselves. They run the risk of losing their jobs, their friends, and losing their own children. They are invisible, yet they live in anguish and desperation. It is a closet darker than the blackest hell.

A gay father must defend himself against a barrage of attacks that are based purely on myth.

Myth: Children raised by gay fathers will turn out to be gay themselves.

Fact: Those children are no more likely to become gay adults than those raised in any other household.

Myth: Gay men shouldn't parent because they're immoral and they'll molest their children.

Fact: 97% of all child molesters are heterosexual with children of their own.

All across the country, gay fathers are having their children taken away from them. Children can't understand why they cannot be allowed to see the father they love so much, the father who has done nothing wrong in their eyes.

All the research has pointed out that gay fathers don't differ from straight ones in their ability to be good parents...

I have raised three children in this city. Each can tell you the difference between a transvestite and a transsexual. They have exposure to all kinds of lifestyles here, and I believe, in the exposure, are secure in their own sexuality. The only thing that offends them, and me, is seeing any sort of open sexual activity on the streets. Other than that, in San Francisco, one develops a live-and-let-live philosophy. The peaceful and thoughtful march by the gay and lesbian contingent here should go some distance to illustrate to the rest of the country that it's a *valid* philosophy. Live, and let live.

Diane

Answer 23 (of 27) DIANE W., on SAT, JUL 21 1984 at 03:25 (3848 characters)

THURSDAY, THE LAST DAY OF THE CONVENTION:

You all saw Kennedy, Ferraro and Mondale on television. You'll see what the Republicans have to say next month, too,(and hopefully we'll be there for and with you.) And you'll go to the polls, just like me, and vote your conscience.

I won't try to recap any more major political events here for you, since they are over and you know them anyway.

But I will give you my impressions of the last day, in bits and snatches.

I took my daughter Shoshanna into the hall in the early afternoon. The crowd, in anticipation of the Mondale/Ferraro show, was already crushing. At every turn, someone plastered a 'Woman VP Now' sticker on us. The theme of the day,

UNITY, was born out by the armloads of little American flags being carried in. The balloons hung from the ceiling, ready for release.

I think the experience of being in the jammed hall is one my daughter will remember for the rest of her life. She loved it. She asked a lot of questions, and it gave me pleasure to explain the Democratic process to her. She wanted to see everything. (She's 12.)

As we passed the Hawaii delegation, she said, "Look - they're from Hawaii, and they're all white. I don't see a single Hawaiian." A woman jumped up and popped a 'Happiness is Hawaii' sticker on her, and I said, "You know, my daughter just made an interesting observation..." The delegate went on to explain that there *were* some Hawaiians, three of the 27, and a Japanese. We winked at each other and walked on.

Her biggest thrill: To see so many women involved, and to understand how special it is to have a woman on the ticket. Her second biggest thrill: the buttons, the hats, the costumes. "They act like a bunch of kids at a birthday party," she said, and rolled her eyes. She also thought they'd all be rich and well dressed, which they certainly were not.

Out in the sun again, walking back to the office, we rounded a corner and ran into a man and woman leaning against a van, sharing a joint. Their credentials said 'PRESS'. I realized then that inside the hall, in the vicinity of the press and tv trailers, I'd smelled the odor a number of times.

I started to reach overload yesterday, and saw the strain on many faces. The event was at such a fevered pitch throughout, no one could have sustained another day.

Much later, when Mike, Sherwin and I went out to dinner, someone stopped by our table. "I just want you to know how much we all appreciate you here in San Francisco," He said. "I recognize your faces, and you're doing a wonderful job." We knew he didn't recognize our faces, but it made us feel great anyway.

There was a punkers demonstration last night, and 369 people were arrested. They surrounded the Bank of America, and 'failed to disperse.' They were all processed, cited and released. I'm surprised there were no lethal stabbings in the crowded paddy-wagons by stiff, spiked mohawk hair-do's.

The KKK demonstration that everyone feared so much? Six men in a van from Modesto were turned away, since they never actually got their permit. And that was that.

I wanted one of those HART/FERRARO buttons as a souvenir. I understand that when Pat Shorder, a Hart delegate from Colorado went over to Mondale, he asked her if she had a Ferraro button. "Right here," she said, and turned her lapel over to show Fritz one of the Hart/Ferraro buttons.

I had to laugh. This year, whoever the candidate might have turned out to be, he would do so on the coattails of a woman!

We could have attended any number of victory parties. I just wasn't up to it. That sort of thing gets old fast.

Instead, I came back to the office and loaded up my car, and headed into the night.

Diane

Answer 24 (of 27) DIANE W., on SAT, JUL 21 1984 at 03:28 (3954 characters)

THE DAY AFTER - MOSCONE CENTER:

It was like a fine meal. Took ages to prepare, it was devoured quickly, and only thing remaining was the sinkfull of dirty dishes.

"If you want to see anything at all," Sherwin said, "you'd better get over there. It'll be an empty hall soon."

As I walked in, people were coming out, carrying their little bits of history - balloons, signs... The DNC wives were carrying off all the flower arrangements. Tables were being folded out from under the lounging security guards.

The concrete barriers that blocked the streets were gone - tons of cement had disappeared in the wee hours without a trace.

Inside, all the souviener booths were dark and gutted. massive tangles of cables hung like giant spider webbing at every turn. On the floor, trucks were carrying thousands of folding chairs out.

It was eerie. This place had held teeming masses scarcely 16 hours before. I looked around. A man was taping the windows of the skybooths. I asked if the same ones would be used in Dallas. "Nope," he said. "The Dallas booths have been under construction for a while now." What a fortune!

I walked up on the podium and surveyed the vast cellar. The floor was littered with mylar stars and '84's'. And hundreds of pounds of paper. I tapped the places the cameras had been set up with my toe - LA Times. Newsweek. New York Times. Each had scarcely a square foot in which to work. As I stood on the stage, the bunting was torn down to reveal the sheetrock underneath. The 'riiip' of the carpet being pulled up echoed in the hall.

Little carts and cherry pickers scurried over the floor, some decorated with balloons and bunting. The work was done so fast, I could watch the contours of chairs, ramps and platforms change before my eyes. "Fun," said a worker, "but we got a gift show here in two weeks." Back to business as usual.

I wandered through the VIP lounge. The floors were wet and filthy. I wondered what those people did in there, in the restricted area. I saw complimentary P C World's on most of the tables...

My wanderings brought me to the administrative offices, and the security command post. I walked in, and looked over the shoulder of a guard who was

watching 10 monitors. They showed different views of the key areas. "Mind if I ask you a few questions?" I said. "Rather you didn't," he said, and then began to talk and show me everything anyway.

"Would you like to see a view of the lady's rest room?" he asked. "REALLY??" I said, too loud. "Just kidding," he said. Ha.

"Do you monitor the whole center from here?" I asked. "Normally, but for this event, we co-ordinated it with the police and Secret Service." "Did you have anything strange happen - anything that worried you?" "Only the biting incident in the Alabama delegation. We had to find out what was going on real fast. Like this:" He points to a monitor, and turns some knobs. I feel like I'm in Buck Roger's space ship. The monitor scans an area, and then zooms in on a workman scratching his head. I look at the other monitors. One is trained on the podium, and another in the hallway behind it. Another on the exit closest to the stage. And so on.

He points out a board on the wall, a blueprint of the hall, with lights denoting the activated alarms. "This is all maintained by our in-house computer system," he tells me proudly. "What if your system goes down?" He just looks at me...

After I leave, I look everywhere for the cameras. I can't see any.

I found a full box of computer paper in my travels, just more of the discarded debris in the tons of litter being carted out. I picked it up before I left, and found the box contained an unexpected surprise. A jock strap. "Must have been some party," I said to Sherwin later. "Naw," he said. "Obviously, it was just another computer jock."

Diane

Answer 25 (of 27) DIANE W., on SAT, JUL 21 1984 at 21:29 (2728 characters)

BEHIND THE SCENES AT CBS:

"Come on over and I'll show you around," Ron said. "We're in the CBS trailers behind Moscone."

Finding him took some doing. There are 4 separate clusters of CBS trailers behind Moscone. Finally, a page delivered me to the right location. I wound my way through a maze of trailers, found the door and entered. The sight knocked me out!

A wall of monitors on one end displayed the broadcasts of the five CBS owned and operated stations around the country, and a 'pool' monitor, from which news of interest to all was drawn.

Teletype machines, like a Steven King novel, came alive and ran themselves. People milled around the rows of desks, and typewriters clacked. I approached Ron, who was on an M100 - the only computer in evidence.

A 'whoop' went up from the end of the room. It was because Ed Bradley, the CBS

Chicago reporter, had just gotten a great bit of live coverage from the Convention floor. He had been talking with Mayor Harold Washington, and turned to speak with his arch-opponent, Brinoliac (sorry if this incorrect, but it's close) who was seated a few feet away. Bradley asked him if he thought, in the spirit of party unity, he thought the differences could be settled between Mayor Washington and himself. Brinoliac appeared ready to talk a little. Then Bradley turned back to Washington for his comments. Washington, the Chicago fire-brand, said 'What the hell kind of press man are you? What are you trying to do.?' Washington looked ready to slug him. Bradley almost got punched, but it was a naked scoop for CBS.

I don't know if I could do that sort of thing.

When Ron had a free moment, I pointed out that McGovern, who was shown on three of the monitors during his speech, seemed out of synch by a few seconds on one of them. I asked why. "It's only out of synch by micro-seconds," he said. "You saw those huge dish antennas outside? Well, the picture is transmitted from here via satellite to New York, and then to here again. That's why it's a little slower." I marvelled at that. It IS the speed of light, though, after all.

We went into another trailer. Ron pointed out the room where the audio was controlled. A high frequency whine pierced my ears, and the technicians worked frantically to get rid of it. "Is that heard on television?" I asked. "Not now," he answered. "Thank god."

While everyone was friendly, I felt underfoot. The big boys run their operation efficiently, and there was no time for coffee Amaretto and light vignettes about the 'trade.' I took my leave.

I'm glad I'm an independent. Corporate life just isn't my style.

Diane

Answer 26 (of 27) DIANE W., on SAT, JUL 21 1984 at 21:33 (3176 characters)

CONVENTION TIDBITS AND TRIVIA:

The following pieces of Convention lore were culled from various places. I offer them for your amusement.

Anagram for Geraldine Ferraro: A real dirge for Ron.

Will Rogers: I don't belong to any organized political party. I'm a Democrat.

Business was terrible all over town. Said one restaurateur: It was worse than the worst slow days. All the free food and entertainment provided by the City and special interest groups really hurt us.

Tip O'Neill was seen all over town, except at the one party thrown in his honor.

CBS' Charles Kuralt: San Francisco is a joy. If only it weren't so crowded

with delegates...

A local shoe-shine boy, says Herb Caen, spiffed up Mondale's shoes for his acceptance speech. Size 11-d, with a hole in each sole.

The Minnesota delegation hired Crazy George, the Oakland A's cheerleader, to whip them into a frenzy for their favorite son.

A West Virginia delegate's wife: In West Virginia, they see gays, and just knock 'em off. That's why gays are still in the closet back home.

Worst food of the Convention: Moscone nachos, which turned into rocks after exposure to the air.

Worst gimmick: Can-a-Date momentos. A little donkey in a bed of plastic flowers inside a tin can, selling for \$40.00. Hells Angels owned business.

Upstaged event: The Hookers Convention and Ball. It received almost no media attention. Hookers complained of bad business. Said one, 'Republicans are much better customers. They don't sleep with their wives. I undress for Republicans so I can ADDRESS Democrats.'

Three persons were arrested for supplying marijuana to undercover cops at the Pro-Pot rally I covered. They threw out hands-full of weed to the crowd and the cops caught some. Bingo - you're busted.

In one bit of musical entertainment at the Convention, the Stanford Band stole the show when its drum major showed up wearing a tutu and twirling a plunger.

Golden badge award: To the San Francisco police, for their friendliness, patience and tolerance. And for never using the riot helmets and night sticks piled up in the storefront on 4th St.

Crummy, creepy boo-hiss: To the SF TAC Squad, perched on top of a nearby garage, who rated female delegates by holding up Olympic style scorecards as they entered the center.

Retaliation: The female delegate, who when she learned of the practice, moved as close to the TAC Squad as possible and 'moon-ed' them.

Technological breakthrough: CBS executives communicated with floor reporters below by means of notes lowered in a cardboard box on a string.

Nasturtiums were served as hors d'oeuvres at a party for the South Carolina delegation.

Ohio went through its entire allotted supply of beer in 90 minutes.

Ronald Reagan Jr. covered the Convention as a reporter. He was said to be funny and liberal.

Best button: Hart/Ferraro. Bound to be a collector's item.

Best move of the Convention: Jackson's 'Forgive me' speech.

Most heart-warming single thing: A woman as a major party's candidate for vice president.

Diane

Answer 27 (of 27) DIANE W., on TUE, JUL 24 1984 at 03:45 (3068 characters)

It's a Wrap!

Well, it was a heckuva week! Hard months of preparation, and the actual event flew by so fast it might have been a brief dream...

Last night I sorted through trays of paper, trying to decide what to keep and what to deep-six. The Democrats Fact Book - keep. The daily schedules from the DNC - toss. The Press kit - keep. The press floor plan - toss. The credentials - keep...

It used to be that attending a political convention was for the privileged few. Real deals were made on the floor. The process was exciting and grueling. With the advent of mass media coverage, less hard politicking was done in front of the cameras, and more action moved to the privacy of back rooms. And now, in the throw-away age, national political conventions are fully orchestrated for the media. This was evident in the voting I saw on the floor - "All in favor say 'aye'...the 'ayes' have it" - before a single breath could be drawn to voice either 'aye' or 'no'.

It was also evident in looking at the ratio of three media people to every one delegate.

Reporters were tripping over each other to get original stories. I heard of one 'feeding frenzy' in the lobby of Moscone - One of Hart's aides was stopped by a reporter. Within 5 minutes, he was surrounded by 150 reporters, shouting, "Who is he, who is he?"

I can be aggressive, 'pushy', as Greenly says. But I found scenes like these distasteful in the extreme. I wouldn't want to do it all the time.

Still, covering the Democratic Convention for Parti was an enlightening experience, and a whirlwind of textures, sights, sounds. I wouldn't have missed it for anything!

And part of what made it a unique and memorable event was being able to get your comments and suggestions. I always tried to put myself in the third person when covering something. Imagine how it would read if I were you. Endeavor to make the week come alive for you, bring you with me.

I hope I succeeded a little, and you all felt your time was well spent with me.

I'd like to know if you feel there's a future for this sort of reporting. Will you come along to Dallas? Did this enhance your television or newspaper coverage of the convention? Did you read here *instead* of following traditional coverage? Did you get anything fresh, different out of this? Or did this just add to the media blitz overall? Would you like to see more of

this kind of reportage? Do you think hard news coverage is a viable direction for Parti in the future?

In closing, please permit me a few small 'thank you's'. To Mike and Sherwin, for putting up with each other and with me, in what had to be one of the most tension-filled and fast-moving weeks of our lives. To Alan Kay and Harry Stevens, who took a chance. To STC for their support.

But most of all, a genuine and heart-felt THANK YOU to you, readers! It was truly a pleasure being here for and with you, and a memory I will treasure.

Diane Worthington, signing off from San Francisco.

Joiners of "DIANE TALKS" conference:

HARRY; ALAN; STC-EDIT; KEN*; GERRY ELMAN JD/KAVVANAH; NORMAN KURLAND; FR HAL; EVANSCLEVE; KENT M. S.; MAC; WEEHAWK; GSM; GEORGE M; CYRUS; KEN; DOCTOR TOM; SDC; PSI DAVE; LEAH; MIKE PUTCH; DOM S.; DR. MEMORY; BOB SANDHAUS; RON TINDIGLIA; ELMER; CRT; STEPHAN; SML; T/O; STL429; RITA G; DONNA DICKINSON; TIM HAIGHT; DIANE W.; CSR020; STANDOC; LISA CARLSON; JIM ARMSTRONG; BBQ311; BBP998; K SQUARED; CYNIC AL; EMMJAY; WHMJR; BUFLOE; CHRIS B; STY606; JIM FRANKLIN; NORMAN EPSTEIN; RUBE; JOHNNY FRIENDLY; SKY KING; SUMMER!; TENS; COLLIE; BCJ061; BBY516; STEVE TEICHNER; STEVE TAYLOR; DE MONSTER; RLH; STEWART; SPACE CADET; DAVID F. SALISBURY; ERIK; PG; BCJ985; BCK088; STW116; BBN187; BCG055;

"SHERWIN TALKS" Conference 84.18210 TENS, organizer, about "PERSONAL COMMENTARY AND OBSERVATIONS" (answers: 28) TUE, 07/10 13:50 (1300 characters)

This has been one of the most exciting, hectic, and exhausting times of my life -- I love it! And the real excitement hasn't even begun yet.

Unlike Mike and Diane, I'm a confirmed "techie" who made a 13-year sojourn in the world of business, totally removed from computers and such. I'm back, here in the thick of telecommunications at the most exciting time ever.

There's a list of things to try and cover that's as long as your arm. And leg. And then some. We'll go after the things that most interest you -- and each of us. I'll try to get some views of what goes on behind the scenes where other media cover an event like this. There are massive technical problems in moving entire news operations from their fixed studios to temporary quarters for the week.

I'll keep an eye out for reactions of others to what we're doing here, for the ways our technology is being used at the convention, for interesting and novel applications of the latest "gadgets" in managing this gigantic gathering.

And, of course, I'll go after what *you* say you want to know about. That's what this whole thing is really about -- trying to get you the reports that you want

I hope some of the excitement I feel rubs off on you, too, and you join me in San Francisco.

Sherwin

Answer 1 (of 28) SML, on SUN, JUL 15 1984 at 21:55 (1106 characters)

Mike was certainly right about the "high position" in the Party for Manatt -- seems he's still in as chairman after all!

Musical political chairs. Latest is that Manatt will stay on as chairman and Lance will be Mondale's campaign manager. Unless and until it changes.

So, how will this affect things? Will it make *any* difference?

Hart is still waging his campaign with the fullest force he can. Maybe, just maybe, some delegates who had their doubts about Mondale will be swayed by Hart. Hart, clearly wanting to ride the crest, said today that if *he* were the candidate, he too would choose Ferraro as his running mate.

And what will the Jackson delegates do? How will Jesse direct them? Mr.

Jackson may have more influence in the selection of the Democratic presidential candidate than anyone thought.

Walter Mondale may still have the nomination sewn up. But Hart's chances right this minutes are better than they have been for some time. Stay tuned -- we hope to have the impressions of some of the delegates before the final roll call on Wednesday.

Sherwin

Answer 2 (of 28) SML, on SUN, JUL 15 1984 at 22:43 (3008 characters)

TENS at the Convention -- Setting Up

So what, you may wonder, have *I* been doing since you've heard few words from me these past days? Mostly, I've been concentrating on getting the computers at our office set up. If you're not interested in hearing more, then press your control-P now to skip the rest of this message. But if you want to know about the great Apple //c systems and software we've set up at our command center, read on.

We have here three Apple //c systems provided by Apple Computer special for this event. They are for use by Diane, Mike, me, our receptionist, and our guests. We have already used them for several demonstrations of Parti and the conferences we and you are developing here. They are, of course, an essential part of what we're doing. Each system includes the //c itself, a green-screen monitor, a second disk drive, an Imagewriter printer, and a 1200 baud modem -- all manufactured by Apple. The software we're using is the Apple Access // communications package and AppleWorks integrated word processing, database, and spreadsheet.

The equipment setup was a snap -- about 15 minutes to set up the first system and 10 minutes for each of the other two (guess I'd learned something). The software took a bit longer to learn, but not much to get the basics. Right now, the Access // is set up to connect up to The Source with just 4 keystrokes -- just hitting RETURN each time in response to prompts -- to get all the way from turning the system on to getting the prompt to enter your Parti name. This ease not only saves us time but also allows us to get right to the heart of matters when we're showing folks Parti.

Our receptionist, with some word processing experience but no experience with Apples, was using the AppleWorks word processor in less than a half hour. We have our basic formatting set up on the disk and she uses that to start every document. Our full convention events schedule is on AppleWorks and is updated each time a new event is announced or we have a change in our own schedules -- so we can spend our time newsgathering instead of trying to keep track of what's going on.

I almost forgot -- we have one of the systems connected to both the monitor and a 19 inch TV to make it easier to show things to guests.

To complete the picture of our office operations: Diane worked long and hard at making certain every detail of the office was "just so." And the effort has certainly paid off. Equipment tables hold the Apple systems with everything needed in easy reach and the keyboard and monitor at just the right heights. The phone lines enable us to use all the systems simultaneously, upload from our portables, and still receive those all-important phone calls (some people out there still don't use computerized communications I guess). It's pleasant and attractive, yet still very conducive to getting the work done.

Sherwin

Answer 3 (of 28) SML, on SUN, JUL 15 1984 at 23:09 (1438 characters)

More about our operations

There's hardly been a lull since I arrived in San Francisco Friday afternoon. But things are just beginning. There are only three of us in TENS and literally hundreds of events taking place each day. Obviously, we can only cover a fraction of these, so it's extremely important that we make the most efficient use of our time. That's why we've been doing everything possible to make sure that nothing goes wrong (of course, *something* will go wrong -- that's a known fact), or at least it doesn't hurt us too badly if it does.

Aside from the Apples in the office, we're each toting lap portables, microcassette recorders, and pagers (beepers). The pagers are so Della, our wonderful receptionist, can reach us while we're running around the convention and the city. (Oh, I'm so sorry, Mr. Mondale, but none of the reporters is here right now. Perhaps you could make an *appointment* next time instead of just dropping in on us like this...) I think you get the picture.

I wish we each had a Dick Tracy wrist TV -- so we could coordinate what we're doing, alert each other to important stories, etc. But, while the technology may really exist, our budget certainly couldn't cover it. But we've got the next best thing -- lap portables with modems, battery operated, so we can check Parti from anyplace there's a phone.

Sherwin

Answer 4 (of 28) SML, on MON, JUL 16 1984 at 00:59 (1724 characters)

Senator Hart on the convention floor

I don't think I've yet told you what an incredible thrill it is to be here at the convention, to be rubbing elbows with all those folks you see on TV, hear on the radio, read in the papers and magazines. The feeling is almost impossible to describe. The whole thing has felt almost unreal.

Five minutes ago the whole thing was really brought home to me -- it's for real! I was taking a last-minute look at the convention floor, nearly empty now for the last time this week. And there was Gary Hart not more than 20

feet away! In seconds he was surrounded by reporters, your friendly Parti reporter among them. He was ushered before the channel 4 cameras (that arm with the blue sleeve and black hand-held recorder is me for those of you watching the local channel 4 news) for an interview. The thrust of the questions, of course: do you **really** think you have a chance? How has the Manatt incident affected Mondale?

I tried, I really did, to get to Hart and ask him to speak directly to you. But the security guard who briskly placed her elbow in my gut thought otherwise (funny, she didn't **look** that strong). The interview, brief though it was, was obviously pre-arranged -- no other reporters had the chance to say a word to Hart, who was rushed out a side exit that was closed to reporters. By the time I got outside with the other reporters (among the first out -- I can elbow pretty well, too) Gary Hart and his ring of security guards had disappeared into the night.

On the scene (hey, I really **am** a reporter!),

Sherwin Levinson

<next, Gary Hart's views of his chances>

Answer 5 (of 28) SML, on MON, JUL 16 1984 at 01:43 (2276 characters)

Gary Hart about his chances

<Gary Hart speaking to channel 4 reporters at the Moscone Center about a half hour ago>

"Our attempt to get the nomination here was never based upon some mis-step or mistake by Mr. Mondale. We've believed all along, and the polls confirmed this, that I have the best chance of beating Ronald Regan. And the delegates to this convention will acknowledge that fact and make me the nominee of the party." So said Senator Hart when questioned about the effects on his nomination chances of Mondale's on-again, off-again ouster of Manatt as party chairman. The Manatt/Lance incident is "really not consequential...I believe I'll be the party's nominee based upon the merits of my own case."

"I can't quite understand" the speculation about "my efforts to retire gracefully. I don't intend to retire, therefore I don't need to worry about doing it gracefully." If Hart has any doubts about going all-out for the party's nomination, he certainly doesn't show it! "I believe based on the merits, and the strength of my candidacy, I'll get this party's nomination."

And Hart is certainly working on getting the delegates necessary to, at least, deny Walter Mondale a first-ballot nomination. "In the past six weeks we've picked up a number of delegates from Massachusetts, Harold Washington delegates from Illinois, unpledged, uncommitted delegates. I think it's phenomenal that Walter Mondale claimed the nomination June the sixth, that the press **gave** him the nomination June the sixth, and he has plateaued some fifty or a hundred delegates above the majority according to the wire services. And he hasn't gained any delegates. Usually when someone becomes the nominee, **all** the unpledged, uncommitted delegates go to them. That hasn't happened in this case. I think somebody ought to ask him why **he**

hasn't picked up all those delegates."

So, does Gary Hart **really** believe he has a chance to gain the party's nomination? After hearing him speak, after watching his face, **feeling** his conviction -- I believe he **does**. By Wednesday night we'll know how well founded these convictions were.

Direct from Moscone Center,

Sherwin Levinson for TENS

Answer 6 (of 28) SML, on MON, JUL 16 1984 at 21:21 (1666 characters)

Mondale Press Conference

A press conference, a **real** press conference! The room filled. Gosh! Like the ones you see on TV. A **PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE'S** press conference.

Mondale and Ferraro on the stage (though the big blue banner behind the stage says "Mondale for America.") He's been having strategy meetings on returning the Senate to Democratic control, meeting with Senators and "future Senators." And had the pleasure of introducing them to the "next President of the Senate, Geraldine Ferraro!" (much applause)

Mondale feels that with restored Democratic leadership the Senate will return to the "healthy debate" that there used to be, that he remembers.

Questions: Reports that Mondale will withdraw so he can be chosen by acclamation.

Mondale: haven't heard that, but he'd sure be willing to.

But wait! There's this guy sitting next to me, bobbing up and down, his hand pumping like a piston. It's Mike Greenly! And all those lights in my eyes, the heat on my face means that Mondale has recognized Mike! He stands to ask his question:

"I am one of the first computer journalists to cover a convention....," he says, holding up his M100. But that's Mike's story.

I still can't believe it, though. A **new** news organization, virtually unknown (among the "regulars" -- not among you, of course!), at the first press conference held in San Francisco by the apparent Democratic presidential candidate. And TENS -- no, MIKE GREENLY, gets to ask one of only 6 or 7 questions accepted by Mondale.

Getting in the spirit of things,

Sherwin Levinson for TENS and Parti

Answer 7 (of 28) SML, on MON, JUL 16 1984 at 23:59 (2610 characters)

"...so Mr. Greenly, tell me how it feels to have asked a question of a presidential candidate for the first time in your life," said I as we worked

our way toward the exit.

(I could see that it was just starting to sink in)

"Um, all I could tell you is physical symptoms. That I'm aware of my heart pounding, my knees feel a little weak, and I don't even feel foolish about the fact that that's how I feel," said star electronic reporter, Mike Greenly.

We were feeling a bit heady (heck, more than a bit) at this point. Maybe no great thrill to any other reporters there, but still one in a series of firsts for us.

Riding on this feeling, I approached the Mondale staff people to try to get a schedule of his upcoming activities and was told that there was no set schedule at this point (no big surprise). Taking a deep breath, I say, "you probably heard my associate, Mike Greenly, pose one of the questions during the news conference. We're the first news organization ever to cater to the interactive electronic media. I'd like to speak to someone on your staff, please, about scheduling an interview with Mr. Mondale."

Well, the staff member didn't quite know what to make of this request. "Um, uh, you'll have to talk to xxxx over there. Who exactly did you say you we're with again?" she said, eyeing my press credentials a bit dubiously.

Well, after being shuttled to a couple other people, they finally determined that this was one for the Press Secretary for the South to handle, because I'm based in Atlanta. I start to go through my explanation again. He cuts me off in mid-stream: "Oh, sure -- I know about *you*" (uh, oh, I think -- what have I done now) "I read about you folks in the Mercury -- you're the ones who had all that trouble getting credentialed because nobody knew what category to put you in." I confessed that he was right. So he goes on to explain how they have press secretaries for the Mondale campaign for several types of issues, for different media, and for each major geographical area of the country. "But you don't quite know what category to put us in, right?" He laughs. "Okay, I'll see what I can do. I don't think you'll get an interview, but maybe I can bring you a statement for your readers from Mr. Mondale and you can show me how this thing works." After a bit more explanation of Parti and our wonderful, influential readers he walked off actually appearing excited about learning more.

One more small victory -- perhaps -- in getting the word out about us and *you*.

Sherwin

Answer 8 (of 28) SML, on TUE, JUL 17 1984 at 00:39 (3934 characters)

Impressions Outside the Convention

I decided to walk back to our office from the press conference.

Quite a contrast to yesterday. Clumps of delegates walking around, gawking at those wierd people beginning to assemble for tonight's peace rally in front of Moscone. Knots of people busily preparing the signs for the rally, with

head-high stacks of them done already. More policemen than I've seen anywhere so far. Vendor stands being assembled to cater to the expected crowds, the press platform already there, filled with bored-looking camera crews (there just in case an unexpected riot breaks out before the main event). About a half dozen of the food vendors are already in operation serving long lines of people -- at any other time, in any other place this would be a large crowd, maybe 5,000 there already.

I'm still amazed at the power of my shiny new press pass (today is the first day the much harder to get convention credentials are required -- over the weekend, pre-convention credentials were used). The pass lets me walk *inside* the police lines, practically alone, while the crowds watch from behind the barriers (am *I* the parade they've come to see? I don't anyone else around) -- they're there just to watch, nothing in particular, this is the event in the city this week so they've come in the hope of seeing someone famous (not me, not yet?).

Getting even *near* Moscone is much, MUCH tougher now. Concrete barriers are arranged in a way to make it impossible to bring any kind of vehicle even near the building entrances. Dozens of guards carefully examining every credential, turning away people who are obviously delegates but who have forgotten their *official* DNC Convention Passes to wear with their own delegation's ID.

Once inside, it's wall-to-wall people, jamming the corridors and lobbies. Everyone has a pass -- the "special guest" pass for vendors and building maintenance; the "honored guest" pass for the *real* guests, like the bearded, be-turbanned gentleman behind me; the "press perimeter" pass (that's what we have) that most of the press have; the pass that simply says "press" (many fewer of these) that allows access to the news hall, a bit closer to the convention floor itself; the "floor" pass, hardly any of those issued to the press, that allows access to the convention floor itself while the convention is in session; and the "security" pass, invariably borne by some barrel-chested blond giant.

I press forward to the back of the convention floor and watch the proceedings for a while. Then back into the "perimeter" where the press of people and the heat is stifling. Here is where the delegates, alternates, and their families are staring at the mazes of wires, are waiting in line for the telephones ("very good, Emily, now give me back the phone" to a toddler who must have just said hello to grandma), are pushing and shoving to get to the souvenir stands to buy T-shirts and buttons (child's size \$10, adult \$15).

The crowd jostles and shoves, but goes nowhere. So I abandon my plan to exit the other side of the building and leave by the same entrance I came in, walking past the metal detectors and searching guards.

Outside it's much cooler -- a relief. More and more people are filing behind the barriers on their way to the demonstration -- shaved heads, tatoos, mohawks, leather, studs, jeans, just what the delegates wanted to see. And they're on the other side of the barriers watching the people watching them.

I join the sidewalk crowd, wanting to see what a growing group is staring at through the dirty windows of an empty storefront. I finally work my way up to

the windows to see piles of riot helmets and the biggest billy clubs I've ever seen. Preparations for a peace rally.

Sherwin Levinson from San Francisco

Answer 9 (of 28) SML, on TUE, JUL 17 1984 at 23:50 (2096 characters)

Our wonderful receptionist/secretary/right hand Della -- Diane's already told you a little about her. But, through her, I had an experience tonight that would make all the work and sweat -- and money -- it took to be here as TENS worthwhile even if nothing else had worked out for us.

You see, Della had never heard Jesse Jackson speak before. She took no interest in the political process.

But she's started to now. I'd like to think it's at least partly because we're here and Diane found her to come work with us.

I have seldom seen anyone as moved as Della was watching the Reverend Jackson's speech on our TV tonight. She was in tears, happy tears.

"...I'm a woman who's a head of household, not what you'd call even low income, struggling to get along. All these years I've never voted, because it just didn't seem to apply. Because nobody ever addressed it to me before, made me believe I had a chance to make a change. Not just blacks, everybody, everybody you see on the street. Men that I knew that used to work every day and support their families, now they're out of work, you see them falling down drunk all the time.

"For once now there may be hope and dreams -- for once now I feel like an American."

Della started to care, to feel a little bit of hope when her son came home one day after hearing Jesse Jackson speak in Oakland. "You know, all these years I wanted to be a fireman," he said. "Now I want to be *really* someone." She started to take more and more of an interest as she worked with us this week, learned that politicians are people, like we all are.

Della is an intelligent, articulate, hard working person who under other circumstances, perhaps under a different system or history, might be a corporate president or political figure. But she didn't think she could be, she didn't care. After tonight's speech her transformation is complete -- she believes that *she* can make a difference. What a beautiful change.

Sherwin Levinson from San Francisco, as moved by Della as she was by Jesse.

Answer 10 (of 28) SML, on WED, JUL 18 1984 at 15:31 (4328 characters)

At the Hart Reception - Sort Of

Before calling it a day, Diane and I decided to go to the Hart reception for the Colorado delegation. This was right after Jesse Jackson's address to the

convention. Arriving at an unpretentious Holiday Inn, we found the lobby mobbed and the crowd becoming impassible by the time we reached the Secret Service (it always makes me a bit uncomfortable to think that those initials are "SS") agents blocking the final corridor. "But we're * delegates*," pleaded the people in front of us. "So are half these people trying to get in," replied the guard. "The room is FULL." The Secret Service agent had obviously gone through this scene dozens of time already this evening and his boredom was evident. I listened for a few minutes as each person tried his or her *best* reason to be the person who just *must* be squeezed in, then decided to scout around the fire exits for a back way in while Diane worked out the irresistable argument to get in there herself (she did, by the way).

[Note: It's not just Hart who's having trouble keeping events to a manageable size -- at the Mondale press conference Monday I overheard a Mondale staffer chewing out several others about letting in too many staffers, leaving too little space for the press]

Well, the place was sealed off very well indeed, with the few exits all well secured. So I decided to learn a bit more about the mysterious Secret Service agents themselves. Taking a deep breath (I remembered the elbowing Sunday night from one of Hart's guards), I approached a bearded giant who was lounging against the wall surveying the lobby. He wasn't very talkative, but more so than I expected. I had noticed that the agents recognized each other and the *special* Hart staff (who were to be admitted no matter what) by their lapel pins. So I asked. The square gold pin (about a half inch on a side) with the red star in the middle signifies Federal Secret Service. The White shield-shaped pin with the red chevron across it means local detectives specially trained for this duty.

Each of the agents is wired with a flesh-colored earplug. A wire tendril snakes out of the agent's collar to connect the earplug to a miniature two-way radio hidden under the jacket (somehow, I don't think the bulge under the other side of the coat is a wallet). I walked outside again and spoke to the drivers of one of the cars that follows Hart around during the campaign. They are Federal agents (the locals help with crowd control at events like this one). These two have been pulled from Denver and Miami, others have been drawn from all over the country. They work 3 week shifts following the candidates, then go back home for a while, then repeat the process. These two work the 4 to midnight shift in the 24-hour protection schedule. If Hart is not nominated, these two agents will be reassigned to cover the vice-presidential nominee.

I think -- my own impression -- that the one I'm talking to, the one behind the wheel (a petite woman, the one who elbowed me Sunday night -- don't be fooled by her size), is really rooting for Mondale so *she* will have the chance to follow Geraldine Ferraro around the country. Would *she* have some inside stories to tell!

The tight coordination is evident as I preceed Hart out the lobby to his waiting limo -- the crowd parts almost magically just before he comes into view, the cars are started just before he walks up to them. Hart never needs to break stride as the way clears before him. Two of the biggest policemen I've ever seen come out and look around. Mrs. Hart emerges from the hotel first, her hands to her forehead, sounding clear-headed but showing the strain

of the heat (Diane said it must have been 110 in the reception itself). She speaks a moment to the two delegates alongside me who bitch about the "goddamn Secret Service" who wouldn't let them in. She makes a few sumpathetic sounds before flopping into the car, finally on the way back to her hotel, this day of campaigning over. Her husband comes out, holding himself stiffly erect, but evidently tired, jumps in the car, and they're off.

Sherwin Levinson from SF

Answer 11 (of 28) SML, on WED, JUL 18 1984 at 19:13 (4542 characters)

Talk with Hart Alternate Delegate

Speaking with a Hart alternate from Birmingham, a Freeze Voter, and a Source subscriber (all the same person). I ran into him online and with Della's help (what would we do without her?), I was able to track him down.

He agreed to come over to the TENS office (bless Diane for getting this great location!) and talk to me.

Hart came to Birmingham a few days after the New Hampshire primary -- that's where Edward Still first met Gary Hart. There were only about a dozen people at the meeting when Ed got there; eventually the group grew to about fifty (the Secret Service wouldn't let more in -- getting to be a familiar theme, isn't it?). Ed started listeniong and found that Hart analyzed things the same way he would, starting from zero with no pre- conceived notions. That's when Ed joined the Hart "camp."

Ed is politically aware. He's a lawyer specializing in civil rights. He's written essays on political science and been published (latest in Minority Vote Dilution, edited by Chandler Davidson, Howard Univ. Press -- forgive this, please, if you consider it a plug). So I respect his opinions and especially wanted to know his feelings about Hart's *real* chances at being nominated. "If I were a London odds maker," Ed says, he'd give Mondale 3-2 odds of winning the nomination.

Why are Hart's chances so good (and those *are* poor odds for Mondale, for someone who supposedly has the nomination sewn up)? Well, it looks like the Hispanic delegates may abstain on the first ballot, in protest of the legislation they consider discriminatory. This is the first time in over a decade that delegates can vote their consciences on the first vote and aren't bound to their candidate. So, the Hart supporters are working on any and all delegates, most especially those uncommitted or committed to candidates who are no longer in the running. They're producing surveys showing Hart with a much better chance of beating Reagan than Mondale has. They're pointing out how much better a public speaker Hart is (of course, compared to Cuomo and then Jackson Hart may look pretty bland himself). "Mondale can't speak -- everything he says sounds memorized."

What else is going on? Well, "Mondale's cutting deals right and left" to avoid a floor fight about *anything*. He's also trying to avoid every vote he can. Within each delegation, delegates are being seated by candidate, supposedly to make vote counting easier. But Ed thinks it's to make it easier to apply peer pressure against possible defectors from the Mondale camp, to

help force a united front.

About delegates being free to vote as they choose, Ed feels that delegates are elected because they have specialized, know more about politics than the electorate at large. So they should certainly take general direction from those who elected them, but should use their special knowledge as events unfold to vote for what's *best* for their party members.

About Jesse Jackson, he'll help get out the "natural Democrats" -- those who would be Democrats if they voted, but have taken no interest in the electoral process (if Della's any example -- she's never voted before -- then it's certainly true that Jackson will get this segment of the electorate out). But Ed feels that Jackson could be a problem if he's given any major role in the campaign. "Politically active Jews have more money than politically active Blacks," he points out. There was a big shift of traditional Jewish voters toward Reagan in 1980. Ed feels that Jackson's prominence could really hurt any chances of reversing this trend.

About the voting computers and computers in general at the convention: "it's silly, silly, silly taking a roll call after doing an electronic vote." Just a stupid waste of time catering to the media this way just so it can have what they think is better visual impact. Ed thought, before he got here, that there would be a keypad for every delegate to vote individually. There isn't. Instead, the delegation chairman counts up the votes for the delegation and enters the delegations totalled votes.

There's also a computer in the Alabama delegation's meeting room (Ed isn't sure what brand), but nobody seems to know exactly what it's for and it hasn't even been turned on yet as far as he knows. So much for computerization of the political process here.

Sherwin

Answer 12 (of 28) SML, on WED, JUL 18 1984 at 21:33 (2690 characters)

A Good Try?

I've been trying to at least get a statement from Mr. Mondale recognizing what we're doing here together. Well, partial luck -- I spoke with Steve Rukavina, one of the Mondale press secretaries.

Rather than going through *all* the same questions he's been getting all along (and that you'll hear answered all over the media), I asked him first how they are coordinating their campaign efforts -- how they kept in touch during the primaries, what they're doing here, what they'll do during the presidential campaign. Somewhat predictably, they use conventional means - - walky talkies, beepers, phones, and tons of paper. Which can cause them lots of problems. Often, when they try to coordinate what exactly their positions are, they end up taking hasty notes over the phone. He was *very* curious about what we're doing here -- the benefits for coordinating a campaign are so obvious. After the convention we'll be trying to work out a way we can receive campaign statements direct to Parti, so stay tuned.

They expect a comfortable margin in the first ballot tonight. They claim 2107 delegates who have committed publically, so even if they lose a handful, they'll still be okay -- they need only 1967 votes.

What about the Hispanics, who were goin to abstain during the first vote in protest over the Simpson-Mazzoli bill? By voice vote in this morning's caucus they voted down a boycott. After Jesse Jackson's appeal today for them to vote for him to symbolize how far minorities have come, it's still expected that few if any of the Mondale Hispanic delegates will desert, even on the first ballot. Still, the California delegation is the one to watch, coming near the start of the roll call. It is expected that Jackson delegates will vote for Jackson on the first ballot, but that few others will.

Mondale was "very impressed with Jackson's speach...happy for [his] conciliatory words" and his "committment to party unity." The Mondale camp is more confidant than ever as far as party harmony.

Another thing they are **very** pleased about -- a poll today showed that Democrats nationally show a 20% increase in the belief that they can win this fall. That's **far** greater improvement than they had expected, and only half way through the convention.

They feel that there is less than the ususal disagreement this convention, and are very pleased that what appeared to be a party that was "breaking at the seams" now is "coming together beautifully." It's very gratifying, especially they say, to see the role Hart and Jackson are playing in this.

Sherwin from SF

Answer 13 (of 28) SML, on WED, JUL 18 1984 at 21:38 (590 characters)

At the DNC Press Center

In case you wonder how **you** were able to get the full text of Gary Hart's speach tonight -- **before** he said it -- it's because the speach was available at the DNC press office this afternoon when Della and I were there, exactly for the purpose of getting any and all advance information available.

Because of Della's flying fingers and the systems and software Apple has provided us for this event, we were able to get the full text of the speach online just after the official release time of 9PM EDT.

Sherwin

Answer 14 (of 28) SML, on WED, JUL 18 1984 at 21:41 (458 characters)

The nominating speaches tonight:

Mayor Tom Bradley will place Walter Mondale's name in nomination for the Presidency.

The seconding speeches will be by Ann Richards, Treasurer of the State of Texas, and New York Congressman, Robert Garcia.

Goodbye for a few hours now -- I'm off to the convention to see who *really* gets the nomination (my M100, provided by Tandy for this event, will be with me just in case...)

Sherwin Levinson for TENS

Answer 15 (of 28) SML, on THU, JUL 19 1984 at 01:53 (8680 characters)

Nomination Night

The Hart speech -- you've had the text available since the speech began, so I won't repeat any of it here. But after the speech, they play "Chariots of Fire" stirringly, loudly through the magnificent sound system, vibrating through your bones. Mob psychology -- they sure know how to use it! Shouts all around me now after the music ends -for once I wish we had sound on Parti, I wish you could hear all the shouts of the crowd: "Hart! Hart! We want Hart! My family wants the future!"

It's already been going on for 5 minutes since the music ended. It's hard not to get into the spirit of the thing.

It's a hot sweaty mob, marching around -- quite a demonstration going on. About ten minutes now and still going strong! Are there enough to deny Mondale the nomination on the first ballot? Hard to tell. They're enthusiastic enough. As I already said, Jesse's been out today trying to get as many votes as possible on the first ballot, probably as much to prove *his* power and assure a place in any Democratic administration as to show how far minorities have come. Knowing his persuasive powers (did they come through the same on TV? I guess they did after seeing Della), he may have picked up quite a few beyond his own delegates. Meanwhile, if Hart has been doing his job, Mondale may just be cheated out of a first-ballot nomination. I wonder if the Jackson delegates have any advance instructions on how to vote if Mondale does *not* get a first ballot nomination? It would be nearly impossible to get last-minute instructions to them.

Meanwhile, the demonstration goes on. And on. It's been about ten minutes now. I'm watching the New Jersey delegation in front of me, about a third of which is parading around, pumping their Hart signs up and down and stomping their feet. Taped to the bottom of a Hart sign is a sign saying, "Michael, David, Sylvia and Todd -- I love you. Mom."

Security is even tighter than it's been so far -- there are checkpoints at the boundary of each different type of area. They're even turning the passes at an angle to be sure the holographic seal is genuine, that it rains through the colors of the rainbow as it's tilted. I left much of the crowd behind when I passed the point where the "press perimeter" holders must stop (yup -- we got the passes that allow us to the press gallery and other areas right on the convention floor. The only place we can't get to is the area where the delegates are actually seated). It's a bit cooler here, a relief actually -- the tunnels behind are crowded and hot.

NOBODY but the delegates get on the floor. If a delegate needs to leave and be replaced by an alternate, the delegate must first come out and give the alternate the pass. Then to return the process must be reversed.

I'm taking verbal notes on my recorder right now, wishing I could sit down and type on my M100 instead. Once the Hart demonstration is over there will be some seats in the press gallery. When people leave after the boring nominating speeches begin.

The chairperson is trying to quiet things down now by pounding her gavel - - over the PA system it sounds like a big pipe being beaten against a fence post. Her efforts only seem to encourage them to be louder and more exuberant. If enthusiasm counts, Hart might get the nomination. As it is, it'll probably take a miracle.

There are some Mondale staffers behind me, complaining incessantly about the Hart signs in front of them blocking their view. Somehow, I don't think they'd be upset if this were the demonstration following a Mondale supporter's speech. Earlier today the Mondale staffers were busily at work stapling their signs to longer poles so they'd show above the Mondale signs, but it looks like at least the Hart people had the same idea.

Finally, maybe 15 minutes after the music ended, and the chairperson has called for security to clear the aisles, the next speech begins -- a nominating speech for Eugene McCarthy. I think this is the time to head for the perimeter tunnels and try to get around to the press gallery and find a seat so I can type some of this.

Passing through the tunnels to the left side of the hall where the press gallery seats are I get to speak to Valerie Harper (remember Rhoda on TV?) for about 12 seconds -- just long enough for her to confirm *who* she is but not long enough for me to ask (well, I got to ask her back) *why* she's here.

Passing the Hawaii delegation I notice that theirs is the only delegation sign that is in any way adorned -- with plastic antherium wound about the base of the sign.

Finally, I get to the press seating gallery and find a seat. "Special interests are more interested in preserving their power than in electing a president." This -- bitterly -- from a Hart appointee to the credentials committee who is sitting next to me in the press gallery, as happy as I am to sit down finally. McCarthy drones on to occasional, polite applause. My seatmate is asking, "what the hell is this guy doing up there?" Finally he says, as McGovern is urging all to vote for Mondale, "oh! *NOW* I see what's going on!"

Meanwhile, the process goes on. Jesse Jackson's name is placed before the assembled delegates. But the greatest applause of the night, it seems to me, was for Shirley Chisholm (maybe it's partly because she's not vying for office or jockeying for power?).

Now I have a Mondale supporter from Chattanooga, Tennessee sit down to my left. This is going to be fun! Sitting right between the two opposing camps. The Mondale lady is a delegate's wife. She makes "computer" an eight-syllable word as she asks me about my M100 and tells me about her uncle who works for

"ahh beey aumm."

I ask the Hart man on my right what he **really** thinks of his candidate's chances. "Almost non-existent," he says candidly. But a few minutes later, after Hart is nominated, no doubt shows at all as he jumps up and down shouting "we want Hart" till he's so hoarse he can't even whisper any more. Meanwhile, after a few minutes of this, my Southern belle for Mondale jumps up and stomps and shouts just as hard as the guy on my right -- for Mondale. I hear two behind me talking. "I was a Hart supporter early on," says a Mondale demonstrator. "I still am -- **I'M** from Colorado," says the Hart signbearer next to him.

I just can't tell you what an absolute thrill it is to be here. I know I've said it already, but even more so now, if that's possible. I feel as I'm typing this almost like I'm connected directly with you -- how I wish I had a cellular phone so I could send this right now! But I promise that you will have this just a few minutes after the nomination is made.

I just realized what this reminds me of -- a baseball game.

The roll call begins. I'm really on edge, excited, anxious about the outcome. I find myself rooting for the underdog Hart. Arizona, perhaps a precursor, has a couple Hispanic abstentions. California has a large number of abstentions -- seems to me that some of the Mondale delegates are abstaining, but I'm not certain. Maybe Mondale **won't** get a first ballot nomination. Florida and Georgia abstain -- do they want the honor of being the deciding votes?

You know, I've never paid that much attention to the roll calls before. It's fascinating how some of the delegation chairmen try to outdo each other in their little speeches, kind of like being at a liars convention. There goes Mike Greenly across the aisle in front of me, recorder at arms length.

The delightful little old lady who is now on my right ("it's not what you know, it's **who** you know -- I'm just here watching" when I asked her why she was here) is starting to grumble about how long the speeches are -- she wants to get back to her room to change before she goes to her parties.

I just connected with Mike -- he'd just come from seeing Steve Teichner. Steve's projection right now is for a Mondale victory on the first ballot. I almost wish I didn't know that. It was so much more interesting thinking that the underdog still had a chance.

Well, soon after it's evident that even the Hart delegates know it's over, as they file out dejectedly while the roll call is still being called. I'm out in the tunnels now, watching them go by, their hard work over, their hopes shattered, as a tremendous shout shakes the hall -- Fritz is it.

Sherwin Levinson, your friendly reporter

Answer 16 (of 28) SML, on THU, JUL 19 1984 at 03:06 (2020 characters)

Some more impressions from San Francisco

It's strangely depressing, sitting here in the empty office (Mike's returned to his room, Diane gone home for the night), with the feeling that it's really all over now. Sure, the convention runs another day. But the real meat of it is done.

We'll have a lot more stories for you, things that are current and other things we've been gathering that we think you'll find interesting but didn't have the same kind of time pressure as what you've already seen. I'm debating with myself right now about whether I should write some of those stories now or go out in search of victory celebrations and interesting tidbits. By the time I finish writing this I'll have decided.

There are so many press people here that nobody gives the press credentials a second glance, hanging on chains around people's necks, flapping in the breeze. Lap computers aren't terribly remarkable any more, either. I've sat in front of Moscone a couple times, finishing stories on the M100 that Tandy's supplied me for this coverage, and not attracted a single glance -- this is a sophisticated group.

On the bus this morning, that was different. I had a regular collection of drunks and winos around me, some telling me all about the latest in technology and some asking about it. They hardly noticed when I got off, since the know-it-alls were telling the know-nothings all about it.

I pass the storefront with the piles of riot helmets and billy clubs every day. Thank God, I think each time, they're still in there.

There are literally dozens of details to be worked out if we're to do a creditable job at the Republican convention in Dallas -- these too are swirling through my head.

Well, I haven't decided yet if I will or won't go off in search of celebrations and celebrants. So I'll go read some of my accumulated Parti mail.

Till tomorrow,

Sherwin, signing off from San Francisco

Answer 17 (of 28) SML, on FRI, JUL 20 1984 at 06:34 (2654 characters)

The Aftermath

San Francisco, July 19, 1984

The convention is by no means over. Today is the day to promote party unity, to lay the groundwork for a unified election effort. But for the thousands of those who worked months and even years for this moment, it is a tremendous let down.

That's what I was feeling last night -- the mass depression of all the others, the ones who were sitting quietly, some tearfully, as the Mondale supporters danced in the aisles. It was a time for them to re-assess their lives and find a way to justify how they had spent their time. And decide what they'll do now, with all the hours they had been devoting to campaigning.

There were many tears last night. I understood the feelings of the Hart delegates who hoped until the last minute that something, anything, would change to give their candidate the nomination. I had a much harder time understanding the feelings of the others, like the Jackson delegates, who couldn't have possibly expected to win and must have had to face the truth before last night.

When I returned to my little "bed and breakfast" inn last night, there were three Jackson delegates and a liter of rum in the sitting room, keeping each other company. I sat and talked with them, listened to their hopes and dreams. And gradually came to realize why the empty feeling had come just then. No, they hadn't expected Jesse to win the nomination, had given up that hope some time ago if they ever really held it. But the campaigning had continued unabated all through the pre-convention period, striving to put their delegate in the best possible position to influence the course of the Democratic party. Now they must switch loyalties. The nomination of Walter Mondale, certainly not unexpected, closed with finality that phase of their lives. Certainly, they agreed, they would work for Mondale. But the fervor would be gone -- no endorsement could possibly shift the intense personal loyalty they held for the Reverend Jackson. And so they sat and drank and talked quietly of shattered hopes.

A little while later, walking down the hall the the door with the big brass letters "WC," I saw one of the same delegates again. He looked, if possible, more disconsolate than before. "Nothing to do until convention time tomorrow?" "Nah, we have a caucus meeting at 9 *every* morning." "A little late to still be up then, isn't it?" (it was a bit past four) "Don't make any difference -- I'll go there 'round noon." "Won't it be over by then?" "I *guarantee* you I'll be the first one there."

Answer 18 (of 28) SML, on SAT, JUL 21 1984 at 17:24 (2010 characters)

Personal

I *was* teasing Mike at dinner. Because Mike is so much the idealist, despite anything he says to the contrary. Mike, who wasn't going to have *anything* to do with this project except lend moral support and, maybe, help plan from afar. Mike, who I feel a mixture of jealousy and admiration about because he makes it *look* so easy, so easy that he even fools himself. *That* is why I was teasing him -- because he makes it look so easy that even *he* is surprised by how much work it is.

And here he is, having just flown across the country yesterday, writing his last piece for this coverage.

Me? I'm enjoying the solitude of this now empty office and having it finally sink in that we really *did* pull it off. You'll be receiving a few more

things from me over the next few days, things that I know you'll enjoy if only I can find the right words to convey what I felt when I experienced. Things that I hope won't be the less for coming out of time sequence with some of what we've already said.

Yes, I'm the "techie" of the group. Though I've spent a lot of time masking the fact that I'm a techie because, in business, people seem to think you're wierd if you think all this hardware and software is anything but a necessary evil to be left to underlings. So I tried for years to mask my interest so I'd have a chance of getting people to recognize the wonderful things you can actually *do* with this stuff.

No more. About the time the very first roots of this venture were being formed I left *that* business world and proudly proclaimed my techieness. And I can *still* talk with people, too.

Animals and machines have always understood me and I them (I wonder what the connection between the two is?). Della was amazed at how, if her machine just refused to read a disk, I could walk over to the machine, talk to it sternly, and it would work! Yeah, I know -- that's crazy. But it *does* work.

Answer 19 (of 28) SML, on SAT, JUL 21 1984 at 18:53 (4612 characters)

Friday Night at Convention HQ

Well, maybe that headline is a bit misleading. Because, you see, convention headquarters folded up and went home. So did just about all the delegates, reporters, and others who made San Francisco home for the week. But not the production folks who were responsible for seeing that you received the reports that everyone else prepared for you.

So I decided to go over to the Hilton where the DNC had been headquartered and see if any of the press corps were still there.

They were - the production people. Looking tired, so tired, but now at least relaxed with the most immediate pressure off.

At the Cable Car Bar in the Hilton lobby there were maybe 200 people in the post-midnight group. Most of them seemed to be production crew, quite a few with their own organization's IDs still on (necessary to get into their private facilities in and adjacent to Moscone). Very few of the official convention credentials were still evident -- probably packed away as souvenirs of yet one more event.

There was one reporter sitting alone at a corner table, writing frantically -- one last story to file. I could sympathize, left her alone.

I spoke with several of the others, though, who had learned through experience to take a little time to unwind when the heat abates. For them, the pressure is never truly off. They hop from one special event to another, on call at any time should a story break unexpectedly.

This summer is especially busy for them. Many are right now working on

tearing down the temporary broadcast facilities, carefully packing things away -- they'll be flying to LA on Sunday or Monday to set up there for the Olympics.

Before I flew to SF, I spoke with a friend who was on the CBS Special Events crew at the 1980 conventions -- so I'd have a better idea of what to look for here. He was a tape editing engineer, but really had a lot of jobs to do. I never realized that the entire network news operation moves for events like this. So the New York studio, where the network news normally originates, is all but closed down during the convention -- all the news broadcasts on *all* topics originated at the convention. This year, no major stories broke out during the convention. But in 1980 they had to find a way to get 2 satellite feeds hooked up on the fly to cover the Miami riots.

I also never realized how many different kinds of incompatible equipment they need to deal with -- there are all kinds of different camera models, all requiring a different kind of hookup. In the hotels where news is expected to break out (like Carter's hotel in 1980, Mondale's here, Reagan's in Dallas), they set up camera stations where the crews can plug in on the fly as news happens (those camera crews with their backbreaking loads must really envy me, carrying under 4 pounds of Model 100 to do my job). Miles of cable are laid through the hotels, which are not set up for it like the convention site itself is. Ceilings are torn out, walls removed, all to be put back when the convention is over.

They also use portable microwave setups to transmit direct from the camera crew (this is *live* folks) to the studio, where it's all mixed together to form the news that goes out over the network to affiliate stations.

If you watched the TV coverage you may have seen some long poles with what looked like about a foot long can on the end -- these are the microwave transmitters. In 1980 my friend had to improvise one of these because Carter decided to walk from his hotel to a deli on 57th street for his lunch -- an unexpected departure from his published schedule (quick, guys -- let's get this *live* coverage of the President eating a pastrami sandwich!). They had a portable transmitter/receiver for backup and ran next door to a camera store to buy a tripod (right now!) to mount the receiver on, on the hotel roof, while others stole a mop from the hotel to mount the transmitter on. It was a small, invisible triumph for the production crew.

After talking with these folks and thinking about them I realize how lucky I am. They are *never* in the limelight. While I sometimes get impatient with how much time I need to spend on the mechanics of things -- setting up equipment, copying and editing notes before they go into the "live" conference (don't misunderstand -- Mike and Diane do all of their own editing) -- *I* get to be on-the-scene too and report to you.

Sherwin

Answer 20 (of 28) SML, on SUN, JUL 22 1984 at 04:34 (3888 characters)

The Final Night/Pep Rally
and an almost-successful bluff

San Francisco - July 19, 1984

(Notes on tape at the time -- there was nowhere to try and key this night)

What a difference from the night before! It's like a cross between a party and a pep rally. Nothing but smiling faces and laughter. No tears or near-tearful faces. The dejected Hart and Jackson delegates have either come to terms with themselves or haven't come at all (I suspect it's mostly the latter).

There are almost no signs tonight, just a few for Mondale. Most of the crowd has American flags -- a nice touch in the unity show.

Kennedy is really outdoing himself tonight. He'll never be a *great* speaker, but I've heard him before (and also heard more than one delegate rate him as one of the poorest speakers on the convention's agenda) and he must have been truly inspired by the magnificent performances of Cuomo and Jackson on previous nights.

Irrelevant, but maybe interesting -- I climbed up back to the catwalk behind the skybooths to see if there's anything interesting going on there (there wasn't). But I noticed that the hall is so large that the sound from the hall lags noticeably behind the sound from the monitors (which are wired directly).

I decide to leave about half way through Mondale's speech. Maybe it's because I've already read the text, but I find him a flat and uninteresting speaker. The booths selling T-shirts, buttons, nachos, Cokes are all closing; everything's winding down while Mondale speaks.

Leaving Moscone, I overhear on the guards' radios that they are to clear the perimeter sidewalk on the back side of the hall -- that's where I'm standing. Something must be going on, so I sit down on the edge of a massive planter to see if the police notice me. Talking occasionally to my recorder, they give me odd glances but say nothing to me. Bolder, I ask a couple of the cops what's going on -- they don't know, only that they were ordered to close the exits on this side and let nobody into the area. Seems that their superiors neglected to mention getting out the people who are already there, so I stay for the moment.

Several cops with riot helmets and what look like ten-foot clubs join the cops that had been here -- hey, they're getting serious about something! They position themselves shoulder-to-shoulder, blocking the sidewalk completely. I'm *behind* their line.

Now I'm *sure* I'm going to do my best to stay here. I sure wish I had a lapel pin with a red star... but I *am* wearing a navy pinstripe suit. Maybe if I just stand tall and look like I belong here...

There are a number of messages back and forth on the radio.

Several broadcast journalists are pleading to be let in, saying they're supposed to be inside on the air *now*. They're sent to a different command post near the front of the building. Back a few minutes later, they

breathlessly explain that they were told to come back here to get in. "Sorry, our orders are to let nobody in." (they never did get in)

By now I've gathered from the walkie-talkies that the walk's been cleared because MONDALE IS COMING OUT THIS WAY! Holy ----!!! Am *I* going to be the *only* reporter here when Fritz leaves after his speech? I try to look inconspicuous -- tough for the only person on the whole block not in a police uniform.

Finally one cop walks straight *to* me -- I guess the bluff's over. "Excuse me, sir -- are you Secret Service?" A quick mental picture of me being shot trying, recorder to the fore, to approach Mondale... "Uh, no. I'm a reporter. Just stepped out for some fresh air and I was waiting for you to re-open." "Sorry, but you'll have to go across the street."

Oh, well. Nice try.

Sherwin

Answer 21 (of 28) SML, on SUN, JUL 22 1984 at 04:37 (2468 characters)

The Morning After

It's amazing how fast they can take this place apart. it's just after ten Friday morning and all the chairs are stacked on carts or already out. As I ascend the podium, the workmen are removing the bracing underneath (they've already removed the front of the platform), but I have to at least once stand where the night before millions of eyes were focused. Virtually the entire floor of this massive hall is carpeted with litter -- signs, tally sheets, newspapers, broken balloons.

There's activity everywhere -- more productive than a lot of what went on here the past few days.

The endless rows of booths are exposed for what they really are -- unfinished wallboard and scaffolding.

The lobby is littered with newspeople asleep anywhere they can find an out-of-the-way spot. Nothing is left of the message center except a few boards, some wire, and a lone message pad.

[Did we tell you about the message center? In the main lobby they had a series of screens showing the names of folks with messages waiting:

WOSNIAK, S DEL

SARDUCCI, F GUEST

Eight operators with terminals were there to input messages and print them out for those who came to claim them. A far better setup than the random corkboard I've seen at most computer shows]

In the upper lobby, where there had been a Dixieland band playing during convention hours there's nothing but cigarette ashes. A long line of huge moving vans sits in front of the center where the concrete barriers have been

removed to let them in.

There's still at least one active journalist here. Going back down the steps I pass a distinguished-looking gentleman wearing a CBS badge with the legend "Rather's Raiders." A quick double-take and I'm alongside him, holding out a card and explaining what interactive electronic journalism is. A hurried promise to pass this on, and the card, to Dan (his badge didn't even have a name on it).

Ikegami Tsushinki Company may have been one of the biggest monetary winners of this convention -- there is a row of about a hundred of their monitors stacked here. (I'd never heard of them before)
Now a huge stack of telephones -- there were over 2,000 here.

On the way out I pass a woman pulling a string of balloons about 20 feet long. I say something about needing a big car to take them home. She just smiles.

Sherwin

Answer 22 (of 28) SML, on SUN, JUL 22 1984 at 04:39 (1800 characters)

Meanwhile Back at Convention Central

As I sit here I'm watching the TENS office come apart before my eyes. It's really only been a few days, but this place has come to feel like I belong, I've spent so many hours here.

A few minutes ago a black Arnold Schwarzenegger came in the door: "Yuh got furniture?" "Sure," I said. "Are you from Budget Rental." "Yuh." He sounds like Arnold, too, playing Conan the Barbarian. Somehow I don't want *my* furniture taken apart by this guy.

A few minutes later (he's trying to make conversation, I guess, curious about the M100 I'm busily recording these impressions on), "yuh moving out?" "Well, sort of...we were just here for the convention." "Yuh!" (he *is* a brilliant conversationalist).

I don't think it would bother me if we were in one of the prefab trailers or tent-like booths at the convention hall. But I know Diane put so much hard work and care into setting up this office, into making it a pleasant place to work and hold interviews. And it was such a welcome change from the din of the convention hall.

I just realized that as I was typing this a couple different guys came in and took the three TVs we had rented to monitor the network and local coverage. Well, too late -- they just drove off in a plain white van. I hope they were from the TV rental company.

Sofa, lamp, the bookcases the TVs were on, CRT)0Y,+Mall marching down the hall before me. The table and chair I'm at, luckily, belong to the b---h with the vickie, the person we rented the space from. So I'll have a comfortable place to sit while I finish up these reports.

That was the last piece of furniture -- the TENS convention center is no more.

Sherwin

Answer 23 (of 28) SML, on WED, JUL 25 1984 at 01:45 (6528 characters)

A Washington Non-Lobbyist Speaks

[I had a very hard time writing this -- because, I think, I feel so strongly about this subject. I've tried hard to not let my bias affect the story.]

San Francisco, July 16, 1984

I am speaking with someone who is here at the convention not as a lobbyist, but still trying to influence the course of political events.

As a member of a tax exempt educational organization, he -- by law -- can't "lobby." So he's here to educate, which is not all that different from lobbying. The biggest difference, perhaps, is the lack of an entertainment budget (maybe that's the way *all* "lobbying" should be done). But his organization, the National Conference on Soviet Jewry, is effective nonetheless: the last piece of legislation of interest to them won a 403 - 0 victory in House.

Maybe it's because their cause is both just and politically easy to support. It entails human rights, but not close enough to home to hurt; and a bit of opposition and, possibly, embarrassment to the Soviets. So there *should* be something for everyone to support -- if they knew about it. That's where our not-lobbyist (I'll call him Tom, not his real name) comes in: he works to tell people about the need to find a way out for Jews in the Soviet Union who wish to leave.

The Helsinki Final Act (1975), ratified by the USSR and many other nations, affirms the right of *any* individual to leave *any* country, including their own. That isn't to say they're to be allowed free access to *enter* any country, just that they should be free to go if they have a place to go. Soviet law provides for emigration for purposes of repatriation and family re-unification, but very few Jews are being allowed to leave, even for these reasons.

One of the biggest problems Tom faces is that the Soviets won't discuss these matters directly; so he must find ways to influence them indirectly. Here at the convention, he'll continue to make contacts with party leaders, activists, and elected officials. He seems to have a long-term attitude, ready to work patiently to build contacts, work at being heard, chip away at Soviet resistance from every angle he can, bit by bit. At the convention, elected officials have too many pulls in too many different directions -- they're here as delegates, also to be wined and dined by lobbyists with large budgets. So Tom will be content if he's made contacts here that will lead to meetings later when they're back home, meetings where he may get a more attentive hearing than he could at the convention. By seeing and being seen, handing

out cards, he keeps doors open.

Tom spoke a bit about how lobbyists operate, from his viewpoint as an insider on the Washington scene. They develop relationships of long standing with specific officials, providing help in exchange for being heard. For example, it's expensive to come to SF; to ease the burden, a lobbyist might have an apartment or two available, place a limo at the official's disposal, put on dinner parties, etc.

Why do officials go along with this? Well, the benefits of an apartment or limo are fairly obvious. The parties can get to be a real drag after a while, but they give the public servant a chance to meet executives of the company sponsoring the lobbyist and attending helps out the lobbyist. Lobbyists provide the other side to every story, remind the official of the home connection, and provide an audience for the politico -- the employees who are constituents.

How have the recent campaign law changes affected this scene? Contribution limitations protect the givers more than anything else and also make officials less obligated. PACs provide \$5,000 or less, individuals \$2,000 or less, in all federal elections.

Back to Tom -- how will he be spending *his* time? His problem is figuring out how to best use available resources -- all the people who care -- to influence 3 old men who don't even believe there's a problem. They call it an internal problem that's nobody else's business. Here in SF he'll be meeting resources -- people who can be harnessed to get a solid movement going to help the 2 million Jews in the Soviet Union, probably half of whom would like to leave. Religious freedom to many of them is more important than remaining in the Soviet Union. Freedom to teach and practice their cultural heritage is "guaranteed" by the Soviet constitution and law, and by international agreements they have ratified. Yet it is illegal to teach Hebrew, and prayer books are classified along with pornography as "smut."

The Soviets deny that anyone wants to leave, don't want any appearance of dissatisfaction. And many of those wanting to emigrate have risen high in in their professional ranks. They are not activists for change, not "dissidents" -- they just want out.

The most visible of this group are the "refuseniks," those who applied for visas and were turned down on two or more occasions. We know of about 400 thousand who have requested and received invitations to come to Israel (a necessary pre-requisite for an exit visa is an invitation from another country). This despite a cost for the necessary documents that can easily exceed six- months' wages, a government-sponsored anti-zionist program, other pressures (like loss of professional status and job).

The National Conference on Soviet Jewry also plays a supportive role, helping 2,500 or so refuseniks. They also have an adopt-a- family program. A number of congressmen have participated, included every freshman member of the 98th congress. As part of this program, letters are sent to the adopted families. Most of these are intercepted and never get to the adopted families. But the Soviets see them.

Some of the program participants will visit these families, too.

Many Congressional spouses have joined a program where they are involved in networking internationally with other parliamentary spouses.

And so "Tom" went off to roam the convention, pace hotel lobbies, bump into people and hand out cards in his patient crusade to educate. And to find ways to provide the Soviets with the kind of subtle persuasion that will improve and not worsen the plight of the potential emigres.

Sherwin, at the 1984 Democratic National Convention

Answer 24 (of 28) SML, on SAT, JUL 28 1984 at 16:38 (3622 characters)

Labor Rally

There was a massive labor rally the Sunday before the convention at the SF Civic Center. Maybe that's not news, but it sets the stage for the next piece about one of the unemployed that the laborites were so vocal about wanting to help.

Thousands after thousands of marchers came down Market Street -- nearly 150,000 according to police estimates. A very impressive showing. I don't think I'd ever seen that many people in one place before. There were large groups from every union and local imaginable. The Farm Labor Organizing Committee (FLOC) had a dancing "Campbell's *CONDEMNED* cream of exploitation soup" can with them. A very serious series of allegations were painted on the back. (I never realized before that there was rampant violation of child labor laws in Ohio -- thought all those problems were in the southwest) But the marchers all, including the FLOC, seemed happy, healthy, and ready to have a big party more than anything else.

Free enterprise reigns here, too -- nacho, ice cream, hot dog stands doing a brisk business. And dozens of souvenir stands.

Here's a *supervisor shredder* -- nice bunch here. The supervisor -- that is the half yet unshredded -- sports a TI calculator and a diskette in his pocket.

The union people have an extensive and very close-mouthed security force here, identifiable by blue armbands. One of them is going to talk to me, asks specifically if it's off the record. I agree, put my tape recorder away. But his supervisor sees him and comes running over to chew him out. So much for the bullies in management all being on the other side.

I spoke to a uniformed policeman a few minutes ago -- one of very few in evidence here. They're not expecting any trouble today; though, he says, they have quite a few plainclothes cops in the crowd and he confirms that the laborites have an extensive security force out.

This cop really opens up, speaking with an emotion-filled voice about how tough it is for a cop to keep his physical and, especially, mental equilibrium when people will for no reason heap verbal and physical abuse on him just because they see his uniform. All through our talk he stands stiffly erect, barely moving even his lips (maybe he's afraid of being spotted by a supervisor, too?). But it's obvious that he's proud to be a cop. And a little bitter, too, both about the public attitude toward cops and about being kept in the dark by the police command -- he had to ask *me* what the security arrangements were like at Moscone. The civic center area is his normal beat and that's the only area he's told anything about.

About the Guardian Angels, roaming around in small groups, he thinks that they can do some good. But sometimes their very presence can promote violence, too. And they're amateurs -- he has to go out no matter what the weather, no matter how he feels, go where he's sent; the Angels can stay home if they don't feel like going out, go where they want. At least that's how it seems to him.

Well, it looks like the program is finally about to begin. It's a happy crowd with a carnival atmosphere. I note the marchers milling around drinking beer and stuffing their faces as I make my way to a park bench to start typing. It's hard to avoid stepping on the sprawled derelicts who make this plaza their home. One of them, who minutes ago had been snoring loudly on the grass, springs to his feet and takes off his hat as the Star Spangled Banner begins.

---to be continued---

Answer 25 (of 28) SML, on SAT, JUL 28 1984 at 16:43 (5354 characters)

Not a Street Person

While the labor leaders at the rally were talking about how they're for the little guy, the poor, the homeless, the jobless; how the Democrats were the only ones who cared, who would help those unfortunates; I was talking to one of those unfortunates who, we were being told, would be among the chief beneficiaries of a Democratic administration.

Bob Cerrato, originally of Livingston, NJ is a Viet Nam vet (served 1967-69). Shot 3 times. He's a "heavy Republican." Always has been. But he's almost ready to switch now, he says. You see, he's been out of work for 3 years. He's living on the streets, been "doing things I don't want to."

"Hart can straighten it out," he says. "Mondale won't get in -- it's the Carter remnants. Carter opened the door to Cuba and Mondale would to the rest of the world." Bob said he went to general assistance the other day, where a "goddamn gook" made him justify his need, practically beg for help. He was born here, on June 16, 1949. Served in the army, stopped bullets for his country. But what's his country doing for *him*, he asks. Get someone off the streets. *NOT* a bum or wino, he hastens to add -- he's not a "street person," he's a person who happens to live on the street -- a distinction he's careful to make.

Well, Bob wants to get to the candidates and delegates, tell them what this country *really* needs. But he can't get to them, so he sees my press credentials and wants to get his story across. It's a real contrast to the laborites. I don't know whether to believe his story or not; I'll tell it to you and you can decide.

Bob complains that he can't go into the convention (little did he know how close we came to the same fate!). "Let a street person go in and tell them what's happening," he says. "Give America back to the Americans! Get rid of the Taiwanese, the gooks. Subsidize Americans instead. Bring the country back home. We can't afford it, we're dying now, the gooks are going to take us over. That's all the orientals, the arabs, the Armenians. Hollywood Boulevard is owned by gooks, Market Street is being taken over. We need help and Mondale can't do it -- he couldn't make dogcatcher. Gary Hart -- he has a lot of heart. We need to slap these people in the face, send 'em back over, let the Navy take target practice on them."

There was a lot more, but you get the idea.

He was born in Newark. He loves the U.S. But he can't get a job. "I'm about ready to go F-T-U-S." ("He means 'f**k the U.S.' -- to jail," explains the street person sitting on my other side.) "The unions, they just want dues, that's it."

Now comes the real revelation: "Hoffa's buried on 69th street and FDR drive -- he's *in* the drive." Bob was in the unions. "I told them to go f**k themselves -- all they want is the money to make their leaders powerful. Ronny's been backing their leaders -- 'cause they're all millionaires.

"St. Anthony's -- thank God for them and the Glide Church. Lots of folks would starve without them. They feed us once a day. Rev. Cecil Williams and Father Floyd. Be sure to tell everyone about them. They make sure the homeless get something to eat, help with clothes. They can't offer shelter, but they do everything they can. You be sure and tell everyone about them!

"I'm a Republican. But I may change! [Why do I feel like he's threatening *me* with this terrible possibility?] Walt's got a lot to do before *I'll* change *my* vote. We need to give Ronnie a chance and give Congress and the Senate a goose so they'll stop knocking down the President. There has to be a Republican era so they can have time to straighten things out. Y'see, I've *always* been a Republican." Well, with loyal support like that, maybe the Dems have been wasting their time here this week.

In closing he tells me his name again, spells it for me to make sure I get it right. Bob Gisi. I'm sure that's not what he told me to start with -- I'll have to check the beginning of what I've typed as soon as I leave.

He wants to get our address so he can come by and help. Wants to tell us more, do everything he can to get his message across. Says he'd run for President -- he'd be looking out for Americans -- but he can't because he was busted at age 21 for armed robbery. We talk about the rally, how all these people are trying to get their message across by getting together, organizing, and voting together. He started to make some signs, he said, but he decided

it wasn't worth it -- nobody would listen. He tells me again how he's going to come to our office tomorrow. Of course, I never saw him again.

I decide to walk back to our TENS office and see a part of the city that isn't being shown off to the visitors. Walking down Golden Gate it's a stark contrast to the big press party of the night before. And to the labor rally. The laborites were all clean, happy-looking, well clothed and fed -- even the FLOC contingent. Here the people are dirty, malnourished, in rags. Begging for a dime or a quarter. I wonder if anyone ever stops to talk with them. And what difference it would make.

Sherwin Levinson for TENS
Answer 26 (of 28) SML, on SUN, JUL 29 1984 at 22:38 (1338 characters)

Who Can Run?

Before I left for SF I heard a radio interview that intrigued me. It was with Martha Gorman, former Atlanta Journal/Constitution reporter, freelance writer, and co-author of "Everybody for President." I wan't able to reach her while she was in Atlanta, but heard she'd be in SF during the convention, so I tried to get word to her to stop by our office. She did. And she brought a copy of her book. I won't tell you too much about it, because Martha (a Source subscriber) wrote a short note about it herself. But she's built the book around the fact that *anyone* -- literally -- can run for President. And she's been signing people up to do just that.

The book covers everything you need to know to run for and be President. For example, there's a chapter about keeping fit, outlining things like "exercising your ego" and "jumping to conclusions."

That's how tje book is -- a lot of factual information mixed in with mostly tongue-in-cheek humor. I can't decide if the book is a vehicle to teach people more about the electoral process or the facts are there to legitimize a book whose real purpose is to capitalize on the election year for its authors. Or both.

Well, Martha Gorman's piece is the next note, so if the idea interests you, read on...

Answer 27 (of 28) SML, on SUN, JUL 29 1984 at 22:48 (2752 characters)

Everybody for President

No joke -- Everybody really can run for president...there are absolutely no qualifications. You don't have to be 35, you don't have to be a citizen -- you don't even have to be human! That's how Mickey Mouse and Betty Boop have been getting away with running for the highest office in the land for so many years.

Yep. We found a constitutional loophole -- an egalitarian quirk, if you will -- and we've signed up more than 500 brand new candidates over the past two days here in San Fransisco alone. Now, some of these candidates might not be qualified to assume office should they win the upcoming election (all those qualifications do apply to BEING president, you see...), but every one of them is far more involved and interested in the electoral process than they were several days ago!

There is a "do-it-yourself presidential campaign kit" that goes along with this interesting notion. Gil Campbell and myself originally published this EVERYBODY FOR PRESIDENT kit ourselves in Boulder, CO, but it has since been re-published by Workman Publishing Co. (of Preppie Handbook fame) and is available in bookstores nationwide (\$4.95) or through Campaign Headquarters (P.O. Box 175, Niwot, CO 80544). Inaugural Ball invitations, personalized candidate business cards, presidential notes pads, White House parking decals and Front Runner buttons are also available via mail order. So don't delay! The kit contains everything you really need to run, including the requisite bumper sticker, a certificate of candidacy suitable for framing, the Federal Election Commission forms to fill out and send in -- it only costs \$.20 to run -- and the White

House parking decal, to ease your transition into office. The kit also offers 64 pages worth of accurate information concerning our unique electoral system, which is told in a delightfully irreverent manner.

End of commercial. I've been talking about EVERYBODY FOR PRESIDENT for so long now that I'm afraid it's turned into something of a spiel. In fact, knowing that I'm surrounded by 12,000 to 15,000 media types during this carnival has made me somewhat obnoxious. A reporter turned media hound is a sad sight indeed. It's just that it's such a fun notion that I want EVERYBODY to know about it. That's a hint for all those folks out there with media connections...

So welcome to the campaign trail! You don't have to be in San Francisco to be part of the fun. Run for president from the comfort of your own home and invite only your closest friends to your convention -- like Willie

Brown here in SF!

EVERYBODY FOR PRESIDENT! <above by Martha Gorman>

Answer 28 (of 28) SML, on SAT, AUG 11 1984 at 14:48 (1716 characters)

Well, I've finally completed everything I'm going to do for Demo 84 (though not nearly as much as I had hoped to do). And then it seemed so long that Parti was "down," though it was really only a couple days. (Amazing how you get used to being so close to your friends that it seems like ages when you're away a couple days.) I won't bore you here with any more ramblings about the trials and tribulations of database damage. But I hope you'll look at the last four notes I put in -- they may not have shown up in your waiting notes because of that.

All that's left now is the most important part -- the special "thank you" to all the great people that made this wonderful experience possible for me. To

Diane and Mike, who created the first seed of the idea and were primarily responsible for its incubation and for bringing it to fruition. To Della, our much-more-than-receptionist, whose help we've already told you about. To Apple Computer for supplying the equipment for the office and to Tandy/Radio Shack for providing the Model 100 on which I wrote all my stories (including this closing). To The Source for providing this system, to Participation Systems Inc. for developing this incredible communications medium and allowing me the time away from my normal duties to participate in the convention coverage. And to both of them for their assistance in funding. And finally to the most important of all, to *YOU*, our readers, without whom there would be no point to it at all, who provided the inspiration to keep fighting against the obstacles and exhaustion so we could give you the kind of coverage you deserve.

Hope to see you in Dallas!

Sherwin

Joiners of "SHERWIN TALKS" conference:

HARRY; STC-EDIT; GERRY ELMAN JD/KAVVANAH; FR HAL; KENT M. S.; MAC; WEEHAWK; GSM; GEORGE M; CYRUS; KEN; DOCTOR TOM; SDC; PSI DAVE; MIKE PUTCH; DOM S.; DR. MEMORY; BOB SANDHAUS; RON TINDIGLIA; ELMER; CRT; SML; T/O; STL429; RITA G; DONNA DICKINSON; DIANE W.; STANDOC; LISA CARLSON; JIM ARMSTRONG; K SQUARED; CYNIC AL; EMMJAY; WHMJR; BUFLOE; CHRIS B; JIM FRANKLIN; NORMAN EPSTEIN; RUBE; TENS; COLLIE; BCJ061; BCF992; BBY516; STEVE TEICHNER; DE MONSTER; RLH; STEWART; SPACE CADET; DAVID F. SALISBURY; ERIK; PG; BCG055;

"MIKE TALKS" Conference 84.18211 TENS, organizer, about "PERSONAL COMMENTARY AND OBSERVATIONS" (answers: 47) TUE, 07/10 13:52 (1202 characters)

Here's the "Mike Talks" Platform:

- For the first time in my life, I will witness a National political convention up close. I will share it with you as I personally see and experience it.

- I am *not* trying to be the New York Times, or the AP Newswire. Nor will I be George Will, Bill Buckley, or others who've participated in politics for decades.

Who I *am* is Mike Greenly, real citizen and avid reporter.

I wrote about some of my ongoing interests in the "Demo Prep" Conference:

Answer 4: Letting you know where
I stand

Answer 5: Women in Politics

Answer 6: Jackson

Answer 7: Media

Answer 17: Computers at the
Convention

(Answer 20 in "Demo Prep": NBC's use of
M100 portables)

Answer 18: Diversity of "Values"
in a Fragmented Society

Answer 19: Being American

From here on in: spontaneous interests as they happen!

Would I love you to join me? (Tell me -- Does it show?!!)

If you want to know who I am at the other end of the experience, come along!
Say: JOIN at the prompt you now receive.

Mike

Answer 1 (of 47) MIKE GREENLY, on FRI, JUL 13 1984 at 07:27 (664 characters)

Your input invited. I leave for SF Saturday a.m. Two items already calendared
for Sunday:

1) The Eleanor Roosevelt Fund Raiser at the S.F. Opera House -- probably the
largest women's event at the Convention -- Sunday lunch.

2) Cocktail party sponsored by Avon and other corporations with Chuck Robb,
Governor of Virginia and often mentioned as a *future* Presidential Candidate.
I'm told the main "liaison" between Mondale and Jackson will attend the party
too.

If you have any thoughts/questions/things to look for before I go, drop me an
Answer into "Tell Us 3" or send me a private message.

I can hardly *wait* to get out there!!

Mike

Answer 2 (of 47) MIKE GREENLY, on SAT, JUL 14 1984 at 19:06 (3670 characters)

Politics, "Marketing", and me

Politics is Heavy-duty "marketing". (For years, I didn't want to know.)

My first year in NYC, I did volunteer work for John Lindsay's mayoral
campaign. Only afterward did my loss of political interest begin.

First, I started to develop my own marketing career,

educational books

detergent, toothpaste,
margarine,

cosmetics, jewelry,
ceramics, fashion

As I began to learn about *selling* and modern persuasion, I began to notice "marketing" everywhere in the world. Sure. But somehow, I hadn't quite wanted to grow up to its importance for "Our Government".

OK, so I'm still green(ly), part of me anyway. When I first got up to New York, people kidded me for saying "thank you ma'am" to the telephone operators and subway token vendors. I learned not to say "ma'am" anymore in front of the Yankees.

It seems odd now to realize I was disappointed, because I *could* have decided: neat!! I can make a difference. I can get involved, use my communications skills, help others do the same. (In truth, I did a bit of that about the time my feminist consciousness was raised. But that was just a "blip" in my mostly apolitical history.)

Mostly -- learning about the making of the President, the "selling" of ideas to the public, media strategies, "positioning" of issues -- all that fascinated me, but it also made me feel distant.

It was like hearing Mary Taylor Moore (or Richard Nixon in the transcripts) using the same cursewords you do. You feel naive not to have realized that, of course, they would or could -- but a little something's lost.

The more clearly I learned to see, the less I felt like looking. Politics became "just another product" for me. Someone else's. I withdrew and tended my career path.

What ideals had I internalized? In what dreamworld did I imagine that "good ideas" simply and purely sell themselves? How could I be learning to register "BRAND I.D." for my products, yet be so totally austere in what I expected of the people trying to run our country.

Just because politicians have to hondle and haggle and --> sell <-- just like anybody else, just because they don't match what I learned in the 4th grade, that shouldn't diminish the true good they do, should it?

Well for whatever personal, internal chemistry, I lost interest in following politics (except cursorily) until this project.

Now, in a way I hadn't foreseen three months ago, I'm following eager to sniff out what this major Event is really about. *And* I'm ready to study the marketing of the candidates and the ideas.

The number one rule of marketing is know your audience! Learn what they need.

But the catch is: you cannot always rely on them to tell you the truth of what they need. They'll not necessarily lie -- they may simply not know, themselves.

If you try something different, their first reactions (in a research focus group) are often negative. They will tend to gravitate toward the safe, the familiar. They are not the best reporters on their own potential to grow.

So it takes some guts to step outside the existing mold and to believe what you're offering will **ultimately** appeal. It takes guts to do something new. And it takes **art** to make it work. (Most new products flop in test market.)

The test market for the Democrats is over. The dice are about to roll for the **National** campaign, although the "product" is still being created.

[Next Answer in "Mike Talks": Ferraro and the Republicans.]

Answer 3 (of 47) MIKE GREENLY, on SAT, JUL 14 1984 at 19:09 (4114 characters)

Pre-Convention Perspective:
Ferraro and the Republicans

The man on the plane is a St. Louis photographer. His job gives him frequent, personal exposure to "regular citizens" and "middle American executives".

He tells me about the moment when he was photographing St. Louis businessmen. No women were in the room for the topic of a "female" Vice-President. "I wouldn't **ever** vote for a woman," said one. "Their moods change too much, depending on what week it is. Biologically, they're unreliable."

"Yeah," said another. "My wife's that way too!"

These men would never talk that way in front of a woman, says the photographer. It would be "rude". But he's convinced there's a large reservoir of underground antipathy to female leadership. Those votes are "west of New Jersey and east of Colorado," he believes.

Walter Mondale has a bet on classic market segmentation.

He needs the skepticism of many middle-aged men (and some women) to be outbalanced - by a strong **appeal** to younger, college-educated voters of both genders. Mondale needs the fervor of this latter group to help him galvanize and **ignite** a Campaign against the incumbent President. Volunteers, energy, money.

"I wonder if he chose her because he really thinks she's the best," wonders the photographer. "Or just because he thought she'd help him win." That question is one of Mondale's vulnerabilities. It affects the perception of his judgement, strength, integrity.

What **is** "the best", anyway, when you're trying to become President? Is it not the person who can most help you and "your Party" win? Or is it the one

with whom you feel the most sympathy? What should we expect?

The photographer expects idealism.

If you were a Republican strategist, what would *you* do now?

- You would emphasize at every turn every positive about *your* party and its support of women. You would flatly not let it appear that the Democrats are the only party who "cares" -- in fact you would try to make it appear, despite the short term "advantage" the Democrats may have in appealing to women, that your party is where the "real" support resides.

- You would seek to cast doubt on the sincerity and credibility of Mondale in choosing Ferraro. You would seek to make his choice seem like a calculating selection in response to outside pressure, a desire to manipulate rather than being the responsible choice for America.

- Since a Ferraro weakness is lack of foreign affairs experience, you would seek to contrast her with Bush -- for the post that's "a heartbeat away from the White House" and its international decisions.

- You would seek to excite, as much as you could, the solid, traditionalist, male constituency, the guys who might be squeamish about a woman in the White House. You might play up the importance of Defense, for example, in ways that make it seem that a tough (man's) view is essential. In some places, you might talk "Geraldine", not "Gerry" or "Ferraro".

Ferraro disparagingly calls U.S. Defense spending our "biggest entitlement". You might try to make that position seem weak and dangerous, the kind of thing a lady who didn't know about Foreign Powers would think.

- You would highlight often and vividly every bit of economic progress *you* take credit for -- to make a change in Administration seem like a risky thing to do, especially for the average citizen's own welfare, the ones who are likely to identify with the "working class", "regular folks" image Mondale-Ferraro emphasize.

- Lastly, you would watch this Democratic Convention very closely -- looking for weaknesses. Wouldn't it be delicious, for example, if you could find a way to get her upset on the Campaign trail (get her to act "just like a woman".) N-o-t overtly, mind you! You'd be careful. But if - - -

Well, you'd watch. Looking for platform and personal vulnerabilities. Looking for weakness to move in on.

You'd watch. (And so will we.)

Answer 4 (of 47) MIKE GREENLY, on SUN, JUL 15 1984 at 11:16 (6574 characters)

Bert Lance and Marketing Symbols:
A Sense of the Regional Politics

It's true. Charles Manatt, multimillionaire founder of the First Bank of Los

Angeles, has been

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as Democratic National Chairman, to make way for Bert Lance. You remember Bert Lance; he was banished from Jimmy Carter's administration when when he was charged with fraudulent banking practices. He was later acquitted, but the tarnish remained.

It's the ups and downs that add surprise and tension. It's true on CBS's "Dallas", it's true of Apple vs. IBM vs. AT&T, it's true of politics.

What does it mean, this humiliating dismissal of the Democratic Party Chairman on the eve of what would have been glorious triumph? In his home state no less! Manatt is considered responsible for bringing the Convention to San Francisco.

Well first of all, that's part of the problem. Some Democrats are reported unhappy at the choice of San Francisco as a Convention site -- worried about what the rest of America "out there" will think of the reports from the hooker's convention, the KKK, the Gay Rally complete with transvestite "nuns" like Sister Boom-Boom, etc., etc. The last thing the Democrats want to feel like these days is "permissive" -- they're stressing sound, traditional family values now ("they" meaning under Mondale. The marketing effort would be very different under Hart.) San Francisco, which I personally adore, ain't the stage-set to project that kind of traditional image.

Secondly, Manatt is considered to have been ineffective in various efforts in the past to get Jackson and Mondale closer together. He's publicly spoken with contempt at Jackson's efforts to change party rules Jackson considers discriminatory.

So here is Mondale --

trying to counteract Reagan, believing he's solidly established himself in the Northeast (Ferarro) and Middle-American family. And there are at least two potentially important lacks:

the
far
WEST

and the

deep

SOUTH

Which one does Mondale consider more urgently important. The South, without question. The Democrats have a miserable (National) trackrecord in the West as it is. While 10 of 13 Governors in the Far West are Democrats, 11 of the 13

have voted Republican in every Presidential election since 1968. What that means is that the National marketing "voice" of the Democrats has not spoken to the issues as perceived by people out here. That's what the voting results say, clear and simple.

Read John Naisbitt's Mega-Trends for a discussion of regional differences that are far deeper than "demographic" -- far more influential than mere surface factors like "age and income". The West is more entrepreneurial. They are therefore less pro-Labor, less pro-social conscience as defined by traditional "liberal" Democrats.

The West's view of social consciousness is more vibrant on issues like the environment, symbolized by the "All Species" parade here yesterday -- concern for water, trees, land, animals. Gary Hart had powerful appeal out here -- wasn't he in a canoe on a magazine cover, hasn't he taken journalists down the rapids, doesn't he ride a horse? -- in a way that neither Jackson nor Mondale could have a prayer for.

But what about the South?

Lance, despite his disgrace, is a tribute to "networking". Not, it seems, the electronic networking we celebrate here on this medium -- but networking nonetheless. It is a tribute to the man's social and political savvy that Lance seems to be in **solid** with not just Southern whites, but many Southern black influencers as well.

And at this stage in the Campaign for both parties, it's more "influencers" that matter. You and I as regular voters aren't going to be directly affected by who's in charge of the Democratic National Party. But plenty of back-stage **and** front-stage politicians, funders, and influencers will be. Mondale had picked a Yankee VP. And a woman. Now he has a good ol' boy head of the Party, and has ousted the man who was one of the symbols of Mondale's past disagreements with Jackson, whom he also seems to need. If he can accommodate Jackson enough to get Jackson's active support -- and hence active black support -- and if he can wedge in tight enough with the South, well the West must seem to him a small enough price to give up. Might not have gotten those characters anyway, judging by history.

The West will surely not agree. In fact, one of Hart's issues is that the 13 Far West states have 21% of the population, but only 18% of the delegates.

The West will consider Mondale's decision a slap in the face. And they will warn that their population, importance, and influence is increasing and that Mondale and the Democratic Party are being short-sighted. The South -- or at least Lance -- may be rising again, for now, but the West will feel it will have the last laugh.

How much impact -- really -- will the firing of Manatt and the hiring of Lance really make?

Mondale is saying he'd like to do a really effective job of coordinating Democratic state election needs with National, and that Lance can do it. That's a good excuse, but even if it's true, there's also no denying the regional and symbolic impact of Mondale's decision.

Hart is reported to be stirring his hopes anew -- feeling that he can get Mondale delegates to switch allegiance now that Lance has been appointed. Mondale is reported as saying there's no serious problem and let's move on now, folks.

My personal guess is that the Lance decision is **not** a big enough factor to in any way take away from Mondale's nomination, though a smiling-through-gritted-teeth show of unity may be harder to get. I also guess that the position has more to do with back-stage strategy and personal/regional politics, than any lasting significance to the general public.

In short -- there's a good chance Mondale can get away with it. And that his bottom line organizational gains with Jackson and Lance's South will outweigh, this year, the losses he's just incurred among the Far West politico's.

Mondale can't worry, it seems, about Mega-Trends. He's sweating this week before the cameras, and then the next few months.

Smile for the camera, now, everybody!

Answer 5 (of 47) MIKE GREENLY, on SUN, JUL 15 1984 at 17:15 (992 characters)

At the Jesse Jackson Champagne Brunch re: Lance vs. Manatt

I'm here in the payphone at the Lake Merritt Hotel in Oakland, at a \$50 a plate fundraiser for Jackson. (I paid so I could sit in with the audience, rather than up in the press gallery.)
Fantastic blues singing is in the background. (report on this event later).

Meanwhile, I just wanted you to know that I was just speaking with a specialist in the Jackson Campaign -- a tv journalist for a local station who's been following Jackson in particular.

He tells me that Jackson, despite the unpleasant things Manatt has said about him, actually **preferred** Manatt to Lance. Lance may be in with some Southern blacks, but not with Jackson it seems. Jackson had expressed his disappointment in the sacking of Manatt, and Manatt has now been reinstated into some "upstairs" position that allows **both** Lance and Manatt to participate. Jackson has now declared the situation workable.

Mike in Oakland

Answer 6 (of 47) MIKE GREENLY, on SUN, JUL 15 1984 at 18:30 (3308 characters)

Confessions of a Media Freak:
Hey Ma! It's Me On the Floor!
(and here's what it's like)

Ever since I could read, I've been a media freak. Back then, I didn't know

the name of my affliction.

Here at the Convention, when I first entered the Democrats' Shrine to my Media Passion -- I mean Moscone Center -- I was all grins and giddy.

Hi, I'm here to meet my destiny, thank you. Moscone Center in full regalia is

(expletive deleted)

A W E S O M E !

=====

I've put on shows before for Avon. Big shows. Nothing like this.

We entered from the back. Into the rabbit warren perimeter with one cubby-hole after another. Names of newspapers, magazines, tv stations, radio, cable. I'm in heaven, passing each of these little curtain-walled dens. The larger media, of course, have their own solid-walled rooms -- look, Harry, *we've* got a real wall you can knock on -- filled with computers. *Filled* with 'em. The TV Networks loom out over the floor like luminescent fantasy spaceships above the crowd.

Out on the floor, the central space is a rich, resplendent blue. The chairs are a sparkling silver. Red bunting hangs everywhere. Computers to tally each delegation's votes. Phones, white ones and red ones, and lights (no rings) when someone calls you. Yowwwwww! It is Media Heaven, and just as bright as heaven should be. The lights are w-h-i-t-e-r than white in their intensity. They pierce through my soul, an alien pure-light presence. BRIGHT! just to make sure we'd all look perky on TV.

Diane tries to climb the regal throne, up the blue stairway to where the Convention will be chaired, where the speeches will be made. She gets less than half way. So much for the impromptu little discourse I was thinking of sharing with the hundreds of newsmen, techies, and DNC folks who seem listless. Waiting. Silent. Or in small groups. When you put on a show, or film a commercial or movie -- you wait a lot.

Nobody else is grinning like I am. I start the applause when the black group ends their *thrilling* version of the Anthem. Our TRANSCOASTAL group applauds, and others join us.

We are in the cosmic antechamber-an entrance to the soul of an American flag. All that I'm missing is the Stanley Kubrick music. I want the song of electrified angels just about now. CORRECTION --> I want to *be* an electrified angel! I wish I could *fly* across this incredible space.

[A.Nony Mouse will send me a message, no doubt, telling me my prose has now gotten purple again. I can't help it. This place is a knock-out.]

But the black group, and the gorgeous speaker system, is ** hot! ** I wish it could come across on TV that way. This group is the very reason Stereo TV is coming to be.

Sherwin and I encounter the head of operations for this show. She proudly tells us she *knows* there's never been a more beautiful Convention Hall.

I am sure she is right. I don't know yet what's going to happen inside, how the meetings will go, whether the delegates will respond. But, for my money, the space is *alive* with possibility.

It is, I'll use the word again, honestly thrilling just to be here.

Mike

Answer 7 (of 47) MIKE GREENLY, on SUN, JUL 15 1984 at 20:48 (2062 characters)

The Computers the Delegates will Use

The Senior Account Manager for Datapoint is out on the floor, twisting his computer so that the national tv camera can pick it up.

His management originally didn't want to be the official suppliers of the computers used by the delegates to tally votes. Something might go wrong, you see, on National TV! (For years, Avon management would never show a commercial at an Annual Shareholders Meeting -- "what if the projector breaks?")

But Craig Powell believed in the project and pushed for it. Actually Datapoint was outbid by another company (whose system took up less space). Datapoint only learned that they actually had the Convention job:

only 3 weeks ago!

Think about it. Three weeks' notice to put up the official vote-tabulation machinery for the Democratic National Convention.

Datapoint is a \$600 million company, Craig tells me. Not so huge by comparison to some of its competitors maybe, but it has more local area networks (LANS) installed -- individual computers connected together -- than IBM, DEC, Wang, and Xerox put together!

"People always talk about Xerox's Ethernet," he says, but Datapoint has over 6,000 installed. (I should have asked him about AT&T as a new competitor, but he was so ebullient that *his* machines were out there on the floor I didn't have the heart.)

There are 57 Datapoint terminals on the floor, and 4 on the podium. The disk drive is underneath the podium. Craig was practically on *top* of the podium as he happily hovered around his machines, calling them to media attention.

The fact is, in this -- the most computerized convention ever -- a lot of computer vendors and applications are receiving extensive media attention. Just as computers are helping the functioning of the convention, so the convention -- and the media exposure it brings with it -- is helping the continued exposure of computers to the world public.

Answer 8 (of 47) MIKE GREENLY, on SUN, JUL 15 1984 at 23:32 (6596 characters)

The Jesse Jackson Champagne Brunch

This is my experience at the DNC Champagne Brunch for Jesse Jackson. He did not show up as promised, and nothing special happened. That's the way it would look, from a typical "news" point of view.

I am aware coming in the door of strangeness for all of us. Not many news people are here, way out in Oakland. Is it that, or is a fundraiser for JLJ the "Presidential Candidate" now just too academic a function?

At first, I feel my intentions are considered suspect. I feel wariness around me.

I start by interviewing Danelle Tucker-McGrue, the stylish arrangements coordinator for the luncheon. She is a full-time engineering analyst for Chevron Chemical. The thing she most wants from this convention is to "beat the Republicans". Jackson is getting the minorities out to vote, she says, even he isn't the Democratic nominee. People will "follow him regardless."

"I believe in Jesse Jackson," she says simply. I can tell that's all there is to say.

We agree that I will pay \$50 so I can sit on the terrace below with the diners, rather than up in the Press Gallery. We pick out a seat "where I can get a good view of Jackson", both while he eats, and while he speaks.

[A tv reporter later tells me that Jackson is notoriously unreliable for doing things on time or sticking to a schedule.]

I walk up to people and say "Hi, can I mingle?" Soon I am talking with Carlo Prescott, a paralegal now, but once the first black radio announcer for WKGO Radio, ten years ago. He got fired in a blaze of glory he says -- after they told him various opinions he couldn't express on the air, he went out with a 3 and 1/2 hour show letting it all hang out.

I am holding a portable tape recorder in front of him and we talk about Black-Jewish tensions, and Jesse Jackson.

He says he wishes some of the lesbians and gays being paraded on stage during this Convention demonstrations were *poor* lesbians and gays. That the poor are not being heard from enough. We're not hearing from people who are suffering. Nor from ex-cons trying now to behave in society. Nor from the infirm, the disabled.

He thinks that Jews who wanted so badly to be assimilated now have gotten their wish -- and no longer care about being respected by "low man on the totem poll", blacks. In fact the less said about their Jewishness, the better, he feels. Now they just want to be "white".

"Civil rights" has come to pertain to upwardly mobile women, he says. And to gay professionals. It's lost the meaning it used to have for blacks.

He thinks that Jackson being "condemned for half an election" for using the term "Hymie-town" is hypocritical. That whites have said all kinds of things about blacks for many years.

"Reaganism is racism," he says. "Just another word for it." This is clearly the prevailing view of everyone I talk to.

At lunch, I'm glad I paid the money for the plate. I sit next to Monica Faith Stewart, delegate from Chicago. She is representing the Washington Favorite Son Delegation of Mayor Harold Washington.

His concern is the Democrat Party's commitment to urban America, to jobs, and to the problems of the aging infrastructure in the older cities. He would like to see the establishment of an urban development bank, that would channel resources into the older American cities. He wants that commitment in the platform.

I ask what leverage he has. Monica says the Mayor's influence comes from the fact that any Democratic Presidential contender has to carry Chicago in order to carry Illinois. Illinois would be a Republican state if it weren't for Chicago. Mayor Washington is controlling 35 elected Convention delegates.

His influence is a bit mysterious to me, however. Suppose that most blacks believe that "Reagan is racism", as Prescott put it. Then what choice is there between supporting Reagan vs. Mondale, regardless of platform language? I'd love to ask that question of the Mayor himself, but it's clearer and clearer to me here just how hard it is for a tiny organization like TRANSCOASTAL to be able to get to public figures directly during the intensity of a National Convention.

Monica is an articulate, impressive woman. I ask her to tell me what Jackson means, really, by the "respect" he says he wants from Mondale and the Democrats.

He wants his "respect" in the platform of the Democratic Party, she says. In an overt commitment to the ideals represented in the Jackson campaign --the Peace Plank, the emphasis on full employment, and the end of the dual primary, which ends up aligning all white votes for splinter candidates against one black in a run-off. Jackson wants "strict enforcement of section 5 of the voting rights act," which I only partially comprehend. At any rate, the plank is being presented as a minority report from the Platform Committee.

People are working to get the issue on the floor, she says, and to get the majority of delegates to go along. The report will be Tuesday.

During this luncheon of excellent food (contributed by local Oakdale restaurants) and wonderful singing and music, I am looking at things through

different eyes.

Just one example of many: there is one woman in the audience that to me (I'm Jewish, remember?) seems obviously Jewish. With her large black hat, and her huge tinted glasses, and her jowly chewing with her mouth open -- well I'd find her vulgar under any circumstances. But seeing her here, I especially wonder how she looks to the black people sitting at her table. And to the singer looking down from the stage at her.

A black chorus sings like mad, and one song they sing speaks to me especially.

I wish I could transmit the actual music to you. The words they sang with such feeling are:

Music speaks louder than words,
when you sing people understand.

Sometimes the love you feel inside
gets lost between your heart
and your mind.

And your words don't really say
what you wanted them to.

Then you hear in someone's song
what you were trying to say all along.

Somehow with the magic of music
the message comes through.

Music speaks louder than words.
It's the only thing that the
whole world listens to.

(I leave the lunch feeling sad that it isn't that easy. And wishing it were.)

Answer 9 (of 47) MIKE GREENLY, on MON, JUL 16 1984 at 10:34 (9160 characters)

At the Party for Governor Robb

The party was at the John Kent Art Gallery -- beautiful art, all kinds of wines at the bar, dramatic lighting. It was given by Avon, Mary Kay, and others in honor of Chuck Robb, who is not only governor of Virginia, but also head of the Democratic Governor's Committee.

I always felt proud, working at Avon, for the kinds of involvement the company had "backstage" in Washington. Sometimes up front (one of the things I helped champion before I left was that Avon become a Sponsor of the Statue of Liberty, which they eventually decided to do.) This party, with its throng of Governors, Delegates, "influencers", once again impressed me with the savvy

and influence of my corporate almer mater.

Some examples of the people I spoke with.

Alternate Virginia Mondale Delegate -- Stuart Womeldoreh from Northtown, Virginia answered my "influenza" question. No he doesn't have to sit around and hope his Delegate gets sick in order to get out on the floor. His Delegate is surely going to be in a Caucus meeting, for example, during which time the Alternate must take his place.

Mike: "What do you think is the biggest weakness of the Reagan Administration as an opponent?."

A: "Reagan's lack of concern for the grass roots people of this country. Once people look through the smoke, it won't be a problem to defeat Reagan with the right candidate."

[But -- someone I trust totally told me of Democratic congressmen who have said already to my friend "we probably won't win, but at least Ferraro will have been nominated." These several insiders seem to feel that unless Reagan does something truly and colossally foolish, he is invincible. I wonder how isolated such private thinking is at the top. I find it hard to believe it could be as broad "up there and inside" as my contact thinks. I would think people would *need* to believe they could win, purely on an emotional basis. Although as I muse about it, I see that you certainly might need to a-c-t that way, regardless, to come out with the maximum possible strength. HmMMM.]

Henry L. Marsh, III. Former Mayor of Richmond, Va., now on City Council and a Mondale Delegate. Black. (first black mayor in Richmond's history.)

Q: What is the Democrats' biggest vulnerability to you think?

A: "We'd be vulnerable if we yield to the desires of the Delegates here, who are more liberal than the Electorate. I think if the convention takes the course of least resistance, if we yield to the desires of most of the delegates here, we could turn off many of the American people. The people here as Delegates are much more liberal than the general population, or than the Democratic Party's general population."

Governor John W. Carlin of Kansas.

Mike: "What is the biggest need ahead of the Democrats this week?"

Gov: "Our biggest challenge is making sure that we end the week on as high and positive a note as possible. To accomplish that a lot of little things have got to come together. But we should be able to make that a reality if we can get things back on target so we're talking about the candidates, and about the differences between our candidates and the incumbent President."

Mike: "Do you expect a lot of floor fight pressure? How would you resolve that?"

Gov: "Most of the debate and activity will be *off* the floor and behind the scenes. I don't expect too many votes on the floor, quite frankly. From the perspective of wanting the convention to show unity and working together, you don't want to have too many fights on television!"

Gov. Chuck Robb of Virginia, also Chairman of the Democratic Governor's Committee

Mike was introduced to Gov. Robb as representing The Source.

(Sorry, Harry: there was no way for me to force the introduction as "Participation Systems Inc., available *on* The Source!")

At any rate, Robb said, "Oh, yes! *I* know about The Source!")

Mike: "What would you like to say on the eve of the Convention to Americans who are tuning in right now on their Computers?" The denizens of the green and amber glow. The modem masters. The -- well, that was all in my head.

Robb: "Well I would hope that if they're interested and following this, they are pleased that we have resolved what appeared to be one of the main points of contention. I hope that the rest of the Convention will move along smoothly and that we'll be able to draft a platform that most of the American people can believe in and respond to. And that our candidates will be able to articulate the kinds of positions on the critical issues that will help us to solve some of the needs that confront us." Mike: "What is the Democrats' biggest barrier to accomplishing that?"

Gov Robb: "Well I think part of that barrier, obviously, was that -- although we had a period of euphoria right after Fritz Mondale indicated that Gerry Ferraro would be his choice -- followed by that very cold shower that occurred when there was a mixup in communications and understandings about the DNC Party Chairman and/or the Campaign Chairman - that has largely been resolved, and I hope that people will put that behind them and put it in the proper context which is not a major event but for the fact that we have 12,000 journalists here with nothing else to do but speculate on what's going to happen with that event."

[Transcribing this now, reader, it seems obvious that my question was not really answered. But his words were so smoothly and authoritatively delivered, with such strong direct eye contact, with a poise and a finality that -- at the time -- I *felt*, "Oh, ok, thanks, Gov!"

Interesting how the right presentation in an up close circumstance under extreme time pressure -- you have 120 seconds now, Mike, get in there! -- affects the "here and now" perception of what's happening.

Glen Goldberg, Administrative Assistant to Congresswoman Ferraro, in the 9th

C.D. in New York.

Mike: "I can see how Ferraro can be a terrific plus for many voting segments. But I wonder if you've had any discussions on how to overcome potential resistance from the 'older, middle-aged man' -- how to appeal to that segment, too?"

Goldberg: "I can only speak to what our experience is in the District, in her District in New York. She is probably more popular with Senior Citizens than she is with any other group. I think when given the opportunity, she will really rise to the occasion."

[Again: my question wasn't clear or pointed enough. He heard "older" and translated "Senior Citizens" Senior Citizens aren't really the segment I was talking about, but I didn't follow up.

Despite my hand-held tape recorder, I'm appreciating how tough it is - for me, anyway -- to conduct "interviews" in the jostling din of a cocktail party. I think I still prefer those interviews sitting by the fireside, or on the deck of the candidate's beach house!]

Remember the old "Person to Person"? Some of you must. Edward R. Morrow (how old was I? 7? 8?) and the phrase "Good Evening, Ed," as the star happened to swirl around and drape one arm casually on the mantle piece.

Well I always wanted to be that star. Now I'd be just as happy if I were Ed. The awful truth is -- I'd probably love to be **both** of them!

"Good evening, Mike"

"Yes, good evening to you, too, Mike!" But I digress.

Mrs. Chuck ("Linda Byrd") Robb

Mike: "Do you think that, from a woman's point of view, there will be a change in the degree of activism of women in politics?"

Mrs. Robb: [she seems somehow taken aback, she doesn't like my question. In fact, she doesn't like my asking here **any** questions.] "Women have been **very** involved in politics for many years. Ever since Hannah Lee, in Virginia, wrote her brother, Richard Henry, and said 'we ought to get the votes!'"

Mike: "But do you see that involvement increasing now, or is it just that women are becoming more **overtly** in power?"

Mrs. Robb: "Well, I don't know that we haven't been in power in the past!" [Again, I have this sense I'm inadvertantly offending her.] But we'll be pleased with Gerry Ferraro as President or Vice-President."

[I have a weird feeling about this conversation. I was trying to ask questions about the progress that women are **demanding** they make, and Mrs.

Robb, I sensed, was almost annoyed -- emphasizing how women have been in power all along. As though I hadn't taken them seriously to imply they haven't been. Is that her perspective from her experience in watching her mother, "Lady Bird" Johnson, I wonder?]

At any rate, there are more people I could talk with, and more I met I could tell you about, but I felt gluttoned and left the party.

That -- and the Jesse Jackson Brunch -- in one day. I'm letting it all roll around in my head.

Mike

Answer 10 (of 47) MIKE GREENLY, on MON, JUL 16 1984 at 16:30 (2232 characters)

Celebrating Women in America: Lunch

The event was planned long ago. It was smart of GTE-Sprint to host a "Celebrating Women in America" event. Now, however, the electricity and celebration is vastly heightened, and you know why.

Thanks to one of my favorite people on Parti and to the miracle of electronic networking, I am able to gain access to the celebration brunch itself.

I sit next to Ruth Braver - running for Congress in the 10th Congressional District of Chicago. John Porter is the Republican incumbent, she says. "I am going to bust my guts to win," she tells me. "If I win, it will be national news. I am counting on Ferraro and the really gut issues to help bring out the vote," she says.
Her #1 issues: social justice and economic equity.

A Manager from GTE-Sprint is at the table. "The desire to get Reagan out is so strong," she says, "that even if Ferraro weren't nominated, people would be working very hard in this fall's campaign. And now -- well look out!!"

"What bothers me," says Braver, "is people attacking Ferraro's lack of experience. Hell, Reagan had *less* experience than she does when he became the President! If that isn't sexist, I don't know what is."

Why is the desire to oust Reagan so strong, I ask.

"Reagan's too aggressive," I'm told. "People fear that he will drive us into another war. We do need to take a strong stand for everything we believe in, that's true. But Reagan has been belligerent. He has personally attacked the Russians when he could have left it to subordinates. If you threaten to kill somebody, they will start to think about killing *you*."

"He's been bellicose, belligerent, and not diplomatic at all. The irony is that the business world is really against his position toward Russia, no matter how much they like his other policies" I hear.

"I resent his stance that dissent is unpatriotic," Braver says. "This country was built on dissent."

Braver then has to leave -- to join all Democratic Women candidates for Senate, Congress, Governor, and Lieutenant Governor on stage.

Gathering my portable, I left for the Press Balcony.

Answer 11 (of 47) MIKE GREENLY, on MON, JUL 16 1984 at 16:42 (1312 characters)

Women's Event: In the Opera House

I'm on the second row center in the balcony. To get up here, I passed literally dozens of cameras and a huge semicircle of photographers, all trained like German Shepherds toward the spot where Gerry Ferraro and the roster of honor will pass.

The women in front of me in the balcony are excited to see me using this Model 100, and when I tell them who I represent they say they'll send a delegate by tomorrow afternoon to give her Convention perspective direct to you.

The gold opera curtain descends and applause and cheering begins. There's a GTE Sprint sign, naturally, on the podium.

Time passes, there are Ferraro songs sung as the crowd waits. Sporadic clapping to get the show rolling. And -- at last -- the curtain rises. There is huge applause. The stage is filled with women. The women on stage applaud the (mostly) women in the audience. Everyone stands and applauds each other. Listen - it's exciting. It's really exciting. The room feels like victory. There is waving and applauding and I'm typing and there's applauding and applauding. There's Betty Friedan. There's Gloria Steinem. There's Bella Abzug. They hug on stage. Finally we're asked to sit down.

Wow.

Answer 12 (of 47) MIKE GREENLY, on MON, JUL 16 1984 at 16:56 (982 characters)

Women's Event: The Welcome

Lynn Cutler, Vice Chair fo the Democratic National Committee. From Black Hawk County, Iowa.

"We come today to applaud you, to celebrate you, all the women of America. Because the women of American have come into their own , politically, in this year 1984.

(applause!)

"This is a time to rejoice. This is a time to celebrate. One of our own is on her way to the White House.

(Diane Feinstein applauds on stage too.)

"We have an extraordinary coalition of sponsors of today's event. We want to raise money for Democratic Women. So that more of you will be sitting here on stage. And we will fill auditoriums 10 times this size.

"Our deepest most heartfelt thanks to GTE-Sprint. This was extraordinary. Every penny you paid for your ticket will go into the funds for Democratic women running for office.

Now: she introduces Dianne Feinstein, Mayor of San Francisco.

Answer 13 (of 47) MIKE GREENLY, on MON, JUL 16 1984 at 17:47 (4456 characters)

Dianne Feinstein

I've never heard Mayor Feinstein speak before. She is impressive -- because she is clear and poised and strong. As my co-reporter Diane Worthington has often put it: she is "hot".

Feinstein tells the cheering crowd: "you've got one mayor who's gonna do her darndest" on behalf of Mondale-Ferraro. The crowd stands. They wave. They applaud.

I notice that the Opera House balconies are filled with video cameras. You see metal in place of people's heads, as the cameras rest on shoulders. It's as though large, modern insects are watching the show from the Balcony. "When Margaret Chase Smith was interviewed many, many years ago," Feinstein tells us, "she was asked what would you do if you woke up one morning in the White House. I'd rush right in and apologize to President Truman," was the answer.

"That's the air of improbability that has always preceded us," Feinstein notes. "And that has changed. And, ladies, are you proud of it?!"

The cheering is enormous. As this is happening, I am thinking about the force that is being cultivated and maybe even being unleashed here. The motivation and pride that is being generated. The level of spirit in this room is extremely powerful.

What would happen if the Democrats could generate this kind of enthusiasm around the country? Can they? Or will it play very different in Peoria? I've helped produce motivational events before -- sometimes the "belief" endures when people depart, but sometimes it dissipates.

It seems really clear to that the ability (and willingness) of women -- not here, but at a grass roots level -- to organize and unite will be a **critical** factor for Mondale's success or lack of it.

Already I am curious to speak to Republican Women (as I've been interested all along in talking with non-Jackson blacks.)

"I was the first woman to be interviewed," Feinstein is telling us. "I left the interview to face both the mosquitos and the national press corp. As I looked up at the trees, and I thought of all of the women in the U.S. and particularly those who had worked hard to make that moment happen."

"I felt enormous pride that I could help that door open. The fact that Geraldine Ferraro can walk through that door, gives me enormous pride and a great thrill.

"I hope I share this with you."

(Needless to say. Applause. Applause.)

"Unfortunately, the Press has a tendency to come to you and say, 'aren't you disappointed?' No I'm not disappointed! I'm proud. As a woman, as a mayor, as a person of the Jewish faith, for me it was an opportunity that opened doors. And helps to open doors for others around us."

(This is a very popular comment.)

"In my heart of hearts, I don't feel a single shred of disappointment, I feel a total dedication."

[A standing ovation.]

I find --

because of her grace, because of the crowd, because of the fact that win or lose a door **has** been opened that will have longterm significance on who **can** contribute in our society --

I find I am misty-eyed. **Not** for the politics. Not for the issues. But for what it means on a plain, human level. And for how it's being presented to us, the resonance that is happening with all those women on stage and women in the audience and the woman at the podium.

"I feel an absolute determination,"she says, "to whatever we must do in this caucus and through this nation to find those points that bind us together -- not only as women but on the great issues of our time. The key to this election will be that the White House will once again be open to all people.

(whoops from the audience)

"And that human and civil rights will be taken from back burner of that stove and put on the front burner -- and the flame will be unsurpassed".

"Make it a mellow convention on Tuesday and Wednesday."

[I think about Mondale listening back stage, and how good he must feel about all this. How far away he must feel now from the worries of a messy floor fight on women's issues, anyway.]

"We will show a solidity, a solidarity, and a united front to all of the American people."

[I wonder, as she speaks, about Jackson. About the various interests n-o-t represented in this Opera House who *could* disrupt the kind of union Mondale is trying for.]

Soon -- Mondale himself is introduced to us.

Answer 14 (of 47) MIKE GREENLY, on MON, JUL 16 1984 at 20:47 (4316 characters)

Women's Event: Mondale

Mondale and Ferraro are brought onto the stage. There is enormous hugging. How different it is from the usual mostly-male political rally. Hugging and kissing. Betty Friedan and Mondale hug. As different people hug, the audience cheers it all. All the celebratory permutations. There are cheers even when people shake hands.

Bella Abzug stands with one arm around Ferraro and one around Mondale.

Finally, the two of them stand in the classic pose: she raises her right hand, he raises his left. They are a Victory "V".

She points up to the balcony -- a *new* round of applause.

(whew!)

Mondale: "I am honored to be with you today at this historic Eleanor Roosevelt event. To be with the gifted leadership of this community, as good as they come in public life in our nation today." (Feinstein accepts more applause in response to Mondale's tribute to her.)

"This really -- this convention -- is above all about our future. We know that we need new leadership that sees that future clearly, that shapes a new approach to deal with it."

I have to admit that -- during his comments -- I am wondering *what* the "new approach" is. I've already told you how significant I personally think it is to have passed the barrier of nominating a woman for the White House.

But --

the issue of *what* to do once there still seems unproven to me.

If anything, the recent Manatt-Lance waffling, the continuing quest by Hart to represent "new values" he feels are unstated, the consciousness-raising I got at the Jackson brunch, the number of commentators who are talking and writing about Mondale's "old politics" ---- if anything, new questions are being raised (at least for me) about Mondale's approaches.

And I find myself reflecting on that amidst the extraordinary enthusiasm all around me.

What will he ultimately stand for, I wonder. Irrespective of the gender breakthrough.

Mondale says that the future "requires a President to get these nuclear weapons under control." (Big applause)

"Our future requires an economic policy to get these deficits down, to restore America's competitive edge, and to make sure that jobs and prosperity are to be found here in America."

(Easy to say, I find myself thinking. Hard to do.)

"Our future requires a renaissance in education, learning, in science, the arts, and in training.

"But above all ,our future requires us to remember that to be an American is to believe in the American dream. That dream is based on merit, hard work, achievement, self reliance. And it is based on being a dream for everyone, not just for some.

"And that is what we're celebrating today. That is what the Mondale-Ferraro administration is all about."

"The history of America has been a history of opening doors, of rising levels of opportunity. We began with an America in which only white men with property could vote. Then, we took a chance, and said let's try just having all men, even if they don't have property.

(laughter)

"then, why not women.

"Then, how about for the first time in American history, letting a Catholic become President.

"Then we eliminated discrimination against race or sex in voting rights.

"Then we permitted 18 year-olds to vote. "Every time America has opened the door, we've found out we've been stronger. Every time. Because we discovered it was not what we did for them. That's not the question.

"The question is what we, all of us, can do for our country if every one has the chance to contribute and has the same American dream as everyone else."

[The echoing of JFK's "ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country" must be conscious on *some* speech writer's part.]

"So with joy and pride, it's my personal honor to introduce this person who symbolizes the next dooor we're about to open in America. This exemplification of America at it's best. The next Vice President of the United States --- Geraldine Ferraro!

(The audience whoops again, everyone rises on both sides of the stage, the TV lights from the side balconies light up the applauding crowd.)

Answer 15 (of 47) MIKE GREENLY, on MON, JUL 16 1984 at 21:20 (3402 characters)

Women's Event: Ferraro

"Thank you so much, Fritz, for your very generous words. As some of you may know I arrived in San Francisco 6 days ago for the first time, but my schedule was changed just a little bit on Wednesday night. Can you imagine if he'd gotten a busy signal?!"

(laughter at her joke about Mondale's famous call.)

"I am proud to stand here today as part of a team for America. I am proud to stand before you with Fritz Mondale, the man who will become the next President of the United States.

"We chose this event, the celebration of American women, for our very first joint appearance in San Francisco!"

(strong crowd reaction)

"What this ticket is all about and what we celebrate today is not what Americans can do for women, but what women can do for America.

(This is shaping up to be a theme, it seems -- what can you do for America, whoever you are. A "positive" theme.)

"There is no finer example than the life of Eleanor Roosevelt. Born a daughter of privilege 36 years before women had won the right to vote. She journeyed across America for civil rights, religious tolerance,

"We are the leaders whether we like it or not. We lead in knowing our values are what we believe in and being able to live up to them."

"Values of family, hard work, fairness, and an equal chance for all, and peace.

(applause)

"Those values have guided Fritz Mondale through his career. From his pioneering work on behalf of children and families, to his leadership on behalf of the nuclear freeze. These are the values that Fritz Mondale and I will bring to this election Campaign. I only wish Eleanor Roosevelt were here with us today to see how we, the Democrats who follow in her path, share her vision and are working to realize her dreams.

"Freedom cannot be realized until our rights are guaranteed in the Constitution."

(Huge screams! Everyone stands again! Because this is obviously ERA she's talking about and this audience knows it.)

(The ovation lingers.)

"That dream cannot be realized until we are fairly paid for the work we do, both in and out of the house.

(another big applause line)

"And that dream cannot be realized until we win our rightful place in the City Halls, State House, Congress, and the White House.

"The next 100 days we will be going across this country inviting Americans to join with us. We need your help.

"Are you with us?

"Then let's go!!!

(everyone stands, naturally, for the final huge applause.)

Want my personal opinion? I've given a lot of speeches; I have coached a lot of speakers.

She did a really good job.

But n-o-t a fantastic job. She needs to be stronger. More powerful. More oomph in front of a live audience. She needs to seem "bigger". She has a different role now. I heard her once speak before a group of 35 or so Avon Officers and she was sensational -- but that was up close. That was in a more junior role than an aspiring National VP.

On stage, live, she needs to put more out there.

Don't misunderstand, though. I'm judging by a *very* high standard. She was very, very good. And this audience was swept away.

It was, in short, a triumph.

The question is, obviously, what happens when the show goes on the road. . .

Answer 16 (of 47) MIKE GREENLY, on MON, JUL 16 1984 at 22:13 (4652 characters)

First Mondale Press Conference!

Far out. I'm excited and you might as well know it.

We pass the Mondale security guards at the Meridien hotel with our newly laminated Press Credentials feeling like a zillion dollars. We enter the room

wherein are hundreds -- hundreds! -- of press people. We circle past the artificial wall of cameras and microphones. I'm glad we made it -- most of these people have been sitting here for quite a while.

Yay, Diane, for finding out about this Press Conference. Her father in Texas saw it on TV and happened to mention it to her. Not your orthodox, Big Time news gathering methods, I admit, but here we **are**, nonetheless.

All 3 of us are here --- your complete TRANSCOASTAL ELECTRONIC NEWS TEAM!

At first we stand near the edges. The place is so crowded. People are spread onto the walls like jelly.

Finally some people leave near us, Diane sees the opportunity, and we go for it. We have the chutzpah to ask people to move down -- to let us get into closer, more central position.

I have decided to ask a question. It's our first Press Conference as TENS. It's Mondale's first Press Conference in San Francisco. It's planet earth's first, etc, etc., which you already know.

So I decide I **have** to ask a question.

But what? I'm getting nervous just thinking about it.

I'm also noticing how (surprisingly) terrific Mondale comes across in person. So natural. Easy. Competent. **not** stiff.

I'm noticing how cleverly, how very deftly he uses the question from a young boy. "You are the future" he says -- what a wonderful setup to make his points.

I'm noticing how smart he is, too, to admit, in answer to yet one more question on Manatt and Lance, that the situation hadn't been handled right. The perfect diffusing of the situation: the truth!!

And I'm thinking about my question.

I'm thinking about what I've been reading and learning these past few weeks. I'm thinking n-o-t to follow my fantasies and address him as "your majesty" (for such is the awesome power on our perceptions of all those lights, and all those people, and all that focus -- in this room, at this moment, HE is the center. HE is our universe. It is an interesting psychology, how this process affects one.)

I'm thinking, please God, don't let me look like a fool in front of all these professional, fulltime, politically savvy journalists.

Before I'm finished with my fantasies, while I wait and hope to be called, while I choose which times strategically to raise my hand and get his attention, before all that and all the buzzing in my head --

I have decided I am in a room with Pulitzer Prize winning journalists who can tap dance and fly and make a perfect waffle blindfolded.

(calm down and get clear-headed, Mike, will you!)

OK -- he's calling on me -- OK, OK, OK!

Mike (exact verbatim):

"I'm one of the first computer journalists to cover the Convention."

(I hold up my Model 100 to prove it. Like holding up a baby or a pie. They tell me the room goes stone silent at this point. I notice, peripherally, how absolutely attentive Geraldine Ferraro is. Gosh, I really do just *like* her.)

"People have written about you and your campaign that it will be one of the last of a kind of coalition politics of a lot of different fragments, and that you're not paying attention -- people say -- to the new values that are coming out of the West.

(He is right there tracking with me.)

"I wonder if you could talk about this." -----

Mondale: "Well, I have traveled all across this nation, including throughout the West, and I know what people are saying --

"And the message that I will take and that Geraldine will take to the American people is a message that is consistent with the needs of the people of our country, including the West.

"And if you'll tune in Thursday night, you'll see what I have in mind."

It is the next to the last question.

It is about 15% of all the questions asked.

No members of the press flock over to ask us about computer journalism. (Diane says later, of course not, we're on their team now.)

Nothing special happens at all -- except that we did it!

One coke, one coffee, and one Jameson Irish Whiskey for your TRANSCOASTAL Electronic News team, please.

And make it *instant* please, waiter-- that's the modern, electronic way!

P.S. Permit me to say it:

I love it so much that you're right here with us.

Mike

Answer 17 (of 47) MIKE GREENLY, on TUE, JUL 17 1984 at 09:57 (4310 characters)

End of the Day at Moscone

Coretta Scott King is speaking.

Have the camera zero in close on her, okay? Keep it that way, Ritchie. Stay away from the floor itself -- it is 80% empty now. No need to show it.

Delegates are streaming out the doors. Many of the 20% remaining on the floor are paying attention -- amid the litter of styrofoam plates, empty paper cups, napkins, and banners.

People are having their own conversations on the perimeter of the Convention. Diane feebly (it's been a long day) points out two nearby Jackson delegates in case I want to nab them. I don't have the will tonight.

I want to take in how different the floor feels now.

The lights are still bright, but the scattering people with individual purposes are a gigantic "Our Town". On the emptying floor itself I see anchormen, side by side, one filming now, talking earnestly to the television camera; the other is sitting alone, waiting at a desk on the empty floor -- his "office" -- for his producer. They are separate actors on the same Thornton Wilder stage.

The floor at the perimeter is like New Orleans on the morning after Mardi Gras -- at least there's no street-beer to slosh up onto your shoes.

Coretta King continues -- talking to America, really. Certainly not to the people having their pictures taken now.

Not to the woman squealing to her friend, "Aren't we lucky to be out here?" (Or did she say "out of here", as departing delegates leave the heat.)

Coretta King talks to the radio people who sit behind the curtains -- facing other curtains and the perimeter itself. [Some have TV monitors beside them to show them what's happening on the floor.]

Hart posters are slapped onto the bunting behind me. The lights dim, and the large screen shows Martin Luther King. On the floor, it is now twilight as the film rolls.

The Network Spaceships become more prominent in the dimmer light. In the ABC booth a woman is being made up for an interview. And there's Dan Rather in the CBS booth. A floating "Rear Window".

The Convention floor -- when it's fresh, clean, and empty -- is a stage set for cosmic drama. Now, filled with weary people and litter and empty spaces, the arena has been cracked into thousands of separate stories.

Lights up. Now "God Bless America". We are invited to join in. Most people don't. Everyone has a different purpose. That's the Democratic issue.

Stick with the close-up cameras, boys!

Someone walks by with a microphone a foot and a half long and five inches thick. Finally: a piece of technology I do not need to crave. (Unless it's really an "eavesdropper".)

The ABC lights glow hot out of the skybooth -- the woman is now being interviewed.

People continue to pass -- Bermuda shorts, straw hats, 3 piece suits, uniforms, limp placards, neck credentials. Disparate portraits of fatigue, boredom, excitement -- all shuffling through the warmth on the edges of the floor. The large blue center scaffolding holds a dozen people still, silhouetted on its various levels.

"It was a zoo all day" says one of the Floor Guards. He volunteers that Cuomo's speech was so great, he should be a candidate for President.

Disco music begins. The cameras are off now. Christine, a "Placement Director" for the seating and standing areas,, tells us what a great time she's had seeing the celebrities.

"I saw President Carter. I saw Dianne Feinstein. She asked me how I am. I said 'I'm just fiiiiine!'"

Diane and I stroll through the darkened warren and are pausing in a corner. The soft outlines of suits in shadows approach us from the dimness ahead. They are bodyguards. They round the corner and I see -- an older, grayer, smaller Jimmy Carter. He gives me a bizarre smile (he initiates it) -- somewhere between "I know you, right?, hi!" and "greetings, mortal, I come in peace", but it's a smile laced with poignancy. No longer the reigning President travelling these hidden, cloth-walled backways.

He holds close to Rosalyn Carter. And then is gone. The rear view of a closed wall of suits -- travelling softly, away in the darkness.

This day is done.

Answer 18 (of 47) MIKE GREENLY, on TUE, JUL 17 1984 at 11:51 (8674 characters)

Hart Delegate in a Bathrobe

He's staying at my "bed and breakfast" inn. He's a Hart delegate from Lawrence, Kansas -- Clifford Ketzal, who teaches political science at University of Kansas.

"Does everyone here wake up this early?" he whispers to me at 5:15 when I spot him in the hallway and suggest that I should interview him.

"No! I'm in room number 7. Come down when you can!"

They give us house bathrobes here, and in a while, like a neighbor, he knocks at my door and is seated in his robe on the divan by the window. He's slender, middle-aged, and articulate of course, with eyes that show his delight when he says something provocative or interesting.

He had told me in the hallway, "we haven't given up yet" on Hart. I hand him the morning paper with the wide-smiled photo of Mondale, Hart, Jackson in a unity handclasp.

"I gave up when Ferraro was named," he says, "and then I regained some sort of hope with the Lance business. Mondale has only 100 more delegates than he needs."

I hadn't realized Mondale's lead was that little.

"I'm a believer in the unexpected and unplanned for," Clifford tells me. He offers an example:

"If there were enough delegates in California that didn't like the way Manatt was treated,"

[I am appreciating the significance of California coming early in the alphabet.]

"and if the vote were 20 or 30 short -- *that* could cause a shift in the subsequent voting. I can't believe it can't happen."

"Who would have expected Mondale to appoint Lance at this particular junction? We still have 48 hours, and if that can happen in 24 hours - - - what else could happen?" "Suppose in his speech Wednesday night before the voting for the Presidential nominations, suppose Hart says 'I'm for Ferraro!' and the delegates start to buzz and they don't have time to think. The unexpected can happen."

Mike: "But he's already said that".

Clifford: "Yes, but what if he says it in his speech?"

"As of yesterday afternoon, Hart's waiting till 1988 is not a good idea after the way Cuomo was seen."

About Reagan:

"We haven't had an 8 year President since Eisenhower," Clifford tells me.

"The critical mass will be reached in the next month. And the public will realize that Reagan *won't* be elected!"

(He smiles, satisfied with the punch of his firm statement.)

Mike: "But isn't Reagan perceived as invincible by many of you?"

Clifford: "He's called the "teflon president", but teflon wears out. He's

four years older. Physically he can be attacked again. Or suppose he doesn't get his nap, his face will go down in front of the TV cameras. Or someone gives him the wrong cue card. The critical mass will be reached. Then, a chain reaction."

"And there's the "sleaze factor" - like Burford, and the young woman who was her assistant. That's what makes the Lance appointment so difficult for Mondale, regardless of the fact that Lance was never found guilty. It makes it difficult for Mondale to attack Reagan as easily."

"The Democrats have a book, it has 47 or 48 itemized events. That's the 'sleaze factor'. When Mr. Meese can get a \$15,000 loan with no interest, for example. Any one of those items is not enough to get 'em. But all together, all the people Reagan appointed who have gone under a cloud -- they add up incrementally."

"I have a way to encourage this critical mass," Clifford tells me. "We get Democrats in every city. We all write a letter the same day. Throughout the country the Letters to the Editor appear. The broadcast media picks it up. It becomes big."

[I explain to Clifford how Parti on The Source could be used to network politically. If just one Democrat in each city had a computer with a modem and a Source subscription, if Clifford started a Conference right here -- a private one for Democratic officials only -- called "Powerful Letter", or something like that. Well I don't know if I really had him understand the possibilities in 2 minutes -- but *I* sure do. And not just to organize letter-writing campaigns!]

Mike: "Why do you believe in Hart?"

Clifford: "Because exponentially the problems increase with a speed that makes it difficult to even approach their solutions in ways that Mondale and Reagan and others suggest.

"Jackson speaks for the people who have been left out, Not only domestic but also the 3rd World Internationally.

"Mondale speaks as a man who paid his dues. He represents the heart and soul of the Party rather faithfully. And he will go back and do the same old things that Roosevelt and Truman did. That's not enough in the last Quarter Century.

"Reagan is using a traditional way of getting out of the problems we have at the present time. We are looking at inflation, unemployment and the like, from a nationalistic sort of way.

"Reagan is completely forgetting the movement toward interdependence which ties us so closely to everyone else [on the planet]."

I ask Clifford for examples of the interdependence he means.

"The closeness of the 3rd World in terms of its debts to Western banks and western governments," he says. "The solution has to be an international solution."

"Another example: the President's position on the law of the sea. 167 countries have been working on it for 10 years. But if we don't get all the best positions for ourselves, we won't participate with the other countries. Instead, it's called a "frontal attack on capitalism" rather than recognizing we're all interconnected."

We talk about "Mega-Trends" in the context of untraditional issues and alliances. I have the wonderful moment of saying "shame on you!" to this University teacher when he confesses he hasn't yet read Toffler's "The Third ave."

I challenge Clifford. I tell him I've heard, despite all the talk of new ideas, that Hart was asked to name any two in specific and couldn't do it.

Clifford says that's nonsense. "All you have to do is read his position papers" he tells me.

"Well give me one of his ideas," I say.

Clifford: "One is - when you are unemployed, there is already in place an individual training account. So money is available immediately on the same basis as social security to --> retrain you! Your unemployment insurance can be picked up for retraining in a lump sum rather than feeding it to you on a subsistence level."

"Also, you ought to know," he says to me, "the efforts that the Japanese are making, moving ahead on Fifth Generation Computers."

(I brighten up. I *do* know something about that!)

"They're Government, Manufacturer, Labor all working together. They call it 'Japan, Inc.' We should have a 'U.S., Inc.'" Untraditional, but that's what Hart thinks, he says.

"Hart was drawn and quartered because he voted against bailing out Chrysler -- but that is the old view."

I asked Clifford what the mood of the Kansas-Hart delegation is just now.

"I missed yesterday's meeting," he says. "There must be a better way. I heard they were all just concerned with parties, and arrangements, and things like that. But they *did* talk about who the "soft" Delegates are in the Mondale camp and how we might work on them."

Mike: "the tide is really against you, though, isn't it?"

Clifford: "Sure! Like Ivory Soap, 99 and 44 1/100ths % against us -- but

there's a story."

He tells me the (documented) story of how Wilson got nominated for President, and ran, because his letter declining the opportunity got delivered to the wrong person. So Wilson became President anyway.

He tells me of a Truman incident in which a critical signal was not seen because one of the men it was meant for had bent down to tie his shoe lace.

"I daresay that given mass media, those examples are increasing exponentially."

I give him one final commercial for the instantness of this medium. Yesterday I rode in a cab with an Iowa newsteam who were writing and editing and filming for a satellite feed -- but if I really had to (as I did when I covered Steve Jobs' launch of Macintosh) I could get stories into the computer and out to readers fast, fast, fast!

"Maybe you're the future," Clifford says to me, gesturing to my computer.

"We *know* we're a part of it," I reply.

Finally we trundle down the hall to verify when Mrs. Mondale will be visiting the Kansas Delegation, and I let the poor man close the door to his bedroom, and return to mine.

Answer 19 (of 47) MIKE GREENLY, on TUE, JUL 17 1984 at 14:24 (476 characters)

One Taxi Driver's Observation on the Press:

"The younger photographers are the killers. They have as many credentials as possible flapping to impress you with their importance. They're always late and you better hurry. They're as aggressive as they can be. They bring too much equipment to try to fit into one taxi.

"The older members of the press have made it, they know who they are, they're secure and nice.

"News seems to be a very tough business."

Answer 20 (of 47) MIKE GREENLY, on TUE, JUL 17 1984 at 17:34 (1708 characters)

A Delegates' Caucus: Pennsylvania

"Caucus" used to be just a word from Alice in Wonderland. Now I've actually been to one.

What it is for Pennsylvania is a large hotel ballroom, filled with row after row of delegates, alternates, family, friends, reporters, and hangers-on. Philadelphia Mayor Wilson B. Goode is at the podium, in charge of the meeting.

Various delegates have the chance to speak for two minutes only -- to try to change each other's opinions. The man sitting next to me -- a construction

worker who cares about environmental issues especially -- says his incoming points of view haven't changed so far because of the speeches, but he's loved hearing and thinking about them.

It's an interesting process. Some of the speakers are nervous. The young student. The timid middle-aged woman. They share with us the fact that they've never before spoken to a group this large.

And there are others. A dynamic black lawyer who speaks with impassioned eloquence (he clearly does that often) and then acts coy. "I'm just a poor country lawyer from Mississippi" he says-- "who wants to be in public office some day." Various people *already* in public office speak too.

The audience is mostly quiet and attentive. They seem to root for each other, sometimes applauding mid-speech, empathizing with the effort to get in under the two-minute wire.

The process is taken very seriously. (Of course one would hope it would be, but it's nice to experience that it is.) The level of "gravity" in the room makes it clear:

People here believe what they are doing can make a difference.

Answer 21 (of 47) MIKE GREENLY, on TUE, JUL 17 1984 at 21:21 (688 characters)

I have 3 TV's going, having just got back from Moscone. Diane is still out there. Sherwin just finished an interview here.

I'm watching (with many of you) the discussions on voting rights, and the anticipation for Jesse Jackson's supposedly "harmonious" speech yet to come.

I decided I'd get more out of the process -- and have more to contribute -- if I came back here now and put up the interviews from this morning, and took some time to *think* about what's been said to me by various people, and *think* about what's happening as it's happening.

And that -- that I can't do from the floor! Greetings to all of you watching TV (yes, TV) with me right now.

Mike

Answer 23 (of 47) MIKE GREENLY, on TUE, JUL 17 1984 at 23:05 (1286 characters)

Jesse Jackson's speech:

One of *the* themes of so many people I've talked to here -- from Senator Alan Cranston just one hour ago to several Governors to Delegates to Alternates -- has been the utter need of the Democrats to pull all their factions together.

What seems certain to all: if unity is *not* achieved, there'll be no reason for Democrats to even bother. It would be hopeless.

I decided earlier that I could "see" and think about Jackson's speech better

if I were *off* the floor. I came back to our TENS office -- with all 3 TV monitors going, and with Della almost popping outside her skin in her shrieking excitement.

This speech is brilliant!

In its fantastically smart "forgive me" handling of Jewish-Black friction, and in its unifying inclusion of so many "special interest" Americans in the rainbow -- from the overt mention of lesbians and gays to Jews, Arabs, Hispanics, old, young, laborer, progressive whites.

In the number of various bases so skillfully balanced throughout the speech. And in the utterly blazing power and unity of the "our time has come" message to all.

This one's an "A". (And yes, Diane and Sherwin, pals 'o' mine, that's my "marketing opinion"!)

Mike

Answer 24 (of 47) MIKE GREENLY, on TUE, JUL 17 1984 at 23:20 (2008 characters)

Congressman Bob Edgar

Lansdowne, PA

Mike: What is the main thing you stand for in your District?

Edgar: Political Fairness. My district is the strongest Republican district in the nation --- represented by a Democrat! And yet I've been re-elected 4 times and have served 5 congressional terms in office.

I think people are Democrats and Republicans second. I think they are first something else. They're senior citizens, they're women, they're small business people, they're labor, environmentalists, peace activists, and I try to respond to some of their specific concerns. I try to speak out on tough issues and not be afraid to let the chips fall where they may. I have built a constituency around that.

I think that was reflected in Mario Cuomo's speech last night. People want frankness in their political leadership. So it's not any one issue like jobs, or nuclear freeze, or any of those issues. It's a variety of issues, but it's a *style* of representation that people want.

Mike: (I ask him to discuss Mondale's politics and the charges that Mondale is "old wave" politics, not the future.)

Edgar: Well my personal feeling is that Mondale isn't "old politics" when he puts Geraldine Ferraro in as a Presidential candidate.

I think Mondale gets a bad rap on some of the oldness. He's *new* on his commitments toward nuclear issues, he's fresh on his issues towards arms control, he's fresh on his commitment toward equality for women, human rights, and civil rights. I think we ought to celebrate that and not continue to

label him with the old tags.

Totally personal reaction: this man is sharp. I am noticing, in the course of my interviews, the number of people whom one feels are "telling the truth" (always -- let's say it explicitly -- as *they* see it). The people who are giving you old-style slick or jive or surface -- well they stand out too.

m.

Answer 25 (of 47) MIKE GREENLY, on WED, JUL 18 1984 at 08:35 (4550 characters)

The Darker Side: Strictly Personal

(No "news". hit ctrl - P if you want to break out of this.)

I promised myself -- and you, too, I think -- that my one journalist "rule" would be honesty. For me that means not only doing my best to report accurately on the things I see and hear, but also to report accurately from within.

Feelings.

There are times -- like yesterday when I watched the national anchorman and Mrs. Hart doing an interview on the floor at high tide -- there are times when I'm glad I do *not* do this fulltime.

I wanted to be "first". Good. We are first forever.

I wanted to be taken seriously. Mostly that's the case too, certainly by anyone who takes the time to *think* about our objectives. (rather than measuring us simply against what they already know and already read or write, and stopping right there.)

I value the worth of the regular *person* having something to say, and this medium facilitates that. In a way not dissimilar to how glad I felt when people started shocking us with "Herstory" -- waking us up to the fact that "history" had been male-dominated for all those centuries. And that Woman's view of things hadn't been recorded with the same due diligence.

This medium creates so many possibilities for people. I believe in those possibilities. I believe they are more transformational than most of the reporters I talk to about this adventure have any idea of --- simply because they haven't yet experienced the power of the connections and the sharing and the linking and the *growth*, personal growth, that can come to people when they widen their perspectives in *this* particular way.

(Some of you remember the interview with the Senator's Aide in "Demo Prep".)

This medium is a perspective widener. And that's how I'm enjoying using it.

But yesterday --

thickling (verb, intransitive, "embodying a thick trickling") --

thickling through the crush of bodies entangled in the Moscone perimeter, sloooowly wending past the booths for pennants, t-shirts, jewelry, airplane tickets, tote bags, the makeshift post office --

or

back out on the floor seeing one man (anchorman) try to talk to one woman (candidate's wife) surrounded by so many cameras and lights and people crowding in to try (in vain) to overhear their brief conversation, with a level of din behind them that -- I promise you - - is much harsher and more distracting than comes across on your TV screen

[in a later story I will comment on the differences between Screen Reality and Floor Reality]

when I saw them try to have their conversation amidst the banshees, which they did quite well --

I realized I had to get *off* the floor and away from the thick to get a better idea of what was happening.

I confess that while this is an adventure I wouldn't trade for anything,

and while I expect to write and be heard from all the rest of my life,

and while , yes, I *am* a "journalist" (how foolish to think people can pick only one occupational or pre- occupational label to apply to themselves. Phooey on that.)

the fact is, this is *not* always "fun and exciting", I'm meeting some phonies as well as inspirers (just like real life and real people), and the crush of the crowd can get me down sometimes and make me wonder about the way it's all set up (you know, don't you, that there are 5 times as many journalists as delegates? and TRANSCOASTAL is right in there helping to create that equation.)

As a Governor said at the party I reported to you: most of the real debate happens *off* the floor.

So there's a limited amount of blanket to go around out there.

Yesterday, a man came bursting through the crowd. He wore a red sweat shirt, he should say "no" to the second piece of pie, and he headed toward the broadcast trailers. That's all I know. Except the certainty I had that he had a "scoop". He had the chance, now, to beat the competition for a few minutes. And it was * real* important to him. (I was glad the pregnant woman I saw 2 seconds later had been out of the way as he oomphed past.)

It's extraordinary to be here "with" you in this way.

-and-

I thought you should know that I'm not in fact always giddy about being here. And not always "excited".

I am, however, always glad!

Mike

Answer 26 (of 47) MIKE GREENLY, on WED, JUL 18 1984 at 10:40 (2874 characters)

Ed Randell, District Attorney Philadelphia

A tall, square, strong looking white man. Hearty. Laughs a lot.

He tells me what he likes best about his job: "the capacity to make significant changes in the justice system, which desperately needs it."

[Awfully easy to say, I hear myself thinking dubiously. I ask him for a *specific* example.]

"There are so many," he says.

"Oh -- just any one you can think of," I say.

"When I took over as D.A.," he replies, "there was no special attention paid to sexual attacks on women. They were just thrown in to the general mill. That procedure neglected the need for sensitive handling of the victims. And it neglected the fact that rape cases are the single most unsuccessful type of case to prosecute successfully."

"I created a separate rape unit with 11 attorneys, who do nothing but try this type of case. They receive specific training, psychological, scientific."
"This allocation of attorneys -- 'vertical prosecution' -- lets them take a case from the preliminary hearing all the way through to the end, with one D.A. You don't have to have the victim tell her story over and over. Her attorney is her champion.

"We increased the conviction rate from 39% to 73% And we have increased the sentence given by over 650% Those are just the statistics. The sensitivity with which which victims are treated, well that's improved 10,000-fold. We get letters, phone calls, from victims, from their parents, families. The caliber of the representation is good. But the emotional involvement of attorneys went a long way toward reestablishing confidence in us as humans."

[I've read about these kinds of programs, of course. But the immediate reality of having this big hunk of beefy D.A. talking to me in this fashion, telling me about "sensitivity" -- well it surprises me, and makes me feel great.]

"That's my future governor you're talking too!" says a black woman who comes buy to hug him. "Governor of Pennsylvania."

"Oh? When will he be governor?" I ask.

"1986," Randell says with a laugh.

He endorses Mondale. "Too many people think we're the party of welfare," he tells me. "That's not true. Although we are concerned about the people, the heart of our party is the American dream, the middle class. Mondale spelled out those terms very well, I think."

What about Hart, I ask, and his continuing struggle?

"If I were him I wouldn't have done it, he says. "I would have given up, and gotten on with nominating Walter Mondale. But on the other hand, he's fought long and hard, and you can't quarrel with his decision to go down to the wire. His people care very much and deeply about what he's done and their campaign.

"In a way -- he owes it to them."

Answer 27 (of 47) MIKE GREENLY, on WED, JUL 18 1984 at 14:01 (2994 characters)

Pennsylvania: Two Speakers
on Opposite Sides

--> Augusta A. Clark, Councilwoman-at-large, City of Philadelphia.

She is slim, black, wiry, with silverglint hair. She is a pistol. And as she fires off her comments while I type them into the Model 100 -- me sitting to type, she standing like a torch -- I can see she is enjoying letting me have it.

She recounts her talk to the Pennsylvania caucus.

"I spoke to affirmative action and the need for the Democrats in the national convention to take a strong positive stand in favor of goals, and timetables, and quotas," she says. I wish you could hear the way she sounds. Sock!

"Every woman on the floor of this convention is here as a direct result of the party instituting direct goals and timetables. [Delegates must now be 50% women.] If we don't have goals and timetables, we are reduced then to 'goodwill' and the hope that we can trust white men. [friendly sneer in my direction] But in the history of this country, I have no precedent on which to base that vain hope!"

"That is why it is important for us to make it very clear and very explicit, and without any equivocation, that minorities and women have a place in this party. Particularly minorities who have been faithful to the Democratic party. This party had better show respect for our fidelity. Or else we'll just show them and go fishing!"

"We are going to button hole people in all the delegations and we are going to count our friends and enemies. There's a dependable rule in politics: reward your friends and punish your enemies.

We know that rule. And we'll use it."

--> Penny Gerber - Delegate from Montgomery County, Pa. - She is a tall, cool, crisp, blond woman, an executive -- president of a private school bus/transportation company.

"What can I do for you, Mike?" She has authority of a thoroughly different kind than Augusta Clark's.

While Augusta Clark spits fireballs, Penny Gerber speaks in calm, clear tones, confident of rightness, of logic, and unruffled by all the fuss on the other side. "Pennsylvania is a very fractious state," she says. "We come together eventually. We're used to it."

Penny speaks in favor of the majority plank on voting rights. She agrees with the objectives that Augusta Clark stands for, but she says a "more careful look at the runoff plank" has to be taken. "**All* second primaries would be eliminated," by the minority plank on dual primaries, she says. "But in fact it has to be a case by case decision, state by state." If a state is being discriminatory to minority and female (or any) candidates, then "it has to be studied by the Justice Department,". She feels the majority plank will indeed pass (it does).

[When I hear the ultimate results, I think of Augusta Clark taking names for her hit list. When Andy Young speaks and is booed, I think of her.]

Answer 28 (of 47) MIKE GREENLY, on WED, JUL 18 1984 at 14:06 (4932 characters)

Tuesday Impression

People I encounter along the way to this Wednesday include:

--> Plump, potato-like man, about 55, standing near the stairway to Guest Seating. He's got a Delegate's badge on, and a Mondale button. Labor leader from Virginia.

Mike: "How are you finding the convention so far?"

Potato: "I've been to 5 of these things. Every f-----g one of them is the same."

Mike: "From a Labor point of view -- well, *is* there any particular Labor point of view at this Convention?"

Potato: "Not really. We're just taking a, you know, stand-back position. If they need us, we'll move in and try to do our thing."

A man walks by carrying one large plastic garbage bag and another large see-through bag -- each filled with Jesse for President helium balloons.

A tall man is standing between two pieces of fabric, each covering a scaffolding. It is as though he is standing in a fabric closet. It is an alley, actually, heading out toward the front of Moscone.

People in the swarming Perimeter are asking him questions, six or seven microphones.

The man is tall, how old? 70? very striking looking. Stark features. His eyes though, I can see even from a distance, are so bright, unusually bright. Or is that the camera lighting? He answers questions I cannot hear.

"Who is that?" I ask.

"Senator Alan Cranston." (oh.) "One of the best," she tells me.

I like the look of him. I admire his patience with the crowd, though he clearly looks like he's just enduring them. He stands so straight. It's eerie seeing him framed by those cloth walls staring out at us. I cannot hear a thing.

They break up. It seems to be understood that it's over. I don't want to just leave him, though. It's been so discouraging and teeming back here, and I've felt so fruitless, I'd like to ask him something.

But what?

What do I know about California politics? It was easier to ask a question of Mondale? I could ask about Hart I suppose, and trot out that question about Western values again. But that's gotten to feel stale even to me.

I feel hesitant about placing my tape recorder in front of the older gentleman's face, but I do it. He must be used to it.

"Can I ask you one question?" (I say it as gently as I can in the chaos.)

Cranston: "Yeah?"

Mike: "I've never done this before. I'm one of the first computer journalists here. Can you tell me one *smart* question that I should ask you? That I could then tell computer readers?"

He laughs. And I like him a lot.

Cranston: "Well I've never been confronted by that approach." I like the courtly way he put that.

"I don't know what to , uh --" I want to rescue him. That's how it feels. OK -- ask an easy one for its own sake.

Mike: "What insight could you give me --" (no too hard still, let me rephrase it) "uh, what should we tell people on how the convention is going?"

Cranston: (I think he's relieved) "Well, the convention is going very well I think. We're battling among ourselves, and when it's over we'll be united I believe. And we'll be on our way, I hope, to a winning Campaign."

Mike: "Thank you, Senator."

He smiles. We just had an empty exchange, a pro forma, but he is so gracious about it, he touches me.

As I slog back into the mud of people, I hear a strong man's voice --

"Senator Cranston! One question --"

Placard: "Su Voto Es Su Voz"

In the News Hall seats:

Mike: A silver-haired, trim older woman. "What is your name?"

Pat: "My name is Pat Cochrane. I'm from Richland, Washington."

Mike: "As a reporter?"

Pat: "Just as a 'fun person' this time."

Mike: "And, how have you been before?"

Pat: "I've been delegate, alternate." (Says she's been to all but one convention since 1956.)

Mike: "What strikes you as being significant about this Convention?" Pat: "Oh, I think the fact that we have a black on the floor. That's extremely important. And the contest with the other man. [I love the way she is referring to Hart. 'the other man'. That tells you *something*.] Of course, I've been for Mondale ever since he was born practically."

Just about when I'm on the dangerous verge of falling into stereotypes -- this "sweet old lady" -- she asks me about what I'm doing and how she can get a Source subscription. I tell her, and she says in horror, "It's not like the Reader's Digest, is it?!"

Mike: "No, it's very different than that."

She says she won't allow me to put in print what she thinks of the Reader's Digest.

Then she sells me a Mondale button. -- "hand made from the State of Washington." \$2.00. Tries to sell me an autographed one for \$100!

Jeeesh! I'm getting away from this wolf in lamb's clothing! [But I sure hope

I see her online sometime.]

Answer 29 (of 47) MIKE GREENLY, on WED, JUL 18 1984 at 21:40 (6348 characters)

Exclusive! "The Woz" On The Floor

Mike Greenly waits, hoping that "The Woz" (Steve Wozniak, co-founder of Apple with Steve Jobs) will in fact arrive to be interviewed.

He does!

There are no hordes of cameras surrounding us, no hot white lights trained on us -- and I like it like that. Just a plain, simple, basic Convention din. I use my tape recorder to capture the entire dialogue verbatim.

Mike: "Hi! I'm Mike Greenly."

Woz: "Hi. Nice to meet you."

Mike: "Well, we've met before. I sat next to you at 'Softcon' while I was using this Model 100."

Woz: "Right. Excellent."

Mike: "Right. I am, along with my two partners, the first electronic journalist ever credentialed by the Democratic Committee."

"And as I told Steve Jobs and John Sculley at a Press Breakfast at the NCC, Apple has donated, for this event, Apple IIC's."

[It came, by the way, Reader, as a total surprise to Jobs & Sculley when *I* informed them. But they were very pleased, both of them.]

"And when the Press comes by -- for example, InfoWorld came by this afternoon -- we make a point of showing them that we're using Apple IIC's."

"I tell them Apple believes in telecommunications' future."

[I think The Woz may look a little dubious -- or just noncommittal -- but I perk right along.]

"Now --"

"Some readers, including one of your Managers, asked me to find you and asked you to comment on anything you feel about the use of technology in this Convention."

Woz: "I was expecting it was going to be a little bit phoney and -- well usually everybody just knows how to put a list on a computer."

"And I found that the with the monitor over here, I could look up and find that I, Steve Wozniak, had a message waiting for me and I found out what it was really efficiently. So I was very impressed with the usage."

"Also, for counting the votes. Every state still has to count its votes up, but the total tally -- the accumulation -- is done instantly by the computer, and everyone here appreciates that. It was impressive. I was not expecting that."

Mike: "Another reader -- you know that this is interactive journalism, and that the readers use Parti on The Source to write back to us, the journalists -- "

"So, the latest question I received this afternoon is to ask people -- on a personal basis -- what they thought about the Jackson speech last night. Do you have a comment on that?"

Woz: "Jackson represents a side here that's largely associated with the Democratic party, of reaching out to the people, the disenfranchised, the ones that don't feel they've been heard before."

"Even a lot of this year's Hart supporters didn't come out of the main stream of Democratic politics, and feel the same way."

"And I think Hart is a better balance to also represent the finest agenda for economic growth in this country, better than even the Republicans."

Mike: "Do you think Hart still, in these waning hours, has a chance?"

Woz: "We all think he's gonna win."

[This matter-of-fact prediction was greeted with surprised silence by yours truly.]

Woz: "All the Hart supporters do. Especially the California nomination."

Mike: (weakly, stupidly, trying to be sure he's heard correctly) "You think he's gonna win the nomination?"

Woz: "You'll be amazed. You'll be amazed at what can happen!"

Mike: "I will tell people I heard it from Steve Wozniak first. -- Tell me this: is there anything that, since I'm going to go back to the office and now and immediately put this into people's electronic mail boxes that you want to tell readers of Parti on The Source?"

Woz: "Yes, absolutely! I proposed early in the election when I was working with the Hart people --- I never did have the time, I was doing a lot of travelling, to reach the upper, you know, to try to organize this -- he should do a teleconference, once he's a candidate for President, on The Source with 40 computer people asking questions,

because I did one one time on computer topics and it's, like, the sort of thing that will catch on, and the entire media will grab on that for a week, and he'll get a ton of more publicity than he'll get otherwise."

[Boy do I agree! Teleconferencing can be used for a *zillion* things. I shake his hand.]

"And, I've got another thing. Computer users are young. And they're, it's really odd because we've had all of these, uh, what do you call it when they can't vote?"

Mike: "Disenfranchised?"

Woz: "Suffrage! We've had suffrage for , like, women's and minorities. We've never had suffrage for younger people who aren't allowed to vote.

It's about time that anybody who has kids ought to be able to vote one per kid, with extra votes. We should have -- every child should be respected as a voter. Until they're able to vote themselves, their parents might have to do the voting, until they're old enough. But it's a forgotten batch. They do not have equal voting power per their needs, such as better education or school lunches, etc.

"Those thoughts come to my mind whenever I hear a politician giving a speech -- tears come to my eyes -- 'cause I'm a new father."

Mike: "Do you think that parents, in general, could be trusted to vote the best thing for their kids?"

Woz: "I think that whatever the parents decide applies until the kid is of voting age. A lot of parents will feel, of course, they've got to talk to their kids. To the extent that their kids want to vote a certain way, yes, the parents will represent the child. But it's about time for child's suffrage."

Mike: "Does that work against Zero Population Growth?"

Woz: (laughing) "I don't know. Probably! I don't think it would be a very well-accepted idea. Like all other suffrage movements."

"I think that voting totally electronically and getting to a totally electronic system where you can sort of vote on an issue, almost a popular vote on almost any issue, is still a long ways off. Technologically, we know it **can** be done now, but it's still a long way off."

Mike: "I'm gonna send you a print out of this, when I get back to the office."

Woz: "Appreciate it."

Mike: "Thanks a lot!"

Answer 30 (of 47) MIKE GREENLY, on THU, JUL 19 1984 at 00:02 (3098 characters)

Nancy M. Noonan, President of the
Pennsylvania State Educational Association:
Teachers are SOLID for Mondale

She's a chemistry and biology teacher who is now president of a 130,000 labor union for educators -- from the largest state affiliate of the National Educational Association. She is **determined** to do what she can to elect Mondale.

I am impressed to learn that 23 of the Pennsylvania delegates are teachers. Of the 23, 21 are Mondale committed. Mondale received the early endorsement of the NEA. She says NEA was "the first major union to screen the Presidential candidates."

I am even more startled to learn that:

more than 10% of

all Delegates

are members of the NEA --

with *education* a primary objective.

Nancy tells me that Mondale has a history of supporting education from long ago. She reminds me that he deserves much credit for the first Cabinet-level Department of Education post.

I ask her to speculate about teachers Nationally. Is there one, general teacher's point of view? The vast majority of teachers understand Mondale's commitment to education, she says, and his belief in the priority status of teachers. The vast majority of American teachers surely support Mondale.

I gingerly make a little joke about teachers not being able to pat a child on the head and say, "Now don't forget, Michael, tell your parents to vote for Mondale!"

I am startled by her reply: "We hope they *will*!"

I thought I was raising a controversial topic -- teachers and politics. Her reply says something to me about how the view of education -- and teachers -- must have changed since I was a student.

She confirms that change with her next comment. She talks about the "3+1 = success" formula her teachers are now taught. "If each of you will secure the interest and support of three people, there would not be any candidate who could not win with that kind of support."

Mike: "Well what would Reagan reply to try to change teachers' minds?"

Nancy: "He'd probably pursue the same old line of rhetoric, by saying that they're better off. Their pay checks can be used more extensively, and they now have more opportunity to. That their buying power is better."

She says, however, that teachers would know better, that they're aware that Federal cuts to education were 30% during Reagan's term of office.

She notes that Reagan launched a commission on educational excellence, which raised -- in its report more than one year ago -- serious questions about America's education needs that Reagan has allowed to go unanswered.

If she is correct, then a large % of Democratic Delegates are teachers committed to Mondale for very close-to-home reasons. And, after this Convention, it wouldn't be surprising to see teachers all across the country working very hard to get him elected.

Next: Nancy Noonan's response to our invitation to send a message to you direct from the TENS office.

Answer 31 (of 47) MIKE GREENLY, on THU, JUL 19 1984 at 00:18 (1600 characters)

Message to Parti on The Source Readers from Nancy M. Noonan, President, Pennsylvania State Education Association

"As a representative of the National Education Association, and a Democrat, and Secretary of the Pennsylvania Delegation here at this 1984 Democratic National Convention --

I would encourage the diverse population of people using this medium to offer assistance to one another and to the public at large in understanding the value of education as a priority concern of the United States -- and for them to be assured that teachers who deliver this public service to children are eager to cooperate in bringing about meaningful reform and improvements in our public schools."

"We've come so far as a nation in the last 200 years. But without education, we can achieve nothing. We can solve nothing. And we can secure nothing."

"Mondale and Ferraro are the two individuals who will ultimately be selected here as the nominees of the Democratic Party for the Offices of President and Vice-President. But they will not be successful in being seated in those high offices without the support of the American people."

"The Reagan administration policies and programs must be studied very, very carefully and with a careful review the middle class Americans who represent the majority will easily see that their lives are not better off today than they were 4 years ago. And I would encourage Americans who believe in America and who want to maintain a country for all, not a country for a few, would vote for Mondale and Ferraro, November 84.

Answer 32 (of 47) MIKE GREENLY, on THU, JUL 19 1984 at 12:05 (7658 characters)

DayTime Scenes on Vote Day

-> The "whoosh" sound is from a dozen Hart workers -- all in one tight room off the Perimeter -- blowing up Hart balloons. Tying and bundling them. T-shirts and Hart Frisbees amidst the helium tanks. A politicized Santa's Workshop.

-> I spot two crates of Mondale Posters near the scaffolding, waiting to be unboxed.

-> I walk up to the young woman acting as guard to one of the Floor entrances

and ask her who is the speaker and what he is talking about. She doesn't know. But she says boldly, "He's talking about 'Party Unity'". We laugh together -- because even without listening to one word from this anonymous (to us) Podium Speaker, her guess is sure to be a safe one. They're *all* talking about party unity.

-> "We are honored to present to you at this time, Joyce Miller." The applause is desultory. You don't realize at home how tepidly some of the speakers and speeches are greeted. She's from an Amalgamated clothing/textile union. I remember what she's President of less clearly than the way she talks.

In an artificial, old-fashioned way that has a hyphen between every word. A stilted "speechy" way of talking.

(Joan Mondale has yet another style, but I'll cover that in a later note.)

This woman says:

" It - is - a - pleasure. It - is - par-ti-cularly - ex-citing - because - we - are - just - hours - away - from - nomi-nating - the - next - President -"

-> I peep over the ledge near a stairway and see the TV cameras churning with two tailored backs to me at a desk that gives the illusion of being settled somewhere impressive -- rather being than in the middle of an aisle between folding chairs. I wonder if my forehead shows up behind their desk, on National TV. Behind me, on the tiers of seats, are four separate news cameras rolling, with four separate sets of impeccably groomed presenters.

I cannot stop thinking about the electronic "Our Town" analogy when I see these people, mere feet away from each other, each beaming out their meaningful diction and their polished gazes from the same central core -- but each to a different destiny. They start out a few feet away; they end up hundreds or thousands of miles and even lifestyles apart. To KMOL in the mid-west, or KRON in L.A., or W-NEW in New York. The camera angle trying to make "our" newsperson seem like the only one who's *really* "right there"! I wonder which of the TV announcers I am watching on this flat, Greek Theater staircase is actually talking to some of *you*, the readers of this Conference, as I watch them look directly at you through their cameras.

-> On the floor itself, Hart and Mondale banners are stacked face-down. All that you see poking up above the chairs are the cardboard poles that the banners are tacked to. Like cardboard end-of-season cornstalks, sheafed amidst the silver seats.

-> Mike and a Mondale Delegate (this is to help answer CRT's earlier question in "Tell Us 3") --

Mike: "Tell me how you felt about Jackson's speech. Aside from 'party unity'. What about personally."

Delegate (Edna from Houston): "It was very moving to me. The 'party unity' part *is* personal! The fact that everyone here - our main objective - is to

beat Reagan. To reestablish those programs that he cut. It touches all of our lives. And we all have some personal, emotional feeling about that. That's why we're here. That's why we came all this way."

Mike: "*How* does it touch you, personally."

Edna: "Well I'm a female head of household with two small children. But Reagan's cuts don't personally affect me as much as they do some of my neighbors who are less fortunate than I am."

Mike: "Like what for example."

Edna: "Well, the fact that he's cut Legal Aid services. And I know some people that can't afford a private attorney. And he's cut Social Security. And I have some elderly people in my neighborhood. Some of my neighbors were just barely getting by on what they had then. We're all having to learn to live with less and less all the time."

Mike: "And so you're saying that when you're here, you're also here for these people you care about."

Edna: "Oh, very much so!"

[I found I cared about her caring. I wonder how the Republican Delegates will be? Of course they will have different perspectives, and concerns. But if our plans to cover the Republican Convention work out, I hope I find Republicans who care just as much about what they're doing and representing.]

-> On the floor the day of the vote, there seem to be fewer HART buttons than before. The man in charge of T-shirt sales in the Perimeter thinks more than half the Candidate Shirts are sold with Mondale's picture. Then comes Jackson. And he hasn't sold very many "Hart" T-Shirts. From a strictly market research point of view, that might be a comment on Hart's charisma *or* it might be a comment on the types of people who follow him.

-> Mike: "What was your reaction to Jackson's speech, on a personal level?"

Woman (Hart Delegate, Southern accent, wouldn't give her name): "Well I was pleased with him. And I thought he brought the message that we wanted to bring. That we are back! It was very stirring. I'm a Delegate from Chevy Chase Maryland. I was touched."

-> I encountered two women standing behind the Floor Railing. They stood behind a man in a floral shirt with a large pod-like necklace. They are from American Samoa. He is Chief Lutali.

Mike: "What's your impression of the Convention?"

Chief: "I'm quite impressed. I enjoy everything that's going on here. I am for Mondale. I am already committed."

Mike: "What's that around your neck?"

Chief: "These are the roots of the plantanas plant in American Samoa. It's a part of our history that only Chiefs wear. And - I - am - a - Chief!"

Mike: "How long have you been a Chief?"

Chief: "Oh, pretty close to thirty years." He spells his name for me.

Mike: "And, I would say 'Chief Lutali', no?" (he nods). "Thank you, Chief Lutali."

-> A Delegate is asleep on his chair. He has a hearing aid. His hand rests on the empty chair beside him, on a stack of newspapers. He has a straw hat. Under the strong white light, he might be a retiree on the Miami Beach shore.

-> A large, robust woman wearing buttons, buttons, buttons. Nancy Helen Fisher.

Mike: "Can I interview you? Where did you get all these buttons?"

Nancy: "I'm the National Vice Chair of the Women's Political Caucus Democratic Task Force and we've had these buttons since February."

Mike: "How did you feel about Jackson's speech yesterday?"

Nancy: "I was really thrilled. In my delegation, there's only one Jackson delegate. However, there's a lot of sympathy in Washington State for Jesse Jackson's viewpoint. Our entire delegation was drawn more closely together because of the speech.

-> Regis McKenna, the well-known P.R. executive (Apple Computer is one of his clients.)

Regis: "Someone should do a story on shoes. The number of people wearing business suits with tennis shoes down below. Take a look. You'll see what I mean! A lot of them are new. After the second day. Everybody got out to stores in the area; they must have had a run on shoes."

Mike: (never one to pass from brainstorming a promotional idea) "It seems to me someone's shoe client ought to get in on this. Publicly donate shoes to delegates."

Regis: "I have no idea. I'm not in that business!"

Answer 33 (of 47) MIKE GREENLY, on THU, JUL 19 1984 at 19:05 (6182 characters)

Joan Mondale Visits The Caucus
(and recommendations on
her presentation style)

On the morning of Vote Day, she is introduced to the Pennsylvania Caucus by Richard S. Caliguiri, Mayor of Pittsburgh. He says that she is someone who "h-a-s been in the White House, h-a-s been at the forefront of Women's issues."

[I assume this is a kind of endorsement of the Mondale camp vs. the Hart camp.]

The audience is billed to Joan as the largest Mondale Delegation at the Convention,

"And Joan -- "

[this is the applause set-up]

"this is one of the most strong, loyal, Democratic delegations, I think, here in San Francisco -- "

the applause drowns him out.

They clap, whoop, rise. She stands at the Podium, wearing a tailored, cream-colored suit. She looks professional and friendly.

Then she starts to speak.

I think she is a bright woman. I think she cares. But I think she needs to evolve to a different way of relating.

She sounds like she's talking to children. She *means* to be playful. Pleasant. Friendly. Personal.

But she comes across like Billie Burke -- the Good Witch of the North in "Wizard of Oz." Not the 80's.

Many people in the audience clearly love her. It's important to note that fact. Nonetheless, my opinion is: she should work on what she says, and how she lets herself come across.

When she talks, I find I do not trust her . . . because I mistrust the way she's speaking. Increasingly, I believe, people are becoming more sophisticated about what's "for real", what's sincere. If you're going to ask "where's the beef", you'd better be prepared to serve it up. Mrs. Mondale's style verges on artificial and brittle and overly sweet. She says, slowly and coyly:

"I under-stand (pause) that YOU are the LARG-est MON-dale delegation at the convention."

Sure it works -- in this context. They interrupt her with cheering.

"And that Yooouuuu - will be casting - the largest single vote for Walter Mondale!"

Her voice goes up like the teacher in grade school -- Like "here - is Benjy Bear - reaching for the honnnneyy!"

She tells us -- tailor-made for the audience -- how she's asked her Press Secretary "but when do i get to go to Pennsylvania? You know I grew up in Delaware County!" (Big applause, naturally.)

She tells us an interesting vignette about when women couldn't sign petitions on women's rights because their husbands would lose their jobs. It's an impressive piece of history.

But it's not presented with feeling or passion. It's offered in the same overly sweet tone as: "And you have a wonderful Mayor. He's done such fabulous things!" [A reply to Caliguiri's endorsing introduction.]

"We're going to leave San Francisco. happy. We're going to be united. And we need everybody!" (Like -- come our wonderful Cotillion, everybody!)

"The fact that Fritz chose a woman was a bold, decisive stroke."

"It was wonderful getting to know the Zuccaro family. John, her husband is wonderul."

"So we'll be two, happy, united, loving caring families spread out all across the country" -- [somehow the full bliss of this picture comes off just to saccharine to be true. Even if it is.]

"We are going to rid the country of Ronald Reagan in November!" (I shouldn't have thought of the Billie Burke analogy -- for me, now, it's as though she's talking about the Wicked Witch of the West.)

Most people stand. A few don't. The cameras follow her. She walks down the aisle on the way to the ballroom entrance. She shakes hands. People go out of their way to snurgle in close beside her. People cross over to the back of the aisles to ambush her for a look, a word, a smile.

She is *on*. (But it's too obvious that she's on.)

The photographers have to walk backwards, the tripods are hastily scuttled out of the way. Everyone backs up as Mrs. Mondale glides forward.

"Mrs. Mondale? Mrs. Mondale?" Some people win a handshake and walk back, grinning, to their seats. The photographer from WPXI rolls back, along with three other competitors.

So we're not talking about someone unsuccessful with the crowd, folks. But these are the committed, don't forget. These are the ones who've worked so hard and paid their own way to be here. These are the believers.

"Oh, that fabulous place!" she says to someone who reminds her of some location or memory they have in common. Again, it strikes me that she is too artificial.

The Secret Service guys back up with the throng and out the open doors, before and behind her. She stops to be kissed by the Congressman I interviewed the previous day.

The brilliant light of the cameras heads out into the hallway. Like departing spaceships from "Close Encounters of the Third Kind."

She is gone. And the room is emptier.

So there is no doubt that she made an impactful appearance. Nonetheless, my advice stands.

I am convinced that people of the 80's and 90's will increasingly be able to tell surface from substance, artifice from actual. The politicians -- and their families -- who will ultimately persuade us the most, convince us the most, move us the most -- will be the ones who let us have it. The truth of it. Articulate, sure. But based on the genuine.

Sure Jackson "performed" in his speech. But he let his **feelings** be available to the surface in the process. Sure Geraldine Ferraro could be stronger and smoother -- but she speaks from an internal reality that gives her credibility.

Joan Mondale needs to learn to let herself do that. It means **thinking** more about the truth of what one is saying, and projecting that honest reality as you speak.

If I could, I'd rehearse her on inflection, cadence, the use of spontaneity, and what to insist on from her writers. Certainly, however, especially if Fritz Mondale is elected, she will evolve and grow just from experience and confidence.

The Billie Burke school of public speaking (and thinking) -- well, it's only good on reruns.

Answer 34 (of 47) MIKE GREENLY, on THU, JUL 19 1984 at 20:55 (1632 characters)

Father Guido Sarducci on the Floor

Remember Father Guido Sarducci from "Saturday Night Live"? (If not, just hit Control-P, this won't make much sense to you.)

I see Father Guido Sarducci in the Perimeter, surrounded by reporters. It is a shock to see him in this context. (I would rather have seen Gilda Radner or Bill Murray or Lily Tomlin or Steve Martin or Joan Rivers -- but it is still neat.)

He is breaking away from the crowd of reporters. I decide it is time for me to grow up and get in there and fight. So I race along and am side by side with a woman reporter with a tape recorder in her hand. Her recorder is 4 times bigger than mine. She is also -- is it real or psychological? -- a foot taller than me. Wait -- that must be psychological, that would make her 7 feet tall! The World's Largest News Lady.

The lesson for me is that she makes herself **seem** 7 feet tall! I watch how she uses her body, side-walking down the corridor, always facing Father Sarducci. When you think she's just finished one question, she has another.

And another.

OK, OK. Go for it.

Mike: "Father. I'm one of the first computer journalists ever to cover a convention. Our news goes out over a computer."

Father: "Why?"

Mike: "And I'll be putting it out instantly. Would you like to say something to our computer readers all over the country?"

Father: "I'm, uh, think i'm uh talk too slooow, if it's so instant. I'm probably -- it's probably *gone* by now, and I didn't talk in time!"

(the end)

Answer 35 (of 47) MIKE GREENLY, on FRI, JUL 20 1984 at 16:58 (5732 characters)

Leroy Fair - Black Hart Delegate
The Day After Hart Lost

Leroy Fair is a big, likeable guy. A real estate salesman.

Unlike some delegates who were elected for a district, he was elected "at large" for the state of Virginia.

Why did he win? He believes voters recognized he's "more effective in communicating with political types. More convincing."

But what kind of convincing needs to be done? He says he's a Hart "whip". [I haven't thought about that term since sixth grade history.]

As a whip, Leroy is asked to talk with various other delegates, to communicate Senator Hart's views, exchange information, establish dialogue, look for "softness" -- Mondale delegates whose minds might be changed. So a whip needs to be someone who can work effectively with people, a communicator. "I feel like I was fairly successful. Although the candidate himself was the greatest instrument of bringing about change in votes."

How did Leroy choose Hart to run for?

He had met Mondale. He "wasn't convinced that Mondale was the best candidate that we could put up." And even though Leroy was very supportive of Jesse Jackson and his total campaign, "I didn't feel the Reverend had a prayer."

Leroy worked on the Democratic Platform Committee, and did notice some subtle hostility from blacks on the committee who felt he should be supporting Jackson. He also felt pressure here at the convention.

But he couldn't, in conscience, support all the Jackson planks.

"I come from 53 years ago," he said. "Quotas did bad things to me. They've

kept me out of jobs, they've worked against my brother, I've seen them work in the school and military. I'm very fearful of quotas. That's a double-edged sword."

"Also," he says, "I could not support the plank dealing with the double primary. The need is bad. Sure. But I argued effectively on the platform committee, this is not the time for the Democrats to yield to pressure from the Jackson camp to change the dual primary system. That would blow us out of the tubes in the Southern states."

Leroy feels he's a solid "pragmatist" -- balancing his ideals against what his judgement says is really going to work.

"Black people can not afford to be all in one camp. We have to have black influence everywhere. I sure *hope* there are blacks in the Republican Party too!"

What had he really thought of Hart's chances?

"I had a lot of hope that the lightning bolts would hit. And sure enough when the Burt Lance thing came up, well! We met with the Senator [Hart] Sunday afternoon, all of the whips and delegates, and thought 'oh boy, we're gonna get this tiger!'"

But later that night, after the rally, he thought to himself about the enormity of trying to persuade all the uncommitted delegates, and the Mondale or Jackson delegates, to switch to Hart.

"It ain't gonna happen, Leroy Fair," he told himself. But he made up his mind to do his very best anyway. "And I did."

"On the Floor, in the hotel rooms, talking to reporters. I was interviewed by everybody under the sun. I was quoted in The Examiner. Saying that I was gonna hang in their tough and support Gary Hart. Still, it was obvious to me it wasn't going to happen."

[I find that I am really moved as he talks by the clarity of his vision -- that he was so sure his quest would fail, but was determined to do his best anyway.

It strikes a personal chord with me, this man's simple statements about upholding a losing cause. Doing something right. So you'll know you have done it. Leroy Fair, I decide, is a richer person than is obvious right away on his easy, friendly surface.]

"I'm involved here in the most historic convention in many years to come," he tells me.

"Number one, we had the first black male candidate in history."

"Number two, the first potential nominee" -- he is careful, the nomination hasn't taken place yet -- who, for the first time in history, is female."

"And three, it's the first time in history that I, Leroy Fair, have participated in any National partisan politics."

[I enjoy his putting his own, personal participation up there as one of the reasons this convention is "historic". And who says he's not right about that, anyway? We think this TENS coverage is yet another reason it's "historic"!]

How does Leroy feel, now that his candidate has lost?

"We're on the team. First and foremost, we're Democrats, period."

"A lot of women have been waiting" for just the opportunity the Democrats are offering this year. "That's gonna make a big difference," he says.

And "sitting in that convention Tuesday night, when the Reverend Jesse Jackson made that very powerful speech, I thought to myself, and I said to the delegates seated on both sides of me,"

'WE'RE GONNA BEAT MR. REAGAN!'

"The Democrats now have the unification it's gonna take for his defeat in November."

"I felt very encouraged after Jesse Jackson publicly said to the whole whole universe, 'forgive me'. I've talked to a lot of Jewish people that have had a lot of trouble with Jesse Jackson. A *lot* of trouble. And I hope they will begin to take another look at him and say 'hey, the guy is trying to apologize and make ammends.'"

"I'm tired," he says now. "It has been a tremendous amount of work. A tremendous amount of standing, walking, talking, cheering, crying, I even cried a bit Tuesday night. I'm fatigued, but I'm also feeling a great sense of unification within our Party and I'm so delighted. I pray that Mr. Mondale will be up to the task."

Answer 36 (of 47) MIKE GREENLY, on FRI, JUL 20 1984 at 16:59 (1068 characters)

To readers of Parti on The Source
from Leroy Fair, Virginia Delegate

"To the great numbers of senior citizens, the vast numbers of people on Medicare, and to the many many retired Federal employees, current Federal employees, and their families --

"We are going to have to unite with all elements of the Democratic Party to defeat Mr. Reagan and all the unfair policies that he has proposed and that he will propose if he's re-elected. I think all state and local employees, all federal employees, have been victimized unfairly by this administration. They have been castigated. Their morale has been destroyed. Which in my view has caused a tremendous amount of waste in terms of talent and money because so

many times those employees and their vast talents haven't been utilized by the leaders of this party.

"It seems to me that there ought to be a real rallying cry from these groups to get out and urge people to support the Democrats and their efforts to unseat Mr. Reagan."

Answer 37 (of 47) MIKE GREENLY, on FRI, JUL 20 1984 at 17:01 (1770 characters)

Mike's Perspective on Fair's message
& the use of this medium

As I heard Leroy state his message to you in our TENS office, I thought about how few senior citizens, people on Medicare, and Federal employees there are among you reading this -- if any at all.

Indeed, I thought about how few of you in **total** there are. (about 150 joiners to "Demo 84" at last count which makes this a very successful Conference by normal standards.)

But the **concept** is BIG.

You are, virtually by definition, "advanced" communicators simply because you are here. I know enough about enough of you, also, to know that you are -- disproportionately -- influencers. This "mere" 150 -- and climbing all through the Convention -- includes magazine editors, broadcast executives, corporate decision-makers, priests, teachers, psychologists, newspaper journalists, publishers, doctors, scientists -- and of course **all** of you are people who communicate actively with other people. Nancy Noonan and Leroy Fair were the first Democrats ever to send back direct messages of their causes to readers of this medium from their Convention. I will certainly be just as enthusiastic in sharing the opportunity with Republicans.

Mark these words: this medium, electronic teleconferencing (**not** just Partion The Source by any means) will be increasingly influential in politics, business, social causes, science, health, education, family ties, journalism, religion, entertainment, and humans relating to humans around the planet.

It is special to be part of widening the discovery of those possibilities.

That's
what Leroy, you, and I have just been part of.

That's why I'm here.

Mike

Answer 38 (of 47) MIKE GREENLY, on FRI, JUL 20 1984 at 17:02 (1866 characters)

About Floor Passes. (Preparation
for Next Answer)

You probably don't realize that most journalists do not have passes to let them out onto the center arena that I strutted around on so happily that first day *before* the convention began.

Perimeter Passes are (my opinion) pretty worthless. You get to see all the T-Shirt booths, and you get to watch a few monitors.

That's why the effort we made every single day to upgrade to News Hall passes was so vital to us. [*Thank you* Deborah Campbell of the DNC!] Getting those News Hall passes let us go out into the light, at least, where we could really *feel* what Convention was really like. My interview with Steve Wozniak was in the News Hall section, along with many others.

Ah -- but to r-e-a-l-l-y be out there, you need

F L O O R P A S S E S ! ! !

For those (most of us) who are not blessed enough to have them in the first place, you must wait in line.

Sometimes for hours, sometimes for less. Once you get it, the pass is good for only

20 minutes!

that's all.

20 minutes!

So you'd better make the most of it.

Vote Night -- I decide to take the plunge.

(I meet in line, by the way, a student journalist from a prestige school who has a smarmy little racket going. He gets a 20 minute pass, and then goes out into the main arena to his Delegate Friends. He takes their coveted pass or passes while they wait there, and comes back out, turns in his 20 minute temporary, and spends the rest of the day coming and going at will with the magic Delegate's pass. (His Delegate friends can get out without problem. Getting *in* is the issue.)

So -- the next commentary lets you know what happened during my hot 20 minutes on THE FLOOR.

Answer 39 (of 47) MIKE GREENLY, on FRI, JUL 20 1984 at 17:08 (8012 characters)

My Hot 20 Minutes on The Floor!!

Twenty minutes. Twenty minutes. The place is so jammed. It's hard to get anywhere in twenty minutes. Let alone know what to do. Stumble past the boxes of Noisemakers for Mondale. I've never yet seen the Hall as crowded as it is now, during the vote.

From the News Hall area as I approach, it's a steamy, gleamy city in motion -- metallic balloons and glossy banners reflecting light and heat. A baking carpet of color in bobbing motion.

-- "55 votes for the Mr. Mondale!"

Push. Push.

All around me people are tallying the votes as they're announced on *paper*. A Hart staffer. Steve Teichner. A newspaper reporter. Seems to me it ought to be *easy* to have automatic tallies with a portable computer. Another business/promotional opportunity for someone.

Rent the automatic XYZ lap portable with the built in E-Z-Tally software. Free useage for journalists who write about it.

"Excuse me!"

Push. Walking over lumpy ground at this point, with all the debris.

Now. The East Gate to Oz. The guard looks at the piece of cardboard around my neck. It's a FLOOR pass. So I pass!

I'm in.

What to do. How to take advantage of the occasion? Why didn't I bring the list of delegates that Harry gave me? Why didn't I think to get readers to give all those names in advance, anyway? And appointments, even!

Meanwhile, the paths inside the Holy City are themselves blocked with standing, squirming people -- the interviewed and interviewing. The gaping. All glowing in the white hot light as the votes are talleyed.

Wait! I have a download note that Lisa Carlson put into "Tell Us 3". It's in my Model 100. I unwrap it carefully, despite the crush, look in the Lisa file, and find:

Rep. Steny Hoyer. A hot Congressman to watch she said. And I'm not to far as the crow flies from the Maryland group. Follow the blue carpet road, barely visible under all those feet!

Mike (screaming, leaning over two people -- that's what you do, right? You *get* the interview. Twenty minutes.):

"Hi. I'm Mike Greenly. I'm one of the first computer journalists ever credentialed."

Rep Steny Hoyer: (screaming back) "Oh, yes, Mike. I've heard of you."

Mike: "Your name has been mentioned over the computer by someone in Washington as being one of the people to watch for the future. First of all, how do you feel about that?"

Rep. Hoyer: "Well, I appreciate people telling you that. Right now, I'm most interested in electing Walter Mondale and Geraldine Ferraro."

Mike: "What do you think is the Democrats' biggest vulnerability in succeeding?"

Rep. Hoyer: "Well, I think the biggest vulnerability would have been disunity, if we had gone away from this Convention without a central purpose, without a feeling of unity within the party. However, as a result of Reverend Jackson's speech, as a result of Gary Hart's speech, the nomination of Walter Mondale and Geraldine Ferraro, I think we're going to go out of here strong in purpose, and effective in our ability to win in November."

Mike: "What do you try to stand for?"

Rep. Hoyer: "There are a number of things a Representative tries to do.

"First of all, to represent his constituents because that's what he, or she, is there for."

"Secondly to stand for those principles that this country stands for, and that's equal rights and justice for all.

"Also, a strong quest for peace, arms reduction, and a de-escalation of the tensions in the United States. "Also, fairness for those who are dispossessed and in need of assistance in this country where we have the wealthiest citizens of the world, and we want to make sure that everybody has the opportunity of participating in enjoying the fruits that this nation has to provide."

I thank him, and as we exchange a Transcoastal card for his Congressman's card, I watch in horror as he is jostled even at his seat and all his credit cards fall out to the grime-laden floor below -- as -- there are shrieks and yells all around us. Walter Mondale is *** over the top *** !!!

Music. Chaos and noise and yelling that makes the earlier din seem like naptime. I back up out of the narrow row of seats as the Congressman picks up his cards. We nod a final polite bob to each other, each distracted by his own body contortions and needs -- I'm trying not to trip and fall into the writhing jungle of humanity on that narrow blue strip of carpet, next to Chair and Delegate forest.

A Mondale-Ferraro-NEA sign is flapping in the Noise Wind and I think of Nancy Noonan sitting in our office that afternoon. More than 10% of these screaming folks are teachers.

Nine or ten minutes left? Nine minutes? Well I've succeeded in interviewing someone suggested by a Reader. What else can I do. I don't know one person from another out here.

South Carolina. Where I grew up. Here it is.

"Hey! Have anybody in there from Beaufort?"

"Beaufort. Beaufort." (They yell my home town out to each other.)

"No. But we've got somebody from Yemassee."

(Yemassee is where the train station is. Where my Grandmother used to get off of the train from Nooooooooo Yawk, in her old fur coat and carrying a hat box.)

Yemassee!

He's right behind me. Amid the rhythmic clapping to "Celebration". A dapper dan black man in a 3-piece suit looking cool as a cucumber and smiling big.

I feel like hugging him, though I don't.

Yemassee! I know the culture he grew up in. He knows the culture I grew up in.

He doesn't know at all, I'll bet, what it was like to be *Jewish* in the South. And probably as much as I *think* I know what it was like to be black, I guess I don't. Nonetheless he's from HOME! And we *do* know a lot about each other.

We pump hands like crazy. Here we are on the floor of a crazy island planet, thousands of miles away at the point of a triangle formed from Beaufort, S.C. and New York, N.Y. -- as the throbbing cheering dancing on chairs flows all around, through, and over us.
six minutes?

I tell him quickly about me, about computers, I confirm that I grew up in Beaufort.

"All righttttt!!!"

He's an insurance agent. He ran for office before, and got defeated. Then he started *registering* people to vote. "And I've been in the political process ever since.

"WE WANT FRITZ! WE WANT FRITZ!" chants the crowd.

He tells me how wide the area is that he's a Delegate for. I'm surprised how many counties he's representing, *including* Beaufort.

"You won big, right?" I say. "You're covering a big piece of geography!"

"Tell me about it!" he says with a big grin. "By acclamation!" he adds.

"Do you have a card?" I ask.

"No I don't." And, after a split second: "My card is my face!"

So he shouts his name into the tape recorder.

"My name is Willie James Fennell, Jr."

My last question. "What's the main thing you'd like to accomplish out of the political process?"

Willie: "Respect and dignity for poor people. You've got your haves, you've got your have not's. Hampton County, the First Congressional District, is an area of have not's. The people there live below the poverty level. And the *average* income is less than \$6,000 a year.

And it's not getting any better. It's not only the Reagan-omics that's tearing us apart. We've been doing bad with prior Presidents too. Even the Democrats haven't been doing what they need to be doing for poor people.

It is my intention to continue to fight

and fight

and do whatever is necessary to make life better for all of us in the "Lowcountry."

A minute and a half. A woman at the pass booth said if I didn't get back on time I'd turn into a Republican.

We'll see. That's Dallas. Meanwhile, I have to *hurry* back!!

Answer 40 (of 47) MIKE GREENLY, on FRI, JUL 20 1984 at 17:12 (4056 characters)

NBC News: Fast, Fast, Fast
Use of Model 100's and Remote System

[A pre-convention story was in "Demo Prep", Answer 20]

At this Convention, I saw a demonstration of the journalist's communications system that NBC is so excited about. When I visited their trailers, one of the operations managers showed me some current newspaper clippings about how NBC was able to beat the other networks to the newspunch during this convention.

Here are a few excerpts from an NBC Press Release about what the network says is a major factor behind their recent triumphs:

"NBC News has installed the world's largest remote computer system to provide the fastest, most accurate coverage of the Democratic National Convention. It is the first time that one of the three major news networks has used a completely computerized news system for coverage of a major news event."

"All NBC News' key staff: anchors, reporter, analysts, news writers, and the behind the scenes production and technical personnel, ... have access to the computer wherever they are located in San Francisco, according to David Lyon, President of Basys, Inc., the company that is leasing the system to NBC.

"Seventy-five video display terminals and 30 printers, scattered throughout San Francisco assure that NBC will always be reporting the latest news. Users will have instant access to both domestic and international news wires. If a major news story breaks, Basys immediately alerts all users by flashing an urgent message in the top right hand corner of the screen.

"Reporters and correspondents will also be able to call upon background information, trend analyses, and biographical data including profiles of each delegate, stored in advance on NBC News' large Tandem computer in New York.

[The system also offers private electronic mail from one user to another.]

"The Basys news system also easily handles the most vexing of production problems -- last minute changes in the broadcast's lineup of stories. The computer automatically tracks the lengths of all scripts (timed to the individual presenter's reading rate), taped reports, etc. ----

"Although the NBC News computer news system is the world's largest, its heart is relatively small. Just five Onyx mini-computers and 25 concentrators power the whole system. -- The strength of the Basys system is not in the hardware, but rather the software which was designed by newsmen with one single purpose: to speed news gathering and production."

[Terminals and printers were installed in the hotels of all candidates, in the anchor booth above the Convention floor for Tom Brokaw, in the NBC News work room, in the NBC trailer, and other locations as well. The entire system will shortly be dismantled and sent to Dallas for the GOP convention.] *****

I see a demonstration of the system on a Model 100 in the NBC trailer. NBC says that even radio correspondents, who are the least "tech" or typing-oriented, get comfortable with the system in an hour or two. Online help is available for anyone who wants a list of commands and definitions. A tiny, portable Radio Shack printer is used to print out in 80-column format anything the correspondent needs a written record of.

What intrigues me, personally, is the wide array of topics with both up to the minute data and historic background, all accessible over the telephone -- with a reasonably simple menu system to direct one's way around from one topic to another.

I've used the system on The Source which I consider primitive by comparison to custom service NBC has developed. And -- at a recent "Comdex", I got a demonstration of a few other data services; I found them 892% more difficult

than the NBC system!

So I'm probably quite lucky that this kind of *easy* professional system isn't yet available commercially -- I spend more than enough time online as it is.

(All the same . . .)

Answer 41 (of 47) MIKE GREENLY, on SAT, JUL 21 1984 at 09:15 (1272 characters)

My Last Twenty Minutes On the Floor
(During Kennedy's Speech)

It's like one solid continuum.
Each minute is like each other:
the flags in the audience are
the amber waves of grain
gone patriotic.

patrioticpatrioticpatriotic

(That's how it seems at eye level.)

People stare up at the big monitors.
Even the ones close to the podium.
They want him on the big screen.

I notice the many different styles
of flag waving.

And one truly old lady
nods with recognition and a smile
as Kennedy talks about the elderly.

The house is packed, and Ted K is
a star in a masterful speech. He's
enjoying it himself.
The women on the floor are aglow
after Ferraro.

Kennedy fans the flames.

Minute after minute. These minutes,
interestingly, are more *like*
each other than any other 20 minute
period I've observed.

Because Kennedy is consistent.
And the mood of the crowd is set.
So we're flying
steady at this altitude with
no bumps.

Except for Reagan.
Is he watching this now?
Or will he see a video later.

My twenty minutes are over. Time to return the Floor Pass.

Answer 42 (of 47) MIKE GREENLY, on SAT, JUL 21 1984 at 09:16 (624 characters)

How My M100 Memory Got to 64K

The manual makes it seem much harder than it is. (I watched Sherwin install it for me.)

You order it by mail. It costs \$350 + \$2.50 shipping. Two or more cost \$310. (If you get one, tell him Mike Greenly sent you.)

It's great. Now my 3 and 1/2 pound M100 has another 32K. Now I'm all set for a Reagan Press Conference -- if I can get into the room.

from:

PG Design
66040 Gratiot Ave.
Richmond, Michigan 48062

ATT: Peter Van Heusden

Phone is (313) 727-2744. Allow 3 weeks for delivery.

Answer 43 (of 47) MIKE GREENLY, on SAT, JUL 21 1984 at 09:18 (1304 characters)

"No News" In Dallas?

A journalist in front of me in the Credentials line is from a college paper. He says he's not covering the Republican Convention because there'll be "no news".
I almost laugh out loud.

"No news" in Dallas?!!! What a surface view of "news".

What about the --> people <-- ??

What about what they think, feel, care about? What about *their* view of what the Democrats have said about them? I can hardly wait to see what they say, who they are.

What will they do to retaliate after a public week of "Get Reagan Off Our Backs" T-Shirts?

Suppose y-o-u were in charge of the Reagan Campaign. Now what?

How will Republicans deal with the Women's Issue? Got to be careful with that one -- but the answer could mean the election.

What does Reagan sound and "feel" like in person? Like the Hall of the Presidents at Disney World? Or like a real person? (Mondale comes across different up close -- maybe Reagan does too.)

No news?

The German journalist at the airport says the same thing. Although he is looking forward to a "Hollywood Coronation" in Dallas.

I was going to say more about Screen Reality vs. Floor Reality. I'll save that one for Dallas.

Since there'll be no news.

Answer 44 (of 47) MIKE GREENLY, on SAT, JUL 21 1984 at 11:57 (3630 characters)

About "Us 3"

It was our last night together. We were actually taking time to sit down for dinner.

I can't remember whether I meant we'd achieved more than I expected, or it was harder than I'd have guessed.

Both are true.

"But you *always* feel that way!" Sherwin said to me across the chicken.

I am so tired. Is he snapping at me? Is he being peevish? Do I feel annoyed? Don't let me fall asleep in my chair. Is he being peevish with me. ("Maybe I do, Sherwin, so? wanna make something of it? Wanna stuff that chicken right down your throat?") God, I am *tired*! He's probably just teasing me. I've gotten so highstrung by the end of this week. Jeez, Mike, just calm down. You've done it. We've done it. "Us 3". You can take a break now!

It's been a strain, all of this. Getting ready the past few months, and now sitting dully in our chairs, having just been praised by the stranger at the next table -- he must think we are political planners working for justice, judging by his thanks.

It is remarkable that we have gotten on as well as we have, with as little strain as we've had, given the stress of the situation --

getting ready for a world unknown to any of us, then really being there, publicly.

Stress. And shared high adventure.

We are three very different personalities and styles. That's part of the point. You've heard from each of us as distinct individuals, as "real people".

Sherwin is that rarity -- an articulate techie. (I think Telecommunications attracts more than its share of techies who can talk.) Sometimes his patience for detail or the length of his paragraphs offers more than I want to know or hear -- but boy do I treasure it when I need it! I have trouble changing the batteries in my tape recorder -- let alone knowing what to do when it won't turn anymore.

He says "platen" instead of "typewriter roller". And sometimes he reminds me of Mr. Spock in his dry way. Except he his caring is more obviously available than Spock's.

I watched him go through a transformation this week. From sticking close by his technology, which he knows he can tune in to, to hunting down press events, dragging back Personal Computing editors to our office, calculating how to get into a private Ferraro dinner, and using his head and heart to write the little piece on the Jackson Delegates after the fall, which I loved.

He's a talented and special person, and I'm really so glad he's my friend.

Diane - she had the very mixed blessing of living in Convention City. Diane, who got the signs made, rented the office, found and hired Della, printed the stationery, assembled the press kits, got the phones, did so much.

Diane - who has a husband and kids and a store and a life all around us as Sherwin and I plop down into her world.

She makes me laugh. When she speaks, her ability to articulate, or to argue, makes me tingle. She can be a pushy broad, and a touch too caustic around the edges. But she drives a pure course for excellence. With great sensitivity and smarts. And she believes in doing it right.

I love her.

"us 3" is a transcoastal union that couldn't possibly have existed without electronic teleconferencing. It's just one -- though a special one -- of the networks I'm involved with, just like most of you.

Some for pleasure. Some for business. Some to make history. Or even all 3.

Like "us 3" at Transcoastal.

Next comment: the *last* "Mike Talks" of "Demo 84".

Answer 45 (of 47) MIKE GREENLY, on SAT, JUL 21 1984 at 12:08 (7268 characters)

The Last One

OK, now I read the newspapers with different eyes. I saw an AT&T ad in the plane going home and it was a wrench to pull myself back out of "politics" to begin to think about technology marketing again.

Looking back on the past week, several thoughts emerge:

1. Conflicting Demo Values?

Some people talked very movingly this week about justice, suffering, the downtrodden. There were times though when I felt a bit nervous -- as though these people are expecting new solutions to come more easily than they really can or will.

Others made a point of saying: the Democratic party is misperceived as a "welfare" or "social justice" party, and what it really represents is the vast middle class, the families of America who want to make *money* too. And who are n-o-t just "a bunch of do-gooders".

It's this latter picture that Mondale-Ferraro seem to want to put forth. "The real American Dream." I wonder how much some of the enthusiastic "social cause" Delegates are in for a surprise if Mondale is elected.

It seems to me now that Democrats still have much more of "Dump Reagan" in common -- for many different reasons -- than the real pro-anything themes as a *total* group. Because they *are* so diverse.

To be sure, women's opportunity is a Key(!) uniter. Anti-nuclear/Peace commentary always drew healthy applause. And I have a new appreciation for the power of Mondale's support of education -- as a lobbying draw, given the number of Teacher-Delegates.

I don't think "special interest" coalitions is such an off-base way to describe what Mondale is doing, no matter how much they talk that exact way about Reagan as well. And when Mondale says he'd like to see "Made in America" on all our goods, I find I have questions [again, Toffler's Third Wave is a reference] about hanging on to a manufacturing economy vs. moving on to technology and services in an emerging communication society.

I don't have *any* answers -- what I've gained from this experience is many more questions than I had at the start.

But it does strike me, observing the Democrats reach real (for now) unity among those present at the Convention -- which presumably is the fountain from which their local efforts will now draw and persuade -- that if it weren't for the degree of anti-Reagan feeling among various interests, and if it weren't for the choice of Ferraro for VP -- it'd be all over already, and there'd be no contest whatsoever.

The Democrats have been able to unite for *nearterm* values, at the very

least. Longerterm, it seems to me there are plenty of heavy, unresolved conflicts to come.

2. The future.

I **do** think there is a difference in the "new West" vs. the "traditional East". I will now follow the longerterm evolution (or dissolution, whichever it turns out to be) of the Democrats with more interest and awareness. I don't think the causes that Hart espoused, or the people he represented, are going to be so readily satisfied with Mondale, and I think these younger supporters may yet play a larger part in the future than may be the case over the next four years.

I tried to find Steve Wozniak again and get his comments for the future after Hart lost -- I couldn't find him in the California Delegate pit.

I never got to speak to Bill Bradley, one of the people Reporter X and others have identified to watch for 1988. Some of these people are mentioned for having "new ideas" more than charisma. I think the Democrats, if they're to survive, are going to **need** new ideas no matter what happens in this election.

All of these comments of mine are new and tender observations, and are offered gingerly. But it makes me feel good about myself to discover such things to say.

3. My Questions About Me.

A friend this morning was making fun of me. He said I'm a caring person, sensitive, who wants to think he's a "man of the people" -- but that actually I'm a materialistic and cultural snob, and I'll find myself relating quite easily to Republicans. (He thinks I'd rather weep over fictional suffering in air conditioned comfort on a quiet couch with a view than mingle with "the people".)

Well it's true, I know that much, that I personally feel distinct "tugs" -- I **am** affected viscerally by discrimination that denies people opportunity, I know that -- and by human suffering, I know that too. On the other hand, I believe in excellence, hard work, and I'm quite clear about my personal ambition to accumulate wealth -- that gives me a stake in some potentially conflicting territories around here.

One thing I also know -- I believe in intellectual fairness and honesty. I tried very hard to "tell the truth" to you, as I saw it, as a reporter. And to give the people I encountered the opportunity to state their own cases. I will try just as hard to be as truthful and fair with the Republicans, and with my experience of them in talking with you.

I don't expect, by the end of the Republican Convention, to have my own mind "made up" about anything. Nor do I feel obliged to share (when I know the answer) who I'll vote for.

What I commit myself to is doing my best for you. I take this role very seriously indeed.

I'll say only a little more now about the medium that makes it possible for us to interact in this way. Presumably most of you will be with us for "GOP 84". It's my wish, as a matter of fact, that between now and then you may induce others to partake of our shared experience. I'd feel great if all the TRANSCOASTAL work could be "amortized" over many more readers.

My personal ambition, in that regard, would be for "GOP 84" to have the highest number of joiners in Participate on The Source history. By far.

Diane's "Electronic Love" has almost 300 joiners. Is it conceivable that enough people on The Source could a) learn this not-easy-at-first medium, b) be interested enough to track us, so many that the over 500 ideal could be achieved?

Over 500?! But that's never been done before. Well neither has any of this.

Soon, I expect we'll have ideas using what we've learned from "Demo 84" to see if we can't use more active participation from some of you in letting Congressmen, Senators, and media people know about us for the Dallas effort.

Meanwhile -

I'm off to other ventures. And I'm looking forward to our GOP reunion.

As jaded or familiar as I may have come to be on some things, I still find it magic that you --

you, right now --

wherever you are in the world, whatever time zone you're in, whatever your lifestyle or interest or reactions --

have been able, at your convenience, to receive this electronic message.

This is a magic we have worked, just now, together. And for what it represents, and for what our shared communication means, I am quite sincerely grateful.

As my favorite, E.T., says with love,

"I'll be right here".

Mike

Answer 46 (of 47) MIKE GREENLY, on FRI, AUG 10 1984 at 08:29 (1720 characters)

Index to "Mike Talks"

Answer

- 1: (general opening)
- 2: Politics, "Marketing", and me
- 3: Pre-Convention Perspective
- 4: Bert Lance & Marketing Symbols
- 5: At the Jesse Jackson Champagne Brunch, re Lance vs. Manatt
- 6: Confessions of a Media Freak
- 7: The Computers the Delegates Will Use
- 8: The Jesse Jackson Champagne Brunch
- 9: At the Party for Governor Robb
- 10: Celebrating Women in America: The Lunch
- 11: Womens' Event: In the Opera House
- 12: Womens' Event: The Welcome
- 13: Dianne Feinstein
- 14: Womens' Event: Mondale
- 15: Women's Event: Ferraro
- 16: First Mondale Press Conference!
- 17: End of the Day at Moscone
- 18: Hart Delegate in a Bathrobe
- 19: One Taxi Driver's Observations on the Press
- 20: A Delegate's Caucus: Pennsylvania
- 21: (watching Jackson on tv)
- 22: (deleted)
- 23: Jesse Jackson's Speech: evaluation
- 24: Congressman Bob Edgar
- 25: The Darker Side: Strictly Personal
- 26: Ed Randell, District Attorney, Philadelphia
- 27: Pennsylvania: Two Speakers
- 28: Tuesday Impressions
- 29: Exclusive! "The Woz" on the floor
- 30: Nancy M. Noonan: President of the Pennsylv. State Education Assoc.
- 31: Message to Parti Readers (N.Noonan)
- 32: Daytime Scenes on Vote Day
- 33: Joan Mondale Visits the Caucus
- 34: Father Guido Sarducci On the Floor
- 35: Leroy Fair: Black Hart Delegate
- 36: Leroy Fair Message to Parti Readers
- 37: Mike's Perspective on Fair's Message
- 38: About Floor Passes
- 39: My Hot 20 Minutes On the Floor!
- 40: NBC News: Fast, Fast, Fast
- 41: My Last 20 Minutes On the Floor
- 42: How My M100 Memory got to 64K
- 43: About "Us 3"
- 44: The Last One
- 45: [Index]

Answer 47 (of 47) MIKE GREENLY, on FRI, AUG 17 1984 at 20:17 (1542 characters)

OK, this is it! If you think I'm kidding, try me!

If you've ever enjoyed or gotten value from *anything* I've ever written, I want y-o-u (and your friends, and your grandparents who are scared of "the computer", and the family dog, and the robot, and the whole gang from work) -- I want 'em all in "GOP 84" [and I hope in "GOP Public" and "Teichner Polls", too.]

There is *no* funding, not 25 cents, so Sherwin and I are spending totally our own \$\$\$ on airfare, hotel, and peanut butter sandwiches. Why am I telling you this, friends?

--->>> We do n-o-t want \$\$ from you!

You're already paying to be here.

We merely want your participation, and we want as big an interested crowd as you can drum up. [I am trying hard not to be too subtle, okay?]

If there are people you can help hobble or lurch into the system, leaning on your arm and drooling on your lapel, bring 'em in.

If there are disbelievers you can touch, bring 'em in. The time is now.

AMEN, BROTHERS AND SISTERS!

We may never again have this chance together, you and I. Life is real, life is earnest --- but I digress.

"GOP 84" wants y-o-u. (and all of yours.) With boundless passion.

Mike
from NYC
on the eve of
Flying Down to Rio
(make that Dallas)
Mike ^ ^
who is 0 0
Psyched [o]

-

(and Mike says "thanks!!!")

Joiners of "MIKE TALKS" conference:

HARRY; ALAN; STC-EDIT; SOURCEVOID; NORMAN KURLAND; FR HAL; EVANSCLEVE; KENT M. S.; MAC; JACK/N.Y.C.; WEEHAWK; GEORGE M; ORA; CYRUS; DOCTOR TOM; RACOM; SDC;

COOK; PSI DAVE; LEAH; DOM S.; DR. MEMORY; KENNY; BOB SANDHAUS; RICH B.; RON TINDIGLIA; ELMER; CRT; STEPHAN; SML; T/O; MIKE GREENLY; STL429; RITA G; DONNA DICKINSON; NWATCH; DIANE W.; STANDOC; LISA CARLSON; JIM ARMSTRONG; BBP998; AN ODYSSEY; K SQUARED; TCC; CYNIC AL; EMMJAY; WHMJR; BUFLOE; CHRIS B; STY606; MICHEAL GILSON; JIM FRANKLIN; NORMAN EPSTEIN; RUBE; JOHNNY FRIENDLY; JIM T; BCA804; TENS; COLLIE; BCJ061; STAN GOLDBERG; STEVE TEICHER; DE MONSTER; RLH; STEWART; SPACE CADET; DAVID F. SALISBURY; LA FAMILIA; ERIK; PG; BCK088; SCOTT MACE; BBN187; BBB387; BCG055;

"TELL US 3" Conference 84.18212 TENS, organizer, about "*INTERACTIVE* DISCUSSIONS WITH DIANE, MIKE, AND SHERWIN" (answers: 94) TUE, 07/10 13:56 (854 characters)

You are invited here to "TELL US 3" -- a chance to interact directly with the three reporters bringing you this event. Here is where you can tell Mike Greenly, Sherwin Levinson, and Diane Worthington the kinds of things *you* want them to cover; comment on their reporting; and discuss these reports with the reporters and your fellow participants.

Be part of the action! Say JOIN at the DISPOSITION promptP J below. Then say READ 1-99 to read what's happened so far and say WRITE at any DISPOSITION prompt to enter your questions and comments.

Because this is a first-time event -- interactive reporting of a major political happening -- it has attracted special media attention. You should realize that your comments here may be quoted by others. If you do not wish to be quoted, please say so here or send a message to TENS.

Answer 1 (of 94) RUBE, on TUE, JUL 10 1984 at 23:19 (398 characters)

Before the whole convention gets even more hectic, could one or all of you tell us exactly how you are accomplishing this mission. Are you using lap computers to record during the day and passing on to PARTI at night, or are you online all the time, or ??? Noticed in Mike's NCC reports that the style seems very immediate....hence the question, how do you do it? Thank you, RUBE...

Answer 2 (of 94) DIANE W., on TUE, JUL 10 1984 at 23:38 (878 characters)

Sure, Rube.

We'll all be using lap computers. We also all have small voice recorders.

We have an office half a block away, staffed with two fulltime typists/receptionists, who will type up our copy from voice recordings, word process and upload our rougher reports from the portables.

Apple has most generously provided us with three new IIc systems for the event - our *official* desk-top computer. (Sherwin has been furiously working on the

system Apple sent to him in Atlanta, to write macros and such.) (We leave all that to him.))

We will be conducting interviews at the site, and in the office, as well as demonstrating the system to journalists and politicians.

We're also on beepers, to co-ordinate our coverage and get to the news FAST.

We have it fairly well planned out.
But nevermind. All hell will break loose anyway!

Diane

Answer 3 (of 94) LISA CARLSON, on TUE, JUL 10 1984 at 23:55 (82 characters)

So what's the official *candy bar* of the TENS Democratic Convention Olympics?

Answer 4 (of 94) CHRIS B, on WED, JUL 11 1984 at 00:02 (54 characters)

Me? *I* want a T-SHIRT!!!!!!!

Seriously!!

Answer 5 (of 94) SML, on WED, JUL 11 1984 at 00:24 (510 characters)

Well, Chris, we don't *have* TENS T-shirts yet. But you can have the one I'm wearing now. It's well-tempered after being my favorite leisure-time T for a few years...

About the lap computers, Mike just loves to plug into Parti at any handy phone booth -- I think he likes the attention. I do, too. Try it in an airport or crowded convention hall some time. Just sit down in the booth, whip out a lap portable and coupler, dial up and attach the phone. Guaranteed to draw a crowd!

Sherwin

Answer 6 (of 94) CHRIS B, on WED, JUL 11 1984 at 00:30 (130 characters)

BASIC COMPUTER USE - lesson #3:

DO NOT - I repeat - DO NOT use the little rubber cups to hold your drinks!!!

Chris

Answer 7 (of 94) CYNIC AL, on WED, JUL 11 1984 at 00:37 (40 characters)

Ahhh. The infamous 'Pepsi Syndrome'!

Answer 8 (of 94) MIKE GREENLY, on WED, JUL 11 1984 at 01:33 (788 characters)

i'm a *fast* typist. i make mistakes, as you know, but i'm fast. i prefer it when i have time to edit and polish just like Dr. Heninger and Mrs. Vella

taught me, but time may be in scarce supply next week. i'm using my new m100 and i'm hoping to have an extra 32k in what they call bank memory. that i can switch over to.

i haven't had anytime to develop the thought or to discuss with diane and sherwin, but the marketing person (and the sentimentalist) in me has been musing over a t-shirt or a certificate or an XYZ for every reader who joins "Demo 84" and thus participates in this first-ever event. Kind of a tangible and shared recognition of what we'll all have been through together.

But first, I have to find my way out of Las Vegas. (easier said than done!) Answer 9 (of 94) DIANE W., on WED, JUL 11 1984 at 04:00 (64 characters)

And also first, we have to GET through it together!

Dianee

Answer 10 (of 94) HARRY, on WED, JUL 11 1984 at 10:24 (652 characters)

Diane, Mike & Sherwin, your comments in this week's INFOWORLD cover story are great! I was especially pleased to see TENS and The Source given more attention than about 4 other companies providing computer support of other sorts at the Democratic Convention.

While I was pleased to see PARTICIPATE mentioned, I was disappointed that there was no mention of Participation Systems Inc. Sherwin, you were characterized as working for a section of The Source out of Atlanta. Could you please set the record straight -- both here and in future coverage this effort gets -- about your representing PSI rather than The Source or TENS primarily?

Answer 11 (of 94) MIKE GREENLY, on WED, JUL 11 1984 at 11:14 (1314 characters)

Harry -

Thanks for your nice comments. And for your great support of this enormous venture.

Of course you know, from your own days as a political campaigner, that there is many a slip twixt word and paper.

I don't know who first said, "say whatever you want, but spell my name right!" -- meaning that the main thing is the overall value of publicity itself.

But we'll all keep trying our best!

For example, in the InfoWorld article, yours truly is referred to as "Marketer-Agent turned Writer." (or something like that). Well I don't love that. (Since, as you well know, the way I make real -> money <- is still by being a Marketer.)

But -- since I have *also* "turned" writer, I've gotten sensitive to the way it all looks from the writer's point of view. Peggy Watt who wrote the piece was just super to work with, and of course we're all delighted at that kind of exposure. (InfoWorld's one of my favorite magazines, to begin with.)

By the way -- got any hot Senators you want to send our way? I'd like to interview a really juicy one and also let him talk over Parti directly to our readers.

That's Parti, from Participation Systems, Inc, of course!

your friendly Marketer-Agent turned Writer,

Mike Greenley.

nope! make that "Mike Greenly" <grin> Answer 12 (of 94) SML, on WED, JUL 11 1984 at 14:25 (630 characters)

Harry, as you know errors creep into stories sometimes. Especially when they're rushed, as this one was, to get it on the stands before the convention. There is a good chance that there will be a follow-up article in InfoWorld where the error can be corrected.

For those of our participants here who don't know me, I am the Manager of Online Services for Participation Systems Inc (PSI). PSI is the company that developed the Participate -- or Parti -- software package we are using right now. They license Parti for use on The Source and also make licenses available for other public and private systems.

Sherwin

Answer 13 (of 94) ALAN, on THU, JUL 12 1984 at 22:44 (268 characters)

Say you 3, I am curious. Is TENS a company - you know regietered to do business as a partnership or corporation or is it just a trade name? Can I buy stock in it? Well I didn't really mean "buy" - more like barter for say a smile or other useful artifact. Hmmm?

Answer 14 (of 94) LISA CARLSON, on THU, JUL 12 1984 at 23:43 (208 characters)

Loved your account, Diane. It's great to know that you will be there and able to be our eyes and ears. Makes it a lot more fun!

and P.S. I loooooove the way your on-line logo looks in answer #22!

Answer 15 (of 94) DIANE W., on FRI, JUL 13 1984 at 02:17 (832 characters)

Alan,

Trade? Some PSI for some TENS. (Such a deal!)

To tell you the truth, (I *always* tell the truth,) TENS was formed on the fly.

In applying for our credentials, we were told that nothing would be issued to 'information providing networks.' We had to be a 'news gathering service.' A quick conference call with Mike and Sherwin, and TENS was born the next day. I did a revision of our credential request and a call..."But, I think you misunderstood! We ARE a news gathering service - for an information providing network..."

But it was an idea whose time had come anyway, so we'll keep it!

By the way, in planning this event, Mike, Sherwin and I have had a series of branching private conferences. We have put in well over 1000 notes in the last 3 months, co-ordinating this effort!

Whew.

Diane

* * * *Branching off of "TELL US 3" 84.18212 as Answer 16 (of 94)

Message 84.18603 K.REN.MAN, about "I'D LIKE TO KNOW" SAT, 07/14 11:34 (332 characters)

All, This is my first real "go" at Parti & it's great! I'm not terribly political. My interests are mostly with support and interaction in and out of the hall (delagates' use of computers, the varying attitudes of native San Franciscans, what it feels like to go straight up in the air in a cable car,etc. Kent (K'REN MAN)

Answer 17 (of 94) DAN YURMAN, on SAT, JUL 14 1984 at 12:24 (48 characters)

IS TELL US 3 JUST A CONVERSATIONAL CONFERENCE?

Answer 18 (of 94) SML, on SAT, JUL 14 1984 at 14:13 (516 characters)

I'm not exactly sure what you mean by, "just a conversational conference," Dan. "TELL US 3" is for comments on any of our reports, discussion about them, directions to us on what *YOU* would like to see us do -- as your eyes and ears in San Francisco .

I hope that answers your question.

We're gearing up now to go over the weekend's events schedule -- there's so much to choose from and so pitifully little time to attend all that we would like to. So your direction is most welcome.

Sherwin

Answer 19 (of 94) DIANE W., on SAT, JUL 14 1984 at 14:14 (544 characters)

Kent, and Dan,

If you join "Diane Talks", "Sherwin Talks" and Mike Talks", you'll get the kind of discussion you're looking for.

"Teichner Surveys" and "Reporter X" are more in the vein of hard news coverage.

Each of these has interaction - in "Tell Us 3" and in "Demo Public".

I suggest scanning the openers to find the place for you. (SC "conference name")

Dan, "Tell Us 3" is for interaction with the three of us on whatever Convention-related topic you choose.

Diane (off soon to the airport to get Mike.)

Answer 20 (of 94) MSB, on SAT, JUL 14 1984 at 14:45 (328 characters)

Sherwin, how about a brief glimpse of the possibilities, then perhaps WE could give you a better idea of what we would be interested in?

I love the idea of having you folks there, but if I am going to be able to suggest the people/conferences/events most interesting I need to have an idea what you folks can get to.

Answer 21 (of 94) SML, on SAT, JUL 14 1984 at 15:43 (182 characters)

There is a schedule of podium events at the convention proper in "DIANE TALKS" 3. We'll be posting information about other current and upcoming events as they occur.

Sherwin

Answer 22 (of 94) ST5028, on SAT, JUL 14 1984 at 18:15 (296 characters)

HI YOU 3...AND OTHERS. I THINK EYES, EARS, AND KEYBOARDS WILL ADD TO THE CONVENTION FROM THIS END OF THE TERMINAL. I WORK IN LOCAL TV IN HOUSTON, AND WE HAVE REPORTERS THERE IN S.F.-- AND OF COURSE DAN RATHER COMPANY--BUT I'm LOOKING FORWARD TO SOME ADDITIONAL COVERAGE RIGHT HERE.

Answer 23 (of 94) MSB, on SAT, JUL 14 1984 at 18:20 (104 characters)

OOPS.. Sorry I talked before reading everything. This is a VERY well organized bit of confusion!!

Answer 24 (of 94) MIKE GREENLY, on SAT, JUL 14 1984 at 18:45 (246 characters)

hi st5028 - just landed here in s.f. - why don't you send your reporters by for a little demo. of course, i wouldn't mind if you sent dan rather by too! (you know i'm not kiddin', right?") at any rate - glad to have Y-O-U here!
mike

Answer 25 (of 94) MSB, on SAT, JUL 14 1984 at 21:39 (418 characters)

MIKE== On the other hand, you might simply ignore the gender issue and concentrate on her liberal voting record. As for the defense remark, Maggie Thatcher sort of blows that theory away. No, the thrust of the campaign will be directed at the contrast between the old liberal traditions personified by Mondale, and the conservative revolution led by the republicans. That is the 'beef' of the issue!

Answer 26 (of 94) JIM ARMSTRONG, on SAT, JUL 14 1984 at 23:12 (194 characters)

Well, if I can't vote for Hart I guess the Mundane/Ferrari ticket is the one to go with.

It would be interesting to see a real go getting VP and a Prez that sits in the background.

Answer 27 (of 94) DR. MEMORY, on SAT, JUL 14 1984 at 23:45 (1176 characters)

Manatt is out as National Committee Chairperson... certainly a power play to make before the convention in Manatt's home state.

Lance is in.

No, Lance is to head Mondale's Election Committee. The National Chair will be filled later.

Um, no, that's not to say that eventually Lance won't fill that Chair. Sure, he was bounced by Carter for alleged banking improprieties, but he was later acquitted.

Still, a candidate coming from behind and hoping to use the "sleaze factor" as an issue against the incumbent President must avoid even the *appearance* of impropriety.

Just when the party was swooning over the Mondale-Ferraro ticket, the love fest is over... broken into knots of angry and confused delegates.

When you three return from the lavish Embarcadero press parties tonight (the preceding spoken in envy, as those of you with a green screen can tell!) --

WHAT'S THE BUZZ?

Why the strange moves and rescinded moves today? How do the delegates seem to be taking it? Could this refuel the Hart candidacy? How do the "mass" media types feel about all this, off-camera and off the record?

Dr. Memory

Answer 29 (of 94) SML, on SUN, JUL 15 1984 at 04:51 (726 characters)

Dr. M and others -- strictly my own idle, groundless "what if" thoughts. But, what solid evidence is there that there's been *any* real consideration of Lance for the party chairmanship? Is the speculation based on Mondale's declaration that Lance is *not* in the running?

After Mike, in "MIKE TALKS", gave the GOP a free marketing plan for winning the election and after Dr. M's note about the Lance debacle, I can't help but think, "wouldn't that be the *perfect* kind of rumor, or series of rumors, for someone in favor of the GOP to plant?"

Or is it just basic mistrust of politicians, the assumption that when Mondale SAYS that Lance won't be considered for the chair that really means the opposite?

Sherwin

Answer 30 (of 94) CYNICAL, on SUN, JUL 15 1984 at 18:40 (90 characters)

Gee, Mike.. Don't hide your emotions.. Are you saying you *LOVE* being there, or what?

Answer 31 (of 94) HARRY, on SUN, JUL 15 1984 at 21:45 (456 characters)

Re 11, Mike, read "dem public" 28 for list of the six Democratic politicians I'd most like to see interviewed (or at least think you might talk one or more of them into that if you tell them I asked you to).

Sherwin, Mike & Diane, please use STF007 to make sure Source gives you good signon and NEW coverage that should specify

PARTI READ "DEMO 84"

as the way for newcomers to get to see the terrific eventure that is happening here.

Answer 32 (of 94) SCARAMOUCHE, on SUN, JUL 15 1984 at 23:23 (626 characters)

This is a minor detail, but one I'm curious about. I know that Sand Francisco has one of the toughest anti-smoking laws around (tobacco, that is). As I recall smoking is allowed only in designated areas in public buildings. How are they handling this at the Moscone Center?

Now THIS is how conventions should be covered! What are the chances of asking Dan Rather about the smoking restrictions at the convention? Or asking him anything? Nil! But no question is too small or paultry for the TENS team! I hope.

Scaramouche P.S. Y'all are doing a great job.

Answer 33 (of 94) MIKE GREENLY, on SUN, JUL 15 1984 at 23:34 (146 characters)

re smoking/non-smoking at moscone. sherwin and i met the director of operations for the center. i'll simply ask her next time i see her! mike

Answer 34 (of 94) MSB, on MON, JUL 16 1984 at 00:04 (262 characters)

I agree with scaramouchhe, this is great!!

I would like to get some feedback on the attitude towards space exploitaion <factories etc> by the rising stars. Is there anything being said about space at all? <except perhaps white house office type>

Answer 35 (of 94) LISA CARLSON, on MON, JUL 16 1984 at 00:04 (464 characters)

This is fantastic! More in depth analysis than we'll probably get in the next few weeks of magazines - and WE GET IT NOW! WOW!

My choice for most interesting new face is Rep. Steny Hoyer of Maryland (Baltimore). He has been given plum committee assignments for a newcomer in Congress and was chosen to reply to Reagan's radio addresses a couple of times. He should be somewhere there with the MD delegation - his staffer John Moag knows about TENS.

Answer 36 (of 94) DIANE W., on MON, JUL 16 1984 at 02:16 (546 characters)

Scaramouche: I know about the smoking issue. It was discussed publicly a few weeks ago. There will be smoking allowed on the main Convention floor, though the local City Supervisors bridled about it. Smoking in the workspaces *unless* someone - anyone - complains, and then it goes.

Good question about the space program. I know Hart is in favor of cutting back, which seems oddly out of tune with most of his other forward-thinking policies.

Diane, up late writing at TENS. (Can I skip the writing and just attend the events?))

Answer 37 (of 94) SML, on MON, JUL 16 1984 at 02:23 (368 characters)

Scaramouche,

As far as smoking in Moscone Center, Diane and I are both smokers and from what I've seen so far it looks like about half of the press there also smoke. Anywhere in the Center -- at least so far, before the official opening of the convention. There are a fair number of ashtrays around, too, so I'd guess the smokers were anticipated.

Sherwin

Answer 38 (of 94) MSB, on MON, JUL 16 1984 at 19:32 (216 characters)

How about rounding up a couple of uncommitted delegates to get a peek into the 'fight' that might be brewing?

The details of the events are great. I am eager to read the next batch of news from the floor!

Answer 39 (of 94) CHRIS B, on MON, JUL 16 1984 at 20:18 (396 characters)

Mike,

Your note 'Confessions of a Media Freak....' containing your description of Moscone Center was absolutely terrific! Even if I had seen the center on tv, I don't think I could have gotten the same feeling as I got from reading your description. Very impressive.

As an english teacher of mine would have said, "Good use of descriptive adjectives."

I feel like I'm there!

Chris

Answer 40 (of 94) NORMAN STG475, on MON, JUL 16 1984 at 21:08 (876 characters)

Thanks for doing such a terrific jobs! It's so great to be able to see and hear the convention from three different points of view. I really have a feel for the process in a way that I never have before. Reading the morning newspaper feels so impersonal and incomplete.

I know that you are all swamped with work right now, but after the convention I think we'd all love to hear the story of how you got TENS off the ground. I've read Diane's brief comments, but perhaps after the crush of the Convention experience has worn off you could tell us about how the deal with Apple was made for the hardware and software, where the funding came from for a staff, office and telephones, etc.

You're doing a great job while making history at the same time. We all look forward to an opportunity to hear how it came together.

Norman Epstein

Answer 41 (of 94) MSB, on MON, JUL 16 1984 at 21:32 (112 characters)

Can you get anything on the attempt by Mayor Wahington <chicago> to gain et his name put into nomination??

Answer 42 (of 94) LISA CARLSON, on MON, JUL 16 1984 at 21:44 (236 characters)

My favorite delegate so far? Earl Borden of New Hampshire. He is one of "Pepper's People" - one of the senior citizens Claud recruited to be delegates. And he is a New England classis. c. Bet he'd love to tell his story to TENS!

Answer 43 (of 94) MIKE GREENLY, on MON, JUL 16 1984 at 22:05 (70 characters)

the trick, out here, is how to *reach* these people. but we'll see.

Answer 44 (of 94) RLH, on MON, JUL 16 1984 at 22:09 (554 characters)

Some people have suggested that the Democratic leadership does not *want* to win this year. That they will use the ultimate defeat of Mondale as a springboard to regain control of the party from the rable who have taken it over (in this view of things).

Some say that Tip O'Neil is among the leaders of this position, and that is why he has bcome a weak kneed protestor, rather than the fiery Irish Boston wardheeler that he is.

Do you see any support for this hypothesis there at the convention? Or is it all hoopla and love fest?

Answer 45 (of 94) DR. MEMORY, on MON, JUL 16 1984 at 22:26 (1000 characters)

I SIT HERE READING YOUR REPORTS ONLINE WHILE LISTENING TO THE LIVE SPEECHES FROM MOSCONE... A MULTIPLE-INPUT SKILL ACQUIRED FROM MY DAYS AS A RADIO NEWSROOM ANCHOR (IN A NEWSROOM, I'D ALSO BE TALKING ON THE PHONE AND POUNDING A TYPEWRITER -- BUT, HEY, I'M OUT OF PRACTICE!).

FROM SOMEONE WHO'S BEEN PAID TO REPORT NEWS: YOU THREE ARE DOING AN *EXCELLENT* JOB! YOU HAVE TAKEN ME MORE PLACES, MORE INTIMATELY AND MORE POIGNANTLY, THAN THE NETWORKS EVEN ASPIRE TO.

AS I TYPE, N.Y. GOVERNOR CUOMO IS DELIVERING THE KEYNOTE SPEECH, AND THE MAN IS *ON FIRE*!

"...THIS NATION MORE A TALE OF TWO CITIES THAN OF A SHINING CITY ON A HILL..."

"...NOT SPEECHES THAT WILL BRING PEOPLE TO THEIR FEET, BUT SPEECHES THAT WILL BRING PEOPLE TO THEIR SENSES..."

AN *AMAZING* SPEECH, BUT I'M HERE WITH YOU!

BESIDES MY ADMIRATION FOR THE WORK YOU THREE ARE DOING --

PLEASE PASS ON MY PERSONAL THANKS TO DELLA AND KATIE FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS!

SINCERELY,

DR. MEMORY

Answer 46 (of 94) HARRY, on MON, JUL 16 1984 at 23:40 (1002 characters)

Don't misunderstand my previous plea that Sherwin let media know he works for PSI. I definitely agree, Mike,(re note 9 in "MIKE TALKS") to many and especially to Virginia's Governor, who emphasized conferencing's value to his state when he dedicated The Source's new computer center, you should be introduced as representing The Source more than either TENS or PSI.

If this convention turns out to be mild, then TENS itself may be more likely to become a newsworthy story itself, not just for the trade press like INFOWORLD. Anyway, I'm watching CBS while at my keyboard, in hopes of seeing one or more of your smiling faces there on camera.

Now that the press partying of yesterday is over, I hope you can get more of the press to join the PARTI-party. And, I know the delegates will begin to realize that their Party's parti-ing has just begun. We're gonna make the Democratic Party more democratic through interactive journalism - no question about that!

Keep pioneering!!

Answer 47 (of 94) CYNIC AL, on TUE, JUL 17 1984 at 01:12 (466 characters)

Three: fan-DAMN-tastic! More news than I could possibly read in the morning paper, and in a more personal tone, too. What will you do for an encore?

Many people have asked here how TENS came to be, and how TENS does what it does, but I don't think anyone has asked what the FUTURE holds for TENS? It would be great if it became a regular *interactive* news feature, roving 'round the world to cover the great events!

Again, Bravo!

the Cynic

Answer 48 (of 94) GEORGE M, on TUE, JUL 17 1984 at 11:26 (574 characters)

Congratulations on an outstanding job!

You are bringing an important and fresh perspective to the coverage of this convention. I've never had as much interest in this scene as I have now - due to the "immediacy" of the reporting you provide COUPLED WITH my increased "receptivity" - cause I'm getting it when I choose to focus on it. And the reporting is first-rate. (Are you looking into publishing a hard-copy compilation of this stuff? I think you should.)

Thanks very much Mike, Sherwin and Diane...I really value what you are doing.

George M

Answer 49 (of 94) RUBE, on WED, JUL 18 1984 at 00:02 (416 characters)

Everyone else it seems has already said it better than I can but... You three are doing a monumental job...I'm one who has always ignored politics, politicians, conventions and the like...I seldom read news papers, and I detest big shows.....but this (DEMO 84) is definitely making me change. I'm actually enjoying your coverage (and I'm a staunch republican!) Please, keep up the good work! RUBE...

Answer 50 (of 94) SML, on WED, JUL 18 1984 at 02:48 (690 characters)

I'm a staunch Republican too, Rube. But the proximity, the evident sincerity, the powerful speaking ability of many of the Democrats here certainly cause me to rethink my beliefs. I wonder if I would be as impressed, if I would notice the same things, or if it would take on a boring sameness if I were covering politicians and political events all the time.

It's easy to fall into the common belief that politicians are crooks, fakes, and liars. I know that I don't believe that, at least not now, not about the majority of them. I may not agree with many or even most of the Democrats'

positions. But I now know that, as individuals, the majority sincerely believe.

Sherwin

Answer 51 (of 94) DE MONSTER, on WED, JUL 18 1984 at 09:30 (940 characters)

Was it the Dodo who outlined the rules of the Caucus race for Alice?

"We all keep running round and round until we stop."

-And then another of the creatures (after the race had come to a halt) shouted:

"Prizes! Prizes! We must have prizes!" -And too if you remember, the reason they had the race in the first place was to get dry, as they had been swimming in alices tears.

Well we are getting our prizes here in this great labyrinth of info. We *do* get some 'very long tails', though none of them are as positively dry as the mouse, who kept wringing his (tail) all the while he told the tale.

"William the Conqueror..." He began.

Huddled as we are around this electronic campfire, listening to great stories, I'm sure we will have dried off by the end of the week. Till then, I'm enjoying this.

My prizes are far nicer than a thimble and crumpets.

Thanks guys.

De Monster.

Answer 52 (of 94) ALAN, on WED, JUL 18 1984 at 10:54 (398 characters)

Allright you 3, here is your chance to show the power of the medium (Chuckle,chuckle, - they'll never do it!) Jack Mendelsohn, my friend and one of Jackson's close advisors who is not in SF wants to reach Jesse by phone. Just missed him this morning at his hotelroom. Would you just get this message to Jesse to call Jack 617-275-2687. Tks. (ha ha we'll see- poor kids chasen their tails)

Answer 53 (of 94) DIANE W., on WED, JUL 18 1984 at 13:01 (132 characters)

Alan,

Will try to reach Jackson and leave the message for your friend.

Not as a challenge, of course. As a favor.

Diane

Answer 54 (of 94) CRT, on WED, JUL 18 1984 at 16:41 (1050 characters)

Dear Diane, Mike, and Sherwin,

My congratulations on your approach to the convention. Having watched many over the years on t. v., I for the first time am experiencing the real excitement of being there without traveling to the actual site. Experiencing your energy, excitement and human observations has made me realize how packaged and sterile our news coverage has become. Additionally, I could never call Dan Rather and tell him to look into a subject or tell him to keep up the good work.

I find following the three of you around the convention is like reading a novel which you can't put down. Keep it up even if you are starting to run on your reserve batteries.

One question----I found Jackson's speech outstanding and exceptional both in delivery but more importantly in its content and its appeal to the masses. I'd like to hear some opinions from Mondale and Hart supporters as to their reactions i.e. not great for party unity but how they feel about what he had to say.

crt

* * * * Branching off of "TELL US 3" 84.18212 as Answer 55 (of 94)

Message 84.19008 BCK309, WED, 07/18 18:28 (618 characters)

Mike, Sherwin and Diane...

Thanks for bringing the convention to a remote area without any TV. I am teaching a course in the middle of the Adirondacks at a conference center that was the former home of the Vanderbilts. This is in the boonies, and we do not get any reception at the place. So, I have plugged into your coverage and am getting lots of good perspective on the convention. To add to the cake, the course that I am teaching to about 30 people is "Introduction to Computers", so it fits PERFECTLY. Keep up the good work....

Elliott Masie SAGAMORE CONFERENCE CENTER Raquette Lake, NY

Answer 56 (of 94) CHRIS B, on WED, JUL 18 1984 at 21:47 (88 characters)

Sherwin,

Great work on the Hart speech!!

Another notch in the TENS gun!

Chris

Answer 57 (of 94) RUBE, on THU, JUL 19 1984 at 00:28 (132 characters)

SMALL THREE...YOU ARE PLANNING TO COVER THE REPUBLICAN CONVENTION IN DALLAS RIGHT??.....NOD UP AND DOWN...GOOD! RUBE...

Answer 58 (of 94) DIANE W., on THU, JUL 19 1984 at 01:38 (114 characters)

Yes, we plan to be in Dallas, Rube. As of this writing, and if we don't drop from exhaustion first!

Diane Answer 59 (of 94) MIKE GREENLY, on THU, JUL 19 1984 at 01:41 (512 characters)

small rube - you are planning on giving us interviews with senators, congresspeople, other political movers and shakers, yes? you are planning to use any influence you have -- including creative resources you didn't even realize you had -- until now -- to get these people to want to be part of the first electronic, interactive computer coverage * e v e r * -- yes? nod up and down.

goooooooood! (and that's not just you, rube!) this is mike. but i know i'm speakin ' for us 3.

g'nite.

Answer 60 (of 94) VOTER, on THU, JUL 19 1984 at 19:51 (862 characters)

A superb job, people. Fresh and innovative. A comment made earlier, if I may paraphrase, said, "...shows us how stilted professional newsgathering has become.", or words to that effect. How true! Newspapers must print news and commentary that won't go stale after the first rush of activity. Television must cram highly complex subjects into bite-size packages suitable for 30 minutes of prime time. You appear to have the best of both media, yet know that you leave yourselves open to immediate criticism from your readers (fair and even-handed, more often than not, I think). Reporter X is a convenient example. Perhaps she/he has been around a long time, but this reader found that commentary lacking in comparison to your own. Perhaps its your newness and the rush of adrenalin. Whatever it is....don't lose it! Again, well done.

* * * *Branching off of "TELL US 3" 84.18212 as Answer 61 (of 94)

Message 84.19107 EVANSCLEVE, about "HELLO DIANE, MIKE, & SHERWIN. JOB WELL DONE!" THU, 07/19 20:33 (566 characters)

Dear you 3: Well I got the bugs out somehow. Customer Support was not any help. I enjoyed looking at the various sections. Are you going to make it to the end.

I tried to explain this system to a non-computer person, and they looked at me with a blank stare.

Were you able to make acontact with Elaine Fortney of the Ohio Delegation? I hope so. She will be very surprised. Elaine is the Executive Director of the Democratic party for Cuyahoga County. If you didn't get my source mail, she is a Mondale delegate at large.

Thanks, James I. Evans

Answer 62 (of 94) NORMAN EPSTEIN, on FRI, JUL 20 1984 at 15:44 (310 characters)

Mike, Diane and Sherwin,

Isn't there any way that those of us who have benefited from your thought provoking coverage can help defray the cost incurred? After paying my Source bill this month I'm not sure how much money I will actually have, but if each of us contributes a little bit...

Norman

Answer 63 (of 94) CRT, on FRI, JUL 20 1984 at 15:57 (182 characters)

Expenses--- I like the suggestion for a fund to help offset your expenses. why not give us an address where those whom wish to can send what ever they wish to contribute. crt

Answer 64 (of 94) JIM ARMSTRONG, on FRI, JUL 20 1984 at 20:28 (138 characters)

Bravo, Bravo Bravo! Encore! TENS has gotten my vote as a credible NEWS agency. Now go for the Republican Convention as well. Jim

Answer 65 (of 94) VOTER, on FRI, JUL 20 1984 at 21:30 (360 characters)

Tens: The abstract side of the question of funding is interesting. Can an electronic newsgathering service for an information providing network survive without commercial advertising? Can such a network reasonably be expected to carry advertising? Would network users, given the opportunity to bypass it, read the advertising? Lots of Any ideas?

Answer 66 (of 94) DIANE W., on SAT, JUL 21 1984 at 01:09 (1382 characters)

You are very kind to offer to set up a fund for us! Send your checks to...

I believe I speak for Mike and Sherwin when I tell you that we put up money of our own for this project because we *believe* in the medium, and in the future of the medium for news coverage.

There were a lot of personal rewards in doing this, and a tremendous crash course education.

While we didn't exactly get rich, there's a tremendous pride and satisfaction in doing the job well - something we feel we did. We're the first ever *electronic* news team in the world - legitimately credentialed. That alone has a foot in the future.

We all got great boosts from your messages of encouragement, and would often read them out loud across the room to each other. You all made it happen as much as we did.

To whoever asks how this can eventually pay off: My personal feeling is that with reportage like this on more than one network (they're going up all the

time,) A advance monies against a percentage of usage royalties might do the trick. That's one way, and we're exploring others.

Mike's gone back to New York now, and the office has been dismantled. I believe we all have a few more stories for you, and then we'll call it a wrap from San Francisco.

As for Dallas - we'll see what develops. It certainly has been one for the scrapbook of life.

Diane

Answer 67 (of 94) SML, on SAT, JUL 21 1984 at 02:03 (1142 characters)

I wish I could somehow convey just how warm and happy it makes me feel to receive your thanks and encouragement. Diane already told you how personally rewarding this whole experience has been; I can only second what she said.

We debated last night, at a sort of victory and planning dinner after the convention close (at the "Neon Chicken"), some of the questions that have been raised here -- can reporting efforts like this one be self-supporting. The answer to that question lies in the future. We also discussed whether we should say anything about the costs involved -- the last thing we wanted was something that might be viewed as a tacky (Mike would say "smarmy") plea for donations. But we needed to thank both STC and PSI for their support. Just as important, the costs and funding of this effort are as much a part of the story as our struggle for credentials, the equipment we used, establishment of TENS, and the setup of our office.

Thanks to all of you again for giving us the rewards of *real* value -- your attention and encouragement. And don't go away yet -- we're far from done.

Sherwin

Answer 68 (of 94) BOB SANDHAUS, on SAT, JUL 21 1984 at 03:21 (2122 characters)

* ***

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* *

Sandy

Answer 69 (of 94) CYNIC AL, on SAT, JUL 21 1984 at 03:54 (22 characters)

You said it, Sandy!

Answer 70 (of 94) LISA CARLSON, on SAT, JUL 21 1984 at 09:33 (182 characters)

It has been thrilling to be part of this historic effort. I also feel that I have a better "feel" for this convention than I could have possibly had without you.

love! lisa

Answer 71 (of 94) RUBE, on SAT, JUL 21 1984 at 17:30 (220 characters)

TO YOU 3...What can anyone else say....it was great. To echo what NORMAN 'said', let us know how and if we can help. If it comes down to it, for the Republican Convention...where can we send our checks? Rube...

Answer 72 (of 94) VOTER, on SAT, JUL 21 1984 at 21:11 (134 characters)

Out of curiosity, how many time were you three interviewed and will there be any reports other than the Christian Science Monitor?

Answer 73 (of 94) DIANE W., on SAT, JUL 21 1984 at 21:47 (1270 characters)

Let's see...

Two pages in the InfoWorld #30, and one or two follow-up stories yet to come. San Jose Mercury News article last sunday, and another tomorrow, I believe. A+ Magazine - an Apple-related publication. Mike is in the LA Times, we hear. Wall Street Journal - not yet out. What others, Mike?

NY Times called - we missed them and will catch up in Dallas. Likewise with some tv coverage - one referral call through STC that missed us.

We could each have used a full staff. We had to cover events, write them up, do interviews and be interviewed, demonstrate The Source and Parti.

In passing - we had trouble with the phone company throughout. They issued us 4 numbers a month ago, and changed them 3 days before the event, when all our PR had already gone out. Even though we called repetedly, information didn't have a listing for us the entire week. And finally, to make the pot sweeter, all our phones were disconnected on thursday night during prime time instead of friday morning when they were supposed to be. We were knocked offline en masse during the last night of the Convention, and prevented from filing our timely stories.

You know the old saying: We don't care. We don't have to. We're the phone Company.

Diane

Answer 74 (of 94) MIKE GREENLY, on SAT, JUL 21 1984 at 22:46 (228 characters)

DIANE MENTIONED WALL ST. JOURNAL. STORY NOT DEFINITE AND NOT "ABOUT" US PER SE, NECESSARILY, BUT MEDIUM WE USE. OTHERS IN OTHER PUBS POSSIBLE, BUT I THINK THEY ALL LIKE TO WAIT TILL THEY'RE PUBLISHED BEFORE DISCUSSING.

Answer 75 (of 94) CHRIS B, on MON, JUL 23 1984 at 19:58 (210 characters)

What about CBS News Overnight and CNN News, they did call you didn't they?

I tried San Francisco information a couple of times last week also. They did not have a listinf for you, I was told.

Chris

Answer 76 (of 94) DIANE W., on TUE, JUL 24 1984 at 02:06 (572 characters)

Chris - we had a helluva time with the phone company. They changed our numbers three days before the event, after the promo had gone out. They never did list us with info, though we called repeatedly. And the capper - they pulled the plugs on all 4 phones on thursday night instead of friday morning.

Threw all the computers offline during Mondale's speech.

See if they get a penny out of me (the bill payer,) those pikers!

But yes, NBC called. We'll see them in Dallas, along with some others. I don't think I should mention them all right now.

Diane

Answer 77 (of 94) LOTUS, on TUE, JUL 24 1984 at 21:14 (1620 characters)

IS THIS ALL THATS OUT HERE???????????? I'VE BEEN HEARING ABOUT SCI AND ALL OF THESE WONDERFUL THINGS... AND AFTER A FEW HOURS OF PLAYING AROUND (WITHOUT A MANUAL I MIGHT AD) I'VE FOUND VERY LITTLE OF REDEEMING SOCIAL VALUE!

PARTI REMINDS ME OF CB RADIO BEFORE THERE WERE TRANSISTORS... DOMINATED BY A FEW WHO ENJOY AND PATTERN THEIR LIVES AROUND IT.

BUT THE DIFFERENCE HERE IS THAT WITH CB, ONCE YOU BOUGHT THE UNIT YOU ONLY PAID THE POWER CO. FOR A FEW WATTS...A VERY FEW.

HERE IT SEEMS THAT A FEW INSIDERS AND SUPRISINGLY A VERY FEW OUTSIDERS COMMUNICATE AT A CONSIDERABLY HIGHER COST THAN IN THE OLD DAYS.. EVEN ADJUSTED FOR INFLATION...

AFTER THUMBING THROUGH PARTI I GET THE FEELING THAT MOST OF IT IS A SALES PITCH FROM SOMEONE...

DON'T YOU ALL GET ENOUGH OF IT EACH DAY?

GEE, I'M SORRY FOR THIS RAID ITS JUST THAT I'M SO DAMN DISSAPOINTED THAT SO POWERFUL A TOOL IS YIELDING SO LITTLE... YES IN MY OPINION.

WHAT I'D REALLY LIKE TO SEE IS PARTI'S LAST QUARTERLY FINANCIALS. MAYBE IF YOU GUYS COULD LOWER COSTS ENOUGH SO THAT USING YOUR SYSTEM WOULD BE CHEAPER THAN...WATCHING TV, CALBE AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD \$30/MO.

ITS GOT TO BE THE ANSWER! SOONER OR LATER EVERYONE IS GOING TO HAVE ON OF THESE IN THEIR HOUSE. GIVE THEM THE INCENTIVE! SOONER OR LATER ONE CHICKEN IS GOING TO COME BEFORE THAT EGG AND BLOW YOU ALL RIGHT OUT OF THE WATER!!

I'LL SPEAK TO YOU ALL AGAIN WHEN I THINK ITS HAPPENED....

AND NO SHERWIN, I REALLY DON'T NEED ANOTHER ELECTROLUX!

AND MY NAME? IF YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT IT IS... YOU WON'T KNOW HOW TO DRIVE ONE!

TA TA

Answer 78 (of 94) DIANE W., on TUE, JUL 24 1984 at 21:17 (100 characters)

Lotus: I think you haven't really looked around Parti enough!

But...to each his own.

Diane

Answer 79 (of 94) SML, on TUE, JUL 24 1984 at 22:00 (902 characters)

Lotus, I don't recall offering you a vacuum. Or a tube.

I know the original days of CB, before the masses "discovered" it, and amateur radio, and bulletin boards. There are certain elements of all of those in Parti. But you seem to have missed most of the meat -- try looking at "INDEX" if you care to take another shot at it.

As far as Parti's financials, they're probably available, but irrelevant. This system is run by STC, with PSI (Parti's creators) licensing Parti to STC at a royalty that is a small portion of the connect charge. STC seems to think that their connect charges are reasonable and warranted. They should be anxious, I'd think, to hear of ways they can reduce these charges to attract more use. If you have any specific ideas you'd be willing please call STC (it's free) or call me and I'll pass them on.

Sherwin

(driven 'em, but prefer the Alfa)

Answer 80 (of 94) MSB, on TUE, JUL 24 1984 at 23:31 (450 characters)

This might sound a bit odd, but has anyone made a hardcopy record of this whole thing? I mean from the start, through the convention, and the final wrap. If not, and should it be desired I will be more than happy to do so. <Paper? in the electronic age? oh well I guess I am old fashioned!>.

I just feel that if there should be a need for further reportage on TENS, hardcopy is easier to work with for research. <ok, I mean for me>

Answer 81 (of 94) SML, on TUE, JUL 24 1984 at 23:59 (320 characters)

We're working on making an organized hardcopy available, perhaps bound. We would probably include Dallas, if we cover the GOP convention. We'll let you know when we see what the costs are, but I expect the cost would be lower than making your own. Then we'll check to see how much interest there is.

Sherwin

Answer 82 (of 94) SHERWIN, on WED, JUL 25 1984 at 00:11 (2078 characters)

I have mixed feelings, Sourcevoid, about the re-distribution of material. In a way it's the same situation as making free copies of software. There are costs involved in producing these reports, costs which we have to find a way to cover. The 300+ readers on your BBS could send you to Dallas for maybe \$15 each and get first-hand reports back (including your costs for long-distance connection). That would take care of your total cost for limited coverage. What you've done would cost less than \$15 if you downloaded the entire series of convention conferences and gets the reports out to far many more people, but does nothing to support the reporting itself. A dilemma, certainly, because the reports can't be continued unless they become somehow self-supporting.

In your suggested scheme (one I heartily agree with), if there were a number of local systems each paying a small fee to receive the reports then they could be accessed at virtually no cost through local phone connections and the fees paid by the local systems would cover the cost of producing the reports. Where would the local systems come up with the money to pay for the reports? The same way they finance their operations currently -- through the benevolence of a sysop or relatively low connect charges for the local access.

So how do we accelerate the process? I think you're already aware of one local system that's about to start up, a system whose fees will be considerably less than Source's but that will provide primarily communications services and not the mass of databases that Source has. I won't mention any more detail about that system, because it's up to the sysop there to decide how and when to announce it. I hope systems like that proliferate.

But the real key is having a large enough mass of users to support the costs of running these systems. That'll come as the costs of communications equipment come down and more people have access to it either at home or through institutions like libraries and on the job.

Sherwin

Answer 83 (of 94) SPACE CADET, on WED, JUL 25 1984 at 03:27 (430 characters)

Lotus, you obviously have no idea how business is using PARTI here on the Source. The public portion of PARTI is just that, public. And, like radio there is a vast, unknown, group (at least as far as the channel 19 group is concerned) that uses PARTI for real life problem solving. I reference the problem of telephone tag alone. Look again, then if you cannot see the value here, then be outpaced by competition... Answer 84 (of 94) GERRY ELMAN JD/KAVVANAH, on WED, JUL 25 1984 at 22:36 (950 characters)

Diane: Magnificent job! After watching much boring coverage on TV, I didn't expect TENS reports to have much of interest to add. But last Saturday night I started reading and finally hobbled off to bed at 4 am Sunday! I did get a sense of participation --even of presence-- from your notes, even reading some of them a few days after the fact. (I read the earlier ones the day they were posted.)

As a quasi-journalist myself (in the field of genetic engineering business and law) and a lap portable user (M100) I know EXACTLY what you had to do to accomplish all you did. Simply put, it's superhuman. Chalk it up to the power of this network to have supported you all in getting up the energy to make a contribution to our understanding. Thank you for being our eyes and ears and nose and mouth (and ... anything left?) in San Francisco. Here's hoping you make it to DALLAS! ---Gerry Elman, across from the Liberty Bell.

Answer 85 (of 94) DIANE W., on THU, JUL 26 1984 at 04:03 (92 characters)

Gerry,

Thank you for such wonderful compliments. That just makes my night!!

Diane

Answer 86 (of 94) LOTUS, on THU, JUL 26 1984 at 18:38 (1406 characters)

SHERWIN -

DROVE A 1750 SPYDER FOR 7 YEARS - AFTER THE ELAN HAD HAD IT.... BUT NOTHING MAKES YOU FEEL CLOSER TO COLIN... THEN THE CAR HE BUILT FOR HIMSELF.

LOOKED PRETTY CLOSE "SPACE CADET"! PRINTED THE 'PARTI'S' SINCE '82. LOOKED THROUGH SOME...

MICRO STUFF...PEACE AND LOVE...RELIGION (NO MOONIES OR GALVANOMETER FREEKS THAT I COULD SPOT BUT DO YOU WANT TO BET?)...POLITICS.....ETC.

ALL THE THINGS YOUR MOTHER TOLD YOU NOT TO BRING UP AT COCKTAIL PARTIES!

AND WHERE'S THE VOLUME YOU ASK? "ELECTRONIC LOVE" SURE DEEDUB IS CUTE BUT COULDN'T YOU GUYS GET A LITTLE RACY? ASK MAMA, ASK YOU THREE, DIANNE TALKS, SHERWIN TALKS, MIKE TALKS (DOES HE EVER LISTEN?),

FACE IT - YOU GUYS HAVE PUT TOGETHER A REALLY NICE SYSTEM TECHNOLOGICALLY AND

I THINK ITS BEEN AROUND FOR A COUPLE OF YEARS NOW BUT YOUR OWN #'S SAY NO ONES USING IT BUT YOU!

CADET, YOU SAID THIS THING IS USED FOR BUSINESS, THIS IS BUSINESS.

INSIDERS - AGREE OR DISAGREE WITH ME. I DON'T THINK I'M TOO FAR FROM WRONG.

TRY ASKING YOUR USERS WHAT YOU CAN DO TO MAKE IT WORK, AND MOST IMPORTANTLY, WORK BIG!!! I SEE TOO MANY GREAT IDEAS PLOD THEIR WAY TO OBSCURITY OR BE REINVENTED WHEN "THE MARKET IS READY"?

JUST A SUGGESTION, BUT, WELL...IT MIGHT GIVE YOU SOMETHING NEW TO TALK ABOUT?

LOOK IN AGAIN AFTER HOLIDAY. I'M SURE YOU CAN'T WAIT.

LA DI DA,

L O T U S -----

Answer 87 (of 94) SPACE CADET, on THU, JUL 26 1984 at 20:41 (230 characters)

Lotus, you would never find the activity I am speaking of because it is not public activity. I mean, there are companies using PARTI through a whole network of private, specialized conferences. You still are missing it.

Answer 88 (of 94) JIM FRANKLIN, on THU, JUL 26 1984 at 21:12 (392 characters)

SHERWIN: I just got a chance to read #23 in "SHERWIN TALKS" -- that's just the kind of reporting I want from this medium, your strong feelings and judgments about the questions that mean the most to you personally. You did all that anyone can ask in making your "bias" clear. it's worth the connect time and with my last STC bill close by, that's saying something. -- Jim Franklin

Answer 89 (of 94) MSB, on THU, JUL 26 1984 at 21:43 (738 characters)

LOTUS- Perhaps you have been eating to many blossoms, I certainly am not a high tech junkie, or a computer fanatic! I got into the system here about 10 months ago, and have found many interesting and informative conferences, both to read and to be active in.

Perhaps if you were to particpate instead of observe the excitment would be ther. You have here, and that makes YOU one of the users! As for the remark about the clique nature of Parti, JOIN , easiest cliques in the world here, no questions, no pre-entry exam. If YOU find nothing to interest you, perhaps you might start a conference on a subject near and dear? Who knows, there might be many others who would LOVE to talk about it.

la di da!!

Answer 90 (of 94) SML, on FRI, JUL 27 1984 at 00:37 (384 characters)

MSB, you said most of what I was going to say to Lotus. That's the whole

point! The users do exactly what they want, including telling us what they want to see in the software itself. <By the way, if you've seen me active in the conferences about Parti enhancements, that was long before I was in any way anything but an ordinary user myself>

Jim, thank *you*!

Sherwin

Answer 91 (of 94) HARRY, on FRI, JUL 27 1984 at 18:30 (506 characters)

Sherwin has just shared with us face-to-face copies of writeups on TENS.

After a bout with the flu, I just finished reading prinouts from the end of your excellent efforts last week.

I'll be more reflective later, but my first impressions are you three pioneered more than any of us will realize for some months or even years to come.

In phone interview yesterday with a national journalist, he and I just scratched the surface on how important what you've done is.

Congratulations!

Answer 92 (of 94) LISA CARLSON, on WED, AUG 08 1984 at 10:07 (282 characters)

One thing that would help me show off what you have done to others is to have an *index* which titles the items in your individual conferences - all the conferences for that matter... That way I can easily find those which will spark the interest of different individuals...

Answer 93 (of 94) SML, on WED, AUG 08 1984 at 17:42 (250 characters)

A *very* good idea (as usual), Lisa! I'll work on one for all parts, but can't promise when it'll be up. We're definitely going to do that for a printout we're preparing for ourselves and may make available if there's any interest.

Sherwin

Answer 94 (of 94) CYNIC AL, on THU, AUG 09 1984 at 00:04 (80 characters)

That index sounds like a job for Super Shari/Dawn!

Sherwin: I'm interested.

Joiners of "TELL US 3" conference:

HARRY; ALAN; STC-EDIT; GERRY ELMAN JD/KAVVANAH; FR HAL; EVANSCLEVE; KENT M. S.; WEEHAWK; GEORGE M; SDC; PSI DAVE; MIKE PUTCHE; DOM S.; DR. MEMORY; BOB SANDHAUS; RON TINDIGLIA; ELMER; CRT; SML; T/O; MIKE GREENLY; FINN; STL429;

RITA G; DONNA DICKINSON; BBK670; DIANE W.; LISA CARLSON; JIM ARMSTRONG; K SQUARED; ST5028; CYNIC AL; WHMJR; BUFLOE; CHRIS B; STY606; JIM FRANKLIN; NORMAN EPSTEIN; RUBE; TENS; COLLIE; VOTER; BCJ061; BBY516; DE MONSTER; RLH; STEWART; SPACE CADET; DAVID F. SALISBURY; ERIK; PG; STZ658; BBB387; LOTUS; BCG055; ALLSPICE;

"REPORTER X" Conference 84.18213 TENS, organizer, about "REPORTS FROM ON-SITE PROFESSIONAL JOURNALISTS WHO MUST REMAIN ANONYMOUS" (answers: 3) TUE, 07/10 13:58 (582 characters)

Welcome to this special conference, entitled "Reporter X".

Most national correspondents are under strict contract with their primary media, and are prohibited from working for others. To circumvent this problem, the correspondent(s) writing here will do so anonymously.

Our main correspondent has attended every political convention since 1964, and promises an insider's view of events on the floor and behind the scenes at the 1984 Democratic National Convention.

This is a 'read only' conference. Please enter comments on what you read here in "Demo Discuss".

Answer 1 (of 3) REPORTER X, on TUE, JUL 10 1984 at 14:22 (2280 characters)

---CONVENTION BYLINE---

Some advance notes on the Democratic National Convention which is now only six days away.

The Vice-Presidential sweepstakes seems to be the focus of attention but most reporters in their vivid speculation have taken their eye off the ball.

So far the expected nominee Walter Mondale has paraded seven potential Vice-Presidential nominees and most of the "morning-line" speculation has it that the nominee will be either Congresswoman Geraldine Ferraro of New York or Senator Gary Hart who still maintains that he is going to the convention to gain the party's nomination for President.

What the experts of the national media have missed is the name that keeps popping up in the backroom circles of the Democratic leadership from Washington to San Francisco. That name is Martha Lane Collins, the former beauty queen and now the Governor of Kentucky.

Reporter X has learned that if indeed Walter Mondale selects a female running mate that it WILL be Martha Lane Collins.

Of course there is still no guarantee that Mondale will weigh the risk-reward ratio of a female Vice Presidential nominee but this much is certain---Mondale needs flair, excitement and THE SOUTH if he hopes to unseat The Great Communicator.

Insiders in the Mondale organization are pushing Martha Collins in a big way, urging that the Southern Governor with her not-so-liberal views would appeal to the growing pride of women voters, to the sensitivities of the deep south, and add a lustre and personality that is missing from the Democratic campaign this year.

A key regional adviser tells us, "Why not Collins..she's a woman.. she's middle of the road..she's not threatening..and she's a good executive."

While we speculate here it has not gone unnoticed in the Mondale campaign that Martha Collins will be the Chairperson of the entire convention . She'll be seen by millions of people every night for four nights on prime-time television.

So as you ponder who will be number two on the Mondale ticket remember this: Gary Hart should get it. But if Walter Mondale goes for the brass ring by naming a woman, Collins is the name to watch.

Next: The people to watch at the convention. The Future Stars!!

Answer 2 (of 3) REPORTER X, on SAT, JUL 14 1984 at 14:01 (3446 characters)

PEOPLE TO WATCH AT THE CONVENTION

The primary focus of most major party political conventions is on the selection of Presidential and Vice Presidential candidates. But throughout the years the conventions have served a not-so-recognized but important purpose in the American political process. With the arrival of the electronic age and the first Television convention in 1952 came the advent of a new facet of political conventions--the careful development of future political stars.

With the awesome national exposure provided by live Television coverage the conventions are utilized by the so-called future stars of the parties.

Who can forget 1956 when many of us first got our first glimpse of a charismatic Senator from Massachusetts named John Fitzgerald Kennedy. Although Kennedy failed to gain a spot on the ticket in 1956 he still had a most visible presence during those critical moments when Adlai Stevenson was nominated by the Democratic Party. In 1972 Jimmy Carter was a future star at the convention in Miami Beach.

As we approach the San Francisco conclave we watch a convention that also may be a real changing of the guard for the Democrats. Walter Mondale has the nomination, but win or lose, there will be a new look for the Democrats in 1988 and here are some of the people to watch for in 1984 who will be positioning themselves for future bursts of political power. Jerry Brown---The ex-California governor is priming for a comeback and still has Presidential aspirations.

Mario Cuomo---The first-term Governor of New York will deliver the Keynote speech to the convention. He was Walter Mondale's first choice for Vice President but at an early stage told Mondale that he would definitely serve out his first term.

Joe Biden---A powerful member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee who comes from a small state but wields large influence. Biden is only 42, is serving his second term, and is extremely savvy. Watch him carefully.

Martha Layne Collins--The new Governor of Kentucky will be the chairperson of the convention. She'll have more media exposure than any single individual in San Francisco.

Bill Bradley--The former Superstar for the New York Knicks is introverted but brilliant. There is no secret about his presidential ambitions.

The Mayors--Wilson Goode of Philadelphia and Henry Cisneros Of San Antonio. Both men have overcome racial and ethnic divisions to win big victories by appealing to and getting the support from all segments of the population. Unlike the narrow scope of Jesse Jackson's campaign both Goode and Cisneros are not black and hispanic mayors. They are mayors who just happen to be black and hispanic.

Geraldine Ferraro--The apparent Vice Presidential nominee is already a star. But her conduct and demeanor at this convention and during the campaign will determine her potency in future years.

Those are some of the potential "future stars" at the Democratic Convention. Watch them carefully.

What are your thoughts?? Are there any politicians from your area that may be making a special impact at this convention? If there are please let us know.

For many people at this convention the future really is NOW!!

Answer 3 (of 3) REPORTER X, on SUN, JUL 15 1984 at 23:39 (838 characters)

"SO WHAT HAPPENED TO MARTHA COLLINS?"

10 DAYS AGO WE REPORTED THAT MARTHA LAYNE COLLINS WOULD BE THE DEMOCRATIC VICE PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE IF WALTER MONDALE DECIDED ON A WOMAN.

WE WERE WRONG. AND HERE'S WHY.

IN THE LAST WEEK MONDALE'S STRATEGY CHANGED. HE DECIDED THAT THE BIG POPULOUS INDUSTRIAL STATES WOULD BE THE KEY TO A VICTORY. MARTHA LAYNE COLLINS WOULD NOT GAURANTEE THE VOTES OF BIG CITY DWELLERS. SO IN A NUTSHELL MONDALE STRATEGISTS REPORT TO US THAT THE THINKING WORKED THIS WAY:

MONDALE WANTED A WOMAN. GERALDINE FERRARO COMES FROM NEW YORK.

IT WAS A MARRIAGE OF GENDER AND GEOGRAPHY THAT WAS MADE IN HEAVEN...

FOR THOSE OF YOU ASKING WHAT HAPPENED TO KENTUCKY GOVERNOR MARTHA LAYNE COLLINS..THATS WHAT HAPPENED!!

REPORTER X

Joiners of "REPORTER X" conference:

HARRY; STC-EDIT; FR HAL; EVANSCLEVE; KENT M. S.; MAC; WEEHAWK; GSM; GEORGE M; CYRUS; SDC; PSI DAVE; MIKE PUTCH; DOM S.; DR. MEMORY; BOB SANDHAUS; RON TINDIGLIA; ELMER; CRT; SML; T/O; MIKE GREENLY; FINN; STL429; RITA G; DONNA DICKINSON; DIANE W.; MRS. MADRIGAL; SCARAMOUCHE; LISA CARLSON; JIM ARMSTRONG; BBP998; K SQUARED; ST5028; CYNIC AL; CHRIS B; JIM FRANKLIN; JOHNNY FRIENDLY; SUMMER!; TENS; COLLIE; VOTER; BCF992; BBY516; STEVE TEICHNER; DE MONSTER; RLH; STEWART; SPACE CADET; DAVID F. SALISBURY; ALVIN HENRY; ERIK; BBB866;

"TEICHNER SURVEYS" Conference 84.18214 TENS, organizer, about "NOTED POLLSTER STEVE TEICHNER GIVES YOU ANALYSIS -- AND SURVEYS *YOU*" (answers: 10) TUE, 07/10 14:02 (1344 characters)

Steve Teichner is President of Teichner Associates Inc. located in Philadelphia, PA. Teichner Associates is the single largest independent provider of political polls and analysis in the country. Teichner clients, all of which are media outlets, cover the full range of media: television, radio, newspapers, and now computers.

Starting in Iowa at the very first caucus, Teichner representatives have been in almost every primary state, polled in most, and exit polled in many. At the convention, Steve Teichner will be providing analysis and commentary for clients around the country, not only on the impact of what has happened but also on how the Democrats got to this point. In addition, on two occasions surveys will be taken in different cities and metro areas to measure the impact of the events at the convention on voters around the country.

In this conference you will see Steve's anaylsis and commentary. You will be directed to surveys that we urge you to take part in. And, in the

INTERACTIVE conference "TELL TEICHNER" you will be able to discuss the surveys, add your own comments and impressions, and view those of other participants. Please help make this the most valuable experience possible for you and the other participants by giving us your reactions in the "TELL TEICHNER" conference.

Answer 1 (of 10) STEVE TEICHNER, on TUE, JUL 10 1984 at 15:30 (2768 characters)

On the night of July 19, at approximately 8:00 PM Pacific time, Walter Mondale and ---- will stand on a platform arms raised, surrounded by spouses, party leaders, Gary Hart and Jessie Jackson, and will wave, smile, flash a few "v"s for victory, and in general attempt to convey to the American voter that better times are just around the corner. In the background a familiar theme, "Happy Days are Here Again," rings while thousands jump up and down waving placards printed (or so it would seem) over night. If we know the conclusion, it's fair to ask: "why do we bother?" After all, there hasn't been a Democratic convention where the nomination was in doubt in almost 24 years. There hasn't been a real platform battle in 36 years and while credential battles have been interesting, they have been viewed more as diversionary than substantive. So again the question: "why do we bother?"

The answer lies less in national politics than in local politics. The convention is a symbol of local political battles. The delegates and others who attend in official capacities have little to really do at the convention and from a national political perspective are almost irrelevant to the actual nominating process. Their presence is more of an acknowledgement of who they are, who they support, and what they've given not so much to the candidates for President but in their hometown local political battles. Their presence is a true measurement of who won which local battles and who lost. If the matter is looked at objectively, the people who have the most reason to be there are those who will be outside the Moscone Center, not in it. If the "media is the message" then those who are outside of the hall may play a bigger role in defining the national impact of the democratic convention. Their ability to bring those individuals inside out will provide not only the mystery, drama, and excitement for this convention but the lasting visual images was well (who can forget in 1968 former Senator Abraham Ribicoff of Connecticut lecturing Mayor Daley or the picture of Daley's response). Those who are outside do not have an agenda that is confined by past political battles, nor are they limited by future political aspirations. If they have single common purpose, they share the goal of forcing the Democrats to drop their script. Their goal is not to be let in; it is to bring the convention out. One should not expect a repeat of 1968 but rather a forceful constant pressure on those in charge to pay attention. Given the strong desire of the Democratic leaders, including Walter Mondale, to appear in control, unified, and caring, don't be surprised if outsiders don't win.

* * * *Branching off of "TEICHNER SURVEYS" 84.18214 as Answer 2 (of 10)

"FIRST DEM POLL" Conference 84.18222 STEVE TEICHNER, about "FIRST POLL FOR THE DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION" (answers: 0) TUE, 07/10 15:58 (4742

characters)

NOTE: For the full text and results of this poll,
see the "FIRST DEM POLL" chapter.

Answer 4 (of 10) STEVE TEICHNER, on WED, JUL 11 1984 at 23:52 (646 characters)

FLASH!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Latest rumor on grape vine concerning VP at demo convention. Our national sources tell us that we should look for Mondale to announce that he has selected Ferraro (?) at a stop in his home town of Elmore, Minn. This would appear to be the case or at least some credence should be given to this rumor since John Reily, top Mondale aide, met with her this AM in San Fran. One reason to announce this at Elmore is that it will allow the two of them to meet and talk over the next few days at Lake Tahoe where Mondale is going to camp out. If it's wrong, then what the heck? If it's right, then we were there!

Answer 6 (of 10) STEVE TEICHNER, on THU, JUL 12 1984 at 20:05 (4800 characters)

DRAMA or BLISTERS???

Now that Walter Mondale has picked his running mate, does that mean all of the drama is gone from the Democratic convention even before it begins? That instead of spending time logged into PARTI finding out what is really going on we can all go to the beach? The answer is no. In fact, the fun is just begining and those issues that really matter to the delegates will get the full force of national attention. Remember, the vast majority of the delegates were irrelevant to the actual selection of a presidential candidate (see answer 1 here in "TEICHNER SURVEYS"). And everyone but Mondale and his staff was irrelevant to the selection of a vice-presidential candidate -- nobody ever thought the issue would go to the floor.

So what's left? The answer is the core concerns of those that are there. Not the "who" of the rest of this year but the "how" of both local and national politics for the Democrats in the future. Consider the following:

- 1) One of the biggest disputes raised in the primaries was the whole issue of so called dual or run-off primaries. These are elections where a person must get 50%+1 of the votes cast in order to get a party nomination. Blacks -- led by Jessie Jackson -- and a number of women's groups claim they have been discriminated against by states and cities that use this process since they can finish first in the original field only to lose in the run-off.

Local party officials, like Georgia state chair Bert Lance, claim that the dual primaries really have the effect of protecting the party and these groups since it means whoever wins the run-off stands a good chance of defeating the Republicans. The issue here is one of control and Lance maintains he has the votes to "whip Jackson." When control is at stake, history tells us that tempers get short. When tempers get short, then

real exciting battles happen.

2) Then there is the whole issue of the nominating process itself. Much was said by Gary Hart and Jessie Jackson about the rules that appear to have given Mondale the nomination. While it would appear that some attempt to reach accord on these matters has already been made, the mere fact that Mondale has announced his choice of running mate lessens his control over the delegates on these issues. At stake is not just the length of the nominating season (so far those of you who have already voted in "FIRST DEM POLL" feel it's too long), but such additional questions as the number of so-called super-delegates (i.e., public officials and the like), the qualifying standard (now 20%), the whole issue of PAC money to name just a few.

These issues matter not just to those who run the party locally but sitting out in the crowd of delegates are a number of people who, even though they are good Democrats, are thinking about '88 and what happens should Regan win in November. To Mario Cuomo, Joe Biden, Dale Bumpers, and Bill Bradley these are not passing questions. (By the way, if you want to have some fun, count the number of times these and other "contenders" are interviewed on national television. Whoever gets the most interviews had the best convention.) And, of course, not to be left out of that list is Gary Hart. Some 1200 delegates sitting in Moscone are pledged to Hart. And while there appears to be little question that Mondale is over the top as of today, there will be drama in watching to see if "lightning strikes." The general rule is that it takes 300 delegate margin to control the convention. As of June 6, when Mondale declared himself over, he was only about 45 over. Since that time he has added about 50. Hart is scheduled to address the convention 45 minutes before the actual voting begins on Wednesday. If the brush fires leading up to that speech have gotten bitter, if Mondale has lost control, well... I'm not saying it will happen, but I do say it will be fun to watch. Finally, there is the whole Jessie Jackson question. In today's LA Times, it was reported that the Executive Director of the American Jewish Congress has called upon the Democratic Party to repudiate Jackson for his "destructive and self-aggrandizing politics." Jackson is scheduled to speak to the convention, too.

So there is a partial list of just some of the brush fires that await the Democrats when the convention actually begins. Each alone may not be much, but one after another can create (as those of who have spent time in California know) not brush fires but forest fires. If they get out of hand, then the Democrats will not have given the country drama; they will instead have given themselves blisters from their heat.

Answer 7 (of 10) STEVE TEICHNER, on SUN, JUL 15 1984 at 23:52 (1254 characters)

THINGS TO KNOW11111111 1)The deal between Jackson and Mondale was cut 2 weeks ago. It deals with the role Jackson will play in the general election campaign-go-between between Mondale and "Rainbow Coalition " and some discussion of appointments. 2)Deal fell apart four days ago but is now together again. Jackson now talks about getting votes on critical issues not winning. 2)Lance thing the result of Mondale people wanting to assure that south doesn't feel forgotten. South is not happy with female vp to say the

least and a count of the delegates indicates that run-oof primary minority report could win. 3)Quote of the week. When Mondale called Lance to say you get to replace Mannel Lnce said,"If a dog has fleas and thyou take the dog you also get tthe fleas". 4)Hart has a "peace plank he wants to take to the floor solee purpose is to embresse Mondale. 5) hArt has made the descision NOT TO RUN FOR RE-ELECTION TO THE U s senate. Result no constraints that impact wnat he does in SF except the need to pay off the debt now estimated to be \$3million. 6) According to Kathy ?Bushkinn Hart Press sec. Mondale opened the conversation wth Hart where he told him he had picked another VP by saying."Its a girl"!!!!!!

* * * *Branching off of "TEICHNER SURVEYS" 84.18214 as Answer 9 (of 10)

"SECOND DEMO POLL" Conference 84.19098 STEVE TEICHNER, organizer, about "PARTICIPATE IN THIS POST-CONVENTION POLL!" (answers: 49) THU, 07/19 19:03 (4386 characters)

NOTE: For the full text and results of this poll, see the "SECOND DEMO POLL" chapter.

Answer 10 (of 10) STEVE TEICHNER, on FRI, AUG 03 1984 at 13:49 (4848 characters)

I have just gotten the chance to sit down and to study the results of both of the "polls" that were done at the democratic convention as well as the other comments. At the outset let me thank all of you who particiapted in the entire project. Much has been said in the different conferences about TENS making history and for my part I enjoyed the part I was able to play. I also enjoyed using a technology that while imperfect for polling has great potential in the areas of questionnaire development and open end information gathering. Now to the results of the survey.

1)In the second poll we found that the head to head results were Mondale 46% Regan 43% Don't Know 11%. These numbers were a great deal different than the first poll but that poll had so few people in it that it has limited use. Given the sample size of even the second poll its hard to draw to many conclusions beyond the population that actually particiated but it is interesting that the "head to head" numbers here were not much different than other national polls done at the same time.(One interesting side note is that this week Harris released a poll showing that Ferraro not only was a positive but was in fact the reason that Mondale was making a horese race out of it. In that same poll Harris said that he anticiapted that women would make up 53% of the November vote. Problem is that his sample projects a voter turn-out of 78.2% A Gallop survey realased at the same time indicated that Regan had a 10% lead. And that Regan contuied to lead amongst both men and women. Our researach work around the country done at the same time tends to support Gallop and we find little to support any of Harris"s conclusions.

2)In terms of the descriptions of both Mondale and Ferraro again with the caveat of sample size our TENS sample tended to agree with other

populations that we have surveyed around the nation-With 2 out of 3 giving a negative description of Mondale to only 1-3 positive. In order the results showed that 32% said he was dull, 23% said he owed special interests and 11% said he was too political. On the positive side 17% said he was caring, 15% said he was experienced and 1% said he was a winner. That 1% saying he was a winner is interesting in light of the finding in the first poll that in excess of 80% said they were dissatisfied with the choice of candidates and overwhelmingly the people who answered that survey felt that Regan would win regardless of who the Democrats nominated. In the primaries the winner description was one of the more often chosen responses amongst democratic primary voters. Here though there was a general feeling that it didn't matter who the Democrats nominated that Regan would win anyway. In terms of Ferraro the responses from the second poll were extremely interesting. Only 21% described her in positive non-political terms (17% exciting 4% qualified) While 35% described her in political terms (32% help ticket 3% hurt ticket). The largest group described in negative personal terms (24% inexperienced 17% too liberal). When one looks at the overall his ability to use Ferraro to attract those who have not made up their minds seems somewhat limited since it would appear that they are breaking the same way the "head to head" is going. Overall the feeling about Ferraro was 53% positive 47% negative. Her limitations to attract support is further shown when one looks at the question that asked if the country was ready for a women president. Even though there are positive feelings about her the sample said they did not feel the country was ready 48% yes 52% no. In other words 6% more people than said they were going to vote for Mondale agreed the country was NOT ready. Not only does this number show the potential problem for the Democrats in November since we can expect the Regan camp not to say vote for a man but rather is Gerry Ferraro, mother daughter ready to be president. The other problem for the Dems at least as far as the women vice-president question is concerned is found in the feeling of our sample that should we have a women president 54% say other nations will not be able to deal with us or will deal with us in a negative manner. Again it is important to remember that our sample was small and definitely both upscale in terms of education and income. It was also much higher male than we should the actual voters to be. So while we shouldn't try to make this "poll" do more than it can it has tipped the ice berg in showing the kind of battles that will be fought in the fall. After all if PARTI users aren't yuppies who is.

Joiners of "TEICHNER SURVEYS" conference:

HARRY; ALAN; NORMAN KURLAND; FR HAL; DICK; MAC; WEEHAWK; GEORGE M; CYRUS; SDC; MUDSLIDE; PSI DAVE; MIKE PUTCH; DR. MEMORY; BOB SANDHAUS; RON TINDIGLIA; SML; T/O; MIKE GREENLY; STL429; DONNA DICKINSON; NEXI NODAL; BBK670; DIANE W.; STANDOC; LISA CARLSON; K SQUARED; ST5028; CYNIC AL; BUFLOE; TI6835; CHRIS B; JOHNNY FRIENDLY; JIM T; TENS; COLLIE; JUDEE; STEVE TEICHNER; DE MONSTER; RLH; STEWART; SPACE CADET; DAVID F. SALISBURY; ERIK;

"FIRST DEM POLL" Conference 84.18222 STEVE TEICHNER, about "FIRST POLL FOR THE DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION" (answers: 0) TUE, 07/10 15:58 (4742 characters)

This is the first convention poll for the Democratic Convention. The poll is designed to allow us to get an understanding of your feelings about a whole range of issues that this convention presents. Since the format of voting only allows multiple-choice questions, please feel free to add your in-depth feelings on the issues raised: the *interactive* "TELL TEICHNER" conference has been created specifically for this discussion.

Each of the questions is presented below for your review. To register your own vote, say "VOTE" at the DISPOSITION prompt you'll get after you've seen all the questions. When you say VOTE you'll be given a brief recap of each question and the valid responses, then asked for your choice.

A) Which of the following best describes you:

- 1) I am registered to vote as a Democrat
- 2) I am registered to vote as a Republican
- 3) I am registered to vote as an Independent or undeclared
- 4) I am not registered to vote

B) Which of the following best describes you:

- 1) I voted in the Democratic primary or caucus held in my state
- 2) I voted in the Republican primary or caucus held in my state
- 3) I did not vote in any primary or caucus even though I am registered to vote
- 4) I did not vote in any primary or caucus because I'm not registered to vote

C) Do you think the nominating process takes too long:

- 1) yes
- 2) no

D) Would you support a federal law that would limit campaigning for president to only 6 weeks:

- 1) yes
- 2) no

E) Which of the following best describes you:

- 1) I favor changing the way we nominate candidates for president by going to a National Primary
- 2) I favor changing the way we nominate presidential candidates by going to a series of regional primaries
- 3) I favor the current system but wish it was shorter
- 4) I favor the current system

F) Have you ever attended a National Political Nominating Convention in any capacity?

- 1) yes - as a delegate, alternate, or staff member
- 2) yes - as press or member of the Party's staff
- 3) yes - as an observer or guest
- 4) no

G) The city of San Francisco is expected to spend in excess of \$9 million in

order to bring the Democratic Convention to San Francisco. Would you be willing to have your city or town pay a similar amount to get a National Convention?

- 1) yes
- 2) no

H) Some people have said that it doesn't matter who the Democrats nominate: Ronald Regan can't be beat in November. Do you:

- 1) agree
- 2) disagree

I) If Walter Mondale picks a woman as his running mate are you:

- 1) more likely to vote for him
- 2) less likely to vote for him
- 3) it make no difference in deciding whether or not to vote for him

J) If Walter Mondale were to pick a black as his running mate are you:

- 1) more likely to vote for him
- 2) less likely to vote for him
- 3) it makes no difference in deciding whether or not to vote for him

K) How much of the Democratic Convention do you plan to watch on television?

- 1) all
- 2) summaries and specials that the networks might show
- 3) news reports contained in network and local news shows
- 4) none

L) How much influence do you think Jessie Jackson should have at the Democratic Convention?

- 1) a lot
- 2) some
- 3) not very much
- 4) none

M) Are you satisfied with the choice of candidates made by the two major political parties?

- 1) yes
- 2) no

N) Which of the following best describes you concerning the November election?

- 1) I am a Democrat and will vote for Walter Mondale
- 2) I am a Democrat and will vote for Ronald Regan
- 3) I am a Democrat and do not know who I will vote for
- 4) I am a Republican and will vote for Ronald Regan
- 5) I am a Republican and will vote for Walter Mondale
- 6) I am a Republican and do not know who I will vote for
- 7) I am an independent and will vote for Walter Mondale
- 8) I am an independent and will vote for Ronald Regan
- 9) I am an independent and do not know who I will vote for
- 10) I am not registered to vote

O) Have you ever been surveyed before?

- 1) yes
- 2) no Remember, to take part in this survey you must say VOTE after you get the

DISPOSITION prompt below.

Results of poll (39 votes recorded):

Individuals who took this poll:

HARRY; ALAN; STC-EDIT; LOUIS; NORMAN KURLAND; FR HAL; MAC; THE POLLSTER; STEVE DEERING; DOCTOR TOM; PSI DAVE; LEAH; DR. MEMORY; TJ; RON TINDIGLIA; SML; T/O; FINN; RITA G; DONNA DICKINSON; DIANE W.; STANDOC; CADAVER; SCARAMOUCHE; LISA CARLSON; CHRIS B; JIM FRANKLIN; JEREMIA; SUMMER!; OUT & ABOUT; CSR026; VOTER; READY TEDDY; BBY516; STEVE TEICHLNER; RLH; STEWART; DAVID F. SALISBURY; BCW099;

Voting results:

Question 1: 1)registered Dem/2)registered Rep/3)registered independ or undeclar/4)not reg (range 0-4)

Detailed tally: A0 = 1; A1 = 17; A2 = 5; A3 = 12; A4 = 4;

Average of 38 non-zero votes is 2.079

Question 2: In primary or caucus: 1)voted Dem/2)voted Rep/3)regis but didn't vote/4)not reg (range 0-4)

Detailed tally: A0 = 2; A1 = 16; A2 = 2; A3 = 13; A4 = 6;

Average of 37 non-zero votes is 2.243

Question 3: Nominating process takes too long? 1)yes 2)no (range 0-2)

Detailed tally: A0 = 2; A1 = 25; A2 = 12;

Average of 37 non-zero votes is 1.324

Question 4: Would support law limiting pres campaign to 6 weeks: 1)yes 2)no (range 0-2)

Detailed tally: A0 = 2; A1 = 13; A2 = 24;

Average of 37 non-zero votes is 1.649

Question 5: Favor: 1)nat'l primry/2)regional primry/3)shorter current way/4)current way (range 0-4)

Detailed tally: A0 = 3; A1 = 7; A2 = 13; A3 = 10; A4 = 6;

Average of 36 non-zero votes is 2.417

Question 6: Attended convention: 1)delegate or staff/2)press or party/3)guest/4)no (range 0-4)

Detailed tally: A0 = 2; A1 = 3; A2 = 3; A3 = 5; A4 = 26;

Average of 37 non-zero votes is 3.459

Question 7: Favor your city spending up to \$9 million to host convention:

1)yes 2)no (range 0-2)

Detailed tally: A0 = 3; A1 = 18; A2 = 18;

Average of 36 non-zero votes is 1.500

Question 8: Doesn't matter who Dems nominate, Regan will win: 1)agree

2)disagree (range 0-2)
Detailed tally: A0 = 2; A1 = 14; A2 = 23;
Average of 37 non-zero votes is 1.622

Question 9: If Mondale picks woman VP: 1)more likely I vote for him/2)less likely/3)no diff (range 0-3)
Detailed tally: A0 = 1; A1 = 12; A3 = 26;
Average of 38 non-zero votes is 2.368

Question 10: If Mondale picks black VP: 1)more likely I vote for him/2)less likely/3)no diff (range 0-3)
Detailed tally: A0 = 2; A1 = 5; A2 = 2; A3 = 30;
Average of 37 non-zero votes is 2.676

Question 11: Watch on TV: 1)all/2)summaries and specials/3)reports in local & net news/4)none (range 0-4)
Detailed tally: A0 = 3; A1 = 11; A2 = 15; A3 = 7; A4 = 3;
Average of 36 non-zero votes is 2.056

Question 12: Influence Jackson should have: 1)a lot/2)some/3)not very much/4)none (range 0-4)
Detailed tally: A0 = 1; A1 = 8; A2 = 16; A3 = 12; A4 = 2;
Average of 38 non-zero votes is 2.211

Question 13: Satisfied with candidate choices of 2 major parties? 1)yes 2)no (range 0-2)
Detailed tally: A0 = 1; A1 = 5; A2 = 33;
Average of 38 non-zero votes is 1.868

Question 14: D: 1)Mon/2)Reg/3)undec/ R: 4)Reg/5)Mon/6)und/ I: 7)Mon/8)Reg/9)und/ 10)not regis (range 0-10)
Detailed tally: A0 = 3; A1 = 13; A3 = 2; A4 = 6; A6 = 2; A7 = 6; A8 = 3; A9 = 3; A10 = 1;
Average of 36 non-zero votes is 4.389

Question 15: Ever been surveyed before? 1) yes 2) no (range 0-2)
Detailed tally: A0 = 1; A1 = 18; A2 = 20;
Average of 38 non-zero votes is 1.526

"SECOND DEMO POLL" Conference 84.19098 STEVE TEICHNER, organizer, about "PARTICIPATE IN THIS POST-CONVENTION POLL!" (answers: 49) THU, 07/19 19:03 (4386 characters)

This is Steve Teichner's second poll. If you have a printer, it would be a good idea to turn it on now so you can refer to a copy of the questions when you are answering them.

The full text of each of the questions and possible responses is presented below. After you've been shown all the questions, you will be given a DISPOSITION prompt. At that prompt, type in VOTE and press your RETURN/ENTER key to proceed with voting in this poll.

The questions:

1) Which of the following best describes you?

- 1) I am a Democrat and plan to vote for Mondale & Ferraro
- 2) I am a Democrat and plan to vote for Reagan & Bush
- 3) I am a Democrat and do not know who I plan to vote for
- 4) I am a Republican and plan to vote for Reagan & Bush
- 5) I am a Republican and plan to vote for Mondale & Ferraro
- 6) I am a Republican and do not know who I plan to vote for
- 7) I am an independent and plan to vote for Mondale & Ferraro
- 8) I am an independent and plan to vote for Reagan & Bush
- 9) I am an independent and do not know who I plan to vote for
- 10) I am not registered to vote

2) Which of the following best describes you?

- 1) I am a male and plan to vote for Mondale & Ferraro
- 2) I am a female and plan to vote for Mondale and Ferraro
- 3) I am a male and plan to vote for Reagan & Bush
- 4) I am a female and plan to vote for Reagan & Bush
- 5) I am a male and do not know who I will vote for
- 6) I am a female and do not know who I will vote for
- 7) I am a male and not registered to vote
- 8) I am a female and not registered to vote

3) Which of the following best describes you?

- 1) I am a male and plan to vote for the nominee of the party I am registered to vote in
- 2) I am a female and plan to vote for the nominee of the party I am registered in
- 3) I am a male and plan to vote for the nominee of the other main party
- 4) I am a female and plan to vote for the nominee of the other main party

4) Which of the following best describes Walter Mondale?

- 1) cares about people
- 2) owes special interests
- 3) a winner
- 4) dull
- 5) experienced
- 6) too political

5) Which of the following is the best word or phrase to describe Geraldine Ferraro?

- 1) exciting
- 2) inexperienced
- 3) qualified
- 4) too liberal
- 5) will help ticket
- 6) will hurt the ticket

6) Thinking about the Democratic convention and how much of it you watched on television, did you:

- 1) watch more than you had originally planned
- 2) about watch about what you had planned
- 3) watch less than you planned

7)A number of people gave major speeches to the delegates. Of those that you saw, which would you rate as the best?

- 1)New York Governor Mario Cuomo
- 2)Arkansas Gov Bill Clinton
- 3)Jessie Jackson
- 4)Walter Mondale
- 5)Geraldine Ferraro
- 6)Jim Hightower Agriculture Secretary of Texas
- 7)Tom Bradley
- 8)Judy Goldsmith, Pres of Now
- 9)Congresswoman Pat Shorder of Colorado
- 10)other

8)Do you think the country is ready for a woman president?

- 1)yes
- 2)no

9)Do you other nations would deal with the US differently if a woman was president?

- 1)yes - better
- 2)yes - worse
- 3)no

10)Which one of the following best describes your views of the Democratic convention?

- 1)exciting
- 2)predictable
- 3)dull
- 4)historic

REMEMBER, at the DISPOSITION prompt below, say VOTE to cast your vote in this poll.

Once you have voted, you will get another DISPOSITION prompt. At that time, please say WRITE to tell me why you picked the candidate you selected in question #1. Before you give your explanation, please identify what your answer was. If you are undecided, please tell me what you need to know to make up your mind.

After you have written any remarks, press RETURN, .A (that's a period followed by the letter A), and RETURN again to record your remarks. At the DISPOSITION prompt you'll then get, say JOIN to automatically receive other voters' remarks and my analysis of this poll.

Thank you for participating!

Steve Teichner

Results of poll (71 votes recorded):

Individuals who took this poll:

ALAN; FR HAL; HYDRA; MAC; JJ; CHUCK MCCORVEY; CYRUS; DOCTOR TOM; JEAN; JAYBO;
STEVE H. C.; DOM S.; DR. MEMORY; MIKE PARKER; BOB SANDHAUS; RON TINDIGLIA;
CRT; SML; T/O; CL2136; MIKE GREENLY; STT425; BEJAY; TI2357; BBJ137; AAD249;
DIANE W.; BBD398; STANDOC; CADAVER; LISA CARLSON; BBD939; BBT333; TCT408;
BBQ311; CYNIC AL; BCD211; BBW696; BUFLOE; CHRIS B; AAE407; BCC605; EL GRECO;
STEVE TEICHNER; BGS; STEWART; SPACE CADET; BCE702; BCW099; STX814; STP850;
STJ694; BBW850; BCJ430; CL3419; BBV594; CDC003; STN442; STA217; BBK805;
STB020; BCB277; BCE661; BBL347; BCE335; BERNIE H; BBJ431; BCB075; BBQ873;
BCE451;

Voting results:

Question 1: Dem for: 1)Mndl/2)Rgn/3)? Rep: 4)Rgn/5)Mdl/6)? Ind:
7)Mdl/8)Rgn/9)? 10)unreg (range 0-10)

Detailed tally: A1 = 24; A2 = 5; A4 = 18; A6 = 2; A7 = 7; A8 = 6; A9 = 6; A10
= 3;

Average of 71 non-zero votes is 4.211

Question 2: For Mndl: 1)male/2)female For Rgn: 3)m/4)f Don't know: 5)m/6)f
Unreg: 7)m/8)f (range 0-8)

Detailed tally: A0 = 2; A1 = 21; A2 = 10; A3 = 27; A4 = 2; A5 = 7; A7 = 2;

Average of 69 non-zero votes is 2.594

Question 3: Vote my party: 1)male 2)female Vote other party: 3)male 4)female
(range 0-4)

Detailed tally: A0 = 19; A1 = 34; A2 = 10; A3 = 7; A4 = 1;

Average of 52 non-zero votes is 1.519

Question 4: Mondale: 1)cares/2)owes specl
intrsts/3)winner/4)dull/5)experncd/6)too poltcl (range 0-6)

Detailed tally: A1 = 12; A2 = 16; A3 = 1; A4 = 23; A5 = 11; A6 = 8;

Average of 71 non-zero votes is 3.408

Question 5: Ferraro: 1)excitng/2)inexperncd/3)qualified/4)too liberl/5)help
tickt/6)hurt tkt (range 0-6)

Detailed tally: A0 = 2; A1 = 12; A2 = 17; A3 = 3; A4 = 12; A5 = 23; A6 = 2;

Average of 69 non-zero votes is 3.333

Question 6: Watched convention on TV: 1)more than planned/2)abt what
plannd/3)less than plnd (range 0-3)

Detailed tally: A1 = 19; A2 = 31; A3 = 21;

Average of 71 non-zero votes is 2.028

Question 7:

1)Cuomo/2)Clntn/3)Jksn/4)Mndl/5)Fraro/6)Hitwr/7)Brdly/8)Gldsmth/9)Shrdr/10)othr
(range 0-10)

Detailed tally: A0 = 7; A1 = 30; A2 = 1; A3 = 18; A4 = 4; A5 = 1; A7 = 2; A10
= 8;

Average of 64 non-zero votes is 3.141

Question 8: Country ready for woman President? 1)yes 2)no (range 0-2)

Detailed tally: A0 = 1; A1 = 34; A2 = 36;

Average of 70 non-zero votes is 1.514

Question 9: If woman Pres, other nations treat US: 1)better 2)worse 3)same (range 0-3)

Detailed tally: A1 = 8; A2 = 25; A3 = 38;

Average of 71 non-zero votes is 2.423

Question 10: Convention was: 1)exciting 2)predictable 3)dull 4)historic (range 0-4)

Detailed tally: A0 = 4; A1 = 15; A2 = 32; A3 = 7; A4 = 13;

Average of 67 non-zero votes is 2.269

Answer 1 (of 49) SML, on THU, JUL 19 1984 at 19:47 (870 characters)

I'm sorry if any of you tried to write in here and weren't able -- it took a few minutes after the poll was established to set it up for public responses.

I hesitate to put my explanation of my answer 1 here because I know I won't have time to participate much in any discussion. But here goes anyhow...

I'm a Republican (mostly) who plans to vote for Reagan/Bush -- primarily because I think it will take another 4 years of sound economic policies for the economy to recover sufficiently to be able to withstand a Democratic administration. Results of economic policies can take years to become evident. Meanwhile, regimes change making it *look* like the party in power is responsible for the current good or bad. Of course, unless and until economics becomes more of a science a statement like this is largely opinion. This is mine.

Sherwin

Answer 2 (of 49) MIKE GREENLY, on THU, JUL 19 1984 at 19:56 (252 characters)

I'm now seeing all this differently. I was amazed hearing myself ask a political question of a Hart delegate in an interview at the TENS office today. I am *eager* to get a sense of things from the Republican point of view before I decide. mike

Answer 3 (of 49) STJ694, on THU, JUL 19 1984 at 20:29 (556 characters)

I chose Reagan because I am Republican and always have been. I fully support Reagan's policies. The country needs someone who will tread on a few toes if necessary to solve the problems of debt, joblessness, and national security. Walter Mondale on the other hand is too liberal for my preferences. I feel that he chose a woman for V.P. just from outside pressure. He owes too much to too many. He promises everything but will tell no one how he will pay for it. If Mondale gets the Presidency, capitalism in the world will be endangered.

Answer 4 (of 49) BBW850, on THU, JUL 19 1984 at 22:18 (26 characters)

REAGAN MUST BE DEFEATED.

Answer 5 (of 49) BCJ430, on THU, JUL 19 1984 at 22:39 (306 characters)

INDEPENDENT PLANNING TO VOTE FOR MONDALE/FERRARO. PRIMARILY I AM VOTING NOT FOR MONDALE BUT AGAINST REAGAN. I CAN GENERATE SOME ENTHUSIASM FOR THE DEMOCRATIC TICKET ONLY BECAUSE OF FERRARO. IF THE DEMOCRATS DO ANYTHING AT ALL IN THE NOVEMBER ELECTION AGAINST REAGAN IT WILL BE BECAUSE OF HER.

* * * *Branching off of "SECOND DEMO POLL" 84.19098 as Answer 6 (of 49)

"CONFERENCE" Conference 84.19128 CL3419, about "MONDALE" (answers: 0) THU, 07/19 23:02 (118 characters)

MONDALE IS AN IDIOT. HE NEEDS TO GROW UP. WHY CANT HE GET HIS SPEECH OUT OF HIS MIND INSTEAD OF OFF TV. HE STINKS!

Answer 7 (of 49) MAC, on THU, JUL 19 1984 at 23:11 (292 characters)

I am an Ind for Mondale. Very impressed by his accept. speech tonite but more over I beleive Reagan on the edge of senility and at the age when he could leave us suddenly. MOveroever I beleive he actively looking for a conflict to lead us into and thus in his own mind emulate Roosevelt.

Answer 8 (of 49) CHUCK MCCORVEY, on THU, JUL 19 1984 at 23:32 (174 characters)

I PICKED MONDALE FERRARO BECAUSE I WANTED TO VOTE AGAINST REAGAN AND I BELIEVE SOMETHING MUST BE DONE TO STOP THE MILITARY SPENDING AND PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS.

Answer 9 (of 49) CYNIC AL, on FRI, JUL 20 1984 at 00:05 (398 characters)

independent, and still undecided... I was leaning toward Reagan before the convention, but the Democrats sure appealed to my morals and values. Of course, right now I'm riding the crest of convention fever, especially from the TENS coverage. I'm waiting until near the last minute to make my decision-- there's still a long way to go, a lot that can happen that can influence my decision.

Answer 10 (of 49) CHRIS B, on FRI, JUL 20 1984 at 00:52 (236 characters)

For me, the Democrats hit home. But then, my real desire is to get Reagan out of the White House.

I very anxiously await the Republican convention and even more so the debates between Reagan and Mondale and Bush and Ferraro.

Answer 11 (of 49) BBV594, on FRI, JUL 20 1984 at 01:14 (94 characters)

I VOTED FOR REAGAN-BUSH BECAUSE I LIKE A STRONG MILITARY. ALSO, REAGAN IS A STRONG LEADER.

Answer 12 (of 49) MSB, on FRI, JUL 20 1984 at 01:14 (182 characters)

I chose republican- reagan/bush

I do so because I believe in the direction they are steering the federal government, and to the manner in which they deal with foreign affairs.

* * * *Branching off of "SECOND DEMO POLL" 84.19098 as Answer 13 (of 49)

Message 84.19150 BBJ137, FRI, 07/20 01:31 (0 characters)

Answer 14 (of 49) AAE119, on FRI, JUL 20 1984 at 02:55 (28 characters)

VOTE QUESTION 1, ANSWER 4

Answer 15 (of 49) BUFLOE, on FRI, JUL 20 1984 at 08:31 (186 characters)

I CHOSE THE MONDALE-FERRARO TICKET. IT IS TIME FOR CHANGE. REAGAN HAS HAD 4 YEARS AND I AM NOT SATISFIED WITH THE OUTCOME OF THESE PAST 4 YEARS. I LOOK FORWARD TO THE DEBATES.

Answer 16 (of 49) CDC003, on FRI, JUL 20 1984 at 11:21 (328 characters)

I AM A DEMOCRAT FOR MONDALE/FERRARO. I DON'T TRUST REAGAN ESPECIALLY IN FOREIGN POLICY. I PUT A HIGHER PRIORITY ON BOTH NUCLEAR ARMS CONTROL AND SOCIAL PROGRAMS THAN DOES REAGAN. I BELIEVE MONDALE IS MORE EXPERIENCED THAN REAGAN. I AM PLEASED TO HAVE FERRARO ON THE TICKET BUT WOULD HAVE SUPPORTED MONDALE ANYWAY.

Answer 17 (of 49) STK008, on FRI, JUL 20 1984 at 17:46 (50 characters)

JOIN MONDALE IS THE WORST OF TWO BAD CANDIDATES

Answer 18 (of 49) STEWART, on FRI, JUL 20 1984 at 19:02 (864 characters)

a mondale-ferraro administration will bring a more progressive and thoughtful perspective to the federal government. mister reagan's macho brand of foreign policy does nothing but undermine the american image abroad creates an 'us against them' attitude here at home. his ignorance is the most appalling thing to me, for instance, on returning from his trip to central and south america in 1982 he cleverly noted, 'you'd be surprised, they're all separate little countries down there!'.
we need an administration that believes in the educational system and will work toward improving it rather than gutting it. we also need someone to do something about the outrageous deficit and i believe mondale when he says he'll do it. we can do without teflon ron and his smoke and mirrors. i'm *very* impressed, tho, that nancy carries a derringer.

Answer 19 (of 49) STT425, on FRI, JUL 20 1984 at 19:45 (154 characters)

MONDALE IS ONE OF THE REASONS I SWITCHED FROM DEMOCRACY TO REPUBLICAN. THE

DEMOCRATIC PARTY HASN'T REPRESENTED THE VIEWS OF MIDDLE AMERICA FOR 20 YEARS.

Answer 20 (of 49) STA217, on FRI, JUL 20 1984 at 21:19 (264 characters)

walter Mondale, both as a person and as a candidate, embodies the simple principle that "New Deal" liberalism, concern for labor, and compassion for the less fortunate is still alive and well in the hearts of many Americans, and (I hope) many Democrats.

Answer 21 (of 49) BBK805, on FRI, JUL 20 1984 at 22:48 (148 characters)

I CHOOSE MONDALE BECAUSE I FEEL THAT HE WILL BE MORE SENSITIVE TO THE NEEDS OF OF ALL THE PEOPLE OF THIS GREAT COUNTRY AND NOT JUST THE RICH. .A

Answer 22 (of 49) JJ, on SAT, JUL 21 1984 at 01:03 (214 characters)

I'll be voting for Mondale because Reagan represents the forces e forces of evil in this world. It is time to turn away from the arms race. It is time for the human race to act like adults, which we are.

Answer 23 (of 49) STB020, on SAT, JUL 21 1984 at 01:38 (234 characters)

I WILL VOTE FOR REAGAN BECAUSE I DO BELIEVE THAT I AM BETTER OFF NOW THAN I WAS

4 YEARS AGO. INFLATION IS DOWN, INTEREST RATES ARE DOWN, UNEMPLOYMENT IS DOWNUNEMPLOYMENT IS DOWNNO AND THE ECONOMY IS IN FAR BETTER SHAPE.

Answer 24 (of 49) STB020, on SAT, JUL 21 1984 at 01:40 (396 characters)

I WILL VOTE FOR REAGAN BECAUSE I DO BELIEVE THAT I AM BETTER OFF NOW THAN I WAS

4 YEARS AGO. INFLATION IS DOWN, INTEREST RATES ARE DOWN, UNEMPLOYMENT IS DOWNUNEMPLOYMENT IS DOWNNO AND THE ECONOMY IS IN FAR BETTER SHAPE. MONDALE IS A PAID LACKEY FOR SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS. HIS POLICIES ARE OLD, TIRED, AND KNOWN TO BE WORTHLESS. HE IS AS CREATIVE AND DYNAMIC AS A DOOR KNOB! Answer 25 (of 49) SML, on SAT, JUL 21 1984 at 02:23 (620 characters)

A couple interesting things I noticed in the voting here so far:

Choosing the phrase that best describes Mondale, only 1 said "winner," 17 said "dull" (of 42 voting).

About Ferraro, 10 said "exciting" and 15 said she'd help the ticket (of 41 votin).

And there are a lot of abstentions in the questions that break down attitudes by male and female. For anyone who's afraid of being identified, you should know that we have no way of knowing which person voted which way.

Anyone wanting to see the results so far, just say: Profile Votes at the DISPOSITION prompt that follows this note.

Sherwin

Answer 26 (of 49) CADAVER, on SAT, JUL 21 1984 at 02:53 (690 characters)

I am voting for Mondale because I think Reagan is the worst thing to happen to this country within living memory and the Democrats would have to go a long way to lose my vote this year. The convention is a bullshit media event and I watched exactly as much as I intended which is zero. Thus abstain on the speeches and on Ferrarro, who i don't know from Eve. She has to be better than Bush. The US is not ready for a woman president if it can't even pass the ERA, but the rest of the world is not so stupid. Thatcher, Gandhi, and Golda Meir have proven that women can be as vicious and bloodthirsty as men any day; and you can bet that nobody f*cked with Queen Victoria!

Answer 27 (of 49) BBD398, on SAT, JUL 21 1984 at 03:02 (374 characters)

I THINK REAGAN HAS DONE A PRETTY GOOD JOB, AND I THINK HE NEEDS FOUR MORE YEARS TO REALLY COMPLETE IT. THE US COMMANDS MORE RESPECT WORLD WIDE THAN IT HAS IN YEARS, AND THIS IS DUE TO MR. REAGAN'S FOREIGN POLICY. I THINK MONDALE WOULD BE A DISASTER AS PRESIDENT-HE DOESN'T SEEM TO THINK THINGS THROUGH BEFORE ACTING. (THE MANATT-LANCE FIASCO IS AN EXCELLENT EXAMPLE)

Answer 28 (of 49) DIANE W., on SAT, JUL 21 1984 at 03:36 (78 characters)

Cadaver, re your comments on Queen Victoria: Except Prince Albert.

Diane

Answer 29 (of 49) LISA CARLSON, on SAT, JUL 21 1984 at 09:37 (186 characters)

I will vote for Mondale because I think the important question is *not* am I better off than I was 4 years ago but rather are we better off now. And the answer to that is NO!

Answer 30 (of 49) STP850, on SAT, JUL 21 1984 at 11:05 (336 characters)

AM ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT FERRARRO, AND, THO NOT SO ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT MONDALE, HE IS BETTER THAN REAGAN!!!! IT IS TIME I THINK THAT WE HAD A SLIGHTLY DULL PRESIDENT WHO FUNCTIONS WELL, SPENDS TIME ON MORE IMPORTANT THINGS THAN CHARISMA, AND GETS THE COUNTRY BACK TO MORE CONCERN ABOUT ITS CITIZENS... I VOTE FOR MONDALE/FERRARRO!!!

Answer 31 (of 49) BEJAY, on SAT, JUL 21 1984 at 11:25 (1514 characters)

My answer was number four. President Reagan has done about everything he promised when he ran for office. Inflation has come down, interest rates have

come down, the economy has recovered to the point where leading economists are concerned that it may be too strong. He told us what kind of political philosophy he was going to follow and, right or wrong, he never wavered. He was, in other words, a LEADER.... MONDALE. ON THE OTHER HAND, has made deals with every minority pressure wing of every minority in the country it seems to me... The ONLY reason he picked a female for vice-president was because of the prospect he might have faced a convention in revolt. Should the feminist delegates unite with the Jackson people he could have had to face a mob. Instead, he gave in and kept the convention in order.

Mondale showed during the primary fights that he is fully capable of breaking under pressure.. When Gary Hart beat him the television pictures of Mondale showed his face... the face of a man cracking under the strain.. disbelieving that HE could have lost. But you know, the man never won an election.. He has been and continues to prove to be the perfect party hack. What the liberal democrats who control the party never could understand is that Americans truly like and trust Reagan. Sure Reagan makes mistakes. But any thinking person also knows that he has tried.. he has been consistent... and... most importantly... his programs have worked.

Thanks... Bejay

Answer 32 (of 49) STEVE H. C., on SAT, JUL 21 1984 at 12:03 (218 characters)

REAGAN IS GREED AND SELFISHNESS EMBODIED. HE REFUSES TO RECOGNIZE THE NEEDS OF ALL OF THE PEOPLE, AND CONSIDERS GOOD BUSINESS TO SUPERCEDE GOOD HEALTH. HE IS THE LEADER OF THE "ME" GENERATION. HOPE MONDALE WINS!!!

Answer 33 (of 49) BBD939, on SAT, JUL 21 1984 at 12:30 (452 characters)

QUESTION 1, CHOICE 2. I VOTED THAT WAY BECAUSE REGAN'S POLICIES ARE GOOD FOR THE U.S.A. ECONOMICALLY, POLITICALLY, MILITARILY, IN INTERNATIONAL POLITICS, AND MANY OTHER WAYS. THE DEMOCRATS MAKE HIM OUT TO BE A WARMONGERING MONSTER WHO WOULD STARVE THE POOR OF THE U.S.A., ABANDON OUR ELDERLY, AND DO MANY OTHER EVIL THINGS. THEY ARE WRONG. ALL THEY HAVE TO OFFER IS A GREAT DEAL OF EMPTY RHETORIC OR TO USE ANOTHER PHRASE, POLITICAL JOBBERWOCKY.

Answer 34 (of 49) BBT333, on SAT, JUL 21 1984 at 13:12 (1004 characters)

I am an Independant, male, and undecided

I usually vote Democratic 4 out of 5 times, but now I'm not sure. I don't want four more years of Reagan, but I never have liked Mondale and after his campaign I like him even less now. He certainly has promised every group under the sun something, and even though I agree with most of those promises I'm still waiting for him to say something that applies to EVERYBODY. Choosing Ferraro was not as daring a choice as the media made it out to appear - this year the choice that would have taken the most guts would have been to pick a white male other than Gary Hart. Even so, I like Ferraro a whole lot better than Mondale. I was a Hart supporter, I would have been disappointed with

Jackson's choice (but would have preferred him over Mondale by plenty), and would have accepted McGovern. Basically what I'm saying is that had the Democrats nominated ANYBODY but Mondale I would have voted for him/her, but now I'm not so sure....

Answer 35 (of 49) STX814, on SAT, JUL 21 1984 at 14:37 (4 characters)

Answer 36 (of 49) BCE661, on SAT, JUL 21 1984 at 17:41 (840 characters)

ballot r transmit:ballot 4. 4. Reagan has completely turned the economy around. Business is booming. Good business means more jobs, which leads to more consumer spending, which leads to more jobs!! Deficits are the result of previous democratic giveaway programs! If demo's institute more social programs - where will the money come from???-----MORE TAXES!!! Also probable larger deficits! Under a free enterprise system and especially in an economy like we have--- those that want to work--and work at finding a job--can! Unfortunately, to many who dont need welfare or UC find it easier to complain and collect the free govt. benefits rather than SEEK WORK!--After all, the difference between what you get for NOT working and working at common jobs is not that great! Wat happened to real american ambition? .a

Answer 37 (of 49) CADAVER, on SAT, JUL 21 1984 at 17:45 (702 characters)

Prince Albert? Who let him out of the can??

Several people here are repeating the Republican line that Mondale is the candidate of the "special interests." Partly true, if you consider minorities like women, with only 53% of the population, need some sort of voice. Labor is another special interest, and rightly so -- Reagan is doing more against the working person than he is against the Russians. To say that Mondale owes various groups favors it to s to imply that Reagan doesn't, and that is ridiculous. Reagan's friends are higher up and better hidden. The Fortune 500 corporations are his one and only special interest, and he will never do anything against their will.

Answer 38 (of 49) AAE407, on SAT, JUL 21 1984 at 21:20 (86 characters)

I AM VOTING FOR PRESIDENT REAGAN BECAUSE I BELIEVE HE WILL BE BEST FOR THE COUNTRY. Answer 39 (of 49) BCW099, on SAT, JUL 21 1984 at 22:15 (360 characters)

I Will vote for Mondale-Ferraro first because I disagree with most of Mr. Reagan's program; I agree with many of the convention speakers that we have much to fear in a second Reagan term. Second, I'm excited by the Ferraro nomination. Third, Mr. Cuomo's speech reminded me that I am a Democrat at heart; I'll be loyal, at least at the national level.

Answer 40 (of 49) TCN361, on SUN, JUL 22 1984 at 14:19 (288 characters)

I plan to vote for Reagan because I believe that Mondale would be spend-crazy, raise taxes, encourage over-paid Union labor, give more to the so-called "disadvantaged" and generally move the country in a direction rejected by the

people in the 1980 vote for Reagan .A

Answer 41 (of 49) CL2136, on SUN, JUL 22 1984 at 14:53 (342 characters)

THE FACT THAT THE DEMOS HAVE PULLED TOGETHER AFTER A LIVELY DEBATE OF DIFERENCES IS A TRIBUTE TO MONDALES POLITICAL EXPERIENCE, HIS CHOICE OF MS FERRARO SHOWS THAT DESPITE HIS CAUTION HE CAN RISK WHEN NECESSARY, AND THO MONDALE CERTAINLY DOESN'T HAVE MOVIE STAR CHARISMA, THIS TICKETS EMPHASIS OF NEGLECTED HUMAN VALUESMAY JUST DO IT.

Answer 42 (of 49) BCC605, on SUN, JUL 22 1984 at 20:54 (62 characters)

answer was number 1....reason Reagan is not doing the job.

Answer 43 (of 49) BBW857, on SUN, JUL 22 1984 at 22:49 (194 characters)

Registered Demo voting for Reagan. Feel Demos (Carter) ran country into ground. Reagan has rebuilt our defenses, lower taxes, turned inflation around, and generally improved our economy.

Answer 44 (of 49) BBW857, on SUN, JUL 22 1984 at 23:13 (550 characters)

I'm surprised to see such strong statements from one who refuses to watch a national political convention. You say "[Ferrarro] has to be better than Bush" but "...Ferrarro, who i don't know from Eve." You appear to be one of the better informed Mondale supporters. How soon you forget the job that Carter did, but the majority of the American people didn't. Your language certainly shows you to be good Democratic material, but then so does your name. I, for one, hope the rest of the public doesn't follow your lead. Enjoy, Bernie.

Answer 45 (of 49) BCB075, on MON, JUL 23 1984 at 03:06 (420 characters)

I'm a republican and will vote for the Reagan/Bush ticket in Nov. Reagan has helped this country considerably the past 4 years. The economy is growing WITHOUT inflation, we're stronger on defense, and I believe that given another 4 years, the deficit problem will be adequately resolved with Reagan. I think Mondale is too tied to special interest groups and would tend to weaken us in foreign policy matters.

Answer 46 (of 49) BBQ873, on MON, JUL 23 1984 at 09:02 (504 characters)

I am a registered Republican, and I will vote for Reagan/Bush. The reason for this is mainly that I believe Reagan has done a super job so far, and we shouldn't change things. Reagan will be able to do things his second term that he just couldn't do his first, and the country will better for it. Meanwhile, the

the democratic selection of Mondale again signifies their refusal to enter the world of the 80s. A vote for Mondale would be, essentially, a vote to put Carter back in office.

Answer 47 (of 49) BCE451, on MON, JUL 23 1984 at 09:31 (232 characters)

I HAVE NOT DECIDED WHO I WILL VOTE FOR IN NOVEMBER YET. I WILL MAKE MY DECISION AFTER SEEING A DEBATE BETWEEN THE CANDIDATES. I WANT TO SEE WHAT THEY HAVE TO SAY ABOUT DEFENSE SPENDING, THE BUDGET AND THE ECONOMY AS A WHOLE.

Answer 48 (of 49) MSB, on MON, JUL 23 1984 at 19:40 (576 characters)

***** PLEASE JOIN "FOUR MORE YEARS" conference, The interchange here is what that confrence is all about!

It is fantastic to see so many new ids here, WE NEED ALL OF YOU <DEM or REP> n the political conferences. This is the chance of a lifetime to interchange YOUR thoughts with others all over the nation.

If you are new to the system, and would like help to find other conferences, JOIN "INDEX" or message helper. I will help all who wish it also

to reach me type W at the action prompt, type your question, and then

type .m msb.

Answer 49 (of 49) BBT333, on FRI, JUL 27 1984 at 18:46 (2010 characters)

I have one question that has been bothering me for a while. Seeing a lot of Democrats here (I am an independant who almost always votes Democratic) perhaps someone can explain this to me:

Why does the Democratic party feel it is justified in saying it is the party that best represents women in America? One of its recurring themes is that Reagan has been disasterous for women. Plenty has also been said about the gender gap. BUT - up until the democratic convention more women supported Reagan than Mondale in the polls (by about 7%, I believe). (Of course, I do realize that with the selection of Ferraro that number probably has shrunk and may now even be on Mondale's side). I have no argument that the Democratic party is the party that best represents feminists, but it seems to me that saying it is the party of women is at best misleading and presumptuous, and at worst self-righteous and arrogant.

Actually, I've been having trouble all year buying Mondale's claims that he represents the "oppressed" of America. I mean - if he really DID have the votes of all women, blacks, Hispanics, gays, union laborers, the handicapped, and the environmentalists he would win the election by at least 50 percentage points. The fact that Reagan was ahead in the polls up until the democratic convention is in direct contradiction to this claim - there aren't that many straight white-collar white males in the country! And, as I can personally testify since I AM a straight white-collar white male, we don't all like Reagan (I personally think he's a nice guy but a lousy president). The problem is that this year I am really without a party - I would like to vote Democratic, but Mondale hasn't said ANYTHING that applies to me as a non-minority and I feel unrepresented. Sigh. I wonder what John Anderson is doing this year....

(I don't mean to start any ideological arguments, by the way, and I don't mean to offend anyone. But I AM curious....)

Joiners of "SECOND DEMO POLL":

CHUCK MCCORVEY; CYRUS; JEAN; STEVE H. C.; DR. MEMORY; RON TINDIGLIA; SML; T/O; CL2136; MIKE GREENLY; STT425; BEJAY; AAD249; DIANE W.; BBD398; CADAVER; LISA CARLSON; BBD939; BBT333; BBQ311; CYNIC AL; BBW696; BUFLOE; CHRIS B; BCC605; STEVE TEICHNER; STEWART; SPACE CADET; STP850; BCJ430; BBV594; STK008; STA217; BBR002; BBK805; BCE661; TCN361; BCE335; BERNIE H; BBJ431; BBQ873;

"TELL TEICHNER" Conference 84.18215 TENS, organizer, about "*INTERACTIVE* DISCUSSIONS WITH POLLSTER STEVE TEICHNER" (answers: 12) TUE, 07/10 14:07 (644 characters)

You are invited here to "TELL TEICHNER" -- a unique chance to be heard in an interactive forum by national broadcast polling expert Steve Teichner.

Be part of the action! Say JOIN at the DISPOSITION prompt below. Then say READ 1-99 to read what's happened so far and say WRITE at any DISPOSITION prompt to enter your questions and comments.

Because this is a first-time event -- interactive reporting of a major political happening -- it has attracted special media attention. You should realize that your comments here may be quoted by others. If you do not wish to be quoted, please say so here or send a message to TENS.

Answer 1 (of 12) LOUIS, on WED, JUL 11 1984 at 08:01 (382 characters)

The poll was OK, but I had trouble finding it. One problem was confusion due to your use of "DEM" in conf name while others TENS efforts use "DEMO." Also, 'twould be more direct if you made the announcement of the poll and the votable item one and the same. Having to find and join a separate conf is an extra step which will lose people. Thanks for your efforts. -LJ

Answer 2 (of 12) SML, on WED, JUL 11 1984 at 16:16 (694 characters)

Louis, you do not have to find and join a separate conference to participate in the current poll or in any future ones. If you have joined "TEICHNER SURVEYS" you will automatically receive the poll in your waiting notes. Anyone who doesn't join or joins after a poll has been posted can get to it just by reading through the "TEICHNER SURVEYS" conference. It has a separate name because the Parti system requires that polls be named.

Your point about using "DEMO" instead of "DEM" is well taken -- we'll make a point of keeping the "DEMO" usage consistent throughout on future items.

I hope this little problem won't reduce your enjoyment of the coverage too much.

Sherwin

Answer 3 (of 12) FR HAL, on WED, JUL 11 1984 at 18:15 (122 characters)

Tried to "vote" in Teichner Surveys, Diane....system tells me it's not a votable item. Someone want to check it out?

Answer 4 (of 12) CHRIS B, on WED, JUL 11 1984 at 19:17 (132 characters)

Fr Hal,

Did you try VOTE for "Teichner Surveys" or "First Dem Poll" ??

I voted yesterday, it works okay for me.

Chris.

Answer 5 (of 12) SML, on WED, JUL 11 1984 at 22:10 (1156 characters)

Sorry for the confusion about voting -- this requires a bit of explanation. Right now, for the majority of new readers to "TEICHNER SURVEYS" there will be no problem voting in the poll. They will say R "TEICHNER SURVEYS" and then read through the existing answers. When they get to answer 2, they will get a DISPOSITION prompt at the end for "FIRST DEM POLL" -- automatically. At that point, just as the text says, you can just say VOTE and participate in the poll.

Anyone who has already joined "TEICHNER SURVEYS" will likewise be presented with any future polls automatically and be able to vote on those.

The only problem occurs when you try to access answer 2 directly from the ACTION prompt by saying R (or S) "TEICHNER SURVEYS" 2 -- in that case you *can't* vote on it because you're not given the prompt for that poll.

So, if you've not voted yet and don't want to read through the first part of the "TEICHNER SURVEYS" conference to get to the poll, then say

R "FIRST DEM POLL" from the ACTION prompt.

I hope that clarifies things and lets everyone vote. Thanks for your patience.

Sherwin

Answer 6 (of 12) DIANE W., on FRI, JUL 13 1984 at 02:30 (400 characters)

Steve,

I think it's fantastic that you gave us a 7 hour scoop on the networks!! People want to know how you do it...

Also, will you be doing an analyia of the first poll you did here? I suggest you wait till after the weekend, since so many people just use Parti then.

(I talked to Steve today on the phone, and he tells me he has a few more exclusives up his sleeve...)

Diane

Answer 7 (of 12) DIANE W., on FRI, JUL 13 1984 at 02:35 (320 characters)

By the way, the time shown in Steve's entry about Ferraro is actually several hours later than Steve's initial entry. The original was erroneously entered with .C, so Sherwin took it out and re-entered it.

None the less, it was a scoop - no, it was two scoops with a cherry on top!

Look for more!

Diane

Answer 8 (of 12) STEVE TEICHNER, on FRI, JUL 13 1984 at 11:59 (540 characters)

diane:| In response to your question-analysis of the poll-I plan to take a complete look at the results early monday. It is interesting to note at this| point that those who have participated tend to be more democratic than the voters as a whole but on the issues stuff seem to follow pretty closely what the rest of the nation feels. Also I plan to put in another poll on Monday. I'm open to suggestions from all participants for ideas of questions to be included. I'll| write the question just give me the thought. steve

Answer 9 (of 12) MSB, on FRI, JUL 13 1984 at 19:54 (170 characters)

STEVE-- How about the bias of the individual, conservative vs. liberal?

And of course the ever popular "Will she make you decide to vote Dem to get a female VP?"

Answer 10 (of 12) SPACE CADET, on FRI, JUL 13 1984 at 23:56 (364 characters)

A good question maybe should be directed to republican women. "Because there is a woman on the Demo ticket, how likely are you to change your vote?"

I put this question to my wife. She reads lots of books...but only by female authors. She is a real equal righter, but politics speak louder than sex. She'll remain Republican. I couldn't believe it.

Answer 11 (of 12) STEVE TEICHNER, on SAT, JUL 14 1984 at 18:53 (338 characters)

To all dems in San Fran : this is Steve Teichner and I am interested in putting a seperate conference of delegates and alternates. The goAl of this conference will be to develop sep- erate polls that will measure your on-site reaction to the events of the convention. If there is any interest please let me know steve teichner

Answer 12 (of 12) JEREMIA, on MON, JUL 16 1984 at 17:41 (364 characters)

steve, will you be able to give us any polls of delegates' opinions on the three major candidates for the nomination? about how feelings for manatt versus lance thing have changed their perspective on hart versus mondale? how

about what hart/farraro ticket would do against reagan compared with
mondale/farraro?

thanks- i really enjoy your stuff.

jer

STC-EDIT; LOUIS; FR HAL; MAC; THE POLLSTER; WEEHAWK; GEORGE M; PSI DAVE; LEAH;
DR. MEMORY; BOB SANDHAUS; RON TINDIGLIA; SML; T/O; MIKE GREENLY; STL429; RITA
G; DONNA DICKINSON; DIANE W.; MRS. MADRIGAL; STANDOC; LISA CARLSON; JIM
ARMSTRONG; BBP998; K SQUARED; CYNIC AL; BUFLOE; CHRIS B; JIM FRANKLIN; JOHNNY
FRIENDLY; JIM T; JEREMIA; SUMMER!; TENS; COLLIE; VOTER; BBY516; STEVE
TEICHLNER; DE MONSTER; RLH; STEWART; SPACE CADET; DAVID F. SALISBURY; ERIK;
BCW099; SCOTT MACE;

"DEMO PUBLIC" Conference 84.18216 TENS, organizer, about "*INTERACTIVE* PUBLIC
DISCUSSIONS, COMMENTS, QUESTIONS, OR OBSERVATIONS -- *YOU* ARE THE STAR HERE"
(answers: 80) TUE, 07/10 14:09 (824 characters)

This is the place for "DEMO PUBLIC" discussions, an interactive forum where
you can make the most of this powerful new medium. Hold free-wheeling
discussions here about any aspect of the convention happenings. Joining you
will be your fellow participants, the three reporters of TENS, and maybe even
key political figures.

Be part of the action! Say JOIN at the DISPOSITION prompt below. Then say
READ 1-99 to read what's happened so far and say WRITE at any DISPOSITION
prompt to enter your questions and comments.

Because this is a first-time event -- interactive reporting of a major
political happening -- it has attracted special media attention. You should
realize that your comments here may be quoted by others. If you do not wish
to be quoted, please say so here or send a message to TENS.

* * * *Branching off of "DEMO PUBLIC" 84.18216 as Answer 1 (of 80)

Message 84.18389 BBY516, about "'WITH A VP ANNOUNCED WHAT WILL WE WORRY
ABOUT!'" THU, 07/12 02:26 (380 characters)

SO, Mondale is going to announce his VP in a few hours. This whole thing may
be a dead issue before it gets going. What issue is going to hold general
interest (TV ratings) with this. Now (02:24) its being reported than the good
Congresswomen from NY is going to nominated. Lets hope Jackson can force some
primary reforms while keeping general interest high. .message

Answer 2 (of 80) LISA CARLSON, on THU, JUL 12 1984 at 15:40 (3942 characters)

Of course I wouldn't vote for Gerry Ferraro just because she's a

woman (for example, I *wouldn't* vote for Elizabeth Dole). I've worked some with Congresswoman Ferraro and I've seen her in action. I think she's a good choice. But I would be less than candid if I didn't admit that I have a lot of *feelings* about this nomination.

When I heard about it, I remembered a conversation I had with my mother about a month before she died. My mother was one of the early "working mothers" - a woman who loved her job and the self esteem that making a contribution on her own gave her. Her mother had been a working mother too - a young widow struggling to support her family.

Time was about to run out for the ERA. Although I had many problems with the strategy associated with the ERA campaign, I was expressing my frustration that we were living at a time in a country which couldn't seem to figure out how to make a good faith gesture toward half its population. I lamented that I was going to have to work for many more years before my country made an affirmative statement about the potential value of my contribution. "You're frustrated?" she said. "I'm going to die before it happens." Well, guess what Mom!

There are going to be a lot of women giving a lot of interviews in the next few months about the fact that it doesn't really matter whether Gerry Ferraro is a woman or not - her qualifications and vision for the country are what is important. That's true. That's the whole point of course. But I have to admit that the fact that she is a woman *does* mean something special to me. It *does* resonate with some deep feelings of longing and hope.

I went to the garage to get my car. My office is near the NOW national office. I ran into a friend who works for NOW. I had chided her earlier in the week about NOW's threat to nominate an alternative candidate if Mondale failed to pick a woman. I was worried about the effect that might have on the presidential campaign. But today when we saw each other we just embraced and laughed without speaking. She was already wearing a bright blue Mondale/Ferraro button. I wanted one.

I always do feel a twinge when I hear about a woman crossing another of the arbitrary boundaries in society. I have worked in a lot of places with very few women. I have been the "first one" a few times myself. But I have also had many doors close, like a sock in the gut, without my having a chance to show my stuff. It is frustrating and infuriating. We have too many problems to solve and too many opportunities to explore to categorically exclude anyone from taking a turn at the wheel. I like seeing women get a turn. And this was an important boundary to cross.

I drive home so I can watch the official announcement on T.V. Stopped at a light, I can hear the radio of the car next to mine replaying Ferraro's husband's statement to the press. The woman in the next car looks at me, grins, and gives me a thumbs up sign. I grin back.

When I pull up in front of my house, I wave at my neighbor who is out getting her mail. She is 78 and conservative politically. "Isn't it great?" she calls out. "I don't know if I will vote for her but I think it's great!"

Tonight we will go back to talking about the significance of this nomination

for getting support from the Northeast where Ferraro comes from. We will talk about the pros and cons of her position on intervention in Central America. We will assess the impact of Jackson's voter registration effort on the election as a whole and get on to other issues.

But today? Today I have to admit that I am in a *feeling* mode. For little girls in this country, the stuff that dreams are made of seems to have a little more oomph.

What do you think of that Mom? <grin>

Answer 3 (of 80) CYNIC AL, on FRI, JUL 13 1984 at 01:15 (1450 characters)

View from the Cynic:

The way I see it, Mondale's choice of Ms. Ferraro as VP is an excellent one. However, my gut feeling is that Fritz chose a woman more to SAVE votes than to GET them. After making a big deal about a woman being a possible VP candidate, Mondale (and the rest of the Dems) boxed themselves in. If they DIDN'T choose a woman, they risked losing half of their votes-- not necessarily to Reagan, but to the threatened candidate from NOW. You know, sorta like 'The Democrats broke one of their promises, and they haven't even been elected yet!'

Seeing how strong Ronnie looks right now, Lord knows that the Democrats can't afford to LOSE any votes!

Also, Mondale can't afford to run a consevative campaign-- he's got a lot of ground to make up (15 percentage points in a recent poll). The novelty value of having a woman on the ticket can only be exploited once, and this is the best time (at least, it's as good a time as any).

Don't get me wrong. Man or woman, I think Ms. Ferraro would make a good VP. I'm just not sure that the reasons behind her being chosen are all that 'honorable.' Ask yourself this: If Ms. Ferraro was a white male, would a person of her credentials and qualities be chosen as a Vice Presidential candidate? Would she even have been considered? Besides being a woman, what qualifications does she have that makes her a strong influence on the ticket?

Al

Answer 4 (of 80) LISA CARLSON, on FRI, JUL 13 1984 at 09:06 (966 characters)

Of course you are partially right about the motivation, Al. But "demographics" would have entered in if Mondale had chosen a male (is he/she from Texas? a catholic? working class? whatever?). That's how the v.p. is *always* chosen. But this time they lucked out. If they win, Gerry Ferraro has the kind of experience in Congress which will make her a real helpful v.p. to the President.

I think the reason I am excited is *not* because of the motivation so much as because now that door can't be closed. Now it doesn't matter so much - next time they look at the demographic "woman" will be like "catholic" (remeber JFK?). No big deal.

I got a note from a network friend which talked about how he felt when the first Black player got into baseball. The "first" almost always looks like a token - but sometimes they get a chance to show their stuff. The "second" gets less fanfare. But they don't get their at all without the first.

Answer 5 (of 80) STY606, on FRI, JUL 13 1984 at 18:59 (336 characters)

DEAR LISA, THANKS FOR YOUR MESSAGE. NEW SURGE OF ENTHUSIASM AMONG SF CONVENTION VOLUNTEERS, MANY OF WHOM ARE WOMEN WHO DID NOT EXPECT TO LIVE TO SEE THIS DAY EITHER. INFOWORLD REPORTS THE SOURCE'S SUBSCRIBERS ARE MOSTLY UPSCALE MEN. PLEASE KEEP WRITING TO TRY TO TELL OUR MALE FRIENDS WHAT THIS SELECTION MEANS TO US.

Answer 6 (of 80) CYNIC AL, on FRI, JUL 13 1984 at 23:29 (768 characters)

Lisa,

No denying that the door is open. In fact, I'm pretty happy about the situation myself. The thing is, through a very scientific poll by me and some other guys at work, I've come to the conclusion that a woman Vice President doesn't make Mondale any less of a bozo than he was before (just joking).

A guy at work had an interesting observation: If Mondale DID get elected President, all it would take would be one psychopathic women's libber for this country to have its first woman President. A rather morbid thought, indeed!

I too am waiting for the day when a person will not be noticed as 'the first' to accomplish a feat previously done only by a white male.

At least, now the Democrats can now go ahead with the issues.

Al

Answer 8 (of 80) MSB, on SAT, JUL 14 1984 at 02:57 (1154 characters)

I must agree with Al, perhas now the issues can be discussed?

I am glad that the prestige position of VP has finally broken the SEX barrier, but feel propaganda ploys are not what is needed to run a nation.

What has happened is that a white, liberal from Minnisota, has teamed up with a white liberal from New York in an attempt to challenge a conservative incumbent. Sex has never been much of an issue, COMPARED to the philosophy of the candidate and party.

The Democrats have staked out the grounds they want, traditional liberal programs, <increased taxes to pay for same?> and the vотор they want, the members of the traditional coalition from the 1930's. I question if the coalition is still there, or if the increase in independant vоторs follows the trend away from 'machine' politics. <Megatrends>

The issue before the nation is what to do in the future, and with the current economic indicators, what can they say? "We were in favor of all this?" The

record is to full of the attempts by the leadership <federal> to block the programs that now can be called successful <and will be by RR & Co>

Answer 9 (of 80) DAN YURMAN, on SAT, JUL 14 1984 at 12:19 (684 characters)

TEST. All notes from Dan Yurman are not for quotation to the public media. This is Dan Yurman. I am interested in the issue of the environment. In recent days, a small size cyclone has hit over the President's reappointment of Ann (Gorsuch) Burford to a Federal post. In reaction, the President spent three days traveling around the country saying what an impressive environmental record he had. Well, it certainly was impressive all right. Everyone paid attention, but for the wrong reasons. I understand that some delegates will or have formed an "environmental caucus" at the convention. I would be interested in reading coverage of their efforts and results.

Answer 10 (of 80) MSB, on SAT, JUL 14 1984 at 14:50 (120 characters)

RE: Reporter X #2 How about sounding out some of these 'future stars' as to thier feelings on this medium?

Answer 11 (of 80) STY474, on SAT, JUL 14 1984 at 17:55 (702 characters)

This is Edward Still. I am a Hart alternate from Alabama. A further comment about Ferraro: there will be a lot of comments about her "lack of experience" in higher office. Remember how long Richard Nixon had been in Congress when Ike chose him? The same as Ferraro -- 5-1/2 years. She also has more experince in elective office than Wilkie (GOP in 1940) or Grover Cleveland -- to name only a couple off the top of my head. All vice presidents are chosen for what they bring to the ticket -- unfortunately. We might be better off as a count // country if we elected the Pres first and then had him/her nominate a VP to be elected by Congress, the way Ford chose Rockefeller.

Answer 12 (of 80) MIKE GREENLY, on SAT, JUL 14 1984 at 18:47 (322 characters)

Edward Still - I'd like to know more about what an "alternate" is/does. Do they wait and hope for a delegate to, uh, break a leg or catch influenza? Pls answer here, or come by and let's see you in person. well, am about to go over to moscone center for the first time. will write about it later in "mike talks".

Answer 13 (of 80) STEVE TEICHNER, on SAT, JUL 14 1984 at 18:52 (338 characters)

To all dems in San Fran : this is Steve Teichner and I am interested in putting a seperate conference of delegates and alternates. The goAl of this conference will be to develop sep- erate polls that will measure your on-site reaction to the events of the convention. If there is any interest please let me know steve teichner

Answer 15 (of 80) EMMJAY, on SAT, JUL 14 1984 at 21:22 (908 characters)

What a feeling! I've just finished my first unofficial tour of the Convention Center. I've always loved the smell of the greasepaint; the roar of the crowd and, believe me, it's all happening right now in San Francisco. The

networks are completing their preparations, the choirs are rehearsing their songs (and sounding absolutely fantastic!), the whole town is crawling with strangers, press credentials flying in the breeze...Outside the Moscone Center the legalize marijuana faction is staging a demonstration underneath a giant cloud of smoke..Elsewhere in The City, other demonstrations are taking place, notable among them is the All Species Rally, which Diane is running off to cover at this very moment...Later on this evening, is the huge party in all four Embarcadero Centers, for the press. Luckily I just happen to be credentialed!! I'll report my impressions tomorrow....

Emmjay

Answer 16 (of 80) JIM ARMSTRONG, on SAT, JUL 14 1984 at 23:15 (186 characters)

Mike:

How do you like the Moscone Center. It's an impressive building isn't it?

Where are you staying and how would I get to the TENS HQ if I can get up there?

Jim Answer 17 (of 80) CYNIC AL, on SAT, JUL 14 1984 at 23:21 (900 characters)

OK, Democrats. Could someone summarize here what the major planks are for the Democratic Party (or is that something still to be decided)?

PARTIers: What do *we* consider to be the most important issues we'd like the Democrats to address? (Lisa: We know-- THE BOMB.)

Reporter X: Can't agree with you saying that Jerry Brown is an up-and-comer. I don't know about his image outside of the state, but in California he is regarded as being too eccentric to be taken seriously. Sure, he can be governor, where we can keep an eye on him, but don't let him into the Senate where he might *embarrass* us. *I* voted for him last time, mainly because of his stand on High Tech (I'm an engineer.). Also, maybe you didn't mention him because it was too obvious, but what about Gary Hart as an up-and-comer? I think he represents the new ideas that the Democratic Party need.

Al

Answer 18 (of 80) LISA CARLSON, on SAT, JUL 14 1984 at 23:25 (202 characters)

If you haven't read Mike Greenly's piece in "Mike Talks" I recommend it - great analysis of the marketing implications for the Republicans (and, of course the democrats) of the Ferraro selection.

Answer 19 (of 80) CYNIC AL, on SUN, JUL 15 1984 at 01:37 (122 characters)

Is Mondale CRAZY? Choosing Bert Lance for his campaign director? Talk about giving the Republicans ammunition!

Al

Answer 20 (of 80) DEQUINCY, on SUN, JUL 15 1984 at 01:43 (1308 characters)

Lisa..I very much agree with your ideals on the subject of womens rights, the rights of all human kind has at one time or another been denied! There is a time and place for everything. Womens time is now, but maybe this is not the place. Ms. Ghandi in India , Golda in Israel , not because of a womens movment but because they were needed. Their influence over the population and the support of the same, due entirely to their credentials and gained by the love of the people.

Was Mondale forced to choose a female running mate by the womens movement? If so, he has become politicaly suicidal not only for himself but more so politicaly murderous to the female politician, not only Ms. ferraro, but for many other highly qualified women in the field. Ms. Ferraro can only be taken as "a token female" just as there are "token blacks" and other minorities in the American work force.

Mr. Mondale is using you!! He is using you and all of womankind in his bid for the Presidency. Mondale, Hart, Jackson, and Ferarro all holding hands and running on the same ticket cannot and will not defeat the Reagan machine. What we are seeing is the last ditch effort of an obsolete machine. It is not fair to the hard working and too long oppressed women of the world.

DeQuincy

Answer 21 (of 80) SML, on SUN, JUL 15 1984 at 03:50 (228 characters)

The platform will be adopted Tuesday, after a presentation by the platform committee chairperson Geraldine Ferraro. The final platform will be presented later in the day by Ms. Ferraro and others to the assembled delegates.

Answer 22 (of 80) MSB, on SUN, JUL 15 1984 at 04:03 (176 characters)

An interesting editorial in the new issue of ANALOG <Sept 84>, by Stanley Schmidt. It brings up several good and thought provoking points about this 'election season'.

Answer 23 (of 80) DIANE W., on SUN, JUL 15 1984 at 04:40 (596 characters)

Did you know that the TENS team consists of a Republican, a Democrat and an Independent? Yup.

I think I scooped *everyone*! See "Demo Discuss" 41. I called Ferraro with Mondale on Wednesday!

Puzzling series of events with Bert Lance. Will try to find out more about it - maybe by asking Steve Teichner.

Tomorrow, I'll tell you in "Diane Talks" about the pro-pot rally today, the All Species Day celebration... And the massive free party for the media last night.

I'm just too tired tonight!

(That was *some* party - makes me very proud of the City.)

Night.

Diane

Answer 24 (of 80) EMMJAY, on SUN, JUL 15 1984 at 04:58 (1476 characters)

San Francisco, I love you!! My home town and host to one of *the* best parties ever, I'm sure, in the history of politics, or the media, for that matter. And what a perfect night for it...There are about one or two balmy evenings a year in The City, and tonight just happened to be one of them. Perfect... The music was fantastic. Everyone was dancing and having a *wonderful* time.

The party was for the media. Everyone with a press credential got a sticker to wear that said, " Live from San Francisco, it's Saturday Night!" It was held in the open air plaza at the foot of Market Street, by the Ferry Building, which was all lighted up and looked absolutely gorgeous. Even the enormously huge water fountain, which I've always considered to be an eyesore, looked great tonight....All around the perimeters of the plaza were booths with free mixed drinks, beer, wine, delicious fudge cake, strawberries dipped in chocolate, fresh fruit chocolate fondue, fantastic chocolate chip cookies and assorted culinary delights. The crowd was high-spirited, and having a blast! "Only in San Francisco..."

Diane, Sherwin, Mike G. and I were all there. Thanks to TENS, I was credentialed today. They are all out right now having a victory celebration of their own. And, a most deserved one. Thanks to their incredibly hard work and fierce determination, TENS is a reality. I raise my glass to the three of them...

EmmJay

Answer 25 (of 80) DEQUINCY, on SUN, JUL 15 1984 at 06:41 (1024 characters)

HURRAY HURRAY READ ALL ABOUT IT!!!!

July 1988

It seems obvious at this point that both democrats and republicans have resolved not to put a woman on the presidential ticket.

According to prominent pollsters history does indeed repeat itself and neither party is willing to take such a devastating defeat as was dealt to the democratic party four years ago with the Mondale-Ferraro campaign.

With Ronald Reagan retiring, the most prominent and popular republican is Jane Kilgore, whom for the past seven months has served as secretary of state. Prior to that Kilgore served as ambassador to the United Nations where she was considered one of the major constituents in bringing peace to the middle east and stability to the world economy.

On the democratic ticket Governor Diane Feinstein of California is considered a dark horse to lesser known Senator John Martin of Louisiana whose best known qualities seem to be that he is relatively unknown.

Why don't we just draw straws?

DeQuincy

Answer 26 (of 80) JOHNNY FRIENDLY, on SUN, JUL 15 1984 at 12:19 (402 characters)

Just when I was beginning to have some hope for Mondale, he goes and resurrects Burt ("I'm proud of you") Lance. To Fritz, the choice of both Ferraro and Lance are shrewed political tactics designed to earn him more votes. That's all there is to it. I guess some things never really change. Four more years for Ron. I'm voting for Jesse Jackson for pres and Prince for VP.

Johnny Friendly

Answer 27 (of 80) MSB, on SUN, JUL 15 1984 at 12:46 (682 characters)

Mondale has tried his second 'bold stroke' and has fumbled. Bert Lance

He gambled on a female VP giving his ticket 'life' and meaning <too bad he can't do that himself> and managed to distract the media from the fuzzy nature of his stance on issues. A victory! <of sorts> Now he has attempted to assert his 'mastery' of the party by dumping the chairman. <CRASH> He met with resistance, especially from his favorite interest groups <labour, and the party machine> and shifted his position. The biggest trouble the Democratic party has is the simple fact that the head of the ticket has the pizzazz of a jar of paste. No VP can give it to

the ticket life.

Answer 28 (of 80) HARRY, on SUN, JUL 15 1984 at 21:00 (3508 characters)

Reporter X, you asked who we wanted you to look for from our areas as potentially having impacts at the Convention and in the future. Here's my list:

Massachusetts Governor Mike Dukakis, who I served with as reform legislators in the 60's. He's said to be replacing VP-nominee Ferraro to lead all the sessions concerning adoption of the Platform. As former moderator of TV's "ADVOCATES" series and being very smart, he'll do well. See if you can see if he has ambitions to join a Mondale Cabinet after his gubernatorial term ends in 1986.

Massachusetts Democratic Party Chairman, Chester Atkins, whose first campaign was handling press matters for my 1968 Congressional campaign when he was in college. See if Chet, as likely to win a Congressional seat

in November, intends to continue as state committee chairman or otherwise work behind the scenes in Washington, D.C. to make others from Massachusetts besides Senator Kennedy become Presidential or Cabinet prospects -- e.g, himself, Dukakis, Kerry, Markey, Frank....

Massachusetts Lt. Gov. and U.S. Senate candidate John Kerry, who beat me in a Democratic caucus in 1970 after being reported on CBS' "60 MINUTES" to be a future presidential prospect based upon his very articulate leadership of the Vietnam Veterans Against The War that year. Try to talk to John or hear him speak and see if you agree that he has greater leadership potential than Ted Kennedy.

Massachusetts Congressman Ed Markey, who represents my district and has often appeared on national TV as a most effective leader of the Nuclear Freeze, which he got passed in the U.S. House of Representatives, to which he hopes to be re-elected. He dropped out of the U.S. Senate race that Kerry is in mainly against U.S. Congressman Shannon and former Speaker of the Massachusetts House, David Bartley, with whom Dukakis & I also served. Ask Markey (1) will Kerry, Shannon or Bartley win the race he dropped out of, (2) is his own re-election race going to be close, and (3) is the "nuclear war" electure he gave here in PARTICIPATE on The Source last December more urgent now as THE issue that the presidential nominees should be judged upon. Massachusetts Congressman Barney Frank, who I first knew as a Harvard graduate student, as a aide to Boston Mayor White, as one of the wittiest but sincerest state legislators, and finally as the current holder of the Congressional seat I once ran for. Ask Barney if on national public TV a couple of nights ago weren't his and Reverend Farwell's positions on both Abortion and Gay Rights approaching each other enough to try to get past those two distractions that will make some who like Democrat positions better on defense end environment issues stop supporting Reagan because of their religious convictions.

Wisconsin Congressman Les Aspin, who I studied economics at MIT with and who recently surprised Democrats by leading support for an MX missile vote in Congress. Ask Les to explain his argument that voting to build the MX next year if arms talks don't succeed first gives the U.S.A. a "bargaining chip" with the U.S.S.R.

Diane, Mike, Sherwin, Steve, & Reporter X, I only mentioned my associations with Dukakis, Atkins, Kerry, Markey, Frank and Aspin in hopes that one of you mentioning such associations with me might help convince one of them to give you an interview to go online here.

Good luck, and tell them that the Party(Parti) has just begun!

Answer 31 (of 80) CYNIC AL, on MON, JUL 16 1984 at 00:35 (128 characters)

Well, is this the kind of decisive leadership Mondale hopes to bring to the White House?

Welcome back, Charles Manatt.

Answer 32 (of 80) JACK/N.Y.C., on MON, JUL 16 1984 at 13:25 (1248 characters)

* Isn't America amazing! Geraldine Ferraro is the media's latest instant super-star. From now on, regardless of how the voters act in November, she can call her shots, name her price. She'll be all over People and McCall's and Ms. She'll surely be the subject of a "Barbara Walters special," maybe host the first "Saturday Night Live" of the fall season. Her byline will appear over countless articles (there's got to be \$25,000 coming from Reader's Digest for "Why I Believe in America" by Rep. Geraldine Ferraro. Just as long as she and Dustin Hoffman aren't presenting the Best Actress Award at next year's Oscars. (And, Ed Koch, if you thought "Mayor" was a best-seller, wait until Gerry's book hits the stores.)

* Has anyone thought how, in one fell swoop, as they say, Michael Jackson could change the face of urban America -- by the end of this summer! Instead of just "donating the profits to charity," he could simply direct that they go directly to busines-promoting groups and neighborhood associations throughout urban America -- from Watts to Bedford-Stuyvesant --for*immediate* rehabilitation of their areas (funds not so used by, say, Oct. 1, would be withdrawn). Isn't America amazing?

Answer 33 (of 80) JIM ARMSTRONG, on MON, JUL 16 1984 at 14:42 (306 characters)

Mike:

How about a couple of interviews with Regis McKenna and Steve Wozniak about the "High Tech" vote?

There were articles about them in today's SF Examiner and San Jose Mercury.

Also -- Did you catch the article on TENS in Sunday's SJ Mercury?

If not I'll poke it in.

Jim

Answer 34 (of 80) DIANE W., on MON, JUL 16 1984 at 15:44 (248 characters)

Jim,

I didn't catch the TENS article! I was looking, but missed Sunday. It was a bodacious day!

Would be nice to enter it, IF it's complimentary, and not too long. Otherwise, in a private message would be swell.

Thanks.

Diane

Answer 35 (of 80) MIKE GREENLY, on MON, JUL 16 1984 at 16:10 (252 characters)

Jim - I love your idea on Regis McKenna and Steve Wozniak. And I think it's

up to *you* to send them over to us. Okay? I'll be expecting them. Okay?
Shall we say Tuesday afternoon? Okay?

Great idea jim.

Okay? Send 'em over!

mike

Answer 36 (of 80) JIM ARMSTRONG, on MON, JUL 16 1984 at 16:23 (246 characters)

mike:

They are at the convention. I won't be able to contact them. Spread the word to everyone you talk to that you want an interview with them. They will be there.

This medium is theirs. They can't ignore it.

Jim

Answer 37 (of 80) JIM ARMSTRONG, on MON, JUL 16 1984 at 16:47 (2046 characters)

Mike, Diane, Mike and Sherwin:

Here is the article on TENS in the San Jose, CA Mercury by Evelyn Richards...

Democrats to get a taste of 'interactive' news coverage

We're not exactly talking about smoke-filled rooms here, but it still took a lot of politicking to get the Democratic Party on line for the latest in convention reporting.

The result is that this week's get-together at the Moscone will see the first use of "interactive" coverage of a major political convention.

It all started when a group called the Transcoastal Electronics News Network first applied for press credentials to share their political observations over the SOURCE, the nationwide telecommunications network.

The Democrats didn't know what to make of it. In the first place, the three-person network had missed the deadline for applying for credentials.

And more fundamentally, who had ever heard of them?

Deborah Campbell, in charge of credentials for "special press", " certainly hadn't. But by the middle of last week, she had heard more than she ever wanted to about Transcoastal and The SOURCE. She had received friendly persuasion as will be the result by the offices of some U.S. representatives

and senators. Finally , she ayssays, "in a brief fling with insanity" last week she granted them credentials.

The result is that the threesome from Transcoastal will observe the convention or conduct an interview, then distribute their notes and commentary nation- wide over The SOURCE. They'll encourage readers to react and even submit questions for upcoming news conferences. And they have set up an office near Moscone so policticians and hangers-on can drop by, tap into The SoOURCE on a personal computer and read what might be the day's most scintillating discussion.

Sound like a crazy idea? By the 1988 convention, online networks may be as common as radio talk shows.

Jim

Answer 38 (of 80) NORMAN KURLAND, on MON, JUL 16 1984 at 19:49 (350 characters)

Mike, Diane, Sherwin and all: Doing a fine job. Nice perspective to compare with ones in other media. I trust you will give us good account of reactions to Cuomo when he speaks in a few minutes. The press will cover the visible and flashy--hope you get some sense of how he gets to those who are not on the front pages.

Norman

Answer 39 (of 80) DIANE W., on MON, JUL 16 1984 at 22:36 (310 characters)

Norman,

Sorry - we were with Mondale!

Really, it's impossible to cover everything here. News teams with casts of thousands aren't covering it all.

We're trying to be in 10 places at once, and also arrange interviews here in the office too.

We'll do all we can, and it's a promise.

Diane

Answer 40 (of 80) SML, on MON, JUL 16 1984 at 22:39 (276 characters)

I also think it bears repeating -- we are **not** trying to duplicate what is amply covered by the other media (see how easy it is now to place us among the media?). We're trying to split the 3 of us to cover those things we can give you a different angle on.

Sherwin

Answer 41 (of 80) BCC870, on TUE, JUL 17 1984 at 00:40 (1260 characters)

WHY HAS NOBODY OBTAINED A SATISFACTORY ANSWER FROM MONDALE AS TO THE QUESTION OF HOW HE USURPED THE POSITION WHICH IS NOT RIGHTFULLY HIS UNTIL WEDNESDAY TO REPLACE THE HEAD OF THE DNC -- AND MORE IMPORTANTLY, HOW HE EXPECTED TO GET AWAY WITH IT. IS THIS MONDALIAN UNITY BUILDING?

ALSO, IT'S UNFORTUNATE, BUT NOBODY SEEMS TO BE LOOKING AHEAD ON THE FERRARO NOMINATION. IT'S SUPER THAT A WOMAN HAS BEEN CHOSEN, HOWEVER, IF SHE DOES NOT COME ACROSS AS HAVING THE EXPERIENCE TO FULFILL THE SHOES OF A DECEASED PRESIDENT SHOULD THE NEED ARISE (AND IT IS CERTAIN THAT SHE ILL THE SHOES OF A DECEASED PRESIDENT, SHOULD THE NEED ARISE , IT WILL CREATE A TREMENDOUS BACKLASH AGAINST WOMEN AND THE POSSIBILITY OF FUTURE WOMEN CANDIDATES -- TOKENISM HARMS THE GROUP WHICH IS BEING REPRESENTED MORE THAN ANYONE ELSE. SHOULD THIS HAVE BEEN RISKED WITH A FERRARO EVEN NEW YORKERS (OUTSIDE OF QUEENS) HAVE NEVER EVEN HEARD ABOUT? I FEAR THAT MS. FERRARO CANNOT MEASURE UP (LIMITED EXPERIENCE AND EXPOSURE) AND THAT HER GENDER WILL BE BROADLY BLAMED DOWN THE ROAD WITH THE INEVITABILITY OF A LOSS TO THE REPUBLICANS -- IS SHE TO BE THE SACRIFICIAL LIABILITY IN THE POST-MORTEM? LET'S HEAR FROM THE REALISTS AMONGST YOU.

Answer 42 (of 80) HARRY, on TUE, JUL 17 1984 at 00:51 (1178 characters)

Thanks to ALAN, PSI's politically-involved Board Chairman, I've met both Mondale & Jackson, but then I voted for Hart, whom I haven't met. Tell me, Mike, now that you've questioned Mondale, how much do you feel seeing folks in person actually influences votes? Methinks that engaging them in dialogue could have some effect, but I never did think much of handshaking at factory gates and shopping centers when running for Congress. The coffee discussions and door-to-door discussions did mean alot though.

You folks are doing great! I know you'll get that interview with Minnesota Fritz, Sherwin. Tell him its one way he can regain the hi-tech initiative he previously lost to Hart. Look up State Representatives Gordon Voss and Phyllis Kahn, who are probably both in the Minnesota delegation. Voss led Legislatures to hire Science & Technology Advisors in the 70's and Kahn got them to go online (and did herself for several months) using the predecessor software before PARTICIPATE that we called LegiTech in honor of that project those two pioneered. I know that they'd help you get your Mondale press contact to get Mondale to give you a real interview.

Answer 44 (of 80) CYNIC AL, on TUE, JUL 17 1984 at 01:43 (98 characters)

Wow! Mario Cuomo is quite impressive. Democrats, forget about '84, but "Cuomo in '88!"

Al

Answer 45 (of 80) ANTHONY, on TUE, JUL 17 1984 at 01:47 (350 characters)

Mike:

I felt more present while reading your coverage of the Mondale press conference than I have ever felt while watching TV. Gee, there really is something fresh and exciting about this from a participants perspective.

What comes across so strongly to me is how much !!!FUN!!! you seem to be having. What a way to cover the news!!!

Answer 46 (of 80) NEXUS NOODLE, on TUE, JUL 17 1984 at 03:02 (7786 characters)

Planks for Missing Workers to Stand On: Hmm, lots of circus and Civics 101, but will they grab the tigers by the tails before The viewers lose interest ? Will Dems provide a vehicle for universal concerns? Will they address the medical monopoly walking off in a few years with medicare money that should last a lifetime ? Will they let Social Security be trashed for a 5% shortfall Are they ready to pay this country's debts to its' people, or will they allow America to break its' contracts. They aren't exactly tripping over each other to get that message out. But voters want to know, in case the "perfectly safe" govt. standards croak them. How elite is the Party... gonna repair the Freedom of Info Act ? How 'bout Congressional Accountability... Congress gonna have oversight of Intelligence, or allow covert wars. Will they give lip service to democracy while trashing the economy to show fascist governments we too can whip our slaves ? Gonna force the Federal Reserve to comply with Congressional directives to curtail usury ? Gonna keep baiting the Russkis ? Gonna keep using the Defense dollar for chrome-plating destabilized un-security?

Ah, women ! Master of her destiny or Child of God. Clarify ! More for women than Carter ? We all know the Prez is just the tip of the Party iceberg. Show us the legislative gears in the new machine. Of actors we have the best. Will the Party revive the statecraft of the Kennedy era, or bow to dead-end myth. As the speakers drone on, we see egotistical bustlings on the floor. We know Washington society quickly makes of our leaders a separate, distant species. Only Representatives are accountable enough locally to be controllable. Tell us about them; tell us what (if anything) happens if we elect a Dem Congress. Tell us if they will welcome the spotlight of public view, resist the bullying of organized religion? Will there be a clear sense of Congress, and sense in Congress? will the legislation be tight enough to resist abuse by the Executive branch and Judiciary ? Will the issues separate the leaders from the pawns by recorded vote ? Will "amended remarks" still be doctored ? Will Congress accept responsibility for future "police actions" in which thousands are killed ? Show us you've done your homework, O Dems !

Will we allow our authority to be vested in governments so huge that they eat the economies of whole nations, step on nations like dinosaurs, and lock inevitably in mortal combat, too huge ever to coordinate or awake to the appreciation of life ?

Will we continue to embrace as 'patriotism' uncontrollable rage, bigotry and partisanship ? Will we sanction dozens of people fighting for a single carrot, waste our best people on burnout competition, discourage our nurturers, dismay our teachers, dislocate our craftspeople ?

Shall we be a nation of a few "team players" and mostly abstainers ? Shall we be divided into 'leadership groups' 'managing' 'warm bodies'? Is that how we

represent the ideal of representative democracy ? Tread carefully if you would address the ideals of the common man, for those ideals demand much !

The average voter may not have the words for all this, but s(he) has the feel of it. Even single cells can sense patterns, attraction, repulsion. We know that a sustainable culture will look very different from what it does now. We know that when our nation adapts to current realities, there will be sweeping changes, constant activity impossible to hide, starting early, staying up late planning.

You can't lull us with fourscore and seven years, or music reminiscent of Miss America. We know and reject that kind of filibustering, and we wonder at this fiddling while Rome burns, wonder how many issues are being waved past. That only increases insecurity. Reagan gets those who want reassurance, a "strong" macho leader who tells them what they expect to hear.

But there exists in each organism a need to know what is actually going on, a sense of the nitty-gritty. It has to be there for "realism" to exist. The rest, the satellite pictures from sea to shining sea, is television, and it merely puts people to sleep.

Reagan could not have done what he has done without the Dems' unwillingness to grab the tiger by the tail. We know one thing about him... people look to him as the leader who makes hard, unpopular choices, when nobody else has the guts, and when nobody has a clear idea what those choices are.

If you want to give Ronald a run for his money, then do it on his own terms. Come to terms with the issues of Western "morality plays" (police versus judges), or pith-helmet posturing. These 'plots' and role-playing captured attention for a reason... they contained unresolved issues. If there is a reason for more mothers to visit Arlington Cemetery, that reason had best be spoken clearly and unequivocally... the present mealy-mouthed justifications for mass death are obscene.

We know we're a democratic nation, but when will the meat-presser's union link up with architects of freedom ? When will we quit ugly-facing the other monkeys long enough to actually think through and build the nation of ideals that we talk so much about ! When will we tap the efficiency of freedom so elegantly as to gain the hands-down respect of other nations ?

And when will we begin acting collectively through our government to bring these things about ? As long as we don't confiscate property, we have every right to express through government our will, our energies, our ideals, and even our restraints.

We even have the right to set up nationalized industries, competing in the free market. Why are corporations afraid of that ? If it's true government can never be efficient, what have they to fear ? If domineering tycoons with astronomical salaries are indispensable, let them prove it. In a truly free market, the people's corporation, their government, is free to exercise its' constitutional powers. The Govt. already makes money on oil leases and such, why not simply expand the concept, and split the take as tax breaks ?

And meanwhile, how about if you silent majority types start articulating some

issues before November, and use the ultra-capabilities of that green screen you're all sitting in front of.

At least let's "live in interesting times" and give Mr. Reagan some much-needed exercise. If the Dems are truly more flexible, then they should be less afraid than Reagan to depart from the script. We know that responding to Mr. Reagan is to simply follow his lead on his turf.

Shift the focus to Congress, where the real power is, and where the real chickens are afraid to commit themselves. That's where we've got 'em on C-Span. By November, they'll have to take a stand or back out.

The bottom line is, there ought to be a lot more lively debate going on to captivate Dems, Republicans, women voters etc. Almost nothing about modern politics is odorless, or colorless, it's getting harder to slide by on sly jive? We know there are heated debates everywhere voters congregate. And in those debates, an odorless candidate just don't figure.

A candidate with a distinctive aroma is preferred, even if it's moldy money and rotten cabbages from the Bonzo era... at least it's perceived as 'something finally happening' when something has to happen.

Nexus Noodle NOTE: This material in its' present context may be considered in the public domain. The term 'present context' excludes use of statements out of context. The intent is to challenge and stimulate positive synthesis.

Answer 47 (of 80) DEQUINCY, on TUE, JUL 17 1984 at 06:27 (682 characters)

Mondale seems to hold the perfect news conference for the weak kneed and lost beggars of the world. Giving promises, promises without saying anything at all Pudding is a good word for something with a backbone of Jello. Social security is already voluntary (don't work and see if you get any)

Education..Now thats a touchy subject for both parties. If you're academic you will most likely get a good education for the simple fact that you are smart enough to get one...If your a dumb s**t don't worry the democrats will spend a whole lot of money trying to give you one anyway. When it comes to the bottom line the educated will build a better bomb!!!

DeQuincy

Answer 48 (of 80) CHRIS B, on TUE, JUL 17 1984 at 21:30 (60 characters)

Listening to House Speaker O'neil on ABC:

Go Tip! Go!

Answer 49 (of 80) BOB SANDHAUS, on TUE, JUL 17 1984 at 22:14 (1952 characters)

I've been so enthralled, reading the reports and the discussion that I felt

the necessity to add my thanks and encouragement. As a haggled 'cub reporter' at NCC last week (was it only last week?), I can appreciate the monumental effort that has gone into the conferences thus far, clearly a job an order of magnitude more complex and significant than those attempted in the past.

But the unique nature of this coverage is its interactive potential. So I've been trying to think of a cutting, important question, one that would inform the readers and reflect the asker's obvious intelligence and insight. But the DNC is a show, a performance. Questions are not to be answered, they're to be handled; in a way that shows only the respondent's ability to 'handle' questions.

In fact, there is more unique about this coverage than its interactive potential. There is a freshness of approach and an eye for subtle detail that is unavailable anywhere else. Sure there could be an article in the New York Times Magazine some three or four Sundays from now that might give a similar perspective. But it's not to be found anywhere RIGHT NOW, except here.

Unfortunately all this means that in a few weeks when Diane, Sherwin, and Mike are jaded members of the press corps, they will be forced to retire (undefeated) and allow some new, wide-eyed telecommunications enthusiasts to look around and gape, speechless except for the clacking of fingers on a portable computer.

We'll miss the three of you as you head off to the various networks, looking down your noses at these 'newcomers.' But I bet you'll smile as sudden flashes of distant memories make their way into your consciousness...that first news conference...getting credentials for the first time...covering the exciting upset as Hart clinches the nomination on the fifth ballot.

Keep up the good work gang. Sorry to see you go.

Sandy

Answer 50 (of 80) SML, on TUE, JUL 17 1984 at 22:48 (222 characters)

Hey, wait a minute Sandy -- we haven't gone *anywhere* yet! Except to the convention, to interviews, to caucuses, ...

So let's put off hte farewells for a few days. Please.

Hurried, harried, and happy,

Sherwin

Answer 51 (of 80) SPACE CADET, on WED, JUL 18 1984 at 09:48 (406 characters)

Mike, while Jackson's speach may have been an "A" in sturcture, in content, I have to give it an F. His kind of politics are too expensive. Food for the hungry, clothes for the naked, jobs for the jobless...Sounds like it would cost taxpayers tooooooo much money with by addressing the symptoms and not the causes. I change the channel and watched "Peoples Court". Real life solutions, there.

Answer 52 (of 80) ALAN, on WED, JUL 18 1984 at 11:10 (70 characters)

StSteve, yes, yes. Let's have a poll. Oh, goodie, a poll, a poll!!!

Answer 53 (of 80) ALAN, on WED, JUL 18 1984 at 12:00 (494 characters)

The money? The money needed to pay for all of the programs that Jesse Jackson's 's ideas imply?? I'll tell you where it can come from easy...easy. Stop spending it on all that wasteful military hardware, the dstrategic nuclear deterrent systems, that if ever used means the end of all of us, that can not be used, and is not what deters our "enemies". Cut the waste and fat in the rest of the Pentagon and DOE budgets and you get \$150 billi0on a year easy.

Above answers #51.

Answer 54 (of 80) SPACE CADET, on WED, JUL 18 1984 at 13:49 (418 characters)

Wonderful comment Alan, on where the give away money can come from. I don't need give away programs. I do need national defense. And, if there is any place where high tech gets developed, then spread out to the general populas, it is in the military.

I agree, we don't need the bombs. But nobody is stupid enough to use them today anyway. Quite with the scare stuff and get to real solutions. .,a `

Answer 55 (of 80) ALAN, on WED, JUL 18 1984 at 17:05 (498 characters)

But ,Space Cadet, we don't get defense against the greatest threat of all, strategic nuclear weapons, all we have is deterrence and if we ever use them, that's nothing more than revenge - unless we are going for preemption. Do you think wse are. Weinberger swears we're not - but who knows about intentions? We could never admit it for that would threaten to defeat the purpose.

As for military spending having commercial fall-out, Why not spend the money directlu for the purpose?

Answer 56 (of 80) MSB, on WED, JUL 18 1984 at 19:24 (1048 characters)

Geeze I though Tip O Neal was an old hand in the senate! I was sure he was around when there was a Democratic president anyway. From his speech, all the evils in the world popped up 4 years ago, and his poor tired forces havn't been able to handle this new monster from the west. I bet HE never voted on ANYTHING that cost the taxpayer money! I don't recall tho the last time he said "This dficit has to go! Lets CUT EVERYthing!!!"

The four year madness is loose gentle persons, there is no evil but THEM, and WE will fix EVERYTHING once in office that is. <GARGGGGG>

A hot flash-- The US government has been in business for 208+ years, and it hasn't all been done by one party. The social programs now eating us alive were brilliant and balanced when concieved, but following give aways have made

them a nightmare. Defence? Sure, lets return to the happy days of a Democratic Congress, and Whitehouse <you remember CARTER AND ????> The defense budget they requested was greater than the current one!

Answer 57 (of 80) MSB, on WED, JUL 18 1984 at 19:32 (692 characters)

ALAN= Does the idea of Momdale supporting a much higher defense budget upset you? He did, just four short years ago. Maybe the resolution to seek an FREEZE will stop him? Nope, he wangled that into a 'promise ' to 'act as he saw fit'. How about massive cuts in the educational supports to the middle class, in social programs that have not achieved their stated goals, in programs of ressearch and development, in funding for many projects designed to assist local government in building parks and new offices, etc, etc? Defense is easy ALAN, cause there is no real need for it NOW <no war right?> Take on the hard stuff where the REAL money is sloshing away.

Answer 58 (of 80) MSB, on WED, JUL 18 1984 at 19:36 (374 characters)

The current thrust of both the strategic defense iitiative, and the limited number of missiles rather rule out a planed first strike. A first strike MUST <by definition> eliminate the bulk of the opposing force, and reduce its ability to respond massively. Take a count of the missile silos vs. proposed warheads and try again with the chesnut about intentions. Answer 59 (of 80) MSB, on WED, JUL 18 1984 at 19:37 (122 characters)

ooops! Meant for last message, What is the stand of the Democratic party concerning non-nuclear defensive weapons?

Answer 60 (of 80) T/O, on THU, JUL 19 1984 at 00:24 (452 characters)

An interesting note from C-Span. They say that 70% of the delegates to the Democrat convention make over \$30,000 per year and 63% of the delegates to the Republican Convention do so. This is according to questionnaires. How does this wash with the party of the poor and helpless we keep hearing about. Another note--the average contribution to the Democrat party is over \$200 while the average contribution to the Republican party is \$33.

Answer 61 (of 80) SPACE CADET, on THU, JUL 19 1984 at 01:04 (92 characters)

T/O...obviously the deomcrats are making money off their giveaway programs...

<grin>

Answer 62 (of 80) SPACE CADET, on THU, JUL 19 1984 at 01:07 (166 characters)

Alan, the DOD provides an existing channel for technology development. Why divert that money to another or a new agency with additional management overhead.

Answer 63 (of 80) SML, on THU, JUL 19 1984 at 02:53 (100 characters)

After these last few notes we **must** get a poll on party affiliations among Partiers.

Sherwin

Answer 64 (of 80) TOM CONRY, on THU, JUL 19 1984 at 03:29 (924 characters)

If the implication of the above comments is that there is somehow no actual, consequential difference between the Democrats and the Republicans, then in my opinion that is monstrously naive. Republicanism is a political philosophy bought and paid for by the well-to-do. The Democratic Party is an attempt (albeit sometimes an uncertain and imprecise one) to redistribute the wealth of the nation; to say that is simply wrong that some drive Mercedes while babies die of malnutrition.

For all of Mondales's stumbling, all of Jackson's lamentable remarks about association with Farrakhan, all of Hart's ungraceful gesturing for special-interest votes . . . they are as nothing to the things that Ronald Reagan and his

on purpose as the perfect expression of the shortsighted greed which has characterized the Republican party since the John D. Rockefeller era.

I'm voting Democratic. It matters. Answer 65 (of 80) STY606, on THU, JUL 19 1984 at 11:41 (302 characters)

TO TOM C. AND OTHERS VOTING DEMOCRATIC: WONDERFUL TO SEE THAT SOME COMPUTER USERS THINK BEYOND THE MONEY FOR TECH FLOWING FROM THE FEDS. PLEASE CONSIDER ACTIVE CAMPAIGNING, PRECINCT WORK, AND EVEN DONATIONS TO THAT FAT-CAT OPERATION, THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY. HELP KEEP OUR "FAMILY" INTACT.

Answer 66 (of 80) ALAN, on THU, JUL 19 1984 at 12:59 (416 characters)

MSB, nothing I said about revenge (defense is your word) bears on the issue you raise (yours and 250m others unfortunately) about justification of other spending. I'm generally favorable to tightening spending guidelines, cutting costs, etc.; but every item must be considered on its own merits case-by-case and I have little confidence that government can handlr distinctions properly, from my experience.

* * * *Branching off of "DEMO PUBLIC" 84.18216 as Answer 67 (of 80)

Message 84.19073 ALAN, THU, 07/19 13:07 (424 characters)

On the contrary, a successful first strike might be undertaken with a single warhead with the proper preparation, timing, and auxiliary activities. Read "GAMBIT" 1-3 in "WRITERS WORKSHOP" for details. Admittedly unconventional thinking, but in war the "winning" side never comes on as expected, right Monsieur Maginot? (He's 0y my credible expert and he should know). (If I have my conference name, access wrong,

Answer 68 (of 80) ALAN, on THU, JUL 19 1984 at 13:18 (354 characters)

Re #62: Space Cadet, the pentagon is a poor agency to administer jobs programs or r&d for the commercial economy since its priority function is to develop, produce, and deploy lethal weapons and to stand ready to use them. Organized as it is to perform the latter function it is extremely **** e x t r e m e l y **** inefficient at the former.

Answer 69 (of 80) SPACE CADET, on THU, JUL 19 1984 at 15:02 (408 characters)

The federal government is a poor agency to administer job programs, so why single out the pentagon. And since most of the development, R&D, and manufacturing of these high tech weapons are farmed out to private industry anyway, a good portion of the technology is ready for civilized exploitation.

So, I have to disagree, Alan. The process is extremely efficient, not inefficient as you say.

Answer 70 (of 80) T/O, on THU, JUL 19 1984 at 20:13 (450 characters)

Tom Conry,

Well you got it half right. The Democrat party is an attempt to redistribute the wealth of the nation. But your perception of the Republican party is flat wrong. It is made up of the middle class, the small businesses, the people who care about their families and our future. The Republican`s have their "Fat Cat" contributors but so do the Democrats. They do not control the platform, philosophy or actions of either party.

Answer 71 (of 80) MIKE GREENLY, on THU, JUL 19 1984 at 20:15 (164 characters)

t/o - i find your comments on the personality of republicans very interesting, after what i have experienced here in san francisco. i can hardly wait to compare!

Answer 72 (of 80) CHRIS B, on THU, JUL 19 1984 at 21:52 (188 characters)

Ted Kennedy, during his speech at the Democratic Convention:

I LOVE IT!!!!

"....EXCEPT RONALD REAGAN!!!!!" This party is together!

"..Bedtime for Ronzo!"

Answer 73 (of 80) MSB, on FRI, JUL 20 1984 at 01:35 (962 characters)

RE: First strike, The existance of any nuclear device could evoke a random act, or deliberate one. <I reccommend GAMBIT for a read> The main intent of a 'first-strike' as defined by the much feared 'first-strike' capability is to destroy a significant amoun of the opposing forces retaliatory force, and to

terrorize the remaining into inaction. Such a strike, is not possible under the current force structures of either nation <Soviet launch on warning, US faster reaction time & triad> even if all proposed missile programs are fully deployed the resultant US force would be insufficient to accomplish the required amount of damage as to prevent a counterstrike. The Reagan proposal to deploy Ballistic Missile Defenses <BMD> is a major step in reducing the chance of a first strike due to the increased probability of failure. The GAMBIT style strike would be extremely lucky to actually succeed, where-as it is unstoppable NOW.

Answer 74 (of 80) TOM CONRY, on FRI, JUL 20 1984 at 02:55 (686 characters)

T/O: One of the things that honks me off the most about the Republican party (and one of the things which is about to cost them the election) is their grating attempt to equate its values with "family" values. All this from a man who is divorced, whose own kids are not on speaking terms with him, who Elmer Gantry's about the country pandering to "Christian values" but who can't get it up to attend church on Sunday.

This is bozo (or, if you will, Bonzo). Family values are upheld by people of compassion, people who care about children and old people alike, people who don't think ketchup is a vegetable.

The Democratic party is the party of family values.

Answer 75 (of 80) T/O, on FRI, JUL 20 1984 at 22:34 (170 characters)

TOM CONRY,

HORRORS! YOU MEAN THE MAN DOESN'T GO TO CHURCH EVERY SUNDAY. THANKS, YOU SURE SAVED ME FROM A TERRIBLE CATASTRAPHE, I WAS GOING TO VOTE FOR HIM.

Answer 76 (of 80) SPACE CADET, on SAT, JUL 21 1984 at 03:32 (294 characters)

Ok you Democrates, who is the leader????!!! that made these quotes?::

"It may be a mistake to let my mouth run off as quickly as it does."

"I'm not going to change. I can't do that. I'm 48 years old. How do you change at this point in life?"

What a jerk this person is....

Answer 77 (of 80) DIANE W., on SAT, JUL 21 1984 at 03:40 (180 characters)

Space Cadet: Those are non-descript, non-political statements. They could be off of 'Search for Tomorrow'. They say nothing about a politician.

Ok, I give up - who?

Diane

Answer 78 (of 80) SPACE CADET, on SAT, JUL 21 1984 at 12:31 (154 characters)

Her initials are GF. Should this be in the triva conference?

These quotes came from the LA times. Point is....a VP *HAS* to be able to change.

Joiners of "DEMO PUBLIC" conference:

HARRY; ALAN; NORMAN KURLAND; FR HAL; KENT M. S.; MAC; JACK/N.Y.C.; WEEHAWK; FORT; SDC; JAYBO; PSI DAVE; DOM S.; DR. MEMORY; BOB SANDHAUS; PORTLAND; RON TINDIGLIA; ELMER; SML; T/O; MIKE GREENLY; STL429; STY474; RITA G; DIANE W.; CSR020; LISA CARLSON; JIM ARMSTRONG; BBP998; K SQUARED; ST5028; CYNIC AL; WHMJR; CHRIS B; STY606; JIM FRANKLIN; AAB423; RUBE; JOHNNY FRIENDLY; JIM T; TENS; BBP160; COLLIE; BBV153; STEVE TEICHNER; DE MONSTER; RLH; STEWART; SPACE CADET; DAVID F. SALISBURY; ERIK; CHRISTOPHER DEOGBURN; TCU130; BCE609; BBM560; BBE450; BCG055;

"DEMO READER POLL" Conference 84.20063 TENS, organizer, about "WE'D APPRECIATE YOUR TAKING A FEW MINUTES TO GIVE FEEDBACK - SHORT BALLOT!" (answers: 2) SAT, 07/28 17:13 (160 characters)

>>> "Demo 84" Readers: we ask you to participate in this short survey!

>>> Just say: Join at the prompt.

>>> Then say: Read 1 . (Thanks!)

* * * *Branching off of "DEMO READER POLL" 84.20063 as Answer 1 (of 2)

"DEMO READER BALLOT" Conference 84.20067 TENS, organizer, about "VOTE HERE!" (answers: 5) SAT, 07/28 17:31 (2222 characters)

NOTE: See the DEMO READER BALLOT chapter for the text and results of this poll.

Answer 2 (of 2) STEWART, on SAT, JUL 28 1984 at 18:33 (576 characters)

Diane, sSherwin and Mike,

regarding question #5, i enjoyed both the interactive aspects in "demo public" and "tell us 3" and the moles' eye view reports in the 'talks' conferences. i look forward to your reports from dallas, do you think you could finagle an interview with jesse helms? that would be exciting! or perhaps my own va. senator, the ex-mr. elizabeth taylor, john warner. his senate seat is up this year and he's being challenged by a woman from norfolk, mrs. edythe harrison, so he may have something interesting to say about women in politics.

Joiners of "DEMO READER POLL" conference:

ALAN; LOUIS; NORMAN KURLAND; MAC; GEORGE M; DOM S.; DR. MEMORY; BOB SANDHAUS;
CRT; SML; MIKE GREENLY; STL607; RITA G; DONNA DICKINSON; NEXI NODAL; BBK670;
DIANE W.; LISA CARLSON; P.A.T; SHADOW; BBP998; K SQUARED; BBQ591; CYNIC AL;
BUFLOE; CHRIS B; JIM FRANKLIN; NORMAN EPSTEIN; RUBE; JOHNNY FRIENDLY; JBF;
STEVE TEICHNER; STEWART; SPACE CADET; BCK088; AARDVARK;

"DEMO READER BALLOT" Conference 84.20067 TENS, organizer, about "VOTE HERE!"
(answers: 5) SAT, 07/28 17:31 (2222 characters)

A short ballot to help us continue to grow, and provide most service and value
to y-o-u in the process.

Please participate. Thanks!

Question 1: As a member of "Demo 84" did you also join at least one of the
"Talks" Conferences --

"Diane Talks", "Sherwin Talks", and/or "Mike Talks"?

(choices indicate you joined 0, 1,2, or all 3)

NOTE: From our point of view, the "Talks" conferences were where the TENS
reporters/observers were sharing their perspectives with you. So - - -

Question 2: If you chose n-o-t to join at least one of the "Talks" series,
which of these reasons comes closest to explaining why you did not?

0= abstain

(use 0 if you *did* join at least one of the "Talks" series)

1= I didn't understand.

2= I was more interested in other branches.

3= I didn't join *any* branch conferences at all.

4= other

Question 3: Are you planning to sign up for "GOP 84", the TENS coverage of the Republican Convention?

0=don't know/abstain

1= yes, probably or definitely

2= no, probably or definitely not

Question 4: Based on "Demo 84", do you think you'd recommend "GOP 84" to your friends who currently don't use Parti?

0= abstain, don't know

1= yes! i'd even spend some time teaching them how to feel comfortable on Parti

2= maybe yes

3= maybe not

4= nope. I wouldn't do that.

Question 5: Which of the following was your *most* favorite segment of the "Demo 84" coverage?

0= abstain

1= the "Talks" conference(s)

2= the interactivity with readers in "Tell Us 3" and "Demo Public"

3= the use of outside experts (Steve Teichner/Reporter X)

Question 6: what one(!) phrase best sums up what you liked best about "Demo 84"

0 = abstain

1 = telling me what it was really like to be there

2 = the ability to interact with readers 3 = the speed of electronic information

4 = the fact that it was an historic "first"

5 = it was fun

thanks for participating! The questions follow now. If you want to read this description again, type: Read at the prompt you receive.

To vote, and we hope you will, now type: Vote .

Results of poll (35 votes recorded):

Individuals who took this poll:

HARRY; ALAN; LOUIS; NORMAN KURLAND; MAC; KEN; DOM S.; DR. MEMORY; BOB SANDHAUS; RON TINDIGLIA; CRT; SML; MIKE GREENLY; RITA G; DONNA DICKINSON; NEXI NODAL; DIANE W.; LISA CARLSON; SHADOW; BBP998; K SQUARED; CYNIC AL; BUFLOE; CHRIS B; JIM FRANKLIN; NORMAN EPSTEIN; RUBE; JOHNNY FRIENDLY; TENS; STEVE TEICHNER; STEWART; SPACE CADET; BCK088; AARDVARK;

Voting results:

Question 1: Did you join a "Talks" sub-conference? 0=none, 1=joined 1, 2=joined 2,3=joined3 (range 0-3)
Detailed tally: A0 = 4; A1 = 4; A2 = 2; A3 = 25;
Average of 31 non-zero votes is 2.677

Question 2: why not? 0=*did*,1=didn't understnd,2=wanted others, 3=joined no branches,4=othr (range 0-4)
Detailed tally: A0 = 31; A2 = 1; A4 = 3;
Average of 4 non-zero votes is 3.500

Question 3: Planning to sign up for "GOP 84"? 0=abstain/don't know, 1=yes, 2=no (range 0-2)
Detailed tally: A0 = 4; A1 = 29; A2 = 2;
Average of 31 non-zero votes is 1.065

Question 4: Recommend to non-Parti friends? 0=abstain,1=yes+!, 2=yes, 3=no, 4=no! (range 0-4)
Detailed tally: A0 = 3; A1 = 21; A2 = 10; A4 = 1;
Average of 32 non-zero votes is 1.406

Question 5: Favorite "Demo 84" segment: 0=abstain,1="Talks",2=Interactive, 3=outside experts (range 0-3)
Detailed tally: A0 = 5; A1 = 23; A2 = 6; A3 = 1;
Average of 30 non-zero votes is 1.267

Question 6: favorite: 1=shared experience,2=interactive,3=fast!,4=historic, 5=fun (range 0-5)
Detailed tally: A0 = 4; A1 = 15; A2 = 6; A4 = 4; A5 = 6;
Average of 31 non-zero votes is 2.355

Answer 1 (of 5) DIANE W., on SAT, JUL 28 1984 at 20:14 (116 characters)

Mike - even though I was involved in the project, Q6 threw me. I wanted to say yes to all the options.

Diane

Answer 2 (of 5) BOB SANDHAUS, on SUN, JUL 29 1984 at 00:48 (364 characters)

I'd like to leave a comment even though you didn't ask for one. I think there were too many conferences and subconferences. When I wanted to reread a note I was never sure where I read it before. When I wanted to answer or follow- up on a note, I was often unsure about where to leave my message.

Any plans to simplify the structure of GOP 84?

Sandy

Answer 3 (of 5) RITA G, on SUN, JUL 29 1984 at 12:39 (442 characters)

A comment to follow Sandy's:

I really did not get much out of the Teichner or Reporter X conferences. Perhaps I was expecting more from Teichner other than the one "scoop". I would have liked to have seen the results of other polls he was involved in. I did not think the Reporter X conference fulfilled my expectation of observations by individual(s) involved in observing the events as a vocation - nice try though.

Rita G

Answer 4 (of 5) LOUIS, on SUN, JUL 29 1984 at 14:16 (196 characters)

The reason I didn't join any of the "talks" conferences is that I prefer not to receive all answers involuntarily. However, I did scan all of "Mike Talks" and retrieve selected items. -LJ

Answer 5 (of 5) NORMAN KURLAND, on SUN, JUL 29 1984 at 17:42 (1334 characters)

I have been thinking about my reactions and will start now to put down.

The idea of doing this was fascinating but still not sure what it does contribute. While the real time interaction should be important, I did not always get to conf in "real time" and some of your entries were rather after the event. I was watching much on TV so did not need you to give me what I could get there. What was valuable was your personal observations and comments--but were they better, more relevant for being here rather than in some print medium (assuming you could have gotten into print)? i am not sure.

As to scoops--if it was important to me (which it wan't) to know in advance when an event was about to occur--and if you could get scoops often enough perhaps that would have value.

In short, I am not sure yet--and will check GOP 84 to see if that changes my views.

Also, the relatively small audience raises questions about whether this makes sense. Of course, the audience may--will--grow, perhaps even hit 500 as Mike hopes. But that is still a small number as "mass" media go.

This approach may be better for the kinds of trade shows with which you started, Mike.

Finally, I did enjoy what I did receive and thank you all for the effort.

Norman

Section Two:
The Republican Convention,
Dallas

"GOP PREP" Conference 84.20074 TENS, organizer, about "GETTING READY FOR THE OTHER SIDE -- THE GOP CONVENTION IN DALLAS AUG 20-23" (answers: 22) SAT, 07/28 18:14 (604 characters)

You may know that "Demo 84" was the first interactive electronic journalism from a major political convention - ever. Now it's *equal time* for the Republicans!

This conference is where the Transcoastal Electronic News Service (TENS) offers preparatory comment or perspective prior to the actual "GOP 84" Conference and its branch-conferences begin.

This conference is "read only". Answer 1, however, is your invitation to join "GOP Discuss" where y-o-u-r comments or questions or perspective are invited!

Diane, Sherwin, and Mike invite you to say [Join](#) and then: [Read 1](#) .

* * * *Branching off of "GOP PREP" 84.20074 as Answer 1 (of 22)

"GOP DISCUSS" Conference 84.20075 TENS, organizer, about "PIPE UP! BE PART OF MAKING ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS HISTORY WITH THE GOP CONVENTION" (answers: 37) SAT, 07/28 18:16 (692 characters)

What are *your* thoughts prior to the Republican Convention? What are *your* curiosities about the Republicans vs the Democrats covered in "Demo 84" and its various branch conferences.

What do you think will be the major themes of the Republican Convention? Any Democratic charges or counter-charges that will be addressed directly? How will the GOP -- during its TV spotlight -- answer the anti-Reagan commentary and speeches of the Democrats?

This is a place for any speculation, comment, wishes. (You can always send any of us a private .Message too, if you prefer).

Say: Join at the Disposition promptP J
and help us get ready for Dallas,
August 20-23!

TENS

Answer 2 (of 22) MIKE GREENLY, on SUN, JUL 29 1984 at 15:01 (1670 characters)

Three Weeks Before the
Convention . . .

OK, so I know I *will* be in Dallas. (To those who've offered financial contributions, my sincere thanks -- but I'd actually rather have more Conference joiners to amortize the work over more readers. Now what?

I don't know what kind of passes we'll have, so that's an important and nagging uncertainty. I'll feel *very* disappointed if I can't get out on the floor -- really "out there" -- and feel and sense the differences/comparisons with the Democrats. At this point, it's possible I won't be able to make it, but nobody's given up yet.

But I will be in Dallas. And I'm certain to talk to "real Republicans".

Remember -- I hadn't really talked to many "real Democrats" before a month ago either.

My next answer will state some of my ingoing biases, just as I did for you with the Democrats.

Meanwhile --

if any of you have a magic way to help me get either Reagan or Bush interested in being the *first* U.S. President or Vice-President to participate in the first-ever electronic journalism from their Party's Convention --

well if you can help me secure that kind of an interview, I pledge I'll do something quite special for *you* in return that would be extremely memorable and that you would enjoy.

Keep in mind, please, that some people say I'm an extremely creative fellow -- so if you help me snag the Oval Office for Parti, I just might be able to cook up something *you'd* like just as much as I'll appreciate that!

[and I always keep my promises.]

Meanwhile -- my journalistic biases >>>>>> next answer.

Answer 3 (of 22) MIKE GREENLY, on SUN, JUL 29 1984 at 15:20 (4608 characters)

Mike's Biases and Some Interests

As I uncover more relevant biases and advance interests, I'll let you know. My philosophy is this: if I'm going to report to you and you're to judge what I say -- and even interact with me -- you need to know me in order to evaluate my reports.

I told you prior to covering the Democrats and Jackson, that as a Jew I felt funny about him, despite my fascination. I almost didn't go to the Jackson Champagne Brunch (where I was one of the few whites present), and I'm really so *glad* I did. I got value and growth from that exposure.

What about the Republicans?

Well, first of all anyone who knows me knows that I want to be rich. Materially rich. As in: Money. I have the impression that the Republicans are more the party for someone like me who has those aspirations and who's willing to work very hard (I do). I hear that they want to tax me less. That they are more sensitive to the economy's health.

So that's a plus in terms of my feelings as I approach Republicans.

However, I'm also a caring person. And I have strong opinions about discrimination against others, having been discriminated against myself. I was touched by some of the humanistic expressions I experienced from people at the Democratic convention. I wonder about the degree of social consciousness I'll find among Republicans and how I'll feel about the people I meet if they don't care about the plight of other people who suffer. What solutions do *they* have to offer?

I'm intrigued by the prospect of interviewing people of the "far right" -- it might be like talking to someone from another planet for me, and almost as fascinating. I hope I know what to ask them. (Any ideas?)

As far as women are concerned, that's not an issue for me. I'm so absolutely, 100% sure of my support for a (competent) woman's ability to be President.

I'm delighted Ferraro is running, and I really do like her, but I don't have any interest in voting for the first woman just *because* she's the first woman.

As an American, I'd like to discover which team I feel is the most *competent* to run the country, irrespective of gender. Inevitably, it seems that will involve balancing plusses and minuses on both sides.

As a marketer, I can hardly wait to see how the Republicans deal at their Convention with the major plus to Mondale's effort that Geraldine Ferraro represents.

I anticipate they'll try to have women in front of the cameras all over the place. Some of the people I most want to talk with are women and blacks in the Republican party, along with far righters. Of course, it's also my fantasy to have some thoughtful time with Republican Senators, Governors, and Delegates. Thoughtful time? Well, we'll see. (I still see so vividly the NBC newscaster who had cornered Mrs. Hart on the Convention Floor for an interview amongst the frenzied inmates.)

It seems to me that Reagan promised long ago to balance the U.S. budget and has failed. I'm curious to get his side of the story as to why that hasn't happened.

Everyone says Reagan is a wonderful speaker. Personally, I never trust him. I always feel he's "performing". But if I'm able to get to him in close quarters, even as close as I got to Mondale, I want to see if he comes across differently. I think he might.

The stereotypical image I have of Republicans is: cigar-smoking bankers, sleek country club women (something like Dina Merrill), people who are more cultured and socially adept than Democrats, who are more sure of which fork to use, people who know *why* they use hair conditioner, people who use *low* suds detergent to be kinder to their machines rather than high suds detergent to see lots of bubbles. People, in short, who are richer, better educated, more practical and, yes, more selfish.

Maybe, however, I'll meet small businesspeople and entrepreneurs, and maybe they'll have a very different mentality than I'm envisioning.

If this all sounds like pure whimsy to you, it's more pure naivete. Bear with me, and you'll be part of what I see and how I grow. Maybe you'll even be part of *why* I grow. If I can, I'll offer you something to grow with too.

It felt great that our reports from "Demo 84" were appreciated and enjoyed. I did my best and my fairest in the "Mike Talks" sub-conference. I'll do no less than that three weeks from now in Dallas.

Mike

Answer 4 (of 22) SML, on SUN, JUL 29 1984 at 21:16 (3364 characters)

Hey, Mike -- is that *me* you're talking about??? What was that? Something about cigar-smoking, knowing what fork to use for my low suds detergent?

Y'see, I'm a Republican. I've supported the party, primarily because I feel that they deliver a much sounder economy in the long run than the Democrats. And that a sound economy is the surest way to equality of opportunity.

I grew up in a black neighborhood on the west side of Chicago. Nobody could by any stretch of the imagination have called us rich. Both my parents were (and still are) Democrats and I have been filled with the fire (not quite as hot now, but still there nonetheless) to right all wrongs and make the world a "better" place. What happened along the way, largely through my own observations but also through some study of political science, economics, sociology, and animal behavior (yes, it *is* relevant), is that I began to realize how horribly complicated it all is. Maybe any real solutions are beyond the grasp of *any* mortal mind.

I have no sympathy for those who have opportunity before them and will not move to grasp it; I have tremendous sympathy for those who *cannot* grasp it, whether because of sex, color, religion, lack of training, or any other reason. I once saw education as the greatest hope for improvement. I now see a formal educational system that is, where it's needed most, largely a joke. And I see people-to-people communication, like we have here, as the brightest hope for imparting that education. Education -- I don't necessarily mean "book learning," though I include that. I mean learning what's necessary to live with and cooperate with other people; to understand the world around you and make personal value judgements about it; and to then have the knowledge to pursue what you, in your informed judgement, deem to be what you want.

How does that make me a Republican? I think there are just as many caring, feeling Republicans as there are Democrats. They just see the means of reaching the "needy" a bit differently. And that none of those means can exist without healthy enterprise.

Defense spending? I'm not sure. I think it's too high now, I think that in many circumstances a friendly stance with other countries will get you nothing but a kick in the teeth and a reputation as a fool if you aren't viewed as having the power behind you to be able to afford to be friendly. And that giving aid to those who are unfriendly to you will in the long run lead to more human misery, not less.

The far right makes me uncomfortable in the extreme. Partly because I'm a Jew, but mainly because fanatics are unpredictable, irrational, and therefore dangerous.

That's a capsule summary of >me<. If you have any questions, just ask in "GOP DISCUSS"

What I expect to, or hope to, do if I'm at the GOP convention is find out more about the people both at the convention and around the convention, find out

how they feel, what they think, and how much influence they *really* have on the actions of the administration in power. That last point may be impossible to determine, but I'd sure like to try!

So, I hope to be talking to you soon from Dallas, even as I -- tonight -- finally send in the last of what I accumulated for you in San Francisco.

Sherwin Levinson

Answer 5 (of 22) MIKE GREENLY, on MON, AUG 06 1984 at 21:58 (814 characters)

The "Official" --- of GOP '84 . . .

Just thought you'd like to know that:

American Airlines is the Official Carrier of the Republican National Convention.

AT&T is the official Long Distance and Official Telephone System.

Baldwin Piano and Organ Company is the Official Piano.

Compucorp is the Official Word/Data Processor.

Puralator is the Official Courier.

Savin is the Official Copier.

Southwestern Bell is the Official Cellular Telephone Service.

VMX Inc. is the Official Voice Messaging (!) Service.

and *you* will be the Official Plugged-in Participants in the first interactive electronic journalism from a Republican Convention.

Congratulations to one and all. (Two weeks till Dallas and counting...)

Mike

Answer 6 (of 22) MIKE GREENLY, on TUE, AUG 07 1984 at 09:02 (1084 characters)

A few minutes with Sen. Laxalt?

Senator Laxalt of Nevada is often called "Ronald Reagan's best friend". It is *probable* that I'll be able to walk beside the Senator between one of his calendared events and another. I'm a fast walker and I'll carry along the little tape recorder Sherwin selected for TENS.

His aid got nervous when I said I'd tell you about it and ask you if you had any questions to suggest. "Tell them it's not for certain, for certain" he said.

"Ok," I said. "But I'll also tell them you'll try your *best*, right?"

"Right," he said.

So -- if I get to stride from A to B with Senator Laxalt (will I be being jostled by a horde of other reporters with the aid simply shoving me near the front? or will it be a private walk, under cloak of darkness and bodyguards?)

--

if I get that Short Stride with the Senator -- what one question, if any, do **you** suggest I ask him?

(you can put your answer into "GOP Discuss" or send me a private message if you prefer.)

mike

Answer 7 (of 22) MIKE GREENLY, on THU, AUG 09 1984 at 18:17 (2046 characters)

Nothing Comes Easy!

We're amidst struggles to try to get meaningful press credentials -- like the Democratic hassle all over again except, I sense, **tougher** this time -- sometimes it's just too frustrating for words. I'm now on my (literally) 8th new person, having gotten switched now from Washington to Dallas. Always, I start from the top, trying to explain what "electronic journalism" is, about the fact that y-o-u can interact, etc, etc, etc.

Today I got a call from Senator Laxalt's office.

(Just when he's super-duper "hot", too, as head of the Reagan campaign and today the news is out that he's being paid an extra \$50,000 to make up for "lost speaking engagements".)

"Well, Mike," his aide told me. "I guess we'll have to play it by ear down in Dallas. So many things are being put into his schedule. I don't mean interviews -- I mean political functions he's got to be at."

"Well, Tom," I said. "I'm willing to meet him early. And I'm willing to meet him late. And I'm willing to meet him anytime. And I'm willing to meet him anywhere, just so you'll know where I'm coming from -- I want the interview and I'll do whatever it takes to get it!"

"We'll do what we can," he said. "Phone me down there, why don't you."

Somehow it all sounded tepid. Parti on The Source? "How early can I phone? What time will you wake up? I'm asking in case I have trouble finding you in."

"You can phone as early as 7:00," he said. I knew it was dawning on him how **serious** I am.

"And how late can I phone, Tom?"

"Oh, up till 10 o'clock."

"OK. I'll talk to you in Dallas!"

"OK, Mike."

As I said to the national reporter whose story about all of us here is now "in the can" but yet to appear --

I most certainly would **not** want to do this full time!

A discouraged -- but **persistent** -- Mike

(of course, the credentially is **far** more important than Senator Laxalt. Fingers crossed to the point of circulation damage.)

Answer 8 (of 22) MIKE GREENLY, on THU, AUG 09 1984 at 23:49 (2844 characters)

Healed.

I left for the theater in the muggy New York haze. Late! Still hadn't heard back from Contact #8 in Dallas. Obviously wouldn't tonight.

I felt grumpy about going. I don't have **time** for the theater. "Sunday in the Park With George". It'll be pretentious and Arty. Pretty scenery, but boring. That's what I expected.

All during dinner, in the back of my mind, and then at first in the theater, I kept thinking of my earlier note here.

Don't I sound pushy with poor Senator Laxalt! Why should I be pressing the man so? Surely the fellow is busy -- he **is** a Senator, after all! -- and look at the small number of readers I'm representing in approaching him anyway. I felt embarrassed thinking about my pushiness. "How early can I call you, Tom?"

And my note to you, and my feeling of failure tonight, all seemed sour to me. My note became magnified in my mind. I share too much, I thought. Blah, blah, blah.

Can you recognize the state of mind?

"Coq au vin," I said, but I was thinking, who'd want to read a thing from that sour, pushy person?

I am healed.

The play, the musical, was about art, about creativity, about caring, about excellence. All through the story of Georges Seurat (1859-1891), the French impressionist.

There is no way to capture for you how special and sensitive the evening was

when I let myself go along with it. And how much it moved me. First about how hard I try to do things well. How much I care. What I put into the things I create -- sometimes less, sometimes more. But a lot, nonetheless, and often.

And then I thought of Diane and Sherwin, and what it was like to share "Demo 84" with them. And how much they care about excellence.

And then I thought of so **many** people here who put soul and effort into so many creative ventures. Every day, and of all kinds. Part of the beauty of the play was the link between the kind of art Seurat achieved and all **kinds** of "art" in all **kinds** of endeavors.

Something cared about, an effort made, daring to see something a new way -- politics, business, family, religion, software, teaching, writing, whatever -- making some sort of a difference.

That's how the context went for me, thinking about the people one encounters on Parti, as a result of "Sunday in the Park With George." I was crying. And I was glad that I try to do my best. And **of course** it doesn't always work out as I want it to!

And I'll keep on trying anyway -- dot by dot on the canvass.

Just like you.

If you don't understand my burbling here, please don't worry . . . it's out of my system now.

But if you do -- well, then you realize I'm "healed".

Dallas is almost one week away. But for now,

Goodnight from Mike.

Answer 9 (of 22) MIKE GREENLY, on FRI, AUG 10 1984 at 20:24 (1564 characters)

The Credentials Saga . . .

Well, you've come this far with us. You might as well come the whole distance.

I just spoke to the boss of the boss of the credentials person. We have **some** kind of credentials for sure. That we already knew.

Their exact powers remain to be seen. Although we also already knew they are **limited**. For example: they are n-o-t Floor passes. Yet having reported to you what it **felt** like to be out on the floor amidst the Democrats, having been able to find specific people on the floor that Parti readers suggested I

interview -- the prospect of [maybe] not being able to get out there at all this time was really getting me down.

I *know* it'll be interesting, regardless. But you also know I want it to be more than just "interesting", much more.

For now, however: uncertainty. We'll be pals with uncertainty till Dallas surrounds us.

I will say this, though: the man I spoke to told me he'd been prepared to give me a flat "no can do", "there are 13,000 journalists", "we can't let you all out on the Floor," etc, etc.

After we spoke, he realized -- I think he really did -- that we're not just another newspaper. That there is something of historic significance happening here.

For that reason, he said, he'd think about it. But he held out n-o hopes. None. He made that clear: None.

But -- to his own surprise -- he said he'd think about it...that I should phone him when I get to Dallas.

Of course, you know I will....

Answer 10 (of 22) DIANE W., on SAT, AUG 11 1984 at 10:42 (5212 characters)

An Open Letter from Diane W.

Friends, I will be unable to attend the GOP Convention in Dallas.

I've thought long and hard about my commitments and priorities, and have finally come to this decision. Please read on for the explanation I feel I owe you all.

This letter is reproduced in this week's "Chimo". Please use your control-p if you've seen it already.

Diane

An Open Letter

-by-

>> Diane W. <<

I have a missing child.

My 13 year old daughter ran away from home just over a month ago. She's always been wilfull and headstrong, and when she discovered the San Francisco 'punk scene', there was no (apparent) turning back for her.

I spent the first nights without sleep, standing in her room, looking through the curtain to the empty street below me. Thirteen is such a tender age.

I was frightened. I waited for the call from the morgue or the hospital. I was angry. I couldn't understand how she could discard her home and family like worn clothing. I was resentful. She left the week before the Democratic Convention, and I was swamped with committed work. I was hurt, and I felt pitifully rejected. I, I, I. I took it all personally, and felt tremendously guilty. I felt like such a failure as a mother.

My husband Paul and I got a crash course in California law pertaining to minors. "She's a 601, a wayward child, out of parental control," the first officer to visit our house said. For a while, we had so many cops here it looked like an open house for the police department. We toured the runaway houses for teens. We looked through the Youth Guidance Center shelter, and the city jail. We called hospitals and made flyers. We conferred with probation officers and counselors. We saw family therapists and joined "ToughLove", a support group for parents with problem teens. (I walked in and, to my horror, burst into tears in front of a room full of strangers.) We began networking with the parents of her friends, and got whisps of information. "I hear she was seen on Broadway, at the punk clubs." "She's supposedly sleeping in abandoned houses in the projects." "She's trying to get to Los Angeles." "She's lost weight, and looks pale."

Under California law, a minor child, even a child of 13, cannot be held against his or her will unless s/he commits a crime. "Wait till she gets hungry and steals some food, that'll make her a 602," say the police. "In the meantime, there's nothing we can do. There's nothing you can do either." It's a law that guarantees protection of minors, but in a case like this, we're not allowed to protect our daughter from herself. Our hands are tied, even though we're legally her guardians for the next 5 years.

So we sit and wait, and hope she's surviving the mean city streets, and that she'll call. Her birthday is in three days...

Meanwhile, I've had to look at the way I parent. But you know what? After all the sleepless nights, the guilt and grief, something clear has emerged. I have two other children - a girl, 12, and a boy, 15. They're terrific kids. Our youngest daughter is bright, funny and graceful. Our son is a scholar and martial arts student. Neither of them understands their sister's actions. Both cherish their home and hearth.

So I've come to feel less guilty, if not less worried. But you better believe it's constantly on my mind. She's just 13, just a baby.

Bill Voss (a prince) wrote to me about catching a train out of town when he was 12. He says he rode his bike down to the tracks, and just jumped on a slow-moving train. "I meant to get off, but it kept going faster," he says. And he created a beautiful vignette about that little boy, detached from the real world, lying on an open car, watching the high, white clouds. "I couldn't explain it to my parents when they came to get me in the next town," he says.

In the private notes I've exchanged with friends here, almost every one says, "Don't worry too much. She'll come back."

Maybe, maybe. But some never DO come back.

This is far too long. I'll close now. But please, to any parent going through the same thing, a few words of advice: If you're NOT to blame, then don't blame yourself. Our children have their own destinies. (That doesn't mean you should ever stop trying to help them, though.) And get support. There are others with the same anguish and nightmares. It helps to talk about it with people who understand.

Finally, I want to tell you that I cannot go to Dallas to cover the GOP Convention. I would love to, but some things take precedence. I need to be with my family right now. The warmth of a home is mighty attractive, and my husband and children need some love and nurturing. (So do I.)

I'll be with the TENS team in spirit, though, and here at home participating. And I hope you all will, too.

Please, I would feel uncomfortable about messages of sympathy. That was not the intent of this long letter. I've always been honest with you, and this is a (rather painful) continuation of that honesty. Somehow, I've always felt I owed it to you.

Diane

Answer 11 (of 22) MIKE GREENLY, on SAT, AUG 11 1984 at 11:21 (4164 characters)

GOP "Marketing Check List"
One Week Before the Convention

I. Women's Issues

- Defuse Ferraro: Priority #1!
- Don't attack too strongly.
[could backfire]
- Find vulnerabilities.
 - * foreign policy?
 - * personal finances?
- Make her seem less genuine than she pretends.
- Explore possibility of getting GOP *women* to attack Mondale/Ferraro as a unit, not Ferraro by herself.
- Confirm schedules for more Women-at-the-Podium (WAP Count) than the Democrats mustered. (despite lower female Delegate count than theirs).
- Ignore those Republican Women

Boycotting Dallas this year.

Less said the better.

- Subtly, gingerly, make it seem that Mondale is hiding behind Ferraro's skirts. Too much focus on her just now -- shift it! Expose the degree to which he's using her.
- Talk about (shudder) *him* in the White House.

II. The Jewish Issue

-
- Be sure Platform *overtly* mentions anti-Semitism. (Democrats didn't.)
 - See if you can subtly remind Jews of the Jackson problems, without being overt about it. (That would be dangerous.)
 - No point in trying for the Black vote, but we might be able to get the Jews in spades. (Whoops. Avoid unintended puns like that -- like the other one about Ferraro being a "bust". Holy mackerel - it's tougher than it's ever been to talk plain English.)

III. Show Biz

-
- The struggle with the networks has been irritating. They keep saying we have "no news".
 - OK then. What they *really* mean is no high-ratings TV. We can fix that. If not us, who? Call in Hollywood. (Do you still have Charlton Heston's number.)
 - Go for cinema. Gorgeous films. Music. (Baldwin's our official Piano company, right?) We can do a lot better than the "talking heads" the Democrats offered poking above the flags. Let's put on a better "show" than they did. The Networks will hang on if we can give 'em good ratings.

IV. Taxes

-
- For heavens' sake, let's get a common policy statement and all say the same thing about it!

This could be a real weakness for us.

- Mondale has Reagan on the Defensive on this one. We've got to make Mondale look like a cheap pipsqueak for doubting the President of the United States.
- Agree on who's drafting the perfect statement that Reagan can declaim with gusto -- but that still leaves us leeway for future tax rises when we need 'em.

V. Handling of the President

- Assuming we've got the Networks, this is a grand opportunity. Get our best staging masters -- Reagan's "entrance" has to show him as beloved, trusted, revered, and thank God he's in the White House. And then we build to the "Hollywood Coronation" at week's end.

(that's what the German Reporter called it on something called Parti on The Source, whatever *that* is.

Not a bad analogy. Religious and Historical Romance movies are coming back this year.)

- Stress Foreign Policy. Not just because it's Ferraro's perceived weakness, but because it's an "image" strength for Reagan. Get across the feeling of how dangerous it would be to change horses now.
- Emphasize Reagan's youthfulness. And let's have more shots of him and Nancy together. Can she do for Reagan on a subliminal level what Ferraro is doing for Mondale? Dunno. Sounds like a stretch.

Jeez! It's only one week away . . .

GOP Marketing Addendum

Look at the bright side. We've got some incredible timing opportunities just now.

Sure, Ferraro will attend the Closing Ceremony of the Olympics -- but the President is the **only** one to have a special breakfast of all U.S. Medal Winners Monday before Convention Week. Fantastic scheduling: the U.S. Olympic site, all that gold, and the Convention!

So seize the opportunity to talk about private enterprise supporting the Olympics, and how healthy the U.S. System -- and America itself -- is under Reagan.

And, of course, the economy. Deficit-schmeficit. Sure we'll talk about it. But we have more solid and glowing economic **facts** to boast of than **we** had even hoped for. It's a bloomin' miracle!

Cuomo, Jackson, Mondale, Kennedy -- all of them can talk about the "other" America.

But they can't talk about the kind of unquestioned success that the GOP's presiding over. And Americans want that continued! Ironically, the more Mondale talks about change -- the more we may be able to make Mondale's very words evoke fear among the great middle class who **remembers** what Carter inflation was really like.

Hmmm. Them's pretty good odds! Answer 13 (of 22) MIKE GREENLY, on SAT, AUG 11 1984 at 14:59 (2176 characters)

write
Midwestern Male GOP Official
& His Thoughts on Women

I was talking to a smart, successful man from Heartland, U.S.A. He told me what **he** thinks many Republican women feel about Ferraro. (He made a point of making clear he's n-o-t talking about, his quote, "New York ball-busters".)

His belief: many of these women feel it's a very positive step forward to have a woman nominated, but that they (women) are in fact not quite "ready" yet. Like: nice, thanks, but I'll pass this year.

Why? I asked. Why do you suppose they would feel women aren't ready yet for the White House?

He believes they -- these **women** -- feel that women don't have enough confidence yet, that they're not leaders enough yet, that they themselves believe women get too emotional about issues, are not cool-headed enough.

In short, that many Middle American women think **no** woman is "ready" yet.

It was fascinating to hear from him. This is a man, by the way, that I have a

great deal of respect and affection for. But he spoke in such an old-wave, stereotypical fashion, I was slackjawed.

He believes that Ferraro's nomination lost as many womens' votes as it gained. And that the powerful sisterhood I experienced and described in San Francisco -- much more than a "sisterhood" actually, since a number of men were also caught up in the jubilation as well --

he believes that the spirit I felt is *not* typical of Heartland America. And that women of both parties will vote against Ferraro, and feel safer, more secure, with Reagan.

I can hardly wait to talk to Republican Delegates!

Meanwhile, I understand Joan Rivers -- speaking of Hollywood -- will be addressing Republican Women in Dallas. And that Pearl Bailey will be there too.

It's beginning to sound like (if you can relate to this; Eisenhower could have) the Ed Sullivan Show, brought to you by Ronald Reagan.

And I'm beginning to think a lot of people I don't rub shoulders with every day would love -- a lot -- to tune in for Ed Sullivan again, if only they could.

I'm fascinated.

mike Answer 14 (of 22) SML, on SAT, AUG 11 1984 at 23:45 (1656 characters)

I'M IN

If you've followed us through the whole Democratic convention buildup, the trials and tribulations and triumphs, then you know how much Mike waffled about even going to San Francisco. As you can see, he's a reformed character. One of the first thrills of that coverage was the day Mike finally said to Diane and me, "I'm in!"

Well, you've seen that Diane has made a very tough choice under trying circumstances and won't be in Dallas. And I've been waffling this time -- will there be *any* funding? is it worth all that effort? will we be credentialed? will there be any real news? and so on and so on. But as the time draws nearer I know I *can't* stay away. You need a Republican there to balance Mike's reporting (*THAT* is one of the lamest excuses I've ever heard!), I said to myself. But really it's just that the excitement is getting to me despite myself -- I just have to be there. I have to finish the other half, can't leave only half a job done. Even if I had to take out a second mortgage, sell my first-born son, hock the family jewels -- I'd be there.

So, my plane reservations are made and I'm this very minute, as I write this, limbering up the keyboard of a new machine I may use in Dallas -- the Epson

PX-8. You'll get some of my impressions of this new machine if I decide it's the one for me to use there, though I'll put most of that in "LAP COMPUTERS" to spare those of you who couldn't give a hoot.

Next I'll tell you a bit about the credentials issue this time around.

I'm in.

And glad you're with me. It's the reason I'm in.

Sherwin

Answer 15 (of 22) MIKE GREENLY, on SAT, AUG 11 1984 at 23:58 (400 characters)

JUST FOR THE RECORD, SINCE SHERWIN IS TALKING ABOUT BALANCING ME. DIANE NOTED THAT WE ARE ONE REPUBLICAN, ONE DEMOCRAT, ONE INDEPENDENT. SHERWIN'S THE REPUBLICAN. I'M THE INDEPENDENT. ACTUALLY, UNTIL A FEW MONTHS AGO, A-POLITICAL WAS MORE LIKE IT. BUT I'M VERY HAPPY, NO MATTER WHAT I SEE, FEEL, REPORT, TO HAVE A REPUBLICAN APOLOGIST AS PART OF THE TENS NEWS TEAM! <GRIN, SHERWIN, GRIN!>

Answer 16 (of 22) SML, on SUN, AUG 12 1984 at 00:19 (98 characters)

Just be sure to maintain your independence, Mike!

<and a double grin to you, too!>

Sherwin

Answer 17 (of 22) MIKE GREENLY, on SUN, AUG 12 1984 at 12:59 (2020 characters)

The "Secret Knight" and a Floor Pass

I got a call from Secret Knight today. I already have Midwest Cowboy working on his connections for me (and am "rooting" him to come through.) I hadn't even thought about asking Secret Knight to do anything: I didn't dare!

And yet, when he said, "how are you, Mike", it poured out --

Then I found myself warming to the subject, being sure to mention the front page National Press article (it's the *truth*) likely to be published soon about what all of us do here together. I pointed out how embarrassing it could be to have to report that the Democrats actually understood modern "electronic journalism" better than the Republicans, and --

well, I didn't even get to finish my burble, and I was only warming up....

"I'll see what I can do for you," he interrupted. "Let's put it this way. If I can't get you one Floor pass, I'll be very surprised."

(what?!!! did he say "can" or "can't"? The exact wording would make a difference!)

Secret Knight is a man who understands, I think, the longerterm significance of what this whole event means. But can he pierce through the gummy bureaucracy I've become so discouraged by?

"um, what did you say now, Sir Knight?"

"I said, Mike, if I can't get you a Floor Pass, I'll be very surprised. I've made a note of it."

I've made a note of it -- the final word.

I'm still rooting for Midwest Cowboy. Somehow his effort -- system networking -- seems more *real* to me than the simply "I've made a note of it."

Maybe Secret Knight will discover the fruitless trail of long distance phone calls I've placed so intensely -- all leading nowhere. Maybe he'll be surprised, in fact, by how tough all this really is. I can already hear him explaining how surprised he is, but ---

Well, we'll see.

Meanwhile, elephants, live elephants, have been reported moving into Dallas.

And my heart is a-thumping with hope.

Answer 18 (of 22) MIKE GREENLY, on TUE, AUG 14 1984 at 16:20 (1434 characters)

Meeting Governors at J.R.'s Restaurant

I've heard *nothing* from Midwest Cowboy or Secret Knight about Floor Pass progress. So lately I've let my mind wander (not hard to do).

I've been thinking about J.R.Ewing and Sue Ellen (and Bobby, and Pam, and Miss Ellie, etc., etc.) since they live in Dallas. Even if it's just CBS's. My resolve to stop watching their show was a dud. [I missed not one episode.]

I would love to interview J.R. (I did once meet Larry Hagman at a party, but I didn't get to *really* pinch his cheeks or cajole him into sharing some Ewing Family secrets.)

Now Time magazine has a story on restaurants in Dallas. Which ones would J.R. like? Which ones would Sue Ellen like? The two of them are pictured, making fun of me (they'll be out of town when I get there.)

But at least I'm going to visit a restaurant they'd both agree is tops: the Mansion on Turtle Creek which Time says is "the hotel where the actors stay." Thanks to 13 years of executive karma at Avon, I am invited to a brunch there for Republican Politicians.

"Pass the butter, please sir -- oh, and what would you say to readers all across the country about Reagan's comments on bombing the Russians? Whoops! Want to use my napkin?"

I'd rather have a Floor Pass, but at least I can count on news crumbs at the breakfast table!

mike

Answer 19 (of 22) MIKE GREENLY, on TUE, AUG 14 1984 at 17:41 (3144 characters)

Reagan's Popularity

The fact is: I am independent. I have excellent reasons to vote for or against *either* candidate.

Most of my New York friends, though, are solidly, vehemently anti-Reagan. Most of my friends are in the minority.

Reagan is far more popular than Mondale. The majority (today) says it'll vote for THE PRESIDENT.

Up until a week ago, I was impressed with the assets of *both* sides. Now I see each side weakening the other, and all of it has hardly begun.

It looks like Ferraro's finance questions could really hurt. As Republicans note, it's a "genderless" issue. I personally find her excuse about "being married to an Italian man" (explaining why she's not revealing her husband's finances) more shallow and disappointing than I'd ever expected to hear from her.

So far, from Mondale, all I see is his skill at putting Reagan on the Tax Defensive. So? Mondale has a lot further to go to win public enthusiasm, or mine.

Meanwhile, my friend Frank yells across the tempura in the face of my obstinant wish to be fair to Reagan. Frank recounts the incident from People Magazine about Reagan's difficulty in hearing a reporter's question.

(Implicaton #1: he's hard of hearing, he's too old to be President.)

Nancy coached him in a whisper with the platitude "we're doing the best we can", which the President then repeated rotely as his "position".

(Implication #2: he doesn't have or know his own positions, and his assurances are empty.)

Frank right now must be in a state of gleeful paroxysm, with the foolish microphone test that just made Europe's front pages. It is evidently not the first time that Reagan has said dumb things while testing a mike. He could just as easily have tested with "I pledge allegiance," or "We're proud of our

record," or "here's what I had for breakfast today -- American eggs, American donuts," -- *anything* positive at all.

Why didn't he, by now, after previous blooper troubles. What does it signify?

Everyone's beginning to seem all too fallible at the top. I did feel good about the sincerity of many of the delegates and politicians I met in San Francisco. Not all, but many. I'm wishing, a lot, to feel as good about the Republicans. (I haven't any idea what to expect.)

Meanwhile, I am following the back-and-forths of this political contest more closely than any other ever in my life. I wish I were feeling a little better about what I see.

All the emphasis on "marketing" -- which I can't help but be attuned to -- is something I understand very well. If you have sincere aspirations to do good for your country in elective office, then by definition you *must* get elected. (or re-elected.)

But the Republicans nabbing Ferraro on the finance issue, or the Democrats exulting over Reagan-Bush's *exact* tax semantics amidst the healthiest economy in years, is somehow not yet what I imagined I'd be absorbing -- now that I've finally woken up to pay attention.

But the season is young. And, politically, so am I . . .

Mike

Answer 20 (of 22) MIKE GREENLY, on WED, AUG 15 1984 at 19:28 (1590 characters)

Reporter X Says -- [8/15/84]

I spoke with "Reporter X" tonight -- well-known political journalist who is unable to reveal his public affiliation. He has covered every Convention for the past 20 years or so. When I met him for the first time in San Francisco, I expected him to be grizzled, with heavy eyelids.

He's not that way. The experience of going to all those political events gives him perspective, sure -- but he doesn't seem jaded.

I asked him for his evaluation of the Ferraro financial issue. He said:

"Obviously, it's become sticky.

"There are no real issues in the campaign at this point. What's apparently happened now is that the Republicans have a *fresh* issue, going into the Convention -- one they wouldn't have otherwise had. They are gaging their whole convention toward counteracting the Ferraro nomination.

"Now they not only have an opportunity to parade their celebrated women -- who are in much more position of real power Democratic women --

"they now also have the chance to attack Ferraro head-on.

"My belief is that Ferraro's husband will summarily release his financial information within the next few days."

I asked him for his perspective on Reagan's infamous microphone test.

His opinion:

"It's hard to tell, but I think it's probably blown over. It probably hasn't even affected one vote one way or the other."

We agreed I'd be in touch with him in Dallas, and I'll forward his backstage comments to you.

mike

Answer 21 (of 22) MIKE GREENLY, on FRI, AUG 17 1984 at 09:22 (4564 characters)

From My Home Town, Beaufort, S.C.

Ann Lucas, President of the
Beaufort Republican Women's Club

I don't know what she looks like, but she occasionally plays bridge with my mother in Beaufort -- where the palmetto trees grow on Bay Street, where you can't have a building more than three stories tall lest a shadow fall on neighboring property. That's the coastal South Carolina environment I come from.

Ann is going to the Dallas Convention and my mother has explained that her Michael is doing "something electronic" with the news. I phone Ann, and am reminded what a thick Southern accent really sounds like.

What do Republican Women do down there? "Our main purpose of existing is to help and encourage conservative candidates," she explained. "We select any person to approach about running -- of course if they are conservative. We do fund raising, volunteer labor, that kind of thing."

Life in a small town (Beaufort had 5,000 people when I was growing up, though it's much bigger now) is something inexperienced city people cannot appreciate. Beaufort is, quite literally, an island -- which furthers its sense of community. And yet it is unusually influential for its size -- the Paris Island Marine Corps base is there, and an Air Force base. It's where "D.I." was filmed, and "Conrack", and "The Great Santini", and "The Big Chill."

Ann can mention councilmen and councilwomen that her women's organization has helped to elect in this Southern small town of my youth. As I hear her talk,

I miss the grits, the pecan pie, and the Beaufort Gazette every Thursday.

Because it's such a small community, I ask her what it's like when she encounters over the bridge table or at an oyster roast one of Beaufort's active *Democratic* women. Or men. Is it awkward to mingle on close social terms with someone hoping to defeat everything you're working hard for?

"You can always move away to another group," she says, and I imagine the rustle of distancing taffeta. "I usually don't try to change someone's mind like that -- but I let them know quickly not to try and change mine either!"

"I have been a Republican all my life," she says. "When I got old enough to think for myself, I really got active. At the University of South Carolina, I worked hard for President Eisenhower."

What does she mean by "conservative", I ask her.

She says the Republican philosophy is that "you first have a nest egg before you go out and spend on another nest. The Democrats don't worry about that." She apologizes for not being able to give me professional views. I assure her that in fact I'm very interested in learning what real people "out there" think and how they view things. For professional views, I can read the New York Times.

I ask her the question I've been sitting on all along: what about Ferraro?

"Tokenism has never helped any cause," she says. Ann believes Ferraro is a token, that she was picked because of NOW's ultimatum to Mondale. She says it'd be different if Mondale had chosen Ferraro without that kind of pressure, if he had chosen her on her own merits. But she resents a woman being there as just a "token", and a lot of other women do too.

"I want women to earn it," she tells me. "Anyone should deserve what they get and not get it because it was forced."

[I wonder how conscious NOW's leaders are of the ironies of this situation. Do they regret the pressure they placed on Mondale? Or do they feel, in fact, Ferraro wouldn't have been nominated otherwise? Or do they not look back?]

I ask Ann to tell me more about other Southern women she knows, and how they feel.

"Most say they've never voted for sex to start with. They're not voting for Reagan because he's a man!"

What about the future?

"Most women have not yet had the experience they need. Now they're beginning to get it, now that things have opened up in every field. I feel it's definitely in the future for women. We have an awful lot of smart ones."

I ask for her perspective on Reagan's microphone test. "I am glad to know I'm not the only one who has a sense of humor when I think I'm in private. I'm

sorry the press has played it up so. It should never have been said, but it wasn't intended to be serious anyway."

She is as friendly to me as you can be. I am, after all, a Beaufort Boy, and Lucille's son. I will talk to her again in Dallas.

Answer 22 (of 22) MIKE GREENLY, on SAT, AUG 18 1984 at 20:22 (4730 characters)

Last "GOP Prep" Note

This morning, cursing myself for succumbing too early to sleep last night -- I lurch around the apartment [where is the press badge? where are my notes?]

The TV plays CNN's re-broadcast of a GOP platform session. I am comfortable with the back and forth microscopy of every word.

"I think we should say 'America'."

"I think we should say 'USA', Mr. Chairman."

"I think they should be two separate sentences. That will fix it."

My English Lit background, and those many years in bureaucracies, make me right at home (which of course I literally am.)

An undertow in my mind celebrates the decision to leave corporate life. To leave Consensus NitPicking. I pack for Dallas simply because I *decided* to, with no committee endorsement. I wonder about the people on-screen in my livingroom and bedroom. Soon I'll be among them, to discover what they're like.

[where are those 'Heavy Hands' in case I take morning walks?]

I am hearing a lawyer read "just a few words" -- they are paaaaages. At first we watch the Chairman, listening in rapt attention. By about page 2, the camera takes the pressure off.

Then there is Phyllis Shafly -- in my New York crowd she's an object of scorn and derision. (maybe awe.) Much as I hate what I think she stands for, it is simply not possible to hate the woman on my screen. She is merely one of rows of people, and she does not seem like an Alien.

She speaks against child pornography. Well, frankly, I agree with her. I'm so into free speech that I virtually *pop* at censorship; but to me it is horribly unfair when adults involve children in sexual commerce.

So I agree with the Phyllis Shafly inside my TV. I notice how much harder it is to dislike the *person* than the ideas I've made fun of.

"Jesse Helms of North Carolina" -- every time the man is called on he finds it necessary to announce himself. He's his very own Butler. And he *loves* to hear his name.

"Jesse Helms of North Carolina!"

He endorses a citation for Goldwater. Later, he asks the Chair's "indulgence". He tells us he has seen Ronald Reagan in the snow, in the rain, in the heat -- he makes Reagan sound like the Presidential Postman. But it's almost "The Jesse Helms Story".

-- I remember when I first told Mr. Reagan to run for President --

[Where's the invitation to the Brunch on Tuesday? Where's the printout of "Demo 84" -- for the TV producer who hasn't the faintest idea what I'm talking about.]

A black woman revises words that have dragged around the room like a thread-bare sock. Suddenly everyone says, "sounds good to me!" I wonder if they are maybe just a teeeensy bit interested in having the black woman's language adopted immediately, simply to make a point about Republican openness regardless of skin color. Her nuance doesn't seem that different from the 20 other nuances suggested before it.

The people I see on the screen range from reasonably to powerfully articulate. They do not wear diamond studs. There is no ermine on their collars.

I cannot relate to every point: America is healthy as long as Arnold Palmer still plays golf, the lawyer-orator tells us; this philosophy is clearly over my head -- "I composed this last night on my legal pad, as lawyers are wont to do ---".

The fact is, these people seem achievement oriented, just like I am. So we do have things in common.

They talk about *individual* caring and the human heart (I think this is opposed to *insitutional* caring and the Democrats).

I begin to think of basic philosophical questions. When they talk about "being left alone" by government I relate to that. But I wonder about these people -- or myself, for that matter -- in terms of the human heart. How much do I go out of my way to help others? How much should I be made to? How much should I be protected from potentially harming others?

I am going down to Dallas feeling fuzzy-brained and murky. I want to understand better, from the Republicans' point of view, how Democrats look.

Frank phones to jeer at Reagan one last time. I give him plenty of flack for Ferraro's finances. "Bush has already released his," I add, "and they seem impeccable."

"So did Nixon," Frank says. "Give my love to Phyllis Shafly."

I am determined to be my most clear-eyed, objective, and fair. I board the plane, and type this final prep note. Once again I feel pleasure that we're together, you and I.

I am ready, fuzzy-brain and all, to see Republican dawn, to hear Republican music...

[future notes from Dallas: in "GOP 84"]

Joiners of "GOP PREP" conference:

ALAN; WEEHAWK; STEVE DEERING; GEORGE M; RACOM; SDC; MUDSLIDE; WHITE LION; PSI DAVE; BILL VOSS (A PRINCE); DR. MEMORY; TJ; RICH B.; SML; T/O; J. MELLO; MIKE GREENLY; STL607; DVO; RITA G; DIANE W.; STANDOC; ENTERPRISE; LISA CARLSON; JIM ARMSTRONG; K SQUARED; CYNIC AL; BUFLOE; CHRIS B; MICHEAL GILSON; JIM FRANKLIN; NORMAN EPSTEIN; TENS; STEVE TEICHNER; RLH; STEWART; DAVID F. SALISBURY; THOREAU; BCS203; BBB525; BBY498; STV088;

"GOP DISCUSS" Conference 84.20075 TENS, organizer, about "PIPE UP! BE PART OF MAKING ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS HISTORY WITH THE GOP CONVENTION" (answers: 37) SAT, 07/28 18:16 (692 characters)

What are **your** thoughts prior to the Republican Convention? What are **your** curiosities about the Republicans vs the Democrats covered in "Demo 84" and its various branch conferences.

What do you think will be the major themes of the Republican Convention? Any Democratic charges or counter-charges that will be addressed directly? How will the GOP -- during its TV spotlight -- answer the anti-Reagan commentary and speeches of the Democrats?

This is a place for any speculation, comment, wishes. (You can always send any of us a private .Message too, if you prefer).

Say: Join at the Disposition prompt and help us get ready for Dallas, August 20-23!

TENS

Answer 1 (of 37) TJ, on SAT, JUL 28 1984 at 18:36 (222 characters)

I would like to get any views on the strategic defence idea, and on tax reform.

I would like to get a copy of the party platforms also, any ideas on how? The local

I am glad to see the TENS team on the spot!

* * * *Branching off of "GOP DISCUSS" 84.20075 as Answer 3 (of 37)

Message 84.20141 DAN YURMAN, about "GARbled TRANSMISSION ANSWER 2; TRYING AGAIN WITH THIS FILE LOAD." SUN, 07/29 16:38 (5380 characters)

FROM DAN YURMAN; REF MY ANSWER #2. LAST PARAGRAPH MAY HAVE BEEN MESSED UP IN TRANSMISSION. CAN YOU FIX. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF FILE AGAIN. I AM USING CROSSTALK XVI WITH LWAIT SET AT 5.

ARE THE SIXTIES THE EIGHTIES?

REFLECTIONS ON THE EVE OF THE REPUBLICAN CONVENTION by: Dan Yurman BCA970

As we approach the 1984 elections, I am inclined to think back to the late 1960's in terms of the political climate which existed in those days, and compare it to the teflon numbness which afflicts the current era. Teflon because nothing seems to stick in the public mind and numbness because perhaps the prior phenomenon is a circular reflection of an input overload of things that have gone wrong.

Return with me now to those days gone by . . . in the news in 1968 an official of the US Food and Drug Administration named Goddard was asked what he thought about the nation's criminal laws regarding the sale and possession of marijuana. He said, "Personally, I am against punitive laws, but I know that the President and the Attorney-General want these laws, therefore, I will go along with it."

Now what does he mean by "personally?" Personally, as some kind of screwball. Personally, as some kind of nut who doesn't know what he's talking about? No, what he is saying is that, "Personally, I am powerless. Personally, what I think or believe doesn't matter very much." In some ways, Dr. Goddard's position then is analogous to Mr. Ruckelshaus's position at EPA today.

It has been years since the Democratic Convention in Chicago ended in chaos and tears. Students entering college this fall were toddlers then. What happened to the revolution we all promised ourselves we were going to create?

Obviously, revolution is overdue. This is the revolution that Jefferson invoked when he said God's justice would not sleep forever. The evils that were containable under kings are no longer containable under politicians. A world that spends more on war than it does on health and education is not very susceptible to reform. It calls for revolution. But what kind?

A revolution is not the same thing as a rebellion. The aftermath of the Russian revolution tells us that such events in history are not so much a matter of systems of government but of men. As men, and women are, so the revolution will be. The real meaning of the revolution is not a change in management, but in people. This is a change which we must begin in our lifetime.

John Locke never heard of law and order, but he had heard of divine rights of kings. "When men are miserable enough," said Locke, "They will rebel." Perhaps he should have said, "Desperate enough." The difference between submissive misery and desperate rebellion is hope. The distinction between rebellion and revolution is intelligence.

John Kenneth Galbraith has said that all revolutions in the 20th century have involved kicking in doors that were already rotten in their frames. I think he

meant rebellions. Because a revolution against a moronic status quo is not automatically intelligent. If it strikes with the wrong blows against the wrong people, then it is just as unfeeling as its opponent. If the revolution assumes there is nothing wrong with power and that a transfer of power will improve the human condition, then it is foolish as well as unfeeling. It is not power that corrupts, but rather the belief that power unchecked is not necessarily corrosive.

It took ten years of the 1st world war to realize they had lost it. It took the winners of the 2nd world war only until the days of the Berlin Air Lift to realize that they too had lost what they thought they were winning. Perhaps what keeps the winners of the 3rd world war from starting is the morbid suspicion that they have lost it even before they've begun.

Study the Greek experience of the 1930s. You should study how the most literate nation on the face of the earth, mistaking elegance for honor and literacy for intelligence, elevated ignorance to power and cut off its own head. The lesson is obvious. Neither government nor the majority are good judges of character or justice. There have been a hundred generations of people who have made this mistake. If we turn out to be the one hundred and first, we are lost.

If we are intelligent, the authoritarian spirit, which obeys all laws, will kill us anarchists. But injustice is the institutionalization of disorder. Socrates was right, not wrong, when he said, "Men of Athens, I shall obey God rather than you." Gandhi was right when asked what he thought of western civilization said in reply, "I think it would be a good idea." And Thomas Aquinas was right seven centuries ago when he said that, "an unjust law is no law and does not bind a man in conscience."

Our hope is intelligence. This quality may yet be under developed in America, but it is not yet corrupted. We have been set to wondering by ideas which have kept pace with us over the span of space and time or more than two decades, or more than two centuries, depend on which way you are counting. Wondering is the beginning of wisdom. I hope we are beginning to wise up. Certainly, I hope we haven't come this far to lose our way.

Answer 4 (of 37) CYNIC AL, on SUN, JUL 29 1984 at 17:24 (780 characters)

Dan Yurman: *I* am one of those toddlers which you referred to, growing up in the 60's. I did not start forming any political opinions until the Watergate Era (hence the name, 'Cynic'). I have always been fascinated with this particular period of time, when the youth of America seemed to rebel (or was that a revolution?) against the traditions of the older generation. Nothing like that ever happened during the 70's.

I enjoyed reading your piece, which gave me a little more of an insight to the thinking of the time. Now that the 60's youths are now in the positions of power, I thought it interesting that the 'rebels' could possibly wield their power the same way as those they rebelled against.

Looking forward to seeing more of your thoughts.

Al

Answer 5 (of 37) SML, on SUN, JUL 29 1984 at 20:51 (500 characters)

AI, I think *that* particular kind of rebellion has taken place virtually every generation since the beginnings of civilization. Because each generation's most thinking, caring, feeling people want to think that *they* can be the ones to make things better, *they* can be the ones to avoid the mistakes of the older generation. I like to think that they succeed, in some small way, each generation before they themselves become the "older" generation. A cynic might not agree.

Sherwin

Answer 6 (of 37) SML, on SUN, JUL 29 1984 at 21:21 (294 characters)

Dan, I deleted your answer 2 here since it was garbled and you had replaced it with answer 3 here. If anyone needs information on how to delete any of their own answers that they, for any reason, wish to... please send a message to HELPER for complete instructions.
Thanks!

Sherwin

Answer 7 (of 37) CYNIC AL, on MON, JUL 30 1984 at 01:06 (278 characters)

Sherwin: You may be right.... I don't know, 'cause I haven't been around long enough. However, what kind of betterment will we get from us 70's types, who spent our formative years in the 'Me Decade'? I'm still searching for my own personal answer to that one.

AI

Answer 8 (of 37) DAN YURMAN, on SAT, AUG 04 1984 at 12:21 (5246 characters)

DO THE REPUBLICANS KNOW ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENT? WHAT DO WE KNOW ABOUT HOW THEY THINK?

At this point we ought to know plenty! Consider the brief reincarnation of Anne (Ice Queen) Burford as the chairperson of a national committee on oceans and atmosphere. After she made a mess of EPA, Reagan decided to give her another chance. It is significant that her appointment came on the day that Reagan was scheduled to have lunch with the heads of the leading environmental organizations in an attempt to *lower* the volume level on their issues before the election.

The net result of the Burford appointment was to reopen the entire can of worms. The stink was so bad that bipartisanship reigned in Congress. Led by the Republican controlled Senate, and joined by the Democratic led House, an overwhelming majority voted to send Reagan a message asking him to withdraw the Burford nomination. Luckily for everyone concerned, Burford criticized the appointment as trivial and withdrew herself from further contention.

What have we learned from this? The list of lessons in order seem to be: (1) Reagan cares more about personal loyalty than he does about adverse criticism, (2) the environmental issues are not likely to sway the election since Reagan

has blithely ignored them, (3) someone like Anne Burford could easily be appointed to run EPA during a second term.

Well, suppose you had a chance to say something to a White House advisor about environmental issues. We'll assume for the sake of this exercise that the President's closest advisors are not especially tuned into current environmental thinking. I would not start with oil spills or hazardous waste dumps, which is what gets into the press these days as *environmental news.* I would start with natural resources.

As you may or may not know, the U.S. Government, Uncle Sam, owns one-third of the land mass of the continental 48 states, and he owns almost all of Alaska. These lands are administered under the general concept of *multiple use.* There are a lot of users including mining companies, lumber companies, coal companies, oil companies, and lots of other companies. Only a few have demonstrated the responsibility to look ahead beyond the end of year balance sheet.

The greatest danr facing the future of food, fiber, soil, water, and fisheries is from high discount rates which force those who exploit the land, including farmers, to *discount* conservation in terms of short term, high yield returns. The greatest opportunity is to change the way we think about the natural world, especially in light of this century's discoveries in physics.

What I would say to our prototype advisor is that there is a worldwide change in values going on which focuses on the place of human beings on the planet. This change has been going on at least since we first viewed our home planet from another world, the moon, in July 1969, and realized how fragile was the environment in which we lived floating in an immensity of outer space. Some of the change took place earlier than that. It came from the physicists who identified the essential linkages in nature and from biologists who identified the centrality of DNA to all life forms known to us. If you think these are abstractions, consider that over 22 million Americans viewed the COSMOS series onpublic TV! And quite a few more bought the book, at \$20 a crack.

The fundamental shift in perception of time has had many effects on the environment. In our century we have seen the change from the clockwork ofewton to Einstein's conceptions of the relativity of time and space. The clockwork has at its core an imperative which treats the earth as a spherical machine spinning in its orbit around the sun. And yet, this view of the earth was seen in its time as one of man's greatest achievements.

For instance, in *Inventing America,* Garry Wills says of Jefferson's writing of the *Declaration of Independence,* that the *. . .proudest boast of the age was that man could discern necessity at work, invariable, in the flow of apparent chance. Newton's ordering of the inanimate universe led men to seek an equivalent pattern in human activity. The Declaration's opening is Newtonian. It lays down the law . . . When in the course of human events it becomes necessary. . .*

But ecosystems do not function with the precision of clocks and manmade discontinuities in the flows of energy and materials in ecosystems are being caused by a Newtonian approach to natural resources. We keep it because it allows us to believe that we are capable of isolating causes and effects. And the result is that a tall smokestack which disperses power plant pollutants in

Ohio dumps acid rain on Vermont.

Under our present approach to the environment, some types of decision making may be impossible because our view of the world is inadequate. We need to shift the social sciences from Newton to Einstein and to do this we will need new forms of teaching and learning. We need to develop a perception of interdependence with the environment, not independence from it.

Answer 9 (of 37) MIKE GREENLY, on SAT, AUG 04 1984 at 13:29 (362 characters)

DAN YURMAN - OR ANYONE ELSE - COULD YOU SUMMARIZE BRIEFLY THE REPUBLICAN CASE ON THE ENVIRONMENT? WHAT IS THE *BEST* THING YOU COULD SAY IF YOU WERE A REPUBLICAN REPRESENTING REAGAN? (BY THE WAY, DAN, YOU MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN READING "DIANE TALKS" 7, ABOUT AN UNUSUAL DEMONSTRATION ON THE ENVIRONMENT IN HER BRANCH CONFERENCE FROM "DEMO 84".)

Answer 10 (of 37) SML, on SAT, AUG 04 1984 at 23:21 (600 characters)

Dan, I don't know what the Republican stance -- specifically -- is on the environment, though I'm sure there will be a relevant plank in the platform adopted in Dallas.

But don't worry too much -- the environment has proven over millions of years to be both constantly changing and amazingly resilient. Species come and go, the result of natural forces. Should humankind push the environment too far, I'm sure that a new environmental equilibrium will emerge that has no place for our species. And life will go on. Who knows? Maybe even intelligent life would develop.

Sherwin

Answer 11 (of 37) CYNIC AL, on TUE, AUG 07 1984 at 00:19 (76 characters)

Mike, why in the world do the Republicans need an 'official piano'?

Al

Answer 12 (of 37) SML, on TUE, AUG 07 1984 at 01:16 (88 characters)

To jazz things up, play the blues, or hit the key issues -- take your pick.

Sherwin

Answer 13 (of 37) DIANE W., on TUE, AUG 07 1984 at 03:02 (32 characters)

Sherwin, that was a sour note!

Answer 14 (of 37) MIKE GREENLY, on TUE, AUG 07 1984 at 05:40 (322 characters)

I would love to be on the floor with Reagan on a throne coming out of the sky and 104 (how many senators do we have exactly?) pianos -- official Baldwins -- revealed from the background playing "Hail to the Chief". something like the Olympics opener is what I have in mind. I'll keep my eyes out for that

Baldwin!

Answer 15 (of 37) NORMAN EPSTEIN, on TUE, AUG 07 1984 at 17:33 (244 characters)

Mike-

Thanks for the reminder. I talked with a friend of mine in Minneapolis today who is an investment counselor. He got totally jazzed when I told him about "DEMO 84" and "GOP 84". He'll definitely be joining in.

Norman

Answer 16 (of 37) RUBE, on TUE, AUG 07 1984 at 23:17 (70 characters)

Re #11,12,13,14.....Maybe the GOP is about to change it's tune??? !

Answer 17 (of 37) LISA CARLSON, on TUE, AUG 07 1984 at 23:37 (356 characters)

Gave Congressman Steny Hoyer a downloaded copy of his interview with Mike here today. He was impressed! I think copies of some of that kind of material passed around to the GOP folks might be a useful tool to get access to them at the convention. It is also something I show people I'm recruiting (just for you Mike <grin>) to this conference.

Answer 18 (of 37) CHRIS B, on FRI, AUG 10 1984 at 01:29 (220 characters)

Absolutely beautiful thoughts, Mike.

Keep on doing the great job you are. YOU are the man in 84.

Let's have a round of applause, everyone! The man always keeps us amazed. I love it!

All the best,

Chris

Answer 19 (of 37) STANDOC, on FRI, AUG 10 1984 at 02:16 (778 characters)

I 'second' Chris's applause for Mike's thoughtful journalism. If ever there was a journalist who 'bared his soul' with as much candor as Mike does from time to time, let all media writers take note of this clever and dedicated man whom they could do well to emulate. *MIKE* YOU make us feel the sweat, the heat, the electricity of the moment!!!! whether it be the situation or event that you are witnessing for us...or whether it's your own sweat, or your own anxiety.....you get my vote for the electro-pulitzer!

Look forward to your 'angles' and 'slants' It would be of interest to see how 'secure' Dallas is or how nervous it is in light of Kennedy murder there in '63 and Reagan-Hinkley connection!

STAN P.S. Chain that M100 to your belt, Mike!

Answer 20 (of 37) NORMAN EPSTEIN, on FRI, AUG 10 1984 at 03:00 (408 characters)

Hear, hear.

Mike, this is **exactly** the kind of thing that makes TENS different from NBC. I feel not only the exhilaration of the process, but also the anxiety.

This personalizes the experience, which in turn later makes me interested in the "hard" news which, under other circumstances, tends to bore me.

Keep up the good work, and thanks for sharing yourself with us.

Norman

Answer 21 (of 37) LISA CARLSON, on FRI, AUG 10 1984 at 21:23 (188 characters)

I'm on the edge of my seat as always, Mike! I've been feeling a little frustrated about a few things myself lately, but your piece on George helped - even vicariously. I love this!

Answer 22 (of 37) DAN YURMAN, on SAT, AUG 11 1984 at 14:41 (2616 characters)

SOMETHING TO LOOK FOR DURING THE REPUBLICAN CONVENTION. ARE YOU READY? THERE WILL BE LOTS OF **TYPE A** BEHAVIOR.

DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILES OF PREVIOUS REPUBLICAN CONVENTIONS HAVE FOCUSED ON THE PREDOMINATELY MALE, OVER AGE 40, CHARACTERISTICS OF THE DELEGATES. (However, TYPE A behavior is not limited to men.)

Many have exhibited in prior years what psychologists call **Type A** behavior. What is Type A behavior? A recent study conducted by a team from Mt. Zion Hospital and Medical Center and the Stanford University School of Education has been published in the August 1984 issue of the American Heart Journal. It described the following as characteristics of Type A behavior.

- Often tries to do two things at once
- Walks fast, eats, fast and leaves the table right after eating
- Makes a fetish of always being on time
- Has trouble sitting and doing nothing
- Has been frequently told by spouse to slow down
- Blinks or moves eyes rapidly when speaking
- Often jiggles a knee or taps fingers
- Clicks lips, nods head and rapidly sucks air when speaking
- Hurries or interrupts the speech of others
- Sits on the edge of chair as if poised for takeoff
- Talks with hands or pounds with fist for emphasis when speaking
- Sighs deeply, especially when discussing an irritating event
- Moves rapidly and often bumps or trips over things
- Gets irritated if kept waiting for any reason
- Distrusts other peoples' motives
- Always plays to win, even with children
- Shows signs of rage when discussing past events that provoked anger

Other TYPE A characteristics include obvious facial tension, a hostile, jarring laugh, explosive, staccato speech patterns, frequent use of (expletive deleted) language, hostile responses to verbal challenges, and periodic

"bulging" of the eyeballs to show the whites of the eyes.

Obviously, the Americans defending Bunker Hill knew what kind of people they were dealing with in the attacking British. "Don't shoot until you see the whites of their eyes," was the command the American officers gave to their men.

But, seriously, aside from the fact that a TYPE A person sounds too close for comfort like Richard Nixon, maybe as you watch the convention on TV, you will see TYPE A behavior. The question is whether these people, if they win the election, are the kind of role models we want to follow? The again, what would you do with a laid back republican?

Oh yes, the point of the study was to find out if cutting back on TYPE A behavior could reduce heart attacks. The answer appears to be affirmative.

Answer 23 (of 37) MIKE GREENLY, on SAT, AUG 11 1984 at 14:56 (236 characters)

Dan - I loved thinking about Type A behavior and the Republicans *but* (speaking as a Type A person myself) I heartily doubt that Republicans have more type a people than Democrats.

But Heartily! do I doubt that.

best, mike

Answer 24 (of 37) SML, on SAT, AUG 11 1984 at 23:54 (558 characters)

Dan, as I read your description of the type A I noted that by far the majority of the characteristics applied to your very own TENS trio (but I do *NOT* blink my eyes while I talk and gulp air). You need to add to the list "wishes they could type their answer while reading people's previous notes." That updates it to include modern communications.

In the type A tendencies you describe the do-ers of all phases of society. Another phrase used sometimes to describe them is "over-achiever." They're the ones who get things done.

Sherwin

Answer 25 (of 37) STANDOC, on SUN, AUG 12 1984 at 00:06 (130 characters)

Do you think its just seasonal joking or rude to refer to candidates Mondale and Ferraro as "Wally and the Beaver?" <smile?>

Answer 26 (of 37) BOB SANDHAUS, on SUN, AUG 12 1984 at 09:47 (382 characters)

Sherwin,

I'm so glad you decided to go. I felt it was difficult for your loyal readers

to offer too much coercion, in view of the tremendous personal expense. But now that you've decided "on your own," Huzzah! Glad you'll be able to attend the pompous coronation of that heartless movie actor. Can't wait to hear the apologies.

Sandy

P.S.: I'm an independent, too.

Answer 27 (of 37) SML, on SUN, AUG 12 1984 at 23:58 (142 characters)

Ah, but Sandy, my real goal is to attend the real coronation in January -- the inaugural ball. We'd all have a real ball there!

Sherwin

Answer 28 (of 37) BOB SANDHAUS, on MON, AUG 13 1984 at 00:07 (152 characters)

Sherwin,

Actually, that's not a bad idea. No matter who wins, TENS should be at the inauguration AND the ball. You all will deserve it.

Sandy'

Answer 29 (of 37) SML, on MON, AUG 13 1984 at 01:10 (58 characters)

Anyone have a close friend who controls the guest list?

Answer 30 (of 37) T/O, on MON, AUG 13 1984 at 01:42 (290 characters)

If you really want to see the stereotype of the rich Republicans go the the inaugural ball. You'll find that it doesn't quite fit at convention but the furs, diamonds, and limos come out at the ball. I went in 80 and don't care to go back but I can't wait to go to the convention.

Answer 31 (of 37) LISA CARLSON, on MON, AUG 13 1984 at 19:59 (18 characters)

SML: yes <grin>

Answer 32 (of 37) SML, on MON, AUG 13 1984 at 20:31 (98 characters)

I should have known -- and you, dear Lisa, have evoked a very, very broad grin here!

Sherwin

DALLAS BEFORE THE GOP CONVENTION

Jim Collie, Dallas

For a while everybody in Dallas thought the Republican Convention would be great fun and big bucks. But reality has set in and its just business as usual.

Maybe not quite as usual. Local Dallas press has reported that the judges and prosecutors have taken steps to clean out the Dallas jails to make room for the expected flood of arrests. No, no - not in anticipation of detention of delegates who get out or control partying. We gonna get the protesters.

Oh yes, Dallas police who usually ticket jay-walkers will not give out jay-walking tickets in the downtown area during the convention. Ah, the protesters: City of Dallas has graciously provided an area in the Trinity River bottoms for them to stay, a little south and west of the convention center. The city has graded streets, put in water hook-ups, showers, facilities, is even providing signs designating 'streets' and has tents to hand out. Generous? No, besides doing all this at the direction of a federal court it sure does make it easy to have all those folks in one place where you can watch'em! Monday's Times-Herald carried a report of the video cameras police have installed to assist security. The one with telescopic lens can scan, guess where?, the Trinity River bottoms.

The 'security perimeter': The Dallas Convention Center is not usually completely surrounded by a six foot chain link fence. I mean, fence posts planted in side walks and across streets. The chain links are nicely coated in a pretty green plastic and obviously won't stop someone who wants to climb over. But it does define the boundary of just how far Republicans are willing to let 'others' approach them. Tuesday, ACORN (the umbrella protest group), hung a large "DUMP REAGAN" banner on THE FENCE. Police wanted it down but everybody was being nice so they negotiated, looking at the federal court order which permits protesters to hang 'attended' signs in public areas. Police have now ruled that signs may be hung on THE FENCE. Oh dear, have the Republicans provided an enormous billboard that will surround the entire Convention Center, available to the opposition. Yes.

*All those good looking young men and women are handpainting a million signs for the floor demonstraions. Their media advisors have told them that TV cameras like 'homemade' signs. They have been at work on the signs for two months now, using the floor of the Convention Center as their workroom. The boys are all of a type: short hair, white cotton shirts, club ties. That's how they dress to paint! Most of the girls are in pretty dresses with stylish long sun-bleached hair. There are lots of them around.

When you see evening coverage on TV against the city skyline: no, we don't usually forget to turn off the lights when we leave the office in the evening, and we sure aren't all working that late. At Christmas we usually leave the lights on and the Chamber of Commerce figured this was just like Christmas.

finally

The schedule is out: dig the opening: the Girl Scouts present the colors; Lydia Hantout, Captain of the Nevada Stars (what is that? a kick squad?) will lead the Pledge; Miss Texas, Tamara Hext will sing the anthem, and fundamentalist Baptist evangelist James Robison will invoke. Kurt Vonnegut could not have written a better beginning.

PS: at the close on Thursday the 23rd Vicki Carr will sing the anthem and after the acceptance speeches Ray Charles will sing "America the Beautiful". Just thought you would like to know.

more from Dallas, later

Answer 34 (of 37) STEWART R PIERCE, on FRI, AUG 17 1984 at 18:49 (866 characters)

Reagan made a very big point of saying that the Democrats had gone so far left that they'd left the country after the San Francisco convention. I'd be curious to know if rank-and-file Republicans (is there such a thing as a rank-and-file Republican?) are concerned about their party going too far right. It seems the ultra-conservatives have pretty much taken over what with the platforms that disavow government funds for abortion *even* in the case of rape or incest, refusal to endorse ERA for only the second time (1st in '80) since 1940 and the endorsement of school prayer. Are these issues going to put the Republicans further to the right of the general electorate or will it really make any difference? Are any of the delegates concerned about becoming, (as Senator Lowell Weicker of Connecticut, a moderate, put it), a minority party?

Answer 35 (of 37) BBY498, on FRI, AUG 17 1984 at 22:10 (26 characters)

POLITICIANS ARE CROOKS!

Answer 36 (of 37) MIKE GREENLY, on FRI, AUG 17 1984 at 22:13 (134 characters)

bby498: do you believe that *any* politicians are honest, and are motivated by a genuine desire to something positive for society?

Answer 37 (of 37) SML, on FRI, AUG 17 1984 at 22:47 (672 characters)

I consider myself a "rank-and-file" Republican, Stewart. I'm not going to cop out on answering your question, but now that we are about to begin the actual convention coverage, let's please move things over to "GOP PUBLIC" where we'll be having all the discussions related to "GOP 84"

So -- everyone -- please join us in "GOP 84" and let's have some rousing discussion in "GOP PUBLIC" which is the public discussion branch of "GOP 84"

See you there!

Sherwin

(PS- To help keep things together we're going to close this branch now to further writing. Everything here will still be available to READ, but new comments should go to "GOP PUBLIC")

Joiners of "GOP DISCUSS" conference:

STEVE DEERING; RACOM; SDC; DOM S.; DR. MEMORY; TJ; SML; T/O; MIKE GREENLY; FINN; RITA G; DIANE W.; STANDOC; LISA CARLSON; K SQUARED; CYNIC AL; BUFLOE; CHRIS B; MICHEAL GILSON; JIM FRANKLIN; NORMAN EPSTEIN; STEVE TEICHNER; DAN YURMAN; RLH; STEWART; THOREAU;

"GOP 84" Conference 84.21811 TENS, organizer, about "PARTICIPATE IN A FIRST! "LIVE" FROM THE GOP CONVENTION, DALLAS, AUGUST 20-23" (answers: 64) FRI, 08/17 18:24 (1822 characters)

-->> You are invited to be part of a special event -- the *first* interactive, electronic journalism from a national Republican Party convention.

This is the companion Conference to "Demo 84". That effort was praised in national publications for its distinctive difference from "traditional" journalism. And for the unprecedented *interaction* of journalist and reader that makes this venture genuinely "historic."

The Republican Convention, "live" from Dallas. Don't just read about it -- come be part of history yourself. This "first" opportunity comes but once.

Brought to you by TRANSCOASTAL Electronic News Service, founded by Diane Worthington, Sherwin Levinson, and Mike Greenly.

This overall conference, "GOP 84", is where most of the reporting will take place. You must *join* it to receive the news and observations automatically.

Answer 2 explains the two Branch Conferences which we urge you to join as well.

One is "GOP Public" -- where YOU are invited to comment, ask questions, toss praise, barbs, or suggestions as you wish. The other is "Teichner Polls", in which Steve Teichner, noted National Pollster will give you his views, and will poll you on yours. [Steve gave "Demo 84" readers the *scoop* on Mondale's choice of Ferraro 7 hours before the decision was actually announced.]

NOTE: Unless you specifically JOIN a particular conference, you will not receive its contents automatically in your Parti mailbox.

The place to start?

Right now, say JOIN at the DISPOSITION prompt you receive after reading this.

Then say Read 1 if you're new to Parti, or Read 2 if you're already comfortable here. In the future, just say Parti at the Source command prompt to receive the electronic Parti mail waiting for you.

Join us!

Answer 1 (of 64) TENS, on FRI, AUG 17 1984 at 18:39 (4284 characters)

For New Parti Users

The most important thing to know: Parti gets very comfortable with -> PRACTICE <-

Here are a few tips to help you as you gain experience:

At any DISPOSITION Prompt
(that's what you get after you've read a
note), you can say:

Next to move on to the
next piece of mail.

Scan to see, again,
the first few lines of it.

--->NOTE: If you will Scan
when you return to Parti,
you can then decide if you
want to read an *entire*
note, or simply go on to
the *next* one.

That way you don't have to
spend time reading a note on
a topic that doesn't interest
you. We will always list the
subject at the top of each
note here so you'll know what
it's about before you choose
to read or pass it by.

Read to read an entire note.

Join to be sure you receive all
future notes in a conference.

Stop to put all your waiting mail

out of sight, and go to the ACTION Prompt instead.

Write to send a note to the conference or author you've just read.

When you've said: Write you enter your "scratchpad".

Write whatever reply or comment you like. (People are more likely to *read* a *brief* one!)

When you've composed what you like, go over to the left hand margin.
<---- there!

That's where you give the command of what to do next. Always put a period in front of your command.

Choices include:

.Answer this is *the* most common type of reply to a conference. RECOMMENDED!

.Clear to erase your scratchpad and start over.

? to get help and to learn about other choices.

When you send an .Answer to a Conference, everyone else Joined can read it. That's the power of this communications system.

The previous comments were for when you're at the DISPOSITION prompt -- telling you you're "attached" to a note or letter of some kind. (You'll get a DISPOSITION prompt at the end of this note.)

Whenever you are at the ACTION prompt, however, you can Write to *any* person or Conference you have access to. Since you're not then "attached" to a particular conference, you'll need to specify *where* your mail is to go.

In your scratchpad, after you've composed a message, go to the left margin (!) and use this format:

.Answer "GOP PUBLIC"

(always put the name of the
Conference you're answering
in quotes).

If you're sending a message to a particular individual, use this format:

.Message Helper

.Message Sherwin

(etc.)

You can send a .Message to Helper whenever you get stuck, or want help in upgrading your knowledge of this remarkable system. Volunteer Parti Helpers check the mail daily.

Read the "Practice" Conference, as a way of becoming more familiar with Parti. And please realize, now that you're here on Parti, in the future you merely have to say: Parti at the Source command level to come back and receive any mail that has come in for you between visits.

NOW: At the DISPOSITION prompt you receive, say

READ *if* you wish to
read this note again.

and/or

JOIN to be sure you become a
member of this main
"GOP 84" conference

READ 2 to go on and read the 2nd
note which is an explanation
of the two Branch
Conferences. (You will need
to JOIN each branch
topic *if* you want to be
sure to receive mail in
each automatically.)

We are excited to have you here, making telecommunications history with us. Answer 2 will let you decide how and where you want to plug right in!

TRANSCOASTAL
Electronic News Service

Diane W., Sherwin, Mike Greenly

with Sherwin and Mike on location in Dallas.

Answer 2 (of 64) TENS, on FRI, AUG 17 1984 at 18:42 (1656 characters)

Overview

The main "GOP 84" conference is for our primary reports from Dallas. It is "read only" -- you cannot send a note to it directly.

Each report will have a heading, so if you are scanning your mail, you can decide in advance if you wish to read the entire topic. (In the U.S., but not

in Canada, hold the CONTROL key while you press the P to break out of a note you've changed your mind about.)

The contents of "GOP 84" are:

- 1 Instructions for Parti newcomers.
- 2 This overview.
- 3 "GOP PUBLIC" *INTERACTIVE* discussions with all the participants here.
Here is where you are invited to comment and read others' comments.
- 4 "TEICHNER POLLS" Nationally famous Pollster Steve Teichner shares his insights here, and polls you for yours.
- 5 "GOP 84 INDEX" The most recent entry in this Branch Conference will always be an updated list of the topics in the main "GOP 84" Conference.

Always put a Conference name in "quotes" when you are specifying it. For example:

Scan "GOP 84" 20 or
Read "GOP 84" 20

is the correct way (from the ACTION Prompt) to scan or read the 20th answer in the "GOP 84" conference. If you're already at the "Disposition Prompt" for the "GOP 84" Conference, you need only say:

Scan 20 or
Read 20

We're happy to have you here as an integral part of electronic, journalistic, and political history.

***Branching off of "GOP 84" 84.21811 as Answer 3 (of 64)

"GOP PUBLIC" Conference 84.21813 TENS, organizer, about "TOSS ROSES, BRICKBATS, IDEAS OR LURK WHILE OTHERS DO. *THIS* IS INTERACTIVE JOURNALISM!" (answers: 330) FRI, 08/17 18:50 (1010 characters)

What distinguishes this form of journalism is your ability to interact with us, who are reporting to you, and with each other.

Some readers like to offer brief comments as we go along in the experience of the event ahead.

Others prefer to come along for the ride, but simply "lurk" in silent interest at what others around the country have to say.

Either way, you are *** avidly *** invited to join this public forum of readers around the country (and those following the Convention from other countries, too).

You should know that all remarks in this public Conference are 100% quotable unless specifically otherwise stated by you. Journalists covering TRANSCOASTAL's Parti coverage of the Democratic Convention quoted various readers' comments to us (Dr. Memory was quoted in the Christian Science Monitor, for example, and De Monster was quoted in the San Jose Mercury News.)

If you wish to come along for the public ride, say [Join](#) at the DISPOSITION prompt you now receive!

***Branching off of "GOP 84" 84.21811 as Answer 4 (of 64)

"TEICHNER POLLS" Conference 84.21815 TENS, organizer, about "NATIONALLY FAMOUS POLLSTER PARTICIPATES IN "GOP 84" -- AN UNUSUAL OPPORTUNITY" (answers: 3) FRI, 08/17 18:56 (508 characters)

Noted Pollster, Steve Teichner, shares his political perspective here, and will poll you on your views. (He'll also analyze poll results.)

If you have comments to address to Steve, you can do so in a private .Message

to Steve Teichner, or in a public note to the "GOP Public" Conference. Also, each poll here will give you a chance to enter your comments about the poll directly.

To have access to Steve Teichner's commentary and Poll results, say [Join](#) at the DISPOSITION prompt below.

***Branching off of "GOP 84" 84.21811 as Answer 5 (of 64)

"GOP 84 INDEX" Conference 84.21816 TENS, organizer, (answers: 3) FRI, 08/17

19:04 (184 characters)

To help you find the notes of most interest to *you*, the most recent entry in this Branch Conference will always be an updated list of the topics in the main "GOP 84" Conference.

Answer 6 (of 64) MIKE GREENLY, on SUN, AUG 19 1984 at 04:16 (2260 characters)

First Impressions: I

NOTE: this is AMBIENCE only!

hit Ctrl P if you're
not interested.

I've been to Dallas before, and even in August. But it's different visiting as a journalist. Before, my job was to give a speech, put on a show, do well in a career -- all of that was preoccupying my head. Now my job is to see, to think, to share.

So I *notice* more now.

I notice how the heat -- 102 degrees when we land -- whaps you as soon as you face it. It seeps through your clothing despite its desert dryness. This is definitely not San Francisco!

As I wait for Rob Howard (he generously meets me at the enormous airport), I'm stand just outside -- within the perimeter of the circular concrete airport. All around the vast, hard, structure -- stretching above and around me -- are concrete goalposts. That's the best I can do to describe them. I don't know what function they serve -- controllers or signs of some kind, facing the airfields just on the other side of the crescent. But on this side, they are more than 50, cold Stonehenge artifacts stretching out in the sun across the white airport "stadium", parking on the playing field. These icons atop the airport are outposts. They are white, concrete watchers on the desert. At the edge of the fortress city.

The Southwest sky is vast and almost cloudless as we drive off into the sun toward a hotel room that they tell me sincerely was "designed by Doris Day". That should tell you all you need to know. But I will tell you more:

in my room, I am often accidentally tripping over the ledge that drops down steeply -- under 5 open arches with 6 Grecian columns, like a stage, as I head toward the creamy white desk with golden bows instead of handles. Now I sit on a couch facing a wall of nothing but mirror -- and only now do I discover that the "handles" of the bureau and night tables are also gold bows. The mirror reflects the view from the window over my shoulder: a Dallas skyscraper, as seen through concrete scalloping, lit all night in turquoise blue.

Thank you, Doris Day, for my new home away from home.

[next note: the convention center of "GOP 84".]

Answer 7 (of 64) MIKE GREENLY, on SUN, AUG 19 1984 at 05:20 (3754 characters)

First Impressions II -
Convention Center Media

The Dallas City Hall is awesome -- aggressive, powerful, with a top floor that juts above the ground floor, like a slice wuz hacked out by a mean, impatient cowpoke.

To say it's "right next door" to the Convention Center is ludicrous -- that doesn't tell you about Texas geography. How very spread out everything is in Dallas.

It is Saturday night. The Hall is empty of all but guards and a few stray workers.

We walk past metal fencing all around Convention Center. Dallas is taking no chances, but the effect is Kremlin and chilling. Policemen are friendly though -- things are quiet, and they are socializing in clumps in the empty, hot night.

We enter West Hall and shocking coolness within. We take silver escalators to a shiny, silver sky ledge. So much of the architecture and design in this town is so "now" it ends up cold.

But -- my heart skips -- even from below you can see the warm, colored placards at the top of the ledge, waiting to direct you.

To NEWSWEEK. The New York Times. TIME. Associated Press. On and on and on.

I mumble to Rob Howard that merely these *names* give me a kick -- I think if I were alone I might tap dance up the escalator (and promptly be arrested.) I can't tell you why communications media turn me *on* so, and why seeing them all here together fills me with such glee.

All I know is, my heart sings seeing them here, side by side. If *only* we could be permanent next door neighbors. I'd pop by every day. "Here, NEWSWEEK, I baked ya'll a pecan pie this mawnin'!"

I stifle my impulse to race toward the media warrens and, instead, we check out the auditorium to our right. Here's where press conferences are held. And here's the working press room with -- hooray -- phones you can unplug for direct connect logon to The Source. Each room opens up from the stark hallway like rich oases in the desert.

Now we find the main Press headquarters -- how convenient all this is compared to San Francisco. Here we are, all lavishly sheltered behind thick wire fencing. No driving from one hotel to another.

The Press room is filled with stacks
stacks
stacks
stacks
and more stacks

of press releases. Biographies. Convention phone numbers. The daily schedule. Listing of delegates from every state. Platform amendments. Religious statements. More biographies.

Table after table after table. I am pleasantly shocked to see the familiar AT&T Press Kit jacket I know from all the trade shows I go to. In its colored slickness, it's a friend on the table of white and black paper listings.

So now I know how to get the daily schedule and where to attend on-site conferences. I almost skip across the hallway to media city -- a warren of "offices" whose walls are yellow fabric and whose cores are filled with desks, many hundreds of computers, and very few people just now.

Some media (like NEWSWEEK) have all night security guards (what if TIME wanted to steal something?) Many have not one old-fashioned typewriter in the entire office -- just computers.

I poke my head into one after the other. This is where we had hoped to have a TENS office. And how sweet that would have been.

"Electronic WHAT? You're too late anyway!"

Ah well --

yikes! just across the hall, on the other side of the guards and the metal detector -- it's the empty Convention Hall on Saturday night. We're coming! We're coming!

(next note: inside the Main Hall)

Answer 8 (of 64) MIKE GREENLY, on SUN, AUG 19 1984 at 10:40 (5736 characters)

First Impressions III:
The Main Hall

We pass through the metal detector into ---

RED! VAST RED. V A S T.

Red seats, red carpeting. I have to search for a while to find the podium. It is beige -- more sedate, more "quality", more Presidential than the Democrats -- it is not the obvious focus within the empty room.

Why do I not feel the heart-pounding excitement of my first 5 minutes on The Floor in San Francisco? Of course, there'll never again be another "my first time"; that's obviously a factor.

And the fact that the room is stark empty. But there's more than that, too.

This hall is more impressive, but less emotional. The ceilings are lower and the decor is sparser, more restrained. There'd be no ceiling room for me to *fly* here (I sense flying would be discouraged anyway.) The white scaffolding above our heads is overwhelming -- a metal lattice sky. The streeeeeeeeetch of red seating is more breath-taking, but more monotonous.

Some of this impression is a function of the hall itself. But a lot seems, also, to me to be the clear-cut decision of image makers.

You realize, don't you, that it doesn't just "happen" that the central podium is beige and not red white and blue? It doesn't just happen that there's no bunting. Just as was the case with the Democrats, of course, every detail is mashed and hashed and bashed and lashed till the decision -- each separate decision -- is made for particular reasons.

This is more the kind of hall you'd create for marketing a noble *President* (vs. the unknown contender the Democrats had to plan in advance for). The decor is more Presidential -- more awesome, less giddy, more dignified, less obviously theatrical. More regal. Less emotional.

So I'm impressed, but I can still walk. There's no runway -- that's another thing -- there's no runway for me to run out and pretend on. Or else a trick of color plays the aisles down (vs. the blue aisles and contrasting silver chairs of the Democrats.) Here all roads and Eyeways lead to the podium, once you've found it.

I'm eager to tell you about the jelly beans -- but first, while we're on the Podium, these notes from the "Official Press Guide" [the brackets are my own commentary] --

"the convention podium is ten feet in height making it considerably lower than those normally used in the past. In addition, the earth tone colors which accent its appearance are much different from the traditional red, white, and blue."

[totally a marketing decision.]

"The podium is designed to prevent distracting foot traffic behind convention speakers: Those needing to move from stage left to stage right will be able to use stairways on either side, making the trip out of camera view behind and underneath the structure."

[another marketing decision -- control the activity, you're not trying to show energy and people bobbing back and forth getting ready for a "show" -- you are portraying *worthiness*, the government is in strong and capable hands. Don't make it seem like a circus -- the President must seem too busy and serious for that. Manage podium traffic to indicate order and stability.]

"Built into the design are TV and still-photo camera positions directly in front on either side. Behind the speaker, the main backdrop is designed with a felt material which convention planners can change to any one of eight different colors (by using lighting techniques). Hanging directly over the podium is a large multi-media screen, the main portion of which will be used for carrying the feed from the RNC Network gavel-to-gavel coverage as well as for special feature films and documentaries. [With the problems the Republican National Committee has had counting on network TV coverage, it is offering its own *full* coverage -- with no commentators -- for only \$280 to any accredited news gathering organization. As of one week prior to the convention, the RNC Network had signed on approximately 40 subscribers with a total reach of over 1,000 stations.]

We see a central mini-stage with plenty of microphones on it (a hard surface that I know *would* accomodate tap dancing. Rob cynically asks about a minstrel show.) For me the interesting decision is the *separateness* of this stage-ette from the podium, unlike the Democrats who had entertainment right in front.

We see the official "GOP 84" piano -- the Baldwin -- sitting up on a platform with band accomodations, so there'll be live music on the floor.

We see the separate hall for overflow guest seating with its own large screen, and a stage for appearances by speakers.

and -- a guard with an Italian accent -- says "you owe it to yourself" and pushes us to see the 6' tall portraits of Reagan and Bush --
made out of gourmet jelly beans!

They are phenomenal. Bizarre. I admire them as kitsch with style. Like pointillist art, they are better from a distance. And like too many jelly beans, the portraits pall quickly. But I have never seen anything like them. I can recognize some of the flavors -- I think Bush's shirt, for example, is Banana and Coconut.

Later - we are out in the warm unmoving air. Rob and I notice flags drooped so still and so straight, they could be sculpture. And I realize what I think about the Main Convention Hall at the beginning of this week.

It is not thrilling. It does not play to excite the senses.

But it certainly is impressive.

My bet: it's very effective.

mike

Answer 9 (of 64) SML, on SUN, AUG 19 1984 at 14:14 (2054 characters)

On the Way

So, I'm about to board the Dallas-bound plane. Somehow I just haven't yet worked up the excitement and enthusiasm I felt before the Democratic convention. I'm not sure why. Partly there was so little time between the two -- I'm still coming down from SF. Partly, there's the feeling that there just won't be as much news -- after all, there's sure no mystery about who'll be the nominee. In SF I was able to maintain the feeling, maybe illusion, that Gary Hart really **could** pry the nomination away from Fritz; here there'll be nothing like that. I also know that a large part is not having one of the team here, and knowing why she can't be with us -- that's weighing heavily on me.

But I know, of course, that the people stories will be there, just as they were with the Dems. In fact, things promise to be more exciting on that front because of both what we've meanwhile learned and also because of some contacts volunteered by fellow partiers -- you'll certainly be hearing more about that! (oh, and Mr. Reagan, if you're reading this, please spare Mike or me a few minutes for a friendly chat -- we'll be at the Dupont Plaza and we'd be glad to meet you anywhere at all when you have a free minute)

I feel a bit like a walking computer store -- on my right shoulder is a

briefcase with my Epson PX-8 (now in my lap), on my left a bag with another PX-8 which Epson is lending to Steve Teichner, and in my suitcase is the Radio Shack M100 which T/O will be using during the convention. It should be interesting comparing the PX-8 with the M100 which has already proven itself under fire (on second thought, maybe I should give T/O the Epson and keep the M100).

I guess also a part of what it is/was ('cause just talking to you is getting me up for this) was as much the worry of whether I can build up the head of steam, the energy, it takes to really do a proper job.

Sure I can. Thanks for listening -- I'll see you in Dallas.

Sherwin

Answer 10 (of 64) MIKE GREENLY, on SUN, AUG 19 1984 at 17:03 (3056 characters)

Press Briefing: About Credentials

There are three men. One introduces the other who brings on the third. They brief us in the official press chamber -- bright lights, sparse attendance, 11:30 Sunday morning.

Ron Walker, Convention Manager, begins. He is in his mid 40's, I think, and seems nervous. He talks about all the work of producing this event. I really do have an idea of what must have been involved. You bet it was work!

The Republicans want "a successful convention," he tells us. "We want our story told. We want to make sure America gets the full story." He uses the "prouder, stronger, and better" theme that one sees on Reagan-Bush bulletin boards in town.

His deputy then speaks for a minute. Then the assistant to the deputy -- a man named Mike who uses a gigantic multi-colored chart of Main Hall.

You know what surprises me? the tone of these men, especially the latter two. It is tight and dry. There is nothing personal or friendly about it. It is (seriously) almost grim.

Is it efficient? Yes. Is it fun, or winning, or endearing, or engaging? Not a bit. Would these guys be a joy to work with? Not the point. Clearly they can get things done and they're dead-on accurate.

But this is an *opportunity* for them, how they present themselves. The perfectionist in me is irritated that they don't realize how to be "lighter", more human, more -- well, likeable on their Party's behalf.

This guy Mike -- he seems hungry to refer to the additional, in-depth blue prints of the hall (which none of us would be able to see meaningfully anyway) -- he explains when our limited access passes will no longer let us onto the floor: one minute past midnight this evening.

I see the red-colored area on the map where TRANSCOASTAL has been granted "one

seat". We're with the college press, and the "special" situations. In other words, the lowest priority. We have been given the favor, however, of *two* Limited Access passes. They seem just about worthless, except for access to media releases. (Or if I personally just crave to wander Media Heaven for the kick of it.)

Mike refers to his charts like a general covering the battle plan. He knows where the back stairways are. He knows who can't go where. I fantasize that he knows where the secret cameras and sensors are, and that my chair is wired for biofeedback, and that -- well, I don't think this is the mood I ought to be put in.

Never mind -- personal networking on Parti appears likely to produce some results. I'm confident we'll be able to *add* to your "regular" perspective on the Convention, something you couldn't get otherwise.

We won't be the New York Times and we won't be CBS. And we may not even get decent credentials.

But we're not without resources . . .

Meanwhile, I leave the meeting grumpy. They have made the whole process seem as drudgery as doing your taxes. And that's not why I came here.

Answer 11 (of 64) MIKE GREENLY, on SUN, AUG 19 1984 at 19:59 (2770 characters)

Full Disclosure: The Carpet is Blue
(plus other tales of Media City)

Let's get it over with: the carpet is blue, not red. Evidently the brightness of those hard red chairs in the glowing empty hall just overwhelmed my memory. But the marketing perspective I gave you hasn't changed an iota. And the podium and front panel is *notable* in its absence of bunting or traditional red, white, and blue. State flags are on the wall behind the press seats near the podium -- so the major front wall feels much more like United Nations than a typical convention.

>> Yes, I was over there today. Dropping by press kits (I made it all the way up into the CBS Sky Booth -- it gets harder for moxie or charm to mean a thing later in the week, but now, when the hall is empty --)

>> I notice how reporters look covertly at each other's credentials as they pass in the corridors. It's like looking to see how "big" the other guy is, if you know what I mean.

>> There is now much more activity on the floor. Pages being given final instructions. Interviewers from local stations already beginning their peculiar drama on the steps. I talk to a local anchorman I know, just about to go on "live"; the makeup makes him look -- in person -- like his face is wearing hosiery.

>> I visit the booth of the National Republican Women -- I angle to see if I

can be one of the (limited number of) reporters to cover Joan Rivers at the tribute to Nancy Reagan on Wednesday. I've got a good shot at it.

>> I give a demonstration of Parti to an AP editor -- the Model 100 on his desk sits next to mine. "Very interesting," he says. "Good luck!" [uh, Does that mean I don't get the part sir?]

>> Jose Manuel Nava is the Washington correspondent for Excelsior, el periodico de la vide nacional de Mexico. I interview him in the International Press Room.

He thinks tthat without media to "give life" to the Convention, people wouldn't notice it at all. He thinks Reagan is so power-conscious he doesn't recognize that the world has changed since 1950, and the U.S. can't be that kind of superpower again. But he thinks Mondale is "strange" and doesn't really understand Latin American at all.

His first convention ever was San Francisco last month. Up until then, he says, he thought Republicans and Democrats were pretty much alike -- just differences of shading. Now he believes they're very different indeed. Americans are being given clear choices, he says.

>> I'm a regular at the Media Office now, plugged into all *kinds* of events that can be covered. There will simply have to be choices.

It's in fact, just like life . . .

Answer 12 (of 64) DIANE W., on MON, AUG 20 1984 at 04:03 (3878 characters)

Schedule of Events - Subject to Change
Republican National Convention

The following is a schedule of podium events for the Republican Convention.

I've only provided the evening events, as they'll be what you'll be seeing on television, if you care to watch. The morning sessions seem not to be too 'newsworthy', but I'm sure your local papers or network will synopsise.

Monday, August 20th, 1984 - 8:00 pm, CDT:

- o Convention called to Order
- o Presentation of the Colors - Representatives of Texas 1984-85; Future Farmers of America; Color Guard
- o Pledge of Allegiance - Miss Thu-Nga Tran, Ft. Collis, Co.
- o National Anthem - Shelly Rodriguez Palos, Dallas
- o Invocation - Rabbi Fabian Shonfeld, Queens, NY
- o Address - Congressman Phil Gram, 6th Dist. of Texas
- o Address - Hon. Jeane Kirkpatrick, US Ambassador to the United Nations
- o Salute to Senior Citizens - Dr. Virginia Boyak, Valencia, Ca.
- o Address - Senator Howard Baker, Tenn.
- o Address - Margaret Heckler, Secty. of the Dept. of Health and Human Services

- o Presentation of GOP Congressional Committee - Hon. Guy Vander Jagt, Chairman
Nat. GOP Congressional Comm.
- o Keynote Address - Hon. Katherine Ortega, Treasurer, USA
- o Benediction - Rev. Wright Lassiter, Pres., Bishop College, Dallas

Tuesday, August 21st, 1984 - 8:00 pm, CDT

- o Presentation of the colors - American Legion post #321, Color Guard,
Plano, Tx.
- o Pledge of Allegiance - Jennifer Dunn, Chair, Program Planning Committee
- o National Anthem - Shelly Burch, New York City
- o Invocation - Bishop Donis Patterson, Episcopal Bishop of Dallas
- Ratification of Republican National Committee
- o Address - Hon. Robert Martinez, Mayor, Tampa Fla.
- o Address - Congressman Robert A. Michel, 18th Dist., Ill.
- o Presentation of Republican Platform - Congressman Trent Lott, 5th Dist.,
Miss., Chair, Comm. on Resolutions
- o Presentation by GOP Senatorial Comm. - Richard Lugar, Chair, Ind. Senator
- o Address - Hon. Gerald Ford, 38th President of US
- o Address - Senator Robert Dole, Kansas
- o Address - Elizabeth Dole, Secty. of US Dept. of Transportation
- o Benediction - Most Rev. Rene Gracida, D.D., Bishop of Corpus Christi, Tx.

Wednesday, August 22nd, 1984 - 7:30 pm, CDT

Convention called to Order by the Permanent Chairman

- o Presentation of Colors - Ranger Battalion Assn. of WWII
- o Pledge of Allegiance - Charlton Heston
- o National Anthem - Wayne Newton
- o Invocation - Archbishop Ivakovos, Primate of Greek Orthodox Diocese, North
and South America
- o Address - Hon. James Thompson, Governor of Ill.
- o Address - Rev. E.V. Hill, Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church, Los Angeles
- o Address - Senator Pete Domenici, New Mexico
- o Introduction - Roger Staubach, Dallas

Tribute to the First Lady

Remarks by - Senator John G. Tower, Tx.

- o Address - Senator Barry M. Goldwater, Arizona

Roll Call for the Nomination of President and Vice-President of the USA

- o Benediction - Rev. Jerry Falwell, Pastor, Liberty Church, Lynchburg, Va.

Thursday, August 23rd, 1984 - 8:00 pm, CDT

Convention called to Order by the Permanent Chairman

- o Presentation of the Colors - US Armed Forces Color Guard
- o Pledge of Allegiance - Hon. Everett Alvarez, Dpty. Director, Veterans Adm.
- o National Anthem - Vickie Carr
- o Invocation - His Emin. John Cardinal Krol, Archbishop of Philadelphia
- o Acceptance Speech by Nominee for Vice President - Guess who?
- o Filmed Introduction of President

- o Acceptance Speech by Nominee for President - Who Else?
- o "America the Beautiful" - sung by Ray Charles
- o Benediction - Dr. W.A. Criswell, Pastor, First Baptist Church of Dallas

Adjournment

Answer 13 (of 64) MIKE GREENLY, on MON, AUG 20 1984 at 08:55 (4584 characters)

The Colorado Caucus - Convention Eve
+ a Contrast, Republicans vs Democrats

I hear Holly Coors -- yes, of Coors beer, and Chairman of the state of Colorado for the Reagan-Bush Campaign -- addressing the group and explaining that they will find the decor they'll see in the Main Hall very "Presidential."

"The whole decor is key to the theme of the President's being elected to the Presidency again," she tells us.

(Sherwin looks over to grin at me, given my earlier comments on this.)

I am struck by what a different planet this caucus is from the Democratic/Pennsylvania caucus I attended.

The Deputy Regional Campaign Director for the Reagan-Bush Campaign tells this group they've won an award for the high % of women delegates elected in their state. They cheer with pleasure. This is all reminding me of Avon motivational functions -- recognition awards, the feeling that "we are all winners", laughter, fellowship.

There is no ---- no! ---- discussion of issues or political opinions. In San Francisco, I saw, and interviewed, people on opposite sides of issues, people concerned about defense levels vs. anti-nuclear efforts, about discrimination, about the various platform votes that needed to be taken. People speaking out with passion under strict Caucus timing rules.

Here, Holly tells us, "you're going to be so proud of the platform. It's a wonderful platform".

It's all done.

Another speaker marvels at the technology of screens whose background colors change in response to the complexion and clothing of the speaker. And the ability to see a film in full color without dimming the house lights. This is more like the Night Before Christmas than the steamy, impassioned speeches I heard from the Pennsylvania Delegates in SF.

We learn that, unfortunately, seating for every Delegation in the nation has been cut by 7 and 1/2%.

This is an embarrassing bit of mis-management, it's acknowledged, and a lot of time is spent on dealing with the procedures for handling people who've worked hard for the Republican Campaign and have come all this way to discover they may have no seat at the Convention.

Floor passes begin being handed out and Sherwin and I leave for a taxi.

I notice that I **like** these Delegates. They are up, and mostly fresh-looking (from young to old). There's a very striking homogeneity about them. Yes, there's an Oriental Delegate. Yes, there's an American Indian Delegate. But mostly these people are from John Denver country. Surely a lot of what I'm observing is the contrast between Colorado and Pennsylvania as states.

But I'm just so struck by the lack of dissent or opinion -- none is needed. One of the speakers tells us that so much work has been done to move the party "in the direction we want it to go, and in the direction **he** wants it to go" -- but we don't need to spend time on discussing those directions.

There will be two votes, we are told -- one for President, one for Vice President.

I find something chilling about this.

The thing is, my own personal quandary -- I **like** these folks. I'd rather be locked in a stalled elevator with any random eight of these than with a similar selection from last month's caucus.

I let myself imagine that elevator incident: it'd be easier to agree on what to do about it, how to solve our emergency. It'd be quieter and calmer till we got rescued (with the exception of one Delegate I'd want to have taken the escalator.) I'd be smelling quality perfumes in the close quarters -- excuse my Avon training, please.

so I'm having a pleasant time with these people.

but I'm conscious of all the different kinds of Americans **not** here in the room with us. And maybe I'm more comfortable that they're not here, actually -- but I don't know if I'm comfortable with **myself** about how easy it is to be here.

And I keep thinking about "prizes" for the largest number of female delegates. What difference does it make, anyway, I wonder -- other than for television -- if all delegates do is go to parties and have a nice time.

I am giving myself permission not to have any clear resolutions of the things I'm pondering. I'm interviewing "regular people" everywhere I go and will write about that later.

For now, it just seems odd as I exit the caucus that my strongest fantasy is to thank the hostess.

"Thank you for a lovely caucus, ma'am. I had a very nice time."

Answer 14 (of 64) MIKE GREENLY, on MON, AUG 20 1984 at 09:07 (246 characters)

Invitation to submit questions: Senator Pete Wilson (California).

I have an interview with the Senator Tuesday afternoon. If you want to suggest a question, you could leave an .answer in "GOP Public" or send me a private .message. mike

Answer 15 (of 64) MIKE GREENLY, on MON, AUG 20 1984 at 11:05 (506 characters)

live at the opening.

This is composed online. I know I am in the wrong place. Instead of sitting in the "other" section, I am 6 feet away from the edge of the Podium Section -- maybe 10 feet. So if you're watching on CNN I'm to the right of the podium.

The reason I know it's a mistake that I'm here is the handy telephone I'm using, the computers set up ahead of me for Associated Press, the placards for the Dallas Times Herald. It's as though I were Newsweek, or U.S. News.

hi, mom!

Answer 16 (of 64) MIKE GREENLY, on MON, AUG 20 1984 at 11:18 (1216 characters)

live Monday morning -

I know I'll not be able to stay here, so let me give you a fast impression. Most of the press section here is empty. The pledge of allegiance, the opening prayer, the opening statements -- "no news".

I'm looking out at the major network booths on my left. The house is about one-third empty. Even some of the state delegates aren't here yet. I'm now facing the large scaffolding, and behind it the official Baldwin piano and the members of the live band. As the speaker -- the mayor of Dallas? -- talks, you can hear the buzz in the crowd. As I look down at the faces, it seems to me that so many folks are just sitting -- waiting -- noit especially listening as this man talks about "the people of Dallas". I look out at a delegation with white cowboy hats, a separate group with red. Someone seems -- astutely -- to start applause at the right times, and people pick it up.

The band plays music from Mame. I know my Broadway musicals.

Now the reporters who really own these seats are beginning to arrive. But it doesn't feel to me like this Convention has really started yet. I will unplug now and take my rightful, humble place. (bye mom.)

Answer 17 (of 64) MIKE GREENLY, on MON, AUG 20 1984 at 20:04 (4958 characters)

NCPAC TV Commercials

It's silly for me to stay in the Hall. There are so many things happening elsewhere,
and my seat is far, far inferior to your television view.

So I head to a Press Conference given by the National Conservative Political Action

Committee (NCPAC). I don't know much about them except they have an "aura" that makes some folks I know shudder.

So I want to learn about them. My press kit includes a bumper sticker:
HONK if MONDALE
promised you something

and a book called "Walter Mondale and the Politics of Misery, or Minnesota Fritz and the Party of Gloom.

The purpose of the Press Conference is to show some television advertising. Good-o! I love advertising.

Chairman Terry Dolan says the Democrats have nominated "the single most liberal ticket in the history of this country." And then he shows us the commercials his organization has prepared to counter that.

I am unprepared for what I see.

"Slogan People Will Believe"

The transcript notes the commercial is filmed on the outside of "an old 'Sam Spade' office door. Late at night, darkly lit milk glass with 'Mondale for President' painted across it. Shadows moving behind glass."

Two political workers -- silhouettes -- are looking for a pro-Mondale Slogan that people will believe. They reject inflation ("Nah, when Mondale was vice-president, inflation was 12%. We don't want to remind anybody of that.")

They proceed to reject other slogans about cutting taxes, special interest groups, etc. Then a toll-free line is given to phone 'if you want to help defeat Walter Mondale."

The commercial is harsh and heavy-handed. It will backfire with some viewers for that reason, and it doesn't make its points clearly enough as a piece of communication. The production values are low-budget, and the casting/direction is mediocre.

However, from a marketing point of view, this closing copy -- looking back on years many Americans remember with difficulty -- is probably effective:

"Remember how bad things were under Vice-President Mondale, just imagine how bad things would be under PRESIDENT Mondale."

"Ferraro"

It is surprising next to see Ann Burford -- who resigned under fire from her Government environmental position -- filmed in close-up and talking to us about "witch hunts" that the liberal media creates -- and implying a media cover-up of Ferraro's financial problems. (The commercial is rather dated, I

would say, given all the attention on Ferraro!)

This commercial, the reporter next to me says, was publicly disowned by Reagan-Bush and may be revised, Terry Dolan tells us, depending on what happens with Ferraro's financial announcements.

A third commercial features a talking book that "says" the word "Liberal" every time Mondale is mentioned in connection with an issue like Taxes or defense. It's a gimmick, like the talking Parkay margarine container. It's okay, I guess, *if* the word Liberal has meaning to lots of people as a negative epithet.

The fourth, called "Red Phone", portrays an unseen Mondale being frightened to talk to the special interests who are calling on that phone to request more favors, since they "own" him.

The commercials as a whole are rough and caustic. They also tend to be too "internal" -- that is they focus so much on what the client, NCPAC, believes in and understands, that they miss a more influential opportunity to persuade. Most Americans who see the commercials would *not* know Ann Burford, for example, or really get it. Although media would.

They are to be run in states which appear to be close elections -- California and the North east are two examples Dolan cites.

So what?

Well I'm impressed that we live in a country where people are free to create such strong messages on behalf of what they believe. To me the commercials are cheap, mean, and ineffective. I think they will upset Campaign workers more than they will seriously affect voter attitudes. They're just not good enough.

Still, when over \$1 Million is spent in a few states in a short period of time, *some* impact is inevitable.

Sherwin and I will be going to the Gala together at the Hunt Mansion which Jim Collie, who lives here, says is not to be missed.

There is something exotic about these NCPAC people to me. Something was odd about the way they laughed and chuckled at the commercials, and applauded -- unspontaneously I think -- while mostly the media was silent.

I've been finding so little in the way of "extremes" or diversity at this Convention -- I am covering NCPAC just to be sure I have reached a little further than the easy placidness I looked down on from the Press Desk this morning.

Answer 18 (of 64) MIKE GREENLY, on MON, AUG 20 1984 at 20:06 (336 characters)

>>>>> Flash! A Floor Pass for Tonight!

Thanks to the magic connections of T/O and the extreme generosity of Sherwin,

I am an official "Messenger" tonight. I'm grabbing the opportunity!

The closest thing to compare to San Francisco will be Thursday night, when Reagan talks, but meanwhile this is not to be missed. Later.

Answer 19 (of 64) SML, on MON, AUG 20 1984 at 22:13 (2298 characters)

What I'm Doing Here

I feel *SO* stupid! Part of my low mood yesterday, before I got here, was because there had been no answers in "GOP PUBLIC" yet. Where were all of you? Had we been abandoned? I mentioned that to Mike and he said, "WHAT??!?" oops. After setting up the conference structure Friday night I forgot to join "GOP PUBLIC" -- did I feel DUMB! I'm glad you *ARE* here, maybe even more so because I thought you weren't.

Another reason I was kind of up in the air before was that I had no idea yet what I'd be concentrating on, how I'd choose what to do out of the bewildering variety of possibilities, what would be good enough to be worth you spending your time and money to read. Now I think I have a pretty good handle on it -- thanks in large part to your comments.

A wonderful friend (from the online world, of course) has arranged for us to spend time at various events with the Colorado delegation. Mike's already told you about their caucus last night and I'll be telling you about the special way the Dallas Host Committee arranged to make the delegates feel welcome (My next note will tell you about the Colorado delegation's Nancy O'Connor who I shadowed yesterday and who we'll be following around on and off during the week).

Another *neat* friend, also from online, has arranged for us to use his guest passes for some of the sessions. I had the pleasure of surprising Mike with a

* * * FLOOR PASS * * *

that I delivered this afternoon from our friend. Though the temptation was great to keep it for myself, I decided to take my chances on getting one for another session and let Mike have first crack at the floor while I finish writing some of the many pieces I have for you.

So, of course, there'll be the personal impressions of the convention's overall ambiance. But by now, barely 24 hours since I arrived here, I have already more than I can possibly report in full and more upcoming events than I can possibly even get to, let alone write up for you.

It seems like it's been at least a week since I got here. I'm fully into the spirit of the thing. And I have no doubts at all that I'll find enough to write about.

Thanks for coming along.

Sherwin

Answer 20 (of 64) SML, on MON, AUG 20 1984 at 22:24 (3304 characters)

A Colorado VIP

Nancy O'Connor is the person I was telling you about from the Colorado delegation. We were introduced to her by our electronic friend here on Parti, Rube, who's been one of the many terrific people who've gone far out of their ways to help us out. I felt more than a little uncertain about meeting her -- how did she really feel about having me foisted on her by her friend back in Buena Vista, Colorado? She'd probably much rather not have some pesky reporter, who's some wierd computer nut to boot, tagging around with her.

I decided yesterday afternoon to take a short nap so I could face events with a bit more equanimity (notice how I can't spell worth a hoot once I'm away from my dictionary?), not to mention energy, after spending my entire last night back in Atlanta trying to clear up all the inevitable last-minute things. About 10 minutes after I fell asleep the phone rang. It was Mike. He'd been trying to reach Nancy for several hours and had just gotten through. He had to go to the smrjhgk (I was still more than half asleep) and Nancy and the delegation were off to their special reception with the bus leaving their hotel at 5. "Fine, Mike. Talk to you later."

"No, you don't understand! One of us needs to go with and I think this would be **perfect** for you. [I wonder what sorts of things are 'perfect' for me] You need to call Nancy **now**" I did, and it **did** sound interesting.

It was nearly 4:30 and the hotel they were at was about 20 minutes away. I was out of my room in record time, feeling I had forgotten **something** important (it was the computer -- how can a computer journalist introduce himself without a computer? -- but I did have a note pad...)

Nancy turned out to be a ball of pure energy. And "really **neat**" as Rube would say. She's very obviously PROUD of what their Colorado Republican party has accomplished and of the converts they're making.

Nancy's here because she was chosen as the top PRIDE coordinator in the state. That's a program to improve relations with the press, she explained, and to help make sure that the **true** Republican story gets out, to assure a more balanced view is reported to the public. Her selection came as a complete shock to her -- she didn't even know they were going to pick a top PRIDE coordinator, much less honor them with a free trip to the convention (well, that's one case where the motivation was internal, Mike). She's thrilled to be here, has never been to a national convention before, though she's been to ones at the state level.

We talk as the buses finally arrive and we ride along to the special reception. The PRIDE program was very succesful, especially in their letters to the editor campaigns and in generally making people more aware of what the Republican party stands for (for those of you who asked, **I** am still not sure, but I'm forming my opinions as I speak with some of the rank-and-file. I'll tell you about it and compare my own views later). She's in real estate sales as a career and has some **very** interesting contacts as a result. It's some of those that we hope will lead to one or two **very** interesting contacts here for your TENS team.

Next, it may not be JR's ranch, but...

Sherwin

Answer 21 (of 64) SML, on MON, AUG 20 1984 at 22:30 (114 characters)

Well, I shoulda known -- Mike beat me to it on my own scoop. Knew i shouldn't have given him that floor pass...

Answer 22 (of 64) MIKE GREENLY, on TUE, AUG 21 1984 at 01:49 (3964 characters)

Monday Floor Pass!!!! - Part I

Where do I start on this astounding evening?

I'll start at the end. I left the hall **before** Katherine Ortega spoke -- so I could get a cab without a wait, and then lounge on the carpet with the tv on, and the vanilla ice cream in, where I could write to you and relax --

and as the cab slid away into the dark warmth ahead,

I felt I was coming
back home from the Prom.

Weird, huh?
Quite a change from what I'd
been feeling.

Thank you, Tom. Thank you! The Floor Pass greased me through the crowd, through the guards, like Open Sesame. With the luxury of **not** having just 20 minutes to use it -- boy!!!!!!

Now the beginning.

The floor was, at last, **alive**. But more elegantly alive by contrast to the democrats. I was halfway through the evening when I realized that most of the men were wearing suits. No bermuda shorts. It did n-o-t look like "Let's Make a Deal".

People had dressed up. This was an important and serious event.

Well, I like that.

I appreciated the frigid air conditioning some people had been complaining about -- because with all the lights and all the people, it was warm down there. But comfortable.

The place was filled, at last. The clothing difference was only one of

numerous comparisons I was now able to make between Republicans and Democrats, and between the mentalities that put on the two conventions.

The Republican display technology allows them to keep up the main hall lights even as they show a film. One effect: is it makes it easier on guards to quickly see and verify your pass. The guards in San Francisco tended to be blue collar. A department store night shift But the Republican "ushers" (with smart ushers' armbands on some) are sometimes hard to tell from Secret Service professionals. So this feels like a tonier event.

I am hungry to "go somewhere", now that I have the freedom. So I head for Iowa. Friends I have networked electronically have connected me to the head of the Iowa state Reagan-Bush Campaign, Augusta Petrone. I have spoken to her on the phone -- she sounds like deep and endless pep. I meet her in person and she is younger and savvier than I expected. Still so *up* I wonder if she's for real -- but I can feel her intelligence.

I ask her about the convention, and she tells me so many things about happiness, positiveness, excitement -- she's a Stepford Wife on speed. I don't like that question -- it's not getting me anything.

So I switch.

Mike: "If you were going to tell reader's around the country, who are the stars to watch for 1988 -- and you could only single out a couple, who would you single out?"

Augusta: "Well that's a tricky one, but tonight we're going to see something that will surprise a lot of people, the worth that a lot of people feel for a certain United Nations Ambassador. And when she speaks tonight, I have a feeling this place is going to go wild."

[I don't like the coyness of not mentioning Jeanne Kirkpatrick's name, but I'm intrigued by singling her out. Later, when I return to the hotel, I discover Steve Teichner's similar alert in "GOP Public".]

Mike: "And what is the reason why it will surprise people? Because she's not normally involved with politics?"

Augusta: "She's not thought of as a political person. Also, she's very low-key. She tends to business. She's very serious about her job. But I don't think a lot of people yet have a feeling across the country for the deep respect and visceral admiration that people have here for that woman."

I like Augusta very much. I like a woman who can wear a gingham red skirt and look like the Country Fair and toss out a phrase like "visceral admiration" -- and be *right*.

(more in my next answer)

Answer 23 (of 64) MIKE GREENLY, on TUE, AUG 21 1984 at 08:17 (3534 characters)

Monday Floor Pass!!!! - Part II

Jeane Kirkpatrick

I leave the Iowa section, staring up at the Press Booth where I'd been sitting in the empty morning -- it is filled now with AP, The New York Times, others. As a Floor Messenger I can go up there -- I'll try the other side in a bit. The room is alive with positive vibes. Nothing is as "raw" as the Democrats because there's so much clear consensus [among the people who are h-e-r-e], and because of the *kinds* of people who are here.

Now Jeane Kirkpatrick is introduced, and all those "We love Jeane" banners are held up.

Up close, I have an impression of their having been mass produced. The media likes hand-made signs? OK, we'll make thousands of hand-made signs! At least these aren't Made in Taiwan.

There is something slick about the way this Demonstration has been done. I mistrust, now, this "visceral admiration". It's a clear strategic decision -- nobody's hidden that fact -- to emphasize women of achievement in the Reagan administration. It'd be foolish marketing not to. Now, seeing and feeling the quality of this demonstration from the floor, I'm not sure at all that it's a "visceral" outpouring vs. a (smart) creation of focused energy on behalf of a woman already respected.

Jeane, meanwhile, could use some coaching on what to do when the crowds cheer. She looks "viscerally" uncomfortable to me!

Her speech is really smart. She's no blazing orator, but her tough sincerity comes across. It is well-written -- specific, but not too in-depth. On the floor, I am standing behind Jack Kemp. I wish I could think of something smart to ask him. He says to the New York delegates next to him,

"This is a tough speech to give. It's really for television."

He means that the people around us in their elephant hats, etc. are not your most attentive audience to a "serious" speech. I wish I could experiment psychologically, now, by dimming the lights to see how that would affect the decibel level of the crowd.

Behind me, Connie Chung of NBC -- looking utterly and amazingly exquisite, much softer than on television, more petite and impeccable -- is signing, one after another, Delegates' Badges. She is unfalteringly graceful.

"I know you're trying to listen to the speech, Connie, but would you sign this one too?"

"I told everyone back home I'd have my picture taken on the floor with Connie Chung!"

It doesn't matter, though, how much or how little you follow Kirkpatrick's speech (though I personally am really trying to). Because what you get, regardless, are the *impressions* --

- of a strong, successful woman now publicly shifting to Republican politics.
- of the *weight* and seriousness with which the Republicans -- our -> President's administration -- are dealing with foreign affairs.

Psychologically, it's makes the Democrats seem almost frivolous not to have dealt with these issues more authoritatively.

It's like that brown and beige platform, uncheaped by bunting --

We're the Party that's running the country. even if you don't get every word this woman is saying, even if you're just going for another beer and potato chips, you, as a viewer can be impressed.

We're legitimate!

And, even as I observe it, it has an effect on me.

(more, next answer.)

Answer 24 (of 64) MIKE GREENLY, on TUE, AUG 21 1984 at 11:29 (3952 characters)

Monday Floor Pass!!!! - Part III
George L. Clark - New York State

I encounter George L. Clark, the head of the Republican Delegation from New York. He looks just like *Dick* Clark would look if he had dropped out of show business and had a few too many French Fries. But he has magnetism.

"We only have two houses; we're *really* middle class," he says as he explains why he wasn't home to get a phone message from me. "Geraldine Ferraro has four houses; she's not middle class."

"I'm a fellow New Yorker," I say. (He's from Brooklyn.) He nods as though I'm about to pay tribute to the Grand Old Town, which I am not.

"So I know that New York has its share of social problems. The Democrats portray themselves as being more interested in dealing directly with those social problems. The Republicans are portrayed as somewhat heartless. Can you comment on that?"

Clark: "Yeah, the Democrats are more interested in making sure that the social problems continue to *remain* social problems by keeping people who are on welfare, on welfare. We carry the fourth generation of welfare in New York City now. And the Democrats prefer that those people never get off welfare because they believe that if they continue to make promises to minorities, to those that can't make it out of welfare, then they'll have those votes locked. "We believe," he said, "that there are two ways to handle the problem. The hungry person, you give them fish. You satisfy them for a meal. We believe if you give them a fishing rod and teach them how to fish they'll take care of themselves forever. That's the difference between the Republicans and the Democrats."

He has a way when he makes his points of holding both of my shoulders. It's almost like we're dancing. What it lets him do is:

- a) establish that we're close.
- b) make him intimate, like a friend.
- c) let him emphasize his words and points with appropriate squeezes.
- d) stop from being tripped or separated as the two of us stand in the narrow aisleway.

The second time he does it, I don't resist. I've noticed how effectively Jack Kemp uses body contact too -- squeezing, touching, patting. So I hold the tape recorder in front of his face, he holds me by the shoulders, and we are a physical unit discussing social problems in the din we're only half-conscious of.

Mike: "Won't it cost money to teach them how to fish?" He's got me hooked now, like a fish, right into his analogy.

George: [With his hands on my shoulders, I'm even thinking of him now as "George" instead of "Clark".]

"No! It costs a lot more to keep giving them fish for nothing. With the fishing rod, they fish forever on their own."

I know I could pursue this further, but it is beginning to seem silly. I've got his point, though I don't know at all how or when or if the fishing rods and training will be distributed under continued Republican leadership. I should have thought to ask if it's "sink or swim".

Mike: "Last question. Reagan campaigned on reducing the deficit and it hasn't been reduced. What would you say about that?"

George: "Well, we are suffering from 50 years of Democratic control in the Congress. The President has had an across the board tax cut, interest rates have come down from 21 and 1/2 % to 13%, inflation is down from 14% to under 4%."

The rest of the tape is gone. But what we need, he said, is 4 more years of Reagan leadership and more Republicans in Congress."

People applaud the end of Kirkpatrick's speech. A man twirls a noisemaker into the wind, looking nowhere. I pass by the Baldwin Piano Player man on his perch with the band. It's like Political Cabaret Theater.

Connie Chung is interviewing Jack Kemp -- two stars making a movie.

And I move on. . . Answer 25 (of 64) SML, on TUE, AUG 21 1984 at 11:45 (3686 characters)

About Credentials and Other Contrasts

Actually, our credentialling went much more smoothly with the GOP than with the Dems. And we have similar credentials -- we have two (rather than 3 at SF) general passes that are the rough equivalent of what "Press Perimeter" was at Moscone. And we have one (we were lucky enough to get two each day from the DNC) pass that gets us about anywhere *BUT* the floor. That pass includes a *reserved* seat in the press section.

The biggest difference is that we do not have the opportunity to stand in line for a 45 minute floor pass, though major media people do (oops, I mean *other* major media people). The other difference is that there's a feeling of finality to the RNC credentials decision that there wasn't in the DNC's. Both *said* that their decision was final, but DNC didn't *feel* like it was. And we were able to pressure and cajole our way into the general press passes which we received on a daily basis. BUT, the DNC denied us credentials. Period. Until the toughest pressure campaign and most persuasive talking we could muster brought forth the press perimeter passes. Further cajoling brought out, on a day by day basis, the regular press passes. Here it took *relatively* little effort to be credentialed, but there was no upgrading. In both cases it in part depended on *who* we knew: with the DNC to get anything at all, with the RNC to get the floor access.

I'm certain that our experience with the Dems, our being credentialed there, the play we got in the traditional press were the main reasons we were credentialed by the GOP at all.

<*> <*> <*>

Mike's touched on a lot of other contrasts already. A few you may not have realized...

The delegates *and* alternates are seated together here. In SF, the alternate had to get a delegate's pass to get onto the floor, meaning a delegate had to give up his/her own floor access for an alternate to join the delegation.

The press areas are supplied free of charge to those who are granted reserved areas. TENS has a single seat in a block of spectator-type seating. The big name media have work areas outside the main hall, neatly curtained in a bright open area as opposed to the more dingy, underground setting of Moscone. And they have work space inside the main hall as well, like the spot Mike told you he was using at the start of the first session. I'm sure that if the convention were to be held six months from now, TENS would have been able to get at least one seat in the area with table tops and phones, but we applied long after all the space was allotted.

There just isn't anything like the tunnels at Moscone, where underneath the risers of guest seats the food and souvenir vendors (and services, like MCI, AT&T, Federal Express) set up their stands. In fact, there are *no* souvenir vendors at all in the convention center complex. The services are all on the main level, set tastefully off to the side where most of the attendees won't even see them. And the food service is much more formal, with only one or two "fast food" style operations, and those off in the press work areas. There is some lower level stuff -- foreign press work areas, motor pool, RNC offices. But this is all on a permanent lower level that is part of the building's construction, not tucked under the bleachers.

I'm sure that many of these differences are dictated by the facility itself. But I'm equally sure that an extra attention to visual impact, to a neat appearance, plays a significant role.

Sherwin, enjoying it here in Dallas despite the heat

Answer 26 (of 64) MIKE GREENLY, on TUE, AUG 21 1984 at 15:08 (3838 characters)

Monday Floor Pass - Part IV
Final Impressions of the Night

>> Three media men observe Connie Chung at a distance. While the speaker is talking about issues on Aging, they are agreeing that Connie is supposed to be 35 but looks like 25.

>> I become conscious of how many people learn to half-"listen" to the speaker while they do or think other things.

>> Two ushers, all by themselves in the hallway, applaud weakly at appropriate moments. Just to participate supportively, even though no one hears their applause but they themselves.

>> The entire Center has become my own personal playground -- that's how joyful I feel with T/O's Floor Messenger Pass.

>> I have an interview with a black delegate from Chicago. "You have to realize the historical perspective," she tells me. "The Republican Party would never have begun had it not been for black people. Among the founders of the Republican Party were very, very outstanding blacks." (She mentions people like Harriet Tubman.)

"I think it is unfortunate that the Democratic Party has absolutely seduced 90% of the black people into membership."

She says it's "absurd" to think the Democratic Party will do more for black people than Republicans. Black loyalty to Democrats has not been rewarded, she tells me angrily.

"It's happening every day, sir," she says when I ask her about blacks switching to the Republican Party. "The Democrats are doing it themselves. Time is OUT when black people will just become angry and not exercise their

vote as citizens. Black people will not be sitting on the sidelines regardless of who says so, and they will not continue with the party that continually slaps their faces."

"I was very proud of Jackson, and I'm a Republican. But he too is learning. None of the top level blacks are involved in Mondale's campaign, but they did their job and now they're not needed. They're getting what the Democrats always give them -- the back of their hand."

>> A reporter from Erie Pennsylvania is using a Model 100, propped up with broken pencils in the holes in back to create a tilt-stand. His newspaper's reporters have about 8 or 9 Model 100's.

>> The Katherine Ortega speech -- advance copies -- is handed out by a gopher in one "wealthy" section of the Daily Press Gallery. Those are the advantages of money, organization, and big time, I think jealously. ("Brandon -- wuddjew git me a coke-cola and a Senator, pleeze?")

>> I try to find T/O's wife, a Delegate. I plan to interview her and surprise him. Can't locate her in the swirl.

>> I see people gazing up at the NBC booth. They see the backs of Jerry and Mrs. Ford, interviewed in the Sky Booth. Later I am on the other side in the corridor, and I see the former President Pass by me. How cool and dapper he is by contrast to my memory of President Carter.

At the Democratic Convention, Carter looked like he was virtually being supported by his wife. And the wink he initiated to me was poignant.

But Jerry here, is besieged by youngsters and others asking for his autograph. Betty stumbles a bit and tries to keep moving out of the area, away from the throng. Ford, one gets the feeling, gets all the attention, and glory, and remaining popularity he needs.

"Hi, how are you," he keeps saying as he moves forward past the clutch of fans just as quickly as he can.

And he heads down through an underground tunnel I was in on Saturday. Smoothly done. Like so much of this Convention.

My evening on the floor is over. I'm astonished it's been one hour and ten minutes. It has felt to me, in living it, like only half as much time. I feel good about the range I've covered.

So I go home happy.

Answer 27 (of 64) SML, on TUE, AUG 21 1984 at 17:58 (4626 characters)

The Ranch

Sunday late afternoon, we drive in a not-too-well-air-conditioned bus from the Colorado delegation's hotel to some ranch where, we're told, a reception is being held to honor the delegation. We left most signs of civilization quickly behind and have been rolling over increasingly poor quality roads,

watching the sun sinking across the sage brush -- *this* is what I expect Texas to look like. A real ranch, huh? I've never been to a real ranch -- it could even be the mythical South Forks! (Mike would be green with envy) We're told that Dallas is quite proud that *every* delegation is being entertained tonight in a private home (considering that we have somewhere between 150 and 200 people, I wonder where they find a home to entertain the California or New York delegations). They say 170 homes have been opened up to show Dallas' hospitality (okay, that's it -- some are split up). Finally, we're making one sharp turn after another on a dirt road and turn onto a driveway. We pass the pool house, stables, a corral, and finally approach a massive flagstone house with a sharply-pitched roof and tall windows -- this must be it.

An interminable wait in the 100 degree heat as the line at the door seems to barely move. Every now and then a bit of cool air wafts out of the doorway promising relief to come. I hear a banjo accompanying a rousing round of "She'll Be Comin' 'round the Mountain" while Nancy's running around with her camera, either her tourist's or realtor's instincts aroused. There's a mint-condition old Chevy ('49, I think) draped with bunting parked before the door; I take Nancy's picture in front of it.

Finally we're through the massive outer doors and into the vestibule. A flagstone walk is flanked by pools on either side. One of them contains a largemouth bass sedately fanning the water with his fins. We speculate on the fate of the absent denizen of the matching pool.

A few more minutes and I can see what the delay was -- I should have known, of course. Southern hospitality demands that the hostesses greet each and every guest as they enter and give them their most sincere welcome. A few steps further, past the table with the elephant-bearing name badges ("hello, my elephant's name is..."), and there's the other reason for the slow movement of the line -- everyone stops at the bar, strategically placed to snag entering guests. Of course, it's only the heat that persuades every guest without exception to have a nice, cold drink. While we're standing there, the kitchen door opens a couple times as the fresh-scrubbed looking teens who are helping serve pass in and out. You just *know* that they're part of this wholesome, ordinary American family who'd never dream of having servants or maids (the kitchen was roughly the size of Moscone Center, by the way).

Drinks in hand (is it *wrong* for a reporter to drink on the job? I just had a Coke -- honest!), we moseyed on into the livingroom where the banjo player (now playing a guitar) was flanked by the tallest person I've ever seen, sporting a revolver on hip, a shotgun in the crook of his arm, and a full-head elephant mask complete with ears and trunk. The roof is supported on huge rafters which meet high above our heads to form the peak. Wishing I had binoculars, I look through the diningroom, trying to sight the end of the table. I manage to count 22 chairs, with room enough for at least one other chair between each of these. (I'm reminded of the table in Standard Oil's boardroom, only I think that one was smaller)

As we pass the sideboard where elegant hors d'ouvres and golfball-sized fresh strawberries are laid out, we speculate about how many ordinary families have china service for 200 just lying around for their intimate little get-togethers.

Well, I won't bore you with too many more details. With only nine acres, this wasn't really a working ranch -- the grounds just were large enough to set a perfect rustic backdrop for the house. As we toured the flagstone walks separating the house from the waterfalls and duck ponds in back, we counted air conditioners and speculated on what it would cost to cool this house that held 200 guests in three of its many rooms. I concluded that their monthly electric bill had to be higher than 98% of all homeowners' mortgage payments. It may not be Southforks, but I'm impressed.

Sherwin

(PS, in re-reading this is see I may have exaggerated a >tiny< bit)

Answer 28 (of 64) SML, on TUE, AUG 21 1984 at 23:29 (4792 characters)

Monday Morning Session

It's 10:30 and the floor is near-full, though there are about half of the guest seats open at this first (and probably least interesting) of the sessions. The feeling inside now, like outside, is brighter and cleaner. I think there is an overriding concern to keep things looking clean, neat, in perfect order. And it is all pleasing to the eye, visually comfortable. The sound system is of impeccable quality, but toned to a comfortable conversational level, not to make your bones shake with stirring music. I don't think there's the same need here to try and work the mob -- they seem to be comfortably in agreement and quietly confident in their victory. They don't work by holding pep rallies -- they work by very proper social events. Which in some ways is just fine, I guess, because their focus seems to be on one-on-one contacts.

There are no little tunnels below, no discarded brochures and newspapers on the floors, more order and less life. Everyone is sitting and listening politely, clapping politely. I simply can't imagine anyone jumping up and down shouting and cheering, yelling for their candidate, screaming their hearts' out in support. Maybe that's the difference between the convention of an incumbent and of a hopeful -- I don't know. That may become clearer as we meet and speak with more delegates. but the complexion is much different here (literally, too, where everyone seems to be much more of the same kind).

I'm listening to the speech by RNC Chairman Frank Fahrenkopf: "[the Dems are] an orgy of pressure groups in search of a party. ... Walter is just a man who can't say no. Mr. Mondale left more than his heart in San Francisco. ...the Mondale-Ferraro promises are no different from the Carter-Mondale promises. The Democrats talk of the future while marching into the past. ...least effective presidency in history. ...campaign on the strongest economy in three decades and seven presidents."

We're told that the majority of new young voters see their future in the new Republican party.

Sen Baker was elected temporary convention chairman -- the lady next to me

(who says she's the wife of Senator Ford of Tulsa) laughs as they say, without so much as a second's pause, "are there any other nominations there being no other nominations, Senator Baker is..."

I'm not good at sitting still and being bored, so I decide to scout the place and put substance to the diagrams in the press kit. Besides, I need to get the PX-8 I'm lending him to Steve Teichner.

Well, so much for impeccable organization. *NOBODY* knows how to find out where a particular press work space is. "Yeah, yeah, you *said* Teichner Polls. But who is he *with*?" I checked with the convention center office, the RNC press offices, the information booths, the -- you name it. And *nobody* had any idea how to find Steve or even how to find the general press work area. Since I walked through the whole place, I finally did find both the workspace and Steve.

I called Steve from the press workspace. He was expecting me. He came down to lend his moral support to me. But despite the press pass, despite the guest pass, despite my pleas that I *must* get up there to install Steve's computer -- no dice.

Guard: "Who is he with?"

Sherwin: "Teichner Polls"

Guard: "But who is he *with*?"

Sherwin: "That's the name of the organization. He does polls for the networks."

Guard: "There aren't any network people up there. That's for print media."

Sherwin: "He's not with a network -- he's an independent pollster. He does polls *for* the networks."

Guard: "There aren't any network people up there. That's for print media."

I give up! And Steve and I agree that I'll be back after the session is over to show him how to work it.

----<*>----

After the session, I feel more like something's happened -- there' trash lying about, some of the seats are out of line, the place just looks more lived in. I have the run of the whole hall, no questions asked. I can even cross the speaker's platform and go up to the podium. (and do)

Aha! This is the break in their security system here -- if I wanted to waste the time, I could stay up in any of the restricted media areas. At least two thirds of the seats in Steve's area have obviously not been occupied at all. But I'm planning on going to the Oklahoma caucus in a few minutes -- Jeane Kirkpatrick will be there. Besides, who wants to sit in a big, empty, 70 degree hall with work table and phone at hand when they could be walking outside in the beautiful sunshine and sweltering 100 degree plus heat?

Sherwin

Answer 29 (of 64) SML, on TUE, AUG 21 1984 at 23:35 (1790 characters)

Oklahoma Caucus, Monday Afternoon

I'm at a caucus of the Oklahoma delegation. The people here are **very** different from those at last night's Colorado caucus -- there's a lot more variety in ages, about equal numbers of men and women, some blacks, some Indians, and they just seem far more typical of "blue-collar America." They look like they're used to work and aren't as much a part of the "beautiful people."

Jeane Kirkpatrick was supposed to be here, but I don't see her. I was hung up with the shuttle bus system, so I didn't get here at the very beginning -- maybe there was some explanation. I'll ask T/O later (yes, our very own Parti's T/O) who's sitting right behind me.

There's the usual campaign rhetoric, like how "Minnesota Fritz and The Temple of Doom" concentrates on the very few negatives of the incumbent administration and ignores the overwhelming record of accomplishment. The audience is attentive and enthusiastic. And they're **real**. I like them as a group better than the Coloradans because of that (maybe it's the difference between clean mountain air and the dustbowl?)

A chief of the Osage Indian nation stands to ask a question. Funny, he doesn't look like I expect an Indian to, he reminds me of my uncle. He's asking the senators for help in straightening out the bureau of Indian affairs. I like him and he strikes me as a fascinating character. A reporter from a big-name outfit grabs him and ushers him out as soon as he's through talking. But I was able to track him down later for an interview. I'll tell you more about that later.

Answer 30 (of 64) MIKE GREENLY, on WED, AUG 22 1984 at 08:26 (4058 characters)

The Phyllis Schlafly Luncheon

I went to the Fashion/Show luncheon sponsored by Phyllis Schlafly's organization, "Eagle Forum". Here are top-line, personal impressions.

>> The women who attended this lunch were a range of ages, but tended to be older. From appearances, and from the ones I interviewed at random, they could at the least be described as at least financially "comfortable".

>> "Eagle Forum" describes itself as "pro-family" with special interest in moral and family issues, education, national defense, and fairness in the media."

>> The program describes the Fashion Show as "First ladies of the GOP walking the Republican Runway to Victory in Fashions from SAKOWITZ". Models include Congressional/Senatorial wives like Mrs. Jack Kemp, Mrs. Paul Laxalt, Mrs. Trent Lott, Mrs. Jesse Helms, Mrs. John R. Block (wife of Secretary of

Agriculture), and an occasional Congresswoman or Diplomat.

>> Ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick gives a short, pro-Reagan talk -- a miniaturized version of the talk she later gave at the Convention.

>> The impression I get is that Phyllis Schlafly is strong as a tank. I speak with her briefly and peripherally and, yes, I can *feel* her implacable strength. The U.S. general who leads the Pledge of Allegiance refers to "General Schlafly", which seems to please everybody.

>> When I interview women at the lunch tables -- young ones, old ones, ones in the middle -- I am overwhelmed by the perception of Geraldine Ferraro being perceived by them as an undeserving "token". Over and over the word "token" is used. People say Mondale didn't choose here because she deserved it, but because NOW put pressure on him.

>> A newspaper editor from New England whispers to me, after she has interviewed other women in the large ballroom:

"And I thought we were conservative in New England! These women are soooo down on women's issues I'm astonished."

>> Jeane Kirkpatrick is impressive. Her brief pro-Reagan talk is rough-hewn and unpolished -- but that's very much part of its power. She is adored by the crowd.

>> I find Mr. Sakowitz of SAKOWITZ stores unctuous.

>> I notice I'm feeling a bit depressed as the Senators' and Congressmans' wives come out in the colorful red, white, and blue cloth coats, the furs, the gowns -- because the applause for each woman seems to relate to the stature of each *husband*. You can tell, for example, that Congressman Kemp is mentioned in the media a lot as "hot", precisely because MRS. Kemp receives such strong applause.

So I get the creepy feeling it's not the clothes being applauded, or how the women look, or that they're all being greeted equally -- after a few such observations it begins to feel that the better a husband you "caught", the more y-o-u deserve applause on stage. I find myself remembering song phrases from when I was growing up like "A man chases a woman until she catches him".

This frame of mind seems "understood" by the audience (judging by the applause meter in my head and what I notice about it), and my guess is they all think that's just hunkey-dorey.

But I've learned to be sensitive about women's identities coming from "their men" as opposed to them themselves as people.

I feel as though I'm in time warp. Yet whose to say or judge who's in the warp? How much more do *these* women and their views still represent the majority of our country than the conditioning I've personally experienced in New York City and in the particular exposures that my career and circumstances provided.

Bottom line: in this hall, in ways I can more *feel* than codify, I am an

alien. A visitor to a planet I left behind decades ago. A huge and powerful planet.

>>> I end up leaving early. Impressed by the unity of the people in that room. Depressed by my feeling of what a separate place I, personally, live in.

For once it feels good to step into the raw, hot sunshine of Dallas.

Answer 31 (of 64) MIKE GREENLY, on WED, AUG 22 1984 at 15:52 (1478 characters)

Prelude to First Lady Luncheon

10:54 a.m. The luncheon begins at 11:30. I am on the platform sitting on the carpet. We are *not* being fed, so I raced to the Anatole Snack Bar to bring back a hasty "lunch" (like other reporters ahead of me in line.)

Here is Mike Greenly's lunch at this event:

- 1 Pkg Frito-Lay Toast
- Peanut Butter Cookies.
- 1 Baronnici California Mix.
- 1 Grandma's Sandwich Cremes
- 2 Sun Giant Raisins
- 1 M&M with Peanuts
- 1 Amaretto Cookie (for class)
- 1 warm coca cola
- 1 Doublemint Gum
- 1 Tic Tac Wintergreen mints

I'm set. This should take care of the very early question from reader Lisa Carlson in Washington, D.C. on the official TENS candy bar for Dallas.

"Harry to Larry," says the NBC man behind me into his radio. "Harry wants to know from Larry if he's getting the remote feed from the Chantilly Ballroom."

[It's his accent. Just when I was wondering how *I* could get the remote feed too -- food piped in through pneumatic tubes? -- it turned out he was saying "Moult". Nope -- "mult" with a Southern accent. "mult" for multiple, since all the networks are sharing one audio feed from the podium in front of me.

Back to Grandma's cremes. [The raisins taste too sweet. Either that, or they're too nutritious for my system just now. I gave a bag and a half to the CNN reporter next to me. Over and out.]

Answer 32 (of 64) MIKE GREENLY, on WED, AUG 22 1984 at 15:54 (3304 characters)

First Lady Security

I'm settling in -- the CNN lady is gone, and in her place is Jerry Hagstrom, Contributing Editor of the National Journal, a weekly Washington magazine subscribed to by Congressman, White House Staff, lobbyists, and many other political "influencers".

He just co-authored a book called "The Book of America" about "what makes each of the 50 states tick." He asks me to let you know -- now that he knows about *you* -- that the book is available in hard cover from W.W. Norton for \$25 and in paperback from Warner for \$14.95.

But now --

>>>> CLEAR THE ROOM, PLEASE! EVERYBODY OUT!

We leave, shuffling slowly, as the Secret Service gets ready to bring in their mean-looking German Shepherd to sniff through the room for bombs, etc. (The dog leaves from the front door as we re-enter the Ballroom.)

I've given away the "California Mix" to the National Journal guy, but I've consumed everything else except the gum and the tic tacs.

"My goodness, there's a black woman over there!" Jerry says dryly.

"Where is she?"

"Right over there, next to the red balloon." Indeed there are many more red balloons than there are black people.

12:12. Everyone is seated. There are several dozen movie cameras in front me and behind.

12:39. We've had entrances by Jeane Kirkpatrick, Phyllis Schlafly, and others.

There is a side door through which these celebrities enter. Spectators have formed a path leading from the door into the throng of tables. It's an aisleway studded with people at the ready with their cameras.

I see Bill Beutel a local Anchorman from New York. "Hi, Bill!" I say to myself. Heads keep turning to the side entrance. Still, no First Lady. I can see through the side doors when they occasionally swing open -- flashbulbs are popping out in the corridor.

Maureen Reagan enters. "She changed her clothes" the Entertainment Tonight man tells me. These days, that's what some consider "news".

"Please take your seats," we are told. "The First Lady is waiting - - -"

"Would you PLEASE take your seats? The First Lady is Waiting."

"Ladies and Gentlemen, the first Lady, Mrs. Nancy Reagan."

And now, preceded by Secret Service, she enters from a different doorway, Applause, applause, applause.

Betty Randall, President of the National Federation of Republican Women -- 160,000 members -- tells us *not* to come up front to take pictures.

Traditionally, she says, the First Lady's lunch has always been a tribute to the First Lady. But this year, the First Lady has asked us to pay tribute the

women who have served in the organization over the years.

GTE-Sprint is credited (as they were at the Women's Event in San Francisco) for contributing to the lunch. While Randall is talking, the platform where I sit is abuzz with tech-newstalk.

"Did you get the line".

"I've got some kind of a buzz here."

"The feed is fine back there."

Now the President of the Republican Black Council, Mrs. Legree Daniels, gives the invocation. She speaks of women being equal with men.

"Enjoy your lunch," she says.

"Thank you," says the camera man behind me sarcastically. "Where *is* that steak sandwich?"

Answer 33 (of 64) MIKE GREENLY, on WED, AUG 22 1984 at 15:57 (2318 characters)

Joan Rivers
at the First Lady's Luncheon

For whatever it's worth, if anything, there is absolutely no doubt in my mind that you are receiving the *first* accounts of Joan Rivers' appearance at the First Lady's Luncheon.

* * * * *

She looks glamorous in her chic, taupe dress and is called to the podium from the First Lady's table, having sat with her at lunch.

She answers audience questions, submitted earlier on file cards.

"I'm a M-A-J-O-R Reagan fan," she tells us to huge applause.

When asked about a question on Foreign Affairs, she says, "to me, foreign affairs is like a Motel 6 with Julio Iglesias."

[I'll leave out the jokes about hot flashes and nipples and the Queen Elizabeth jokes that are not Republican/political, okay?]

She talks about Jane Fonda, and how fair God is. Jane Fonda is blessed with a beautiful body, but she has to sleep with Tom Hayden every night. [this is a popular remark.]

One of her most popular jokes is telling us that if Fritz Mondale was going to pick a woman (she does an imitation of a dumb thug saying, mindlessly, "let's get a woman"), then he should have picked Dolly Parton.

Then the Campaign could be billed as "Fritz and Tits" she tells us to screams of laughter, and there could be --> three "boobs" in the White House. [this

brings down the house.]

Big deal, she says, about Geraldine Ferraro and "let's put a woman in the White House." We've *been* in the White House she said. John F. Kennedy had a thousand of 'em there! [huge cheers]

She gets a question on how she finds time to do housework with a busy career.

"I don't do housework," she announces. "I'm a Republican!"

----- She ends with a serious message -- telling the audience to work hard and not to get complaisant, because "I want us all to win". She talks about being the daughter of an imigrant, and being a product of America -- wanting America to stay what it is today, which it can do under Reagan -- peaceful and prosperous.

She is enormously popular with the audience. A couple of times I wonder if the woman who introduced her, now sitting at the podium, has been embarrassed. But the fact is, Joan Rivers has gotten away with it.

[the end.]

Answer 34 (of 64) SML, on WED, AUG 22 1984 at 19:15 (5738 characters)

"Just Another Little Backyard Barbecue in Texas"

At least that's what last night's little get-together at Bunker Hunt's Circle T Ranch was billed as. You may have seen or heard about it on your local station -- the networks were planning on doing live spots from the scene of the festivities. It was put on by American Heroes for Reagan, a project of the National Conservative Political Action Committee (NCPAC). They're the ones who did the TV commercials Mike told you about. I'll tell you a little more about NCPAC in my next note. Right now, I want to tell you about the event itself.

Mike and I were both a little uneasy about attending (this is the group most of the Republicans I've spoken to are embarassed by, the ones T/O was saying he hoped we didn't go see). I don't know about Mike, but whether fairly or not I mentally associate the NCPAC type with things like the American Nazi Party and the Posse Comatatus (if you don't know about the Posse, they're a paramilitary group whose goal is to "purify" America). Seeing all the security people guarding the way into the ranch didn't make me feel any better.

We left the bus and were herded to the press table, where we were given our press packets and told in no-nonsense terms the areas we *must* stay out of. A bunch of very serious-looking folks dressed as cowboys, with 45s (which I was sure must be loaded) slung at their sides, were standing around. By this time, I was looking for the quickest way out. I had the feeling that this was a place where trespassers would be shot on sight.

But the unease faded as we joined the festivities, walking past a huge air conditioned circus tent (one of those places we *must* stay out of until we were called for dinner at 8:30). There was a corral on the right where

cutting horse competition ("a classic measure of intelligence [sic], training, breeding and skill") was being demonstrated. There were whole sides of beef sizzling on massive spits over open fires. Trick riders and ropers performed. There were covered wagons, a stagecoach giving rides to guests, a saloon complete with C&W band and saloon girls, 24 bars, countless stands serving fresh-made appetizers like sauteed gulf oysters and gorditas on individual silver trays, and "Chief Blue Hail and his warriors" performing "authentic Indian tribal dances." The only thing missing was the little black boys to serve the guests.

And, of course, there were famous guests only fitting for such an extravaganza, like Bob Hope, Pat Boone, Charlton Heston, Wayne Newton, Chad Everett, Roger Staubach, Olympic medalists Rowdy Gaines and Steve Lundquist, and a bunch of Osmonds (no Donnie or Marie). There were senators and congressmen by the dozens. "We are especially proud to have so many Members of Congress here this evening. It gives people a good indication of the broad support NCPAC has on Capitol Hill," said NCPAC head Terry Dolan. And it was true -- they sure had a bunch of 'em. Now I'm **really** worried.

We talked with one of the Kiowa Indians who was bedecked in his beaded, feathered "fancy war dance" costume, which he explained came to be popular after World War II. Using some of my new-found knowledge of Indian affairs (gained from the Osage chief I'd spoken with the day before), I was able to ask him about some specific problems facing his people. (And "his people" **are** treated by law in many ways as a sovereign nation) His prime concern was that the bureau of Indian affairs, the agency that must legally handle much of tribal finances, was a shambles, thought to be letting thousands if not millions in mineral and oil royalties be paid late or not at all. He wasn't "for" either party, finding them equally inattentive to his people's problems. He did say he made a point of voting for the Republican governor of Oklahoma because he had done more than most for the Indians. I enjoyed talking to him and slightly filling yet another gap in my knowledge and political awareness. But all the time I was talking to him, the thing I most wanted to ask him was, "don't you, a college graduate yet, feel like a damn fool parading around in that fake 'authentic' Indian costume?"

The highlight of the evening for me was seeing Jerry Falwell climb up on "the only live, tame longhorn steer in Dallas" and secretly hoping, when the bull started to move, that he'd tumble beneath its hooves. (So can't reporters have nasty secret feelings?)

Dinner was announced, somehow appropriately for this crowd, by shooting off guns. So we moved into the welcome cool of the 250' x 120' tent to be served our "unique chilled dinner" featuring "some truly elegant entrees" (it really was pretty good). The press was directed to the far end of the tent, behind the bar, where we had an excellent view of the sound and lighting equipment blocking the side of the stage. Complimentary packages of Texas chile mix were the surprise party favors set at each place.

To give you a further idea of the incredible clout of this group, they expected to raise \$1.3 million with this evening's affair. I overheard the NCPAC Director of Communications talking with bunch of his cohorts, shouting in glee at how they had sold a couple hundred thousand in tickets just that morning, with some going for as much as \$10,000. I'm not sure exactly what this bunch, the oldest of which couldn't be over 25, meant when they started

jumping up and down shouting "we're rising again" on hearing this news. But I know I don't like it.

Sherwin

Answer 35 (of 64) SML, on WED, AUG 22 1984 at 19:54 (3426 characters)

NCPAC

Maybe the best way to give you a flavor for NCPAC is to show you some of the quotes they proudly print on their brochure:

"...a group of ultra-conservatives uh-uh bigots and liars to be perfectly truthful who uh who uh have destroyed the reputation of people uh very extremely unfairly..." --Speaker Tip O'Neill

"...answers to nobody and have a great evil influence on the electorate."
--Charles Manatt, Former Democratic Party Chairman

"Right-wing kooks who are out to destroy me." --Former Senator John Culver

"I regard [NCPAC] as a menace. They are a purely negative, destructive force in America...they operate through the most flagrant kind of loophole in the campaign financing law." --Former Senator George McGovern

"I hope all candidates will join me in telling NCPAC to leave the Democratic Party alone." --Senator John Glenn

"NCPAC the Giant killer...the richest of political action committees...is also the most adroit at independent spending." --Newsweek

These are directly from their promotional brochure and helped form my opinions of NCPAC, since the people at last night's gala affair very adroitly avoided political discussion (except for the Indian, and everyone knows Indians are too dumb to matter) NCPAC plans to spend \$12 million on the presidential campaign this year and has already spent over \$5 million on their American Heroes for Reagan program. "NCPAC has long been a pioneer in new campaign technology. We have recently perfected the use of 'direct response television' commercials. These commercials bring the story of President Reagan's accomplishments to the Z oteO through television and provide a 1-800 number for supporters to call and make a financial contribution."

Since they also handed out a booklet entitled "Everything You Always Wanted to Know About NCPAC but the Media Wouldn't Tell You," I feel obligated to take up the implied challenge and tell you a little about its contents. They include such sections as "quotes from unbiased adversaries" (what the heck is that???), general background, questions and answers, financial information, and sample NCPAC ads. From background: Federal election laws limit direct support of a candidate to \$5,000 per campaign. They get around this limitation by providing in-kind support, like schools to train candidates in

how to run a successful campaign. The more important, huge loophole is that expenditures are *NOT* restricted as long as the spender doesn't consult with the candidate or discuss strategy with the candidate or his staff. [So that's how they could spend \$12 million on the Reagan campaign despite the \$5,000 limitation.]

From the Q&A section: Q: Why do candidates NCPAC gets involved with often ask them to leave? A: NCPAC bases its activities on whether it will be effective or not. Candidates are candidates, they are better legislators than politicians in most cases. NCPAC is interested in telling the truth. If somebody does not think NCPAC should have the same free speech rights as organized labor, that is their prerogative. Many candidates think it is smart politics to attack NCPAC. They are wrong.

One thing that did impress me about this NCPAC brochure -- it seems to be totally frank and honest. They are, I'm sure, proud of what they're doing and how they're doing it.

Sherwin

Answer 36 (of 64) MIKE GREENLY, on WED, AUG 22 1984 at 22:13 (1710 characters)

Nancy Reagan: A comment on her style

Many of you know I've given a lot of speeches and coached a lot of speakers. I made my suggestions for the improvement of Joan Mondale's speaking style in the "Mike Talks" section of "Demo 84". I'll have some comments on Barbara Bush later.

But now, these observations about Nancy Reagan:

She's *very* effective because she lets herself come from naturalness.

It doesn't matter if she got there because she couldn't pull off other styles -- what matters is that the best speaking is based on the *truth* of ---> feelings and within the context of what she sets out to do, on stage or on camera, she knows how to achieve that as she communicates.

Caution: I am not saying she never "lies" or never exaggerates or never consciously bends the truth. But I am saying that she has the knack of projecting real feelings.

(By contrast, if you've seen Reagan's advisor Michael Deaver interviewed, then you've seen somebody who holds back on feelings and -- because he holds back -- he is not as credible or seemingly trustworthy as he might wish to be on a "gut" level. One feels he's hiding something, protecting.)

Nancy Reagan does in fact sometimes say things I find hard to believe. But her manner almost always reinforces "emotional likelihood" -- one *tends* to believe her, all things being equal.

She will never be an orator -- not enough strength or control or range or

confidence. But the fact that she is in touch with and *uses* her own human instincts and feelings --

gives her an "A" for presence. I gotta hand it to her.

mike

Answer 37 (of 64) SML, on WED, AUG 22 1984 at 23:37 (3070 characters)

Wednesday Night at the Convention

I'm sitting comfortably in the convention hall, just relaxing and enjoying it all. Things are far more lively tonight than they have been, with just about every seat filled (except in the press sections, which are still at least two-thirds empty). The speakers are more intense and fiery, too. I have, beyond a doubt, already accumulated more than I can possibly write up this week, and I still have one more event in the morning. So, for the moment, I'm just relaxing and acting like a tourist. Which is how most of the attendees here seem to be acting.

The security moved in today. Until today I'd seen little evidence of undercover cops or secret service. But today, with the arrival of the First Lady and many other administration officials, the secret service is here in force. I was at a briefing in the Anatole just before Nancy arrived, and a good chunk of the lobby was blocked off, with access only by special pass and only then after passing x-ray and metal detector scrutiny.

The Service is here tonight, too -- limiting access to the front rows of several guest seat sections where such people as the Doles, the Bushes, and various cabinet members are seated.

Paul Laxalt is giving the nominating speech right now, and he's evoking fairly lively applause. Some of the loudest applause is coming from groups of youths waiting in the aisles to march upon the scene with balloons and flags or as part of a marching band. I guess the enthusiasm and idealism of youth extends to the GOP, too.

Earlier, they dimmed the lights to show the filmed tribute to Nancy Reagan (I thought that wasn't supposed to be necessary, and they usually *don't* dim the lights, but this time they had to make it clear that they at least expected people to be quiet.). After Nancy's speech, they had Ronnie up on the big screen on closed circuit from wherever he's at. And Nancy was waving up to him and he waving back. And I was thinking about how that could play just like the open microphone. Y'know, he thinks the camera's off so he's picking his nose or scratching his crotch or...

Laxalt is wearing more than a bit thin on the assemblage here. C'mon Paul -- enough already! Meanwhile, the balloon bearers have been slowly moving down the aisles toward the front. Well, it's finally come: "...the name of Ronald Reagan for President of the United States!"

And the band blares out, the balloon bearers shake, the flag wavers wave, the marching bands march and play, the thousands of balloons drop from the ceiling, and I'm plain bored. I'm packing up and going to emulate Mike's example from last night -- go back to my room and relax with some ice cream.

Sherwin, apparently getting jaded to political conventions.

(PS, *I* thought that most of the hand-lettered signs looked pretty much hand lettered)

Answer 38 (of 64) MIKE GREENLY, on WED, AUG 22 1984 at 23:45 (4474 characters)

Michael N. Castle -
Lt. Governor, State of Delaware
(candidate for Governor)

First some background on Lt. Governor Deaver -- then his own statement to readers of Participate.

Background

He is enthusiastic and energetic as a 7 foot puppy. His eagerness is disarming. He seems quite sincere.

He was an attorney originally, served in the state house of Representatives for 2 years and in the State Senate for 8 years. Has been Lieutenant Governor for 4 years, now running for Governor.

[The current Governor, Pete Dupont, cannot serve beyond the two terms he has already completed -- and is now said to be vying for the Republican Presidential nomination in 1988.]

I ask Castle what separates him from his two Democratic rivals (one of whom will win the September 8 Democratic Primary.) Castle says that, this year, because of Delaware's progress in education, economics, and overall health, there are not really burning state issues that will be the nub of the contest. He thinks the results will ultimately depend not on issues, but who the voters think is the best *person* this year to do the job.

"Obviously -- since I've been Lieutenant Governor and because of other things I've done -- I believe that *I'm* the best person to do the job. And the others are saying that, because of their own backgrounds, *they're* each the best person to do the job."

"One's a former governor -- and I don't think he was a particularly effective governor. [Sherman Cribbit]. The other one is a former Supreme Court Justice -- I have some problems with Judges who feel they can run the world, who feel because they made decisions in the Court Room they can run the State." [Bill Quillen.]

I ask Castle why he wants to be Governor anyway.

He says he enjoys the give and take of politics, the stimulation, the sense of doing good things - and he feels fortunate that "Delaware isn't a 'Dirty Politics' State. I do enjoy the contest of politics, too; I guess I have a 'Sports Factor'.

"I think what the public does *not* want are a bunch of wishy-washy politicians who seem to come and go with the tide, and make a series of decisions that just end up being a financial problem eight years later, or whatever it may be. They just don't think through carefully what they are doing. They do everything for the moment, for the re-election -- "that's what we have to get rid of. We have to get longer term planning, better business management in the form of politics -- and, if we do that, then I think we'll get away from some of the old cries of politicians who really aren't helping the public at all but are just trying to help themselves.

Mike: "If there's one thing you stand for, what would it be?"

Castle: "I suppose it's -- efficiency in management."

Statement to Parti Readers

"I think the key message that the people from Delaware have is a little bit different than any message from a segment, be it Democrats or Republicans.

"Essentially, we feel we took a state which had a great deal of difficulty, financial management, recruitment of employers, job opportunities, educational opportunities --

"and by putting in good management practices, by cutting out a lot of the political methods of doing things, we were able to:

- > balance our budgets,
- > have two tax cuts in the last eight years without any tax increases,
- > to make sure that we are bringing new jobs in,
- > to reduce our unemployment rate to one of the lowest in the country now,
- > to have our bond rating go from being about the worst in the country to one of the very best --

"those are a heck of a lot of positive measures, and it's because we were really *managing* the state.

"I'm not sure that the United States of America, in all its size, is manageable. But I'm convinced the various states are. And that if each state pays attention to its business the way Delaware has, then I think they can do as well.

"And it's just a question of being able to do it. That's what we hope to be able to continue in our state in the future."

Michael N. Castle
Lt. Governor - Delaware

P.S. He is, as I type this in, casting Delaware's Vote on TV.

mike
Answer 39 (of 64) SML, on THU, AUG 23 1984 at 11:36 (4376 characters)

Ecumenical Prayer Breakfast

This is the "GLORIFY GOD WITH MUSIC AND PRAYER!" (as the program calls it) Ecumenical Prayer Breakfast, arranged by the Republican Host Committee. It's one of the major events of the convention and, I think, one of those mandatory social functions. Like many of the intimate functions here, it's being held in suitably intimate surroundings -- the 30,000 or so seat Reunion Arena. I'm surprised, actually, to see that most of the areas where seating is allowed are full -- there are about 12,000 in the audience.

Frankly, I am not an early riser and I wouldn't normally be here, but this was going to be my last chance to see the President relatively close up. Not *that* close, but I'm seated on the floor of the arena about 100 feet from where he will sit. The first part of the program is the Music Festival, the stars of which are the roughly 2,000 member chorus "made up from more than 100 churches and synagogues throughout the city" and Willa Dorsey, a truly fabulous soprano with an energy and feeling that reached the crowd better than the 2,000 voices of the chorus. Other performances are by the Texas Boy's Choir (actually, we hear a soloist only, a piercing soprano), the Greater Dallas Rotary Choir (painfully bad), and the Dallas Police Choir (who weren't bad and got by far the most applause of these groups). The best pieces were when Dorsey and the chorus combined, with the 65-piece orchestra to back them up.

This event was well planned -- the perfect time to stir the crowd, here at the President's first public appearance, and prepare them for the last session of the convention coming up tonight. *I* feel like I'm at a Southern Baptist Sunday morning service -- out of place. The crowd is almost pure white, all in their Sunday best. It is well planned, well staged, well timed.

The music festival part ends and the main program is about to begin. The speakers are marched in, we have opening remarks and invocation (BORing!), then the presentation of colors and pledge of allegiance make me feel like I'm in high school again. Now it's more like a baseball game (an image I'm sure is consciously cultivated), as we all stand for the Star Spangled Banner.

A couple more performances and the band strikes up Hail to the Chief. And I can't help but be stirred. The Reagans and Bushes come in to the kind of applause only a crowd this size can generate.

Willa Dorsey and the chorus sing "Joshua" and the crowd is really prepped (even the Secret Service man in front of me is tapping his foot), standing to

clap along before it's over. The chorus does "Battle Hymn of the Republic" and we're all set for the intro and the President himself.

When Reagan takes the podium this crowd is prepared to applaud all day and would be perfectly well pleased just to have seen him -- there's no doubt that to them he's a true hero.

The President is thrilled to be addressing 17,000 citizens here. "Faith and religion play a critical role" (heavy applause). "...founding fathers -- and mothers" (sporadic applause at this). He's certainly not a stirring speaker, and my growling stomach (prayer *breakfast* did they say?) and worries about getting packed and to the airport on time make my mind wander. He's telling, making liberal use quotes (does he do *anything* liberal?), how the founders of our nation intended that religion and morality be an integral part of our nation (he's using words like "people" and "nation," steering clear of saying "government"). He's bemoaning the fact that the sixty's are when we started to move to secularization of government. "...isn't the real truth that they [who want prayer out of schools, etc] are intolerant of religion?" (heavy applause). "...one of the significant forerunners of their [every major civilization that declined] fall was the turning away from their God or gods...Without God, Democracy will not and cannot long endure." (wild applause)

He's a bland speaker, but comes across as humble and sincere. I think this crowd wouldn't notice if he were wearing a clown face

"May God keep you, and we -- all of us -- keep God." And the crowd stand and shouts and applauds like mad.

And I'm off to find a cab.

Sherwin

Answer 40 (of 64) SML, on THU, AUG 23 1984 at 11:41 (768 characters)

I found my very first Source user here. Notice, I didn't say "Source subscriber." This guy actually uses the system and I'm going to get him into Parti. He's Bill Webster, running for State Attorney General of Missouri, the "show me" state. And I want to show him how Parti can bring people together, get them talking, and just be all around fun. Okay, so he's not the President. But it was a real thrill to me because he was the very *first* politico I've spoken to who didn't just feign knowledge of what a computer network is -- he *knew* because he really does use it. He *understood* when I told him what kind of reporting I do! He even said, "Weren't you in InfoWorld?"

My God! I'm famous!

Answer 41 (of 64) MIKE GREENLY, on THU, AUG 23 1984 at 13:16 (1306 characters)

Speaking of thrill.

Will you please indulge me for a minute?

YAY!
YAAAAAY!
HOOOOOOOOORRRRRAYYYYYYY!

Weirdly enough, I am sending this to you ---- live! ---- from the very ballroom of the President's and Vice President's Luncheon. I am typing this online. I am on top of the press stand at the back of the room. At the back. In front of me are the dozens of cameras. On the floor are dozens of telephones in a tangled snarl of wires. But i found one up here that works. see what that means? i'm in the room where the president will be speaking. you're in that room with me now, if you're on line.

this is live! and you w-i-l-l, if you're online, be able to read it. and if you want you could interact with me here.

anyone out there?

mike at 12:13 and the lunch room is empty. if you have a question or comment, ---now -- send it to "gop public". i don't trust this incredible luck, though.

a tray of food is spilled in the empty dining room. the press applauds and one of them says --

"Live!
From Dallas!
It's Saturday Night!"

he is Peter Sinatra (i made him show me his name tag) with Channel 5 in Boston, WCVB an affiliate of ABC.)

(Peter is a news photographer, who is also quick-witted.)

Answer 42 (of 64) MIKE GREENLY, on THU, AUG 23 1984 at 13:34 (540 characters)

12:28 - people begin filing into the room. there is an audio test. guys step over the wires to their cameras. a quick take-in of the tables set for 10 each tells me there are about 1500 diners coming into the room. not counting the dais where 40 or so pink napkins are set up like scallop shells in each glass.

"You guys got a mult?" I hear, and by now I know that it means a multiple feed hookup. now the band plays. the gold and white presidential seal above the dais is pretty spiffy. "Mame" show tunes in the air..d

Answer 43 (of 64) MIKE GREENLY, on THU, AUG 23 1984 at 13:47 (390 characters)

OK, a TV writer who does *not* want to be quoted had obtained the menu:

2,000 people, \$1,000 per plate, \$225M being raised, and they're dining on Bibb Lettuce, Beef Tenderloin, Spaghetti Squash, and Fresh Strawberries for

dessert. (If Diane W. were on line, she would have asked, so I just pretended she had, and answered her.) 12:45 and people are still milling in and around.

Answer 44 (of 64) MIKE GREENLY, on THU, AUG 23 1984 at 13:51 (232 characters)

12:49 - Charlton Heston spotted.

The techie in front of me

wonders if the attractive

hairpiece is made in America. 12:50 - John Conley spotted. 12:52 - "WOULD EVERYONE PLEASE

BE SEATED?"

Answer 45 (of 64) MIKE GREENLY, on THU, AUG 23 1984 at 14:01 (830 characters)

ok - so numbers aren't my thing. they've raised \$2.5 m-i-l-l-i-o-n at this lunch! which puts them over their \$80 million goal at this point. someone said, at these plate prices, even the bibb lettuce wears a bib.

Dignitaries are invited to the dais. lots of vice-chairmen of functions. Senator John Tower from Texas. Mary Crowley from Dallas. The top ticket seller sold over 100 tickets to the lunch. Senator Paul Laxalt. Frank Fahrenkopf the chairman of the convention. Phil Graham running for Senator of Texas. The Mayor of Phoenix, Margaret Hance (?), --

now to sing our National Anthem, America's Ambassador of love, Pearl Bailey

she sings it soft and sweet - i feel a chill on my spine - she gets the audience to croon gently with her. a moment of sweet, soft magic.

[and the lights go back up]

Answer 46 (of 64) MIKE GREENLY, on THU, AUG 23 1984 at 14:04 (502 characters)

There's been a great deal of demagoguery and false rhetoric about the office of Vice President, says Frank Fahrenkopf. Let me introduce to you the best -- the best in history -- Vice President and Mrs. George Bush.

silence.

then -

fanfare -

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

"Hail to the Chief" is played. He comes on in his tan, summer suit and looks from here like a jovial million, or 2.5 million, dollars.

applause, applause, applause, applause.

Answer 47 (of 64) MIKE GREENLY, on THU, AUG 23 1984 at 14:09 (134 characters)

George Bush: thanks Dallas, and Convention workers. Solid, effective thanks he gives, as a Speaker. Not charismatic, but solid.

Answer 48 (of 64) MIKE GREENLY, on THU, AUG 23 1984 at 14:25 (3552 characters)

Reagan is cited as a President who not only believes in free enterprise system, but also practices it. The Editor-in-Chief of a major business publication is quoted as having said that foreign countries are now looking to the U.S. for leadership again. Reagonomics does works. "Thank you all for inviting me here today" Reagan says to laughter at his understatement.

"I'd like to share a few quiet words with you about where we're going.

Over these last few weeks, all Americans have seen the choice we'll face. They've seen our ideas -- with new ideas, the party of the future.

And they've seen the other party, that caters to special interests, trying to return us to the days of malaise and defeatism while we bring a message of hope.

we're leading america to expansion and progres, to opportunity to all our citizens, and we hope someday to freedom and self-government for people all over the world.

the election returns this year will show that our party is truly the party of the 80's and beyond.

despite all the defeats they've suffered, the democrats still aren't listening to the people.

this year we must speak to the people about what distinguishes the two parties. the "GOP" is now the "Great Opportunity Party"

we're the party of the future, they're the party of the past.

we: growth, they: stagnation.

we've proven it this week - open and free-wheeling debate. they say, "see it our way or else"

we're a giant re-emerging on the scene, and we will be content to be the minority party no more.

[the most solid applause yet at this]

"the eccentric clique calling the shots in san francisco" = the leadership of the democratic party.

our party speaks for working people and entrepreneurs and risk-takers and dreamers and heroes.

we see the great and happy challenge, waiting to be seized.

the Republican party, founded 130 years ago, is the party of the new majority.

quotes Abe Lincoln about "we must disenthral ourselves with the past"

there's a lot more at stake this year than just a national ticket.

we need a congress that won't cut the defense budget or lead us down a garden path of naivete. only by electing republicans in the house and senate can we get on with the nation's business. that's the only way to get the democrats to return to the mainstream of american politics. I ask you to take one message to the people: we're proud of our record in office, but we have to talk about the future and how bright it can be with a Republican President, Vice President, Majority Leader, and Speaker of the House.

It's time for the American people to look at how government really runs. It's not "the president's budget". all the spending starts over in the house of representatives.

why is it that in all but four of the last 50 years the republicans have controlled the house of representatives. i think it has to do with who's been in charge every 10th year with who controls those districts when they lay them out. there's been a deliberate thwarting of what the people as a whole have made evident what they want.

thank you all and god bless you all. (he leaves before lunch begins to go on. the band plays the stars and stripes forever.)

note: the above is as close to verbatim as i could get. some phrases were *definitely* left out, but i gave you the gist.

a final wave to the crowd. and he steps behind the curtain shielding the rear ex it door . . . [more later. i leave too.]

Answer 49 (of 64) MIKE GREENLY, on THU, AUG 23 1984 at 22:09 (1390 characters)

The Reagan Introductory Film

In a word: brilliant. It conveys that if you love America, if you care about its progress and future, if you're glad to be free: you will vote for Ronald Reagan.

It is brilliant in its mix of filmed participants -- black, white, Hispanic, young, old, male, female, labor -- in its portrayal of Reagan as warm yet strong, honest and committed, caring.

Its imagery -- blending, visually Reagan with the flag. Narrated by the man, himself, surely as effectively as anything he has ever done.

The "cinema verite" comments from "ordinary" people: "He's doggone honest". The geniality with which he talks, while we are reminded of, the assassination

attempt. The photograph/reminiscence with Cardinal Cooke and Reagan's religious references. The international exposure. The grandeur and worldwide exposure of Reagan strolling peacefully on the Great Wall of China.

This film *is* brilliant. And the u-s-e of it -- rather than trying to duplicate what Kennedy was in his Democratic prelude to Mondale -- is in itself extremely smart. Because *no* speaker could get across the scope and power of these visuals, with this music.

Calculating? yes. Using every technique in the book? yes.

And -- this film is an exceptional piece of political/marketing communication. Period. Answer 50 (of 64) MIKE GREENLY, on THU, AUG 23 1984 at 23:19 (906 characters)

And the Speech . . .

Well it goes on too long. Too much rode on it, I think -- they wanted so much not to take any chances that they couldn't leave anything out. And it verged on feeling, eventually, like protesting too much.

But --

with all the allusions to other speeches and borrowings from other writers (even from "Star Trek")

with all the length, and over-simplification, and things *I* noticed I mistrusted or wasn't sure about

[I can hardly wait to read knowledgeable rebuttal by the other side]

the fact is: it was very, very skillfully written. Many tricks of phrasing for impact which, combined with his mostly excellent timing, made it a powerhouse.

It sure looks good for the GOP just now. I can't help wondering what I would do if I were in charge of the Democratic Campaign.

What would *you* do? ? ? mike

Answer 51 (of 64) MIKE GREENLY, on FRI, AUG 24 1984 at 03:02 (6174 characters)

Interview with Senator Pete Wilson, California -- Part I

[Many thanks to Will S. -- whom I first met in the "Electronic Journalis" Conference on Parti. He helped me obtain this interview.]

* * * * *

The elevator takes me to the top of the 11-story atrium festooned with Reagan banners for every state, and a 100' flag hanging grandly down from top to bottom.

Now, as I wait in the Senator's Press Office, I realize I am nervous. I used to reflect on the fact that, as an Avon Officer, my salary back then was more than a U. S. Senator's -- but, I mused, the power and aura of a Senator's position is extraordinary. Now, here I am, and I am being affected by it. As I wait, I think about journalists who *routinely* interview the powerful -- if Sherwin were here, he might chide me for comparing myself to "real" journalists whose work is visibly in print. (Or, I would add, who do it full-time.)

I am led to the Senator's suite. It is the way I like to interview -- far from the din of a crowd, facing him on the couch, a coca cola at my side, his Press Secretary at a discreet distance reading through the TENS Press Kit. Senator Wilson is a trim, well-groomed, serious, and slightly formal man. His vocabulary is impressive. (I'm pleased to discover later that he's an English Lit major like me.) He looks and acts like what he is: a fairly young and junior Senator (as Senators go) who has a reputation for being smart, hard-working, and effective.

I have been asking political experts -- delegates, journalists, and political scientists -- about Wilson, ever since I knew I'd definitely have the interview. The opinions I've encountered have been very favorable.

The worst thing anyone has said (a Washington magazine editor) was "he's nice, but bland". A lobbyist said Wilson's decisions aren't fast enough. Most people looked really pleased when they heard I'd be speaking to Wilson -- I was to meet a U.S. Senator of quality and integrity, a man who'd been nationally recognized for unusually effective leadership as Mayor of San Diego, and who is now making a positive difference in Washington.

So, we're settled and I explain to him about Parti on The Source. I give him Cynic Al's message from "GOP Public".

Then, we talk for a bit about the environmental compromise Wilson has just worked out with fellow Senator Alan Cranston on Wilderness lands. Their agreement releases 1.8 Million acres of California Wilderness for development, but permanently preserves 5.0 Million. It was a compromise on both sides.

I initiate the Wilderness topic because I want him to see that I have done some research on issues he's involved with. But also, I am interested in learning how he views *compromise*. Some of my more cynical friends in New York believe that the need to compromise makes it impossible for politicians to maintain ideals -- that continual Washington compromise weakens what one may start out believing. I ask Wilson's opinion of that view.

"I reject that!" he says emphatically. "That is a stereotype. I can't think of anyone that it applies to. There are some people who come to the legislative process without the integrity I would like to see. But they are not worn down or corroded by compromise. It's not a corrosive process. When both sides think they are right, is when you have compromise."

He compromises when he feels it's better to get some part of his goals achieved, while timing is right, instead of getting nothing achieved. At

times, he prefers *no* compromise at all if the "half a loaf" is not good enough.

I ask him about commentary that the GOP is being influenced by very Right Wing, super-religious groups. And if their increased influence on the Republican Party will limit the GOP's longterm mainstream appeal.

"I would say that is greatly exaggerated," he says. "I think that the Republican Party and, for that matter, a good third of the Democratic Party is indeed conservative. And that, to me, is the mainstream of American politics.

"That, incidentally, includes a great number of people who would *not* style themselves as 'conservatives' but who are, in fact, conservative in their attitudes. What I'm talking about now, really, are attitudes about the role of government, the size of government, what the degree of regulation should be in the market place, what our security stance should be -- these are fundamental political questions that don't have a great deal to do with anybody's religious beliefs.

"Those strictly religious issues that come along stir great passion -- I think of school prayer and I think of abortion -- but they are a tiny fraction of the total number of roll calls. And while it is true that for some voters those are the only issues, that is not the broad spectrum of American voters, and therefore it won't be the broad spectrum of either Party."

We talk about his being a conservative Senator from California -- so often cited for being a leader of new social trends. "There's nothing inconsistent with being innovative and being politically conservative," he says. "In fact, my concern as a *political* conservative is that Government has tended to stunt the growth of private sector initiatives. It has literally starved those who have guts to take a risk in the market place by denying adequate risk capital, in times when Government has gone into the market place with massive borrowing and dried up venture capital. Currently we are in the happy situation where there is, again, adequate venture capital.

"Another aspect to this," he says, "is overregulation. And, the kinds of innovation for which my state is, I think, justly famous has to do with being on the frontiers of high technology -- whether it be in electronics, or agriculture, or entertainment, or fashion, or what have you. I am a political conservative *and* I encourage there being innovation in all those areas."

[continued, next answer]

Answer 52 (of 64) MIKE GREENLY, on FRI, AUG 24 1984 at 03:09 (9828 characters)

Interview, Senator Pete Wilson,
California - Part II

I ask Senator Wilson to contrast this convention and that of the Democrats.

"The delegates to this convention," he says, "are far more representative of rank and file Republican voters than were the delegates in San Francisco, who were far more liberal than the mainstream of the Democratic Party.

"We are not wasting anything on subtlety at this Convention. We are making a direct appeal to disenfranchised Democrats, telling them they have a home in the Republican Party.

"The basis for our appeal is that, whatever differences may exist with respect to all these other issues -- in no way demeaning the importance of any of them -- *two* issues, in 1980 and today, seem to most of us to be of overriding importance: the economy, and America's security. And the related question of our position in the world."

He summarizes for me where we were at the end of the Carter years -- e.g. 700,000 small business closures in the last year of the Carter administration. "We were poised on what turned out to be longest, deepest, toughest recession since the thirties." He credits Reagan for having "the courage to stick with his policies" to lead the way to the present recovery.

"In the past six to eight months, he has put 6,000,000 people back to work," Wilson says of Reagan, as he summarizes a variety of impressive economic statistics that are now becoming familiar as part of "sustained economic growth and prospect -- that is healthy growth, non-inflationary growth," and "stability needed for longterm planning and investment."

His simple statement, and what I know from my own corporate experience about business health and -- yes -- jobs for people that *can* be created with business health, certainly make some points with me.

My own taxi driver, waitress, and repair man research has impressed me with how genuinely many "regular folks" are aware of the current health of the economy. In marketing themselves in 1984, the Republicans have a very powerful asset with today's economy.

Now Wilson moves on to Issue #2: security.

"A number of people saw that when we were impotent as the Red army moved against Afghanistan, when we were impotent even to undo the humiliation of our own citizens in the Teheran embassy, that this country had lost credibility with our adversaries and our allies and, indeed, with its own people.

"This President promised to make America proud again. He demanded that we rebuild our neglected military strength. It had been neglected over the period of a decade, in which we were outpaced by the Soviets in military spending by \$400 billion. That is about the cost to us of the entire Viet Nam war.

"In short he saw quite clearly that the Soviets had so exceeded any legitimate need in terms of their own defense, that the only logical inference from this massive military buildup, was that they were attempting to achieve a position of such advantage that they could *threaten* the use of force and extort political concession without actually having to resort to the use of force against the West -- though clearly they had been completely willing to use it and, indeed, had used it cruelly."

He cites for me various familiar countries and situations to prove his point

-- countries in the news I only dimly payed attention to over the past X number of years. The horn of Africa, Afghanistan, the Syrians, the Iraqies, and "Cuba a garrison state and Cuba as a Soviet surrogate," Marxism in Central America, Nicaragua.

I am one of those Americans who earns no prizes for his awareness of foreign affairs. I know so much more about foreign films and foreign food than International politics or diplomacy. I don't have much of what I'd consider truly quality perspective with which to evaluate the countries he mentions, and I'm feeling embarrassed by my ignorance.

How typical am I, I wonder. How many of the people who feel passionately about one or more of the countries or issues Wilson cites really *knows* about them.

Obviously there are many Americans who are much more aware than am I. But I'm also certain that I represent -- in my ignorance -- a large body of other citizens as well.

"Beyond the borders of Nicaragua," he says simply, "are its neighbors. There are Soviet tank battalions in Nicaragua. I don't mean armed by a Soviet army. But they are Soviet tanks. At last count, 54 relatively late-model Soviet tanks. There are no other tanks in the whole of Central America.

"And if they thought the same kind of vascillation and drift that marked the end of the Carter administration were still the norm for American foreign policy, I think those tanks would long since have rolled over the border to El Salvador -- and El Salvador *and* Hondouras would have become Marxist as well as Nicaragua.

"This is not the kind of thing that we can afford to ignore. This is literally on our doorstep. And if we pretend that we can ignore it, we are fools and will find at a later date -- how much later, it's not clear: not much -- we will pay an enormously greater price for it.

"It is possible, now, for us to provide desperately needed assistance to the neighbors of Nicaragua who are disposed to resist this violence without troops from the United States. All they are asking from us are arms and equipment.

"But if we are to deny them both the military assistance and the economic assistance, then we could anticipate that ultimately we would have literally on our border a situation of such intensity, in terms of the threat, that we would *have* to meet it with military force, on a far greater scale."

As he talks, I have uncomfortable memories of how Viet Nam began. But I also hear myself, on "track B" of my mind, saying that what happened in Viet Nam, halfway round the world and now years ago, doesn't necessarily mean anything about what we should or shouldn't do just South of our Borders. I can hear my mind arguing with itself as Wilson speaks -- and, bottom line, I remind myself, I know very little for certain.

I ask Wilson about Reagan's microphone joke.

"The remark at the mike, which was an unfortunate effort at humor, was just

exactly that," he says. "People shouldn't make any more of it than it is."

"The real record makes very clear that this President wants terribly to achieve peace, but that he is dealing with a situation not of his own making in which it is not possible for anyone rational to simply trust in Soviet good faith and Soviet good intentions. History belies them. There is abundant evidence -- very recent evidence -- that the Soviets simply cannot be trusted.

"Now that in no way exempts us from the responsibility of having to deal with them. That doesn't allow us the luxury of walking away from the negotiating table; but it isn't we who have walked, it's the Soviets.

"This president has done more in the name of arms control than any within memory. As specifics, I would cite the so-called "zero option", which the Soviets have rejected."

"That the SALT talks proposed an elimination of 1/3 of all strategic warheads -- that's *warheads* regardless of how based. And t-h-a-t was rejected.

"He has offered the 'nuclear build-down' theory which has bipartisan support in the Congress, whereby modernization would occur at the expense of getting rid of twice as many older, less stable, less accurate missiles.

"People are unaware, apparently, that over the past quarter-century we have enormously *reduced* the megatonnage as we have improved the quality of the weapons."

"The "freeze" people, in my opinion -- however good their intentions -- pose a very serious danger. Because what they are proposing is *not* arms "reduction" -- it is a fatuous belief that if we freeze things as they are, we are somehow safer than before. We are not. The only way to eliminate the possibility of a devastating nuclear exchange, is through arms *reduction*.

"But in order to achieve arms reduction, particularly in an area where the Soviets enjoy an advantage, they have to be offered an incentive. And they are offered no incentive by our unilateral setting of a good moral example. And anyone who thinks that is guilty of dangerous, fatuous good intentions."

I ask Wilson to tell me what it *feels* like to be a Senator. How is he finding this experience in his life?

"Well, I love the job, because it does provide an enormous satisfaction. You are able to help a considerable number of people, both in terms of their individual problems as constituents -- whether it's a problem with a social security check, or some sort of veteran's entitlement.

"It's also possible to take part in major debate on really important issues, issues of the kind that we have been describing here.

"And for me, and I am admittedly am still new to it, I find it's like being a kid in an intellectual candy shop. Really, the day does not pass that you don't enjoy -- what I find enormously enjoyable-- and that is the pleasure of a

learning experience that is seemingly endless, and very exciting.

"So -- both in terms of my contact with constituents, my contact with some truly fascinating people who appear as witnesses, and in terms of the job satisfaction I feel from being able to help people --

"it's a marvellous job!"

* * * * *

Last, I offer him a chance to make his own statement direct to Parti Readers. He is pleased at the "unusual" opportunity. His message to you is transcribed, verbatim, in the next answer.

Answer 53 (of 64) MIKE GREENLY, on FRI, AUG 24 1984 at 03:14 (1692 characters)

Statement to Parti Readers from
Senator Pete Wilson, California

(dictated to me to pass on to you)

If they are Californians or people in Montana, or in the other states where they may have the opportunity to vote for balanced budget amendments: they should do so! Because Congress needs, desperately, the constraint of Constitutional compulsion to live within its income.

Otherwise we will see increasing deficits and mounting National Debt and mounting interest rates.

I would say to them that while we can all look forward, hopefully, to one day when competition between nations will be upon the fields of trade or upon the Brommel Horse (sic), perhaps the still rings (sic) of the superb Olympic competition we've just witnessed.

"In the meantime, we can't hope that a unilateral model of a good moral example will keep us safe.

"We're going to have to achieve peace through strength.

"I would tell them they can share my own enormous faith in the creative energy of the American people provided that we continue on the path of rewarding individual initiative and not looking to government to supply too much.

"Government should supply a climate of opportunity or, rather, making *possible* a climate of opportunity.

"And supply for the few who cannot supply things to themselves -- the necessities of life -- but, for the rest of us, we should take advantage of our good health, our freedom, which 80% of the world's population does not enjoy and provide for the rest of the world a model that is theirs to copy and share as they choose."

Senator Pete Wilson

Answer 54 (of 64) MIKE GREENLY, on FRI, AUG 24 1984 at 10:27 (9390 characters)

Mike Discovers Newt Gingrich, and
Hears the Name "Toffler" (!)
at The American Opportunity Society -

I'm barely seated for 5 minutes before Don Selwyn of Butler, New Jersey -- a techie/computer consultant who deals with the handicapped/blind -- demonstrates to me how to pop off the keys of my Model 100 and place dental rubber bands on each key in order to silence it. (J.Mello had told me about this on Parti; but I didn't trust myself. Now I feel more confident, seeing a demonstration.)

The interchange, which I appreciate, turns out to be an augury of the kind of meeting I'm now attending.

T/O -- active in the Oklahoma Republican Party -- had been asking Shewin and me to check out the Conservative Opportunity Society to balance off our NCPAC coverage. Sherwin has already gone to one of the COS meetings and said I should at *least* go hear Newt Gingrich.

Just after I had my keyboard lesson, in fact, Gingrich himself walks past me to get to the coffee. He sees I am typing away and says -- "Aren't they neat? I've got one myself."

Hmmmmmmmm.

I won't try to cover the COS -- I didn't even stay for the whole session. And, frankly, I just don't know enough. But some things really intrigued me:

A preliminary speaker says this is the first convention of the "New Majority", depending on whether or not you count 1980. The Democrats are now the party of "fear and isolation" -- et cetera. For me, this is already a familiar slogan here in Dallas.

But I remain unconvinced -- so far -- that the people I've seen this week are truly the party of the New Majority. A Dallas Times Herald survey showed more than half the delegates polled have annual incomes *above* \$50,000. The analysis that Rob Howard did of these Delegates in "GOP Public" also shows a highly skewed composition. Their composition is a *minority*. So what the GOP says here isn't by itself enough to persuade me they are entitled to speak for the majority in this country, new or otherwise. It's Reagan who's in the White House more than a consensus philosophy [I believe].

When Gingrich says this is "the party where the debate is taking place on the significant moral issues of our time," I feel he must be joking -- or at least not be talking about the bland and eerie Caucus meetings I've attended here in Dallas. Or the nitpick haggling over words -- not issues -- I saw of the Platform Committee on cable television.

("You'll just loove the Platform!") was the summary at the Caucus.

Gingrich seems effective, however, when he discusses "partial equilibrium

politics". To illustrate old-style solutions, he pretends to be a politician making conflicting promises to dairy farmers, shoppers, and home buyers -- showing how eventually these conflicts lead to more legislation and more spending. This he describes as the traditionally Democratic way of approaching problems, which doesn't work anymore with *today's* kinds of issues and factions.

Anyway, he says, now with television, each special interest group easily knows of the promises made to other interests, anyway, so that style of not really dealing with problems is harder to pull off. Let alone that it has the wrong content to get at root causes.

Hmmm.

He teases that if the light bulb were invented today, from a Democratic point of view we would read: "the candle making industry was threatened today" and Walter Mondale would protect candle factories.

This does ring a bell for me, I have to admit. I remember thinking in San Francisco that when Mondale said he wants to see "Made In America" on everything, he was missing the shift to an information society (and world) already long ago discussed in *The Third Wave*, *MegaTrends*, and other books. And that what we produce needs to *shift*, for our own good, and maybe even for the planet's.

Gingrich says the current Democratic philosophy tends to see the state as the only solution to things to society at large. His focus is on changing the problem -- that is, finding new and creative approaches to problems. Well, in theory, I find this personally very appealing. What his solutions are, I don't know.

It's true that some of my most successful projects, in business and otherwise, have come from *not* accepting the choices apparently available to me -- but from allowing myself to start from scratch in redefining a problem to achieve a totally new and advanced solution.

So I'm impressed with some of Gingrich's "mission", even though it's hard for me to understand what he is doing at the Convention happening all around us. This man seems too sophisticated to be a political partner of Phyllis Schlafly and Gerry Falwell and some of the other socially conservative stars I've observed here in Dallas.

What knocks me out, though, is when Gingrich explains the three "S" shapes on the blackboard beside him. They turn out to be technological growth curves, and before I know it *he* is quoting Toffler, as I often do. *He* is referencing our being at the beginning of the information society, etc, etc -- things in which I have total conviction. Things I k-n-o-w are true.

If this kind of discussion was taking place at the Democratic Convention, then I missed it. If Hart articulated this stuff clearly, then I was out of town, or at the "NCC" or "Comdex" conventions. Newt Gingrich is almost sounding like Sourcevoid! (Well, ok, only Sourcevoid sounds like Sourcevoid) But I'm thinking they do have *some* things in common. And at least -- it seems for a moment -- some of what Gingrich is addressing sounds to me like

. . . me!
(gosh.)

He's saying things I believe in.

When he points out that it is --> significant that ours is the first society to enable, during the Olympics, the whole planet to watch something in real time, he is saying something I *often* palpitate over because I, too, think it's a profound new development.

"Think about it," he says. "That means Bangladesh can *see* us." Yes! I know. I know that has all sorts of ramifications. I'm surprised to hear a politician telling it to me though.

Nonetheless, I can't help thinking about how few television sets there must be in Bangladesh. And how much hunger -- and then I think about the effect of hungry people seeing us - - -. Something that Buckminster Fuller and others have been talking about for years.

By contrast, I remember Ferraro's aide: "But Mike, if you interview her -- what is the computer going to ask her?!" Is this how in touch the Democratic Future is? Or even the Republican. Who *is* this Gingrich? And who *are* his parallels within the Democratic party?

"We need an agenda for growth/change of unbelievable proportions," Gingrich says. "We're on the edge of a revolution."

And -- this hits home for me -- "reality is not an ideology." Are "values" part of dealing with changing reality -- yes, for me anyway. But is any traditional ideology up to dealing with the kind of change we're beginning to experience on earth? Not enough to make *me* confident, anyway. My wonderful solution thus far? (irony intended.) Well, I've just ignored it all till reporting to *you* at these Conventions made that unacceptable for me to let myself get away with this summer.

Now as I type this to you, I remember Jeane Kirkpatrick being interviewed last night. She refused to label herself a "Democrat" or a "Republican". I believe some of the discussion right here in the "GOP 84" conference is really outmoded -- "I'm a Democrat" vs "I'm a Republican".

Phooey. The Bronx cheers among participants seem irrelevant to me. If I've learned anything by attending these two Conventions it's how (frighteningly) un-unified we are as a country. I don't think "the Republicans" are any less special interest group than "the Democrats". But when a politician begins talking about the information society and Daniel Bell and Toffler -- well at least I feel some hope that *someone* in position of influence is actually thinking about the speed of change taking place on our planet.

Shortly after I leave the Gingrich meeting, I read a column in the New York Times satirizing him. And referring to the "High Tech" side of the Democratic Party that I didn't experience in San Francisco -- except for the fact that I interviewed Apple's "Woz" on the Convention Floor as a Hart delegate.

Bottom line:

I leave the Gingrich meeting feeling much more ignorant than when I walked in. But I'm intrigued. Is there a Gingrich somewhere who believes in ERA, is opposed to discrimination based on gender, age, religion, race, or sexual preference, who has a do-able way to help people break *out* of a cycle of poverty and ignorance and demotivation while fostering entrepreneurial rewards for someone like me.

If that leader exists, it's hard for me to believe she or he will turn out to be a real "Republican" or "Democrat". To me, it sounds more like E.T.

from Mike, on his last morning in Dallas --
who'll be paying a bit more attention to this stuff, now, than he did before he covered the 84 Conventions!

Answer 55 (of 64) SML, on FRI, AUG 24 1984 at 14:55 (2930 characters)

Observations

I am so -->GLAD<-- that Mike saw Gingrich and reported on it -- I needed to see a less biased opinion than my own. Based on *what* Gingrich talks about, I don't see how he could refuse at least an interview with one of us. And my goal is to get him into our discussions.

Who is or are the Democrat equivalents? We need to get them into the same discussion.

The "rank and file" opinion, to the extent it's possible to determine such a thing at a convention like this, has begun to take shape in my mind after talking with a number of delegates, some Congressmen, and some true rank and file not involved in the convention. To me, the observations Mike reported from Senator Pete Wilson mesh perfectly: the two prime concerns are the economy and defense/foreign policy.

On the economy, the fishing pole analogy is one with which every one of the Republicans I spoke to would agree. The feeling is that the jobless should be taught marketable skills and then be sent out on their own to sink or swim. But nobody I spoke with had any clear idea of *how* to accomplish the training or *what* to do with the untrainable. [and I don't think there's anyone who has any idea how many of the poor are not trainable for whatever reason] They are uniformly for "free enterprise," which to most of them means de-regulation; dropping of government incentives, price supports, etc; and reduction of the steep gradient in income tax brackets, perhaps even to a single flat rate. On protectionism there's a much broader range of opinions, with some for free enterprise restricted to our own borders.

On defense and foreign policy, the common thread is that we should deal with other countries firmly and not shy away from confrontation on matters of principal or where democracy is threatened. They feel that a firm -- and consistent -- hand is the only way to win the respect of other nations. They applaud actions like Granada. Many are genuinely concerned about military

spending and arms buildups and strongly support arms reduction. But only in a multi-lateral, verifiable way.

The average Republican, as far as I can determine what "average" is, is *not* a part of the moral majority and is embarrassed by the likes of Reverend Falwell. It's something they prefer to sweep under the rug and ignore -- talking about it makes them uncomfortable. Likewise NCPAC. But the majority view is clearly for religion to have a noticeable role in government, and Ronald Reagan struck a very responsive chord in his talk yesterday morning when he said that the source of morality in government must be religion. There's no clear majority that I can find on either side of the abortion issue, with as many concerned that government funds not be spent on abortion as there are concerned that abortion itself is wrong.

Answer 56 (of 64) MIKE GREENLY, on FRI, AUG 24 1984 at 19:20 (1606 characters)

To Newer Users of Parti

I've worried a bit about you all during this coverage, but was too busy to say so. I remember how tough it was for me to learn to use this system easily.

This week, when I entered a 9,000+ character note (which I know is loong for this medium), I worried that you might not know how to use Control-"P" to break out of it if you wanted to. (Experienced users do that at the drop of a hat if one hasn't kept their attention.)

I was concerned that you might not know how to ** scan ** your mail so you could easily pass over a topic when you wanted to.

I wondered if you might have found too many notes waiting in your mailbox, and if you wouldn't know how to ** Cancel ** them and then use Read Since . Or how to pick selectively only what entries you wanted. Or how to Leave a conference if you wanted to.

If you've taken the "Practice" conference and read the "Help" conference, then you're on your way to expertise. It really, *really* just gets easy over time. To the point, in fact, of being natural.

The purpose of this note is to tell you, belatedly as I fly home from Dallas, that I've been thinking about you all week, and that it's gratifying to have you here with us for what I know is the first time for many of you.

I wish you interesting and very rewarding times ahead as you continue to make use of Parti and discover the richness of the people who use it.

P.S. You can always .Message Helper when or if you get stuck on a particular point as you grow.

mike

Answer 57 (of 64) MIKE GREENLY, on FRI, AUG 24 1984 at 19:22 (1714 characters)

Mrs. Howard of Scripps-Howard News

And "I Want Wilkie!"

I have only a few more notes to enter here, over the next day or two, including a personal overview of both Conventions.

First, this true vignette: I am sitting on the plane home next to Mrs. Eleanor Howard of Scripps-Howard news service. She has been to almost every convention since 1940.

44 years ago, she was a young guest at a dinner party and heard people discussing the upcoming Republican Convention in Philadelphia. She was seized by a desire to attend, she didn't know why.

One of the guests said something like, "OK, Eleanor. If you'll go with Cousin Amy and chaperone each other, I'll put the two of you up in a hotel room, but only on one condition --

You have to shout 'We Want Wilkie! We Want Wilkie!'"

And so she did. A lot. Staged demonstrations were of course not just invented in 1984.

Her experience helped lead her to become a writer. Years later her specialty became in-depth personality pieces (moving into the subject's household for a week) on celebrities ranging from Dwight D. Eisenhower and Bill Buckley, to Elizabeth Taylor.

This past week in Dallas, she accepted an award on behalf of Claire Boothe Luce at the First Lady's Luncheon. I show her how to use a Model 100 (she's enchanted), I tell her about Participate on the Source, and I promise to start a conference about "the way it is" backstage, if her play is ever produced for the New York theater.

Her "Soar in 84" helium balloon survives the flight, and we land in New York City where, at last, the daytime temperature is well below 100 degrees.

Answer 58 (of 64) SML, on FRI, AUG 24 1984 at 19:55 (5474 characters)

Electronic Marvels at the Convention

The communications systems for messages between delegations were supplied by American Network Services, in conjunction with Case Rixon Communications, Gandalf Data, and Hamilton Sorter. The systems here were a bit different from the ones in San Francisco. Here they were supposed to have one at each delegate hotel and one at the convention center, just like in SF; but, they were to be in the hotel lobbies, not the caucus rooms, and they were to be staffed with operators. They had a lot in common with the systems at the Dems' event, too -- they weren't used and they didn't work.

Example: the first night I was here I spent a little while looking over the system at the Colorado delegation's hotel while I was waiting for Mike to

arrive (it wasn't manned, nor womanned). It seemed simple enough -- it was an MS-DOS NCR microcomputer with Centronics printer, Gandalf modem, and Rixon stat-mux attached (a stat-mux, short for statistical mutliplexor, allows several modems to use the same phone line at the same time) -- all pretty standard stuff, all pre-connected (that's the part that makes it "simple enough"). Except the instructions were pretty poor and the messages the software gave you were unintelligible without the instruction book. Like you had to specifically tell it to run the terminal program instead of having it come up automatically when the machine's turned on. Like you had to know that the way to get it to connect to the network to send a message was to press control-T and then RETURN. Like the messages you got after trying to connect were things like COM (for "commected"?) or MOM. But, okay -- with an operator to run it, what difference did it make, right?

I checked out the hardware there at the Colorado delegates' hotel, turned it on, and made sure it was working. Everything fine so far. When we returned to our hotel (no operator there, either) I showed Mike how it worked and decided to send a message back to one of the Coloradans -- I knew the machine was on and working. The program told us we were properly connected and I sent the message. It was never received. I sent one to the Oklahoma delegation, too, where T/O and his wife were staying. There I didn't know if the machine was working or even on; our machine gave all the proper responses. But that message was never received either.

The next day I was at T/O's hotel -- it looked like the machine had never been turned on. Fact is, the disk-shaped pieces of cardboard that they keep in the disk drives during shipping were still there, with the program disk crammed in the A drive alongside the cardboard. I **know** why that message was never received!

That night I sent a message, during convention hours, to the convention center. I asked for confirmation of receipt to be messaged back to me (remember this is a manually operated system -- there must be someone to send and someone at the receiving end must send a message back to you if you want confirmation it was received. Three possibilities: it was never received, there was nobody there, or whoever was there had no idea how to send a message in return (or just plain didn't bother to look at my message).

The next afternoon I was at the Oklahoma delegation's hotel again. This time there was an operator there, but she said she was leaving in a few minutes. She had little idea of how to work the machine, but when she followed the instructions she had been given, nothing happened. I confirmed that everything was properly connected and powered up -- the system was simply dead, wouldn't even attempt to boot the disk. The operator had called for service nearly two hours before and was just plain disgusted to be wasting her time doing nothing. She said she'd just leave if they didn't show up in another 10 minutes.

I can't claim to have made an exhaustive survey. But of the delegates I spoke to, none had sent messages and only one was even aware what the computers were for (they were supposed to also allow delegates to use the word processor, but the operators I spoke to said the "black box" to connect the letter-quality printer never showed up).

The general message system was considerably better, at least from a user's standpoint -- it seemed to work well and was available every time I wanted to use it. It was run jointly by AT&T and Compucorp and apparently consisted of a number of terminals accessing a shared database where messages were stored. To leave a message for anyone associated with the convention, there was a phone number to call where the operator would take your message and enter it into the database; you could call the same number to check for messages. There was a walk-up counter in the lobby of the convention center where you could also place and check for messages. Simple -- and it worked.

The proof that Republicans are more high-tech than Democrats was in some of the buttons and hats the Republicans wore at the convention: there were quite a few sporting flashing LEDs. I didn't see any like that in San Francisco. And so we see the most practical application of modern electronics to the political process.

Sherwin

Answer 59 (of 64) MIKE GREENLY, on SAT, AUG 25 1984 at 08:00 (6774 characters)

Three Media Experiences

1. Senator Laxalt's Press Conference and the Shy Star from UPI

It's just as well that I didn't get an interview with Senator Laxalt, but instead got a private meeting with Pete Wilson of California.

Surely reporters, like any other human beings, feel "vibes" and personal chemistry from one subject to another. My vibes from Laxalt -- I accidentally ended up in a small-group press conference with just 5 other journalists -- were that he and I wouldn't have hit it off that well.

I never got to find out for sure, though. I sat next to an AP reporter who kept fluttering his hand up in the air, on the brink of conversation, trying but failing to get one question in edgewise.

He couldn't, and neither did I. In my case, I simply didn't know what to ask Laxalt; the AP reporter though wasn't aggressive enough.

Meanwhile, Chris Crystal of UPI was able to doggedly pursue her lines of questioning and interest. First with Laxalt, then with Frank Fahrenkopf (head of the convention) who took Laxalt's place on the folding chair, with posters of Reagan and Bush tacked to the bulletin board behind it.

Chris is the tough(?), blond, savvy reporter I learned from when we both encountered "Father Guido Sarducci" in the corridor of the Democratic Convention. (see "Mike Talks" 34).

With her white-blonded hair, her dramatic lipstick, her large stature, and a

voice like melted gravel -- she's got the ability and the timing to persist and insist on her focus.

Over and over, she tries to get Laxalt to tip his strategic hand on the *real* reason the Republicans have treaded softly on the Ferraro issues. But Laxalt, who calls her by her first name, will have none of it -- he continues to say simply that it's really Mondale's responsibility, that Mondale vs. Reagan is the issue, period, Chris.

After the Press Conference, I go over to her and remind her that I was on the other side of Father Guido in San Francisco. She laughs recollecting the moment. Then, I start to ask her about *herself*.

To my surprise and fascination, she is startled and I think alarmed. "Who *are* you?" she wants to know. I don't get much chance to tell her. Ultimately, in an amazing few minutes to both of us probably, I am following her along, my portable tape recorder in hand, and she is *stonewalling* my questions in total though possibly amused silence. She is just not answering any request at all to talk about herself.

It is extraordinary to me that this woman -- who is so confident and effective in questioning others -- should be so spooked when it comes to talking about herself.

[I have given her a press kit so at least she knows more about us now. Maybe I'll see her at the 1988 convention? Well, maybe she'll let me interview her well before then.

I find the interchange intriguing precisely *because* Chris Crystal is so effective when she is the reporter.

Mike Muffs an Interview

At the Hunt Barbecue -- finally I get to experience what Sue Ellen prepares each year at the Ewing South Fork Ranch on "Dallas" -- a rich, Texas Barbecue.

I and a reporter from Buffalo are standing in the crowd when a camera crew -- four people -- walk up to us, looking at me.

"Oh, he's not a delegate" the brunette says in dismay. I realize now that on a purely emotional level I felt rejected and irritated when she expressed her disappointment. Ugh -- you're not what we're looking for. Feh.

I find myself rather brittle and phoney-bright when I tell them something like, "Yes, but I'm one of the very first 'interactive' journalists in history to be here!" [cheesy grin.]

Oh? I can tell they're now photographing me. But the woman who is asking the questions seems abrupt, not friendly. "Why are you here and not at the convention?" she asks. I feel accused and off-balance. Only afterward do I realize it's an opportunity for an "up" comment about the "real" news off the floor, or seeing how conservatives eat chicken, or whatever.

Instead, alas, I get defensive. I don't remember clearly what I said, but it was awkward.

"Thank you" she says perfunctorily. I find I'm annoyed by the "incidental" feeling I now have. She's not really thanking me.

"Thank Youuuuuu," I say ironically. I am functioning now on the level of an eight-year-old.

"I think I detect a note of sarcasm," she says. "Don't worry, we won't use the film."

After they've gone, I think about the episode from the point of view of "interview-ees" in general. The wish to say the "right" things. The significant influence on what is said and elicited by the style and sensitivity of the interviewer. Surely the *ideal* interviewer can adapt her or his style, at least somewhat, to work best with the subject at hand. And I think *I* have to get more agile!

At any rate, the experience leaves me determined -- no matter what -- to at least *try* to ensure that the people I interview never feel diminished by the process of my having interviewed them, regardless of whether I end up using what they say or not.

New Tech Times

I am interviewed by Mort Crim, TV anchorman for a Detroit news station, and also host of "New Tech Times", the syndicated educational technology show on public television.

During the walk over to the studio, we talk about what I'll say. Sounds great to me. During the actual interview -- with time for only one take -- I feel as though I'm not getting across the real significance of this new medium. Mort says he's pleased. We'll see the results on television in the fall.

* * * * * It's been interesting being in both roles -- journalist and subject -- during a political event in Dallas that is also, obviously, a "media event".

When I'm interviewed, I try to "sell" my point of view and beliefs.

When I interview someone else, I try to create an opportunity to learn "the truth".

One thing I'm very clear about, as I continue to gain experience in both of those roles: I value about being an American the fact that we have a free press in this country. In the midst of all the "image" maneuvering by both Parties, I've come to appreciate the ability of the press -- including yours truly -- to share unfettered truth (with integrity and ethic) as one sees it and hears it to anyone who'll read or watch it.

And in the case with us here on Parti, to do so un-edited.

That's worth a lot to me.

Mike in New York, the day after "GOP 84".

Answer 60 (of 64) MIKE GREENLY, on SAT, AUG 25 1984 at 10:51 (1990 characters)

Barbara Bush

I forgot to tell you about Barbara Bush. She's an austere, reserved, dignified personage. She made a "nice" impression at the Missouri Caucus. She was more "real" than Joan Mondale, ["Mike Talks" 33] but she generated less heat. Of course, part of it is the audience. These people, with their higher incomes and ages, are less likely to gush over anybody. But Barbara Bush could have squeezed more genuine belief and fervor out of them.

Unlike Nancy Reagan -- who shows her vulnerability, and really does **talk** to you -- Barbara Bush delivers a message with a touch of distant grandeur that will never win hearts.

I didn't think it was wonderful either when she told us about how much she and George enjoy their wonderful life in the White House, and how she hopes we'll work hard so they can continue to enjoy their lifestyle.

What about **our** wonderful lives? The ones **we** want to make even m-o-r-e wonderful?

You can tell me not to take it so seriously, that it was just a light, personal comment -- and I can tell you that it betokens something I will **always** find irritating --

the "I" school of marketing.

She projects a kind of self-satisfaction that some may enjoy respecting, but I find it more boring than effective.

I will say I was pleased to learn that she's adopted, as her special cause, illiteracy in America. And she seemed sincere when she spoke up for it.

Her mission struck me as a good example -- a beginning anyway -- of the "teach them to fish instead of buying them fish dinners" philosophy. If you can't read in this country, you don't even get **near** the water.

How would I coach Barbara Bush? I'd get her to be warmer, more giving, more human, and looser. She is a smart lady, and strong -- she could be a lot more exciting (and have a lot more **fun**) if she let herself open up.

I won't wait by the phone for the call though. . .

Answer 61 (of 64) MIKE GREENLY, on SAT, AUG 25 1984 at 12:04 (7978 characters)

Looking Back: An Appraisal

The Republicans had more fun. The Democrats had more passion.

The Republicans (as a *group*) were older, richer, and "right" of the mass of American voters. The Democrats were more hysterical, more hyped, and certainly "left" of the mass, middle norm.

The Democrats did a better job of creating "family" based on feelings. The Republicans did well at creating the kind of unity that is really more effective. Much of that family feeling has evaporated for the Democrats anyway. The Republicans, just now, have a serious and focused professional purpose, based on mutual self-interest and support of Ronald Reagan as a leader.

* * * * *

Both parties, I now realize, are in fact divided into factions and special interests. I got some insight from a breakfast with a Delegate about the right-wing dominated Platform: it's primary purpose is really just for the workers back home, to reward the single issue people who are the most diligent at ringing the doorbells.

So what looked like a monolithic, Doris Day-values powerhouse in Dallas, is in fact less "together" than it appears. A very, very strong supporter of Reagan, a press influencer, told me how disgusted he is with Jerry Falwell, for example, regardless of his current place in the spotlight. "I think that man just shouldn't exist," he said.

But for the moment, factions from the Religious Right to the Moderate Center, are using each other to get past November '84.

* * * * *

The division and disarray among the Democrats is plain. When Andy Young talks about "white boys" running the Mondale Campaign, and when Ferraro's able new Press Secretary quits -- honey, that's trouble.

The Ferraro/Zaccaro finance problems -- from what I hear -- are faaaar from over. Real estate agents at Dallas dinners say Zaccaro has done plenty of "funny" stuff yet to come out, but that it will. (One press insider told me she thought it was odd that the press hasn't done more interviewing of other real estate agents to get more informed perspective on Zaccaro.)

Republicans in Dallas were complaining that the press was being too light on Ferraro (compared to Meese and Burford in the Reagan administration). But meanwhile, the press publishes articles about itself, wondering if it's been too *tough*! -- in the degree of focus it's put on Ferraro, and in its own desire to show that it is in fact fair and tough enough in dealing with women and Democrats.

One woman wonders why the press hasn't been clearer about connections between Zaccaro and the (Mafia?) Gambino family in New York. [The question mark is

there to protect my kneecaps.] I ask her about Frank Sinatra on Reagan's side. "Different family," she says. I feel a chill.

* * * * *

I told you at the outset that I would not feel obliged to tell you -- or anyone -- who I'll vote for. And I won't. But today, I honestly don't know.

Since I believe in open journalism, I'll tell you this:

I trust Reagan more with the economy. I trust Reagan more to keep America *sufficiently* strong. I do not, however, trust for one second the military people and the far-right people who come clacking along with Reagan -- that's my quandary.

I'd trust Pete Wilson from what I know so far. When I had the chance to say or ask something of Fallwell at the big Hunt Barbecue, I was paralyzed. What can I say to this man I do not respect, who surely would not respect me and what I stand for? So I merely gaped at him. A useless gape.

I felt threatened -- just psychologically -- by some of the circumstances I was in in Dallas. The Hunt Barbecue is the most extreme example of my feeling like an alien. Hard to vote for some of *these* people. In the car on the way back, friends were telling me how many laborers and regular people there were among the Republican Delegates. Baloney!

As you well know, it's not that I'm a laborer. Are you kidding. I'm Mr. Air Conditioning, Mr. Comfort, Mr. Beuhlah, peel me a grape. Pamper Me and I'll Pay.

But I also believe in very hard work -- judged fairly -- to get there, and a strong sense that all of us *must* have, in fact, an equal opportunity, and a shared voice in what happens to our country. That's what I learned about Democracy. I didn't feel much "shared voice" in Dallas. Not at NCPAC, not with Phyllis Schlafly, not with Falwell. And not with their particular supporters.

I loved meeting T/O and his wife because they're "real people" but open-minded. But why did the airline management person seem so mournful when he remembered the folks he had served in San Francisco in comparison to Dallas-- how *rich* they were in their diversity, and how lacking in that richness and balance the Republicans in front of us at the cocktail party were.

On the other hand, I believe Pete Wilson is right: the economic and strength issues *are* real, and they are critically important. I believe that plenty of anti-Nuke people are, themselves, on a passionate "automatic pilot".

It is *very* easy to be satirical and to put down many of the people or leaders I was with this past week. It would be very comfortable for me to lay it on 'em. But I also respect them too. Whether she's right or wrong, I admire the sense of integrity and strength I felt in Jeane Kirkpatrick, for example.

And while I loved -- and was touched by -- Lisa Carlson's description in "GOP Public" of connections being made between Soviet and American astronauts/cosmonauts and people of the two countries,

and while that effort stands for so much of what I devoutly believe in and wish for,

the fact is I've heard an awful lot of automatic anti-Regan rhetoric from anti-nuke people which has **not** persuaded me one bit to feel comfortable with Soviet **leadership**, with the Soviet equivalents of Reagan.

I do n-o-t believe, grotesque joke and psychological meanings notwithstanding, that Reagan secretly yearns to bomb anyone, no matter what he said at the mike.

So I'm stuck. Bring on the debates!

All my humanistic values (including, to some extent, personal self-preservation) tell me to vote Democratic. All my interests in competence and able leadership tell me to vote Republican. The choice would be a lot less agonizing if I'd been paying less attention. I'd probably just have simply and easily voted Democratic. Now, nothing is easy.

Fritz Mondale has to do a **lot** to convince me of his competence and vision. I wish he would -- but I wonder if he can.

* * * * *

Where will there be a party or a leader that will make me, personally, feel the **fervor** that the Jackson Delegates felt in San Francisco, or that the Reader's Digest ladies in Dallas feel for Phyllis Schlafly?

I believe in honesty, and creativity, and sensitivity. This medium -- **this** one -- can foster all those things.

To people who haven't let themselves experience the trans-geographic, trans-temporal power of teleconferencing, to people who stay and look on the outside, that commentary sounds like bug-eyed evangelism. To me, it's no more than a personal expression of what Alvin Toffler in *The Third Wave* knew long before I found out.

This is the future.

So where are the politicians who'll combine the prudent fiscal stance of Republicans with the real social concern of the Democrats -- with the creativity and ingenuity to discover new solutions, and with a committed awareness of the Third Wave that is occurring on this planet?

Does he or she need a outstanding communications and marketing guy at her or his right hand? I know somebody, if the terms are right, who just might be available.

[Mike's Final Comments, coming up ahead.]

Answer 62 (of 64) MIKE GREENLY, on SAT, AUG 25 1984 at 15:49 (4930 characters)

Mike's Close - Pax Vobiscum

"I saw it in your eyes," Eleanor Howard says to me on the plane. "You're a bit of a fanatic."

"I'm a lot of a fanatic," I tell her.

It started at the Mark Hopkins Hotel in San Francisco. "Sure, Diane, you could take your little portable to the steps of Moscone Center. It'd be cute."

It became the first interactive electronic journalism e-v-e-r to send back news from a major political event. And it became TRANSCOASTAL Electronic News Service so bureaucracy could have a name to grant approval to. Both Democratic and Republican bureaucracies, to be sure.

Along the way, we were helped by so many of the people one knows from online -- Lisa Carlson, Rube, Jim Collie, Rob Howard, T/O, Ron Tindiglia, Jim Armstrong, Will S., Taylor Walsh, RACOM, and many, many others in one way or another. And we were, on location, quite literally helped and encouraged by the fact of every reader who signed on.

As I point out to politicians and journalists I discuss this with -- readers here are, themselves, influencers of others. They are themselves -- by virtue of being here -- in the vanguard, people who will know years from now they were among the first of something significant. And who will spread that experience in various ways to many others.

Now I return to my regular life. One of my clients is about to launch a major piece of software only one month from now. Lots to do.

What's to happen to TRANSCOASTAL? Don't know.

What's to happen to the new users who've come into Parti? Will they stay? Will they start new conferences?

I was pleased to see that STV246 and BBX307 -- whoever they are -- made it back from "Demo 84" to "GOP 84". Alas, Sharp Dressed Man and Johnny Friendly didn't return.

There were many new people. Time Traveler..., John Xenakis, Pat Shillingburg, Dr. Jespah B. and others -- BCA570, TCT845, BBD259, BCF684, etc, etc.

We didn't reach the wished-for 500 joiners, but we did legitimately exceed the count from "Demo 84" -- and the STC sign-on message did help to garner brand new users to Parti. We did pretty well, in fact, considering that this was the "no news" convention.

What happens to all of them, now? Same thing that happens to all of us.

As Citizens, we'll surely see political debates leading to November's election. I'll be following the debates along with everyone else -- a lot more avidly now, in fact, than before.

As a low-tech guy who believes in mass accessibility, I'll attend the COMDEX show in November and will send back interactive reports as usual. It will be one year, to the day, that I'll have left behind me my former executive life. I'll celebrate my "third wave" first anniversary in Las Vegas, the ultimate second wave community.

I'm different now, as a result of covering these two conventions -- more knowledgeable, more alert as a citizen, and personally richer for the experience.

Sending back live reports from a phone at the President's Luncheon would of course have been enhanced if there had been 1) someone else online real time to interact with, 2) a concrete real-time *reason* to even interact in the first place. A press conference with cellular telephones would provide that opportunity. (A cameraman was teasing me, asking me "Mike, tell us, where are the luncheon strawberries from?!" But he also thinks his local TV station may want to do a story on this new medium.)

I believe the significance of our having done this together is *not* how many of us there are, and *not* how brilliant or timely our exchanges were -- but the fact that we could do it at all.

And that we did.

When people like Newt Gingrich and others *really* discover teleconferencing, and its ability to organize people around common topics of interest -- politics in this country, and ultimately in the world, will be transformed. Along with the many other aspects of human endeavor that benefit from people of diverse geographies and schedules working together.

I refer any interested newcomers to the "Electronic Journalis" Conference. (that's right: "journalis"). It's lying dormant now -- but I have promised myself to survey the progress in this new journalistic field by New Year's Day 1985.

Some University Communications class of the future will be asked: who were the first people in the known galaxy to participate in "interactive electronic journalism" of a major political event? Or, which were the first conventions to be covered in this new way, and via what medium?

We know the answers already. Because, together, we're the very ones who did it.

Congratulations, one and all.

And thanks. From the heart.

Mike Greenly

Answer 63 (of 64) SML, on MON, AUG 27 1984 at 00:46 (5410 characters)

Odds and Ends about Delegates

Two Missouri women overheard talking at lunch about Ferraro:

One: She's a tough lady (said with a kind of grudging admiration)

Two: Yeah. I guess that's true when you're born and raised in Queens and your husband rents warehouse space to Mafia pornographers.

[number one is surprised so number two goes on to explain how, oh yes! it's true, though he said he probably won't renew their lease which comes due in January or something. She's fuzzy on details]

Two: When asked about her husband's business deals, she said, "It's sloppy, I will grant you that"

One: [throaty chuckle]

Two: The profit on the sale of that building was understated. I mean, when you sell something you either know your profit or you don't.

The Colorado delegation's two age extremes are an 18 year old and an 81 year old. Andrew Busch, age 18, has a quiet, studious appearance, in contrast to the hundreds of blond, scrubbed, all-American looking kids brought in for the convention balloon and flag-waving hoopla, who look like football players and cheerleaders (which they probably are). He's neat and well-mannered, the kind of kid I expect to be a member of Future Business Leaders of America and win the high school civics award for his essay on "What Being an American Means to Me." Which is, in a way, how he really did come to be a delegate. He **is** interested in politics and was able to attend the state convention. But the morning of the convention he had no idea he'd be a **delegate**. As the day wore on he learned more of the whole process and decided he wanted, very much, to be one. So he gave a speech and, much to his surprise, was one of those selected.

Ken Scott has been in politics for much of his 81 years, but has never attended a national convention. He's been a trucker, a farmer, a rancher. And his political career has included 14 years as Elbert County chairman and 20 years as a precinct committeeman. He, too, had no plans to attend the national convention. But the ones who did the most campaigning in his district, one of whom by all rights should have been chosen as the the delegate, asked him to go in their place. He seems **much** younger than his 81 years and I have the feeling that he doesn't think Mr. Reagan's age is any handicap. Ken thinks there are just as many rich Democrats as Republicans, and maybe more of the Dems are "on the take."

Holly Coors is the Colorado chairman for the Reagan-Bush campaign and was their rep to the platform committee; her husband Joe is here too, apparently

as her guest (the delegates were pleased to find complimentary Coors beer waiting for them in their hotel rooms). I spoke with her briefly at the Sunday night reception for the delegation held in Wanda and Ray Anderson's ranch house and saw her in action at the caucus that night (she's the one who said, "you're going to *love* the platform!"). She reminds me a lot of the Jessica Tate character from "Soap" -- seemingly a bit flakey and flighty, but really *very* capable under that facade.

I found myself sitting next to a lady at the first convention session who proudly proclaimed herself to be the wife of *Senator Ford of Tulsa* (that is, I assume, Oklahoma state senate). She wasn't very talkative -- she seemed vitally interested in listening to every detail of the speeches being given.

Having a beer with a couple Oklahoma delegates, we got to talking about whether a takeover of the party and platform by the extreme right wing of the party is taking place. The attitude seemed to be that the platform's intended to give each faction a little something and sin't to be taken too seriously. They had little use for the "moral majority" and didn't feel there was any great danger of their taking over the party. Their prime orientation was as "fiscal conservative" and their prime concern was supporting and promoting free enterprise and a strong United States when it comes to foreign affairs.

At the Barbara Bush breakfast (which Mike's already told you about -- *my* single strongest impression was, "how *old* she looks!") I spoke briefly with Tom Coleman, Missouri Congressman. He had a piercing stare, had me backing away as he tried to keep his face withing six inches of mine: I think this was his of appearing interested. I asked him about concerns I had (prompted by a question here from Stewart Pierce) that the right wing was taking over the party. The question seemed to make him uncomfortable. "I'm very pleased with the way things are turning out -- everybody's happy and coming together," he said. "We're one party, we don't have any wings." I tried to explain to him what it is we do, what an electronic network is; he didn't even try to appear interested.

Missouri Senator Danforth was also there, being interviewed by TV. He was asked why all this attention was being paid to Missouri (*I* thought it was because Barbara Bush was there). His reply was that Missouri is "a microcosm...[it's] the closest thing there is to a typical heartland." So you can take my observations of the Missouri Republicans accordingly.

Sherwin for TENS

Answer 64 (of 64) MIKE GREENLY, on FRI, NOV 02 1984 at 11:30 (3430 characters)

The GOP Bear-in-the-Woods Commercial
& The Democrats' Star Wars of Doom

A while ago Lisa Carlson asked what I thought of these two commercials, each of which I confess I've seen only twice, and not under hypnotized, rapt attention. I don't pretend to have a real analysis, but I do have some

impressions.

First, I've been avidly reading articles (Time, the N.Y. Times, etc) about the gutter level of many commercials developed for state races in 1984. I wish I could tune my TV in, for example, to the extraordinary, running stream of bitter ads gracing North Carolina screens in abundance. I find this stuff gruesomely appealing.

But dangerous.

====

My impressions of the two commercials Lisa asked about are that both are genuinely interesting as an effort -- but that neither one is, ultimately, effective.

The GOP Bear in the Woods

This commercial is more thoughtful and symbolic than "the norm". Is there a bear in the woods? (Translation: the *Russian* bear.) Should we be prepared for him (a la Reagan), or should we listen to the people who say there is no bear (meaning, Mondale).

The answer is clear -- some people say there's no bear, but

we see the bear for our own eyes.

So *we* know, if we follow and understand the symbolism, that Reagan is the man to vote for. He sees the bear too.

====

The commercial is unusual because it is so low key and indirect. I suppose it is intended as a "thinking person's" commercial. But television is a mass medium. And this message is too subtle, requires too much thinking, is too quiet to have been the best use of GOP Persuasion Funds.

It will appeal to the thoughtful converted. And it has the virtue of being "safe" on a touchy subject. But that's also its drawback. It would have made more sense as a black and white spread in Newsweek, Time, College print, etc. (print is *much* more selective than television) with the bear half-hidden and where an audience more thoughtful -- with *time* to study the photograph and muse.

Mike's Effectiveness Quotient for this commercial: 20%

=====

The Democrats' Star Wars of Doom

This is the exact opposite. The commercial is anything but subtle. It seemed

to me to rob itself of credibility because of the extreme way it made its case.

Its tone might be more of what Mondale needed in person to make him more vivid -- but television is vivid to start with. When the medium is taken too far, the message backfires. It becomes overkill.

To be honest, the flashing red light, the talk about "computers" waging war, the red Hot Line phone, the fast intercuts -- while much more exciting than the Bear commercial unfortunately conveyed a hysteria that makes one believe the Democrats are trying too hard.

I believe that's the effect of this commercial's execution on some of the very people it sought to win over. Strategy isn't enough; execution matters too.

It *is* more effective than the GOP commercial because it does seize attention, and you don't have to guess to understand the message. But it's no miracle of persuasion.

Mike's Effectiveness Quotient for this Commercial: 34%.

Oh, ok: 35%

mike

Joiners of "GOP 84" conference:

ALAN; STC-EDIT; SOURCEVOID; NORMAN KURLAND; PSI; MAC; MINIKIN COMPUTING; WEEHAWK; JIM COLLIE; STEVE DEERING; GEORGE M; TIME TRAVELER...; JEFF.D-CNI; RACOM; SDC; WTD7309; PSI DAVE; PAT SHILLINGBURG; JOHN XENAKIS; LEAH; PATO; CARLO HOLLYWOOD; BILL VOSS (A PRINCE); DR. MEMORY; MIKE PARKER; TJ; BOB SANDHAUS; RICH B.; LOS TAYOS; CRT; BBD941; MARTY L. (DENVER); SML; T/O; STV246; STY518; BBF794; MIKE GREENLY; STN242; BBC792; TCH854; BKP061; MUAD'DIB; BBI733; BBJ868; RITA G; JJD; BATMAN; NWATCH; BBD355; STV207; STN374; AAD239; DIANE W.; AAB070; RICHARD COPELAND; QZN050; BBL109; BBR198; ENTERPRISE; LISA CARLSON; AAC317; MR.BOB; K SQUARED; STS499; TCC; CYNIC AL; DEQUINCY; STK105; WHMJR; STEWART R PIERCE; BUFLOE; BBQ653; TCW723; BCF489; NET2; MICHEAL GILSON; JIM FRANKLIN; STRIKER; BBD259; TENS; GRIS; AAE543; BBV784; BCF684; GEORGE POR; BCF518; DAVID KNOPF; ROEBUCK; STY351; DV0; STAN GOLDBERG; BBV153; STEVE TEICHNER; BCE511; RLH; STX001; TCL832; BBX307; CL0967; BCS026; STV088; B.FLYER; KETZER; BCW293; BCG055; BCB645; BCY136; BCY149; BCW720; ST8462; BBD120; BCE911; TCT845; BCB755; BCB261; STB695; BCF129; BCK177; BBY478; BCA570; BBY782; BBZ349; BBE619; BBQ009; BCB819; TCS451; BBB840; BCE954; BCS124; TCS636; BCB629; BBJ312; STZ417; BCW352; TCT560; CL0140; BCU123; BBW137; BBT526; BBX101; STW335; BBM661; TCV151; TCL016; BCE634; JESPAH; BCB530; ST6602; STA971;

"GOP PUBLIC" Conference 84.21813 TENS, organizer, about "TOSS ROSES, BRICKBATS, IDEAS OR LURK WHILE OTHERS DO. *THIS* IS INTERACTIVE JOURNALISM!" (answers: 330) FRI, 08/17 18:50 (1010 characters)

What distinguishes this form of journalism is your ability to interact with us, who are reporting to you, and with each other.

Some readers like to offer brief comments as we go along in the experience of the event ahead.

Others prefer to come along for the ride, but simply "lurk" in silent interest at what others around the country have to say.

Either way, you are *** avidly *** invited to join this public forum of readers around the country (and those following the Convention from other countries, too).

You should know that all remarks in this public Conference are 100% quotable unless specifically otherwise stated by you. Journalists covering TRANSCOASTAL's Parti coverage of the Democratic Convention quoted various readers' comments to us (Dr. Memory was quoted in the Christian Science Monitor, for example, and De Monster was quoted in the San Jose Mercury News.)

If you wish to come along for the public ride, say `Join` at the DISPOSITION prompt P J you now receive!

Answer 1 (of 330) NORMAN KURLAND, on FRI, AUG 17 1984 at 21:15 (266 characters)

Good luck TENS. It will be fascinating to hear your comparisons of the two conventions. Your insights on how the two parties differ as seen from the inside of their conventions may be one of the most valuable things you can tell the world.

Norman

Answer 2 (of 330) DIANE W., on FRI, AUG 17 1984 at 21:29 (178 characters)

Break a leg, guys!

I'm SO jealous! We had such fun here in SF, and I wish I could be there with you.

Your Cohort, raising an electronic glass to your success,

Diane

Answer 3 (of 330) BRUCE/NYC, on FRI, AUG 17 1984 at 22:48 (152 characters)

Mike - i'd gladly join "GOP-84", but i'll be far far away from the country through the whole thing. Sorry, and best of luck to you & Sherwin. Bruce.

Answer 4 (of 330) NORMAN EPSTEIN, on SAT, AUG 18 1984 at 01:39 (432 characters)

Go get 'em Mike!

Your coverage of the Democrats in San Francisco was *so* interesting, I can't wait to hear about the Republicans. I've never taken any notice of the conventions before TENS' coverage. They always seemed like just so much hoopla about a bunch of decisions that were made in the back room anyway.

Your coverage has shown me it can be done in other ways. I'm looking forward to Dallas!

Norman

Answer 5 (of 330) DAN YURMAN, on SAT, AUG 18 1984 at 09:54 (304 characters)

MIKE, SHERWIN, I HOPE YOU DIDN'T TAKE MY COMMENTS ABOUT TYPE A PERSONALITY TRAITS PERSONALLY? IT SOUNDS LIKE I HIT A COUPLE OF NERVES! MY INTENTION IN DESCRIBING TYPE A BEHAVIOR WAS TO FOCUS ON ITS EXCESSES AND NOT TO BELITTLE PEOPLE WHO HAVE AMBITION AND THE PERSONAL CONFIDENCE TO TAKE RISKS.

Answer 6 (of 330) DAN YURMAN, on SAT, AUG 18 1984 at 09:55 (142 characters)

CONGRATULATIONS ON THE CONFERENCE OPENERS AND THE CREATION OF AN INDEX SO THAT ALL PARTIERS CAN KEEP UP WITH THE ACTION! IT'S A GOOD MOVE.

Answer 7 (of 330) DAN YURMAN, on SAT, AUG 18 1984 at 10:07 (352 characters)

SUGGEST THAT TEICHER ADD ENVIRONMENT AS AN ISSUE FOR POLLING PREFERENCES. THE REAGAN ADMINISTRATION'S RECORD HERE HAS STIRRED MUCH CONTROVERSY, SO MUCH SO, THAT THE DEMOCRATS PLAN TO MAKE IT A MAJOR THEME IN THEIR CAMPAIGN. WITNESS MONDALE'S EARLY REFERENCES TO REAGAN'S RECORD IN THIS AREA. HOW WILL THE REPUBLICANS RESPOND TO THE DEMOCRATS?

Answer 8 (of 330) SOURCEVOID, on SAT, AUG 18 1984 at 10:08 (616 characters)

What could possibly be interesting at a Convention where the delegates will all agree in unison like a chorus line, and where it is now out that the conservative wing of the conservative party took total control in all states of the platform and have actually said to the moderates "we don't want in in our party any more." Now unless you can track down those moderates sitting quietly in the back row and see if they are serious about starting a third party, this one is going to be a Bream Toothpaste gleaming yawner. (from a Democrat who really enjoyed raucous America at *our* convention). Answer 9 (of 330) STEWART R PIERCE, on SAT, AUG 18 1984 at 11:40 (946 characters)

So, what's the scoop, Sherwin? Do you feel the Republican party is taking too much of a hard-right stand? As a rank-and-file Republican are you satisfied

with the platform? Do you think the wide gap between the Democratic and Republican ideology will ultimately give a major boost to a '88 bid by John Anderson who I beleive is already planning such a move? I'm very interested to know if any of the moderate delegates are being turned off by the conservative takeover and are considering bolting the party.

Thanks.

Stewart

Let me take this opportunity to extend my congratulations to the Tens team on an incredible job in San Francisco and to say I'm looking forward to the Dallas developments. Diane, I really enjoyed your "talks" conference and you'll be sorely missed for your insights into the subtle nuances of life in the midst of convention lunacy. There won't be any Dykes on Bikes around when "Ronnie does Dallas", will there?

Answer 10 (of 330) DIANE W., on SAT, AUG 18 1984 at 14:38 (286 characters)

Stewart,

Thank you. You *know* I'll miss it! I wanted to go for the view of the other side of the coin, for the experience of the whole picture.

Since I can't, you can BET I'll be prodding and poking Mike and Sherwin for that view.

And I'll bet we get it, too.

Diane

Answer 11 (of 330) STRIKER, on SAT, AUG 18 1984 at 21:38 (414 characters)

Tens: Good luck all.

Thought you might be interested... The Rabbi who will give the opening invocation at Ronnie does Dallas, is the Rabbi of my father's synagogue. (1.5 miles from the home of Gerry). He was a lifelong democrat!! But when it became a choice of Carter or Reagan he threw all his support behind RR. Now four years later..... (I'll bet he's STILL a registered Democrat).

Striker

Answer 12 (of 330) DIANE W., on SUN, AUG 19 1984 at 05:01 (242 characters)

Mike - what a wonderfully *ghastly* room!

Tomorrow, I'll put in a podium schedule of events the GOP just sent me, for those who are interested.

You *don't* want to miss Miss Texas singing the National Anthem, *do* you??

Diane

Dallas - 8/19/84

Political conventions usually bring out the ultimate in kitsch. One of the things that Mike and I saw last night was a picture of Reagan and Bush done in Jelly Beans. One of the security guards, obviously amused by the whole thing directed, us to it.

In the press room, I ran into this little gem. It'll show you that gross excess is not limited to little hats with elephants, flags, and other paraphernalia. Rob.

FRITZBUSTERS Media Advisory

DALLAS - Citing fead of DEMONic possession of the White House by Fritz Mondale and the Democrats, College Republican FRITZBUSTERS (America's first DEMOplasmic Removal Service) arrived in town today to battle the forces of Democratic darkness.

Dressed in costumes similar to those worn by Bill Murray in the summer comedy hit "Ghosbusters" and driving a "Ghostbusters"-style ambulance, the four college age FRITZBUSTERS will make their first public appearance Sunday afternoon at 1:30 pm outside the Anotale Tower, just prior to the Geoge Bush welcoming rally.

Official FRITZ-busting uniforms, consisting of t-shirts and buttons worn over the heart, are being distributed to the estimated 5000 young people in attendance at the GOP Convention.

FRITZBUSTERS leader "Dr." Paul Erickson said that "these uniform offer much greater protection from TAXic spirits than does garlic and are more fun to have on your body."

There will be FRITZBUSTERS floor demonstrations on Wenesday and Thrusday nights of the Convention with the FRITZBUSTERS theme piped in over the Convention Haall sound system. Jack Abramoff, National Chairman of the College Republicans, said that the excitement generated by these events would be transferred to the college campuses this fall.

"Students at over 1000 colleges and universities will be `Coming To Save America On November 6' by wearing their FRITZBUSTERS t-shirts and working to re-elect President Reagan," Abramoff claimed.

Besides the Bush rally and floor demonstrations, the FRITZBUSTERS will also be present at the Reagan arrival rally on Wednesday afternoon and several Convention functions and parties.

That's all folks. Obviously the heat in Dallas has affected a few minds.

Rob

Answer 14 (of 330) RITA G, on SUN, AUG 19 1984 at 14:43 (206 characters)

Mike:

Re: First Impressions I --- absolutely lyrical!!

Please refresh my memory: what's the final word on the press credentials for TENS at this convention?

Looking forward to it,

Rita G.

Answer 15 (of 330) MIKE GREENLY, on SUN, AUG 19 1984 at 16:04 (312 characters)

Rita G: 1) thanks! 2) re credentials -- I'll write in "GOP 84" about our current official position. Midwest Cowboy has been incommunicado; Secret Knight still says "maybe" to a Floor Pass, though he says affecting legislation is easier. The suspense is -- well there's nothing to do but bear it. mike

Answer 16 (of 330) SOURCEVOID, on SUN, AUG 19 1984 at 16:10 (92 characters)

SMike: your marvelous description left me with one impression - The Imperial Presidency.

* * * *Branching off of "GOP PUBLIC" 84.21813 as Answer 17 (of 330)

Message 84.21993 STEVE TEICHNER, about "ADD ED QUESTIONS" SUN, 08/19 18:06 (124 characters)

dan:

thanks for the suggestion. I will add it either at a mid-convention poll or in the final one.

steve teichner

Answer 18 (of 330) DIANE W., on SUN, AUG 19 1984 at 18:35 (876 characters)

Mike, Sherwin, Rob, Jim:

I can't accurately describe the feelings I have while sitting here at home reading your reports.

Just that you make it come alive!

Having been so involved in the coverage of the Democratic convention, having been on the inside and so busy I couldn't step outside it all for a moment of objectivity, I wasn't able to see what this kind of coverage really is.

I'm not speaking as a TENS founder now. I'm speaking as a private person, a

reader.

This IS fantastic! Exciting, historic, perceptive, *fun*!

Best luck at getting on the floor, and getting behind the scenes.

Even if you don't your observations are priceless on their own right now.

Big, unprofessional, personal *kisses*, Mike and Sherwin, my pioneer cohorts.

And Rob and Jim - you're in for the time of your life!

(When's the press party?)

Diane

Answer 19 (of 330) MIKE GREENLY, on SUN, AUG 19 1984 at 19:57 (160 characters)

diane - we all just missed the press party! (sherwin and i are on separate errands.) wish you were here, but if you can't be, love it that you're there!
mike

Answer 20 (of 330) LISA CARLSON, on SUN, AUG 19 1984 at 23:08 (40 characters)

Fantastic you guys! I'm enthralled!

Answer 21 (of 330) MIKE GREENLY, on MON, AUG 20 1984 at 00:41 (806 characters)

One of the things I like to do "out here" in America is introduce electronic telecommunications to "regular people".

The following answer is sent from Nancy O'Connor. She won an award -- VIP Status in the Colorado Delegation -- as a result of doing the best job in her state of getting positive public relations based on local media coverage in her county.

The next note is her account of the Colorado State Caucus on the eve of the Convention. (My own account and thoughts will be in "GOP 84".)

We are helping her use Parti to send a copy to RUBE, who will -- tomorrow -- submit Nancy's report to the Chaffee County Times and Mountain Mail newspapers, and to KVHR Radio.

Meanwhile, she understands her reports will be accessible to readers here much more immediately.

mike Answer 22 (of 330) MIKE GREENLY, on MON, AUG 20 1984 at 00:43 (1652 characters)

Report from a Caucus
by Nancy O'Connor - VIP Award Winner

Colorado

While Geraldine was pondering the release of her husband's financial papers, I was winging my way to Dallas to be with our Colorado delegation and take Chaffee County's PRIDE to the National Convention.

The Colorado Delegation is staying at the Registry Hotel and is represented by 35 Delegates and 35 Alternates. The Colorado delegation was treated with Coors beer in their rooms by Holly and Joe Coors and also wine in the Hospitality room by Paul Masson.

Our first evening, the Colorado Delegates were hosted by Ray and Wanda Anderson at their mini-ranch. Every delegation in the United States was hosted by 170 homes that were opened up in Dallas.

There are 17,000 people in attendance, 10,000 of which are press.

The eldest Colorado delegate is 81 year old Ken Scott from Elbert County. The youngest is alternate Andrew Busch, 18 years old, from Boulder County.

Holly Coors, Colorado Chairman of Reagan-Bush also served on the Platform Committee. Judy Weidemeyer of Arapaho County will do the roll call.

The Colorado Delegation has excellent seats because of performance and elections to House, Senate, etc.

Our Colorado Delegation will also receive the "Runner-up in the Nation" Award for the greatest female representation. The Delegation will be presented the award after Tuesday's session, at about noon Dallas time.

Nancy O'Connor

[note: PRIDE is the name for the public relations program that Nancy was selected as the winner of.]

Answer 23 (of 330) RLH, on MON, AUG 20 1984 at 08:19 (1968 characters)

Saturday, 10:30 p.m.

Mike and I drive through the heat, looking for somewhere to eat. "Find somewhere that says Hi to you, Rob."

There's a Waffle House, how about that? OK.

Our waitress is archtypical hash house. Bleached out blond hair, a face that has hard times written on every square inch. She calls us "honey" and suggests the T-Bone steak for 5.95. As we eat she keeps up a steady banter with us, and with her other customers.

We love her! Finally Mike asks her "If you were voting today, who would you vote for?"

"I really don't know. Well, since you put it that way, I'd vote for Reagan.

Yes, I think I'd vote for Reagan."

Her name is Elaine. She has raised three sons, and put them through college. She is 59 years old, and has been a waitress all her life. She's been in Oklahoma, and California, and now she's in Dallas. She and her youngest son (25) live together. Their rent is \$456 a month. Their electric bill is \$150 a month.

She makes \$2.01 an hour!

She has worked 17 hours today and gotten 8 dollars in tips.

So why is she voting for Reagan? Because he is making the people on welfare get jobs, and earn an honest living. The democrats want to let lazy bums, thieves Elaine calls them, live on welfare and steal money (through taxes) from honest, hard working folk like herself.

Would Ferraro's nomination sway her to vote for the Democrats?

It's a great honor to "women as a race", says Elaine. But no, she won't vote for the Democrats. Ferraro will always have been the first. It's great that they have nominated a woman. A woman certainly should be in the White House. But no, she'll vote for Reagan.

Mike, I think, is stunned. His perceptions of the working poor are being shattered. We leave, walk back to the car.

"Say Mike", I ask, "would you work 17 hours for \$44 dollars?"

And we speed off through the stiffling Texas night.

Rob Howard

Answer 24 (of 330) T/O, on MON, AUG 20 1984 at 11:20 (572 characters)

CONCERNING THE PRIZES FOR WOMEN DELEGATES---WHAT YOU SEE HERE IS ACTUALLY A CLASSIC DIFFERENCE BETWEEN DEMOCRAT AND REPUBLICAN PHILOSOPHY. WHEN THE DEMOCRATS SEE A CHANGE THAT THEY WANT THEY PASS A RULE--LAW--QUOTAS IN ORDER TO ACCOMPLISH THE GOAL. WHEN THE REPUBLICANS SEE A NEED FOR CHANGE THEY PROVIDE INCENTIVES TO ACCOMPLISH THE GOAL. THE DEMOCRATS HAD 50% FEMALE REPRESENTATION BECAUSE THEY HAVE QUOTAS AND RULES WHICH MAKE IT HAPPEN. THE REPUBLICANS ELECT THEIR DELEGATES FROM THE LOCAL LEVEL BASED ON WORK DONE FOR PARTY AND CANDIDATES.

T/O

Answer 25 (of 330) T/O, on MON, AUG 20 1984 at 11:45 (1146 characters)

Even with a slight personal problem (I sprained my ankle yesterday) I'm still having a great time here. You can have your movie and TV stars---I'm a political "Groupie." Talked to Jack Kemp, Toni--one of my best friends shared

her drink with him, (It was 108 in Dallas yesterday) I said that I would like to meet Trent Lott and the lady standing next to me says, "Will I do, I'm his wife." The people whose ideas shape our lives are here. This afternoon Jean Kirkpatrick will be at a reception downstairs in our hotel. The traditional press says there are no stories here, but what they are missing is the play and maneuvering for the future of the party. After Reagan--who will be the Republican party leaders. Will it be the Bob Dole's, Howard Bakers, or will the new "Young Turks" be able to challenge and pull it off. They are certainly trying. Reagan is practically an afterthought --everyone pays homage to him and talks of his successes but at the same time they are promoting themselves and their ideas at appearances all over town. We are seeing the first of the 88 convention right now.

T/O

Answer 26 (of 330) STEVE TEICHNER, on MON, AUG 20 1984 at 12:49 (322 characters)

to all political junkies. In about an hour ferraro will release her tax information. If media attention equals importance than the Reps are about to get overshadowed. All major chains have diverted resources and space to working on that story. Most have their best political writers here and can't double up.

Answer 27 (of 330) T/O, on MON, AUG 20 1984 at 18:19 (1288 characters)

My best friends in the world are here. There is something about involvement in politics, the little campaigns--yours and your friends campaigns for local and state party offices, for memberships on committees, for delegates and alternates to conventions, for the positions that can make a difference in what your party

says and what it stands for and how its money is spent. You make friends, you form bonds, you give and take---and yes you make enemies. But here--at Dallas-- it all seems to come together. Our state party chairman, who I have been in fierce political battles with, comes up and hugs me. The whole state delegation, several of whom have been in bitter fights for position and power come together here and suddenly love each other. It won't last I know--Reagan brings us together, we can all get behind him. It feels good to win. So many of us have always been in the minority and have waged many losing campaigns--- Reagan is a winner and everyone already feels that victory is coming.

Now you know why I couldn't really help TENS by reporting---there is NO WAY that I could be an objective reporter--the Republican party is a major part of my life---and I am proud of it.

T/O Answer 28 (of 330) T/O, on MON, AUG 20 1984 at 18:21 (1232 characters)

gpp2 Just back from a Oklahoma caucus where we heard part of the administration--Bonnie Newen, Assistant Commerce Secretary, Donna Tuttle, Under Sec. of Commerce, Dick Chaney, congressman from Wyoming, Sen. McClure from

Idaho and our own Senator Don Nickles.

Obviously the women were there from the administration to showcase the fact that we do have more women in higher places than the Democrats have no matter what the rhetoric says. Both women were comfortable and spoke of Reagan's accomplishments.

Congressman Chaney was very good and identified himself--though not by name but by mentioning his allies in the House as being one of the "Young Turks" that are trying to challenge for the leadership of the party of the future.

McClure and Nickles each talked about how great the other was. This said a lot to the crowd because the group in attendance are the workers who are directly responsible for Nickles being elected. When he says McClure is one of us, the crowd instantly likes him.

Sherwin came in during McClure's talk. I'm anxious to see how he sees my friends and me. I did have a nice surprise for him which brought a smile to his face.

T/O

Answer 29 (of 330) MIKE GREENLY, on MON, AUG 20 1984 at 19:48 (478 characters)

I enjoy T/O's comments precisely because he **is** partisan, and thoughtful too. Today, when I interviewed women at the Phyllis Shafly Fashion Show event (later answer in "GOP 84") the women were so c-a-r-e-f-u-l. I am getting too much a sense of plastic, image-manufacture from too many of these people all speaking the same careful line.

That's how it's beginning to seem to me. T/O I find refreshing because he seems and sounds like . . . T/O, the individual.

Answer 30 (of 330) ROBERT R. WIGGINS, on MON, AUG 20 1984 at 20:42 (442 characters)

Mike Greenly --- re commercials, HBO is showing a collection of old political commercials this month. Included is one in which the screen shows the words "AGNEW FOR VICE-PRESIDENT" and the soundtrack is people laughing. Heavy handed? Nah. That's politics. Meanwhile, one of Nixon's slogans in 1972 was "Vote as if the rest of your life depended on it" and nine out of ten people think it was a McGovern slogan. --- Robert Wiggins

Answer 31 (of 330) STEVE TEICHNER, on MON, AUG 20 1984 at 20:51 (636 characters)

the big event tonight will not be the keynote nor will it be the speech by Howard Baker rather Amb. Jean Kirkpatrick will steal the show. Long the darling of the conservatives the Ambor. who takes a hard line on the Soviets will not only be greeted by a big demonstration, signs that say Jean in 88
Jean is neat and the like but look for her to announce that she is changing her registration from Democrat to Rep. The reason the party is the one she agrees with not the least has the greatest political future. For those who

thought the whole thing was scripted see the Rep can bring a little excitement into your life.

Answer 32 (of 330) STRIKER, on MON, AUG 20 1984 at 21:04 (96 characters)

As long as there are people like Elaine left in this country, there is hope for a future.

* * * *Branching off of "GOP PUBLIC" 84.21813 as Answer 33 (of 330)

Message 84.22104 TIME TRAVELER..., about "GO GET 'EM JEAN!" MON, 08/20 22:42 (262 characters)

As a non political animal myself, I found Jean Kirkpatrick's address this evening to be one of the most straight forward and elegant speeches I have heard made by a diplomat in many years. My congratulations, Ms. Kirkpatrick. Keep up the good work!!!

Answer 34 (of 330) T/O, on TUE, AUG 21 1984 at 00:14 (548 characters)

Was that great or was that great? Jeanne Kirkpatrick's speech promised to be the highlight of the convention and I bet it was. Like I've been telling you Democrats in the political conferences here. To have an effective foreign policy you must have a historian. We have the best in Kirkpatrick and the Democrat leaders don't even want to look at history because they might not like what it tells them. They refuse to face reality. Her analogy of not a hawk or a dove but an ostrich describes Democrat foreign policy perfectly.

Answer 35 (of 330) CYNIC AL, on TUE, AUG 21 1984 at 00:26 (114 characters)

Mike: No questions for Senator Pete. Just relay to him that I thought he was a darn good mayor of San Diego.

Answer 36 (of 330) RUBE, on TUE, AUG 21 1984 at 00:39 (634 characters)

Great work before, TENS, much more enjoyable than TV and Newspapers! Have not heard a word about Pres. Reagan's age, and the potential ramifications of his not finishing a term if elected...seems to me that it was quite an issue four years ago (for me at least) much less now. What do the delegates think...is everyone avoiding the reality of it? Is there a chance that someone other than Buh will be considered for the #2 slot? Keep up the good work Rube...

P.S. Sherwin, thanks for the confession re 'joining' GOP Public...I've been wondering why things were so slow...found the same embarrassing problem!

Answer 37 (of 330) DIANE W., on TUE, AUG 21 1984 at 01:05 (738 characters)

I'm upset about Reagan's age. He's an old man of 75. He has to have Nancy at his elbow, whispering responses in his ear. He's most certainly going senile -

anyone who'd make a crack like his 'bomb the Russians' one in front of a live mike can't be in full possession of his faculties.

Further, I **hate** the far-right, Falwell/Shlafly moralistic stance of the party, the anti-ERA and anti-abortion positions, and the outrageous defense spending.

While trying to keep more of an open mind than ever in my life about the GOP (I was, after all, going to be there covering it till 10 short days ago,) I **still** find the Party platform nauseating and unbearable.

Since I'm NOT there, I can say it: puke puke puke.

Diane

Answer 38 (of 330) RUBE, on TUE, AUG 21 1984 at 01:14 (36 characters)

SORRY I brought it up!!! Rube...

Answer 39 (of 330) STRIKER, on TUE, AUG 21 1984 at 01:27 (920 characters)

Diane: I agree with you re: that old time religion, era and abortion. However, in the area of defense and the economy (by far the more important issues to me) I think the Republicans are doin' a damn fine job. Deregulation was **LONG** overdue, The expectd Postal strike never happened (Thanx PATCO). Actually although I disagree with them in some minor ways, I think this has been the best administration since Teddy Roosevelt!

As to defense A) That is the PRIME purpose of any government, and I refer you to Mz. Kirkpatrick's address of tonight. and B) we haven't even begun to catch up on the lead JC/FM so ably gave to the russians.

My thoughts are first let's get the US back on its feet, and then worry about the nonessentials - like whether a constitutional ammendment is the proper vehicle for legislating equality. Or can johnny pray to the great red beet before taking his final.

Bill

Answer 40 (of 330) BOB SANDHAUS, on TUE, AUG 21 1984 at 01:39 (3012 characters)

Like Mike I've been very apolitical in recent years (quite in contrast to my stormy college days of the 60's). Only one thing has brought me back to thinking in national terms again: TENS.

But now I'm beginning to have those same old feelings about the mess that single-minded conservatism can get the world into. I know I'm going to regret putting this into words and placing it for all to see, epecially people I respect on the other side of the political fence. These thoughts are not well rehearsed and therefore will not be without logical flaws, but they come from a gut fear I can't put into words well (yet).

Some draw analogy between the free enterprise method of attracting women into the party (give the girls a prize, they'll like that) and the Democrat's quota system (is this a fact or hyperbole?), and the way that parties will govern. What bullshit. I can play that game, too.

Did you notice that it has been tough for TENS to get credentials at either convention. However, at the Democratic convention they could talk, negotiate, explain, and reason their way into a good position, professionally. It wasn't easy, but they did it. How does it work with the Republicans? You want a floor pass; who do you know? It's not logic or reasoning or hard work, it's WHO DO YOU KNOW. Now that's the Republican logic.

There has always been something mean, pedantic, and condescending about political conservatism. But let me temper this with two thoughts. First Mondale ain't no great shakes, don't ask me to defend him. In fact, I find I'm not necessary pro-Democrat or even anti-Republican but rather anti-Conservative Republican which today means anti-Republican.

Second, I caught a review on National Public Radio (Oh, he listens to THAT!) of a book called THE EXPERTS SPEAK (or something to that effect). It compiles testimony and writings of individuals considered the experts of their time, asked to speak on topics of national and universal concern. The book is quite humorous in the miss-predictions of economists, scientists, poets, and magazine editors. The book is actually a scholarly examination of expert testimony and witnesses. An interview with one of the authors followed.

"In all your research, did you find a single 'expert' who accurately predicted the near or distant future?"

"Not a single one."

I am very troubled by people who are sure they know the answers (and are sure no one else does.) I'd rather sit in the midst of a political party that was a melange of differing ideas and ideals than be blissfully secure in the knowledge that everyone agreed with me and I with everyone else AND that those other guys are wrong AND they may even be immoral and unpatriotic because they don't agree with US. Speaking as a political outsider, no one seems more sure of himself than a self-righteous conservative (And I'm sure I'm right about that!)

A saddened and somewhat confused,

Sandy

Answer 41 (of 330) BOB SANDHAUS, on TUE, AUG 21 1984 at 01:41 (82 characters)

P.S.: I love those comments about Teddy Roosevelt, that Republican war monger!

Answer 42 (of 330) STRIKER, on TUE, AUG 21 1984 at 01:53 (300 characters)

Sandy: No arguments here. As a matter of fact, except for my stand on defense

I would describe myself as a Libertarian. I have no love of the Bible thumpin' community either. BUT with the choices available today, as I see it I can only lean in one direction and that's republican.

Bill

Answer 43 (of 330) RUBE, on TUE, AUG 21 1984 at 02:38 (128 characters)

Diane...not really 'sorry' I brought it up...just teasing (grin) and a little surprised at the explosive reaction. Rube...

Answer 44 (of 330) T/O, on TUE, AUG 21 1984 at 09:35 (1224 characters)

IT IS A FACT---THE DEMOCRAT RULES SET QUOTAS THAT MUST BE MET SAYING THAT WOMEN MUST MAKE UP HALF OF THE DELEGATES AND ALSO SETTING QUOTAS ON MINORITIES THAT MUST BE MET.

I DONT THINK THAT YOUR DESCRIPTION OF OBTAINING PASSES FROM THE DEMOCRATS AND REPUBLICANS IS QUIT FAIR. 1000 SEATS WERE LOST HERE BECAUSE OF CONSTRUCTION OR A MISTAKE ON THE PLANNERS PART AND ALL DELEGATIONS HAVE BEEN CUT BY 7 AND A HALF PERCENT. I SUSPECT THAT IF THAT WAS THE CASE AT SAN FRANCISCO THAT A PASS THERE MIGHT HAVE DEPENDED ON WHO YOU KNEW TOO.

AND FINALLY ----- MANY OF US WHO ARE ACTIVE REPUBLICANS ARE EMBARRASSED BY THE FALWALLS AND RELIGIOUS RIGHT----I WISH THEY WOULD GO AWAY AND WORK VERY HARD TO DEFEAT THEM----OUR OKLAHOMA DELEGATION HAD SEVERAL RUN AND FOR DELEGATE AND ALL WERE DEFEATED THROUGH NO SMALL EFFORT BY MY FREINDS AND I. I DO NOT FEEL COMPELLED TO DEFEND THOSE PARTS OF THE PLATFORM--- BUT HOW IS THAT DIFFERENT THAN THE DEMOCRATS---DO YOU SUPPORT ALL OF THEIR IDEAS?

POLITICS ARE NOT PERFECT---YOU WILL NEVER FIND A CANDIDATE WHO AGREES WITH YOU 100%---YOU MUST MAKE YOUR DECISIONS BASED ON WHO REFLECTS YOUR VIEWS IN MORE AREAS THAN THE ALTERNATIVE.

T/O

Answer 45 (of 330) DV0, on TUE, AUG 21 1984 at 10:03 (1266 characters)

I wish my little sister were here. Maria, somewhat mystical when it comes to ways of the world, has a magic formula which predicts the longevity of a second term president elected originally in a turn of the decade year ('60, '70, '80).

Her spiritual mentor, who was alive during the last election but died shortly thereafter at 93, told Maria that it was in the stars that Reagan was going to win the presidency. Not wanting to cross fate, Maria voted for Reagan even though she really agreed with liked Jimmy Carter.

As fate always does, it had it's way, and Reagan won. I asked Maria how she felt willingly offering herself up as fates pawn. This angered her tremendously and now she refuses to discuss politics with me. Pity. Otherwise she may have shared some of her secret formulas with us. Oh well. We'll just have to keep after it and find out the outcome after it has occured.

Personally, I think Reagan is a bit old. But I don't like Fritz either and I think Ferraro is a poor excuse to vote for him. When a *great* candidate chooses a woman vice-president or when a *great* candidate *is* a woman, THEN I'll celebrate.

Till then Maria and I will limit our talks to ART, FOOD, and MUSIC.

DVO

Answer 46 (of 330) DV0, on TUE, AUG 21 1984 at 10:10 (496 characters)

--Maybe Jean Kirkpatrick should be president. I liked her speech.

Mike, you're right about it being for TV, We saw very limited views of the people in elephant hats, but now that you mention it the experience of being on the floor takes on a whole new dimension for me. The next speech I watch on TV I'll be sure to have on my life of the party glasses while playing my football game soundeffects record loudly. Then I'll have a sense of what it 's really like.

DVO

Answer 47 (of 330) T/O, on TUE, AUG 21 1984 at 12:25 (166 characters)

FUNNY YOU SHOULD SAY THAT DVO. LOTS OF PEOPLE HERE HAVE BEEN PROMOTING KIRCKKPATRICK FOR VP IN 88 BUT THERE ARE ALSO MANY WHO SAY "VP HELL WHY NOT PRESIDENT?"

Answer 48 (of 330) STEWART R PIERCE, on TUE, AUG 21 1984 at 14:56 (604 characters)

Just watched Ferraro (Ms. or Mrs. or Miz who cares?) on TV doing her financial disclosure press conference. The woman is very impressive in the way she handlethe press and doesn't flinch or hesitate despite the tough questioning. That lady is, as the Fonz would say, ultra cool-uh-mundo! I think she will succeed in defusing the big controversy over her taxes. Her style is quite a contrast with Jean Kirkpatrick who does not look very comfortable on the podium while Ferraro looks like she was born to ward off hordes of hostile press-persons. How are the Republicans reacting?

Stewart

Answer 49 (of 330) DIANE W., on TUE, AUG 21 1984 at 15:53 (1074 characters)

I don't know why some people are ready to blame the state of the economy on the Democrats, though. It's been the Republicans in office for the last umpteen years, with the exception of a (admittedly lousy) four year Carter Administration.

And look here - the deficit under this administration is GREATER than the TOTAL of all administrations before it - from Washington through Carter. That's a turn-around? That's a solid economy?

And as for defense spending - Outta wack! And a lot of it on useless, wild and hare-brained schemes, like the MX's and the 'Star Wars' defense. Add to that the stability factor of a feeble old man with his finger too goddam close to the button, who makes 'jokes' about 'legislating the Russians out of existence.' (People all over Europe sure didn't think it was amusing, and I don't either. In fact, it makes my blood run cold.)

Diane

Sandy, I applaud your comments. And that was a right-on observation about the difference between the parties, as illustrated by our credential fight. Interesting. .d

Answer 50 (of 330) STEVE TEICHNER, on TUE, AUG 21 1984 at 16:15 (228 characters)

This note is to test whether or not I can be interviewed on tv and do the source at the same time. The answer is yes. This is for a show called Newscope and will air next week. It concerns polling and should we trust polls

* * * *Branching off of "GOP PUBLIC" 84.21813 as Answer 51 (of 330)

Message 84.22198 STEWART R PIERCE, TUE, 08/21 16:19 (46 characters)

Steve, are you being interviewed right now?

Answer 52 (of 330) DIANE W., on TUE, AUG 21 1984 at 16:29 (1730 characters)

Come on, Sherwin! Even though you're a Republican (but I love you anyway,) you *know* that's not quite accurate about the credentialing!

We were able to cajole, convince, persuade our way into the passes we needed here in SF, because someone in the DNC, Deborah Campbell, threw caution to the winds and took a chance on us. She dared to *believe* in us.

And she was the top banana we desperately needed in the party that was *accessible* to us.

Deborah Campbell looked me right in the eye and said, "Diane Worthington, I have NEVER dealt with anyone who is as *pushy*, who has as much moxie as you do. Roz Wyman said to just ignore people who tried to pressure me. But you people...Ok. How many passes do you want?"

That was a cold and brilliant contrast to Susan Sachs, who said, "My *deah*, we are NOT the Democrats!" Though she upped our request to two passes and one seat, she made it perfectly clear that there was no bartering, no dealing or explaining, and that we could "challenge the decision in Dallas if we so chose."

Further, we were unknown when we approached the Democrats. But we had a success, a history, publicity when we petitioned the Republicans.

So, neither party is perfect. But give me the party that's willing to listen, to be pliable, to change when given good reason to over the stiff and rigid 'winners'.

I realize this is a small and insignificant example. But it does illustrate a difference of *attitude*, and one that wasn't lost on me.

If only I had gone to Dallas! I'd of course like to see more firsthand before I could judge fully. But so far, Mike and Sherwin's entries have done nothing to dissuade me from my initial feelings.

Diane

Answer 53 (of 330) DIANE W., on TUE, AUG 21 1984 at 16:37 (110 characters)

Steve, if your interview is still in progress:

Hi, Mom!!

Diane

(Please let us know when it's on!)

Answer 54 (of 330) SML, on TUE, AUG 21 1984 at 17:40 (618 characters)

I've often wondered, why doesn't anyone say, "Hi, Dad!" ?

You're absolutely right about the Dem's flex, Diane. After our initial flat "no" it was possible to change Deborah Campbell's mind, though I'm certain the calls and letters helped. Here, we had a chance to plead our case, were heard, were granted the credentials (and persuaded our way to 2 instead of one), and that decision was final. Period.

I've worked with and for managers employing both of these styles. I never could decide which was more effective, but I know I *like* better the one that's open to persuasion -- always.

Sherwin

Answer 55 (of 330) DV0, on TUE, AUG 21 1984 at 17:45 (16 characters)

--Hi Dad!--

Answer 56 (of 330) MIKE GREENLY, on TUE, AUG 21 1984 at 17:56 (1910 characters)

First Lady's Luncheon

The hottest ticket in town -- aside from rare and fabled Floor Passes -- is the ticket to see Joan Rivers and, I think, Pearl Bailey at the First Lady's Luncheon, tomorrow. I had been told that by standing in line -- and THEN standing some more -- I

could get three passes for my news organization.

So I stood.

Today I came back to stand some more again and learned that --

no --

only one pass.

It's mine, of course. Joan Rivers, are you kidding?! But I feel bad that I can't take Sherwin and Jim Collie with me.

"Are you for real?" she said to me. "I don't care what they told you. I've got major papers to take care of -- the Chicago Tribune, the New York Daily News."

[Didn't *they* have people willing to stand in line?]

Well of course that's the way it is, so I guiltily take my meager, single ticket instead of three and console myself by thinking that --

someday --

electronic journalism will be much more widely accepted. Computers will be easy enough that even bureaucratic managers and decision makers will be readers. We'll save some trees and paper, and the audience will be large --

[I guess I should be grateful that she didn't *first* ask, "well, mike, how many joiners in your Conference, hmmm?"] and it won't always be that whoever is standing in line -- somehow I doubt that it will be me -- has to constantly start all over to explain what she or he is doing.

Of course, by then, I expect I'll be at home, for *some* occasions anyway. And if I can just play my cards right, I'll be able to afford the luxury of piping in the >>>> holographic <<<<< version of Joan Rivers and the First Lady, right into my living room in living color and dimensionality.

Meanwhile, I'll let you know what the lunch is like.

Mike, with sore feet but one ticket.

Answer 57 (of 330) JOHN XENAKIS, on TUE, AUG 21 1984 at 19:01 (2932 characters)

A REPUBLICAN'S THOUGHTS ON FERRARO

On Saturday evening I listened to the NBC Evening News, and couldn't believe my ears. I heard the NBC News Reporter (I forget which one) say something like, "Ferraro's advisors are expecting the disclosure on Monday to answer everyone's questions fully, after which everyone will recognize Miss Ferraro's inherent decency."

Then on Monday night, Tom Brokaw (on NBC Evening News) lead with, "Miss Ferraro and her husband have paid more in taxes than other people in their tax

bracket." Later he went back and repeated that statement, implying that that's the most important point.

Why do I find it hard to believe my ears? Imagine the following statements on the news: "Ann Burford's advisors are expecting her disclosures to answer everyone's questions full, after which everyone will recognize Miss Burford's inherent decency."

Or how about this: "The important point is that Ed Meese has paid more in taxes than other people in his tax bracket."

That's the double standard in action. Miss Ferraro's predicament is not unlike those of Ms. Burford and Mr. Meese. And yet, the national news media puts the worst light possible on theirs, because they're conservative Republicans, and the best light on hers, because she's a liberal Democrat. Even now, after Ms. Burford has been completely cleared of all wrongdoing, you'd never know it from the news media. The media campaign to defeat Reagan is in full swing.

If we now look at the leaders of the two parties, we also see a difference. The leaders of the Democratic Party from Mondale down have been harping on the "sleaze factor" for months, frequently referring to Republican officials who have been cleared of charges. The leaders of the Republican party have largely stuck with "no comment" when similar stories broke on the other side about Bert Lance and Ferraro. You have to go the Republican fringes (like NCPAC) to find the hostility and meanness that seems to be common among Democrat leaders.

If Republican leaders are being decent to Ferraro, it's probably because of Reagan himself. After Watergate and then Carter's "mean streak," it's been wonderfully refreshing to have had four years of a president who is clearly decent, caring and compassionate. And that, at least, makes me proud to be a Republican in 1984. And it's doubly gratifying that he seems to be winning the election overwhelmingly, probably because of his decency.

As for Ferraro herself, she's clearly a "kid" who's growing up very quickly. I'm inclined to agree with those are claiming that the real cause of the Ferraro fiasco is mismanagement by Mondale. He threw her into the rapids and almost let her go over the waterfall while he went fishing. If today's press conference saves Ferraro, it will be in spite of Mondale, not because of him.

John Xenakis

Answer 58 (of 330) T/O, on TUE, AUG 21 1984 at 20:09 (1808 characters)

A few thoughts on images and the media

There are about 3 members of the media for every delegate here. They all look for news which means any sign of controversy. At our state caucus this morning a member of the Osage tribe stands and again talks about how screwed up the Dept. of Interior is (no doubt a legitimate complaint) and how he wants

more help from the Republicans than he has been getting. Yesterday he made the same statements to our Senator and did acknowledge the fact that in a couple of specific cases mentioned that help from the Republican members of the House and Senate had been good. The press wrote fast and furiously as long as he was complaining but seemed to stop when he started talking about the positive side of things. Today he left out the positive and only spoke of the negative---he had found the formula---two more Indian members of our delegation stood and stated that things were not exactly as had been stated. When the meeting breaks 5 reporters rush to him. None even glance at those Indians who spoke positively.

Curtis comes to my room awhile ago. I mention the fact that he seems to be a celebrity with this own entourage following him around. He says, "They are driving me crazy, I had 8 calls waiting for me from reporters wanting an interview when I got to the room just now." He has been grilled on every issue imaginable, ask insulting questions like "Why didn't you support Jesse Jackson when he has helped all blacks like yourself so much?" "How can you support Reagan when he obviously hates blacks like yourself?. "Have you abandoned your race?" "Do you only associate with whites?"

More later----

T/O

Answer 59 (of 330) T/O, on TUE, AUG 21 1984 at 20:11 (970 characters)

I have a copy of the platform now. Looks all right to me. I guess that proves that it is a ultra,far right-wing document---huh Diane?

Actually it is a 78 page book with 18 pages dicated to "Economic Freedom and Prosperity," 20 pages about "Security for the Individual," 8 pages on "A Free and Just Society," and 21 pages on "America Secure and the World at Peace."

I can't even find the controversial abortion stand--I guess it must be in there somewhere. The part about the "gold standard" which Kemp got in over Reagan's wishes and the press has said is so radically right wing it says, "The Gold Standard may be a useful mechanism for realizing the Federal Reserve's determination to adopt monetary policies needed to sustain price stability." Somehow it doesn't sound quit as wild and radical as I had expected.

No one expects any floor fights on the platfrom tonight but you never know for sure.

T/O

Answer 60 (of 330) T/O, on TUE, AUG 21 1984 at 20:14 (1048 characters)

Thoughts of a dedicated politico as he tries to maneuver the press.

Me: I think I can probably get you a floor pass at the convention tonight after the thing starts.

Sherwin: I don't know if we need it, there's not much going on tonight and we have invitations to the Hunt mansion from NCPAC. ((Groan--not NCPAC again, they always make us look like a bunch of nuts))

Me: But I think there is a really good chance that we can get you on the floor, ((God I've got to get them away from those nuts)) We had Security passes this morning after the thing started but couldn't make contact with you. ((What else can I offer?))

Sherwin: Well I don't know Jim says the Hunt mansion is not to be missed if you have a chance. I'll let you know what we are going to do. ((Maybe they'll be so impressed with the mansion that they won't notice the strange look in Terry Donlan's eyes))

Remember guys this is the fringe--you didn't interview Sister Boom- Boom in San Francisco.

T/O

Answer 61 (of 330) NORMAN KURLAND, on TUE, AUG 21 1984 at 21:05 (430 characters)

TEMS: Great work so far!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

See if you can gauge the views of Republicans on the likely course Reagan will follow toward the Russians if he is elected. Will he be more belligerent and uncompromising because he no longer has to concern himself with the more moderate elements in the electorate; or will he be more accommodating because he no longer has to be sure to hold his right wing support?

Norman

Answer 62 (of 330) DIANE W., on TUE, AUG 21 1984 at 21:46 (198 characters)

T/O: Wrong, wrong! I interviewed all the wackos I could find!

Also, Tom, don't take my remarks personally. I've known a few Republicans I could tolerate (as individuals.) (yuk yuk)

Diane

Answer 63 (of 330) DIANE W., on TUE, AUG 21 1984 at 21:56 (694 characters)

Norman,

If his term as California governor is any indication, he'll want to cut them down like the redwoods. Want to talk 'sleaze factor'? Remember James Watt? Hmm? Mike and Sherwin, did

you see a woman, a Jew, a black and a cripple in your travels? More sleaze?
Ann Burford. Edwin Meese.

Here's what's tragic to me: Even if we survive the next four years intact, assuming for a moment Reagan gets to continue residence at the Casa Blanca, we face the prospect of several of our Supreme Court Justices retiring or dying. And they'll be replaced with ultra-conservatives.

I don't WANT a super-conservative, rigid, ultra-right wing Supreme Court.

Do you?

Diane

Answer 64 (of 330) JOHN XENAKIS, on TUE, AUG 21 1984 at 23:01 (1904 characters)

To Diane W.

Your bringing up James Watt reminds me of a story.

Back when the MacNeil-Lehrer Report on PBS ran for only a half-hour, they once devoted an entire program to an interview with James Watt -- at that time he was still in Washington.

As I watched that show, I felt that something was very strange, but I couldn't quite figure it out. Then I realized what was happening: When Jim Lehrer asked Watt a question, he didn't look at Watt, but looked at his notes on the table. In fact, Lehrer barely looked at Watt at any time during the half hour.

I asked myself, Is this what Lehrer does all the time? Doesn't he look at the people he interviews? So I watched the show the next night and, sure enough, he never took his eyes off the person he was interviewing.

This illustrates James Watt's main problem: that a lot of people, especially liberals, simply can't stand him. He's bald, he wears funny-looking glasses, and he smiles as he knocks down liberal myths in a way drives them up a wall. On the other hand, he's one of the Republican party's most effective fund-raisers, since many other people absolutely love him. Jim Lehrer, it seems, was in the class of people that can't stand him. I gather you are too.

James Watt's remark about cripples was tasteless, but is that "sleaze"? What's your definition of sleaze? If tasteless remarks are sleaze, then I think I can pin a lot of it onto Mondale. (Didn't Ferraro just make a rather tasteless remark about Italian husbands? Was that sleaze?)

Incidentally, I don't fault Lehrer at all for his interview. That show is just about the most ideologically balanced news show on the air. I would put CNN (Cable News Network, which I watch a lot) on the same level of fairness and balance. ABC is slightly to the left, and NBC and CBS news are out in left field.

John Xenakis Answer 65 (of 330) DIANE W., on TUE, AUG 21 1984 at 23:09 (566 characters)

James Watt's remarks were sleazy, but not nearly as sleazy as his plans for the environment.

Yes, I *hated* the man! I still have a James Watt voo-doo doll somewhere around here, that hung from the rearview mirror of my car by a noose, with hatpins poked into all the appropriate places. (I'm saving it for a collector's item, but my dog has a fondness for chewing on it.)

And, to be fair, I agree with you about Ferraro's Italian husband remark. It was disappointing. But hey! I don't view the party of my choice as faultless. Just better.

Diane

* * * *Branching off of "GOP PUBLIC" 84.21813 as Answer 66 (of 330)

Message 84.22246 MR.BOB, TUE, 08/21 23:56 (0 characters)

Answer 67 (of 330) SOURCEVOID, on TUE, AUG 21 1984 at 23:57 (2474 characters)

Who was the Hero Worshipper on here that attributed Reagan's "compassion" on the Ferraro Finances Flap as the reason he/they haven't bored in on it? What naievte! Thats plain Politics man! I think a lot of Republican Idealoges got hit in the butt by a hard Donkey Kick when it suddenly was revealed that they have been paying 40%+ taxes on their incomes!!! George Will the Right Wing Columnist sure ate his own words after he speculated nationally that the reason Zacarro wouldnt release his information was that they were not paying very much in taxes! That is the same Will, folks, that was an advisor to Reagan during his campaign while hewas - without revealing it - writing columns praising Reagan. (I have begun to think one unwritten plank in the REpublican platform is that Self Rightous Republicans don'thave to follow the rules that ogvern others. The end, after all, justifies their means)

I think the sudden silence on the CONvention Floor about Ferarro came from the realization that its gonna backfire on them, not her or Mondale. She stood at the plate today and took all the pitches, and after all the deep dark speculation about what she was hiding, the press could'nt find anything of substance.

Why don't you TENS guys really bore in now and get some Republicans all of whom seem to be refusing to talk about Ferraro's Finances to really fess up to the matter?

And boy, does the real Jekyll and Hyde Character of the Republican Party Power Structure really begin to reveal itself through the Ultra-Right Platform AND the decision of that wing to STAY WAYA AWAY tonight from the Pres Gerald Ford Speech (instead going to Bunker Hunts little Ranch) in order to loudllysnub the only 'conservative' wing of the party (Dole) and the Moderates (Weiker). i]

That wing means nothing less than Pax Americana, with their Kings and Princes in control. Impose their MORAL, not just political views on you and me. America? Hell, I hear the boots marching now. Fortunately, they will not prevail past 1988 in ANY case. So I am not

really worried. It just sends shudders up my spine when I think of that wing REALLY as much in control of the country as they are now of the comings and goings at the Republican Convention.

Why don't you , TENS, get some of those hardliners to say what they really think - like start bombing the Russians in five minutes?

Answer 68 (of 330) STEWART R PIERCE, on WED, AUG 22 1984 at 00:00 (1192 characters)

I'm not real impressed with the way Reagan handled the situation in Lebanon. He sent in marines who ended up dying as sitting ducks against the advice off his own Joint Chiefs and then after magnanimously accepting responsibility for the debacle suddenly declared it was all Congress' fault. He mined the Managua harbors against international law and then declared immunity from the decision from The World Court. His administration celebrated a 'slam-dunk' when they won the case against the extension of the voting rights act and I wonder how many 'low-level munchkins' there are running around right now who know exactly how hard they're working to promote equality for women. These people frighten me with their righteous attitudes and intolerance of dissenting viewpoints. I don't think they represent the true Melting Pot that America has become and their policies are certainly less than progressive with examples like the Tuition Tax Credits for private schools or support for prayer in schools jumping to mind. Can't anyone who wants to pray to The Great RED BEET or whoever their deity of choice is whenever they want to? The Republicans worry me quite abit.

Answer 69 (of 330) ALAN, on WED, AUG 22 1984 at 00:08 (154 characters)

Feeling good about yourselves, Republiccans? None of it matters. Ronnie is ready to press the button - don't tell us he isn't - AND WE ALL GO BOOM!

Answer 70 (of 330) MR.BOB, on WED, AUG 22 1984 at 00:18 (352 characters)

The Glass house argument aside I suspect the reason Republicans are not fully exploiting the Ferraro/Zaccaro fumblings is because the full story behind the guilt is not known. Ferraro's poor handling of the matter and facts about misuse that Queens residents funds, plus other irregularites seem to indicate there might be more yet to come.

Answer 71 (of 330) MR.BOB, on WED, AUG 22 1984 at 01:12 (290 characters)

Recent reports show that Ferraro has been using her congressional frank in lieu of postage to answer thousands of non congressional questions. Is her disregard for proper use of Government funds typical of her constituency or just Italians, or mabey just Democrat office seekers?

Answer 72 (of 330) ROB HOWARD, on WED, AUG 22 1984 at 01:15 (216 characters)

First Index Up

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The first index of "GOP 84" is up in "GOP 84 Index". If you want to make quick reference to a note, they are all (1-29) indexed.

Update tomorrow night.

Rob

Answer 73 (of 330) CYNIC AL, on WED, AUG 22 1984 at 01:28 (68 characters)

TENS: Have you done a 'p j' of GOP 84? So far, 113 joiners! WOW!

\* \* \* \*Branching off of "GOP PUBLIC" 84.21813 as Answer 74 (of 330)

Conference 84.22258 BBZ349, (answers: 1) WED, 08/22 01:33 (1052 characters)

I SIMPLY DO NOT UNDERSTAND ALL OF THE UPROAR OVER FERRARO'S SITUATION. EVERYTHING THAT HAS COME OUT SO FAR SEEMS TO MAKE SENS EESE. THE LAWS REGARDING FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE WERE WRITTEN WITH THE PRIMARY BREADWINNER IN MIND AND NOT A "WIFE" WHO ALSO HAPPENS TO BE A MEMBER OF CONGRESS. IS SHE BEING GONE AFTER SIMPLY BECAUSE SHE IS A WOMAN? IF THE OPPOSITION PERSISTS IN GOING AFTER HER, IT COULD HAVE A VERY OPPOSITE EFFECT FROM WHICH IT IS INTENDED. WOMEN OF ALL BACKGROUNDS AND POLITICAL PERSUASIONS CAN SEE VERY CLEARLY FOR THEMSELVES THAT THERE SEEMS TO BE LITTLE ROOM FOR THEIR CONCERNS BY THE GROUP PRESENTLY CONTROLLING THE REPUBLICAN PARTY. THE ATTEMPTED CHARACTER ASSASSINATION OF GERALDINE FERRARO WILL ONLY TO FURTHER WORSEN THE RIFT BETWEEN WOMEN AND THE REPUBLICAN TICKET. I THINK THAT THIS ISSUE BEST BE DROPPED AS A POLITICAL ISSUE, LET THE SPECIAL INVESTIGATORS HANDLE IT IF THAT IS DEEMED TO BE NECESSARY AND GET ON WITH THE BUSINESS OF LOOKING AT WHICH PARTY'S POLICIES ARE BEST FOR THE COUNTRY.

Answer 75 (of 330) STEVE DEERING, on WED, AUG 22 1984 at 02:14 (134 characters)

Alan, no one is going to press the button. Lighten up. The nuke scare is a means to get more money diverted to the nuke scare.

Answer 76 (of 330) DAVID KNOPF, on WED, AUG 22 1984 at 02:32 (378 characters)

John Xenakis--

You do thinking people a disservice by suggesting that we evaluate James Watt based on his baldness and the fact he wears "funny" glasses. I do not assume that you evaluate Mr. Mondale on the basis of his "funny" fishing pole' I would prefer to believe that you are looking at his positions, just as I am looking at those of James Watt.

David K Answer 77 (of 330) DAVID KNOPF, on WED, AUG 22 1984 at 02:36 (190 characters)

Mr. Bob--

In America, we don't use the word "guilt" to describe the actions of people who have not yet even been accused or indicted. Ms. Ferrarro is guilty of nothing.

David K

Answer 78 (of 330) DAVID KNOPF, on WED, AUG 22 1984 at 02:38 (318 characters)

Mr. Bob--

Your accusation that Ms. Ferrarro has abused the privilege of Congressional mailing envelopes is certainly interesting. Are you prepared to back it up?

Where does your evidence come from? Who can corroborate it? Why hasn't it been covered in any of the responsible national media?

David K

Answer 79 (of 330) SML, on WED, AUG 22 1984 at 03:38 (706 characters)

Al, thanks for the count -- I hadn't had the chance. A nice turnout indeed! Especially for a ho-hum, "no news" convention.

David, I have to disagree with you -- unfortunately, we \*do\* far too often prejudge guilt. Our public hunger for answers NOW, coupled with the press's ability to supply that hunger at least partially, is what's to blame. For each kind of news medium the goal seems to be to be the first and fastest. When it comes to accusations, that sort of coverage certainly can lead to unfair public opinion based on less than the full truth.

I'm surprised -- and gratified -- at the amount of issue discussion going on here. Maybe we're all becoming a bit more involved.

Sherwin

Answer 80 (of 330) DEQUINCY, on WED, AUG 22 1984 at 03:56 (618 characters)

BBZ 349 Man or Woman all candidates for elected office get their back porch cleaned. Gerry is no exception. It may seem a bit unfair that she gets so much attention, however, she is the first, and we, are only human. Do you know the name of the first black man in baseball? Do you know the name of the first American in space?

Ms. Ferraro will inevitably be more highly scutinized than the "ALSO RUNNING". You as a woman, (if you are) should be looking the hardest, for if Ms.F is not the right woman, You may be the one who pays.....

Dequincy

Answer 81 (of 330) THOREAU, on WED, AUG 22 1984 at 04:48 (3438 characters)

PHEW! I JUST FINISED READING 80 CONSECUTIVE ANSWERS IN THIS CONF. AND IT'S 4:10 AM IN WASHINGTON, D.C. GOOD THING THERE ISN'T MUCH \*SUBSTANCE\* HERE, NOT EVEN FROM HALF THE CONTRIBUTING REPORTERS, OR I WOULDN'T HAVE LASTED THIS LONG. MY OVERWHELMING IMPRESSION IS, TO QUOTE AMERICA'S BEST LOVED EXTRATERRESTRIAL IS "FASCINATING." (NO EXPLANATION POINT.) I'M SURE HE WOULD HAVE BEEN EXTREMELY TURNED OFF BY THE .Q

XX(IGNORE THAT ".Q").....I'M SURE HE WOULD HAVE BEEN EXTREMELY TURNED OFF BY THE EFFUSIVE DISPLAY OF EMOTIONS. I LOVE IT. I EXPERIENCED QUITE A FEW MYSELF ALONG THE WAY:

FERRARO: I LOVE IT. SHE'S ALL BUT ABSOLVED BY REVEALING INFORMATION THAT SHE LEGALLY DOES NOT HAVE TO REVEAL AND THESE GUYS ARE SAYING "WELL, JUST WAIT TILL THE REAL TRUTH COMES OUT, WE'LL SEE ABOUT 'SLEAZE!'" WHO IN THIS CONFERENCE IS INTERESTED IN EXAMINING THE TRUTH ABOUT ANY SITUATION??? BUT I HAVEN'T HEARD ANY RUMBLINGS ON CAPITOL HILL ABOUT THIS DISCLOSURE YET. AND YOU WON'T SEE FERRARO WITH ANY APPOINTMENTS BEFORE CONGRESSIONAL INVES. COMMITTEES UNTIL AFTER THE ELECTION (HEE, HEE). AND I DOUBT YOU'LL HEAR MANY QUESTIONS ABOUT PERSONAL FINANCES. AT LEAST NONE MENTIONING 'LEGALITY'.

"YOUNG TURKS": THIS IS ONE OF THOSE POLITICAL COININGS THAT FAS- CINATES ME. ARE THEY REALLY YOUNG REPUBLICANS. IF SO, I THINK IT IS A WONDERFUL NAME FOR THEM. ESPECIALLY IF "TURKS" IS AN ABBRE- VIATION FOR....."TURKEYS". (HEE, HEE, HEE!)

IONESCO: IF HE COULD OBSERVE THE CURRENT POLITICAL CLIMATE IN AMERICA TODAY (CLOSE-UP), WITH ALL IT'S HAILING OF REAGANISM, "REAL AMERICANS" (NOT LIBERALS!!!), ECONOMICS OF SUPPLY, AND \*\*DEFENSE\*\*, I WONDER IF HE WOULD BE TEMPTED TO WRITE A NEW VERSION OF HIS PLAY....RHINOCEROS. MAYBE IT COULD BE CALLED "ELEPHANTS"K"RHINOCEROS. MAYBE IT COULD BE CALLED "ELEPHANTS". ". MAYBE IT COULD BE CALLED

"AMERICA, STRONGER! GETTING BACK ON HER FEET!": I DIDN'T KNOW THAT SHE HAD EVER STUMBLLED. SHE HAS EXPERIMENTED ALONG THE WAY, AND SOME HAVE WORKED BETTER THAN OTHERS, BUT I THINK SHE HAS ALWAYS BEEN ON HER FEET. WELL, IT CERTAINLY SEEMS LIKE SHE STUMBLLED IN LEBANNON, BUT THAT DOESN'T QUALIFY AS A WORTHY EXPERIMENT. IF REAGAN IS DOING SUCH THE REPUBLICANS IN DALLAS HAVE ALREADY STARTED THOWING THE PHRASE "SHAME IN TEHRAN" AROUND. ALRIGHT THEN, ITS GLOVES OFF! IF REAGAN HAS BEEN PUTTING SUCH MOXIE BACK INTO OUR NATIONAL DEFENSE, WHY WERE GUARDING A BARRACKS IN BEIRUT WITH TWO FINE YOUNG MEN HOLDING UNLOADED M-16'S? ESPECIALLY AFTER A GHASTLY SUCCESSFUL CAR BOMBING AT OUR OWN EMBESSY THERE. AND WHY WERE MOST OF THE CASUALITIES IN GRENADA CAUSED BY OUR TROOPS BEING BOMMANYMAYBE THE PROBLEMS IN OUR DEFENSE DON'T HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH THROWING MORE MONEY AT IT. THESE DISGRACEFUL DEBACLES ARE FAR WORSE THAN 3 OR 4 HELICOPTERS BREAKING DOWN ON THEIR WAY IN IRAN. AND I THINK WE WON BIGGER IN IRAN BECAUSE ALL OF THOSE PEOPLE CAME BACK ALIVE! PRIMARILY BECAUSE OF A POLICY OF RESTRAINT. AND REMEMBER, SOLDIERS ARE PEOPLE TOO. WITH FAMILIES.

ALL: SORRY ABOUT THE LONG ANSWER. AFTER READING 80, I JUST \*HAD\* TO GET IT



OUT OF MY SYSTEM. HOPE TO CONTRIBUTE MORE, OF SHORTER LENGTH. GREAT WORK TENS. YOU ARE TRUE PIONEERS, I DON'T CARE \*WHAT\* THE REPUBLICANS SAY ABOUT THE MEDIA.

THOREAU

Answer 82 (of 330) RLH, on WED, AUG 22 1984 at 09:13 (504 characters)

Re: Ferraro and her finances.

Is there anybody here (be truthful now) who would like to have Dan Rather and company scrutinize your last 6 years tax returns on the CBS evening news?

Particularly when THERE IS NO REQUIREMENT to reveal you tax returns.

I wouldn't want it to happen to me, and I happen to think I do a good job of reporting all my income, and a lousy job of tracking my deductions (meaning, I don't take all that I could). It's just the privacy thing.

Rob

Answer 83 (of 330) DV0, on WED, AUG 22 1984 at 09:14 (492 characters)

Just heard a remark (joke) by Pat Boone on the Radio. He was at one of the huge delegate entertainment mansions.

"How do you like the air conditioning?" He asked the crowd.

<Cheers>

"Who said Republicans don't care about the environment?"

<cheers>

"If you don't like it...Change it."

-----  
Just a josh, I'm sure. But a scary reflection of some of the ugly side of the Republican party.

Anyone care to rebut?

DV0

Answer 84 (of 330) DV0, on WED, AUG 22 1984 at 09:20 (694 characters)

Rob-

If I had my taxes gone over publicly, on the news, I might stir up so much pity that a super-hot tax accountant would contact me and volunteer to handle my affairs as an example of how taxes \*should\* be done.

Any takers?

But lets face it. I don't think \*anyone\* does there taxes to the letter of the law. It's impossible to keep track of the volumes of changes that occur every year. If we all spent the time to understand our returns, no one would have any time left to make money to pay taxes on. The only thing I know for sure, is that I give one dollar every year to the presidential election fund.

I wonder what it was spent for this year.

DVO

Answer 85 (of 330) SML, on WED, AUG 22 1984 at 14:56 (794 characters)

Rob, if you like you can think of your dollar having gone to send press materials for the convention of your choice to TENS -- I believe that sort of convention-related activity is covered by those funds along with the rest of the convention costs not paid for by the hosting city.

Actually, it's the other way around -- the Federal Election Commission provides \$8.08 million for each of the two conventions (boggles the mind, doesn't it?) and the parties are prohibited from spending more than that (and I somehow don't think they spend less).

And the hosting city provides such things as security and police, seating, sound systems, for which the budget here was \$3.9 million. Since Texas law prohibits spending tax dollars on this, it was all raised privately.

Sherwin

Answer 86 (of 330) ALAN, on WED, AUG 22 1984 at 15:05 (18 characters)

Dream on, Steve.

Answer 87 (of 330) DIANE W., on WED, AUG 22 1984 at 16:43 (702 characters)

GREAT impressions of the First Lady Luncheon and the Schlafly Fashion Show, Mike.

Sure makes me glad I'm over here with the other 'girls'.

So, um, WHAT was our official candy bar, in case I'm asked? M & M's?

And, what did the guests eat at that luncheon. Equal time, please, since you treated us to your menu.

And, um, did the First Lady herself have anything to say?

Great, great job, guys. I'm enjoying the heck out of this!

Diane

I hear...rumors...Sherwin, of a bash at the Hunt mansion. Of Falwell on a steer, and whole roasting calves. Just a little down-home, folksy gathering, I

guess. (Or maybe it was a whole roasted Falwell - I can't be sure.) What's the scoop? Answer 88 (of 330) DV0, on WED, AUG 22 1984 at 16:44 (326 characters)

Hey Sherwin!

That was *\*my\** dollar. But since this is your nickle, I guess you don't give a dime about my 2 cents . Just kidding.

But if Rob wants to disclose that section of his return in which he may have volunteered a dollar as well, let him speak up. Though he is not legally obligated to do so.

DVO

Answer 89 (of 330) STEWART R PIERCE, on WED, AUG 22 1984 at 16:49 (324 characters)

Great report on Joan Rivers, Mike! That's one we certainly won't see on the 6:00 news. Anybody heard the joke on why Mondale should have chose Vanessa Williams? Somehow it is difficult to imagine Joan Rivers fitting in with a bunch of stodgy Republican women or is my perception way off on the ladies at this affair?

Answer 90 (of 330) T/O, on WED, AUG 22 1984 at 16:54 (2882 characters)

The Conservative Oppurtunity Society--This is a group of young Republicans in the House who are attempting to redefine the agenda of the party for the future.

Newt Gingrich of Greorgia is the founder of the group and he speaks first. He is very articulate and speaks about the revolution and opportunity coming with the infomational society and of the need for the Republican party to focus our questions, on how to solve the problems and bring a new agenda to be discussed before the public. Present alternatives to the liberal welfare state. Try different appoaches to solve problems such as "Enterprise zones in Cities" Sherwin leaves with Gingrich and will have more on him later so I'll go on with the other speakers who came after.

Bob Walker says that the House is no longer a forum for discussion of ideas or programs but is a dictatorship by Tip O'Neil who controls the agenda and will not allow a new idea to even be debated. He holds up such things as enterprise zones, incentives cost saving in the Pentagon etc. because he sees his role as protection of the status quo.

Walker says that if the Democrats in the House say the room should be painted green that the conservative Republicans would probably say that we shouldn't paint at all at taxpayers expense and that the moderate Republicans would say that it should be a light shade of green. At no time can or do the Republicans get to bring an idea before the House to be debated because the rules allow Tip to control the agenda. The members of the house are allowed to go in and change the congressional record to wipe out things said on the floor. Members do not go to committee meetings because the Democrats allow proxy voting in them. These are dis-honest and fradulent measures that the

COS group has tried to get changed but has been over ridden by the Democrats. Toby Roth says that the advice a new congressman receives from the veterans has been "to get along, go along" he says that he is not willing to waste his time being a minority congressman under the present system of total control of the agenda by the majority leader if he sees no chance of either becoming the majority and allowing fair debate .

Connie Mack of Florida --ends (after a couple of other congressmen) He says that "We are not sure that we have all the answers. We do not think the right questions are being asked. We want a chance to have debate on new ideas." "The Democrat party is the party of the Status Quo." The Republican Party has the chance to be the party of the future and the new ideas if we will grasp it.

T/O

Oh yeah--a man (I missed his name) who said he was from the White House said that the President was in full support of what these men are trying to do and commended them.

Answer 91 (of 330) T/O, on WED, AUG 22 1984 at 17:00 (266 characters)

DVO,

Speaking of dollars. Toni, a friend of mine, got Kathrine Ortega to autograph a dollar bill for her yesterday by her printed signature--and today she forgot and spent it.

She is more than a little upset with herself.

T/O

Answer 92 (of 330) SML, on WED, AUG 22 1984 at 19:09 (276 characters)

The official TENS convention munchies have got to be peanut butter crackers and peanut M&Ms -- they were part of Mike's lunch and my dinner today.

And I trust by now, Diane, you've had your rumors confirmed? (I may have made a few enemies with that story)

Sherwin

Answer 93 (of 330) CHRIS B, on WED, AUG 22 1984 at 19:18 (1848 characters)

I saw part of the Kemp speech (the last 10 minutes or so) and the beginning of the Ford speech last night.

I thought Jack Kemp was probably the most BORING and lifeless speaker I have ever heard, with the exception of my 11th grade math teacher. He seemed to have absolutely NO personality. Is he really a viable choice of candidate in 88? He made some comments that really irked me. Like his one about both Republican AND Democrat members of congress supporting Reagan's move into Lebanon. What about withdrawal?????! Almost all members of congress, both

Re and Dem, voted to withdraw from Lebanon but Reagan would not listen! And then Ford made his speech. He should talk! Kept putting down Carter and building up Reagan. At least Carter made one of the biggest ever advances for world peace with the Camp David Peace Accords. As for labor, he says that there are more people working today than ever before. He used the flat figure of (I think) 107 million people. Did he happen to mention that population continues to grow and naturally more people are working? NO. Did he mention percentages of employed? NO.

One of the most ignorant remarks I heard was from one of them, I can't remember which. He said that EVERYONE knows that BEFORE you can have peace, you MUST have a superior defense. GREAT! With THAT kind of mentality, we can start a whole NEW arms race!!!!

As opposed to the DNC, the RNC seems to be one big stage production. It completely lacks the spontaneity of reaction that was so apparent in S.F. All the signs seem to be mass produced, the audience reaction was seemingly subdued where the speakers were expecting a big rush of applause and cheers, and the speakers seemed far from emotional about any of the topics they spoke about.

Thanks for the GREAT coverage TENS!

Chris

Answer 94 (of 330) JOHN XENAKIS, on WED, AUG 22 1984 at 19:44 (2964 characters)

----- To Sourevoid -----

George Will is hardly a leader of the Republican Party. A couple of weeks ago I saw a tv interview with Arthur Schlesinger, who was President Kennedy's press secretary. He remarked that he is constantly amazed at how incredibly hostile the press is to the president today, and that this only started happening with Vietnam and Watergate.

My point is that Ronald Reagan has set a new standard of decency in dealing with the hostility of the media, a standard which has been mimicked by other leaders of the Republican party. And he has been rewarded in this by an enormous level of support from the American people, even from those who don't completely support his policies.

----- To Stewart R. Pierce -----

The Lebanon experience is an extremely painful one for the Republican party (it's not being mentioned much by the politicians in Dallas) and for America as a whole. All I can say is that the Lebanon peacekeeping operation was strongly supported by the House of Representatives, and especially by Tip O'Neill. I am personally happy that we are out of that wretchedly unhappy country.

As to the Managua mines, I fully support the administration's decision to

leave the jurisdiction of the World Court. This is not a court of law, but a kangaroo court whose only purpose has been to provide a world forum for dumping on the United States. I would strongly support US involvement in a true world court which also has jurisdiction over the USSR and other Communist countries. (What would such a court decide as regards KAL 007?)

As far as I know, Ronald Reagan would strongly support your right to pray to the RED BEET, and would even support you if you wanted to pray to the RED BEET in public schools.

----- To David Knopf -----

I don't evaluate James Watt's positions by his appearance. I'm saying that I can't find any other reasonable explanation for the fact that many otherwise reasonable people (like Jim Lehrer) simply can't stand the sight of him. For example, James Watt's positions on the environment are not very different from those of Ronald Reagan, and yet Reagan is almost universally liked.

On another of your points, Miss (her preferred title) Ferraro is indeed technically guilty -- of using illegal loan money in her 1978 campaign, and of underpaying her income taxes. Substantively, she is undoubtedly no more guilty of anything than was Ann Burford or James Watt.

----- To RLH -----

You're right -- no one can stand the kind of scrutiny that Ferraro's been getting. My point is that the media is much more vicious with conservatives than with liberals, since most media people are liberals.

----- To BBZ349 -----

Note that Reagan is leading Mondale among women, according to recent polls. (Of course, he is leading even more among men.)

John Xenakis, Framingham, MA

Answer 95 (of 330) SML, on WED, AUG 22 1984 at 20:04 (648 characters)

Mike, do you know how much the tickets to today's luncheon cost?

Chris B., I believe that employment as a percent of total population and as a percent of total working-age population is the highest in history. But so is workforce as a percent of population, so the gap between the two is wide. Unemployment \*IS\* high, but a part of the cause is that more people than ever are seeking work, in many cases because a family (because of past inflation and also because of increased expectations) can't get along as easily on a single income. And because it's far more accepted and acceptable for women with families to work.

Sherwin

Answer 96 (of 330) T/O, on WED, AUG 22 1984 at 20:13 (284 characters)

MIKE,

I HAVE A COPY OF "THE BOOK OF AMERICA" IT IS VERY INTERESTING--ESPECIALLY IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN POLITICS AND TRENDS. JERRY IS GETTING AROUND AND PROMOTING HIS BOOK PRETTY GOOD. I SAW HIM IN LITTLE ROCK A COUPLE OF MONTHS AGO AND HE WAS SELLING IT THEN TOO.

Answer 97 (of 330) DV0, on WED, AUG 22 1984 at 21:09 (162 characters)

I DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU, BUT I'VE GOT A COUPLE'A STEAKS ON THE GRILL, AND I'M GETTING READY TO PLUNK DOWN IN FRON OF THE TV AND WATCH REAGAN GET RE-UP-ED.

Answer 98 (of 330) STEWART R PIERCE, on WED, AUG 22 1984 at 21:57 (1738 characters)

John Xenakis-

The incident in Beirut was tragic and I too am glad we are no longer there. The thing I object to most strongly about the way it was handled is that according to most assessments I've seen the position at the airport was extremely hazardous and that the Marines were sitting ducks. I was impressed by Mr. Reagan's candor and forthrightness when he initially accepted full responsibility for the incident. When he turned around and tried to lay the blame on Congress it made me puke.

What exactly did we accomplish by mining the Managua harbor? Are the Nicaraguans quaking in their collective boots? Is El Salvador any closer to democracy as a result? It seems all we accomplished is to make the U.S. look like an overbearing brute in the eyes of the world. It is actions such as these that make others around the world think America cares not a whit about global public opinion much like another currently ensconced in adventures in exotic places like Afghanistan and Angola. I'm certain that an unbiased World Court would blast the Soviets for the KAL 007 incident and I certainly don't hold them in any esteem. There is a society that is outrageously corrupt internally with a system that just plain doesn't work. Why else would they keep coming to the West for grain, technology, etc.? I certainly don't want us to base our actions on theirs.

As far as Mr. Reagan supporting my prayers to THE GREAT RED BEET, you've missed the point entirely. I have always been able to pray to THE GREAT RED BEET and I certainly don't need Mr. Reagan or anyone else to endorse or otherwise validate my prayers by any asinine legislation. You've heard of, I'm sure, the BEET generation?

Stewart R Pierce

Answer 99 (of 330) STEVE TEICHER, on WED, AUG 22 1984 at 23:00 (64 characters)

ANYBODY ONLINE IN HALL AT CONVENTION ALITTLE REAL TIME MAYBE?

Answer 100 (of 330) MR.BOB, on WED, AUG 22 1984 at 23:16 (104 characters)

David Knopf: One reference I can send you to regarding the mailing issue, is U.S. News 27aug p.16

Answer 101 (of 330) MIKE GREENLY, on WED, AUG 22 1984 at 23:32 (358 characters)

Steve Teichner: maybe by 1988, lap computer prices will be down enough, and telecommunications up enough, that when you ask a question like yours you'll get back a bunch of answers. Though somehow I doubt during the major demonstrations i saw on tv tonight that a lot of people would be using parti at that moment! (using it from the floor, that is.)

\* \* \* \*Branching off of "GOP PUBLIC" 84.21813 as Answer 102 (of 330)

Message 84.22371 BCF684, WED, 08/22 23:44 (510 characters)

OK we've nominated what looks like a good team and I know that that pupose of a convention is to bring everyone's spirits high etc. does anyone there get the feeling that the Republicans may be too over confident? Remember the Dewey-Truman upset and a few other times in history when the supirior force depended too much on their superiority and forgot tht the hardest fighter is the one who is fighting for survival. Is the GOP going to run a hard campaign or are they too sure of victory?

Answer 103 (of 330) SML, on WED, AUG 22 1984 at 23:53 (338 characters)

Guess I'm a little late, huh Steve? I'm in the west wing at the press room.

Anyone who hasn't yet voted in our poll, please say:

READ "GOP POLL 1"

at the ACTION prompt. And then read it and VOTE! We'd like to know your opinions, and I'm sure most of you will find the results interesting.

Thanks!

Sherwin

Answer 104 (of 330) THOREAU, on WED, AUG 22 1984 at 23:55 (1114 characters)

Maybe President Ford should be reminded of how many unemployed we have. 107 million certainly sounds impressive. Is he trying to indicate that is more than 4 years ago? The unemployment rate 4 years ago, when Reagan was inaugurated, stood at 7.5%. The latest figures for 1984 show it at \*7.5%\*. (Newsweek, August 17, 1984, pg. 32) It has dropped below that level in 4 years (though



we can all remember when it was higher). If the size of the workforce has increased during that period, then so has the size of the unemployed force by virtue of the fact that this figure is a percentage. Anyone currently bragging about this administration's performance of putting people back to work should be reminded of that fact.

John Xenakis: James Watt and Anne Burford did not resign for the same kind of "technical" illegalities that Ferraro is currently being scrutinized for. If Ferraro is forgiven by the public for her apparent financial ambiguities, it will be because she is not given to doing or saying things that are arrogant, dishonest, or stupid.

Thoreau

Answer 105 (of 330) CYNICAL, on THU, AUG 23 1984 at 00:37 (72 characters)

John Xenakis: Reagan universally liked?? Not in \*this\* conference...

Answer 106 (of 330) BOB SANDHAUS, on THU, AUG 23 1984 at 00:50 (1092 characters)

A COUPLE OF QUICK OBSERVATIONS.

Loved the fishing pole analogy for solving our welfare policy problem (many notes back). Sure just teach those lazy good-for-nothings how to fish and they can support themselves instead of waiting for the free fish-fry. But what happens after you teach them how to fish and they head for the old fishing spot only to find out that there's not a single free space at the side of the lake AND the lake has dried up? The premise from which the fishing analogy rises is the typical conservative belief that everyone on welfare doesn't want, and/or doesn't know how, to work. The fact is there aren't enough jobs to put the unemployed to work. And Reagan economics dictate that this remain so to keep inflation down and labor unions in line.

How about that Barry Goldwater? The parts I liked the best were when he, on the one hand, said that all wars were due to democrats, and on the other hand, said the democrats never fight for the American system when it is threatened by foreign evils. Tough to have it both ways!

Sandy

Answer 107 (of 330) T/O, on THU, AUG 23 1984 at 01:10 (888 characters)

Sherwin,

Concerning NCPACS use of campaign election law loopholes. You already know that they embarrass me so I don't intend to defend them but you should be aware that they are doing exactly what the AFL-CIO has been doing for years and is continuing to do. Their model for what we might see as circumventing

the law were the unions that Gary Hart complained about unfairly helping Mondale during the Democrat nomination process. The Democrats wrote the reform election laws to limit the contributions of business while leaving unions relatively free. Terry Donlan hired a bunch of lawyers to set up his PAC to be as similar to a union as possible so as to allow them to take advantage of the loopholes purposely left open by the Democrats. I'm sure that he does chuckle a little at the irony of the quotes of the Democrats on his brochure.

T/O

Answer 108 (of 330) T/O, on THU, AUG 23 1984 at 01:11 (512 characters)

Chris,

You are right about this convention not being as exciting as the Democrats probably was. But you should have seen us in 1980. Ours was twice as exciting than theirs. I guess its the challenger vs. the incumbent that creates some of the difference. .

Of course if you want to argue that Democrats are more emotional than Republicans I won't disagree---they have been trying to solve our nations problems with their emotions rather than their minds for years.

T/O

Answer 109 (of 330) DIANE W., on THU, AUG 23 1984 at 01:36 (182 characters)

T/O, in response to that last: Booo, storm, storm, whine, whine, hisssss, jeer, stamp feet, jump up and down, stick out tongue, puke puke!!!

Emotional? Us Democrats?

Diane

Answer 110 (of 330) THOREAU, on THU, AUG 23 1984 at 01:43 (908 characters)

The Republicans, overconfident??? (What about those ads for President Reagan, earlier this spring, was that overconfidence, or arrogance?).

In 1984, when President Reagan was elected in the November election, a staggering 72 million (that's right, million) eligible voters stayed away from the polls. Reagan and Mr Bush took about 52% of the popular vote that bothered to show up, meaning that they were \*elected\* by just over 1/4 of the eligible voters in the United States at the time. Amidst that much uncertainty, the Republicans have nothing to be overconfident about. With the registration drives mounted amidst the populations who do not like Reagan since that time, the possibility of an "upset" (let's say "defeat") is very real. Can't wait until Dallas" is over.

(figures from 1984 ABC documentary on "Voter Registration" with Barry Seraphim)

Thoreau

Answer 111 (of 330) DAVID KNOPF, on THU, AUG 23 1984 at 02:04 (514 characters)

Mr. Bob--

Unfortunately, since I don't subscribe to US News & World Report, I don't have a copy of the August 27 issue at hand. I would be very grateful, though, if you would excerpt for us--to the extent permitted by copyright law, of course--the relevant sections of the article that accuses Ms. Ferraro of sending personal mail in postage-paid Congressional envelopes. Though I consider the charge highly improbable, I would certainly like to know what US News had to say about it.

David K

Answer 112 (of 330) DAVID KNOPF, on THU, AUG 23 1984 at 02:08 (620 characters)

John Xenakis--

Your suggestion that Jim Lehrer "cannot stand the sight of" James Watt is interesting, I'm sure, but it is certainly nothing more than hypothetical rhetoric. Though I did not see the particular edition of the McNeil0 Lehrer Report to which you referred, any number of things might explain Mr. Lehrer's behavior, if it was as you described it.

Geraldine Ferraro in fact prefers "Mrs." over "Miss." To equate Ferraro's following the recommendations of her professional advisers with Ann Burford's being held in contempt of congress stretches credulity at the very least.

David K

Answer 113 (of 330) T/O, on THU, AUG 23 1984 at 02:40 (426 characters)

U.S. NEW & WORLD REPORT--AUG 27

WASHINGTON WHISPERS--"NEXT STORM EXPECTED IN CONGRESS OVER GERALDINE FERRARO: WHETHER THE DEOCRATIC VICE-PRESIDENTIAL CNADIDATE IS BREAKING THE LAW BY USING HER CONGRESSIONAL FRANK IN LIEU OF POSTAGE ON THOUSANDS OF LETTERS REPLYING TO REQUESTS FOR HER VIEWS ON VARIOUS ISSUES."

I DONT KNOW WHAT I PERMITTED BY COPYRIGHT LAWS BUT THAT IS THE FULL TEXT ABOUT THE ISSUE.

Answer 114 (of 330) STEVE DEERING, on THU, AUG 23 1984 at 02:54 (768 characters)

Sandy, sorry to differ with you, but there are more than enough jobs for every one. Look in the want adds. The problem is that welfare and ADC and all the give away programs encourage not working. And there are a tremendous amount of unemployed that cannot get the jobs that are available because of their lack of education. So, the fishing stroy does apply. Train them.

I pay enough in taxes to keep a ##### (no ethnic slur from me) family of 12 living well for a year. It is not fair and I don't care to support people that don't want to work.  
I will pay the tax if I know that those people will be trained to do something and that they will do it.

Sorry, but I work \*too\* hard for what I have. To hell with give-a-way politics.

Answer 115 (of 330) ROB HOWARD, on THU, AUG 23 1984 at 10:00 (88 characters)

Second edition of the index, through 9 AM CDT, is answer 2 of "GOP 84 INDEX".

Rob

Answer 116 (of 330) BOB SANDHAUS, on THU, AUG 23 1984 at 14:39 (508 characters)

Ah, yes, Steve. The famous "look at all these adds in the employment section of the newspaper" ploy. Clearly there must be jobs for everyone if these employers actually have to ADVERTISE to get applicatnts.

Add e'em all up and there still ary don't even scratch the surface of the unemplyment problem. And besides that , the majority of them have already been filled but have to be advertised to fulfill the equal oportunity provisions of a particular institution.

Sandy

Answer 117 (of 330) JOHN XENAKIS, on THU, AUG 23 1984 at 18:54 (4216 characters)

----- To Chris B. -----

I am surprised that you find ignorant those of us who believe that a strong defense is necessary for world peace. As I understand it, Mondale holds the same position and differs from Reagan only in details. Do you feel Mondale is ignorant too?

----- To Stewart R. Pierce -----

Did Reagan really blame the Congress for the loss of life in Beirut? I honestly don't remember him doing so, but that there was a Pentagon investigation which attributed the disaster to a series of military errors. My recollection is that Reagan blamed Congress for not supporting the peacekeeping operation after the disaster, forcing the Marines to withdraw. (In retrospect, it now seems that withdrawal was the correct policy.)

My understanding is that the mining of Managua harbor was one of a series of actions by the anti-Nicaragua guerrillas, supported by the United States, to destabilize the government of Nicaragua, an objective which I support. The

mining failed because of media attention, not because it wasn't the right thing to do. In a world where the Soviet Union carpet bombs civilians in Afghanistan and even uses poison gas, it's hard to object to an activity like mining which doesn't kill or harm anybody.

Do these activities help democracy in El Salvador? I believe so. The last El Salvador election was enormously successful in terms of voter turnout, and I don't think it would have been nearly as successful without a great deal of United States support.

If we could ignore the Soviet Union, I would be very happy, as I believe you would. But, for better or worse, the United States has become committed to protecting democracy. Our job is to do so in as moral a way as possible and, as you might infer from the above, I am much happier with mining than with poison gas.

----- To T/O -----

Thanks for the invitation. I know what it's like to be the only conservative among an enormous number of liberals, especially since I live in Massachusetts. I read through the entries for "four more years?", and I was impressed by the historical depth of many of the entries, including yours.

Is there any real evidence that, in general, liberals evade questions any more than conservatives? I would assume not. Perhaps in this forum there are so many more liberals than conservatives that only conservatives who are willing to reply to everything are even willing to give it a try.

On a personal note, I gave up this sort of polemic interaction some years ago (shortly after Watergate, to be exact), and now find it to be fun giving it another try. Unfortunately, it's soooo time-consuming I'm not sure I can keep it up for too long, but for now it's a real treat.

----- To David Knopf -----

You may or may not be right about Jim Lehrer, but I'll tell you his interview with James Watt was the damndest thing I've ever seen. I've watched Lehrer many times since then, and I've never seen him treat anyone else the way he treated Watt. Incidentally I don't hold that against him -- as I said above, I consider the MacNeil-Lehrer News Hour to be exceptionally balanced.

It was reported on the Today show that Ferraro prefers either "Miss Ferraro" or "Mrs. Zaccaro."

We can beat the Ferraro versus Burford thing to death, but my real point is simply that the media (and you too I think) treats Ferraro as innocent until proven guilty, and Burford as guilty until proven innocent. If Ferraro's violations of the law are OK because she did them on the advice of professional advisors, then I presume that Burford's "violations" (withholding documents from Congress) must be even more OK because she did that on the advice an advisor -- the President of the United States. Incidentally, I doubt very much that Burford made any money by withholding documents from Congress, and I doubt very much that Burford could afford a summer home in the

Virgin Islands. And I see on today's news that Zaccaro was in court defending himself for taking an illegal loan -- probably more bad advice.

John Xenakis, Framingham, MA Answer 118 (of 330) STK105, on THU, AUG 23 1984 at 20:05 (936 characters)

TO all thinking people:

After reading the recent responses regarding Ferrarra(?) Ione is struck by the tremendous amount of favoritism she has received (and accepts with a bashful smile). Just like the other day when Sam Donaldson asked her if she thought the President was dumb; she paused, smiled, then offered some comment about not wanting to get involved in personal issues. Most irritating is the blatant hypocrisy that this multi-millionaire preaches; comments about "those rich Republicans" "loop-holes for the rich" and "those fat cats." As George Bush said yesterday when he learned of her wealth, "Mr. and Mrs. Archie Bunker have just become Mr. and Mrs. Averill Harriman. Why can't candidates for the highest offices in the land understand that Americans don't like to be deceived. Nixon learned that! Carter learned that! And Mondale/Ferrarro will learn, too.

Thanks for reading, and thinking. George

Answer 119 (of 330) DAVID KNOPF, on THU, AUG 23 1984 at 21:00 (1140 characters)

TOM (T/O)--

Thanks for putting in the text from US News & World Report. I appreciate having the actual text here for review.

Someone suggested earlier that Mrs. Ferrarro had actually used her Congressional frank to send mail for which she should herself have paid the postage. What the article actually says is that there is a rumor in Washington to the effect that she \*\*\*may\*\*\* have done this. This rumor has not surfaced in any of the publications I read, which include the Newweek, TIME, New York Times, and the Washington Post. Even US News & World Report, whose traditionally Republican bias is well-known, understands the story is rumor and prints as such. I think we should treat it the same way here.

I am concerned that this rumor was originally reported here as fact. This is a very active conference. It deals with issues about which we all feel very strongly. Nonetheless, I think we must work very hard to ensure the accuracy of the "factual" information we contribute. The value of this forum is lowered if we exaggerate or massage facts to support the ideas that are important to us.

David K

Answer 120 (of 330) DAVID KNOPF, on THU, AUG 23 1984 at 21:05 (1232 characters)

Steve Deering--

I understand how you feel about paying so much in taxes. I think we all feel the same way. You suggest in answer 114 that the solution is to do away with "give-a-way" politics, if I understand you correctly. I wonder if you'd be willing to take the general idea one step further by answering the following questions:

1. What programs would you eliminate completely?
2. What programs would you curtail?
3. How would you curtail them? Who would still qualify and who wouldn't?
4. How would you suggest that we train displaced workers? What would you suggest we train them to do?
5. How would you suggest that we finance the training effort?
6. How do you know that people who receive welfare and AFDC benefits "don't want to work"? Would you feel differently about these benefits if you knew that they did want to work?

The reason I ask these questions is that it often seems that the general idea plays better than the specifics. We'd all like to lower taxes, and we'd all like to have full employment. The question is how do we get from here to there. I understand where you want to go. I don't understand how you propose to get there.

David K

Answer 121 (of 330) STRIKER, on THU, AUG 23 1984 at 22:21 (2650 characters)

David K. I fail to understand something here. What I can't understand is the \*WHY\* of it all.

Why do you assume it is my responsibility to feed, clothe, and train strangers?

By what right do you presume to forcefully appropriate my money and give it away?

My answer to all of your questions is "ELIMINATE ALL THE ENTITLEMENT PROGRAMS"

When a person is forced to work for the unearned benefit of other people it's generally called slavery, but you seem to think that if the collector is not the beneficiary that makes it ok.

GOVERNMENT's mandate is the protection of its citizens from foreign powers (Army) and from other citizens (police, courts) and that's it!

It does not belong in the redistribution of wealth business, or for that matter anything you choose to do that does not harm another citizen (Take dope for instance).

(Pardon the lack of polish but this is being written online and it's too

expensive to edit here)

The above should have read "or in the telling you how to live your life business".

Should a citizen \*Voluntarily\* wish to help the poor he may do so. (I am a volunteer instructor at Red Cross, and also donate to many charities I consider worthwhile) BUT I resent someone in Washington

A) deciding that I \*MUST\* give and

B) having decided that, then go and decide \*WHO\* 'm giving it to.

Sandy : If you're talking jobs for people who can't do anything and don't want to learn then the problem is going to get \*MUCH\* worse as unskilled and repetitive jobs are automated. There will be a leap in opportunities for people who can repair or make electronic equipment.. But alas this will just generate more want ads...

Also to round out the fishing example: You teach some to fish some to cut bait, some to make fishing rods, and finally some to run to the store buy some cans of Coke for \$.50 and then run back sell them @ \$.75 to all the thirsty fisher people!

Final thought : I belong to the Smallest minority of all. The Striker minority. There is only 1 of me. There is only 1 of anybody (siamese twins excepted) and when rights are lumped into groups Jews Blacks Hispanics it \*ALWAYS\* means that somewhere some poor INDIVIDUAL is going to lose out. What FDR started and LBJ capstoned was "Economic Rights" Nowhere in the constitution is this mentioned (You are guaranteed the Pursuit of Happiness not Happiness or Economic well-being). "Economic Rights" are \*ALWAYS\* purchased at the expense of POLITICAL RIGHTS (freedom et al.) And I think that's a lousy purchase.

Striker (where is Gerry Elman and his bell when you need him?)

Answer 122 (of 330) RLH, on THU, AUG 23 1984 at 22:29 (1826 characters)

### Demographics of the GOP Convention

by Rob Howard

Delegates 2390  
Alternates 2034

Male 2244 50.2 %  
Female 2189 48.9 %

Age: Of the delegates, 69.1 % are 45 or older. 59.8 % of the alternates are 45 or older.

Education: 81.1 % have some college. 67.4 percent have either a degree or a graduate degree.



Race: 86.7% White. 3.4 % Black. A smattering of "others"

Ethnic Origin: 63.3 % European. Hispanics, a group targeted by the Republicans for major organizing effort, are only 2.1 % of the delegates.

Employment: 70.2 % are employed. 6.5 % (including 8 men) indicated they are housewives.

Occupation:

|                 |        |
|-----------------|--------|
| Executives      | 14.4 % |
| Prof Specialist | 12.5   |
| Doctors         | 1.4    |
| Attorneys       | 8.3    |
| Technicians     | .9     |
| Sales           | 7.0    |
| Services        | 16.8   |
| Farmers         | 2.2    |
| Political       | 13.7   |
| Laborers        | 1.3    |

I find the above figures interesting, in that they show a very skewed representation. I doubt (having been a Labor person at a Republican State Convention) that the laborers have much of a say. They obviously don't have much representation.

Not exactly a cross section of America here.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### Women Delegates

Of the female delegates and alternates:

3.4 % are members of the National Organization of Women.

4.8 % are members of Business and Professional Women.

4.0 % are members of the National Women's Political Caucus.

Judging by these figures, and the scenes I have seen on TV, the men (and women) at this convention wouldn't know a "women's issue" if it walked up and bit them.

Rob Howard

Answer 123 (of 330) RLH, on THU, AUG 23 1984 at 22:31 (1662 characters)

REPUBLICAN WOMEN HAVE  
ALWAYS BEEN FIRST

By (a very cynical) Rob Howard

I have here a little gem that I picked up at the "Republican Women Information Services" booth in the Media center at the convention.

It details the firsts of the GOP on Women's Issues.

Oh sure.

1872 - Women were first officially recognized on a major party platform. The Republican party platform. (One wonders whatever women did before this - but it is a start.)

1896 - The equal rights of women plank first appeared in a major party platform: The Republican platform.

And it goes on through firsts, to

1940 - The equal rights amendment for women was first endorsed in the platform of a major political party: The Republican Party.

And on through many other firsts, not all of them exactly exciting (come on guys, "The first woman appointed special assistant to the President as public liaison to the business community"?????) (That's 1983)

This list includes the first woman Secretary of \*fill in the blank\* including Elizabeth Dole. The first woman US Marshal (1981), first woman Secretary of HUD (Carla Hills), first woman keynoter at a major convention (Anne Armstrong (1972)).

\*\*\*\*\*

But they forgot something. There is no entry for 1984.

Here is one that I composed for them:

1984 - The Republican Party refuses to endorse the Equal Rights Amendment (after having done so for 40 years). And refuses even to endorse the \*IDEA\* of equal rights for women.

As far as I am concerned they might as well take the whole rest of the sheet and burn it.

Rob Howard

Answer 124 (of 330) CHRIS B, on THU, AUG 23 1984 at 23:20 (1050 characters)

John X.-

I would say that anyone, even Mondale, who would make such a statement is ignorant. I've never heard Mondale or his staff make such a statement but I have seen Reagan's actions and this is what supports my feelings about the man.

Please don't try to rationalize "terrorist" type activities such as covert mining of harbors and ports of other countries with the fact that the USSR does it. That is like taking a child's view of "well HE started it!". I mean PLEASE! That is the type of thing that is supposed to distinguish the

democratic nation of America from a socialist Soviet state. It has become

increasingly apparent that America is LOSING respect. It is obvious in western Europe from the protests and it increases each time more covert operations by the CIA and US are revealed. I hate it! And, if you propose that Burford should be innocent on the grounds that she was withholding COURT REQUESTED documents on the advice of The President. I disagree. I think the President is guilty.

Chris

Answer 125 (of 330) SOURCEVOID, on THU, AUG 23 1984 at 23:45 (418 characters)

Aw, 'cmon T/O! I just read your 108. WHO is appealing to emotions rather than minds? That hour long acceptance speech by Ronald Reagan was as unabashed appeal to emotions as any you will ever hear!!! Why when that Torch got verbally passed in Tupelo, Mississippi I felt like I should run out the door, climb Pikes Peak and start sining ging America the Beautiful, from the spot where it was writ..

Answer 126 (of 330) SML, on THU, AUG 23 1984 at 23:47 (214 characters)

To add to Rob's demographics, I heard that the average family income of delegates was around \$50,000. Or that half were above \$50,000 -- not quite the same thing.

Can anyone confirm or deny this?

Sherwin

Answer 127 (of 330) STEVE DEERING, on THU, AUG 23 1984 at 23:55 (566 characters)

Thanks Striker, I really don't have a whole lot of time to compose philisophical answers right now. You spoke well for me. I am in total agreement with what you are saying. There is little more needed from government \*TODAY\* than national defense. EVERYTHING ELSE COULD BE PROVIDED BY THE PRIVATE SECTOR.

Free enterprise works when it is left alone. The government that worked 200 years ago, even 50 years ago is not relevant to the way the world is now. My 60's chants of revolution are now ones of evolution. Government today is way to slow.

Answer 128 (of 330) MR.BOB, on THU, AUG 23 1984 at 23:56 (850 characters)

David K:

On 10 Aug New York Times ran a 15 col inch article reporting the Commission on Congressional Mailing Standards discussion of political use of franking privileges, and Miss Ferraro's use of these privileges.

I do'nt have the text but if you hav'nt thrown it out you might check it out for all of us.

There was also only a short mention in the L.A. Times the same day, saying GOP members opposed Ferraro's planned (as of 10 aug) mailings.

The U.S. News story seemed to be explicit about the "mailings", the question is whether she is breaking the law with these mailings or if this generate the congressional uproar anticipated by the reporter.

I suspect we must wait and see if the storm will hit, or if we have good laws covering the proper use of government funds.

the nyt article was on p.9(n)

Answer 129 (of 330) T/O, on FRI, AUG 24 1984 at 00:34 (1166 characters)

SOURCEVOID,

CAN'T ARGUE WITH YOU ABOUT THE SPEECH. BUT WHEN IT COMES TO IDEAS AND PROBLEM SOLVING EMOTIONS DON'T CUT IT. HERE ON PARTI WHEN TRYING TO GIVE HISTORIC EXAMPLES OF WHAT HAS BEEN THE OUTCOME OF SIMILAR EVENTS AND ACTIONS, I HAVE BEEN TOLD MANY TIMES THAT HISTORY OR PHILOSOPHY ARE IRRELEVANT AND THAT ANYONE WHO DOESN'T WANT TO THROW MORE MONEY AT FAILED PROGRAMS IS UNCARING AND THE POOR. I REALLY DO NOT HAVE TIME TO PRESENT MY CASE HERE NOW BUT WHEN I GET BACK HOME WHY DON'T WE AGREE TO PICK A SUBJECT AND ARGUE IT ONLY ON FACTUAL EVIDENCE AND EMOTIONAL ARGUMENTS ARE OFF LIMITS.

MAYBE I'M THROWING A CHALLENGE HERE THAT WILL MAKE ME LOOK LIKE A FOOL BECAUSE I KNOW HOW GOOD YOU ARE BUT I TRULY DON'T THINK THAT IF THE DEMOCRATS ARE FORCED TO BASE THEIR PROGRAMS ON REASON THAT THEY CAN DO IT. OF COURSE THIS IS NOT A PERSONAL CHALLENGE OF YOU AGAINST ME (BECAUSE I WHETHER YOU AOR I IS THE BETTER DEBATOR IS NOT THE ISSUE) BUT ONLY TO CREATE A NEW FORUM WHERE ARGUMENTS OF FAITH ARE OFF LIMITS.

WHAT DO YOU SAY? (PLEASE EXCUSE THE TYPOS AND EXTRA WORDS----NOT USE TO THIS MACHINE

T/O

Answer 130 (of 330) SML, on FRI, AUG 24 1984 at 01:00 (704 characters)

I will be getting the rest of my reports in over the next 2 days, but meanwhile I just wanted to say that I'd like to get Newt Gingrich on here to participate because I'd like to hear some specifics behind how he and other vocal proponents of opportunity versus welfare would actually implement things. I think most people would agree that it's wrong to let people starve through no fault of their own and that there are people who fit that description. And that there are people who are currently suited for no available job. Could we, if there is agreement on those two points, narrow down for a moment and hear how individuals here think those two problems should be solved?

Sherwin

Answer 131 (of 330) DIANE W., on FRI, AUG 24 1984 at 01:07 (198 characters)

Striker, re 121: By the same logic in your argument re government \*giving away\* your money to feed the poor, I resent like hell the government giving away \*my\* money to the military.

Diane Answer 132 (of 330) CYNIC AL, on FRI, AUG 24 1984 at 01:15 (84 characters)

Mike Greenly: Your 'on-line journalism' was fantastic! Another first for TENS!

Answer 133 (of 330) STEVE DEERING, on FRI, AUG 24 1984 at 01:41 (204 characters)

Di, the military is the only reason we are able to say and do most of what we want. Without national defense, there would be no USA. National defense is the only legitimate business for government.

Answer 134 (of 330) SOURCEVOID, on FRI, AUG 24 1984 at 02:41 (1938 characters)

Sure, I would be glad to discuss the Democratic versus Republican national, and world view, and what policies can best, worst, deal with them. Be warned of three things, however. First, it is easy to

to talk of discussing only 'facts' - as if emotions are the only alternative. There is another thing - called 'values' and they underly many of those differences - and have, right back to the birth of this Republic. Secondly, I probably won't/ can't represent the 'Mondale' brand of Democratic philosophy as well as I can/will the Hart brand - which is the one that persuaded me to REGISTER as a Democrat after years of being legally an Independent (but for 15 years at least far more inclined to the Democratic than Republican view). Just as I am sure you feel closer to one of the three elements of the Republican Party (hard right, simply conservative, and moderate right). Thirdly, my commitment to the Democratic Party and its Presidential candidate is as much based upon my perception as to whom I think can/will best get us into the future that is already obviously very different from the past. I am not sure how you, or I, can marshal 'facts' to prove the relative efficacy of our respective parties when applied to that future. The future we face is not more of the same. It is different. And watching what I believe to be the reluctance of the Republican party (those in control of its soul right now) to deal with that reality effectively - in concert with our historic underlying values, contrasted with what I perceive to be efforts of the Democratic Party to deal with those new realities is what makes me a Democrat. Not sure how we discuss, factually, futures. But it is the future that I am concerned about, and who is going to get us there in the best shape.

There are enough caveats in \*that\* preamble to excuse almost anything, right T/O?

Answer 135 (of 330) DAVID KNOPF, on FRI, AUG 24 1984 at 02:48 (2210 characters)

John Xenakis--

Enough said about McNeil-Lehrer! Who knows what was going on with Mr. Lehrer on the night in question?

The New York Times reported that Ferrarro prefers "Mrs. Ferrarro" in her public life and "Mrs. Zaccaro" in her private life. I confess to finding the issue less than compelling. I think I'll keep calling her "Mrs. Ferrarro," but I promise not to complain if you call her "Miss Ferrarro."

The problem with comparing Burford and Ferrarro is this. Burford knew she was committing a crime at the time she was committing it. She had been told this by her advisers, as well as by a number of Congressmen. She was subsequently held in contempt of Congress. Ferrarro, on the other hand, received bad advice and acted on it, without knowing her actions were improper. Later, when her activities were questioned, she assessed the penalty without complaint. While she is certainly responsible for choosing her own advisers, there is a difference in my mind between doing something knowingly and doing it unwittingly.

It is also interesting that, though it was improper in 1978 for Mrs. Ferrarro to accept a campaign contribution over \$1,000 from her husband, it would not be improper for her to do so now. The election commission has changed the regulation she violated in her 1978 campaign. The commission thought, and I think rightly, that the regulation gave an unfair advantage to candidates who lived in community property states.

When Tom Hayden ran for his seat in the California State Assembly, he was able to use generous amounts of money contributed by his wife, Jane Fonda. Since California is a community property state, he was not technically using her money. This would clearly give him an advantage over a candidate from New York, which is not a community property state, in the event they were competing for national office. The election commission, seeing the impropriety of the regulation itself, has removed the restriction.

Though none of this excuses Mrs. Ferrarro for accepting and acting on bad advice and violating a regulation of the election commission, it certainly casts a different light on what she did.

David K

Answer 136 (of 330) BBJ863, on FRI, AUG 24 1984 at 03:50 (1648 characters)

I don't believe I have ever seen such gibberish as written by the party who was so very concerned over which candidate would lead us into the future "in good shape". It seems he believes that any judgement of past performance is moot when considering the future, particularly since it will be so different from today.

I suggest that present performance is the only way to judge future performance. The future is shaped from all of our todays, and is shaped every day. If you have the wrong approach today, you'll delay or prevent the right approach for the 'future'.

The democrat's platform is so radical, and so far removed from current and

traditional american values that it would be very difficult for the american public to swallow. This is not to mention the underlying values which basically boil down to Big Brother government and general leveling of society to the detriment of the individual.

How a second rate politician who panders to every shift in the wind however slight could appeal to any american as presidential material is beyond comprehension. Reagan is in stark contrast and in fact is lately recognized by even the media as a giant political figure who can be favorably compared to the two Rosevelts. He is, quite simply, a man who is destined to go down in history as a great statesman--bigger than life in many respects.

Reagan's record is clear -- success in most areas. Mondale's promises are equally clear -- throw out the values which have brought so much renewal in this country and resume tax and spend among other odious approaches in govt.

Answer 137 (of 330) SOURCEVOID, on FRI, AUG 24 1984 at 03:53 (1866 characters)

Watch out, Steve, for the multitude of sins convered vered by that term "National Defense." There are serious questions about what KIND (nuclear, star wars, conventional, military assisting) what MIX, and HOW MUCH. NOT TO MENTION THE BLATANT ABUSE BY LOTS OF SPECIAL BUSINESS INTERESTS WHO ARE ONLY TO HAPPY TO SPRING TO THE NEEDS OF NATIONAL DEFENSE AS LONG AS YOU BUY FROM THEM! One of the reasons I, who spent 27 years from West Point through senior military positions, look with a jaundiced Democrats eye on the jingoism of 'National Defense' right here in Colorado SPrings, the home of the 'new' Space Command, is the unholy alliance - which I can easily call the new 'Military-High Tech-Political Complex", sucesor to Eisenhower's "Military-Industrial-Complex" is because the race to cash in by real estate developers (who suddenly are \*very\* denfense-minded) relocating defense contractors A FAIR NUMBER OF WHOM ASK FOR TAX-EXEMPT INDUSTRIAL REVENUE BONDS TO PAY FOR SOME OF THEIR CAPITAL INVESTMENTS (so much for 'private' enterprise) and that bastion of Republicanism the CHAMBER OF COMMERCE chasing 'defense' industries.

If I detected one tenth the real interest in national 'defense' that I do in national defense 'contracting' hearabouts I would be silent. But I don't. And I am afraid it is more than coincidental that the champions of a strong defense, also are champions of private enterprise, and are of you-know-whose political party. But ya know Steve? I have NEVER heard of a local business run by a Republican turn down sales to the government on the grounds that is unprincipled. And THAT includes the Libertaria local major newspapers that constantly decries ANY government yet doesn't blush at taking their ample advertisinf dollars!!! (This is a warm up for T/O)

Answer 138 (of 330) DAVID KNOPF, on FRI, AUG 24 1984 at 04:07 (3000 characters)

Striker (and, indirectly, Steve Deering)--

I do not "assume" it is your responsibilitiy is to "feed, clothe, and train strangers," and I do not "presume to forcefully appropriate" your money and "give it away."

I posed some questions in my last answer because I hoped I might develop a more in depth understanding of your policy positions. If you do not wish to answer those questions, you need not do so, but I would prefer you not indulge in inference about my personal opinions.

Striker, you say we should eliminate all the entitlement programs. I assume this includes social security, aid to families with dependent children, welfare, unemployment, workmen's compensation, veteran's benefits, and so on.

How shall we do this? Shall we cease paying these benefits on January 1, 1985  
Shall we scale them down slowly?

Shall we ignore the results--the thousands of elderly who could not afford rent or buy food without social security, the children who would go unfed without AFDC, the workers who because of the cyclical nature of the American economy find themselves temporarily unemployed despite their will to work, the veterans who served the country in foreign wars.

By your argument, providing assistance to these people makes us slaves. A cursory investigation of American history clearly demonstrates the inaccuracy of this interpretation. A portion of our tax dollars goes to assisting the unfortunate--those who suffer through no fault of their own. Slaves had no personal liberties whatsoever. They were property, had no right to vote, to ride on a bus, or to obtain an education.

What you describe as "slavery" is in fact citizenship.

Steve Deering, you say that all we need from the government today is national defense. "Everything else could be provided by the private sector." I can see it now. Ford Motor Company will run our school system. General Motors will build the roads. CBS will monitor the airwaves. General Dynamics will run the space program. GD Searle will determine when pharmaceuticals are safe for Americans. Ranchers will inspect their own meat, make sound decisions about the chemicals with which they treat it, and certify it for the American public. Johns Mansville will ensure worker safety (presumably by producing as much asbestos as possible). Dow Chemical will provide veteran's benefits (free agent orange for all!). ITEL will compute and collect taxes. The Rockefeller Real Estate Corporation will provide low-income housing. General Foods will provide food for the poor. Braniff will manage air traffic control.

There is no question that government evolved 5000 years ago for the sole purpose of providing for the public defense. But the world has changed since then, and we need a bit more from government now. Government has certainly gone overboard in some regulatory practices, but it provides many services that could not safely be left to the private sector.

David K.

Answer 139 (of 330) SOURCEVOID, on FRI, AUG 24 1984 at 04:10 (982 characters)

Well, BBJ863 can point all he wants to the immediate apparent 'health' of the US attributed to Ronald Reagan. But just as there are lots of happy real



estate people hearabouts who have borrowed heavily and are living on those proceeds now (eat drink and be merry...) so has THIS President put an enormous 'due on sale' amount in our immediate future. If part of the measure of his 'success in every area' is the size of the US Deficit, AND the size of the Trade Imbalance, AND the fact that, for the first time in US history we are a DEB nation (to other countries), well so be it.

ANd the cessation of all negotiations with the Soviets on arms control.

Another smashing international 'success'.

And the making of more enemies in the Middle East over Lebanon BECAUSE of our intervention than we would have had WITHOUT intervening. What a winning foreign policy!

C'mon BBJ, tell me these are all success of this Administration!

Answer 140 (of 330) BK, on FRI, AUG 24 1984 at 04:11 (1086 characters)

Unfortunately, economics is so far from an exact science that for Reagan to claim credit for the current boom is about as pathetically conceited as Nixon claiming credit for ending the Vietnam war. In both cases, the number of factors with results so far delayed and under so little control by any human totally overwhelms anything any one politician or party could have done.

And while the entitlement programs aren't going to do anything but breed another generation dependent on entitlement programs, the amount of money spent on them has got to be a drop in the bucket, compared to the military budget. Every study ever done has shown that lots of smaller, simpler, & cheaper weapons are a lot more cost efficient a defense than a few large, complicated, and expensive ones (which is what the military and Reagan -Star Wars is typical- like to play with).

And his latest little 'joke' scares the shit out of me. Anyone who can't grasp the fact that Nuclear War is \*NOT\* a joking matter really doesn't deserve to be president!!!

In other words, I agree with Dee.

BK

Answer 141 (of 330) DIANE W., on FRI, AUG 24 1984 at 04:17 (42 characters)

Bravo, David Knopf! Well said!

Diane

Answer 142 (of 330) JOHN XENAKIS, on FRI, AUG 24 1984 at 10:52 (2636 characters)

----- To Mike Greenly -----

I'd like to respond to your request on Mondale's campaign strategy.

Obviously, Mondale is so far behind, he must campaign actively and offensively. He proved that he can do this very well in his campaign against Hart. Reagan, on the other hand, is not a good defensive campaigner (look what happened with the tax issue), and so he will also be campaigning offensively, which means that the Fall campaign is going to be quite a wild one.

Mondale can win if he gets a break. I believe that the only two breaks he can reasonable hope for now are: (1) a major gaffe by Reagan -- quite possible in the wild campaign that's coming, or (2) some sort of illness (even the flu) striking Reagan, which would remind voters of his age. Without such a break, Mondale probably will lose.

Unquestionably, the most interesting issue for Mondale is how he should play Ferraro. The problem is that Ferraro is much more effective on the stump than Mondale is. I have watched any number of speeches by the two of them on CNN. Mondale comes across as lifeless and insincere, while Ferraro is always sensational. (I think they would be much more effective together if Ferraro were running for President. Or as one commentator put it, Mondale chose a much better vice president than Carter did.)

Now, if Mondale puts Ferraro out in front, then sooner or later people may begin to say that he's using her to hide his own weaknesses (a variation of, "he's hiding behind her skirts.") If he subdues her (which I think he must do sooner or later since, after all, he's the one running for President), then he risks losing his major campaign asset.

Ferraro is equally interesting on another, more subtle level. When Mondale and Ferraro are together they look more like a married couple than a political team. How does this play to voters on a subconscious, emotional level? My own opinion is that it's a positive, that people feel good seeing them together. However, this is the sort of thing that can backfire if it ever reaches the point where the subconscious issues become vocalized. And that's another reason why Mondale may have to subdue Ferraro.

No matter how he plays it, the Mondale/Ferraro campaign is going to affect politics for years to come. If they win, then people will look to this campaign as a model for how to run a man/woman ticket. If they lose, then I believe that the next woman nominated to a national ticket will be as presidential nominee, not as vice presidential nominee.

John Xenakis, Framingham, MA

Answer 143 (of 330) JOHN XENAKIS, on FRI, AUG 24 1984 at 10:54 (1656 characters)

----- To Chris B -----

Mondale has been talking about a strong defense recently almost as much as Reagan. You should watch one of his campaign speeches.

I disagree that America is losing respect in the world. I believe that a

vacillating Carter lost us a great deal of respect, and that a strong Ronald Reagan has gotten it back for us.

As to Burford, once again my point is that media people treat Ferraro as innocent until proven guilty, and Burford as guilty until proven innocent. Since burford has been cleared of charges and Ferraro has admitted guilt, you more than prove my point. To you, Burford is guilty although proven innocent, and Ferraro is innocent although proven guilty.

----- To SML -----

Are there people really starving in the United States any more? If so, then what's been the point of all the social programs for the last 50 years? And, if there are starving people, would increasing food stamps or other social programs really help them, or are they starving because of their own emotional problems? (For example, many teenage girls are starving (anorexia nervosa), but they're usually from middle or upper class families.) In short, is anybody really starving because the government is depriving them of food?

----- To David Knopf -----

Being held in contempt of congress does not mean you've committed a crime. It just means you've hurt some congressman's feelings. My understanding is that Burford has been cleared of charges and is guilty of nothing.

For more comments, seem my reply to Chris B above.

John Xenakis, Framingham, MA

Answer 144 (of 330) MIKE GREENLY, on FRI, AUG 24 1984 at 11:19 (114 characters)

John Xenakis: thanks for your response on Mondale's Marketing Strategy. Fascinating! I'm mulling it over. mike

Answer 145 (of 330) LISA CARLSON, on FRI, AUG 24 1984 at 12:07 (3884 characters)

Soviet-American Night at the Association for Humanistic Psychology

A Very Different Kind of Meeting

There are about 1,000 people under the big tent on the lawn of a small college in Mass. - they are therapists, teachers, researchers, academics, doctors, and others who have come together for the annual conference of the Association for Humanistic Psychology, "Leadership for the 80's." They look very different from the descriptions of the folks in Dallas we have been getting from Sherwin and Mike - lots of idiosyncratic dressing styles... interesting hats, one-of-a-kind jewelry, lots of color.

The group is gathered to hear former astronaut Rusty Schweikart talk about citizen diplomacy. Rusty looks like the classic All American

Boy. At this meeting, the big-screen projection is of Rusty on the moon and pictures the astronauts took from outer space - it is as full of larger than life images as the Reagan Video but the message is very different.

Rusty describes the overpowering effect of seeing the earth from space. "From there you don't see the things which separate us from each other," he explains. "There are no dotted lines between countries. From space, the earth is one incredibly beautiful blue and white ball seen in the context of the vastness of the universe." Rusty describes many projects underway to provide opportunities for people to make connections with each other across the boundaries which seem so evident from here. Among other things, he is working on coordinating a meeting between a group of astronauts and a group of cosmonauts from the Soviet Union who have shared the experience of seeing the earth as one and want to find ways to influence their governments to take a new approach to relationships between the two super powers.

After he finishes, a group of people who have traveled to the Soviet Union as part of a citizen exchange program speak about their experience. These are the "secular humanists" the National Conservative Political Action Committee has targeted as the enemy - although most of them would deeply resent the connotation of "secular" because they think of themselves as spiritual people who are deeply committed to the mission of peace.

Halfway through their presentation, the phone rings (I realize the effect these communication systems have had on this non-techie when I realize that my first instinct is to wonder how they got the phone hook up to this tent). The call is from Mark Sarkady who is a member of the Association calling from Moscow. He is there working to set up a "Space Bridge" between the Soviet Union and the U.S. using slow scan video to link up citizens with common interests so they can talk with each other face to face. It is dawn in Moscow and the feeling of connectedness with this country which is supposed to be the "enemy" is very strong in the group.

The evening ends with a program with improvisationist Paul Horn playing an eclectic collection of music which is enhanced by a dancer from China who is using movements inspired by Tai Chi. He leads the group of 1,000 in a Tai Chi sequence symbolizing the sunrise which is happening now in the Soviet Union. It culminates in a gesture of loving energy sent from this group to the \*people\* of Russia.

The dancing continues into the night, under the stars, and full of loving spirit.

Before going to bed, I turn on the T.V. to check out what's going on in Dallas. Barry Goldwater is being interviewed.

"What did you think of Reagan's gaff remark about bombing the Soviet Union?" asks the reporter.

"Doesn't bother me," answers Goldwater. "I don't see what's so bad about saying you want to bomb them. After all, they want to bomb us."

Answer 146 (of 330) SML, on FRI, AUG 24 1984 at 15:29 (1660 characters)

Lisa's description of Rusty's experience in space matches what I feel about this medium, though there's little else they have in common. If only we could extend this to more people, how could there be any national boundaries of any consequence when it comes to people relating to each other? There'd only be individual differences, just like there are among those of us already here. John X, from my own experience only, there *\*are\** starving people in the US and it is, by and large, for two reasons: they are well aware of the aid that's available, but they don't want to avail themselves of it; and there are those who don't what what aid is available. The statement is equally true for public and private aid programs, though there are those, like the street person I interviewed in SF, who will take private but not public aid.

And I'd still like to hear from anyone, anyone at all, who has a workable solution to providing aid to children. To the innocent children who are born to families who can't or won't care for them properly, who won't instill in them the kind of values necessary for the sink-or-swim give 'em a fishing pole and teach 'em how to fish type of policy to work. And don't tell me there aren't such -- I know them, I've lived with them, I've talked with them, and they do exist. There are mothers who have no idea how to care for or train their children, who aren't capable of *\*not\** having more children, either. I agree with John X in one repsect -- past and existing programs have done not one bit of good in eliminating this problem, and they may have helped perpetuate it.

Sherwin

Answer 147 (of 330) DIANE W., on FRI, AUG 24 1984 at 16:40 (90 characters)

I can see more and more that we need a third party. An EFFECTIVE third party.

Diane

Answer 148 (of 330) CHRIS B, on FRI, AUG 24 1984 at 19:35 (88 characters)

Mike,

Nice thoughts about the new users.

You did it again. Way to go.

Chris

Answer 149 (of 330) MIKE GREENLY, on FRI, AUG 24 1984 at 20:01 (284 characters)

I know the PR guy for ANS. Too bad. I was glad to see Sherwin cover them. People who stick systems out there with zero consideration for regular people's ability to use them  
deserve  
to

F A I L !

and I feel no pity or remorse for them.

Answer 150 (of 330) SOURCEVOID, on FRI, AUG 24 1984 at 21:54 (3448 characters)

Diane: I used to think we needed a 3d Party too, but I am not so sure now. While the returns aren't in yet, I decided to register as a Democrat in a town where Republicans are in full control of all local and state elected positions (and are screwing things up as any one party control usually does) and do all I can to move them into the future more along the pragmatic Hart lines than the traditional coalition lines (or, heaven forbid, the doctrinaire conservative lines), starting right here at the bottom, and heavily using these tools. In its fashion, it is working, as Independent voters are beginning to get more involved in reforming the local Democratic party than either joining the tired old ideas, remaining frustrated on the side, or capitulating and becoming rah rah Republicans.

Dial up our local version of 'tens' sometime 303-632-3391 (300/1200) and monitor the political arguments going on there - with one big difference. In several cases the candidates themselves are on line, and in many others their official campaign staffs and managers are there too, and when the local press wants a quote, they dial up the BBS to get it.

What is interesting is the parallels between what has gone on here and what goes on locally on a BBS (there are actually 3 BBS s in town now with rip roaring political debates going on). Even though the level is very different, even though the backgrounds are very different (while there are plenty of college educated on my BBS there are as many 'working stiffs' with less education, and youngsters still in school) the viewpoints are surprisingly the same, the rhetoric the same, the impassioned support, or attack on national as well as local figures the same.

But something Sherwin, or Mike, said (and nobody commented on) comes close to the heart of the matter. There are deep schisms in this society, people with very different views and the willingness to pursue them to the point of dark intensity, regarding those with differing visions of America as disloyal, dangerous. Maybe it is that these blinking cursors bring out the naked truth of peoples 'belief structures' that underlies their judgements about things political. What bothers me is just how entrenched, how immune to reason, fact, \*or\* emotional appeal, these belief structures are (all across the spectrum) and how little true 'reasoning together' occurs, and how little apparent change takes place in anyone fixed position. Now mind you I have been using my BBS for political action for 2 1/2 years now, so this observation is not based upon this general election year, these candidates, or these issues alone.

It seems to me (and I may be wrong) that this nation progressed only when it could muster a series of 'great consensus' rather than when majority political power, bitterly won, took charge. All I see is an ever more violently oscillating political power swing from left to right and back again. When the pendulum on a grandfather clock swings too violently the whole thing can tip over. I see little consensus building. I just see power plays.

Dialing up these systems, from my own, to those cross town, to this Parti, I

sometimes feel like I am looking into the soul of political America, and, like Kurtz, want to cry out "The Horror. The Horror."

Answer 151 (of 330) TJ, on SAT, AUG 25 1984 at 01:35 (556 characters)

I have been "lurking" but will surface to second a remark by Sourcevoid.

I must agree that the use of personal attacks, and extremist tests for candidates is a serious danger to the democratic system. It pains me to hear anyone say "I HATE HIM/HER" when supposedly debating political viewpoints. Mikes report on Sen. Wilson had a nice point concerning COMPROMISE, and how that is the way that society really functions.

I have often spoken out against policies, but will always condemn the mindless personal attack that evades the issues.

Answer 152 (of 330) DIANE W., on SAT, AUG 25 1984 at 03:35 (34 characters)

TJ: Point well taken.

Diane

Answer 153 (of 330) BCF684, on SAT, AUG 25 1984 at 12:28 (760 characters)

Just a thought or two while scanning. We all seem to be a bit clumsy and selfconscious in this medium just now. We are at about the same place as the ham radio people were in the early 30's or the CB'ers a couple of years ago. We who are spending money time and family aggravation are developing the protocol of a new means of expression. Since most of this process is unconscious it's going to have some interesting quirks. For example note how some of the old telegraph expressions lingers in radio communication. We still dial -- I mean "dial" with our pushbutton phones etc.

We really should have some "lurker" out there taking notes because this is going to make one heck of a story 15 years from now.

over and out,

Delores

Answer 154 (of 330) STEVE DEERING, on SAT, AUG 25 1984 at 13:44 (724 characters)

David, a brief response to answer 138.

Your concern about the fine services the government provides is understood. Who would protect us from ourselves is a valid point. But we are no longer a "New Nation". We have grown up somewhat over the last several years. The step up in "evolution" that occurred from us mutant "hippies" (yep I am one) in the 60's will be felt soon.

The question is not who is going to provide those services and protect us from ourselves, but rather how can these services be provided with better quality

and at a profit. It is a problem for the business schools, not the political schools.

Can the free enterprise system police itself. If it can be made profitable, yes.

Answer 155 (of 330) DIANE W., on SAT, AUG 25 1984 at 15:24 (40 characters)

Your GOP 61 was brilliant, Mike.

D Answer 156 (of 330) TJ, on SAT, AUG 25 1984 at 16:37 (960 characters)

Mike; your last notes are wonderful!

I urge all the new users, lurkers, and old timers to remain here in PARTI, and to continue to read, write, and confer with others.

There are conferences on, or waiting to be started on, every issue that has been discussed here, and at the conventions. Join or start one and help change the way politics is done.

David Knopf has a conference called "four more years?" which needs the view points of ALL of us. The subject is this election, and the issues that will shape it. JOIN and share your thoughts/feelings.

A conviction that will not stand confrontation is not a good conviction!

Each of us can, and together we could, find new answers to the issues of today, and tomorrow. The management of PSI is trying to get persons who are in the power structure NOW here, and the messages they read, and the ideas they are exposed to will help to shape the direction of their programs.

Answer 157 (of 330) DAVID KNOPF, on SAT, AUG 25 1984 at 20:38 (954 characters)

Steve Deering--

I'd have to be a fool to argue against your answer 154, but I don't think you have taken your case very far. The hard question is HOW do we make it profitable for the private sector to "police" itself effectively? How do we get Johns Mansville interested in worker safety, for example? So far, the best answer we've come up with in the United States is to establish penalties for companies who violate some principles that are created cooperatively (some of the time) by our elected leaders. Congress passes regulations, the EPA enforces them (and creates some of their own), and somehow this muddled system provides a measure of protection that isn't available otherwise. I would not for one minute argue that this is a perfect system. It is fallible, and it is expensive. But as Winston Churchill once observed about the system of Western Democracy, a terrible system it is, but show me a better one.

David

Answer 158 (of 330) TJ, on SAT, AUG 25 1984 at 22:15 (956 characters)



David K

I would throw the ball back into the challengers court as it were, How does the Democratic party intend to secure these goals?

The Republicans have basically stated the intention is to reduce the activitiy of government to the lowest level allowable by our voters. The intention being to encourage jobs in the private sector {which provide real income for the nation} rather than through 'make work' government jobs which are just another outlay of monies.

Here is one solution to the problem of inefficiently run and ineffective poverty programs. Take the \$\$ authorized for an agency, divide that amount by the number of people who are currently recieving \$ and just give it to them. No beaureau to nose around, no forms, or loopholes. I am willing to bet they would get more \$ er the slow systematic addiction now in place.

The end of this is the negative income tax, or minimum income level for citizens.

Answer 159 (of 330) LISA CARLSON, on SAT, AUG 25 1984 at 23:43 (544 characters)

The idea that individuals should be left totally alone to do their own thing and that society shouldn't worry if it cannon t provide any systems to deal with people who don't seem to be able to make it on their own has a fatal flaw. Every science,

illustrates that systems are intertwined. It is not possible that the actions of an individual or the condition of an individual can exist without influencing the whole. Therefore, everyone who is part of the whole has a stake in the state of all the other parts of the system.

Answer 160 (of 330) BOB SANDHAUS, on SUN, AUG 26 1984 at 02:59 (1588 characters)

I've been trying to figure out what has made me so despondent over the recent political discussions. I have such a wealth of opinions and emotions that I would like to try and put it into just a few sentences, since a long discourse would just bog down in details and, frankly, be boring as well.

The main virtues that the Republican candidates are expounding (and the Democratic candidates have echoed) are the very ideas that have led society into war in the past. It was not the godlessness of previous empires that destroyed nations. It was the belief that religion must guide nations to impose religious beliefs on the godless (or the wrong-goded).

And the fervor of nationalism that makes us feel so good and makes those olympic medals shine so brightly is the poison that keeps us from looking at other peoples as people. Yes, I mean even the USSR. The condescension with which we are taught to view ALL other nations by our leaders fully justifies the contempt that is returned to us.

Our view of freedom is quite narrow. Sure, topple a freely elected commie in Chile and replace him with a fascist military state. At least we protected them from those godless communists.

Religion and nationalism: as American as apple pie, the real marketing tools that will reelect RR, and the twins that will lead to intolerance and, perhaps, war(=annihilation) in the future.

I'm sure glad RR WASN'T in power during the Iranian hostage situation.

Sandy

Thanks Lisa for reminding me what's so absurd about the current political scene.

Answer 161 (of 330) MIKE GREENLY, on SUN, AUG 26 1984 at 07:27 (342 characters)

I MUST SAY, I FIND THE RELIGIOUS EMPHASIS WITHIN THE REPUBLICAN PARTY "ON STAGE" JUST NOW \*VERY\* HARD TO TAKE. I HAVE TOO MUCH PERSONAL FAMILIARITY WITH HOW RELIGION X CAN OPPRESS RELIGION Y (OR THE UN-RELIGIOUS) NOT TO. THE THING THAT IS FRUSTRATING IS ONE CAN'T TAKE \*THIS\* FROM COLUMN A, AND \*THIS\* FROM COLUMN B, PLEASE, WAITER.

Answer 162 (of 330) LIBERTY, on SUN, AUG 26 1984 at 11:18 (470 characters)

As to the question of free enterprise performing various tasks, I would recommend reading the last several years of Reason magazine. To be brief about it, the free enterprise answer to pollution and asbestos is to recognize them as AGGRESSION against both person and property and to deal with them as such. In other words, the government's purview includes the police and court power to defend nonconsenting persons from being trespassed against by polluters.

Answer 163 (of 330) LIBERTY, on SUN, AUG 26 1984 at 11:19 (98 characters)

Please excuse typos in previous msg, my system having }ibeen sending much garbage onto screen.

Answer 164 (of 330) TJ, on SUN, AUG 26 1984 at 12:14 (804 characters)

LISA- The issue has never been whether to 'abandon' people {I know how simple it is to claim that, but the facts are not there}, but on how to reduce both the dependence of people on government for support, and the cost of such support to the people who are not dependant.

The record shows that the programs advocated for the last 50 years have not achieved the goals they were supposed to reach. There are still poor people {I will suggest a look at the \$ amount WE call poor, and contrast that with the rest of the world} and there are still people who cannot read, write, etc. By any rational test of success these programs are not working, therefore a re-evaluation of them is needed. Perhaps by daring to 'think the unthinkable' we can arrive at better answers to the problem.

Answer 165 (of 330) DAVID KNOPF, on SUN, AUG 26 1984 at 12:16 (630 characters)

I'd like to invite all of you to join a conference called "FOUR MORE YEARS?" The conference is about the issues in the 1984 presidential campaign. It began just after the opening of the Democratic convention when New York Governor Mario Cuomo invited Americans to "separate the salesman from the "product." We're trying to do this for the Democratic candidates, as well as the Republicans.

For more information about the conference, type

R "FOUR MORE YEARS?" 1  
at the ACTION prompt. Answer 1 contains a description of the conference.

We'd love to have you join our spirited debate!

David K

Answer 166 (of 330) SOURCEVOID, on SUN, AUG 26 1984 at 12:20 (1808 characters)

Sandy: Beautifully said. There is another reason that the Republican Convention \*depressed\* me. (I can't imagine that many Republicans were either depressed or frightened by what went on in San Francisco. They just think it is wrong-headed, and harmless, if it doesn't come to power)

That is an echo of your concern about eh the militant self-righteousness of the Leadership. The Man on Horseback. The Worshipped Leader waving from a great Television screen. (God, did it OCCUR to anybody how Orwellian that was???)

Now there is nothing wrong with that kind of morale boosting leadership when you also know in your heart that the leader has a workable plan! FDR was adulated too. BUT EVERYONE SEEMED TO KNOW HE KNEW \*WHAT\* HE WAS DOING IN ATTACKING THE PROBLEMS. Ditto Churchill. But in all the rhetoric what came through was not a Coach at halftime exhorting the team to win and \*THEN\* pulling out the play book, but a Performer who ONLY can inspire, exhort, and urge. THE PLAY BOOK IS IN THE HANDS OF OTHERS.

I can't get it out of my mind that one realistic solution to the nation's economic woes is a bona-fide, hard, deep, Depression. One that would \*really\* shake out the flab. And I think the kind of people who met at the Hunt Ranch are quite hard-headed enough to consider that option.

So I did not read into the Convention a Tribal War Dance getting people ready for dealing with EXTERNAL foes, but INTERNAL foes.

And the sad part of it all is that I don't think Ronald Reagan himself is any party to that. He really believes what he is saying, and representing, symbolically, to the people. But he would not be the first popular leader in history who is being used for the doctrinaire agenda of others...

Answer 168 (of 330) TJ, on SUN, AUG 26 1984 at 12:31 (414 characters)

MIKE- I assume you also condemn the remark by MS Ferraro about the "unchristian nature" of President Reagan??

LIBERY- Also known as enlightend self-interest as expounded by Adam Smith so many years ago.

DAVID K- That is my answer to your comment on how, educate the populace to appreciate the full meaning of "enlightened self-interest". No big agency, no big brother, just simple self-interest!

Answer 169 (of 330) STEVE DEERING, on SUN, AUG 26 1984 at 12:50 (186 characters)

No to negitive income tax, and NOOOOOO to minimum income levels. Your still ask ing me to pay for someone else's way. And a minimum income level really makes it easy not to work.

Answer 170 (of 330) STEVE DEERING, on SUN, AUG 26 1984 at 12:53 (286 characters)

Alright Lisa, if what you say is true, then those parts of the system, ie., those that cannot take care of themselves or are a cancer to the rest should be cut out. I don't need rapists, and murders. How do they contribute. I agree with you Lisa, lets get rid of the cancer.

Answer 171 (of 330) TJ, on SUN, AUG 26 1984 at 16:26 (1432 characters)

STEVE- I advocate the minimum income idea simply as a step towards eliminating the vast monster that the government has become.

We are all paying NOW for a system that supress the individual, and removes any incentive for the individual to get a job and try and provide for themself {were are refusing the bait to the fisherman as it were}. A minimum income coupled with a negative income tax and a flat rate tax would encourage all forms of wage earning without reducing the individual to helplessly sucking on the teat of big government to survive.

It is a simple fact of life in the USA that there will never be a sudden end to the social services the people have tried to get from government. The programs are popular to thier constituents, and these will lobby {as will the administrators} to preserve them. The goal must be to reduce the burden of these programs on the working taxpayer.

Until there is a change in the basic beliefs that government is momma to everybody, and is there to satisfy the immediate desires of all, this is the only way that things can change.

As a senator {?} once said "If you want government off your back, get your hand out of its pocket".

A program such as I envision would reduce greatly the desire to remain on the

dole, and encourage productive work. Yet it will still provide that safety net that has become part and parcel of our society.

Answer 172 (of 330) TJ, on SUN, AUG 26 1984 at 16:29 (116 characters)

whoops! I gues DK and I had the same idea at the same time!

JOIN anyway, now both sides have asked nice.....

Answer 173 (of 330) BBJ863, on SUN, AUG 26 1984 at 16:33 (1466 characters)

I don't understand why sourcevoid thinks Reagan is more distanced from actual policy implementation than past Presidents. It seems to me that he has taken very specific stands on many issues during his term and has as a result suffered alot of 'flak' from the media. One can readily picture the 'dead-eyed' Donaldson attacking with machine-gun alacrity trying to find that hoped for flaw or misstatement.

I think that even the media has come to the conclusion (reluctantly) that Reagan is a unique man. He is an exceptional personality and perhaps the most presidential of presidents since FDR. He has done much to change the political climate and political issues being discussed in this country. He is the first president since FDR to challenge FDR's philosophy successfully. People are actually questioning the wisdom of ever increasing welfare payments--do they work? is there another way? The Reagan answers, of course, being 'not very well, and yes there is another way.'

Yes, the times have changed. And all that time has naturally laid a foundation for these changes in political issues. But a leader is necessary and Reagan, as with all great men, is in the right place at the right time. The democrats are, so far, ignoring the changes that time has wrought on teir traditional positions. Unless they clean up their act and enter the 1980's, they will find themselves the minority party.

Answer 174 (of 330) MIKE GREENLY, on SUN, AUG 26 1984 at 17:30 (702 characters)

TJ: \*TWO\* REMARKS BY FERRARO I CONDEMN. ONE THE REMARK ABOUT UN-CHRISTIAN NATURE. NOT ONLY WAS IT STUPID (FROM A MARKETING PT OF VIEW) BUT IT WAS -- TO MY LIGHTS -- BIGOTED. I WOULDN'T HAVE FELT MUCH BETTER IF SHE HAD SAID UN-JUDEO-CHRISTIAN. THERE ARE OTHER WAYS THAT A PERSON WHO ASPIRES TO THE HIGH ROAD COULD HAVE EXPRESSED HERSELF (EVEN SHE NOW REGRETS IT BECAUSE OF THE REACTION). THE SECOND REMARK OF HERS I DISLIKE A LOT HAS TO DO WITH "OH IF YOU WERE MARRIED TO AN ITALIAN YOU'D UNDERSTAND" -- THAT, TOO, IS BENEATH WHAT SHE IS SUPPOSED TO BE STANDING FOR, AND I HAVE READ THAT SHE REGRETS THAT REMARK TOO -- AGAIN, HOWEVER, THE REASON SHE REGRETS IT IS IT DIDN'T "PLAY" WEL.

Answer 175 (of 330) T/O, on SUN, AUG 26 1984 at 18:59 (1360 characters)

Rob---concerning your demographics. I don't remember if you put something similar up during the Democrat convention or not but something that struck me on the way home yesterday was a statistic in the Dallas paper which said that only 21% of the people who participated in the Democrat primaries or caucuses described themselves as "liberal" and look what they got for nominees.

As for the income level of Republican delegates. If you will remember the income level of the Democrat delegates put them at a much higher level than the average Democrat. (I do not mean to say that this makes them non-representative but if there are those here who think that is the case of the Republicans then it is only fair to use the same criteria when judging the others.)

I will point out that in my state where I am familiar with the process that even though it is true that those who went are probably better off financially than the hundreds of party workers left at home ---- a major reason for this was the expense involved (I spent at least \$1000, and I live in an adjoining state) I know that the people from my state who attended were no more conservative than the average actively involved Republicans even though they may have been able to afford that cost of the convention better than some others.

T/O

Answer 176 (of 330) T/O, on SUN, AUG 26 1984 at 19:00 (1392 characters)

Lisa--

Your description of the Humanist meeting was very good and can be very worthwhile. Of course we need to make contacts with and build relationships with the people of countries who live under a totalitarian form of government.

It is certainly true that we should never confuse the people of a country with their government if that government does not allow the people to have a voice.

Everyone surely knows that the German people are not inhuman monsters but that the Holocaust was the result of a philosophy that was embraced by the facists under Hitler. The realization that the German or Japanese people are no worse than us did not make their totalitarian regimes during WWII any less dangerous for the world.

Confusing the people of the USSR with the totalitarian government of the USSR can be very dangerous. It is easy to assume that because we do have influence on our government through elections and media pressure that if the people of the USSR do not seem `that different' from us, that what their government does should not be unlike what ours would do. This is not the case.

I applaud (and participate in some) all contacts of this sort with peoples of other countries. But I think that to assume that we can lower our defense assuming that these contacts alone will make us safe is naive.

Tom

Answer 177 (of 330) TJ, on SUN, AUG 26 1984 at 19:10 (370 characters)

Hart wanted to be the leader of the future, but he dropped the ball. Mondale is a perfect example of the leader of the past. Reagan is focusing on the future in the campaign, by {effectively} using the past to illustrate points.

Until the people in the democratic party re-focus on where the people want to go, they will be heading into minority party status.

Answer 178 (of 330) TJ, on SUN, AUG 26 1984 at 19:15 (614 characters)

Mike- I guess that proves that \*anyone\* can make a statement that is in poor taste, or not to be heard by the masses hmm? I think part of this mess is the loooooong campaigns here. The British might not be too far off in the idea by having only a limited time for such things. Of course that would leave the media covering news instead of events and opportunities.

I specifically exempt TENS, you folks were the ideal news agency, responding immediately to the input from your subscribers questions. You also gave the persons interviewed a shot at an 'open mike' to say what they thought to us.

Answer 179 (of 330) STRIKER, on SUN, AUG 26 1984 at 21:37 (3666 characters)

David: I should think the first order of business would be to decide on a destination, and then worry about how to get there.

Nevertheless.. 1) Social Security: SS is not an entitlement program it's an insurance policy called in the free market an endowment. What I think should happen with SS is first make the system voluntary for all those who have already contributed .. if they want to keep on contributing - fine if not also fine but they lose what they have payed in (I would opt out). The current obligations must be payed in full from the general fund and the government should get out of the insurance business .

2) Welfare food stamps and any other program that people are entitled to just by being born. I think should be phased out over a period of two years with a 10 % cutback every two months and a 4 month grace till final shutoff.

Consumer protection would be accomplished a la Good Housekeeping Seal of approval. Ralph Nader (for instance) would allow (for a fee) the use of his name on any car that met his specs. If you trust him you buy the car if not you don't, but you buy a different car that has his seal. What keeps him honest is NOT altruism but good business sense, If he endorses a lemon or unsafe vehicle HIS REPUTATION will be damaged and his seal will lose meaning and therefore \$ value to him.

Schools should be voluntary and privately funded, whether through football games, corporate grants (possibly in exchange for performance of menial work by students on work study, or an upon graduation 2 year employment contract) or finally through tuition.

Sherwin: I feel bad for the starving children in Georgia, and for the starving children in India and Africa. NONE of the above is my responsibility!!!!

Please don't get me wrong, I will applaud and probably contribute to any Voluntary program of relief. BUT TO HAVE MY AID DEMANDED AS A MATTER OF RIGHT IS INTOLERABLE!!

PS If You personally know of starving kids in Ga. and an honest group which helps them .m me .

Diane: I disapprove of taxes in general and think that government should be funded by alternate means - say a national lottery or casinos in Washington. Some Govt. svices could be on a pay as you go basis for instance courts .. If the parties to a contract wish that contract to be enforceable by a court then they must spend a \$25 fee to register that document with the court or it will be unenforceable. Lastly to all: Although I say Defense is the raison d'etre of government I don't approve of some of the ways we are spending the money collected for that purpose. There ARE many ways we can improve the cost effectiveness of what we're doing in the area. HOWEVER the point I am trying to make is a moral one. MORALLY there is NO JUSTIFICATION for entitlement spending while there is one for DEFENSE.

David again: re Slavery, What you have referred to was the despicable racial prejudice practiced in this country. Yes it happened to be coincidental with slavery, But to quote from the Bible (I never thought I'd do it - don't anyone tll the lion). If you as a master have one pillow only. YOU MUST give it to the slave. It is unfortunate that in this country slavery and brutality went hand in hand, but they are not the same thing! Again my definition of slavery is when one person works for the unearned benefit of another person. If you've got a better one I'd like to hear it. Not an example, a definition.

Striker (Thanks Steve, It's nice to know that when they start throwing the rotten fruit, there will be more than one target)

Answer 180 (of 330) DAVID KNOPF, on SUN, AUG 26 1984 at 21:43 (202 characters)

T/O--

Numbers, please. What was the average annual income of the delegates to the Democratic convention? Nearly sixty thousand dollars, as it was for the Republicans? I think not.

David K.

Answer 181 (of 330) STRIKER, on SUN, AUG 26 1984 at 23:08 (1082 characters)

Liberty: Way to go, "I'm going to borrow that enlightened self interest phrase.. it says precisely what I have so unsuccessfully trie to convey elsewhere.

Lisa: We're not MONSTERS and we don't want the indigent to starve, (at least I don't), We're merely arguing that GOVERNMENT is not the vehicle to dispense this aid! There are many organizations (In NY, Meals-on wheels, Outreach) and others that already exist and would jump in to fill the vacuum. There could be a very smooth transition given enough time.



I don't care if people live on charity for ten generations as long as no one can say to me YOU MUST GIVE!

Sandy: If RR were in office I'll bet there would never have BEEN a hostage crisis . Cause the marine gaurds would have shot to kill anyone who would have stormed the gate. The "Students" would NEVER have entered the compound! C'mon now! tell me that the guards aren't there to protect embassy personnel from JUST THAT TYPE OF CRISIS!

David What do you think? Would there have been a hostage crisis if the guards had shot to kill?

Answer 183 (of 330) T/O, on MON, AUG 27 1984 at 19:59 (564 characters)

David,

Actually I think that someone is playing fast and loose with the numbers. During the Democrat convention C-Span reported that the average Democrat delegate made more than the average Republican delegate. I think it was in the range of 40K. But Rob's figures say that the average Republican delegate made 50K, or was that the top half, or was it 60K as you said.

I think we are all being given the run around. I suggest that you get a copy of "How to lie with statistics". Its all in how you word your sentence.

T/O

Answer 184 (of 330) LIBERTY, on MON, AUG 27 1984 at 23:01 (892 characters)

1)RE income: was that individual or family income; how many people per family were working. Was the income averaged over several years or was it just a good year after several bad ones, as happens in business?

Need I continue in this vein? 2)It tends to be a leftist notion that the "people" are dramatically different from their government; when they really want to change things, they can start strikes, etc.

If the Russians are so unable to throw off the gov't they allegedly disagree with (I don't }isay ~rthat that gov't is anything but vilely oppressive), then how did they throw off the czar? In other, words, there are those who would say that just as the word "slave" comes from "esclavus", i.e. "Slav", perhaps they indeed still deserve the title. Perhaps to be{\_{\_ a Slav who remains in a SlavIKc country is to wish to remain a slave.

Answer 185 (of 330) EMMET, on MON, AUG 27 1984 at 23:12 (1114 characters)

I take exception to the statement about the slave and the pillow. As I understand it, the rule in question comes from the Talmud which was describing the Biblical institution of 'Ovdut', a form of indentured servitude which was, I agree, far, far different than the hideousness practiced upon Blacks in

America. On a different note, I also take exception to the facile comment about the Germans having simply been under totalitarian rule. Not only did the Germans ELECT <may his name be erased> after he wrote a book that laid out his genocidal plans, it was also a culmination of a millenium of deeply rooted German hatred of Jews. There is unfortunately abundant reason to believe that a large portion of the German population approved of the Nazis; for that matter, something fairly similar can also be said of the Polish population, at least as far as Nazi treatment of Jews was concerned. Oh, and before anyone decides to flame about my comments, I'd like to add that I get my information not only from a number of books on the subject but also from a fair number of survivors.

Answer 186 (of 330) T/O, on MON, AUG 27 1984 at 23:32 (1046 characters)

Emmet,

The point I was trying to make is that people of any country, even though they may not be unlike us and may want many of the same things we do, i.e. peace, prosperity, etc. will still go along with and maybe even agree with actions by their governments that may not be in their own self interests (because they have accepetec a mistaken philosophy of life, or are not exposed to enough information to make a reasonable judgement) and not in the interests of their neighbors.

Its true that many of the German people went along with the philosophy of Facism which blamed all woes on the Jews. It is not at all unlike those who today blame all of the problems of the poor on the rich, or blame the problmes of the blacks on the whites, or blame the problems of women on men. Many people who should know better accept todays brand of facism and call for the government to impliment programs on their behalf--even though in the long run such things will not be in their self interest.

T/O

Answer 187 (of 330) DAVID KNOPF, on MON, AUG 27 1984 at 23:50 (1352 characters)

T/O--

The average income of Republican delagates to the national convention was reported on National Public Radio and in the New York Times as being near \$60,000 a year. Since they did not print the actual figure, I assume that "near" means more than \$55,000 but less than \$60,000. My assumption may be inaccurate.

If you have evidence to the contrary, I think we would all be delighted to hear about it. My approach to this conference and others on political topics is to engage in enlightened and, even more important, enlightening debate. I am not here to convince you to vote for Mondale (I'd be wasting money on my Source bill wouldn't I?).

T/O, I've enjoyed your participation here and in other conferences,

particularly "FOUR MORE YEARS?" But I find myself personally offended by your implication that I am lying with statistics and your unpleasant, though rhetorically flashy, suggestion that I pick up a copy of "How to Lie with Statistics." I would like to think--though I wonder if I can--that the debate that goes on here is more concerned with the issues than with undignified personal attacks. I have always respected your views and the intelligence of your debate. I still do. I am disappointed that you would resort to personal attacks and slurs about my integrity as a person.

David K

Answer 188 (of 330) ROEBUCK, on TUE, AUG 28 1984 at 02:05 (1038 characters)

David K. ---

In defense of T/O, lying with statistics is NOT the same as lying, and I do not think your integrity was in question. However, as a daily user of statistics I can tell you that the MEDIAN (point at which half lie above and half below) is usually a more meaningful indicator than the MEAN (average) especially when looking at something like this. A few delegates making over \$1,000,000/year could SIGNIFICANTLY skew the average, but the median would not be affected. For instance, I read that the AVERAGE contribution to the Democratic Party was greater than the AVERAGE contribution to the Republican Party, but (as a Republican) I'm willing to bet that the MEDIAN wasn't. (By way of explanation, the Dems use more big fundraising events -- \$2500/plate stuff --- and the Republicans use more direct mail, hence the anomaly). I would call that lying with statistics, even though I'm sure the person doing the reporting was relatively unbiased (I read it in a respected national magazine).

Roebuck

Answer 189 (of 330) THOREAU, on TUE, AUG 28 1984 at 04:17 (1906 characters)

Striker:

If Reagan had been in office during the hostage crisis, the problem would have been resolved much more quickly. The hostages would probably have come home in boxes. (Just as the "well protected" soldiers" in the Beirut barracks did, right?) The idea that five marine (or was it 6 or 7) guards could have held off an occupation supported by most of the city of Tehran simply because they would have been under the "effective" leadership of RR is nonsense. RR instigated the placement of the force in Lebannon and gets most of the credit for the outcome. Period.

T/O, Roebuck and friends:

I've been listening to a lot of discussion about how those branches of government (federal, i assume) dedicated to helping the poor and needy, etc. should be phased out, the quicker the better. Earlier in this conference someone seemed to suggest that "well, of course we all know that the government should provide defense, that they are the best organization for the job, etc, etc." If we can sledgehammer an inefficient and wasteful

government's administration of entitlements and similar programs, why not do it to defense, too. The pentagon has demonstrated at least as much propensity for waste by purchasing nuts and bolts and handtools for amounts barely under a hundred dollars per item. I'm fed up with this waste too. I say we turn defense over to private enterprise. Northrop has already started, by developing the Tiger Shark with private money. Let the free market take care of the gluttonous defense programs. Then it's sink or swim. Ha. ha. Any argument that defense is untouchable because it is "more important" than the entitlement programs has to immediately open this conference to a discussion of philosophy. Lets hear yours when it comes to taking care of people or defense. Government defense programs can be phased out too!!! Ha, Ha.

t Answer 190 (of 330) MIKE GREENLY, on TUE, AUG 28 1984 at 06:45 (962 characters)

fyi, i saw in the wall street journal the average of \$57M reported. i wish i had kept my friday new york times (eleanor howard, on the plane, wanted it) because it had a comparison of republican and democratic delegate incomes. of course the republicans' was higher. i remember that as a fact. and if they were higher, they were also higher than the national average.

i think there's limited "spin" that should be put on that ball. i certainly haven't brought the point up in "gop 84" to criticize them for their success. i'm in \*favor\* of high incomes. but i did, and do, think of it as \*one\* point in which the delegates i met in Dallas are less representative of the American population than the delegates i met in San Francisco (who themselves are no microcosm of America either). frankly, even without income statistics, i \*know\* which group is \*more\* nearly representative of mass america -- just 'cause i spoke in depth to both.

Answer 191 (of 330) LISA CARLSON, on TUE, AUG 28 1984 at 12:08 (542 characters)

If we are really going to assess the state of the economy I think we need to develop a new equation. The new one should include the \*cost\* of the increase in productivity including use of non-renewable resources and other long-term debts incurred by the process. This would provide a much more accurate picture of where we stand - over the long term as well as this quarter - and make it less attractive for political leaders to use strategies which produce short term gains at the expense of the future economy.

Answer 192 (of 330) LISA CARLSON, on TUE, AUG 28 1984 at 12:10 (1224 characters)

I think maybe those of us who are concerned with environmental and social problems have been using the wrong strategy. We have been using a lot of energy trying to raise the consciousness of those we perceive to be in power so that they will understand the seriousness of our issue. This is based on the assumption that noone who understands the impact of acid rain or hunger could fail to act to prevent it. We assume that the problem is lack of awareness (or in some few cases, downright evil mindedness).

I think that's the wrong assumption and, therefore, the wrong approach. What appears to be lack of awareness is in many cases lack of belief in the feasibility of solving the problem. By spending energy and resources on marketing the \*problem\*, all we do is exacerbate this feeling of powerlessness to solve it.

Instead, we should be developing the vision of what it will be like after the problem is solved and working on creative approaches to that solution. Then we can market the vision and the solutions instead of the problem. This puts a lot more responsibility on those who identify the problem but I think it is ultimately a better investment of energy. Answer 193 (of 330) MIKE GREENLY, on TUE, AUG 28 1984 at 12:15 (382 characters)

interesting "marketing" point lisa. problems are often more \*vivid\* to market -- solutions are often harder (like Milton's Evil being more fascinating than Good) but longer term more worthwhile to market. i think it's true that there's a negative effect to presenting social problems -- lots of psychic reasons to "change the channel" and tune out.

Answer 194 (of 330) ALAN, on TUE, AUG 28 1984 at 15:18 (160 characters)

Can't resist commenting, TJ, on your analysis of failed policies, much of what you say applies to our foreign and military policies especially since 1950.

Answer 195 (of 330) LIBERTY, on TUE, AUG 28 1984 at 19:35 (350 characters)

To whoever said, "people or defense": Just what do you think "defense" is defending if not people? To use such an expression as "people or defense" is to indulge in demagogic sloganeering, even if unwittingly. Anyone who has faced a hostile weapon knows the value of police and military forces to be a human value as much as antibiotics are.

Answer 196 (of 330) DAVID Z., on TUE, AUG 28 1984 at 20:11 (840 characters)

LIBERTY>> The is that "defense" has come to mean a bloated, extravagant wasteful bureaucracy which, while seeking funds for legitimate defense purposes, also is seeking funds for newer toys which may not really be needed, for a nuclear stockpile which is already too large, for pensions paid to double and triple dippers, for PXs and playgrounds for present and past military, for both parts and finished products which are not coming out of a competitive pricing environment, etc. Of course we need defense as well as human services. But defense is not sacrosanct, and it does not deserve either automatic funding or even the present level of funding without substantial changes being made. When Eisenhower, as President, warned against the "military-industrial complex", he must have had a vision of what we see today.

Answer 197 (of 330) T/O, on TUE, AUG 28 1984 at 20:13 (1772 characters)

David K---

If you thought that my answer to you concerning statistics was a personal attack on you I hope you will accept my public apology. (Actually I was just thinking of sending you a private note commending you on your reasoned approach to debate in running "Four More Years" when, much to my dismay, I recieved your last note.)

I am sorry if my suggestion to obtain a copy of "How to Lie with Statistics" seemed to imply that you were lying. I assure you that my intention was to say that all participates should obtain this book (I've missplaced my copy and don't remember the author--but I know that several referred to it in "Skeptics") to better see how statistics that the media gives us and we all quote may be stated to project a biased image.

This is why I said that C-Span reported completely different figures during the Democrat convention than those reported by public radio. In order for any of these statistics to have any validity we must know how they were attained (by a written questionnaire I would imagine---and those surveyed certainly might have a reason to lie.) or as Roebuck points out is it the median or the mean.

As someone pointed out a while back (Rob, I think) when I say that more people are working than ever before in history, and he says that more people are unemployed than ever before in history we are both correct. But we are also both guilty of trying to project a favorable image to our argument. Totals in this case are not relevant and percentages should be used if we wish to project a correct comparison. Making participates aware of this use of statistics was the purpose of my referral to the book---not to attack your integrity.

T/O

Answer 198 (of 330) T/O, on TUE, AUG 28 1984 at 20:14 (1386 characters)

Thoreau,

Incentives can be built into buerocracies too. Why not allow government employees to "win" a large cash award equal to a percent of the money saved by a idea that they may have. No question that the Pentagon is a vast area of waste. What if it was possible for an employee to recieve a million dollars if they found a way to save 50 million? Do you think that a more effecient system might be the result?

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Since we are in Gop public it is only fair to point out that Reagan's plans nor those of the Gop have never included axing all social programs. In fact all cuts made in the 1982 budget (and that was the only one that included any cuts) were targeted to those above 130% of the poverty level. The only program cut out entirly (that I am aware of) was CETA which has been replace with a job training program. The administrations intent was always to keep what they described as "a safety net" for the poor and eliminate those in the middle class who had become elgible for many of the social programs through relaxing of qualitfications. (school lunches, Federal student aid and loans, etc.)

This is not to say that I might not be sympatetic with Striker's views but it

is hardly fair to blame Reagan or the GOP for something I might say that is not part of their agenda.

T/O

Answer 199 (of 330) THOREAU, on TUE, AUG 28 1984 at 20:40 (1414 characters)

Liberty:

I don't think myself or anyone else in this conference would propose an idea such as "people or defense" without putting it in a context. If I used such a phrase, I'm sure it was in a context. I've been reading a lot here about how entitlements should get the axe because the programs are wasteful, give lazy persons a free meal ticket, and are badly administrated. I merely suggested why stop at entitlements when many of the same criticisms can be applied to our 'gluttonous' defense establishment. It has been at least as inefficient as the federal poverty and aid programs. If we have so much trust in our heralded "free market place" then lets trust defense to it too. Besides, the constitution gives me the 'right to bear arms', right? I will gladly pick one up when the time comes to defend my country. In the meantime, I'm not sure I want my government to force me to pay for a wasteful war machine, the appropriations to be increased, against my will. If private enterprise has \*all\* the answers, then I say let it find \*all\* the answers. Waste is waste, right? The idea that military hardware should enjoy the protective umbrella of government but needy citizens should not opens up some very philosophical questions that should be addressed, not bypassed simply because it is an idea proposed by conservatives who do nothing but listen to other conservatives.

t

Answer 200 (of 330) THOREAU, on TUE, AUG 28 1984 at 20:59 (1032 characters)

T/O:

I have never written a note to this or any conference that stated that the GOP platform or the Reagan administration wants to simply axe all entitlement programs. I have read many notes in this conference, however, that do seem to espouse that very idea. I address my previous comments on the issue to those people. I could care less, quite frankly, what GOP platform or the Reagan administration wants to do. I am more interested what the majority of our society wants to do about these issues. RR and GOP tend to express their ideas so simplistically, that it is hard for me to believe that I could misunderstand what they want to do.

On your idea about incentives in bureacracies, hey great! Lets try establishing some incentives for the bureacracies that handle the entitlement programs, too! Maybe they (the bureacracies) can find the "private" sources of money to help these people, eliminate the need for any more "fed-bashing" and put RR out of a job. (Hooray!)

t

Answer 201 (of 330) DAVID KNOPF, on TUE, AUG 28 1984 at 21:16 (1762 characters)

T/O--

I appreciate and accept your gracious apology. From what you say, it is clear I misinterpreted the intent of your comments, and I'm sure my answer came as a surprise to you. My apologies.

I quite agree that statistics can often be used to defend more than one position; sometimes they can even be used to support opposite positions. It's an annoying thing, but statistics exist and people (especially you and I) continue to use them frequently.

One of the attractions of statistics is that, like SAT scores, they sound as if they are beyond reproach. I suspect that all of us in this forum know that this is not the case.

I don't know what to suggest here, but I do know that if you say that more people are working than ever before, you must certainly expect those on the other side of the issue to counter with the statistic that there are also more unemployed than ever before. It is in the nature of public political debate, despite the fact that it often serves more to obscure than to illuminate the truth.

I try to be as reasonable as possible when I use statistics. Sometimes I read figures that "smell" bad to me. That is to say, I don't feel I can trust them, even if I can't put my finger on why. I don't quote statistics I don't trust. I don't think it's immoral to use statistics you don't trust, but my interest in understanding what's going on, not defending a position because it's the one I've always held before.

In any case, I AM glad you raised the question of statistics. I'm going to take it over to "FOUR MORE YEARS?" for further consideration and debate. If we come up with some interesting ideas and this conference is still active, I'll post them here.

David K

Answer 202 (of 330) MIKE GREENLY, on TUE, AUG 28 1984 at 22:20 (998 characters)

Whoever in the Reagan-Bush group said John Anderson is a "nobody" (in commenting on Anderson's endorsement of Mondale) is un-cool to the nth power.

Most of us are "nobodies". To discount an endorsement like that -- when it wasn't necessary to do so -- betrays an arrogance which, if it's let out of the cage, could prove to be an embarrassment to the image of the GOP between now and november.

For example, a comment could have been -- truthfully and gracefully -- of course there will be many endorsements on \*both\* sides. This is America, and people have different points of view in this country. But we're confident that most Americans will see that the President, etc, etc. without the Anderson put down. This is a country where we learn to value



underdogs and martyrs. The GOP strategists, so careful that they not create Ferraro as a martyr, should be careful in general. When people are in power, most of us like 'em gracious, not bullying.

See my point?

Answer 203 (of 330) LISA CARLSON, on TUE, AUG 28 1984 at 23:22 (400 characters)

T/O - great idea about incentives for government employees... only problem is that so far, when employees have blown the whistle on private sector companies who are ripping off the government by overcharges, they have been fired or persecuted or both. We are going to need a public much more supportive of these employees if they are going to take that risk. Answer 204 (of 330) LISA CARLSON, on TUE, AUG 28 1984 at 23:33 (564 characters)

At the risk of being repetitive...THIS CONFERENCE AND TENS IS SPECTACULAR!

STC should definitely support TENS as an incredible marketing tool - not to mention the long term benefits of developing the future of telecommunications (which will be good for business).

OK STC - how about fronting the money for a neat-o published version of both the Democratic and Republican convention coverage? Put a promo-order form in everyone's bill and do a little (or a lot) p.r. in the computer mags - profits to TENS, fame and fortune for STC!

Answer 205 (of 330) MICHEAL GILSON, on WED, AUG 29 1984 at 00:12 (226 characters)

I'd like to talk about incentives for government service employees. But not in GOP PUBLIC, because this is not \*NOT\* a GOP issue. How about in one of Lisa's Conferences on Government Service? Shall we meet there, Lisa?

Answer 206 (of 330) SML, on WED, AUG 29 1984 at 00:39 (1008 characters)

Incentives for government employees is one of the ideas Newt Gingrich and the Conservative Opportunity Society folks were espousing. One very simple point Gingrich brought out hasn't been repeated yet -- right now the incentive is all too often to perpetuate the problem that a government agency was created to eliminate. So, someone who finds more poor and gets them on aid may well be rewarded for their diligence. This is fine if there is some careful confirmation that the individuals brought into the programs actually do qualify. likewise, it seems to me that if there were an incentive for government employees to decrease the number of people on welfare it might not affect the \*real\* number of poor, just decrease the number accepted for aid.

One are (other than spending on hardware) where incentives might work very well is in job training and placement. How about something like a special bonus for each six-month period that a new trainee remains on the job?

Sherwin

Answer 207 (of 330) TJ, on WED, AUG 29 1984 at 01:14 (522 characters)

shhheesss I am way behind!!

David K- Lying with statistics is a very interesting book, I also reccomaend a copy to ALL! I doubt T/O was being personal.

The idea that defense can be handled by private companies is sound, the vatican hires mercenaries!

There is a big difference however in the development of new weapons { traditionally the job of industry } and the profession of soldier.

One other point... these horrible abuses were found and reported by the pentagon and actions followed. Answer 208 (of 330) TJ, on WED, AUG 29 1984 at 01:24 (1154 characters)

LISA- I agree with the idea that the environmental strategy could be better. It is very hard for a person who has lost thier job due to an environmental impact theory to sympathize with the critters who were endangered.

TRADE OFFS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! TRADE OFFS!!!!!!!!!!!!

Every step taken to accomplish 100% pure water costs somebody something, and the same for air, etc.

Comprimise is the only way that there can be any progress on such issues, fanatical zeal reads nice but doesn't cut it in the long haul.

The basic problem with most environmental themes so far is the overwhelming love of nature, and the glorification of things that nature does for its reasons. A beaver dam is natural? I thought that the greedy and exploitive beavers built the darn things to provide homes, food, security, etc for beavers. I bet the little devils never even file an impact statement! Yet wildlife groups praise the beaver and condem man for the same thing.

If the strategy is one of showing how much better off things would be if WE were not here, I think the planner best seek help, cause we are and humans are natural to!

Answer 209 (of 330) TJ, on WED, AUG 29 1984 at 01:30 (328 characters)

ALAN- Yes, and I will even throw in the 30's and 40's!  
Now who has been in control of the house and senate for the bulk of that time?  
Who could legislate, and override vetoes?  
Who has had the white house during that time?  
to quote a parti personality "O MY GOOBERS"!

Gosh, maybe they can make mistakes?

Answer 210 (of 330) DIANE W., on WED, AUG 29 1984 at 01:31 (270 characters)

Mike G - that was a point well taken about Anderson. He's not a nobody.

It brings it home to me how careful one must be in one's statements. There's a lot to be touchy about this time around.

Does anyone know what came of the Mondale/Jackson meeting?

Diane

Answer 211 (of 330) TJ, on WED, AUG 29 1984 at 01:37 (570 characters)

Amem LIBERTY- I find it funny that people have said "money spent on defense is wasted" who builds the equipment? Who sells the spare parts? Who collects rent from military personnel? On and on it goes.

I remember those who said "shooting all that money into space", like we just sent wads of cash! The whole concept of 'defense' is vauge, I prefer War Dept. It states the reason for the dept clearly and without any double talk. Until the shift to strategic defenses has been completed it sure isn't defending anything, just getting revenge!

Answer 212 (of 330) TJ, on WED, AUG 29 1984 at 01:44 (848 characters)

DAVID Z- Yes, and that is why Reagan ordered cuts in many defense programs in 81/82.

Eisenhower also warned against the complex created by scholars trying to handle matters such as defense instead of professionals. A bit latter in the same speech, and certainly not as well quoted!

I see that you concur that NO program is sacrosanct including social ones!

The main drive behind the Reagan presidency is to get the federal government OUT of local affairs, why bother to have local government and local taxes if not to accomplish the goals set forth by the locals? If the twin cities wish to continue the existng shelter programs, all they have to do is increase/create city taxes to do so. Why does the federal government have to pick up the tab for a program designed to benifit only persons residing in these cities?

Answer 214 (of 330) THOREAU, on WED, AUG 29 1984 at 02:18 (54 characters)

Huh??? t

Answer 215 (of 330) BBJ863, on WED, AUG 29 1984 at 03:18 (652 characters)

David Z: Who is making the assertion of pentagon funding of 'newer toys' the estimation of a nuclear 'stockpile' too large, unreasonable pensions, and poor cost control? Do you have the ability to judge what is a 'toy' and what

is a promising new weapon? How have you arrived at the conclusion that the 'stockpile' is "too large". My point is that administration personnel & the pentagon are experts in these areas and your source better be as qualified to

criticize.

As far as pensions, waste, etc., it is in the nature of ALL bureaucracies to be such. The Welfare bureaucracy is at least as bad on that point.

a

Answer 216 (of 330) DAVID Z., on WED, AUG 29 1984 at 03:26 (658 characters)

Diane>>> In the Twin Cities (where the meeting took place) I heard it described at midnight as resulting in "a shakey agreement", with remaining uncertainty about whether Jackson will really come out strongly for Mondale and whether Mondale will do something to reach out to the black voters. I feel like I am moving in parallel between FOUR MORE YEARS? and GOP PUBLIC.

There's some excellent discussion going on, with a lot of potential for some worthwhile exploration during the next few weeks. One way or another, it would be nice to get these two conferences combined, especially since many of the participants are in both.

David Z.

Answer 217 (of 330) DAVID Z., on WED, AUG 29 1984 at 03:45 (1534 characters)

BBJ863>>> I KNOW the welfare system and other human service programs of the government (meaning at all levels) tends to move toward bureaucratization and waste. My point is that we attempt to deal with the tendency in those areas, but we largely ignore it in the military, somehow making defense spending a sacred cow.

As to your other point, there are experts who say we need more defense capability, those who say we have about enough, and those who say we have more than we need. When it comes to nuclear weapons, I tend to believe those who say we have more than enough. And when I hear Reagan refuse to say that the U.S. won't strike first, I want to vomit.

As I head off to bed, a flash just struck, that perhaps weapons are like computers. There's always new technology being introduced which is more sexy, more fun, and which does the job more efficiently. But there are always some jobs which can still be done perfectly well by old computers. With weapons, if the less sexy and less sophisticated ones are perfectly capable of demolishing the Russians (and probably taking us all along in the process), why go with the new technology without at least questioning whether it is REALLY necessary? My basic point, again, is that we tend to give the generals pretty much what they want, and we pay for benefits for "old soldiers" which I believe to be out of line without questioning their validity. No other part of the government, save the intelligence system, has that immunity.

Answer 218 (of 330) ALAN, on WED, AUG 29 1984 at 03:52 (5346 characters)

I agree with the basic Republican philosophy that anything - and I mean

anything at all that society wants to do -that can be done by non-governmental Organizations should not be done by the government. I use the initial cap in Organizations throughout this note in order to emphasize that I mean organizations in a very broad sense including "operations, entities and programs" as well. The phrase "private enterprise" which the Republicans like to use instead of "non-governmental", suggests for-profit enterprise and that does not always have to be the case, for even the Republicans applaud the useful role of charitable, educational, and religious non-profits in our society.

Let me here not get bogged-down in the difficult and endlessly arguable question of exactly which things are best done by which. You know the kind of question, like "Should we allow Lake Erie to be operated by a profit-making company which might decide the lake's highest and best use is as a sewer for industrial waste?"

In order to consider whether anything is best done by a governmental or a non-governmental Organization, we have to consider what is the essential difference between the two, and that comes down to simply this. There are all kinds of non-governmental Organizations. They can, when necessary, be set up with all - I repeat, ALL- of the necessary characteristics that those who think that "the government" should do lots of things for us really have in mind when they say "the government" EXCEPT one, and that is this, the DEFINING distinction - ONLY the government or an Organization fully backed by the government, that is, quasi -governmental, can legitimately threaten and if necessary use force for compliance, and if our society (or if you prefer, our nation) approves, that is, gives legal sanction, BY DEFINITION, we have legitimately decided that that is what we want, and it's OK. Of course, most governmental Organizations seldom appear to use force, but the mantle of government implies that "If you don't cooperate and follow the law and the rules, provided the government itself is operating within the rules and the law, then the Organization can get its way by force, that is through the courts, the prisons, the police, or the military.

I include the military because everything I have said applies to both domestic and international Organizations, and that point is very important for my argument.

Since nobody is in favor of using any more force, implicitly or explicitly than a particular Organization requires to get its, presumably desired, function performed in a satisfactory way, the true test of what should or should not be done by government is, or should be, this. Is it absolutely essential to get its job done, to have the sanction of force, the sanction of government, behind it?

Now I submit that all of us would rather see a proposed Organization's structure set up in such a way that it could do what had to be done without any force if possible, and it is often true that government has been sent in to do what, with proper design could or might have been set up organizationally so that a non-governmental (perhaps in many cases "private") Organization could have done. The real art to government, that so far no government has done a very good job with, is how to design Organizations so that the job gets done without ever needing the potential for coercion, how to design or create it so well that everybody or enough of those affected just want to cooperate with it, that is, see it in their own interest, so that it

functions successfully without ever threatening to use force. I think we all hope that there is some way to do almost everything we really ought to want to do without needing the threat of force to get it done. The history of progress, real human progress, is getting more and more done without having to force whole populations, classes, or even just a few unfortunate individuals, to do it against their will. Hopefully we have not come to the end of the line in this grand march, which has witnessed the end of most slavery and of child-labor and the liberation of ever greater classes of humanity.

And this is where I part company with the Republicans, who now really want to see more force and compulsion used by the courts, by the prisons, and most of all, by the military. These institutions are now getting about half of the discretionary tax dollar. I believe that to the extent that they are necessary or more specifically that they do more good than harm, then they are OK, but if you look more closely at these institutions, their power, assignments, capacity or reach is not necessary or desirable in many many cases. So in this area I am more of a Republican conservative than most of the delegates were. I want government here also off the backs of the people. I want less government here too. But justification of that position is a whole separate enormous argument, which requires many books to explain, and I'll leave to my "recommended" book list in my next note, where I tell you why I found the Republican convention very ominous and frightening.

Answer 219 (of 330) MIKE GREENLY, on WED, AUG 29 1984 at 05:56 (50 characters)

so, alan: in a nutshell, who are you voting for?

Answer 220 (of 330) MIKE GREENLY, on WED, AUG 29 1984 at 08:14 (1744 characters)

Diane - I don't think the point is that things are touchy "this year".

Because it is so hard for the average citizen to muster the time (\*or\* the interest) in following and knowing the substantive issues in depth -- or to pierce the veils of hype and charge/counter-charge,

And because media today can \*instantly\* let everyone know the fast headlines (e.g. with the surface conciseness of the all-news radio stations) of what others have said that makes juicy "news",

the importance and significance of how one comes across, and the words one chooses -- yes, the "marketing" and "image" based on little things -- will be very influential in elections from now on. Not this year only, but forever (within today's system).

I do see electronic networking introducing a new element, though, eventually. Today, everyone can hear on the radio that someone at Reagan-Bush says Anderson is a "nobody". In itself that's not a big deal, but my point was the attitude that let that comment be made can yet \*create\* a big-deal embarrassment during this election year.

Tomorrow, however, having all Anderson supporters across the nation be able to be united in their own private and public conferences, ditto the Mondale, the Reagan, the Falwell, the Jackson people -- well that \*will\* inject a new

"media" factor, though that kind of mass influence is surely still X years away. (given that personal computers are in, let's say, \*less\* than 5% of U.S. homes, and only 10% of computer owners -- today -- even own modems.)

Someday, however -- depending on who's organized electronically first -- some politician in some party will get a big \*surprise\* from a bunch of electronically organized "nobodies"!

mike

Answer 221 (of 330) ALAN, on WED, AUG 29 1984 at 12:04 (604 characters)

I fear this will astound everybody, but to answer Mike's question honestly I have to say that I consider Ronald Reagan much more dangerous to the world than, say Adolf Hitler, of course, because he has his finger next to the nuclear button. I believe he is totally incompetent for that role. I believe that Mondale is less so..... and there is my bottom line. Sorry I have no time for including about 2000 pages of material to explain how I got to that conclusion. That's what it would take. I spent five years studying nuclear war at MIT and elsewhere, y'know.

God, save us all.

Answer 222 (of 330) DAVID Z., on WED, AUG 29 1984 at 16:55 (384 characters)

Thanks, Alan, for a really clear exposition with some meat that I want to chew on a bit!

Sorry, friends, about my bipolar graph from last night. I just discovered that it was not transmitted as I set it up on the screen. I'm really not as confused as the final product might imply! I also apologize for the length of my answer. I'll try to be more concise.

David Z.

Answer 223 (of 330) STEWART R PIERCE, on WED, AUG 29 1984 at 17:56 (876 characters)

Alan-

What the hell does that mean?!?

If you've spent five years studying nuclear war and all you can say is 'God, save us all' I am, frankly, a bit concerned. While the focus of the nuclear debate remains on the U.S. and the Soviet Union I must say I'm more concerned with the fact that nuclear capability is spreading to more and more nations. When you look at a map of the world and notice that between Cyprus and India there are currently four armed conflicts between different participants with the Persian Gulf in the middle of it all you see what I mean! Somehow this looks like a very likely spot for the next use of a nuclear weapon. One of these lunatics who has been out in the sun too long and uses pebbles for toilet paper gets hold of a nuclear device and we are in big trouble! I guess we're already in big trouble. What should we do?

Answer 225 (of 330) THOREAU, on WED, AUG 29 1984 at 21:24 (504 characters)

Repeat of Answer 224:

All-

The idea has been floated here, in a *\*very\** unemotional manner I might commend, that it would be a good idea to transfer the discussion here to "Four More Years?". While I lack the *\*statistics\** to support that this is a good idea; I hope that it will not render my argument irrational. To cast my vote in favor of this idea, I am now going to enter "Leave" at the dispostion promp

t. Hope to "speak" to all of you again soon. Bye.

t

p.s. oops!

Answer 226 (of 330) TJ, on WED, AUG 29 1984 at 21:33 (734 characters)

The emotional labeling is fascinating!

New "toys" for the pentagon, A nuclear "stockpile" that is to large <?>, etc.

The new equipment now being deployed are not "toys", but items felt to be required by the people charged with the mission of being ready to follow the dictates of securing the US.

If the so called stockpile is to large, why? What systems are excessive? What is the role of nuclear weapons in our national strategy? Both the Carter and Reagan administrations felt that the MX was needed, both funded it.

I guess we could go into the "welfare rip-offs" and the many abuses of such programs as food stamps, with the same ideological fervor.

Nah, lets just stick to the facts, not fancies!

Answer 227 (of 330) SML, on WED, AUG 29 1984 at 22:04 (422 characters)

I tend to agree with Thoreau, though I have a certain proprietary interest in keeping things here. But, what the heck? The other conference ("FOUR MORE YEARS?") did preceed this one.

Just, please don't leave "GOP 84" just yet. THough I don't have the time to finish it yet, I *\*do\** have one or two more things to write there yet in the next few days.

Thank you, one and all, for joining us here!

Sherwin

Answer 228 (of 330) MIKE GREENLY, on WED, AUG 29 1984 at 23:35 (384 characters)



For issues: "Four More Years?". But for some other things, I'll still be making some observations here if they feel to me to grow out of "Demo 84" and "GOP 84". The next note, for example, is a (long -- be warned) marketing observation answering the hypothetical, "what should Mondale do now?"

when I'm moved to an issues comment, though, I'll do it in "Four More Years?"

Answer 229 (of 330) MIKE GREENLY, on WED, AUG 29 1984 at 23:45 (10954 characters)

Mondale's Strategy to Win  
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CAUTION!! ->>> lengthy commentary follows. Hit "Ctrl-P" one time if you find you wish to break out of this.

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First, to John Xenakis: I've re-read your answer 142, responding to my request for recommended marketing strategies for Mondale.

You did a really good job, John. What do you do for a living?

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I agree Mondale has to campaign offensively. But when he was campaigning offensively against Hart it wasn't as Mr. Outside vs. Mr. Inside -- which is the situation he now faces with Reagan, and it's a lot tougher given Mr. Inside's popularity and resources.

It's miraculous that no matter how long the list of charges people level against Reagan's \*administration\*, the President himself has been able to use charm and a genial aura [plus being off-camera most of the right times] to avoid being personally tarred.

The hatred - I choose that word for the sake of accuracy - that a large segment of the population seems to feel against Reagan, the bitterness and the passionate feeling of sacred \*mission\* to "get him out of there" (I experienced that first hand in San Francisco) -- all seems balanced by a very broad carpet of just plain affection for the guy "out there".

In fact, I think the mass, national good feeling for the Reagan persona outweighs in significance even the powerful Falwell-Schlafly supporters he has.

What can Mondale do in the face of such massive trust and affection for his opponent?

Right now, he's doing his best to make Reagan seem evil and heartless, a doddering and dangerous old curmudgeon.

But Mondale's "best" is not too effective so far.

That kind of appeal does fine -- is maybe even inspiring -- to the "converted", the ones who already loathe or fear RR. But it does not do much to convert the masses who basically like him.

The current Mondale strategy banks on labor, blacks, feminists, teachers, and environmentalists all being a strong and angry enough coalition to roust out the people who normally don't vote or contribute -- can they be angry enough to twist arms of the apathetic? (You know the number of voters in this country has been dropping, yes?)

Such hidden non-voters could turn out to be *\*the\** key to the election if anti-Reagan fire from those who do feel it can also get the less involved out of their livingrooms on Election Day.

But --

the appeal to anti-Reagan anger does absolutely ZERO to change the minds of the masses who *\*do\** like the President.

For them, something subtler is needed. The current rhetoric makes them "wrong" to have believed in Reagan at all. But, people don't like to be made wrong!

The Republicans know this. They are savvy in their open-hearted appeal to Democrats. They're not making them "wrong" for having been Democrats -- instead they are welcoming them warmly and affectionately inviting them to cross over. Mondale needs some of this in reverse, but so far he has nothing going for it. His campaign is pure vinegar, larded over with talk of "family". That's not enough.

The Mondale campaign is too grim, too serious, too self-righteous for its own good. It all feels too *\*hard\**, too earnest and it offers no fun or positive incentive to counterbalance the Republicans' ability to hold up a strong economy that a lot of Americans are grateful for.

The Republicans shrewdly understand this, even if they are heavyhanded in characterizing Mondale as leading a campaign of the past and of fear.

On a purely *\*emotional\** basis, which would you likely be drawn to: hope and prosperity, or fear and serious issues that need solutions? I'm not asking you which you *\*should\** do, I'm asking which appeal wins the bathing beauty contest.

You know the answer. Mondale doesn't.

Mondale should say, in effect, it was *\*fine\** that you believed in Reagan when you did -- but now (especially with his age!) it's time to retire the ol' fella gracefully. There's just too much, of too much importance, at stake for the kind of *\*future\** we need to build together. But he has to say it in a way that does not alienate older people or martyrize Reagan. So he has to "say" it without baldly saying it.

On a purely emotional and somewhat unconscious level -- it's not enough for many voters to feel they "should" vote for Mondale to *\*stop\** the world from being blown up, or to avoid other problems (e.g. the environment). Where are the *\*good\** times?

Americans, just now, aren't into heavy stuff no matter how worthy. It isn't the season of Watergate. There isn't the anti-Vietnam coalition. Hollywood

knows it -- it's Ghost Busters, Gremlins, and Raiders that are making the money now, not the "issue" pictures.

Gandhi won the Oscar; E.T. won the hearts.

Voting for Mondale feels -- more than it should -- like brushing your teeth after every meal. I run the risk here that \*you\* will think I'm taking the issues too lightly. But my purpose is to explore one question only: how might Mondale, against currently crushing odds, w-i-n?

Mondale \*needs\* to show that \*he\* can do stuff that is now beyond our current President, no matter how much you might love and respect RR. This doesn't need to be age-related only. It can also relate to a \*future\*-oriented agenda. But the more intensely Mondale focuses just on Reagan the bogey-man, the less he is portraying himself as the person to do something \*positive\* in the future that is above and beyond Reagan's capability. (except, as I noted, to the already converted.)

Mondale would need to be much more \*vigorous\* instead of the stiff he comes across as on television. (If you read "Mike Talks" 16, you know Mondale came across well to us in person. But he hasn't succeeded in showing much aliveness and intelligence on tv -- Reagan has him beat by a mile). Too bad ol' Ronnie's the guy on horseback, while Mondale's the sedentary fisherman.

It is hard to get across the feeling that things are over Reagan's head now when the economy is roaring along as well as it is. But the deficit c-a-n be dramatized -- and its consequences -- much more vividly than Mondale has done so far. On the other hand, what are the \*positive\* consequences of fixing it? What is something we might believe Mondale can offer?

Why don't the Mondale folks look for more vivid images to illustrate their concerns? And the opportunities \*we\* get by voting for them.

First the "problem" side: Why doesn't Mondale tour Three Mile Island. Why doesn't he have a red phone on display in a lucite case beside every podium he stands at. The man needs to do \*something\* "hot".

Those are problem-oriented examples. But what about positives?

Mondale got momentum when he first was unexpected enough to nominate Ferraro. He \*needs\* to take some risks in order to cut through. He needs to show some humor, some spark, some style.

Maybe he should organize labor unions around the country to send the Mr. Reagan golf balls for the President's ultimate retirement. Something "friendly" and helpful, like thousands and thousands and thousands(!) of golf balls publicly arriving in Washington. Maybe a shrine of golf balls, each autographed by citizens around the country, wishing the president a happy retirement -- soon. A gigantic golf ball bin could be set up in California near the President's ranch. The world's largest lucite treasure chest of golf balls, just waiting for November.

Maybe there should be a competition among school children to see who can draw the best picture of the President in retirement. Maybe there's a winner from each state and all of them are publicized. Maybe instead it's a competition

among artists and photographers of national fame and talent. Let's make it \*fun\* to send Reagan to retirement. Not a mean thing to do to our President, but something the guy has earned (and won't we privately feel safer, after all, but we did love the guy, many of us.)

See what I mean?

Other (crazy) ideas. Maybe busloads of old people should visit urban blight areas, and black dignitaries should visit old age homes -- something positive about people learning first hand about each \*other's\* problems. Not a bunch of grabby, separate special interest groups -- but Americans \*united\* -- united by Walter Mondale and interested in helping each other toward a brighter future based on reality, not mirrors. Sure there are real problems, awful ones -- but an upbeat spirit of \*real\* interest will be generated with Mondale at the helm.

That's the "message" in whatever permutations could be gotten from American group X learning about American Group Y's problems. Something l-i-k-e Kennedy's ask not what America can do for you, but what you can do, etc. But not as a drudge -- more like something you can really feel goood about yourself for. And about each other.

Blacks visit synagogues, Jews visit Catholic shrines, well you get the point. Show a depth and an idealistic America that was missing from the mostly all white, mostly rich vanilla Republican images from Dallas.

Whether it's any of these examples or hundreds of other ideas, Mondale needs to get momentum back. He needs to be unexpected and interesting enough to be perceived as a leader you'd like to follow -- not just a stern and self-righteous reprimand to Reagan.

-----  
Don't you think Reagan's folks will do their best to go out of their way to avoid Reagan gaffes in the next few months. They will be cautious and controlled -- which is why the debates, and their spontaneity, is a great opportunity for Mondale. The question is can Mondale be \*big\* enough on that occasion? I can hardly wait to tune in!

As for Ferraro, so far she has said little in talking about the "issues" to have warranted much more than sidebar coverage. It's hard to get people off the finance questions, but in the face of all those anti-abortion posters, her game spirit of perseverance may make her especially likeable over time. Like Mondale, she as yet has no "grab" of a slant on issues that command headlines or enthusiasm -- the enthusiasm is coming mostly in response to \*her\*, not to any new realizations about her team vs. the Reagan team.

I think, personally, the Zaccaro thing may have really done it to her -- unless she can \*really\* score an upset in a debate with Bush. Nonetheless, she's the wild card. If Mondale can get hot enough, and upbeat, and if Ferraro can generate some of the heat I felt in San Francisco among women -- well then they do have a shot at it.

But those are Texas-size if's, friends.

mike, who thinks a more interesting \*context\* for mondale would let their more

serious issues be heard, too.

Answer 230 (of 330) DAVID Z., on THU, AUG 30 1984 at 02:07 (38 characters)

Thanks, Thoreau, I've done the same.

Answer 231 (of 330) BBJ863, on THU, AUG 30 1984 at 02:57 (1176 characters)

OK, I agree, David Z, that the impression from Washington has been that the military gets about what it wants without scrutiny as to the actual cost of the acquisition. Recent years, however, I don't believe that has been true. I think accountability is a new word for military contracts and it is healthy.

New technology is always necessary. Technological superiority is very short lived and it is tech which allows the survival of our nation. We do not have the hoards to throw against an enemy such as the Soviets or Chinese do. It was our tech (black boxes rushed to Israel) which allows the Israelis to exist with such large and powerful nations on her borders.

I think the Star Wars approach is an example of the necessity of continued tech advance. Do you suppose we were the first to think of such a plan? The Soviets already have 'killer' satellites in orbit which could disrupt our critical comm lines in event of war. No wonder they now want to ban further work on them!

I had more to say here, but fighting with Telenet to stay on line has taken the past half hour and my concentration has been disturbed--sorry.

Answer 232 (of 330) BBJ863, on THU, AUG 30 1984 at 03:09 (1140 characters)

Alan, why do you consider RR more dangerous than Hitler. That is the most preposterous comment I've seen in weeks. Hey, I don't care what TYPE of weapon is at a leader's disposal, it is the psychic make-up of a man that determines his threat. Hitler was obsessed with greed and power. He was a maniac, a man without morals or regard for humanity. He knew nothing of accountability to God let alone other men. He was a madman.

RR is an avowed Christian and that says a lot. He is demonstrably warm and very much in touch with the people of this country. He is honest in what he says he believes, and what is more, he makes a genuine effort to get the job done, for the benefit of all the people. He has demonstrated great restraint in foreign crises and yet has the courage to take action when the situation demands it, i.e. Granada. He is not God, but aside from that, a man must be able to push the button or we will be overrun by the huns.

It is unfortunate that all of your studies didn't increase your basic understanding of the place for nuclear power and weapons in today's world.

Answer 233 (of 330) MIKE GREENLY, on THU, AUG 30 1984 at 06:43 (316 characters)

Got several notes saying Mondale won't win. But I'm \*not\* a Mondale supporter. I agree; it looks unlikely so far. My marketing "blue sky" was merely what

I'd do if my job were to \*make\* him win. Meanwhile, not knowing my own vote yet, maybe the issues discussion in "Four More Years?" will help. mike

Answer 234 (of 330) T/O, on THU, AUG 30 1984 at 07:44 (230 characters)

Mike,

If you ever get tired of what you are doing I know some people who would love to have you running some political campaigns. In todays world marketing is what it is about---and you are very good.

T/O

Answer 235 (of 330) T/O, on THU, AUG 30 1984 at 08:36 (1134 characters)

BBJ863,

I enjoy your comments here and in FMYs. I would enjoy them more if you gave yourself a name because I have trouble remembering or refering to this one. (hint, hint)

I do not mean to answer for Alan---especially since we disagree so much in the final analysis (although not so much in fundamental beliefs as evidenced by some of his recent entries) but I kind of suspect that his distrust of Reagan comes precisely from the Christian thing rather than being alleviated by it.

Reagan gives me pause occasionally when he talks of our destiny. There are some right wing nuts (no I don't include myself in the category) who have attached themselves to Reagan's coattails. I too, would be uncomfortable if they were the ones with their finger on the button. Of course I would hasten to point out as you have, that despite occasional rhetoric, Reagan has been tested and has acted prudently and reasonably. Also, his vision of our future does not include armed confrontation with the Soviets or conquering the world even if he really does believe in predestiny.

T/O

Answer 236 (of 331) DIANE W., on THU, AUG 30 1984 at 14:04 (258 characters)

While I can't equate Hitler with Reagan either (that's just going a little too far,) I don't know how you can say, T/O, with such conviction, that Reagan doesn't want a confrontation with the Soviets.

Sometimes it sure seems like he does.

Diane

Answer 237 (of 331) THOREAU, on THU, AUG 30 1984 at 17:50 (152 characters)

After reading Mike's recent answers, I have rejoined this conference. The time for "Gop Public" to retire has definitely not arrived yet.

t

Answer 238 (of 331) JIM COLLIE, on THU, AUG 30 1984 at 18:56 (3782 characters)

Dallas and the Republican Convention 1984

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A Reflective View: Jim Collie

It was going to be fun. Watch the Republicans do their thing with pzazz and style; watch Greenly and Levinson bring TENS to the world; watch the demonstrators make their point outside the green fence and celebrate their uncommon causes together in the Trinity River Bottom. Politics! ISSUES! Where the action is. Important things. Not my usual glass of beer.

As a Dallas area resident, and an online friend and fan of the TENS team, I couldn't imagine more fun. When I got the chance to be helpful with TENS press registration and room reservations and credential pick-ups and packet deliveries I figured I could count myself onboard. Not so.

For me, at least, this insider view was only worrisome.

It wasn't far from the Dallas Convention Center where a President was fatally shot. In fact, it was just down the street. The common agreement among the various press not to dwell on that fact only made it surreal, not invisible. What if the unspoken were to happen again? What if anything unpleasant or bad should happen? What if horror, finding the chink in the armor, should once again loose momentary chaos upon us?

It probably seemed like only the police were thinking about it. They trained with the FBI and the Secret Service for months. The police Intelligence Unit had the San Fransico files and hoped they knew what was coming. Motorcycle Policeman learned how to close off freeways in seconds and knew how to clear a path for motorcades. Emergency Rooms along the Presidential route stored fresh quantities of the President's blood type. Maps were distributed to all drivers and policemen, and memorized, showing the quickest routes to the best hospitals.

Except, except (did anybody notice?), most of us here stayed away from the hotels and the Convention Center. We stayed a long ways away. There was, of course, the local Host Committee, and the local party workers, and the regional people bussed in. Even with the convention in town most hotels and eaterys were empty of even their usual August guests. I had breakfast with Mike and Sherwin at their hotel and the coffeeshop was never more than half full. There were not the usual camera shots of the populace gathered to catch a glimpse of greatness.

Dignitaries arriving at the airport always had a crowd, but then the airport is usually crowded.

I think we Dallas people have had all we can handle of Presidents. Even after all these years the old wound in our public psyche is still tender. There was a great sigh when the President's plane left the ground. Thanks goodness its over!

---

I promised Mike that I would go the Reagan-Bush press conference on Friday morning after the Thursday night acceptance speeches. Sherwin had already left and Mike's plane schedule prevented him from attending. Besides that, I needed to do something to justify the nifty press badge TENS gave me to make me official. Here is my report:

I went. I wore a coat and a tie. I sat awed at how eveything was managed and staged and wondered how any of these people, press and pols alike, can have any idea what most of the people in Dallas are like, or even if it mattered very much. And how I wished to hear a speech which didn't need to paint things in 1950's blacks and whites. And how I hoped to God nothing would happen to Reagan before he got on his plane and got out of here. Then it was over and I left.

(Sorry Mike. Diane, thanks for the press badge. Sherwin, that's a neat portable you use, wish I had one.)



Answer 239 (of 331) LISA CARLSON, on THU, AUG 30 1984 at 22:05 (118 characters)

To continue the discussion of incentives for government employees, join "Federal Service" and start at answer #12. Answer 240 (of 331) BCF684, on THU, AUG 30 1984 at 23:14 (156 characters)

re the incentives for government employees. Hey gang, corporations have been doing this for years and very profitably too. It works and works well.

Answer 241 (of 331) LISA CARLSON, on THU, AUG 30 1984 at 23:21 (1526 characters)

T/O - I appreciate your contributions, both abstract and specific. However, I think we are all bogged down in re-articulating ideas and approaches which have defined the political discussion for decades - maybe centuries. There are some here who are quite skilled at expressing these basic views, but I'm not sure that revisiting them in response after zillionK response is all that valuable since there are many primary sources to which we can all refer.

So that leaves me wondering what \*would\* be a good use of our time here. I think that our stalemate is evidence for the need to go beyond the traditional discussion. It is simply not providing an environment in which we can find the common ground we need to help our community grow and prosper.

This network provides us with a new kind of thinking space - one where we could play with some new ideas, give each other enough benefit of the doubt to risk suggesting strategies which we haven't fully thought out yet, let each other change our minds, and try to find a new path. This kind of thinking is less dependent on facility for expression of our long-held beliefs than on the willingness to accept the need to move on.

As for my leaving Washington - Of course, no matter how small government gets or how its mission is redefined, it will be necessary for some to serve it. Naturally, it's important that those people be of the highest quality so I \*know\* you're really hoping I'll stay - right T/O? <grin>

Answer 242 (of 331) SML, on FRI, AUG 31 1984 at 00:29 (928 characters)

Lisa, thanks for the tip on "FEDERAL SERVICE" -- I'd like to see Newt Gingrich in discussions like that one and this. My next trip to Washington is probably on too short notice to see him. But somebody who worked there might be able to... (hint, hint)

I know that \*I\* think it would be a serious loss to the whole country if Lisa left government. If there were more people like her in government I'd feel a lot more comfortable about how my money was being spent. I haven't know Lisa long, and only online, but I can tell.

Sherwin

(and a little plug, since Jim mentioned that "nifty" portable I was using. I'm trying to arrange for a significant discount on them for a Partiers group purchase. Like 25% or so off list price. Anyone who's interested, please send me a message or join "LAP COMPUTERS" where I'll explain more about it in the next week or two. They should be available in 4-6 weeks.)

Answer 243 (of 331) JOHN XENAKIS, on FRI, AUG 31 1984 at 18:14 (5834 characters)

----- To Mike Greenly -----

Some further thoughts on Mondale's campaign.

I agree with you that Mondale must make bold moves, but not something like having people send in golf balls. (As soon as such a campaign were announced, Falwell would have all his people send in prayer books or something, and the media would make a circus out of it.)

I think the Mondale campaign has to be given credit for already taking a number of bold strokes. In fact, I can think of five:

- (1) Deciding to return PAC money.
- (2) Choosing Ferraro as running mate.
- (3) Having so many excellent speakers (Cuomo, Jackson, Ferraro, Kennedy) precede him at the convention, when he isn't that good a speaker himself.
- (4) Stating that he would raise taxes next year (and so would Reagan).
- (5) Having Ferraro give the two-hour news conference after releasing enormous amounts of personal financial data.

These five moves seem reasonable now, but before they were made each was a formidable risk which could have exposed the Mondale campaign to ridicule or disaster. However, without them, Mondale's campaign would be widely criticized as too dull (a criticism we don't hear too often anymore).

I think we're going to see more risks of this type by Mondale, and so if we wish to understand what Mondale is going to do, I think it behooves us to examine the results of the five I have named.

- (1) Returning the PAC money solved a big problem for Mondale in his campaign against Hart, and was clearly a winning move.
- (2) Does anybody remember that the day before Mondale chose Ferraro, every political pundit was saying that he couldn't choose a woman without appearing to be giving in to NOW? Now it seems he couldn't have chosen anyone else. And in fact Ferraro has increased everyone's awareness of Mondale, even when the awareness was sometimes negative. So far, this decision was a winner -- but more on Ferraro below.

(3) The good speakers at the Democratic convention have spilled over onto Mondale, making him appear much better. Imagine how dull Mondale would look if the speakers at the Democratic convention had been as boring as those at the Republican convention.

(4) Of all these risks, I believe that the tax increase promise is the one that's going to turn out to be a big loser. It provided lots of short-term gains, putting the whole Reagan administration on the defensive for a couple of weeks, but in the end it will enhance Mondale's image as a tax raiser and Reagan's as someone who wants to decrease taxes.

(5) Ferraro's press conference, like the return of PAC money, was needed to bring a disastrous media situation to an end, and it seems to have worked completely. This decision was clearly a winner.

The campaign will really get started next week, after Labor Day, and then we'll see him taking more risks like those above. For example, he may promise to appoint several blacks or women to his cabinet and challenge Reagan to do the same. He may even make specific cabinet appointments. And he'll undoubtedly take some dramatic policy stands as he did on the tax issue, in the hope of drawing Reagan out into making a mistake.

Basically, though, I stand by my belief that Mondale will lose unless he has a break, and the only two reasonable breaks he can hope for now are a major gaffe by Reagan or else some illness which would remind voters of Reagan's age. A major international crisis would probably help Reagan, and bad economic news could not come in time to help him.

-----

Now, I'd like to focus on Ferraro again, because whether Mondale wins or loses, the Ferraro factor is the one which will be debated for years to come.

It's only August, and the campaign will remain in low gear until after Labor Day. However it's interesting that the identification of the Mondale campaign with Ferraro is already wearing off. The novelty of a woman campaigner is already almost gone, and Mondale has not appeared with Ferraro in some time.

My feeling is that Mondale will do everything possible to continue to take the focus off of Ferraro. I believe they'll seldom be seen together and that Mondale will refer to her less and less often in his speeches. He has to do this anyway, since after all he's running for President, not Ferraro. But the continuing disclosures about Zaccaro's real estate business and finances make this even more a necessity.

When all is said and done, I believe that the choice of Ferraro will turn out to have been a wash for the Mondale campaign. This is as it should be, and bodes well for the appearance of women in future campaigns.

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Incidentally, when we talk about Reagan being likely to win, we're basing that prediction on polls. I still remember last February, on the morning of the New Hampshire primary, seeing a major pollster on a morning talk show say that

his weekend polls indicate that Mondale would be a clear winner that day. The polls we're listening to now are more than 2-1/2 months before the election, and may be indicative of nothing.

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Thank you for your compliment on my last commentary. In answer to your question about what I do, I am a computer consultant. I do programming, technical writing and management consulting, and I write for several computer magazines like you.

I actively work to keep up-to-date and well-informed on the news, especially politics. I am jealous of people like you who get to go to the important news events and then report them to others. This forum has given me a chance to partially fulfill my fantasy to be a news reporter and commentator, and I thank you and the others for that.

John Xenakis, Framingham, MA

Answer 244 (of 331) JOHN XENAKIS, on FRI, AUG 31 1984 at 18:16 (936 characters)

----- To Alan -----

I don't know how many others here were impressed by your statement that you went to MIT and that you've read 2000 pages of stuff on nuclear war, but I sure wasn't. I went to MIT too, and I've read far more than 2000 pages on war during and since the time I went there. And I can assure you, I find your statement that Reagan is worse than Hitler to be one of dumbest I've ever heard.

To everyone else: Please do not judge MIT by Alan's bigoted remarks. Like other schools, MIT admits students based on their scholastic records, not on their political naivete.

----- To David Z. -----

My experience is that bureaucratic waste is a political issue for both defense spending and human services. For example, haven't we heard a lot recently about \$700 wrenches?

My own belief is that the government really can't do anything right.

John Xenakis, Framingham, MA

Answer 245 (of 331) MIKE GREENLY, on SAT, SEP 01 1984 at 10:21 (9320 characters)

Sept. 1 Observations  
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John Xenakis: re your 243. I agree with many of your thoughtful comments, with some reservation.

## About finding symbols

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The golf balls idea was an \*example\* of a symbol with some life to it. I don't think it'd be all bad to have a circus-y promo take place on behalf of Mondale, especially if it seemed spontaneous, warm, human. People may not be saying his campaign is dull, but it certainly hasn't ignited yet. [and yes, the season is young.]

I'm not suggesting he center the campaign around golf balls!!! And I certainly don't think he should go on TV and make a pitch to send golf balls for the President's retirement.

I do think, though, it'd be dandy and visible and in the right \*spirit\* --

illustrating getting rid of Reagan  
without being a "make-wrong" of the  
folks who voted for him last time,  
and who still do like him.  
the folks who need to be wooed . . .

if there were a symbol people could  
have fun with and get into the  
swing of, without feeling they're  
being disloyal or "mean"  
to Our President.

In order to work, it would have to  
feel grass roots, like:

it all started when little  
6-year-old Kippy Fletcher of  
Marshalltown, Iowa sent in the first  
golf ball, and then the idea was  
picked up from Rhode Island, and  
then, and then . . .

This Campaign, like most of them, will be susceptible to symbols which affect the votes of the electorate. And a touch of the right kind of circus couldn't hurt. (what else were the conventions if not that?!)

Mondale's campaign needs a dose of \*Vivid\* -- but it is, in fact, beginning to generate initial examples.

The televised "overground railroad" march of black people (from Washington to New York and beyond) all dressed in identical T-shirts with matching banners -- already registering thousands of new voters, regardless of skin color -- that's a symbol.

The registration march is a symbol of incremental, pro-Mondale votes coming into the equation (to make you feel as though maybe the guy has a chance after all.) And it serves as a symbol of support from regular America as opposed to the "fat cat" aura Mondale needs to create around the Republicans. A symbol

that, gosh, maybe Mondale will be the people's choice after all. [A KKK threat to the marchers didn't hurt any!]

Speaking of symbolism, since Ms. Ferraro is making peace vs. war the major flag of her Campaign so far, maybe \*she\* should have the lucite box with the red telephone in front of every podium.

Mondale's Boldness?

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I agree, John, on much of your praise for Mondale's initiatives -- certainly on returning PAC money and choosing Ferraro. But I think you're stretching too hard to find "bold strokes" in some of your examples.

He gets very little credit from me for "having so many excellent speakers precede him at the convention".

If he was to be the nominee, he would \*have\* to come on last with his acceptance. So by definition, others came before him.

> Of course Jackson "had" to speak for the sake of his constituency; no credit to Mondale for that.

> Ferraro, if she's the V.P. designee, automatically speaks before Mondale -- no credit for having her speak before him.

> And if you're going to tell me it was a "bold stroke" to have a strong keynote speech by an established ethnic Governor precede Mondale, unuh. The Keynote always comes first, and it was good for the Democratic \*PARTY\* to have a good speaker. Mondale gets zero points for that, too, in my book.

All good decisions, none of them illustrating special boldness.

> N-o-t to have a Kennedy -- still impressive to many -- introduce Mondale because Teddy is just too good a speaker: now \*that\* would be foolish. Remember that getting good television ratings was also part of everyone's thinking. (Reagan's filmed introduction was smarter still, though, in use of the medium -- except it wasn't covered by two networks.)

The extension of your point (though I hope I'm not beating my disagreement to death) is: think how good Mondale would have looked if they could had dug up the worst speakers in the country to precede him! At least that's how good he'd have looked to his Mother who'd still have been watching, no matter what the rest of us had turned to by then.]

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I do agree it was a bold and even exciting initiative to take the stand he did on taxes. But I also agree it's in danger of boomeranging. I read that Reagan's people, though, are worried Mondale will do it again, and be the first one to propose a specific new tax system before Reagan does, thus keeping a leadership initiative.

I do think whoever can take the cake first on the tax issue, and tie it to reducing the deficit (which polls show to be a rising, broad concern) -- whoever can appear to "own" the \*solution\*, will have taken a big step forward toward tying up the election.

Mondale has to be very careful of seeming like a package of "old" solutions. How he projects \*using\* tax revenues is critically important. If he comes across too much on spending for social issues, he'll never get enough cross-over from people presently leaning toward Reagan. He is in jeopardy of seeming like Mr. Raise-taxes-like-the-old-days, an image Reagan is nurturing nicely. Mondale needs, instead, to be the only guy with the smarts and guts to do the right, responsible thing -- raise the taxes to reduce our deficit after four long years of Reagan failure.

I continue to feel that if Mondale can find a way to \*dramatize\* the deficit more and show that he will solve it while Reagan couldn't, he'd have an important wedge in to success.

Dramatizing, making things vivid, using symbolism -- hasn't so far seemed like a strength of the Mondale marketing team, however. I've seen him kiss babies, all right (yawn.) And the reports even this morning -- well the New York Times reporter says his speech in Dallas was "one of the most unemotional speeches in recent memory."

His aides asked him to wear seersucker down there -- he's still in his usual dark gray. Even Reagan, at 73, has the zip and the confidence to wear tan in August. It's not Mondale's \*seriousness\* that's the question: it's how strong and alive a leader can he be.

-----

I also think, John, you're reaching too far to call Mondale bold in "having Ferraro give the two-hour news conference". I don't think he "had" her do anything. That initiative, finally, came from her, not from him (from what I read). It's been Ferraro's call and show, and Mondale and aides don't seem to have found her nearly as easy to lead around as more traditional male VP candidates have typically been. She gets the substantial credit on the press conference; \*he\* needs more bold strokes on his own. And, of course, not the kind of "bold" that led him to the Lance-Manatt fiasco.

-----

Meanwhile, Reagan's team is playing the opposite strategy. Bold-schmold: gimme shelter! They have now curbed press access severely. Bush's campaign plane is off-limits to reporters on most trips (it's the first time in decades this extreme clampdown has happened). Reagan-Bush aides are now officially barred from talking to aides off the record. The whole idea is to make the words coming from R-B just as bland and safe as possible. They are the ones with something to l-o-s-e from spontaneous slip-ups. If Mondale must take a bolder, riskier path, Reagan \*must\* play it safe. And Reagan's folks sure know it.

That's what will be so fascinating about the debate or debates. Both of them in the arena with no aides and no "management mufflers". I certainly ain't expecting Reagan to agree to six of them though! That's why he's saying we'll

be "bored" with too many debates (kind of him to protect us) and that actions speak louder than words (now that he's the one in power and not Carter).

-----

Your point is well-taken on polls, John, although the famous Dewey polling error was caused, I believe, by polling only homes with telephones -- a much smaller % then than now. But the more Mondale can swing over the apathetic and unregistered -- by being >>vivid<< and by being compelling -- the less relevant today's polls will be to November's results. I agree, too, that because Mondale has trouble being magnetic, he does have to be careful to stay further away from Ferraro, lest she totally overshadow him. He doesn't come across like the beloved daddy-statesman that Reagan is, nor the sexy charismatic leader JFK was.

His persona's biggest weakness, I think, is that (on television) you could picture him as your company's Director of Branch Operations. Or that nice, earnest pharmacist in the shopping center, right next door to Key Foods.

His surest shot is a juicy Reagan slip-up. His next surest shot is dramatic \*ignition\* of his issues. I'm not holding my breath for either one, but there are still two \*months\* ahead - - -

mike

Answer 246 (of 331) MIKE GREENLY, on SAT, SEP 01 1984 at 10:22 (638 characters)

P.S. to John Xenakis: on the subject of envy of journalists' opportunities, it is my \*hunger\* -- though I fear it will go unsatisfied -- to be the first computer journalist, and one of the first journalists period, to go into outer space -- once they settle who the first teacher is to be.

I'm afraid there are all \*kinds\* of reasons why I won't achieve this personal dream. But that's my passion, nonetheless. (I am going to a gym now to get as fit as I can, "in case"!)

If, miraculously, it does happen, please be sure to sign up for my electronic Conference on it! (anything you can do to get me up there?)

mike

Answer 247 (of 331) LISA CARLSON, on SAT, SEP 01 1984 at 11:29 (56 characters)

You can bet \*I'll\* be tuned in for that one Mike!!!!

Answer 248 (of 331) DIANE W., on SAT, SEP 01 1984 at 15:24 (252 characters)

I couldn't help it. My hands moved by themselves.

This is copied from the "Practice" conference:

Now is the time to learn to use PARTI on the Source. URgrgle burgle snurb Reagan is a dinosaur.



Laugh of the day, compliments of Diane

Answer 249 (of 331) T/O, on SAT, SEP 01 1984 at 23:00 (498 characters)

Diane, (sorry about the delayed response time)

Sure I'm sure. Where is any evidence to the contrary? Democrats accusing Republicans of wanting or leading us into nuclear war is as old as nuclear weapons. (Remember the daisy commercials of the Johnson campaign?) Besides---Reagan is a hopeless optimist. He doesn't see anything bad in our future. And how would you ever get your face carved into Mt. Rushmore if you led the country into nuclear conflict?

T/O

Answer 250 (of 331) SML, on SUN, SEP 02 1984 at 01:36 (162 characters)

Just for balance, Diane, a political cartoon in the normally pro-Democrat Atlanta Journal caught my eye the other day. Sign above campaign HQ: Mondull.

Answer 251 (of 331) JOHN XENAKIS, on SUN, SEP 02 1984 at 13:15 (5548 characters)

----- To Mike Greenly -----

Some further comments on the Mondale campaign.

OK, perhaps I was giving Mondale too much credit on some of the "risks", but I do believe he was heavily involved in the Ferraro press conference. The press had been reporting that they were totally uncoordinated before that point, so they would have been working together just to avoid further criticism. Also, there was a Mondale campaign advisor working full time with Ferraro and her lawyers during the days leading up to the press conference.

-----

I'd like to explore some of the other points you raised, starting with the tax issue, and whether Mondale can start taking some specific positions on how he would handle taxes.

As I've said before, the tax raise statement was the only one of his major risks which is probably going to turn out to be a major loser, and we're now beginning to see why. The problem is he's totally boxed into a corner with his own supporters.

The criticism which the Republicans have been making about Mondale's tax increase statement is that if Mondale raises taxes, he'll also increase spending, and so the deficit won't be affected at all. Now Mondale's own supporters (blacks, unions, etc) want exactly that -- they want Mondale to increase taxes so that he can increase funding of their programs. So what is Mondale going to do?

On Thursday, there was a news story that Mondale was going to commit to reserving the tax increase money to decreasing the deficit, but he apparently backed off on that by Friday, because he was afraid of alienating his own supporters. So he's trapped.

I don't know if there's any way out of this for him. Perhaps his advisors can work closely with black, labor, etc., leaders to come up with some sort of compromise.

-----

The clothing issue is another one where he's boxed in. It would seem that the solution is easy -- hire a full time clothing advisor to tell him what to wear to each event, so that he won't always be in a pin stripe suit.

The problem is that the first time that Mondale is seen in public wearing a sweater, you're going to have a press field day. "Mr. Vice President, have you decided to wear more informal clothing to soften your stodgy image?" (Remember what happened when Dan Rather starting wearing a sweater on the CBS Evening News? It took about three or four months before the cutesy news stories ended.)

There's an interesting possibility for him here. It's another risk, but not that big a risk, and I doubt that he has much to lose.

He could announce that he's changing his clothing image -- that he's hired someone to help him, that he's getting a new wardrobe, etc. etc. By going public with it immediately, he'll get a lot of sympathy from people like me who have the damndest time trying to figure out what to wear each day, and the issue should die down in a week or two.

I think the result would be mostly positive. I think it would improve his image with most people.

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It's true that Reagan's advisors want him to take as few chances as possible, but in this sense Reagan is not necessarily a team player. There's a "devil" in Reagan which makes him want to say provocative things, and to take chances by answering questions when his advisors don't want him to.

I still believe that Reagan is going to run a very visible and vigorous campaign. He's going to avoid press conferences as much as his advisors can get him to, but I fully expect to see one or two more Reagan gaffes before November 6.

As far as debates are concerned, no matter how many there are, I believe that only the first one will have a significant effect on voter opinions. People will watch the first one very closely to get a "feel" for the two candidates. After that, it will become "The Fritz and Ronnie Show," and few opinions will change.

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Now back to my favorite topic, how does Mondale play Ferraro?

A reporter on the CBS Sunday Morning News this morning said that Mondale and Ferraro would be campaigning together next week so that Mondale can get some of the Ferraro "magic" back. I think that would be such a disastrous move, that it can't possibly be true.

As I've said before in this forum, Mondale is in great danger of being upstaged significantly by Ferraro. If the public once begins to perceive Mondale as hiding behind Ferraro in some way, Mondale is doomed.

I think that Mondale and Ferraro are going to campaign together for a short period, just so that the press won't say he's avoiding her. After that he IS going to avoid her. Mondale wants Mondale to be on the evening network news programs, not Ferraro. To accomplish that he's going to figure out a way to subdue Ferraro.

Incidentally I discount the stories that there is that much friction between Mondale and Ferraro as to what they should do. Of course there are minor disagreements, but I believe that Ferraro is going to do exactly what Mondale asks her to do, for the good of both of them.

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As I understand it, in a few years it's going to be possible for ordinary citizens to go on the shuttle by paying a few thousand dollars. If you can wait for that, that might be the best way. If you can't wait, then I suggest you quickly join the campaign staff of whoever's going to win in November, and convince the President to appoint you.

John Xenakis, Framingham, MA

Answer 252 (of 331) MIKE GREENLY, on WED, SEP 05 1984 at 13:13 (2046 characters)

Reagan vs. Mondale: Slick vs. Dull

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OK, so the campaigns have officially begun. Reagan in the first weekend of the "true" Campaign period is lookin' good.

HIGH TECH, NOT HIGH TAXES. He's got folks who know how to write for him, for his ability to deliver phrases -- and for television, which loves the "quick take" message.

Meanwhile, Mondale and Ferraro stood and waved from a reviewing stand facing a practically empty street in New York, waving for the cameras as if the television newscasters wouldn't in fact let us know that the parade was a bust. Mayor Koch (who hadn't been properly invited to the parade, and didn't attend) had warned Mondale on the phone that New Yorkers \*don't\* get up that early for parades in New York. But Mondale's staff plodded ahead.

As I type this, Mondale is being televised on CNN, earnestly wearing an

American Legion hat and addressing their convention. He is, once again, deliberate, sincere, but

d u l l

His people have yet to help him make issues vivid.

For example, they say that every day the government is borrowing another \$500 Million (re the deficit.) Well how much \*is\* that? What picture does that give you? Is that enough to pay all the mortgages in the town of Fletcher, Idaho where Mondale first makes the comparison known to homeowners who each wave their mortgages? Is it enough to build 20 Washington Manuments, where he makes the comparison known at its base? Is it enough to feed 300,000 orphan babies for a year? to send 100,000 students to college?

Mondale has been unable to summarize \*anything\* about what he stands for in a vivid, meaningful, or memorable way.

Mondale's first commercials start next week, and they will \*have\* to capsulize something. Surely, in 30 to 60 carefully edited seconds, they will make him seem more exciting.

It'd be hard to make him seem less . . .

Answer 253 (of 331) JOHN XENAKIS, on WED, SEP 05 1984 at 22:14 (582 characters)

----- To Mike Greenly -----

Re Mondale being "dull":

It isn't Mondale's speechwriters, Mike, it's Mondale. Ferraro talks about the same things, and may even have the same speechwriters, but she's much more exciting to listen to you.

You know, I think Mondale's given up. He's saying all the right things -- his speechwriters are giving him the words -- but he's not doing whatever's necessary to put those things across. You said it yourself in the "client" conference -- you gotta believe if you want others to believe.

John Xenakis, Framingham, MA

Answer 254 (of 331) TJ, on WED, SEP 05 1984 at 22:39 (142 characters)

Just a note to let all know, I will be off honeymooning for the next week or so.

I shall return! <but will not bring marines, etc!>

Answer 255 (of 331) JOHN XENAKIS, on THU, SEP 06 1984 at 09:37 (794 characters)

Mike,

Did you see Mondale's speech to B'nai B'rith this morning carried by CNN? I tuned in in the middle and really wanted to hear what he was saying, but I just couldn't seem to concentrate on it.

Near the end, my wife came in to say goodbye for the day, and I said to her, "Boy is Mondale dull. I can hardly concentrate on what he's saying." She agreed. Then the speech ended, and Charles Bierbauer, the CNN correspondent, came on and said that Mondale had just given his strongest and most emotional speech ever.

So there it is. Bierbauer's opinion was based on the written text of the speech, while my opinion was based on Mondale reading it to us. It's not the words, it's Mondale.

Did he leave his heart in San Francisco?

John Xenakis, Framingham, MA

Answer 256 (of 331) MIKE GREENLY, on THU, SEP 06 1984 at 19:38 (3978 characters)

Why is that nice Mr. Mondale so --

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>> D U L L <<  
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It isn't only his speech writers, I agree. Though I'm telling you his speeches are not colorful enough. Not simple enough. Not TV-oriented enough. Not interesting enough.

It is also that he doesn't use any promotional \*ideas\* to make his points in a vivid manner.

So -- to reprise the earlier example -- if the daily increment in our deficit could pay all the mortgages in Cleveland, Ohio, he should not only make the statement in an effectively written speech --

he should also make \*that\* announcement in Cleveland itself. And have homeowners stack up their mortgages in a huge carton of mortgages, to show us emotionally how much more in debt the USA gets ----> every day!

And -- yes, I agree -- even \*if\* the man had hot speeches, and even \*if\* his staff were able to think up hot ideas (which so far they have mostly failed to)

The man is still dull.

Whoooo-wheee! DULL!

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We saw him in person, your three TENS reporters, with no trick mirrors. So we know he's not only ambulatory, but his eyes sparkle, and he comes across \*bright\*.

I felt pain for him when I saw him wedge an American Legion hat onto his head. Like me, Mondale hates hats. Unlike me, he seems to hate letting \*go\*.

How would I coach him? This is a man who is very inhibited on stage. When Reagan talks, boy, you know he looooves that microphone. His voice gets smooth and it's GE Theater all over again.

KEY POINT:

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Mondale speaks in a halting, phrase- by-phrase mode.

Phrase. by. phrase.

This makes him seem slow. Artificial. Labored. \*Not\* like a leader.

Reagan speaks in natural, persuasive sentences. His cadence is that way, his points of emphasis. Like a man who knows what he thinks, who believes it, like a man who may in fact be right.

Reagan is able to put \*feeling\* into his sentences. Mondale seems (almost) glad to get through it.

Mondale looks at his script -- looks way \*down\* like a school boy, jerking his head down for help -- from 30-50% of the time. This is NOT necessary. He could be trained out of this.

Reagan maintains far better eye contact. He seems as though he's sincerely asking us, as friends and wise people, to see that he's right, and to come along.

I don't agree that Mondale has given up. I think he just doesn't know how to do any better.

He needs to break out of himself. The treatment, I'm afraid, would be drastic. If I were speech-coaching him, I would end up screaming at him, I know it, to \*jolt\* him into naturalness.

We started out in this conference with a simple exercise of "what if". I was intrigued intellectually at the idea of how we might, in theory, help an underdog win. Especially one who had exhibited the ability to take new approaches (Ferraro).

Now I feel as though the discussion is a waste of time. Maybe Mondale can do a lot better in a spontaneous debate situation. Maybe the number of voters that Democrats, blacks, and women can register will make a huge difference. Maybe he'll have good tv commercials.

But as far as he, himself, is coming across -- I give up. He has too far to

go. I feel like I'm wasting even my fantasies to think about it.

I'm not saying I won't vote for him; I genuinely haven't decided.

But I'm saying that, if I do, it won't be because the quality of his campaigning has earned it.

Sorry. Over and out.

-----

p.s. Tip O'Neil, who was a miserable team-mate by saying publicly that Mondale needed to fight more or else he'd seem like a loser -- has \*now\* announced that Mondale has come out swinging, and he's now a winner. It was a political, b.s. statement.

Answer 257 (of 331) THOREAU, on THU, SEP 06 1984 at 22:47 (2422 characters)

I realize that marketing is probably as important a factor in this presidential race as it ever has been. But I think the Mondale dullness issue is being beaten to death. I would have to say, after having viewed hundreds of video clips of Reagan speeches over the last 3-1/2 years, that on his worst day, Reagan is as bad or worse as Mondale on his worst day. From time to time, Reagan will give a speech to one association or another where he is not as well prepared as he is, for instance, for a State of the Union Address. In such a situation, you will see Reagan's eyes virtually glued to his text, his voice is monotonal, and his vocal force retreats to a gravely whisper. Also, Reagan uses quite often a special teleprompting device with two screens that enable him to glance at his text as he moves his head to the left or to the right. The screens are high enough that they can be glanced at while maintaining straight-forward eye contact, giving the appearance of eye contact with the audience.

Mondale, on his best day, is capable of giving a very effective and moving speech, as was his eulogy for Hubert Humphrey. If I were to compare Reagan's convention speech with Mondale's, and I know this will bring disagreement, I would have to say that they were on a par with each other. Mondale flubbed a couple of lines, but so did Reagan. And Reagan's was more serious, by "leaving out a period" as he put it, he made a statement to the effect that his administration had dramatically increased the number of unemployed. And all this talk of marketing brings a question to my mind: Should a president whose policies can be directly connected to helping create the largest deficit in our history be re-elected because he gives exciting speeches? I will give Mr. Reagan credit for being a practiced speaker, after all, as president, he has had four years of almost daily practice. Quite probably more than Mondale over the same period. But my voting primarily will be based on \*what\* a candidate has to say more than how he says it. Mondale has yet to joke about bombing the Soviet Union or surround himself with people who joke about "jews, blacks, and cripples" or forget that balancing the budget was one of Reagan's big promises. These kinds of gaffes are "bad marketing", too, and should stick in the public mind as much as Mondale's perceived "d-u-l-l-n-e-s-s".

Answer 258 (of 331) JOHN XENAKIS, on THU, SEP 06 1984 at 23:12 (1924 characters)

----- To Mike Greenly -----

I'm not at all sure you're right that Mondale hasn't given up. If he thought he could win, he would make some of the personal sacrifices necessary. He'd get some speech coaching. He'd get some advice on how to dress.

You said "He just doesn't know how to do any better." Why not? Some things can't change, but some things can. And he isn't doing anything about the things that can. If he thought he were running for president, he'd get whatever help he needs to make those changes.

Here's a real puzzler: Today I saw both Mondale's and Reagan's speeches to B'nai B'rith. Mondale was a dog, and Reagan was sensational. One reason why: Mondale read his speech from paper, so that he was always looking down, while Reagan used the teleprompters so that he maintained eye contact with the audience.

Why didn't Mondale use teleprompters? Can't the DNC afford them? Was there some technical difficulty?

I don't know, but I'll bet that Mondale considers using teleprompters in public in the same category as telling jokes in public -- something you shouldn't do. If I'm right, you'll never convince me he wants to win.

Today a commentator said, "If Reagan wins, he'll fall asleep at cabinet meetings. If Mondale wins, the cabinet will fall asleep." Right on!

----- To Thoreau -----

I just can't agree that Mondale is anywhere nearly as good as Reagan on stage. On Mondale's best day, he's as good as Reagan on an average day, and that's really the best I can say for Mondale's style.

I also believe that style is important. What good is a President that can't sell his policies? What good is it to you if you agree with the President's policies, if those policies never get adopted? If Mondale won, wouldn't the lack of a skilled visible leader be bad for the country?

John Xenakis, Framingham, MA

Answer 259 (of 331) ALAN, on THU, SEP 06 1984 at 23:18 (2792 characters)

Dear BBJ863 (wouldn't it be nicer if you had a human-type name? I'm sure you do of course, but not one accessible to me), in the context that I made the comparison Reagan/Hitler it was not to make the point that there was any similarity but the contrary, despite all his evil Hitler could not have done as much damage as Reagan could, simply because of our approx. 5000 million



tons of TNT equiv. nukes - about 3000 lbs of dynamite for each person on the planet - and the means to deliver them unstoppably just about anywhere in the world.. Yes, yes Chernenko can do about the same, and Carter, Ford, Johnson could have done the same. And we the people have told these presidents, that anytime they think its OK, of course take it seriously, of course, go ahead and do it. We have acquiesced in our nuclear strategy, our deterrent strategy, that of course he must/should/could do it in reprisal (revenge) and , whenever in his judgement it's right, preemptively... We are never more than three headlines away from nuclear war - three headlines each of which seem quite expectable, even "normal"...#1 Russia downs a plane, sinks a ship, places weapons on the other side of some line unacceptable to our President (That one has already t, emplaced troops somewhere unnacceptale, (that one has already happened 20 0r half a dozen times at least...#2 US President demands apology, reparation, removal, restitution, whatever is appropriate and not unreasonable from our point of view.... #3 Soviets do not respond in an acceptable fashion.. Each headline follows a few days after the preceeding. Got the picture? Now, what does Mr. President do? Its High Noon time at the OK corral. He dont back down from a fight, right. You tell me... On the "Soviet side, maybe they're wetting their pants, maybe they can't get the right consensus to respond at all, maybe something got lost in translation, maybe they love living dangerously, who knows and who cares.. At that moment the probability of war is a toss-up, fifty-fifty. And if there is a war, it will be nuclear within hours, it has to be. Whoever uses the nukes first will have an advantage. Yes. we've set it up that way with our integration of nukes into our forces everywhere capital ships, fast command response for nuke use requests, etc. Bye, bye world. It's too late then to have these nice discussions. It wont matter whether Reagan is himself or Hitler then.. Oh, and in the few hourse while that scenario is reaching its climax, send me a message on PARTI, would you please and tell me how sorry you are that you didn't think much about this earlier, and we'll all hold hands electronically for a little while before the onslaught. We'll all be thinking alike for a litle while.

Answer 260 (of 331) MIKE GREENLY, on THU, SEP 06 1984 at 23:22 (710 characters)

Thoreau: you misperceive me.

1) who i actually vote for will depend on who i think can do the best job for the country, whose policies on balance i most support, period. I'm still thinking about the substantative plusses and minuses of both candidates.

2) whether it should or shouldn't be that marketing plays such a huge role in our (or many other countries' elections) is not something i intend to debate -- because the fact is it \*does\* play such a large part.

more now -- via media -- than ever.

so given the fact that it \*does\* play such a part, it behooves any of us who care about a candidate to do what you can to make her/his marketing effort as strong as possible. mike

Answer 261 (of 331) ALAN, on THU, SEP 06 1984 at 23:26 (424 characters)

re #235, T/O, Reagan tested? That's like saying you trust a crapshooter to keep winning because he's won on two or three rolls or hasn't lost too badly. We democrats think he's chalked up losses in Grenada and Lebanon, but even looking at 9 it your way with him on a winning roll. You don't really believe he can control the outcome of those military adventures, as soon as one gets in really deep, do you?

Answer 262 (of 331) THOREAU, on THU, SEP 06 1984 at 23:57 (650 characters)

John Xenakis:

I do not see Mondale as lacking skill or visibility as a leader. If he was reading from a piece of paper, then I agree that was poor style. The teleprompters would be a good idea, but its hard to believe that they would be a gigantic factor in deciding the election. If you perceive Mondale as terminally dull, then you would \*have\* to say the same thing about Ford. How much did his dull, head-tilted-downward style affect his presidency? I think this race is more importantly about economic and political issues, not speaking style. The commentators have their opinions, you have yours, and I have mine.

t

Answer 263 (of 331) STEVE DEERING, on FRI, SEP 07 1984 at 01:22 (834 characters)

Hey, they both bore me to death. I mean politics are dull, period. Not because it is not important, but because getting anything done is soo slow.

And the election process is all hype and marketing. So, who cares "what a candiate has to syay" when in fact someone else told him what to say so that those who will vote for the man based on what he has to say will be influenced by what he has to say....

Getting something done does not come from a script. We need a way to evaluate our leaders as they perform. A vote of confidence, maybe. I can't tell from the way things are, if Mondale can do squat. I do know what to expect of Reagan. Am I happy with Reagan, yes. Am I satisfied, hell no.

So, how does one make a decision? Espically since there are no "real" issue differences between the two...

Answer 264 (of 331) STEVE DEERING, on FRI, SEP 07 1984 at 01:30 (216 characters)

Alan, your doomsday stroy has no basis of fact. Please give me some real information about the comming doom or leave this scary store for the camp fires. I still see no bomb threats. No nation is that stupid.

Answer 265 (of 331) THOREAU, on FRI, SEP 07 1984 at 01:42 (2422 characters)

Mike--

The candidate has the biggest responsibility to market \*himself\*. All I can

say is, the election isn't over yet. If Mondale loses this time around because of poor marketing strategy, maybe he will have learned something. I have enjoyed your columns about this marketing aspect of the presidency. Why don't you get someone in the Mondale campaign to join this conference. Your points are really on the mark and it would probably be useful information to them.

As for myself on the marketing issue, I intend to look for and at the substance of a candidate and what he says. I will appreciate good marketing to a degree, but after I have considered it to the fullest, 95% of *\*my\** decision will remain unresolved. Then I will look at other things, such as: Who's using real information, not just stating facts out of context, Who is interested in 'the greatest good for the *\*greatest\** number of people', What does that 'good' consist of; economically and socially, Who is interested and able to listen to the greatest portion of our society; not just partisan supporters, Who is truthfully interested in encouraging and allowing all of the American people in having a voice in our governmental affairs? And there are many other issues. Like I said, the election isn't over yet. Reagan has made a lot of mistakes and Mondale is making some. The label "dull" is a matter of perception and really not a very *\*specific\** adjective. Sure, we can be concerned about dullness, but in the context of many other issues. The way Reagan is repeating his 1980 rhetoric, I am finding him kind of dull as well. A sparkle in his eye or voice, a love of the microphone, a high-tech teleprompter don't impress me very much.

I guess what I'm trying to say by all of this is something too idealistic. Sometimes, marketing strategies work too hard at hiding the truth about a product (in this case candidate). A slick, successful marketing strategy doesn't necessarily make a good candidate. The argument, "Well, that's the way the *\*real\** world works." isn't satisfactory. I hope the voters can look at the "marketing" for what it is, often a smokescreen to hide truths. I think the heavier, the "slicker", the marketing strategy, the more suspicious the voters should become. The more prying they should become to get at the truth about issues, economic statistics, and the state of our society.

t

Answer 266 (of 331) MIKE GREENLY, on FRI, SEP 07 1984 at 05:42 (2060 characters)

thoreau: i love your answer just preceding. first of all, if you don't know, i'm an idealist myself. when you talk about how you approach the election, that's how *\*i\** want to approach the election, and that's how -- in the 4th grade -- I assumed everyone would approach the election.

i don't think it works that way -- that is, i think in truth people don't really take the time, or have the capacity, to do what you do. (lately i've become very aware of how poor the literacy rate in America still is -- if that problem is ever solved, via computer teaching or other new techniques -- it could have a profound political effect. getting literate americans to be more thoughtful, however, might be an even tougher challenge.)

the *\*best\** marketing -- my opinion -- doesn't get phoney stuff across about a

product, but gets the best truth of what it is across. obviously both sides are trying to do that -- well actually both sides are trying to win at a-n-y cost, probably.

i agree with you that the election isn't over: but mondale's chances are (or at least now seem) slimmer if he has to hope for a possible reagan gaffe that influences the public. (even that would be , conceivably, \*form\* rather than what really matters -- which is how the Republicans I asked about Reagans' microphone joke defend it, saying it was just surface, it doesn't matter.)

I have thought about sending some of this conference in to Mondale -- including your comments and John Xenakis's. If I do, I won't be publicizing the fact that I did. And besides, as you say, it's his responsibility. It seems to me someone close to him \*must\* have already discussed speech coaching. The purpose of which would be to get \*his\* points across b-e-t-t-e-r.

For his sake, one should hope for excellent commercials (which may be seen by many, many more people than those who watch his speeches), by an excellend performance in the debate -- and of course you're right, reagan \*could\* blunder badly in the next few months . . .

m.

Answer 267 (of 331) MIKE GREENLY, on FRI, SEP 07 1984 at 12:55 (438 characters)

Thoreau: \*please\* read today's front page story in the WallStreet Journal. I'm kindof burnt out writing about Mondale's marketing for a while, atleast, and I sense that you're that way about reading it. But this Journal article is about the \*Democrats\* own concerns about Mondale's campaign and the marketing-type difficulties it's having.

I believe you will recognize some familiar observations ...

best, mikein toronto

Answer 268 (of 331) THOREAU, on FRI, SEP 07 1984 at 23:44 (1386 characters)

Mike--

Hope I'm not giving the impression that I have a 4th grader's idealism. I think it just means I've resisted "caving-in" to the influences of the 'real world' since 4th grade. However, it's a situation I'm willing to live with (even the jibes, he, he, he). You mentioned that you think the \*best\* marketing gets the \*best\* truths across. I wonder how all of the political advertising over the past several years would stand-up next to this model for the \*best\* marketing? I tend to think that a very small percentage of the marketing techniques used by most industries or organizations would conform with this model. I believe most strategies are based as much on \*withholding\* information as they are on revealing any. Information is selected to reinforce a desired image, one carefully chiseled out by some account executive who probably has had no long association with his client.

As for the literacy and thoughtfulness of the 'average' voter, what can I say? Some are, some aren't. If the majority of them are illiterate or apathetic, then you and I should start working to make them less so. And while we're at it, we should persuade them to focus a super critical eye on the marketing and media images (of the candidates) being projected during this election. Got to go, I've been called to the Principal's office (he, he, just kidding).

t

Answer 269 (of 331) LISA CARLSON, on SAT, SEP 08 1984 at 09:33 (1052 characters)

From a strategy standpoint, Reagan needs a little help too.

He is going to *\*have\** to raise taxes, but he is going to have to appear reluctant to do it up until the last moment. Therefore, he needs a MAJOR symbolic gesture which will allow him to claim that this will be THE LAST TIME taxes will ever have to be raised - sort of like a mortgage burning ceremony.

Stockman has said (privately - but this is Washington - grin) that the Rep. who comes up with the idea which works in this regard will get the pick of the cabinet appointments in the next administration.

The rules are: you can't touch the defense budget (although they realize that it is FULL of fat - but this is strategy after all); you can't touch social security; the "gesture" has to

have credibility on the face of it - it has to *\*look\** like it will really save enough money to prevent future deficits.

Maybe someone here on PARTI can get the brass ring - then, if the Republicans win, we'll have our own mole in the administration <grin>.

Answer 270 (of 331) TJ, on MON, SEP 10 1984 at 20:34 (2820 characters)

ALAN: I just had the chance to get caught up here, and think your response to BBJ863 back on Thursday requires further comment.

Your point that ALL US presidents since the second world war have been responsible for the level of response to situations is quite true, notice the funny lack of nuclear blasts? Perhaps they have been aware of the consequence of an all out exchange. The lack of Soviet detonations might indicate to a calmer observer, that they too are none to willing to end the world.

Our reliance on MAD <by the past presidents> is indeed silly, revenge is hardly the goal of a national defense policy. Guess what president is attempting to shift the US away from it? Yep, Reagan! He has offered the soviets a solid proposal for REDUCTION of the number of nuclear weapons, but they have left the talks. He has also begun a realistic program of defending the US from attack. The terror of a 'suprise' first strike, and its hand-maiden 'launch-on-warning' will be reduced if not totally eliminated.

Given these steps, I am suprised to read such 'tale tales' as you wrote.

We all can imagine some kind of circumstance that would cause the missiles to fly, bet mine will be even scarier than yours!

It is a warm spring day in Moscow, the priemier has had a fine lunch, and has taken a stroll through the Kremlin courtyard. On his return to the office, the medical aid informs him that he has cancer, and only a few months to live.

Being, so informed, he says "well, I don't care, take out BOSTON!"

There being no alternative <such as a BMD system to stop the incoming missile> Boston gets turned into a parking lot for the next century, and the rest of the world is destroyed due to the 'inevitability' of the global holocaust. {why talk when you can kill yourself??}

Silly?? Scary??

That scenario, or the last bit of it anyway, is why this president has changed the direction of our policies to give both time and alternatives to succeeding presidents rather than the existing lack therof.

The main reason the Freeze movement is not succeeding is due to the terror tactics it needs to gain any ground. Until the movement can calm down the rhetoric, and take a more realistic world-view it will continue to have problems.

To say that there ONLY alternatives are total disarmement or obliteration is sheer folly. To simply hold the numbers at the exisiting levels accomplishes nothing, since there will still be "about 3000 lbs. of dynamite for each person in the world".

The only SANE course then seems to be a dual track approach;

1. Reduce the effectiveness of an attack {BMD to limit possibility of a successful first strike}.
2. Reduce the numbers {STARTs central idea, not a soviet favorite!}

TJ

Answer 271 (of 331) MIKE GREENLY, on SUN, OCT 07 1984 at 22:51 (690 characters)

The First Debate  
-----

My bottom line opinion: net gain for Mondale.

He was smart to

- a) talk slower, stronger,

less whiney (most times)

b) be suitably respectful  
and gracious to Reagan

c) Followup on points,  
including his handling  
of Reagan's  
"There you go again" comment.

In general, I think Mondale came across stronger and Reagan weaker -- vs.  
relative positions going in -- than most people expected.

Reagan's lead is commanding. But Mondale, I believe, made genuine progress.  
For the first time since the Campaign began. While Reagan, in my opinion, was  
"off".

Answer 272 (of 331) DIANE W., on MON, OCT 08 1984 at 00:02 (1142 characters)

True, Mike, true.

I thought the 'there you go again' routine was entertaining, and at the same  
time forcefully made Mondale's point.

Mondale seemed more animated, cool, in control, and he really did his  
homework. I thought he showed himself to be a gentleman in his graciousness  
toward Regan, and an honest man when answering the 'when does life begin?'  
question with '\*I\* don't know...'

Reagan seemed to be an old man at many points - not thinking fast,  
floundering, even admitting that he was confused at one point - and he almost  
NEVER answered a question directly.

In his closing statement, Reagan seemed tired, old, distracted, leaving me  
with the impression that he's too old a man to withstand 90 minutes of  
rigorous debate.

I was quite surprised that there was no mention of Ferraro, though there was  
mention of Bush's taxes.

But I guess we'll see about that on thursday night, when Bush and Ferraro  
debate.

I wouldn't miss it for the world.

He'll probably tear her apart on foreign policy, but he better be dam careful  
how he does it, if he wants to look good when it's over.

Diane

Answer 273 (of 331) CYNIC AL, on MON, OCT 08 1984 at 00:22 (988 characters)

Mike, I agree with your assessment of the debate. I really hoped Mondale would do well, and I think he did. Unfortunately, I don't think what we saw tonight will make a truly \*lasting\* impression on the American people. Pres. Reagan did appear to be more nervous than I expected him to be, but I think he \*also\* made a pretty good appearance.

As far as the overall 'feel' of the debate goes, while I realize that Barbara Walters was doing her job in admonishing both the audience and the candidates when necessary, she seemed a little too overbearing. It \*is\* too bad that the candidates could only agree on three journalists instead of four. The impression I got from the first half hour or so, was that the candidates very quickly and easily were able to NOT answer the questions addressed to them. In other words, they said something like, "Well, that \*was\* a good question, but let me address \*this\* problem, instead." Of course, \*that\*'s politics...

Al

Answer 274 (of 331) T/O, on MON, OCT 08 1984 at 20:55 (2750 characters)

Mike, As much as I hate to admit it I agree with you. Even with some of what Diane says. Reagan was off, looked tired, and Mondale did very well.

Of course it was a no win situation for the President. All he could hope for was to not let the possible damage get too out of hand. A debate always favors the underdog and is hazardous for the incumbent. Both Johnson and Nixon refused to debate when they were incumbents and won by landslides. Of course now that there is beginning to be somewhat of a tradition established to hold debates the press would have killed Reagan if he had tried to duck them this year.

The incumbent invariably becomes the issue in a political debate because he has a record (or in this case a more recent record) to attack. Mondale was able (with the help from the press, because these are the more current issues) to make Reagan defend his record while Reagan had a very difficult time getting people to relate to Mondale's voting record since it was so long ago and was not a national record.

As far as the polls go, Reagan surely has no where to go but down. Mondale is so far behind that those supporting him had been reduced to the real hardcore party activists who wouldn't vote for Reagan if Mondale never even showed up. There is absolutely no way that Reagan was going to come up in the Polls even if he had performed much better than he did.

Just allowing Mondale to appear on the same stage with Reagan makes him appear more credible and of course Mondale really helped himself by talking directly to Reagan and asking him questions rather than sticking to the format that had been defined. This made him appear to be an equal with Reagan and projected leadership.

I suspect that damage will be limited because the last debate will be held over two weeks before election which is ample time to repair any damage if you have money to spend and Reagan does.



Diane---Actually one of the first rules of politics is never to answer a question directly (unless it was one of your plants). Not good debate style, but necessary for winning campaigns.

I am looking forward to the VP debates. I don't know what to expect. I truly believe that Bush could tear her apart on either domestic or foreign policy but don't know if he will have the guts to or if he should. It is a touchy situation. She can probably get away with anything and Bush doesn't know if he can get away with fighting back. And he is at his best when he is fighting. Reagan looks good being gracious but Bush generally looks better when attacking (and so does Ferraro) so it could really throw him off.

T/O

Answer 275 (of 331) JOHN XENAKIS, on TUE, OCT 09 1984 at 06:43 (2978 characters)

>> HOW THE REAGAN CAMPAIGN CAN UNRAVEL <<

A month or two ago, I restated here the conventional wisdom that Mondale could not really do anything much to win, but that Reagan could still lose, only if one of two things happened: (1) Reagan made a major gaffe, or (2) Reagan got ill, thus reminding people of his age. Something happened Sunday night which lights the way for variation on the second of these.

What happened is that Mondale did much better than expected. He was positive, forceful, and confident. Gone was the whining and the doom and gloom of the old Mondale. Mondale won decisively.

But more than that, he was \*young\*. The difference in age between the two was never more apparent than seeing the two next to each other on stage, Mondale seeming to be entirely together, and Reagan appearing confused about whether he's supposed to be rebutting or summing up.

I have seen several news pieces since Sunday which contain the following message: That Mondale won the debate. But that that didn't change any votes. The polls to be taken on Wednesday and Thursday should show Mondale gaining 3 or 4 points, with no real long range affect on the election.

I agree with that interpretation as far as it goes, but I suspect that most voters who are going to change their minds are now suspending their judgment until the second debate on October 21. Many people who were taken by surprise in the first debate by the difference between the two are going to know what to look for in the second debate: Is Reagan simply too old to be a competent President any more? Mondale is going to have a great deal of ammunition to throw at Reagan in a foreign policy debate, and if Reagan can't handle himself convincingly, he could be in real trouble.

The age issue cuts both ways, of course. Many people realize that the ability to win a debate is not really related to ability to run the country, and some experts will surely come on the air and point out that his life expectancy is

much more than four more years.

But we're talking about what happens in the mind of the voter. He may say one thing now, but when he gets into the voting booth, he may well make an emotional decision to switch his vote to Mondale, just because he feels more comfortable with a younger person.

I understand that Reagan didn't prepare very much for Sunday night's debate, and that in his trial runs with Dave Stockman (playing the part of Mondale), Stockman won consistently. If Reagan doesn't do better next time, then his presumed landslide may turn into a real horse race.

Incidentally, a lot of this assumes that Mondale won't blow it either. Mondale has shot himself in the foot so many times in the last two months, that it's hard to believe he won't do it again. If the new Mondale turns back into the old Mondale, the people in his party may organize a lynch mob.

John Xenakis, Framingham, MA Answer 276 (of 331) MIKE GREENLY, on TUE, OCT 09 1984 at 08:23 (1926 characters)

re: John Xenakis's recent "what if"

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I agree with you John. In fact, with T/O on one side, Diane W. on the other, and many other national commentators all piping up in the media, the degree of consensus on what happened Sunday night is unusually high.

What's unsure is: what it means.

I've been fantasizing what Reagan's people are saying to him now, and how they might get him to prepare better for the second debate. I wish I could listen in!

I'll bet, too, that next time there are more Reagan family members to crowd onto the stage, so it's not just Ron and Nancy against a stagefull of young Mondales at the end. All those Mondale hands Reagan had to shake!

=====

But Reagan's lead is so commanding.

I agree with John Xenakis that a lot of voter decisions are made at the last days and minutes. But in order to win, Mondale will need to take \*maximum\*, continuing, and aggressive advantage of any shift from the first debate.

Not only must he do as well vs. Reagan in the second one, but Ferraro must do as well vs. Bush

-- and --

Mondale must avoid on the Campaign Trail slipping back to the persona he previously projected. Easier said than done! I don't think this is easy for him. There is a different "gestalt" for him (or anyone) on the road than at a Podium next to the President's.

I suggest we all watch Mondale on the road now to see if we see evidence of any progression in his video style on the televised news -- or is he the exact same Mondale we saw pre-Debates.

If he is unchanged, with no smoothing or Presidentializing resulting from his debate victory and internal psyche, then I'd say the debates by themselves will \*not\* be enough. If however, he's more overtly a leader, and if the crowds are more galvanized and galvanizing -- well then he has a chance . . .

Answer 277 (of 331) JOHN XENAKIS, on TUE, OCT 09 1984 at 18:31 (972 characters)

During a photo opportunity today, Sam Donaldson asked Reagan about whether he's too old. Reagan replied, "I'll arm-wrestle Mondale any time."

This evening on the MacNeil-Lehrer News Hour, there was a big discussion of Reagan's age. George McGovern took the position that Reagan is simply getting too old to be President. Judy Woodruff asked, "Are you saying there should be a cutoff age after which you can't be president?" McGovern backed off a little, but stuck to his basic position.

The most emotional issue of Reagan's Presidency has been Social Security. Mondale raised this emotional issue on Sunday evening. Now, this issue is in danger of being replaced by an even more emotional issue and an especially ironic one.

Watch these two "old age" issues. They could go in either direction, and they're the **\*\*only\*\*** issues presently on the horizon on which Mondale has a chance of beating Reagan.

John Xenakis, Framingham, MA

Answer 278 (of 331) JOHN XENAKIS, on WED, OCT 10 1984 at 18:32 (322 characters)

----- To Mike Greenly -----

The new issue of Life Magazine has an article about what you have to do to get a ticket on the shuttle in the next four years.

According to the article, you are going to be competing for a ticket with Jane Fonda and Tom Hayden. Good luck!

John Xenakis, Framingham, MA

Answer 279 (of 331) MIKE GREENLY, on THU, OCT 11 1984 at 17:56 (4826 characters)

Debate Day #2 -- Musing and Burlbling  
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Now I'm on the plane from Dallas to Reno. I told my client I'd work as late or early as they want -- gladly round the clock, for sure, for sure --

but  
I \*must\*  
take time out  
to see the debate tonight.

>> Got to! <<

Golly, golly -- I am stimulated by this. So much pressure on both sides. The election campaign is alive again with uncertainty and danger, the chance to hit or miss.

I just read yesterday's and today's New York Times (no chance while I was at INTECH). I keep imagining Ferraro and Bush getting ready today. What's it like for them? For their advisors?

My first morning of college, my father and I had breakfast before he dropped me off at campus. All I could eat without choking was a sixth of one canned peach. I was so nervous. How are Bush and Ferraro eating today, I wonder? How is Barbara Bush -- whom I'm just beginning to dislike -- relating to George today? I hate the way she stares at him while he talks. So artificial. So overtly a pose. I really can't say what I think of her, but it rhymes with "rich". (Sorry. Couldn't resist -- I blame her for that little mini-flap too, off the record or not.)

And how is John Zaccaro today? Is he crowding his wife? Making her tea? Giving advice? (I'm not that fond of him either.)

James Reston says it isn't the age issue with Reagan -- it's simply that the man's mind was exposed at last. But I can empathize with the reaction of a significant voter segment -- mind, schmind -- the economy's better and America's stronger. Reagan gets the credit.

Debate #1 did unleash new factors and catalysts. For myself, I'm still balancing issues of my own. As much as I care about the economy and American strength -- and I care a lot -- I also worry considerably about more Reagan Supreme Court Justices, and what they'd stand for in future decisions. The more Jerry Falwell is quoted with his peppy anticipation, the more I cringe.

Then there are my selfish, petty, and really trivial concerns. Like, how do I most easily get to visit outer space? Which President would help this electronic journalist the most? (By now, you know I'm not kidding.)

I almost called the League of Women Voters to see if I could be one of the Debate Questioners. Then I decided that my fundamental political naivete wouldn't serve viewers well at all. I didn't apply.

But I \*know\* I could write about being up "out there". I'd give so much to tell you what weightlessness really feels like. About the stars up close in the night. About eating with no gravity (I'd put an entry into "Eats".) About the earth.

John Xenakis pointed out the LIFE article for me. As soon as I hit Reno, I'll hunt it down. But how can I succeed if I have to compete with Jane Fonda?!

My friend T/O may have occasion to visit the White House ---> if Reagan is re-elected. He's been generous enough to say he'd put in a word for me over the appetizers. I'm going to a gym these days, and I'd swear off all ice cream if I thought it would help. I really would.

If they have a cellular telephone, I should be able to log onto Parti, right? Just check at the Source Command Prompt for:

> Access Outer Space, Earth  
(300 baud?)

But if Reagan isn't elected, T/O stays put in Oklahoma. How do I most likely hop into that rocket? With T/O's help if Reagan wins? Or Lisa Carlson's, if Mondale gets it?

I know I should be more embarrassed at this naked political calculation. I'm just counting on your understanding as my hand twitches at an imaginary Vote Lever, while I think my selfish thoughts.

After all, my conscience warns me, one of the issues of this election is not whether Mike gets to go into outer space, but what \*else\* will be flying around in the skies? From which countries? With what capacity to do which horrific things to the planet?

And -- down here -- not what happens to my writer's byline -- but what happens to the Deficit? To the Dollar? To Employment? Fairness? Civil Liberties?

All of these questions have been rolling around in my head. Because Debate #2 has greater importance now, given the first one.

Both Bush and Ferraro, I think, will be strong debaters. But there's more likely to be a winner, than not. So there's likely to be some \*result\* from tonight.

What result?

Can Geraldine avoid being too strident? Can George avoid losing his temper? Will Bobby Ewing regain his sight and marry Jenna Wade?

I'll be there.

You bet!

(Mike, landing in Reno.)

Answer 280 (of 331) JOHN XENAKIS, on THU, OCT 11 1984 at 21:44 (1858 characters)

----- To Mike Greenly -----

Your remark about Barbara Bush pulled my chain a little, and I'd like to comment on it.

I never liked Carter very much, but I always felt that the press criticism of his wife's attending cabinet meetings was unfair. What's wrong with a President asking advice from a trusted aide, just because that aide happens to be his wife? And I never felt that Nancy's "We're doing all we can" remark was all that bad either.

You say that Barbara Bush staring at her husband during speeches looks posed. Maybe it does. But what is she supposed to do with her eyes? Should she look at the ceiling? Look at her hands?

Here's a woman in the limelight, subject to constant scrutiny from tv cameras and reporters. The pressure is enormous. She has almost no privacy whatsoever. Simple pleasures, like walking through a department store or going out for a walk, are denied to her. If she ever loses her composure (as she apparently did this week with her remark about her Ferraro), it becomes a \*national\* \*news\* \*event\* for heaven's sakes. How many remarks do you make during the course of the day that would embarrass you if they appeared on the front page of the New York Times?

I think the wives of politicians, whether Republicans or Democrats, should be left alone. If a politician is lucky (or clever) enough to have a wife who will look at him adoringly during a speech, I think that's a plus for that politician. He knows that when the chips are down, there's at least one person he can always count on.

[Incidentally, the above remarks don't apply to husbands of female politicians. I think a husband who follows his wife around and watches adoringly while she speaks would be ridiculed because he wasn't out earning a living.]

John Xenakis, Framingham, MA

Answer 281 (of 331) T/O, on THU, OCT 11 1984 at 22:40 (362 characters)

I think Bush won although Ferraro didn't do bad.

I can tell you that this will be a major step forward for Bush in moving into the lead for the 88 Republican nomination. He did so well in handling the issues that are dear to the conservatives in the party and who have never quit trusted him that it should put him way in the lead.

T/O

Answer 282 (of 331) MIKE GREENLY, on THU, OCT 11 1984 at 23:25 (2974 characters)

The VP Debates

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First Impressions

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Bush sounds strong. A bit mean, a bit angry. But strong. Like someone who \*could\* have the strength to go on and be President.

I don't think he should be talking about "if they win". And as a friend says, he seems "twitchy".

=====  
She seems strong, as well. Also tough. Although she doesn't handle the question on polls well, with her weak laugh and "I don't believe in polls".

Later Impressions  
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He does not come across as likeable. He is strident. Even phoney with his occasional laughs. It seems he is shouting. He is careful to always say "Mrs." Ferraro, not "Congresswoman".  
She is standing up firmly to Bush. She is able to show humor in dealing with the tax question. She is good on her feet. She handles Bush's condescension by bringing it out in the open. I believe she starts out kind of hard to like -- too tough, too harsh -- but you get used to her. Especially with Bush as a foil.

Had Bush been wise enough or able enough to be gentler, more subtle -- she would not be looking as good. That's my opinion.

He does better, though, I think with the South American questions. More knowledgeable. More assured. But still too much anger. I think he's showing off his facile knowledge -- effectively. Though she doesn't come across, at all, as ignorant. She's smart to mention all her international travel.

He seems to preach. But he's clever as he changes her point on the Soviets meeting with other leaders into a compliment to U.S. stature.

She doesn't seem nearly as authoritative as he does when she talks about Mondale's negotiating stance with the Russians. (Did you notice Norma Quarles asking about the "Carter-Mondale" ticket instead of "Mondale-Ferraro"?)

Bush is foolish to throw in the World Series stuff. He mishandles his final question in total.

Bottom Line  
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I believe:

He is more knowledgeable. She is faster on her feet.

Both are strong, and it comes across. Both are tough, and it comes across.

I believe he will appeal to the segment of the market who has doubts about

U.S. strength. But I think he came on *\*too\** strong. And something seems off to me in his closing talk. It seems stagey. It plays to the audience in the theater, but I've got some doubts about the degree of its effectiveness on TV.

She, in her final statement, starts out *\*wrong\** to say "I hope somebody wants to applaud" when she's finished. But she comes across, I believe, as more sincere than he does. Though -- *\*not\** as powerful a leader. It's a more emotional appeal. And, in some stereotypical senses, a more "female" one. Though a strong ending.

Final opinion: Both of them did pretty well. But she did better. More believable. He didn't lose that much; she gained a lot.

Answer 283 (of 331) DIANE W., on FRI, OCT 12 1984 at 02:10 (1820 characters)

I thought the VP debate positively riveting.

I came in a few moments late - about 10 minutes in. I thought Ferraro calm, competent and sure of herself. I thought her response to Bush wonderful when he tried to 'teach' her, and Bush himself only succeeded in looking petty. As he did with the "Whine on Harvest Moon" comment. And the world series comment.

Ferraro has a tough road to walk. If she's too animated, she's a 'hysterical female'. If she's too firm she's an 'ice cube'. I thought her presentation JUST right, and her closing remarks extremely well done. She held her own against Mr. Resume with very little difficulty. I would trust the country in her hands.

As a matter of fact, I think she could dispatch armies with great strength and resolve, should it ever become necessary.

Bush was strong on foreign policy, true. But not that glaringly the winner in any arena of the debate. But I think Ferraro was a clear winner in several.

And her closing remarks were superb. The cadence of 'that's patriotic' was well done, even if the 'we have not yet begun to fight' was a tad too much.

I'm glad I'm a Democrat. I'm proud of Ferraro.

And here's something bizarre. In the closing remarks, Bush looked for all the world like Reagan. His voice, his facial gestures, the movement of his head - all Reagan.

Did anyone else notice the parroting?

Still, both are in the frustrating position of being second bananas. They HAVE to speak to the platforms of their running mates. They're not allowed to be real politicians, but only sidekicks, paying a lot of lip service.

Also, did anyone else think it strange that Bush had no rebuttal to Ferraro on the human rights issue?



I like Gerry Ferraro better than I ever did now. I hope they win.

Diane

Answer 284 (of 331) STEVE DEERING, on FRI, OCT 12 1984 at 02:18 (784 characters)

Lets talk style for a moment. Her head tilting from side to side drove me nuts and reminded me of my grandmother (whom I love dearly) talking to me about this or that, but with no real purpose or backbone. She was soothing when speaking of taking care of every poor person, and disadvataged.

But, I am the "class" of people that pay for those poor peoples meal ticket. Her appeal to that vote is offensive to me for several reasons. But most important is the fact that I will pay for it, and that nothing of lasting benefit can come from liberal programs.

Bush can across as a strong defender of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. But, he also came across as a jerk. I say it was a tie. I am glad they are both running as vice and not pres.

Answer 285 (of 331) MIKE GREENLY, on FRI, OCT 12 1984 at 03:52 (750 characters)

-----to john xenakis-----

John: when I said what I did about Barbara Bush, I wondered myself what I'd rather have her do. I don't dispute the value of loyalty, nor the difficulties of being in the public eye. And I'm sure I don't dislike her with nearly the intensity you felt. I guess all I wished for -- and believe -- was/is that she could be a bit more genuine. No big deal.

Prob'ly I was just ticked at her for the Ferraro comment to reporters. Of course, I don't want my every word in the New York Times. But then, I'm not trying to get into the White House. (And I don't personally agree with the degree of invisibility you're willing to grant to White House Families.) So let's just disagree on this one.

mike

Answer 286 (of 331) MIKE GREENLY, on FRI, OCT 12 1984 at 10:09 (880 characters)

Looks like I was wrong. The overnight ABC poll showed 42% believe Bush won, 32% choose Ferraro. T/O was right. What it teaches me, I think, is that more Americans \*like\* the more aggressive Bush style that I found strident, harsh, and a turn- off. And that the credibility and naturalness I found in Ferraro was outweighed for the majority by her less frontal style (face in notes a lot) and her obvious (understandable) lesser mastery of foreign issues. What I found too tough in Bush, more Americans must have considered "strong". I'm interested in learning what appeals to which people and why about \*everything\*

-- live and learn. mike p.s. just heard that more men felt bush's victory was decisive; women were almost 50/50. interesting.

Answer 287 (of 331) DIANE W., on FRI, OCT 12 1984 at 16:36 (164 characters)

That IS interesting, Mike.

What it shows me is that people have already made up their minds. In both the debates, so far, I felt my candidate won. Diane

Answer 288 (of 331) SML, on FRI, OCT 12 1984 at 17:39 (68 characters)

I didn't know you were for Bush, Diane.

<SNICKER!!!>

Sherwin

Answer 289 (of 331) ROEBUCK, on FRI, OCT 12 1984 at 19:27 (1292 characters)

I scored Bush the winner, but primarily because he was the only candidate of the four who even attempted to stifle applause for a point he was making. Other than that, I saw it as a tie, agreeing with almost every comment I've read here so far.

On a more general note, I've been ruminating on this election and have come to the conclusion that most people agree with Reagan on some issues and with Mondale on others, and are voting for Reagan because the issues they agree with are the most important to them. Why can't we have a centrist candidate? Whatever happened to conservative democrats? Liberal republicans? Where are the candidates like Kennedy (JFK) who believed in a strong defense, lower income taxes, but also believed in human rights (called civil rights back then)? The vast majority (I believe) of the American people are moderates. Why

do the major parties keep drifting farther to the left and right of the bulk of their constituents. Twenty years ago I was a conservative democrat -- now there's no such thing. Eight years ago I became a liberal Republican because the Democrats squeezed me out. Where can I go when the Republicans squeeze me out?

Sorry for the rambling, but I think someone should answer these kinds of questions before 1988.

-- R

Answer 290 (of 331) T/O, on FRI, OCT 12 1984 at 19:52 (1020 characters)

Roebuck--

You can go where the rest of the voters are going. In 1960 only 17% of the people called themselves Independents. Today it is 34% and rising. Both the Democrat and Republican party have been losing ground for years (although the

Republicans have reversed that in the last year, but it may be temporary)

The days of the party control are gone. Mondale is the last of the Democrat party candidates. Hart was not one, his appeal was directly through the media and around the party system. Reagan's rise from 1976 through 1980 was exactly the same thing. The party was not behind him ever, he used the media, not the party machinery until much later to gain the nomination. True he now has the party behind him but that is the power of the incumbency. Come 1988 its up for grabs in both parties and Megatrends are here. No more decisions by the party power---Nixon was the last in the Republican party and Mondale will be the last in the Democrat.

T/O

Answer 291 (of 331) SML, on SAT, OCT 13 1984 at 11:37 (364 characters)

Roebuck, I see people like Hart in the Dems and Gingrich in the GOP trying to cap[ital]ize on the trends you're lamenting. I agree -- the mainstream candidates and parties don't seem to represent anything but the diehard active party membership -- a small proportion of the potential voting populace. 1988 should be very, very interesting...

Sherwin

Answer 292 (of 331) MIKE GREENLY, on SUN, OCT 21 1984 at 21:39 (3988 characters)

The Final Debate

-----

First, a surface observation: Mondale seems to me to start out speaking in a lower, stronger voice than normal. But I notice the bags under his eyes more than ever, which tend to age his appearance. (Is he wearing less makeup this time?)

Mondale's initial foray into answering the South American question seems too long, and not as authoritative as he was in the last debate. He tries to get in too many of his overall leadership themes too quickly.

====

Reagan starts out stronger, but then seems to wander.

To be honest with you, at the end of the first set of questions and rebuttals, including Reagan's heavy irony to Mondale, I am personally not \*feeling\* -- as I react purely from instinct to what I see on the screen -- as secure and as confident with the thought of \*either\* man as the "ideal" Leader or President as I wish I did.

-----

A half hour into the debate, I'm feeling that both men are doing better than they did in the first debate in spontaneously a) answering questions, b) working their own themes into the discussions, c) putting down the other.

I am frustrated by barbs and charges from each -- that are disturbing and potentially convincing to me -- but which never seem to get to get followed up in depth to help me learn more of substance.

-----

Reagan is smart the way he handles his disagreement with tough questions.  
Like:

"Morton, No." A simple, strong beginning.

Both men have been coached well. Mondale seems strong to me with his simple Groucho Marx "who do you believe" quote and his summary of warnings in Lebanon. Reagan is \*perfect\* in his handling of the age question. Mondale is ready with Truman's "the buck stops here" quote.

I think Mondale weakens himself when he continues to ask for Bush's "apology", but I think it's clever to bring in "outside experts" like the author of Deadly Gambit to support his contentions about Reagan's peace leadership. Reagan is acting much, much more Presidential and strong this time around, but I do think Mondale is scoring some genuine points -- or at least doubts -- about his record.

On balance, midway through the debate: I feel the score is pretty evenly matched, on strong points and disappointments on each side.

-----

By the end of the debate, I'm aware of how over my head so much of this discussion has been. It seems to me that Mondale never satisfactorily handled the question of how he'd be strong on arms reduction verification. And, among other things, I'm unsure of whether he's right or not about "computers deciding" to launch missiles.

It's very possible that you -- you -- understand a lot more in depth the real military/strategic details and choices that were discussed. But I believe that most American voters are about as fuzzy as I am. And surely some key decision factors are appropriately classified anyway. So then what does the voter do?

What am I left with?

Impressions only. Just impressions.

I bet that Mondale would find it all a lot harder, if he were President, than he's talking. But despite Reagan's genuine skill at spontaneously tossing barbs back to Mondale, I don't end up feeling he has real "command" of the President's job.

So I've watched, intently, an hour and a half I don't understand to \*my\* total satisfaction. I've seen Mondale work in his "themes", I've seen Reagan come off much stronger than before.

---> I call it a draw.

On balance, a draw might be an actual loss for Mondale. He needed to win and have Reagan \*lose\* in order to close the still-wide opinion gap. Instead both men got B's, I'd say. Personally, I'd give an A to \*neither\* man this time.

Do I think tonight affected the election in a significant way? No I don't.

What's your opinion?

----

Mike

Answer 293 (of 331) T/O, on SUN, OCT 21 1984 at 23:02 (526 characters)

I think Reagan won but it may be that I just think he did much better than he did in the last one.

It was tough for Mondale because he has been all over the board on foreign policy during the campaign depending on what group he was speaking to. Thus he had too many contradictory positions to defend. As for the results. This is the finish of Mondale. His only hope had been the glimmer that was raised because Reagan looked old and tired in the first debate. That is old news now.

T/O

Answer 294 (of 331) RUBE, on MON, OCT 22 1984 at 00:00 (496 characters)

Had the unusual experience of being on the road during the debate so had to LISTEN to it on the radio instead of SEEING it. I'm a bit surprised at the difference for me, not being confused with the visual games...I think Mondale won the first point dramatically, Reagan really sounded weak. From there on Reagan completely dominated in my opinion...thought Mondale sounded like a desperate man grabbing at straws, even babbling, for the last three fourths of the debate.

rube...

Answer 295 (of 331) CYNIC AL, on MON, OCT 22 1984 at 00:27 (488 characters)

I call it Mondale ahead slightly, on style points. I think Reagan made a serious mistake by not having a cohesive summation, babbling on about driving along the California coast, and then running out of time. However, Mondale at times seemed \*too\* prepared, his answers appearing to be rote-memorization.

This was \*not\* the decisive victory Mondale needed to get the majority of the undecided vote. It sure won't change the minds of those who have already decided.

Al

Answer 296 (of 331) DIANE W., on MON, OCT 22 1984 at 01:06 (1848 characters)

I think it was a tremendous gaffe for Reagan to blow it about the CIA in Nicaragua and then retrack and say there WAS no head CIA man in Nicaragua.

In the same segment, when Mondale commented on the seriousness of the CIA death manual, Reagan said Mondale had raised so many serious points that needed addressing, he was going to respond to something different altogether (!) and proceeded to call Mondale on the statement (supposedly false) that missiles sent could be recalled.

Mondale says he'll release the text, time and place of the statement tomorrow, so we'll see. The president was adamant that he didn't say it.

Also very naive was Reagan's statement about \*sharing\* the Star Wars Defense with the Russians. Suuuuuuuure. When he waffled on exactly what the defense of the country is, and said he has Chiefs of Staff to advise him, Mondale made a strong comeback by saying that a president SHOULD know what the defense of the country is, and had his facts and figures really clear when he spoke about it.

I was frustrated with Mondale. I wanted him to be more animated, to do something almost...daring - I don't know. (Mike, I understand the Mondale camp hired Burt Reynolds' make-up man to do Wally for this one.) Interesting to me is that of the entire debate, the only segment they could really rehearse was the closing remarks - and Reagan blew it! I honestly think he got LOST in a rambling anecdote about the time capsule, and lost sight of his time and purpose. And this cost him points - because this is where he looks the strongest - in the humorous, \*nice\* talks he gives (to wit - he was just going into a killer talk about America's youth.)

Mondale won on factual content - but no smashing success.

He needs a lot more, and I have a sinking feeling he can't pull it off.

Diane

Answer 297 (of 331) DIANE W., on MON, OCT 22 1984 at 14:38 (672 characters)

As to the matter of the quote that Reagan made about recalling nuclear missiles:

From a news conference on May 13, 1982 -

"...the missile sitting in its silo in which there could be the possibility of miscalculation....once the button is pushed, there is no defense;there is no recall.

"Those that are carried in bombers...in ships of one kind or another...those instruments can be intercepted. THEY CAN BE RECALLED IF THERE HAS BEEN A MISCALCULATION. And so they don't have the same, I think, psychological effect that the presence of those other ones that, once launched, they're on their way, and there's no preventing, no stopping them."

Diane W.

Answer 298 (of 331) T/O, on MON, OCT 22 1984 at 20:23 (614 characters)

Diane,

Thanks for putting up the Reagan quote.

I assume from your upper case in the quote that you seem to think that Mondale's charge was valid. I must disagree with you again. It is perfectly obvious that what Reagan was saying was that the bombers and ships could be recalled.

-----

Mondale certainly didn't do the nuclear freeze cause any good. Of course a uni-lateral freeze is the only one that is verifiable without on site inspection and Mondale, was left looking like an idiot when asked for specific weapons that could be verified.

T/O

Answer 299 (of 331) DIANE W., on MON, OCT 22 1984 at 22:59 (68 characters)

"those that are IN bombers...IN ships...THEY CAN BE RECALLED..." Answer 300 (of 331) ROEBUCK, on TUE, OCT 23 1984 at 00:43 (622 characters)

The quote said the "instruments" could be recalled. T/O thinks "instruments" are ships and bombers. Diane W. thinks "instruments" are missiles. Reagan, who should know what the antecedent was, says he meant ships and bombers. Do I believe a man clarifying a quote, or one using an ambiguity of the English language for political gain? Anyone who has never used imprecise English or had a statement misinterpreted can go to the head of the class. I believe Reagan clarified the statement, and that Mondale was flogging a dead horse when he said he'd produce the quote. It made him look petty.

Roebuck

Answer 301 (of 331) ALAN, on TUE, OCT 23 1984 at 21:49 (6176 characters)

Mike, I promised you a reading list to begin to help you and others who feel they just don't know enough to judge on the facts which candidate to credit on the war/peace issue. Here goes:

**MUST READING (AND FASCINATING TOO) ON NUCLEAR WAR WITH THE RUSSIANS  
HOW WE GOT INTO THIS DILEMMA AND HOW TO GET OUT OF IT.**

**TWELVE BOOKS THAT CAN SAVE THE WORLD!**

These books have the facts and the concepts that will enable us to save hundreds of billions of dollars in unnecessary military expenditures, avoid nuclear war AND AVOID SOVIET DOMINATION OF THE WORLD..... promise!

---

Listed in alphabetical order, READ THEM IN ANY ORDER.

1) Barnet, Richard, "Real Security, Restoring American Power in a Dangerous Decade," Simon and Shuster, NY, 1981. A careful analysis of the consequences of our foreign/military policies of recent decades.

(2) Caldicott, Helen, "Missile Envy - The Arms Race and Nuclear War," Wm. Morrow, 1984 This book is hard for middle Americans to take. It flies in the face of so many of our ingrained assumptions - with language that pulls no punches. If you have not been exposed to these concepts, facts, and particularly to Helen's style before, it will seem just unbelievable. But bear with it. It is essentially correct. When you have read the other books as well you will come to understand how we got onto this road to Armageddon. Finally it will all add up for you. Have patience.

(3) Cockburn, Andrew, "The Threat: Inside the Soviet Military Machine," Random House, 1983 Explains how very large, but largely ineffective, the Soviet military buildup has been.

(4) Cox, Arthur Macy, "The Myths of National Security, The Perils of Secret Government," Beacon Press and "Russian Roulette - The Superpower Game," Times Books, 1982 Explains the fallacies of US military policy.

(5) Fallows, James, "National Defense", Random House, 1981 Analyzes key weapons systems to show how and why they cost so much more than budgeted and yet perform so poorly.

(6) Graham, Lt.Gen.(ret.) Daniel, "High Frontier, a New National Strategy" The bible of the Strategic Defense Initiatives program (Star Wars) which most Americans now support. If you don't know your physics, this can convince you that star wars may be the answer to the nuclear dilemma. Until Americans learn how to see through this and more recent multibillion dollar proposals for a missile defense, we will undoubtedly pour billions and ultimately trillions of dollars down the drain on impossible defense systems.

(7) Kaplan, Fred, "The Wizards of Armageddon" Simon and Shuster, 1983 The fascinating story of how a handful of academics and theoreticians without the knowledge of the American people and with little control on the part of any of our presidents have engineered our nuclear strategy to produce hundreds of billions of dollars of systems that actually reduce our security by making nuclear war more likely. Allows the reader to follow the thinking of minds, which though brilliant have been weak in understanding how the world really works. Silent as to any method of escape, the "wizards" have been leading us down the road to doom.

(8) O'Keefe, Bernard, "Nuclear Hostages," Houghton Mifflin, 1983 This autobiography is a call to action by the CEO of EG&G, Inc., the Fortune 500 company that is the preeminent nuclear weapons testing and instrumentation organization in the US.



O'Keefe was personally responsible for assembling weapons and conducting US nuclear tests from the 1945 Nagasaki bomb through the H bomb Pacific Ocean tests, tells us that both we and the Russians are "nuclear hostages" to each other and prescribes the beginning of a way out of the dilemma, based on educating ourselves, communicating with the Russians, and, hold onto your hats, some specific unilateral nuclear disarmament initiatives.

(9) Pizar, Samuel, "Of Blood and Hope," Little Brown and Co, 1979

This remarkably articulate and successful international lawyer, who was the youngest survivor of Auschwitz, tells his incredible story in the first part of the book and then explains the historical and human imperatives which suggest that Auschwitz was the warm-up for a holocaust which will destroy the whole world, enthralled as it has become with nuclear insanity.

(10) Scheer, Robert, "With Enough Shovels, -Reagan, Bush, and Nuclear War",

Random House, 1982 Using verbatim interviews, given in full in the appendix and taped with permission during the 1980 presidential campaign, Scheer shows that Reagan, Bush, and other high officials of the Reagan administration, believe we can fight and win a nuclear war, while the reader's own common sense applied to these official explanations will expose the fallacies of these politicians. A remarkable book of undeniable impact.

(11) Schell, Jonathan, "The Fate of the Earth," Alfred A Knopf, NY.

This book analyzes in a most literate, lucid, and detailed way what the destruction of civilization by nuclear war would mean, what it would be like, and why it will likely occur, unless we change course.

(12) Willens, Harold, "The Trimtab Factor," William Morris, 1984

This eminently readable and persuasive little book gives a businessman's viewpoint, including a business analogy and perspective, on the nuclear arms race, why and how the business community can, should, and will stop the insane arms race, - provided only that one condition is met, namely that enough people get exposed to the ideas presented here.

Answer 302 (of 331) JOHN XENAKIS, on WED, OCT 24 1984 at 21:13 (402 characters)

----- To Alan -----

That's quite a collection of books you have there. I dare say that there's not a politician to the right of Gus Hall (is he still the Communist Party candidate for President?) who would agree with those positions -- least of all Walter Mondale, whose defense policy is (as far as I can tell) almost indistinguishable from Reagan's.

John Xenakis, Framingham, MA

Answer 303 (of 331) ALAN, on THU, OCT 25 1984 at 11:22 (138 characters)

Lt Gen. (ret) Daniel Graham is to the right of Ronald Reagan. Bernard O'Keefe is about on a par with hReagan. Take a closer look, John.

Answer 304 (of 331) LISA CARLSON, on THU, OCT 25 1984 at 23:06 (224 characters)

I know you probably don't have time to watch t.v., Mike - but if you have seen the 2 major party commercials (Republican one with the bear) and the Democratic one about star wars) I'd be interested in your assessment.

Answer 305 (of 331) MUAD'DIB, on SAT, NOV 03 1984 at 23:07 (894 characters)

Here is a hardcore anti-Reagan poster that I saw at Brandeis University that I thought you folks might like. The writing is next to a picture of Reagan with "killer" written on his forehead.

Reagan the Murderer!

Reagan has blood on his hands. The blood of the American Marines who died senselessly as the unwitting players in Reagan's tragic escapade in Lebanon. Don't you find it odd that at the memorial service on October 24 the White House send Barbara Bush, wife of the Vice-President, to represent the president? Ronnie can't look his own screw-ups in the eye. Reagan. The president who doesn't know the facts about nuclear weapons he is panting to use.

Reagan. The snoozing president.

Reagan. A proven incompetent.

This is an independently-funded political announcement, and in no way reflectss

the official position of any club or organization.

Answer 306 (of 331) JOHN XENAKIS, on SUN, NOV 04 1984 at 00:00 (330 characters)

----- To Mike Greenly -----

I have heard that the Bear in the Woods commercial is \*the\* most effective political commercial ever. This is measured by various means -- polling people to see if they remember it, showing it to focus groups and asking what they think of it, etc.

John Xenakis, Framingham, MA

Answer 307 (of 331) SML, on SUN, NOV 04 1984 at 00:53 (642 characters)

Mu, I'd rate the poster as one that'll not change any votes, nor probably get any more votes out, either. It's the kind of super-strong message that only gets the people who are already true believers. But it may help stir up campaigners to try just a little bit harder, so who knows?

John, I'd sure be interested in hearing more about the surveys on the bear commercial. My impression of its effectiveness was about the same as Mike's -- it won't do much to change people's minds. Do you know what the comparison of impact is to prior opinion or voting plans?

Guess we'll know the ultimate result soon enough now.

Sherwin

Answer 308 (of 331) DIANE W., on SUN, NOV 04 1984 at 01:45 (268 characters)

I can't remember an election where I've gotten more calls, seen more people on the streets canvassing and handing out literature, had more people come to my door or received more fliers and mail about candidates than THIS one.

And 95% are Democrats.

Diane

Answer 309 (of 331) MIKE GREENLY, on SUN, NOV 04 1984 at 09:57 (376 characters)

John Xenakis: my verdict remains. I'm sure the bear commercial was successful with a \*segment\*, especially in reinforcing already held beliefs. But I'd have to know a lot, lot more before I'd conclude it was successful with a --> mass <-- TV audience. I know from lots of personal experience how "research" can be used to justify something one has worked on . . . .

Answer 310 (of 331) JOHN XENAKIS, on SUN, NOV 04 1984 at 17:56 (1314 characters)

----- To Mike Greenly and SML -----

I have been trying to remember where I heard that the Bear in the Woods commercial was considered to be the most effective political commercial ever. I'm fairly certain it was on the MacNeil Lehrer News Hour, and I believe it was by David Gergen, a Republican commentator they have on once a week to debate with Alan Baron, a Democratic commentator.

Today on NBC's Face the Nation, someone named Cathleen Sullivan, a media consultant, gave her opinion on several political commercials. Here is the gist of what she said about the Bear in the Woods commercial:

This commercial is going to be as historically important as the Johnson's "daisy" commercial in the 1964 campaign against Goldwater.

As a symbol, the bear is so visually riveting. It catches people completely unawares -- they think it's going to be a commercial about forest fires. As a result, they drop their defenses completely while they watch it.

The commercial is provoking dinner table conversation. This makes for a much healthier climate for both Reagan and Mondale.

=====

In other words, this is a commercial that has an impact on everyone who sees it, but it is not clear whether it helps Reagan or Mondale.

John Xenakis, Framingham, MA

Answer 311 (of 331) JOHN XENAKIS, on SUN, NOV 04 1984 at 17:57 (80 characters)

In my last message, change "NBC's Face the Nation" to "CBS's Face the Nation."

Answer 312 (of 331) THOREAU, on MON, NOV 05 1984 at 00:22 (824 characters)

Gee, does all this talk about the "bear in the woods" mean that, as a commercial, it appeals to the viewer/voter's objective reasoning. That could be a dangerous precedent being set by the pr people and political managers involved, helping make the viewing public even less tolerant of messages that insult their intelligence.

The commercial makes a good point about being as strong as the bear; but when compared to a bear, man is a much more capable and efficient killer. Also, the man in the commercial is at a disadvantage, he cannot really communicate effectively with the bear, even if he is as strong as the bear. I suppose it will take considerable debate about human nature to determine whether or not the U.S. will have to possess equal strength before it can communicate with its "bear" adversary.

t Answer 313 (of 331) ROEBUCK, on MON, NOV 05 1984 at 19:17 (64 characters)

Answer 314 (of 331) MIKE GREENLY, on TUE, NOV 06 1984 at 22:34 (3518 characters)

Election Night Miscellaneous

-----

\*\* The disorganization, delay, and flagrant incompetence where I voted in Manhattan this morning was infuriating and surely had more cynics leaving the voting area than had arrived.

\*\* I was intrigued by the Texas college student interviewed on NBC who said her roommate liked all of Mondale's positions, but was terrified of dying in a nuclear disaster and had therefore voted for Reagan, since she felt he would provide enough weapons/strength to insure Peace. This was put forward as the \*reason\* that young people especially have just voted so overwhelmingly for Reagan.

\*\* I think that many more Americans than ever before now feel they are more "have" than "have not" -- even the young people think they can \*become\* "have". I think Mondale, to too many people, came across as though he'd be taking away what we "have".

So it seems to me that

- economic hope/confidence
- "strength" & security
- Reagan's leadership charisma

and, most of the time, \*focused\* marketing of these easy-to-understand concepts were the major factors for \*all\* age groups.

\*\* I felt sad for Mondale when the camera cut from the noisy (conscientiously demonstrating) Reagan headquarters in New York to the Mondale-Ferraro ballroom which was silent and empty. Then a band began (an aide must have said, "the cameras are on! start some music.")

So surrealistically, against a totally empty ballroom, music began behind the announcer.

Then someone must have said -- "hey! we need people too." The Reagan image just seen on camera had been filled with a crowd, like New Year's Eve. So - Mondale people started strolling across the bare carpet behind the TV announcer. Walking aimlessly, just to cross the stage it seemed. To look "busy". A walk to nowhere.

It was poignant.

I would have felt a sense of empathy for almost \*any\* group of people who had worked hard and lost hugely and publicly. I feel sorry for Mondale, the human being, tonight.

\*\* I am bothered on principle by the national TV projections of Reagan winning by a landslide before the Western states polls are closed. I'd favor either an embargo of information till Western polls are closed, or ideally a \*simultaneous\* 24-hour voting period all across the U.S., so that all of us end voting at once.

\*\* I'm, parenthetically, intrigued by the various TV computer graphics and presentations of statistics. I believe average people are, inevitably, growing more used to \*graphic\* depictions of statistics. Which is increasingly one of the benefits a Personal Computer and software can provide. Graphic communications seem very noticeable in tonight's coverage.

\*\* Already they are analyzing 1988 contenders. I guess I've just overdosed -- I \*don't\* want to be encouraged to think about 1988 just yet. I was annoyed, for example, with Tom Brokaw who asked Hart and Kemp whether 4 years from now they'd be running against each other. Give me a break, Brokaw. Back to CBS.

\*\* The fact is: the experience of covering the conventions has, in fact, \*changed\* my political consciousness enormously. Trust me when I tell you I was safely oblivious for at least the past five years.

No longer. But I am beginning to feel some closure, at last, on "GOP Public" as a branch of the convention coverage.

Time to move on. . . .

mike

Answer 315 (of 331) STEVE DEERING, on WED, NOV 07 1984 at 00:47 (148 characters)

I'll just say that the movement of the 60's has grown up. There is a realization that the democratic philosophy does not meet today's needs.

Answer 316 (of 331) SML, on WED, NOV 07 1984 at 11:30 (742 characters)

Mike, if you want a dose of both helping change things and utter frustration at the same time, become an election judge in Manhattan. I'm sure there are openings -- there always are in big cities, where too few people give a damn about trying to make the electoral process work. The pay is almost non-existent, the hours awful (you're there from at least an hour before polls open to several hours after they close), but it adds a perspective to the whole process that's as valuable I think as having been to the conventions.

I was an election judge in Chicago for several years, through maybe half a dozen elections, local, state, and federal. A \*republican\* election judge in Dick Daley's Chicago. A real eye-opener.

Sherwin

Answer 317 (of 331) SML, on WED, NOV 07 1984 at 11:33 (306 characters)

I think more people \*are\* realizing that the \*opportunity\* exists to become rich, famous, or whatever else they desire most. I think the dawning of that realization is being attributed to Reagan. I think that particular focus of the Republican's publicity has been eminently successful.

Sherwin

Answer 318 (of 331) MIKE GREENLY, on WED, NOV 07 1984 at 11:41 (600 characters)

Sherwin: you mean becoming a \*conscientious\* election official, as you were. At my precinct, they were not even there 1/2 hour before the polls opened -- just one cop was. (I passed for coffee). They had not even set up the voting 1/2 hour \*after\* it was to have begun. They didn't know where the key was to open up the voter registration box. They hadn't hung up signs to tell which voters to go to which machines. One machine was totally unmanned. They fought with each other. They were ignorant, untrained. And the process of waiting and waiting and watching them was -- repugnant.

Answer 319 (of 331) SML, on WED, NOV 07 1984 at 12:10 (524 characters)

Because it's generally impossible to get election official who have the brains and \*caring\* to make a difference.

Another fun one to try at least once in your lifetime is "canvassing" to confirm registered voter lists -- check to be sure that the voter really lives

where they've indicated in the registration records, hasn't died meanwhile or been certified as incompetent (just plain incompetent don't count), etc.

Loads of fun. Especially when it's -5 degrees and there's a 30 mile per hour wind.

Sherwin

Answer 320 (of 331) JOHN XENAKIS, on WED, NOV 07 1984 at 19:18 (270 characters)

I can't believe it! It's the night after the election, and I just saw another political commercial on television!! It was by W. R. Grace, and it was telling me to write to my congressman to reduce the deficit.

Is there no mercy?

John Xenakis, Framingham, MA

Answer 321 (of 331) JOHN XENAKIS, on WED, NOV 07 1984 at 19:19 (454 characters)

----- To Mike Greenly -----

Damn it, I want to know what's happening as soon as anyone else knows it. If the exit polls tell who won at 11 am, then I want to know that. I'm mad enough that networks have "embargoed" that information until after the polls close. So they tell it anyway in the form of euphemisms ("It looks like so and so has a good chance of winning"), but I wanna just be told.

John Xenakis, Framingham, MA

Answer 322 (of 331) MIKE GREENLY, on WED, NOV 07 1984 at 22:00 (452 characters)

John: i flatly disagree. media helps "create news" in lots of ways lots of times. i don't think we need them -- for the sake of a few hours -- doing that with national elections. i do think the 24-hour simultaneous voting hours would solve it. if we all started voting at the same moment and ended at the same moment and then they could pounce. of course electronic voting from home or office or cellular phone would be interesting too . . .

Answer 323 (of 331) THOREAU, on WED, NOV 07 1984 at 22:35 (74 characters)

re: Is there no mercy?

The Deficit doesn't deserve any.....

t

Answer 324 (of 331) JOHN XENAKIS, on THU, NOV 08 1984 at 20:09 (1512 characters)

----- To Mike Greenly -----

Back in the mid 1950's when I was a kid (was I really ever a kid?), I used to hear a lot about "bad" comic books that incite kids to violence. I knew what they were talking about, of course, because I used to see those comic books on the newsstands -- they had pictures of strange monsters on the covers. I knew they were bad. I wouldn't touch them -- no one was going to make me want to kill someone!

Then one day I saw in a newspaper article a list of those "bad" comic books -- and there was Superman on it. Superman!! I'd read every issue of Superman for the last five years. Superman wasn't violent -- he was a good guy. Had I been corrupted somehow, without even realizing it?

Since then, I've heard of speakers in the '60's being kept from speaking on college campuses because they have an unpopular political point of view. I've heard that tv programs incite us to sex and violence.

Now I hear that certain types of news programs are inciting me not to vote. I say bullshit, bullshit, bullshit. Anyone who doesn't want to read a comic book, hear a speaker, hear a tv program, or hear about an exit poll doesn't have to. But I don't want anyone telling me what to read or hear. That's what freedom is all about.

Incidentally, I knew that Reagan was going to win long before Tuesday, but I voted anyway. So did you and a lot of other people. I think that result speaks for itself.

John Xenakis, Framingham, MA Answer 325 (of 331) MIKE GREENLY, on THU, NOV 08 1984 at 20:37 (1098 characters)

John Xenakis: you should never have told me you like to play chess. Now I recognize it when you bait me. I'm not playing with you on this one. I have the marvellous security of knowing you're wrong, no matter how many times you say "bullshit" and despite your false comic book analogies. (By the way I used to read both the horror books \*and\* superman, and I've not yet driven spikes through anyone the way they did on page 17. So what?)

Fortunately, network executives are beginning to murmur more consistently about simultaneous poll-closings across America. And about the fact that we have 20th century communications in concert with 18th century polling rules. I'd rather change the polling rules/methods to come up to date with modern communications; that's my first choice.

I can blythely tell you, John, that we've come too far in these conferences for me to hold this particular set of opinions against you. And I can hardly wait for your impressions in the "Comdex Reporters" or "Comdex Mailbag" Conferences.

Big grin directed to Framingham, Mass . . .

Answer 326 (of 331) THOREAU, on THU, NOV 08 1984 at 23:12 (2048 characters)

As I frequently do, yesterday I read something in the Washington Post that infuriated me. The article was located in a section of the paper devoted



entirely to assessing the outcome of election day:

## UNIFORMED REPUBLICAN SQUAD CHALLENGES BALTIMORE VOTERS

NOV. 6--A squad of Republican poll watchers dressed in private security guard uniforms, some carrying sticks and chemical spray dispensers on their belts, challenged scores of voters in black precincts here today, triggering a rash of complaints to city and state election officials.

Assistant Attorney General Jack Schwartz, head of a special election monitoring task force, said state and city investigators said a "floating team" of about 12 uniformed men roamed through several precincts in predominantly Democratic and black areas of west Baltimore, challenging voters as they stood in line.

At least three of the men wore chemical spray dispensers and short leatherbound "slapsticks", Schwartz said. He said the men, all wearing the uniform of a private security company in Howard County, violated election rules by speaking directly to voters, asking them if they were registered and otherwise entitled to vote.

City police were alerted to stop the watchers from engaging in improper activity, he said, and the group disappeared from the streets in the afternoon.

Robert Owen, director of ballot security for the Maryland Reagan-Bush campaign, acknowledged that "about 10" men in uniform were sent by the state Republican Party into low-GOP-turnout precincts. He said officials stopped the watchers at midday and told them to remove their uniforms. Asked why they were wearing uniforms, Owen said, "Just to show the flag."

For his part, Owen said he filed about 50 complaints that some of his watchers were ejected from the polls and harassed by Democratic officials.

(article is summarized)

Now that's \*character\* man, real character.....

A genuine demonstration of faith in our system....

Praise the Lord!

America is \*back\*!

t

Answer 327 (of 331) JOHN XENAKIS, on FRI, NOV 09 1984 at 18:02 (182 characters)

Mike,

When someone tells me I shouldn't see or hear something for my own good, it

makes my blood boil. I'm sorry you felt I was baiting you, but I meant every word.

John

Answer 328 (of 331) JOHN XENAKIS, on SAT, NOV 10 1984 at 08:59 (3196 characters)

----- To Mike Greenly -----

Some further thoughts about exit polling.

After the 1980 election, when this issue first came up in a major way, a number of politicians were proposing different ways to handle the problem. One of the proposals was to simply forbid exit polling. This is something that's clearly legal and clearly solves the problem. The states have a great deal of latitude in preventing disturbances near polling places, and there are no first amendment issues, as there are in forbidding networks from reporting the results of exit polls.

Now it's 1984. Not one single state has implemented this fairly straightforward solution, and I haven't heard a single politician propose it this year. Why is that?

To understand why, we have to go back to the New Hampshire primary last February 28, and to a news report I heard a day or two later. As I'm sure you recall, Mondale was expected to win that primary by a large margin. As late as the morning of the primary, pollsters were predicting that no one else had a chance.

Now the news report I heard a couple of days later was the following: By 1:00 in the afternoon, the exit polls had determined that a major upset was in progress, and that Hart was going to win. Everyone in the networks knew that Hart was going to win. Everyone in Washington knew that Hart was going to win. Everyone in the New Hampshire state house knew that Hart was going to win. By agreement, however, this news was not reported to the rest of us.

And there you have it. Those sons of bitches in New York and Washington have their exit polls so \*they\* can have the information, but the rest of us slobs aren't allowed to know. And it's for our own good. It might damage us by making us not want to vote. Just like those who feel that comic books, pornography, unpopular political views or car chases on tv might damage us.

Suppose that the networks had announced at 1:00 p.m. that the exit polls were predicting a Hart upset. What would have happened?

A Mondale supporter who had been planning to vote anyway would be certain to vote -- he'd want to try to reverse the exit poll trends.

A Hart supporter who had been planning to vote any would be certain to vote -- he'd want to be certain that the Mondale voters didn't turn this around.

A person who had not planned to vote might well vote in order to either upset or reinforce the exit poll results, depending on his point of view.

In fact, by making the election more interesting, it's more likely that reporting exit polls would increase, not decrease, voter participation in the election.

As far as I know, the only known negative results of exits polls are that in 1980 some California voters decided not to vote after it was announced that the electoral count in the East had assured Reagan's victory. This has to do with time zones, not with exit polls. It's not a sufficient reason to embargo important information that the rest of us have a right to know. I don't see how anyone who believes in freedom of the press can disagree with that.

John Xenakis, Framingham, MA

Answer 329 (of 331) MIKE GREENLY, on SAT, NOV 10 1984 at 09:45 (48 characters)

Dear John Xenakis: Have a great weekend! mike

Answer 330 (of 331) DEQUINCY, on SUN, NOV 11 1984 at 00:06 (32 characters)

Well put John!!!!

Dequincy

Answer 331 (of 331) PSI DAVE, on SUN, NOV 11 1984 at 15:55 (120 characters)

An election judge in Chicago, my God Sherwin, you are a survivor! I want to be with you when the next Flood cimeth.

-----Joiners of "GOP PUBLIC" conference:

ALAN; NORMAN KURLAND; EMMET; WEEHAWK; STEVE DEERING; TIME TRAVELER...; RACOM; PSI DAVE; JOHN XENAKIS; CRT; SML; T/O; STV246; BBF794; MIKE GREENLY; TCH854; NWATCH; BBD355; DIANE W.; AAB070; QZN050; LISA CARLSON; MR.BOB; BBJ863; DEQUINCY; STK105; STEWART R PIERCE; BBQ653; MICHEAL GILSON; RUBE; TENS; ROEBUCK; BBV153; STEVE TEICHNER; RLH; THOREAU; CL0967; BCW293; BCY149; BCB755; BBY782; BBZ349; BBM661; STE008;

"TEICHNER POLLS" Conference 84.21815 TENS, organizer, about "NATIONALLY FAMOUS POLLSTER PARTICIPATES IN "GOP 84" -- AN UNUSUAL OPPORTUNITY" (answers: 3) FRI, 08/17 18:56 (508 characters)

Noted Pollster, Steve Teichner, shares his political perspective here, and will poll you on your views. (He'll also analyze poll results.)

If you have comments to address to Steve, you can do so in a private .Message

to Steve Teichner, or in a public note to the "GOP Public" Conference. Also, each poll here will give you a chance to enter your comments about the poll directly.

To have access to Steve Teichner's commentary and Poll results, say `Join` at the `DISPOSITION` prompt below.

\* \* \* \*Branching off of "TEICHNER POLLS" 84.21815 as Answer 1 (of 3)

"GOP POLL 1" Conference 84.21839 STEVE TEICHNER, about "GIVE YOUR VIEWS ON KEY ELECTION ISSUES" (answers: 1) FRI, 08/17 22:37 (2802 characters)

NOTE: See the GOP POLL 1 chapter for the detailed text and results of this poll.

Answer 2 (of 3) DIANE W., on TUE, AUG 21 1984 at 16:30 (84 characters)

Steve, are we going to see an analysis of the ballot soon??

Thanks,

Diane

\* \* \* \*Branching off of "TEICHNER POLLS" 84.21815 as Answer 3 (of 3)

Message 84.22351 STEVE TEICHNER, WED, 08/22 22:18 (214 characters)

DIANE: I WILL HOPEFULLY GET A CHANCE TO "DO THE POLL" EITHER TONIGHT OR THURSDAY. THE LAST TIME I LOOKED THERE WERE ONLY 28 RESPONSES. GIVEN ALL OF THE ACTION ON GOP PUBLIC THERE WILL BE MORE ANSWERS. STEVE

-----  
Joiners of "TEICHNER POLLS" conference:

ALAN; KEN\*; SOURCEVOID; WEEHAWK; JIM COLLIE; PAUL B; STEVE DEERING; GEORGE M; RACOM; SDC; PSI DAVE; JOHN XENAKIS; PATO; CARLO HOLLYWOOD; DOM S.; DR. MEMORY; BOB SANDHAUS; SML; T/O; MIKE GREENLY; TCH854; RITA G; JJD; NWATCH; BBD355; DIANE W.; QZN050; ENTERPRISE; LISA CARLSON; MR.BOB; BBJ863; STEWART R PIERCE; BBQ653; CHRIS B; GEEP; MICHEAL GILSON; JIM FRANKLIN; STRIKER; NORMAN EPSTEIN; TENS; AAE543; DAVID KNOPF; ROEBUCK; DV0; BBV153; STEVE TEICHNER; RLH; BBY688; BBX194; BCB755; MAC PACKER; REV. IAIN MACDONALD; BBY782; BBB840; BCS124; BCB629; STZ417; TCV151; STA971;

"GOP POLL 1" Conference 84.21839 STEVE TEICHNER, about "GIVE YOUR VIEWS ON KEY ELECTION ISSUES" (answers: 1) FRI, 08/17 22:37 (2802 characters)

Here it is -- "GOP POLL 1"

Please participate by saying VOTE at the DISPOSITION prompt you'll get below. First you will see the full text of each question. Then, after you say VOTE at the DISPOSITION prompt, you will be given a brief reminder of each question and its possible answers before you actually give your choice.

After you complete your vote, you'll get another DISPOSITION prompt. Say WRITE then if you'd like to comment on this poll and/or explain any of your

responses.

THANK YOU!

For each of the following questions (A through G), please tell whether you think Walter Mondale, Ronald Reagan, or both equally could accomplish the goal:

A) Keeping the United States out of war:

1) Mondale 2) Reagan 3)both

B) Lowering inflation:

1) Mondale 2) Reagan 3)both

C) Eliminating the Federal deficit:

1) Mondale 2) Reagan 3)both

D) Lowering unemployment:

1) Mondale 2) Reagan 3)both

E) Increasing opportunities for blacks and hispanics:

1) Mondale 2) Reagan 3)both

F) Increasing opportunities for women:

1) Mondale 2) Reagan 3)both

G) Making sure that the United States has a strong national defense:

1) Mondale 2) Reagan 3)both

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H) Some people have said that it doesn't matter who is elected president in November, that there will have to be an increase in Federal taxes next year anyhow.

Do you:

1) strongly agree 2) somewhat agree 3) somewhat disagree 4) strongly disagree

I) Which of the following best describes you:

1)I'm more likely to vote for a candidate who supports prayer in the schools.

2)I'm less likely to vote for a candidate who supports prayer in the schools.

3)A candidate's stand on prayer in the schools is not important in deciding who to vote for.

J) Which of the following best describes you:

1)I'm more likely to vote for a candidate who supports abortion.

2)I'm less likely to vote for a candidate who supports abortion.

3) A candidate's stand on abortion is not important in deciding who to vote for.

K) The current situation in Central America poses what kind of threat to this country?

1) A significant threat.

- 2) A small threat
- 3) Not much of a threat but we should keep an eye on what happens there.
- 4) No threat at all.

L) If the president and vice president were to be elected separately and the November election for VICE PRESIDENT was held today would you vote for:

- 1) Bush
- 2) Ferraro
- 3) don't know

----- Don't forget -- say VOTE below to give your responses.  
After voting, say WRITE to comment and discuss.

Answer 1 (of 1) DIANE W., on SAT, AUG 18 1984 at 01:45 (312 characters)

Questions 2 and 3 were tricky for me. There was no 'neither' choice, when asking which candidate would lower inflation or eliminate the deficit.

The economy's in such a mess, it'll take more than one term (even two terms) by either man to turn it around. If it could even be done at all, ever.

Diane

-----  
Results of poll (47 votes recorded):

Individuals who took this poll:

HARRY; PAUL B; STEVE DEERING; GEORGE M; RACOM; PSI DAVE; PATO; CARLO HOLLYWOOD; DR. MEMORY; BOB SANDHAUS; NAMASTE; SML; MIKE GREENLY; FINN; RITA G; BBD355; DIANE W.; QZN050; ENTERPRISE; LISA CARLSON; MR.BOB; BBJ863; CYNIC AL; STEWART R PIERCE; CHRIS B; GEEP; JIM FRANKLIN; STRIKER; RUBE; AAE543; DAVID KNOFF; BBV153; STEVE TEICHNER; DAN YURMAN; RLH; BCW293; BBY688; BCB645; ROBERT R. WIGGINS; MAC PACKER; REV. IAIN MACDONALD; BBE619; BCS124; STZ417; TCV151;

Voting results:

Question 1: Best keep US out of war: 1) Mondale 2) Reagan 3)both (range 0-3)

Detailed tally: A1 = 28; A2 = 15; A3 = 4;

Average of 47 non-zero votes is 1.489

Question 2: Best lower inflation: 1) Mondale 2) Reagan 3)both (range 0-3)

Detailed tally: A0 = 2; A1 = 7; A2 = 34; A3 = 4;

Average of 45 non-zero votes is 1.933

Question 3: Best eliminate the Federal deficit: 1) Mondale 2) Reagan 3)both (range 0-3)

Detailed tally: A0 = 5; A1 = 19; A2 = 20; A3 = 3;

Average of 42 non-zero votes is 1.619

Question 4: Best lower unemployment: 1) Mondale 2) Reagan 3)both (range 0-3)

Detailed tally: A0 = 1; A1 = 23; A2 = 19; A3 = 4;

Average of 46 non-zero votes is 1.587

Question 5: Best increase ethnic minority opportunities: 1) Mondale 2) Reagan 3)both (range 0-3)

Detailed tally: A1 = 36; A2 = 8; A3 = 3;

Average of 47 non-zero votes is 1.298

Question 6: Best increase opportunities for women: 1) Mondale 2) Reagan 3)both (range 0-3)

Detailed tally: A1 = 32; A2 = 11; A3 = 4;

Average of 47 non-zero votes is 1.404

Question 7: Best assure US has strong national defense: 1) Mondale 2) Reagan 3)both (range 0-3)

Detailed tally: A0 = 1; A1 = 5; A2 = 26; A3 = 15;

Average of 46 non-zero votes is 2.217

Question 8: Taxes up no matter who wins: 1)agree much/2)agree/3)disagree/4)disagree much (range 0-4)

Detailed tally: A0 = 1; A1 = 13; A2 = 17; A3 = 10; A4 = 6;

Average of 46 non-zero votes is 2.196

Question 9: 1)More/2)Less/3)No diff - likely to vote for one supporting school prayer (range 0-3)

Detailed tally: A1 = 7; A2 = 28; A3 = 12;

Average of 47 non-zero votes is 2.106

Question 10: 1)More/2)Less/3)No diff - likely to vote for one supporting abortion (range 0-3)

Detailed tally: A0 = 2; A1 = 24; A2 = 8; A3 = 13;

Average of 45 non-zero votes is 1.756

Question 11: Kind of threat Central America is: 1)Much/2)Small/3)Not much, but watch/4)None (range 0-4)

Detailed tally: A1 = 18; A2 = 10; A3 = 19;

Average of 47 non-zero votes is 2.021

Question 12: If voting for VICE PRESIDENT, would vote for: 1) Bush/2) Ferraro/3)don't know (range 0-3)

Detailed tally: A1 = 14; A2 = 26; A3 = 7;

Average of 47 non-zero votes is 1.851

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To help you find the notes of most interest to \*you\*, the most recent entry in this Branch Conference will always be an updated list of the topics in the main "GOP 84" Conference.

Answer 1 (of 3) ROB HOWARD, on WED, AUG 22 1984 at 01:13 (2996 characters)

Index as of 01:00 EDT - August 22, 1984 of  
"GOP 84" Conference 84.21811

(obsoleted by index in answer 2 below)

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Answer 2 (of 3) ROB HOWARD, on THU, AUG 23 1984 at 09:59 (3894 characters)

Index as of 01:00 EDT - August 22, 1984 of  
"GOP 84" Conference 84.21811

Answer 1 TENS, For New Parti Users

Answer 2 TENS, Overview: The main "GOP 84" conference is for our primary reports from Dallas.

\* \* \* \*Branching off of "GOP 84" 84.21811 as Answer 3 "GOP PUBLIC" Conference 84.21813 TENS.

\* \* \* \*Branching off of "GOP 84" 84.21811 as Answer 4 "TEICHNER POLLS" Conference 84.21815 TENS,

Noted Pollster, Steve Teichner, shares his political perspective here, and will poll you on your views.

\* \* \* \*Branching off of "GOP 84" 84.21811 as Answer 5 "GOP 84 INDEX" Conference 84.21816 TENS,

Help you find the notes of most interest to \*you\*, the most recent entry in this Branch Conference will always be an updated list of the topics in the main "GOP 84" Conference.

Answer 6 MIKE GREENLY, (2260 characters) First Impressions:  
NOTE: this is AMBIENCE only!

Answer 7 MIKE GREENLY, on SUN, AUG 19 First Impressions II - Convention Center Media  
Answer 8 MIKE GREENLY, (5736 characters) First Impressions III: The Main Hall

Answer 9 SML, (2054 characters) On the Way

Answer 10 (of 29) MIKE GREENLY, (3056 characters) Press Briefing: About



## Credentials

Answer 11 MIKE GREENLY, (2770 characters) Full Disclosure: The Carpet is Blue (plus other tales of Media City)

Answer 12 DIANE W., (3878 characters) Schedule of Events - Subject to Change Republican National Convention

Answer 13 MIKE GREENLY, (4584 characters) The Colorado Caucus - Convention Eve + a Contrast, Republicans vs Democrats

Answer 14 MIKE GREENLY, (246 characters) Invitation to submit questions: Senator Pete Wilson (California).

Answer 15 MIKE GREENLY, (506 characters) \*live\* at the opening.

Answer 16 MIKE GREENLY, (1216 characters) \*live\* Monday morning -

Answer 17 MIKE GREENLY, (4958 characters) NCPAC TV Commercials

Answer 18 MIKE GREENLY, (336 characters) >>>>> Flash! A Floor Pass for Tonight!

Answer 19 SML, (2298 characters) What I'm Doing Here

Answer 20 SML, (3304 characters) A Colorado VIP

Answer 21 SML, (114 characters) Mike beat me to it on my own scoop.

Answer 22 MIKE GREENLY, (3964 characters) Monday Floor Pass!!!! - Part I

Answer 23 MIKE GREENLY, (3534 characters) Monday Floor Pass!!!! - Part II  
Jeane Kirkpatrick

Answer 24 MIKE GREENLY, (3952 characters) Monday Floor Pass!!!! - Part III  
George L. Clark - New York State

Answer 25 SML, (3686 characters) About Credentials and Other Contrasts

Answer 26 MIKE GREENLY, (3838 characters) Monday Floor Pass - Part IV Final Impressions of the Night

Answer 27 SML, (4626 characters) The Ranch Sunday late afternoon, we drive in a not-too-well-air-conditioned bus from the Colorado delegation's hotel to a ranch

Answer 28 SML, (4792 characters) Monday Morning Session

Answer 29 SML, (1790 characters) Oklahoma Caucus, Monday Afternoon Answer 30  
MIKE GREENLY, (4058 characters) The Phyllis Schlafly Luncheon

Answer 31 MIKE GREENLY, (1478 characters) Prelude to First Lady Luncheon

Answer 32 MIKE GREENLY, (3304 characters) First Lady Security

Answer 33 MIKE GREENLY, (2318 characters) Joan Rivers at the First Lady's Luncheon

Answer 34 SML, (5738 characters) "Just Another Little Backyard Barbecue in Texas" At least that's what last night's little get-together at Bunker Hunt's Circle T Ranch was billed as.

Answer 35 SML, (3426 characters) NCPAC: quotes they proudly print on their brochure

Answer 36 MIKE GREENLY, (1710 characters) Nancy Reagan: A comment on her style

Answer 37 SML, (3070 characters) Wednesday Night at the Convention

Answer 38 MIKE GREENLY, (4474 characters) Michael N. Castle - Lt. Governor, State of Delaware (candidate for Governor)

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Answer 3 (of 3) ROB HOWARD, on THU, AUG 23 1984 at 22:26 (472 characters)

Update to Index - Answers 1 - 38 indexed in ans 2

Answer 39 SML, Ecumenical Prayer Breakfast This is the "GLORIFY GOD WITH MUSIC AND PRAYER!"

Answer 40 SML, (768 characters) Bill Webster, running for State Attorney General of Missouri, a Source user.

Answer 41 MIKE GREENLY, (1306 characters) Speaking of thrill.

Answer 42 through 48 MIKE GREENLY, (540 characters) Luncheon - Bush in attendance.

Answer 49, MIKE GREENLY, "The Reagan Film".

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Joiners of "GOP 84 INDEX" conference:

STC-EDIT; KEN\*; SOURCEVOID; NORMAN KURLAND; WEEHAWK; JIM COLLIE; STEVE DEERING; SDC; PSI DAVE; JOHN XENAKIS; PATO; CARLO HOLLYWOOD; RICH B.; LOS TAYOS; ROB HOWARD; SML; MIKE GREENLY; NWATCH; DIANE W.; ENTERPRISE; LISA CARLSON; CYNIC AL; STEWART R PIERCE; CHRIS B; MICHEAL GILSON; JIM FRANKLIN; TENS; DV0; STEVE TEICHNER; RLH; BBY782;