

NATION: President Reagan

Is U.S. Going Broke? Reagan and Congress Talk It Over

Washington, D.C.,
November 1987

President Ronald Reagan has agreed to summit talks with the U.S. Congress. They are talking

about ways to help the U.S. out of its money troubles brought on by:

- Spending more money than the government takes in (deficit).

- Buying more from other countries than the U.S. is selling to them (**trade imbalance**).

The U.S. was having money troubles when Reagan became president in 1981. He promised to solve these troubles. So far, he has cut:

- \$ **Taxes.** So people have more money to spend.

- \$ **Inflation.** [Inflation means there is more money to spend than goods to buy, so prices keep going up.]

- \$ **Unemployment.** Now there are more jobs.

Reagan also has a plan called the **New Federalism**. The New Federalism is **cutting government spending** by stopping federal programs to help people. Instead, Reagan is turning over transportation, welfare, and education programs to state governments. The federal government is also giving some money to help states run the programs.

The military is one area Reagan is not cutting. He says the U.S. is far behind Russia in the arms race. And the U.S. must catch up. So he has ordered a **military buildup** of ships, airplanes, and missiles.

But this military build-up has caused some problems. They are:

- A growing deficit. From 1982 to 1986, the U.S. spent \$1.7 trillion on the military. This is more than the government can pay for.

- Colder feelings between U.S. and Russia. Russia says the U.S. must want war.

- Angry feelings in Europe toward the U.S. for putting nuclear missiles in or near their countries.



Reagan's Policies When He Took Office

Around the World: Get Tough

- End detente [friendship with Communists].
- Build up the U.S. military.
- Put nuclear missiles in Europe.
- Develop "**Star Wars**" defense system [a plan to destroy enemy missiles in space instead of on the earth].
- Add troops in the Middle East.
- Send troops to fight if Communists try to take over a free country.

At Home: Go Easy Reaganomics
[Reagan's Economic Plan]

- **Cut taxes.** Then . . .
 - \$ people will have more money to spend.
 - \$ When they spend money, business can grow.
 - \$ When business grows, the government can take in more taxes.
 - \$ More taxes mean the government has more money to spend.
- **Balance the budget**—spend no more than the government takes in.
- **Cut government workers and programs.**

NATION: The Women's Rights Movement

Democrats Lose, But Women Win in 1984 Election

Women's Rights Movement

Below, a look at the women's movement until now.

1841	1841: Oberlin College is the first college to take women students and give degrees to women.
1848	1848: Women organize an equal rights movement at the Seneca Falls, New York, Women's Rights Convention. People there talk about how women can win the right to vote, own property, get divorces, and keep their children after a divorce.
1869	1869: Wyoming is the first U.S. territory to give women the right to vote.
1920	1920: The 19th Amendment to the Constitution gives all U.S. women the right to vote.
1920	1920: The League of Women Voters forms. This group works to teach both men and women about candidates and issues so Americans can use their right to vote well.
1963	1963: Betty Friedan starts the Women's Liberation Movement with her book, <i>The Feminine Mystique</i> . The Women's Liberation Movement works to free women from the home and give them equal rights with men.
1964	1964: U.S. Civil Rights Act is passed. This act says it is against the law to discriminate against people because of their sex.
1966	1966: National Organization for Women (NOW) forms. NOW fights discrimination of women in business, schools, and government.
1971	1971: National Women's Political Caucus forms to get women to run for government office so they can change laws.
1972	1972: Gloria Steinem starts <i>MS</i> magazine. It is written by women and for women to tell them about job choices and new styles of living.
1972	1972: The Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) passes Congress. This amendment says women and men will be equal in every way. It is sent to states to be ratified before becoming part of the Constitution.
1974	1974: Phyllis Schlafly starts "Stop ERA." Members say home and family will fall apart if ERA becomes law.
1981	1981: Sandra Day O'Connor is the first woman named to the U.S. Supreme Court.
1982	1982: The ERA dies. Not enough states ratify it in time for it to become an amendment.
1983	1983: Sally Ride is the first U.S. woman astronaut to go into space.
1984	1984: Geraldine Ferraro is the first woman to run for vice-president of the U.S.

New York, New York,
November 1984

Democrats have lost the election for president of the U.S. But they are winners to many women. Democrats named **Geraldine Ferraro**, a woman, to run for vice-president.

Ferraro is the **first woman ever to run for vice-president**. In the race for the second highest office in the U.S., she showed both men and women that she could get votes. Ferraro has made many Americans believe a woman could be a good president of the U.S.

It has taken women 150 years to get this far. Here's a look at their slow move toward equal rights:

1830s—Women worked to free black slaves. They saw that women often had no more rights than slaves. So women started working for women's rights, too.

1920s—Women got the right to vote.

1960s—Women worked in black civil rights movements. These women then started their own civil rights movement. For example, women started the **National Organization for Women (NOW)**.

1970s—One-half of U.S. workers were women. But most were paid 40 percent less than men.

1980s—More women are going into jobs that used to be called "men's jobs." More women are elected to government office. But women still are paid less than men.

NATION: The Space Race

Space Shuttle Challenger's Explosion Kills Seven: U.S. Space Program Put on Hold

Cape Canaveral, Florida,
January 1986

For the first time, a spacecraft has exploded in space. The space shuttle **Challenger** blew up, killing all seven crew members. All space shuttle trips will stop until officials find out what caused the explosion.

One of the crew members, **Christa McAuliffe**, was to be the first teacher in space. She planned to teach classes from the Challenger to earth.

The Challenger **space shuttle** was made to carry people to and from space stations. It was much like a commuter bus [a bus that carries people to and from work].

The commuter spacecraft is the latest development in the U.S. space program.

President Kennedy started the space program in 1960 after Russia sent a satellite into space. JFK said then that the U.S. would spend whatever it cost to put an American on the moon. JFK also said that the U.S. was in a **space race** with Russia. The U.S. must win the space race or lose its place as the top world power.

Until Challenger, the U.S. has done well in the space race. Many Americans say the space program has been good for the U.S. It has:

- Made the U.S. a leader in

technology.

- Given work to at least 3 million people.

- Developed inventions that are now used in daily life.

- Done experiments [tests] in space to help people better understand both space and the earth.

But a growing number of Americans are against the space program. They think the U.S. should be spending the money:

- To help people at home. There are too many Americans who are without food, homes, and jobs.

- To build up the military so other countries do not get ahead of the U.S. in the arms race.

Space Age



1957 ROCKETS PUT RUSSIA INTO SPACE

- Russia sends **Sputnik I** (184 pounds) into orbit.

- U.S. is worried. Russia's technology is ahead of U.S.'s.

1958 U.S. MAKES A START

- U.S. puts **Explorer I** (31 pounds) into orbit to get information on air above the earth.

- U.S. starts **National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)** to build up and run a space program.

1959 RUSSIAN UNMANNED SPACECRAFT GETS TO THE MOON.

1961 MEN IN SPACE.

- Russian astronaut becomes the first man to orbit the earth.

- U.S. astronaut makes a short trip into space.

1962 JOHN GLENN IS THE FIRST U.S. ASTRONAUT TO ORBIT EARTH.

1963 RUSSIA SENDS FIRST WOMAN ASTRONAUT INTO SPACE.

1965 U.S. AND RUSSIAN ASTRONAUTS LEAVE SPACECRAFTS TO WALK IN SPACE.

1969 JFK'S PROMISE COMES TRUE: U.S. LANDS MEN ON THE MOON—COST: \$24 BILLION.

- **Neil Armstrong** is the first man to walk on the moon.

1977 U.S. LAUNCHES SPACE SHUTTLE PROGRAM WITH THE ENTERPRISE. ENTERPRISE RETURNS TO EARTH READY TO FLY AGAIN.

1983 REAGAN SAYS U.S. WILL DEVELOP "STAR WARS" DEFENSE SYSTEM—A PLAN TO DESTROY ENEMY MISSILES IN SPACE INSTEAD OF ON THE EARTH.

1983 ASTRONAUT SALLY RIDE BECOMES THE FIRST U.S. WOMAN IN SPACE.

1986 SPACE SHUTTLE PROGRAM PUT ON HOLD AFTER CHALLENGER EXPLODES.

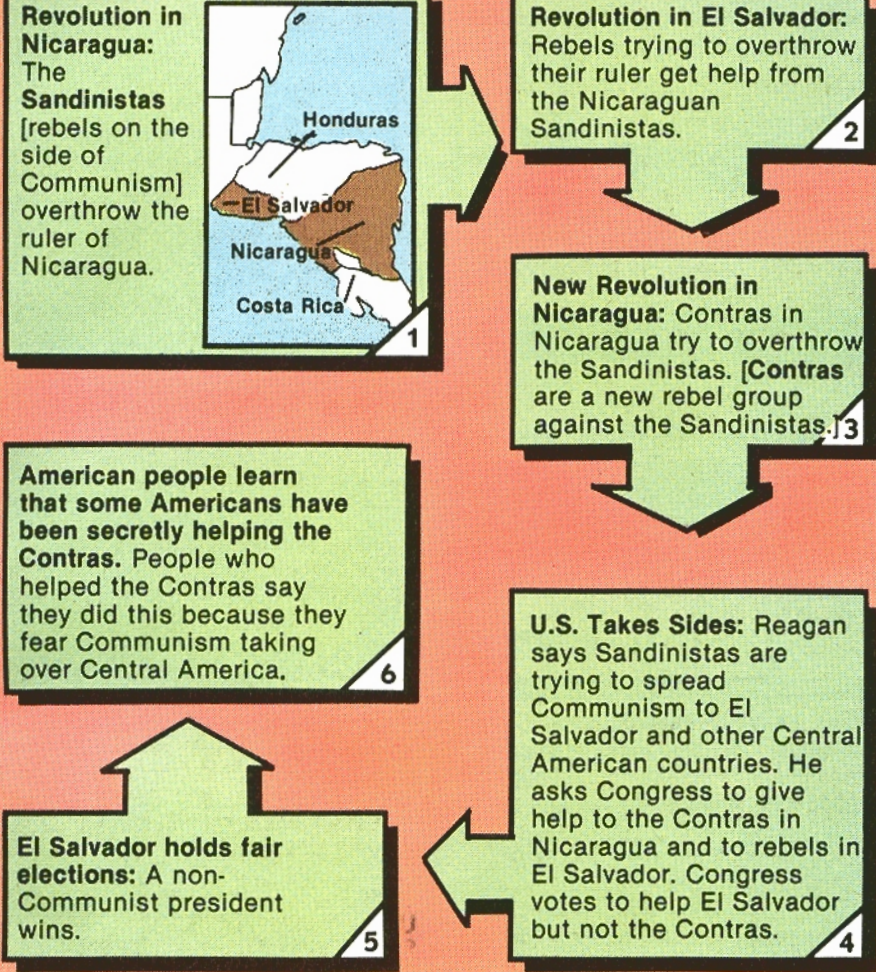
WORLD: Tensions in the 1980s

Reagan Faces Tensions Around the World

TENSIONS IN CENTRAL AMERICA

Washington, D.C., 1987

The U.S. Congress is saying government people close to President Reagan have done crimes. Congress says these people gave secret help to the Contras in **Nicaragua** after Congress voted not to help the Contras. Here's what has happened up to now:



Reagan and Gorbachev Sign Treaty

Washington, D.C.

December 9, 1987

For the third time since Reagan took office, the U.S. and Russia are talking over world problems. First they met in Geneva (1985). Then they met in Iceland (1986), and now in Washington. Here, Reagan and Russian leader Gorbachev have signed a treaty limiting nuclear weapons.

Tensions From AIDS

Across the U.S., 1987

Over one million cases of **AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome)** have already been reported. And the disease is spreading quickly. So far, doctors cannot cure or even help people who have AIDS. People who get AIDS will die unless a cure is found.

Nuclear Accident

Chernobyl, Russia, April 1986

An explosion at the nuclear power plant here has leaked radiation into the air. This radiation is spreading across much of Europe. The radiation may make many people sick.

England Fights War With Argentina

What happened to the Monroe Doctrine [Europe should stay out of the Western Hemisphere]?

Falkland Islands,
April-June 1982

U.S. backing helps England win back the Falkland Islands near Argentina. England owns these islands, but Argentina took them.

U.S. Sends Air Force to Grenada

What happened to the Good Neighbor Policy [the U.S. will not send troops into Latin American countries]?

Grenada, October 1983

U.S. troops have overthrown the new Communist government on Grenada. (Grenada is a free island in the Caribbean Sea.) Reagan sent U.S. troops to Grenada after Communists built an airport and took over the government here.

Tensions in the Middle East

Persian Gulf, 1987

Reagan is sending more troops to the Middle East to try to keep peace there. Many of the Arabs are fighting each other or Israel. But Arab countries want the U.S. to stay out of their wars. They do not like the U.S. Some Arab countries are still taking U.S. people hostage. And some are attacking U.S. ships in the Middle East.

Date Dictionary: A Final Review

- 1909:** NAACP is started.
- 1930s:** Black Muslim group is started.
- 1944:** Congress passes "G.I. Bill of Rights."
- 1947:** Taft-Hartley Act is passed.
- 1950s:** Good times in the U.S.
- 1951:** 22nd Amendment is added to the U.S. Constitution.
- 1952:** Dwight D. Eisenhower is elected president.
- 1953:** Korean War is over.
- 1954:** Joseph McCarthy's Communist hunt is stopped.
- 1954:** Brown vs. the Board of Education.
- 1955:** Montgomery, Alabama, bus boycott by blacks.
- 1955:** Supreme Court orders school integration.
- 1956:** Poland and Hungary rebel against Russia.
- 1956:** Civil war starts in Vietnam.
- 1957:** Little Rock, Arkansas, schools integrate.
- 1957:** Civil Rights Act sets up the Commission on Civil Rights.
- 1958:** U.S. starts NASA.
- 1959:** Alaska and Hawaii become U.S. states.
- 1960:** A Civil Rights Act is passed to make sure blacks are allowed to vote.
- 1960s:** Race riots in many U.S. cities.
- 1960s:** Black Power Movement is started.
- 1961:** John F. Kennedy is elected president.
- 1961:** Alliance for Progress is started by John F. Kennedy.
- 1961:** CORE organizes freedom rides through Alabama and Mississippi.
- 1961:** Peace Corps is started by John F. Kennedy.
- 1961-62:** Bay of Pigs, Cuba, is invaded by U.S.
- 1963:** Civil Rights March on Washington.
- 1963:** U.S. and Russia sign nuclear test-ban treaty.
- 1963:** John F. Kennedy is assassinated by Oswald.
- 1964:** Civil Rights Act that outlaws discrimination is passed.
- 1964:** Warren Commission is set up.
- 1966:** National Organization for Women forms.
- 1967:** 24th Amendment is added to the U.S. Constitution.
- 1968:** Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. is assassinated.
- 1968:** Robert Kennedy is assassinated.
- 1968:** Riot at the Democratic National Convention.
- 1968:** Civil Rights Act for fair housing is passed.
- 1968:** Nixon is elected president.
- 1969:** U.S. lands men on the moon.
- 1970:** Anti-war protest at Kent State.
- 1970:** Nixon sets up the Environmental Protection Agency.
- 1971:** 26th Amendment is added to U.S. Constitution.
- 1972:** SALT I Treaty is signed.
- 1972:** Nixon is first U.S. president to visit China.
- 1972:** Watergate break-in.
- 1973:** Cease-fire agreement stops fighting in Vietnam.
- 1973:** Oil Embargo takes place.
- 1974:** Nixon resigns; Ford becomes president.
- 1975:** Last of U.S. troops come home from Vietnam.
- 1976:** Americans celebrate U.S. Bicentennial.
- 1976:** Jimmy Carter is elected president.
- 1978:** Panama Canal Treaty is signed.
- 1979:** Camp David Accords are worked out.
- 1981:** Sandra Day O'Connor is named to the U.S. Supreme Court.
- 1986:** Explosion at nuclear power plant at Chernobyl, Russia.
- 1986:** Space shuttle Challenger explodes.