

# MR POPHistory

Week of July 15, 1983

A bomb, apparently planted by Armenian extremists, explodes in front of the Turkish airlines counter in Orly airport. 5 are dead with 60 injured.

President Reagan taps former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger to head a bipartisan commission to forge long-term policy toward Central America and “keep the light of liberty alive” in the region.



Israeli Prime Minister **Menachem Begin** abruptly cancels next week’s summit with President Regan for “personal reasons” further delaying U.S. Middle East peace efforts.

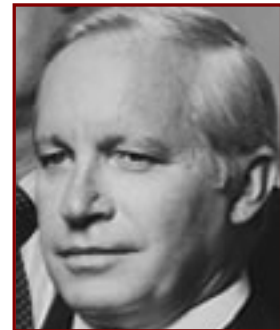
David Dodge, acting president of the American University of Beirut, kidnapped a year ago in Lebanon, is freed and will be returning to the United States.

The House censures Reps. Gerry Studds (D-Mass.) and Daniel Crane (R-ILL.) for their sexual relationships with teenage pages – much harsher punishments than recommended by the ethics Committee. Both were forced to stand alone before the House while Speaker Thomas O’Neill Jr. chastised them.

A study by a private think tank says that raising Social Security’s retirement age to 67 in the next century will hurt black workers more than whites and result in a “massive transfer of wealth from blacks to whites,” since the average life expectancy of blacks is 64 years.

Chrysler Corp. announces that it earned a record \$310.3 million profit in the second quarter of this year, up 190% from the same period last year.

Passing – ABC news anchor **Frank Reynolds** (59) of hepatitis. His last anchor on “ABC World News Tonight” was April 21.



First Lady Nancy Reagan intervened with her husband to allow the burial of ABC-TV news anchorman Frank Reynolds in Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia. He was eligible “on-request” for burial at the cemetery because he received a Purple Heart in World War II when he served as a sergeant in the Army. Reynolds’ fight with hepatitis, which he contracted while undergoing surgery for a broken leg was common, but there had been no indication he was near death.

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Feminist (NOW) leader Ginny Fost facing murder charges in Louisiana, bids farewell “temporarily” to the group she headed for two years and vows “I will return.”

Passing – George Lichty (78) – originated the “Grin and Bear It” strip in newspapers.



Tower Records opens a super record store in Manhattan. The four-story complex, complete with elevator, offers more than 450,000 records and tapes. 4,000 customers showed up opening day. Monitors throughout the store show MTV.

The nation’s largest automated teller network begins operations as the Plus System now links about 2,000 ATM’s and 3,000 should be in operation by year-end. Bank participants include Chase Manhattan of New York, National Bank of Chicago, Colorado National Bank of Denver, Rainier National Bank of Seattle and Bank of America of San Francisco. The system allows a customer of one of the participating banks to withdraw cash from the machine of any other bank on the network.

## **Playing in Las Vegas –**

John Davidson – Aladdin

Flip Wilson – MGM Grand

Joan Rivers – Riviera

BB King, Billy Preston – Sahara

Television news - Johnny Carson Productions names Joan Rivers as Carson’s sole substitute. The deal gives Rivers nine full weeks over a yearlong period beginning in September.

WKBS-TV (channel 48) in Philadelphia, an independent station usually in 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> place in the Philadelphia ratings, is going off the air for good. Owner Field Communications apparently can’t get the money they want for the station. Field has already sold four its five UHF stations,

but the company says the dissolution of WKBS-TV would be more advantageous to stockholders than accepting a bid below what it considered minimally satisfactory. The station will broadcast through August 31, when about 80 employees will be let go. Some of WKBS’ equipment and programming are going to rival WPHL-TV (channel 17).



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WABC-TV will debut “New York Hot Tracks” against NBC’s “Friday Night Videos.” “Hot Tracks” will stick to urban contemporary videos, most of them dance-oriented and by black artists. WKTU-FM DJ Carlos DeJesus will veejay.

Gaylord Broadcasting Co of Oklahoma City signs a letter of intent to pay American General Corp. \$270 million for the Nashville WSM/Opryland properties. They are – The Grand Ole Opry, WSM AM/FM; WSM’s interest in the 100 station satellite syndicated Music Country Network; country music cable TV channel **The Nashville Network**, Opryland video production facilities, Opryland USA theme park and the Opryland Hotel complex. Gaylord Broadcasting is headed by Edward Gaylord. George Gillette purchased WSM-TV and renamed it WSMV-TV last year.



More New York – **Leeza Gibbons**, a PM Magazine co-host on WFAA-TV Dallas, moves to WCBS-TV has co-host of “2 on the Town.” She replaces Adrienne Meltzer.

The cancellation last week of ABC’s late-night interview program “One on One” – it only leaves Ted Koppel’s “Nightline” to compete with NBC and CBS. Nightline was born of the Iranian hostage crisis.

Music news – Sam Moore, formerly part of “Sam and Dave” goes public about his now-cured 15-year drug habit.

Simon and Garfunkle are back and begin a U.S. tour this week. The pair reunited in 1981 with a free Central Park concert, attracting over 500,000 persons. That set off a successful overseas tour and now they’re back!

Appearing at the Bottom Line in New York – Weird Al Yankovic, Bennie Bell and Dr. Demento.

Everything is set for **Diana Ross’** Central Park Concert on July 19. Showtime will be airing the concert as well as subscription TV outlets SelectTV, On TV, Wometco Home Theatre, Super TV, Preview, Dorason, Home Entertainment Network and Graphic Scanning.



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Monday night television –

CBS – Square Pegs, Private Benjamin, Tucker’s Witch, Cagney & Lacey

NBC – Movie, Tonight Show

ABC – Monday Night Football, Nightline, One on One

PBS – Frontline, Great Performances, The Magic of Dance

WTBS The Catlins, Movie, Movie



**Tucker’s Witch** – A Hollywood gossip reporter asks the Tucker’s for help after an attempt on her life.

Square Pegs – Lauren encourages Patty to join her on the girls’ football team.

Tonight Show – Joan Rivers hosts with William & Ames Caulfield.

Radio news –

Top-40 KIIS-FM (Los Angeles) program director Gerry DeFrancesco is upped to vice president of programming.

Everybody is talking about a new New York FM station ready to make its debut on 100.3 – WHTZ. Its “hit radio” format debuts early next month. Program director Scott Shannon says the station will have a mass appeal or “fusion sound, one that you can dance to. We’re taking the position that we’re here to create, not compete.” The station is awaiting new 5<sup>th</sup> floor studios in Secaucus. Shannon says he’s been listening to other New York stations and concludes, “everybody sounds so serious. We’re going to be fun and that should make us different. I want to customize a product for New York that will reflect the spirit and feel of the old WABC, before they lost touch with the street.” “That was their downfall and I loved that station.”

Meantime, rival WPLJ may be changing to a top-40 station. WPLJ-FM has added artists such as Michael Jackson, Prince, Rod Stewart and Blonde, artists they wouldn’t be caught dead playing a year ago with their AOR format. PD Larry Berger maintains the station has not changed format. “We’ve broadened the base of our station to grow for the future.” WPLJ-FM slipped in the last ratings period – to a 4.1 from a 4.5.

KFRC night jock Bill Lee is fired for making a joke about AIDS on the air. He aired a tape of two station secretaries making light of AIDS, by singing a song to

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the tune of "America the Beautiful." In a misjudgment, Lee aired the song. One of the secretaries was also fired.

KPKE-FM in Denver shifts from AOR to Top-40.

## Top hits in Britain –

Wherever I Lay My Hat – Paul Young

I.O.U – Freeze

Baby Jane – Rod Stewart

Who's that Girl? – Eurythmics

Moonlight Shadow – Mike Oldfield

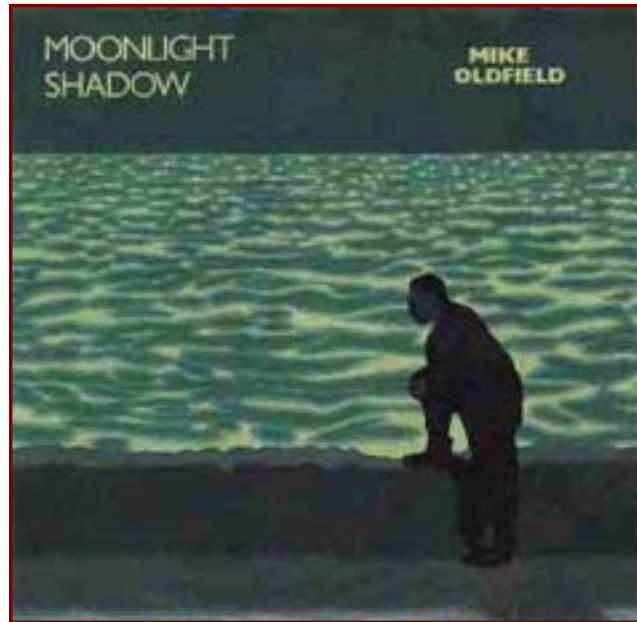
Come Live With Me – Heaven 17

Double Dutch – Malcolm McLaren

Flashdance – Irene Cara

War Baby – Tom Robinson

It's Over – Funk Masters



## Pop hits this week in 1983 –

Electric Avenue – Eddy Grant

Every Breath You Take – The Police

Never Gonna Let You Go – Sergio Mendes

Wanna Be Startin' Something – Michael Jackson

Is There Something I Should Know – Duran Duran

Our House – Madness

Stand Back – Stevie Nicks

Sweet Dreams – Eurythmics

She Works hard For The Money – Donna Summer

Come Dancing – Kinks

Too Shy – **Kajagoogoo**

1999 – Prince

Maniac – Michael Sembello

All This Love – Debarge

Hot Girls In Love – Loverboy

Baby Jane – Rod Stewart

Cuts Like A Knife – Bryan Adams

(Keep Feeling) Fascination – Human League

It's A Mistake – Men At Work

I'm Still Standing – Elton John

Saved By Zero – The Fixx

Take Me To Heart – Quarterflash



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Rock of Ages – Def Leppard  
Time – Culture Club

## Top albums –

Synchronicity - Police  
Thriller – Michael Jackson  
Flashdance – Soundtrack  
Let's Dance – David Bowie  
Pyromania – Def Leppard  
Keep It Up – Loverboy  
Killer on the Rampage – Eddy Grant  
1999 – Prince  
The Wild Heart – Stevie Nicks  
State of Confusion – Kinks  
Cargo – Men At Work  
Listen – A Flock of Seagulls  
H2O – Daryl Hall & John Oates  
Cuts Like A Knife – Bryan Adams  
Reach the Beach- The Fixx  
Speaking in Tongues – Talking Heads  
Duran Duran – Duran Duran  
Living in Oz – Rick Springfield  
Kissing to Be Clever – Culture Club  
Kilroy Was Here – Styx  
Piece of Mind – Iron Maiden  
Eliminator – ZZ Top  
Return of the Jedi – Soundtrack



## Top Country –

The Closer You Get – Alabama  
Pancho & Lefty – Willie Nelson and Merle Haggard  
I Always Get Lucky With You – George Jones  
Snapshot – Sylvia  
Highway 40 Blues – Ricky Skaggs  
Your Love's On The Line – Earl Thomas Conlee  
The Love She Found In Me – Gary Morris  
He's A Heartache (Looking For A Place To Happen) – Janie Frickie



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I Love Her Mind – Bellamy Brothers

I Wonder Who's Holding My Baby Tonight – The Whites

## Top movies this week in 1983 –

Return of the Jedi

Trading Places

Superman III

War Games

Octopussy

Twilight Zone – The Movie

Porkys II – The Next Day

Flashdance

Stroker Ace

The Survivors

Psycho II

Screwballs

Deadly Force

Fanny And Alexander

Hells Angels Forever

1990 The Bronx Warriors

Blue Thunder

## Top video rentals –

48 Hours

High Road to China

First Blood

Sophie's Choice

The Verdict

Mad Max

The Toy

