

*Economic, domestic issues to lead*

# Candidates prepare for TV debates

**Associated Press**  
On the eve of the Great Debates, President Ford is holding dress rehearsals at the White House while Jimmy Carter is resting and studying issues after offering his first detailed suggestion for reorganizing the government.

Their first nationally televised debate, on economic and domestic issues, will be held in Philadelphia tomorrow night. Two more Ford-Carter debates, on other issues, will follow.

Presidential advisers say Ford is rehearsing with his aides acting as reporters who fire questions at him. Aides say the exercise is aimed at honing his responses to questions likely to be asked before the national television audience.

Ford aides say he is hoping to dispel doubts about his intelligence and ability. "He wants to appear informed, decisive and experienced while picturing Carter as the opposite," one aide said.

For his dress rehearsal, Ford planned to perform before videotape cameras that would allow him to replay and refine his responses.

Carter's aides said the Democratic nominee planned no special preparations for the debate other than to

rest and read briefing books designed to keep him abreast of the issues.

Although Carter aides said the Democratic nominee planned no dress rehearsals before the debate, he does plan to visit the site of the debate to familiarize himself with the setting before he actually arrives to face Ford on tomorrow night.

Meanwhile, the sponsors of the debate, the League of Women Voters, denied that the second debate, which is set for Oct. 6, will be in San Francisco's War Memorial Veterans Building.

The president of the board that operates the building had said the debate would be there. But a spokesman for the league said that while San Francisco is being considered along with other cities, the veterans building has been ruled out for technical reasons.

Both Carter's running mate, Sen. Walter Mondale, and Ford's running mate, Sen. Bob Dole, planned to campaign today.

As Carter relaxed at home in Plains, Ga., his campaign organization issued the first details of what the Democratic nominee has promised would be an overhaul of the federal bureaucracy.

In a statement, Carter said he would abolish four existing agencies that now deal with energy questions, replacing them with a Cabinet-level department. He said he would abolish the Federal Energy Administration, the Federal Power Commission, the Energy Research and Development Administration and the Energy Resources Council.

Such a move, he said, would eliminate "the overlap, duplication and inconsistency of the present structure."

There are 20 agencies concerned with one aspect or another of energy policy now, but they have no central plan, creating a "jumble," he said. He added, "I will give the development of a coherent energy policy... the highest priority."

Streamlining the government has been a major theme of the Carter campaign, and the candidate carried

out a similar project when he was governor of Georgia.

Abolishing, consolidating or creating federal agencies or Cabinet departments requires congressional approval. Former President Richard M. Nixon proposed some reorganization plans to combine departments, but the Democratic-controlled Congress ignored most of them.

Carter often has been criticized for being imprecise on his plans for federal government reorganization. Carter's press secretary, Jody Powell, said the announcement of the energy plan had nothing to do with the fact that the debate is Thursday and that Ford may raise such criticism of Carter.

Meanwhile, Ford spokesmen brushed aside published reports that a lobbyist for U.S. Steel Corp. paid

for golf outings for Ford while he was a congressman and that the Watergate special prosecutor has subpoenaed records from the Republican party in Ford's home county.

About the golfing, White House spokesman Ron Nessen said Ford was twice the guest of William Whyte, the lobbyist, at the Pine Valley Golf Club near Clementon, N.J.

"If the President thought there was anything wrong, he wouldn't have done it," Nessen said. He said Ford considered it nothing more "than going to play golf with a friend of long-time standing."

Columnist Jack Anderson reported the golf outings, saying Whyte had said U.S. Steel paid for them. Edward Magee Jr., manager of the golf club, said Ford stayed at Laurel Ridge, a lodge owned by U.S. Steel.

At the same time, Watergate special prosecutor Charles Ruff subpoenaed records of the Kent County Republican party, headquartered in Ford's hometown of Grand Rapids, Mich.

Another subpoena went to the Marine Engineers Beneficial Association for its campaign contribution records. The union made the largest single contribution to Ford's campaign in 1972, the last time he ran for Congress.

Last night, David Gergen, special counsel to Ford, said there was no indication in the White House "of any overriding concern" about the investigation in Michigan.

And White House Counsel Philip Buchen said the Watergate prosecutor's investigation probably involves the Maritime Union and that

## U.N. General Assembly begins 31st session

**Associated Press**  
UNITED NATIONS, N.Y. — The 31st annual session of the U.N. General Assembly began business today after a smooth opening meeting in which the Korean question, one of its most troublesome issues, was set aside.

Today's program called for election of vice presidents and committee chairmen to sit with the assembly president on the steering committee.

Acting at North Korea's request, 34 supporters of the Communist government withdrew their annual resolution calling for dissolution of the United Nations Command in South Korea and the withdrawal of the 40,000 American troops there.

Japan, the United States and 19 other allies of South Korea then withdrew their agenda item calling for "constructive dialogue and negotiation toward a peaceful settlement of the Korean problem and the reunification of Korea."

Neither of the Koreans is a member of the United Nations.

Some observers speculated that the North Korean regime was preoccupied with economic problems and rivalry among would-be successors to President Kim Il-sung, who is reported ill.

Others thought the North Koreans feared that the cool reception given them at the nonaligned summit conference last month indicated a smaller vote this year for the resolution favoring them. The 1975 Assembly adopted both Korean resolutions, voting 59-51 for the South Korean one and 54-43 for the North Korean.

Sri Lanka's ambassador, Hamilton S. Amerasinghe, was elected president of the Assembly and said in his inaugural speech that racial

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