

Ford ahead in trial poll for 1980 presidential bid

Reagan even with Carter for runner-up

NEW YORK (AP) — Pres. Carter is trailing his 1976 opponent, Gerald Ford, in Americans' preferences for the 1980 presidential contest, according to a recently released national poll.

The poll, conducted by Louis Harris and Associates for ABC News, also found former California Gov. Ronald Reagan roughly even with Carter in the "trial heat" for the 1980 presidential race.

Former Pres. Ford was ahead of Carter in the poll results by a 48 percent to 43 percent margin. The remaining 9 percent of the persons polled did not express an opinion.

ABC News said the percentages are based on telephone interviews last week with those who said they had voted in the 1976 race and with a small group of persons who were too young to vote that year but who now are over 18.

The latest finding shows Carter weakening in trial heats in the last two months. A Harris survey early in April found Carter leading Ford by a 50-42 margin.

Reagan and Carter were about equal in the poll. Reagan — Ford's main opponent for the GOP nomination in 1976 — was the choice of 47 percent of those polled, while Carter was picked by 46 percent.

Because of the approximately 3 percent sampling error inherent in a poll of about 1,500 interviews, it is not possible to say whether Carter or Reagan is ahead.

As other earlier polls have reported, Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., is the choice of Democrats over Carter for their party's 1980 nominations. Kennedy, who has said he will not run, holds substantial mar-



Emerald Graphic

gins over both Ford and Reagan in the trial heats.

The Harris poll said Kennedy leads Carter 60-35 among Democrats in their choice for 1980.

Another frequently mentioned Democratic challenger to Carter, California Gov. Edmund G. Brown, trailed Carter and the two GOP possibilities.

Carter was preferred by Democrats by a 64-29 margin over Brown for the Democratic

nomination.

Brown trailed Ford by 52-38 and Reagan by 52-40 in the match-ups.

In each case, the person interviewed was asked a variation of this question: "Suppose the election for president in 1980 were held today and Carter were running on the Democratic ticket and Ford on the Republican...who would you vote for?"

Spotlight on Newman during UN meeting

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — A delight to secretaries and spectators and a distraction to diplomats, actor Paul Newman is stealing the show at the General Assembly's special session on disarmament. He's the first big-name crowd pleaser since Henry Kissinger.

An adoring throng, including many U.N. office workers, follows the blue-eyed hollywood star wherever he goes. But Newman, 53, the latest in a long line of entertainers the United States has booked into the U.N. assembly, says he's trying to keep a low profile.

"I'm just learning the job. I'm try-

Simple robbery turns complex

LAWTON, Okla. (AP) — It should have been a simple robbery. But it didn't work out that way.

A woman walked into the convenience store Wednesday afternoon, pulled the gun, got \$101 and ran. That's when the simple little robbery got interesting.

The robber ran straight to a nearby bar, got change for the \$1 and telephoned for a taxi to pick her up.

A witness to the robbery also ran to the bar, waited until the woman was through, and used the same phone to call police.

The taxi showed up, but while the woman was getting in, the witness told the driver the woman was a robbery suspect.

The taxi driver drove a short way, circled and headed back to the police car sitting in front of the convenience store.

Police said that just as the taxi pulled up near the police car the woman jumped from the vehicle and tried to flee. But she got too close to the taxi and her pants leg caught under the taxi tire.

The taxi held the woman in place until officers arrived, arrested a 26-year-old woman and confiscated \$100.85.

Authorities withheld the woman's name pending filing of charges.

ing to feel my way in," he told the Associated Press.

At the U.N. Plaza Hotel, where Newman and other U.S. delegates are housed, bellboys and hotel guests ignored such Washington luminaries as Sens. Charles Percy, R-Ill., and Charles Mathias Jr., R-Md., to shake hands with, or just get a glimpse of Newman.

At a Swedish reception here Wednesday evening, the crowd surrounding Newman was at least six deep according to Martin Halquist, a spokesman for the Swedish mission. "We were delighted he showed up."

Another diplomat described the scene as a "stampede."

"I think it's just wonderful, his presence adds a human dimension to this extra-serious affair," says Margaret Saunders, a secretary from Barbados.

U.S. Ambassador Andrew Young says it's "fun" to have Newman on the delegation. He notes that Newman has long been active in disarmament and peace movements.

But some diplomats obviously are irritated by the distraction caused by Newman's presence.

"I'm not trying to be cynical, but I just don't see much merit in this practice of bringing in actors and actresses to U.N. meetings," says Western European diplomat who preferred to remain anonymous.

at THE PLACE

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June 2, 3
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June 8
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June 10
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