

## Evidence indicates Hinckley suicidal Reagan resumes command in 'exceptionally good condition'

WASHINGTON (AP) — Justice Department sources said Tuesday they have found written evidence that John Warnock Hinckley Jr., accused in the shooting of Pres. Ronald Reagan a day earlier, may have wanted to "go out and do something to get himself killed."

Hinckley was given tranquilizers and was held without bond at a Marine base in Virginia, awaiting psychiatric testing to determine if he is competent to stand trial on charges of attempting to assassinate the president and assault upon a federal officer.

Reagan rebounded Tuesday from gunshot surgery in "exceptionally good condition" and with a strong dose of humor as he signed a major economic bill and resumed command of the country.

Vice Pres. George Bush said the chief executive was rosy-cheeked and looked robust as he took up presidential business from his hospital bed early in the morning. Bush, meanwhile, assumed the president's day-to-day White House schedule.

The 70-year-old president was described by doctors as being in "excellent spirits," fewer than 24 hours after an assailant's bullet was removed from his left lung.

"It's pretty much business as

usual, with the vice president pinch-hitting for the president," said Bush spokesman Peter Teeley.

Justice Department sources, who declined identification, revealed that federal investigators found an unmailed letter written by the accused assailant in which he indicated "he might go out and do something to get himself killed."

The letter, the sources said, was addressed to 18-year-old movie actress Jodie Foster and reflected that Hinckley, the 25-year-old son of a wealthy Denver oilman, was in an "I don't care what happens to me" frame of mind.

Administration and congressional sources, who declined to be identified, said Hinckley's letter spelled out his plans in detail. They did not elaborate.

Actress Foster played a pre-teen prostitute in the movie "Taxi Driver" and made her stage debut last week in a student production at Yale, where she is a freshman.

Earlier Tuesday, Sen. Paul Laxalt, R-Nev., said authorities established a motive in the attempted assassination, in which Pres. Reagan, his press secretary and two law officers were shot.

However, Laxalt refused to divulge details, and there was

no public word from other officials whether the discovery of the letter was linked to the suspected motive.

Hinckley, confined to a six-by-10 foot private cell, was being watched around the clock by at least two U.S. marshals, said Bill Dempsey, a spokesman for the U.S. Marshals Service.

Meanwhile, at the White House, lunchtime crowds milled outside, while aides inside took pains to portray the government as functioning normally.

Bush directed a Cabinet meeting, met with congressional leaders and greeted the visiting prime minister of the Netherlands, Andreas A.M. Van Agt.

White House communications were installed at the George Washington University Hospital, where Reagan was recuperating, seven blocks west of the White House.

Reagan appointments secretary David Fisher set up an office there, and deputy White House press secretary Larry Speakes said "there's not a lot of difference from him (Reagan) being in the Oval Office."

"We're fully prepared to take care of anything," Speakes said. "He's fully able to function as he would be anywhere in the world."

White House Chief of Staff James Baker said shortly after



*Emerald Photo*

Pres. Ronald Reagan, on the road to recovery after surgery on Monday, signed a major economic bill Tuesday as he resumed command of the country.

the wounded president reached the hospital Monday, "full communications" were opened between the medical center, the White House situation room and the airplane carrying Bush back to Washington from a speaking trip to Texas.

Baker insisted the administration was prepared at all times "for any contingency that might arise."

The chief of staff refused to say whether the United States had sought assurances from the Soviet Union or warned Moscow

not to try to take advantage of the situation.

White House press secretary James Brady was described by Dr. Dennis O'Leary as having suffered "fairly extensive damage" to the right side of the brain.

"We believe he is going to live, but we have no idea where he is going to end up," said O'Leary, a George Washington University hospital official serving as a spokesman. Later in the day, Speakes said he was "very optimistic" about Brady.

## University grad to become J-school dean

### Minnesota Prof. Dennis formerly edited Emerald

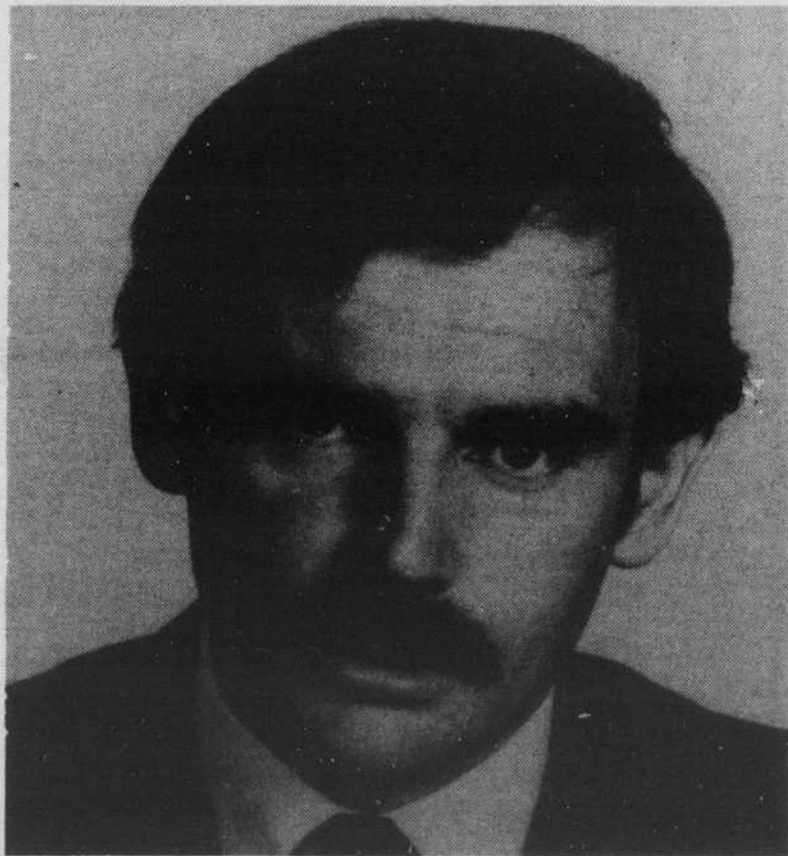


Photo courtesy of UO News Bureau

Everett Dennis

University journalism graduate and former Emerald editor Everett Dennis is the new dean of the journalism school.

Dennis currently is professor of journalism and director of graduate studies at the University of Minnesota School of Journalism and Mass Communication.

The 38-year-old will take over for current Dean Galen Rarick July 1, according to Richard Hill, acting provost and academic vice president.

"He's very highly regarded in the journalism education community," outgoing Dean Galen Rarick says. "His reputation is just excellent."

Rarick, dean since 1976, will return to teaching in the journalism school, raising the number of full-time faculty to 14.

One problem Dennis will have to grapple with is overcrowding in the journalism school. Enrollment increased 22 percent last year, increasing the total to over 800 students.

Dennis has had an outstanding journalism career. He received the outstanding journalism graduate award from the University in 1964. He previously had worked part time for the Lincoln County Leader, the Newburg Graphic, the Daily Journal of Commerce and the Eugene Register-Guard.

After graduation, Dennis worked for one year as an information specialist for the New York Department of Mental Hygiene. From 1966-68, he was director of public information for the Illinois Department of Mental Health.

The new dean began his academic career when he joined the journalism faculty at Kansas State University in 1968. He went to the University of Minnesota in 1972, becoming director of graduate studies at the journalism school in 1979.

He completed his master's degree at Syracuse University and his doctoral degree at Minnesota. He is author or co-author of eight books.