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SUBJECT Controversy Over Carter-Reagan Debate of 1980

DAVE MOLENDY: Some Reagan Administration officials have shed some new light on the so-called briefing book affair.

A congressional investigation is underway into how some White House briefing material for President Carter during the 1980 campaign wound up in the hands of Reagan campaign officials just before a debate.

Sandy Crolle has the latest.

SANDY CROLLE: CIA Director William Casey, who ran the Reagan campaign, says he does not recall seeing or hearing about any Carter documents pilfered to help the Reagan campaign.

Budget Director David Stockman, remembers the papers, but says since the Carter positions were a matter of public record he did not pause to worry about where they came from.

Chief of Staff Jim Baker says he remembers the set of documents and at the time thought they may have come from the Carter camp. But Baker does not believe it was strategic material.

Finally, Dave Gergen, now Chief of Communications, says he does not remember receiving or seeing a Carter debate book. Gergen, like Baker, suggests that the entire episode is being brought up now for political reasons.

Sandy Crolle, AP Network News, with the President, in Chicago.

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