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MCLAUGHLIN: You've joined the cover story.

KONDRACKE: Look, the West Germans agreed to that point. The Finns agreed, the Norwegians agreed that there was no sign of Russian scramble...

MCLAUGHLIN: They all decided to hush it up.

ROBERT NOVAK: John, I think one thing about you is any kind of propaganda, you are just like a big old dog. The propaganda comes, and you lump on it.

Don't you understand, when they talk about this, this is disinformation, talking about a cruise missile aimed for Germany, to scare the Nervous Nelly peace bloc in Europe.

Do you know there is no evidence whatsoever that this missile was headed for Germany?

MCLAUGHLIN: Patrick?

PAT BUCHANAN: I don't have anything to contradict what he says.

JACK GERMOND: Bob is right. There is no evidence at all to support taking this whole thing seriously, to tell you the truth.

MCLAUGHLIN: Oh, come one. Look, the number of unreported, underpublicized, even by your new magazine, Newsweek, about errors, particularly computer errors, relating to this sensitive area of nuclear armaments is a scandal. It is a scandal.

KONDRACKE: John, they recovered the missile. The missile was obviously not armed with a warhead. It was a drone missile. It was designed for target practice.

MCLAUGHLIN: They recovered the tail-end of the missile. They don't know that it was a drone.

BUCHANAN: There is something of significance here. The Soviets are developing a look-down, shoot-down radar on their MiG-29 interceptors, which, if it has the capacity to shoot down cruise missiles, is very serious stuff. Because, as you know, our B-52s, that's their penetration capability now, the cruise.

MCLAUGHLIN: My concern is that the public has a right to know what really went on.

NOVAK: Well, that's always been your concern.

MCLAUGHLIN: Is it your feeling that the United States Congress should hold hearings on this matter?

Pat?

BUCHANAN: No.

Bob?

Jack?

NOVAK: Well, wait a minute. I didn't get a chance. I didn't get a chance to answer.

It is so ridiculous that you raise that. The answer is no.

MCLAUGHLIN: Jack?

GERMOND: The answer is no.

MCLAUGHLIN: Mort?

GERMOND: And the other thing is, if they're going to depend on you for their information, Lord help them.

KONDRACKE: I think they should get on with Ed Meese...

MCLAUGHLIN: Well, the answer is they should hold hearings, and they probably will.