On March 26, the state of war that had existed for more than 30 years between Israel and Egypt ended as Prime Minister Menachem Begin and President Anwar Sadat signed the Camp David accord at a White House ceremony. Both leaders praised President Jimmy Carter for his role in the negotiations. Iranian militants took American hostages as they seized the American embassy in Teheran, gold reached a record high of $400 per ounce in late September, and America continued its exploration of space with Voyager 1 and Pioneer 2.

On Broadway, Liv Ullmann appeared in Richard Rodgers’ I Remember Mama; Bernard Pomerance’s The Elephant Boy told the moving story of a remarkable human being, Mickey Rooney and Ann Miller sweetened the stage in Sugar Babies; Patti LuPone was Andrew Lloyd Webber’s Evita; and Len Cariou, with the help of Angela Lansbury, as Stephen Sondheim’s Sweeney Todd, ran a barber shop like one you have never seen.

At the movies, Kramer vs. Kramer and star Dustin Hoffman won Academy Awards, as did Sally Field for her role as Norma Rae. Among the other top films were Francis Ford Coppola’s Apocalypse Now, The China Syndrome with Jack Lemmon and Jane Fonda, Being There starring Peter Sellers, and Woody Allen’s Manhattan.

Popular TV programs were Taxi, Three’s Company, The Dukes of Hazzard; Lou Grant; Alice; and CBS’s magazine of the air, 60 Minutes.

Topping the music charts were Donna Summer’s album Bad Girls; The Bee Gees’ “Too Much Heaven”; the Billy Joel album 52nd Street; Olivia Newton-John’s “A Little More Love”; and the song that became the theme song of the ’79 World Champion Pittsburgh Pirates, “We Are Family.”

At the bookstores, high on the charts were John Le Carré’s Smiley’s People, Sophie’s Choice by William Styron, Joseph Heller’s Good as Gold, The Right Stuff by Tom Wolfe, David Halberstam’s The Powers That Be, and White House Years by Henry Kissinger.

The city of Pittsburgh hit the double with the World Series winning Pirates and the Super Bowl XIV champion Steelers; for the fourth consecutive year, the Canadians took the Stanley Cup back to Montreal; Björn Borg, John McEnroe, Tracy Austin, and Martina Navratilova dominated professional tennis; and pro golfer Hale Irwin won the prestigious USGA Open.

People, Sights, and Sounds of ’79: Vice President Walter Mondale; Mother Teresa; Margaret Thatcher; Leonid Brezhnev; Ayatollah Khomeini; the Salt II Treaty; Paul Volcker; Andrew Young; Lee Iacocca and Chrysler; Jerry Falwell and the Moral Majority; OPEC; Three Mile Island; NPR’s Morning Edition and A Prairie Home Companion with Garrison Keillor; the Susan B. Anthony dollar; the Sony Walkman, Sally Field’s Academy Award greeting, “You like me? You really, really like me?”; and the

Class of 1979