Israel assisted Phalangist refugee camp operation — The Israeli army requested and helped plan the Phalangist entry into Palestinian refugee camps, Israeli Defense Minister Ariel Sharon said Wednesday. The Phalangists massacred hundreds of civilians at the Sabra and Shatila refugee camps last week. "When the picture became clear, when we saw the enormity of the tragedy, it was too late, too late to do anything, although we intervened at the rise of the first suspicion," Begin contended at an acrimonious debate in the Israeli Knesset.

USSR denies plot to kill Pope — The Soviet Union denied alleged connections with the May 1981 attempt to assassinate Pope John Paul II. NBC News recently broadcast a report claiming the Kremlin backed that assassination attempt. Tass, the Soviet news agency, contended the CIA planted the story.

Thatcher visits China — Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher of England met with Chinese Prime Minister Zhao Ziyang and other officials in Peking to discuss the future of Hong Kong. Most of Great Britain's lease on the territory expires in 1997. Thatcher arrived in Peking yesterday, following a six-day visit to Japan.

Tony Zamparutti

Nation

Holmes' amendments die in Senate — Constitutional amendments prohibiting abortion and requiring prayer in public schools died in the US Senate yesterday. Following the fourth unsuccessful attempt to end a bipartisan filibuster against the anti-abortion measure, Senator Jim Helms (R-North Carolina), sponsor of the amendments, said, "You never really lose when you're fighting for a good cause."

Local

King endorses Dukakis — Massachusetts Governor Edward J. King yesterday announced his endorsement of former governor Michael Dukakis following a fifteen-minute meeting between the two Democrats at the State House. The two men disagree on many issues, King said, but he will support his party and attempt to change its policies from within. King seemed to rule out a personal role in the campaign, however, when he said he could not actively support a candidate supporting a woman's right to choose to have an abortion. Dukakis voiced similarities between his and King's positions on education and jobs.

Nuclear freeze referendum to appear on November ballot — Citizens of Massachusetts will have a chance to vote on a referendum asking the US government to work to secure a mutual nuclear arms moratorium and reduction with the Soviet Union and other nations. The legislature passed, and Governor King signed, a measure placing the question on the November ballot just before yesterday's 3pm deadline for such action.

Barry S. Surman

Sports

Minor leaguer files Chicken suit — Quad City (Iowa) Cubs pitcher Don Schulze filed a $2.5 million damage suit against The Chicken Co., which manages Ted Giannoulis, the actor who plays the San Diego Chicken, in Federal District Court in Iowa. Schulze hit a home run in a game between the Cubs and an old-timers team. As the plaintiff was rounding third base, the suit alleges, the Chicken tackled Schulze, separating the pitcher's shoulder in the fall. Schulze was on the disabled list for most of the season.

Gaussian elimination claims Red Sox — The chances for a Boston pennant this year reached the limit $1/n$, as $n$ approaches infinity (or the end of the season, whichever comes first). The Milwaukee Brewers beat the Red Sox 3-1 Wednesday night in Milwaukee.

Robert E. Malekman

Weather

Pleasant weather returns to Boston this weekend, with mostly sunny skies both today and tomorrow and highs in the low 70's. Tonight will be partly cloudy, with a low in the middle 50's.

Barry S. Surman

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