World

Sharon receives new Israeli Cabinet position — Although Ariel Sharon resigned as Israel’s defense minister Saturday, he will remain a member of the Israeli Cabinet with unspecified duties. Moshe Arens, Israel’s ambassador in Washington, has agreed to become the new defense minister. The Cabinet approved these changes unanimously despite protests from the Histadrut and Labor Parties who charge the government has defied the recommendations of the judicial commission that investigated the Beirut massacre by retaining Sharon as a minister without portfolio.

Shaking cable cars kill ten in Italy — Blizzard conditions created high winds which ripped three cable cars from their tracks at a resort in Champoluc, Italy on Sunday. The cars fell 150 feet on to the mountainside below killing eight adults and two children. The accident was the worst of its kind since 42 people died in a cable car crash in Italy in 1976.

Nation

Hinckley hospitalized after apparent suicide attempt — John W. Hinckley Jr., who attempted to assassinate President Ronald Reagan in March 1981, was found semiconscious in his room at St. Elizabeth’s Hospital Sunday morning. Doctors suspect he took an “excessive amount” of a substance which they declined to identify. Although it is too early to characterize the incident as a suicide attempt, Dr. James Levy, president of the hospital to which Hinckley was taken, says that is “a reasonable assumption.” Hinckley is now connected to a respirator and in serious condition, but Levy believes “he’ll be all right.”

Local

Massachusetts faces shortage of science teachers — James Case of the state Board of Education reports that more school systems in Massachusetts are having difficulty finding experienced math and science teachers with adequate college training. This is reflected by the decline in mean SAT scores from 502 in 1963 to 486 in 1980. Paul Hurd, Stanford University Professor emeritus, fears that “the majority of high school graduates will become members of the fastest growing minority in the US — the scientifically and technologically illiterate.”

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