news roundup

World

Rockets miss US ambassador's house — Two artillery rockets were fired directly over the roof of the residence of the United States ambassador in Beirut. The rockets exploded about 100 yards away, missing Secretary of State George P. Schultz, special envoy Philip C. Habib and Morris Draper, and Ambassador Robert Dillon, who were asleep at the time. No injuries were reported.

Thousands demonstrate in Poland — Thousands of pro-Solidarity, anti-government demonstrators turned out for unauthorized May Day rallies in 20 Polish cities and towns Sunday. Police met the demonstrators with water cannons and tear gas. Although Lech Walesa, the founder of Solidarity, did not participate in the demonstration, his home was the site of the largest rally.

Pope urges Poland to release political prisoners — Pope John Paul II told Polish leaders Friday the success of his planned visit to the country depends on government amnesty for political prisoners. A government spokesman denied the pope had set "any conditions on his visits." The number of political prisoners in Poland is estimated to be between several hundred and 4000.

Nation

Earthquake rocks California — An earthquake measuring 6.5 on the Richter scale knocked down multi-story buildings and houses in the small town of Calingua, California last night, starting fires downtown. The town's hospital was not damaged, but lost all electric power. The number of injuries was unknown, according to Fresno County officials. No deaths were reported.

Reagan to cut aid for terminally ill — New benefits for the terminally ill would be cut to about half the amount proposed by Congress, under new hospital care rules being drafted by the Reagan administration. The benefits are allocated to sick, elderly people with a life expectancy of six months or less. The administration proposes a maximum payment of $4532, although Congress envisioned a ceiling "in excess of $7000 per beneficiary."

Alaskan incomes highest in country — The average 1982 income of Alaskan residents was $15,200, the highest in the nation, according to Department of Commerce figures released yesterday. The national average was $11,286, a 5.3 percent increase over 1981. The Consumer Price Index rose 5.3 percent during the year. Connecticut finished second with $13,687, while Mississippi was again last, with $7792 per capita.

U.S. prepares sale of Western grasslands — The Reagan administration, under a "privatization" program, plans to sell more than a million acres of the National Grasslands in 11 states to the highest bidder. The US Forest Service administers the 3.8 million acre system, mostly acquired during the Dust Bowl era. The plan, announced a year ago, would sacrifice valuable resources for a short-term gain, opponents claim.

Local

Walkers raise $400,000 for hungry — Four thousand participants in Sunday's 20-mile fundraising walk raised over $400,000 in pledges for the hungry in greater Boston and the world. The walk began at 7am and took about six hours.

Boston mayor's race underway — Polls indicate City Councilor Raymond L. Flynn and School Committee President David E. Finnegan lead Mayor Kevin H. White's eight challengers in the race for Boston's mayor's race. The candidates will face a May 23 primary election, with a run-off, if necessary, to be held June 13. The election is scheduled to be held May 23. The winner will be the next mayor of Boston.

Sports

World Cup soccer in the United States? — Former Secretaries of State Henry Kissinger and Cyrus Vance have allied in a diplomatic venture to change the location of soccer's World Cup competition from the United States. The move, announced a year ago, would sacrifice valuable resources for a short-term gain, opponents claim.

Celtics swept, Bruins trail playoff series — The Milwaukee Bucks destroyed the Boston Celtics 107-93 to sweep the four-game Eastern Conference semifinals. Milwaukee will face Philadelphia in the Eastern Conference finals. Meanwhile, the Boston Bruins fell behind the New York Islanders two games to one, losing 7-3 Saturday in the NHL semifinals.

Weather

Rainy days ahead — Thunder showers and temperatures between 77 and 81 degrees today. Humid conditions prevail tomorrow, with temperatures in the high 60s and cloudy skies.

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