World

NATO offers new troop reduction plan — The United States and its allies in Vienna Wednesday offered a new plan to the Soviet bloc in hope of breaking the deadlock in the talks on reducing conventional forces in central Europe. The new plan no longer insists that the two sides agree on how many troops they presently have in the region; for years, the Soviet bloc has claimed to have 170,000 fewer troops than the West counted. The two sides have previously agreed to reduce ground forces to no more than 700,000.

Senators shot down over Honduras — Two armed US Army helicopters, one carrying two American senators, were shot down Wednesday over Honduras on a flight near the border of El Salvador. The passengers and crew were rescued uninjured. The senators, Lawton Chiles, D-Fla., and J. Bennett Johnston, D-La., were on a trip to inspect a Salvadoran refugee camp.

Nation

Seabrook construction suspended — The near-bankrupt Public Service Co. of New Hampshire Wednesday halted work on the Seabrook 1 nuclear power plant. All but 1000 of the 6200 workers on the project have been laid off. The project was 75 percent complete, but experts are pessimistic about its chances of being finished. Work on Seabrook 2 was halted last September. A total of about $3.5 billion has been spent at Seabrook.

Bush proposes chemical weapons ban — Vice President George Bush Wednesday presented a draft of a treaty to destroy and ban all chemical weapons worldwide to a special session of the 40-nation UN disarmament conference in Geneva. Bush emphasized the treaty would permit inspection teams to visit all military and governors' armed installations on short notice to verify the agreement.

Local

Black bus driver beaten by white youths — A black MBTA bus driver was attacked by at least six white youths in West Roxbury Monday night. Four men and two women were arrested and charged with assault and battery with a deadly weapon (their hands and feet) and willful and malicious destruction of property. The youths picked up the bus driver and threw him through the closed front door, then began kicking him and yelling racial slurs. Passengers who tried to help the driver were unable to stop the group. The driver was treated for cuts above the left eye and on the cheeks, nose, and chin, neck spasms, lacerations inside the nose, and bruised left ribs.

Massachusetts fears shortage of engineering PhDs — A preliminary report released by the Massachusetts Board of Regents of higher education said that while the state should soon have enough undergraduate-level engineers to meet the needs of industry, there may not be enough people with doctorate degrees in engineering to meet the needs of industry, but there may not be enough people with doctorate degrees in engineering to meet the needs of industry, but there may not be enough people with doctorate degrees in engineering to meet the needs of industry, but there may not be enough people with doctorate degrees in engineering to meet the needs of industry.

Dukakis favors raising drinking age — Governor Michael S. Dukakis said last week that if the legislature passed a bill raising the Massachusetts drinking age to over 20, he would not veto it. Dukakis vetoed bills to raise the drinking age in 1975 and 1978 during his previous term as governor, and said he believes higher drinking ages would protect Massachusetts youth.

Sports

Islanders advance in Stanley Cup tourney — The New York Islanders continued their march to a record-eating fifth Stanley Cup by downsing the Washington Capitals 5-3 in the fifth game of the best-of-seven Patrick Division final. This was the Islanders' 100th playoff victory. Starting next Tuesday, the team will face either the Montreal Canadiens or the Quebec Nordiques in the Stanley Cup semifinal. Montreal, seven Patrick Division final.

Weather

Still more cloudy skies — Today will be very cloudy with a chance of showers and high temperatures of 50-54, becoming partly cloudy tonight, with lows of 40-44. Tomorrow will be breezy, with intervals of clouds and sunshine, highs 54-58.

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