Israel raids Lebanon

Israeli jets bombed Palestinian positions in the Lebanon mountains overlooking Beirut. Guerrillas from hard-line Palestinian groups are known to have been living in the district of Aley. The attack came one day after the Israeli Army was reported to have hacked troops and artillery along Lebanon’s southern border.

Israeli military analysts said pressure was building on the Israeli Army to attack an Iranian-backed Shiite militia involved in attacks on Israeli, United Nations and Christian militia forces in southern Lebanon.

Yitzhak Shamir, the Israeli foreign minister, said hours after the strike that Israel had no plans for a new invasion of Lebanon. He called the raids necessary measures.

"There is a constant effort of the Palestinian terrorist organizations to increase their presence and their forces in Lebanon," he said. "They would like to renew the situation prevailing before 1982, and we have to prevent it." (The New York Times)

British alliance setback on nukes

The British Liberal Party repudiated the stand of part leader David Steel on nuclear weapons on Tuesday. The decision came by a narrow margin in a vote of the Liberal Assembly, the party’s top policy-making body. Steel had made concessions to the policies of the Social Democratic Party, which opposes unilateral British disarmament. The move appears to have thrown the Liberal-Social Democratic alliance into disarray.

Steel and the SDP leader, David Owen, had suggested the idea of nuclear cooperation with France to establish a "minimum Europeans deterrent." They argued that this would be less expensive and require less reliance on the United States.

The nuclear issue is likely to be important in the next general election, expected sometime next year, because the opposition Labour Party has committed itself to decommissioning the Polaris nuclear submarines and rejecting the US cruise missiles based at two sites in England. Many political observers feel that the centrist alliance may hold the balance of power after a general election. (The New York Times)

Weather

The National Weather Service has announced that President Reagan will veto legislation toughening sanctions against South Africa today. Spokesman Larry Speiser admitted that it will be hard to get enough votes to sustain the veto. The Senate voted 84-14 in favor of the bill, and Reagan would have to carry 34 votes to defeat an override. (AP)

Nakasone’s comments draw fire

As a showdown congressmen condemned Japanese Prime Minister Yashuhiro Nakasone’s comments about the United States made this week as racist. Nakasone was quoted as saying, "In the United States, because there are a considerable number of blacks, Puerto Ricans, and Mexicans, the [intelligent] level is lower." (The New York Times)

A rose is a rose is our nation’s flower

The House of Representatives voted Tuesday to make the rose the national flower of the United States. The senate had already passed a similar resolution last year, and it now goes to President Reagan, who is expected to sign it into law. The House voice vote, coming after a brief discussion, crowned the rose as the "national floral emblem." (The New York Times)

State helps out vanpools

Massachusetts officials have announced a $230,000 program to promote the use of vanpools on the crowded Route 128 corridor. The state will contribute $300 per month towards the cost of the vanpool. The program is open to any group of 8-10 people who start a new vanpool to commute in the Route 128 area. Executive Director Carolyn Dimambro says the vanpool would represent a 75 percent savings for riders. (AP)

Scott no-hitter slams the door on the rest of the NEWest

The Houston Astros clinched the title in the National League West with authority last night. Mike Scott pitched a no-hitter against the San Francisco Giants, winning 2-0. Scott struck out 13, bringing his major league-leading total to 296. (AP)

Sports

Yankees, Jays magic numbers at 21

The New York Yankees and Toronto Blue Jays’ magic numbers stood at 21 before last night’s play. They both have records of 82-69, so if they win all of their remaining 11 games, they will finish two games ahead of Boston. That is, if the Red Sox lose all of their remaining games. (AP)

France’s Yashuhiro Nakasone said Tuesday, "Encouraging outlines of meaningful agreements have been emerging lately." In an address to the General Assembly of the United Nations, he said, "Enforcing outlines of meaningful agreements have been emerging lately." Nakasone later said reporters that he had prepared ways of resolving the problem of Nicholas S. Daniloff, the US journalist accused of espionage in the Soviet Union.

"There are good chances for solving this problem," he said. "I have made all my proposals. My conscience is clear. These are serious and regular discussions. And the less noise there is, the better for all because wiser decisions are made in a quiet and calm atmosphere." (The New York Times)

Nation

Reagan announces he will veto South Africa sanctions

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