

Reagan defends Beirut security

NEW YORK — Pres. Reagan denied Sunday that deficient security allowed a suicide terrorist to explode his truck bomb outside the U.S. Embassy annex in Beirut last week, killing at least nine people, including two Americans.

"About 75 percent of all the work that had to be done had been completed," Reagan told reporters. "Anybody that's ever had their kitchen done over

knows it never gets done as soon as you wish it would."

The president, in New York for a speech Monday to the United Nations, was questioned by reporters about the truck-bombing in Lebanon on Thursday as he posed for photographs with Pres. Raul Alfonsin of Argentina.

Acknowledging that security measures were "not quite completed," Reagan nevertheless said, "The same thing had happened in the other place — someone determined to kill himself exploding an

automobile..."

The president said he was not thinking of sending additional Marines to strengthen security because American servicemen are not permitted to guard the outside of the compound.

For the same reason, he said, he had acted correctly in withdrawing an 80-man Marine security detachment from Beirut. "There was no need inside the compound for a detachment of 80 Marines," he said.

Reagan said steel gates that were to guard the embassy annex had not been installed, "but

we moved into that building because it represented more safety than the one we were in."

"We had the blocks up," he said, apparently referring to concrete blocks that are supposed to slow down vehicles.

Reagan said the street could not have been blocked off in any event because it was a residential area to which people needed access.

However, he said, there was a checkpoint, and the terrorist driver was stopped and fired upon "when they began to step on it... and they got just short of the building — the corner of the building — and they detonated it."

Reagan said he was awaiting a report from Richard W. Murphy, assistant secretary of state, who was sent to Beirut to investigate the situation.

A few hours before the president spoke, U.N. Ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick refused to rule out U.S. retaliation against the forces responsible for the embassy.

as the snarling but sensitive street detective Mick Belker.

Rhea Perlman, the tough-talking barmaid on NBC's "Cheers," and Pat Harrington Jr., the nosy superintendent Schneider on CBS' "One Day At A Time," were named best supporting performers in comedy series.

Art Carney, who played the housekeeper to Jimmy Cagney's retired boxer in CBS' "Terrible Joe Moran," won the award as best supporting actor in a special.

Fourteen-year-old Roxana Zal, the young incest victim in ABC's "Something About Amelia," won the award as best supporting actress in a special.

NBC's "He Makes Me Feel Like Dancin'" won the first award of the night for best children's program.

The outstanding individual performance in a variety or musical program went to Cloris Leachman for "Screen Actors Guild 50th Anniversary Celebration" on CBS. Earlier, she had lost the award as best supporting actress in a special for her portrayal of late comic Ernie Kovacs' mother.

"Hill Street Blues," the gritty, bittersweet police series, has dominated the awards for the past three years, and its 18 nominations were the record for the 1983-84 season.

Another NBC show, the bar-room comedy "Cheers," was the runner-up in nominations with 12, the same number as "The Day After," ABC's nuclear doomsday drama.

Tied with 11 each were "St. Elsewhere," NBC's still-struggling hospital series; "Fame," which still gleams in syndication after being dropped by NBC; and two critically acclaimed ABC productions, "A Streetcar Named Desire," and "Something About Amelia," a drama about incest.

Detective show wins awards

LOS ANGELES — NBC's top-nominated "Hill Street Blues" won both supporting performer awards at the 36th annual Emmys Sunday night, with prizes going to Alfre Woodard and Bruce Weitz.

Miss Woodard played a mother whose young son is mistakenly killed by a policeman, and Weitz was honored for his continuing role

Senator fleeces embassy travel

WASHINGTON — The State Department spent more than \$400,000 in two years on ocean travel, mostly first class, for embassy employees who could have flown for a fraction of the cost, Sen. William Proxmire, D-Wis., said Sunday.

Proxmire gave the department his Golden Fleece Award, which he bestows each month for what he considers an egregious waste of taxpayers' money.

In reviewing the department's records for 1982 and 1983, Proxmire said he found the following:

Twenty-six employees of the U.S. Embassy in Pakistan took ocean cruises, most of them aboard the Queen Elizabeth II, at a cost of more than \$160,000. Economy class airline travel from Pakistan to New York or Washington, D.C. costs about \$900 per person. The employees, however, flew to London and then continued the trip to New York aboard the ocean liner. The total cost was \$2,400 to \$3,000 per person.

One embassy employee in Pakistan and his wife flew to Thailand, boarded the Queen Elizabeth II, made a 19-day ocean voyage to Hawaii and then flew to Washington, D.C. by way of Los Angeles. Their total bill for just the ship travel was more than \$15,000, Proxmire said.

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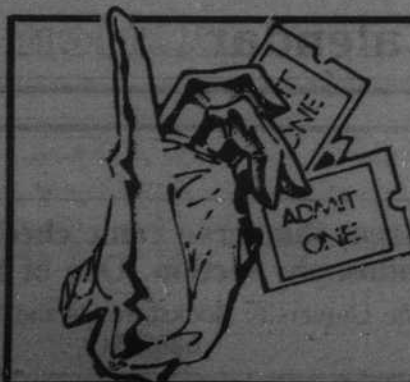
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