

world

6 Afghan rebel leaders seek anti-Soviet assistance

United Press International
Six allied Afghan rebel leaders made a dramatic appearance before an emergency meeting of Islamic nations Monday to appeal for assistance in their bitter conflict against the Soviet invasion force in Afghanistan. The 36-nation conference meeting in Islamabad, Pakistan, also was expected to move within hours to expel the Kabul government from the 42-nation Islamic Conference organization, a mini-United Nations of Arab and Moslem countries. The appearance of the six rebel

leaders, five of them bearded and wearing the distinctive headgear of their homeland, was the first time they have been allowed to formally take part in any international diplomatic gathering. "It signifies that the Moslem world does not recognize the communist regime there in Afghanistan and that we are prepared to support their struggle," said Moazzam Ali, a Pakistani diplomat who helped bring the six Afghan leaders together. The rebel leaders addressed the political committee which is drafting

a final communique to be issued today. The rebels did not take part in the debate.

"We are delighted," said Sibghatullah Al-Majadded, leader of the Afghan National Liberation Front. "We have wanted to be heard and now we have been heard."

The de facto recognition of the rebel groups, combined with the anticipated expulsion of Moscow's Kabul government from the session, comes as a diplomatic setback for the Kremlin.

Pakistan President Mohammad Zia ul-Haq formally convened the three-day meeting Sunday with a speech condemning the Kremlin for the Soviet invasion.

After the inaugural session hundreds of journalists were ejected from the proceedings. Each of the nations attending the emergency conference was expected to deliver its official position on Afghanistan as well as on the Palestinian issue and the crisis in Iran.

Pakistan delegates urged the opening session of the Islamic Conference to send Moscow an "unequivocal message... conveying to the Soviet Union the grave concern of the Islamic world at the presence of its troops in Afghanistan, and calling on that great power to reverse the course of its military intervention."

Only five members of the Islamic Conference — Syria, South Yemen, Afghanistan, Upper Volta and Guinea Bissau — were not present. A four-man Palestine Liberation Organization mission attended the meeting despite earlier threats to stay away, as did delegates from Libya, Algeria and Iraq which represent the hard-line Arab position that has downplayed the importance of the Soviet invasion.

Sadat expels Soviet experts from Egypt makes substantial Embassy staff cutbacks

By United Press International
Egyptian President Anwar Sadat Monday announced the expulsion of all remaining Soviet civilian experts and a drastic cutback of Soviet Embassy personnel in Egypt to protest the invasion of Afghanistan.

Sadat, in a hard-hitting parliamentary speech, also accused Saudi Arabia of "treason and ignorance" for allowing Soviet arms to be ferried across its skies to the Marxist regime in South Yemen.

Sadat also said that despite the hostile attitude taken by Saudi Arabia and other Arab countries toward Egypt because of its peace treaty with Israel, Egypt remains fully committed to grant military facilities to the United States to help defend any Arab country on the Persian Gulf coming under attack.

The retaliatory measures announced by Sadat against the Soviet Union went much further than those disclosed by his National Democratic Party's Political Bureau Jan. 6.

"I have stopped the departure of the new Egyptian ambassador to Moscow and reduced the size of the Soviet diplomatic mission," Sadat said. "We have seven diplomats in Moscow and they should have no more than seven here." This number

represents a reduction of 80 percent in the Soviet embassy staff. "I have also directed Prime Minister Mustafa Khalil to send home all remaining Soviet experts here," Sadat added.

Officials estimated there were fewer than 200 Soviets working at the Helwan Iron and Steel Mills, the Alexandria shipyards and other Soviet-built installations.

They were all that was left of a once-massive Soviet presence in Egypt.

Tunisian government stops guerrilla attack

United Press International
TUNIS, Tunisia — Tunisian armed forces — using fighter planes and helicopters — have overpowered a 300-man guerrilla force that had killed at least 20 people and injured scores more in an attack Sunday on the mining center of Gafsan, authorities say. The Tunisian News Agency late Sunday said a majority of the guerril-

las were captured, and women and children taken hostage by the gunmen were released unharmed.

Tunisian security forces suspect the guerrillas were either supporters of Iran's Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini and wanted to rid Tunisia of western influences, or the attack was to commemorate the second anniversary of a nation-wide strike in Tunisia.

The news agency said the guerrillas began the attack early Sunday after crossing into southwest Tunisia from Algeria — 40 miles away — and into Gafsa, located 180 miles southwest of Tunis.

The Algerian government Sunday night denied any connection with the force and expressed "astonishment and sorrow" over the attack.

Dissident's wife says internal exile takes toll

United Press International
MOSCOW — Andrei Sakharov's wife returned to Moscow Monday and said the conditions under which

the dissident leader is held in internal exile are worse than those faced by many Soviet prison camp inmates.

Yelena Bonner said a heart ailment that has afflicted her 58-year-old husband in the past has become aggravated by the strain of his forced move from Moscow to Gorky, an industrial city closed to foreigners 250 miles east of the capital.

Sakharov emphatically denied the charges Soviet authorities have published since his ouster from Moscow last Tuesday in an evident attempt to justify his banishment, Bonner said.

"He never at any time gave anyone any state secrets involved with defense," Bonner told Western reporters during a news conference in her apartment.

The 57-year-old bonner, herself a human rights activist, was not personally affected by the banning order that has severely restricted Sakharov's movements — a virtual cutoff from the outside world.

She said the Nobel Peace Prize winning physicist has been told he may not telephone anyone outside the Soviet Union, and he cannot receive or write any letters abroad. Two of his stepchildren and their families who live in the United States are included in the ban.

"Even those in a prison camp can receive letters," Bonner said.

The dissident leader has not been able to complete one telephone call outside the city of Gorky since he arrived there last Tuesday night, his wife said.

Hunger, politics called conflicting

United Press International
International politics stand in the way of solving world food supply problems, three authorities on food and world hunger agree.

But three state agricultural leaders who responded to the speakers' remarks Wednesday at the Consultation on Food and Hunger at Texas A&M University said they believe the solution should begin with farm problems at home.

Dr. Ronald D. Knutson, economist with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, said food is too vital a resource to use as a political lever. Dr. Robert McClean of the United Methodist Church said hunger problems are mainly "a problem of access to food."

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