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Israelis move back into west Beirut

United Press International
BEIRUT, Lebanon — Israeli forces moved into west Beirut today to "insure quiet" after the assassination of Lebanese President-elect Bashir Gemayel, the military command said in Jerusalem.

Unidentified assassins killed Gemayel Tuesday with a 450-pound bomb that took more than 20 lives, wounded 60 other people and returned Lebanon to relentless sectarian violence.

"As a result of the assassination of Bashir Gemayel, Israel Defense Forces entered west Beirut in order to prevent possible severe occurrences and in order to insure quiet," a statement by the Israeli military command said.

"The entrance of the IDF was performed without clashes," it said.

The death of the Maronite Christian, only nine days before he was to be inaugurated as Lebanon's president, raised fears of a new round of fighting between Gemayel's troops and

Moslem forces in the deeply divided country.

"This plunges half the country into despair, and the other half into terror," said a university professor in wident, delayed confirming the death of the 34-year-old right-wing leader for nine hours.

Israeli tanks took up new advance positions inside the mainly Moslem half of the divided capital where tension was high following the assassination, witnesses said.

Israeli planes also streaked over the city starting at 11 p.m. EDT Tuesday and kept up the flights for more than four hours.

The witnesses said tanks sat behind the City Sports Stadium and a few hundred yards from the Sabra Palestinian refugee camp and the Arab University area, a neighborhood where the Palestine Liberation Organization once had many important offices.

The area is still densely populated, mainly with Palestinians.

Witnesses said Israelis fired several rounds into the air each time they advanced a few yards. But there were no reports of clashes between the Israelis and any militiamen in west Beirut.

"With great pain I face this shocking news with the strongest denunciation for this criminal act," Prime Minister Chefik Wazzan said late Tuesday in an official statement about Gemayel's death.

President Elias Sarkis ordered seven days of official mourning and a state funeral today in Gemayel's hometown of Bikfaya.

Searchers pulled at least 20 other bodies out of the wreckage and a steady stream of ambulances carried at least 60 wounded people to hospitals, Phalangist sources said. The count was expected to rise.

Six hours after the blast, Gemayel's mangled body was pulled from the rubble. Government sources said it could only be identified by a ring on his finger.



staff photo by David Fisher

Umbrella, what umbrella

Heavy rains and high winds fell on College Station Wednesday and a lot of people got caught in it. Russell Johnson's umbrella decided to collapse on him and left him unprotected to make his way across campus and to the shelter of his class.

Mexican troops display allegiance to Portillo

United Press International
MEXICO CITY — The greatest concentration of Mexican troops in history converged in Mexico City Wednesday for an Independence Day show of support for President Jose Lopez Portillo in the midst of the country's economic crisis.

"Jose Lopez Portillo rules, and he rules well," said Defense Minister Felix Galvan Lopez in a review of the troops Tuesday, according to official government daily El Nacional.

A squadron of seven new F-5 warbirds, recently purchased from the United States, was also inspected by Lopez Portillo during the ceremony.

The government said it brought 92,000 troops — a third of the nation's military strength — to the capital for Wednesday night's "El Grito," the traditional cheer, and for Thursday's Independence Day parade.

El Nacional said it was the greatest number of Mexican troops ever assembled in one place.

The Mexican army has about

92,000 soldiers. The air force and navy have a combined total of about 28,000 men.

In a break from tradition, Mexican officials will no longer be sent to other parts of the world, including the United States, to lead the independence cheer.

Mexican officials announced the cutback last week as part of a budget-trimming plan caused by the lack of foreign exchange.

Mexico, in the midst of its worst economic crisis in more than 50 years, is struggling to pay interest on its \$80 billion dollar foreign debt — the world's largest.

Newspapers were splashed with patriotic headlines praising Lopez Portillo's bank nationalization announced Sept. 1.

The leftist daily Uno Mas Uno called it "proof that the state does not favor the rich."

Special commemorative articles in Notimex, the government news agen-

cy, compared Lopez Portillo with such historical Mexican heroes as former President Lazaro Cardenas, who nationalized Mexico's petroleum industry in 1940.

Lopez Portillo has accused "unpatriotic Mexicans" of holding \$45 billion in foreign bank and real estate holdings.

Leopoldo Zea, head of the National University's Latin American Studies Institute, told Uno Mas Uno that economic and external pressures could act to radicalize nationalism in Mexico, as in Cuba.

Tourist Minister Rosa Luz Alegria announced Tuesday that tourists exchanging dollars for Mexican vacations will now be able to redeem their unused pesos when they leave the country.

Dollar-holding tourists must register the money they brought into Mexico, and then declare the unused portion at exchange centers before leaving Mexico, Alegria said.

Library soon to install new check-out system for books

by David Hatch
Battalion Reporter
The Sterling C. Evans library will start using a new circulation system Oct. 1, and all library users will need a new library card for the system.

The new cards will have an Optical Character Recognition number. All books in the library's collection also have OCR numbers attached to them. To check out materials, a hand-held scanner is passed over the user's OCR number and then over the OCR number on the book. This immediately records all needed information.

All persons who want to check

material should complete a library card application form before Oct. 1. The forms are available at the circulation desk with a box to deposit the completed forms near the front exit. The cards may be picked up at the circulation desk after the first of the month.

Library materials that have been checked out for an extended period need to be returned to the circulation desk for processing.

Emma Perry, head of the Evans library circulation division, said the new circulation system should replace the old system entirely by spring.

"Because the older circulation system will not be totally phased out until the spring, users must have both their student or faculty ID cards and their OCR cards to check out materials," Perry said.

"We have been actively pursuing this new system for about a year and a half," Perry said. "We need it because our present system is over 15 years old and was never designed to carry the load it currently does."

The new system will have a back-up and will improve the accuracy of efficiency of the library's record keeping, she said.

Enrollment up by 1,000

by Beverly Hamilton
Battalion Staff
Enrollment at Texas A&M University for the 1982-83 school year has increased by nearly 1,000 despite higher acceptance standards set by the University to control growth.

Enrollment after the twelfth class day totals 36,108. Donald Carter, associate registrar, said. The twelfth class day is the official reporting date for the Coordinating Board, Texas College and University System. Last year's enrollment was 35,146.

The figures include a graduate enrollment of 5,534. The number of students seeking master's and doctoral degrees last year was 5,331.

Last fall's enrollment reflected an increase of 1,800 over the previous year and prompted Texas A&M administrators to initiate tougher entrance requirements.

"We've been bringing in larger freshmen classes and taking out smaller classes," Charles McCandless, interim vice-president of Academic Affairs, said. "Overall, the number had to go up."

McCandless said he expects the enrollment to become steady and level off around 36,000.

"We've grown so fast for so long. It's difficult to absorb students or enhance programs."

The leveling off of enrollment will allow the University to catch up and move ahead in its building programs, McCandless said.

Pre-registration procedure frustrating at best; hopes abound for new system

by Phyllis Henderson
Battalion Staff
Dawna Davis hopes her first experience with the Texas A&M registration system isn't a sign of things to come.

The freshman only wanted to add a second P.E. class, and she had to go through drop-add three times.

"It was too much of a hassle," she said.

For Bob Sebree, the process was more a horror than a hassle.

A graduating senior in engineering technology, Sebree was looking forward to a good semester — a light load of 11 hours and a chance to focus on his job as photographer for the Aggieland.

But after going through drop-add nine times and missing classes for a week and a half — during most of which only one hour was credited to his schedule — Sebree's enthusiasm sagged.

"It takes a lot to make me mad," Sebree said, "but they managed to do it."

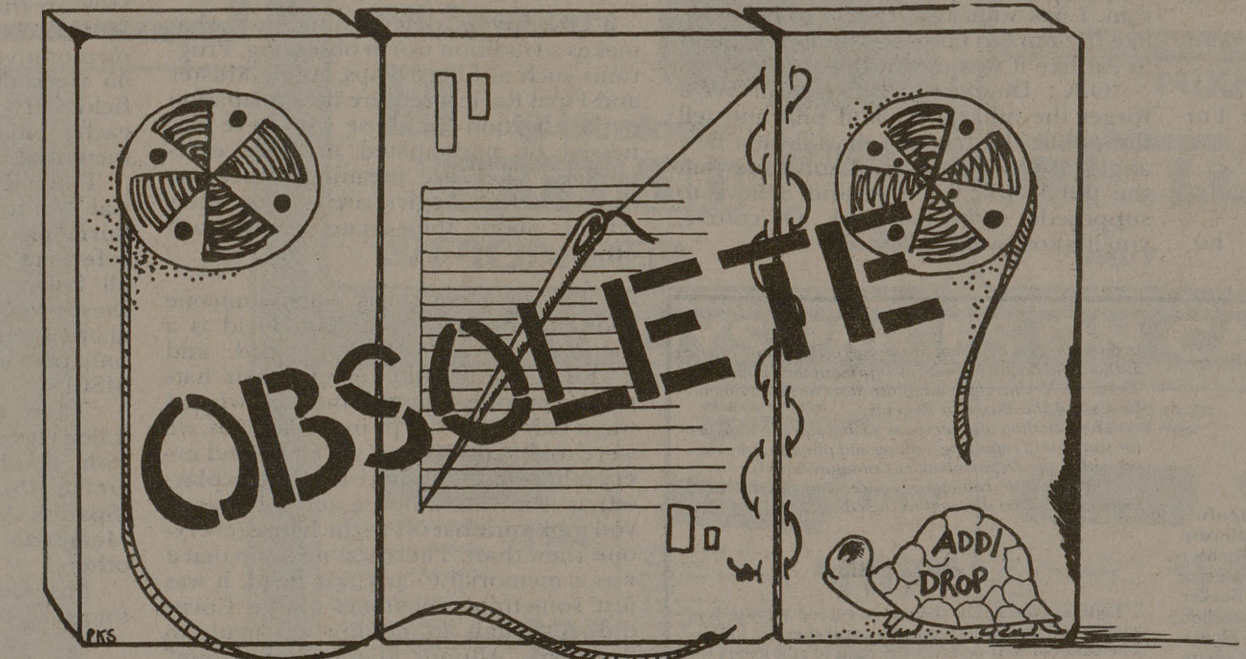
The frustrations associated with registration range from the typical to the terrible, but most administrators agree those frustrations result from dealing with a computerized registration system the University outgrew several years ago. And all of them agree the system must be replaced.

But time, money, changing technology and a "lack of a clearly understood goal of what we wanted to achieve" kept the University from coming to grips with the need for a new system when it became apparent, Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs Charles E. McCandless said.

The University finally has decided upon that goal, he said.

"Our goal is to provide a first-class student records system," he said.

Registrar R.A. Lacey said his office recognized the need for an updated system three or four years ago.



"We're running with basically the same software we put in place in 1969," Lacey said.

Computer software, or programs, should be replaced or redesigned every five to seven years, said Hugh Massey, data base manager for the registrar's office.

"We've been yelling 'wolf' for several years now," Associate Registrar Donald D. Carter said. "It was hard for us to go out and find what we wanted when we were spending all our time trying to get the kids in class and get the kids registered."

"We are just now getting what I feel like hopefully is the go-ahead for possibly changing our way of doing this and having the funds provided to put these changes into effect."

Recognition of the problem has come at both the System and the University level.

"At A&M, we have to take a long, hard look at where the computer direction is going," Chancellor Arthur G. Hansen told The Battalion in April.

University President Frank E. Vandiver agrees.

"We've got to bring registration into the 20th century," he told The Battalion recently. "We have an old system, an old set of software that we've patched and taped and glued and cut time after time, and it's about to go down the tubes."

Lacey said time is running out for the current system.

"We've about stretched that prog-

ram as far as it can be stretched," he said.

Carter agreed.

"We're operating on borrowed time," he said. "Regardless of what the faculty and students think of registration, it's a necessary evil. You've got to have it to get the kids into class."

"If a major problem arose in our program, we wouldn't be able to put the students into class, and we wouldn't be able to change their schedules. We would probably have to back up and do it by hand."

The system nearly crashed twice in the past several years, Lacey said.

That possibility scares college-level administrators.

The College of Engineering, with about 12,000 students, would be har-

dest hit by such a computer crash.

"It would be devastating not to have any data processing associated with student records, student grades and the registration process," Assistant Dean of Engineering Terry E. Shoup said. "I'd hate to think what the consequences would be of losing the capabilities that we now have."

Assistant Dean of Business Administration Samuel M. Gillespie said a system crash would be terrible for his college.

"If it crashed, that would mean that all those who were registered would no longer be registered," he said.

Carter traces the problems in the system to the tremendous growth in enrollment experienced by the University in the 1970s.

The University bought the registration program from Purdue University in 1968. It was modified to provide the University with automated fee assessment capabilities and was tested on the entering freshmen classes in 1968 and 1969.

In the fall of 1969, the system was put into action for pre-registration for the 1970 spring semester.

"We went from 14,000 students in 1970 to better than 33,000 students in 1980," Carter said. "The enrollment caught up with us. The program was not designed to handle the volume we put through it."

Initially, the program didn't give students a choice of class time or instructor, but as students became more sophisticated, they began requesting changes in the program to give them those choices, Carter said.

"The University was changing," he said. "The administrative policies were changing. We were trying to do what the faculty wanted. We were trying to do what the students wanted as far as modifying our registration

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forecast

Today's Forecast: High in the low to mid 90s, low in the low 60s. 30 percent chance of afternoon showers.