

Lebanon fighting to survive

Editor's note: This is the third of a three-part series written by several members of the Lebanese Student Association to commemorate Lebanese Independence Day on Sunday. Please see related editorial, page 2.

by Emile Tayar

February 1975 marked the beginning of a war that destroyed an entire country, left more than 5 percent of its people dead or maimed and almost one-third of its population homeless. More than two-thirds of its land is still occupied by foreign armies.

been calling, naively, the Lebanese Civil War.

The war in Lebanon was the result of several related internal and external conditions.

The internal conflicts were the initial spark, and the exter-

Analysis

nal factors were the catalyst that set the process of confrontation into motion and triggered a set of events already in the making that awaited only the proper time and place.

Lebanon was the deer that

limped in the midst of hungry wolves.

What started as a scuffle among the Lebanese over the problems of others had soon become the war of others in Lebanon. In the process, Lebanese cities have been destroyed, tens of thousands of people have been killed and a whole nation has been destroyed.

The election of Amin Gemayel as Lebanon's new president coupled with the dispatch of a multi-national force to Beirut gave new hopes that the nightmare soon would be over and that normality would return to the nation.

Progress has been made in

many respects, but the job is far from complete.

Israel is still in control of the south, while Syria and the PLO are in control of much of the north and east.

Lebanese sentiments can best be summarized by the following quotations:

"Once more, in the name of Lebanon, I say here to the world: Let my people live. Let us have peace, security and a restoration of confidence in humanity and a better world order." Such was the appeal made by Lebanon's permanent representative to the United Nations on March 17, 1978.

"The Lebanese people deeply

appreciate and will never forget your gracious and decisive efforts to help bring an end to the suffering of my country." So the new president of Lebanon told President Ronald Reagan during his visit to Washington Oct. 16, 1982.

Would the American people, in their devotion for peace, support Reagan's commitments to rid Lebanon of the invaders and to help the Lebanese in rebuilding their country?

Many Lebanese view the international "presence" not only as an expression of concern for their fate or assistance in their struggle for survival against all odds, but rather as a challenge.

Park, theater asked for CS

by Stephanie Fondy

Battalion Reporter
Proposals are being prepared for the College Station City Council to turn the old city hall property at Northgate into a public park and community theater.

The Parks and Recreation Department held a public hearing Thursday night in city hall in conjunction with its monthly park board meeting to discuss the development of a one-half-block park. The proposed park will include landscaped area, half-court basketball courts and possibly a gazebo, said Andrew Camskey, assistant director of parks and recreation.

"The public is encouraged to give suggestions for the park,"

he said.

There will be one more public hearing and then the park board will present the proposal at the City Council's last December meeting or first January meeting.

The board has a \$30,000 budget for the park which is funded by the Park Land Dedication Fund. Money in the fund is donated by residential developers in the park zone.

Stage Center, a community theater in the old Bryan County Club House at the Bryan Municipal Golf Course, wants to build a theater seating 220 people and use the old city hall building as a supporting facility.

Stage Center president Jim Wilson said the group met

Thursday night with a City Council committee that is studying alternate uses for the property. He said the purpose of the meeting was to finalize the proposal to be submitted to the City Council.

Wilson said Stage Center will have to raise \$250,000 to construct a new building and renovate the old city hall. It would take about a year to raise the money, he said, and the project would be finished in two to three years.

The old city hall building was used for community organization meetings until the College Station Community Center opened last spring. The facility also was used as a polling place during the Nov. 2 general election.

Texas briefs

Calvert ruckus

United Press International
CALVERT — Calvert's fourth school superintendent since 1979 has denied accusations he permitted students to eat food tainted with weevils and used the word "niggers" to describe students.

But Harold Loewe, 52, Wednesday said he is not optimistic he can remain as superintendent because of the charges raised by the Robertson County parents who attended a school board meeting Monday.

The complaints, including calling students "niggers" and mocking minority accents, were told to the board of trustees, which formed a committee to investigate the complaints.

Houston success

HOUSTON — New York City officials, impressed with the statistics from Houston's

Crimestoppers program, visited the Sun Belt city to survey the rewards for tips program.

"The interest is in the statistics revealed by other police departments," New York Police Lt. Robert McInerney said Wednesday.

Since it started in January 1981, tips through Houston Crimestoppers have helped solve 1,400 felony crimes. The program has paid out \$250,000 in rewards and some 963 people have been arrested and indicted.

UIL to appeal

AUSTIN — A University Interscholastic League official said it will ask the Texas Supreme Court to reconsider its dismissal of four appeals on the grounds that the UIL was not a state agency.

Susan Zinn said the refusal Wednesday would have no effect on the league's ability to regulate public school athletic and academic contests.

Labor unrest

HOUSTON — A labor-management lawyer warns of labor unrest as early as next spring if economic conditions improve and companies start showing profits.

"I have seen it, I have sensed it," said Stephen J. Cabot of Philadelphia, who has been called to Houston by clients targeted by an AFL-CIO Sun Belt organizing campaign. "This frustration is going to bob its head."

"As soon as the economy improves, workers will begin marshaling forces and going after management with or without labor's help," he said Tuesday.

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 11:00 a.m.
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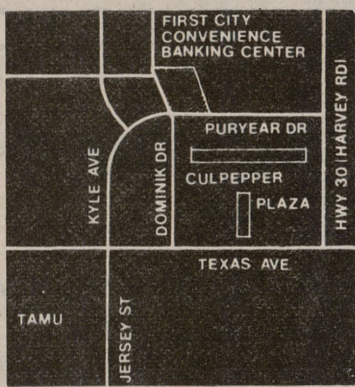
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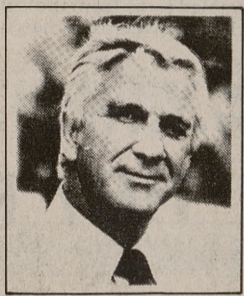
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