

WORLD AND NATION

Israelis begin pullout

Associated Press

TEL AVIV — Officials said Israel's army began to pull armored cars, trucks and heavy equipment to new lines in southern Lebanon on Sunday, and a top diplomat warned Syria not to take advantage of Israel's planned withdrawal.

"The initial logistic stages of the redeployment have begun," said an Israeli army spokesman in Tel Aviv, who in accordance with army regulations spoke on condition he not be named. "Nonessential material is being transported southward."

The spokesman said the withdrawal of heavy gear was to be followed by a rollback on Feb. 18 of Israeli troops from a 200-square-mile chunk of territory along the Mediterranean coast.

Residents of Lebanese villages around Sidon, near current Israeli front lines, told reporters several Israeli army trailers returned empty Sunday after carrying armored vehicles toward the village of Kaitouli, along the redeployment line.

State-run Beirut radio quoted witnesses in Sidon — the first major city expected to be evacuated — as saying convoys of about 70 Israeli jeeps, trucks and armored cars moved through the city at dawn on their way southward.

Israel's Cabinet last week approved a three-phase withdrawal plan, without fixing a date for completing the pullback to the Israeli-Lebanese border.

Israel's current front line is the Awali River, 37 miles north of the border. In the first phase, Israeli soldiers will pull back 18 miles to the Litani River and give up territory in which 250,000 to 400,000 Lebanese live.

Heavy ordnance, medical equipment and prefabricated buildings were being shifted from bases near the border to installations along the new line Sunday.

The Israeli military spokesman said the army, which invaded Lebanon in June 1982, "will remain in the area fully equipped for operational purposes" until the rollback date.

Israel radio said liaison officers told residents of Sidon that Israel would reserve the right to return to the port city of 150,000 if anti-Israel guerrillas reorganize there.

Israel's U.N. ambassador, Benjamin Netanyahu, warned Syria not to take advantage of a military vacuum by sending its own army or Palestinian guerrillas into newly evacuated areas.

"I think the Syrians are well aware that certain movements on their part would not be acceptable to us," Netanyahu told reporters in Jerusalem.

The planned Israeli pullout has prompted fears of an outbreak of sectarian violence between the rival Christian and Shiite Moslem militias in areas to be vacated. Sources in the Lebanese Foreign Ministry said Sunday that Lebanon had agreed to station U.N. observers in evacuated areas to prevent bloodshed.



Photo by PETER ROCHA

CCCC Cold!!!!

Cathy Castro, a freshman business major from McAllen, bundles up and tries to keep warm on her walk to the library Sunday. With a wind chill factor a minus 15, it was a long cold walk.

Budget cut

F-14 purchases reduced

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A reduction in the Pentagon's fiscal 1986 budget already approved by President Reagan will force the Navy to cut its purchase of F-14 fighters by 25 percent, according to a high-ranking official.

Instead of proceeding with a plan to acquire 24 of the front-line jets during the year starting next Oct. 1, Navy Secretary John Lehman and Defense Secretary Caspar W. Weinberger have decided to submit a budget that calls for the purchase of 18 of the aircraft, even though the change will ultimately prove more expensive, said the source.

The cut, to be formally unveiled when the president's budget is submitted to Congress on Feb. 4, will save about "one-third of a billion

dollars in fiscal 1986, but it will drive up the unit cost by \$3 million per plane and in the long term end up costing more for the taxpayer," said the source, who agreed to discuss the matter only if not identified.

The source, who has participated in the Pentagon's budget deliberations, declined to discuss what cutbacks were being made by the Army and Air Force to fulfill a commitment by Weinberger to reduce the department's overall 1986 spending plan by \$8.7 billion.

Indeed, the source made it clear he was discussing the planned cutback on purchases of the F-14 only because "it's the best example of harm to the progress we've been making" in controlling weapons cost.

UAW reaches agreement with International Harvester

Associated Press

CHICAGO — International Harvester Co. and the United Auto Workers union announced a tentative contract agreement Sunday night, ending a walkout by more than 11,000 workers that had begun less than 48 hours before.

Workers were to return to the job immediately, said company and union spokesmen who declined to release details of the proposed three-year contract.

The strike began at midnight Friday, with the union saying it was seeking restoration of benefits it conceded to the ailing farm equipment giant in 1982.

"Normal scheduled operations are expected to resume immediately at all UAW-represented IH facilities, including manufacturing plants and parts-distribution centers," Bill Greenhill, a company spokesman said in a statement.

UAW spokesman Peter Laarman, like Greenhill, refused to discuss details of the tentative settlement but said, "We believe this will be well-accepted, well-received and implemented" by the rank and file.

The settlement "means that the strike by 13,000 UAW workers is recessed and workers will return to work tonight and tomorrow until the contract is ratified later in the week," said Laarman.

Greenhill on Saturday had said 11,000 to 12,000 workers were on strike; the difference between the company and union figures could not immediately be reconciled.

The UAW's bargaining council would meet in Chicago on Wednesday to review the proposed agreement and then would pass it

The settlement means that UAW workers will return to work until the contract is ratified later in the week.

along to the rank and file, said Laarman. He said most rank-and-file members will meet Thursday to decide whether to ratify the pact.

Ratification meetings at the 23 UAW local unions included in the negotiations will be held later in the week, the Harvester statement said. It said no details of the tentative agreement would be released until the ratification process was completed.

The previous Harvester-UAW contract was to have expired Sept. 30, 1984, but was extended by mutual agreement, the Harvester statement said. The union terminated the extension at midnight Friday.

The weekend strike was the first work stoppage against International Harvester since a 5½-month strike in the winter of 1979-80.

The 1979-80 strike, coupled with a depressed farm equipment market, caused huge losses for the company and it took drastic steps to stay afloat, including consolidation of operations, huge layoffs, and the benefits concessions.

"We stepped forward when they needed concessions, and now we'd like them back," said Larry Terry, a spokesman for UAW Local 98 in Indianapolis.

The company hasn't posted an an-

nual profit since 1979 and does not expect an improvement in the depressed farm-equipment business for at least the next five years, International Harvester chairman Donald Lennox said last October.

The strike involved plants at East Moline, Rock Island and Melrose Park in Illinois; Indianapolis; Springfield, Ohio; Memphis, Tenn.; and Louisville, Ky. It also affected distribution centers in Atlanta; Fort Wayne, Ind.; St. Paul, Minn.; Memphis; and Dallas, and an International Harvester engineering center in Hinsdale, Ill.

Harvester facilities not affected by the strike included a plant in Waukesha, Wis., and parts distribution centers in California, Kansas City, Kan., and Baltimore.

UAW members braved blowing snow, subzero temperatures and termination notices Sunday as they walked a picket line at Harvester's farm equipment plant in Memphis, which is to close May 1.

"It's not a lot of fun," said Murray Springer, a member of UAW Local 988's executive board. "Times have been sort of hard for most of us."

Harvester has sold its farm equipment business to Tenneco Inc., which plans to merge it with its J.I. Case Co. subsidiary.

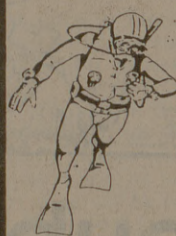
On Friday, Harvester began handing out termination notices to production workers and white-collar employees in Memphis. About 430 production workers and about 200 office employees were still on the job Friday.

Twelve hours later, the UAW ordered a company-wide strike.

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