

World and Nation

Shiites win in fierce Beirut battle

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) — Shiite militiamen crushed an outnumbered and outmanned Sunni Moslem faction Tuesday after a bitter four-hour battle in the streets of west Beirut.

Police reported 40 people were killed and 190 wounded in the struggle between the two militias and in a 16th day of fighting at Palestinian refugee camps.

It was the heaviest fighting in west Beirut in weeks.

Tank cannon and mortar fire set buildings ablaze and wounded civilians huddled in doorways as gun-raked streets with fire from automatic weapons and recoilless rifles. Police said 25 people were killed and 119 wounded in the confrontation

between Shiite and Sunni Moslem factions.

Fifteen people were killed and 71 injured in clashes between Amal militia and Palestinian guerrillas around the camps.

Justice Minister Nabih Berri, who heads the Amal militia, claimed victory for his fighters in the battle against a Sunni faction called the February 6 Movement, which is headed by Shaker Berjawi.

The Movement was named after the 1984 date of a Moslem uprising in west Berlin against the army.

The fighting Tuesday appeared to be an attempt by Amal to assert its superiority in west Beirut.

But in what seemed to be conciliatory gestures, Berri ordered his mili-

tiamen to abstain from looting.

He also offered to turn over all neighborhoods that have been conquered by his militiamen to the Lebanese army.

Sunni political and religious leaders have been critical of the militias that have turned west Beirut into a haven for kidnappers, assassins and bank robbers.

Moslem radio stations said a 360-man army task force was formed under the command of Capt. Mahmoud Kassar to move into the enclave of the February 6 Movement, which is located off west Beirut's Corniche Mazraa commercial district.

Amal captured the area in a three-pronged offensive.

Hundreds of Shiite militiamen

pushed in behind barrages of T-54 tank fire and 120mm mortars to overrun Berjawi's headquarters and his house.

They set his father's nearby house afire.

Berjawi was reported to have escaped with an estimated 50 followers.

His 100 militiamen also were reported to have been supported by 800 other Sunni fighters from various factions.

But they were outnumbered by the Amal forces, which had superior firepower.

Amal said its attack followed the slaying Monday of two kidnapped Shiites by some of Berjawi's militiamen.

Winner takes train home to Gorky, Sakharov

MOSCOW (AP) — Yelena Bonner said Tuesday she sent a telegram to her husband, Andrei Sakharov, saying she would be on the overnight train to Gorky, and if the KGB arrested him, she would go through her husband to see her at the station.

She said she hoped to return to Moscow in a few days from Gorky, to which she and the dissident physicist were confined in internal exile, to collect her baggage she shipped separately six months in the West.

"I hope they will agree to let me," she told reporters in her Moscow apartment. "I want to see my husband and to rest a bit. If I'm not back by the 15th (of June), then they'll let me come. That's exact."

Mrs. Bonner, 63, received medical treatment and visited relatives in the United States, then stopped in several West European countries on her way back to the Soviet Union.

She said she was "terribly tired," but decided to make the overnight train trip to the city 250 miles east of Moscow because she was anxious to see her husband after the long separation.

Sakharov, who is 65 and won the 1975 Nobel Peace Prize, was exiled to Gorky in January 1980 and his wife was confined to it in August 1984 after being convicted of anti-state slander. The city is closed to foreigners.

If Mrs. Bonner is allowed to return to Moscow, she should be able to give foreign reporters and diplomats an up-to-date report on Sakharov's health and living conditions.

Before being restricted to Gorky, she traveled to Moscow once a month, buying supplies and maintaining links to the outside world by

meeting with foreigners and diplomats.

Sakharov won the Nobel prize for challenging Soviet policies on human rights and military matters. He has never been tried or charged with a crime.

The physicist, who helped create the Soviet hydrogen bomb, was stripped of all honors except membership in the Soviet Academy of Sciences and sent to Gorky after criticizing the December 1979 Soviet intervention in Afghanistan.

Mrs. Bonner returned to Moscow for the first time in 19 months late last November, but refused to talk with Westerners about life in Gorky. She said she had agreed not to do so as a condition of being allowed out of the country.

Sakharov had gone on three hunger strikes in 18 months demanding

permission for his wife to leave the country for medical attention.

Mrs. Bonner left Dec. 2, was treated for glaucoma in Italy, then went to the United States for heart bypass surgery. Her son by her first marriage, Alexei Semyonov; daughter and son-in-law Tatiana and Erem Yankelevich and mother Ruf live in Newton, Mass.

She gradually became more outspoken, met freed Soviet dissident Anatoly Shcharansky and Western political leaders, and wrote articles about her life in Gorky with Sakharov.

In one article, she said they were virtually isolated, under constant surveillance and forced to drive to a town park to listen to Western radio stations because a device in their apartment jams radio and affects television reception.

Board orders probe into postal finance

WASHINGTON (AP) — The governing board of the Postal Service ordered an investigation Tuesday of how the agency spends money, four days after a former postal governor pleaded guilty to embezzlement.

In addition to the wide-ranging internal probe of the agency's procedures for buying equipment and its spending practices, the board of governors also directed a review to determine whether the process for selecting postmaster General Albert V. Casey was tainted.

John R. McKean, the postal board's chairman, said, "There is indication that Mr. Casey is involved in any impropriety whatsoever. We don't believe there is corruption at all."

Peter E. Voss, the board's vice chairman until he resigned, pleaded guilty last Friday in connection with a scheme to steer a \$250 million contract to a company whose public relations consultant was paying Voss a fee.

Weinberger: Stealth planes will cost \$277 million each

WASHINGTON (AP) — Defense Secretary Caspar W. Weinberger, going public with heretofore secret cost information on the radar-eluding Stealth bomber program, told Congress on Tuesday that each of the new planes will cost only about \$12 million more than the B-1 bombers now in production.

Weinberger, in a one-page fact sheet intended to protect the Stealth from budget cuts, said the new bomber carries a total program cost of \$36.6 billion in fiscal 1981 dollars. That is the estimate for buying 132 of the new planes, which have been described as almost impervious to radar detection.

The B-1 program, under which 100 planes are being purchased, carries an estimated pricetag of \$26.5 billion, Weinberger continued.

"Thus the estimated average cost per B-1B is \$265 million, and the cost of the far more capable Advanced Technology Bomber (Stealth) is \$277 million for each aircraft," the defense secretary said.

"The ATB program is on schedule; the technology is well understood and working, and we expect the system to be operational in the early 1990s. In terms of mission capability, the ATB's unique low-observable characteristics make it far more survivable than the B-1B."

"This superior survivability, combined with the ATB's payload and range, substantially increases its military effectiveness over that of the B-1B."

The information released by Weinberger had been provided by the Pentagon to top congressional leaders earlier this year on a classified basis, meaning it could not be used in public debate.

Congress has to decide this year whether to give its full support to the secret Stealth program or to buy more conventional B-1's, about which there is copious information.

Rep. Les Aspin, D-Wis., chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, complained in April that Weinberger's devotion to secrecy

was preventing an informed debate about the merits of Stealth and jeopardizing the plane's future.

The Stealth bomber is under attack on Capitol Hill as an unproven technology that should not be pursued at the expense of the B-1. The debate has sharpened in recent months because the Rockwell International Corp., which builds the B-1, is already beginning to shut down parts of its production line.

The Air Force had previously awarded contracts to Rockwell for 100 B-1 bombers. Weinberger earlier this year said he had no intention of changing the Pentagon's plan to replace its aging B-52 bombers with 100 B-1's and 132 Stealth bombers.

Rockwell, in an unsolicited bid designed to continue the program, offered in March to build 48 additional B-1's at a new price of about \$140 million per plane in 1981 dollars.

Nuclear safety

Gorbachev calls for creation of international safeguard system

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Mikhail S. Gorbachev urged the world today to create without delay an international system of safeguards against such nuclear disasters as the explosion and fire at the Chernobyl plant.

In a message to U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, the Soviet leader also urged agreement among governments on measures against nuclear terrorism, mentioning 42 cases of sabotage at nuclear facilities in the West.

Gorbachev, obviously still smarting from Western criticism of how the Soviet Union handled the accident at the Ukrainian power plant, proposed that an international

accord forbid "attempts to use nuclear accidents to exacerbate tensions and distrust in relations among states."

Soviet officials did not report the April 26 accident until nearly three days later, after high radiation levels were reported in Scandinavia and Sweden demanded an explanation from the Kremlin.

The death toll from the accident now stands at 25. A Soviet doctor said Tuesday that 18,000 people were hospitalized immediately afterward, but all except about 300 were released in a few days.

Lessons learned from Chernobyl "should serve to the benefit of all mankind," Gorbachev said in the message. It was delivered orally by

outgoing Soviet Ambassador Yuri Dubinin, who has been appointed ambassador to Washington, and an English transcript was made available to reporters.

By giving prominence to nuclear terrorism, Gorbachev appeared to be directing attention to an area in which the West is more vulnerable than the Soviet Union. There has been no suggestion of sabotage at Chernobyl.

"One cannot but feel concerned by the facts of purposely inflicted damages to nuclear power enterprises, which have taken place in the West," Gorbachev said. "Thus, for example, 32 such cases were registered in the United States from 1974

to 1984. Ten attacks on different nuclear facilities were undertaken in Europe from 1966 to 1977."

Because of shortcomings in existing systems to prevent theft of highly enriched fissionable materials, he said, "There is an imminent need for an elaboration of a reliable system of measures to prevent nuclear terrorism in all its manifestations."

President Reagan and the leaders of six other industrial democracies called at their Tokyo summit last month for an international convention "committing the parties to report and exchange information in the event of nuclear emergencies or accidents."

CASH
for gold, silver,
old coins, diamonds
Full Jewelry Repair
Large Stock of
Diamonds
Gold Chains

TEXAS COIN EXCHANGE
404 University Dr.
846-8916
3202-A Texas Ave.
(across from El Chico, Bryan)
779-7662

SCHULMAN THEATRES

2.50 ADMISSION
1. Any show before 3PM
2. Tuesday - All Seats
3. Mon-Wed Local students with current ID's

***DENOTES DOLBY STEREO**

PLAZA 3
226 Southwest Pky 493-2457
*PRETTY IN PINK PG-13 7:20 9:40
*TOP GUN PG 7:25-9:45
*BLUE CITY R 7:30-9:50
MANOR EAST 3
Manor East Mall 823 8300
*DOWN AND OUT IN BEVERLY HILLS, R 7:25 9:45
*LEGEND PG 7:30 9:50
*SHORT CIRCUIT PG 7:20 9:40

SCHULMAN 6
2002 E. 29th 775-2463
POLICE ACADEMY 3 PG 7:20 9:40
KNIGHTS OF THE CITY R 7:30 9:55
THE HITCHER R 7:25 9:45
MURPHY'S ROMANCE PG-13 7:20 9:45
VIOLETS ARE BLUE PG-13 7:15 9:50
*THE COLOR PURPLE PG-13 8:15

plitt THEATRES THEATRE GUIDE
Plitt Information 846-6714

\$2.75 NOW
7 days a week
AT PLITT THEATRES
FIRST MATINEE SHOWING ONLY

WE'VE GOT IT! REAL BUTTER
ON OUR POPCORN!

Cinema III Skaggs Center 846-6714
I Cobra 1:45, 3:45, 5:45, 7:45, 9:45
II Last Resort (R) 1:50, 3:50, 5:50, 7:50, 9:50
III Jo Jo Dancer (R) 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30

Post Oak III Post Oak Mall 764-0616
Sweet Liberty (PG) 1:00, 3:10, 5:20, 7:30, 9:40
Turtle Diary (PG) 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:35, 9:35
No Retreat, No Surrender 1:20, 3:20, 5:25, 7:25, 9:25

Be a Star!
Advertise in The Battalion 845-2611

ATM
Ask About our Student Membership!

Official Tanning Center of the Miss Texas A&M Pageant

The Original Perfect Tan
Post Oak Square, Harvey Road 764-2771

Summer School Professor Publishing

Let Kinko's transform your loose class notes, diagrams, reading selections, lecture synopses and homework problems into bound class readers.

- No charge to you or your department
- Low cost to your students
- Alternative to library reserve room or copious class handouts
- Quick turnaround
- We'll help organize and assemble materials
- Pick up and delivery
- Open early, open late, open weekends

kinko's
201 College Main 846-8721

Battalion Classified 845-2611