World and Nation

Soviets announce releases of 2 dissidents from prison

vernment announced t two more dissidents have been dered released from prison and at Jewish activist Josef Begun is kely to be freed.

If they are released, it would be in e with Kremlin actions to free disdents whose imprisonment has en an obstacle to better relations th the West. Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev has launched a liberaliion drive and has said the Soviet nion is changing its approach to man rights "for all to see."

Foreign Ministry spokesman Gen-dy Gerasimov said the governnt has ordered the release of natoly Koryagin and Alexander gorodnikov and will "most likely"

ee Begun. Gerasimov told a news briefing he dn't know whether Koryagin was ee yet, but he said a government cision was made Friday to pardon m from charges of anti-Soviet ac-

"Today or tomorrow he will be re-

MOSCOW (AP) — The Soviet ing, quoting him as saying that Kovernment announced Tuesday ryagin was to be set free and that Begun's case was under review.

There have been demonstrations in the United States urging Begun's release, and plainclothes police in Moscow broke up a series of demonstrations. strations on Begun's behalf last week in the Soviet capital.

Begun, 55, was sentenced to seven years in prison and five in exile in October 1983 after conviction on charges of anti-Soviet propaganda.

Gerasimov told the Associated Press in a telephone call after the briefing that a list of those who had been granted clemency included Ogorodnikov, 36, who founded a

far in a review of sentences under two laws prohibiting anti-Soviet ag-

He announced about 140 of the releases a week earlier, saying they were made by decree of the Supreme Soviet, the national parliament. Gerasimov said those freed applied for pardons and promised to cease anti-Soviet behavior.

Some of the released prisoners

said they had not made such a prom-

Gerasimov evaded a question about whether Koryagin would be required to emigrate in return for his freedom.

"He is now in prison where there is no desk to buy air tickets," Gerasimov replied.

Koryagin, a 48-year-old psychia-trist, was sentenced in 1981 to seven Ogorodnikov, 36, who founded a Christian movement in the 1970s.

Sentenced in 1980 to six years in labor camp, Ogorodnikov is serving a second, consecutive three-year sentence for alleged anti-Soviet activity.

Cavasimov said about 150 dissi-

vision on Sunday that Begun had been freed.

ased," Gerasimov said.

The official news agency Tass ised a report on Gerasimov's briefitation and propaganda and anti-Soviet slander. He said 140 to 150 cases
are still being considered.

But Begun's wife, Inna, said she
had heard nothing from her husband by Tuesday night.

24 killed in fierce Beirut battles, marking third day of faction fights

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) — Shiites ight an alliance of Druse and munist gunmen for the third Tuesday in a battle for control Moslem west Beirut that has used scores of casualties and set note neighborhoods ablaze.

Police said at least 24 people were led and 125 wounded Tuesday in st Beirut's fiercest factional strugfor three years.

They said the toll was at least 30 ad and 150 wounded since the volved. hting began Sunday.

Dozens of fires raged in resi-

Several apartment buildings were burned and scores of cars destroyed by gunfire and rocket-propelled gre-nades.

Grenade explosions and bursts of fire from heavy machine guns shook

the city all day.

Thousands of families took refuge in basements and bomb shelters.

Syria backs all the factions in-

In theory they are allied in the 12year-old civil war with Lebanon's ntial districts because the intensity Christians, but they periodically

of the battle kept fire engines from getting through.

fight each other for domination of the capital's Moslem sector.

The pro-Moscow communists

have crossed swords with the main Shiite militia Amal since the 1982 Israeli invasion, when the Shiites began moving in on the communist power base in south Lebanon.

Last year, the communists joined Walid Jumblatt's Druse militia, the pro-Syrian Baath Party and Leb-anon's leftist Syrian Social Nationalist Party in a new coalition called the National Democratic Front.

Syria called cease-fires at daybreak and sundown Tuesday, but the first had no effect and the firing continued long after the second.

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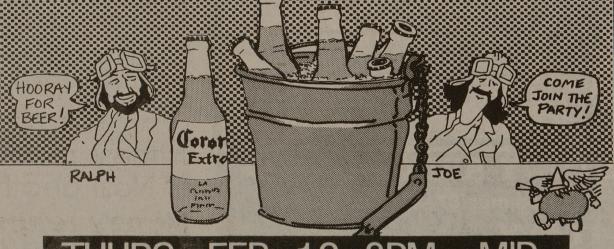
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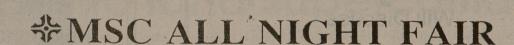


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