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Join Moslem war effort PLO troops enter Lebanon

BEIRUT (AP) — Leftist Moslem militiamen apparently won control of large Christian areas of Lebanon Tuesday. A powerful Christian leader called for intervention by the United States, the United Nations or Western Europe.

U.S., Lebanese, Syrian and Israeli government and military sources denied reports of massive Syrian armed intervention in the war but indicated that an estimated 1,500 troops of the Palestine Liberation Army had crossed into Lebanon from Syria to fight on the Moslem side.

U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger warned against outside intervention, and Arab League Secretary-General Mahmoud Riad called for an immediate Arab summit to settle the war.

State-run Lebanese television announced that Syrian Foreign Minister Abdul Halim Khaddam and the Syrian army and air force chiefs were due in Beirut today to try to work out a settlement.

A police spokesman said communications were lost with much of the country, but that Moslem forces appeared to have added most of northern and eastern Lebanon to the southern area they already controlled.

"The last messages received reported scores of tiny Christian villages besieged by Moslem tribal warriors in the north and east," he said. "Hundreds of Christian families there have already fled to neighboring Syria."

Right-wing Christian forces held onto an area along the coast and mountains between Beirut and Tripoli and part of the capital itself. They were cleaning out Moslem pockets, including the last Palestinian holdout in the corpse-strewn Karantina slum of Beirut.

Police said more than 200 people were killed, most of them combatants, in the previous 24 hours. That raises the death toll since Jan. 1 to more than 2,050, in addition to the estimated 8,000 killed last year.

Interior Minister Camille Chamoun, 76-year-old leader of one of the private Christian groups fighting Moslems and Palestinians, called for the foreign intervention after he was evacuated by helicopter from his besieged seaside mansion south of Beirut.

Chamoun, who as president in 1958 called in U.S. Marines to end another civil war situation, charged Monday night that up to 15,000 Syrian army troops had crossed into Lebanon. The Syrian government and Palestine guerrilla leaders denied it, and U.S. State Department and Israeli military officials discounted Chamoun's charge.

Palestinian and Lebanese military sources said Syrian-trained units of the Palestine Liberation Army — the official military wing of Yasir Arafat's Palestine Liberation Organization — had moved into Lebanon. Intelligence sources here estimated their number at 1,500, and U.S. and Israeli officials agreed with it.

Israeli military sources said the Palestinian army could tip the balance to the Moslems in the battle for Beirut.

Palestinian sources said that Israel was massing troops along Lebanon's southern border, but Lebanese authorities denied it. Israeli Defense Minister Shimon Peres toured the border and said the presence of large numbers of Palestinian guerrillas in the neighboring country had "direct implications on Israel's security."

Israel has previously indicated it will intervene in Lebanon if Syria does so, but has not said whether it considers Syrian-trained Palestinian army to constitute Syrian intervention.

Kissinger issued his warning against outside involvement in "the tragedy now befalling Lebanon" during a stopover in Copenhagen on his way to Moscow. He said the war "has the potential for drawing in outside powers" and warned against "any unilateral action that could lead to an expansion of hostilities."

In Washington, White House Press Secretary Ron Nessen said the State Department had sent warnings through diplomatic channels for all outside parties not to interfere in Lebanon.

Chamoun, whose home is in an enclave of four Christian villages under attack by Moslems and Palestinians for several days, issued his plea for intervention after talking with Pres. Suleiman Franjeh and top military commanders. The president, a Christian, was left without a government when Premier Rashid Karami, a Moslem, resigned Sunday.

Kamal Junblatt, a Moslem leader, traveled to Syria for talks with Pres. Hafez Assad. Sources said his trip and Franjeh's meeting were related to Assad's efforts to arrange another cease-fire.

"The situation is developing rapidly," Chamoun told newsmen. "This requires an immediate internationalization of the crisis and an immediate international intervention or we will end in catastrophe."

Arab League Secretary-General Riad asked Arab governments to respond within 72 hours to his call from Cairo for a summit, which he proposed should take place before the end of the month.

"Lebanon's problems should be solved by the Arabs themselves," Riad said, "not the United Nations or any other European state."

Weaver halts BPA suit

A suit by Congressman Jim Weaver, D-Eugene, designed to stop the Bonneville Power Authority (BPA) from signing long-term contracts with industrial customers, was dropped Monday.

"What we set out to accomplish, has been accomplished," says Weaver. "There is no reason to continue with the suit."

Weaver said earlier he filed the suit to prevent the BPA from extending industrial power supply contracts from current expiration dates in the mid-1980s to 1994. Many of those extended contracts would have gone to aluminum reduction plants.

"Cheap BPA hydro-power was intended to be used first by

domestic and rural consumers, second by labor-intensive industries, and finally by the energy-intensive industries."

Weaver has spoken in favor of the "lifeline" concept of utility rates. In his plan, users would get a reduced rate on utilities up to a certain level of use deemed minimum for a comfortable life. There would be a higher rate for higher use.

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