

Tycoon wins in Lebanon vote

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) - Billionaire tycoon Rafik Hariri and his allies swept all 19 parliamentary seats in Beirut, ousting the current premier and boosting Hariri's chances of being named the new prime minister — a move that could put him on a collision course with the president.

Prime Minister Salim Hoss and three members of his cabinet lost by wide margins to candidates backed by Hariri in the three electoral districts in Beirut.

Hariri, a former prime minister who tried to rebuild Lebanon following its devastating 1975-90 civil war, hopes to once again lead the government of a nation where political fortunes depend heavily on the desires of neighboring Syria, the main power broker in Lebanon.

Candidates backed by Hariri made a strong showing in the first stage of voting in the provinces of Mount Lebanon and North Lebanon a week ago and claimed a clean sweep in Beirut in Sunday's voting, the last of two stages of balloting for the 128-member legislature. Residents of the former Israeli-occupied zone in southern Lebanon voted Sunday for the first time in nearly 30 years.

Hariri's undeclared battle for the premiership could set up a clash with President Emile Lahoud, who names

the prime minister. Lahoud vehemently opposes Hariri who stepped down in 1998 after a dispute with the president. Lahoud had backed Hoss, but now appeared to have little option but to name Hariri prime minister.

Under Lebanon's constitution, which allots leadership posts according to religion to keep a lid on volatile sectarian rivalries, the Maronite Christian president is elected by members of Parliament for a six-year term. Lahoud still has 4 years in office.

In a statement published in newspapers Monday, Lahoud said he will abide by the constitution and consult with the newly elected legislature on naming a new prime minister.

Under the 1989 Arab-brokered peace plan that ended the civil war, the president is expected to ask the Sunni named by the majority of legislators to form a new government. Legislators need not confine themselves to other members of parliament when making their choice.

Christians and Muslims, leftists and rightists teamed up with Hariri in the campaign to protest the military's role in politics under Lahoud and the government's failure to deal with a faltering economy. While the concerted attack on Lahoud was unusual, at least

one sacred cow remained: Few candidates from either side criticized Syria's involvement. Syria has 30,000 troops in Lebanon and dominates it militarily and politically. Hariri and Lahoud are both considered close to Syria.

Hoss had accused Hariri of using his vast fortune to influence voters, though he says he will accept the election's results.

Hariri also was accused of shacking Lebanon with \$20 billion in debt during his 1992-98 government, when he launched a multibillion dollar plan to rebuild Lebanon from the civil war.

Hezbollah and Amal led a guerrilla war against Israeli forces in southern Lebanon and hoped to bank on increased popularity after Israeli troops withdrew from the border zone in May, ending an 18-year occupation.

The last time that residents of the former Israeli-occupied zone in the south of Lebanon voted was in the 1972 parliamentary elections. There were no elections in Lebanon during the civil war and parliamentary polls in 1992 and 1996 did not include the border areas because of the Israeli occupation.

There was light voter turnout in mainly Christian towns in south Lebanon. Two-thirds of the 6,000

Lebanese who fled to Israel in the final hours of the occupation were Christians allied with the Jewish state. Other residents are in jail for collaborating with Israel.

By contrast, voting in Shiite areas was brisk and residents appeared to back the guerrillas.

"After the liberation, the elections mean the return of legitimate authority and a move for the better in a region that has been neglected for long," added the 50-year-old businessman who voted for opponents of the Amal-Hezbollah ticket.



Yasser Arafat speaks at the Sunday, September 3, 2000, meeting of Arab League Foreign Ministers in Cairo.

In the last week or so ...

U.N. Confirms Fighting in Congo

KINSHASA, Congo (AP) - Rebel and government forces exchanged attacks in northern Congo, U.N. officials said last week, in the first fighting since the government unilaterally suspended a ceasefire a week ago. The attacks ended a three-week lull in fighting.

Ugandan-backed Congolese Liberation Movement rebels fired shells at government soldiers near the town of Eimate in Equateur province, said U.N. observer squadron leader Pete Riley. At the same time, President Laurent Kabila's forces bombed the rebel positions at the town of Lokutu, west of the Congo River port city of Kisangani.

The conflict in Congo broke out in August 1998 when rebels, backed by Rwanda and Uganda, accused Kabila of corruption and harboring Hutu militiamen who fled Rwanda after committing genocide there in 1994. Kabila and his allies — Zimbabwe, Angola, and Namibia — signed a cease-fire agreement last year with Rwanda, Uganda, and the rebels. But the fighting has continued.

Last week, the government announced its unilateral decision to suspend the cease-fire deal amid mutual accusations of violations. That announcement came one day after the Congolese government gave permission for U.N. peacekeeping forces to deploy throughout the country.

The U.N. Security Council has proposed a monitoring force of 5,537 observers and troops to oversee the peace accord but say it is waiting for all sides to respect the cease-fire before deploying. Diplomats have expressed doubts about how the United Nations could deploy a peacekeeping force to monitor a cease-fire agreement that Congo is not participating in.

Arafat demands East Jerusalem

CAIRO, Egypt (AP) - Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat vowed last week to keep working for a Palestinian state with its capital in Jerusalem, but did not say when he might declare such a state.

"We will not accept an agreement that ends the conflict without getting back all the rights given to us by international resolutions and our lands and holy places," Arafat said at Sunday's opening of the two-day biannual meeting of Arab League foreign ministers.

Arafat has said he would declare the state September 13, but did not refer to this at the meeting. With the deadline less than two weeks away, he is reportedly being pressured to delay declaration to allow more time for peace negotiations with Israel. Israel has indicated that it might annex parts of the West Bank and Gaza Strip in response to a declaration of a Palestinian state outside a peace agreement.

The Palestinian claim on east Jerusalem — captured by Israel from Jordan in 1967 fighting — conflicts with the Israeli claim on an undivided Jerusalem as its capital. The clash derailed an Israeli-Palestinian summit in the United States in July as well as efforts to revive those talks.

Yousef bin Alawi, the Oman minister for foreign affairs, said Sunday that "peace depends on the return of Jerusalem ... declaring it as the capital of a strong Palestinian state."

The eastern sector of the city contains the third holiest Islamic shrine as well as sites sacred to Jews and Christians.

Group: Iraq sanctions miss target

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) - U.N. economic sanctions against Iraq are missing their target, hurting not President Saddam Hussein but ordinary civilians, a group of U.S. activists said Sunday at the end of a six-week experiment in living among the Iraqi working class.

Five members of the Chicago-based group Voices in the Wilderness told a news conference at the Iraqi Trade Ministry that their stay in a low-income district of the southern city of Basra had shown them that sanctions crippled the ability of Iraqis to have safe water and an adequate diet. The members ate the food rations distributed in the area to compensate for the shortages caused by the sanctions, and drank the same water. "The food was not enough and the water made us sick," said Liza Gizzi, 31. When the activists began the experiment there were six of them. One found the conditions unbearable and, sick with diarrhea, left Iraq after two weeks.

Voices and other critics have said the sanctions imposed since Iraq invaded Kuwait in 1990 have prevented the flow of pumps, and parts. Electricity works only intermittently.

UNICEF says the number of infant and child deaths in Iraq has doubled in the decade since the sanctions began. "My government and Britain are making these children lose the most beautiful years of their life," he added. The United States and Britain are the chief backers of maintaining the embargo until Iraq proves it has eliminated its weapons of mass destruction. Iraq refuses to cooperate with inspectors.

Fiji court orders coup leader held

SUVA, Fiji (AP) - Fiji's High Court on Monday ordered a coup leader and 20 of his supporters to remain held, preventing a magistrate from dropping treason charges against them.

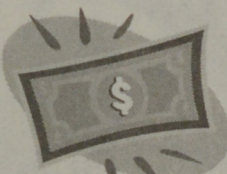
Defense lawyers asked Chief Magistrate Sailesi Temo last week to throw out treason charges against George Speight, who would likely receive a life sentence if convicted. The request was based on amnesty granted to Speight and his supporters as part of a July deal that ended his 56-day hostage standoff at Fiji's Parliament. But the High Court said magistrates had no power to rule on the validity of the amnesty, and will discuss it at a Sept. 15 hearing.

Prosecutors say Speight breached the terms of the deal by not handing over all the weapons he stole from the army for his coup. They also claim the military agreed to it under duress, while Speight was holding hostages.

Speight launched the coup in the name of indigenous Fijians, who he said have been marginalized by Fijians of Indian descent, who make up 44% of the population. Speight was arrested July 26, just days after releasing the last the hostages he seized after storming Parliament on May 19. The democratically elected government toppled in the coup was Fiji's first led by an ethnic Indian. Fiji is now ruled by an interim government installed by the military. Prime Minister Laisenia Qarase has said his administration will work to redraw Fiji's constitution to guarantee ethnic equality in top political jobs, hopes to hold fresh elections in two years.



WORK-STUDY



STUDENT INFORMATION

Work-Study is a subsidized work program designed to assist financially needy students with the high costs associated with post-secondary study. The program will also provide students with an opportunity to gain valuable skills/experience in an on-campus part-time employment situation.

Due to the number of limited positions available, program eligibility will not guarantee employment.

ELIGIBILITY

Eligibility is restricted to full-time UNB *Undergraduate and Graduate* students with *demonstrated* financial need. Students must also be in good academic standing (*GPA of 2.0 and over from the most recent assessment year*) to be eligible for program consideration.

PROCEDURES AND IMPLEMENTATION

Step 1: CONTACT the UNB Financial aid Office at 453-4796 between *September 11th-22nd, 2000* to set up an appointment for a "*Financial Assessment*" to determine program eligibility. Once financial need has been determined, the Financial Aid Office will forward your name to the Student Employment Service.

Step 2: VIEW the available positions from September 11th-25th, 2000, at Student Employment Services (SES) located in the Neville Homestead or by accessing the SES web site: www.unb.ca/employment.

Step 3: SUBMIT a resume and covering letter *NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 25TH, 2000 (4:00P.M.)* to Student Employment Service (*Neville Homestead*).

Step 4: Hiring Department will contact those selected for an interview September 29th-October 5th, 2000.

PLEASE NOTE: Work-study positions are for 10 hours per week, \$8.00 per hour.

For Further Information, Please Contact:
Financial Aid Office
Alumni Memorial Building, Room 3
Telephone 453-4796



Deadline for "Financial Assessment" is Friday, September 22nd, 2000



BOOKS • TRADE BOOKS • CLOTHING • GIFTWARE • OFFICE SUPPLIES • COMPUTER SOFTWARE • TEXTILES

Welcome Back

Extended Hours

For The Rush

Sept 11, 12, 13, 14

OPEN UNTIL 8PM

UNIVERSITY BOOKSTORE

Phone: 453-4664

Fax: 458-7001

Internet:

bookstor@unb.ca

<http://www.unb.ca/bookstore/>

Open Monday to Friday
8:30AM - 4:00PM

Saturday
9AM - 4PM

WARE • OFFICE SUPPLIES • TEXTILES