

2 Groups Clash During Rally for Kurdish Rebels

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The fighting in Iran between government troops and Kurdish rebels spilled into downtown San Diego Friday as opponents and supporters of the Ayatollah Khomeini clashed outside the Federal Courthouse.

Picketing by about two dozen members of the Kurdistan Students Assn. — some dressed in rebel-style uniforms — brought on a counterdemonstration by a smaller group of pro-Khomeini Iranians at Union and ESts.

They collided briefly in the intersection and one of the Kurds, Talib Berzinji, 46, had a tooth knocked out. Several signs were smashed in the scuffle before police officers arrived to separate the groups.

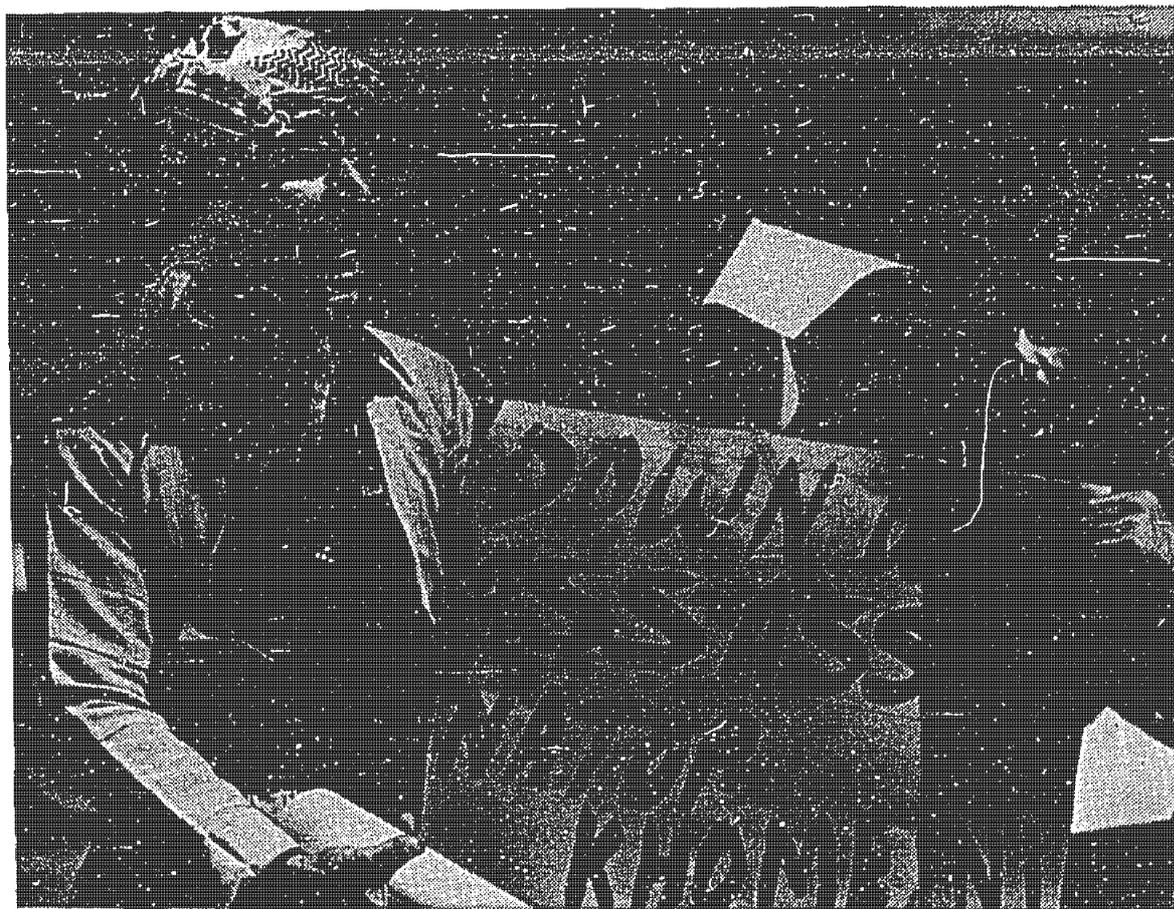
Each faction accused the other of starting the disturbance. Berzinji, who identified himself as a Southwestern College student, pointed out one young man as his attacker and the accused was taken into custody.

Police ordered the Kurdish demonstrators to keep their march moving along the sidewalk, but that did not interfere in several minutes of yelling back and forth across the street as one side held aloft the Ayatollah's picture and the other held up signs accusing the Islamic leader of "killing Iranian people."

"Long live Khomeini," one group shouted.

"Down with Khomeini," the other retorted.

In leaflets they passed out along the way, the Kurdish students accused Khomeini of "killing people and destroying properties in Iran, especially the Kurdish people — with not a grain of mercy in his heart."



RALLY OF KURDS — Displaying signs and shouting, "Down with Khomeini, down with the assassins," a group of Iranian Kurds demonstrates in front of Federal Courthouse in San Diego Friday.

Times photo by Melanie Kaestner