Iran brings in tanks to force Kurdish surrender

From Iz Thurdan
in Tehran

Kurdish rebels were reported yesterday to have
seized control of the whole of the northwestern
province of Kurdistan. The Soviet Union has now
sent in a large tank force to support the Kurds in
their fight for independence.

In an interview with The Times today, the
Chief of Staff of the Kurdish rebels, Mr.
Abd Allah Khodesi, said that the Albanians
had been persuaded by the Kurds to
launch a major offensive against the
Soviet forces in the area. He added
that the Kurds were prepared to
support the Albanians in their
struggle for freedom.

Mr. Khodesi said that the
Kurdish forces were well
equipped and had
received
much
support
from
the
international community.

The leader of the outlawed
Kurdish Workers Party, Mr.
Abd Allah Kholed, said that
he had received assurances
from the United Nations
that it would do everything in
its power to help the Kurds
in their fight for independence.

The Soviet forces, which
have been in the area for
some time, have been
attacked by the Kurds on
several occasions.

In a statement issued today,
the Soviet government said
that it would do everything in
its power to ensure the safety
of its citizens in the area.

The Kurds, who have been
fighting for independence
for many years, have been
supported by a number of
countries, including the
United States, Britain,
France and Iran.

The situation in the area is
still very tense, and there
are reports of clashes
between the Kurds and the
Soviet forces.

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