

*Iranian Army Moves West  
To Stifle Kurdish Revolt*

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TEHRAN, July 22 (UPI) — Iranian troops launched a large-scale operation against Kurdish rebel forces in western Iran today after several weeks of low-key reaction to a growing revolt by autonomy-seeking guerrillas.

Meanwhile, revolutionary courts in Tehran and the southwestern city of Ahwaz executed two women and three men on charges ranging from prostitution to murder. The executions brought the count since February to 378, six of them women.

Government spokesman Sadeq Tabatabai said government forces had ended a four-day Kurdish siege on the national police base at Serow, less than a mile east of the Turkish frontier.

Tabatabai said Iranian Army units had moved into virtually all sensitive areas of Kurdish-populated western Iran to restore peace.

The Army began its move into the troubled region as Maj. Gen. Nasser Farbod resigned Saturday as chief of staff and was replaced by Brig. Gen. Hossein Shaker, reputed to be a hard-liner.

Iranian newspapers speculated that Farbod's departure was linked to the appointment of a clergyman, Sayyed Ali Khamenei, as defense undersecretary and Farbod's reported weak-