

Khomeini demands that Army restore order

Ayatollah Khomeini last night called for action against opponents of Iran's Islamic Republic and told thousands of cheering supporters that he was wrong not to have put up gallows in city squares after February's revolution.

Believing what he called a last warning to his opponents, he said that he would go to Tehran to deal with the Government and the Army if they failed to act.

"We made a mistake," he told the crowd in Qom. "If we had banned all these parties and fronts, broken all their pens, set up gallows in the main squares, cut down all these corrupt people and plotters, we would not be facing all these problems."

He also called on the Army

and civil servants in neighbouring Afghanistan to rise up and join the people to overthrow the Soviet-backed regime there, which he called corrupt.

"The Army should join the people and so should civil servants working in Government offices, just like the Army and civil servants did in Iran . . . This is the order of God!"

The State radio reported last night that the Deputy Prime Minister, Mostafa Ali Chamran, and a force of Revolutionary Guardsmen had come under siege by Kurdish rebels in the border town of Paveh. Mr Chamran went to the town by helicopter earlier yesterday with fresh ammunition for Government forces yesterday.

The radio described the situation in Paveh, which has seen

two days of fierce fighting, as very tense. It alleged that pro-Shah forces, led by General Hosseinali Palisban, were aiding the rebels, and accused Iran's Kurdish Democratic Front of spearheading the revolt.

The radio said that reinforcements were airlifted into Paveh yesterday. Fighting is believed to have broken out after local Kurds protested at non-Kurdish Revolutionary Guards being dispatched to the town.

There was no official word on casualty figures, but a spokesman at the Prime Minister's office said many people had been killed and injured.

The official Fars news agency earlier reported that an air force F-4 Phantom had crashed

near the town, and a second had been holed by bullets. It did not give the cause of the crash.

Kurdish sources said that the plane was shot down by volleys of automatic fire.

In Tehran yesterday, about a million people marched to the university area to mark "Jerusalem Day," called by Ayatollah Khomeini to show Iranian solidarity with the Palestinians. The Syrian Foreign Minister, Abdel-Halim Khaddam, told the rally that the Iranian revolution had a great role to play in harmonising forces in the Middle East.

Ayatollah Khomeini yesterday called for the seizure of all the country's anti-Islamic newspapers, and the trial of those who run them. — Reuter



Yasser Arafat at a Jerusalem Day rally in Beirut

