

Kurdish rebels under pressure

From UPI in Tehran

Government troops pressed their offensive against Kurdish tribesmen in six western Iranian towns yesterday after an Army general in the border region said that he would probably declare a full-fledged war on the rebels.

"Any house from which revolutionary guards are fired upon will be razed . . . no matter how many people are occupying that house," the Tehran Times quoted General Ali Zahirnejad as saying. The general is commander of the Army garrison at Urumieh, one of the Kurdish cities under siege near the Iraqi border.

Press reports said that eight Government soldiers were killed on Monday when a landmine exploded under their truck outside the Kurdish city of Piranshahr. The official PARS news agency said that a six-year-old child was killed and another person wounded yesterday when shots were fired during a demonstration in Piranshahr.

In Sardasht, another town on the Iraqi border, renewed shelling wrecked the Education Department building butted caused no casualties.

Mahabad itself has been without electricity since Sunday. A Government siege of the city continued yesterday, and was aggravated by food and fuel shortages caused by road blocks around the city, held by the rebels.

General Zahirnejad told the Tehran Times that he was opposed to the peace talks with the Kurds which began last week and then collapsed after Army units cracked down on the rebels and laid siege to their positions inside Mahabad.