

Kurds Execute Four Guardsmen, Ignore Arms Surrender Deadline

Los Angeles Times (1923-Current File); Aug 27, 1979;

ProQuest Historical Newspapers: Los Angeles Times (1881-1987)

pg. A2

Kurds Execute Four Guardsmen, Ignore Arms Surrender Deadline

MAHABAD, Iran (UPI)—Kurdish guerrillas today executed at least four revolutionary guardsmen and blew up a huge fuel tank while ignoring a deadline to surrender their weapons in a standoff between armed Kurds holding Mahabad and armored troops less than 20 miles away.

A Kurdish firing squad in the Iraqi border town of Sardasht executed four revolutionary guardsmen in retaliation for the execution of nine Kurdish rebels in Marivan two days ago, a Kurdish spokesman said.

The four, all non-Kurds, were tried by a Kurdish revolutionary court and found guilty of "acts against the Kurdish people," the spokesman said.

Fifty Kurdish rebels were executed after Islamic trials since the latest round of trouble began in Paveh two weeks ago. But Kurdistan's Islamic

court chief, Sheik Sadeq Khalkhali, gave no details of further trials when questioned today.

He said results of further trials would be announced after they had taken place. The Kurds claim they are holding about 150 government troops, mainly revolutionary militiamen, in custody at undisclosed sites.

Two armored columns of the Iranian military today took positions on key roads leading into Mahabad, travelers entering the town said.

The streets of Mahabad were calm, but scores of young Kurdish men and women crowded the former army garrison on a hillside overlooking the town. A guerrilla explained that they had come to "register themselves for the battle."