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ISRAEL-LEBANON: Gradual Turnover

Israel continued its gradual withdrawal of forces from West Beirut this weekend as additional French forces and the first Italian contingent of the Multinational Force arrived in the Lebanese capital. Pressure in Israel is growing for an independent judicial inquiry into the massacre of Palestinians in West Beirut.

the port and Beirut International Airport remain opera-

Israeli forces maintain a support facility at the airport and still control several major intersections in West Beirut. The Lebanese Army and internal security forces, however, were performing security checks and clearing buildings in the Ra's Beirut area yesterday.

Security Issues

Jumayyil faces a number of problems regarding the Army and the Phalange-dominated Lebanese Forces militia. Army checkpoints and house-to-house searches in West Beirut have led some Muslims to characterize the Army as an occupation force rather than a national army. Their concern is heightened by the lack of any attempt to disarm East Beirut and by doubts that the President is willing or able to subordinate the Christian militias to central government control.

Protests in Israel

Press reports from Israel indicate growing support for an independent judicial inquiry into the circumstances surrounding the massacre of Palestinians in West Beirut. In addition to the massive demonstration in Tel Aviv on Saturday, an Israeli public opinion survey shows 51 percent favoring a judicial commission with subpoena powers, while another 23 percent would accept a less powerful

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