

Car bomb kills 38; more violence likely

ALGIERS, Algeria — In the worst bombing of a 3-year Muslim insurgency, an explosives-packed car blew up Monday along a street bustling with people preparing for a religious holiday. At least 38 people were killed and 256 wounded, state TV said.

The bomb went off across the street from police headquarters, near the main post office and train station. Downtown businesses were particularly crowded in anticipation of the monthlong Ramadan holiday.

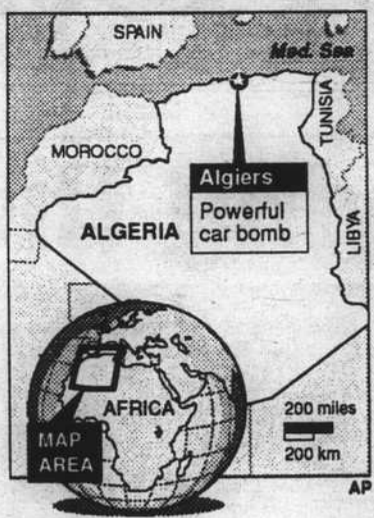
The car, containing more than 220 pounds of explosives, was driven by a "volunteer of death,"

who perished in the blast, security forces said.

There was no claim of responsibility. The security forces blamed "criminals" — the official term for fundamentalist guerrillas seeking to topple the army-backed government and install an Islamic state.

The attack came after fundamentalists from the Islamic Salvation Army urged followers to intensify attacks during the Muslim holy month of Ramadan, which begins this week.

The rebellion began after the government canceled January 1992 elections that the fundamentalist Islamic Salvation Front was ex-



pected to win.

State radio instructed all doctors to report to work and appealed for volunteer blood donors.

Ito reprimands defense

LOS ANGELES — Inept investigators so polluted blood evidence in O.J. Simpson's murder case that they made DNA testing meaningless, a defense attorney said Monday, moments after the judge rebuked him and admonished jurors to ignore much of what he said last week because his tactics broke the law.

"The evidence will be shown to be contaminated, compromised and corrupted," Johnnie Cochran Jr. said. "The gathering of evidence was a complete disaster."

Cochran was picking up the pieces of last Wednesday's opening statement, interrupted by a fight over the explosive information he revealed from witnesses previously unknown to the prosecution.

Superior Court Judge Lance Ito sternly warned jurors to disregard six witnesses mentioned last week, including a woman who purportedly saw four men running near the crime scene the night Nicole Brown Simpson and Ronald Goldman were killed.

Ito told jurors the defense had violated the law in withholding evidence and witnesses from the prosecution and had caused the trial to be delayed two days. He emphasized, however, that the illegalities were not evidence that Simpson was guilty.

The jurors listened intently but took no notes as the judge spoke.

Earlier, and outside the jurors' presence, Ito reprimanded the entire defense team, ruling they had purposely hidden the identity of several witnesses "for the purpose of gaining an unfair tactical advantage."

Ito forbade defense attorneys from calling as witnesses any of the six people mentioned to jurors, as well as eight others named in separate defense reports, until the end of their case.

He refused to grant prosecutors a 30-day delay to study the new evidence, but told Deputy District Attorney Marcia Clark he felt his sanctions against the defense were "as

Simpson trial update

Monday, Jan. 30, 1995

► Judge Lance Ito rebuked Simpson's defense team for introducing 14 witnesses in his opening statements. He asked jurors to disregard six of the 14.

► Ito will allow the prosecution 10 minutes to redo its opening statement in light of defense transgressions.

► Defense attorney Johnnie Cochran said Simpson practiced his golf swing in his yard, called his girlfriend and packed for a trip to Chicago in the hour prosecutors say he committed the murders.

Bosnia peace efforts in danger

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina — Muslim battled Muslim on Monday for control of strategic ground in northwest Bosnia in combat that jeopardized peace efforts.

Renegade Muslims who oppose the Muslim-led Bosnian government in Sarajevo said they were advancing and taking strategic points. But the United Nations countered that claim.

"We believe that the tide may be turning in favor of the Bosnian army," said U.N. spokesman Lt. Col. Gary Coward in Sarajevo.

If the Bosnian military was looking stronger, the country's political unity seemed to be fraying. Five members of the seven-member, multi-ethnic presidency charged Monday that army units were being brought under the control of Muslim clergy and hard-liners allied with President Alija Izetbegovic.

While much of Bosnia has been quiet during the first month of the

truce, mediators seeking to end the 34-month conflict have not been able to build on it.

There was, however, one hopeful sign for the international peace effort Monday: An on-again, off-again effort to evacuate almost 200 people, many of them sick or wounded, from the government-controlled enclave of Gorazde in eastern Bosnia appeared to be back on track.

The evacuation is part of a broader effort to open routes in and out of Sarajevo, which is supposed to happen Wednesday.

That plan remains plagued by problems. Bosnian Serbs backed out of talks set for Monday, delaying the meeting until Tuesday, U.N. officials said.

Bosnia's prime minister, Haris Silajdzic, was in Washington, where he and Vice President Al Gore accused Bosnian Serbs of dragging their feet on peace initiatives.

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News... in a Minute

First treatment for sickle cell anemia

BETHESDA, Md. — Doctors announced the first treatment for sickle cell anemia Monday, a drug that could help adults with the disabling disease fight off its worst symptoms.

The National Institutes of Health ended the critical trial of the drug hydroxyurea four months early because it proved so effective in reducing the painful episodes of sickle cell anemia, patients' hospitalizations and their need for blood transfusions.

"Patients must understand hydroxyurea is a treatment, not a cure," cautioned Dr. Samuel Charache of Johns Hopkins University, who led the NIH-funded study. "But it is the first effective treatment for this terrible disease."

Sickle cell anemia is an inherited disease most common among people whose ancestors came from Africa, the Middle East, the Mediterranean and India.

Kemp won't seek GOP nomination

WASHINGTON — Jack Kemp, the former congressman and housing secretary once viewed as the heir to the Reagan revolution, said Monday he would not seek the 1996 Republican presidential nomination.

The announcement cements Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole as the early front-runner. And some Republicans suggested Kemp's decision would prove a boost to former Vice President Dan Quayle. "If Dan can overcome questions about his electability, I think a good deal of Jack's support could gravitate his way," said California GOP activist Steve Merksamer, a Kemp confidant.



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