Friday, May 8, 1992

The Orange County Register

Armenia attacks Azeri stronghold

Major assault ignores latest cease-fire pact in Nagorno-Karabakh

By Other Wates

MOSCOW — Armenian forces

Launched a major assault on the

last Azeri stronghold in disputed

Nagorno-Karabakh today, igno
ning a new cease-fire signed in

neighboring Iranse ministry said

four Armenian tanks broke though

towards Shusha after an artillery

bombardment overnight after

'The battles on the outskirts of

Shusha were bloody, "it said.

"The armenian tanks broke though

tomard Sind and the said with

the armenian of the assistance

Confirmation of the assistance

to the said the Armenian

were aiming to "neutralize" Azeri

firing points around the territory's

aprenty, which said the Armenian

were aiming to "neutralize" Azeri

firing points around the territory's

aprenty from Stepankert and had al
ready captured a missile battery.

In a report from Stepankert, and

we miles from Stepankert and

the standard of a so counter
tanter following an Asert assault

Thursday.

hursday.

The fighting cast immediate doubt on a cease-fire agreement,

latest in a series aimed at ending the 4-year-old conflict, signed in the Iranian capital Tehran today. Iranian news agency IRNA said Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosyan and Azerbaijan's acting president Yagub Mamedov shook hands after signing the documents.

hands after signing the documents.

Tehran Radio said the cease-fire would come into effect within a week. Monitors from Iran and the Conference on Security and Cooperate of the Conference on Security and Cooperate of the Coope

day because of the fighting.

Iran has become increasingly prominent in diplomatic efforts to end the undeclared war over Nagorno-Karabakh, which is populated mainly by Armenians but was allotted by the Kremlin to Azerbaijan in 1923.

IRNA said Armenia and Azerbaijan had agreed to settle differences through Iranian mediation, gromo-Karabahh would be lifted.

Tehran Radio quoted Ter-Petroyan as saying there was a possibility of serious clashes breaking out any minute. out any minute. Nagorno-Karabakh Defense

Council decided early today to ne tralize all Azeri strongraint

Muslims control

Tajikistan capital

The Associated Press

MOSCOW — Muslim opposition groups controlled Tailitistan's capital today following a monthi-long power struggle, and President Rakhman Nabiyev may have fled.

One spokesman for the opposition Tajlikistan Democratic Party said Nabiyev left Dushanbe on Thursday, after lifting a state of emergency and another said the was hiding in the former KGB building. Nabiyev was installed as president following the August 1991 Soviet coup.

The opposition demanded greater religious and political freedoms in the Central Asian antion of S.1 million people, and the control of the

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