The New Hork Times

OPENING OF NEW BEIRUT CROSSINGS IS THWARTED BY KIN OF THE MISSING

By Ihsan A. Hijazi, Special To the New York Times

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Moslems determined to learn the fate of missing relatives thwarted Government plans today to open more crossing points between the predominantly Moslem and Christian sectors of this city.

Only one crossing point between Moslem West Beirut and Christian East Beirut had been open since February. The Government's plan was to open three additional crossings today to help restore normal travel and activity as this capital city recovers from civil war.

The three routes were opened this morning to traffic but within two hours all had been obstructed. The protesters also closed the one route that had been open - known as the museum crossing.

Militias Surrendered Posts

Later in the day, the city was back to one crossing point. But it was a different one, the road leading to the harbor. The port crossing was opened after Moslem militiamen in civilian clothes persuaded the demonstrators to leave.