

Refugee camp braces for final assault

Heavy fighting has erupted between the Lebanese army and the al-Qaeda inspired Fatah al-Islam after a 13-day stand-off at a Palestinian refugee camp

■ A 1969 Arab League agreement has so far prevented the army from entering **Nahr al-Bared** refugee camp. At least 83 people, including 20 civilians, have been killed in the fighting to date

■ **Fatah al-Islam:** Up to 300 gunmen allegedly including fighters from Saudi Arabia, Algeria, Tunisia, Iraq and Syria



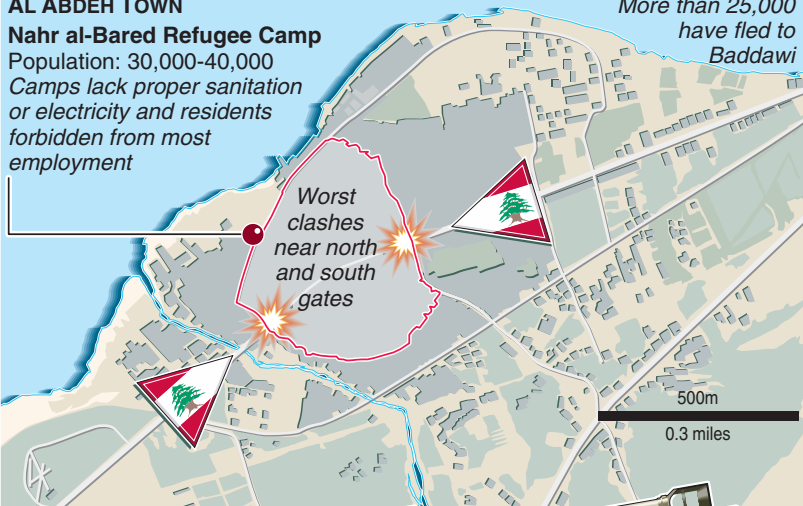
AL ABDEH TOWN

Nahr al-Bared Refugee Camp

Population: 30,000-40,000

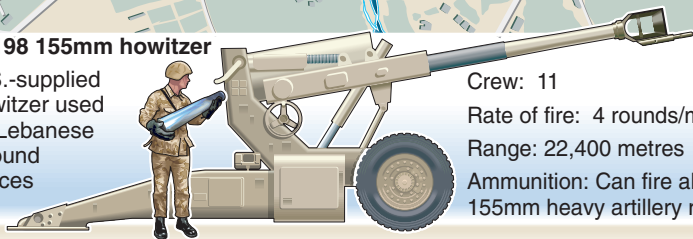
Camps lack proper sanitation or electricity and residents forbidden from most employment

More than 25,000 have fled to Baddawi



M-198 155mm howitzer

U.S.-supplied howitzer used by Lebanese Ground Forces



Crew: 11

Rate of fire: 4 rounds/minute

Range: 22,400 metres

Ammunition: Can fire all 155mm heavy artillery rounds