

# News Digest

By the Associated Press

## Iran intercepts Soviet ships

MANAMA, Bahrain — Iran stopped two Soviet ships in the first action against Iraq's main arms supplier since the Iranian navy began searching freighters for military cargo early last year, shipping sources said Wednesday.

Iranian warships chased the Pyotr Yemtsov in the southern Persian Gulf on Tuesday, then forced it into the Iranian port of Bandar Appas to be searched.

Shipping executives, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the second vessel was stopped briefly Wednesday and identified only as the Tutov.

The Pyotr Yemtsov, which belongs to the U.S.S.R.-Black Sea Shipping of Odessa, was seized during a voyage from the Black Sea port of Nikolayev to Kuwait and was being unloaded Wednesday at Bandar Appas, according to the reports.

In Moscow, Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennady I. Gerasimov confirmed that the 11,750-ton Pyotr Yemtsov was "detained" off the coast of the United Arab Emirates but did not mention the Tutov. Vandar Appas is about 120 miles east of the U.A.E.

Gerasimov said he believed the freighter was carrying a load of cement. He gave no information on the size of its crew.

Despite the Soviet role in supplying Iraq during the 6-year-old Iran-Iraq war, shipping sources said weapons or other military goods were unlikely to be shipped on Soviet freighters through the Persian Gulf.

"We believe the Pyotr Yemtsov was loaded with construction material, but the Iranians consider such commodities to be an asset for the Iraqi military efforts," said an executive based in

Kuwait.

Scores of ships of many nationalities are known to have been searched since Iran began intercepting commercial vessels early in 1985.

Most detained ships are allowed to resume their trips after searches. Others have been taken to Bandar Abbas, where their cargoes were unloaded and confiscated.

Executives gave this description of the Pyotr Yemtsov seizure, based on radio contracts they and their monitors had with other ships in the gulf:

An Iranian warship ordered the captain to stop when the freighter was about 30 miles northwest of Dubai. It signaled a threat to open fire, and the Soviet skipper turned his vessel and tried to escape. The Iranian ship caught up after a brief chase and again threatened to shoot.

## Smuggling charges possible for jailed U.S. News correspondent

MOSCOW — The wife of an American reporter accused of spying said Wednesday that authorities have threatened to press smuggling charges over family jewelry that she and her husband failed to list on customs forms.

Nicholas Daniloff, correspondent for U.S. News & World Report, has been held without formal charges in east Moscow's Lefortovo Prison since Saturday. He was arrested by eight KGB agents after a Soviet acquaintance gave him a package later found to contain maps marked secret.

The chairman of U.S. News, Mortimer B. Zuckerman, left Moscow Wednesday after two days of meetings with Soviet officials aimed at winning Daniloff's release.

Zuckerman said his meetings were "productive in the sense of a dialogue, but not conclusive in the sense that I know what the outcome will be." He said he agreed not to say which officials he met.

Daniloff's wife, Ruth, said customs authorities called the Moscow office of U.S. News & World Report on Wednesday to say that she should come to a customs clearing house outside Moscow to sign a statement about the

undeclared jewelry. "My instinct is just to ignore it (the message)," she said.

The Daniloffs listed carpets and a diamond ring as their only valuables when entering the country and when filling out forms to leave, Mrs. Daniloff said. Her husband took up the Moscow post 5½ years ago and was planning on leaving soon for a new assignment in Washington.

Mrs. Daniloff said they did not list a pocket watch Daniloff's father gave him for his 21st birthday, a locket that belonged to Mrs. Daniloff's grandmother and some rubbishy old jewelry that she kept at the bottom of her jewelry box. She said they did not consider the items valuable or believe they were made of silver or gold.

Customs agents confiscated the seven or eight pieces of jewelry and have informed her they are being valued at \$2,210, Mrs. Daniloff said.

"They're saying we have smuggled our own things into the country and now we're trying to smuggle them out again," she said. "It's all just so stupid. It may just be part of the harassment against us."

Mrs. Daniloff vowed to stay in Moscow until her husband is released,

"unless they want to take me out of here in handcuffs, kicking and screaming."

Mrs. Daniloff has accused the KGB secret police of framing her husband in retaliation for the arrest in New York of a Soviet U.N. employee, Gennady Zakharov. Zakharov is jailed without bail pending trial on charges of spying.

Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennady Gerasimov denied Tuesday that Daniloff's arrest was linked to the Zakharov case. Gerasimov said Daniloff was "caught red-handed" but a decision on whether to try him would not be made until an investigation is completed.

## Soviets ignore U.S. grain subsidy offer

WASHINGTON — A month has passed since President Reagan's controversial decision to offer wheat to the Soviet Union at cut-rate prices, but Moscow so far has ignored that offer and time is running out.

Sen. Richard Lugar, R-Ind., a critic of the proposed sale, said the situation is embarrassing for the United States. He said the administration cut the price

even more last Friday, which "demeans the process further."

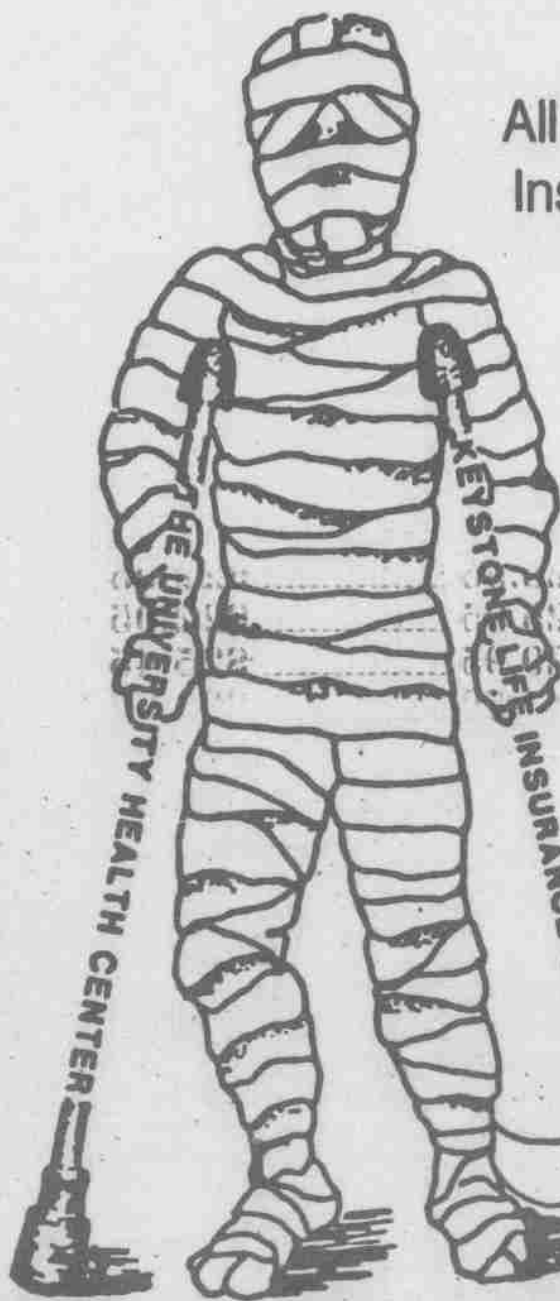
To encourage the Soviets to buy four million metric tons of wheat under a previously arranged grain deal, the president announced on Aug. 1 that he had decided to grant a \$13 per ton subsidy, meaning that American wheat could cost less in the Soviet Union than in the United States.

The subsidy, which is paid by the American taxpayer, was increased to \$15 ton on Friday. The aim was to reduce the price to the world level.

In justifying approval of the deal, Reagan said the subsidy would help hard-pressed American wheat growers sell their surpluses. He was encouraged to take the action by Senate Majority Leader Robert Dole, R-Kan.

Shultz said the Soviets must be "chortling and scratching their heads about a system that says we're going to fix it up so that American taxpayers make it possible for a Soviet housewife to buy American-produced food at prices lower than an American housewife."

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- Am I still eligible for coverage under my parent's plan?
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  - B. Are you thinking of marriage? Most policies exclude a dependent after he becomes married.
- Have I declared financial independence from my parents by receiving financial aid, and no longer eligible as a dependent under their plan?
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The Daily Nebraskan (USPS 144-080) is published by the UNL Publications Board Monday through Friday in the fall and spring semesters and Tuesdays and Fridays in the summer sessions, except during vacations. Readers are encouraged to submit story ideas and comments to the Daily Nebraskan by phoning 472-1763 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. The public also has access to the Publications Board. For information, contact Harrison Schultz, 474-7660.

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