

News Digest

By the Associated Press

Islamic Jihad urges terms similar to Daniloff conditions

BEIRUT, Lebanon — Islamic Jihad urged the United States on Tuesday to negotiate for the release of three American hostages in Lebanon as it did with the Soviet Union for American newsman Nicholas Daniloff.

The Shiite Moslem group also released a letter bearing the name of hostage David Jacobsen, which made a similar plea and warned that the kidnapers might kill their captives.

White House spokesman Larry Speakes said in Washington that administration officials believe Jacobsen apparently wrote the letter but "there is good reason to question whether it was freely written and represents anything more than the views of Jacobsen's captors."

The three-page letter was written in poor and often stilted English, raising doubts that its original author was the 55-year-old Jacobsen, who was the administrator of the American University Hospital when he was kidnapped

last year. Jacobsen is one of six Americans now missing in Lebanon. Islamic Jihad says it holds three American hostages and killed a fourth. It is uncertain who carried out the kidnappings last week of two other Americans.

Islamic Jihad's latest communique and the handwritten letter were in a packet left outside a Western news agency in Moslem west Beirut. The packet also contained a Polaroid photograph of Jacobsen in pajamas, almost identical to one of him released with an Islamic Jihad statement in Beirut last week.

"Why was Reagan interested minute by minute with spy journalist Daniloff but he is not interested one minute in our story?" asked the letter said to have been handwritten by Jacobsen. Daniloff's name was misspelled.

The three captives were "comparing what the (U.S.) government did in the 'Daniloff' case with what it is doing for

them," the statement said.

"Are not we Americans?" asked the letter which bore Jacobsen's name.

Islamic Jihad, which espouses the Shiite fundamentalism of Iran's Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, has demanded that 17 comrades jailed in Kuwait for bombing the U.S. and French embassies in 1983 be freed in return for the hostages. Kuwait refuses.

The letter said Jacobsen and fellow captives Terry A. Anderson and Thomas Sutherland "feel homesick" after their long captivity.

"Our bodies are sick and our psychological state is bad," the letter went on. "We also fear the possible ending of our story."

The letter appealed to three former hostages — Jenco, the Rev. Benjamin Weir and Jeremy Levin — and to Anderson's sister, Peggy Say of Batavia, N.Y., to "continue your efforts because you are our only hope and you know our suffering very much."

S. African gold mine fire kills 13; fate of 300 miners unknown

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa — A welding accident touched off an underground fire and filled a gold mine with fumes Tuesday, killing 13 miners, injuring 60 and leaving the fate of 300 others in doubt.

General Mining Union Corp., the country's second biggest mining group, said 2,200 workers were in the area when fire broke out at 9:30 a.m.

Company spokesman Harry Hill said an alarm was sounded to evacuate the No. 2 shaft at the Kinross gold mine, 62 miles east of Johannesburg, as fumes spread from burning cables and other materials.

The fire was put out, but 300 miners

were still underground by evening, Hill said. "We don't know why they didn't come up," he said, adding that they may have been overcome by the fumes "or were trapped some way."

Hill said the 13 dead, all blacks, were in the vicinity of the fire, but he did not know if they were engaged in the welding operation or what was being welded. He said the fire broke out on the 15th level of the No. 2 shaft, but he did not know how deep that was. Gold mines go hundreds of feet down into the earth.

Eight rescue teams went underground, Hill said. The company said the 60 injured were at a hospital in nearby Evander and were all in satisfactory

condition.

"The fumes spread through the working areas of the No. 2 shaft," Hill said. He did not know what type of fumes were involved, but said they were made up of various noxious gases.

According to a 1983 survey by The Star newspaper, mining accidents had killed 8,209 people and injured 230,000 in the previous decade.

The Chamber of Mines had issued a report Tuesday saying that in the first half of 1986, the fatality rate for gold mine accidents dropped below one per 1,000 workers for the first time. It said the injury rate has been halved over the past 10 years.

Gallo contract disputes force strike

SAN FRANCISCO — Winery workers fighting contract concessions launched a strike Tuesday against E. & J. Gallo Co., the world's largest wine-producer, bringing to 10 the number of wineries hit during a monthlong walkout.

The walkout of about 1,000 Gallo union workers came as the new harvest neared its conclusion and grape-crushing was at its height in most of California's wineries. All the struck wineries, which account for half the state's wine production, claim work is continuing with non-union personnel.

The striking members of the Winery, Distillery and Allied Workers Union Locals 186 and 45 joined about 1,200

others who since August 18 have walked out at winery operations across 350 miles from the Napa Valley to Bakersfield.

The last major wine strike, involving 23 wineries, lasted 17 days and nearly shut off the California retail wine sales are worth about \$5.5 billion annually, according to the industry's Wine Institute.

The total output of all the state's wineries was 414.7 million gallons last year. California wines account for 68 percent of total U.S. sales.

When talks broke down Sept. 3, Robert Fogg, president of Local 186, threatened to "shut down the entire Califor-

nia wine industry." That drew scoffs from employer spokesman Robert Lieber. He said it couldn't happen and estimated that unions were represented in only 300 of California's approximately 550 wineries. Lieber claimed the employers were not unhappy with the Gallo strike.

"We are hopeful the union will realize that a strike will not adversely affect production at Gallo or change the employers bargaining position, and therefore lead to an earlier resolution of the dispute," he said.

The strike mainly involves the San Joaquin Valley whose mainstay is the less-expensive jug wines. They account for about 80 percent of California wines.

Gallo spokesman Dan Solomon said the company's Modesto and Fresno wineries continued to operate with management personnel and new hires. Lieber said about 70 percent of the employees at the struck wineries are unionized.

Setting it Straight

In Monday's Daily Nebraskan an Associated Press article, "Delegates protest Daniloff arrest," carried the dateline Riga, U.S.S.R. Riga is the capitol of Soviet-occupied Latvia and is not part of the Soviet Union. The DN regrets the error.

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Soviet: Moscow wants Daniloff case resolved

MOSCOW — A Foreign Ministry spokesman said Tuesday that Moscow wants the case of American journalist Nicholas Daniloff resolved soon and that it should not be allowed to harm superpower relations.

Boris D. Pyadyshev, first deputy head of the Foreign Ministry's information board, was asked at a news conference if there was any movement toward solving Daniloff's case before Foreign Minister Eduard A. Shevardnadze and Secretary of State George P. Shultz meet in Washington on Friday.

The two are supposed to discuss a summit, and White House officials have warned a summit is in jeopardy unless Daniloff returns home first. "I am not sure whether it is correct to relate this case to the encounter" between Shultz and Shevardnadze, Pyadyshev said.

"No one has placed any time limit on this case. As regards the Soviet side, we would be happy to have this case solved as soon as possible, and would be happy not to have this case at all," he said.

"This case should not hamper Soviet-American relations which are at a rather low level, even without this case, and our opinion is that this case should be dealt with in a quiet manner without dramatizing the situation," Pyadyshev said.

Daniloff, a correspondent for U.S. News & World Report, was arrested in Moscow Aug. 30 by eight KGB agents after meeting a Soviet acquaintance and being given a package later found to contain military maps and photographs.

Daniloff and American officials have said the KGB set up the meeting and arranged for the material to be given to Daniloff to falsify a case against him.

The newsman was held in Lefortovo Prison for 13 days before being released Friday to the custody of the U.S. Embassy.

On the same day, Gennadiy Zakharov, a Soviet employee of the United Nations arrested on charges of spying, was released to the custody of the Soviet ambassador.

Daniloff said Monday he still considers himself a hostage for Zakharov, who is awaiting trial in New York on espionage charges.

At a New York press conference Tuesday, Zakharov denied being a spy and said he was set up by the FBI. He told reporters there was no connection between his arrest and the arrest a week later of Daniloff.

The agreement under which Zakharov and Daniloff were freed from detention stipulates that the American cannot leave Moscow and must be available at all times for KGB interrogation.

In Brief

Navy seaman shoots instructors

GREAT LAKES, Ill. — A Navy seaman, apparently upset that he was being flunked from an electronics training course, opened fire on instructors with a handgun Monday, killing one and wounding two others, officials said.

The gunman was identified as Seaman Arif M. Ameen, about 30, a native of Pakistan who became a naturalized citizen July 4, 1984, said Bill Dermody, a Great Lakes Naval Training Center spokesman.

"He apparently didn't like what was being said to him, having received the academic drop, and opened fire at the senior chief," Lt. Joseph Gradisher, another spokesman, said. "He left that office and walked to an office next door and opened fire on the other two individuals."

Ameen was apprehended by one of the wounded instructors and a petty officer, said center spokeswoman Mary Barreto.

Dermody said trainees normally do not carry weapons and that the gun involved, a .32-caliber pistol, was not a military issue.

The dead man was identified as Glenn E. Hull, 38, a senior chief electronic technician at the school, who was shot through the heart, Dermody said.

The wounded men were identified as chief electronic technicians David Violet, 30, and Lonnie Yowell, 41. Both were in stable to good condition at the base hospital.

A firewoman for Lincoln?

LINCOLN — For the first time, a woman applicant has passed the Lincoln Fire Department's physical ability test, Fire Chief Mike Merwick said.

Jan Cusick, a 31-year-old registered nurse, passed all seven parts of the test. If she survives the rest of the application process, she could become Lincoln's first woman firefighter.

Merwick said the department has been working with women's groups for about five years to find qualified women applicants for the department. Some women have taken the annual physical test for the past several years, he said.

But until now, only members of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln women's softball team had passed, he said. Cusick is the first serious applicant to pass.

Aquino meets with Bush, bankers

WASHINGTON — Corazon Aquino, seeking both moral and monetary support in her seventh month as president of the Philippines, met Tuesday with Vice President George Bush and international banking officials.

Bush, who praised then-President Ferdinand E. Marcos for his "adherence to democratic principles and practices" during a 1981 visit to Manila, was with Aquino in her Madison Hotel penthouse for 30 minutes.

Barber Conable, president of the World Bank, and Jacques de Larosiere, managing director of the International Monetary Fund, had lunch with Aquino.

The Philippines, saddled with a \$26 billion national debt, is seeking approval of a program that Central Bank Gov. Jose B. Fernandez says will allow the country's economy to grow at an annual rate of 6 percent after years of decline under Marcos.

A World Bank spokesman, who insisted on anonymity, said that bank officials and Aquino discussed bank commitments ranging from \$500 million to \$600 million for the current banking year ending June 30. He said the bank's loan program to the Philippines is being reviewed in light of the new priorities of Aquino's government.

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