

# News Digest

By the Associated Press

## Soviet submarine in trouble

### Vessel 'dead in water,' crew evacuated

WASHINGTON — A Soviet nuclear-powered submarine remained "dead in the water" in the Atlantic Sunday but no smoke was seen spewing from the stricken ship, indicating a fire on board had been extinguished, Pentagon officials said.

Most of the crew members were evacuated to nearby Soviet merchant ships, and a U.S. Navy tug was in the area ready to assist if needed, officials said.

U.S. P-3 Orion reconnaissance planes, which have been flying over the sub 552

miles east of Bermuda through the weekend, reported that smoke stopped spewing from the vessel Sunday morning and no personnel were observed on the deck of the sub, said Pentagon spokesman Maj. Larry Icenogle.

"The sub is still dead in the water. It is not moving," he said.

Three Soviet merchant ships were near the ballistic missile-carrying submarine, a small boat was alongside the sub, and a Soviet ship capable of towing the sub also was in the vicinity, Icenogle said.

The USS Powhatan was in the

"immediate area," Icenogle said, adding, "It could render some assistance."

President Reagan, who learned of the fire Saturday in a message from Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, offered the U.S. government's assistance, but the White House said Sunday that the Soviets have not asked for help.

Tass, the official Soviet news agency, reported that fire broke out on the sub 620 miles northeast of Bermuda. The announcement said three people were killed but there was no danger of nuclear explosion or radiation contamination.

## Soviet exile, wife move to U.S.

NEW YORK — Yuri Orlov, jailed and exiled to Siberia for nearly a decade because of his human rights activities, arrived here with his wife on Sunday to begin a new life in the United States.

The Orlovs' plane, Aeroflot Flight 315, landed at John F. Kennedy International Airport at 3:30 p.m. CDT.

Orlov boarded the plane in Moscow at 8:40 a.m. (2:40 a.m. CDT), according to Michael Matera, a U.S. diplomat who said he saw the dissident enter the plane in Moscow by a rear stairway.

Matera said Orlov was hatless but wore a warm winter coat. The 62-year-old dissident was brought to Moscow from the Siberian town of Kobyia on Saturday and was not seen by reporters at any point.

Orlov's wife, Irina, boarded the plane later and was not allowed to see or speak with her husband beforehand.

The Orlovs' departure for the United States was allowed under a superpower agreement under which American reporter Nicholai Daniloff and Soviet

U.N. employee Gennadiy Zakharov were allowed to return to their home countries. Zakharov was arrested in New York on Aug. 23 on spy charges, and Daniloff was arrested in Moscow on spy charges a week later.

Orlov, a physicist, had been exiled to Kobyia in the Siberian Arctic since 1984, when he completed a seven-year labor camp sentence for a conviction of anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda. The charges stemmed from his human rights activities in the 1970s.

## New debate rekindles Brown vs. Board of Education case

TOPEKA, Kan. — The nation's most significant school desegregation case will be rekindled in federal court Monday when attorneys for 17 children and the school board begin debating whether Topeka schools are still segregated.

Among the plaintiffs in the trial are two grandchildren of Oliver Brown, the man who brought the original lawsuit, known as Brown vs. Board of Education, that resulted in the U.S. Supreme Court's 1954 ruling banning racial segregation in U.S. schools.

The children's parents, who reopened the lawsuit in 1978, charge that Topeka Unified School District No. 501 still denies minority students a quality education in spite of that ruling.

Attorneys for the school district and the state Board of Education argue that the city cannot be blamed for housing patterns which result from natural population shifts and annexation of ethnic neighborhoods.

The original lawsuit began when Brown's daughter, now Linda Brown Smith, mother of two

of the Topeka pupils, had to walk past white schools in her neighborhood to go to a black school.

The complaint, filed Feb. 18, 1951, on behalf of 20 black elementary students, alleged that white children of elementary school age were allowed to attend neighborhood schools close to their homes, while black students were forced to travel to separate all-black schools outside their districts.

Ironically, in the current case against the school district and the state Board of Education,

students could be forced to attend schools outside their districts according to a formula based entirely on race.

The case could mean the end of Topeka's traditional neighborhood school philosophy in favor of bigger, regional schools and busing.

The American Civil Liberties Union hopes to prove that some Topeka schools have a disproportionate number of minority students and that the board intentionally concentrates black faculty in certain schools, creating "racially identifiable schools."

## Pontiff criticizes abortion, divorce; French display tepid response

LYON, France — Pope John Paul II pursued his attacks on abortion and divorce during a rural Mass on Sunday, calling them signs of sickness in society, but his message evoked a tepid response from the audience.

On his second day of a four-day visit to France, the leader of the world's 800 million Roman Catholics was surrounded by heavy security as he traversed the countryside before returning to Lyon late Sunday.

At Taize, pathways used for contemplative walks were thick with gendarmes. A belltower was converted into a watchtower with sharpshooters at the ready. Security men peered out from neighboring corn fields and cow pastures.

John Paul said at the Mass that rising abortion and divorce rates were signs that modern civilization is developing a "heart of stone."

He said the increasing number of broken families and abortions were "signs of a real and true sickness that hits at people, couples, children and society itself."

There was polite applause as the pope spoke out against abortion, but the overall response seemed subdued.

Though 80 percent of the French people consider themselves Catholic, polls indicate a steady erosion in the number who attend Mass regularly and who support the pope's positions on moral issues, particularly sexual matters.

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## Rivers receding after worst flooding in Oklahoma

Rivers slowly receded Sunday from record flood crests in Oklahoma and Illinois, where an estimated 45,000 people were forced from their homes over the past week, and more were evacuated in parts of Missouri.

Water crested during the night at one Oklahoma city at a record 18 feet above flood stage, leaving snakes swimming for safety, and a levee break flooded a Missouri town.

Little or no rain fell Sunday across the region, which got up to 2 feet in the past week, but almost 12 inches of rain fell in 24 hours in Texas, causing scattered flooding around the western town of McCamey.

Damage in Illinois was estimated at \$34 million Saturday. There was no way to estimate damage in Missouri, said Steve Finefrock, a state Civil Defense official, but U.S. Rep. James R. Jones estimated damage in his district at \$140 million.

Finefrock said an estimated 30,000 people had left their homes at one time or another over the past week because of flooding. About 3,800 families or 15,000 people had sought shelter in Illinois, a state public health spokesman said Saturday. Hundreds more fled their homes in Missouri, and Kansas Adjutant General Ralph Tice estimated 1,500 to 2,000 had evacuated in his state.

At least nine deaths were linked to flooding in the Midwest and Pennsylvania and three people were missing.

At Yale, Okla., eight members of two families, including a 20-month-old girl, were trapped along a road in fast, deep water for more than two hours Saturday, clinging to weeds, a barbed wire fence and branches before they were rescued.