

Former KGB agent free of spy charges

CIA cites national best interest as determining factor for dropping charges.

WASHINGTON (AP) — Faced with Russian threats of retaliation, the United States dropped spying charges Thursday against a former KGB agent, because the CIA and State Department decided prosecution was not in the national interest.

An unsigned, three-paragraph Justice Department statement said the CIA had changed its mind about proceeding with the case against Vladimir Galkin.

The CIA was advised in advance of the Oct. 29 arrest of Galkin and

raised concerns but no objections, the Justice statement said. Galkin was accused of attempted espionage and conspiracy to obtain for Russia information on the U.S. "Star Wars" defense program.

"In retrospect, and after further consultations within the government, the CIA has concluded, and the State Department has concurred, that the national interest would best be served by dismissing the charges," the Justice statement said. Justice officials accepted this recommendation.

Two Justice Department officials, requesting anonymity, said CIA Director John Deutch argued strongly for dismissal out of concern that Russia might retaliate against U.S. agents there.

Russia has issued several public

protests and a threat of retaliation since Galkin's arrest by the FBI at New York's Kennedy International Airport.

The charges were dropped when Galkin appeared Thursday in federal court in Worcester, Mass.

Galkin, shackled in handcuffs when he appeared for the hearing, wore a mustard-colored shirt and matching pants. Court attendants removed the handcuffs before the prosecutor announced the government's decision to dismiss the charges.

Some Justice and FBI officials were upset over the decision to drop the case, the two officials said.

As recently as Monday, Russia's Foreign Intelligence Service accused the United States of breaking the "unwritten rules" of espionage by giving a former spy a visa, then arresting him when he arrived.

Justice Department officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, said they were unaware of any such unwritten rules or agreement.

Russian officials insist that Galkin was entrapped because the United States knew his espionage background when it gave him the entry visa.

"The Americans breached the unwritten rules of the game and the code of behavior of the world's espionage services," Tatyana Samolis, a spokeswoman for the Foreign Intelligence Service, told the Interfax news agency. "Such things didn't happen even in the worst Cold War times."

Russia is ready to retaliate against current and former American intelligence agents, Samolis said.

There was no immediate official reaction today in Moscow. But a duty officer at the Russian Foreign Minis-

try called it good news.

"I hope it won't affect relations between our two countries," said the officer, who declined to give his name.

Galkin's wife, Svetlana Galkina, was elated to hear the news when informed by The Associated Press.

"I'm incredibly happy," she said. "I didn't expect it to be resolved so fast."

Galkin's application for a U.S. visa was approved Oct. 24, the same day a warrant was issued for his arrest.

The Russian Foreign Intelligence Service says Galkin, 50, has been a private citizen and businessman since 1992.

The United States charged that in 1990 and 1991, Galkin conspired to get secret military data that included the Strategic Defense Initiative, the "Star Wars" ballistic missile defense system.

U.S. troops sent to Rwanda

Nations join forces in humanitarian efforts to feed Zairian refugees

KIGALI, Rwanda (AP) — The first of what could be 4,000 American troops arrived in Rwanda's capital Thursday in advance of a multinational operation to feed and help send home more than 1 million refugees in Zaire.

The 43-member team, led by U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Edwin P. Smith, is to assess the security needs for the U.S. troops that are to take part in the Canadian-led humanitarian operation in central Africa.

Beside Canada and the United States, other Western nations expected to participate include France, Britain, Spain, Italy and the Netherlands. The United Nations said seven African countries will take part, including South Africa.

While President Clinton has attached certain conditions to the U.S. troops' involvement, he agreed in principle Wednesday to dispatch a force, spearheaded by U.S. Army paratroopers from their base in Vincenza, Italy.

Among the conditions placed on U.S. participation in the multinational force were that the American troops, totaling 3,000 to 4,000, stay no longer than four months so that there is a finite date to the mission.

Officials from Canada, United States and other countries were to meet at the United Nations this afternoon to finalize details of the operation.

Once the parties reach agreement, the Security Council will authorize the deployment.

White House spokesman Mike McCurry said the U.S. paratroopers would secure an airfield in the eastern Zaire city of Goma, a principal delivery point for humanitarian supplies. Zairian rebels control the airport.

Rocket fire hissed today above Goma, the Zairian town bordering Rwanda, as Zairian rebels battled with Rwandan-Hutu militias near their Mugunga refugee camp 10 miles from the lakeside town.

No injuries were reported, and by noon the artillery was quiet. Shelling prevented the distribution of food, however. As relief is delayed, thousands face starvation or death from disease.

Rebel leader Laurent Kabila has vowed to retaliate against the former Rwandan soldiers and Hutu militiamen at the camp who pounded Goma with shells earlier this week.

The American troops, bolstered with Apache attack helicopters, also would provide security along a three-mile corridor to the Rwandan border from Goma.

The force will be headed by Lt. Gen. Maurice Baril, the commander of Canada's land forces, and he will have a U.S. officer, yet to be chosen, as second-in-command, the Pentagon said.

"We are here to conduct an initial assessment for possible humanitarian assistance either unilaterally or multilaterally," Smith, commander of the Southern European Task Force, part of the U.S. European Command, said on arrival of the advance U.S. team today.

To minimize the possibility of U.S. casualties, the Clinton administration said American forces would not disarm militants or conduct any type of forced entry.

That policy may make it difficult for the multinational force to approach the refugees, who have been prevented from returning home by former Rwandan soldiers and Hutu militiamen. They have resisted repatriation because they fear reprisals for the 1994 genocide.

Social activist Cardinal Bernardin dies at 68

CHICAGO (AP) — Cardinal Joseph Bernardin, the soft-spoken son of immigrants and one of the Roman Catholic Church's strongest voices for social involvement, died early Thursday of cancer. He was 68.

Bernardin died at his home at 1:33 a.m., Bishop Raymond Goedert said.

Bernardin, the senior Roman Catholic prelate in the United States and leader of Chicago's 2.3 million Catholics, underwent surgery for pancreatic cancer in June 1995, and announced Aug. 30 that the cancer had spread and was inoperable. He gave up his day-to-day duties Oct. 31.

In more than 14 years as archbishop of Chicago — often described as the most visible Catholic post in the United States — Bernardin helped steer the American church toward an anti-nuclear stance and staked out positions on AIDS and capital punishment. Just days before his death, he wrote to the

U.S. Supreme Court urging against creation of a legal right to die.

But Bernardin spent much time in his final months discussing his illness, his struggle to overcome the fear of death and his belief in eternal life.

"We can look at death in two ways, as an enemy or as a friend," Bernardin said when he announced his illness was terminal. "As a person of faith, I see death as a friend."

His openness about his impending death won praise from religious leaders. It also brought him to extraordinary places, from the White House, where President Clinton honored him with the Presidential Medal of Freedom, to the cell of a death-row inmate who asked to pray with Bernardin before being executed in September.

His most searing moment of national attention came in November 1993, when he was accused of having

sexually abused a young man, Steven Cook, years earlier while Bernardin was archbishop of Cincinnati. Cook recanted and reconciled with Bernardin before dying of AIDS last year.

Ironically, Bernardin had established a system for dealing with sexual accusations against priests that was considered a model for other dioceses. His vindication after calmly declaring his innocence and willingness to forgive Cook mitigated damage to the church's image from priest-abuse scandals.

Bernardin considered it a priest's duty to confront sticky social issues.

"If we live a religious life and encourage others to do that, there is no doubt we will come into increasing conflict with the prevailing values of this society," he told The New York Times in 1983.

Gunman arrested for killing 1, wounding 2 at Ford Motor Co. plant

WIXOM, Mich. (AP) — A man dressed in camouflage fired shots Thursday at a Ford Motor Co. plant outside Detroit, killing one person and wounding two. He was arrested after holding police at bay for hours.

The gunman remained on Ford property, firing at police, and authorities worried that he may have been holding hostages. But that turned out to be incorrect, Wixom Police Sgt. Clarence Goodlein said.

The man opened fire late Thursday morning after having some type of confrontation with two Ford assembly line workers.

"He came into the cafeteria first, started shooting with some weapon. He was spraying bullets all over the place," Ford spokesman Bill Carroll said. He then went outside and fired more shots, he said.

Goodlein did not release the identity of the dead worker. Authorities

think they know who the gunman is, but said they don't know his connection to the Ford plant or the workers he allegedly shot.

The wounded worker was in serious condition at a hospital Goodlein didn't identify. A sheriff's deputy, 39-year-old Matthew Miller, who was shot outside the plant, was in serious condition with a shoulder wound. Another person was treated for cuts caused by flying glass.

More U.S. troops to aid in Bosnia

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States likely will provide at least 5,000 troops for a new NATO peacekeeping force in Bosnia next year, NATO's Secretary General Javier Solana said today.

Thirty countries could send as many as 30,000 troops, including up to 10,000 Americans, Solana told reporters. Clinton administration officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the U.S. contribution would be between 5,000 to 10,000 troops.

The troops will replace the present 60,000-member force that is scheduled to pull out by the end of the year.

Vice President Al Gore signaled the administration's readiness to participate in the new force in a meeting Wednesday with Solana, administration officials said.

U.S. troops would be part of a larger force that would stay perhaps through the end of next year to help assure that the shaky Dayton peace agreement takes root in the former Yugoslav republic.

In Paris, Secretary of State Warren Christopher said an international police force now in Bosnia must be strengthened as well.

"Everything we are doing has a straightforward purpose," he said. "It is to implement the Dayton Agreement in letter and in spirit. That is the only option we can consider, the only goal we can support, the only way to achieve lasting peace in Bosnia."

Some 200 Americans are serving in the police force. Christopher did not say whether others would be added.

White House press secretary Mike McCurry said Thursday that Clinton was meeting tonight with his foreign policy team to review the

plans. And he said Gore gave Solana "a sense of our thinking," but a final decision was pending.

"That's what the purpose of the meeting is today," McCurry said in an interview.

McCurry said Clinton was likely to address the use of U.S. forces for Bosnia and Zaire before he leaves Friday for a Hawaiian vacation and a trip to Asia.

A NATO meeting is set for Monday in Brussels to discuss in depth a Bosnian force after the current U.S.-commanded mission expires on Dec. 20.

Around 12,000 U.S. soldiers remain in the NATO peacekeeping mission, which now numbers about 43,000. The U.S. soldiers were joined last month by about 3,400 other Americans whose main function is to assist in the withdrawal of the current U.S. contingent by March 1997.

The Senate last December passed by 69-30 a resolution supporting U.S. action in Bosnia but limiting its duration to about one year. On the same day in the House, there was a 287-141 vote opposing U.S. participation in the NATO force but expressing support for American forces there.

Renewed fighting this week in Bosnia has heightened concern over the possible departure of NATO peacekeeping troops.

In Paris on Wednesday, with hundreds of Bosnian Muslims threatening to reclaim their Serb-held homes by force, Christopher told Bosnia's leaders that freedom of movement was essential to peace. He said tensions in Bosnia had risen to a "critical" point this week after serious fighting broke out between Bosnia Serbs and Bosnian Muslims.

CLARIFICATION

A story on the front page of the Nov. 8 Daily Nebraskan referred to "Nebraska Bookstore's Grade A Notes." Grade A Notes is in Nebraska Bookstore, but is independently operated, while Campus Time Publishing is in University Bookstore and is independently operated.



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