

# Iran stops two Soviet ships in Persian Gulf

By Nabila Megall  
Associated Press Writer

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 yesterday.

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

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

The Pyotr Yemtov, which belongs to USSR-Black Sea Shipping of Odessa, was seized during a voyage from the Black Sea port of Nikolayev to Kuwait and was being

unloaded yesterday at Bandar Abbas, according to the reports.

In Moscow, Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennady I. Gerasimov confirmed that the 11,750-ton Pyotr Yemtov was "detained" off the coast of the United Arab Emirates but did not mention the Tutov. Bandar Abbas is about 120 miles east of the UAE.

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 Yemtov was loaded with construction material, but the Iranians consider such commodities to be an asset for the Iraqi military effort," said an executive based in Kuwait.

He noted that several Kuwaiti vessels had been intercepted and their cargoes of steel rods and other construction materials seized.

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

Capt. Mohammed Hussein Malekzadegan, the Iranian navy commander, was quoted earlier this week as saying his warships intercept 15 to 20 commercial vessels a day to make sure they do not carry cargo that would benefit Iraq's war effort.

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.

The American freighter President Taylor was stopped and boarded outside the Strait of Hormuz last January on a voyage to the United Arab Emirates port of Fujairah. In

May, U.S. warships in the Indian Ocean prevented the interception of another American cargo ship, the President McKinley.

U.S., British and French naval vessels patrol the Persian Gulf, the narrow Strait of Hormuz that leads from the gulf to the Indian Ocean and the strait's environs in the Gulf of Oman.

Soviet warships also cover the area outside the Hormuz.

Shipping executives said an average of two Soviet or East European freighters a day ply the gulf waters. They expressed surprise that Iran would harass Soviet ships while the Kremlin is trying to improve relations with Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's fundamentalist Shiite Moslem government.

"Knowing the Soviets, they are unlikely to create any fuss about the seizure of their vessel, however," a Bahrain shipping agent said.

Executives gave this description of the Pyotr Yemtov seizure, based on radio contacts 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. The Pyotr Yemtov's captain cut back his engines and Iranian commandos boarded, either by boat or helicopter.

An initial distress signal from the freighter indicated it was being attacked, but the captain sent another signal later that his vessel had been boarded by Iranian marines.

Nothing was heard from the Pyotr Yemtov after the captain's second message.



Collegian photo / Jean Hopper

## Ring around the scholars

Above, Karen Brooks, right, shows Jeffrey Shardell (senior-business logistics) some class rings in the HUB yesterday. At right, Shardell stoops to take a closer look at the wares for himself.



## Family of imprisoned journalist may face smuggling charges

By CAROL J. WILLIAMS  
Associated Press Writer

MOSCOW — The wife of an American reporter accused of spying said yesterday 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 yesterday 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.



Nicholas Daniloff

Daniloff's wife, Ruth, said customs authorities called the Moscow office of U.S. News & World Report yesterday 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, Ruth Daniloff said. Her husband took up the Moscow post 5½ years ago and was planning on leaving soon for a new assignment in Washington.

Ruth Daniloff said they did not list a pocket watch Daniloff's father gave him for his 21st birthday, a locket that belonged to Ruth 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, Ruth 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."

The Daniloffs sent their household goods to the customs house for clearance in late August, she said.

The Daniloff's 16-year-old son, Caleb, left Moscow yesterday to return to school in the United States.

"I think it's best for me to depart," Caleb said at the airport. "I don't really want to, but I think it would be better for my dad if there was no chance for them to hassle me, to make my dad do anything."

Ruth 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."

She visited her husband Sunday and Monday and said she hoped to be allowed to see him again tomorrow.

Ruth 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.

## U.S. proposes swap with USSR

By BARRY SCHWEID  
AP Diplomatic Writer

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The United States has approached the Soviet Union with a proposal to free an American journalist accused of spying in exchange for granting pretrial release to a Soviet physicist arrested for espionage, U.S. officials disclosed yesterday.

The deal to liberate U.S. News & World Report correspondent Nicholas Daniloff would involve temporarily releasing Gennady F. Zakharov, a Soviet physicist assigned to the United Nations Secretariat, to the Soviet ambassador to the United States.

A U.S. official who demanded anonymity said the State Department would have favored release of Zakharov before Daniloff's apprehension, but was not consulted. "That's standard procedure," the official said.

But a federal court in New York, acting on the advice of the Justice Department, rejected a Soviet request that Zakharov be handed over to Ambassador Yuri Dubinin until a trial date was set.

Correspondent Daniloff subsequently was arrested, setting up the potential exchange now under discussion in both capitals.

Zakharov was arrested by the FBI in New York on Aug. 23 and charged with spying. Daniloff was seized Saturday by KGB agents in Moscow after being handed a package with two maps marked "top secret" by a Russian acquaintance.

The officials, who insisted on anonymity, said Zakharov would face trial on spy charges under the proposal, but that there would be an "understanding" that he might be swapped in some future deal with the Soviets.

There was no immediate response from Moscow to the proposal, the officials said.

One of the officials said "a significant precedent" for Daniloff's situation was set in 1978 when a similar arrangement was worked out.

## Anti-Rehnquist criticism escalates

WASHINGTON, D.C. (AP) — The nation's major civil rights coalition stepped up its attack yesterday on Chief Justice-designate William H. Rehnquist, arguing in a report that he has opposed equal justice for minorities "at every turn."

The Leadership Conference on Civil Rights issued its report a week before scheduled Senate debate on the nominations of Rehnquist and of Antonin Scalia as a Supreme Court associate justice.

While the report covered many of the criticisms leveled at Rehnquist during his

confirmation hearings in August, it was characterized by its use of harsh language.

The Leadership Conference, composed of 185 organizations, said its main reason for opposing Rehnquist's nomination "is his 35-year record of opposition to the fundamental principle of equal justice under law."

The coalition also contended "he lacks the requisite candor and sense of propriety to serve in the nation's highest judicial post."

Supreme Court spokeswoman Toni House said there would be no comment on the study, entitled "The Case Against William Rehnquist: A 35-Year History of Hostility to Victims of Discrimination and Unanswered Questions of Candor and Sense of Propriety."

The report reviewed Rehnquist's career as a private citizen, a Justice Department official during the Nixon administration and as an associate justice of the Supreme Court the past 15 years.

Much of the study covered Rehnquist's record on issues such as school desegregation, voting rights, public accommodations and racial makeup of juries.

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This afternoon, mostly cloudy and possibly more drizzle. High 69. Tonight, cloudy with widely scattered showers. Low 59. Tomorrow morning, clouds and again the chance of a shower followed by breaks of sunshine. High 73.....Heidi Sonen	