

Soviets accuse U.S. of turning Iran crisis into serious conflict

WASHINGTON (AP) — The State Department reacted angrily Wednesday to Soviet charges that the United States is turning the Iranian crisis into "one of the most serious international conflicts" of the post-war era.

Secretary of State Cyrus R. Vance personally conveyed his displeasure to Soviet Ambassador Anatoly Dobrynin. State Department spokesman Hodding Carter called the commentary "deplorable."

The Soviet charge appeared in the Communist Party newspaper Pravda less than 24 hours after the Soviet Union supported a United Nations Security Council resolution calling for the immediate release of 50 American hostages in Iran.

The militants occupying the U.S. Embassy rejected as

"worthless" Wednesday the Security Council resolution demanding release of their 50 American hostages, but the government radio said the U.N. action left open the door to negotiation.

Iran's ruling Revolutionary Council met Wednesday night but issued no comment on the U.N. resolution, adopted unanimously Tuesday.

At the United Nations, a spokesman for Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim said he believed the Tehran Radio broadcast reflected the Iranian position. The radio report noted that the resolution does not condemn Iran and warns against U.S. military intervention.

U.N. spokesman Rudolph Stajduhar said Waldheim was in telephone contact with Iranian acting Foreign Minister Sadegh Ghotbzadeh, who refused to at-

tend the four days of Security Council debate on the U.S.-Iran crisis.

Informed sources in Iran's holy city of Qum said one man was shot to death in a clash between followers of revolutionary leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini and Ayatollah Mohammad Kazem Shariat-Madari. No further details were available.

Shariat-Madari represents the largely Turkish province of Azerbaijan. There were reports of gunfire in the provincial capital of Tabriz on Tuesday and less violent disturbances Monday when Turks there accused Iranian radio and television of distorting the cool response of Shariat-Madari to the constitutional referendum. Ethnic minorities in Iran have criticized the constitution for failing to give them autonomy.

Tehran Radio broadcast a statement Wednesday night that it said was from Shariat-Madari, which asked Tabriz residents not to stage marches in his support. "We ourselves shall issue orders for marches and demonstrations whenever this should become necessary," the statement said.

U.S. officials have said they prefer a peaceful solution to the crisis, but Pentagon spokesmen said American naval strength south of the Persian Gulf has doubled with the arrival of the aircraft carrier Kitty Hawk and five support ships that joined a task force led by the carrier Midway.

Asked whether the United States is ruling out military action, Pres. Carter said Wednesday, "I have never ruled it in or out."

Carter gave no details on what diplomatic alternatives are now being considered, but another official said one such option is a U.S. call for a global economic embargo against Iran, similar to the one which has been in effect against Rhodesia for many years.

The state-run radio, in a rare contradiction of the militants, said the council resolution "has left the way open for continuing activities within the U.N. framework and intensive efforts through the secretary-general to resolve the differences through peaceful means."

making the news

From Associated Press Reports

SAN ANTONIO, Texas — The deposed Shah of Iran will not seek asylum in four of the countries most often mentioned as possible sanctuaries, a spokesman for the former ruler said Wednesday.

The shah does not want to go to Egypt because he might inflame the Mideast situation, said Robert Armao, who also ruled out Panama, the Bahamas and South Africa as sanctuaries.

Armao said the shah, accused by the present Iranian government of crimes against his former subjects, would not answer his accusers while efforts were being made to win release of U.S. hostages in Iran.

LONDON — Britain and the two sides in the Zimbabwe Rhodesian guerrilla war agreed Wednesday on the principles of a cease-fire, apparently overcoming the last major hurdle to peace in the breakaway British colony.

British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington, announcing the accord, said a final settlement should be possible within a few days. Detailed arrangements were to be worked out by military specialists.

Spokesmen for Patriotic Front guerrilla leaders Joshua Nkomo and Robert Mugabe stressed, however, there "are hazards ahead in the process of implementation."

WASHINGTON — The United States is closing its embassy in Tripoli until the Libyan government acknowledges responsibility for a mob attack in which the building was ransacked and burned, the State Department said Wednesday.

U.S. officials said the action does not amount to severing relations with the government of Col. Moammar Khadafy.

The U.S. mission, which now numbers 10 members, will be scaled down to "a handful" and will move to another embassy or building elsewhere in Tripoli to look after the affairs of the 2,500 to 3,000 Americans in the oil-rich Arab country.

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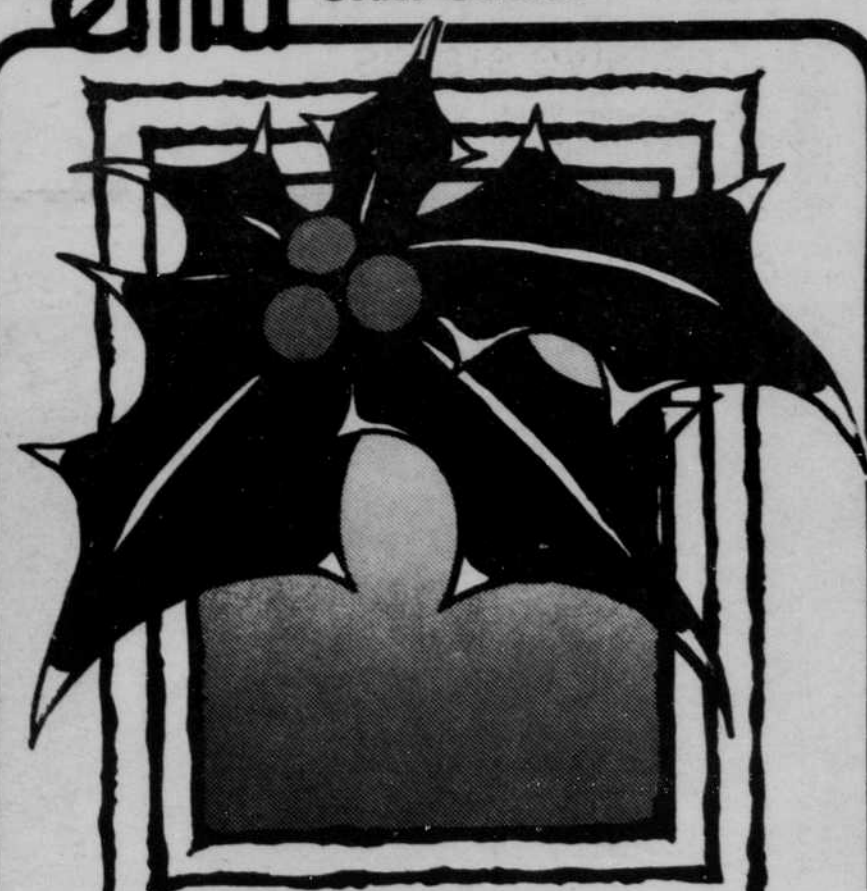
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