



Officials don't anticipate Soviet retaliation

Over ballerina conflict

WASHINGTON (AP) — Carter administration officials say they do not expect any major problems in U.S.-Soviet relations as a result of the conflict over the departure of Soviet ballerina Ludmilla Vlasova.

"I don't think there is any basis for retaliation," said a senior official Monday, adding that the United States had only insisted on enforcing its laws and responsibilities in the case.

Should there be retaliation, the officials predicted it would come as harassment of American tourists or businessmen in Russia.

The senior official, who requested anonymity, said that if the Soviets ask to exercise a parallel right to interview Miss Vlasova's husband, defector Alexander Godunov, they will urge Godunov to comply under ground rules similar to those for the 25-minute interview with Miss Vlasova, which was held in a mobile airport lounge with Soviet officials present.

And that is all the State Department officially believes the Soviets are owed as a result of the incident.

Privately, officials say they feel that Soviet self-interest will

be the major factor in cooling the tempers of Kremlin officials who want to hit back for the incident at the airport.

They reason that the Soviets will be very cautious about continuing or escalating an embroglio with the United States as the Senate returns from its August recess and prepares to vote on SALT II, a treaty that the Soviets have shown they badly want ratified.

And SALT II is about the only aspect of the Washington-Moscow relationship that could be affected by a Soviet desire to retaliate.

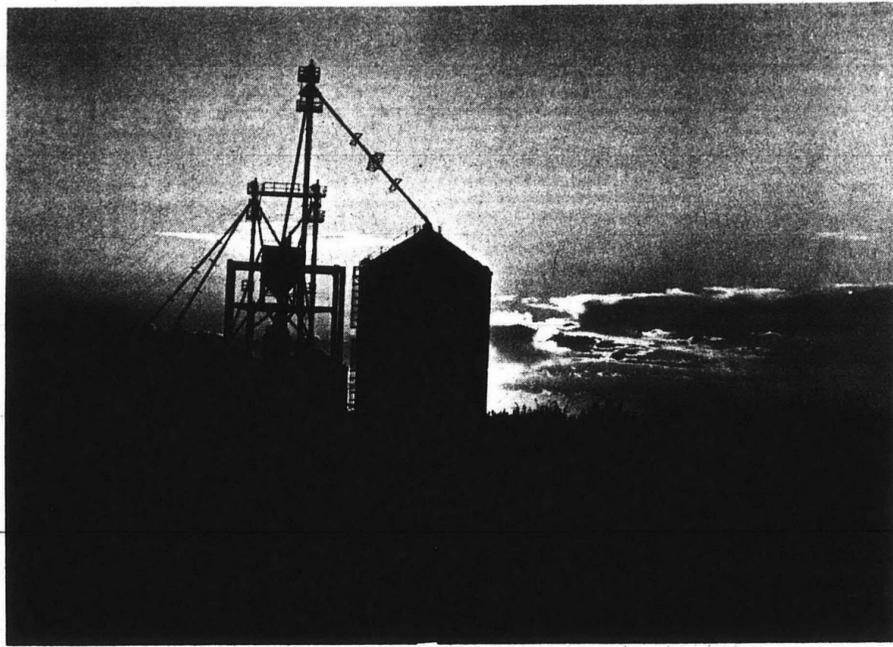
There are at present no minor negotiations that the Soviets could freeze to show their displeasure. All of the lesser issues have been sidetracked until the SALT vote, which is now expected in October or November.

"There are hundreds of things they might do. We have airliners over there. There are perhaps 100,000 Americans who tour in Russia each year. But I'm inclined to think that linking this incident to something else will not seem wise to the Soviets," said one State Department official.

The official did not even think that cultural exchanges would be affected. He pointed out that the Soviets have frequently suffered defections by artists and have never permanently discontinued the exchange programs.

"The fact that the Bolshoi (Ballet) was here after the defections of people like (Rudolf) Nureyev and (Mikhail) Baryshnikov shows that," he said. Both Godunov and his wife were members of the famed Bolshoi troupe. Nureyev and Baryshnikov danced with the Kirov Ballet.

The official summed up the confrontation as akin to "two elephants trumpeting," an event that inevitably occurs when elephants live in proximity to each other but which often consists only of noisy posturing that is quickly forgotten.



SILVER LINING — Although hail and severe wind took a heavy toll of cotton and other crops over the weekend, there was a silver lining to the storm clouds. The total effect of the moisture undoubtedly exceeded the loss, over the country as a whole, although in-

dividual farmers were wiped out within weeks of the anticipated harvest. This sunset was recorded yesterday at the Texas-New Mexico line on the Kakawate road. (News-Tribune photo)

Return brings tears, flowers

MOSCOW (AP) — Bolshoi ballerina Ludmilla Vlasova was welcomed with bouquets and tears when she returned to the Soviet Union today after spending more than 73½ hours inside an Aeroflot plane grounded at New York's Kennedy Airport on U.S. orders.

U.S. and Soviet officials traded heated claims about the incident. The ballerina embraced her mother at the foot of the Aeroflot plane ramp at Moscow's Sheremetyevo Airport and told her not to cry.

In an interview broadcast on Moscow Radio after her arrival, Miss Vlasova said: "I am very happy that I have set foot back on native soil, and it is a beautiful thing that I saw my mother again."

She added: "I consider (the Americans') actions to be arbitrary because they occupied our plane by force. They got inside with arms and handcuffs to guard me. It was just madness. There is no explanation for any of their actions."

The Soviet news agency Tass accused U.S. authorities of seeking "a scandal ... a noisy anti-Soviet sensation" by ordering the Ilyushin-62 grounded.

Tass has not mentioned the defection of Miss Vlasova's husband, Bolshoi ballet star Alexander Godunov, and today said only: "She did not want to find herself in a situation similar to that of her husband ... A. Godunov, who had disappeared shortly before that under circumstances which are not yet clear."

Miss Vlasova declined to answer reporters' questions about her husband.

Surrounded by a crowd of Soviet and Western reporters, Miss Vlasova said she was "too tired" to talk about her ordeal.

The Aeroflot Ilyushin-62 that had been grounded at Kennedy Airport for more than three days landed at the Moscow airport shortly after 10:00 a.m. — 3 a.m. EDT.

Alexandra Drozhkina, the ballerina's mother, a small and nervous woman, stood at the foot of the airplane ramp as her daughter, looking fresh and smiling, descended into her arms.

"It's nothing, it's nothing," Miss Vlasova murmured. "Please, Mama, don't cry."

Then she said again: "Please, Mama, I'm back."

The showdown over Miss Vlasova's departure from the United States could have been settled well before the compromise that finally cleared the way for her return to Moscow, U.S. and Soviet officials agreed Monday.

But they disagreed over who was to blame for the episode, each saying the other was at fault in the diplomatic stalemate.

And both sides claimed vindication when Miss Vlasova declared she chose to return to the Soviet Union without her husband, Bolshoi Ballet dancer Alexander Godunov, who defected last week.

Miss Vlasova and 52 other Soviet citizens returned to Moscow early today aboard the

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Carter to visit China

PEKING (AP) — Vice President Walter Mondale announced today that Hua Guofeng (Hua Kuo-feng), China's premier and Communist Party chairman, will visit the United States next year and President Carter will visit China.

Mondale said at a news conference after a meeting with Hua that China's top leader accepted Carter's invitation "with delight." He said the dates for Hua's and Carter's visits had not been set.

The vice president also announced he would open a U.S. consulate in Canton, "the first consulate we've had in China in over 30 years," when he visits south China's biggest city during his tour. He said it would have a staff of seven or eight headed by Richard Williams.

The Chinese government will open consulates in Houston and San Francisco, he said.

Mondale said his visit to China has "laid the basis of our relationship in the 1980s and given real meaning to the word 'normal.'"

The vice president also signed agreements on cultural exchange and cooperation in development of China's hydroelectric power.

Mondale told Hua when he first met him today that he thought the process of Sino-American normalization was "well under way."

Hua said to Mondale he was aware it was his first visit to China and the first by such a high-ranking American since diplomatic relations were established Jan. 1.

"So I extend you a special welcome because of these two firsts," he said.

"It is a beginning not an end," he added.

Asked how he was adjusting to China, Mondale smiled and said, "I'm now part Chinese. I am an expert on Chinese food."

Then he expressed gratification that his speech Monday at Peking University was covered in such full detail in Peking newspapers.

Mondale announced in the speech that a strong China is in America's interests and offered the Chinese economic partnership in the 1980s and a \$2 billion line of credit.

PSC rules

Some utilities ads can't be charged to customers

SANTA FE (AP) — The state Public Service Commission has ruled that utility companies can't charge their customers for money spent on some types of advertising.

The PSC said Monday utilities can't pass along to consumers costs incurred for advertisements that:

- Seek to justify a rate increase or the need for the construction of additional plant facilities;
- Foster the public image of the company;
- Advocate political or other positions or viewpoints, rather than providing factual information;
- Promote the purchase of appliances sold by affiliates of the utility company;

But the commission said companies could continue to charge their customers for advertising that promotes "legitimate load management techniques" or energy conservation.

British, Irish hunt Mountbatten killers

BELFAST, Northern Ireland (AP) — The British and Irish governments hunted the IRA killers of Earl Mountbatten, 18 British soldiers and three other persons today as Irish guerrillas promised, more escalation of their 10-year-old war to drive the British from Northern Ireland and unite it with the Irish Republic.

In Brussels, meanwhile, it appeared Irish Republican Army bombers struck again today. A bomb blew apart a temporary stage in the Belgian capital's Grand Place square, injuring 10 persons, including two members

of a British military band that was preparing to perform a concert on the stage.

No one claimed immediate responsibility for the Brussels bombing, but authorities have reported an infiltration of Irish guerrillas into Belgium in recent months in search of British targets.

The toll from Monday's bombings in the Irish Republic and Northern Ireland rose to 22 as the Dowager Baroness Brabourne, the mother-in-law of Mountbatten's elder daughter, died in a Sligo hospital.

British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, who lost one of her chief advisers to IRA bombers five months ago, cut short a vacation, returned to London, and held urgent talks today with Home Secretary William Whitelaw, Defense Secretary Francis Pym, and Sir Ian Gilmour, minister without portfolio. Humphrey Atkins, minister in charge of Northern Ireland, flew from London to Belfast and was to return tonight to report to Mrs. Thatcher.

Ireland's deputy prime minister said no effort would be spared to bring the killers to justice.

But there was no indication that either government had any leads to the men who planted the bombs that blew up Lord Mountbatten's fishing boat off the west coast of Ireland Monday, killing the 79-year-old cousin of Queen Elizabeth II, a 14-year-old grandson and another teen-ager, and a few hours later decimated two truckloads of soldiers just inside the border between Northern Ireland and the republic.

The Irish Republican Army's Provisional wing said Mountbatten, one of his country's most decorated World War II heroes and the first member of the royal family assassinated within memory, was "executed ... to bring the attention of the world to the British occupation of the six northeast counties of Ireland."

Another IRA communique after the bombing of the troops vowed the guerrillas would step up their attacks on the 13,500 British troops in Northern Ireland.

In a front-page editorial under the banner headline "These Evil Bastards," the Daily Express said Britain must seek from the Irish Republic "a total clamp-down on terrorists." If the response was not positive, it must "reconsider" its relations with Dublin, the paper asserted.

Thoughts

The title of the off-color Broadway production and the toned-down movie, "The Voice of the Turtle," comes from a bird (turtle dove) and not the marine reptile. "The time of the singing of birds is come, and the voice of the turtle is heard in our land." —Sol. 2:12.

News in brief

NEW YORK (AP) — Chase Manhattan Bank today raised the prime rate to 12½ percent, the highest level ever for loans to major corporations. Chase, the nation's third largest bank, did not explain the increase from 12 percent, but economic analysts had expected the increase following recent increases in other interest rates. The Federal Reserve moved last week to force up short-term interest rates in an effort to control inflation. Other major banks were expected to match the increase.

DETROIT (AP) — The United Auto Workers union has decided not to strike seven General Motors Corp. plants after holding "satisfactory discussions" with the automaker, although talks have not yet reached the economic bartering stage.

WASHINGTON (AP) — Senior advisers have given President Carter a report that could result in a request to Congress for about \$4 billion in additional defense spending next year, administration sources say. The sources, asking to remain anonymous, said Monday it would take that much to overcome the effect of inflation and restore the planned 3 percent "real growth" in defense spending contemplated under Carter's original \$122.7 billion defense budget for fiscal 1980.

Local man hurt when cycle flips

A 26-year-old Portales man was being transferred to the University Health Sciences Center in Lubbock this morning following a motorcycle accident Monday evening.

Donnie Ray Hightower, 321 W. University, suffered head and shoulder injuries according to officials at Clovis High Plains Hospital, where Hightower was transferred after first being taken to Roosevelt General Hospital.

Officials at the Clovis hospital said the shoulder injury was treated there, but Hightower's head injuries prompted the transfer to Lubbock.

According to the police accident report, Hightower was traveling east on Fir Street at a high rate of speed when his 1976 motorcycle went out of control on the corner of North Abilene and East Ivy streets. Police report the bike slid into a corner yard and flipped over twice before stopping.

Traffic Toll

By The Associated Press
1979 Toll to Date
427
1978 Toll to Date
415



Up and over

Gerald Gonzales skillfully guides his bike up a homemade ramp and flies gracefully through the air over four of his trusting friends. From left to right, Raymond Segovia, Billy South, Lonny King and Tommy King. (News-Tribune photo by Bettye Gollehon)

Weather

By The Associated Press
East-Central and Southeast Plains: Partly cloudy at times through Wednesday with isolated late afternoon and evening thundershowers; light winds from the west-southwest tonight. Portales near 60 and near 90.
New Mexico: Clear to partly cloudy and warm through Wednesday; isolated afternoon and evening thundershowers most sections, but heaviest activity in the east and south; Highs 70s and low 80s mountains to the mid 80s and 90s elsewhere; lows tonight 30s and 40s.