

Soviets boost military forces near Iran

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Russian army has increased the strength and readiness of some of its motorized rifle divisions north of Iran, U.S. intelligence sources said Tuesday.

At the same time, Pentagon officials announced that a combat force of Russian marines with equipment to support a landing force has arrived in the Indian Ocean.

The intelligence sources, who asked to remain anonymous, said the strengthened Soviet army units in the Transcaucasus region of Russia north of the Iranian border also had stepped up maneuvers and exercises.

But these sources exhibited no serious concern that the Soviets might be preparing a strike into Iran similar to their intervention in neighboring Afghanistan late last year.

Zbigniew Brzezinski, President Jimmy Carter's top

security adviser, said Monday night that there had been "credible reports" that the Soviet Union had moved military forces into the Transcaucasus area, which lies between the Black Sea and Caspian Sea.

Brzezinski recalled a Soviet military buildup had preceded the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

Meanwhile, the unit of at least 400 Sovmarines entered the Indian Ocean from the South China Sea aboard Russia's biggest amphibious assault ship, the 13,000-ton Ivan Rogov.

This is the first time the Soviet command has committed a combat force of marines, which the Russians call naval infantry, into the Indian Ocean region.

The arrival of the Soviet marine force, following the receipt deployment of an 1,800-man U.S. Marine

battalion into the Arabian Sea aboard a Navy task group, represented another escalation in the show of force by both the United States and the Soviet Union since the Red Army moved into Afghanistan.

The entrance of the Rogov and two other Soviet warships through the Strait of Malacca on Monday raised to 28 the number of Russian naval vessels operating in the key waters leading to the oil-producing Persian Gulf, the center of U.S. concern.

On the other hand, the U.S. Navy has 26 ships patrolling those waters, including two huge carriers bearing a total of about 150 warplanes.

To the north, U.S. intelligence has kept a close eye on the Transcaucasus region, which stretches about 150 miles north of the Iranian border.

News In Brief

Aldermen block restaurant construction

The Carrboro Board of Aldermen voted Monday night to approve a change in the town's zoning ordinance that would block the construction of a drive-in Wendy's restaurant at Main and Greensboro streets.

The aldermen voted 4-2 to create a new business zone, B-4, which would be the only zone where a drive-in restaurant could be built. The new ordinance overrules the decision by the town's Board of Adjustment to issue a conditional use permit for the Wendy's.

The Wendy's case recently generated a lawsuit against the Board of Adjustment by the town aldermen. The aldermen sought to block construction of the restaurant and revoke the conditional use permit. The aldermen said the drive-in restaurant would cause traffic hazards at the intersection. But Orange County Superior Court Judge Coy Brewer, Jr. ruled in favor of the Board of Adjustment in late March.

Wenco Co., the owners of Wendy's, can still build at Main and Greensboro if the proposed site is added to the B-4 zone.

Hostage families receive messages

The International Red Cross began relaying by telephone Tuesday personal messages from the American hostages in the U.S. Embassy in Tehran to their families. The delivery began only hours after the messages were handed to Red Cross representatives who visited the hostages.

The hostages' messages were telexed to New York from Red Cross headquarters in Geneva and two officials were on duty making the telephone calls. Marianne Pelizzon, a Red Cross spokeswoman in New York, said the calls were made as rapidly as possible after the messages came in. The relay was expected to take several hours.

After wiring the messages to New York, the Red Cross in Geneva planned to mail the original, hand-written copies to the families, Pelizzon said.

taxes

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State Supreme Court Justice David Britt disagreed. "This court has never superimposed (the educational use) principle with the public use principle," Britt said.

Michael Patrick, attorney for Chapel Hill, said the court should at least require the University to list its properties for possible taxation.

"If the University is allowed to not have the burden of proof and not to list, we have no way of determining (whether the properties are taxable)," Patrick said.

Justice J. William Copeland said he questioned the wisdom of a ruling that would

require the University to pay a large sum in back taxes, since the UNC money would come from state tax coffers.

"Anything (the town and county) gain by the lawsuit the University will have to come back to the legislature and ask for," Copeland said.

Copeland also said Chapel Hill was displaying a lack of gratitude to the University in assessing the taxes.

"I take it that Chapel Hill takes no stock in the fact that Chapel Hill would be swamp ground useful to nobody, except for the University," Copeland said.

insurance

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said, Watkins said the surcharges were designed only to recover quarterly losses, and not to make a profit for the facility or insurance companies.

Watkins said records of the facility's accounts are released monthly and are available to the insurance department. He also said audits of the facility are made quarterly. Watkins said the losses maintained are justified and that money obtained through the surcharges balanced the losses.


Watkins said a 6 percent rate limit prohibited his agency from charging the motorists assigned to the facility higher rates. The surcharges were necessary, he said, to compensate for the facility's inadequate rates.

"By law, the facility can neither make a profit nor take a loss," he said.

Most North Carolina motorists should not be seriously affected by the recoupment surcharges, John Dominick, an insurance representative with Southland Associates in Chapel Hill, said Tuesday.

"The average policy-owner is certainly going to suffer," Dominick said. "Every one of us (who has automobile insurance) is going to help subsidize those who are in the Reinsurance Facility. However, poorer drivers bite a more substantial bullet than other drivers."

Dominick also said North Carolina's automobile insurance rates are low, compared with other states. He said North Carolina rates are no longer based primarily on age, sex or race, but rather on driving experience.

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April 14-16
12:00, 12:30, 1:00 p.m.
Upper Lounge in Union

theft

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said, "If their answers are not too good, you know they don't belong in the dorm. We have run some people out." Because dormitories on South Campus don't lock outside doors until 1 a.m., Brown said he supposed that thieves, if they are not students, get in the dorms early in the evening.

Lauren Stevens, Hinton James residence director, said that the floor extension doors of James are locked at 7 p.m. James' RAs have held crime prevention programs and put up signs urging students to lock their doors.

"We're not trying to scare people, but they have to be extra careful," Stevens said.

On North Campus, Cobb dormitory has the highest number of reported thefts with 16 last year and 10 this year. Residence Director Connie Currier Holoman said that residents leaving their doors unlocked contributed to

the crime.

"Sometimes people don't report they've lost their keys. They just leave the door unlocked," she said.

Cobb RAs have made a point of discouraging students from leaving their keys in sight, such as on ledges above their doors, by leaving warning notes to the students.

Olde Campus Residence College reported a low number of thefts. Individual dorms in that area have between one and five thefts each. "These are smaller dorms," said Residence Director Ken Klamforth. "Strangers are easily recognized around here."

The most frequent item stolen from the dorms is money. But everything from wheels to tape decks are taken from cars in the dorm parking lots, Dunn said.



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crime

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"We've found that in terms of reported crimes, in most areas we've seen a significant increase in the report rate," UNC Security Services Director Ted Marvin said. "Many police departments are working on community relations, and that may indicate that more is reported in the statistics."

The rate of crime reporting changes from year to year, from 25 percent to 50 percent of all occurring crimes, he said.

But in Chapel Hill, the figures seem to indicate that crime is on the rise, compared to the same period a year ago. For the six-month period beginning in October 1979 and ending in March 1980, Chapel Hill showed an increase in all seven of the crime categories used in the UCR system. No comparison figures were available from Carrboro or UNC.

Compared to the same period during 1978-1979, larcenies showed the greatest increase, rising by 125 cases. Burglary increased by 33 cases, while robbery increased by 20 cases. Rape tripled during the same period, rising from two rapes during the 1978-1979 period to six rapes during the 1979-1980 period. Only one criminal homicide occurred during the most recent period. It involved the February shooting of UNC senior Jerry Keith Hodge. The murder was the first in Chapel Hill since 1974. Another murder was reported in the previous quarter in Carrboro.

"The increase in crime has to do with the situation of the economy," said Ben Callahan, administrative assistant for the Chapel Hill Police Department. "Armed robberies,

especially, are up because it means easy money."

Callahan said that the large increase in burglaries, larcenies and robberies came primarily after the first of January, when economic conditions worsened. But he also said most of the armed robbery cases have been solved and the arrest percentage is high. Most of those involved in the robbery cases were from outside the Chapel Hill area, he said.

The change in weather also has had an effect on crime, Callahan said. Violent crime or crimes of passion may increase when hot weather is accompanied by unemployment and poor economic conditions, he said.


Janet Colm, director of Chapel Hill's Rape Crisis Center, said the weather also has been a factor in the increase in the number of rapes in the area.

"There has been a definite increase in rapes since spring came," she said.


Colm also said a large number of rape cases are not even reported to police, but many of the victims contact the crisis center. Colm said 18 rapes were reported to the crisis center from the Chapel Hill area during the six-month period from October through March. Only six were reported for the same period to the Chapel Hill police. Only one in five rapes is reported to police, according to statistics from the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Colm also said since March alone there have been seven to 11 rapes reported to the crisis center.

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