

# Prosecution uses state secrets in trial of Russian dissident in Moscow

United Press International MOSCOW — The prosecution in the trial of Anatoly Shcharansky has introduced a document signed by American respondent Robert Toth as part of its espionage case against the Soviet dissident.

A panel of experts testified in the trial of activist Alexander Ginzburg in Kaluga, 110 miles away, the court spent much of its time wading through the voluminous process of identifying documents entering into evidence some 100 documents.

Ginzburg's wife was barred from the trial for a second day, his mother, who was allowed to attend, reported the document processing was so boring that reporters were falling asleep on benches.

During the closed session of Shcharansky's trial, the court read a reading of transcripts of summer's KGB interrogation of Toth, a veteran Los Angeles correspondent.

Shcharansky, who faces a possible death penalty, was accused of passing information about sensitive Soviet defense industries to the Soviets claim Toth an agent for U.S. military intelligence.

Shcharansky has denied the espionage charges — and Toth denied the Soviet accusations against both him and Shcharansky.

Toth was arrested in Moscow on Nov. 11, 1977, and interrogated

for 13 hours by KGB officials at Lefortovo Prison on June 14 and 15. He was forced to sign interrogation transcripts before being allowed to leave the Soviet Union at the end of his three-year tour of duty in the Times Moscow bureau.

A panel of security experts — presumably from the KGB — was called in to examine documentary evidence of the information Shcharansky provided Toth and other reporters.

A court spokesman said, "The experts then read out the text of their written conclusion saying that the information on the defense industry of the U.S.S.R. and its installations which Shcharansky is said to have forwarded to the West is absolutely secret and constitutes a state secret of the U.S.S.R."

The afternoon session, which was open, was devoted to evidence on a second charge against Shcharansky — that of anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda.

At the Moscow courthouse, Shcharansky's relatives waited outside until a court official summoned his brother Leonid and escorted him inside.

The defendant's mother, Ida Milgrom, rushed to the barricade and asked that she also be allowed inside but was told "not

today — maybe tomorrow."

Mrs. Milgrom told reporters: "I regard this as a mockery of a mother not to be allowed into this courtroom."

"I cheered for joy when I heard my son was going on trial because I thought I would finally get the chance to see him."

Shcharansky, fighting for his life against charges of "high treason" because of his contacts with Toth, has been held incommunicado for the last 17 months.

About 20 other relatives and friends stood vigil outside the courthouse, including Boris and Natalia Katz, two friends who have been refused permission to send their baby daughter, Jessica, to the United States for treatment of a rare digestive system ailment.

In Kaluga, Mrs. Irina Ginzburg Wednesday pleaded with the court to allow her back inside to witness the third day of the trial of her husband. She was expelled from the court twice Tuesday — once for shouting "it's a lie" at a prosecution witness.

Mrs. Ginzburg sent two notes to the judge Wednesday asking permission to attend the trial again. There was no response from the court and at noon Mrs. Ginzburg was still outside, standing and talking to the wife of imprisoned dissident Yuri Orlov.

Shcharansky faces possible death by firing squad. Ginzburg faces a maximum 10-year prison term.

# Most U.S. disasters occur in thirteen Sunbelt states

United Press International ATLANTA — William H. Wilcox, head of the Federal Disaster Assistance Administration, said Wednesday that more than 50 percent of all the disasters in the United States occur in 13 Sunbelt states.

Wilcox said such disasters as flash floods, hurricanes and tornadoes cause more destruction in the states of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas, Oklahoma and New Mexico than in all the remaining 37 states.

That area includes the tornado belt stretching across the South as well as the vast Gulf and South Atlantic coasts which are usually the first to bear the brunt of any hurricanes.

Tom Creedle, F.D.A.A. regional director for the Southeast, said, with

the exception of Alabama, all the states in the region have a disaster plan.

"Alabama is working on one," he said.

Wilcox, who took part in a review of disaster preparedness plans with regional federal agency heads, said although many governments have emergency plans, most individuals don't.

"There has to be a high occurrence of flooding before people will even buy flood insurance," Wilcox said.

"Our experience in recent years is about three-quarters of the damage we reimburse for is caused by flooding," he said.

Wilcox said that even in hurricanes and tornadoes most of the damage to property is from flooding and not high winds.

"The F.D.A.A. has budgeted this year some \$1 billion to relieve all

types of disaster victims but this figure doesn't include relief from state and local governments, insurance companies and losses not covered by any agency," Wilcox said. "This figure doesn't even come close."

Wilcox also said there is enough time before many natural disasters such as tornadoes and flooding to warn people.

"But with maxi-disasters such as leaking gas from derailed trains, we must depend on the people moving as quickly as possible," he said. He said the F.D.A.A. doesn't provide assistance until all state and local resources have been exhausted.

"For example, we recommended that the President turn down the Georgia shrimpers' request for disaster aid because all state supplies hadn't been exhausted," Wilcox said.

# Vietnamese doctors to search for missing American soldiers

United Press International HONOLULU — Vietnamese doctors and government officials who will try to account for Americans still missing in Vietnam have arrived in Hawaii to be briefed on techniques for identifying the remains of war victims.

The six-member group's arrival from Hanoi to inspect the U.S. Joint Casualty Resolution Center and Central Identification Laboratory is the first visit by Vietnamese government officials to the United

States since the war, except for appearances at the United Nations.

The visit followed an announcement by Phan Hien, vice foreign minister, that Vietnam is now ready for establishment of full, uncondi-

tional diplomatic relations with the U.S.

The establishment of full diplomatic ties has been delayed by the MIA problem.

# Solar flare will slow down Skylab, disrupt power, communications

United Press International GOLDER, Colo. — A government scientist said Wednesday a solar flare expected within the next 10 days would affect the Skylab space station and likely disrupt power and communications throughout the northern United States.

The flare will definitely slow down Skylab," said Gary Heckman, chief of the Space Environmental Services Center at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

"We can't say what its exact impact will be, but the flare will slow it down."

The orbit of the 84-ton orbiting space station has deteriorated more

rapidly than expected since the last crew left it in 1974. NASA flight controllers are attempting to keep it in orbit until at least the 1979 space shuttle flight.

Officials say unusual solar activity may be partially responsible for the station's deteriorating 240-mile-high orbit.

Heckman said next week's solar flare was expected to be similar to Tuesday's flare — the largest ever seen on X-ray. That flare produced record-breaking surges of ultraviolet radiation and blacked-out high frequency radio communication in the North Atlantic and European sections.

"It principally affected ship to shore communication and some aviation communication," Heckman said.

The government scientist also said a magnetic storm from the Tuesday flare was expected within 72 hours, but it was not expected to cause serious power distribution

problems because it was "too far from the East on the sun."

He said the magnetic storm's most noticeable effect would be the appearance of auroral displays — the Aurora Borealis or Northern Lights — over northern states.

Heckman, however, said scientists were 70 percent certain a second major flare would occur within the next 10 days and would cause possibly serious communication and power systems disruptions.

"People operating communications, power and satellite systems will be aware of the flare," he said. "Those on the streets probably won't know what's going on."

Heckman said power companies in Newfoundland would be crippled by the anticipated flare as well as electrical firms in the northeastern United States.

"But it's like the predicting the weather," he said. "We can't say exactly when it will happen."

# Blindness link seen in birth control pill

United Press International LITTLE ROCK — Reports that cases of blindness may be related to birth control pills are being investigated, says an Arkansas eye doctor.

ophthalmologist R. Sloan Wilson of Little Rock said the National Registry of Drug-Induced Ocular Side Effects is hearing from doctors nationwide whose patients stricken with blindness were using "the

pills routinely are warned the pill may cause vascular problems such as blood clots, strokes and even heart attacks. The eye is just one part of the body where blood vessels may be affected, Wilson said.

"From what we know, those who smoke and the pill don't get along too well. Smoking heats up the circulatory system," he said.

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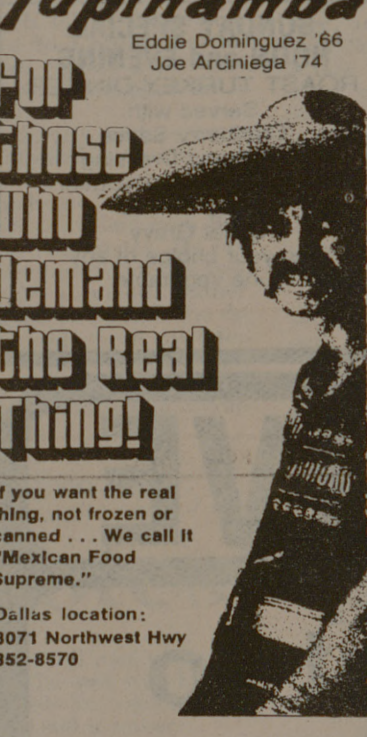
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