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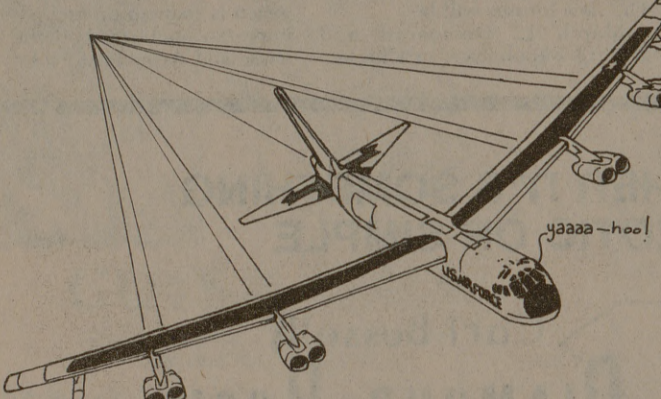
Soybean embargo aid sought

United Press International
WASHINGTON — The United States has asked representatives of Brazil and Argentina not to increase soybean exports to Russia to replace soybeans embargoed by the United States.
Representatives of the three nations, the world's major soybean exporters, met Monday in a closed meeting at the Agriculture Department. There were no policy decisions made at the meeting, officials said.
American officials asked the nations not to fill the gap created by an

embargo of 17 million tons of American grain exports to Russia.
"We asked them to keep their exports at traditional levels," said Philip Makie, Agriculture Department spokesman.
The United States also suggested that the three nations exchange information on soybean exports and trade flows.
In recent years, Brazil's soybean exports to Russia have risen as high as 1 million tons. Soybean exports to Russia from Argentina, where soybeans have been a minor crop until recently, have been negligible.
Prior to the embargo, American soybean sales this marketing year totaled 1.4 million tons of soybeans, 400,000 tons of soybean meal and 70,000 tons of oil.
The embargo cut off 740,000 tons of American soybeans, all of the meal

and 30,000 tons of oil.
The Agriculture Department estimated Brazil's soybean production this year at about 13.5 million tons and the Argentine crop at about 4.5 million tons, compared to an American crop of 60.9 million tons.
At the grain exporting nations' meeting Saturday, officials from the United States, Australia, Canada, the Common Market and Argentina agreed their governments would not directly or indirectly replace grain that would have been shipped prior to the American embargo.
Later, Argentine officials said they opposed the U.S. embargo. They said their position was misinterpreted by American officials, and their government would do nothing to replace grain but it also would do nothing to interfere with private traders from responding to market

demands.
Howard Hjort, the Agriculture Department's chief economist, he believed the controversy stemmed from a distinction between government and private trade.
He said the Argentine officials "are saying that there's the grain trade that operates and handles commodities that come from Argentina and that their (government) procedures do not govern that and they do not intend to do so."
Hjort said the United States consult with other meat exporting nations to try and develop a strategy toward meat exports to Russia.
There were indications the Argentinians would try to increase meat exports if they could not import grain and soybeans to feed their stock.



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\$400 million in Pakistani aid to be asked of Congress

United Press International
WASHINGTON — Worried by the Soviet thrust into Afghanistan, the administration has decided to ask Congress to resume aid to Pakistan and temporarily put aside fears that Pakistan may become the world's seventh nuclear power.
The State Department, however, has warned President Carter that Congress, especially the influential House Foreign Affairs Committee, may not agree with the administration's priorities.
A State Department memo identified Rep. Clement Zablocki, R-Wis., chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee, as one of those who might be expected to oppose the waiver.

Officials said the Pakistanis have been offered a two-year \$400 million aid package, evenly divided between economic assistance and credits with which to buy U.S. weapons of a defensive nature.
In order to put the package through, the State Department said Monday, it will ask Congress for an emergency waiver of the laws that forbid the granting of U.S. assistance to any non-nuclear country building an atomic weapon.
U.S. and British intelligence officials are convinced Pakistan has surreptitiously collected the necessary ingredients for a nuclear weapon, and it is only a matter of time and money before it can explode a device that would match India's atomic bomb.
"Our non-proliferation policy toward Pakistan hasn't changed," said State Department spokesman Holding Carter. "The decision to seek aid for Pakistan is a response to the Soviet invasion. We will continue our effort to dissuade Pakistan and others from building atomic weapons."
"The Soviet Union has created a destabilizing situation where Pakistan, with good reason, can feel threatened. Our response, in the first instance, must deal with that situation."

"Since we don't know whether the Soviets invaded Afghanistan, we can't rule out a second, or third, or fourth operation against other countries."
Reds denounce U.S. sanctions
United Press International
MOSCOW — The Soviet Union charged Tuesday the United States with "gross pressure" against Iran in its plan to exact economic sanctions to free American hostages in Tehran.
The Soviet government's news agency Tass, responding to U.S. criticism of the Soviet veto of a U.N. Security Council resolution against Iran, said the United States is to blame for the continuing detention of the hostages.
"If they think in Washington of the policy of blackmail and threaten a naval blockade against revolutionary Iran, a policy fraught with danger to international peace and security, will help somehow secure the release of the hostages, this is a delusory and dangerous delusion," Tass said.

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Houston Chronicle

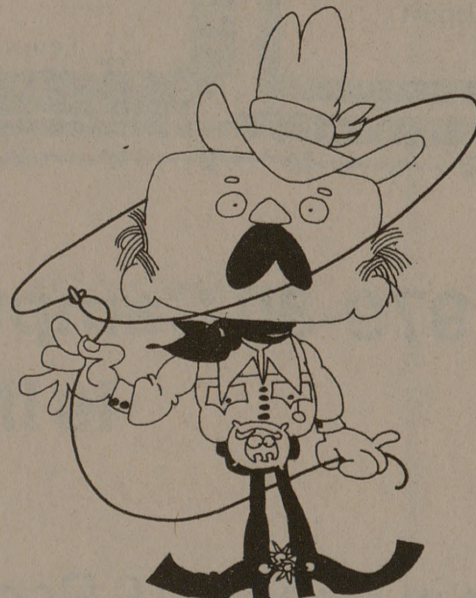


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