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ropean Common Market allies ave rallied behind President Carter's call for action against Iran and given the Tehran regime a blunt ultimatum to free the 50 hostages in the U.S. Embassy by mid-May or face a

near-total economic blockade.

The nine member nations of the European Economic Community anded a two-day meeting Tuesday by threatening to slap full economic anctions on Iran if the hostages are not released by May 17, when the

oreign ministers are scheduled to meet again in Naples.
They also imposed a number of meeting the management of the meeting the management of the management of the meeting the meeting the management of the meeting the mmediate measures including a owngrading of diplomatic relations with Iran, a ban on arms sales and a bea to businesses not to sign new contracts with the Iranians.

Diplomatic sources said the threat ove to scrapt

of an American naval blockade and other military measures to force the release of the hostages was in the

out their response to Carter's appeal.

The immediate punitive measures, however, were largely cosmetic, since the Community already has tages, now in their sixth month of minimal diplomatic relations with Iran and already has banned arms

Responding to accusations that Europe has been slow in backing the United States, British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington said he hoped the measures would be seen in Washington as "evidence of our support" for President Carter.

Carrington said the decision of the EEC countries to prepare trade sanctions in a matter of weeks, and guarantee to implement them if necessary was "hardly weakness." He added, Carter had been "enormously patient," but the ministers realized that "you can't go on being

patient forever.' The ministers decided on full would not be sufficient to cover the automatic sanctions if the Iranians

minds of ministers as they worked out their response to Carter's appeal. have not made "decisive progress" toward releasing the hostages by the

captivity, was "intolerable from a humanitarian and legal point of

The almost one-month period of grace before imposition of sanctions would enable several community members to pass the appropriate legislation through their Parlia-

The nine countries also said they would not purchase any more Iranian oil at above the official price of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, and since Iran has already exceeded that price, the action amounts to a ban on such purch-

Lord Carrington told reporters Britain's reserves of North Sea oil

gap caused by the Iranian crisis.

Iran, U.S.S.R. begin ts first-round trade talks

United Press International TEHRAN, Iran — Iran, slowly being cut off from the Western world for holding the 50 American hostages, said Wednesday it is now holding trade talks with the Soviet

While Iran was apparently taking teps to assure its economic security,

twas racked by bloody violence on university campuses and attacks from Kurdish insurgents.

The word of the negotiations with ing the m Moscow came one day after the nine-

nation European Economic Comnunity announced it would impose a trade embargo against Iran unless the hostages, in their 173rd day of captivity, were freed within a merica's No.

Tehran slapped an oil embargo on Japan, Iran's biggest trading partner, atmidnight Monday after Tokyo told

Dollar falls th a pacera as gold rises

ower on European money ex-hanges Wednesday and the price of fold started \$4.50-\$7 higher an junce on the Zurich and London bullon markets.

t, plans to bullion markets.
rs of the Tarks the dollar lowered on curreny Team, by markets gold moved quietly ahead of the 50 st as small speculative buying propered," a dealer for bullion brokers Mocatta and Goldsmid said.

ned in Zurich \$7 higher # \$509.50 an ounce. In London, old opened at \$510 an ounce, up om Tuesday's close of \$505.50.

The dollar opened in Frankfurt at 8435 marks, down from 1.8595 at close Tuesday, in Paris at 4.2900 ench francs against 4.32375 and in rich at 1.7210 Swiss francs comto \$35. Japan imported about

530,000 barrels a day.

A spokesman for the Iranian Finance Ministry said the government has begun high-level discussions

The protect about tion's university campuses — the most violent clashes since the Islamic revolution toppled the shah.

Wailing relatives of university stuwith a delegation from the Soviet Union on ways of developing inter-

national cooperation in trade. He said the current talks would be followed by a ministerial-level meeting in Moscow.

spokesman said.

The talks coincided with an apparent warning to the EEC nations from Iranian Oil Minister Ali Akbar Moinfar, who said if "certain countries" joined in the U.S. call for sanctions, they would be banned forever from Iranian oil sources.

Besides threatening the trade embargo, the EEC nations announced they would downgrade diplomatic ties with Iran and ban

In addition, they agreed not to buy Iranian oil above the price set by OPEC. Since Iran's oil is now the highest among OPEC countries, this in effect meant the Common Market countries would not be buying any more Iranian oil.

mand for a \$2.50-a-barrel price boost while, called in the national guard to quell spreading fighting on the na-

> dents besieged private and public hospitals for news of those killed or maimed in the fourth day of rioting.

Five people were reported killed and more than 1,000 injured in a clash Tuesday at the University of Gilan, northwest of Tehran, and one The Soviet delegation already has killed and more than 50 injured at met with officials from the ministries the University of Sistan and of economy, energy and oil, the Baluchistan in Zahidan, southeast of Tehran.

In addition, reports from Kurdistan said tension was running high throughout the area since government forces clashed with Kurdish militants.



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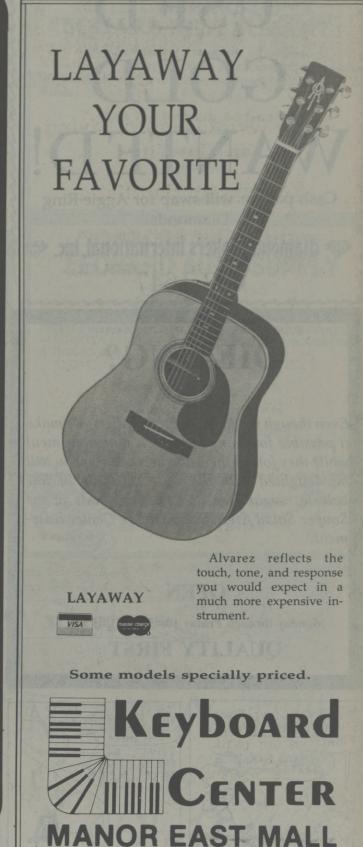
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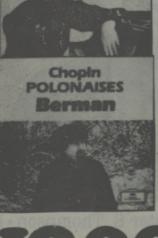
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