

World and Nation

Prize winners aid journalist

Nobel meeting stopped

Associated Press
OSLO, Norway — The co-founders of the doctors' organization that won this year's Nobel Peace Prize joined in emergency treatment to help a Soviet journalist who suffered a heart attack at their news conference Monday.
"You have witnessed a tragic event," Dr. Yevgeny Chazov of the Soviet Union told reporters after more than half an hour of heart massage and other rescue efforts on the floor of a hotel conference room.
He and Dr. Bernard Lown, American co-founder of the International Physicians for Prevention of Nuclear War, are heart specialists.
Officials at Oslo's Rikshospitalet said the journalist, Lev Novikov of Soviet television, was alive and "the

situation is now stable."
Until Novikov collapsed, Chazov and Lown had been fending off aggressive questioning of the Soviet physician on human rights and other issues.
Human rights activists had been demonstrating in Oslo against Chazov. In 1973 Chazov was among 40 Soviet scientists who signed a letter that accused dissident Andrei Sakharov of becoming "a tool of hostile propaganda against the Soviet Union and other socialist countries. Sakharov, winner of the 1975 Nobel Peace Prize, has been banished to the closed city of Gorky since 1980.
The heart attack ended the questioning abruptly. Chazov and Lown threw off their jackets and joined the effort to save Novikov.

They are co-presidents of the physicians' group, as well as its founders, and will receive the Peace Prize on its behalf Tuesday.
The organization claims to represent more than 135,000 doctors in 41 countries.
Earlier, Chazov told a reporter who pressed him about the criticism of Sakharov in 1973: "I did not expect questions addressed to me to start with this topic."
He parried questions about the attack on Sakharov by saying he had been invited to Oslo only "as a representative of our movement."
Nobel Prizes in medicine, chemistry, physics, economics and literature will be awarded Tuesday in Stockholm, Sweden.

Canada's post office answers Santa letters

MONTREAL — Santa Claus got more than half a million letters last year from children all over the world, delivered in care of the Canadian post office.
Santa can expect even more mail this year. But every one of those children — so long as there's a return address — gets a reply from the jolly old elf, with an assist from several thousand Canada Post employees who volunteer as Santa's helpers.
Cheryl Ann wrote from Trinidad, for instance, to say, "I have never written to you before and I'm scared. I've seen pictures of you in your red suit in your sledge drawn by reindeers." She wanted a doll.
"Ho! Ho! Ho! What a pleasant surprise to find your very special letter in the big bundle of mail I received from the post office today," Santa wrote back to Cheryl Ann.
Canada's Santa project began 13 years ago when two postal workers noticed a handful of letters to Santa Claus headed for the dead letter office. They decided to answer them.
Slowly, the program spread nationwide and Canada Post assigned an official address, including a postal code conforming to the Canadian system of alternating letters and numbers, but reminiscent of Santa's laugh.
The address is: Santa Claus, North Pole, Canada, H0H 0H0.

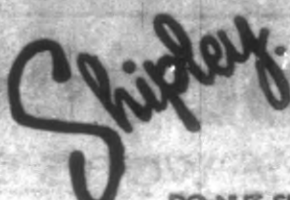
Canadian territory stops some distance short of the pole — but mail from 28 countries as far away as Kenya, Vietnam and Uruguay found its way last year to Santa via Canada.
For the first time this year, all Canadian embassies and consulates around the world were asked to spread the word, so even more foreign mail is expected.
To cope with the crush of mail, standard replies have been printed in French and English, but some letters pose special problems.
Federal government translators help with letters received in Polish, Chinese and, so far, about half a dozen other languages.
The Canadian National Institute for the Blind responds to letters in Braille.
Then there are the sad letters, for which "Ho! Ho! Ho!" would be a tactless response.
"A child might write that he has not seen his father in 10 years, and he doesn't want any presents, he just wants his father," Ghislaine Marsot, manager of the Post Office House in Montreal, said.
Those letters are answered by Dr. Albert Plante, head of psychiatry at Montreal's Sainte-Justine Hospital.
The vast majority of the mail, however, brims with Christmas cheer, expressed in a child's unmistakable style.

Sakharov appears on television

Associated Press
FRANKFURT, West Germany — West German television showed film Monday of Soviet dissident Andrei Sakharov trudging along a street in the closed city of Gorky, carrying two heavy suitcases to a railroad station.
The Hamburg newspaper Bild, which provided the film, said it "obviously" was shot with a hidden camera and was part of a Kremlin campaign to rebut reports that the Sakharov, 64, has been in poor health.
Bild said the sequence with the suitcases was taken by a hidden camera Nov. 26 as Sakharov's wife, Yelena Bonner, was boarding a train that would take her from Gorky to Moscow to begin a trip abroad for medical treatment. Spokesmen for the newspaper would not reveal the source of the 23-minute film beyond saying it was "leaked" to Bild in Moscow.
Mrs. Bonner now is in the United States. Her son-in-law, Efram Yakelevich, said of the Soviet authorities Monday in Newton, Mass.: "The reason they released (the film) was to show us that Sakharov is fine and to counter what Yelena Bonner might have said about his condition. We hope we will be able to learn more about the actual situation after talking to him on the phone, but I'm getting sick and tired of these KGB home movies."
Sakharov was exiled to Gorky five years ago and Mrs. Bonner, 62, was confined to the city early last year. He has been reported to be ill, suffering from the effects of a hunger strike he undertook to pressure Soviet authorities to give his wife an exit visa so she could seek treatment in the West for eye and heart conditions.
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U.N. condemns terrorist acts

Associated Press
UNITED NATIONS — The United Nations closed ranks Monday on one of its most divisive issues and unanimously adopted a landmark resolution condemning all acts of terrorism as criminal.
U.S. Ambassador Vernon Walters hailed the action as "a symbol of new times."
"Every country has felt this in its flesh," Walters told reporters, referring to the recent resurgence of politically motivated hijackings, kidnappings, killings and terrorist bombings.
The resolution was a clear compromise to overcome more than a decade of East-West and North-South wrangling over the definition of terrorism.
Cuba, the sole dissenter when the Assembly's legal committee adopted the resolution 118-1 on Friday, shifted its position and joined the consensus at Monday's plenary meeting.



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