

U.S. Tightens Ban on Sophisticated Technology and Machines for Soviet

By RICHARD HALLORAN Special to The New York Times

New York Times (1857-Current file); Jan 10, 1980; ProQuest Historical Newspapers The New York Times

pg. A18

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WASHINGTON, Jan. 9 — President Carter tightened the partial trade embargo imposed on the Soviet Union today by suspending all exports of sophisticated technology and machinery, effective immediately.

The President's action, disclosed this afternoon by Jody Powell, the White House press secretary, went a step beyond the prohibition of future sales to the Russians that the President announced last Friday. Today's action suspends all existing export licenses and freezes all shipments under current contracts.

Mr. Powell told reporters that the suspension would last four to six weeks, while officials of the Administration review overall policy on exports to the Soviet Union.

But Mr. Powell and Franklin D. Kramer, a Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense who is working on the review, strongly suggested that many of the suspensions would become permanent once the review had been completed, to determine whether the goods could be used for military purposes.

Called Validated Export License

Mr. Kramer said that the action affected a permit, known as a validated export license, and covered technologies involving such items as computers, metallurgical sciences, automobiles, communications and chemicals.

Last year, the United States exported about \$400 million worth of such products and associated technology to the Soviet Union. Mr. Powell contended, however, that the relatively small value of those sales, compared with total American exports, was far less important than the potential consequences for the Soviet Union, which is trying to expand and modernize its productive capacities.

Mr. Powell, in response to questions, said he was unaware of any plans by the Administration to compensate those companies that lost sales, in contrast to the Administration's proposals to soften the impact on the nation's farmers resulting from the President's order to cancel sales of 17 million metric tons of grain.

The critical question in making a cutoff of sophisticated technology work will be the Administration's success in persuading Japan and the industrial nations in Western Europe not to step in to replace the exports forbidden by the United States.

Mr. Powell said that Administration of-

officials had begun to consult with leaders of those nations, but he was less than certain that they would follow the Administration's lead. Despite repeated questions, he would say only that "some positive response" had been received.

He said that the Administration was "encouraging those who share our deep concerns" over the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan not to take advantage of the American embargo. He contended that the United States had gained "credibility" with other nations by suspending sales of grain to the Soviet Union, a lucra-

tive source of income for American farmers.

Mr. Powell further argued, in response to questioning, that the American and Western European economies could easily stand the sacrifice being asked in the embargo. He added that it would be "unfortunate" if other nations declined to participate in the embargo.

Varied Companies Affected

The freeze on shipments of all high technology and strategic goods requiring validated export licenses to the Soviet

Union is likely to affect a variety of companies.

Computer companies, such as the Control Data Corporation and Honeywell Inc., which also sells industrial process control equipment to the Soviet Union, are affected by the order.

A spokesman for Control Data said that "the amount of business affected by the suspension is now being assessed," but noted that the company's business with the Soviet Union represented less than 1 percent of its total revenues.

Then too, such large industrial chemi-

cal exporters as Dow Chemical are affected, as is the Occidental Petroleum Corporation, which currently exports superphosphoric acid to the Soviet Union.

Likely not to be affected, however, is Dresser Industries' \$144 million contract to build an oil drilling bit manufacturing plant in the Soviet Union, since most, if not all, the machinery requiring validated export licenses has already been shipped, said Edward R. Luter, senior vice president of Dresser.