Moscow increases pressure on Lithuania

Moscow is stepping up pressure on Lithuania, Soviet President Mikhail S. Gorbachev said yesterday, demanding an end to the drive to sign up volunteers for a Lithuanian armed forces. Yesterday, a Soviet army convoy rolled through the capital of the independence-minded republic. This came a day after Gorbachev demanded that Lithuanians hand over their weapons.

As the Soviet government shows its displeasure over the republic's independence declaration, the Lithuanian government has called on world leaders to recognize the Kremil.

United States will not lift sanctions

Secretary of State James A. Baker 3d says the United States will not lift sanctions against the South African government until South Africa ends a state of emergency. Baker met with President F. William de Klerk and other leading South African officials today — meetings criticized by Baker was pleased yesterday with the progress of the reform program and credibility it's earned.

Exxon reacts to verdict

Exxon said yesterday that Joseph Hazelwood's acquittal on four of the four charges in connection with the ship's worst oil spill confirmed the Exxon Valdez grounding was an accident. Exxon spokesman said Exxon is pleased that the matter is over for the former skipper and his family.

The company's Pratt, AK, found Hazelwood not guilty on most of the negligence charges — charges that he was drunk and reckless when the tanker wrecked in Prince William Sound. Hazelwood was found guilty of a misleading charge of negligent discharge of oil. That conviction could kill him 90 days in jail and a $50,000 fine — far less than the more than seven-year prison term Hazelwood could have received if found guilty of all four charges.

Idaho passes tough abortion bill

It is now up to Governor Cecil D. Andrus (D) to decide whether he will sign the most restrictive abortion law among the 50 states. Idaho's state senate has approved a bill that would ban nearly all abortions performed there. Andrus has said he will sign the bill, but he is known for a vehement anti-abortion stand.

The measure would make abortion illegal except in cases of non-statutory rape reported within seven days, in the case of a fetus if the victim is younger than 18, severe fetal deformity, or a threat to the mother's life or health.

Eastern reaches temporary agreement

Eastern Airlines announced an interim contract with its pilots yesterday. The pact calls for a 25 percent wage cut and does not include the rehiring of the 100 pilots who walked out last year during the machinists' union strike. The troubled airline also warned that the contract is only temporary and must be renegotiated by July 1 because it only allows the pilots to keep 60 percent of the men showed no fatty deposits in their arteries. The study says infrastructure worsening

A congressional study released yesterday said America's transportation and water systems are bad and getting worse. It warned that postponing repairs on the deteriorating road, water and sewerage network is driving the price tag even higher. The report said that the government has two choices: Either raise taxes to generate the billions of dollars needed for repairs, or eliminate or cut services.

Fat reduction useful, study concludes

Researchers at the University of Southern California say a moderate fat reduction in the diet can reduce the chances of developing new heart disease in men. The study, carried out in Arizona and published in the American Journal of Cardiology, examined more than 80 middle-aged men who had bypass surgery. They had been told to cut their fat intake to 25 percent of their total diet. After two years, more than 60 percent of the men showed no differences in their arteries.

Japanese to buy Southland

The Southland Corporation, which owns 7-11-Elevens, says it agreed to sell a controlling interest to its Japanese partners. The Japanese firms are paying $400 million and assuming Southland's $1.8 billion debt.

Weather

A break from spring

An afternoon storm will cross the area this afternoon bringing an end to our unseasonably mild conditions. The cooler temperatures behind the front will remain in the area for at least the next five days. On Sunday a low pressure center will pass north of New Hampshire threatening to bring snow and/or rain to the local area.

National weather forecast

Here's a look at the conditions expected for various regions in the United States for the period Saturday, March 24 through Tuesday, March 27.

Northeast

Mostly sunny Saturday with high clouds arriving late in the day. Sunday becoming mostly cloudy in southern and central sections with snow (or snow and/or rain in southern coastal locations) arriving. Monday and Tuesday cloudy and cooler. High temperatures averaging in the 30s to mid-40s Saturday, 20s to mid-30s Sunday through Tuesday. Low temperatures in the teens and 20s.

Southeast

Cool in the northern sections, mild in the southern areas. Snow possible in northern sections Saturday and early Sunday. Chances of precipitation continue in all sections through Tuesday. Temperatures averaging from 30s and 40s in northern sections to 50s and 60s in the south.

Midwest

Cloudy and cold Saturday and Sunday. Snow or rain likely Saturday in central sections and areas. Warm Monday, Highs 30s and 40s.

North Central

Cold, High 20s and 30s.

South Central

Frost and mild with temperatures in the 60s and 70s.

Rockies

Mostly sunny Saturday and Sunday with a rain/wind storm in central and southern sections. Friday night through Tuesday. Temperatures in the 50s and 60s north to 70s south.

Saturday city weather


Baltimore, MD: Cloudy with rain or snow possible. High 46°F (8°C). Low 36°F (2°C).

Chicago, IL: Cloudy. High 32°F (0°C). Low 26°F (-3°C).

Dallas, TX: Partly cloudy and mild. High 70°F (21°C). Low 55°F (13°C).


Rockford, IL: Partly cloudy. High 45°F (7°C). Low 27°F (-3°C).


Have a great week!

Forecast by Michael C. Morgan

Compiled by Joan Abbott