

*Perk  
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## Protection Is Asked For U.S. Spy Vessels

WINCHESTER, Va., Sept. 10 (AP) — Rep. John O. Marsh Jr. said last night he has asked Defense Secretary Clark Clifford "what assurances could be given" that Navy vessels on assignments such as that of the captured USS Pueblo "would be given prompt and adequate protection if accosted by a foreign power."

The Seventh District Democratic Congressman said intelligence missions such as those in which the Pueblo was presumed to have engaged when seized by North Korea last year "must be continued in international waters."

"But any naval vessel of the United States is entitled to have within easy reach air and surface support which by all accounts were not available to the Pueblo," Marsh told a meeting of the Reserve Officers Association.

Marsh, campaigning for reelection, said "ominous moves" by the Soviet army into Czechoslovakia and to the borders

of other small communist states have created "a tinderbox situation in Europe."

The Soviet moves plus an explosive situation in the Middle East, sporadic disturbances in Africa and Latin America, and "the ever present threat of new problems in Southeast Asia and the Pacific, perhaps including the Philippines," gives emphasis to "the tautness to which our national strategic reserves have been stretched," Marsh said.

The Congressman lauded the willingness of reserve officers "to continue to serve under conditions of substantial personal and family inconvenience."

Events in Czechoslovakia "point up that Soviet Russia is not reluctant to use raw power," Marsh said. And, he added, one element of this power "which deserves more concern than it has gotten . . . is the dramatic growth of Soviet naval capacity."