

Two Soviet
Vessels in
U.S. Waters

Both a Russian trawler and a supply ship for the Soviet fishing fleet off the coast were granted permission to enter the U.S. three-mile territorial limit the same day a big Polish fishing vessel was seized, the Coast Guard said yesterday.

The trawler — the Opala — was allowed to seek shelter in Drakes Bay from gale-force winds and heavy swells so that her crew could clear tangled fishnets from her propeller.

After the Opala's radioed request was approved by the Coast Guard, she was towed into Drakes Bay by a Soviet tug.

The Coast Guard said the Opala entered U.S. territorial waters off the Point Reyes National Seashore at 4:30 p.m. Saturday.

At 9:30 p.m.—her propeller cleared — she was escorted out of Drakes Bay by the 82-foot Coast Guard cutter Point Heyer.

Earlier the same night the Soviet supply ship Ikhtiolog was granted permission to enter U.S. territorial waters after she radioed she had an injured crewman on board who required hospital care.

At 8:30 p.m., the Soviet ship rendezvoused with a 44-foot patrol craft from the Humboldt Bay Coast Guard Station at the entrance buoy off Eureka, and the crewman was transferred.

He was taken to St. Joseph's Hospital in Eureka for treatment of a fractured hip, and the Ikhtiolog proceeded back to sea.

Foreign fishing vessels may steam past the 12-mile fishing zone if they are not fishing, a Coast man noted, and any foreign vessel may enter the three-mile U.S. territorial limit for a valid reason once permission has been requested and granted.

But Polish factory ship Kalmar was fishing inside the 12-mile fishing zone when the Coast Guard seized her early Saturday off Monterey.

Diplomatic Ties

Hong Kong

North Korea and Burma agreed yesterday to establish diplomatic relations.

Reuters