

WXPost FEB 24 1976  
**Fund Shift  
To Glomar  
Reported**

By Daniel F. Gilmore  
United Press International

Despite official opposition within the Navy, \$550 million in naval research funds were used by the CIA in a 1974 attempt to raise a sunken Soviet nuclear missile submarine from the Pacific Ocean northwest of Hawaii, a maritime magazine has charged.

Sea Technology, an unofficial publication on maritime design and engineering, said in its March issue the money diverted from the Navy programs included funding for vital antisubmarine warfare programs.

Neither the Navy nor the CIA would comment on the story.

An official with extensive knowledge of the project, said, however: "I'm not going to talk about dollars, but it would be silly for me to deny that the Navy was involved in the financing. However, to say that the money came from ASW (antisubmarine warfare) is not entirely accurate.

The costs given by the magazine for the partially successful project were more than 25 per cent higher than previous estimates of about \$400,000. Informed sources confirmed to

United Press International that Navy funds were used, but they refused to discuss the amounts involved.

"An attempt to raise a Russian Golf class submarine in the Pacific northwest of Hawaii, was financed by the U.S. Navy under orders from higher echelons despite official opposition," the magazine charged.

"The Navy opposed it from the beginning as being too expensive, but the CIA went ahead with building the Glomar Explorer under the aegis of Howard Hughes' Summa Corp.," Sea Technology said.

"Then (the Navy) had salt rubbed into its wounds when it was decreed that most of the funding for the project would come from the Navy's research, development, test and evaluation funds (RDT&E). Those funds were nicked to the tune of \$550 million over a period of three years. That helps explain why some of the antisubmarine warfare RDT&E's activities were altered or deferred."

A specially built salvage ship called the Glomar Explorer was used in the recovery attempt, code-named "Operation Jennifer."

The salvaging operation began after Navy underwater detectors monitored an explosion and the sinking of a Soviet diesel-powered submarine in the summer of 1968 about 700 miles northwest of Hawaii.

In the summer of 1974, the Glomar Explorer, nominally a mining ship, began raising the sub from about 16,000 feet of water, but half-way up, the Submarine cracked and only the forward section was recovered.

The effort to raise the Soviet submarine was abandoned when, after a part of the sub was raised, news leaks destroyed the secrecy of the project.