

U.S. TOURIST, 27, SEIZED BY SOVIET

He Vanishes Near Border on Northern Norway Visit

KIRKENES, Norway, Sept. 8 (UPI)—Soviet border police men have arrested a 27-year-old American who left his hotel here on a sightseeing trip last Saturday, the chief of police of this northern Norwegian town said tonight.

The American, Newcomb Mott of Sheffield, Mass., works for the Van Nostrand Book Company of Princeton, N. J. His whereabouts had been unknown since Saturday.

Kirkenes is about 10 miles from the Soviet border above the Arctic Circle.

The Kirkenes police chief said that Norwegian border officials had information from Soviet police confirming Mr. Mott's arrest on the Soviet side of the frontier.

Father Is Hopeful

SHEFFIELD, Mass., Sept. 8 (UPI)—Howard S. Mott, a Sheffield book dealer, said today, when notified of his son's disappearance in Norway: "If he's in the hands of the Russians, I hope he'll be returned safely. I hope they don't shoot."

After talking with officials in the State Department, he said he was told there was "not too much to worry about." The officials said that a small border town in the area was recently opened to tourists and they speculated that his son had gone there, Mr. Mott said.

The younger Mr. Mott was born in White Plains, N. Y., and is a graduate of Antioch College, Yellow Springs, Ohio. His mother and father had planned to leave for Europe next week to meet their son in London.

Embassy Presses Russia

MOSCOW, Sept. 8 (UPI)—The United States Embassy pressed the Soviet Government today for information about Mr. Mott, but a spokesman said, "We have no word yet." He said that under current Soviet-American consular arrangements the Russians are under no obligation to tell the Americans of the detention of a United States citizen or answer Embassy questions.

Worked as Book Salesman

Edward M. Crane, president of the Van Nostrand Book Company, said yesterday in Princeton that Mr. Mott had been employed by the company for about two and a half years as a textbook representative who visited college campuses. He said that Mr. Mott was on a vacation at the time of his ar-

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