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Soviets Show TV Interview With American

MOSCOW (AP) — Soviet television broadcast an interview last night with a man identified as Robert Lee, an American citizen Soviet media last month reported was arrested in Afghanistan for "instigation of anti-government actions."

Slurring his words and speaking haltingly, the man said it had become clear to him that a Moslem rebellion against the pro-Soviet Afghan regime resulted from "imperialistic interference in the internal affairs of the struggling progressive state of Afghanistan."

The broadcast made no mention of any criminal charges brought against Lee. Aired on the nightly news program "Vremya" (Time) the report said only that Afghan authorities gave "our correspondent the opportunity to interview Lee," apparently in the Afghan capital of Kabul.

State Department spokesman David Nall said in Washington that a man identified as Lee had appeared on Afghan television several days before and made similar comments.

"We don't know who he is," Nall said. "We haven't had a chance to talk to him, although we have asked the appropriate Afghan authorities about him."

In answer to questions in English by Soviet interviewer Leonid Zolotovskiy, the man identified as Lee said:

"You see that Afghanistan is another evidence of what we witnessed 20 years ago when the Cuban people defended their freedom, and then there was Vietnam."

The man called Lee was blond, had a thin face and was dressed in a dark sweater, black raincoat and brown trousers. His eyes were covered by a large pair of tinted glasses.