

The following is a list of shell hits, both holes and direct hits that did not penetrate ship.

Below MAIN DECK	Port	36
	Starb	171

MAIN DECK	Port	68
	Starb	160

01 Level Deck House	91
---------------------	----

01 Level Fwd + Aft	52
--------------------	----

FORECASTLE	26
------------	----

02 Level Deck House	53
---------------------	----

03 Level (Bridge) and 04 Level	164
--------------------------------	-----

(This includes stack and
machinery casing area)

821

Starb. side below MAIN DECK	(EX 33)
-----------------------------	---------

Torp. Hit EXHIBIT 33 to LIBERTY COURT
IN QV

CONFIDENTIAL (WHEN FILLED IN)

NAVAL MESSAGE

RELEASED BY

J. R. Raish

DRAFTED BY

CAPT L. R. RAISH

PRECEDENCE

FLASH

IMMED

PRIORITY

ROUTINE

AIR MAIL

ACTION

PPP

INFO

14 JUN 67

T-1

PHONE EXT. NO. 250

FROM:

CINCUSNAVEUR

TO:

NAVCOMMSTA PHILIPPINES

INFO:

CONFIDENTIAL

USS LIBERTY COMMUNICATIONS

1. FOLLOWING QUESTIONS FORWARDED ON BEHALF OF COURT OF INQUIRY NOW IN SESSION:

A. DID YOU RECEIVE JCS 072230Z JUN AND JCS 080110Z JUN FOR RELAY?

IF ANSWER TO 1 IS YES:

B. FROM WHOM AND AT WHAT TIME DID YOU RECEIVE THEM? TO WHOM DID YOU RELAY THEM AND AT WHAT TIME?

2. SUBMIT REPLY ASAP BY PRIORITY MESSAGE. GP-4.

N5		FOR COMMUNICATION
N5A/M		USE ONLY
N5B	NE 1	TAPE
N51	N51B	CUTTER
N52		PROOF
N53		READER
N54	N552	CCWPO
N55	N553	OWO
N551		
DISPOSAL CODE		
FILE		

DECLASSIFIED

Classification (cancelled) changed to
) by authority of OPNAV memo Ser 091 D32/T31
 on 29 Jun 76. *DR Spain*
 (Date) (Signature) JAG Sec Cont (Rank)
 OFFICE OF THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL OF THE NAVY
 21 Jun 76

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(PAGE 1 OF 1)

ORIGINATOR SECTION	XXXXX X													X			
NS	0	0	0	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	C	S	D
ACTION DEPARTMENT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	A	A	NCU
NS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	I	D	LONDON
	1	2	3	B	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0			

CON	
TOR	
SSN	1196
SGN	AB

DTG 141631 JUN 6

CONFIDENTIAL (WHEN FILLED IN)

NAVEUR NCU LON 2100/2 (REV 10-65)

EX 141917 34 TO LIBERTY COURT OF INQUIRY

TYPE WITHIN MARGIN ONLY

CONFIDENTIAL

F. HOW DOES THE MESSAGE TRAFFIC HANDLED BY NAVCOMMSTA GREECE FOR THE WEEK 3-9 JUN 67 INCLUSIVE COMPARE WITH THE PREVIOUS WEEK (I.E., 29 MAY - 2 JUN INCLUSIVE) AS REGARDS VOLUME AND PRECEDENCES USED? HOW DOES IT COMPARE TO A REPRESENTATIVE WEEK, SAY IN FEB 67?

G. WHAT IS THE PERSONNEL ALLOWANCE OF NAVCOMMSTA GREECE? HOW MANY DO YOU HAVE ON BOARD?

H. WHAT IN GENERAL IS THE LEADERSHIP AND EXPERIENCE LEVEL OF PERSONNEL ENGAGED IN MESSAGE HANDLING OPERATIONS?

I. SUMMARIZE IN NARRATIVE STYLE COMMUNICATIONS PROVIDED AND ACTIONS OF NAVCOMMSTA GREECE INCIDENT TO AND FOLLOWING THE ATTACK ON USS LIBERTY.

2. SUBMIT REPLIES ASAP BY PRIORITY MESSAGE. GP-4.

DECLASSIFIED

Classification (cancelled) (Charged to
by authority of *OPNAV memo Sec 009 D32/T31*
B-e *29 Jun 76* *21 Jun 76*
(Date) Signature (Mark)
OFFICE OF THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL OF THE NAVY

8-6
141629/JUN 67

PAGE TWO OF TWO

CONFIDENTIAL

NAVEUR NCU LON 2100/22 (9-65)

(Handwritten scribble)

(Handwritten circled number 266)

NNNNVV KXC080 BBM698

PP RUQKRQ

DE RUQKC 4337 1660731

ZNY CCCCC

P 150731Z JUN 67

FM NAVCOMMSTA GREECE

TO RUQKRQ/CINCUSNAVEUR

BT

C O N F I D E N T I A L

USS LIBERTY COMMUNICATIONS

A. YOUR 141629Z JUN 67

1. IAW REF A FOLLOWING INFO FORWARDED. SUB-PARAGRAPHS REFERRED TO REFERENCE.

A. COMSIXTHFLT 080917Z RECEIVED FROM MAJRELSTA ASMARA (AEZ) AT 081238Z.

B. NAVCOMMSTA GREECE WAS INADVERTANT RELAY POINT. NORMAL DELIVERY PATH FROM ORIGINATOR TO ADDEE WOULD HAVE BY-PASSED THISTA. ONCE RECEIVED, HOWEVER, NAVCOMMSTA GREECE HAD TO PROTECT FOR RUQPNA NAVCOMMSTA ASMARA. THIS WAS THE ONLY ADDEE IN THE ROUTING LINE WHEN RECEIVED THISTA.

C. HANDLED AS ANY OBOE MSG ALONG WITH OTHERS OF EQUAL AND HIGHER PRECEDENCE. DCS RELAY HANDLED 251 FLASH MSGS ON 08 JUN RADAY. OBOE TRAFFIC COUNT SUBSTANTIALLY HIGHER, ESTIMATE 1500. EXACT COUNT WOULD REQUIRE SEVERAL DAYS EFFORT. TOTAL TRAFFIC HANDLED IN THIS TORN TAPE

PAGE TWO RUQKC 4337 C O N F I D E N T I A L
RELAY ON 08 JUNE WAS 5718 MSGS.

D. NO PERSONNEL RECOGNITION OR SPECIAL ACTION REQUIRED ON THE PARTICULAR MSG AS IT CARRIED A VALID ROUTING. MULTIPLE ADDRESS P PROCESSING UNIT (MAPU) AUTOMATICALLY RE-ROUTED MSG BACK TO MAJRELSTA ASMARA (AEZ) SEND POSITIONS. MAPU IS A MEMORY CORE DEVICE PROGRAMMED WITH PRE-DETERMINED ROUTING INDICATORS. ALL RUQP TRAFFIC, REGARDLESS OF RECEIVE ORIGIN, WILL BE DIRECTED TO THE AEZ SEND POSITIONS BY THIS DEVICE.

E. DUE TO EXTREMELY HEAVY TRAFFIC CONDITIONS, IT IS DOUBTFUL THAT THE MISSENT (NOT MISROUTED) MSG WAS EVER CONSIDERED FOR RE-ROUTE ACTION. THISTA HANDLES MANY OBOE MSGS TO NAVCOMMSTA ASMARA WITHOUT REQUIREMENT TO PASS VIA DIRECT CIRCUITRY. DIRECT CIRCUITRY CARRIES A DIFFERENT ROUTING THAN DCS COMMON USER CIRCUITRY AND DELIVERY MEANS

N5	
NSA/M	
N5B	
N51	N51A
N52	N51B
N53	
N54	
N55	N552
N531	N553
D SPECIAL CODE	(classification) (cancelled) (changed to)
FILE	

DECLASSIFIED

on 29 Jun 76 by authority of OPNAV memo Ser 009103/731
JAG Sec Cont
(Date) (Signature) (Rank)
8 21 Jun 76

EVALUATE 37 THE LIBERTY COURT OF INQUIRY

ORIGINATOR SECTION	XXXXX													X
ACTION DEPARTMENT	CINCUSNAVEUR													
	00121234567	CITE	S	D	O									
	001238	011234567	A	I	I	A	D	O	NCU	L	O	N	O	N

(PAGE 1 OF 2)	
CON	
TOR	15/0839
SSN	
SGN	

DTG 150731Z JUN 67

CONFIDENTIAL
(WHEN FILLED IN)

EX 37

361

IS DETERMINED BY THE ORIGINATOR, NOT THE RELAY STATION. RE-ROUTE ACTION DIRECT TO NAVCOMMSTA ASMARA WOULD HAVE ENTAILED CUTTING A NEW PILOT ON THE MSG BY HAND, THEN PASSING TO A COMPLETELY SEPARATE RELAY (NAVCOMMOPNET) AT THISTA FOR DELIVERY VIA DIRECT CIRCUITRY. CONSIDER NEGATIVE RECOUP OF LOST TIME BY THIS METHOD.

F. TRAFFIC VOLUMES 29 MAY-2 JUN WERE APPROX THREE-FOURTHS AS HEAVY AS PERIOD 3-9 JUN. PRECEDENCES 29 MAY-2 JUN MUCH LOWER. VERY

PAGE THREE RUQKC 4337 C O N F I D E N T I A L
LITTLE FLASH AND OBOE TRAFFIC PASSED. VOLUMES FEB VERSUS JUNE LESS THAN TWO-THIRDS AS HIGH. NO HIGH PRECEDENCE TRAFFIC OF CONSEQUENCE IN FEB. DIRECT COMPARISON FIGURES CAN BE FURNISHED BUT WILL REQUIRE TIME FOR COMPILATION.

G. TOTAL PERSONNEL ALLOWANCE FOR NAVCOMMSTA GREECE IS 299. ON BOARD COUNT IS 292. RM/CYN COMMUNICATIONS PERSONNEL ALLOWANCE IS 175. ON BOARD 139. THESE ALLOWANCE FIGURES ARE FOR BOTH RECEIVER AND TRANSMITTER SITES. CONTROL/TRAFFIC PERSONNEL HAVE BEEN IN A THREE SECTION WATCH STATUS FOR THE PAST 14 MONTHS.

H. LEADERSHIP AND EXPERIENCE LEVEL CONSIDERED MARGINAL BUT NOTHING LACKING IN ENERGY AND ENTHUSIASM. EXAMPLE: 54 RM2 ALLOWED, 27 ON BOARD; 12 RMSN ALLOWED, 25 ON BOARD.

I. AT 081234Z JUN NAVCOMMSTA GREECE INTERCEPTED INITIAL LIBERTY ATTACK REPORT FROM THE USS SARATOGA ON THE CINCUSNAVEUR E04.04 VOICE HI-COMM NET. THIS WAS PUT IN TTY FORMAT AND RELAYED VIA NAVCOMMOPNET AND XRA BCST AS A NO DTG MSG, NAVCOMMSTA GREECE TIME OF FILE 1239Z/8 JUN. SUBSEQUENT TO THE INITIAL REPORT, SARATOGA AND NAVCOMMSTA GREECE PASSED ALL AMPLIFYI

O INFO OBTAINED VIA XRA BCST, HI-COMM NET, AND DIRECT TTY CIRCUITRY. DUE LIBERTY DESTRUCTION OF CLASSIFIED MATERIAL ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO/FROM SHIP WAS LIMITED

FINAL PAGE of 2 150731Z Jun 67

PAGE FOUR RUQKC 4337 C O N F I D E N T I A L
TO VOICE TRANSMISSIONS. AFTER INITIAL ATTACK REPORT THISTA SHIFTED TO BEAMED ANTENNAS SEND/RECEIVE TO IMPROVE SIGNAL QUALITY UNDER EXTREMELY NOISY CKT CONDITIONS. RELIABLE COMM WITH SARATOGA AND LIBERTY WERE MAINTAINED BY THIS ACTION ALTHOUGH CIRCUIT DEGRADATION OCCURED TO OTHER STATIONS ON THE NET. NAVCOMMSTA GREECE ASSUMED RELAY RESPONSIBILITIES FOR LIBERTY AND COORDINATED SPEED, COURSE, AND ESCORT RDVU INSTRUCTIONS FROM COMSIXTHFLT. COMDESRON 12, ASSIGNED AS ESCORT, TERMINATED FULL PERIOD ORESTES THISTA AT 0030Z/9 JUN AND RDVU AFFECTED 0424Z/9 JUN. COMDESRON 12 ASSUMED COMM GUARD FOR LIBERTY AND MAJORITY OF TRAFFIC PASSED AFTER RDVU WAS VIA DIRECT SHIP/SHORE TERMINATION.

2. COMDESRON 12 REMAINS TERMINATED NAVCOMMSTA GREECE INTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

GP-4
BT

Classification (cancelled) (Changed to

OPNAV Memo

Sec 009 032/T31

B-4

DECLASSIFIED

(Date) *29 Jun 76* (Signature) *[Signature]* (Rank)

OFFICE OF THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL OF THE NAVY

367

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REL: <i>8-6</i>	DRAFTED BY CAPT B-6	PRECEDENCE	FLASH	IMMED	PRIORITY	ROUTINE	AIR MAIL
14 JUN 67	T-1	PHONE EXT. NO. 250	ACTION		PPP		
			INFO				

FROM: **CINCUSNAVEUR**
 TO: **NAVCOMMSTA MOROCCO**
 INFO: **CONFIDENTIAL**

DECLASSIFIED

Classification (cancelled) (changed to *Secret*) by authority of *OPNAV Memo Ser 0091034* on *29 Jun 76* *B-6* T31 *24 Jun 76*

N5		FDR COMMUNICATION USE ONLY
N5A/M		
N5B		TAPE CUTTER
N51		PROOF READER
N52		CCWPO
N53		GWO
N54		
N55		
N551		
DISPOSAL CODE		
FILE		

OFFICE OF THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL OF THE NAVY

- FOLLOWING QUESTIONS FORWARDED ON BEHALF OF COURT OF INQUIRY NOW IN SESSION:
 - AT WHAT TIME DID YOU RECEIVE JCS 072230Z, JCS 080110Z, AND COMSIXTHFLT 080917Z ALL JUNE AND FROM WHOM?
 - FOR WHOM WAS NAVCOMMSTA MOROCCO ASSIGNED TO PROTECT ON THESE MESSAGES? HOW AND WHEN DID YOU DELIVER THEM?
 - DID YOU RECEIVE THESE MESSAGES FOR DELIVERY TO USS LIBERTY? IF SO, AT WHAT TIME AND FROM WHOM?
 - WHAT WAS THE GENERAL COMMUNICATION LOAD FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN AREA DURING THE WEEK OF 4 JUNE? HOW DOES THIS COMPARE TO AN AVERAGE WEEK OF, SAY, FEB 1967?
 - WHAT IS YOUR WATCH SITUATION? IF ANSWER IS LESS THAN 1 IN 4, HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN AT THIS TEMPO?
- SUBMIT REPLIES ASAP BY PRIORITY MESSAGE. *GP-4 (PAGE) OF 1*

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ORIGINATOR SECTION N5	X	X	X	X	X									K
ACTION DEPARTMENT N5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	CITE S D O
	1	2	3	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	A D O
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	NCU LONDON

2100.1
RB

CON	
TOR	
SSN	<i>1193</i>
SGN	<i>B</i>

DTG *141628* *2 JUN 67*

CONFIDENTIAL
(WHEN FILLED IN)

EX 38

(363)

NAVCOMMSTA MOROCCO COURT OF INQUIRY

CONFIDENTIAL (WHEN FILLED IN)

NAVAL MESSAGE

RELEASED BY	DRAFTED BY CAPT <i>B-4</i>	PRECEDENCE	FLASH	IMMED	PRIORITY	ROUTINE	AIR MAIL
14 JUN 67	T-1	PHONE EXT. NO. 250	ACTION		PPP		
			INFO		PPP		

FROM: CINCUSNAVEUR
 TO: USASTRATCOMFAC ASMARA
 INFO: CG USASTRATCOM-EUR

N5	FOR COMMUNICATION USE ONLY
NSA/M	
NS1	TAPE CUTTER
NS2	PROOF READER
NS3	
NS4	CCWPO
NS5	CWO
NS51	NS53
D.SPOSAL COPY	
FILE	

CONFIDENTIAL
 USS LIBERTY COMMUNICATIONS (G)

1. ON BEHALF OF AND TO ASSIST NAVY COURT OF INQUIRY NOW IN SESSION PLEASE FURNISH ANSWERS TO FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

A. AT WHAT TIME WAS COMSIXTHFLT 080917Z JUN RECEIVED AT YOUR STATION FOR RELAY TO NAVCOMMSTA ASMARA? AND FROM WHOM?

B. WAS YOUR STATION HANDLING AN ABNORMALLY LARGE AMOUNT OF HIGH PRECEDENCE MESSAGE TRAFFIC ON 8 JUNE 67? IF SO, STATE ROUGHLY THE PERCENTAGE INCREASE OVER A ROUTINE DAY.

C. AT WHAT TIME DID YOUR STATION RELAY COMSIXTHFLT 080917Z JUN 67 TO NAVCOMMSTA GREECE? AT WHAT TIME DID YOU RECEIVE IT BACK FROM NAVCOMMSTA GREECE? AT WHAT TIME DID YOU RELAY IT TO NAVCOMMSTA ASMARA?

DECLASSIFIED

Classification (cancelled) (changed to) by authority of OPNAVINSR 809032/FA on 29 Jan 76
 Signature: [Signature] (Rank) [Rank]
 (Date) 8 Jun 76
 OFFICE OF THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL OF THE NAVY

ORIGINATOR SECTION NS	X	X	X	X	X													X
ACTION DEPARTMENT NS	0	0	0	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	C	S	D					O
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	A	A					O
	1	2	3	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	4	O					O
				B														

(PAGE 1 OF 2)

CON			
TOR			
SSN	1192		
SGN			RB

DTG 141627 2 JUN 67

CONFIDENTIAL (WHEN FILLED IN)

CONFIDENTIAL

365

CONFIDENTIAL

2. REQUEST REPLY ASAP BY PRIORITY MESSAGE. COMMENTS
IN ADDITION TO ABOVE QUESTIONS INVITED. GP-4.

PAGE TWO OF TWO

CONFIDENTIAL

SSN 1192
141627/JUN 67

NAVEUR NCU LON 2100/22 (9-65)

Classification (cancelled) (Changed to
authority of OPNAV Memo Ser

DECLASSIFIED

on

8-2

29 Jun 76

609 D32/T31

21 Jun 76



3606

16 June 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR RADM B-6

1. Enclosed are communication message handling figures for selected Naval Communication Stations in the European area during the period 1 June - 12 June 1967. For comparison purposes a compilation has been made for a similar period in February 1967.
2. The attached information was assembled at the request of the JCS Fact Finding Group headed by MGEN RUSS. It is forwarded to you as a matter of interest.

Very respectfully,

B-6
Assistant Chief of Staff,
Communications

44

EXHIBIT 44 TO LIBERTY
COURT OF INQUIRY

EX 44

360

Naval Communication Station Greece

I. Messages Handled

1 Feb	5,901	1 Jun	10,178
2 Feb	6,775	2 Jun	10,702
3 Feb	6,240	3 Jun	10,119
4 Feb	5,506	4 Jun	8,113
5 Feb	3,892	5 Jun	8,414
6 Feb	5,160	6 Jun	9,906
7 Feb	5,941	7 Jun	9,750
8 Feb	6,521	8 Jun	10,074
9 Feb	6,539	9 Jun	9,959
10 Feb	6,935	10 Jun	10,499
11 Feb	5,293	11 Jun	8,073
12 Feb	4,419	12 Jun	7,838

Total 69,122

Total 113,822

II. Flash Messages Handled

5 Jun	96
6 Jun	206
7 Jun	114
8 Jun	251
9 Jun	182
10 Jun	341

Total 1,190

III. Service Messages Handled

5 Jun	134
6 Jun	218
7 Jun	162
8 Jun	181
9 Jun	181
10 Jun	179

Total 1,055



Naval Communication Station Morocco

I. Messages Handled

1 Feb	7,596
2 Feb	7,663
3 Feb	8,083
4 Feb	7,870
5 Feb	6,283
6 Feb	6,943
7 Feb	7,361
8 Feb	8,153
9 Feb	8,058
10 Feb	8,355
11 Feb	7,393
12 Feb	<u>5,205</u>

Total 87,963

1 Jun	11,317
2 Jun	10,871
3 Jun	9,991
4 Jun	8,049
5 Jun	8,794
6 Jun	9,636
7 Jun	9,512
8 Jun	11,195
9 Jun	9,878
10 Jun	9,192
11 Jun	7,722
12 Jun	<u>8,771</u>

Total 114,928

II. Flash Messages Handled

5 Jun	23
6 Jun	16
7 Jun	25
8 Jun	124
9 Jun	12
10 Jun	<u>3</u>

Total 203

III. Service Messages Handled

5 Jun	109
6 Jun	107
7 Jun	133
8 Jun	258
9 Jun	52
10 Jun	<u>90</u>

Total 749



Naval Communication Station Spain

I. Messages Handled

1 Feb	6,873
2 Feb	7,182
3 Feb	7,639
4 Feb	6,645
5 Feb	4,467
6 Feb	5,906
7 Feb	6,620
8 Feb	7,351
9 Feb	7,796
10 Feb	7,716
11 Feb	6,909
12 Feb	<u>4,999</u>

1 Jun	9,023
2 Jun	9,418
3 Jun	8,184
4 Jun	5,990
5 Jun	7,224
6 Jun	7,073
7 Jun	7,191
8 Jun	8,409
9 Jun	7,342
10 Jun	6,768
11 Jun	5,835
12 Jun	<u>6,561</u>

Total 80,103

Total 89,068

II. Flash Messages Handled

5 Jun	37
6 Jun	29
7 Jun	31
8 Jun	95
9 Jun	13
10 Jun	<u>18</u>

Total 223

III. Service Messages Handled

5 Jun	163
6 Jun	155
7 Jun	119
8 Jun	89
9 Jun	73
10 Jun	<u>93</u>

Total 692

372

378

Naval Communication Unit London

I. Messages Handled

1 Feb	968	1 Jun	1,538
2 Feb	927	2 Jun	1,705
3 Feb	969	3 Jun	1,278
4 Feb	872	4 Jun	909
5 Feb	846	5 Jun	1,406
6 Feb	842	6 Jun	1,717
7 Feb	695	7 Jun	1,648
8 Feb	704	8 Jun	1,775
9 Feb	818	9 Jun	1,589
10 Feb	858	10 Jun	1,362
11 Feb	914	11 Jun	1,030
12 Feb	<u>954</u>	12 Jun	<u>1,268</u>
Total	10367	Total	17,245

II. Flash Messages Handled

5 Jun	2
6 Jun	2
7 Jun	20
8 Jun	17
9 Jun	8
10 Jun	<u>28</u>
Total	77

III. Service Messages Handled

5 Jun	153
6 Jun	148
7 Jun	176
8 Jun	292
9 Jun	201
10 Jun	<u>244</u>
Total	1,214

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Naval Communication Station Azores

1. Messages Handled

1 Feb	1,019	1 Jun	1,558
2 Feb	1,283	2 Jun	1,891
3 Feb	1,229	3 Jun	1,696
4 Feb	1,054	4 Jun	1,652
5 Feb	974	5 Jun	1,570
6 Feb	828	6 Jun	1,575
7 Feb	1,039	7 Jun	1,579
8 Feb	1,094	8 Jun	2,228
9 Feb	955	9 Jun	1,827
10 Feb	880	10 Jun	1,430
11 Feb	772	11 Jun	1,394
12 Feb	925	12 Jun	1,275
Total	12,002	Total	19,695

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378

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DEFINITIONS OF MESSAGE PRECEDENCE FROM ACP 121 US SUPP-1(C)

CATEGORY: ROUTINE

PRECEDENCE PROSIGN: R

DEFINITIONS, USE AND EXAMPLES

ROUTINE is the precedence to be used for all types of messages which justify transmission by rapid means unless of sufficient urgency to require a higher precedence.

Examples:

- (1) Messages concerning normal peacetime military operations, programs and projects.
- (2) Messages concerning stabilized tactical operations.
- (3) Operational Plans concerning Projected operations.
- (4) Periodic or consolidated intelligence reports.
- (5) Troop movement messages, except when time factors dictate use of a higher precedence.
- (6) Supply and equipment requisition and movement messages, except when time factors dictate use of a higher precedence.
- (7) Administrative, logistic and personnel matters.

CATEGORY: PRIORITY

PRECEDENCE PROSIGN: P

DEFINITIONS, USE AND EXAMPLES

PRIORITY is the precedence reserved for messages which require expeditious action by the addressee(s) and/or furnish essential information for the conduct of operations in progress when ROUTINE precedence will not suffice.

Examples:

- (1) Situation reports on position of front where attack is impending or where fire or air support will soon be placed.
- (2) Orders to aircraft formations or units to coincide with ground or naval operations
- (3) Messages concerning immediate movement of naval, air, and ground forces.

EX 46 TO LIBERTY COURT OF INQUIRY 46

FF1-3
N62
12 June 1967

MEMORANDUM

From: Contingency Watch Team
To: CINCUSNAVEUR
Via: Deputy Chief of Staff

Subj: USS LIBERTY Incident

1. The following is a reconstruction of the sequence of events prior to and after receipt of JCS 080110Z by the Contingency Watch Team composed by Captain R.D. STEELE (Duty Captain), Commander G.D. JORGENSEN (Command Center Duty Officer), and Lieutenant E.L. GALAVOTTI (N3 Duty Officer) for the period of 2230Z, 7 June to 0630Z, 8 June.

TIMES EVENTS

072350Z Major BREELOVE, JRC WASHDC, called the CINCUSNAVEUR Command Center on the VCOM and asked to speak to the Operations Duty Officer. LT GALAVOTTI, the N3 Duty Officer, took the call. Major BREELOVE gave him a verbal directive to have the USS LIBERTY comply with the latest COMSIXTHFLT operating area restrictions as delineated in the last sentence, paragraph 2, of COMSIXTHFLT message 071503Z until further notice; that is, not to operate closer than 100 nautical miles to Israel, Syria, UAR, or closer than 25 nautical miles to Cyprus. Major BREELOVE, when questioned, did not have a message date/time group, but said a message would follow later.

LT GALAVOTTI then informed the Duty Captain, CAPT STEELE. The Command Center Duty Officer was aware of the message, and that LT GALAVOTTI, under CAPT STEELE's direction, was originating a message to COMSIXTHFLT.

080001Z LT GALAVOTTI and CAPT STEELE were ready with their message to COMSIXTHFLT.

080010Z CDR JORGENSEN and CAPT STEELE advised CAPT HANLEY of the call from Major BREELOVE, and of the message which had been drafted for release to COMSIXTHFLT.

CAPT HANLEY directed us to hold up release of the message. He was concerned because JRC came direct to CINCUSNAVEUR with only a verbal directive and without a date/time group

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EX 47 TO LIBERTY COURT OF INQUIRY
FOR [REDACTED] ONLY

~~SECRET~~

of a message and had by passed USCINCEUR. He wanted something more concrete than just a phone call since we had been burned in the past when a phone call directive was not backed up with a message. CAPT HANLEY directed the Command Center Duty Officer to call USCINCEUR, advise them of the phone call from Major BREELOVE, and that we were ready to comply, and requested that USCINCEUR confirm this directive with JRC and get us a date/time group. CAPT HANLEY further stated that we were to release our message to COMSIXTHFLT if we received the date/time group from USCINCEUR.

080030Z

The Command Center Duty Officer, as directed, called USCINCEUR and advised LCOL WAGNER of the call from Major BREELOVE. The above information from CAPT HANLEY was passed. LCOL WAGNER said he would call back.

080325Z

The Command Duty Officer called USCINCEUR, LCOL RUSSELL, and asked what action had been taken on the USS LIBERTY. LCOL RUSSELL asked what action CINCUSNAVEUR had taken and was advised that we were still waiting for a call back from LCOL WAGNER. The Command Duty Officer then suggested that LCOL RUSSELL call Major BREELOVE, get a date/time group, or give us a directive (date/time group) from USCINCEUR.

LCOL RUSSELL called back shortly with JCS date/time group 080110Z. As he was relaying this information the Duty Yeoman handed the JCS 080110Z message, which had just been received, to CRD JORGENSEN.

The Command Center Duty Officer then had Communications set up a Telecon to COMSIXTHFLT so that he could talk to COMSIXTHFLT's staff duty officer.

080355Z

Considerable delay was caused by atmospheric difficulties. After being unable to establish a Telecon circuit CDR JORGENSEN had the radio operator contact COMSIXTHFLT by SSB and request a Telecon with the Staff Duty Officer as soon as possible.

080410Z

Two way Telecon was established, with COMSIXTHFLT still having difficulty receiving CINCUSNAVEUR. CDR SLUSSER, COMSIXTHFLT Staff Duty Officer, informed CDR JORGENSEN they did not hold JCS 080110Z. CDR JORGENSEN passed it

DECLASSIFIED 580

to him three times before receiving an acknowledgement at 0840Z. He followed this immediately with a wirenote "FROM CINCUSNAVEUR COMMAND DUTY OFFICER TO COMSIXTHFLT DUTY OFFICER BE ADVISED TAKE JCS 080110Z FORAC. OFFICIAL MESSAGE FOLLOWS."

CDR SLUSSER advised CDR JORGENSEN didn't hold JCS 7337/072230Z (Reference A to JCS 080110Z) and requested a copy. Since CINCUSNAVEUR did not hold JCS 072230Z CDR SLUSSER was advised that we would call USCINCEUR for it.

080507Z CDR SLUSSER was advised that CINCUSNAVEUR FORAC message was 080455Z.

080515Z After talking to LCOL RUSSELL at USCINCEUR, CDR JORGENSEN sent the following message to CDR SLUSSER "RECEIVED FROM USCINCEUR FOR YOUR INFO JCS 072230Z WAS GENERAL GUIDE LINES CONCERNING "USS LIBERTY" OP AREA WITH DISTANCE RESTRICTIONS FROM MID EAST COUNTRIES. HAS SINCE BEEN OVERTAKEN BY EVENTS AND THUS CANCELLED. THE RESTRICTIONS IN JCS 080110Z ARE MORE STRINGENT."

080521Z Received receipt for above.

2. The times and events listed in paragraph 1 indicate every action the watch team took within its authority to insure that the USS LIBERTY received the new operating restrictions as expeditiously as possible.

3. This statement is submitted after a careful review of all logs kept by each individual watch team member and constitutes the events as they took place.

R.D. Steele
CAPT R.D. STEELE, USN

G.D. Jorgensen
CDR G.D. JORGENSEN, USN

F.L. Galavotti
LT F.L. GALAVOTTI,

FOR [REDACTED] USE ONLY

2-11

3

BT

CONFIDENTIAL

SECTION I OF II.

SUBJECT: ISRAELI COURT OF INQUIRY IN USS LIBERTY INCIDENT.

1. ALUSNA CALLED TO FLO EVENING 17 JUNE. LTC EFRAT, AIDE TO GENERAL RABIN, IDF COS STATED FOLLOWING:

A. GENL RABIN EXTENDS HIS PERSONAL REGRETS TO THE CNO USN FOR THE SAD MISTAKE OF THE USS LIBERTY INCIDENT.

B. GEN RABIN DECIDED TO PROVIDE VIA ALUSNA A SYNOPSIS OF THE FINDINGS OF IDF COURT OF INQUIRY ALTHOUGH THOSE FINDINGS HAVE NOT YET RECEIVED FINAL REVIEW FROM COL SHINGAR, THE IDF JAG.

C. AFTER REVIEW AND TRANSLATION TO ENGLISH, A FULL TRANSCRIPT OF THE FINDINGS OF THE IDF COURT OF INQUIRY WILL BE TRANSMITTED TO THE USG EITHER THROUGH AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV OR ISRAELI EMBASSY, WASHINGTON, D.C.

2. THE SYNOPSIS OF THE FINDINGS OF THE IDF COURT OF INQUIRY AS TAKEN DOWN VERBATIM BY ALUSNA FROM COL EFRAT'S ORAL PRESENTATION IS AS FOLLOWS: QUOTE

A. IT IS CONCLUDED CLEARLY AND UNIMPEACHABLY FROM THE EVIDENCE AND FROM COMPARISON OF WAR DIARIES THAT THE ATTACK ON USS LIBERTY WAS NOT IN MALICE; THERE WAS NO CRIMINAL NEGLIGENCE AND THE ATTACK WAS MADE BY INNOCENT MISTAKE.

Page 2 of 5 18 1030Z JUN 67

B. ATTACK ROSE OUT OF A CHAIN OF THREE MISTAKES, EACH OF WHICH BY ITSELF IS UNDERSTANDABLE: FIRST MISTAKE WAS DECISIVE. NAVY AND AF HQ HAD RECEIVED A NUMBER OF WRONG REPORTS STATING EL-ARISH WAS BEING SHELLED FROM THE SEA. THIS WRONG INFORMATION FORMED THE BACKGROUND AND MAIN FACTOR LEADING TO ATTACK ON LIBERTY. IDF CNO AND ASSISTANTS WERE CONVINCED THAT SHELLING WAS BEING DONE BY UNIDENTIFIED SHIP OR SHIPS WHICH WERE DISCOVERED AT THE TIME NEAR THE SHORE OFF EL ARISH. EVEN THE OFFICERS WHO KNEW OF THE IDENTIFICATION OF LIBERTY EARLY THE SAME MORNING DID NOT CONNECT LIBERTY WITH THE UNIDENTIFIED SHIPS SAID TO BE SHELLING EL ARISH. THE IDF NAVY IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR THE MISTAKEN REPORT OF SHELLING AND THE REASONS FOR THE MISTAKEN REPORT ARE OUTSIDE THE SCOPE OF THE INQUIRY AT HAND. THE NAVY AND AF HQS TOOK THE REPORTS AT FACE VALUE.

SECOND MISTAKE, WHICH THEN ADDED TO FIRST RESULTED IN AIRCRAFT ATTACK ON LIBERTY, WAS A MISTAKEN REPORT THAT LIBERTY WAS STEAMING AT 30 KNOTS. THIS MISTAKE HAS TWO SIGNIFICANCES: A. WHEN LIBERTY WAS IDENTIFIED IN MORNING HER MAX SPEED WAS DETERMINED FROM JAMES FLIGHTING SHIPS TO BE 18 KNOTS. THEREFORE EVEN IF THE UNIDENTIFIED SHIP WERE THOUGHT TO BE LIBERTY, THE FACT THAT SHE WAS REPORTED TO BE MAKING 30 KNOTS WOULD HAVE DENIED THE IDENTIFICATION.

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CLASSIFIED BY 10455/15 (DIA 5-15) 999/RDS-34
16 JUN 67

3. IN ACCORDANCE WITH IDF NAVY STANDING ORDERS, AN ENEMY SHIP IN ANY WATERS WHICH IS ATTACKING ISRAELI SHIPS OR SHELLING THE ISRAELI SHORE MAY BE ATTACKED. IF THERE IS INFO OF ENEMY SHIPS IN THE AREA, ANY SHIP OR SHIPS DISCOVERED BY RADAR WHICH ARE DETERMINED TO BE CRUISING AT A SPEED ABOVE 20 KNOTS MAY BE CONSIDERED AN ENEMY. SINCE THE SPEED OF THE UNIDENTIFIED SHIP WAS FIXED AT 280 TO 30 KNOTS, THE IDF NAVY WAS ENTITLED TO ATTACK WITHOUT FURTHER IDENTIFICATION IN VIEW OF THE BACK-GROUND OF INFO ON THE SHELLING OF EL ARISH. IDF NAVAL OPS SECTION HAD ORDERED THE MTB'S WHO REPORTED LIBERTY'S SPEED AS 30 KNOTS TO RECHECK AND ONLY AFTER CONFIRMATION OF THAT SPEED WAS THE INFO CONSIDERED RELIABLE AND AIRCRAFT WERE SENT TO ATTACK. THE QUESTION OF POSSIBLE NEGLIGENCE IN ESTABLISHING THE SPEED AT 28-30 KNOTS WHEN IN FACT LIBERTY'S MAX SPEED IS 18 KNOTS IS DISCOUNTED BY THE IDF CNO WHO TESTIFIED QUOTE THAT SUCH ESTIMATIONS REQUIRE EXPERTISE. IN AN MTB THERE MAY BE GREAT DISCREPANCIES IN FIXING THE SPEED OF A VESSEL MOVING IN FRONT OF IT, ESPECIALLY IF THE ESTIMATE WAS MADE ONLY OVER A SHORT INTERVAL OF TIME. IT IS QUITE FEASIBLE THAT THERE MAY BE SUCH A MISTAKE EVEN IF YOU MEASURE IT TWICE OR MORE UNQUOTE. AS A RESULT OF THE INCIDENT MAYBE THE STANDING ORDER

Pg 3 of 5 181030 Jun 65

SHOULD BE RECONSIDERED BUT NO CRIMINAL NEGLIGENCE IS FOUND IN THE MTB'S FIXING OF LIBERTY'S SPEED.

THIRD MISTAKE CAUSED EXECUTION OF THE SECOND STAGE OF ATTACK ON LIBERTY, THIS TIME WITH TORPEDOS FROM MTB'S. THIS WAS THE MISTAKEN IDENTIFICATION OF LIBERTY AS THE EGYPTIAN SUPPLY SHIP EL QUSEIR. HERE I (THAT IS, THE OFFICER CONDUCTING THE INQUIRY WHO LTC EFRAT IDENTIFIED PARENTHETICALLY AS COL RAM RON, FORMER ISRAELI MILITARY ATTACHE TO WASHINGTON, D.C.) MUST STATE MY DOUBTS WHETHER THE IDENTIFICATION WAS NOT DONE WITH A CERTAIN OVEREAGERNESS AS THIS HAPPENED WHEN SERIOUS DOUBTS WERE ALREADY BEGINNING TO ARISE AS TO THE IDENTIFICATION AS AN EGYPTIAN SHIP. IT HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED BY THE EVIDENCE OF THE C.O. OF MTB DIV THAT THE DOUBTS WHICH HAD BEGUN TO ARISE IN THE PILOTS AS TO THEIR ACCURACY OF IDENTIFICATION DID NOT GET TO THE C. O. OF THE MTB DIV AT THAT TIME, BUT HE ALREADY KNEW THAT THE SHIP WAS NOT A DESTROYER BUT A SUPPLY OR MERCHANT SHIP AND THIS SHOULD HAVE CAUSED EXTRA CAREFULNESS IN IDENTIFICATION. ON THE OTHER HAND, I (AGAIN COL RON) MUST STATE THE EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES AND DIFFICULTIES OF IDENTIFICATION UNDER THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS:

BT

DECLASSIFIED

Classification (canceled) (S) by authority of OPNAV 6510.1E-R30 DIA S-18 999 RDS-3A OF 11 NOV 1976 on 16 Nov 76 [Signature] JAGS [Signature]
(Date) (Signature) (Rank)
OFFICE OF THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL OF THE NAVY

560

2. LTC EFFRAT PAUSED AT ONE POINT IN HIS READING TO POINT OUT THE GCI HAD RECEIVED A STATEMENT FROM USG SAYING THAT LIBEROY HAD BEEN IDENTIFIED SIX HOURS PRIOR TO THE ATTACK RATHER THAN ONE HOUR AS STATED IN AN EARLIER USG COMMUNICATION.

3. LTC EFFRAT PROBABLY NOTED ALUSNA'S APPEARANCE OF SURPRISE AND INCREDULITY AS HE READ OFF SOME OF THE ABOVE POINTS. WHEN HE FINISHED HIS READING HE ASKED WHAT ALUSNA THOUGHT OF THE FINDINGS QUOTE OFF THE RECORD UNQUOTE. ALUSNA PRETENDED HE HAD NOT HEARD THE QUESTION AND THANKED THE COLONEL FOR HIS TIME. THE BURDEN OF DIPLOMACY BORE HEAVILY ON ALUSNA WHOSE EVALUATIONS ARE:

A. THE IDF NAVY STANDING ORDER TO ATTACK ANY SHIP MOVING AT MORE THAN 20 KNOTS IS INCOMPREHENSIBLE.

B. TWO OF THE IDF JUSTIFICATIONS FOR THEIR ACTION ARE MUTUALLY CONTRADICTORY. FIRST THEY SAY THAT SINCE THE SPEED OF THE UNIDENTIFIED WAS AS HIGH AS 30 KNOTS THEY COULD NOT HAVE THOUGHT IT WAS LIBERTY. THEN THEY SAY THE SHIP WAS FEASIBLY IDENTIFIED AS EL QUSEIR. EL QUSEIR HAS A MAX SPEED OF 14 KNOTS, FOUR LESS THAN LIBERTY. IF THE QUOTE 30 KNOT SHIP COULDN'T HAVE BEEN LIBEROY UNQUOTE IT FOLLOWS IT ALSO COULDN'T HAVE BEEN EL QUSEIR.

Pg 5 OF 5 181030 Jun 67

C. THAT A PROFESSIONAL NAVAL OFFICER OF THE RANK OF COMMANDER COULD LOOK AT LIBERTY AND THINK HER A 30 KNOO SHIP IS DIFFICULT TO ACCEPT.

D. THE SMOKE WHICH COVERED LIBERTY AND MADE HER DIFFICULT TO IDENTIFY WAS PROBABLY A RESULT OF THE IDF AF ATTACKS.

4. WHILE WALKING TO THEIR CARS, LTC EFFRAT MENTIONED THAT GEN RABIN HAS NEVER BEEN SO ANGRY AS WHEN HE READ THE CURRENT NEWSWEEK MAGAZINE COMMENT ON THE LIBERTY INCIDENT. ALUSNA REMARKED THAT HE TOOK NO NOTICE OF NEWS MEDIA REPORTING ON THE INCIDENT.

5. ALUSNA WAS CALLED TO FLO EARLIER IN THE DAY TO RECEIVE A COPY OF IDF CNO LETTER OF REGRET AND COMPOLNCE TO CNO USN. ALUSNA WAS INFORMED THAT THE ISRAELI MILITARY ATTACHE IN WASHINGTON, D.C. WILL DELIVER THE ORIGINAL TO ADM McDONALD.

6. COORDINATED WITH EMBASSY. GP-3

BT

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DECLASSIFIED

on *16 Nov 1976* (Date) *JFK Sec Cont* (Signature) *JFK Sec Cont* (Rank)
by authority of OPNAV 5510.1E AND DIA 5-18, 999/RDS-3A OF 11 NOV 1976

OFFICE OF THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL OF THE NAVY

561

SECRET

GUIDED BY REF A.

3. AT 0225Z CINCPACNAVFOR DUTY OFFICER RECEIVED PHONE CALL FROM MAJOR BREEDLOVE, JRC WASHINGTON, DIRECTING THAT USS LIBERTY COMPLY WITH NEW CONSTRAINTS ON AREA RESTRICTIONS INDICATED IN LAST SENTENCE PARAGRAPH TWO OF REF C AND NOT TO PROCEED CLOSER THAN 100 MILBS TO ISLAND, STRIP OR BAR. THIS WAS A VERBAL DIRECTIVE WITH NO DTG OF MESSAGE AVAILABLE. NECESSARY MESSAGES WERE THEN PREPARED.

4. AT 0610Z AND PRIOR TO RELEASE OF ANY MESSAGES, THE USCINCEUR DUTY OFFICER, LT COL WAGNER, WAS CALLED AND ADVISED OF JRC PHONE CALL. IN VIEW OF NO WRITTEN DIRECTIVE AT THIS TIME, HE WAS REQUESTED TO OBTAIN DTG OF MESSAGE FROM JCS BECAUSE A PREVIOUS JCS DIRECTIVE WAS BEING MODIFIED.

5. AT 0800Z USCINCEUR DUTY OFFICER, LT COL RUSSELL, WAS CONTACTED TO SEE WHAT RESULTS HAD BEEN ACHIEVED ON PREVIOUS PHONE CALL. HE CALLED JRC WASHINGTON AND OBTAINED REFERENCE D WHICH MODIFIED REFERENCE A.

(U.S. JCS DIRECTIVE)
PAGE TWO OF FOUR PAGES

1100 001532-71-07 SECRET

NAVREF HQC MON 2105/22 (9-65)

Classification (cancelled) (Changed to
by authority of OPNAV Memo Ser 0097 52/13
on 29 Jun 76 [Signature] 22 Jun 76
(Date) (Signature) (Rank)
OFFICE OF THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL OF THE NAVY

DECLASSIFIED

38

1. THE ABOVE CIRCULAR, YOUR DIRECTOR'S CIRCULAR, AND THE ABOVE CIRCULARS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED BY THE OFFICER, USN, SUBSAR, AND DEPARTMENT DEPARTMENT D, AND YOUR FILE NUMBER IS OFFICIAL MESSAGE NUMBER...

2. ADVISORY CIRCULAR FOR THE IMMEDIATE REPLY TO COMPLETED DIRECTING HER TO TAKE THE D-100...

3. THE ABOVE CIRCULAR FOR REPLY TO DIRECTOR, AND REPLY TO DIRECTOR, DIRECTING HER TO TAKE THE D-100 FOR...

4. THE ABOVE CIRCULARS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED BY THE OFFICER, USN, SUBSAR, AND DEPARTMENT DEPARTMENT D, AND YOUR FILE NUMBER IS OFFICIAL MESSAGE NUMBER...

5. THE ABOVE CIRCULARS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED BY THE OFFICER, USN, SUBSAR, AND DEPARTMENT DEPARTMENT D, AND YOUR FILE NUMBER IS OFFICIAL MESSAGE NUMBER...

6. THE ABOVE CIRCULARS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED BY THE OFFICER, USN, SUBSAR, AND DEPARTMENT DEPARTMENT D, AND YOUR FILE NUMBER IS OFFICIAL MESSAGE NUMBER...

7. THE ABOVE CIRCULARS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED BY THE OFFICER, USN, SUBSAR, AND DEPARTMENT DEPARTMENT D, AND YOUR FILE NUMBER IS OFFICIAL MESSAGE NUMBER...

8. THE ABOVE CIRCULARS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED BY THE OFFICER, USN, SUBSAR, AND DEPARTMENT DEPARTMENT D, AND YOUR FILE NUMBER IS OFFICIAL MESSAGE NUMBER...

9. THE ABOVE CIRCULARS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED BY THE OFFICER, USN, SUBSAR, AND DEPARTMENT DEPARTMENT D, AND YOUR FILE NUMBER IS OFFICIAL MESSAGE NUMBER...

10. THE ABOVE CIRCULARS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED BY THE OFFICER, USN, SUBSAR, AND DEPARTMENT DEPARTMENT D, AND YOUR FILE NUMBER IS OFFICIAL MESSAGE NUMBER...

Classification (cancelled) (changed to T) by authority of OPNAV *new Ser 0090321*

29 Jun 76 *DR Lyrin* *J 31* *21 Jun 76*

(Date) (Signature) (Rank)

OFFICER OF THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL OF THE NAVY

DECLASSIFIED

SECRET

UNCLASSIFIED AND WOULD BE REVEALED AT A POINT DETERMINED
BY THE JCS (FORMS 10-6017 10-602) AT 000000Z.

OP-4

Handwritten notes:
1/20
SECRET 1/27

PAGE FOUR OF FOUR PAGES

SECRET

NAVEUR NSG LON 2100/12 10-657

classification (cancelled) (changed to

) by authority of OPNAV memo

on 29 Jan 76 DR Spain Ser 09 DZ/T3
21 Jan 76

DECLASSIFIED

(Type) Signature (Type)

OFFICE OF THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL OF THE NAVY

Handwritten marks and stamps:
A circular stamp with the number 35 inside.

CONFIDENTIAL

THE REASON. WILL KEEP YOU INFORMED UP IN THE MEAN
TIME YOU MAY WANT TO STATE SOMETHING ON YOUR END.

4. FOR YOUR INFORMATION DURING THE RECENT VISIT
COM. BATHON. CONVENIENCE WAS IN ALL RESPECTS
COMFORTABLE AND ADMIRAL HAS EXPRESSED HIS APPRECIATION
TO ME.

VERY RESPECTFULLY, CAPT RAEH.

GP-4

PAGE 2 OF 2 PAGES

CONFIDENTIAL

1095
081805Z JON 67

DECLASSIFIED

Classification (cancelled) (Changed to
by authority of OPNAV Memo Ser 009032/731
on 29 Jun 76 W.R. Spain & 21 Jun 76
(Date) (Signature) (Rank)
OFFICE OF THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL OF THE NAVY



TYPE WITHIN MARGIN ONLY.

CONFIDENTIAL

AS DICTATED BY THE LOCAL SITUATION.

A. REQUEST CHANGE PIM REPORTS (REFS A AND B) TO AS OF 1800Z, CHANGE PRECEDENCE TO IMMEDIATE AND CHANGE ADDEE FOR USCINCEUR TO USCINCEUR FOR JRC.

2. FOR USS LIBERTY. CHOP TO COMSIXTHFLT AT 070001Z BY MESSAGE.

A. PIM REPORT NOT RECEIVED SINCE REF E.

GP-3

DECLASSIFIED

Classification (cancelled) (Changed to _____)
() by authority of OPNAV memo Ser 0091032/T/31
on 29 Jun 76 [Signature] 21 Jun 76
(Date) (Signature) (Rack)
OFFICE OF THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL OF THE NAVY

1068

061357z

PAGE 2 OF 2 PAGES

CONFIDENTIAL

NAVEUR MCV LON 2100/22 (9-65)

31

3. IN ACCORDANCE WITH IDF NAVY STANDING ORDERS, AN ENEMY SHIP IN ANY WATERS WHICH IS ATTACKING ISRAELI SHIPS OR SHELLINRRG THE ISRAELI SHORE MAY BE ATTACKED. IF THERE IS INFO OF ENEMY SHIPS IN THE AREA, ANY SHIP OR SHIPS DISCOVERED BY RADAR WHICH ARE DETERMINED TO BE CRUISING AT A SPEED ABOVE 20 KNOTS MAY BE CONSIDERED AN ENEMY. SINCE THE SPEED OF THE UNIDENTIFIED SHIP WAS FIXED AT 280 TO 30 KNOTS, THE IDF NAVY WAS ENTITLED TO ATTACK WITHOUT FURTHER IDENTIFICATION IN VIEW OF THE BACK-GROUND OF INFO ON THE SHELLING OF EL ARISH. IDF NAVAL OPS SECTION HAD ORDERED THE MTB'S WHO REPORTED LIBERTY'S SPEED AS 30 KNOTS TO RECHECK AND ONLY AFTER CONFIRMATION OF THAT SPEED WAS THE INFO CONSIDERED RELIABLE AND AIRCRAFT WERE SENT TO ATTACK. THE QUESTION OF POSSIBLE NEGLIGENCE IN ESTABLISHINRRG THE SPEED AT 28-30 KNOTS WHEN IN FACT LIBERTY'S MAX SPEED IS 18 KNOTS IS DISCOUNTED BY THE IDF CNO WHO TESTIFIED QUOTE THAT SUCH ESTIMATIONS REQUIRE EXPERTISE. IN AN MTB THERE MAY BE GREAT DISCREPANCIES IN FIXING THE SPEED OF A VESSEL MOVING IN FRONT OF IT, ESPECIALLY IF THE ESTIMATE WAS MADE ONLY OVER A SHORT INTERVAL OF TIME. IT IS QUITE FEASIBLE THAT THERE MAY BE SUCH A MISTAKE EVEN IF YOU MEASURE IT TWICE OR MORE UNQUOTE. AS A RESULT OF THE INCIDENT MAYBE THE STAN DING ORDER

pg 3 of 5 181030 Jun 67

SHOULD BE RECONSIDERED BUT NO CRIMINAL NEGLIGENCE IS FOUND IN THE MTB'S FIXING OF LIBERTY'S SPEED.

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BT

DECLASSIFIED

Classification (cancelled) (changed to) _____
by authority of OPNAV 510.1E NSN 016-518
9991005 38 OF 11 NOV 1916
on 16 Nov 76 [Signature] JAGS: Myp

(Date) _____ (Signature) _____ (Title) _____
OFFICE OF THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL OF THE NAVY

560

FINAL REPORT OF THE...
...WHEN ASKED TO...
...SUSPICIOUSLY...
...ON THE FORE...
...TOWARD THE...
...AT THE TIME OF...
...ACTION

...THE FACTORS THAT UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES WHEN...
...THERE WAS, IN FACT...
...A GREAT SIMILARITY BETWEEN IT AND EL...
...WHO HAD NO COMMUNICATIONS...
...AS EL...
...ON THE BASIS OF REPORTS ON HAND THAT THIS...
...COULD HAVE COME...
...THERE WAS CERTAINLY NO CRIMINAL OR SERIOUS...
...HAD TO ADD THAT A...
...BEYOND THE...
...ON HIS...
...OF THE... AND...

Page 4 of 5 - 141030 Z - 3 Jan 47

PAGE 3...
...IT IS CLEAR THAT THE...
...TO A...
...IN AN...
...WAS...
...AND WITHOUT...
...BY FLYING A...
...A...
...BY OUR FORCES AND...
...THE...
...BY THE...
...BY THE...
...TOWARD...
...WHO WAS...
...TOWARD...

ENCLOSURE

2. LTC EFRAT PAUSED AT ONE POINT IN HIS READING TO POINT OUT THE GOI HAD RECEIVED A STATEMENT FROM USG SAYING THAT LIBEROY HAD BEEN IDENTIFIED SIX HOURS PRIOR TO THE ATTACK RATHER THAN ONE HOUR AS STATED IN AN EARLIER USG COMMUNICATION.

3. LTC EFRAT PROBABLY NOTED ALUSNA'S APPEARANCE OF SURPRISE AND INCREDULITY AS HE READ OFF SOME OF THE ABOVE POINTS. WHEN HE FINISHED HIS READING HE ASKED WHAT ALUSNA THOUGHT OF THE FINDINGS QUOTE OFF THE RECORD UNQUOTE. ALUSNA PRETENDED HE HAD NOT HEARD THE QUESTION AND THANKED THE COLONEL FOR HIS TIME. THE BURDEN OF DIPLOMACY BORE HEAVILY ON ALUSNA WHOSE EVALUATIONS ARE:

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Pg 5 OF 5 181030 Jun 67

C. THAT A PROFESSIONAL NAVAL OFFICER OF THE RANK OF COMMANDER COULD LOOK AT LIBERTY AND THINK HER A 30 KNOO SHIP IS DIFFICULT TO ACCEPT.

D. THE SMOKE WHICH COVERED LIBERTY AND MADE HER DIFFICULT TO IDENTIFY WAS PROBABLY A RESULT OF THE IDF AF ATTACKS.

4. WHILE WALKING TO THEIR CARS, LTC EFRAT MENTIONED THAT GEN RABIN HAS NEVER BEEN SO ANGRY AS WHEN HE READ THE CURRENT NEWSWEEK MAGAZINE COMMENT ON THE LIBERTY INCIDENT. ALUSNA REMARKED THAT HE TOOK NO NOTICE OF NEWS MEDIA REPORTING ON THE INCIDENT.

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6. COORDINATED WITH EMBASSY. GP-3

BT

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

on *16 Nov 1976* *DR Spain* *JAE Sec Cont*
(Date) (Signature) (Rank)
by authority of OPNAV 5510.1E AND DIA 5-B, 999/RDS-3A
OF 11 NOV 1976
OFFICE OF THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL OF THE NAVY

561

DE RUIPRC 129 1572349

ZNY CCCCC

O P 062349Z JUN 67

FM COMSIXTHFLT

TO RUIPP/USS LIBERTY

INFO RUIPRQ/CINCUSNAVEUR

RUFPBK/USCINCEUR

RUEPJS/JCS

RUEAAAA/CNO

RUEPWS/DIRNSA

RUEDNKA/CINCLANTFLT

RUCIHS/DIRNAVSECGRU

RUDLKD/DIRNAVSECGRUEUR

RUCIJUA/ASSTDIRNAVSECGRU

RUCIJUA/DIRNAVSECGRULANT

RUDLKD/HQ NSAEUR

RUFRR/COMFAIR

XC 10

Liberty

MC/OC

DECLASSIFIED

RUCILLA/COMSERVLANT
RUCIJUA/COMSERVRON EIGHT
RUIPP/CTF SIX ZERO
RUFRR/CTF SIX FOUR
RUCIJUA/NFOIO

Classification (cancelled) (Changed to
) by authority of OPNAV MEMO SENCOR/D32/T31
on 29 Jun 76 [Signature] 8 21 Jun 76
[Signature] JAG Sec. Lt. [Rank]
(Date) (Signature) (Rank)
OFFICE OF THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL OF THE NAVY

PAGE TWO RUIPRC 129 CONFIDENTIAL

062349Z

RUIPCR/NAVCOMMSTA MOROCCO
RUEDNKA/CINCLANT
RUIPP/CTF SIX THREE
RUFRR/CTF SIX SEVEN
RUKC/NAVCOMMSTA GREECE
RUIPM/NAVCOMMSTA MOROCCO
RUIKC/NAVCOMMSTA SPAIN
BT

CONFIDENTIAL

USS LIBERTY OPERATIONAL CONTROL

- A. CINCUSNAVEUR 061357Z JUN 67 NOTAL X
- B. JCS 011545Z JUN 67 NOTALB
- C. CINCUSNAVEUR 311750Z MAY 67 (MOVORD 7-67) NOTAL
- D. CINCUSNAVEUR 011305Z JUN 67 NOTAL
- E. COMSIXTHFLT OPORD 1-66 NOTAL
- F. CINCUSNAVEURINST P03120.5B NOTAL

- 1. UPON CHOP TO COMSIXTHFLT AT 070001Z, CONDUCT OPERATIONS IAW REF. B, C AND D.
- 2. IN VIEW PRESENT ARAB/ISRAELI SITUATION AND UNPREDICTABILITY OF UAR ACTIONS. MAINTAIN A HIGH STATE OF VIGILANCE AGAINST ATTACK OR

ORIGINATOR SECTION	XXXXXXXXXX														
ACTION DEPARTMENT	CINCUSNAVEUR	0	0	0	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	C	S	D
		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	A	A
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4
					X								X		

CON	
TOR	0132/7
SSN	
SGN	17C

OTB 062349Z JUN 67

CONFIDENTIAL (WHEN FILLED IN)

NAVEUR NCU LON 2100/2 (REV 10-65)

Doc 9 - EX 48 - LIBERTY

PAGE 2c
2 of 6.

- PAGE THREE RUTPRC 129 C O N F I D E N T I A L
- THREAT OF ATTACK. REPORT BY FLASH PRECEDENCE ANY THREATENING OR SUSPICIOUS ACTIONS DIRECTED AGAINST YOU OR ANY DIVERSION FROM SCHEDULE NECESSITATED BY EXTERNAL THREAT. ADVISE IF LOCAL SITUATION DICTATES CHANGE IN AREA OF OPS ASSIGNED BY REF B.
3. KEEP COMSIXTHFLT AND CTF 63 INFORMED OF LOGISTIC NEEDS SUFFICIENTLY IN ADVANCE TO ENABLE ORDERLY LOGSUP PLANNING. MAIL DELIVERY WILL BE ARRANGED IF FEASIBLE.
 4. INCLUDE COMSIXTHFLT AS INFO ADDEE ON REPORTS REQUIRED BY PARA 2 REF B AS MODIFIED BY REF C AND D.
 5. SUBMIT REPORTS OF CONTACT WITH SHIPS AIRCRAFT AND SUBMARINES WHICH ARE UNIDENT, HOSTILE, OF INTELL INTEREST OR ENGAGE IN HARASSMENT, IAW REF F. EMERGENCY PLAN CHARLIE NOW IN EFFECT IN SIXTHFLT.
 6. COMSIXTHFLT OPERATIONAL DOCUMENTS ON ALERTS, EMERG ACTIONS AND NUCLEAR RELEASE WILL NOT BE PROVIDED. THEREFORE, ACTION IS NOT REQUIRED ON NATIONAL EXERCISE AND DRILL MSGS IDENTIFIED BY FLAG WORD WHITE OR BLUE DELTA. NO ACTION REQUIRED NATO EXERCISE MSGS. PT EVENT OF ACTUAL ALERT OR OTHER EMERGENCY, COMSIXTHFLT WILL SEPARATELY DIRECT LIBERTY BY CLASSIFIED MSG.
 7. COMMUNICATIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH ANNEX CHARLIE REF E.

PAGE FOUR RUTPRC 129 C O N F I D E N T I A L

- A. COPY KR BROADCAST. ADVISE IF CARDS AVAILABLE TO COPY XRA BCST.
- B. IF PERMANENT TERMINATION REQUIRED WITH MED COMM STA SUBMIT REQUEST IAW APPENDIX XVI TO ANNEX CHARLIE TO REF E.
- C. ALTHOUGH NOT ASSIGNED TO TF 60 UTILIZE TF 60 TACTICAL CIRCUITS AS REQUIREBSM
- D. AUTHGRA TO ENTER SIXES ALFA AS REQUIRED.

8. ACKNOWLEDGE.
GP-4
BT

Classification (cancelled) (Changed to) **DECLASSIFIED**
by authority of OPNAV Memo Ser 009D 321 P31
on 27 Jun 76 [Signature] 8 Jul 76

39

39

PAGE TWO RUQKC 1994 C O N F I D E N T I A L
RUTPCR/NAVCOMMSTA MOROCCO
RUEDNKA/CINCLANT
RUQKRD/COMSERVFOR SIXTHFLT

BT

C O N F I D E N T I A L
USS LIBERTY OPERATIONAL CONTROL (U)
USCINCPAC FOR JRC
JCS FOR JRC
CINCLANT FOR JRC

A. CINCUSNAVEUR 061357Z JUN 67

B. COMSIXTHFLT OPORD 1-66

1. REPORTING YOUR OPCON IAW PARA 2 REF A AT 070001Z JUN 67.
2. FUEL STATE EIGHTY-FIVE PERCENT. NORMAL CONSUMPTION WHILE ON STATION APPROXIMATELY ONE PERCENT PER DAY.
3. ESTIMATED PROVISION ENDURANCE/DAYS:

A. DRY/1.0

B. FROZEN/135 -

C. CHILL/75 -

4. HAVE ASSUMED CONDITION OF READINESS THREE MODIFIED. SELF DEFENSE CAPABILITY LIMITED TO FOUR .50 CALIBER MACHINE GUNS AND SMALL ARMS.

Asst Comdr USN 062030Z JUN 67

PAGE THREE RUQKC 1994 C O N F I D E N T I A L

5. CURRENT TERM - PROMULGATING MESSAGE NOT HELD. PARA 8B ANNEX DELTA REF A PERTAIN.

6. REPORT OF CRYPTOGRAPHIC REPAIRMEN ON BOARD WILL BE SUBMITTED SEPARATELY.

7. ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT INSTALLATION REPORT WILL BE SUBMITTED WHEN CIRCUMSTANCES PERMIT.

8. REQUEST ADVISE TASK ORGANIZATION ASSIGNED/OTHER NECESSARY DATA.

GP-4

BT

DECLASSIFIED

Classification (cancelled) (Changed to

) by authority of OPNAV Memo, Ser 009.032.1.31

on 29 Jun 76 *RL* 8 21 Jun 76

(Date) (Signature) (Rank)

OFFICE OF THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL OF THE NAVY

TVV KXC007 BBM929V KCA014

00 RUQKRQ
DE RUQKC 1972 158016
ZNY CCCCC
O 070900Z JUN 67
FM USS LIBERTY
TO RUTPRC/COMSIXTHFLT
INFO RUEKDA/JCS
RUENAAA/CNO
RUEDNKA/CINCLANT
RUEDNKA/CINCLANTFLT
RUEPCF/DIRNSA
RUCIISA/DIRNAVSECGRU
RUCIISA/ASSTDIRNAVSECGRU
RUQKRQ/CINCUSNAVEUR
RUEDNKA/DIRNAVSECGRULANT
RUEDNKA/COMSERVLANT
RUEDSPA/COMSERVRON EIGHT
RUFPPBK/USCINCEUR
RUCIKSA/NFOIO
RUQKRQ/NSAEUR
RUQKRQ/DIRNAVSECGRUEUR
RUFRE/COMFAIRMED
RUTRE/CTF SIX ZERO

Liberty 314
mc SDO

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Classification (cancelled) (Changed to _____)
) by authority of OPNAV memo Sec 009 D32/T3
on 29 Jun 76 at Spain 21 Jun 76
(Date) (Signature) (Rank)
OFFICE OF THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL OF THE NAVY

PAGE TWO RUQKC 1972 C O N F I D E N T I A L
RUFRE/CTF SIX FOUR
RUTPRC/NAVCOMMSTA MOROCCO
BT

C O N F I D E N T I A L
JCE PASS TO JRC
USCINCEUR PASS TO JRC
CINCLANT PASS TO JRC
SITREP/POSIT

- A. USCINCEUR 0614-0Z JUN 67 (NOTAL)
- 1. 070800Z POSIT 33-06N2 28-54E9. PIM 109/16.5 UNTIL 072300Z. THENCE STATIONARY WITHIN 30NM OF 31-45N3 33-30E9.
- 2. SUBSEQUENT PIM/SITREP WILL BE SUBMITTED AS OF 0800Z8

IAW REF A.
GP-4
BT

(PAGE 1 OF _____)

ORIGINATOR SECTION	XXXXX										CITE	SDO
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DTG 070908 JUN 67

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
(WHEN FILLED IN)

SECRET

32 TWO RUTPRC 002 S E C R E T

05 015Z JUN 67 THE OPERATING AREA FOR SIXTHFLT UNITS WAS EXPANDED TO INCLUDE ALL OF THE EASTERN MED EXCEPT THAT NO OPERATIONS, EITHER SURFACE OR AIR, WERE PERMITTED WITHIN 100 MILES OF ISRAEL, SYRIA, OR EGYPT OR WITHIN 25 MILES OF CYPRUS.

3. ON 5 JUNE BOTH CARRIERS WERE OPERATING IN POSITIONS WHICH WERE IN EXCESS OF 400 MILES FROM ISRAEL OR SINAI. FLIGHT OPERATIONS ON AMERICA WERE CONDUCTED FROM 0915Z UNTIL 1235Z AND ON SARATOGA FROM 0328Z UNTIL 1313Z. FLIGHT OPERATIONS WERE CONDUCTED FOR TRAINING PURPOSES AND WERE ROUTINE IN ALL ASPECTS. ON 6 JUN LIMITED OP OPERATIONS WERE CONDUCTED DURING THE DAY FOR ROUTINE PURPOSES. NO NIGHT OPERATIONS WERE CONDUCTED BY EITHER CARRIER.

4. ALL SIXTHFLT CVA PILOTS WHO PARTICIPATED IN AIR OPERATIONS ON 5 AND 6 JUN HAVE BEEN BRIEFED CONCERNING THEIR TRACK LINES AND ANY VOICE COMMUNICATIONS EITHER TRANSMITTED OR RECEIVED. AT NO REPEAT NO TIME WERE THE AIRSPACE RESTRICTIONS SET FORTH IN PARA 1. ABOVE VIOLATED, I. E., ON 5 JUN NO SIXTHFLT CVA AIRCRAFT APPROACHED THE ISRAEL OR SINAI COASTLINE CLOSER THAN 200 MILES AND ON 6 JUN NO SIXTHFLT CVA AIRCRAFT APPROACHED THE ISRAEL, SYRIA OR EGYPT COASTLINES CLOSER THAN 100 MILES. TRACKS FLOWN WERE ACTUALLY FARTHER FROM ISRAEL/SYRIA/EGYPT THAN TWZ ABOVE LIMITING

P. 2072 071503

PAGE THREE RUTPRC 002 S E C R E T

3000S. DURING THESE FLIGHTS NO REPEAT NO SIXTHFLT PILOT EITHER TRANSMITTED OR RECEIVED ANY RADIO TRANSMISSIONS FROM STATIONS EITHER IN OR UNDER THE CONTROL OF ANY COUNTRY IN THE MIDEAST ENGAGED IN THE CURRENT CONFLICT, EITHER DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY BY RELAY. IN SHORT, ON 5 AND 6 JUN NO SIXTHFLT AIRCRAFT OVERFLEW ISRAEL, SYRIA, OR EGYPT AND NO COMMUNICATIONS WERE ESTABLISHED BETWEEN SIXTHFLT PILOTS WITH ANY RADIO STATIONS CONTROLLED OR UTILIZED BY ANY OF THESE COUNTRIES.

5. NO FLIGHT OPERATIONS ARE SCHEDULED FOR 7 JUN FOR EITHER SARATOGA OR AMERICA. THE LIMITATIONS SET FORTH IN RPARWSI ABOVE CONTINUE IN EFFECT.

GP-2
BT

SECRET

DECLASSIFIED

Classification (cancelled) (changed to)
by authority of OPNAV Memo Sec 09032731
on 29 Jun 76 D.P. [signature] 8 21 Jan 76

(Date) (Signature) (Rank)
OFFICE OF THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL OF THE NAVY

392

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NNNN CZCKDB110ZCNGB329
 PP RUDLYD
 ZNY CCCCC ZOV RUFPBNA
 ZXY-15
 CNAD197
 ZCZCBNA111ZCBKA093
 PP RUFPBNA
 DE RUEPJS 1300 1582241
 ZNY CCCCC
 P 072230Z JUN 67

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 RUFPBNA

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FM JCS
 TO RUFPBK/USCINCEUR
 INFO RUENAAA/C ECZDROZ FZROTYAUWNCLAN
 RUEDNKA/CVWITBBX PFFNM DY NQIFKD/CINCUSNAVEUR
 RUTPRC/COMSIXTHFLT
 RUMFCR/CTF 67
 → RUMFCR/USS LIBERTY
 RUFMAS/HQNASAEUR
 RUFMAS/NASAEUR OFF GERMANY
 RUEPWS/DIRNSA
 RUCIHS/DIRNAVSECGRU
 RUCIHS/ADIRNAVSECGRU

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Downgraded to
 UNCLASSIFIED
 by DTCS
 10 Nov 76

RUEDNKA/DIRNAVSECGRULANT
 RUFPBNA/DIRNAVSECGRUTEUR
 BT

[REDACTED] JCS 7337 J-3 SENDS

SUBJ: USS LIBERTY (U)
 REF: JCS 6724/011545Z JUN 67

1. IN VIEW PRESENT SITUATION EAST MED. OPERATING
 AREA SPECIFIED REF FOR GUIDANCE ONLY AND MAY BE VAIRED
 AS LOCAL CONDITIONS DICTATE.
 2. CHAGE CPA UA TO 20 NM, ISAEEL 15 NM, GP-4
 BT

DOC. 14 Ex 48-LIB

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DTG 072230Z Jun 67
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 (WHEN FILED IN)

Liberty

REF F

VV KXC121ZCZCDKA035VV TVA024
 00 RUDLKD
 DE RUFPEK 011 1590628
 ZNY CCCCC
 O 080625Z JUN 67
 FM USCINCEUR
 TO RUDLKD/CINCUSNAVEUR
 INFO RUDAC/USS LIBERTY
 RUTPRC/COMSIXTHELT
 RUEEPJS/JCS
 RUEPWS/DIRNSA
 ZEN/NSAEUR
 BT

*ENCLOSURE FILE
 LNO
 m/c/c*

C O N F I D E N T I A L ECJC/JRC 09045 USNAVEUR FOR N-32 AND N-31,
 JCS FOR JRC. SUBJ: USS LIBERTY (U). REF A. FONECON LTC RUSSELL
 THIS HQ, AND CDR JORGENSEN, DUTY OFFICER, NAVEUR, 080425Z JUN 67.
 REF B. JCS 7347, 080110Z JUN 67.
 (C) THIS CONFIRMS REF A TO TAKE REF B FORAC. CP-3

BT

DECLASSIFIED

Classification (cancelled) (Changed to _____)
 by authority of OPNAV Memo Ser 09.032/T31
 on 29 Jun 76 *DR Spain* 0.21 Jun 76
 (Date) *JAG Sec Cont* (Signature) _____ (Rank)

OFFICE OF THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL OF THE NAVY

Liberty?

(PAGE 1 OF _____)

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DTG 080625Z JUN 67

CONFIDENTIAL
(WHEN FILLED IN)

NAVEUR NCU LON 2100/2 (REV 10-65)

DOC. 16 EX 48-LIBERTY

CONFIDENTIAL

4. REQUEST EXPEDITIOUS TRACING OF REF A TO DETERMINE REASON FOR NON-RECEIPT OF NAVCOMSTA PHIL REROUTE.

FURTHER REQUEST EXPEDITIOUS TRACING OF REF B TO DETERMINE REASON FOR DELAY OF DELIVERY TO NAVCOMSTA ABLAPA. A DETERMINATION OF ALL RELAYS INVOLVED WITH TOR AND TOD IS DESIRED.

CP-4.

*1026
0911027 Jun 67*

PAGE TWO OF TWO

CONFIDENTIAL

NAVJUR-NCU LHM 2100/22 (9-65)

Classification (cancelled) (Changed to
by authority of OPNAV memo

DECLASSIFIED

on 29 Jun 76 R. Spain SN 009034731
of 21 Jun 76

(Date) (Signature) (Block)

OFFICE OF THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL OF THE NAVY

402

403

KRZ

DE RUTKREEEEEEE

PP PLESSE TERMINATION
PFPS EYPIPT
VV KXC278BBM083VV KCA224
PP RUGKRQ
DE RUGKC 2535 160125Z
ZNY CCCCC
P 091257Z JUN 67
FM NAVCOMMSTA GREECE
TO RUGKRQ/CINCUSNAVEUR

BT
CONFIDENTIAL
WIRENOTE TO CAPT RAISH

COMMUNICATIONS SITREP USS LIBERTY INCIDENT (U)
1. AT 1234Z/8 JUNE THISTA INTERCEPTED INITIAL LIBERTY ATTACK REPORT FROM THE SARATOGA ON THE CINCUSNAVEUR HI-COMM NET. HIS WAS RELAYED VIA NCON CIRCUITRY AND XRA BCST AS A NO DTG MESSAGE (NCS GREECE TIME OF FILE 1239Z/9 JUNE) FROM THE USS SARATOGA. SUBSEQUENT TO THE INITIAL REPORT, SARATOGA AND NAVCOMMSTA GREECE PASSED ALL AMPLIFYING INFO OBTAINED VIA BCST, E4.4 HI-COMM NET AND DEDICATED CTT CIRCUITRY.
2. DUE TO LIBERTY EMERGENCY DESTRUCTION OF CLASSIFIED MATERIAL, ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO/FROM THE SHIP WERE LIMITED TO UNCLASSIFIED VOICE TRANSMISSIONS. APPROXIMATELY 90 PER CENT OF THE TIME AFTER INITIAL REPORT, TWO WAY VOICE CONTACT WAS MAINTAINED WITH THE FOLLOWING STATIONS ON E04.04D: LIBERTY, SARATOGA, AMERICA, COMSIXTHFLT, CINCUSNAVEUR, AND NCS MORDCO. DEGRADATION OF

ACKING LIBERTY WAS
K CO / SBROW...
Y 42 424Z/8...
MEAN BUT MAINTAINED
ONLY VOO...
TYPE, ST...
NET...
DELEGATED
RECORD WIRENOTE

JUN 9 21 21

DECLASSIFIED

Classification (cancelled) (Changed to
) by authority of OPNAV memo 009032/73
on 28 Jun 76 RKS/pain of 21 Jun 76
(Date) (Signature) (Rank)
OFFICE OF THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL OF THE NAVY

Doc. 20 Ex 48-413E

PAGE TWO RUQKC 2535 C O N F I D E N T I A L
VOICE CIRCUITRY TO ALL STATIONS EXCEPT LIBERTY AND SARATOGA
OCCURED SHORTLY AFTER INITIAL REPORT DUE TO THISTA UTILIZING
BEANDED ANTENNAS BOTH WAYS TO THE LIBERTY. IN ADDITION, THISTA
COORDINATED DIRECT VOICE CIRCUIT BETWEEN CNO AND USS AMERICA ON
E04.01K.

3. AS YOU KNOW, OUR PHYSICAL ARRANGEMENT IS OPTIMIZED. YESTERDAY
I TOOK MY "BATTLE STATION" AT THE MI-COMM NET CONTROL SPOT AND
REALLY APPRECIATED THE CAPABILITIES OF REAL TIME COMMUNICATIONS.
I WAS ABLE TO KEEP RIGHT UP TO THE MINUTE WITH WHAT HAD BEEN
PASSED TO WHOM AND AT THE SAME TIME MAKE FREQUENT TELEPHONE REPORTS
TO CAPTAIN DAVIE, ALUSNA ATHENS. IN ADDITIONS, IT WAS INTERESTING
AND HELPFUL TO BE AWARE OF WHAT WAS BEING BROADCAST ON XRAJ
AND KR, AS WELL AS EXTENSIVE INFORMATION EXCHANGED ON OUR
MULTITUDINOUS

DIRECT IRCUITS.

4. CIRCUIT DISCIPLINE ON THE E04.04 NET LEFT SOMETHING TO BE DESIRED.
A DIRECTED NET WAS NOT ESTABLISHED AND MANY INDISCRIMINATE
TRANSMISSIONS ENSUED. NAVCOMMSTA GREECE ASSUMED RELAY RESPONSIB-
ILITY FOR THE LIBERTY AND HAD TO FREQUENTLY TELL OTHERS TO
CEASE TRANSMISSION BECAUSE OF HANDLING FLASH EMERGENCY TRAFFIC.
EXAMPLE: NAVY 1021 PASSING PROTOCOL TRAFFIC TO CINCUSNAVEUR DURING

PAGE THREE RUQKC 2535 C O N F I D E N T I A L

A PERIOD WHEN IDENTIFICATION OF FORCES ATTACKING LIBERTY WAS
BEING ATTEMPTED.

5. AT PRESENT HAVE ORESTES TERMINATION WITH COMDESRON 12. ESCORT
DESTROYERS MASSEY AND DAVIS RDVU'ED LIBERTY AT 0424Z/9 JUNE. MAJORITY
TRAFFIC TO/FROM NOW BEING PASSED VIA THIS MEANS BUT MAINTAINING
EXCELLENT VOICE COMM WITH DAMAGED SHIP.

6. THIS SITUATION WAS SOMEWHAT UNUSUAL IN THAT ONLY VOICE COMM
AVAILABLE. HOWEVER, IN FUTURE INSTANCES OF THIS TYPE, STRONGLY
RECOMMEND IMMEDIATE ESTABLISHMENT OF DIRECTED NET. NET CONTROL
WOULD NORMALLY BE CINCUSNAVEUR BUT IT COULD BE DELEGATED
IF CIRCUMSTANCES DICTATE.

7. NEW SUBJ. MANY THANKS FOR YOUR WELCOME ABOARD WIRENOTE.
BEST REGARDS, THORSON.

GP-4

BT

DECLASSIFIED

Classification (cancelled) (Changed to
by authority of OPNAVINSR Sec 009D32/131
29 Jun 76 DR Green 8 21 Jun 76
(Date) (Signature) (Mark)
OFFICER OF THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL OF THE NAVY

LIBERTY

CONFIDENTIAL

VV RX0376TDBXE

UDYCD QG IKADPX

NYI-...39

9

AC...9; AV4EQWVVV CWC 338
OTTC JAW RUENAAA1097 15921.5-CCCC--RUDLKD.

ZNY CCCCC

O 082115Z JUN 67

FM CND

TO RUDLKD/CINCUSNAVEUR

BT

CONFIDENTIAL

WIRENOTE CAPT RAISK FM RAD. WEEKS

LIBERTY SITUATION FURTHER MY 082000Z

1. IT NOW APPEARS THAT NEITHER JCS 080110Z NOR COMSIXTHFLT 080917Z REACHED LIBERTY BEFORE SHE WAS HIT. LIBERTY ON ASMARA BROADCAST SINCE 060001Z. FIRST MSG IMPROPERLY ROUTED TO PHIL FOR LIBERTY. PHIL RE-ROUTED PROMPTLY TO MOROCCO. MOROCCO CLAIMS NON-RECEIPT.

2. COMSIXFLT MSG RECEIVED MOROCCO AT 081035Z, FORWARDED TO ASMARA AT 081106Z. ASMARA PLACED ON JRIT AT 081524Z. HAVE ASKED ASMARA TO EXPLAIN DELAY. REGARDS. WEEKS.

GP-4

BT

MC

JUN 21 10 08 PM '67
ACTION TAKES

684

DECLASSIFIED

Classification (cancelled) (Changed to) by authority of CPNAU MEMO 0091032131
on 29 Jun 76 [Signature] 21 Jun 76
(Date) (Signature) (Rank)
OFFICE OF THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL OF THE NAVY

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Doc. 21 Ex 48-LIBERTY

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ - ~~ACTIV TAKEN~~

Delaney
Rick
Mc

VV KXC370VV AGE597V APH500VVWTPM358
PP RUTPEC
DE RUTPM 358 1592007
ZNY CCCCC
P 082008;Z
FM NAVCOMSTA MOROCCO
TO CINCUSNAVEJR
BT

CONFIDENTIAL
WIRENOTE CDR LONGKI
A. PHONECON CDR LONGHI/CAPT DARBY
B. JCS 080110Z

1. AS REQUESTED HAVE MADE ATTEMPT TO TRACE DELIVERY B. FOLLOWING INFO PERTINENT:
A. WHEN QUERIED VIA E04.04 AT 1745Z, USS LIBERTY REPORTED REF B NOT RECD. (ALL CLASSIFIED MATTER DESTROYED).
B. REF B RECD MOROCCO NCON RELAY AT 0430Z FOR RELAY COMSIXTHFLT. ERRONEOUSLY ROUTED RUTPCR VICE "RC" AND TRANSMITTED AT 0630Z.

PAGE TWO RUTPM 358 CONFIDENTIAL
DELAY DUE BACKLOG DIRECT CKT AND KRIT BCST.

C. ANALYSIS SHOWS REF B ORIGINATED MSGCEN RUEKDA MISROUTED RUMFVE (NCS PHILGLVV FOR USS LIBERTY AND RUMFCR FOR CTF 64).
D. QUERIED NCS PHIL FOR MISROUTE PROTECTION ACTION. PHIL ADVISED REROUTED AT 0449Z TO MOROCCO FOR PROTECT TO USS LIBERTY AND CTF64. NO SUCH MSG RECD TO DATE. HAVE REQUESTED PHIL INSTIGATE TRACER. WILL ADVISE.
E. A SECOND COPY OF REF B RECD MOROCCO AT 1622Z FOR TRANSMISSION TO COMSIXTHFLT AGAIN MISROUTED RUTPCR. ALSO LINE 7 FORMAT SHOWS USS LIBERTY INCORRECTLY ROUTED TO RUMFCR. MSG TRANSMITTED TO COMSIXTHFLT AT 1731Z.

2. ASSOCIATED SUBJ: COMSIXTHFLT PRESENTLY TRACING MSG 080917Z TO USS LIBERTY WHICH CONTAINED SAME INFO REF B. MSG RECD 01058Z INCORRECTLY ROUTED TO KR BCST, REROUTED TO JR BCST AT 1106Z. ASMARA REPORTS INFORMALLY THAT MSG TRANSMITTED AS JR2443 AT 1525Z. TRACER BEING INITIATED BY MOROCCO TO DETERMINE DELAY.
WILL FORWARD INFO REGARDS PARA ONE AND TWO AS RECEIVED.
REGARDS CAPT DARBY

P-4
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DECLASSIFIED

Classification (cancelled) (Changed to ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~) by authority of OPNAV Memo 009 032/731 on 21 Jun 76 [Signature] 21 Jun 76
JAG Sec Loc
(Date) (Signature) (Rank)

OFFICE OF THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL OF THE NAVY Doc. 22 Ex 48 LIBER.

JUN 20 5 02

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NS Mc/500

VV KYC367CWC3370TTC JAW RUENAAA1659 1592000-CCOC--RUDLKD.
NY CCOC
O 082300Z JUN 67
FM CNO
TO RUDLKD/CINCUSNAVEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L
MIRENOTE CAPT RAISH FM RADW WEEKS.
JSS LIBERTY (U)
W YOUR 081930Z

1. HAVE CONFIRMED JCS 080110Z IMPROPERLY ROUTED TO PHIL. PHIL RECEIVED IT AT 080400Z AND CORRECTLY FORWARDED BACK TO WARDS MOROCCO AT 080449Z. HAVE QUERIED MOROCCO FOR TOR AND DISPOSITION.
2. COMSIXFLT NEVER RECEIVED ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THEIR 080917Z. LIBERTY REPORTS THAT THEIR COPY, IF RECEIVED, IS IN COMPARTMENT WHICH IS BLOCKED. COMSIXFLT FORWARDED TO MOROCCO AT 081033Z.

PAGE 2 RUENAAA1659 C O N F I D E N T I A L
HAVE ALSO QUERIED MOROCCO RE DISPOSITION. MSG APPEARED ON ASMARA BROADCAST AT 081525Z. WILL ADVISE FURTHER DETAILS AS RECEIVED.
REGARDS. WEEKS.

DECLASSIFIED

Classification (cancelled) (Changed to _____)
) by authority of OPNAV Memo Ser 009032/131
of 21 Jan 76
on 21 Jun 76 *DR Spain*
JAG Sec Lt
(Date) (Signature) (Rank)

NNNN

OFFICE OF THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL OF THE NAVY

Doc 23 Ex 48-LIBERTY

482

NOT TAKEN

JUN 67

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

LIBERTY

MMRUV KX0399
IP
RVV EBM01TVV WNA325
OO RUQKRO
DE RUQP 059 1591939
ZNY CCCC 20 RUQPNA
O 081939C JUN 67
FM NAVCOMMSTA ASMARA
TO RUSPNARQ/CINCUSNAVEUR
INFO RUTPCR/NAVCOMMSTA MOROCCO
BT

MCI SDO
8 JUN 67 272

CONFIDENTIAL

WIRE NOTE FOR CAPT RAISH

- A. CINCUSNAVEUR W/N 081711Z JUN 67 PASSEP
- B. JCS 030110Z
- C. COMSIXTHFLT 080917Z

1. NO INDICATION REF B. RECEIVED THISTA. BELIEVE THIS MSG MAY HAVE BEEN TOP SECRET AND THEREFORE COULD NOT HAVE BEEN TRANSMITTED ON THIS BEST. REQUEST NCS MOROCCO CHCK FO DLVY.

2. REF C REC THISTA 1510Z 8 JUN TRANSMITTED ON JULIET ROMEO BCST AT 1520Z 8 JUN. RECEIPT OF REF C BY LIBERTY DOUBTFUL AS SKIP WAS ATTACHED PREVIOUSLY. BEST REGARDS CDR BAKER.

DECLASSIFIED

Classification (cancelled) ~~TOP SECRET~~
) by authority of OPNAV memo Ser 064030/T31
on 29 Jun 76 [Signature] of 21 Jun 76
[Signature] JAG Sec Cont.
(Date) (Signature) (Rank)
OFFICE OF THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL OF THE NAVY

CONFIDENTIAL

Doc 24 EX 48 LIBERTY

(WHEN FILLED IN)

NAVAL MESSAGE

RELEASED BY <i>J.P. [Signature]</i> 85 187	DRAFTED BY CAPT L. R. RAISE	PRECEDENCE ACTION	FLASH	MARKED XXI	PRIORITY	ROUTINE	AIR IN
	PHONE EXT. NO. 250	INFO					

FROM: CINCUSNAVEUR

TO: COMSIXTHFLT

FOR COMMUNICATIONS USE ONLY

TAPE _____
 CUTTER _____
 PROOF _____
 READER _____
 COMPS _____
 GWO _____

SECRET

MOVEMENTS AND POSITION OF LIBERTY (U)

A. CINCUSNAVEUR 081903Z JUN 67

B. JCS 7347 DTG 080110Z JUN 67

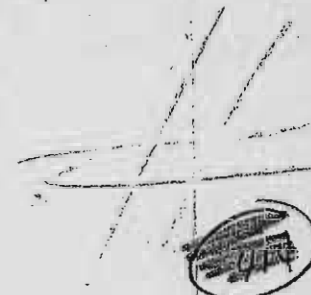
C. COMSIXTHFLT 080917Z JUN 67

1. TAKE PARA 10 OF REF A FORAC. THIS HEADQUARTERS INVESTIGATING ROUTING REF B TO DETERMINE CAUSE APPARENT NON-DELIVERY. IF REF C STILL NOT ACKNOWLEDGED, SUGGEST TRACER ACTION MAY BE APPROPRIATE.

GP-4

DECLASSIFIED

Classification (cancelled) (changed to _____)
) by authority of OPNAV memo Ser 009032/T31
 on 29 Jun 76 *DR Spain* of 21 Jun 76
 (Date) *JAG Sec Cont* (Signature) (Rank)
 OFFICE OF THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL OF THE NAVY



ORIGINATOR SECTION N5	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ACTING DEPARTMENT N5								

(PAGE 1 OF 1)

COB	
FOR	
...	1104
UCH	<i>RB</i>

etc 081910 2 June

Doc 26 EX-100-1104

SECRET

RELEASED BY *[Signature]*

DRAFTED BY W. J. LONGHI, CDR

PR AC INFO FLASH IMMED PRIORITY ROUTINE AIR M

8 JUN 1967

T-1

PHONE EXT. NO.

231

FROM

CINCUSNAVEUR

TO

NAVCOMSTA ^{FOR MANN} MORSUBG

INFO

WIRENOTE FOR CAPT DARBY CDR BACER

UNCLAS EFTO

A JCS 080110 Z JUN 67

1. REF A WAS ADDRESSED TO SEVERAL ADDEES INCLUDING
But incorrectly routed to PHIL.
USS LIBERTY. IMPORTANT TO ASCERTAIN THAT THIS MESSAGE

IF
WAS IN FACT RECEIVED BY LIBERTY. ASSUME DELIVERY
WOULD HAVE BEEN OVER ~~KEEP~~ ^{JPTT} BROADCAST. REQUEST ^{IF PHIL READDRESSED}
CHECK AND ASCERTAIN THAT MESSAGE WAS PLACED ON ^{RECEIVED AND TO YOU}
BROADCAST AND ADVISE IF YOU HAVE ANY INDICATION
LIBERTY ACTUALLY RECEIVED. ~~EXPEDITE RELAY~~

~~BEST REGARDS CAPT RAISH~~

2. Advise also if ref B received for relay
to USS LIBERTY and if delivered. *Expedite*
~~Reply~~ Best Regards Capt Raish

ORIGINATOR SECTION	CINCUSNAVEUR													
N55	0	0	0	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	C	S
ACTION DEPARTMENT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	A	A
N5	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	4

No Dist

(PAGE 1 OF 1)

CON	
TOR	
SSN	1093
SGN	

DTC 081711 2 JUN

UNCLASSIFIED

NAVEUR NCU LON 2100/1 (REV 10-65)

Doc 27 EX 48 LIBERTY

SECRET

3. CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS AS KNOWN AT THIS TIME FOLLOWS:

060112Z JCS 080110Z RECEIVED AT JCS MSG CENTER.

080312Z JCS 080110Z RECEIVED AT CINCUSNAVEUR MSG CENTER AND RECEIVED BY MSG CENTER IN REPLY TO RFP-2 DTSIC.

080430Z JCS 080110Z RECEIVED AT NAVCOMSTA MOROCCO FOR RELAY TO COMSIXTEFLT.

UNKNOWN JCS 080110Z RECEIVED AT NAVCOMSTA PHIL FOR DELIVERY TO USS LIBERTY AND CTF 64 DUE ~~(MOROCCO)~~ TO MISROUTING BY JCS COMM CENTER.

080449Z NAVCOMSTA PHIL REROUTED JCS 080110Z TO NAVCOMSTA MOROCCO FOR USS LIBERTY AND CTF 64 (MOROCCO REPORTS MSG NEVER RECEIVED).

080630Z NAVCOMSTA MOROCCO DELIVERED JCS 080110Z TO COMSIXTEFLT. DELAY DUE TO BACKLOG ON COMSIXTEFLT CIRCUIT AND MOROCCO FLEET BROADCAST.

080917Z COMSIXTEFLT 080917Z RECEIVED AT COMSIXTEFLT MSG CENTER (BOARD) ^{USS} LITTLE ROCK.

081055Z COMSIXTEFLT 080917Z RECEIVED AT NAVCOMSTA MOROCCO FROM COMSIXTEFLT.

081106Z NAVCOMSTA MOROCCO ROUTED COMSIXTEFLT 080917Z TO NAVCOMSTA ASMARA VIA SAN PABLO DCS-USAF MAJOR RELAY.

PAGE 2 OF 3

SSN 1100
091610Z
JUNE 67

SECRET

NAVEUR NCU LON 2100/22 (9-65)

Classification (cancelled) (Changed to
 1 by authority of *OPNAV Memo Ser 009 D32/73*
 on *29 Jun 76* *DCS* *21 Jun 76*

DECLASSIFIED

(Date) (Signature) (Rank)

418

SECRET

021106Z COMSIXTHFLT 080917Z RECEIVED AT CIRCONEAVIEW
MSG CENTER.

081200Z COMSIXTHFLT 080917Z RECEIVED BY US ARMY
COMM CENTER AT ASMARA FOR FURTHER RELAY TO
NAVCOMSTA ASMARA FOR RELAY TO USS LIBERTY.

081215Z US ARMY COMM CENTER ASMARA RELATED COMSIXTH-
FLT 080917Z ERRONEOUSLY TO NAVCOMSTA GREECE
FOR RELAY TO USS LIBERTY.

081506Z NAVCOMSTA GREECE RETURNED COMSIXTHFLT
080917Z TO US ARMY COMM CENTER AT ASMARA.

081510Z US ARMY COMM CENTER ASMARA RELAYED COMSIXTH-
FLT 080917Z TO NAVCOMSTA ASMARA FOR RELAY
TO USS LIBERTY.

081525Z NAVCOMSTA ASMARA PLACED COMSIXTHFLT
080917Z ON ASMARA BROADCAST ~~WHEREBY~~

~~WHEREBY THE MESSAGE WAS RECEIVED BY THE US ARMY COMM CENTER AT ASMARA~~

3. FOREGOING BEING FURTHER REFINED AS MORE
GP-4. POSITIVE INFO BECOMES AVAILABLE.

SSN 1100
091610Z
JUNE 67

PAGE 3 OF 3

SECRET

NAVEUR NCU LON 2100/22 (9-55)

DECLASSIFIED

Classification (cancelled) (changed to
1 by authority of OPRM memo Ser 09D327931
on 29 Jan 76 DRG/... 21 Jan 76
(Date) (Name)

418

NRVV KX0558Z02000018

TO CMC...
DE RUEPJS 0630 1801943
ZNY 00000
O P 091936Z JUNE 67 2771
FM JCS
TO RUEPBA/USCINCEUR
INFO R RMAA/CNO
R JENAA/USS LIBERTY
RDLK/CINCUSNAVEUR
RUTPRC/COMSIXTHFLT
BT

Liberty

JCS7531 J-3 SENDS.

SUBJECT: USS LIBERTY (U)

- REFS: A. JCS 7347/080115Z JUN 67
- B. CINCUSNAVEUR 080455Z JUN 67
- C. CINCINCEUR ECJOC/JRC 09045/080625Z JUN 67
- D. COMSIXTHFLT 080917Z JUN 67

1. (S) IN ORDER TO COMPLETE THE COMM PORTION OF THE JCS WRAP UP LIBERTY INCIDENT, REQUEST PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING INFO:

- A. TIME OF RECEIPT:
 - (1) REFS A, B, C, AND D BY USS LIBERTY.
 - (2) REFS A, B, AND C BY COMSIXTHFLT.

Downgraded to
UNCLASSIFIED
by 0725
10 Nov 76

PAGE 2 RUEPJS 0630 3 : 4 3 5

- (3) REF C BY CINCUSNAVEUR
- B. TIME OF TRANSMISSION FROM LAST RELAY STATION INCLUDING NAME RELAY STATION:
 - (1) REF B TO COMSIXTHFLT, USS LIBERTY.
 - (2) REF C TO CINCUSNAVEUR, COMSIXTHFLT, AND USS LIBERTY
 - (3) REF D TO USS LIBERTY.
- 2. (U) REQUEST RETRANSMIT REF B INFO TO JCS(JRC) AND CNO

CP-4
BT

ORIGINATOR SECTION	CINCUSNAVEUR												CITE	S D O						
	0	0	0	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N								
ACTION DEPARTMENT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

(PAGE 1 OF _____)

CON	
TOR	0346/10
CSR	
CCR	FL

091936 2 JUN 67
3 [REDACTED] (WHEN FILLED IN)

NAVJUR WCU LOR 2100/3 (REV 10-65)

Doc. 30 Ex 48 LIBERTY

CONFIDENTIAL

(WHEN FILLED IN)

NAVAL MESSAGE

REL. BY

J. H. Hasty

DRAFTED BY

CDR W. J. LONGHI

PRECEDENCE

FLASH

IMMED

PRIORITY

ROUTINE

AIR MAIL

ACTION

XXY

INFO

10 JUN 67

T-1

PHONE EXT. NO.

231

FROM:

CINCUSNAVEUR

TO:

COMSIXTHFLT

INFO:

FOR COMMUNICATION USE ONLY

TAPE CUTTER

PROOF READER

CGWFO

CWO

CONFIDENTIAL

A. USCINCEUR 080625Z JUN 67

B. JCS 091936Z JUN 67

1. CINCUSNAVEUR HAS BEEN DIRECTED TO TAKE REF B FOR ACTION BY USCINCEUR.

2. REQUIRE YOUR TOR OF REF A AND METHOD OF RECEIPT IN ORDER TO COMPLETE INFO REQUIRED BY REF B.

3. COMDESRON 12 HAS BEEN ASKED TO PROVIDE ANY INFO AVAILABLE ON RECEIPT OF PERTINENT MSGS BY USS LIBERTY.

GP-4

DECLASSIFIED

Classification (cancelled) (Changed to) by authority of OPNAV memo Ser 009032/T31

on 21 Jun 76 *DR Spain* of 21 Jun 76

(Date) (Signature: *Jab Sec Cont*) (Rank)

OFFICE OF THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL OF THE NAVY

(PAGE 1 OF 1)

ORIGINATOR SECTION	XXX XX													X		
N55	C	0	0	0	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	C	S	D
ACTION DEPARTMENT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	A	A	NCU
N5	1	2	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	4	0	LONDON
				B												

CON	
TOR	
SSN	1041
SEN	

DTG 101031 JUN 67

CONFIDENTIAL

(WHEN FILLED IN)

VV KX015CVV AGB832V

BW
YWFFII
CO RUDLKD
DE RUTPPC 052 1611205
ZNY SSUSS
O 101205Z JUN 67
FM COMSIXTHFLT
TO RUDLKD/CINCUSNAVEUR
INFO RUTPP/COMDESRON TWELVE
RUTPP/US LIBERTY
BT

COMM NOTE: UNDERLINED PORTION RECEIVED GARBL
MESSAGE IS IN SERVICE, CORRECTED COPY WILL
ROUTED WHEN RECEIVED, W2/RB/10JUN67

//CORRECTED COPY//

DESTROY ALL OTHERS

S ZRC R E T
REF (A) CINCUSNAVEUR 101036Z JUN 67*
REF (B) JCS 080110Z JUN 67

1. REF (A) ZEKEN FOR ACTION.
2. ACCORDING TO CO, USS HERTY, REF (B) AND ALL ASSOCIATED MSGS
TO PASS, CONTENT OF REF (B) WERE NOT RECEIVED ONBOARD LIBERTY
PRIOR TO ATTACK.

OP-3
BT

DECLASSIFIED

Classification (cancelled) (changed to
by authority of NSA memo SEC 009 D32/T31
on 19 Jun 76 of 21 Jun 76
[Date] [Signature] [Party]
OFFICE OF THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL OF THE NAVY

COMM NOTE: UNDERLINED PORTION CORRECTED PER ORIG SVC:TR/W-2/19 JUN 67

(PAGE 1 OF

ORIGINATOR SECTION	CINCUSNAVEUR											X	
ACTION DEPARTMENT	0101	002	003	011	012	013	014	015	016	017	A114	A110	REF LONDON

CON	
TOR	
SSN	1012339
SGH	

DATE 101205

SEC (WHEN FIL

NAVY... (5)

XERO COPY

XERO COPY

XERO COPY

TYPE WITHIN MARGIN ONLY

SECRET

(D) COMSIXTHFLT 080917Z. NEVER RECEIVED BY USS LIBERTY SINCE IT WAS NOT PLACED ON NAVCOMSTA ASMARA BROADCAST UNTIL 1525Z/08. SEE REF B FOR DETAILS.

2. REF C WAS READDRESSSED BY MY 081906Z TO USSINCENTR, JCS, CNO AND CINCLANTFLT FOR INFO. REF C RETRANSMITTED BY MY 100926Z TO JCS AND CNO IN REPLY TO PARA 2, REF A.

3. ACCORDING TO CO, USS LIBERTY, JCS OSOLLOZ AND ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ *(CERTAINLY)* MSGS ~~WHICH~~ CONTENT OF REF B WERE NOT RECEIVED ONBOARD LIBERTY PRIOR TO ATTACK.

4. REF B CONTAINS ALL INFO KNOWN AT THIS TIME CONCERNING JCS OSOLLOZ AND COMSIXTHFLT 080917Z. TRACER ACTION HAS BEEN INITIATED AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION WILL BE FORWARDED WHEN RECEIVED.

GP-4.

207

1063
101410 JUN 67

DECLASSIFIED

Classification (cancelled) (Changed to) by authority of *OPN Memo Ser 009D 32/T31*
on *29 Jun 76 DR Spain* *21 Jun 76*
(Date) (Signature) (Rank) PAGE 2

OFFICE OF THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL OF THE NAVY

SECRET

(Handwritten mark)

429

FORM 104 (10-65)

NNNK

XERO COPY

XERO COPY

XERO COPY

ACTION TAKEN:

JUN 17 8 03 AM '67

*Copy given to
JCS fact finding
team*

CZCKDA725ZCMGB601
PP RUDLKD
ZNY EEEEE ZFH1
ZC058568ZCHMB919
ZCHMB919VV NAA147 PNA013
PP RUDLKD
DE RUQPNA 013 1680530
ZNY EEEEE
P 175538Z JUN 67
FM COMIDEASTFOR
TO RUDLKD/CINCUSNAVEUR
INFO RUQPNA/NAVCOMMSTA ASMARA
BT

LIBERTY

JUN 17 1967
08 50Z

UNCLAS E F T O
FOR JCS FACT FINDING TEAM
A. CINCUSNAVEUR 16140Z JUN 67
B. COMSIXTHFLT 062349Z JUN 67
C. COMSIXTHFLT 080917Z JUN 67

IN ACCORDANCE WITH REF A FOLLOWING INFORMATION SUBMITTED:

- A. REF B APPEARS IN JRTI FILES OF THIS STATION AS JR NR 2 77 WITH APPROX. TOR 070531Z. JRTI FILES FOR PERIOD 070000Z TO 072359Z INDICATE NO UNUSAL RECEPTION ENCOUNTERED. D
- B. REF C APPEARS IN JRTI FILES OF THIS STATION AS JRNR 2443 WITH APPROX TOR 081527Z. ACTION ADDEE USS LIBERTY IS PRECEDED BY ROUTING INDICATOR RUTPP INDICATING MESSAGE MAY HAVE BEEN SENT ORIGINALLY TO NAVCOMMSTA MORROCCO FOR RELAY. JRTI FILES FOR PERIOD 080000Z TO 082359Z INDICATE NO UNUSAL RECEPTION PROBLEMS.

PAGE 2 RUQPNA 013 UNCLAS E F T O

C. BOTH REF A AND B WERE RECEIVED AS FIRST RUN TRAFFIC. NO RECORD OF REF A OR B BEING RECEIVED AS RERUNS.

BT

149

Doc. 39, Ex 48 - LIBERTY

1130

DCA EUR DE DCA MEA AND I GOT A WIRENOTE FOR U ALL THERE AND CAN
I GO AHEAD ANS SEND IT NOW PLSE KKKKK

PP 141111Z
FM TUSLOG DET 115 ANKARA TURKEY
TO DCA EUROPE VAHINGEN GERMANY

14 JUN 1967 11 49

BT
UNCLAS E F T O 115/M400/239
INQUIRY ON COMMSIXTHFLT MSG

A. COMMSIXTHFLT DTG 080917Z JUNE RESPONSE TO:

1. ORDER WIRE INQUIRY TO DCS STATION ASMARA REGARDING REFERENCE
A. BEING SENT TO NAVCOMMSTA GREECE RATHER THAN NAVCOMMSTA
ASMARA WAS THAT MESSAGE MISSENT TO NAVCOMMSTA GREECE DUE TO
OPERATOR ERROR. ASMARA RECEIVED MESSAGE ON 9C53 AND MISSENT IT
ON H780. IT WAS RETURNED TO THEM ON C373 AND THEN SENT TO
NAVCOMMSTA ASMARA ON CABLE (NO CCSD).

BT

Doc. 40 Ex 48 LIBERTY

MNNVV KXC37TKTBZVV QAA018
PP RUQPNA
DE RUQPNA 063 1672116
ZNY EEEEE
P 162116Z JUN 67
FM NAVCOMMSTA ASMARA
TO RUQPNA/CINCUSNAVEUR
INFO ZEN/COMIDEASTFOR
BT

ACTION TAKEN:

P.S.D.
JUN 17 11 17 PM '67

UNCLAS E F T O

FOR JCS FACT FINDING TEAM USS LIBERTY INVESTIGATION

A. YOUR 161450Z JUN 67

B. COMSIXTHFLT 062349Z JUN 67

C. COMSIXTHFLT 080917Z JUN 67

1. IAW REF A FOLL DATA IS SUBMITTED

2. REF B AND REF C DID IN FACT APPEAR ON ASMARA JR TT BCST.
JR MONITOR TAPE REELS (RECEIVED "REAL TIME" FROM XMTR SITE
RADIATED SIGNAL) CONFIRMS PARA 3 BELOW.

3. SERIAL NO. AND T. O. T.

A. REF B - JR NO. 2077 AT 070529Z

B. REF C - JR NO. 2443 AT 081525Z

4. RECORDS DO NOT INDICATE REFS B AND C WERE RERUN. AM RERUNNING ALL
MONITOR REELS FROM 070529Z TO 081800Z TO VERIFY. WILL ADVISE.

5. NO UNUSUAL TRANSMISSION CIRCUMSTANCESBG

BT

16 JUN 67 23 07Z

DECLASSIFIED

Classification (cancelled) (Changed to
) by authority of OPNAV Memo Ser 09D32/T2

on 29 Jan 76 DR/ma 21 Jan 76

(Date) (Signature) (Rank)

OFFICE OF THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL OF THE NAVY

Doc 41 Ex 49 - LIBERTY
(43)

32
~~SECRET~~

NNNN

9 JUN 67 00 30z

VV KXC161VV QAA010
PP RUGPNARQ
DE RUGPNA 039 1600625
ZNY EEEEE
P 090625Z JUN 67
FM NAVCOMMSTA ASMARA
TO RUGPNARQ/CINCUSNAVEUR
BT

Met 500 NS

UNCLAS E F T O
WIRENOTE FOR CAPT RAISH
A. YOUR W/N 081711Z JUN 67
B. MY W/N 081939Z JUN 67
C. COMSIXTHFLT 080917Z JUN 67
1. THIS AMPLIFIES REF B.
2. PRELIM INVES DELAY IN DELIVERY REF C REVEALS FOLLOWING
A) COMSIXTHFLT TOT 08/1106Z
B) AEZ (USA STRATCOMFAC) CLAIMS RECEIPT 08/1200Z
C) AEZ TOT TO NGR (NCS GREECE) 08/1215Z (ERRONEOUSLY)
D) AEZ CLAIMS REF A RECEIVED BACK FROM NGR AT 08/1506Z
E) TOR AT THISTA 08/1510Z
F) TOT JRIT ECST BY THISTA AT 08/1525Z
3. POSSIBLE DISCREPANCIES IN ABOVE TIMES, RECD THRU PRELIM INVES,
COULD BE CLEARED UP BY TRACER ACTION.

BT

Doc 42 Ex 48 LIBER

434

PAGE 2 RUQMVL 0900/1 S E C R E T NOFORN

CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS SURROUNDING USS LIBERTY INCIDENT AS OBSERVED AND RECORDED BY ALUSNA TEL AVIV CDR E.C. CASTLE, USNR:

1. (C) ALUSNA CALLED TO ISRAEL DEFENSE FORCE FOREIGN LIAISON OFFICE (IDF/FLO) AT APPROX 081400Z. MET THERE BY LT COL MICHAEL BLOCH, ASSISTANT IDF SPOKESMAN WHO SAID ISRAEL AIRCRAFT AND MTB'S HAD ERRONEOUSLY ATTACKED AN UNIDENTIFIED U.S. SHIP AT 081200Z POSIT 3125N 3333E. SAID MAYBE SHIP WAS U.S. NAVY. SAID HELICOPTERS IN RESCUE OPERATIONS. HAD NO OTHER INFO. MADE APOLOGIES AND REQUESTED INFO OF OTHER U.S. SHIPS NEAR WAR ZON COASTS. USDAO SENT FLASH MESSAGE, REF B.
2. (C) ALUSNA REPORTED INCIDENT TO U.S. AMBASSADOR WHO HAD JUST RECEIVED REPORT FROM ISRAELI FOREIGN MINISTRY (FONMIN). AMBASSADOR SUGGESTED ALUSNA COULD BE FLOWN TO SITE OF INCIDENT TO ATTEMPT IDENTIFY SHIP AND REQUESTED HELO FLIGHT FROM DIRECTOR OF UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF ISRAEL FONMIN.
3. (C) AT APPROX 081530Z DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF U.S. DEPT ISRAEL FONMIN CALLED ALUSNA AND SAID IDF HELOS HAD PUT U.S. SURVIVORS ABOARD ISRAELI NAVY SHIPS AND THAT ALUSNA COULD BE FLOWN TO MEET THEIR ARRIVAL IN PORT. BEFORE DEPUTY DIRECTOR COMPLETED HIS STATEMENT LT COL BLOCH CAME ON SAME PHONE AND SAID THE REPORT OF

PAGE 2 of 6

PAGE 3 RUSMVL 0900/1 S E C R E T NOFORN

PICKING UP SURVIVORS WAS COMPLETELY INACCURATE AND THAT NO SUCH ACTION HAD TAKEN PLACE. BLOCH THEN SAID THE ATTACKED SHIP HAD BEEN IDENTIFIED AS USS LIBERTY AND THAT FLO WAS ARRANGING HELO FLIGHT FOR ALUSNA TO FLY TO SHIP AND COMMUNICATE WITH ELECTRIC MEGAPHONE WITH C.O. OF LIBERTY. USDAO SENT FLASH MESSAGE, REF C.

4. (U) AT APPROX 081540Z, FLO CALLED ALUSNA AND SAID TO PROCEED TO FLO TO PICK UP ESCORT FOR HELO FLIGHT. ASTALUSNA ACCOMPANIED ALUSNA.
5. (C) AT 081610Z (TIME RECORDED BY ASTALUSNA), HELO WAS AIRBORNE FROM DOV HOSS AIRFIELD ON NORTHERN EDGE OF TEL AVIV. HELO PROCEEDED ON DIRECT INTERCEPT TO SHIP. AT 081625Z, HELO PASSED OVER THREE IDF MTB RUNNING NORTH. AT 081635Z, HELO WAS OVER USS LIBERTY BUT HAD NEITHER ELECTRIC MEGAPHONE OR HAND HELD SIGNAL LIGHT. ALUSNA HAD PLANNED TO BE LOWERED ABOARD LIBERTY FOR BRIEF CONFERENCE WITH C.O. ALUSNA IN CIVILIAN CLOTHES AND NOT ABLE TO CONVEY HIS IDENTITY TO BRIDGE OF LIBERTY. LIBERTY MADE PREPARATIONS TO RECEIVE ALUSNA ABOARD ON FORECASTLE. SPEED OF SHIP (WHICH IT IS ASSUMED) COULD NOT BE REDUCED FOR DAMAGE CONTROL REASONS) CAUSED HELO PILOT TO SAY HE COULD NOT MAKE TRANSFER. SHIP THEN WAVED OFF TRANSFER ATTEMPT. ALUSNA WROTE NOTE INQUIRING AS TO CASUALTIES

DECLASSIFIED

Classification (cancelled) (changed to _____)
) by authority of OPNAV 5510.1E AND DIA 5-18, 999/RD
OF 11 NOV 1976

on 16 Nov 76 [Signature] JAG Sec Mg.

(Date) (Signature) (Rank)

OFFICE OF THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL OF THE NAVY

PAGE 4 RUQMVL 0900/1 S E C R E T NOFORN
ON CALLING CARD AND DROPPED IT ABOARD LIBERTY IN IMPROMTU PACKAGE.
ALUSNA UNDERSTOOD SHIP TO SIGNAL AFFIRMATIVE CASUALTIES AND THOUGHT
THE NUMBER SENT WAS FOUR OR FORTY BUT IS UNCERTAIN OF TRANSMISSION
FROM HAND HELD LIGHT. HELO HAD TO DEPART BECAUSE OF FALL OF
DARKNESS. OFFICER ON BRIDGE GAVE A THUMBS UP SIGN. ENTIRE HELO
TRIP WAS FRUSTRATION AND ESSENTIALLY NON-PRODUCTIVE EXCEPT ALUSNA
WAS ABLE TO OBSERVE LIBERTY UNDERWAY ON OWN POWER AND TO NOTE
LIST AND SOME TOPSIDE DAMAGE. HELO DEPARTED LIBERTY AT 081700Z
AND TOUCHED DOWN TEL AVIV 081725Z.

6. (C) WHILE ALUSNA ON FLIGHT, DATT RECEIVED TELEPHONE REPORT
FROM IDF ARMY SPOKESMAN OF

DF PRESS NOTICE ON INCIDENT WHICH
WAS FOR RELEASE AT 081930Z. INTERIM COL TAYLOR OF DIA HELD PHONE
CONV WITH DATT. DATT UNDERSTOOD FROM PHONECON THAT LIBERTY NOT
SEEKING IDF ASSISTANCE AND THAT SHIP HAD SATISFACTORY RADIO COMM
WITH U.S. NAVY. INFO THIS PARA AND OTHER AMPLIFYING REMARKE
CONTAINED IN USDAO IMMEDIATE MSG REF D.

7. (C) ON RETURN EMBASSY, ALUSNA INFORMED THAT GENL GETTY OF
NMCC REQUESTED PHONE REPORT WHICH WAS MADE AT APPROX 082100Z.
SUBSTANCE OF PHONE CON SAME AS PARA 5 ABOVE.

8. (C) AT APPROX 091200Z, ARMA RECEIVED PHONE CALL FROM

PAGE 3 of 6 1516 152 JUN 67
QUOTE; PAGE 5 RUQMVL 0900/1 S E C R E T NOFORN

GENL CASSIBRY OF NMCC ASKING USDAO TEL AVIV TO DETERMIN IF
IDF PLANES OR SHIPS HAD SIGHTED ANY BODIES OR PICKED UP ANY
SURVIVORS. GENL SAID 22 MEN WERE MISSING BUT WERE POSSIBLY
ALL IN HOLD OF LIBERTY. GENL REQUESTED PHONE REPLY IF ANSER
AFFIRMATIVE. ALUSNA PASSED ENQUIRY TO FLO.

9. (S) AT 091300Z, LT COL BLOCH CALLED ALUSNA. ALUSNA WAS
EXPECTING REPLY TO INQUIRY ON MISSING MEN. INSTEAD BLOCH READ OFF
LIST OF SEVEN POINTS OF FURTHER INFORMATION CONCERNING LIBERTY INCIDENT
THESE WERE:

- A. SHIP WAS SIGHTED AND RECOGNIZED AS A NAVAL SHIP 13 MILES
FROM COAST.
 - B. PRESENCE IN A FIGHTING AREA IS AGAINST INTERNATIONAL CUSTOM.
 - C. THE AREA IS NOT A COMMON PASSAGE FOR SHIPS.
 - D. EGYPT HAD DECLARED THE AREA CLOSED TO NEUTRALS.
 - E. LIBERTY RESEMBLES THE EGYPTIAN SUPPLY SHIP EL QUSEIR.
 - F. SHIP WAS NOT FLYING FLAG WHEN SIGHTED. SHE MOVED AT QUOTE
HIGH SPEED UNQUOTE WESTWARD TOWARD ENEMY COAST.
 - G. IDF NAVY HAD EARLIER REPORTS OF BOMBARDMENT OF EL-ARISH FROM
SEA.
- ALUSNA PRESSED BLOCH FOR A LABEL FOR THE STATEMENT ASKING IF
BT

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Classification (cancelled) (Changed to
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on 16 Nov 76 [Signature] JAG Sec Myr OF 11 NOV 1976
(Date) (Signature) (Rank)
OFFICE OF THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL OF THE NAVY

S E C R E T NOFORN 0900/2 JUN 67.

FINAL SECTION OF TWO

THIS WERE AN OFFICIAL EXPLANATION OF THE INCIDENT. LCOL BLOCH COULD NOT SUPPLY A PREAMBLE ON HIS OWN AND ALUSNA REQUESTED HE CONSULT WITH SOME AUTHORITY WHO COULD. BLOCH CALLED BACK AND GAVE ABOVE NON-COMMITAL HEADING. USDAO SENT IMMEDIATE MSG REF E DESCRIBING ABOVE EXCHANGE AND COMMENTING ON UNLIKELYHOOD OF PROFESSIONAL NAVAL OFFICERS CONFUSING LIBERTY AND EL QUSEIR AND EVALUATING NAVY'S ERRONEOUS ATTACK AS RESULT OF EAGERNESS OF IDF NAVY TO GLEAN SOME PORTION OF GREAT VICTORY BEING WON BY IDF ARMY AND AIR FORCE.

10. (C) AT APPROX 091400Z, ALUSNA RECEIVED PHONE CALL FROM RADM MOORE AT NMCC REGARDING TYPE AND EXTENT OF SEARCHES FOR SURVIVORS MADE BY IDF NAVY. RADM MOORE PUT SPECIFIC QUESTIONS BUT PHONE CONNECTION DELIVERY POOR. ALUSNA STATED HE UNDERSTOOD

PAGE 4 of 6

PAGE 2 RUQMVL 0900/2 S E C R E T NTFORN

TENOR OF QUESTIONS AND WOULD ACT ON THAT BUT REQUESTED MSG BACKUP WITH DETAILED QUESTIONS. ON QUERY ALUSNA TOLD RADM MOORE THAT IN VIEW GENERAL RECENT NON-COOPERATION OF FLO REGARDING USDAO REQUESTS FOR INFO ON HOSTILITIES, SLOWNESS OF REPLY TO QUERY REGARDING POSSIBLE SURVIVORS, AND THE JUST RECEIVED QUOTE SEVEN POINTS UNQUOTE THAT U.S. REQUESTS FOR ISRAELI SEARCH ACTION WOULD PROBABLY GET BETTER RESPONSE AT LEVEL HIGHER THAN USDAO TO FLO. REQUESTS FOR INFO AND RENEWED SEARCH WERE PASSED TO FLO IMMEDIATELY.

11. (S) AT 091630Z, LCOL BLOCH TELEPHONE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS TO ALUSNA:

A. FOLLOWING ATTACK, 3 ISRAELI MTB'S OFFERED HELP TO LIBERTY BUT WERE REFUSED.

B. N

MTB'S CONTINUED SEARCH IN ATTACK AREA UNTIL 081504Z WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS EXCEPT FOR RECOVERY OF RUBBER LIFE BOATS AND OTHER EQUIPMENT.

C. MTB PERSONNEL STATE THEY SAW NO ONE JUMP INTO THE SEA OR IN SEA.

D. IDF HELICOPTERS WERE OVER LIBERTY 081305Z TO 081311-Z AND WERE WAVED OFF. HELOS CONDUCTED SEARCH UNTIL 081504Z

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on 16 Nov 76, [Signature] JAG Sec Mgr
999 TRDS-3A OF 11 NOV 10
(Date) (Signature) (Rank)
OFFICE OF THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL OF THE NAVY

TCOL BLOCH HAD INTERVIEWED ALL PILOTS OF ATTACKING AIRCRAFT EXCEPT ONE. ALL STATED THEY HAD SEEN NO ONE IN OR ENTERING WATER.

F. IDF HAD INSTITUTED LIGHT PLANE SEARCH UPON RECEIPT OF QUESTIONS REGARDING SEARCHES AND WOULD CONTINUE UNTIL DARKNESS 9 JUNE.

G. IDF NAVY ESTIMATED STANDARD WIND AND CURRENT CONDITIONS WOULD CARRY SURVIVORS OR DEBRIS TO POINT ON GAZA STIP COAST OPPOSITE CITY OF RAFAH.

H. IDF AGREED TO CONDUCT SEARCH ATTACK AREA AND WATERS TO GAZA COAST LINE BEGINNING FIRST LIGHT 10 JUNE.

I. AS ABOVE BEING DRAFTED AS USDAO FLASH MSG, REF F, LTCOL BLOCH TELEPHONED INFO THAT LAST PILOT HAD BEEN INTERVIEWED. THAT PILOT THOUGHT HE SAW SIX TO TEN YELLOW BOATS WITH PEOPLE IN WAKE OF LIBERTY. BLOCH DISCREDITED THIS REPORT.

10. (S) AT 100730Z, LTCOL BLOCH REPORTED AIR SEARCH WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS BEGAN AT 100300Z AND THAT SURFACE SEARCH WOULD BEGIN IN AFTERNOON. ALUSNA RECOMMENDED TO US AUTHORITIES THAT IF NO RESULTS DEVELOPED BY NIGHTFALL, TERMINATION OF SEARCH BE AUTHORIZED. INFO THIS PARA SENT AS USDAO FLASH MSG, REF G.

PAGE 5 of 6 151615 JUNE 67

13. (S/NFD) AT APPROX 100930Z, USDAO SOURCE REPORTED SECONDARY SOURCE GAVE INFO GATHERED BY OVERHEARING IDF AF AIR-TO-GROUND CONTROL FREQUENCIES. INFO SUGGESTED THAT IDF AIRCRAFT MADE TWO OR THREE IDENTIFICATION PASSES OVER A SHIP SOMETIME PRIOR TO ATTACK ON LIBERTY. AIRCRAFT REPORTED SHIP HAD U.S. FLAG BUT NO PERSONNEL ON DECK. INFO THIS PARA FORWARDED TO LIMITED ADDRESSEES INCLUDING CNO AND DIA IN USDAO 0854 JUN 67.

14. (S) AT APPROX 101915Z, IDF SPOKESMAN REPORTED NEGATIVE RESULTS FROM DAY LONG AIR AND SURFACE SEARCH BUT SAID IDF NAVY STILL OPERATING IN AREA AND WOULD CONTINUE ALERT WATCH FOR SURVIVORS. THIS INFO SENT IN USDAO IMMEDIATE MSG, REF H.

15. (S/NFD) ON QUERY FROM DIA, USDAO TEL VIV IMMEDIATE MSG, REF I, REPORTED INABILITY TO RECHECK STORY OF SECONDARY SOURCE CITED PARA 13 ABOVE. HOWEVER USDAO WAS ABLE PROVIDE IN REF I INFO ON MTB ATTACK RECEIVED BY EMBASSY OFFICER FROM IDF NAVAL OFFICER WHO SAID HE WAS ABOARD MTB. SAID MTB'S LAUNCHED TORPEDOS AT LIBERTY WHEN THEY SAW HER UNDER ATTACK BY AIRCRAFT. MTB CREW SAW U.S. FLAG AFTER TORPEDO LAUNCH. SAID FLAG HAD BEEN OBSCURED BY SMOKE. IN SAME REF ALUSNA OFFERED PROBABLY BUT NOT CERTAIN SERIES OF EVENTS AS FOLLOWS:

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999/RDS-3/A OF 11 NOV 19
on 16 Nov 76 L.R. Spain SAC Sec Cont
(Date) (Signature) (Rank)
OFFICE OF THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL OF THE NAVY

PAGE 5 RUQMVL 0900/2 S E C R E T NOFORN

- A. IDF AIRCRAFT REPORTED AND IDENTIFIED LIBERTY AS U.S.
B. IDF AF HQ MAY OR MAY NOT HAVE BROADCAST INFO TO ALL UNITS BUT PROBABLY UNINFORMED AIRCRAFT RETURNING FROM STRIKE IN EGYPT HAD ATTACKED LIBERTY.
C. MTB'S SAW AIRCRAFT ATTACKING LIBERTY AND PRESUMED HER TO BE EGYPTIAN SHIP. THEY EAGERLY RACED INTO ACTION WITHOUT WAITING TO IDENTIFY OUR SHIP.
16. (S) AT APPROX 131200Z WHEN ALUSNA VISITED FLO ON OTHER BUSINESS, LTCOL BLOCH OPENED CONVERSATION BY SAYING HE WAS HEARING MALICIOUS UNTRUE STORIES ABOUT INCIDENT FROM U.S. (PRESUMABLY NEWSWEEK MAGAZINE ITEM). ALUSNA SAID ATED IN QUOTE MALICIOUS UNTRUE UNQUOTE STORIES AND REMINDED BLOCH THAT SOME MONTHS EARLIER WHEN USN AIRCRAFT HAD ACCIDENTALLY PENETRATED THE ISRAELI AIR CONTROL ZONES, THE IDF AF CHIEF OF INTELLIGENCE HAD ARROGANTLY ALTHOUGH FACETIOUSLY SUGGESTED THAT NEXT TIME HE MIGHT HAVE TO ATTACK THE PLANES OR SHIP. BLOCH SAID THAT THAT OFFICER TALKS QUOTE A LOT OF NONSENSE UNQUOTE AND THAT HE HOPED ALUSNA DIDN'T THINK OTHER IDF OFFICERS WERE LIKE THAT. ALUSNA REPLIED HE JUST WANTED IT TO BE CLEAR THAT HE WANTED TO HEAR NOTHING BUT

PAGE 6 of 6

PAGE 6 RUQMVL 0900/2 S E C R E T NOFORN

- OFFICIAL COMMENTS ON THE SUBJECT OF THE LIBERTY INCIDENT.
17. (S) AT 131255Z, LTCOL BLOCH CALLED ALUSNA TO REPORT IDF COFS GENL RABIN HAD APPOINTED AN OFFICIAL COURT OF INQUIRY IN THE INCIDENT INVOLVING USS LIBERTY. THIS INFO SENT AS USDAO IMMEDIATE MSG, REF J.
18. (C) ON 14 JUNE, ALUSNA WAS ASKED TO MEET IDF NAVY COMMANDER IN CHIEF, COMMODORE ERELL, AT FLO IN EARLY EVENING. COMMODORE ERELL PRESENTED APOLOGIES TO U.S. NAVY ON BEHALF OF IDF NAVY. ERELL STATED HE DID NOT WANT TO COMMENT ON ELEMENTS OF THE MISTAKE UNTIL AFTER COURT OF INQUIRY REACHED ITS FINDINGS. ON QUERY ERELL SAID HE PRESUMED FINDINGS WOULD BE TRANSMITTED TO USG. THIS INFO AND AMPLIFYING DETAILS SENT IN USDAO PRIORITY MSG, REF K.
19. COMMENT: A. ABOVE DOES NOT INCLUDE EXCHANGES BETWEEN U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT AND GOI OF WHICH U.S. MILITARY ATTACHES HERE WERE AWARE BUT IN WHICH THEY TOOK NO PART.
B. DESPITE THE LENGTH AND DETAIL OF ABOVE IT IS RECOGNIZED THAT IT DOES NOT ADD SIGNIFICANTLY TO REFERENCED MESSAGE REPORTS. FROM INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO USDAO TEL AVIV IT CAN BE PRESUMED THAT ONLY THE IDF KNOWS WITH CERTAINTY THE EXACT SEQUENCE OF EVENTS THAT LED TO THE TRAGIC INCIDENT.
C. COORDINATED WITH EMBASSY. GP-3.
- BT

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Classification (cancelled) (Changed to
) by authority of OPNAVSS10.1E AND DIAS-18,
99/R03-3A OF 11 NOV 1976
on 16 Nov 76 OR Spain JAG Sec Mgr.
(Date) (Signature) (Rank)
OFFICE OF THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL OF THE NAVY

UNCLASSIFIED

IMMEDIATE

081715Z JUN 67

FM: USS LIBERTY
TO: NAVCOMSTA GREECE
UN

UNGLAS

SITREP FOLLOWS AIR ATTACK

AT TIME 081205Z SHIP CUS 283° SP 5 KTS. POSITION 31°35.5N 3329E
SHIP ATTACK WITH UNID JET FIGHTERS BELIEVE 1SERIAL APPROX. 6 STRAFFING
RUNS. MADE ON SHIP TIME 081225Z 3 TORP BOATS 113 AS 1SERIAL APPROACHED
STARBOARD QUARTER AT HIGH SPEED HULL NUMBER BOAT 206-17 APPROX 08142Z
TOOK TORP BOAT UNDER FIRE 2000 YDS. LAUNCHED TORP ATTACK AND
STRAFFING RUN. 1 TORP PASSED APPROX 75 YARD ASTERN. 1 MIN LATER TOOK
TORP HIT STBD SIDE. SHIP HAS 10° STBD LIST. W/T BOUNDARY ESTABLISHED
AM HOLDING. AFTER ATTACK TORP BOATS CLEARED TO EAST ABOUT 5 MILES.
CLEARING AREA AT 10 KTS.

2. PHOTO OF A/C AND BOATS TAKEN. AFTER ATTACK COMPLETED 2 1SER.
HELO ORBITED SHIP AT 500 YDS. TIME 081255. 1SER. INSIGNIA CLEARLY
VIS. PHOTO TAKEN SEVERAL PROJ. RECOVERED FROM TOP SIDE AREA.
NUMBER DEAD EST 10. SEVERLY WOUNDED 15, TOTAL WOUNDED 75, NUMBER
MISSING UNDETERMINED.

3. SHIP UNABLE TO CARRY OUT MISSION WILL PERSONELL CASREPS ASAP

4. EXTENSIVE SUPERFICIAL TOPSIDE DAMAGE. DAMAGE LOWER DECKS FORWARD
DESTROYED.

5. COMM. CAP. LIMITED WILL PROVIDE FILM AND PROJ. AS DIRECTED
SHIP WILL REQUIRE DRY DOCK AND EXTENSIVE REPAIRS.

SHIP-STAFF-INFO

VIA...CIC

TOR...081750Z JUN 67

WU...TG

MSG NR 75/08

UNCLASSIFIED

081715Z JUN 67

UNCLASSIFIED

Ø 8 2 2 Ø 2 Z

JUN 67

FM: CTF 6Ø
TO: COMDESRON 12
INFO: COMSIXTHFLT

UNCLAS

1. REQUEST FOLLOWING INFO IN YOUR OPINION CAN BE PROVIDED EARLIEST.
2. REQUEST EST INJURIES TYPE AND NUMBER FOR TRANSFER.
 - A. BURNS
 - B. FRACTURES, HEAD AND SPINAL
 - C. FRACTURES, EXTRIMERTIES
 - D. CHEST INJURIES
 - E. ABDOMINAL
 - F. OTHER
 - G. AMBLUTORY
3. ADVISE QUANTITY Ø-BLOOD REQUEST FOR EARLIEST DELIVERY FROM COURAGE.
4. ADVISE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT FOR HOSPITAL CORPSMAN REQUIRED PRIOR TO OR DURING PATIENT TRANSFER IF DIRECTED.
5. RECOMMEND TYPE TRANSFER.

STAFF--IN
VIA...CIC
TOR...Ø9/Ø42ØZ JUN 67
W/U...FB
MSG NR 18

UNCLASSIFIED

Ø 8 2 2 Ø 2 Z/JUN 67

43

1178

48

From: Operations Officer, USS DAVIS (DD 937)
To: Commander Destroyer Squadron Twelve
Subj: Hi Comm traffic, Liberty Incident

1. Logs were not maintained. However, the following attached messages were received over the HICOMM NET on 8 and 9 June and are considered pertinent.
2. Guard of the HICOMM NET was commenced at 081650B.
3. UHF communications on 277.8 MGS was established at 090130B with USS LIBERTY.

Glen W. Smith
 Glen W. SMITH
 LT USN

Doc. 47 Ex 48-LIBERTY



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

PRIORITY

121057Z JUN 67

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FM: COMSIXTHFLT

TO: CTF 60 / USS AMERICA / USS SARATOGA

INFO: COMDESRON 12

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
LIBERTY INCIDENT

A. CINCUSNAVEUR 111311Z JUN

1. REQ FWD ASAP TO COMDESRON 12 AND COMSIXTHFLT COPIES ALL INCOMING/OUTING RADIO MESSAGES INCLUDING VOICE CONCERNING LIBERTY INCIDENT TO BE USED IN CONJUNCTION REF A COVERING PERIOD 080001Z TO 121000Z.
2. FOR COMDESRON 12: UPON RECEIPT DELIVER MESSAGES TO RADM KIDD.

GP-3

*****REF A: OF HIGHER PRECEDENCE, TO SEE COME TO RADIO *****

RIR TO SWO

DECLASSIFIED

Classification (Cancelled) (changed to) by authority of OPNAV memo Ser 009D32

on 29 Jun 76 *Dr Spain* of 21 Jun 76

(Date) *JAG Sec Cont* (Signature) (Rank)

OFFICE OF THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL OF THE NAVY

STAFF---IN
VIA-----KRNR 8420
TOR-----1208Z/12 JUN 67
W/U-----DH
MSG NR--43

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

121057Z JUN 67

Doc. 48 Ex 48 LIBERTY

1/1/76

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

PRIORITY
ROUTINE

130720Z JUN 67

FM: COMSIXTHFLT

TO: NCS ASMARA / USS MASSEY / CINCSNAVEUR / NCS GREECE / NCS MOROCCO
CTF 67 / NAVRADSTA LONDONDERRY / NCS SPAIN / CTF 61

INFO: COMDESRON ONE TWO

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
VOICE RADIO LOG
A. BY 121107Z JUN 67

1. TO EXPEDITE RECEIPT, REQ FWD PERTINENT PORTIONS VOICE RADIO LOGS REF A TO COMDESRON 12 VIA MSG. COMPLETE COPY STILL DESIRED VIA MAIL 1AW PARA 1 REF A.

GP-4

REF A...REQ FWD ASAP COPY YOUR VOICE RADIO LOGS...ETC....

DECLASSIFIED

STAFF..IN
VIA...KPNR 0909Z
TOR...131108Z JUN 67
W/U...HK
MSG NR. 22/13

Classification (cancelled) (changed to
) by authority of OPNAV memo ser 009032/T31
on 29 Jun 76 *JK Spain* of 21 Jun 76
JAG Sec Conf
(Date) (Signature) (Mark)
OFFICE OF THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL OF THE NAVY

130720Z JUN 67

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DOC. 49 Ex 48 LIBERI

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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P R I O R I T Y

1 3 1 4 0 0 Z JUN 67

FM: CTF 61

TO: COMDESRON 12

↓

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VOICE RADIO LOGS

A. COMSIXTHFLT 130721Z JUN 67

1. VOICE RADIO LOGS ON CIRCUIT E04.04 NOT MAINTAINED DURING SUBJECT PERIOD.
2. INTERROGATION OF RADIO PERSONNEL REVEALS THAT LIBERTY WAS HEARD ON CIRCUIT AND THAT ONE INFORMAL MESSAGE WITH NO DATE TIME GROUP CONCERNING LIBERTY'S INABILITY TO COMMUNICATE WITH COMSIXTHFLT WAS RELAYED BY CTF 61 TO NCS GREECE.

GP-4

REF A: VOICE RADIO LOG TO BE FWD TO CDS-12

DECLASSIFIED

STAFF--IN
 VIA---KRRR 9273
 TOR---1629Z
 W/U---DH
 MSG NR-51

Classification (cancelled) (changed to
) by authority of OPNAV memo Ser 009032/T31
 on 20 Jun 76. *OR Speer* of 20 Jun 76
 JAW Sec Cont
 (Date) (Signature) (Mark)
 OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF, DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

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131400Z JUN 67

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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102

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PRIORITY

131620Z

JUN 67

FM: USS KASSEY

TO: COMDESRON ONE TWO

✓

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A. COMSIXTHFLT 121107Z JUN 67

B. COMSIXTHFLT 130720Z JUN 67

1. VOICE RADIO LOG CKT E04.04 DURING PERIOD 8-9 JUN 67. ALL TIMES B
TIME TO FROM TEXT

8 JUNE 1967
2255 DEPUTY (GARBLED)

PROVIDE TO (RBJTDK) (XRGYRP)
(NP) AT 16 KNOTS TO REMAIN
VICINITY DESTINATION. INSTRUCTIONS
WILL FOLLOW.

2312 DERAIL FAST CHARGER

REQUEST YOU ADVISE ME WHEN STEEL
JAW IS AIRBORN.

2322 ROCKSTAR BLUE CAP

WILL YOU SEND LIST OF CASUALTIES
THIS CIRCUIT

2323 BLUE CAP ROCKSTAR

BE ADVISED I WILL SEND LIST OF
CASUALTIES THIS CIRCUIT

2335 CACTUS PETE DERAIL

ACCORDING TO ROUTING OF
JOINTCHIEF STAFF 080110Z WE DO
NOT BELIEVE SUBJECT MESSAGE HELD
BY ROCKSTAR.

9 JUL 67

00:5- FAST CHARGER ROCKSTAR
2. COMPLETE LOG SENT 130800Z JUN 67

(ROCKSTAR 082202Z JUN 67)

CP-4

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Classification (cancelled) (changed to
) by authority of OPNAV memo Ser 009032/T31
on 29 Jun 76 *OK Spain* of 21 Jun 76
(Date) (Signature) JAG Sec Cont (Rank)
OFFICE OF THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL OF THE NAVY

STAFF---IN
VIA---KR NR 9433
TOR---131955Z JUN 67
U---PT
MSG NR ---70

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

131620Z JUN 67

DOC 51 Ex 48 LIBERTY

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

629 ~~443~~