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12 June 1967

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Major General Joseph R. Russ, USA
Chief, Joint Command and Control
Requirements Group
Room 1D828, The Pentagon
Washington, D. C. 20301

Dear General Russ:

Upon learning of the incident involving the USS LIBERTY, I immediately directed the establishment of an NSA group to examine all information leading up to and involving the incident. Specifically, the group was tasked to examine (a) the requirement for deploying the USS LIBERTY to the Southeast Mediterranean and the operational and technical reasons bearing on its positioning, and (b) whether NSA operational and technical control responsibilities were fulfilled according to existing instructions.

On the basis of information available to it through 11 June, the group prepared a report covering the period 23 May - 8 June. Because the report might be of value in your examination of the USS LIBERTY incident, a copy of it is attached.

The report contains very sensitive information. I therefore urge that it be handled on a need-to-know basis and that it be returned to NSA when the JCS Fact-Finding Team completes its task.

Faithfully yours,

Declassified and approved for release by NSA on 11-17-2006 pursuant to E.O. 12958, as amended. ST Case 51671

/s/ MARSHALL S. CARTER

MARSHALL S. CARTER
Lieutenant General, U. S. Army
Director

Incl:
Report to the DIRNSA
Copy No. 3

APPENDED DOCUMENTS CONTAIN CODEWORD MATERIAL

THIS CORRESPONDENCE MAY BE DOWNGRADED TO CONFIDENTIAL UPON REMOVAL OF

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Editor's Note: The enclosure is listed separately as: Report to the Director NSA: USS Liberty (AGTR-5), 28 May - 8 June 1967