

NAVAL MESSAGE

~~SECRET~~

NAVY DEPARTMENT

IMMEDIATE  
O 201044Z JUN 67  
FM CINCUSNAVEUR

Declassified and approved for  
release by NSA, the U.S. Navy  
and DIA on 03-08-2007  
pursuant to E.O. 12958, as  
amended. ST 51667

INFO CNO  
SECNAV  
JSCINCEUR

P 191200Z  
FM USDAO TEL AVIV ISRAEL

~~NOFORN~~

TO CINCUSNAVEUR  
DIA

INFO COMSIXTHFLT

297091

~~SECRET NOFORN~~ 0933 JUN 67.

USS LIBERTY INCIDENT, REF USDAO TEL AVIV SECRET NOFORN 0884 JUN 67.

1. U.S. EMBASSY OFFICER HAS HAD FURTHER CONVERSATION WITH YOUR ISRAELI MTB OFFICER (SEE PARA 3 OF REF) AND REPORTS FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BY THAT OFFICER:
  - A. MTB'S WERE OFF GAZA ON THE AFTERNOON (SIC) OF THE ATTACK ON LIBERTY WHEN THEY RECEIVED A REPORT OR RUMOR THAT AN EGYPTIAN SHIP WAS SHELLING EL ARISH FROM THE SEA, THE MTB'S PUT TO SEA DN CLOSED THE UNIDENTIFIED VESSEL, THEY SAW PLANES ATTACKING AND CLOSED ON THE SHIP FROM ABOUT 10 MILES OUT, WHEN TEE EEE' A POINT WHERE THEY COULD MAKE OUT THE SAPE OF THE SHIP THEY CHECKED THEIR QUOTE GREEN BOOK UNQUOTE AND IDENTIFIED LIBERTY AS EL QUSEIR.
  - B. THE SOURCE OFFICER SAID HE WAS COMM OFFICER ON HIS MTB AND WORKED THE SIGNAL LIGHT HIMSELF. HE SENT THE INTERNATIONAL REQUEST FOR IDENTIFICATION TO LIBERTY, A - A AND LIBERTY RESPONDED WITH A - A, THE C.O. OF MTB THOUGHT THIS WAS AN EVASION AND HAVING SEEN PLANES ATTACK LIBERTY THE MTB'S ORDERED A TORPEDO ATTACK.
  - C. ABOUT SIX TORPEDOS WERE FIRED FROM THE THREE MTB'S BUT ONLY ONE RAN TRUE, THE OTHERS WERE DUDS QUOTE LOUSY ITALIAN TORPEDOS UNQUOTE.
  - D. AFTER FIRING

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TORPEDOS THE MTB'S HAD CLOSED IN AND RAKED THE  
LIBERTY WITH MACHING GUNS.  
E. THERE HAS BEEN AN IDF INVESTIGATION OF SOME SORT AND THE  
OF THE MTB IS VERY DISTRAUGHT.  
F. THE IDF NAVY HAD BEEN KIBBED BY THE IDF AF FOR NAVY  
INEFFECTIVENESS.  
COMMENT: THE SOURCE ISRAELI OFFICER IS A RESERVIST ABOUT 33 YEARS  
OLD WHO WAS RECALLED TO SERVICE DURING THE MOBILIZATION PRIOR TO  
HOSTILITIES. GP-3

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