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pursuant to E.O. 12958, as
amended. ST case 51650.

MICC CWO

13 JUN 67 13 28z

NMA596
OO RUEPJS
DE RUFFBK 037 1611106
ZNY SSSSS
O 101105Z JUN 67 ZFF 3&6
FM USCINCEUR
TO RUEPJS/JCS
INFO RUDLKD/USNAVEUR
BT

~~SECRET~~ ECDC 09201. REFERENCE: USDAO TEL AVIV
091315Z. SUBJECT: USS LIBERTY.

1. (S) CURRENT INFO AVAILABLE INDICATES LIBERTY CONDUCTED NO SEARCH FOR PERSONNEL BECAUSE THERE WAS NO REPORT THAT ANY PERSONNEL WERE OVERBOARD. FURTHER THE SHIP WAS SERIOUSLY DAMAGED AND ANTICIPATED FURTHER ATTACKS. CONSEQUENTLY, SHE CLEARED THE AREA AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND NO PERSONNEL WERE SEEN IN OR RECOVERED FROM THE WATER. COMMANDING OFFICER, LIBERTY, BELIEVES ALL MISSING PERSONNEL ARE TRAPPED BELOW IN WATER FILLED COMPARTMENTS WITH NO POSSIBILITY OF SURVIVAL. THIS BELIEF IS SHARED BY MAINTENANCE OFFICER SIXTH FLT WHO INSPECTED LIBERTY THIS DATE. EARLIEST DATE FLOODED COMPARTMENTS CAN BE OPENED TO ACCOUNT FOR MISSING PERSONNEL CANNOT BE DETERMINED AT THIS TIME. COMPARTMENTS SHOULD NOT BE OPENED PRIOR TO DRY DOCKING FOR FEAR OF FURTHER FLOODING. ANTICIPATE LIBERTY WILL ENTER SHIP YARD FOR DRY DOCKING AND

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REPAIRS AT EITHER MALTA OR NAPLES DEPENDING ON AVAILABILITY OF DRY DOCK. SHIP COULD ARRIVE MALTA NO EARLIER THAN 13 JUN, NAPLES 14 JUNE.

2. (S) REGRET THAT COMPARTMENTS CANNOT BE OPENED EARLIER. TO DO SO WOULD PERIL THE SHIP AND THE LIVES OF SURVIVORS WHO ARE TAKING THE CRIPPLED SHIP TO PORT.

GP-1.
BT