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~~SECRET~~

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
NATIONAL MILITARY COMMAND CENTER
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~~NOFORN~~

IMMEDIATE

~~SECRET NOFORN 0884 JUN 67.~~
REF DIAAP-5 7657 JUNE 67.

1. HAVE QUERIED OUR PRIMARY SOURCE WHO SAYS IMPOSSIBLE AT THIS TIME TO GO BACK TO THE SECONDARY. SECONDARY SOURCE IS NOT, IN FACT, A WITTING SUPPLIER OF INFO BUT RATHER A KNOWLEDGEABLE PERSON WHOSE CONVERSATIONS OCCASIONALLY REVEAL USEFUL INFO. TO ASK DIRECT QUESTIONS WOULD PUT HIM ON GUARD AND DRY UP THE SOURCE.

2. PRIMARY SOURCE STATES FROM CONTEXT OF ORIGINAL CONVERSATION HE BELIEVES STRONG PROBABILITY THE REFERENCE TRANSMISSIONS TOOK PLACE PRIOR

TO 080600Z.

3. FURTHER INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM EMBASSY OFFICER WHO SPOKE TO YOUNG IDF NAVY OFFICER. THE NAVY OFFICER CLAIMS HE WAS ABOARD ONE OF ATTACKING MTBS. MTB SAW A SHIP UNDER AIR ATTACK WITH SMOKE ISSUING FROM SIDES. THOUGHT THEY SAW GUNDS ON BOW. THEY JOINED IN ATTACK AND AFTER TORPEDO LAUNCH AT ABOUT ONE MILE CLOSED TO SHORT DISTANCE AT WHICH TIME THEY SAW US FLAG WHICH HAD BEEN OBSCURED BY SMOKE. OFFICER SAYS CO OF HIS MTB EXTREMELY REMORSEFUL AND CONCERNED.

4. FROM DATA AVAILABLE HERE ALUSNA RECONSTRUCTS PROBABLE BUT NOT CERTAIN SERIES OF EVENTS.

A. IDF AIRCRAFT REPORTED SHIP AND IDENTIFIED HER AS US.

B. IDF AF HQ MAY OR MAY NOT HAVE BROADCAST INFO TO ALL UNITS, BUT PROBABLY UNINFORMED AIRCRAFT RETURNING FROM STRIKE IN EGYPT WITH UNUSED ROUNDS ATTACKED LIBERTY.

C. MTB'S SAW AIRCRAFT ATTACK AND PRESUMED LIBERTY TO BE EGYPTIAN SHIP. THEREFORE THEY EARLY RACED INTO

ACTION WITHOUT WAITING TO IDENTIFY OUR SHIP

5. COORDINATED WITH EMBASSY GP3 BT NNNN

ACT..DIA-15

FILE-1 (16) KMH/LE

REF A DIA