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NAVAL MESSAGE

~~SECRET~~

NAVY DEPARTMENT

IMMEDIATE
O 110225Z JUN 67
FM CINCUSNAVEUR

TO COMSERVLANT
COMSIXTHFLT
COMFAIRMED
COMSERVFORSIXTHFLT
CTG SIX ZERO PT FIVE
AMEMB MALTA
DIRNAVSECGRUEUR
DIRNAVSECGRU
COMNAVSTA ROTA

INFO USCINCEUR
JTF SIX ZERO
CNO
CINCLANTFLT

(Handwritten circled numbers: 131, 032, 033)
Class

M. Parry

DOCUMENT/INFORMATION NOT TO BE DISSEMINATED OUTSIDE OF NSA WITHOUT PRIOR P22 CLEARANCE

294892 *(Handwritten initials)*

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SECURITY OF LIBERTY DRY DOCKING (C)

1. TELEPHONE CONVERSATION INDICATES THAT RADM RENKEN, COMMANDER SERVICE FORCE, ATLANTIC FLEET, WILL SHORTLY LEAVE NORFOLK FOR MALTA TO BE PRESENT AT DRY DOCKING OF LIBERTY ON 13 JUNE.
2. WRADM RENKEN HAS BEEN MADE AVAILABLE TO ORGANIZE AND TAKE CHARGE OF ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE TWO TASKS OF PARA THREE BELOW.
3. ON PUMPING OF DRY DOCK THERE WILL BE TWO PRIMARY REQUIREMENTS. ONE IS RECOVERY OF BODIES AND OTHER IS PRESERVATION OF SECURITY OF DOCUMENTS, EQUIPMENTS, AND SPACES. IT IS POSSIBLE FOR EXAMPLE, THAT, WITHOUT PROPER PRECAUTIONS, DOCUMENTS MAY BE FLUSHED OUT OF SHIP INTO DRY DOCK AS WATER RECEDES.
4. FOLLOWING SUPPORTING ACTION REQUESTED:
 - A. COMFAIRMED SEND TO MALTA SUFFICIENT USN MEDICAL PERSONNEL TO RECOVER BODIES FROM SHIP ITSELF.
 - B. COMFAIRMED DETERMINE BY PHONE RADM RENKEN'S TRANSLANT TRAVEL PLANS AND ARRANGE ONWARD AIR FROM ROTA TO MALTA. USE PATROL PLANE IF NECESSARY.

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CONTAINER NO.	PAGE	OF	PAGE	TIME OF RECEIPT	DATE TIME GROUP
015961/1/EW <i>pl</i>	1		2	11/0317Z	110225Z JUN 67

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C. COMSERVFOR SIXTHFLT PROVIDE APPROPRIATE ENGINEERING PERSONNEL FOR ASSESSMENT OF REPAIR REQUIREMENTS AND FOLLOW-ON SUPERVISION.

D. AMEMB MALTA PLEASE COORDINATE LOCAL U.S. NAVY, ROYAL NAVY, AND NECESSARY MALTESE OFFICIALS TO ENSURE SOME CONTROL OF SIGHTSEERS AND PRESS AS DOCK IS PUMPED DOWN. IT APPEARS APPROPRIATE TO RIG CANVAS TO BE LOWERED OVER SHIP'S SIDE TO COVER HOLE AS DOCK IS PUMPED DOWN. THIS COULD BE EXPLAINED AS REASONABLE RESPECT FOR THE DEAD STILL BELIEVED TO BE IN COMPARTMENT.

5. PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICERS WILL BE DESIGNATED BY CINCUSNAVEUR AND SHOULD ARRIVE MALTA ON MONDAY.

6. NAVAL SECURITY GROUP AND DIRNSA REPRESENTATIVES FROM NSA EUROPE WILL BE SEPARATELY ARRANGED FOR.

7. CINCUSNAVEUR WILL SEPARATELY MAKE COOPERATIVE ARRANGEMENTS WITH ROYAL NAVY IN LONDON.

8. COMNAVSTA ROTA BE SURE RADM RENKEN HAS THIS AS HE PASSES THROUGH ROTA.

9. COMSIXTHFLT DESIGNATE SHIP TO REMAIN MALTA TO PROVIDE COMMUNICATIONS FOR RADM RENKEN AS LONG AS HE NEEDS IT. INFORM THOSE WHO NEED THIS INFO NAME OF SHIP.

10. FOR ALL: PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF RECENT PRESS COMMENT, IT IS IMPORTANT TO PRESERVE SECURITY OF LIBERTY'S CAPABILITIES AND MISSION. SHE IS PROPERLY IDENTIFIED IN PUBLIC AS A COMMUNICATIONS RESEARCH SHIP WHICH WAS DIVERTED FROM HER RESEARCH ASSIGNMENT TO PROVIDE IMPROVED COMMUNICATION RELAY LINK WITH THE SEVERAL U.S. EMBASSIES AROUND THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN DURING THE CURRENT TROUBLES.

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CONTROL NO.	PAGE	OF	PAGE	TIME OF RECEIPT	DATE TIME GROUP
015961/1/EW	2		2	11/0317Z	110225Z JUN 67

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