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1. (C) SITUATION. USS LIBERTY HAS BEEN SEEN AND PHOTOGRAPHED BY NEWSMEN FROM USS AMERICA AND FROM AIRCRAFT. HER EXTERNAL CONFIGURATION IS UNCLASSIFIED. BECAUSE OF DAMAGE TO HER HULL, CLASSIFIED SPACES AND EQUIPMENT MAY BE VISIBLE FROM BOATS

ALONGSIDE DURING ENTRY TO PORT AND, UNLESS MASKED, BE VISIBLE AS THE DRYDOCK IS PUMPED OUT. IT IS EXPECTED THAT NEWSMEN, I NOTTM MOTION PICTURE PHOTOGRAPHERS, WILL BE IN MALTA

SPECIFICALLY TO COVER THE ARRIVAL AND DOCKING OF LIBERTY. THEY

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WILL WANT TO PHOTOGRAPH THE SHIP AND CREWMEN, AND INTERVIEW CREWMEN, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

2. (C) MISSION: TO CONDUCT PUBLIC AFFAIRS FOR TF 100 AND ALSO THE COURT OF INQUIRY CONVENED BY CINCSNAVEUR IN ORDER TO SATISFY LEGITIMATE INTERESTS OF NEWSMEN WITHOUT COMPROMISE OF CLASSIFIED

INFORMATION, UNWARRANTED INTERFERENCE WITH OPERATIONS, OR INVASION OF INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS OF PRIVACY.

3. (S) EXECUTION:

5 APPENDIX ONE TO THIS ANNEX CONTAINS THE STATEMENT AND POLICY GUIDANCE ISSUED BY USCINCEUR IN HIS MESSAGE ICAP 09099/0816502

JUNE. THIS GUIDANCE WILL BE FOLLOWED AT ALL TIMES. NOTHING WILL BE

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B. APPENDIX TWO OF THIS ANNEX CONTAINS QUOTATIONS FROM AN ASSOCIATED PRESS STORY FILED BY A CORRESPONDANT WHO WAS ABOARD USS AMERICA ON 9 JUNE, AND COMMENTS IN REBUTTAL BY COMMANDER SIXTH FLEET TO NEWSMEN ON 10 JUNE. PERSONNEL OF TF 100 QUERIED WILL REPLY THAT THEY HAVE NOTHING TO ADD TO PREVIOUS OFFICIAL STATEMENTS ON THIS SUBJECT. ALL PUBLIC AFFAIRS ACTIVITIES WILL BE CONDUCTED WITH THE AIM OF MAINTAINING CREDIBILITY OF THE OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS REGARDING THE MISSION OF USS LIBERTY.

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C. BEFORE ENTERING PORT, CTG 100.7 WILL TAKE ALL PRACTICABLE STEPS REQUIRED TO OBSCURE PUBLIC VIEW OF CLASSIFIED SPACES CAUSED HULL DAMAGE. CTF 100 WILL ASSIST WITHIN LIMITATIONS OF FACILITIES AT MALTA AS PRACTICABLE.

D. NORMAL RESTRICTIONS ON UNOFFICIAL PHOTOGRAPHY IN THE LOCAL DOCKYARD WILL APPLY. IN ADDITION, LOCAL AUTHORITIES WILL BE REQUESTED TO PROHIBIT NEWSMEN FROM THE IMMEDIATE VICINITY OF THE DOCKYARD:

- (1) WHILE THE SHIP IS ENTERING THE DOCK, UNLESS CTF 100 IS SATISFIED THAT THE TORPEDO HOLE IN THE HULL IS ADEQUATELY COVERED.
- (2) WHILE THE DRYDOCK IS BEING PUMPED OUT, REGARDLESS OF COVERING.

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(3) AFTER THE DOCK IS PUMPED OUT, UNTIL ALL REMAINS HAVE

BEEN REMOVED AND CLASSIFIED MATTER SAFEGUARDED.

E. IF QUERIED BY NEWSMEN, RATIONALE FOR RESTRICTIONS ABOVE

WILL BE:

(1) PRIMARILY OUT OF CONSIDERATION OF FAMILIES OF MISSING

PERSONNEL, SINCE REMAINS MAY BE IN THE EXPOSED COMPARTMENT AND

VISIBLE TO PHOTOGRAPHERS.

(2) COMMUNICATIONS SPACES NORMALLY CONTAIN CLASSIFIED

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EQUIPMENT AND ARE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC. WE HAVE NO IMMEDIATE

ASSESSMENT OF DAMAGE WITHIN THIS COMPARTMENT AND MUST ASSUME SOME

CLASSIFIED EQUIPMENT IS EXPOSED.

F. UNCLASSIFIED PHOTOGRAPHY OF THE SHIP IN DRY DOCK MAY BE

PERMITTED AFTER THE TORPEDO HOLE HAS BEEN COVERED, OR AFTER ALL

REMAINS AND CLASSIFIED MATTER HAVE BEEN REMOVED, AT DISCRETION

OF CTF 100.

G. NEWSMEN WILL NOT BE PERMITTED ABOARD THE SHIP WITHOUT

PERMISSION OF CTF 100 AND CONCURRENCE OF CTG 100.7.

5 OFFICERS AND CREWMEN OF USS LIBERTY WILL NOT RPT NOT GRANT

INTERVIEWS UNTIL AUTHORIZED BY CINCSNAVEUR AFTER COMPLETION OF

THE COURT OF INQUIRY. IF QUERIED AS TO THE REASON FOR THIS POLICY,

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REQUIRED. UNCLASSIFIED PHOTOGRAPHY WILL BE CAREFULLY SEGREGATED FROM RECORD PHOTOGRAPHY AND FORWARDED SEPARATELY.

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F. COORDINATING INSTRUCTIONS:

(1) CTG 102.3 WILL ESTABLISH LIAISON WITH THE PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER OF AMEMB VALLETTA. FINAL AUTHORITY IN UNITED STATES PUBLIC AFFAIRS MATTERS WITHIN A FOREIGN COUNTRY RESTS WITH THE AMERICAN AMBASSADOR.

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(2) SUBJECT TO CONCURRENCE OF CTF 100, DIRECT LIAISON BETWEEN CTG 102.3 AND CINCUSNAVEUR, THE PAO OF THE STAFF OF USGINCEUR, AND IN UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCES DIRECTLY WITH OASD (PA) MAY BE NECESSARY.

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(3) THE DOCTRINE OF SECURITY AT THE SOURCE WILL BE FOLLOWED AT ALL TIMES. THERE WILL BE NO RPT NO CENSORSHIP OF NEWSMEN'S MATERIAL.

(4) PRESS COPY AND COMMERCIAL FILM WILL BE MOVED BY COMMERCIAL MEANS.

4. **5** ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS:

(1) AMEMB VALETTA IS REQUESTED TO PROVIDE TRANSPORTATION WITHIN

MALTA FOR OFFICIAL PUBLIC AFFAIRS PURPOSES AS PRACTICAL.

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ZFN/DIR NAV SE CGR UE UR

R UQKC/R UT PP/USS LIBERTY

R UDT CR/AMEMB MALTA

R UTKC/COMNAVSTA ROTA

INFO R UFPBK/USCINCEUR

R IED MW/CINCLANTFLT

R UTPP/CTG SIX ZERO PT FIVE

R UTKRE/CTF SIX ZERO

R IENAAA/CNO

R IICISA/D IR NAV SE CGR U

R IEPWS/D IR NSA

R IEPBK/HQ NSAEUR

R UTPM/NAVCOMMSTA (GAMS) MOROCCO

R IEPJS/JCS

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R UEPJS/SECDEF

SECRET FINAL SECTION OF TWO

SEDEF FOR (ASD (PA))

CO NAVSTA ROTA NOT AN ADDEE. DELIVER TO RADM REMKEN AS HE PASSES

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THROUGH ROTA.

ADDRESSEES WHO REQUIRE IT. COMSIXTHFLT 101345Z IS QUOTED IN PART

AS FOLLOWS: QUOTE I WAS ASKED SPECIFICALLY BY THE PRESS, QUOTE

IS THE LIBERTY A SPY SHIP? WAS SHE IN THOSE WATERS COLLECTING

INTELLIGENCE? UNQUOTE. I REPLIED, QUOTE EMPHATICALLY NO. LIBERTY

WAS UNDER MY OPERATIONAL CONTROL, OPERATING IN INTERNATIONAL

WATERS OF THE EASTERN MED TO ENSURE RELIABLE COMMUNICATIONS RELAY

FROM THREATENED U.S. POSTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST FROM WHICH MASS

EVACUATION OF U.S. NATIONALS MIGHT BECOME URGENT. UNQUOTE. I

EXPLAINED ALSO THAT LIBERTY WAS WHERE SHE WAS BECAUSE THAT WAS

JUST THE BEST POSSIBLE POSITION TO CARRY OUT THIS FUNCTION

BECAUSE, QUOTE AFTER AN EMBASSY OR CONSULATE IS ATTACKED THEIR

ONLY MEANS OF REQUESTING EVACUATION MIGHT BE VERY LOW POWERED

RADIO SETS. MANY SUCH SMALL TRANSMITTERS HAVE ONLY LINE OF SIGHT

CAPABILITY. UNQUOTE. I SAID THAT LIBERTY POSSESSED EXCELLENT

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COMMUNICATIONS CAPABILITY AND PROVED IT BY BEING ABLE TO RIG A

VOICE TRANSMITTER TO CALL FOR HELP AFTER THE ATTACK HAD WIPED

OUT ALL HER ANTENNAS. AS TO LIBERTY'S CAPABILITIES OUTSIDE OF

BEING A VERY CAPABLE RADIO GUARD FOR EVACUATION OPERATIONS, I

TOLD THEM THE SHIP WORKS ON A NUMBER OF PROJECTS, SUCH AS

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UNDER OATH. THE COURT WILL PRESENT ITS FINDINGS OF FACT TO ADMIRAL

MCCAIN, THE CONVENING AUTHORITY. IT IS NOT A DISCIPLINARY BODY.

CONVENING OF SUCH AN INQUIRY IS A NORMAL PROCEDURE, COMMONLY

EMPLOYED AFTER SERIOUS ACCIDENT OR INCIDENT RESULTING IN SUBSTAN-

TIAL LOSS OF LIFE OR MAJOR DAMAGE TO A SHIP. ITS CONVENING DOES

NOT, OF ITSELF, INDICATE AN ASSUMPTION THAT ANY INDIVIDUAL IS AT

FAULT. ADMIRAL KIDD IS ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF FOR LOGISTICS

ON THE STAFF OF THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF, ALLIED FORCES SOUTHERN

EUROPE, AT NAPLES. HE HAS BEEN RELIEVED OF THIS ASSIGNMENT

TEMPORARILY IN ORDER TO SERVE AS PRESIDENT OF THE COURT. OTHER

MEMBERS OF THE COURT ARE CAPTAIN BERNARD J. LAUFF, USN PROSPEC-

TIVE COMMANDING OFFICER FLEET OPERATIONAL CONTROL CENTER NAVAL

FORCES EUROPE, AD CAPTAIN BERT M. ATKINSON, JR., USN, STAFF

CINCUSNAVEUR. CAPTAIN WARD BOSTON, JR., LEGAL OFFICER ON THE STAFF

OF COMMANDER FLEET AIR, MEDITERRANEAN, AT NAPLES, IS COUNSEL FOR

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THE COURT, AND LIEUTENANT COMMANDER ALLEN FEINGERSCH, USN, STAFF

CINCUSNAVEUR, IS ASSISTANT COUNSEL FOR TECHNICAL MATTERS.

5 ANSWERS TO ADDITIONAL INQUIRIES:

(1) WILL COURT SESSIONS BE OPEN TO PUBLIC? NO.

(2) WHY NOT? USS LIBERTY WAS OPERATING IN THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN

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MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF COMMUNICATION REQUIREMENTS. AS SUCH,

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SHE WAS PART OF THE OVERALL UNITED STATES COMMAND AND CONTROL SYSTEM, WHICH CANNOT BE DISCUSSED IN ANY DETAIL ON AN UNCLASSIFIED BASIS. SO MUCH EVEN OF PURELY ROUTINE NATURE WHICH THE COURT WILL HAVE TO GO INTO WILL BE CLASSIFIED THAT IT WOULD BE IMPRACTICABLE TO ATTEMPT TO HOLD AN OPEN HEARING.

(3) WILL THE COURT'S FINDINGS BE MADE PUBLIC? AFTER NORMAL REVIEW BY THE CONVENING AUTHORITY AND HIS NAVAL SUPERIORS, IT IS LIKELY THAT ANY UNCLASSIFIED FINDINGS WILL BE RELEASED.

(4) WILL THE CONVENING ORDER BE MADE PUBLIC? IT IS RELEASABLE.

(5) IS THE COMMANDING OFFICER GOING TO BE AVAILABLE FOR INTERVIEW AT MALTA? ARE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE CREW? NOT AT THIS TIME.

(6) WHY NOT? ALL MEMBERS OF THE CREW ARE POTENTIAL WITNESSES BEFORE THE COURT. IT IS THE DESIRE OF THE CONVENING AUTHORITY HIND

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THE PRESIDENT OF THE COURT THAT THEIR RECOLLECTIONS REMAIN AS FRESH AS POSSIBLE AND NOT BE INFLUENCED IN ANY WAY BY QUESTIONS

5 PUT TO THEM OUTSIDE THE COURT OR BY ANSWERS OF OTHER MEN BEING INTERVIEWED.

CAN THEY BE INTERVIEWED ON UNCLASSIFIED MATTERS
(7) 8-5036 73 8,534;8323S 9, 7, 8)-008100S -55540 AFTER

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THE COURT HAS COMPLETED ITS WORK? YES, IF THEY WISH TO BE.

(8) WHAT ARE THE ASSIGNMENTS OF THE COURT MEMBERS? CAPTAIN

ATKINSON IS THE SURFACE OPERATIONS OFFICER, AND LCDR FEINGERSCH

IS A COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER ON THE STAFF O CINCUSNAVEUR.

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of the United States within the meaning of the Espionage Laws, Title 18, U. S. C.

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