

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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CONTROL NO. 029406/1/HM	PAGE 1	OF 2	PAGE 2	TIME OF RECEIPT 20/1122Z	DATE TIME GROUP 191200Z
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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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CONTROL NO.	PAGE	OF	PAGE	TIME OF RECEIPT	DATE TIME GROUP
029406/1/HM	2		2	20/1122Z	191200Z

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