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NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY
FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755

~~CRYPTO~~

Serial: N 0473
19 May 1969

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE ASSISTANT TO THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
(ATOMIC ENERGY) *A048478*

SUBJECT: Intelligence Assessment on USS PUEBLO (U)

1. Reference is made to your memorandum, subject as above, dated 29 April 1969.

2. This Agency participated in the review of traffic sent over the Navy's Operational Intelligence Broadcast in January 1968, which was compromised as a result of the PUEBLO capture. No information pertaining to the United States nuclear capabilities was contained in that traffic. Additionally, the National Security Agency (NSA) was neither an addressee of any messages containing Restricted Data, Formerly Restricted Data, or operations plans involving our nuclear strike forces which were passed in cryptographic systems on board the PUEBLO at the time of capture.

3. The other possibly compromised systems were U.S. Navy Fleet Broadcasts originating in the Pacific area, authorized to pass traffic classified up to SECRET, and several ship-to-ship and ship-to-shore radio teletype nets used primarily for the exchange of Naval operational and administrative traffic. This Agency has recommended to the Chief of Naval Operations that all traffic passed in these systems be identified, located and reviewed to the extent feasible. In view of the above, it is suggested that the Chief of Naval Operations would be the best source of the information you have requested.

Louis W. TordeLLa

LOUIS W. TORDELLA
Deputy Director

~~HANDLE VIA COMINT CHANNELS ONLY~~

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cc: DIR (3)
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Reading File
D/DIR
D1
ADP
P04
S1

M/R: Dr. Carl Walske, Assistant to SecDef (Atomic Energy) sent a memorandum to the Director, NSA, in which he asked whether nuclear-related information might have been compromised as a result of the PUEBLO's capture with most of its crypto-materials intact. The query was relayed to S1, who provided the text of the answer.

Richmond D. Snow
RICHMOND D. SNOW/P04/5821s/13May69/mrb

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Downgraded at 12 year
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automatically declassified~~