

~~TOP SECRET TRINE~~Return to him
VIII, IX~~TOP SECRET TRINE~~8 August 1968PFIAB PRESENTATIONThe PUEBLO

I have little to report on the PUEBLO situation beyond what I told you in our 15 February meeting. The crew has not yet been returned and we must still assume the worst with regard to the possible impact of the loss of this ship and its COMINT resources on our SIGINT capability against North Korea, the Soviet Union and possibly Communist China. As yet, however, this impact has not been felt, at least not in a recognizable form.

(b) (1)
(b) (3)-50 USC 403
(b) (3)-1B USC 79B
(b) (3)-P.L. 86-36

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~~TOP SECRET TRINE~~(b) (1)
(b) (3)-50 USC 403
(b) (3)-18 USC 798
(b) (3)-P.L. 86-36~~TOP SECRET TRINE~~

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] While some minor details of the procedural changes effected could conceivably have been influenced by data obtained from the PUEBLO, there is no real evidence of this, and the communications change, per se, [REDACTED].

As a result of the lessons learned from the PUEBLO incident, I have initiated such actions as are within my purview to reduce to a bare minimum SIGINT holdings in all exposed areas and to ensure more complete knowledge of and control over SIGINT holdings in any area. The policy of holding classified material to an absolute minimum for the specific SIGINT mission involved may result in a less effective scheduled SIGINT operation and will undoubtedly hamper SIGINT operations when a ship is diverted to a non-scheduled contingency mission. However, this action will help in limiting potential damage through such loss in the future and minimum technical support requirements of the ship can be met through existing radio communications channels.

I have also participated in community-wide projects attempting to refine and strengthen command and control procedures relating to the safety of all reconnaissance activities and to provide more effective destruct procedures and equipment.

In short, the PUEBLO has been a bitter lesson and the entire intelligence community has been reacting in a positive manner to avoid a repetition.

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