Declassified and approved for release by NSA on 02-15-2006 pursuant to E.O. 12958, as amended

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RUEHCR/STATE

RUEPIA/CIA

RUEPCR/NSA

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FM CINCPAC

TO RUEHDA/JCS

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RUMSMA/CONUSMACV

RUATZL/COMSEVENTHFLT

BT

~~S E C R E T~~

J3 FOR JRC

DESOTO PATROL - GULF OF TONKIN ~~(C)~~

A. MY 032353Z

B. YOUR 7506 DTG 221930Z JUL

C. CINCPACFLT 140203Z JUL

1. CINCPAC VIEW OF ATTACK UPON CURRENT DESOTO PATROL AND FORCED RETIREMENT DUE TO TYPHOON IDA, RECOMMEND ANOTHER FULL SCALE DESOTO COMMENCE ABOUT 12 AUG AND REMAIN IN GULF OF TONKIN FOR FIVE DAYS.

PAGE 2 RUHLHQ 903 ~~S E C R E T~~

2. INFORMATION REQUIRED BY JRC IS AS FOLLOWS:

A. COMDESDIV #2 IN HENRY W. TUCKER (DD875) WITH ADDITIONAL DD TO BE DESIGNATED.

B. DZPART SUBIC ON D-DAY (TENTATIVELY 10 AUG).

C. PROPOSED ITINERARY IS AS FOLLOWS:

D-DAY - DEPART SUBIC.

D PLUS ONE - UNDER VICINITY 16N 111E

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D PLUS TWO - PATROL BETWEEN POINTS ALFA, BRAVO AND CHARLIE.

D PLUS THREE - CATROL BETWEEN POINTS CHARLIE, DELTA AND ECHO.

T D PLUS FOUR - PATROL BETWEEN POINTS ECHO, FOXTROT AND GOLF.

D PLUS FIVE - PATROL BETWEEN POINTS GOLF, HOTEL, INDIA AND JULIET.

D PLUS SIX - PATROL BETWEEN POINTS JULIET, KILO, LIMA AND ALFA. WITHDRAW FROM GULF OF TONKIN AND TERMINATE PATROL ON COMPLETION.

D. TO BE DETERMINED.

T 3. NAVIGATION REFERENCE POINTS.

PAGE 3 RUHLHQ 903 ~~S E C R E T~~

ALFA	17-13N	107-25E
BRAVO	18-14N	106-36E
CHARLIE	19-00N	105-56E
DELTA	19-46N	106-12E
ECHO	20-22N	107-01Z
FOXTROT	20-36N	107-25E
GOLF	20-08N	106-46E
HOTEL	19-29N	106-01E

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INDIA 18-53N 106-01E

JULIET 18-36N 106-06E

KILO 18-04N 106-51E

LIMA 17-36N 106-49E

4. IN ORDER TO PROVIDE OPERATIONAL FLEXUBILITY DESIRED IN CARRYING OUT MARITIME AND INTELLIGENCE OBJECTIVES OF PATROL, DESOTO COMMANDER WILT BE AUTHORIZED TO CONDUCT RANDOM PATROL AT MODERATE SPEEDS ALONG DESIGNATED SEGMENT OF TRACK EACH DAY. PATROB GROUP WILL COMMENCE COASTAL PATROL DAILY ONE HOUR AFTER SUNRISE, RETIRING TO SEAWARD ONE HOUR BEFORE SWNSET AND DURING PERIODS OF REDUCED VISIBILITY.

5. PATROL GROUP WILL REMAIN AT LEAST ELEVEN MILESLOFF NVN

MAINLAND AND FOUR MILES OFF NVN ISLANDS THROUGHOUT PATYOL EXCEPT AS DISCUSSED IN PARA 8 YOLLOWING.

6. AIR COVER WILL BE PROVIDED BY YANKEE TEAM CVA.

L 7. DESOTO COMMANDER WILL BE UNDER OPCON OF CTG 77.

IN CVA FOR THIS PATROL

8. IN EVENT OF HOSTILELATTACK, PATROL SHIP AND AIRCRAFT WILL BE DIRECTED TO FIRE ON ATTACKER WITH OBJECTIVE OF INSURING DESTRUCTION. REQUEST PATROL SHIPS BE AUTHORIZED TO PURSUE ENEMY

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TO RECOGNIZED THREE-MILE LIMIT AND THAT AIRCRAFT BE AWTHORIZED

HOT PURSUIT OF ATTACKING SURFACE VESSELS INSIDE NVN TERRITORIAG WATERS

THREE MILE LIMIT AND IN NVNAAIRSPACE AGAINST ATTACKOBG AIRCRAFT WHEN

NECESSARY TO ACHIEVE DESTRUCTION OF IDENTIFIED AEANKING FORCES.

9. PRIMARY PURPOSE OF PATROL IS TO ASSERT U.S. RIGHTS

IN THE INTERNATIONAL WATERS OFF NVN ANH TO ASCERTAIN THROUGH NVN

REACTION WHETHER THEY INTEND TO CONTINUE ZTTACKS ON HIGH SEAS.

SECONDARY PURPOSE OF PATROL IS TO COLLECT INTELLIGENCETWITH

SIGNIFICANT INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION CAPABILITYXN INCLUDING EVBARKED

NAVSECGRU, IN TUCKER. IN THIS RESPEPT INTELLIGENCE OBJECTIVES STATED I

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C WERE NOT ATTAINED ESPECIALLY NORTH OF 20 DEGREES LATITUDE.

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