

ACTION PRECEDENCE

INFO PRECEDENCE

SPECIAL HANDLING

NONE

ROUTINE

NONE

DISTRIBUTION

FM DIRNAVSECGRU

20 JUNE 67

INFO

INFO DNI
DIRNSA

Declassified and approved for
release by NSA and the U.S. Navy
on 01-30-2007 pursuant to E.O.
12958, as amended, ST 51666

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R 191358Z

FM DIRNAVSECGRUEUR

TO DIRNAVSECGRU
DIRNAVSECGRULANT

SNOOS: A
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READSL

~~SECRET SAVIN~~

CAPT SMITH SENDS

REPORT RE USS LIBERTY

I. LT R.A. ANGLIN, USN, COMMANDING OFFICER USS PAPAGO

REPORTED HE FELL IN BEHIND LIBERTY ABOUT 1620 (LOCAL) ON

8 JUNE AND TRAILED IN

HER WAKE UNTIL ARRIVAL MALTA 14 JUNE.

A. DURING THAT PERIOD, HE PICKED UP FLOATING MATERIAL WHICH FELL
FROM LIBERTY THROUGH HOLE MADE BY TORPEDO. HE WAS NOT ABLE TO
RECOVER ALL MATERIAL WHICH HE SAW (USING AN 18FT BOATHOOK AND CRAB NETS).

MATERIAL WHICH HE COULD NOT RECOVER, HE RAN OVER WITH HIS SCREW AND
THEN BACKED DOWN OVER IT WHICH SHRED IT INTO SMALL PIECES.

B. THE MATERIAL RECOVERED, HIGHEST CLASSIFICATION SECRET SAVIN,
WAS BAGGED AND SEALED AND TURNED OVER TO COMDESRON 12 FOR FURTHER
FORWARDING TO LIBERTY. THE TOTAL QUANTITY OF THIS MATERIAL AMOUNTED
TO ABOUT 8 LBS AND WAS MAINLY [REDACTED] HE BELIEVES THAT HE EITHER EO 1.4.(c)

ORIGINATOR
B/JRK

RELEASING OFFICER

RELEASED AT (ZULU)

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REFERS TO MESSAGE

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

AGI NR.

45434

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AGI

106

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PICKED UP OR EFFECTIVELY DESTROYED AT LEAST PRACTICALLY ALL OF THE MATERIAL WHICH FELL FROM LIBERTY AFTER HIS ARRIVAL. BY USING LIGHTS RIGGED ON THE BRIDGE WING, VISIBILITY AT NIGHT WAS EVEN BETTER THAN DURING THE DAY WHICH STRENGTHENED HIS BELIEF THAT HE SIGHTED MOST OF THE MATERIAL DROPPED; THIS WAS PRINCIPALLY DURING THE TIME OF COURSE CHANGE.

C. HE REPORTED THAT HE THOUGHT THAT MANY OF HIS CREW MAY HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO THE CODEWORD. DURING THE CLEAN UP ON THE AFTERNOON OF 14 JUN SOME SWIMMERS OF HIS COMMAND SAW MATERIAL WITH THE CLASSIFICATION SECRET SAVIN. THIS WAS WHILE MATERIAL WAS BEING RECOVERED DURING PUMP OUT OF THE DRY DOCK. COMMUNICATIONS TECHNICIANS WERE ASKED THE MEANING OF THE WORD AND THEY DECLINED TO ANSWER.

D. COMMANDING OFFICER, USS PAPAGO CAUTIONED HIS OFFICERS AND MEN ABOUT DISCLOSING ANY INFORMATION ABOUT LIBERTY. INADVERTENT DISCLOSURE OATH WAS ADMINISTERED TO THEM ON THE 15TH.

E. AN AGI WAS IN THE VICINITY OF PAPAGO ON THE 13TH, THE DAY BEFORE SHE ARRIVED MALTA ON THE MORNING OF THE 14TH. KEPT UNDER OBSERVATION, THE AGI WAS NOT SEEN TO FOLLOW IN THE WAKE OF LIBERTY OR TO TAKE RECOVERY ACTION ON MATERIAL ADRIFT AT ANY TIME.

2. CONCLUDE THAT:

A. PAPAGO RECOVERED OR DESTROYED A LARGE PART OF THE MATERIAL WHICH FELL OVERBOARD FROM LIBERTY.

B. THAT ALTHOUGH SOME PAPER WITH TYPING ON IT DID NOT DISINTEGRATE

DRAFTER

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IN 9 HRS WHEN PLACED IN WATER BY THE COMMANDING OFFICER OF PAPAGO,
 HE BELIEVES THAT WAVE ACTION WOULD HAVE CAUSED THE FANFOLD PAPER
 (WHICH WAS IN MULTI-MESSAGE BLANK LENGTHS) TO BALL UP AND SINK OR
 AT LEAST NOT BE EASILY VISIBLE.

C. THAT THE AGI DID NOT RECOVER ANY MATERIAL WHILE SHE WAS IN THE
 GENERAL VICINITY OF LIBERTY.

D. THAT THE COMMANDING OFFICER PAPAGO USED EXCEEDINGLY GOOD
 JUDGEMENT IN HIS HANDLING OF THIS ENTIRE MATTER.

3. RADM RENKEN HAS SEEN THIS REPORT BUT REQUEST NAVSECGRULANT SHOW
 IT TO HIM AGAIN TO LET HIM KNOW THAT IT HAS BEEN SENT TO DIRNAVSECGRU

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