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SIGINT READINESS BRAVO "CRAYON" REPORT NR. 1426

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MIDDLE EAST SITUATION REPORT NR. 58-67

THIS REPORT SUMMARIZES NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND IS BASED ON COMINT AVAILABLE TO NSA AS OF 0300Z 9 JUNE 1967.

I. ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT

A. ISRAELI MILITARY

1. POSSIBLE REFLECTIONS OF ISRAELI ATTACK ON USS LIBERTY

AT 1231Z 8 JUNE HATSOR IN COMMUNICATION WITH AIRCRAFT

810 AND 815 PASSED THE FOLLOWING: "THERE IS A WAR-SHIP THERE

WHICH WE ATTACKED. THE MEN JUMPED INTO THE WATER FROM IT. YOU

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WILL TRY TO RESCUE THEM. NO FIRE WAS OBSERVED FROM IT AND THOSE ON BOARD DID NOT FIRE AT THE ONES ATTACKING." AFTER FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS AS TO COURSE AND DISTANCE TO THE STRICKEN SHIP, CONTROL AT HATSOR STATED: "THE SHIP IS NOW IDENTIFIED AS EGYPTIAN. YOU CAN RETURN HOME NOW." SUBSEQUENT ORDERS FROM HATSOR RETURNED THE AIRCRAFT TOWARD THE SHIP WITH DIRECTIONS TO DETERMINE THE NATIONALITY OF THE MEN IN THE WATER.

UNHEARD COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE AIRCRAFT APPARENTLY REPORTED SIGHTING THE AMERICAN FLAG ON THE STRIKEN SHIP. HASTOR RESPONDED: "REQUESTING THAT YOU MAKE ANOTHER PASS AND CHECK AGAIN WHETHER IT REALLY IS AN AMERICAN FLAG."

(2) [redacted] R24-67, 08 2230Z

(From VQ-2 intercept)

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