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NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY
FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755

Serial: N 0282
26 March 1969

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A035006

MEMORANDUM FOR USIB PRINCIPALS

SUBJECT: NSA Damage Assessment Report Concerning the Loss of the USS PUEBLO (C)

1. Reference is made to USIB-S-13.5/44, dated 14 May 1968 (NSA Serial: N0668, 13 May 1968), Subject: Assessment of the Loss of the USS PUEBLO.

2. On 13 May 1968 I provided the Members of USIB with an initial damage assessment statement concerning the capture of the USS PUEBLO (AGER-2) on 23 January 1968. This statement contained an NSA judgment, based on a worst case circumstance, of the damage that could result from the compromise of an unknown amount of SIGINT/COMSEC material and equipment carried aboard the vessel.

3. The debriefing of the SIGINT/COMSEC knowledgeable members of the crew of the USS PUEBLO has now been completed by a joint NSA/NSGC team. A final SIGINT/COMSEC damage assessment has been prepared by NSA in light of the additional information obtained by the team. Additional technically detailed cryptologic and cryptographic information has been provided to the USIB Ad Hoc Working Group for its use.

4. NSA will continue to closely observe the communications activity of North Korea, North Vietnam [redacted] [redacted] the Soviet Union and Communist China, and report to the Board any reflection of significant changes which can be possibly attributed to the loss of the USS PUEBLO.

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The information contained in this document will not be disclosed to foreign nationals or their representatives.

(b) (1)
(b) (3)-50 USC 403
(b) (3)-18 USC 793
(b) (3)-P.L. 86-36

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Approved for Release by NSA on 05-28-2013, FOIA Case # 63391

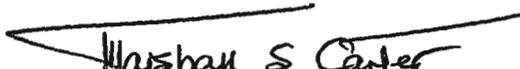
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5. The final NSA cryptologic and cryptographic damage assessment, and conclusions and observations, are inclosed as an attachment to this memorandum.


MARSHALL S. CARTER
Lieutenant General, U. S. Army
Director

Incl:
a/s

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M/R: 1. The instant memorandum for USIB Principals provides them with a final damage assessment report based upon the capture of the USS PUEBLO, the compromise of COMINT/COMSEC materials and equipment, and the results of a detailed debriefing of the crewmen and analysis of the information resulting therefrom.

2. The inclosures being provided the USIB are a) a summary of cryptologic assessment, b) a summary of cryptographic assessment and c) conclusions and observations. The above documentation is also being provided to the USIB Ad Hoc Working Group under Admiral Showers, DIA, along with three other NSA technical volumes which treat extensively of the COMINT/COMSEC assessment of damage. All of this NSA material will be part of the information base used by the USIB Working Group in its analysis and assessment of the total intelligence impact resulting from the loss of the USS PUEBLO. Other categories of material noted in the memorandum will be held by NSA for utilization or dissemination as may be later decided by NSA. Included in this latter material are target country supplements which will be provided to appropriate ADP Office Group Chiefs for further analytic use.

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3. This memorandum was prepared by D12 in order to transmit the final assessment report to the Board. An earlier report on the subject was forwarded to USIB on 13 May 1968 (NSA Serial: N0668) and released to USIB Principals as USIB-S-13.5/44, 14 May 1968.

4. This memorandum has been coordinated with and concurred in by [redacted] Exec. P04, Chief of the NSA PUEBLO debriefing team and shown to LCDR Koczak, D11.

5. [redacted] advises that the damage assessment report has been concurred in on the basis of pertinent cryptologic and cryptographic interest and responsibility as follows:

A Group	Mr. Levenson
B Group	Mr. Zaslow
ADC	Mr. Barlow
ADP	Gen. Morrison
D/DIR	Dr. Tordella

(b) (3) - P.L. 86-36

[redacted] 106s/17 Mar 69/11h

M/R: Memo revised by the Director on 22 March 1969.

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