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BRITAIN/EMBASSY SHOOTING

JENNINGS: In Madrid today, an official at the Libyan Embassy there said Libyan nationals may be in Europe to liquidate enemies of the Libyan Republic. The Libyan people, he said, decide who gets liquidated, and it is done before the entire world. Well, it was anti-government Libyan demonstrators who were in the line of fire yesterday in London, and as our Pentagon correspondent, John McWethy, reports, the gunman who opened fire on them may have had some official encouragement.

MCWETHY: In the hours just before gunfire erupted, a U.S. spy satellite intercepted a radio message from Libya to its embassy in London. U.S. intelligence sources tell ABC News that the radio message, in essence, was ordering the embassy not to sit by passively while anti-Khadafy demonstrators marched outside but to use force in responding to their taunts. The U.S. government warned British authorities, but by the time Britain could respond, shots had already been fired. Today in Washington officials warned that the U.S. will now consider military actions against countries like Libya if there is hard information about an impending terrorist threat. GEORGE SHULTZ (Secretary of State): It is essential for us to take all of the defensive measures that we can, but I don't think that purely defensive posture is adequate.

MCWETHY: While Shultz was speaking, the aircraft carrier U.S.S. Saratoga, was steaming toward Libya from the western Mediterranean. Pentagon sources say though no decision has yet been made, there is a good chance the Saratoga will conduct flight operations near the disputed waters of the Gulf of Sidra, where two and a half years ago American carrier-based planes shot down two Libyan fighters who challenged them. John McWethy, ABC News, the Pentagon.

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