

Doc 246
PUEBLO

NIC 38
VIA TUSE

BB

Op-333C1/cs
190400R DEC 68

~~FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY~~

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Subj: PUEBLO Crew Release

Ref: (a) FBIS 17 (attached)

1. At 190330R Mr. J. Leonard, State Department East Asia/
Korean Affairs Desk, advised the NDDC that a meeting was held
at Panmunjom concerning subject release with negative results
at this time. He further advised that no information other
than that a meeting was held will be announced to the press.

J. L. Girard
J. L. GIRARD

Captain, U. S. Navy
Navy Department Duty Captain

Distribution:

- SECNAVAIDE
- UNSECNAVAIDE
- OC2
- 09A
- 03
- 03B
- 33
- 33B
- 333
- 04A
- 05A
- 06A
- 612
- 944
- 007
- OLA
- BER
- IP

NND 001317

NIC-38

~~FBI 17 FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY~~

SEOUL PAPER ON PUEBLO CREW'S RELEASE

SEOUL HAPTONG IN ENGLISH 0634 GMT 19 DEC 68 B

(TEXT) SEOUL, DEC. 19 (HAPTONG)--THE POSSIBILITY OF THE 82-MAN PUEBLO CREW BEING RELEASED WITHIN THE YEAR "GOT STRONGER" WITH U.S. AND NORTH KOREAN REPRESENTATIVES HUDDLED TOGETHER IN ANOTHER MEETING AT PANMUNJOM FROM 11 A.M. TODAY, A SEOUL DAILY REPORTED TODAY.

THE PRO-GOVERNMENT KYONGHYANG SINMUN QUOTED AN INFORMED SOURCE AS SAYING: "BOTH SIDES REACHED A SETTLEMENT ON THE TERMS OF THE RELEASE OF THE U.S. INTELLIGENCE VESSEL AT THE 26TH PANMUNJOM MEETING TUESDAY. AND IT IS EVIDENT THAT THEY ARE TALKING ABOUT PROCEDURES FOR TAKING THEM OVER AT TODAY'S 27TH MEETING WHICH GOT STARTED AT 11 A.M."

THE SOURCE ADDED THAT THE UNITED STATES HAD AGREED TO OFFER "AN APPROPRIATE APOLOGY" TO THE NORTH KOREANS IN EXCHANGE FOR THE FREEDOM OF THE 82 U.S. SAILORS.

THE POSSIBILITY OF THE PUEBLO CREW BEING RELEASED AROUND CHRISTMAS WAS FURTHER STRENGTHENED BY BUSES AND AMBULANCES STANDING BY AT PANMUNJOM, IN ADDITION TO CLOTHES WHICH WILL BE SUPPLIED TO THE CREW UPON THEIR TAKE-OVER FROM THE COMMUNISTS, THE DAILY SAID.

19 DEC 0747Z [REDACTED]