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DIRECTORATE OF INTELLIGENCE

Central Intelligence Bulletin

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*Korea: North Korea has again come out strongly against UN intervention in the Pueblo affair.

A high-ranking North Korean party leader yesterday condemned UN consideration of the Pueblo incident as "interference in the internal affairs" of North Korea. In his statement, central committee member Kim Kwang-Hyop complained that the US is seeking a solution through "illegal discussions at the United Nations." He went on to observe that "there is a precedent for the treatment of similar cases at the Korean Military Armistice Commission."

This 'precedent' probably refers to negotiations at Panmunjon in 1963-64 over the fate of two US helicopter pilots downed in North Korea. Pyongyang, desiring to extract maximum propaganda value from the case, kept the negotiations going for 13 months before releasing the pilots.

A US destroyer escorting one of the carriers in the Sea of Japan collided yesterday with a Soviet freighter. Minor damage was sustained by both ships. The Soviet freighter was en route from Vladivostok to Odessa, but now appears to be returning to Vladivostok.

The Soviet Union continues to keep five or more ships watching the US task groups. Two destroyers-one armed with a guided missile--and an intelligence collector are in the immediate vicinity, while a destroyer escort keeps watch over the Tsushima Straits entrance into the Sea of Japan. One tanker

is shuttling among the units providing fuel. (b)(3) (b)(1)(b)(3)4

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