

MEMORANDUM FOR: DCI - FYI

The attached memos provide the latest we have on proposed naval & air activity off Libya. DoD seems to want to pull Qadhafi's chain.



Date 21 Oct 82

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THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

National Intelligence Council

21 October 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence
Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

FROM: [redacted] A/NIO/NESA

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SUBJECT: Possible Exercise in Gulf of Sidra on 25 October

1. ISA, DOD on 20 October requested clearance to proceed on 25 October with the next step of the "stair step" plan for exercising off the Libyan coast. (See attached Memo.) This step provides for limited US air and surface operations in the Libyan Flight Region, but north of Libya's claimed boundary. DOD also is requesting permission to proceed with an additional step of the plan, which would carry our air operations south of the Libyan closure line, that is, within the politically sensitive area. ISA is awaiting a clearance decision from State's Office of Political Military Affairs and if the go ahead is given, will issue the required NOTAM.

2. DOD and State are aware of the Intelligence Community judgment that Libya will attempt to react militarily to US exercises near its coast, perhaps even if well north of Libya's claimed boundary. We do not, however, know if both are well informed about ongoing combined Soviet-Libyan military exercises in the Gulf of Sidra. [redacted]

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[redacted] it appears that the Libyans and Soviets are conducting combined maneuvers that may include simulated attacks against carriers. Such exercises could enhance Libya's capability to launch attacks against US carriers should they enter and exercise in the Gulf.

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Attachment:
Memo (TS 823185/1)

TS 82315
Copy No. 1

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