

CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

ROUTING

DATE : 29 JUN 54

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TO : DIRECTOR

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM

FROM : LINCOLN

RELEASE AS SANITIZED

ACTION: WH (PBS) (1-3)

2003

INFO : DCI (4), D/DCI (5), DD/P (L) (6), WH (7), SA/PC/DCI (8)

LINC 4509 (IN 23290)

1315Z 29 JUN 54

PRIORITY

PRECEDENCE

TO: DIR

CITE: SLINC

RYBAT PBSUCCESS

1. PURSUANT GALBOND/DUNBAR TELEPHONE CONVERSATION 28 JUNE REGARDING POSSIBLE RESPONSIBILITY FOR BOMBING ATTACK ON MERCHANT VESSELS OFF WSBURNT 27 JUNE, QUERIES TO THE FIELD NOW CLEARLY ESTABLISHES FACT SUCH VESSELS HAD BEEN HIT BY A SYNCARP PILOT.

2. BRIEFLY THE CIRCUMSTANCES APPEAR TO BE A MATTER OF THE PILOT KNOWING FROM DISCUSSIONS WITH CADICK THAT [] HAD REPORTED A VESSEL AT SAN JOSE UNLOADING FUEL AND POSSIBLY ARMS AND URGED IT BE BOMBED. A BOMB HAD BEEN LAID ON TO DESTROY FUEL STORAGE TANKS AT SAN JOSE AND APPARENTLY THE PILOT HAD NOT BEEN TOLD SPECIFICALLY TO AVOID HITTING ANY SHIPPING. IT IS ALSO POSSIBLE THE PILOT CONSIDERED [] REQUEST AS SUFFICIENT APPROVAL AND PROCEEDED TO STRIKE THE VESSELS WHILE IN THE AREA.

3. CADICK HAD REQUESTED AUTHORITY IN ADVANCE TO BOMB ABOVE MENTIONED VESSEL AT SAN JOSE. LINCOLN REVIEWED THE REQUEST AND REQUESTED HQS AUTHORITY TO BOMB. REASON BEING THE AVAILABLE INFO REFLECTED RAPIDLY WORSENING ECONOMIC SITUATION IN WSBURNT

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AND CRITICAL GAS SHORTAGE WHICH WAS BEING KEPT FROM SERIOUS STAGE BY SHIPPING FROM PACIFIC PORTS, PTO BARRIOS BEING CUT OFF. ONE INCIDENT OF BOMBING COULD WELL HAVE HAD THE EFFECT OF SCARING OFF OTHER SHIPPERS THEREBY MATERIALLY CONTRIBUTING TO ECONOMIC WARFARE OBJECTIVES OF WSBURNT. ALTHOUGH GOODBOURNE HAD DISCUSSED THIS REQUEST WITH DUNBAR AND LATTER STATED IT WAS NOT A PRESSING MATTER AND IN VIEW OF UNCERTAINTY INVOLVED THE REQUEST WAS WITHDRAWN. LATER SHERWOOD WAS TOLD NO BOMBING OF SHIPPING WAS AUTHORIZED FOR PRESENT. CHECKING DATES REVEALS LATTER MSG APPARENTLY RECEIVED AT SHERWOOD AFTER PILOT WAS AIRBORNE FOR SAN JOSE ALTHOUGH IT IS NOT KNOWN WHETHER ANY KUBARK PERSON HAD KNOWLEDGE OF THE PILOTS INTENTIONS.

4. IT IS HIGHLY REGRETTEED THAT ABOVE INCIDENT OCCURRED AND IT IS HOPED NO SERIOUS EMBARRASSMENT WILL RESULT TO KUBARK. EVERY EFFORT IS BEING MADE TO CONTROL ALL BOMBING TARGETS AND LINC HAS CAREFULLY ENDEAVORED TO KEEP WITHIN HQS POLICIES ON THE SUBJECT HOWEVER IN THIS INSTANCE IT APPEARS THAT A CONTRACT PILOT WAS OVER EAGER IN HIS EFFORT TO HELP ACHIEVE OUR OBJECTIVES.

END OF MESSAGE

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