

~~SECRET~~

No Foreign Dissem

MZO 98

No 0634/68

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
Directorate of Intelligence
1 February 1968

INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

Supplement to Pueblo Sitrep No. 25

(Information as of 12 Midnight 31 January)

1. At 1:53 PM EST on 31 January the USS Rowan, a destroyer escorting the attack carrier Ranger, was involved in a collision with a Soviet merchant ship. The Soviet ship--the merchant vessel Kapitan Vislobokov--approached the Rowan, which was returning to its station after replenishment, from the north. The two ships' courses gave the Rowan the right of way which required it to maintain course and speed until in clear danger of colliding with the other ship.

2. The Rowan maintained speed until a collision appeared imminent, whereupon the Rowan turned away from the path of the Soviet ship and one minute later gave the emergency-collision signal and reversed its engines. The collision occurred three minutes later.

3. The Rowan received a three-foot hole above the waterline on the port (left) side. The Soviet ship signaled it had "damage to my stern two meters in length" and "no assistance required".

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