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TO COMPERT/RODMAN FOR THE SECRETARY
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NEWS AND COMMENT
THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY NEWS SUMMARY

MONDAY, MAY 19, 1975

NEWS

SCHLESINGER SAYS 5 DEAD, 16 MISSING, 70-80 WOUNDED IN
MAYAGUEZ OPERATION

"ISSUES AND ANSWERS"

SECRETARY SCHLESINGER SAID SUNDAY THAT THREE MARINES AND TWO AIRMEN WERE KILLED IN THE MAYAGUEZ OPERATION, 16 WERE REPORTED MISSING AND 70 OR 80 INJURED. THIS WAS NOT THE FINAL TALLY, HE SAID, BECAUSE OF DIFFICULTIES IN LOCATING THE SURVIVORS.

PREVIOUS ESTIMATES HAD REPORTED ONE DEAD, 13 MISSING AND 22 WOUNDED. SCHLESINGER SAID MANY OF THE WOUNDED WERE SUFFERING ONLY SLIGHT INJURIES.

THE SECRETARY SAID A FOURTH BOMBING RAID AGAINST MAINLAND CAMBODIAN TARGETS HAD BEEN PLANNED, THEN SCRAPPED AFTER THE CREW WAS RELEASED. EARLIER PENTAGON REPORTS HAD SAID THERE WERE ONLY TWO SUCH RAIDS.

SCHLESINGER CALLED THE AIR STRIKES "A VERY PRUDENT, LIMITED USE OF FORCE." THE MOTIVATION, HE SAID, "CLEARLY WAS TO PROTECT THE MARINES ON THE ISLAND."

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PAGE: 01

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DTG:191223Z MAY 75

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HE DECLINED TO SAY WHAT ACTION THE UNITED STATES MIGHT TAKE IF SOUTH KOREA WERE ATTACKED, ALTHOUGH HE NOTED THE U.S. IS BOUND BY TREATY TO SEOUL. "THE HEART OF DETERRENCE IS TO MAINTAIN UNCERTAINTY ABOUT SPECIFIC ACTION WHILE MAINTAINING CERTAINTY ABOUT OUR COMMITMENTS," HE SAID. -- AP; UPI; ABC; NBC (5/18/75)

MARINES INVADED WRONG ISLAND, CAPTAIN SAYS

U.S. MARINES INVADED THE WRONG CAMBODIAN ISLAND TRYING TO RESCUE THE MAYAGUEZ CREW, THE CAPTAIN AND CREW MEMBERS SAID SUNDAY. "THEY PROBABLY WERE UNAWARE WE HAD LEFT THE ISLAND," SAID CAPT. CHARLES MILLER. "I GUESS THE MARINES FROM THE DESTROYER ESCORTS WERE NOT INFORMED. THEY WERE COMING FROM SUBIC IN THE PHILIPPINES, AND THE SURVEILLANCE PLANES WERE FROM SOMEPLACE ELSE."

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE SEA-LAND CORP. SAID 20 OF THE 40 CREWMEN HAD DECIDED TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE COMPANY'S OFFER OF A PLANE TICKET HOME. THE OTHERS WILL BEGIN ANOTHER TOUR, -- AP; UPI; NBC (5/18/75)

INDOCHINA: NEWS

THAILAND DEMANDS U.S. APOLOGY

THAILAND'S FOREIGN MINISTER, CHATICHAI CHOONHAVAN HAS DEMANDED AN OFFICIAL AMERICAN APOLOGY BY 7 A.M. (EDT) TUESDAY FOR LAUNCHING THE "MAYAGUEZ" RESCUE MISSION FOR THAILAND. THAI STUDENTS ENDED AN ALL-NIGHT VIGIL AT THE U.S. EMBASSY IN BANGKOK TODAY BY BURNING EFFIGIES OF SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER AND "UNCLE SAM."

CAMBODIA CLAIMS 5 U.S. HELICOPTERS AND 30 U.S. CASUALTIES

CAMBODIA SAID TODAY ITS KHMER ROUGH FORCES KILLED OR WOUNDED 30 U.S. MARINES AND SHOT DOWN FIVE HELICOPTERS IN A "SATISFACTORY VICTORY" OVER THE TROOPS WHO RESCUED THE MAYAGUEZ. SAIGON RADIO ACKNOWLEDGED CAMBODIANS ARE STARVING BUT SAID THE NEW RULERS HAVE DISTRIBUTED 1,100 TONS OF RICE TO MORE THAN 220,000 PERSONS, AP (5/18/75)

FOREIGN POLICY: NEWS

NEWS

KISSINGER ARRIVES IN VIENNA

HENRY KISSINGER ARRIVED IN VIENNA SUNDAY, LAYING PLANS FOR

PSN:045926

PAGE 02

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DTG:191223Z MAY 75

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TALKS WITH SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTER ANDREI A. GROMYKO TO REWIN HIS REPUTATION AS A SUPER SECRETARY OF STATE.

KISSINGER WILL TRY TO ARRANGE A NEW NUCLEAR ARMS LIMITATION TREATY TO BE SIGNED IN THE FALL BY PRESIDENT FORD AND SOVIET PARTY LEADER LEONID I. BREZHNEV. THE TRIP WAS DESIGNED IN PART TO REASSURE WESTERN ALLIES OF U.S. RESOLVE AND TO LAY THE GROUNDWORK FOR FORD'S OWN EUROPEAN TRIP LATER THIS MONTH.

ON THIS TRIP THE JOKES FLOWED. (UPI) WHEN, SOMEWHERE OVER THE ATLANTIC, A NEWSMAN ASKED ABOUT KISSINGER'S CLOUT IN DIPLOMACY, THE SENIOR AMERICAN OFFICIAL GRINNED LIKE A PUSSY CAT AND SAID, "WHAT THE SECRETARY OF STATE OF THE UNITED STATES SAYS MEANS SOMETHING -- OUTSIDE OF WASHINGTON, ANYWAY."

THERE CAME EVEN A HA-HA MENTION OF KISSINGER ONCE HAVING USED AUSTRIAN SOIL -- IN SALZBURG, WITH PRESIDENT NIXON, LAST YEAR -- TO THREATEN TO RESIGN. THE FACT KISSINGER DID NOT RESIGN -- BUT ENDURED WATERGATE, THE COMING OF FORD AND THE GOING OF INDOCHINA -- LED TO THIS TRIP TO VIENNA.

THE "SENIOR AMERICAN OFFICIAL" EXPECTS NO BREAKTHROUGH ON THE SALT IN KISSINGER'S MEETING WITH GROMYKO, BUT THE GAME PLAN CALLS FOR CHECKING SIGNALS WITH GROMYKO, HE SAID. AP, UPI (5/18/75)

U.S. WOULD STRIKE HARDER AT NORTH KOREA NOW, KISSINGER SAYS

SECRETARY KISSINGER SAID THE U.S. WOULD STRIKE BACK HARDER IN KOREA THAN IT DID IN MUCH OF THE VIETNAM WAR IF SOUTH KOREA WERE INVADED NOW. IN A U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT INTERVIEW, KISSINGER SAID HE DOUBTS THE U.S. WOULD FEEL THE SAME CONSTRAINTS TO AVOID HEAVY BOMBING AND BLOCKADES THAT WE FELT IN VIETNAM -- NBC (5/18/75)

MANSFIELD CALLS FOR RECOGNITION OF INDOCHINA COMMUNISTS
"FACE THE NATION"

SENATE MAJORITY LEADER MIKE MANSFIELD CALLED SUNDAY FOR DIPLOMATIC RECOGNITION OF THE NEW COMMUNIST GOVERNMENTS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA TO AVOID REPETITION OF THE MAYAGUEZ CRISIS AND ITS RESOLUTION BY MILITARY FORCE. MANSFIELD BLAMED THE NEED FOR MILITARY ACTION ON THE LACK OF DIPLOMATIC CONTACT WITH THE NEW KHMER ROUGE GOVERNMENT. HE ALSO RECOMMENDED A FULL REEVALUATION OF AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY. THE UNITED STATES SHOULD EXERCISE "GREAT CAUTION" IN GIVING AID TO OTHER NATIONS BECAUSE \$150 BILLION HAS BEEN WASTED ON AID SINCE 1945, HE ADDED.

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PAGE 03

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MANSFIELD WAS MILDLY CRITICAL OF PRESIDENT FORD FOR ONLY BRIEFING -- RATHER THAN CONSULTING -- CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS ABOUT U.S. STRATEGIES FOR REGAINING THE MAYAGUEZ AND ITS CREWMEN. HE SAID HE WAS NOT UPSET "PERSONALLY" ABOUT FORD'S LACK OF CONSULTATION WITH CONGRESS BEFORE ORDERING MILITARY ACTION TO SEIZE THE MAYAGUEZ, BUT "THE PRINCIPAL IS A GOOD ONE THAT THERE OUGHT TO BE MORE CONSULTATION BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND CONGRESS BEFORE THE USE OF MILITARY FORCE IS AGREED TO," AND THAT IS WHAT THE WAR POWERS ACT CONTAINS."

THE ODDS FOR PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT IN THE MIDDLE EAST HAVE DROPPED SINCE SECRETARY KISSINGER'S FAILURE AT SHUTTLE DIPLOMACY, MANSFIELD SAID, BUT KISSINGER'S RELATION WITH CONGRESS IS "STILL A VERY GOOD ONE," HE ADDED. UPI/CBS (5/18/75)

JACKSON SAYS PUBLIC TRUST IN FOREIGN POLICY HAS "EVAPORATED"

SEN. HENRY JACKSON SAID SUNDAY THAT PUBLIC TRUST IN FOREIGN POLICY HAS EVAPORATED IN THE WAKE OF OBSESSIVELY SECRET AND PERSONAL DIPLOMACY. HIS REMARKS, WHICH NEVER MENTIONED SECRETARY KISSINGER BY NAME, WERE PREPARED FOR COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES AT SWEET BRIAR COLLEGE HERE. JACKSON SAID THE U.S. HAS SUFFERED MAJOR REVERSES IN FOREIGN POLICY WITH A RESULTING DECLINE IN NATIONAL PRESTIGE AND INFLUENCE IN THE LAST TWO YEARS.

"IN THE CONSTITUTIONAL ORDER WHICH RESTS ON THE SHARING OF POWERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES," HE SAID, "OPENNESS, CANDOR AND RESPECT FOR THE PUBLIC'S RIGHT TO KNOW ARE ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL."

A CREDIBLE WESTERN DEFENSE POSTURE IS VITAL TO THE EFFECTIVENESS OF U.S. FOREIGN POLICY, HE ADDED. AP (5/18/75)

PRAVDA CITES IMPORTANCE OF US-SOVIET RELATIONS

PRAVDA PUBLISHED AN UPBEAT ASSESSMENT OF U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONS SUNDAY ON THE EVE OF A MEETING BETWEEN SECRETARY KISSINGER AND SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTER ANDREI GROMYKO. THE REVIEW OF BILATERAL RELATIONS AVOIDED MENTIONING ACROMONIOUS REMARKS IN RECENT SPEECHES BY BOTH KISSINGER AND GROMYKO.

"THE IMPORTANCE OF THESE RELATIONS FOR THE CAUSE OF PEACE CAN HARDLY BE OVER-ESTIMATED," THE COMMUNIST PARTY NEWSPAPER SAID. "BOTH SIDES ARE STRIVING TO ELEVATE THESE RELATIONS TO A NEW PLANE, TO BRING TO LIFE THE UNDERSTANDING ACHIEVED IN VLADIVOSTOK IN NOVEMBER 1974, DURING THE MEETING BETWEEN L. I. BREZHNEV AND G. FORD." AP (5/18/75)

PSN:045926

PAGE 04

TOR:139/11:18Z

DTG:191223Z MAY 75

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INTERNATIONAL: NEWS

NEWS

SADAT SAYS ARABS AGREE ON PEACE TALK STRATEGY

EGYPTAIN PRESIDENT ANWAR SADAT SAID SUNDAY HE AND OTHER ARAB LEADERS HAD REACHED "TOTAL AGREEMENT" ON THE NEXT MOVES TOWARD A MIDDLE EAST PEACE SETTLEMENT. NRC REPORTED THAT PLO LEADER YASSER ARAFAT WAS AT HIS SIDE WHEN HE MADE THE STATEMENT. HE FLEW HOME TO CAIRO FROM TWO DAYS OF TALKS IN DAMASCUS WHERE HE CONFERRED WITH SYRIAN PRESIDENT HAFEZ ASSAD AND ARAFAT. HE ALSO VISITED JORDAN, IRAQ AND KUWAIT.

PORTUGUESE PROTESTORS DAMAND EXPULSION OF CARLUCCI

SOLDIERS OF A PORTUGUESE LEFT-WING ARTILLERY UNIT SAID SUNDAY THEY HAVE DISCOVERED A MAJOR COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY PLOT AND URGED MILITARY UNITS THROUGHOUT PORTUGAL TO JOIN IN A MANHUNT FOR THE MEN IMPLICATED IN IT. A STATEMENT BY THE MILITARY SECURITY FORCES SAID MORE THAN 20 SOLDIERS AND CIVILIANS HAVE ALREADY BEEN ARRESTED IN CONNECTION WITH THE PLOT.

THE ANNOUNCEMENT CAME AFTER DEMONSTRATORS SHOUTING ANTI-AMERICAN SLOGANS PAINTED RED SWASTIKAS ON THE U.S. EMBASSY IN LISBON. ABOUT 150 LEFT-WING YOUTHS MARCHED ON THE U.S. EMBASSY, CALLING FOR THE ARREST AND EXPULSION OF AMBASSADOR FRANK CARLUCCI AND AN UNIDENTIFIED CIA AGENT. AP, UPI (5/18/75)

PENTAGON'S PROFESSOR SHOWS HIS STYLE
BY NICK THIMMESCH
(EXCERPTED FROM THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE)

FOR SECRETARY SCHLESINGER, WHO HAS SPENT MORE TIME DEFENDING THE DEFENSE DEPARTMENT'S BASIC RIGHT TO EXIST THAN HE HAS IN THE CHORE HE PREFERS--CORRECTING ITS INTERNAL PROBLEMS--THE MAYAGUEZ EPISODE WAS A DESPERATELY NEEDED TONIC. "GULLIVER IS RISING, I RELIEVE," HE TOLD ME FRIDAY, ALLUDING TO THE HERO BOUND BY THE TINY LILLIPUTIANS. "HE MAY NOW FEEL JUSTIFIED IN NOT LYING FLAT ON HIS BACK, EVEN IF THERE ARE NO BONDS ON HIM."
"THE AMERICAN SPIRIT NEEDS STIRRING," HE SAID. "THE LEADERSHIP GROUPS IN THIS COUNTRY SEEM TO THINK THAT THE WEST HAS NO RIGHT TO DEFEND ITSELF, THAT THE USE OF FORCE IS NOT MORAL. I SPEND TOO MUCH OF MY TIME DEFENDING THE CORPUS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE."

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PAGE 05

TOR:139/11:18Z

DTG:191223Z MAY 75

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SCHLESINGER IS NOT THE SORT OF PERSON WHO EXUDES CHARM OR WINS FRIENDS READILY. HE IS A LONER AND INDIVIDUALIST. AT 44, HE WAS THE YOUNGEST MAN TO TAKE OVER THE PENTAGON, AND IS THE FIRST DEFENSE SECRETARY IN RECENT HISTORY NOT TO HAVE SERVED IN THE MILITARY.

NEITHER FACT MEANS A DAMN TO HIM. NOR DOES HIS GATHERING REPUTATION THAT HE REFUSES TO FIT INTO WASHINGTON'S SOCIAL MOLD, WON'T COMPLY WITH THE MEDIA'S DEMANDS TO SIMPLIFY AND COMPRESS COMPLICATED NOTIONS INTO BRIEF QUOTATIONS FOR PRINTED PAGE OR PRECIOUS BROADCAST TIME, AND HAS DISDAIN FOR MUCH OF THE AMERICAN SO-CALLED INTELLECTUAL COMMUNITY.

AUTHOR RICHARD WHALEN FEELS THERE IS A RIFT BETWEEN SCHLESINGER AND SECRETARY KISSINGER BASED ON THE TWO MEN'S CHARACTERS.

"JIM SCHLESINGER IS MORE OF AN IDEALIST THAN KISSINGER IS," WHALEN SAID.

"THERE IS RESPECT FOR KISSINGER ON SCHLESINGER'S SIDE BECAUSE HE IS A GENTLEMAN. THERE IS OPENNESS, INTELLECTUAL RESPECT AND NO ENVY WHATSOEVER. I DON'T THINK THAT KISSINGER FOR HIS PART, RECIPROCATES THIS GENTLEMANLY, OPEN RELATIONSHIP. KISSINGER IS MUCH MORE A KNIFE-WIELDER AND A BACKBITER."

SCHLESINGER IS ADMIRER BUT REMAINS A CONSTANT PUZZLEMENT TO JOE LAITIN, A SEASONED GOVERNMENT INFORMATION MAN WHO BEFRIENDED HIM AT THE BUREAU OF BUDGET. "STRIP THRU THAT LAYER OF JIM'S INTELLECTUAL ARROGANCE, AND DO YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'LL FIND? ANOTHER LAYER OF INTELLECTUAL ARROGANCE. I SAY THAT, KNOWING THAT HE'S ONE OF THE BEST AND NICEST MEN I'VE MET IN THE GOVERNMENT," LAITIN SAID. (05/18/75)

RICHARDSON OPPOSES US ISOLATIONISM

ELLIOT RICHARDSON, US AMBASSADOR TO BRITAIN, SPOKE OUT TODAY AGAINST ANY AMERICAN WITHDRAWAL FROM WORLD AFFAIR AND SAID THE UNITED STATES "CANNOT LIVE IN SPLENDID ISOLATION."

RICHARDSON TOLD A CONVENTION OF SCOTTISH LAWYERS THAT COMMUNIST TAKEOVERS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA HAD PROMPTED SOME TALK IN AMERICA OF A RETURN TO ISOLATIONISM. "IT SEEMS TO ME THAT SUCH TALK IGNORES THE REALITY OF INTER DEPENDENCE AMONG THE NATIONS OF THE WORLD," HE SAID. HE CITED AS EXAMPLES THE PRECARIOUS NUCLEAR BALANCE BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION, AP (05/18/75)

THAILAND: A CHANCE FOR REAL RESTUDY

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PAGE 06

TOR:139/11:18Z

DTG:191223Z MAY 75

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(EDITORIAL, EXCERPTED FROM THE BALTIMORE SUN)

THAILAND'S PRIME MINISTER KUKRIT PRAMOJ HAS CALLED HIS AMBASSADOR HOME, WHICH MAY PROVIDE A CHANCE FOR A REAL RESTUDY OF AMERICA'S NEW RELATIONS WITH THAILAND.

THE SHORT-RANGE CONVENIENCE OF AMERICAN BASES IN THAILAND CANNOT BE DENIED, AND THE NEW GOVERNMENT MIGHT YET PROVE AMENDABLE. BUT IT WOULD INHERENTLY RISK GIVING THAILAND THE APPEARANCE OF AN AMERICAN BULWARK, THAT WOULD ERASE THAILAND'S POTENTIAL AS A BUFFER AND MIGHT GRANT HER GROWING LOCAL COMMUNIST INSURGENCY A PATRIOTIC APPEAL IT NEED NOT BE GIVEN.

THAILAND'S FRAGILE COALITION GOVERNMENT FACES MANY PROBLEMS IN COPING WITH THE GUERRILLAS. BUT THE GOVERNMENT'S NATURAL ADVANTAGES WOULD SURELY BE UNDERCUT BY ANY MAJOR AMERICAN MILITARY PRESENCE. WASHINGTON'S PROBLEM, AS IT REVIEWS POLICY TOWARD BANGKOK, WILL BE TO BALANCE THE SHORT-TERM CONVENIENCE OF ITS BASES AGAINST POSSIBLE INJURY TO THAILAND'S BEST HOPES OF KEEPING ITS COMMUNIST INSURGENCY FROM MATURING TO A FULL-SCALE CIVIL WAR. (05/17/75)

THE PRESIDENT'S ROLE IN THE MAYAGUEZ INCIDENT

BOSTON HERALD AMERICAN: PRESIDENT FORD'S VIGOROUS AND SUCCESSFUL MILITARY RESPONSE TO CAMBODIA'S SEIZURE OF AN AMERICAN MERCHANT SHIP ON THE HIGH SEAS WAS ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL. MR. FORD SHOWED COOL AND CAREFUL RESTRAINT IN AT FIRST ATTEMPTING DIPLOMATIC MEANS TO OBTAIN RELEASE OF THE SHIP AND ITS CREW. THE WHOLE WORLD WAS WATCHING. ANY FALTERING, ANY EXTENDED PAPAVER, WOULD ONLY HAVE REINFORCED THE SNEERING VIEW THAT OUR DEBACLE IN INDOCHINA FATALLY WEAKENED US A CREDITABLE WORLD POWER.

PRESIDENT FORD'S UNQUALIFIED ORDER TO RETAKE THE MAYAGUEZ BY FORCE HAS INCREASED BOTH INTERNATIONAL RESPECT FOR THE US AND THE SELF-RESPECT OF ITS CITIZENS. MR. FORD MERITS GREAT CREDIT FOR HIS DECISION LEADERSHIP IN THE CRISIS. SIMILAR CREDIT IS DUE TO OUR FIGHTING FORCES, WHO SO EFFECTIVELY CARRIED OUT HIS ORDER ON SUCH SHORT NOTICE AND UNDER SUCH DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCES. (05/16/75)

RICHMOND TIMES-DISPATCH: AS A RESULT OF COURAGEOUS ACTION BY PRESIDENT FORD, THE MAYAGUEZ HAS BEEN RETRIEVED, ITS 39 CREW MEMBERS HAVE BEEN RESCUED UNHARMED AND AMERICA CAN HOLD ITS HEAD HIGHER TODAY. SURELY, MOST AMERICANS ARE IMMENSELY PLEASED AND PROFOUNDLY REASSURED BY THE FIRMNESS MR. FORD DISPLAYED. THIS UGLY INCIDENT CONSTITUTED THE FIRST MAJOR TEST OF THE PRESIDENT'S METTLE IN THE INTERNATIONAL ARENA, AND HE PASSED IT SPECTACULARLY. IT MAY HAVE BEEN ONE OF THE

PSN:045926

PAGE 07

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DTG:191223Z MAY 75

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SMALLEST BATTLES THE US EVER FOUGHT, BUT IT WAS A BATTLE OF GREAT SIGNIFICANCE. (05/16/75

CHICAGO SUN-TIMES: THE US MILITARY OPERATION IN RESPONSE TO THE SEIZURE OF THE MAYAGUEZ AND ITS CREW WAS A DARING, DELICATE MOVE. IT WAS A LIMITED MILITARY ACTION THAT ACHIEVED ITS OBJECTIVE QUICKLY AND WITHOUT TOUCHING OFF A LARGER CONFLAGRATION. IT THEREFORE CAN BE JUDGED A SUCCESS. FOR 65 HOURS THE UNITED STATES APPLIED BOTH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE DIPLOMATIC PRESSURE TO OBTAIN THE RELEASE OF THE SHIP. THERE WAS NEVER ANY QUESTION ABOUT THE POSITION OF THE UNITED STATES OR ITS INTENTION TO USE FORCE IF DIPLOMACY FAILED. INASMUCH AS THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE UNANIMOUSLY PASSED A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING PRESIDENT FORD'S AUTHORITY TO USE MILITARY FORCE, THE ADMINISTRATION, IT MUST BE ASSUMED, MADE A CONVINCING CASE THAT DIPLOMACY HAD FAILED AND THAT THE MILITARY OPTION, HOWEVER RISKY, SHOULD BE EMPLOYED. (05/16/75
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PSN:045926 PAGE 08 OF 08 TOR:139/11:18Z DTG:191223Z MAY 75

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