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SC No. 01896/68

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
Directorate of Intelligence  
26 January 1968

INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

PUEBLO SITREP No. 8  
(As of 0700 EST)

1. Pyongyang maintains an unyielding stance regarding the crew of the Pueblo. An article in the authoritative Nodong Sinmun, broadcast on 25 January, said those who had violated North Korea's sovereignty were criminals who must be "dealt with by law" and receive "due punishment."

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3. US Ambassador Goldberg has ask for a meeting of the UN Security Council today. Council President Aga Shahi of Pakistan conferred with the other Council members, some of whom asked for time to consult their governments. Secretary General Thant, however, indicated he planned no action in the Pueblo matter and would go ahead with his plans to travel to New Delhi on Monday.

4. In a letter Thursday to Shahi, Goldberg charged that Communist violations of the 1953 Korean armistice are creating a dangerous situation requiring the intervention of the Security Council. Goldberg's letter referred to the North Korean attempt to assassinate South Korean President Pak Chong-hui last Monday and North Korean raids into the Demilitarized Zone as well as the seizure of the Pueblo.

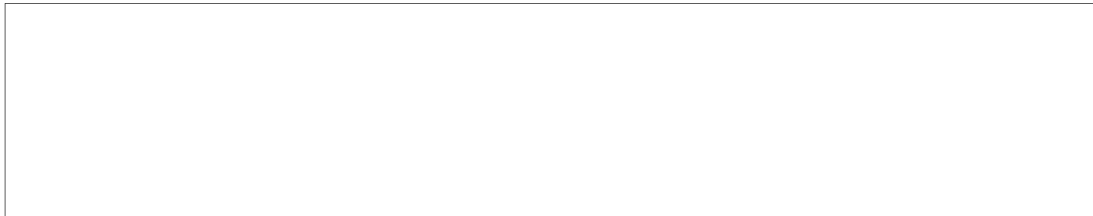
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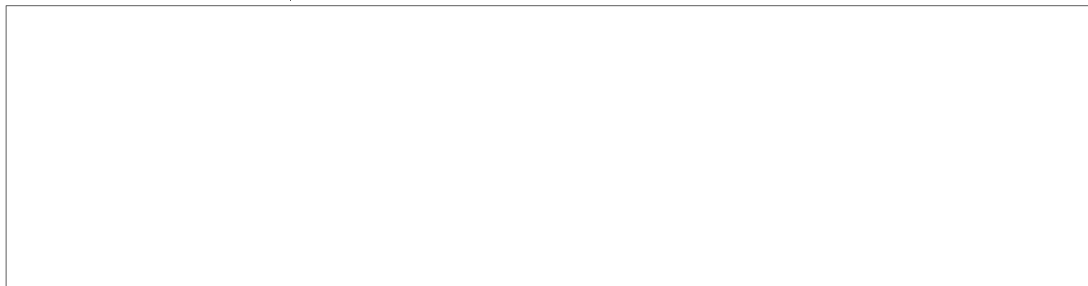
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5. Moscow continues to accord minimal comment to the Pueblo incident and the follow-up developments. Late on 25 January TASS briefly reported the US reserve call-up, terming it a "threatening act," but did not carry any further comment.

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7. Task Group 70.0, the attack aircraft carrier Yorktown and six destroyers, is en route to the Sea of Japan and is expected to arrive on 30 January. The Yorktown left Pearl Harbor about the same time as the Enterprise but was originally to hold maneuvers in the Western Pacific before proceeding to Japan in mid-February.

8. Soviet ships continue to shadow the US naval task force in the Sea of Japan. The O'Bannon, while en route from Sasebo to join the rest of the task force, was approached to within 700 yards and illuminated by the Soviet Riga-class destroyer escort in the evening of 25 January. Two hours after the initial approach, the Soviet ship had faded to a distance of 11½ miles. The O'Bannon reached the rest of the task force a little over an hour later. Early this morning the intelligence collector Gidrolog had closed to within two miles of the task force.

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