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May 24, 2006

National Security Agency
Attn: FOIA Office (N5P5)
9800 Savage Road
Suite G248
Fort George G. Meade, MD 20755-6248

Via Facsimile 301-688-4762

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act I request the following information. The request is made in connection with supplemental academic research on the attack on the USS *Liberty*. I will promptly pay any reasonable costs of copying the material requested. I waive the statutory time requirements provided under the Act.

REQUEST ONE

The first request relates to conflicting public statements made by one James Ronald Gotcher, III. (Mr. Gotcher claims that he served as a sergeant in the U.S. Air Force from 1964 to 1968 and thereafter worked for NSA at Fort Meade.) Copies of both his statements are attached. If the September 3, 2003 declaration made by Gotcher, under penalty of perjury, is accurate and he never worked for NSA and thus never saw any NSA "internal report on the attack", a simple one line confirmation that he never worked at NSA would render moot the request for the "internal report" other than the report to the NSA director described in request two.

REQUEST TWO

On January 3, 2003, by email, Mr. Gotcher claimed:

1. "At the time the Liberty was attacked [8 June 1967] I was working for the Air Force Component of NASH." [Believed to be a typographical error for NSAH.]

2. "After my discharge, I worked for the agency [NSA] at Fort Meade."
3. "I saw the internal report of the attack."

I request a copy of the NSA top secret report titled "Report to the NSA Director, USS Liberty (AGTR-5) 23 May - 8 June 1967", or any other NSA "internal report of the attack".

For clarification, I am not requesting the NSA cable to the White House sent 22 June 1967 which was previously released to me in FOIA request 40039 nor am I requesting the NSA 1981 United States Cryptologic History - "Attack on a Sigint Collector, The U.S.S. Liberty (S-CCO) which has been substantially declassified on July 2, 2003 and posted on the NSA website on July 8, 2003. (See NSA web page attached.)

REQUEST THREE

In paragraph 10 of Mr. Gotcher's declaration under penalty of perjury dated September 2, 2003 he claims, "A few days after the report arrived, [that would be June or early July 1967] another message came through directing the document control officer to gather and destroy all copies of both the rough and final intercept translations, as well as the subsequently issued report."

I request a copy of the NSA message to the document control officer of the United States Air Force, 6924 Security Squadron at DaNang, Vietnam, directing the gathering and destruction of the translations and report or in the alternative a simple statement that no such message existed or was sent.

It is my belief that requests one and three can probably be answered with two sentences:

Re: 1 Mr. Gotcher was never employed by NSA.

Re: 3 NSA never sent a message to the document control officer of the USAF 6924 Security Squadron directing the gathering and destruction of the translations and report relating to the attack on the U.S.S. Liberty.

Thank you in advance for your courtesy and cooperation.

Sincerely,



A. Jay Cristol

AJC:jr
Enclosure