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SECRET

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Navy Headquarters

Sea Section/3

MB - 1 -727

Add. B.

Name of Unit: Division 914

Full date: June 8, 1967

- 1120 Div 914 sailed out of Ashdod. (T-203, T-204, with Div Commander aboard and T-206.)
- 1215 Order by Sea/3 to steer for a point 20 miles north of El Arish and to patrol the area. The Div turned.
- 1320 Report from Sea/3 - Shelling of El Arish from the sea. Air craft will be dispatched.
- 1321 Div asked Sea/3 "When will aircraft be dispatched?" Sea/3 answered, "When we have radar contact."
- 1341 Contact made and reported to Sea/3. The contact is 20 miles north west of El Arish and 16 miles from Bradwill shore. Sea/3 Aircraft enroute and directed Div to make contact with them on [channel] 186.
- 1400 Target is being hit by aircraft.
- 1403 Smoke is comming out of target.
- 1405 Div Commander asked T-203 how many vessels does he see and what is the identification. (T-203 has radio contact with the aircraft.)
- 1410 Report from aircraft that vessel is a destroyer or a @ , with one mast and one [stack] chimminey.
- 1411 Order from Sea/3 - "We told the birds to leave after this strike, you go in."
- 1415 Aircraft left.
- 1419 Going in for torpedo attack. 1 9. [Tesda Vuv]
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- 1420 Order from Sea/3: "Do not attack. There might be misidentification by the aircraft. Did any men go overboard? An Air Force helicopter is comming."
- 1426 Our identification indicates it may be a commercial vessel. Reported to Sea/3. Order to Div from Div CDR, "Cancel 1 9 [Tesda Vuv]"

1436 Radar operator detected a small target. It may be a rescue boat.

1427? We tried to establish identification by light signal, "What ship?" She replied: "AA." The vessel is all in smoke. Only the front is visible with a gun.

1435 Div Commander detected firing flashes coming from the vessel.

1437 T-203 Identified the El Quiser, a supply ship. We checked and it seems to be reasonable. Div reported to Sea/3 that we are going in for torpedo launch. Order to Div 1 9 [Tessa Vuv]

1440 Open fire, range 1,000 - 2,000 yards.

1443 Torpedos launched, (T-203 hit)

1447 One more attack. After identification of mark, order to the Div to cease fire. Attack called off.

1450 Order from Sea/3 to look for men or rescue boat and identify nationality.

1451 Report to Sea/3: "Vessel may be Russian. Sea/3 asked on what basis? Div CDR replied: "Based on writing on back of vessel.

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1503 Order from Sea/3 to sail to El Arish. Two helicopters are coming.

1504 Order from Sea/3: "Go back and obtain positive identification of the vessel."

1507 Going close to vessel for positive identification.

1510 Order from Sea/3 to move to El Arish and from there by coast line to Ashdod.

1515 Order from Sea/3: "Go back for close identification of the vessel."

1520 Identification of the vessel - American. Lying on its right side. Fire is under control. Sailing at slow speed. Reported to Sea/3.

1521 The helicopters said they are leaving, one with low fuel, the other was ordered.

1522 STOP by order of Sea/3. "Stand by for instructions."

- 1533 Sailing to El Arish by order of Sea/3, Course 140, speed 11.
- 1536 Order from Sea/3 to go in for rescue. Div stand by. T-203 is going in.
- 1538 Order by Sea/3: In case the vessel shoots at you, do not get too close.
- 1540 T-203 scooped up a rescue boat. It is marked made in the USA. No men.

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- 1542 The vessel is sailing at slow speed to the north west.
- 1543 The vessel turned to the south west.
- 1545 T-203 is going in for rescue.
- 1546 Sea/3 ordered: call T-203 back. After join up, sail to El Arish.
- 1550 Sea/3 ordered: Keep tracking target by radar. Report any change in direction/speed. We are on course 140/ speed 27.
- 1555 Order by Sea/3: Keep radar tracking.
- 1600 Order by Sea/3: Move closer to target.
- 1602 Order by Sea/3: Call Div Commander to radio. Navy Chief to Div Commander: "The assumption is that vessel identification is the same as the rescue boats. Tug boats are sailing out of Ashdod. If it is possible, tow it to Ashdod. Saving of life is important. Go close and talk by loudspeaker. Do not climb on board. Ask if she needs help. If there are badly injured, call a helicopter. Do not apologize.

- 1630 We are going to target. Getting close.
- 1640 Moving very close. Her name is Liberty. No. CTR-5. We asked if she needed help. She replied: "No." We wished her good luck. Reported to Sea/3.

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- 1640 Div CDR asked Navy Chief to come to the radio. He reported the situation. Reported vessel's course, 045. Navy Chief replied to stay up to three miles away from target and keep tracking in the event of any changes,

report.

- 1650 Target changed to north west. Reported to Sea/3.
- 1650 Reported to Sea/3: Exact course is 305.
- 1652 Reported to Sea/3: Target changed course to 350.
- 1700 The vessel is sailing on a steady course of 330.
- 1703 CDR reported the color codes she made, N I Y R.
- 1704 An order received to go back to Ashdod.
- 1750 Target dissappeared. Final tracking details, 050/ 6 kts.  
(a few minutes earlier she did for a short time, 150.)