[redacted]

THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

JCSM-289-67

22 MAY 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

Subject: Cruiser Deployments (U)

1. (U) Reference is made to:

a. Your memorandum, dated 11 November 1967, subject: "Deployments to Southeast Asia (U)," in which you approved Southeast Asia deployment Program 4.

b. JCSM-40-67, dated 25 January 1967, subject: "Deployment of US Navy Ships During CY 1967 (U)," in which the Joint Chiefs of Staff recommended that you approve certain deployments of US Navy ships to implement those approved for planning purposes and continue the policy of equalizing deployments and combat experience between the Atlantic and Pacific Fleets.

c. A memorandum by the Deputy Secretary of Defense, dated 30 January 1967, subject: "Deployment of U.S. Navy Ships During CY 1967 (U)," which approved the counterdeployment of USS BOSTON and USS GALVESTON.

2. ~~(U)~~ The Joint Chiefs of Staff recommend the following deployments to continue the program of providing two heavy cruisers in the Western Pacific and counterdeploying light cruisers to EUCOM as compensation:

a. USS NEWPORT NEWS (CA-148) from LANTCOM to PACOM September 1967 to April 1968.

b. USS TOPEKA (CLG-8) from PACOM to EUCOM August 1967 to January 1968.

TOPEKA will relieve GALVESTON in the Sixth Fleet on 23 August 1967. GALVESTON will return to the Pacific, arriving in the Canal Zone on 6 September 1967. NEWPORT NEWS will arrive in the Pacific on 10 September 1967, en route to the Seventh Fleet to relieve BOSTON, which returns to the Atlantic on 20 October 1967. Ships earmarked for NATO as Category Alfa are required to be in the area and ready for assignment within

Copy ____ of 30 copies each of 2 pages series B

[redacted]

GROUP 3
Downgraded at 12 year intervals; not automatically declassified

#714

Declassified by Joint Staff
Date 1 Nov 94
701A 4024

JCSM-289-67

921103-196
Doc54

48 hours. During the period of 10 September 1967 to 20 October 1967, while NEWPORT NEWS and BOSTON are relieving each other and transiting the Pacific, the number of Category Alfa cruisers in the Atlantic/Mediterranean will be reduced from 5 to 4, with a corresponding increase in Category Bravo cruisers from 4 to 5. Notification to the NATO Defense Planning Committee and SACLANT of this temporary reduction of one Category Alfa cruiser and corresponding increase of one Category Bravo cruiser is required. The notification to NATO should incorporate the possibility of additional temporary reductions of this nature.

3. (S) The alternatives to reducing the Category Alfa cruisers from 5 to 4 are:

a. Extending GALVESTON's time away from home port from 7 months to 8.5 months; or

b. Returning BOSTON to the Atlantic on 10 September 1967, which reduces the number of heavy cruisers in the Seventh Fleet from 2 to 1 for a 40-day period (loss of 24 gunfire-support days).

Neither of these alternatives is recommended.

4. (S) The Joint Chiefs of Staff further recommend that:

a. The deployments in paragraph 2, above, be approved.

b. The NATO Defense Planning Committee be notified of the temporary reduction of SACLANT's Category Alfa cruiser force level. A draft message is contained in the Annex hereto.

For the Joint Chiefs of Staff:

SIGNED

J. O. COBB
Rear Admiral, USN
Deputy Director, Joint Staff

Attachment

941103-197

SE[redacted]

ANNEX

DRAFT

ACTION: AMEMBASSY PARIS

INFO: ALL NATO CAPITALS
CINCLANT
USCINCEUR
CINCUSNAVEUR
USNMR SHAPE

Subj: Ship Deployments

1. United States is continuing its program of deploying ships from the Atlantic to the Pacific and conversely from the Pacific to the Atlantic to equalize deployments throughout the US Navy, thus balancing impact of requirements to support effort in Southeast Asia. At earliest opportunity, you should inform DPC that Category Alfa cruisers will be temporarily reduced by one during some periods commencing in September 1967 through 1968, with a corresponding increase in Category Bravo cruisers.

2. This notification should be handled routinely. If useful, you may emphasize (a) the temporary nature of this situation, and (b) the continuing efforts of US to maintain a readiness at all times to meet our NATO commitments.

3. Request Department be informed as soon as DPC notification completed. After DPC notified, CINCLANT will notify SACLANT.

GP-3.