



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

CM-4664-69
22 October 1969

*Handcarved
by Sgt Deir
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MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

Subject: US Military Readiness Tests - Worldwide

1. ~~(TS)~~ Reference is made to my CM-4645-69, 16 October 1969, subject: "Additional Actions for US Military Readiness Tests - Worldwide." As outlined in the reference, a point in time was selected when certain CINC actions could be terminated if Soviet reaction had occurred.

2. ~~(TS)~~ In the CINCSTRIKE/MEAFSA area, we had designated the 22nd of October 1969 as a date to assess reaction to the movement of three MIDEASTFOR ships into the Gulf of Aden for a three-day exercise.

3. ~~(TS)~~ The US naval actions in the Gulf of Aden are believed to have caused a change in the Soviet naval posture in that area. Two major Soviet surface combatants, heading north in the Red Sea for a scheduled 24-31 October visit to a UAR port, reversed course probably late on the 20th, returned to the Gulf of Aden early on the 21st, and continued east southeast toward the Arabian Sea/Indian Ocean as of today. Four additional Soviet units appear to be en route from the Seychelles north toward the Arabian Sea.

4. ~~(TS)~~ The Joint Chiefs of Staff have assessed the situation based on intelligence received and recommended continuation of US exercise activity in the Gulf of Aden area until 27 October. We will continue to monitor Soviet reaction and make another assessment at that time.

EARLE G. WHEELER
Chairman
Joint Chiefs of Staff

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307 Worldwide Readiness Test
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