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UNCLASSIFIED

NIGHT NOTE

JAPAN: 1965 NUCLEAR WEAPON LOSS

Publicity about the 1965 loss of a US Navy aircraft and H-bomb 80 miles from a Japanese island east of Okinawa has generated intense concern in Japan and a fair amount of US press coverage. The fact that the aircraft carrier docked at Yokosuka, Japan two days later has fueled allegations that US nuclear-capable ships routinely "ignore" Japan's policy on nuclear transit. In addition, statements to the press by former crew members about nuclear weapons on board has increased pressure on our policy of neither confirming nor denying (NCND) the presence of nuclear weapons. We have given the Japanese Government further details of the accident, along with our assessment of the environmental impact (no harm) for its use in the Diet. The Government is very appreciative for the added information and has stressed the importance of strictly maintaining NCND.

~~(b)(1)(a)(3)~~
~~(b)(5)~~

Obtained through the
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT by
Greenpeace Nuclear Free Seas
Washington, D.C.
Requested: April 9/1 (appeal)
Drafted by: EAP/J: JPI
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PM/ISP:Pitt
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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED by BFBM DATE 12/11/90
 RELEASE DECLASSIFY
 EXCISE DECLASSIFY in PART
 DENY Non-responsive info.
FOI, EO or PA exemptions (b)(1)(4)(3)(5)
TS authority to:
 CLASSIFY as _____, OADR
 DOWNGRADE TS to S or C, OADR

5/24/94
EXCISE: DENY
Non-responsive information
FOIA (b) (7) (C)