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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6050

February 22, 2006

Rear Admiral M. H. Staring, JAGC, USN (Ret.)
2304 Haddon Place
Heather Hills-Belair
Bowie, MD 20716

Dear Admiral Staring,

Thank you for your Memorandum of September 2, 2005, regarding the Navy's investigation into the Israeli attack on USS LIBERTY (AGTR-5), which occurred on June 8, 1967. I respect your concerns as a leader of the Liberty Alliance and the points you raise about the investigation as a former Judge Advocate General of the Navy and the Staff Judge Advocate for Commander in Chief, U.S. Naval Forces, Europe, at the time of the attack.

I forwarded your letter to the Deputy Secretary of Defense and former Secretary of the Navy, Gordon R. England, for his review. I recently received the attached letter in response from the Assistant Judge Advocate General of the Navy for Civil Law on behalf of Secretary England, which concluded that further investigation is not warranted.

I appreciate that this is a matter of great importance, particularly to the brave men who served in USS LIBERTY, who endured the attack and saved their ship, and to the survivors and families of the wounded and those who died and their supporters. I noted from your Memorandum that they have filed a formal Report of War Crimes with the Secretary of the Army as the Executive Agent for the Department of Defense and view that as an appropriate course of action.

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely,



John Warner
Chairman