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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SITUATION ROOM NOTE

April 15, 1986

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Libyan Attack on the Italian Island of Lampedusa

At about 10:30 EST, the duty officer from the US Coast Guard station on the Italian island of Lampedusa reported two incoming rounds hit the island. Subsequent reports indicate there was no material damage and no casualties.

Reuters is reporting a spokesman for Prime Minister Craxi as saying that a Libyan patrol boat attacked Lampedusa with cannon. Two Italian fighter aircraft and a warship are now attempting to intercept the patrol boat, which is reportedly heading back to Libya.

- o Early reports, unconfirmed, were that SCUD missiles were used in the attack.
- o The US maintains a LORAN navigation station on Lampedusa, which is about 170 miles north of Tripoli. (The range of a SCUD missile is about 200 miles.)
- o Libyan press reports an attack on the island in retaliation for last night's bombing of Libyan targets.
- o The island is seven miles long and there are 2000-3000 people there. Number of American citizens on the island is unknown.

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NLRR Mb2-024 #36

BY RW NARA DATE 6/1/14

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E. O. 12958
As Amended
Sec. 3.3 (D)