



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
HEADQUARTERS  
NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE  
716 SICARD STREET SE SUITE 2000  
WASHINGTON NAVY YARD DC 20388-5380

5720 F04-0355  
SEROOLJF/5U1312

SEP 14 2005

The processing of your request for information pertaining to the attack of the Tanker LIMBURG has been completed. All releasable information is provided to you at enclosure (1), along with an explanation of exemptions taken under 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(1) and (b)(7)(C).

Our file contains photographs of a deceased person. In deference to the family of the deceased those photographs have been withheld pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(7)(C).

As the official responsible for the partial denial of your request, I am advising you of your right to appeal this determination. Your appeal must be postmarked within 60 calendar days from the date of this letter. An appeal should be addressed to the Secretary of the Navy's designee: Office of the Judge Advocate General, (Code 14), 1322 Patterson Avenue, S.E., Suite 3000, Washington Navy Yard, D.C. 20374-5066. The envelope and letter should bear the annotation "FOIA Appeal".

While processing your request we located documents proprietary to the United States Coast Guard, HQ USCG Commandant, G-S11, Washington, D.C. 20593-0001. Because we do not have the authority to release information other than our own, those documents have been referred for processing and direct response to you.

Falling below the automatic fee-waiver threshold, fees in this case have been waived.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "JL Jones", is written over a rectangular stamp.

JASON L. JONES  
LT., JAGC, USNR

Encl:  
(1) Documents

Navy

Limburg

## EXPLANATION OF EXEMPTIONS

### **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (5 U.S.C. §552):**

- (b)(1) protects from disclosure national security information concerning the national defense or foreign policy;
- (b)(2) related solely to internal personnel rules and practices, the release of which would allow circumvention of a statute or rule;
- (b)(3) specifically exempt from disclosure by statute;
- (b)(4) trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a private source which would cause substantial competitive harm to the source;
- (b)(5) pre-decisional opinions and recommendations, inter-agency or intra-agency memoranda or letters that show foreseeable harm if released. Also, attorney-client privilege and attorney-work product are covered;
- (b)(6) personnel and medical information, the release of which would result in a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy;
- (b)(7) investigatory records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes, which (A) could reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings, (B) would deprive a person of a right to a fair trial or an impartial adjudication, (C) could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, (D) could reasonably be expected to disclose the identity of a confidential source, (E) would disclose investigative techniques, and/or (F) could reasonably be expected to endanger the life or physical safety of an individual.

### **PRIVACY ACT (5 U.S.C. §552a):**

- (b) applies to information concerning other individuals which may not be released without their written consent;
- (j)(2) (A) applies to information compiled for the purpose of identifying individual criminal offenders and alleged offenders and consisting only of identifying data, (B) information compiled for the purpose of a criminal investigation, including reports of informants and investigators, and associated with an identifiable individual, or (C), reports identifiable to an individual compiled at any stage of the process of enforcement of the criminal laws;
- (k)(1) applies to information and material properly classified pursuant to an Executive Order in the interest of national defense or foreign policy;
- (k)(5) applies to investigatory material compiled solely for the purpose of determining suitability, eligibility, or qualifications for Federal, civilian employment, or access to classified information, release of which would disclose a confidential source; and
- (k)(6) testing or examination material used to determine individual qualifications for appointment or promotion in Federal Government service, the release of which would compromise the testing or examination process.



This document is made available through the declassification efforts  
and research of John Greenewald, Jr., creator of:

# The Black Vault



The Black Vault is the largest online Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)  
document clearinghouse in the world. The research efforts here are  
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REPORT OF INVESTIGATION (CLOSED)/16MAR03  
CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR/C

[REDACTED]

3. [REDACTED]

4. [REDACTED]

b1

5. [REDACTED]

b7C

6. [REDACTED]

7. [REDACTED]

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REPORT OF INVESTIGATION (CLOSED)/16MAR03  
CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR/C

[REDACTED]

8. [REDACTED]

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9. [REDACTED]

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10. [REDACTED]

~~SECRET~~



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REPORT OF INVESTIGATION (CLOSED)/16MAR03  
CCN: 06OCT02-MEJ-0328-5TRR/C

11. [REDACTED]

12. [REDACTED]

13. [REDACTED]

a. [REDACTED]

b. [REDACTED]

c. [REDACTED]

d. [REDACTED]

e. [REDACTED]

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S E  
REPORT OF INVESTIGATION (CLOSED)/16MAR03  
CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR/C

14. [REDACTED]

15. [REDACTED]

16. [REDACTED]

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17. [REDACTED]

18. (U) Exhibits (16) through (18) are excerpts of Yemeni news reports concerning the explosion involving the MV LIMBURG.

19. (U) Subsequent to its departures from Yemeni waters in November 2002, the MV LIMBURG was towed to international waters off the coast of the U.A.E. where her remaining cargo of crude oil was off-loaded and her cargo holds cleaned. As of this date, the MV LIMBURG remains unrepaired, at anchorage off the coast of Fujayrah, U.A.E. where it is reportedly up for sale by the owners. This investigation is closed.

EXHIBITS

- ( 1 ) (U) Background Statement/[REDACTED] Undated... (Copy All)
- ( 2 ) (U) Background Statement/SA [REDACTED] /Undated ... (Copy All)
- ( 3 ) (U) Letter #882 from U.S. Embassy Sana'a, Yemen/08Oct02... (Copy All)
- ( 4 ) (U) BBC News Excerpt, "Questions Over Yemen Tanker Blast"/08Oct02... (Copy All)
- ( 5 ) [REDACTED]

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REPORT OF INVESTIGATION (CLOSED)/16MAR03  
CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR/C

- ( 6) [REDACTED]
- ( 7) [REDACTED]
- ( 8) [REDACTED]
- ( 9) [REDACTED]
- (10) [REDACTED]
- (11) [REDACTED]
- (12) [REDACTED]
- (13) [REDACTED]
- (14) [REDACTED]
- (15) [REDACTED]

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- (16) (U) Excerpt from Yemen Observer/12Oct02...(Copy All)
- (17) (U) Excerpt from Yemen Times/14Oct02...(Copy All)
- (18) (U) Excerpt from Yemen Observer/19Oct02...(Copy All)

PARTICIPANTS

[REDACTED] Agent, NCIS Middle East Field Office, Bahrain  
 [REDACTED] Special Agent, FPD U.S. Embassy Sana'a, Yemen  
 [REDACTED] Asst. Army Attache, U.S. Embassy Sana'a, Yemen  
 [REDACTED], USCG Traveling Inspector, Washington, DC

DISTRIBUTION

NCISHQ: 0022I (P) (M)/0011 (P)(M)  
 INFO: NAVCENT/U.S. EMBASSY SANA'A (M)

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PAGE 6 OF LAST

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██████████ is a Naval Reserve Officer recalled to active duty in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. He is assigned to the Naval Criminal Investigation Service as an Officer/Agent. He has been assigned to NCIS since 1987 and has experience in all aspects of this agencies functions. He presently has over twenty years service in the military to include six years with the US Coast Guard in the Port Security and Port Operations Field.

#### CIVILIAN OCCUPATION

██████████ is a Bureau Chief at the rank of Captain with the New Jersey State Police. He has over 28 years tenure with the State Police Upon his enlistment in 1974 he performed general police duties until 1979, when he was promoted to Detective and entered the criminal investigation section.. He has remained in the criminal investigation section of the State Police since. He has been assigned to the Arson/ Bomb Unit of the State Police since 1980. He was the creator of the Bomb Squad within the State Police, a unit that has received international recognition. He is a certified Arson Investigator as well as a certified Bomb Technician and Post Blast Investigator. He has undergone extensive training in both these fields and is a court-qualified expert in both Federal and State court in the fields of arson and explosives. ██████████ has been involved with several high profile investigations during his tenure, to include the arrest of ██████████ of the Japanese Red Army for an attempted terrorist attack on New York City. He worked extensively on the World Trade Center bombing investigation and testified as an expert witness in both of the criminal trials. He was assigned to the bombing investigation at the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta, Georgia. He also participated in the World Trade Center Terrorism Investigation in New York City prior to being mobilized to active duty. ██████████ has just recently conducted a post blast investigation of the August 09, 2002 explosion in Sana'a, Yemen at the request of the Yemeni government.

██████████ holds both a B.S. degree, as well as a Masters Degree. He is a graduate of the FBI National Academy (180th session). He has had extensive training in the fields of arson and explosives and has lectured and trained numerous personnel from Federal, State and local law enforcement and public safety agencies in this area.

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Background for SA [REDACTED] NCIS

NCIS Special Agent [REDACTED] is a GS-13 supervisor in the NCIS Middle East Field Office in Manama, Bahrain. He is an 18-year veteran of NCIS with experience in all facets of criminal investigations, to include arson. He spent two years working criminal and counter-terrorism operations in the Republic of the Philippines (Jun90-Jun91). SA [REDACTED] led the Washington Field Office Major Case Response Team (North) from Jun01-Jun02 and during this time responded to and was a supervisor on the Pentagon Crime Scene (11Sep02-28Sep02). SA [REDACTED] recently attended a course in Post-Blast Investigations sponsored by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (BATF) held 23-27Sep02 in Jacksonville, FL. In addition, SA [REDACTED] was the Death Investigations coordinator at NCIS Headquarters in Washington, DC from April 1995 through August 2000. Prior to joining NCIS in 1984, SA [REDACTED] spent seven years as a Tank Officer with the U.S. Marine Corps.

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سفارة الولايات المتحدة الأمريكية

صنعا، الجمهورية اليمنية

No. 882

الرقم: ٨٨٢

The Embassy of the United States of America presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Yemen and has the honor to inform the esteemed Ministry that the following diplomats from this Embassy will travel by air to Mukalla City on Wednesday, October 9, 2002:

تهدي سفارة الولايات المتحدة الأمريكية أطيب تحياتها لوزارة خارجية الجمهورية اليمنية وتشرف أن تبلغ الوزارة الموقرة بأن الدبلوماسيين التالية أسمائهم من السفارة سيوفرون جوا إلى مدينة المكلا وذلك يوم الأربعاء الموافق ٩ أكتوبر ٢٠٠٢م:

[Redacted] and [Redacted]

They will fly to Mukalla aboard Yemenia flight no. 408 at about 1630 on Wednesday, October 9, 2002. They will return to Sanaa by air on Wednesday, October 16, 2002.

سيوفادرون جوا يوم الأربعاء الموافق ٩ أكتوبر على متن رحلة اليمنية رقم ٤٠٨-التي ستقادر في تمام الرابعة والنصف عصرا وسيعودون جوا إلى صنعا يوم الأربعاء الموافق ١٦ أكتوبر.

The purpose of this trip is to assist the Yemeni investigators into the incident involving the French oil tanker off the coast of Mukalla.

الغرض من هذه الرحلة مساعدة المحققين اليمنيين في التحقيق في حادث ناقلة النفط الفرنسية قبالة ساحل المكلا.

The Embassy of the United States of America avails itself of the opportunity to renew to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Yemen the assurances of its highest consideration.

تتهز سفارة الولايات المتحدة الأمريكية هذه الفرصة للإعراب مجددا لوزارة خارجية الجمهورية اليمنية عن فائق تقديرها واحترامها.

Embassy of the United States of America  
Sanaa, October 8, 2002

سفارة الولايات المتحدة الأمريكية  
صنعا، ٨ أكتوبر ٢٠٠٢م



[Redacted signature block]





CATEGORIES TV RADIO COMMUNICATE WHERE I LIVE INDEX SEARCH

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# BBC NEWS

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Tuesday, 8 October, 2002, 17:37 GMT 18:37 UK

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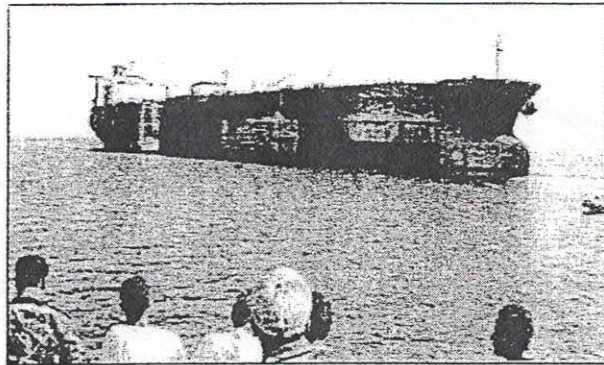
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- Help

LANGUAGES

## Questions over Yemen tanker blast



The Limburg is disabled and still leaking oil

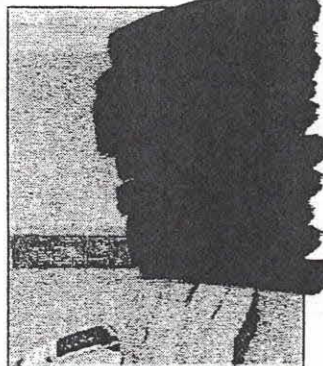
Yemeni and French experts are searching for clues on the oil tanker Limburg as opinions differ over the cause of an explosion which crippled the vessel on Sunday.

Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad said that state oil company Petronas - which chartered the tanker - "did not suspect any sabotage", adding that the explosion could have been triggered by a short circuit.

But the ship's captain, [redacted] still maintains that the explosion off the coast of Yemen was not an accident.

Meanwhile Yemeni officials said the body of a Bulgarian crew member - the only person aboard ship unaccounted for since the explosion - had been found ashore. All the other 24 crew members are safe.

The United States and France have both sent teams to Yemen to investigate, amid fears that this might be part of a series of attacks on shipping by al-Qaeda or other groups.



[redacted] says there was no technical problem

### WATCH/LISTEN ON THIS STORY

- The BBC's [redacted]**  
"If the latest incident was carried out by terrorists security will have to be substantially increased"
- The BBC's [redacted]**  
"This evening the French tanker is still adrift"
- [redacted] from the ship's owners Euronav**  
"The officer saw a small craft heading toward the ship at relatively high speed"

### See also:

- 07 Oct 02 | Business  
Oil price jumps after tanker 'attack'
- 21 Sep 02 | Middle East  
Yemen raid nets al-Qaeda suspects
- 03 Aug 02 | From Our Own Correspondent  
Yemen's al-Qaeda supporters
- 30 Oct 00 | Middle East  
Battered US warship heads home
- 06 Oct 02 | Middle East  
Q&A: Tackling oil spills
- 07 Mar 02 | Country profiles  
Country profile: Yemen

### Internet links:

- French Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Yemen Observer
- Yemen Times

The BBC is not responsible for the content of external internet sites

### Top Middle East stories now:

- [redacted] 'appalled' by Israel bus bomb
- Diplomacy 'could resolve Iraq crisis'
- Jewish settlers defy outpost clearance
- EU holds fire on 'Made in Israel' row
- Mass weddings mark

b7C



عربي  
فارسي  
پښتو

The French team arrived on Tuesday to join Yemeni investigators who have already been searching the waters around the Limburg.

TURKCE  
FRANCAIS  
EDITIONS  
Change to Word

Latest reports suggest the fire on board has been extinguished, but the vessel is still disabled and leaking small amounts of oil.

Saddam's new term  
Two benched in Saudi Arabia  
Khatami rejects 'dictatorship' claims  
Egypt Islamist trial hears torture claims

**'No accident'**

The owners of the French-flagged tanker said earlier that the boat was the target of a terrorist attack - rammed by a speedboat packed with explosives - but the Yemeni Government described the announcement as "premature".

Links to more Middle East stories are at the foot of the page.

[Click here to see how the explosion damaged the tanker](#)

The BBC's Pentagon correspondent [redacted] said that a senior US State Department official backed the Yemeni version, that it was an accident.

But [redacted] was quoted by the AFP news agency on Tuesday that while the explosion may not have been caused by an attack it still had not been explained.

**The Limburg**  
**Double-hulled**  
**Diesel-powered**  
**New price \$81m**  
**299,365**  
**deadweight tonnes**  
**Carrying 397,000**  
**barrels of crude oil**  
**Chartered by**  
**Malaysian state oil**  
**company Petronas**

b7c

"The way the explosion happened it could not be due to a technical problem," he said.

"A member of the crew told me he saw a small boat approach and I believe him."

Journalists taken by Yemeni officials to look at the Limburg report a metre-wide hole, with tangled metal pointed outward, suggesting an on-board blast.

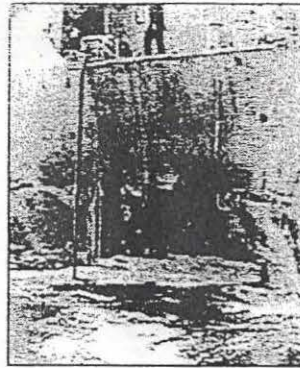
However, a Reuters correspondent saw an oval-shaped hole about 8 metres (26 ft) wide, with the edges dented inward.

The captain said he thought that the first explosion occurred on the outside of the ship.

A US naval ship, the

V

USS Cole, fell victim to such an attack - blamed on al-Qaeda terrorists - in 2000 at the Yemeni port of Aden. Seventeen US sailors were killed.



The USS Cole attack was blamed on al-Qaeda

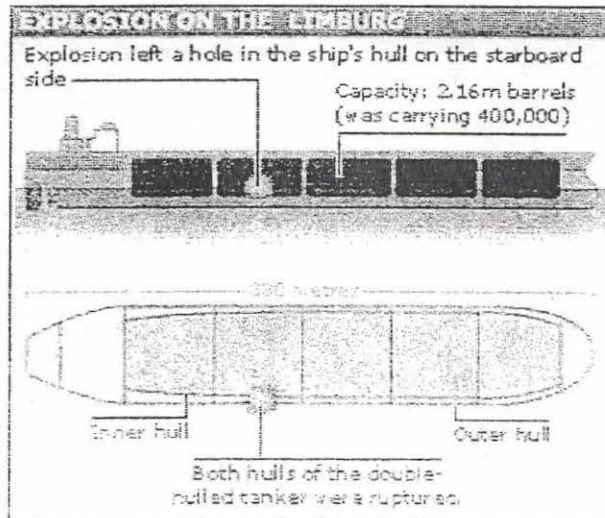
The American team from the Naval Criminal Investigative Service is being sent according to US defence officials, at the request of the Yemeni Government.

The team from Bahrain is said to be expert in post-blast and forensic investigation.

Yemen has launched its own investigation into the Limburg blast, and says it will co-operate with French investigators who are on their way to the scene.

French Foreign Minister Dominique de Villepin said the probe "will find out exactly what happened" and stressed that "no possibility is ruled out".

Two groups of French experts are to take part in the inquiry - agents from France's counterintelligence service, the Territorial Surveillance Directorate or DS, and another team, made up of transport ministry investigators.



[Click here to return](#)



NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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withheld entirely at this location. One or more of following explain this decision:

Deleted under exemption(s) (b)(1) & (b)(7)(C)

Documents originated with other government agency(ies). Referred for review and direct response to you.

Pages contain information furnished by other government agency(ies). We will advise you of releasability of information following consultation with agency(ies).

Comments: Investigative Activities of  
090CT02

U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

TITLE: //AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE SUPPORT REGARDING  
FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST(U)  
CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION: INVESTIGATIVE ACTIVITIES OF 10OCT02

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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b7c

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

[REDACTED]

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

Enclosures

- ( 1) Photo of Yemeni security boat/10oct02
- ( 2) Photo of MV LIMBURG/10oct02
- ( 3) Photo of Agent [REDACTED] viewing hull damage from 50 meters/10Oct02
- ( 4) - (13) Photos depicting breach in starboard hull, MV LIMBURG/10Oct02
- (14) Photo of investigators boarding MV LIMBURG/10Oct02
- (15) - (16) Photos of main deck from bridge/10Oct02
- (17) - (29) Photos of suspected fiberglass boat fragments/10Oct02
- (30) - (31) Photos of fiberglass fragment on bridge level/10Oct02
- (32) - (41) Photos of suspected outboard engine block/fairing/spark plug fragments/10Oct02
- (42) - (54) Photos of twisted/shattered metal fragments/10Oct02
- (55) - (56) Photos of metal fragment found on bridge level/10Oct02
- (57) Photo of date near fiberglass fragment/10Oct02
- (58) Photo of date containing suspected tissue/10Oct02
- (59) - (60) Photo of can of cheese/10Oct02
- (61) Photo of suspected explosive fragment/10Oct02
- (62) Photo of small, electrical connector/10Oct02
- (63) Photo of wire fragments/10Oct02
- (64) Photo of Agent [REDACTED] taking swabs of equipment bunker/10Oct02

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Reported By: [REDACTED] Special Agent  
Office: NCIS Middle East Field Office, Bahrain

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**TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST**

**CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR**

Enclosure ( | )



UNCLASSIFIED



**TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
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LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST**

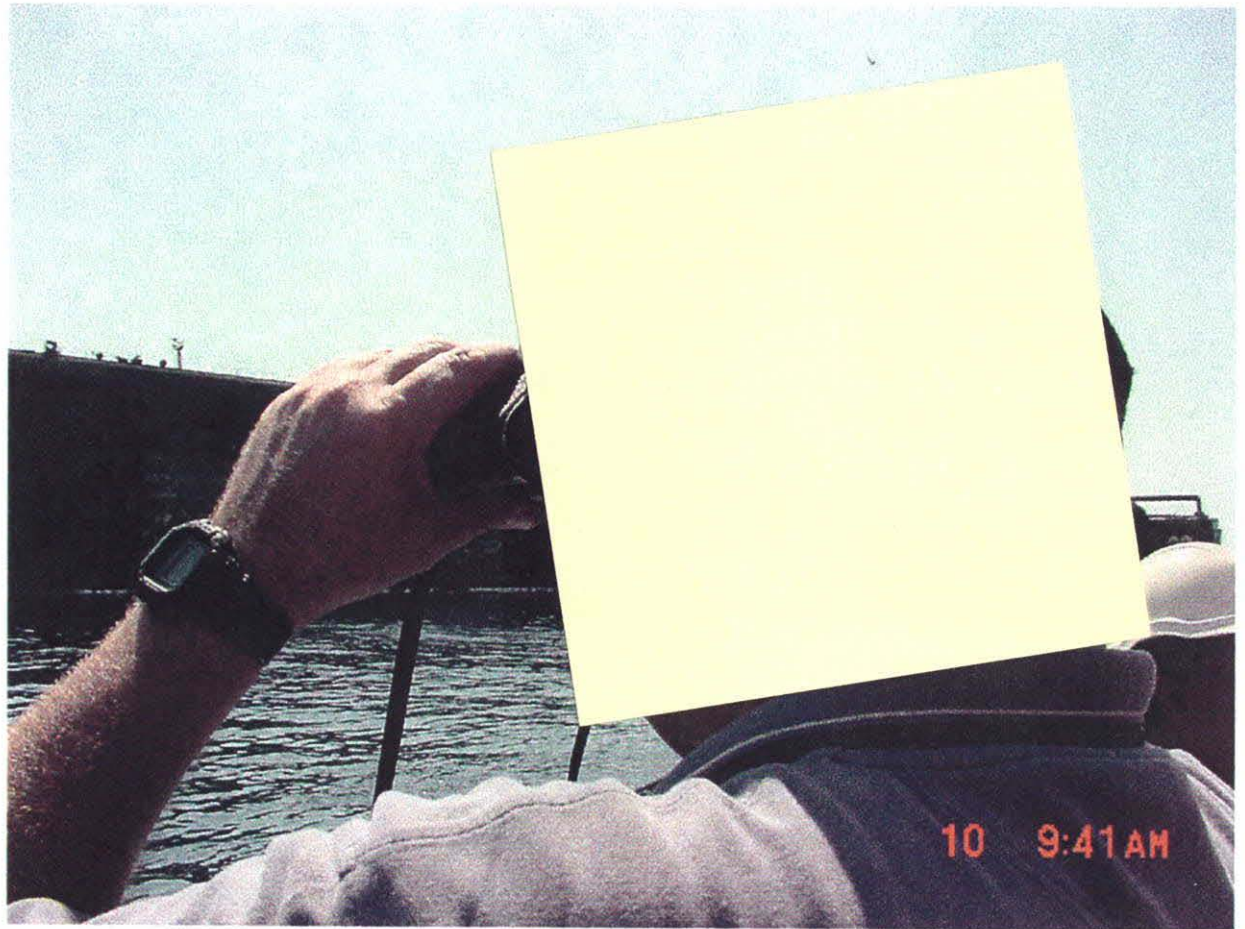
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**Enclosure ( 2 )**

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**Enclosure ( 3 )**

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Enclosure ( 4 )

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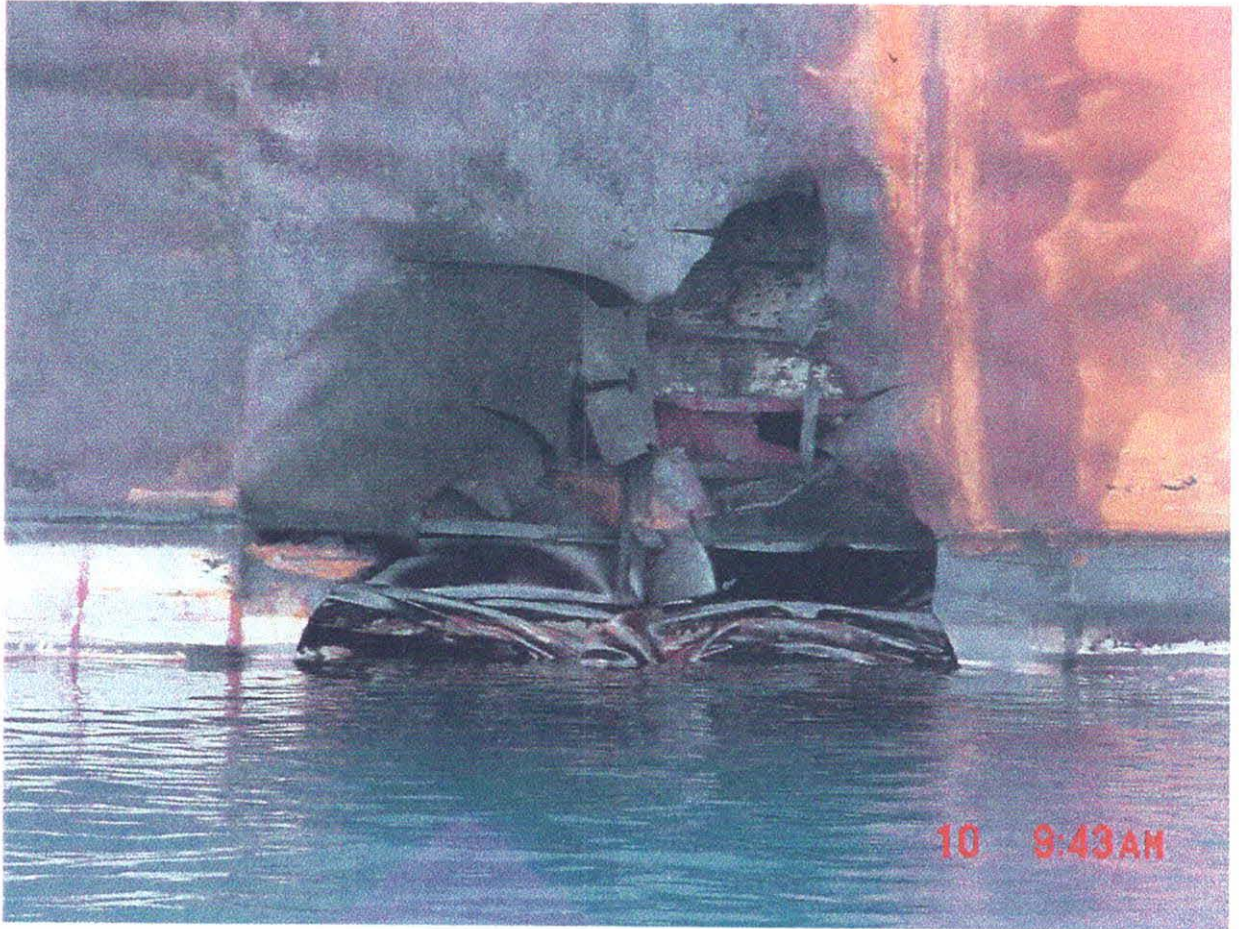


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**CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR**

Enclosure (6)



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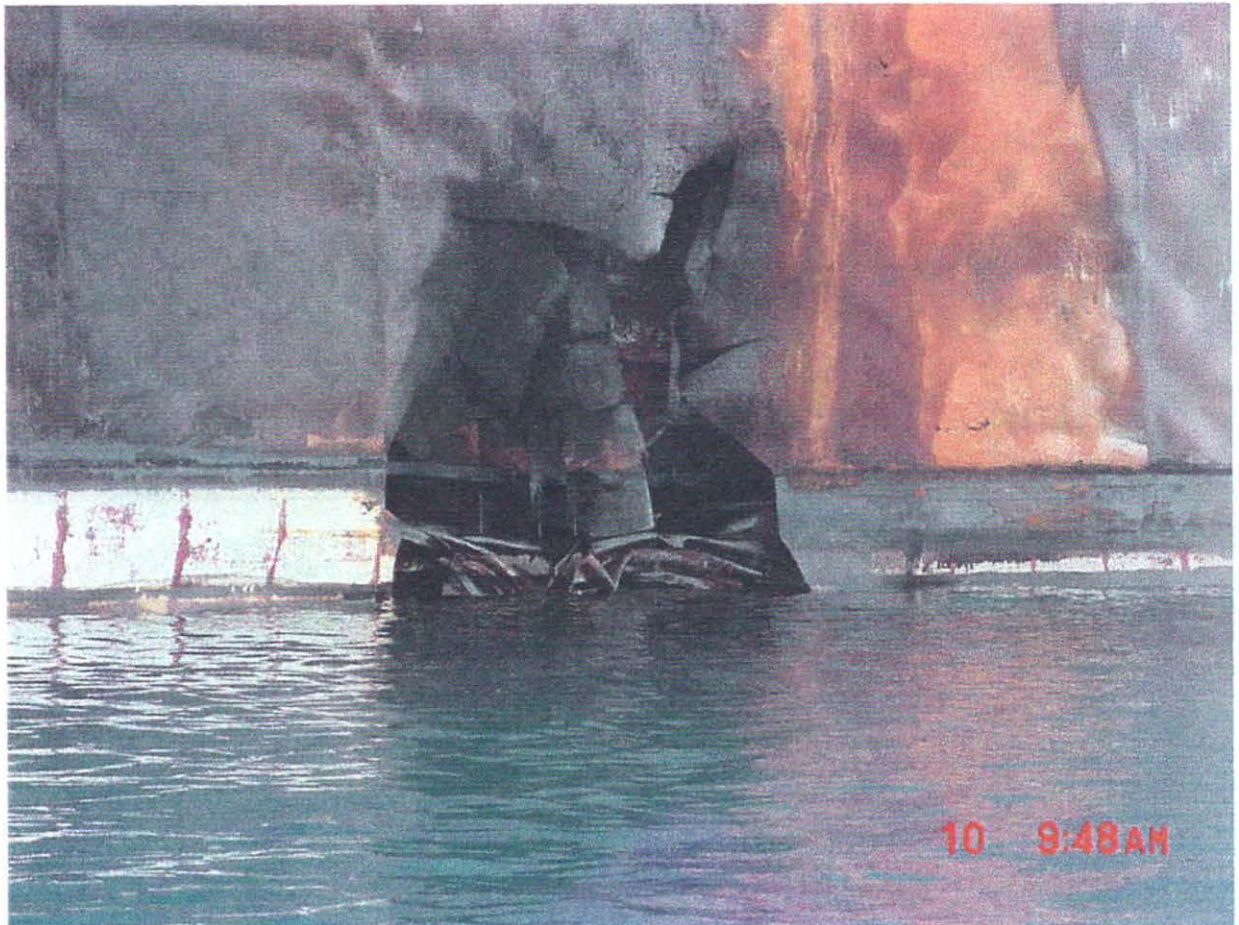
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**Enclosure ( 7 )**

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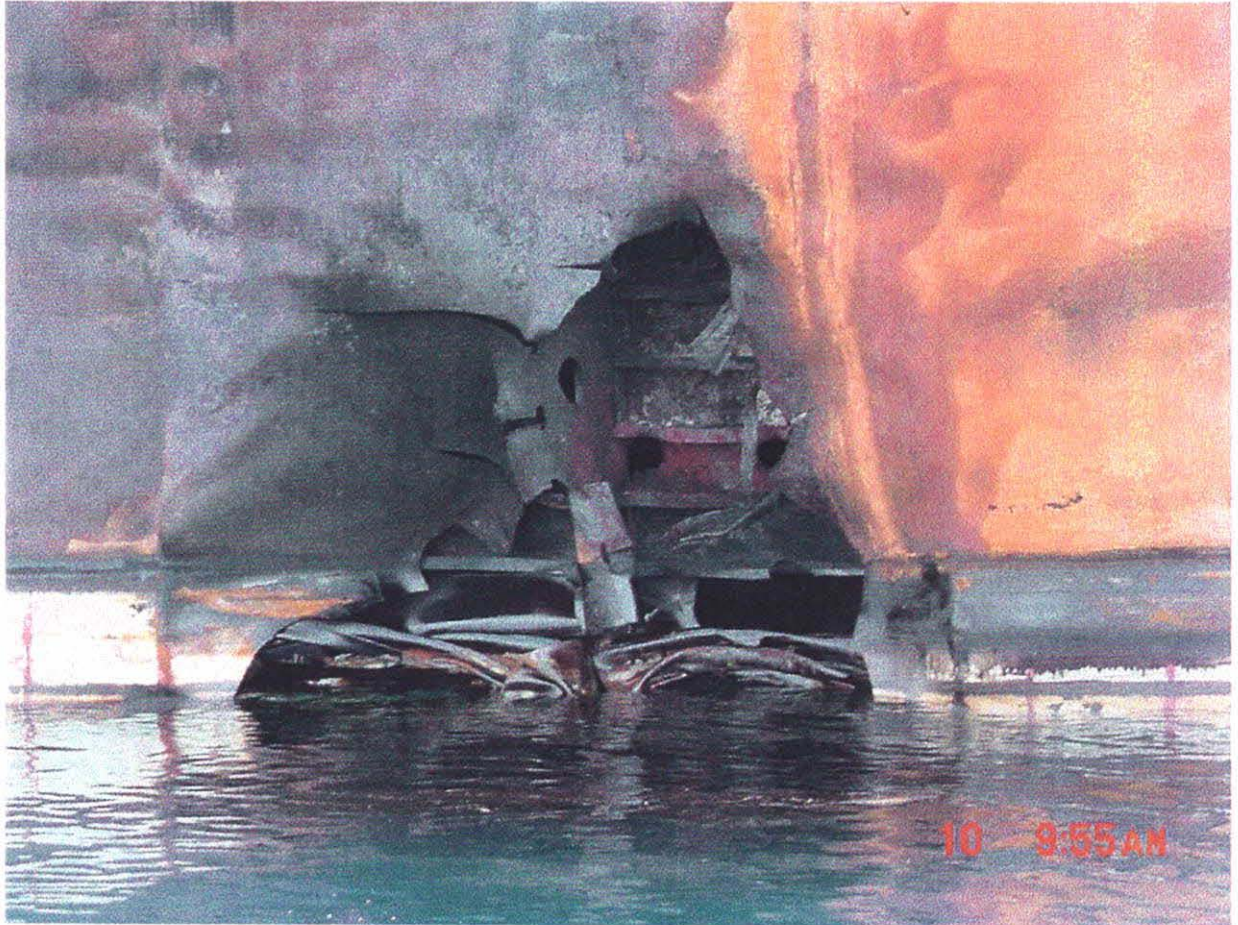
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Enclosure ( 8 )

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**CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR**

**Enclosure ( 9 )**

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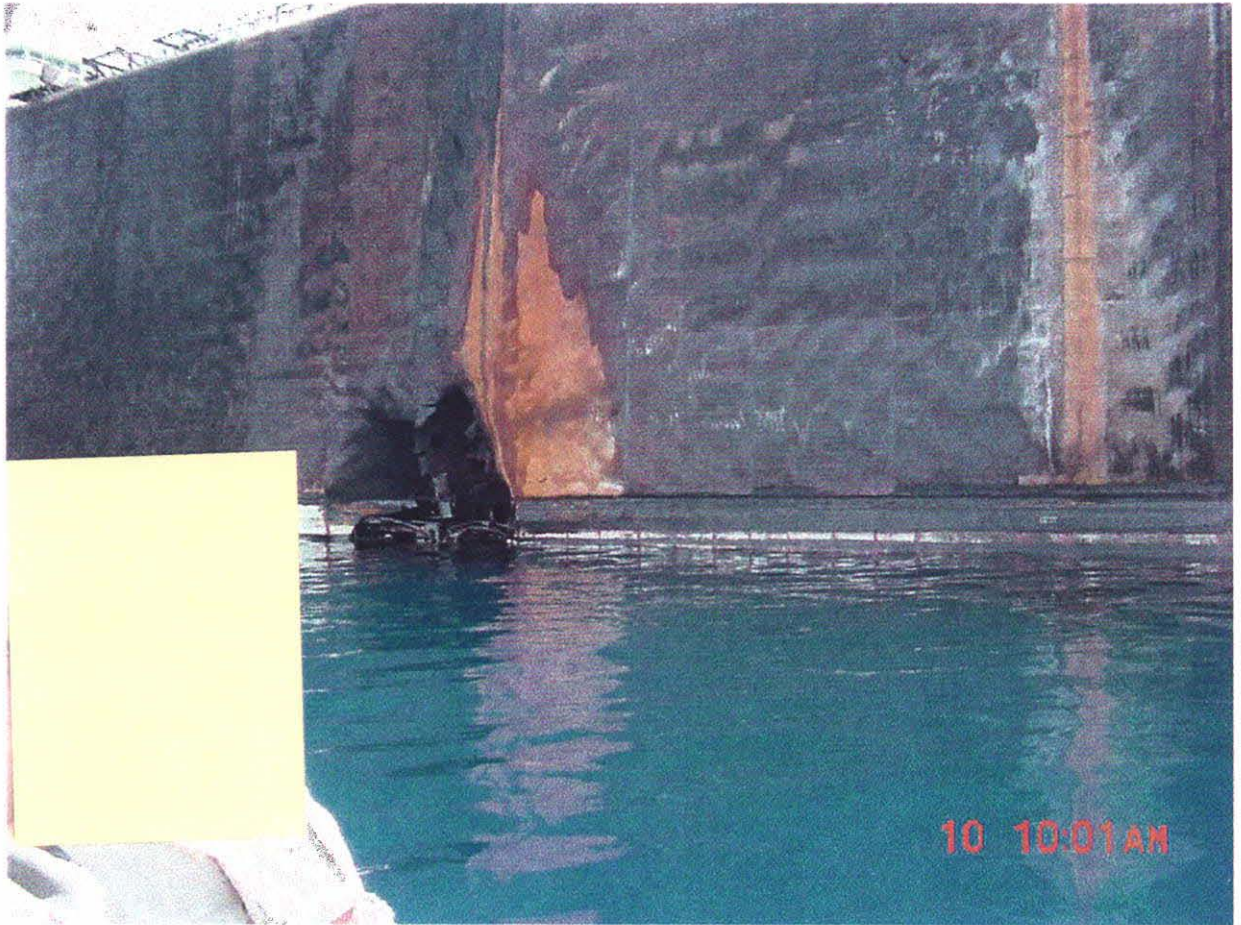


**TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST**

**CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR**

**Enclosure (10)**





**TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST**

**CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR**

Enclosure ( 11 )





**TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST**

**CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR**

**Enclosure ( 2 )**

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**TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST**

**CCN: 06OCT02-MEJ-0328-5TRR**

Enclosure (13)





**TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST**

**CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR**

**Enclosure (14)**





**TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST**

**CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR**

Enclosure (15)





**TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST**

**CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR**

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**Enclosure (16)**



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TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST

CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR

Enclosure (17)

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TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST

CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR

Enclosure (18)

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**TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST**

**CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR**

**Enclosure (19)**

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**TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST**

**CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR**

**Enclosure (20)**





**TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST**

**CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR**

**Enclosure (2\)**



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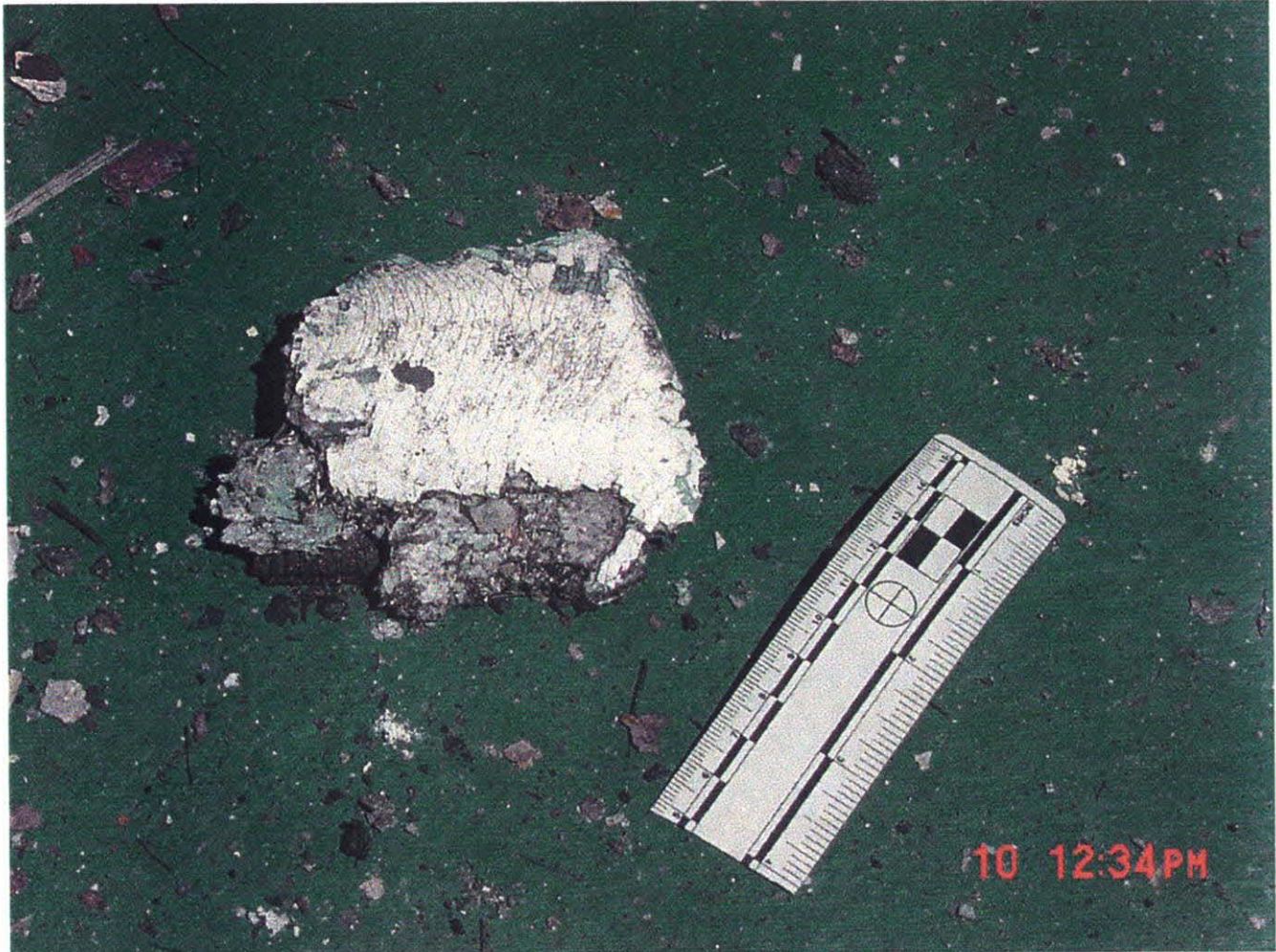
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SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST

CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR

Enclosure (22)

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**TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST**

**CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR**

**Enclosure ( 23 )**





**TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST**

**CCN: 06OCT02-MEJ-0328-5TRR**

Enclosure (24)





TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST

CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR

Enclosure (25)

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**TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST**

**CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR**

**Enclosure (26)**





**TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST**

**CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR**

Enclosure (27)



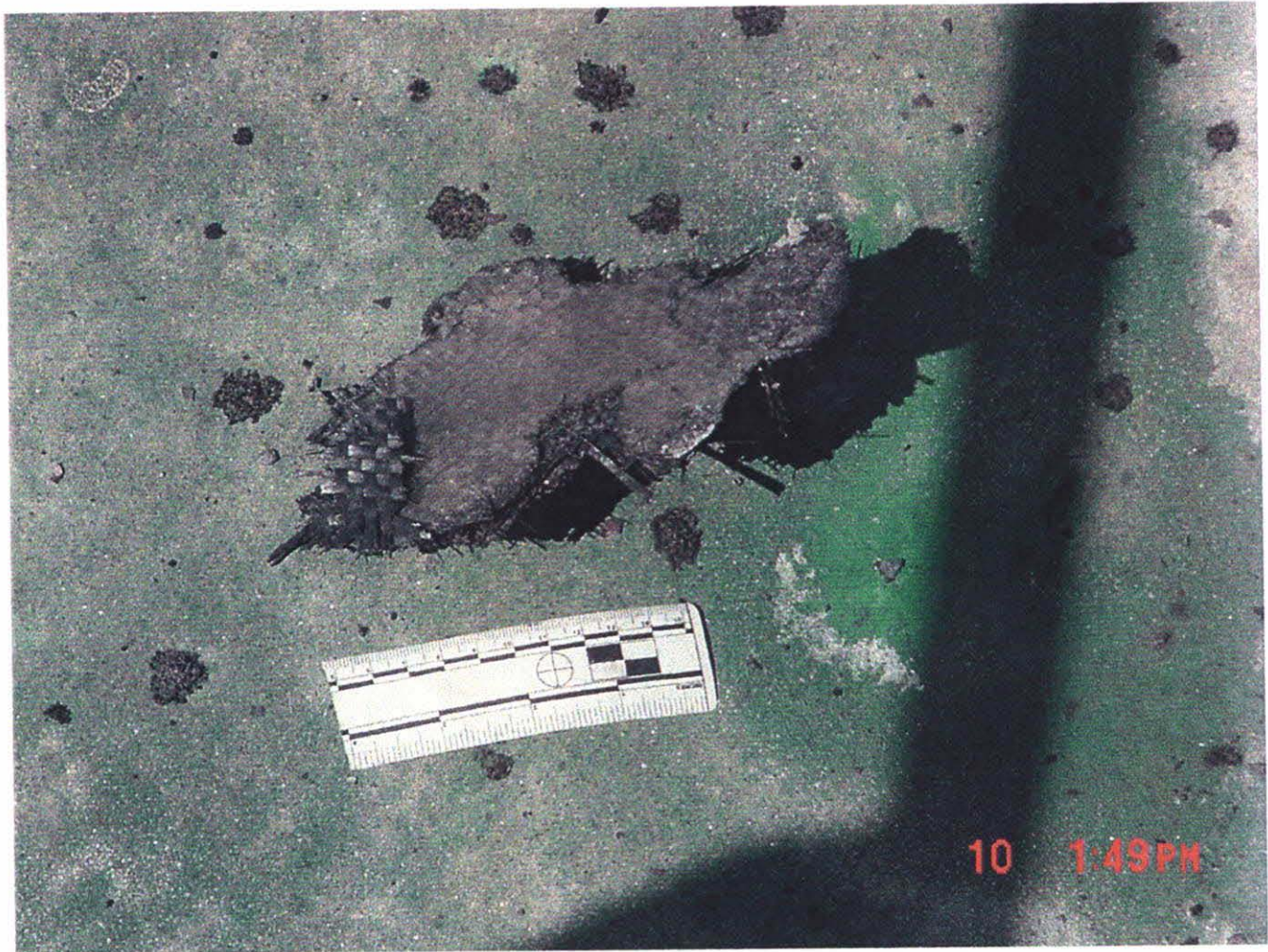


**TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST**

**CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR**

**Enclosure (28)**





TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST

CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR

Enclosure (29)



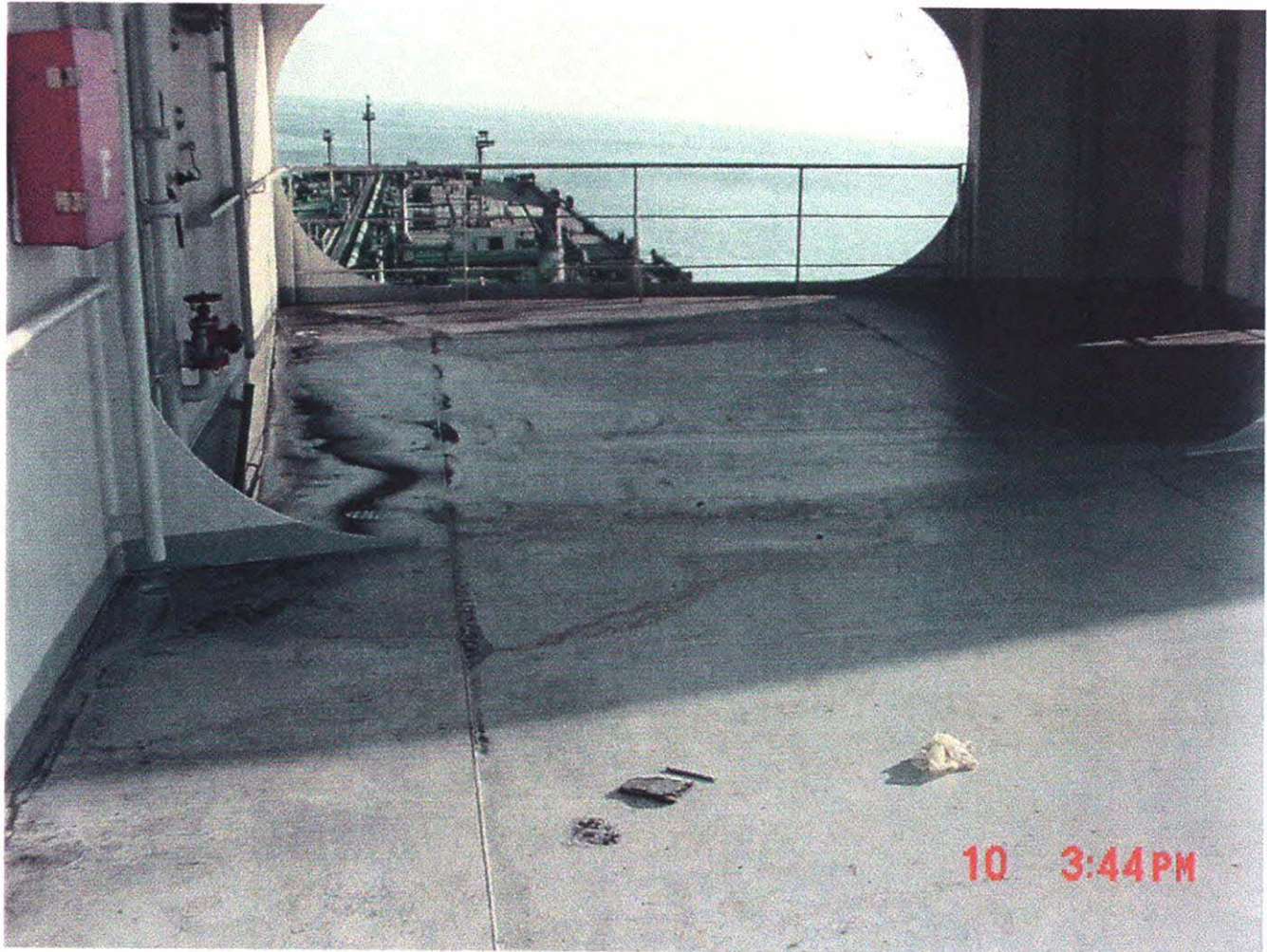


TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST

CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR

Enclosure (30)





**TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST**

**CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR**

**Enclosure (31)**



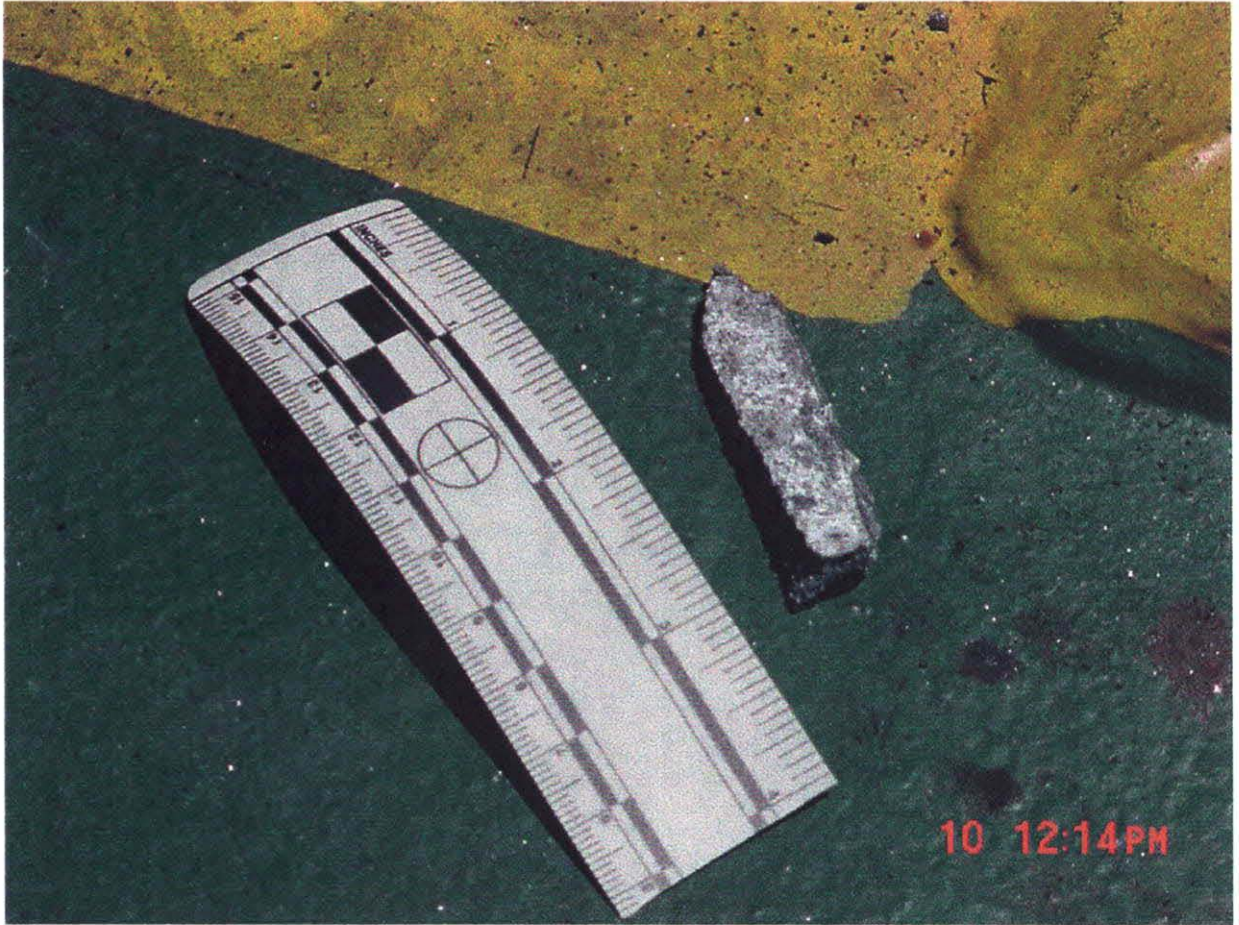


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SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST

CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR

Enclosure (32)





**TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST**

**CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR**

**Enclosure (33)**





**TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST**

**CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR**

**Enclosure (34)**





**TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST**

**CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR**

**Enclosure (35)**





**TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST**

**CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR**

**Enclosure (36)**





TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST

CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR

Enclosure (37)





TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST

CCN: 06OCT02-MEJ-0328-5TRR

Enclosure (38)





**TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST**

**CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR**

**Enclosure (39)**





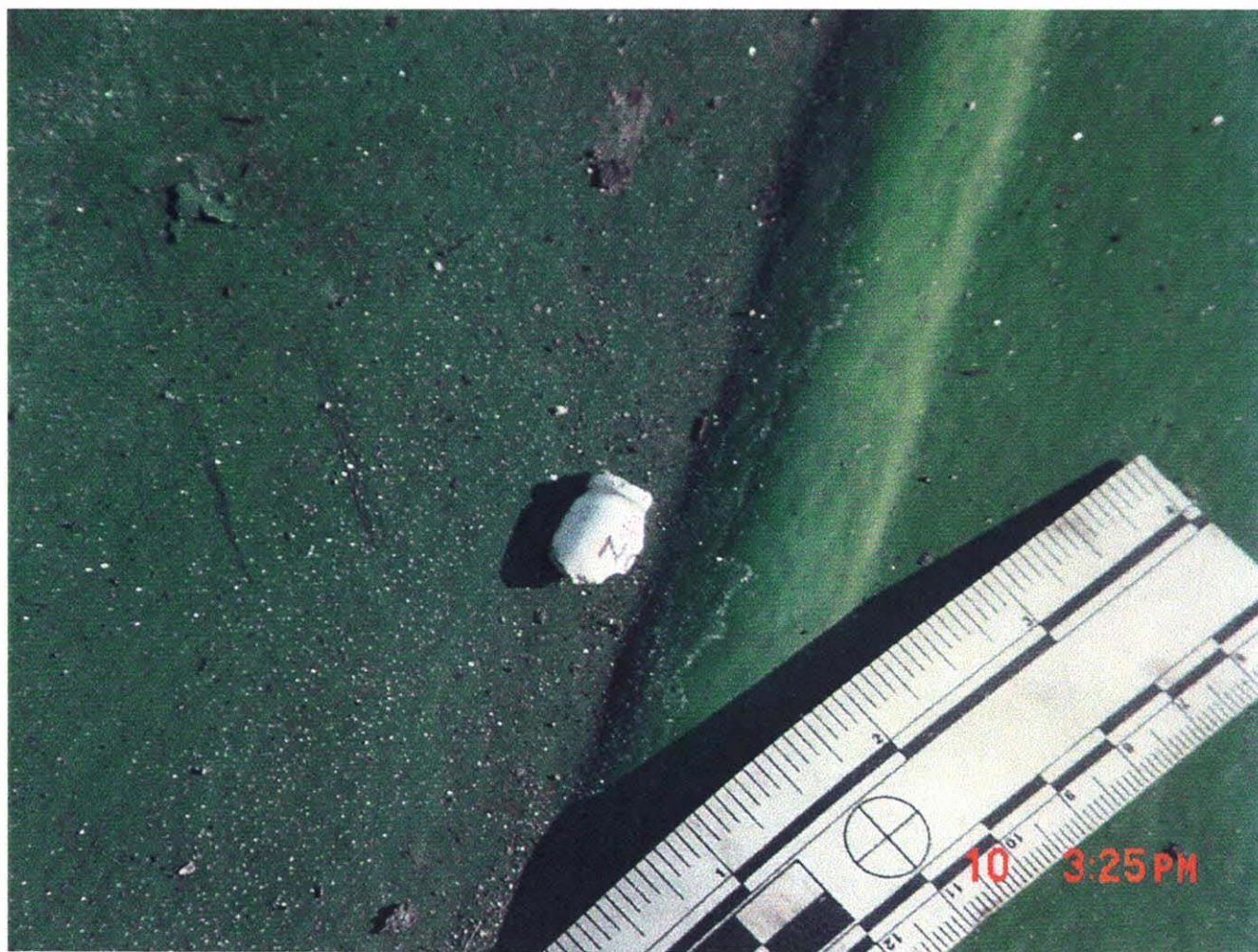
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SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST

CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR

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Enclosure (40)





TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST

CCN: 06OCT02-MEJ-0328-5TRR





**TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST**

**CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR**

**UNCLASSIFIED**

**Enclosure (42)**





**TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST**

**CCN: 06OCT02-MEJ-0328-5TRR**

**Enclosure (43)**









**TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST**

**CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR**

**UNCLASSIFIED**

**Enclosure (45)**





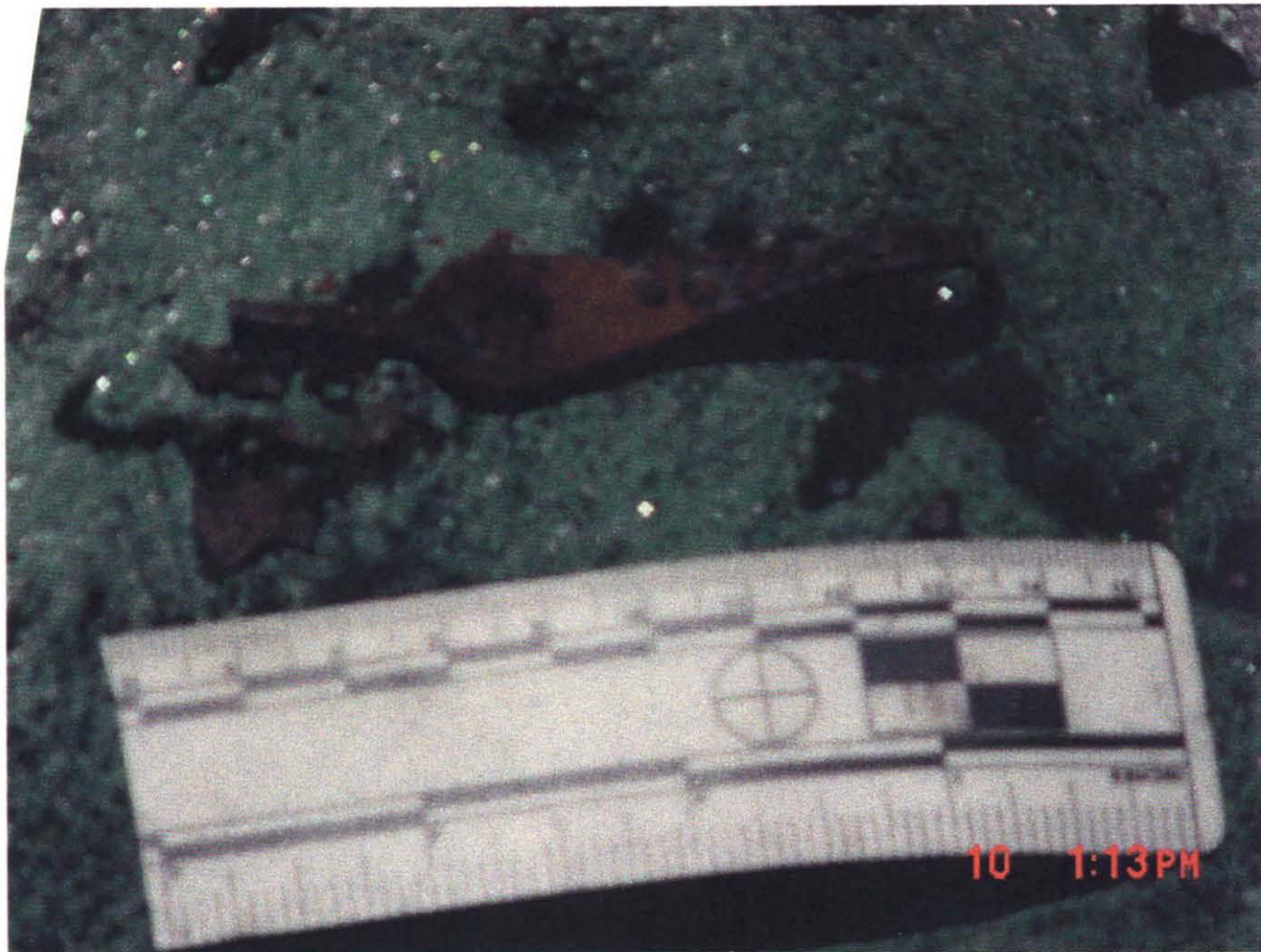
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SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST**

**CCN: 06OCT02-MEJ-0328-5TRR**

**Enclosure (46)**



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TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST

CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR

Enclosure (47)

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**TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST**

**CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR**

**Enclosure (48)**



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TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST

CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR

Enclosure (49)

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TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST

CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR

Enclosure (50)

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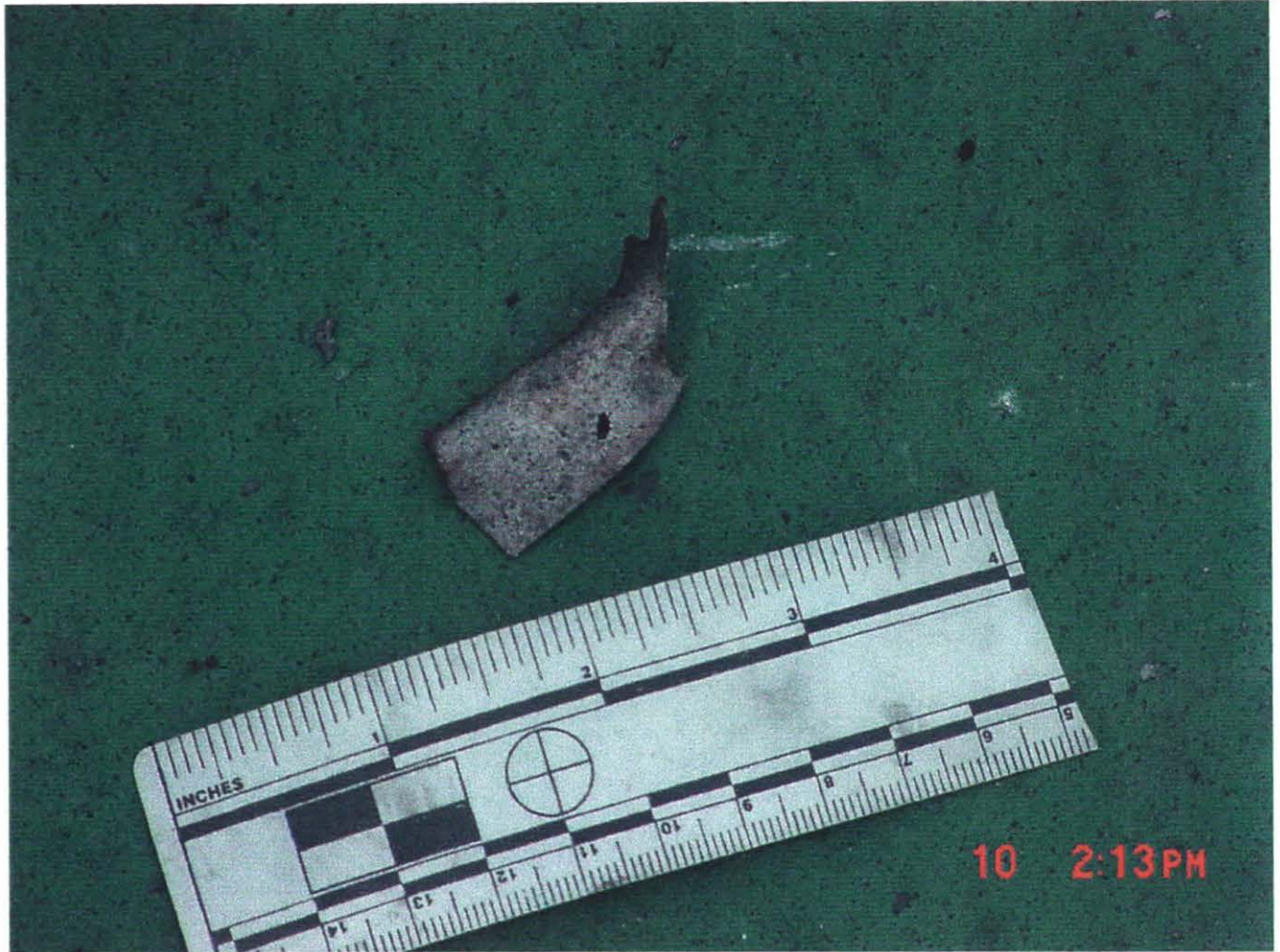


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SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST**

**CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR**

**Enclosure (51 )**





**TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST**

**CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR**

**Enclosure (52)**





**TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST**

**CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR**

**Enclosure (53)**





**TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST**

**CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR**

**Enclosure (54)**



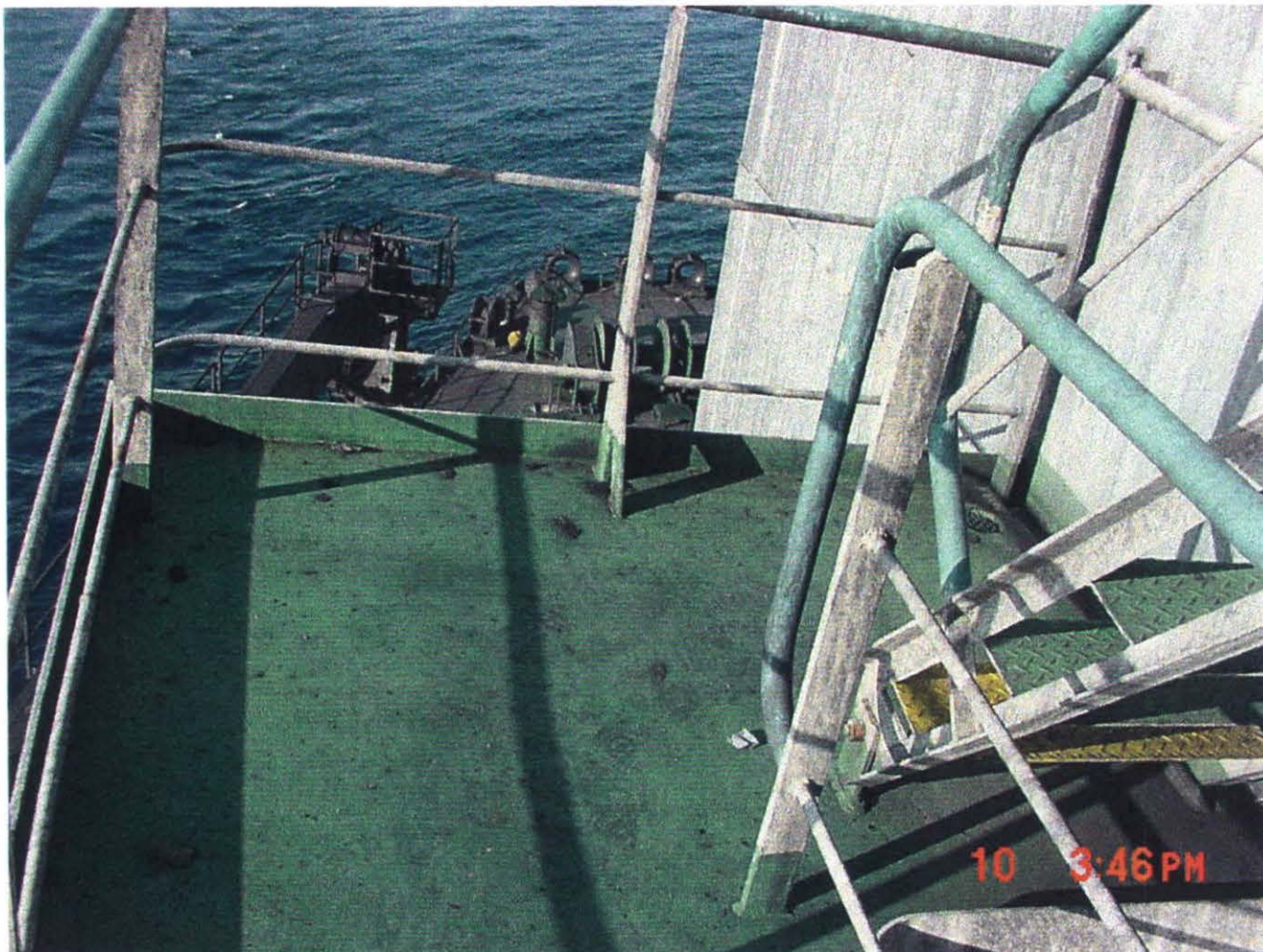


**TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST**

**CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR**

**Enclosure (55)**





**TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST**

**CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR**

**Enclosure (56)**





TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST

CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR

Enclosure (57)



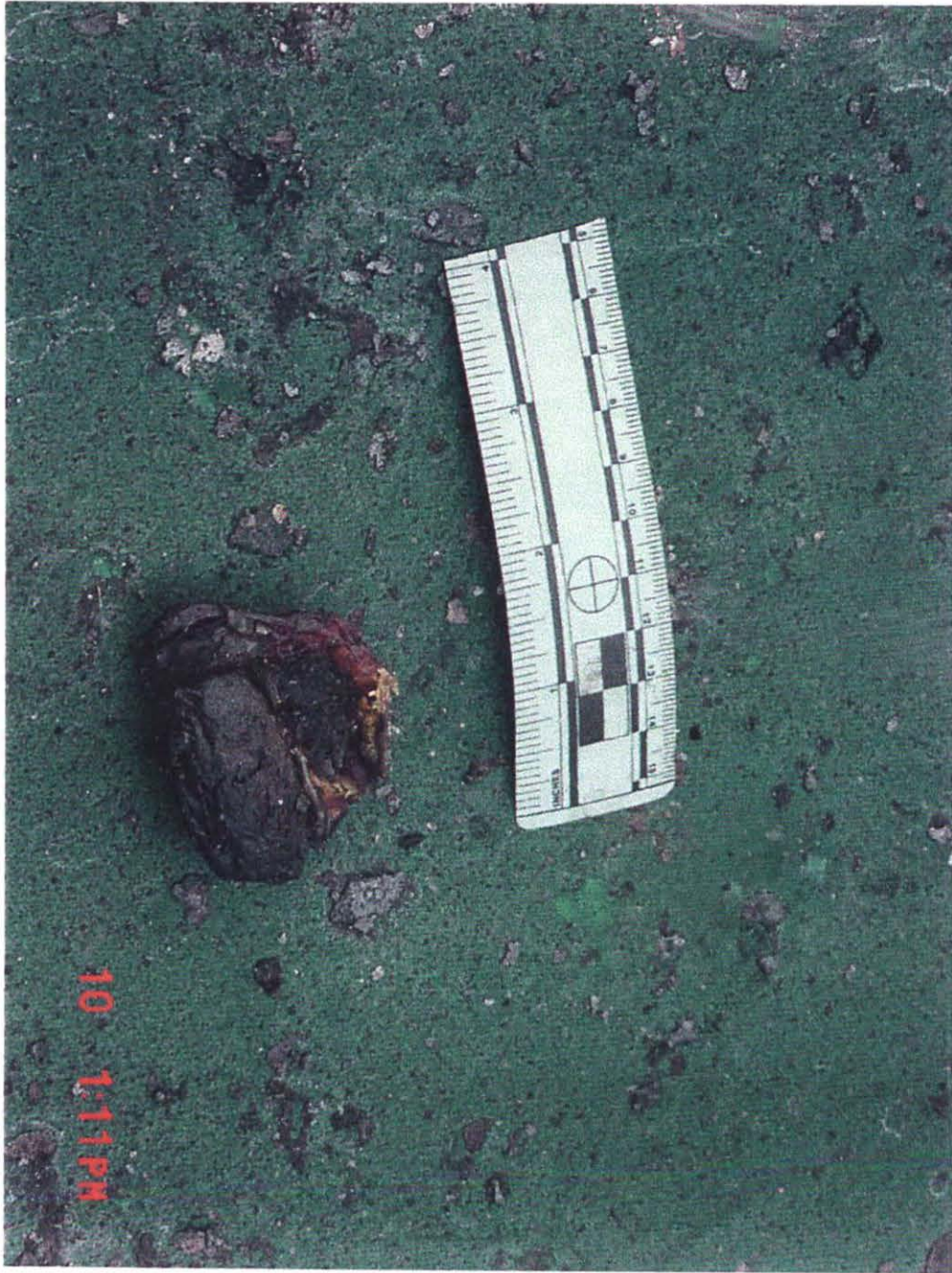


**TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST**

**CCN: 06OCT02-MEJ-0328-5TRR**

**Enclosure (58 )**









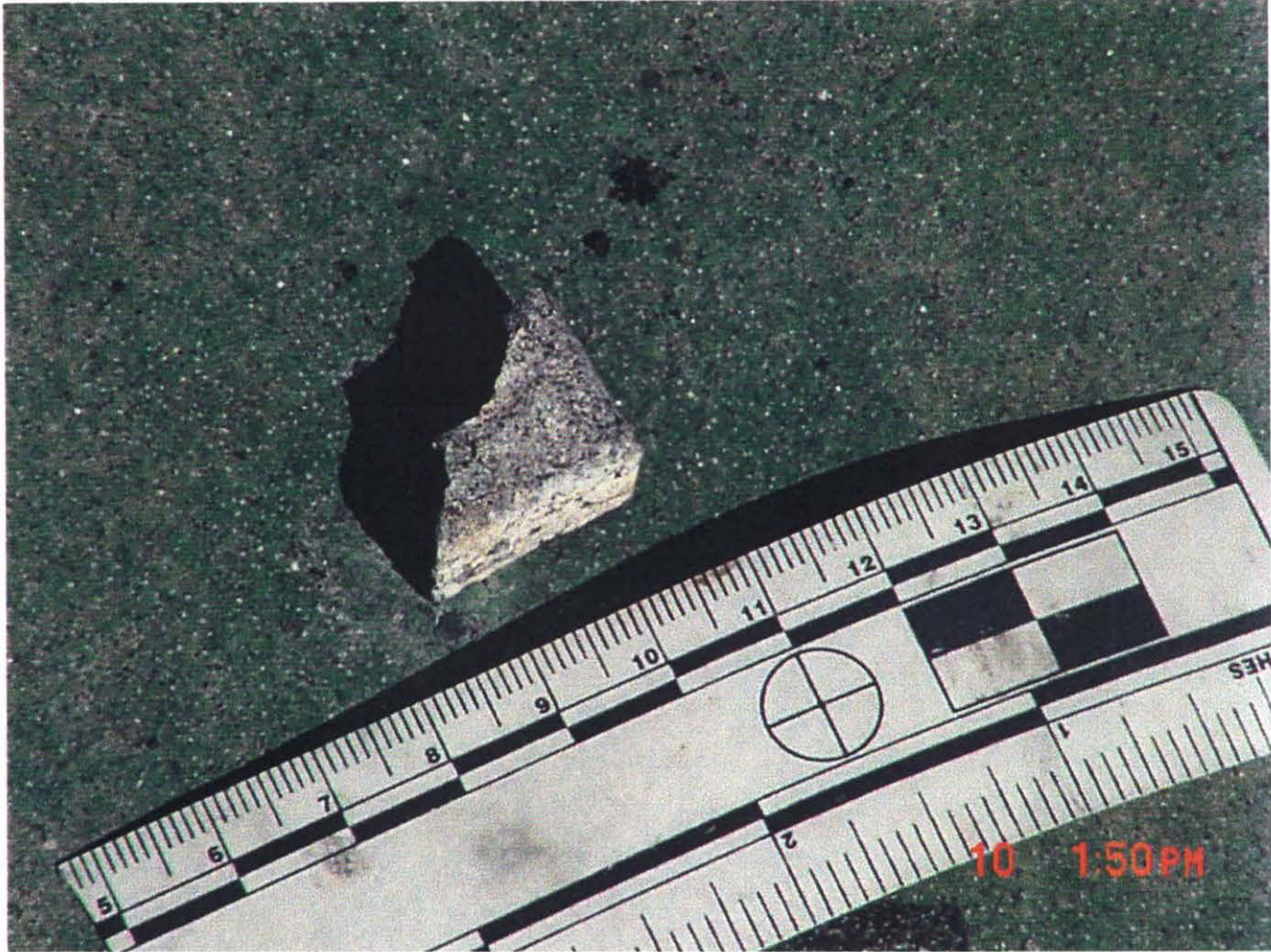
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SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST

CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR

Enclosure (60)



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**TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST**

**CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR**

**Enclosure (61)**

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TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST

CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR

Enclosure (62)





**TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST**

**CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR**

**Enclosure (63)**





**TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST**

**CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR**

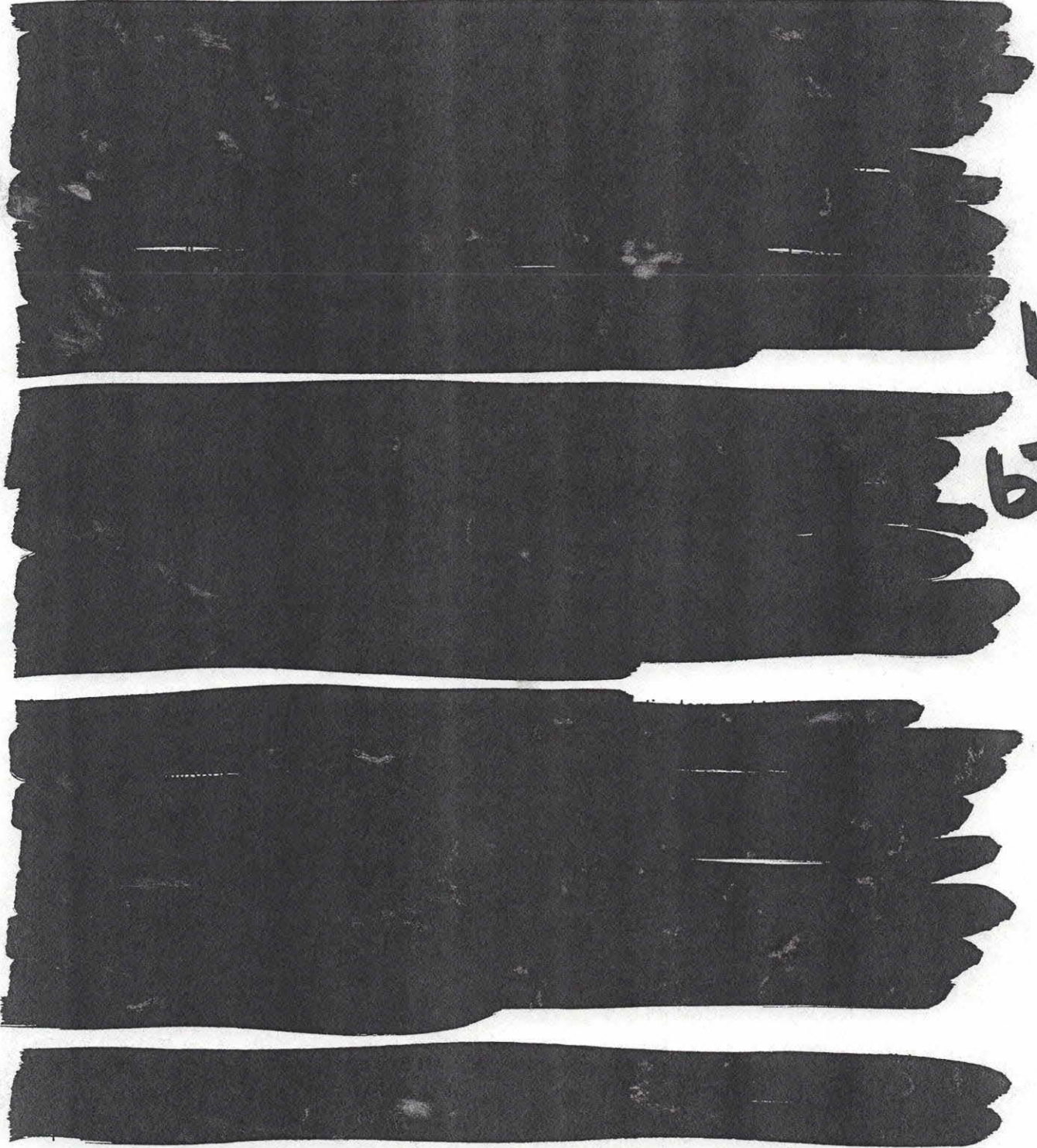
**Enclosure (64)**



**U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE**

**TITLE:** I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE SUPPORT REGARDING  
FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST(U)  
**CCN:** 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR

**INVESTIGATIVE ACTION:** INVESTIGATIVE ACTIVITIES OF 11OCT02



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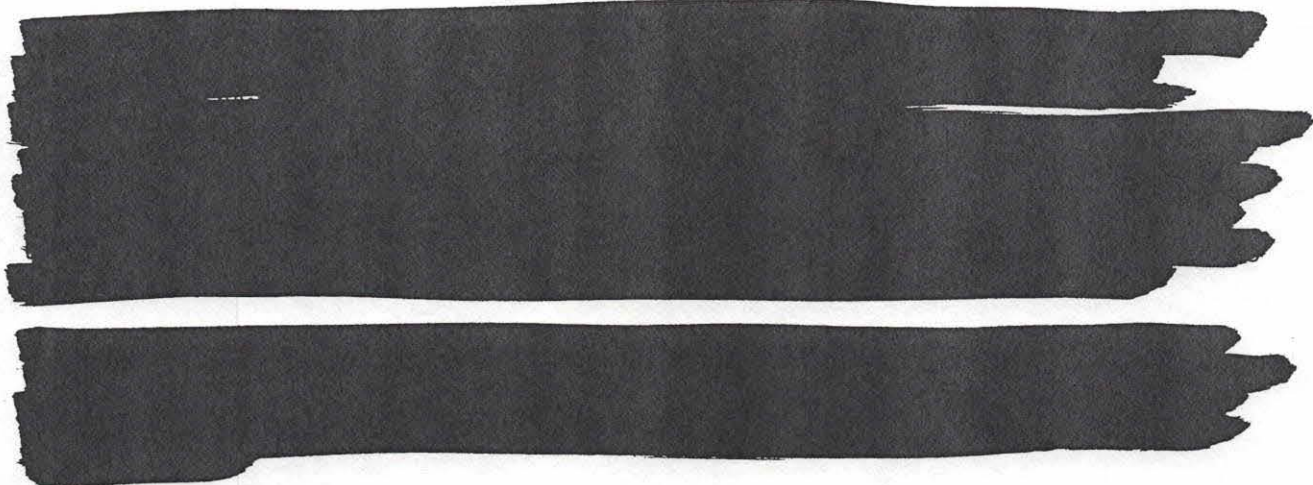
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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE



**Enclosures**

- (1) - (4) Photos of Atanas Atanasov's body in mortuary reefer/11Oct02
- (5) and (6) Photos of beach areas west and east of point where Atanasov's body recovered/11Oct02

**Reported By:** [Redacted] Special Agent  
**Office:** NCIS Middle East Field Office, Bahrain

b1 , b7c

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NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

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\_\_\_\_\_ Documents originated with other government agency(ies). Referred for review and direct response to you.

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Comments: Photographs of Deceased

Enclosures 1-H

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TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST

CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR

Enclosure (5)

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**TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST**

**CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR**

**Enclosure ( 6 )**



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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE



**Enclosures**

- ( 1) - (12) Photographs of hull examination/divers in the water/12Oct02
- (13) - (15) Photographs of press boat/12Oct02
- (16) - (17) Photographs of press meeting U.S. investigators at Holiday Inn, Al Mukalla/12Oct02

**Reported By:**  Special Agent  
**Office:** NCIS Middle East Field Office, Bahrain

b1

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TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST

CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR

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TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST

CCN: 06OCT02-MEJ-0328-5TRR

Enclosure ( 2 )

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**TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST**

**CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR**

**Enclosure ( 3 )**





TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST

CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR

Enclosure ( 4 )



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**TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST**

**CCN: 06OCT02-MEJ-0328-5TRR**

Enclosure (5)

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**TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST**

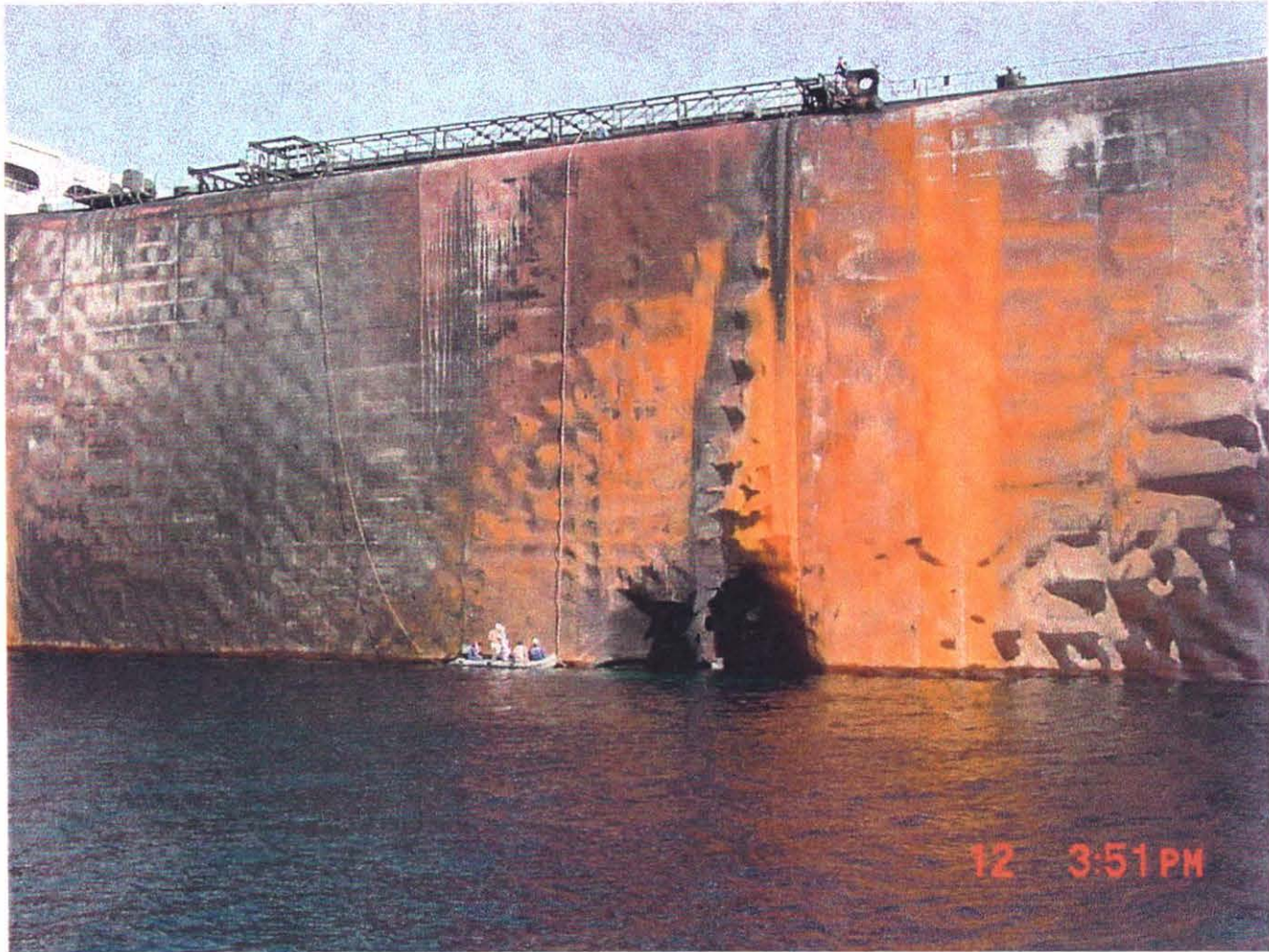
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**Enclosure (6)**



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SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST**

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**Enclosure ( 7 )**

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**TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST**

**CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR**

Enclosure ( 8 )

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**TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
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**CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR**

Enclosure ( 9 )

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**TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
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**CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR**

**Enclosure ( 10 )**

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**TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST**

**CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR**

**Enclosure ( 11 )**

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**TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST**

**CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR**

Enclosure (12)

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**TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST**

**CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR**

Enclosure ( 13 )



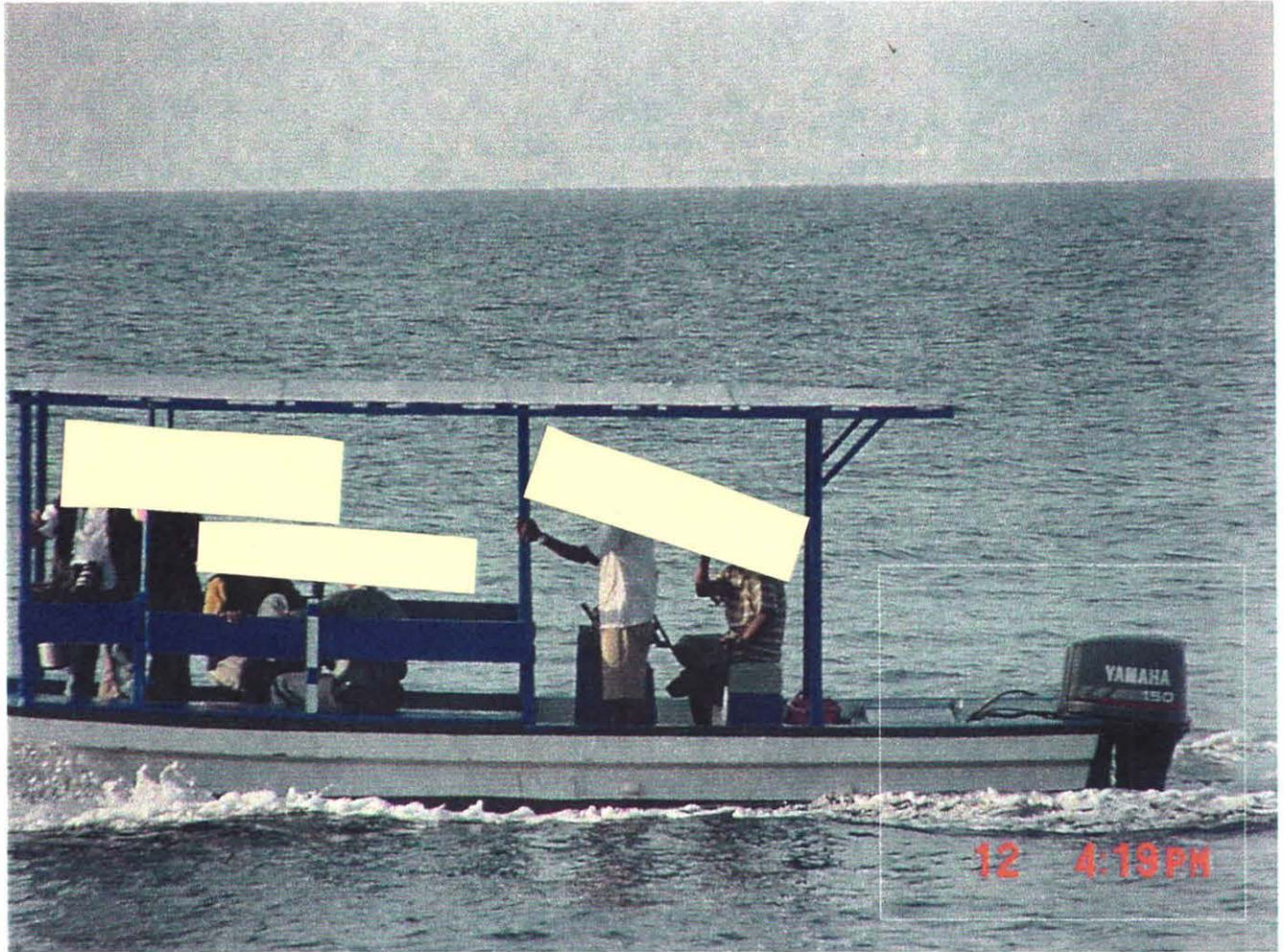


**TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
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LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST**

**CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR**

Enclosure (14)



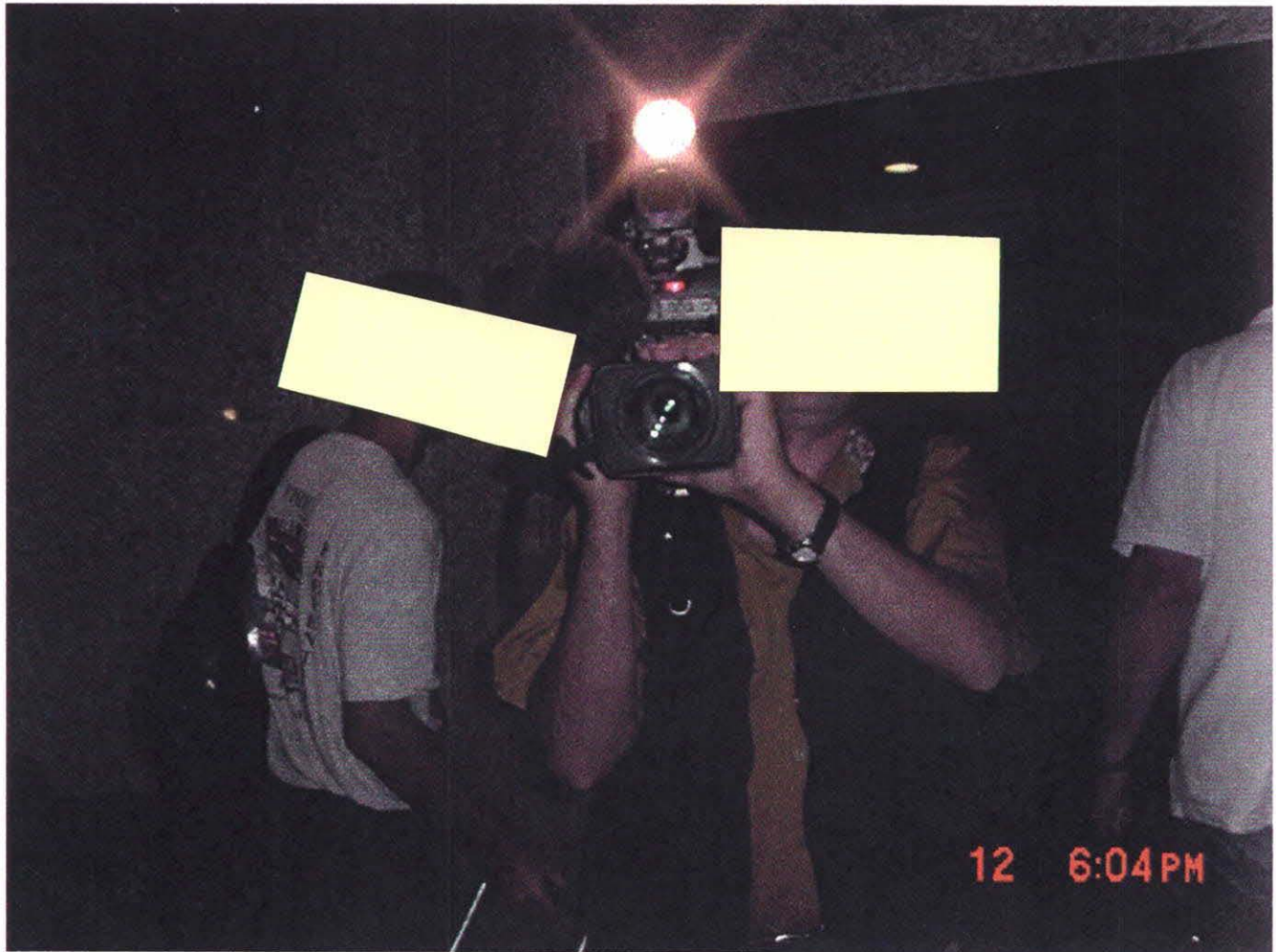


**TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
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**CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR**

Enclosure (15)



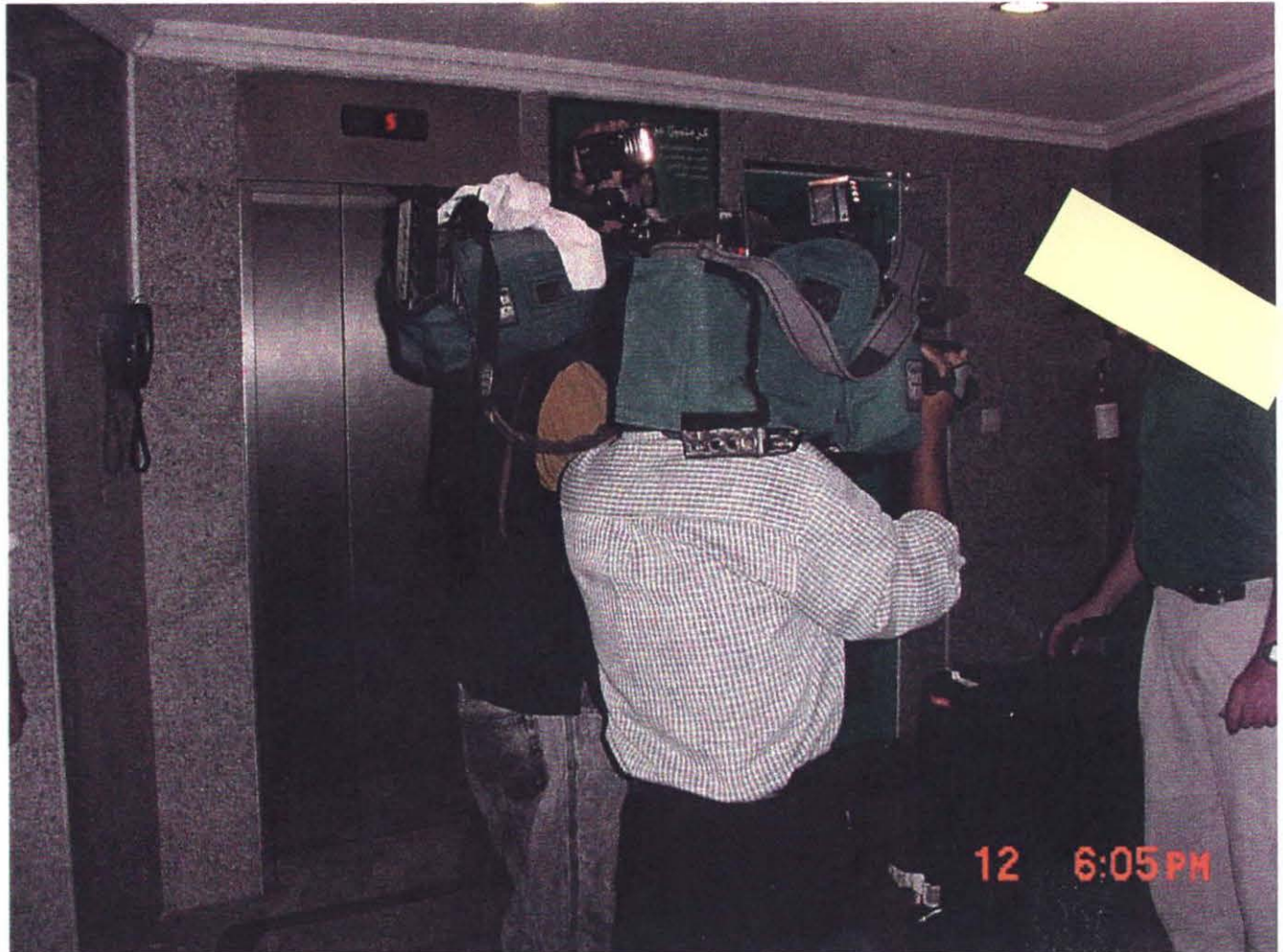


**TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST**

**CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR**

**Enclosure (16)**





**TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST**

**CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR**

**Enclosure (17)**



~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE SUPPORT REGARDING  
FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST(U)  
CCN: 06OCT02-MEJ-0328-5TRR

INVESTIGATIVE ACTION: INVESTIGATIVE ACTIVITIES OF 14OCT02

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b1  
b7c

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

WARNING

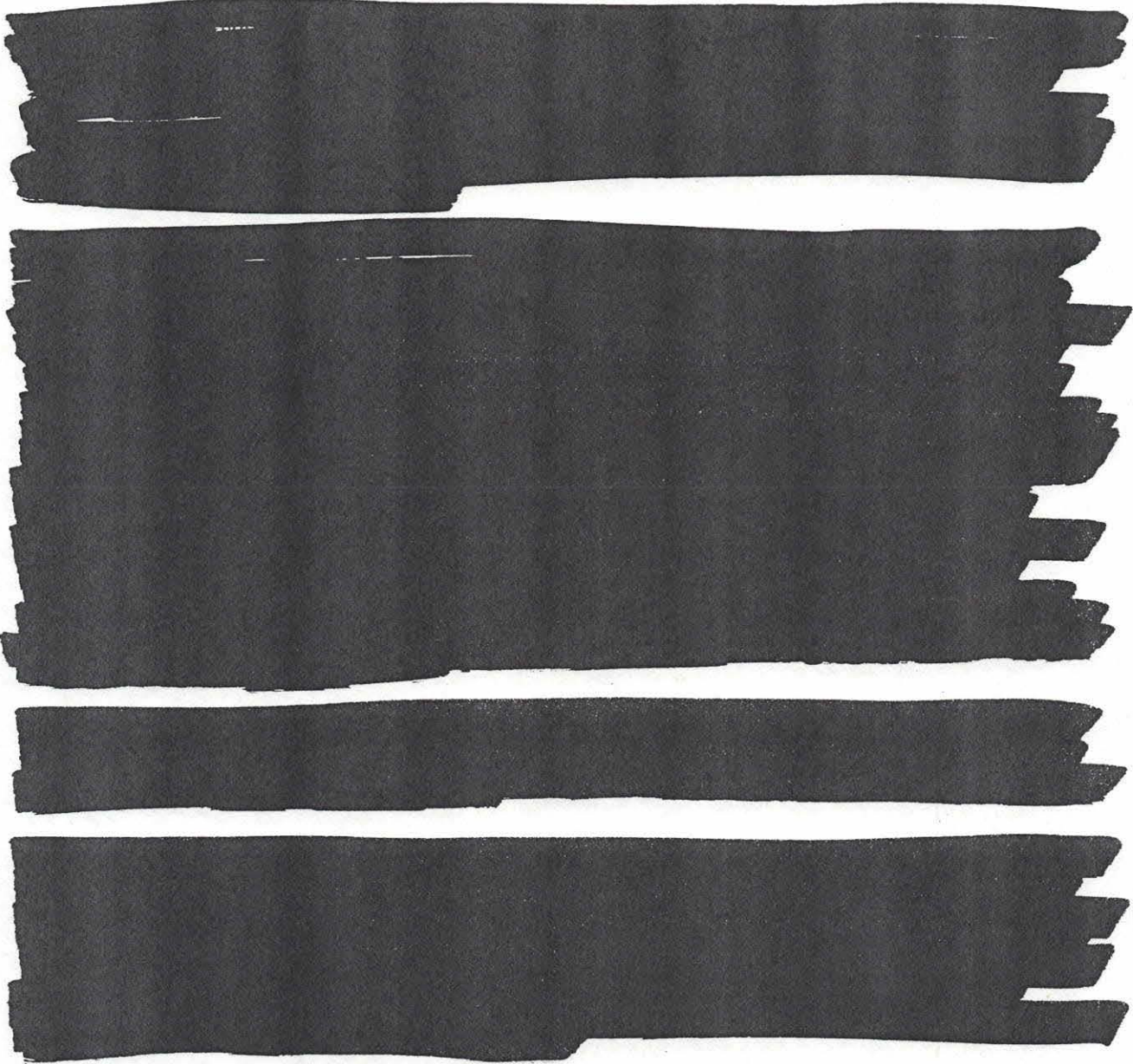
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~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~



~~SECRET~~ ~~NOFORN~~  
U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE



**Enclosures**

- (1) - (2) Photos of small boat in port of Al Mukalla/14oct02
- (3) Photo of MV LIMBURG/14oct02
- (4) - (8) Photos of suspected human tissue/14Oct02
- (9) - (17) Photos of evidence collected on superstructure levels/boatswain lockers/14Oct02
- (18) - (24) Photos of evidence collected from main decks forward of superstructure/14oct02
- (25) Photo of Reporting Agent (with camera) and NCIS Agent [redacted] 14Oct02
- (26) - (27) Photos of Yemeni PSO agents/14oct02
- (28) Photo of Agent [redacted] taking swatches for explosive residue/14Oct02
- (29) - (36) Photos of marked charts/14Oct02
- (37) Photo of Agent [redacted] and [redacted] preparing to descend into No. 4 Starboard Ballast Tank/14oct02
- (38) - (39) Photos depicting heat and soot damage to a stair well in the ballast tank above the explosion site/14Oct02

b1  
b7c

**WARNING**

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**U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE**

- (40) - (43) Photos depicting bowing of hull, stiffeners and deck plate in ballast tank/14Oct02
- (44) Photo showing snapped stiffener bent inwards/14Oct02
- (45) Copy of Chart of Ash Shihr Terminal showing plot of MV LIMBURG from 0745 through 0800 as it approached the SBM on the morning of 06Oct02/Undated
- (46) [REDACTED] handwritten notes on the composition of hull and stiffeners in vicinity of the 06Oct02 explosion on MV LIMBURG's starboard hull/14Oct02
- (47) Starboard side, sideview at damaged side section/Undated
- (48) 3d Sketch showing damage to starboard hull and inner cargo hold bulkhead/13Oct02

**Reported By:** [REDACTED], Special Agent  
**Office:** NCIS Middle East Field Office, Bahrain

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LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST**

**CCN: 06OCT02-MEJ-0328-5TRR**

Enclosure ( | )





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**Enclosure ( 2 )**



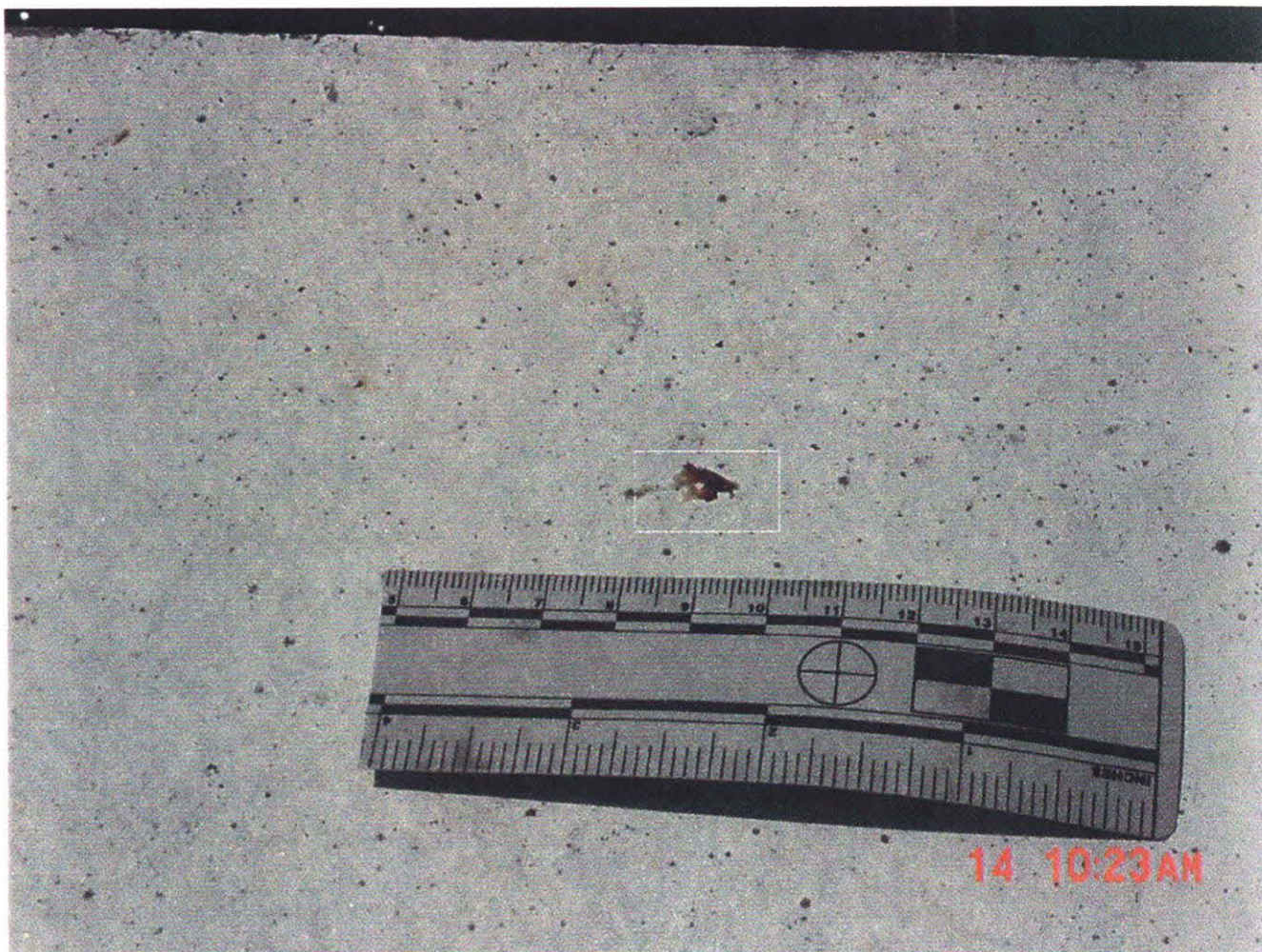


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**Enclosure ( 3 )**



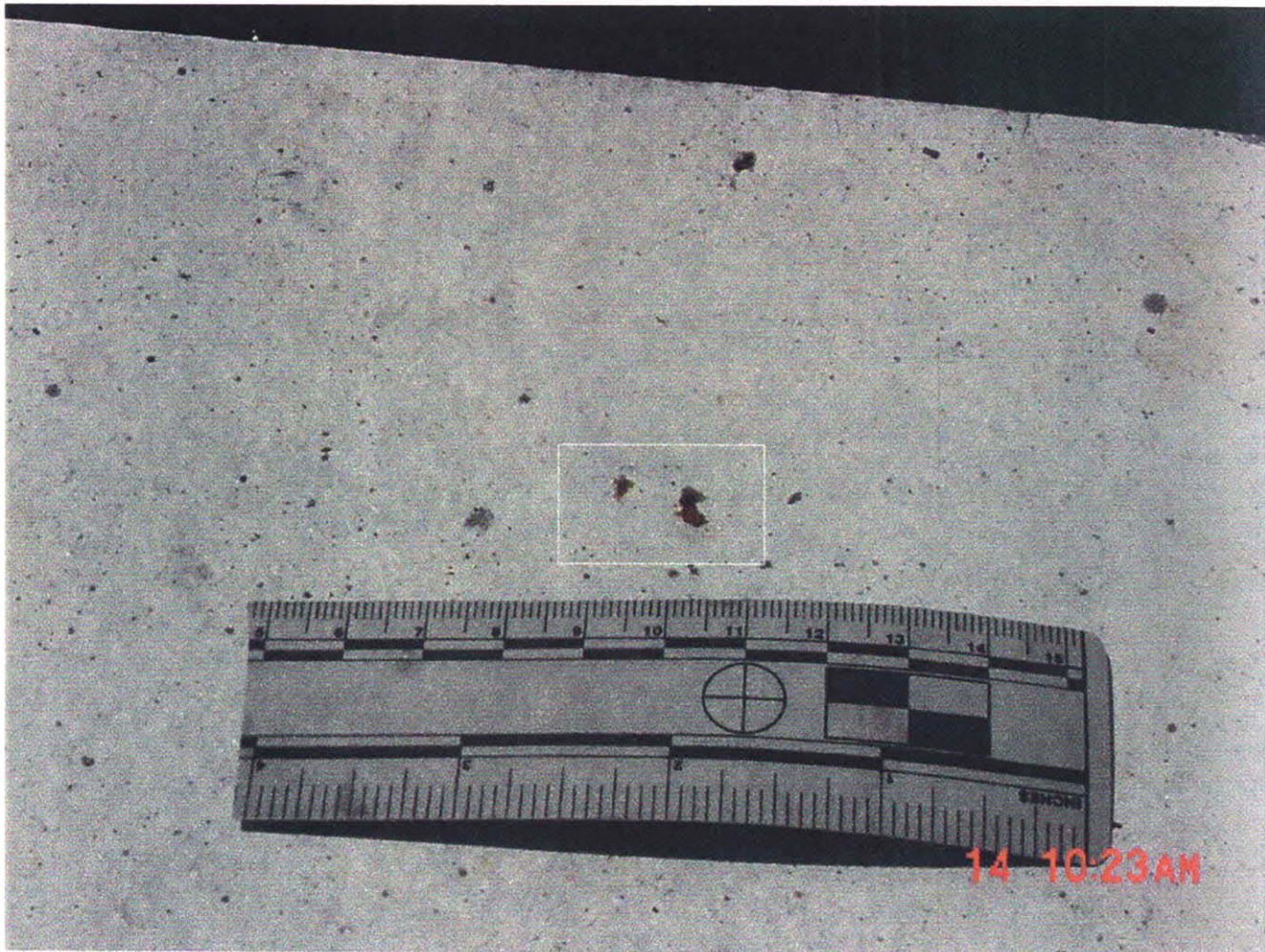


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**Enclosure ( 4 )**



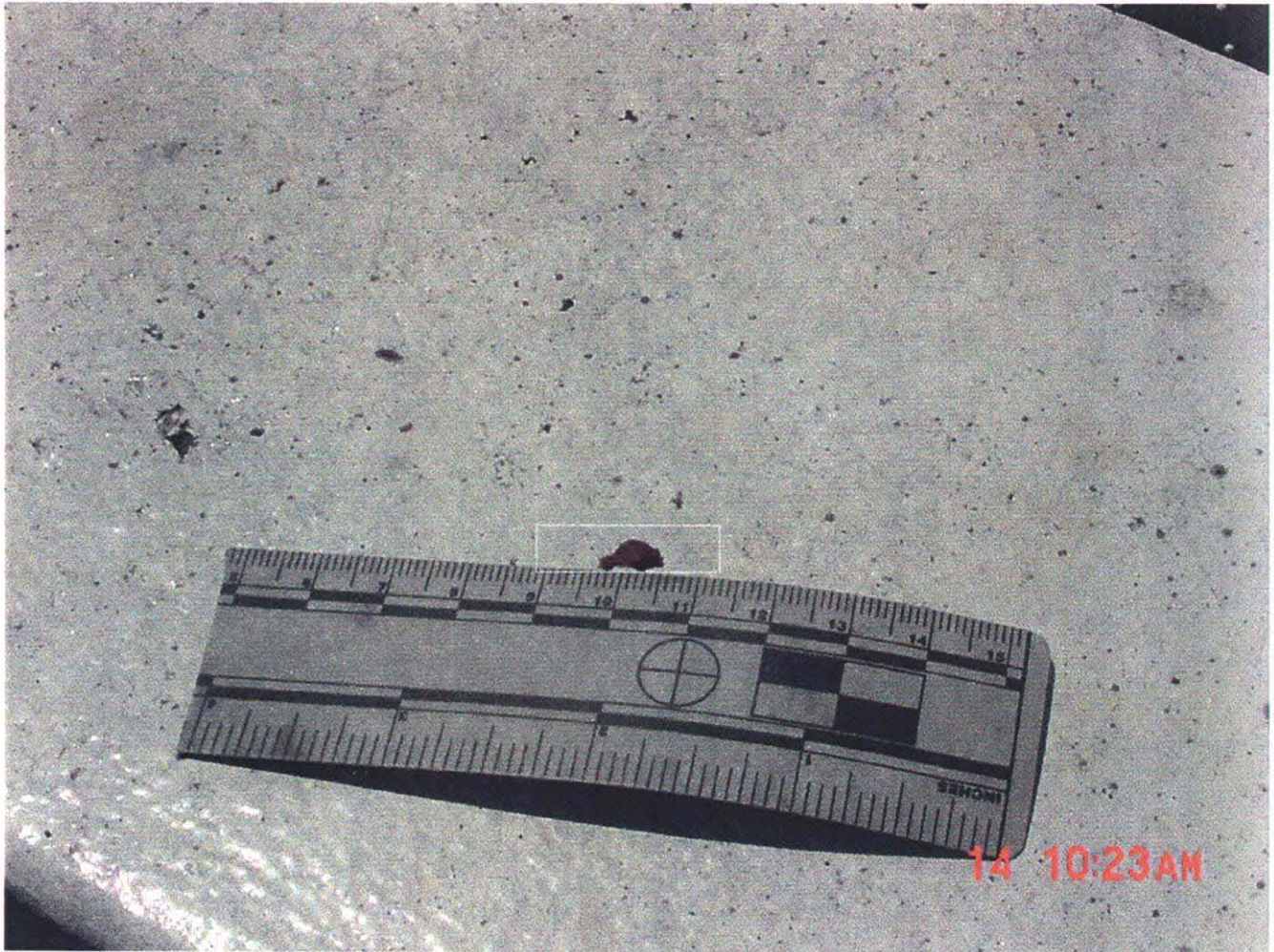


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Enclosure ( 6 )

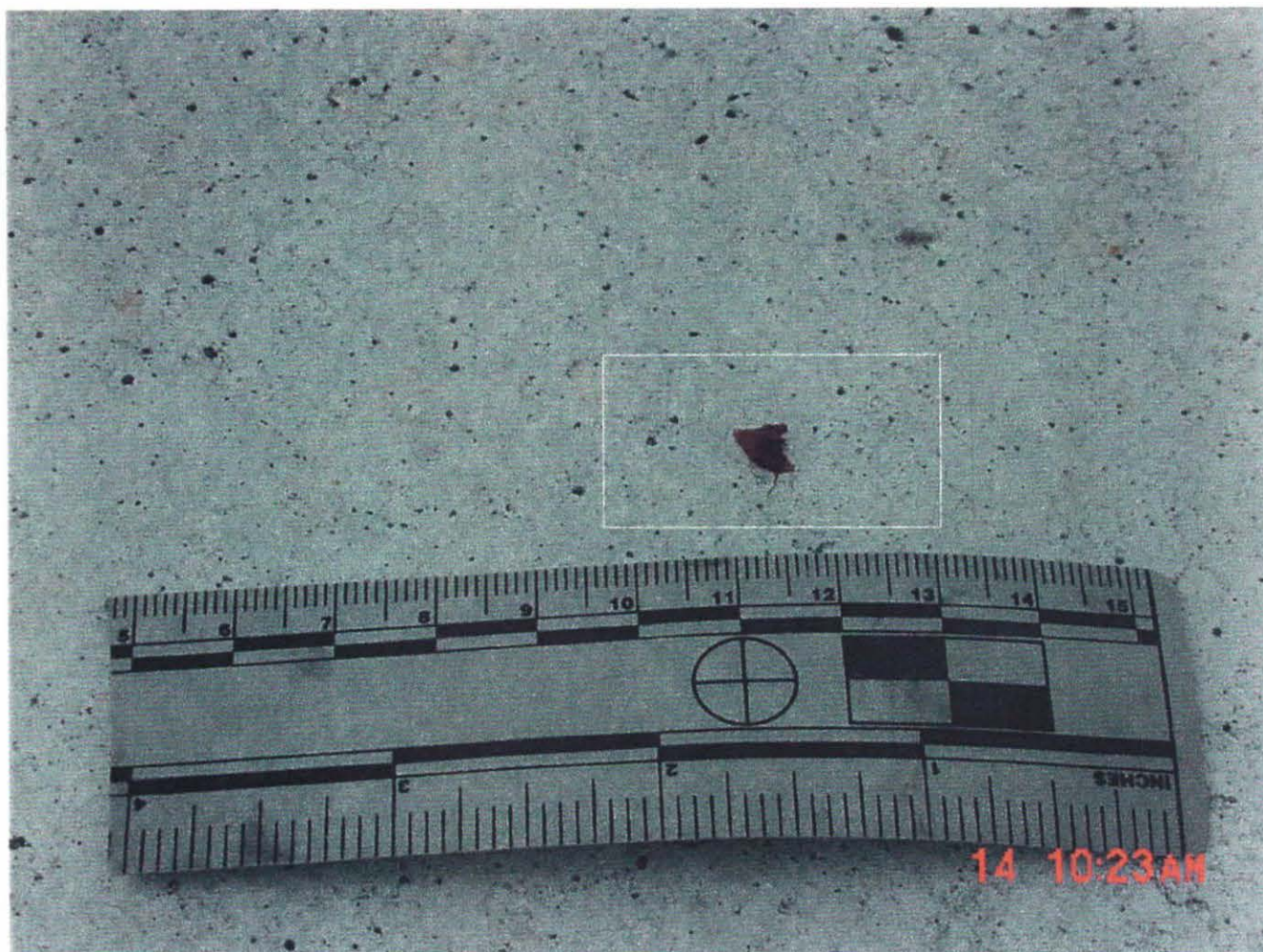




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**Enclosure ( 9 )**

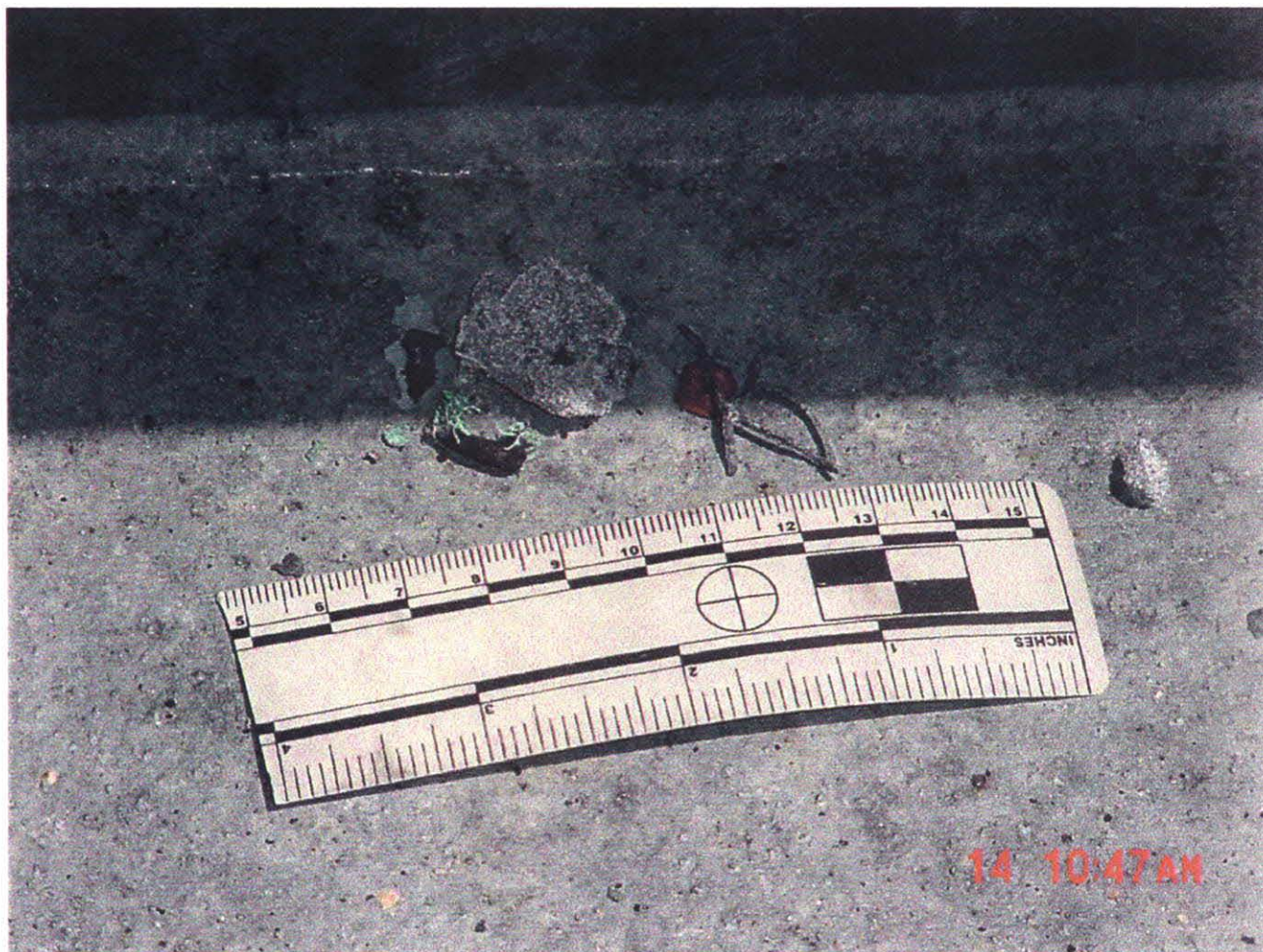




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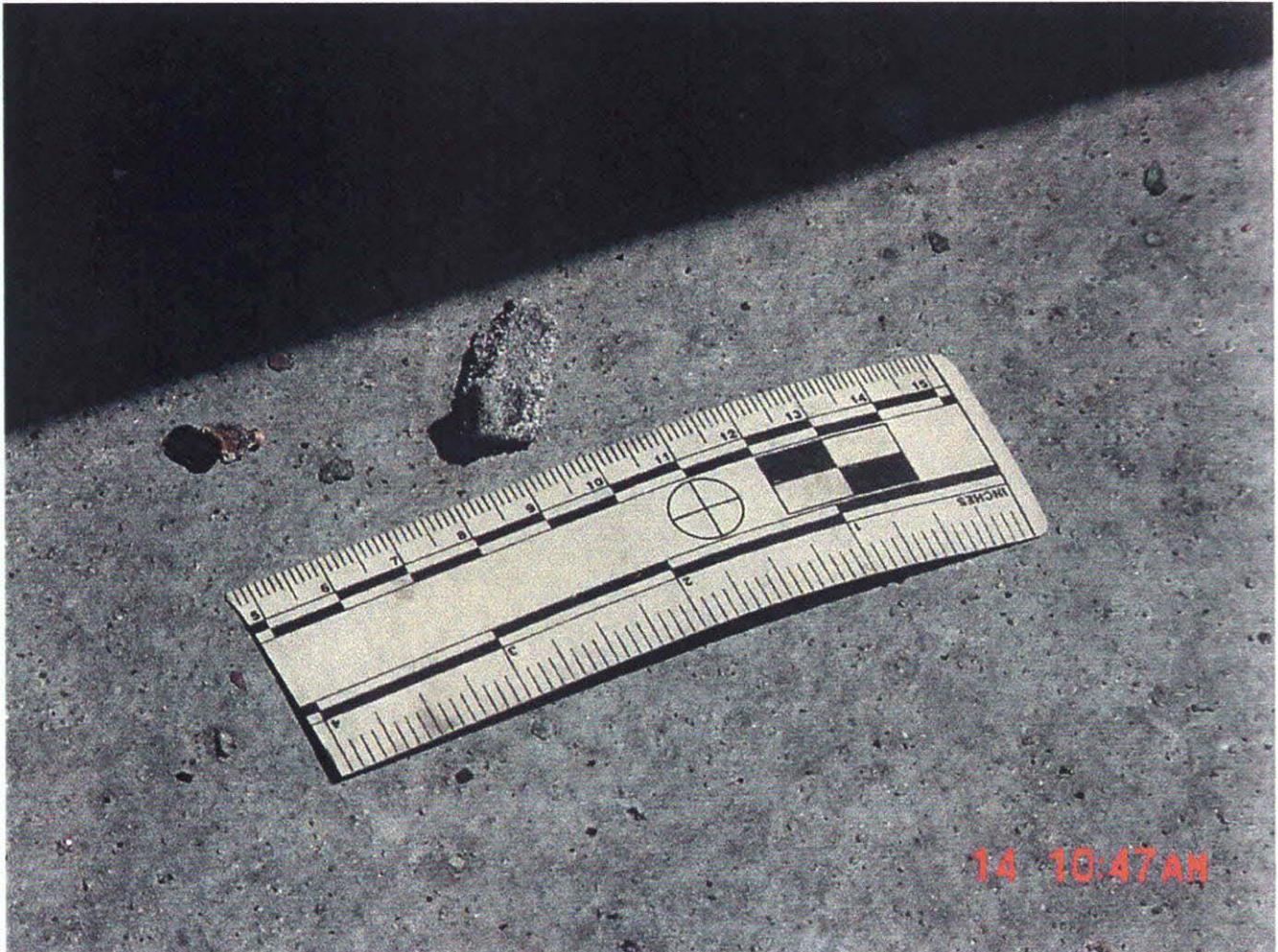


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Enclosure ( | | )





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Enclosure (16)





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Enclosure ( 18 )

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TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST

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Enclosure (19)



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Enclosure (20)

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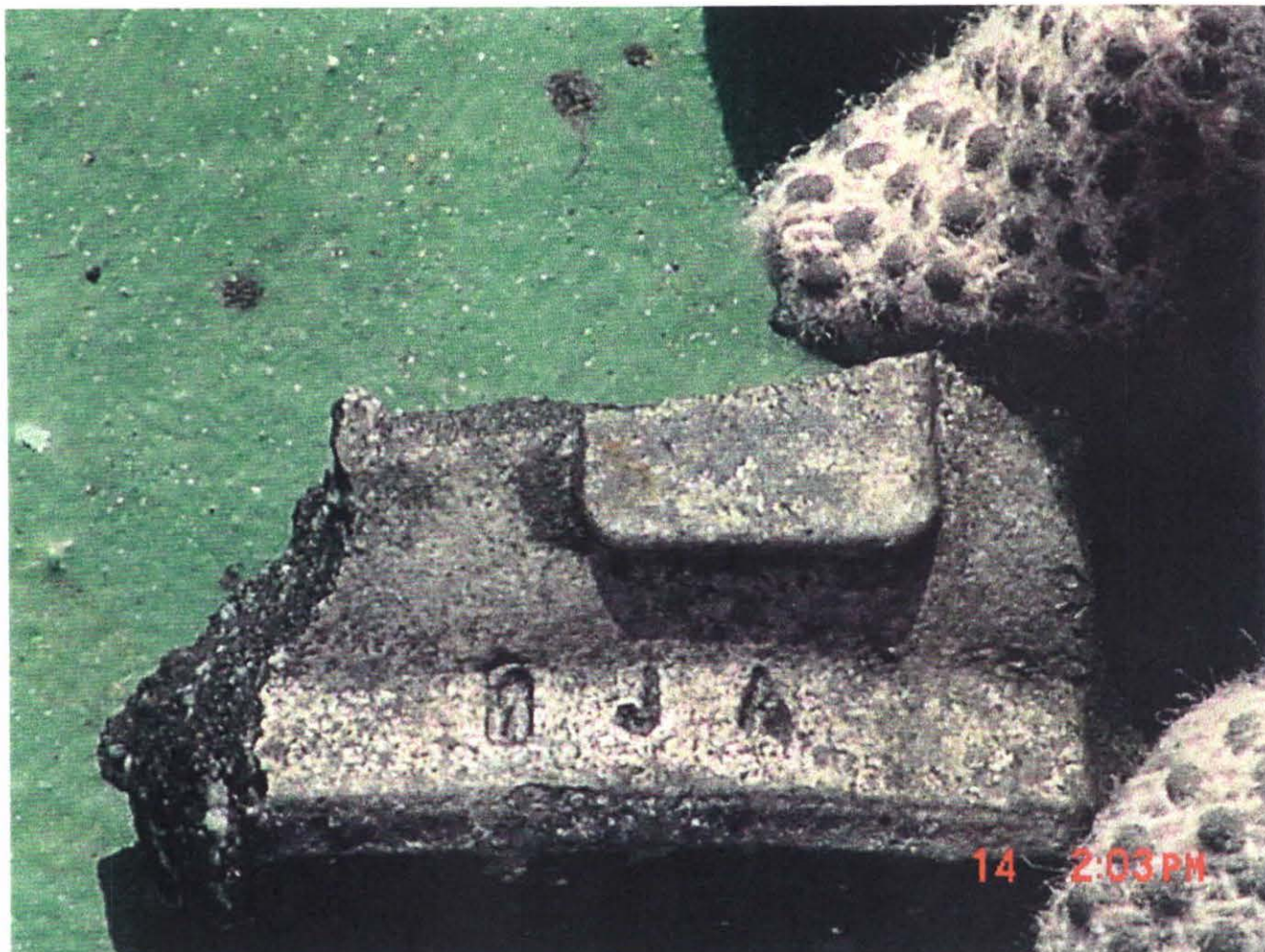


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SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
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CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR

Enclosure (22)



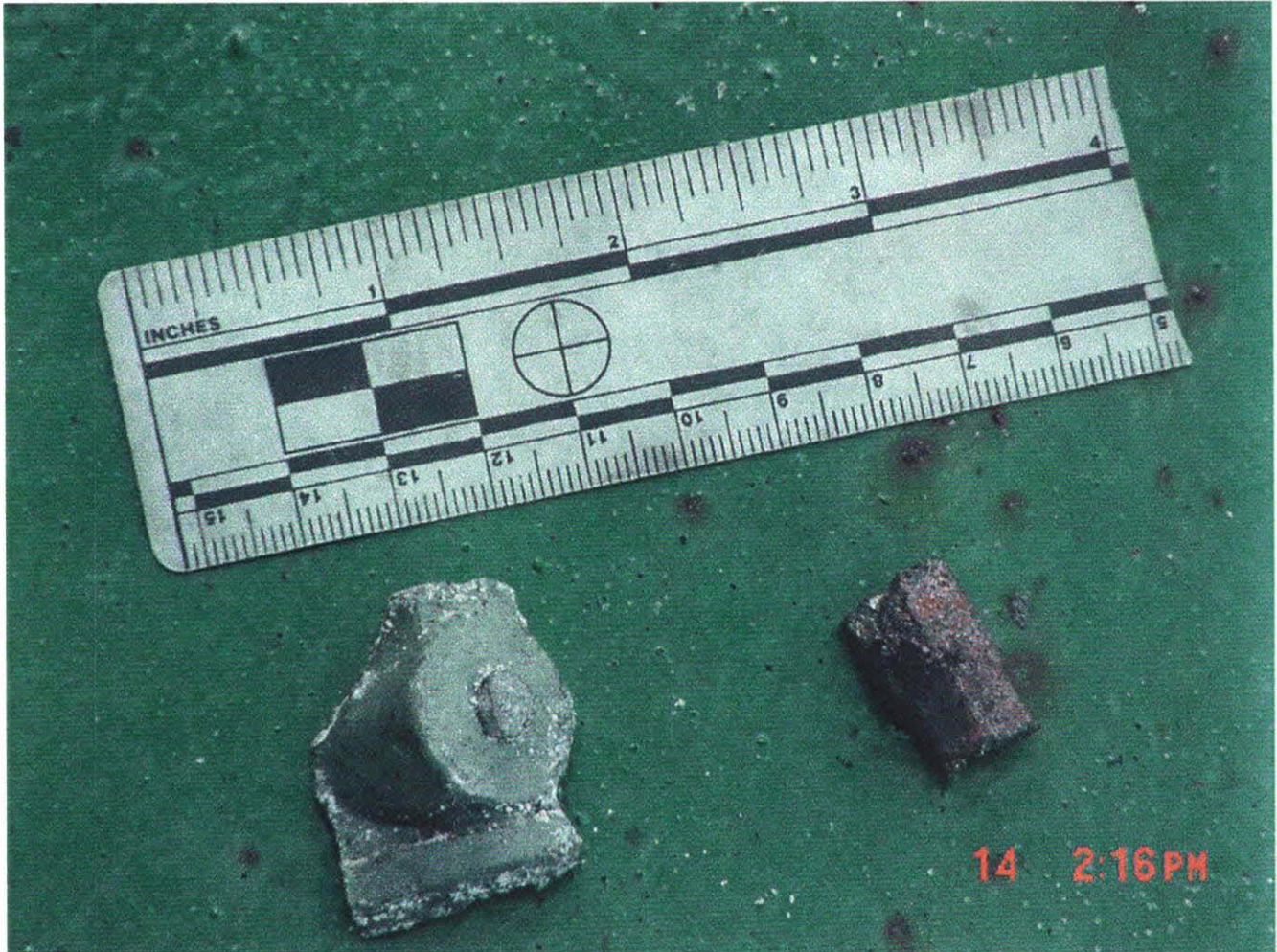


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**Enclosure (23)**





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Enclosure (24)



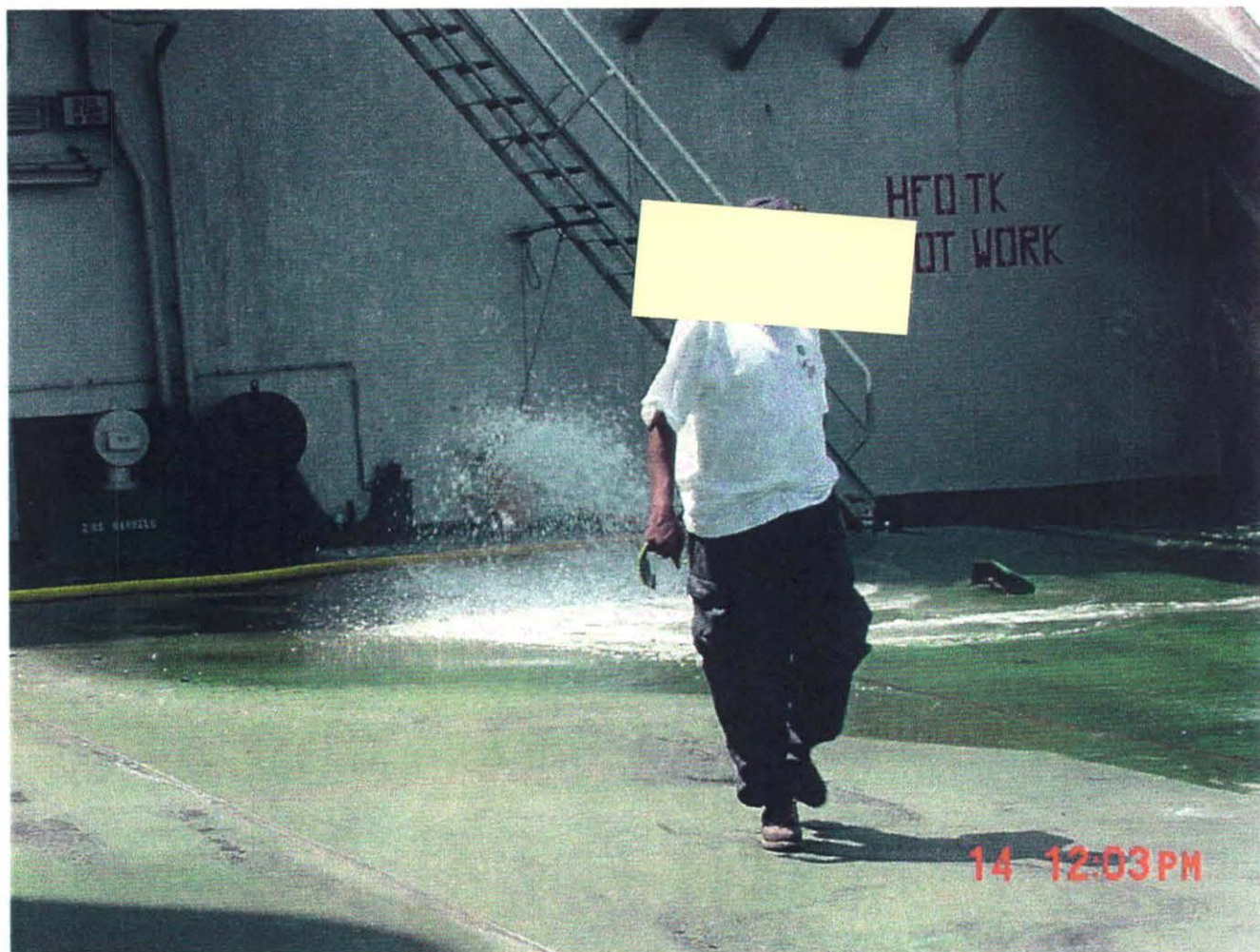


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Enclosure (25)





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**Enclosure (26)**





**TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST**

**CCN: 06OCT02-MEJ-0328-5TRR**

**Enclosure (27)**



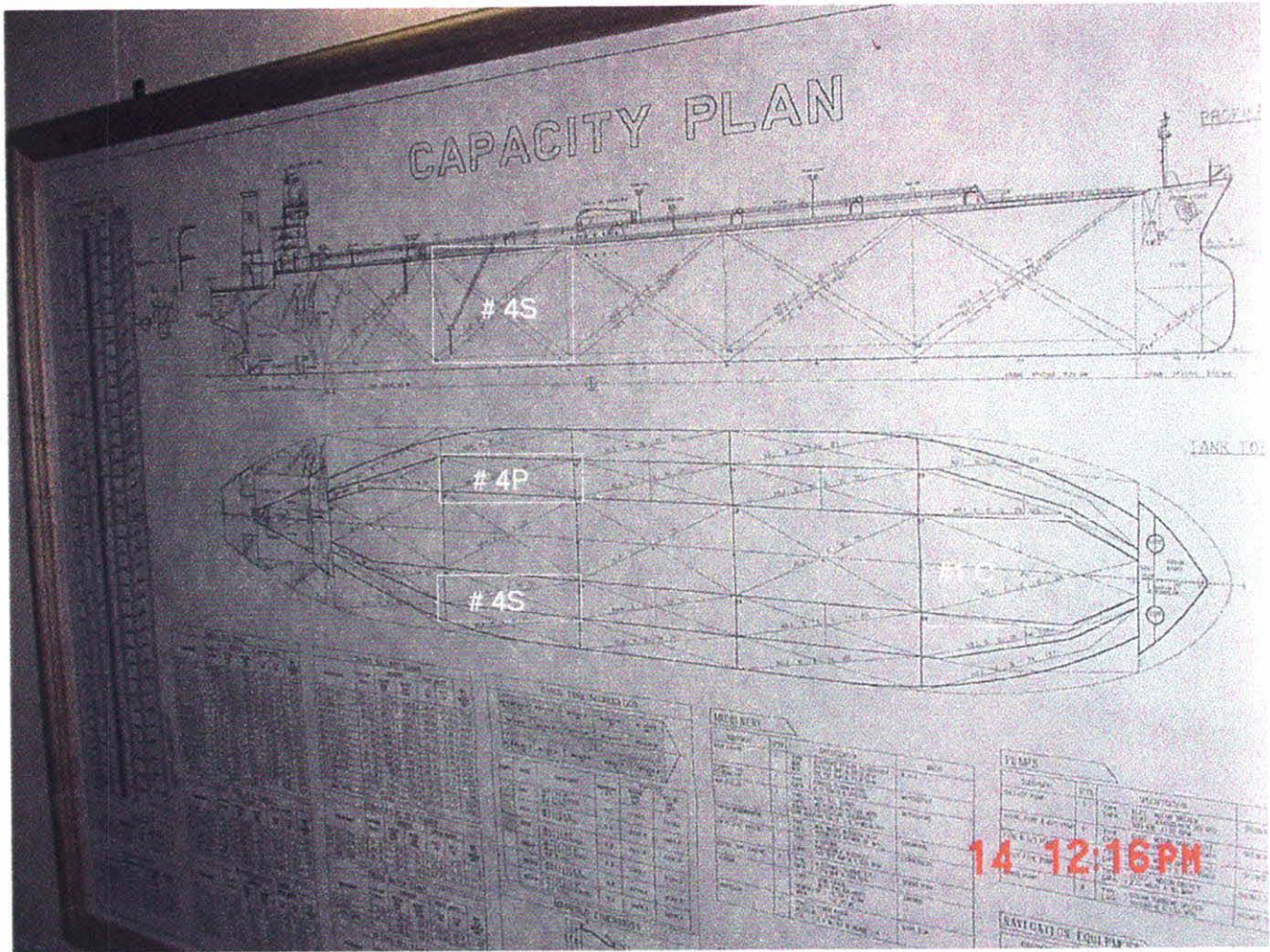


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**CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR**

**Enclosure (28)**



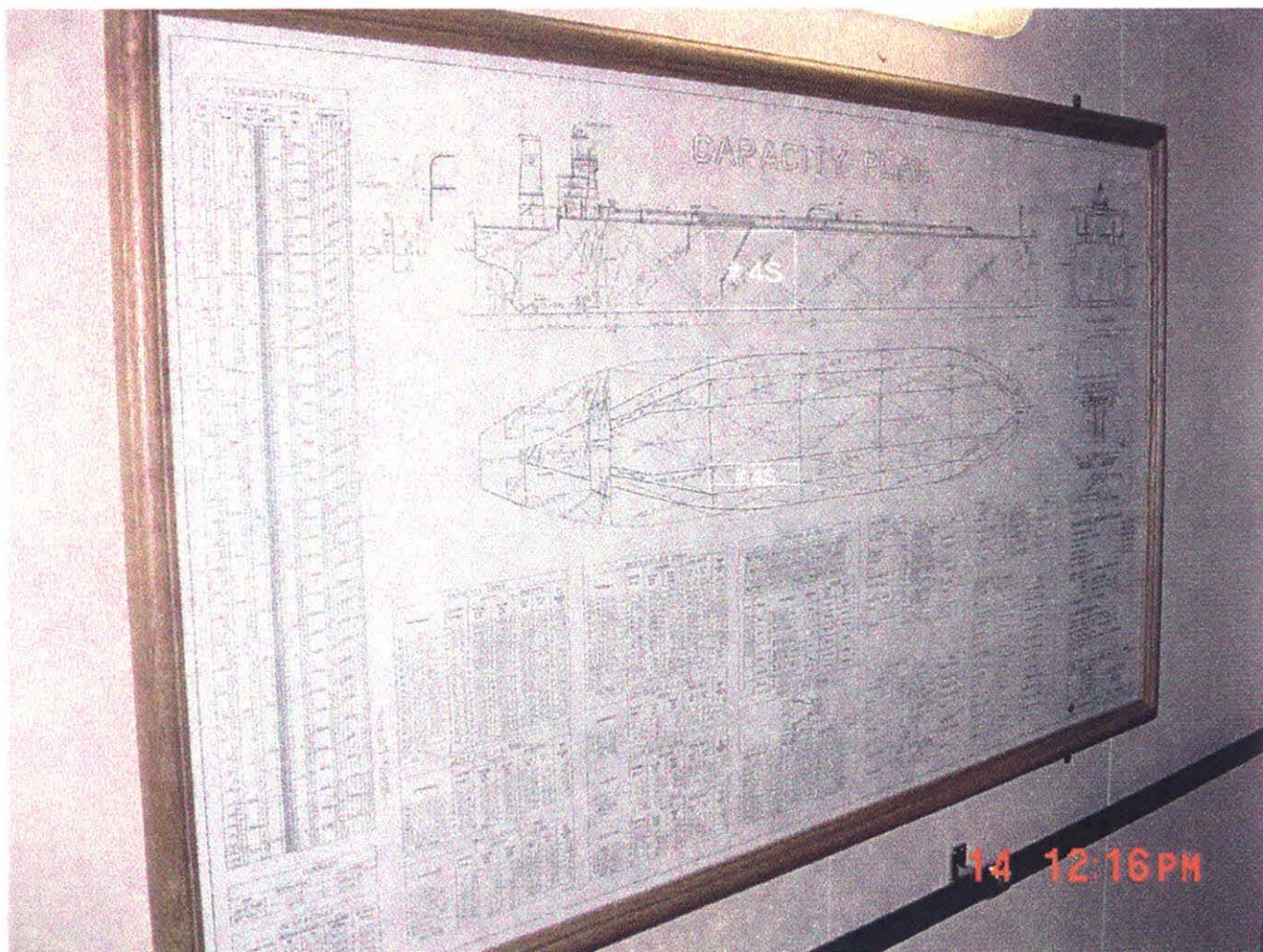


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**Enclosure (29)**





**TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
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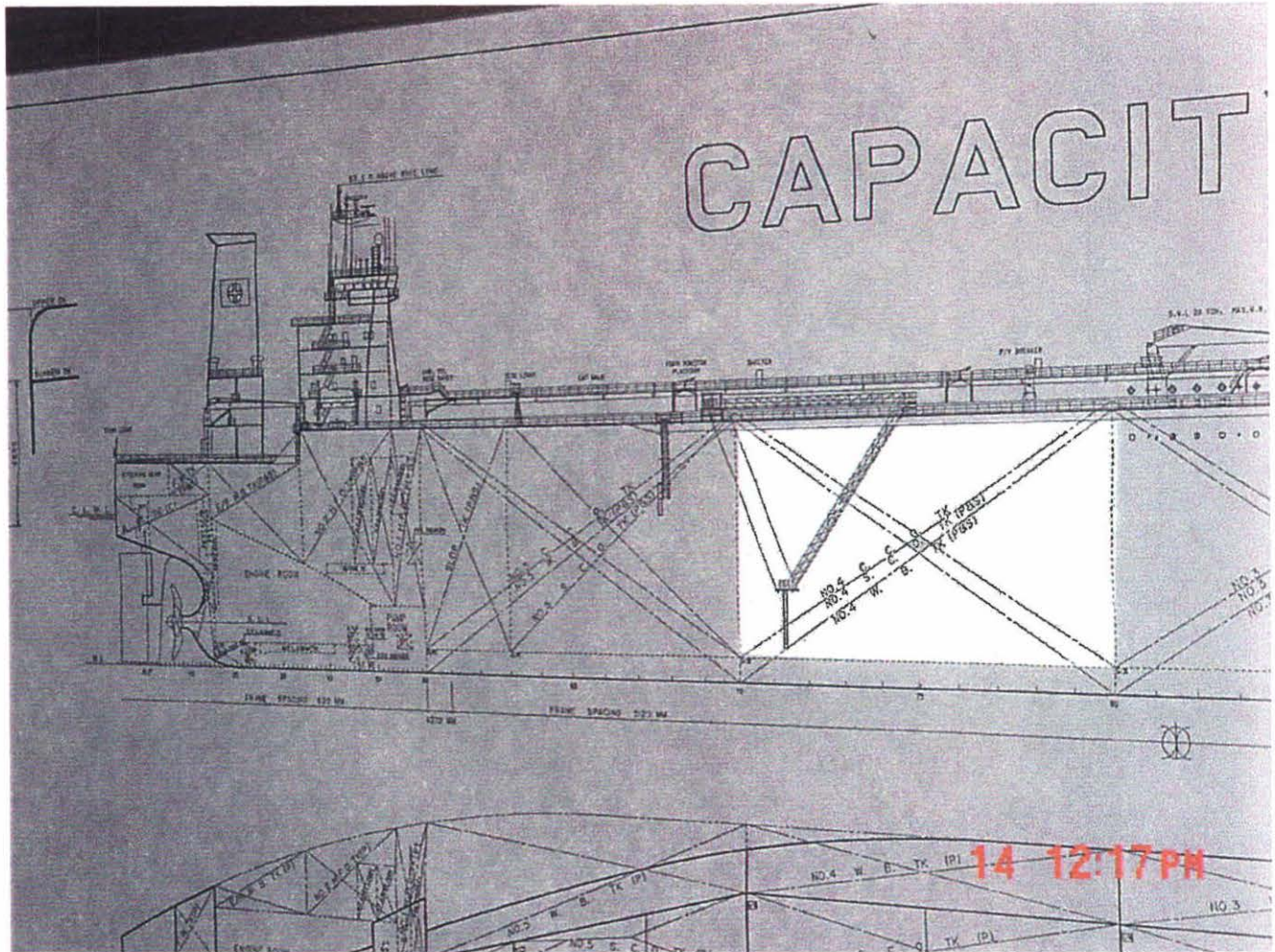
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**Enclosure (30)**







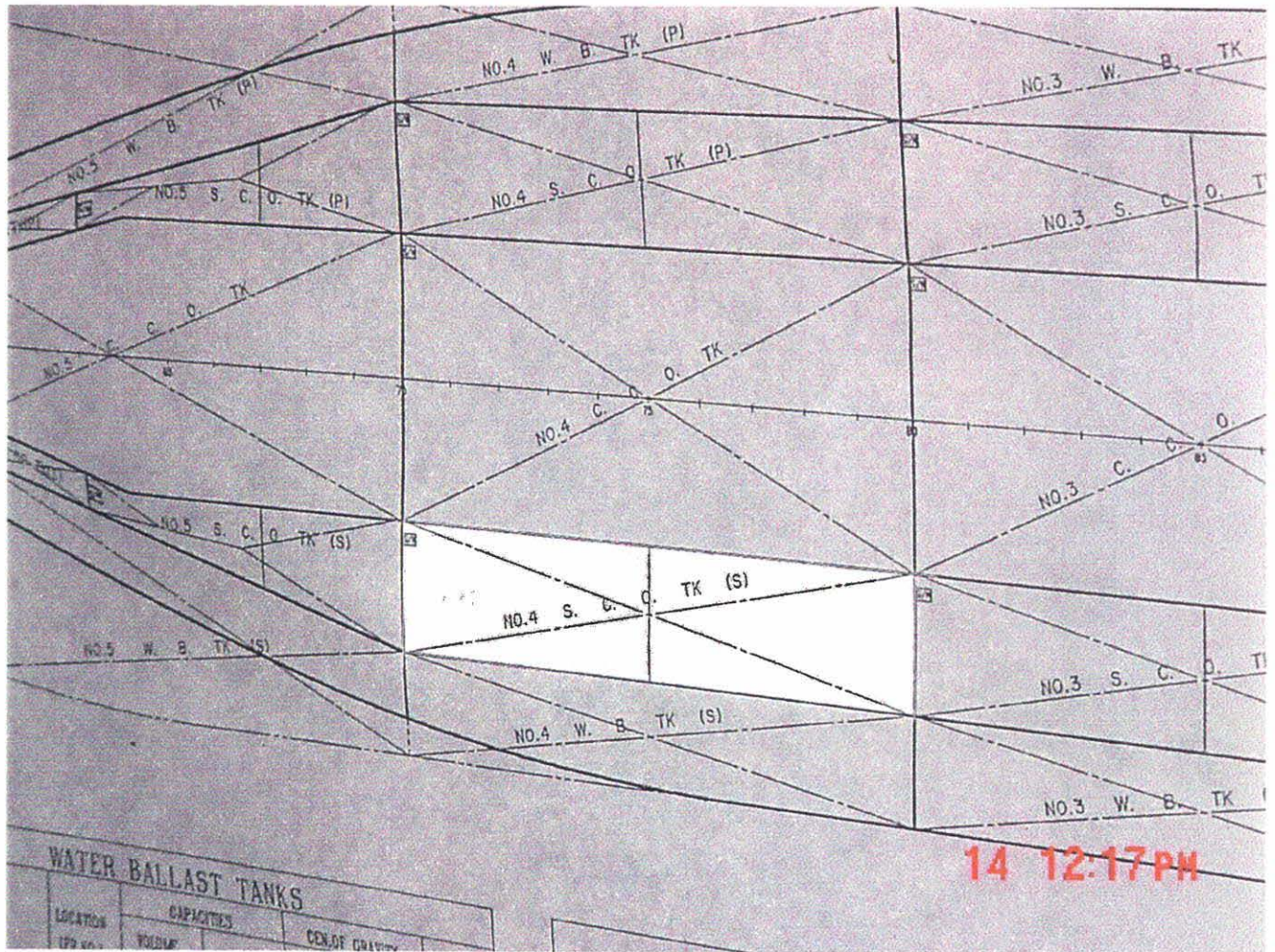


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**CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR**

**Enclosure (32)**



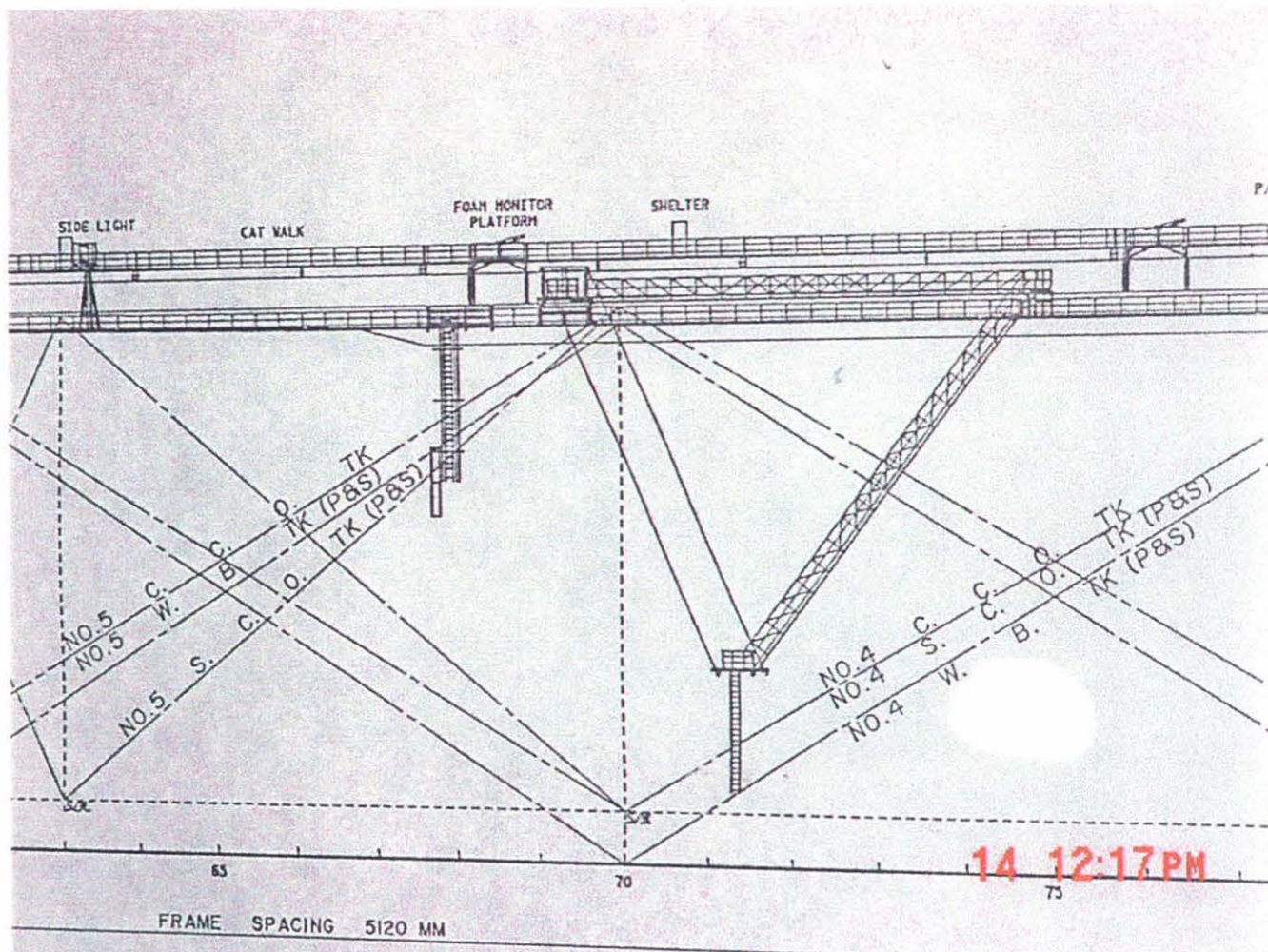


**TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST**

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**Enclosure (33)**





TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST

CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR

Enclosure (34)



CARGO OIL TANKS						
COMPARTMENT	LOCATION (FR.NO.)	CAPACITIES		CEN.OF GRAVITY		MAX F.S. MOMENT (M <sup>4</sup> )
		VOLUME 100% (M <sup>3</sup> )	VOLUME 98% (M <sup>3</sup> )	L.C.G (M)	V.C.G (M)	
NO.1 C.C.O.TK	100-110	29233.3	28648.6	118.29	17.62	35840
NO.2 C.C.O.TK	90-100	32452.5	31803.4	69.35	17.61	44136
NO.3 C.C.O.TK	80- 90	32452.5	31803.4	18.15	17.61	44136
NO.4 C.C.O.TK	70- 80	32452.5	31803.4	-33.05	17.61	44136
NO.5 C.C.O.TK	60- 70	29324.3	28737.8	-82.18	17.62	35428
NO.1 S.C.O.TK(P)	100-110	15813.9	15497.6	117.75	18.19	11025
NO.1 S.C.O.TK(S)	100-110	15813.9	15497.6	117.75	18.19	11025
NO.2 S.C.O.TK(P)	90-100	20572.9	20161.5	69.35	17.69	13103
NO.2 S.C.O.TK(S)	90-100	20572.9	20161.5	69.35	17.69	13103
NO.3 S.C.O.TK(P)	80- 90	20572.9	20161.5	18.15	17.69	13103
NO.3 S.C.O.TK(S)	80- 90	20572.9	20161.4	18.15	17.69	13103
NO.4 S.C.O.TK(P)	70- 80	20572.9	20161.5	-33.05	17.69	13103
NO.4 S.C.O.TK(S)	70- 80	20572.9	20161.4	-33.05	17.69	13103
NO.5 S.C.O.TK(P)	63- 70	13169.7	12906.3	-75.95	18.66	9285
NO.5 S.C.O.TK(S)	63- 70	13169.7	12906.3	-75.95	18.66	9285
SLOP TK(P)	60- 63	5136.7	5033.9	-101.82	20.08	5228
SLOP TK(S)	60- 63	5136.7	5033.9	-101.82	20.08	5228
SUB. TOTAL		347593.1	340641.1			

HEAVY FUEL OIL TANKS 14 12:18 PM						
COMPARTMENT	LOCATION	CAPACITIES		CEN.OF GRAVITY		MAX F.S. MOMENT (M <sup>4</sup> )
		VOLUME	WEIGHT	L.C.G	V.C.G	

DRAFT = 3.134 M  
 DWTSHIP : 41732.8 TON.

**TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST**

**CCN: 06OCT02-MEJB-0328-5TRR**

Enclosure (35)





**TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
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LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST**

**CCN: 06OCT02-MEJ-0328-5TRR**

**Enclosure (36)**



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**TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
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**Enclosure (37)**

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Enclosure (38)

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CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR

Enclosure (39)



UNCLASSIFIED



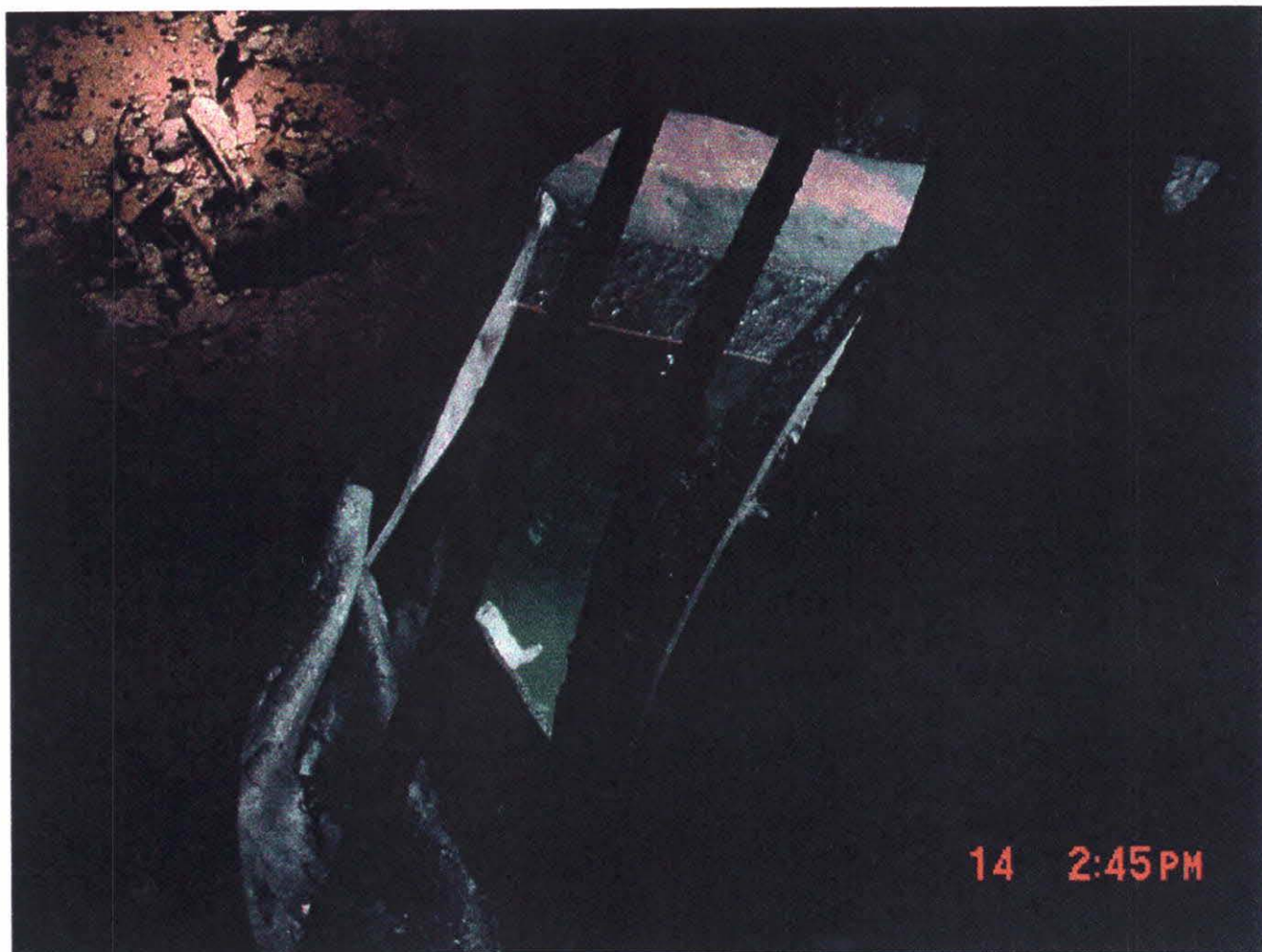
TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST

CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR

Enclosure (40)

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TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST

CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR

Enclosure (41)





**TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST**

**CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR**

**Enclosure (42)**



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**TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST**

**CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR**

Enclosure (43)

UNCLASSIFIED



UNCLASSIFIED



TITLE: I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE  
SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER  
LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST

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Enclosure (44)







NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

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deceased



NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

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Investigative Activities with enclosures 1-10-16 OCT 02

Investigative Action with enclosures 1-16-16 OCT 02

Investigative Activities with enclosures 1-22-19-21 OCT 02

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# YEMEN OBSERVER

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Vol. V Issue 40

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# Terror attack devastates Yemen Officials reluctant to confront fears of economic re

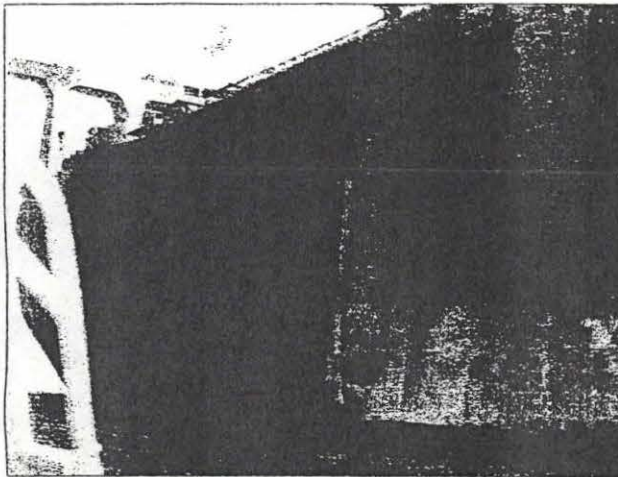
By Gabriel Matthew, Staff Editor  
 AL-MUKALLA, October 10 - Two days after the explosions on the French-flagged supertanker Limburg near the southeast Yemeni city of Al-Mukalla, sufficient evidence has come to light to determine that a terrorist attack was responsible for the blasts.

Yemen, one of the world's poorest countries, is still reeling from the economic fallout felt following the USS Cole attack: in the Port of Aden in December, 2000. While Al-Qaeda directives have recently encouraged operatives to attack oil shipments in order to cripple Western economies officials here are aware that it is Yemen that will suffer most from another terrorist attack on its shores.

In a situation described as "difficult" by Capt. Said Yafai, Yemen's Minister of Transport and Marine Affairs, major economic repercussions are already being felt by the impoverished South Arabian nation.

The explosions aboard the Limburg, which was to pick up 1.5 million barrels of crude oil from the Port of Al-Dabah, 15 km east of Al-Mukalla, have led to a complete halt of oil pumping activity in Yemen's eastern Hadhramout region. Al-Dabah, which has only a limited storage capacity, is full. Unable to load the Limburg, it is unable to receive any more crude oil. Pumping has stopped completely of more than US \$1 million of crude oil a day that pass through the port.

According to a recent report by



A picture shows the hole in the Limburg's hull above water line - YO

Yemen's Central Statistics Authority, oil production makes up 95% of the nation's total exports.

Shipping companies have meanwhile ordered vessels away from Yemen's coasts, turning to alternate refueling stations and delaying shipments to and from the country. The companies have requested military escorts into Yemeni ports, and the Yemeni government has guaranteed the security of ships at its ports, providing helicopters and naval vessels.

An American ship is expected to be the first to end the halt to loading

at Al-Dabah, scheduled to take on oil on Thursday, marking a four-day interruption in operations.

If an act of terrorism is confirmed, Transport Minister Yafai told the Washington Post insurance companies are expected to raise their rates on ships calling at Yemeni ports by as much as 250%. The costs of basic commodities in Yemen, an import-dependent nation where the average income is a mere US \$350 a year, would rise. "It will affect the number of ships going through Yemeni ports," Capt. Yafai added, with an

impact not just on global oil prices, but on the nation's export revenues.

Oil slicks, meanwhile, have begun to wash up on shore near Al-Mukalla, and beaches are littered with dead fish and birds covered in oil. More than 15,000 area fishermen are expected to be impacted by the pollution. Abdul-Malik Al-Eryani, Yemen's Minister of Tourism and Environment, said that the despoiled area is more than 500 square kilometers, some of the nation's prime fishing ground.

As French and American teams continue their investigation onboard the damaged ship, the international press is still waiting for announcements from Yemeni, French, and American officials, who have been reluctant to state the cause of the blasts until the teams complete their missions. Unambiguous physical evidence and interviews with the surviving crew, however, point directly to an act of terror.

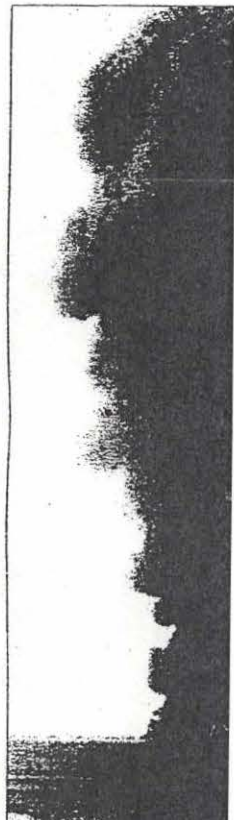
A series of explosions wracked the Limburg early Sunday morning, with initial statements from the French Embassy in Sana'a that a small boat had been seen approaching the tanker. French officials later retracted the statements and agreed to wait until investigations were completed before announcing whether the explosions were the result of a terrorist attack.

Interviews of the surviving crew by various news agencies are verifying the French Embassy's initial statements, however. The captain of the Limburg, [redacted], and one crewman reiterated that a small local fishing boat was seen approaching the ship at an alarming rate. All crewmembers interviewed affirmed that a small explosion came first, and then the fire and smoke from low on the starboard side that quickly engulfed the ship and led to further explosions.

The position of the hole from the explosion, very near the water line on the starboard side, has aroused speculation from security experts that the accident theory is highly improbable. [redacted], speaking to Reuters in London, said that the Limburg's double hull, designed to protect the ship from collision, would be impenetrable by anything but an explosive impact.

Speaking on behalf of the ship's owners, Belgium-based Compagnie Maritime Belge, [redacted], said, "The explosion occurred on the water line - there is absolutely nothing which can trigger an explosion [aboard the ship] at that height," dismissing the possibility of an electrical fire or similar mishap.

According to a spokesman for the Dutch salvage team that examined the integrity of the damaged ship, the engine room is undamaged, also rul-



A huge column of smoke iss out on the

ing out the possibility of eng ure and fire.

Video footage shows that in the Limburg's hull is now feet above the water line. TI team noted that the explosion on cargo tank number the starboard side, one of the ship's 15 cargo tanks (l full at the time of the explosion's cargo tanks are surro partly filled ballast tanks were also damaged by the bl

Having lost 50,000 barre to spillage and burning fr the explosions and fire, a fig ed by Environment Mini Eryani, as well as a port ballast, the hole in the Li hull may have risen sign above the original water plaining the now enigmatic of the rupture.

[redacted] the spokesma ship's owners, also noted if systems onboard the Limi not detect a buildup of gase ing towards a sudden and pated explosion.

In the past six months, th

## American security expert pledges assistance to Yemen's War on Terror

By Khaled Al-Mahdi

SANA'A - A US official said that the United States supports the steps taken by the Yemeni government to bring those accused in the Cole attack to trial though, he said, investigation is not fully complete.

"The US supports the decision of the Government of Yemen to bring people that they have to justice and to put people on trial for the Cole incident. Our investigation continues. It is not fully complete," said [redacted]

counterterrorism expert with the US Department of State in a press conference held on Wednesday at the US Embassy in Sana'a.

The US official met with President Ali Abdullah Saleh and other senior officials. "I was pleased to have the opportunity to meet with President Saleh and to have in-depth discussions on the counterterrorism efforts in both countries and our mutual commitment to work together," he said.

"We discussed the fact that the threat of terrorism remains, as evidenced by the events of August 9," he added, "and the excellent response of the Yemeni Security Services to this threat is evidenced by the activity of September 21," referring to two incidents which took place in Sana'a in which Al-Qaeda suspects were involved.



"President Saleh and the Government of Yemen have kept their word. We still have work to do, and indeed this visit reinforces our commitment to work together towards a successful end to the terrorist threat in Yemen, as well as in the rest of the world."

"We committed ourselves to working together, both in terms of training and supporting the Government of Yemen in pursuing this threat in Yemen, and more broadly as part of the war against terrorism."

He said that the US has more than 60,000 troops deployed in every region of the world working on specific counterterrorism objectives. "Our focus in Yemen is on counterterrorism with our partners in the Yemeni government," he added.

He pointed out that counterterrorism in Yemen is the responsibility of the Government of Yemen, giving his commitment to working with the Yemeni government to ensure effective action against terror.

In regard to the Limburg incident, he said, "We are prepared to respond to any request as we have from the Government of Yemen and the Government of France to assist in the investigation of the incident of the ship. Obviously, everyone is concerned about what happened," the US official said.



# YEMEN OBSERVER

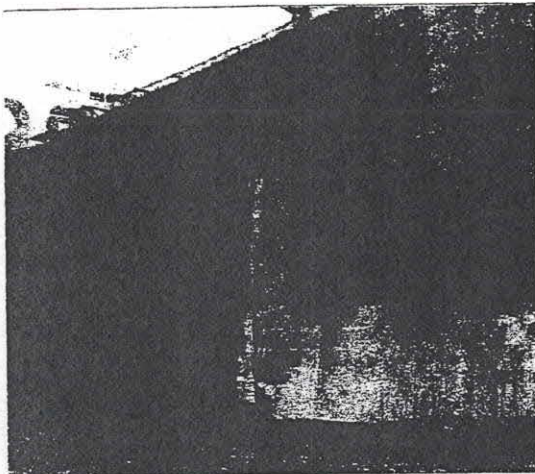

  
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Vol. V Issue 40

Saturday - October 12, 2002

## Attack devastates Yemen Reluctant to confront fears of economic repercussions



Picture shows the hole in the Limburg's hull above water line - YO

Central Statistics Authority makes up 95% of total exports.

Companies have maneuvered vessels away from ports, turning to alternate routes and delaying shipment from the country. The government has requested military

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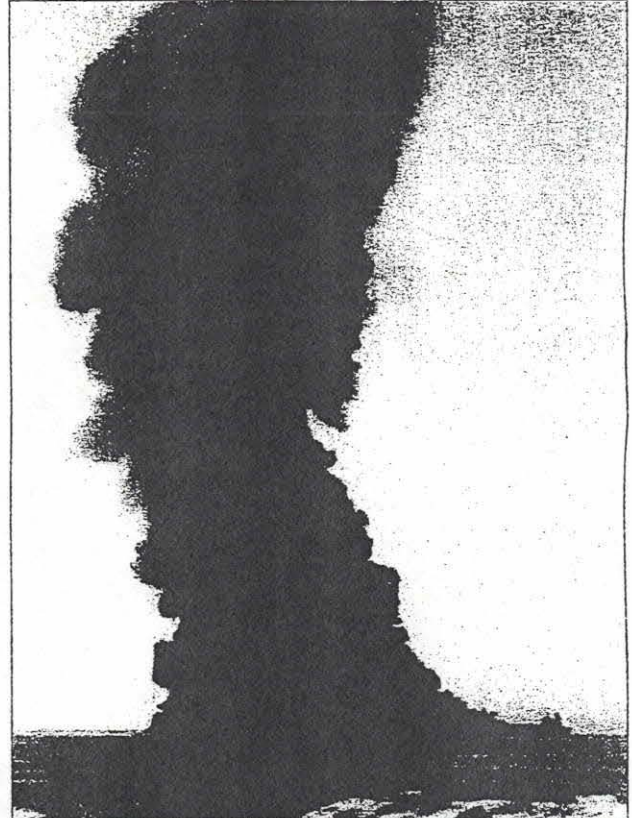
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A huge column of smoke issues from the first explosion and fire which broke out on the French oil tanker Sunday - YO

ing out the possibility of engine failure and fire.

Video footage shows that the hole in the Limburg's hull is now several feet above the water line. The Dutch team noted that the explosion centered on cargo tank number four on the starboard side, one of three of the ship's 15 cargo tanks that were full at the time of the explosion. The ship's cargo tanks are surrounded by partly filled ballast tanks, which were also damaged by the blast.

Having lost 50,000 barrels of oil to spillage and burning following the explosions and fire, a figure stated by Environment Minister Al-Eryani, as well as a portion of its ballast, the hole in the Limburg's hull may have risen significantly above the original water line, explaining the now enigmatic position of the rupture.

[redacted] the spokesman for the ship's owners, also noted that alarm systems onboard the Limburg did not detect a buildup of gases, pointing towards a sudden and unanticipated explosion.

ni government has drawn the ire of factions pledging support to terrorist groups for its outspoken support of the American War on Terror and repeated offensives against Al-Qaeda operatives within the country.

A number of explosions in Sana'a, Yemen's capital, notably at the Civil Aviation Authority and near the Presidential Palace, were attributed to one particular group sympathetic to Al-Qaeda. Leaflets circulated by the group promised more such attacks in the future, targeting not American but Yemeni interests and the national economy if the government failed to withdraw support for American counterterrorism initiatives.

The Yemen Observer has been working closely with international news agencies over the past week to keep the world informed of the recent events in Al-Mukalla. For all the day-by-day developments beginning with the explosions aboard the Limburg on Sunday, October 6, please view our website at [www.yobserver.com](http://www.yobserver.com)

### US assistance to Yemen's War on Terror



"President Saleh and the Government of Yemen have kept their word. We still have work to do, and indeed this visit reinforces our commitment to work together towards a successful end to the terrorist threat in Yemen, as well as in the rest of the world."

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*Limburg investigators agreeing more that...*

## It's terrorism

BY YEMEN TIMES STAFF  
AND REUTERS

- Some aren't sure it was terrorism: see page 4
- A rift in the investigation: see page 4
- Economic impact: see page 11

French and American investigators into the explosion of the French tanker Limburg agree the blast was probably terrorism.

The blast killed one crew member and spilled 90,000 barrels of oil into the Gulf Of Aden.

"It's become clear it's an act of terrorism," a U.S. intelligence official in Washington said Thursday on the condition of

anonymity.

"The initial results of the inquiry carried out by French, Yemeni and American investigators suggest the explosion of October 6 on board the French oil tanker, the Limburg, was due to an attack," a statement of the French Foreign Ministry echoed.

The investigators said that

metal and plastic pieces along with remains of TNT explosive material was found on the deck suggesting that the ship was rammed by a smaller craft.

The Limburg was brought into Mina al-Dabah port in Al Mukalla by three tug boats.

American officials said the blast was an act of terrorism

most likely carried out by people with links to al-Qaida.

Crew saw small boat

This claim is also supported by the tanker's owner,

who quoted crew members as saying the blast occurred shortly after a small boat was seen speeding toward the tanker as it waited for a tug to take it to Mina al-Dabah near Mukalla, about 500 miles from Sana'a.

*Continued on page 4*



Dutch divers and anti-terror experts inspect the hole in the hull of the French oil supertanker Limburg in the open sea near Mukalla in Yemen October 12. France said that traces of TNT were discovered in the hole, supporting the theory that the Limburg was attacked. REUTERS

*What's the environmental impact of the explosion?*

## Save our seawaters

BY SALEH AL-BASHA  
YEMEN TIMES STAFF  
AL-MUKALLA

Efforts are being made to clean the oil from the explosion of the French supertanker Limburg on Yemeni territorial waters and its coasts.

But the spilling of the 397,000 barrels of crude oil may be an irreparable ecological disaster

for sea animals along Yemen's coastal lines, which in turn could mean financial ruin for thousands of area fishermen.

Environmental experts who need to tackle the problem have an immense job ahead of them.

Fishermen at al-Mukalla have expressed their resentment of the water pollution as a result of the oil that has spread across the coast.

They haven't been allowed to fish, but will be allowed again after the completion of the investigation processes.

"This was the best season for fishing banks in Hadhramout coast lines," said one fisherman.

The tanker was carrying 397,000 barrels of Iranian crude and was due to load more at Mina al-Dabah, a port 500 miles south-east of the Yemeni capital

Sana'a.

The explosion took place in Ashehr District in Hadhramout.

Initial reports questioned if the blast was terrorism, but both American and French investigators say they believe evidence suggests it was terrorism.

*See page 11 for more on the environmental impact from the disaster.*



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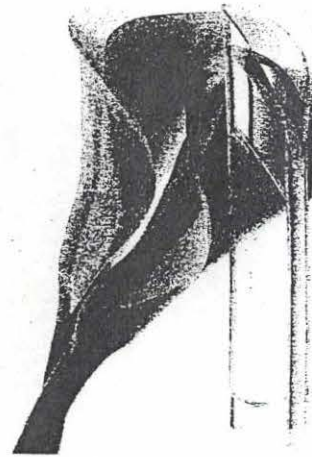
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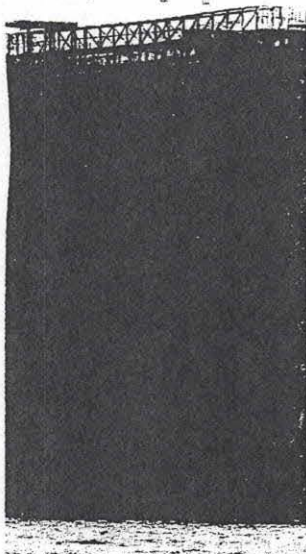
# Happy with Americans Journalist says investigation rift

an investigators at the scene expected, and that has caused the at the investigation site. comes as the Yemeni side, the French side, insists that still not evidence to confirm blast was a terrorist attack. ni officials say that it is far too give a decisive reason for the urnalist says that both French emeni authorities have also ed their shock and unease with

the latest news reports saying that the blast's was because of a terrorist attack. The most recent inspections of the hole reveals that the metal sheets point inwards and not outwards as initially reported. This adds to the possibility that the explosion came from outside the ship. The Yemeni officials say that the metal of the ship may have turned inwards because of wind and water currents.

# it seamine erg blast was not terrorism

ational warships near our ter- waters can follow up the and check it in a way better 'emeni ports authorities. It be taken into consideration e French navy fleet does, ;others, carry out the checking identity of vessels sailing in waters, and it is stationed at nearby Yemeni and Omani ter- waters. xperts also question how any- ld have access to the coordi- f the vessel at the required nd time. The slow-speed of it traveling from the Yemeni wards the ship would have berserved by many warships, ly those equipped with highly cated technology. xperts have considered two ities as more likely: s that the tanker hit a sea mine nearby. other is that some intelligence having more capabilities for act were behind the explo-



French oil supertanker Limburg in the open sea near Mukalla in Yemen October 12. REUTERS

**b7c**

Continued from page 1

# Investigators believe it's terrorism

French investigator [redacted] told French television France 3 on Thursday that debris found on the deck of the tanker did not come from the tanker.

"We found on the Limburg deck some parts mainly made of plastic and of a mixed glass-resin material used for constructing yachts and, in Yemen, fishing boats. We found that on the tanker deck along with some metal debris," he said.

This contradicts suggestions of Yemen's Minister of Sea Transport Saeed Yafaei that the parts might have come from the tanker's own rescue boat.

"Investigators have indeed found fiberglass parts, but they might be from the tanker's rescue boat that was damaged in the accident. The parts will be sent to laboratories to be tested and determine whether it belonged to the damaged boat," said [redacted] who also is the chief of the Yemeni team investigating the Limburg blast.

He made the comment Thursday to Yemen's official news agency Saba.

Earlier, a U.S. defense official said several factors pointed to a terrorist attack: the hole in the ship is at sea level, which is consistent with it being struck by a boat or weapon, and the vessel is relatively new, making it unlikely that a malfunction caused the blast.

U.S. intelligence also picked up indications in recent weeks that terrorist groups remain interested in targeting maritime shipping, the defense official said.

Speculation that the incident was an act of terrorism arose shortly after the explosion, which spilled oil along 72 kilometers of coastline. The Limburg's captain later told The Associated Press a crew member saw a fishing boat approach the tanker shortly before the blast.

### Contradictory reports

At first, Yemen, which has been eager to emphasize its commitment to

the U.S.-led war on terrorism, sought to dismiss reports that the blast was deliberate. Those statements were reported in the local Yemeni press during last week. "We were quite confident that when our officials say something, they mean it. So we took the official statements saying that the cause of the attack was an accident for granted," a Yemeni journalist told YT.

But a Yemeni government official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the investigation so far has yielded contradictory information and the blast may in fact have been an act of terrorism.

The pan-Arab daily Asharq al-Awsat reported Thursday that it received a statement from a militant Muslim group claiming it attacked the ship. The paper said the Aden-Abyan Islamic Army claimed it carried out the explosion to avenge the execution of one of its leaders for the 1998 kidnapping of 16 Western tourists.

The Aden-Abyan Islamic Army was formed by Yemeni and other Arab fighters who, like bin Laden, helped Afghans oust Soviet invaders with U.S. help in the 1980s.

A Yemeni official, Abdul Kader Hilal, questioned the reported Aden-Abyan Islamic Army claim, saying the group does not have the means to carry out such an operation. But he said one of the group's members was among those detained for questioning.

### Pollution catastrophe

"If there is anyone who has been hurt most of this, then it is us," said a Yemeni fisherman near the coast of Mina al-Dabah port. "The sea is our only source of income, and now look at what happened to it! How can we make ends meet any more amidst so harsh economic conditions," he said.

The pollution issue has become the major concern of the Yemeni officials in the area. "Yemen is facing an environmental disaster, its beaches having been hit by tonnes of crude oil from the French-flagged supertanker Limburg

which burned in the Gulf of Aden" an official said.

It is estimated that the total area polluted with crude oil spilled from Limburg amounted to 500 square kilometres, some 15cm deep, according to a press release distributed by the crisis cell, formed to follow up the incident.

The press statement also revealed that "Plans are being prepared by the crisis cell in cooperation with the local authorities and citizens to contain this problem."

### France more alert

On the other hand, France had revealed plans to step up its security measures for French citizens in the Middle East and is considering providing military escorts for French ships in the Indian Ocean, government spokesmen said on Friday.

The Foreign and Defence Ministries announced the measures after Paris announced on Thursday evening that it seemed likely the explosion on the French-flagged supertanker Limburg off the Yemen coast on Sunday was an attack.

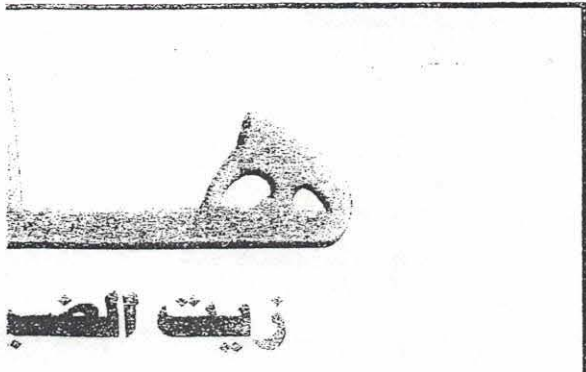
"We are going to increase our level of protection for French residents in the region," Foreign Ministry spokesman Francois Rivasseau told a joint briefing with his Defence Ministry counterpart Jean-Francois Bureau.

Embassies in the region were to review and update existing security plans, he said.

Bureau said a multinational force in the Indian Ocean consisting of eight warships — including two French vessels — under German command could start to escort merchant ships as it did in 1987 and 1988.

But he stressed no decision had been made on this yet.

"Escorts are being considered but they will be neither permanent nor constant," Bureau said. Any escorts could only operate in international waters, he added.





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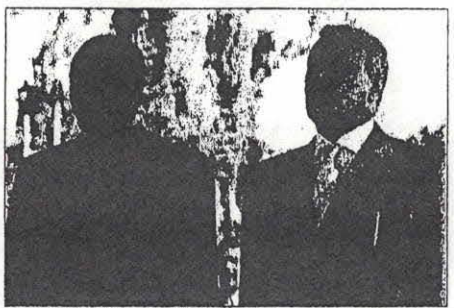
## Arrests made in Al-Mukalla terror attack

Gabriel Matthew with contributions by Mohammed Al-Asadi  
 Yemen Observer  
 AL-MUKALLA - Minister of Interior Rashad Al-Alimi announced Wednesday, October 16 that Yemeni security forces, as part of the investigation into the terrorist attack on the French supertanker Limburg October 6, have raided a facility in Al-Mukalla and discovered supplies of bomb-making materials believed used in the attack.  
 In a preliminary announcement, [redacted] stated that several arrests have been made in connection with the raid, although numbers and identities of those arrested have not yet been revealed. The announcement of the arrests comes as Yemen's first official announcement that the explosions aboard the supertanker, which killed one Bulgarian crewman and spilled more than 50,000 barrels

of crude oil into the ecologically sensitive Gulf of Aden, were in fact the result of a terrorist attack.  
 French and American investigators aboard the Limburg announced last week that traces of TNT were found around the hole blasted in the Limburg's hull at water level, and fragments of fiberglass similar to that found in local fishing boats were scattered on the deck of the tanker.  
 Although some factions have already said they were behind the blast, a credible claim of responsibility for the attack has yet to be made. There was no indication in the Minister of Interior's announcement as to the affiliation of those arrested in Wednesday's operation.  
 Meanwhile, efforts are now underway to clean up the oil spill from the Limburg attack. For more coverage, turn to Page 2.

## Joint Yemen, Sudanese, Ethiopian summit sends message: Eritrea, be a positive partner!

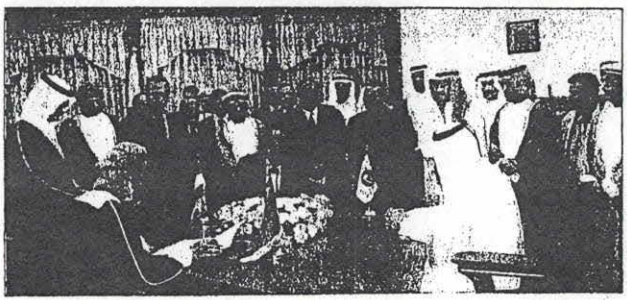
By Faisal Darim  
 Yemen Observer  
 SANA'A - The triple summit held by President Ali Abdullah Saleh, Sudanese President Hassan Al-Basheer and Ethiopian Prime Minister Meles Zenawi on October 13-15 voiced a call to Eritrea in its closing communiqué to commit itself to policies of good-neighborliness and non-intervention, and to take responsibility when dealing with countries bordering it. The statement also asked Eritrea not to repeat the mistakes of the past and to be a positive partner in helping establish peace in the region.



President Saleh receives Sudanese President Hassan Al-Basheer (left) and Ethiopian PM Meles Zenawi (right)  
 The summit professed the three countries' devotion to the historic and social relations which bind the people of the three countries together with the Eritrean people. Yemen, Sudan and Ethiopia jointly wished the Eritrean people security, stability, progress and welfare... Cont. page 2.

## Yemen signs agreements to join GCC

By Observer Staff  
 SANA'A - The Republic of Yemen signed agreements last Wednesday at the Presidential Palace in Sana'a concerning its joining the GCC according to the formulation formerly approved during the 22nd GCC member states' session held in Muscat, Oman from December 30-31, 2001.  
 President of the Republic Ali Abdullah Saleh and Vice President Abdu Rabo Mansour Hadi attended the ceremony, with the



## Amnesty International validates Parliamentary report on detainees

By Observer Staff  
 SANA'A - Recommendations have now been issued by the parliamentary fact-finding committee investigating USS Cole and September 11 detainees. In a letter from [redacted] even deprived of the right to speak with lawyers. Amnesty International joined the parliamentary committee in calling on the Yemeni government to take steps concerning the prisoners, to release those who 'bear peaceful

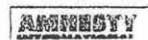


EXHIBIT 17



# UNDP pledges assistance to oil spill cleanup

By Observer Staff

AL-MUKALLA - An intensive cleaning campaign started last Tuesday along the coastline and coastal waters of the Governorate of Al-Mukalla, despoiled when a terrorist attack penetrated the dual hull of the Limburg, a French oil tanker, on October 6.

Fadhel Naser, Manager of the Tourism and Environment Office in Al-Mukalla, said that a specialized team consisting of 120 people began the cleaning operations

over 70 km of coast. Agreements were signed with the Local Council of the Al-Mukalla to determine specific locations for the cleaning teams, salvaging as much oil as possible for use as asphalt.

These cleaning activities follow training programs held a few days ago given to more than 40 participants by NGOs concerned with environment issues.

The United Nations Development Program (UNDP) offered the Yemeni govern-

ment emergency financial assistance to enable the Environmental Pollution Fighting Teams to overcome the latest environment problem.

Rima Khalaf Hanidi, Director of the UNDP Regional Office, confirmed the intentions of the UNDP while meeting with Deputy Minister of Tourism and Environment Mohammed Kafalah, saying that the UNDP would cooperate with the Yemeni government to rescue Al-Mukalla from en-

vironmental pollution. In their meeting, UNDP officials discussed the requirements of the second stage of the Permanent Environmental Program implemented in collaboration with the Ministry of Tourism and Environment, which includes the execution of seven projects related to the environment, agriculture and the Socotra environmental project, which has reached its third stage in preserving the island's unique and distinctive environment.

# Volunteers advocate Cole suspects SCER granted over US \$2.9 million

By Nabil Al-Osaidi

ADEN - A voluntary group was recently set up to advocate those suspected of bombing the USS Cole in the Port of Aden on October 12, 2002, claiming the lives of 17 American sailors and injuring 39 others. A press release by five of the most significant attorneys in

Aden, namely [redacted], [redacted], and [redacted] reported the formation of the group coinciding with the second anniversary of the bombing, saying it was formed out of adherence to the Yemeni Constitution which secures

the right of advocacy for citizens. The release further announced the group was ready to recruit more volunteer advocates. "When the group is completely formed, it will start to receive the demands of the detainees' relatives and provide them with judicial assistance," read the release.

By Observer Staff

SANA'A - An international documentation project supporting the Supreme Commission for Elections and Referendum was signed last Sunday amounting to US \$2,884,302, the total international assistance for the SCER for 2002-03.

The agreement was signed by Ahmed Sofan, Minister of Planning and Development, with the attendance of Khaled Al-Sharif, Chairman of the SCER and Rima Hanidi, Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations and Director of the Arab Regional Office of the UNDP. The agreement was also attended by Hesham Sharaf, Deputy Minister of Planning and Development, and James Raleigh, representative of the UNDP in Yemen.

# More than 100,000 given social allowances

By Observer Staff

SANA'A - According to the Minister of Social Affairs and Labor Dr. Abdul-Karim Al-Arhabi, the Social Fund (SCF) has approved 100,000 cases to be given allowances.

The Minister's new declaration was made while he was participat-

ing in a workshop held to spread awareness among local council secretary-generals about the new cases benefiting from the SCF, saying that 30,000 cases have been dropped from the SCF's lists because they were found undeserving of their social allowances after specialists carried out intensive field

visits and collected data about people getting social security pensions.

The European Union granted the country a sum of 150 million to support the government in implementing its Poverty Eradication Program. A portion of this sum has been allocated to financing the SCF developing missions project.

# Light earthquake in Al-Beidha

By Observer Staff

AL-BEIDHA - The National Center for Seismography, headquartered in the Governorate of Dhamar, recorded a light earthquake which shook the Governorate of Al-Beidha on Sunday, October 13 at 11:45 PM. The earthquakes in Al-Beidha were in the form of a reaction to underwater earthquakes taking place beneath the Gulf of Aden which reached a magnitude of 4.0 on the Richter Scale.

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U.S. NAVAL CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICE

ACTION/LEAD SHEET (CHANGE)

27NOV02

TERRORISM (II)

CONTROL: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5TRR

I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE SUPPORT REGARDING  
FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD FRENCH TANKER LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST (U)

COMMAND/AMEMB SANA'A YEMEN//

MADE AT/MEBJ/MANAMA, BAHRAIN, [REDACTED], SPECIAL AGENT

b7c

REFERENCE

(a) MEBJ ALS (OPEN)/08OCT02/I/AMERICAN EMBASSY SANA'A  
YEMEN/INVESTIGATIVE SUPPORT REGARDING FIRE/EXPLOSION ABOARD  
FRENCH TANKER LIMBURG NEAR YEMENI COAST (U)/  
CCN: 06OCT02-MEBJ-0328-5XNA

CASE SUMMARY

1. (U) Subsequent to dissemination of Reference (a), it was  
determined that the correct Case Category for this investigation is  
5T vice 5X.

ACTION

A.DIST...(U) Change Case Category of Ref (a) to read 5T vice 5X.

DISTRIBUTION

NCISHQ: 0011 (P)/0022I (P)



