## U.S. military communications system proves untrustworthy

by Jack Anderson

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The results of these and other Pentagon foul-ups in the
$6 billion a year communications budget are anything but
theoretical.   Among hundreds of everyday delays, lost
messages, garbles and misdirected cables, here are a few of
the most disastrous.

In 1967, when the U.S.S. Liberty was in the
Mediterranean, five messages were sent to it telling it to
move away from the coasts of Israel and Egypt.   All were
sent between $3\frac{1}{2}$ and 13 hours before the ship was attacked.
None reached her in time.

In 1968, two warning messages were sent from the
U.S.S. Pueblo saying it was under threat by North Korea.
Although they were sent for "immediate delivery," it took
$1\frac{1}{2}$ and $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours, respectively, for them to reach Washington
authorities.   This was one reason U.S. forces failed to
rush to the aid of the ship.

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