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Pueblo Bjt 500, 2 Takes, Total 650.

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CORONADO, Calif. AP — When North Korean gunboats first threatened to fire on the USS Pueblo a year ago, she was carrying a reported 600 pounds of secret papers and equipment. When she was seized, about two hours later, the boarding party found some of this intact.

"Whatse responsibility is it to see that a ship does not obtain more material than it is able to destroy in a short period?" an admiral on the court of inquiry into the capture asked a Pentagon expert Friday.

"It is the responsibility of the commanding officer . . . plus to see that he has adequate destruction capabilities aboard," replied Capt. John B. Williams, who was testifying for the chief of naval operations as a specialist in destruction of classified material.

"I believe we all understand that the ultimate responsibility for everything on his ship is the commanding officer's," replied Rear Adm. R.R. Pratt. "But who has the responsibility to see that the commanding officer isn't given an unreasonable task in this regard?"

A. "There is no central agency."

Q. "At the time of the Pueblo was there any system or individual?"

A. "There was an operations order to the commander of Naval Forces Japan for an inspection of each environmental research ship before it goes out on each mission to determine whether it's planning for emergency destruction is desirable and if the means exist."

The commander of Naval Forces in Japan when the Pueblo was captured was Rear Adm. Frank L. Johnson. During his testimony early in the hearing he said his staff gave the Pueblo's destruct capabilities an "informal inspection."

Later, Rear Adm. George Cassell, who was assistant chief of staff for operations for the commander in chief of the Pacific Fleet at the time, testified he didn't think Johnson's office carried out its responsibilities in this regard.

Cmdr. Lloyd Bucher, the ship's skipper, has said that when he requested explosive devices for destroying secret material before the ship sailed on its intelligence mission he was furnished fire axes, sledge hammers, two paper shredders, a small incinerator and weighted bags for jettisoning paper.

Williams originally said there was a ton of secret material on the Pueblo, but some hours later, after the court recessed for the weekend, a Navy spokesman said that Williams wanted to revise this to 600 pounds and would request that the transcript be changed.

The spokesman said Williams was not changing his estimate that one hour was needed with available devices and under fire for destruction by the Pueblo crew of the classified matter.

Williams told the court he envisaged the use of damage control equipment, hand tools, pliers, hand cutters, acetylene torches and a massive fire fed by gasoline, diesel fuel and cleaning fluid to help destroy the material.

Replying to a court question, Williams said the Pueblo's capture prompted the Navy to improve its emergency destruction devices.

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Kenneth Roy Wadley, 30, of Beaverton, Ore., the Pueblo's only gunner's mate, took the stand next. He said his men could have had the PQUEBLO'S two .50-caliber machine guns ready to shoot in 5 or 10 minutes, but he felt since the guns lacked protective shields anyone firing them "wouldn't have survived."

"But if I had been called on to man them, I think I would have gone up to man them, yes sir," he said in answer to a question.

Nearly a dozen Pueblo officers and men have testified in public. The Navy said it plans to summon others, perhaps almost half of the 82 survivors. North Korea released the men just before Christmas after 11 months of captivity.

While Bucher was testifying, the court warned him that he was under suspicion of breaking Navy regulations. No one else has received such a warning. The court may recommend anything from a court-martial to medals

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