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PA/HO Department of State
E.O. 12958, as amended
April 21, 2005

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MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

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INFORMATION

August 12, 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Henry A. Kissinger *HK*

SUBJECT: Midnight Sun

After six frustrating weeks and several serio-comic false starts, we have finally succeeded in getting the Midnight Sun and its crew released by the Somali Government.

The crew was apparently well treated at all times. The vessel is now on the high seas bound for Mombasa. The owner of the vessel, Vincent Guzzetta of Louisiana, is on his way to Mombasa.

The high point, or the low point, depending on your point of view, of this episode was the attempt of the head Somali, General Siad, to send you a personal message announcing the decision to release the Midnight Sun. The Somali Embassy here was never able to deliver the message because they could never get their Russian-provided coding machines to function properly.

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