PAGE 2 RUTQBN 10A S E C R E T RD NOFORN
D. B52 SAC 3 AF 68BW 51 BS SEYMOUR JOHNSON AFB NC KC135 SAC 2AF
97BW 97OMS BLYTHVILLE AFB ARK.
E THRU J. NO CHANGE
K. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IN RESPECT TO THE COLLISION WAS SECURED
FROM CREW MEMBERS ABOARD THE LEAD KC---135. THE ARCP MADE AT
891Z, INITIAL CONTACT BY THE LEAD TANKER AND RECEIVER WAS MADE AT
892 Z, POSITION 3713 NORTH 0148 WEST. FIFTEEN SECONDS LATER AT
892 Z, THE LEAD BOOM OPERATOR ANOUNCED EXPLOSION. AT 0925Z
WREKAGE BEGAAAAN REACHING GROUND. MAGNETIC HEADING WAS 273 DEGREES.
TRUE COURSE 253 DEGREES. NUMBER TWO TANKER WAS SUSPOSED TO BE AT
31,000 FEET AND TWO NAUTICAL MILES RIGHT AT SIXTY DEGREE ECHELON.
ABOVE BAAAASED UPON OBSERVATIONS OF LEAD AIRCRAFT COPILOT AND EXTRACT OF
LEAD NAVIGATORS LOG. THE COPILOT MADE ADDITION OBSERVATIONS.
KC-135 AND B-52 INVOLVED IN THE ACCIDENT WERE MAKING CONTRAILS OFF
TO HIS RIGHT. HE OBSERVED THE OTHER RECEIVER APPROACHING HIS TANKER
AT A NORMAL RATE. JUST AFTER THE LEAD RECEIVER MADE CONTACT, HE
HEARD A TRANSMISSION FROM THE NUMBER TWO TANKER, PRESUMABLY MADE
BY THE NUMBER TWO TANKER BOOM OPERATOR, QUOTE WATCH YOUR RATE OF
CLOSURE UNQUOTE. SHORTLY AFTER THIS THE LEAD BOOM OPERATOR
REPORTED THE EXPLOSION. MEMBERS OF THE AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT BOARD

NOFORN

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CONTINUED THE WORK OF IDENTIFYING AND EXAMINING AIRCRAFT WRECKAGE.
WITH THE EXCEPTION OF WRECKAGE YET TO BE RECOVERED FROM THE SEA.
SUFFICIENT MATERIAL HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED AND PLOTTED TO PROVIDE AN
ADEQUATE DEPICTION OF WRECKAGE PATHS. THE AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT BOARD
WILL CONVENE NEXT AT TORREJON AFB, SPAIN AND SUBSEQUENT PROGRESS
REPORTS WAAAI ILL EMINATE FROM THERE. SUFFICIENT TECHNICAL ASISTANCE
WILL REMAIN AT THE SCENE TO ASSIST IN THE IDENTICATION OF WJAIRECKAGE
RECOVERED FROM SEA.
L. THUR X. NO CHANGE
6. COL GEORGE PAYNE BOARD PRESIDENT-.
GP--1
ABT.

This is an exact copy: 06/03/97: 7447: cmg.
Distribution:
M0659A Elva Barfield, FOIA Officer/OPA; DOE/AL

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