



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS  
2000 NAVY PENTAGON  
WASHINGTON, DC 20350-2000

IN REPLY REFER TO  
5730  
Ser N31B/13U132702  
June 17, 2013

Lt Col Randall R. Schmidt, USAF (Ret)  
108 Conway Court  
Yorktown, VA 23693

Dear Lt Col Schmidt:

SUBJECT: DON FOIA CASE FILE NUMBER 2013F041306

Thank you for your May 11, 2013 inquiry and the opportunity to respond to your concerns regarding naval assets on September 11, 2012.

The enclosed graphic depicts the location of navy surface vessels in the FIFTH (Central Command) and SIXTH (European Command) Fleet areas of responsibility on September 11, 2012. The aircraft carrier USS DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER (CVN 69) was underway in the Arabian Gulf; USS ENTERPRISE (CVN 65) was underway in the Arabian Sea. ENTERPRISE was approximately 3350 nautical miles from Benghazi. Assuming a 20 knot transit speed and no Suez Canal delays, the transit would take approximately 168 hours or seven days. EISENHOWER would require additional transit time from its position in the Arabian Gulf. USS IWO JIMA (LHD 7) was the closest large amphibious ship, which was underway in the Gulf of Oman.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "B. C. Nickerson", is located below the "Sincerely," text.

B. C. NICKERSON  
Captain, U.S. Navy  
Deputy Director, Operations and  
Plans (N31B)

Enclosure: Ship Positions (11 SEP 12)



# SEPTEMBER 11, 2012

