



*Additional fuel to the speculation was the daily news of the fifty two American hostages held in Iran, Day 244 upon departure date 4 June. Units attached to USS PENSACOLA, CDR Stephen Balut, Commanding Officer, were UDT 21 under the command of LT John Anderson, ACU 2 with LT Dan West as Officer in Charge and a team of Hospital Corpsmen under the guidance of CDR "Doc" Kingsbury. After the overnight southerly transit to Morehead City, N.C., the first official underway period of the deployment, the Marines and their gear were on loaded. The Task Force was comprised of one Marine Recon Unit with 1st LT Hap Holm, USMC as Officer in Charge and also the CO of Troops for PENSACOLA, and one Marine Tank Company under the leadership of 1st LT Rusty Stokes.*