



The Settebello

New Delhi

Anger at U.S.: India formally protested to the U.S. last week after a U.S. air strike killed three Indian sailors on a ship allegedly carrying Iranian oil near the Strait of Hormuz. The U.S. blamed the Palau-flagged vessel, saying American forces had to conduct a “precision” strike because the ship, the *Settebello*, had failed

to comply with instructions. The reaction in India was indignation, with headlines reading “No apology from Washington.” Foreign minister Subrahmanyam Jaishankar then telephoned directly to Secretary of State Marco Rubio, saying “lethal actions against commercial shipping” weren’t justified, but the U.S. responded only that “violations of the U.S. blockade and the illicit transport of Iranian oil will not be tolerated.” Manoj Yadav, leader of the Forward Seamen’s Union of India, called the incident a tragedy. “They are ordinary people, not trained for war,” he said.