Declassified and approved for release by NSA on 02-16-2006 pursuant to E.O. 12958, as amended

~~SECRET~~

~~NOFORN~~

1964 AUG 2 - PM 9 00

ZCZCZDA475

OO [redacted]
DE [redacted]
ZFH-2 (ATTN ODO)
O 021443Z
TO AIG 181
INFO CTG 77.3
CTG 77.6
COMUSMACV
NAVCOMMSTA PHIL
USS MADDOX
USS TURNER JOY
USS TICONDEROGA
BT
~~SECRET NOFORN~~

P.L. 86-36

Sunday - Aug 2

JULY AUGUST DESOTO 021200Z OPSUM
A. CINCPACFLT 021104Z NOTAL
B. COMSEVENTHFLT 021255Z NOTAL
1. CTG 72.1 ORIG THIS MSG. MILITARY SIGHTINGS CONTAINNED MY SITSUM 3.
2. FOR ADDEES THIS MSG NOT INCLUDED AS ADDEES MY ACTION REPORTS:
MADDOX ATTACKED BY 3 DR P-4 CRAFT AT TIME 020750Z AT POSITION 19-47N, 106-31.1E. EVAL THESE CRAFT AS SAME 3 P-4 REPORTED SITSUM 3. ANTICIPAT ING ATTACK MADDOX HAD OPENED POINT DELTA 15 MILES TO SEAWARD PRIOR TO PURSUIT BY P FOURS. MADDOX SPEED 27 KNOTS, P-4 SPEED 50 KNOTS AT 020800

PAGE 2 RUMFCR B ~~SECRET NOFORN~~
RANGE 9000 YARDS, MADDOX FIRED WARNING SHOTS WHICH WERE UNHEEDED. MADDOX THEN TOOK P FOURS UNDER FIRE. 3 TORPEDO FIRINGS OBSERVED. 2 PASSED DOWN STBD SIDE AFTER 90 DEGREE PORT TURN. OTHER TORPEDO NOT OBSERVED TO RUN. 50 CAL MACHINE GUN FIRE ALSO EXPERIENCED. NO MATERIAL OR PERSONNEL CASUALITIES TO MADDOX. ALL 3 P FOURS HIT BY GUNFIRE. 1 APPEARED HIT AND BURNING. REMAINING 2 RETIRED TO WEST. MADDOX RETIRED TO NE AND DIRECTED F8A AIRCRAFT FROM TICO ONTO P-FOURS. MADDOX PRESEN IN COMPANY WITH TURNER JOY PROCEEDING 17-30N, 108-00E FOR UNREP FROM ASHTABULA. COMPL UNREP INTEND PROCEED IAW REFS A AND B. 3 HICOM COMM UNSAT TO DATE. UNODIR AM GUARDING CKT D50.1F (TG77.3 CID) WHICH HAS BEEN SAT FOR COMM WITH TG 77. UNITS. DURATT UNSAT TO DATE. ALL RECENT TRAFFIC PASSED VIA SHIP/SHORE.
4. MATERIAL DEFICIENCIES: MADDOX AN/SPS40 INOP. EXPECT SAT BY MORNING. TURNER JOY AN/SPG53 RADAR INOP ETR INDEF.
5. IT IS APPARENT THAT DRV HAS CUT DOWN THE GUANTLET AND NOW CONSIDERS ITSELF AT WAR WITH US. IT IS FELT THAT THEY WILL ATTACK US FORCES ON SIGHT WITH NO REGARD FOR COST. U.S. SHIPS IN THE GULF OF TONKIN CAN NO LONGER ASSUME THAT THEY WILL BE CONSIDERED NEUTUALS EXERCISING THE RIGHT OF FREE TRANSIT. THEY WILL BE TREATED AS BELLIGERENTS FROM FIRST DETECTION AND MUST CONSIDER THEMSELVES AS SUCH. DRV PTS HAVE ADVANTAGE

ENCLOSURE (1)

PAGE 3 RUMFCR B ~~SECRET NOFORN~~
ESPECIALLY AT NIGHT OF BEING ABLE TO HIDE IN JUNK CONCENTRATIONS ALI

[illegible] SHORT LEGGED FOR LONG PATROL WHERE HIGH SPEEDS ARE REQUIRED AS IN PT EVASION. CONSIDER RESUMPTION OF PATROL CAN ONLY BE SAFELY UNDERTAKEN BY OD, CL/CA TEAM AND WITH CONTINOUS AIR COVER

~~GP-3~~

BT

NNNN

~~SECRET~~ ~~NOFORN~~