16 March 1971

Admiral ayler —

Subject: CBS TV 60-Minutes, 10 P.M., 16 Mar - Gulf of Tonkin Incident, 2 and 4 August 1964

The following summary regarding DoD cooperation in making of subject TV show is forwarded for your information:

"The following assistance is given to CBS for the segment on the Tonkin Gulf to be aired on 60 Minutes CBS, 16 March 1971.

1. Stock storage of the USS MADDOX and USS TURNER JOY during normal sea operations.

2. Still photos of the type vessels that fired on the two ships in August 1964.

3. Interview with Captain Herrick who was the destroyer squadron commander in August 1964. He also interviewed Morley Safer on board the USS MADDOX in Long Beach, California.

4. Interview with David Mallow, SONAR man from Key West, Florida, who was on the ship that night in 64.

5. Slide of a painting showing the USS MADDOX during the battle of the Tonkin Gulf.

These were all in answer to specific requests that they made."

The Defense Public Affairs people did deny CBS request to board the MADDOX in order to conduct an interview with a former serviceman, now a civilian. Producer of this show is Joseph Wershba, considered by DoD Public Affairs people as friendly. The reporter staffing this production is considered

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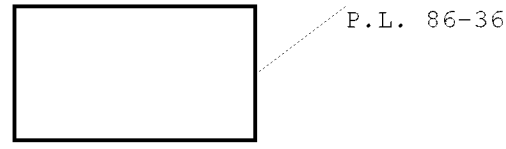
to be definitely anti-Pentagon.

The Chief of TV Productions who has provided this information further stated that some months back in private conversations with the producer, Mr. Wershba, he was told that Wershba felt there was no concrete answer to the publicized conflict in Tonkin Gulf events. He went on to say that Mr. Wershba felt that whether there was or was not an "emergency" he, Wershba, could get partieis to talk on both sides of the subject. The DoD TV Production people felt that Morley Safer, however, will come up with an opinion, honest or not.

Note: A video tape of this program has been requested and will be available for use as you desire.