Non - Responsive

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Today is Monday, July the 1st, 2002. We're chatting with [redacted] in the SAB 2 Conference Room. [redacted] worked at NSA for 32 years and then had another career at the FBI. I'm [redacted] assisting [redacted] with her Vietnam history series. This is Oral History 2002-13. The overall classification of this taping will be TOP SECRET CODEWORD unless otherwise specified at the end of the recording. Sharon, it's yours.

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No, except that we were elevated to division status. Oh, there's one other thing that I need to mention and that goes back in time.

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[redacted]

Okay.

[redacted]

The Gulf of Tonkin.

[redacted]

All right.

[redacted]

At the Gulf of Tonkin, we were asked if we would provide SIGINT support for the actions that were taken at the Gulf of Tonkin, the fact that patrol boats, North Vietnamese patrol boats had attacked the *Maddox*, and I can't remember the other...

[redacted]

The *Turner Joy*.

when 1968?

[redacted]

Yeah. They were on SIGINT missions. We knew that. We had...Now this is memory. We had every indication that the Maddox was attacked from SIGINT. At least my recollection is such. And we were asked to go down to Capitol Hill to brief, I think, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee under Senator Fulbright And so we stood in the outer chamber waiting to be called in to provide whatever SIGINT evidence that we had. And then someone came out from the Senate Foreign Relations staff says, "Thank you very much for coming, but we don't need you." And then Senator Fulbright walked out, and he said, "Are you guys waiting... Are you people waiting for something?" We said, "Well, we were told we were no longer needed. We were going to provide support for, uh, SIGINT support concerning the attack on the Maddox." He said, as he waved his hand, he said, "Well, I've already made a public stand about that," he said, "and I'm not going to change my mind." Then he walked away. And you know, I stood there, and I said, in effect, "What the hell am I in business for?"

[redacted]

Yeah.

[redacted]

Pardon me. I meant, "What am I in business for?" And then I remember very well. We never testified, but he said he had made up his... he had made a public statement reiterating this position, and he wasn't going to change it. So we walked out. That's the only other thing that I remember. I didn't think much of it, and I said, "If you don't want to believe it, you don't want to believe it." That's about it. It can't be undone.

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[redacted]

Well, that's, that continues to be very controversial.

[redacted]