Declassified and approved for release by NSA on 02-15-2006 pursuant to E.O. 12958, as amended

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PROOF OF AETACK (U)

A. JCS 7770 DTG Ø61642Z NOTAL

B. CINCPAC Ø61841Z NOTAL

1. IAW REF B, FOLLOWING INFO IS SQBMITTED FOR RESPONSE TO REF A:

A. USS MADDOX (DD 731), WHILE ON PATROL IN OHE GULF ON TONKIN,

WAS ATTACKED AT 1508 GOLF ON 2 AUGUST BY THREE NORTH IETNAMESE

MOTOR TORPEDO BOATS. MADDOX WAS, AT THE TIME OF ATTACK, APPROXIMATELY

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30 MIGES FROM THE NEAREST LAND. DURING THIS UNPROIKED ATTACK, THREE TORPEDOES WERE FIRED AT MADDOX. ALTHOUTH NO OORPEDOES HIT MADDOX,

ONE MACHINE GGN BULLET WAS OBSERED HITTING THE SHIP. THIS BULLET WAS SUBSEQUENTLY REMOVED FROM THE AMMUNITION MAGAZINE IN WHICH IT HAD LODGED AND WILL BE RETURNED TO THE UNITED UTATES AS EVIDANCE; MADDOZFIRED HER GUNES IN SELF DEFENSE AND WAS ABLE LO REPULSE THE ATTACKERS. MADDOX PROBABLY SANK ONE PT IN THIS ENGAGEMENT. OHIS ATTACK HAS BEEN ACKNOWLEDGED BY THE NORTH VIETNAMESE.

B. AFTER THIS ATTACK, MADDOX REFUELED AND RETURNED TO THE PATROL IN THE GULF OF TONKIN IN COMPANY WITH USS TURNER JOQ (DD 951). AT ABOUT 2108 GOLF ON 4 AUGUST, HEN MADDOX AND TURNER JOY WERE ON A SOUTHEASTERLY COURSE APPROXIMATELY 10 MILES FROM THE NORTH VIETNAMESE COAST, THREE HIGH SPEED RADAR CONTACTS WERE DETECTED ABOUT 14 MILES

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WERE DESPLAYED ON THE RADAR SCREENS OF BOTH SHIPS, INDICATED PROBABLE HOSTILE INTENT BY SHANGING COURSE AND SPEED TO CLOSE THE RANGE AND TAKE COURSE WHICH WOUDD PERMIT LAUNCHING TORPEDOES. MADDOX AND TURNER JOY OQENED FIRE WHEN IT WAS EVIDENT FROM THE MANEUVERS OF THE APPROAKHING CONTACTS THAT THEY WERE PRESSING IN FOR TORPEDO LAUNCHING POSITIOF. ABOUT ONE MINUTE LATER MADDOXI HAVING HEARDD A TORPEDO RUNNING ON HER SONAR (HEARD BY CAPTAIN HERRICK, US NAVY, COXDESDUV 192, AND OTHERS IN THE CIC), IFORXED TURNER JOY THAT A

TORQEDO HAD BEEN LAUNCHED AND WAS HEADED IN THE DIRECTION OF TURNER JOY. LIEUTENANT JUNIOR GRADE JOHN JEROME WARRY III, FILE NUMBER 66'848, US NAVY, ATTACHED TO TURNER JOY AND SERVING AS THE FORWARD GUN DIRECTOR OFFICER, SIGHTED A TORPEDO COMING FROM THE DIRECTION OF THE RADAR CONTACTS WHICH HAD AMBUSHED THE U.S. SHIPS. TURNER JOY TURNED TO AVAOUD THE TORQEDO AND L& 2-446, LARRY O'LITTON,

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[redacted] SEAMAN, US NAVY, WHO WAS WITH LTJG WARRY IN THE GUN DIRECTOR, AND ED8 [redacted], SEAMAN APPRENTICE, US NAVY, WHO WAS SHIP'S LOOKOUT FORSTHE PORT SIDE, SIGHTED THE TORPEDO PASSING PARALLEL TO TURNER JOY AT DISTANCE OF 300 FEET. THE TORPEDO PASSED ALONG TURNER JOY FROM AFT TO FORWARD ON THE BEARING FROM WHICH MADDOX HAD REPORTED THE TORPEDO WAS APPROACHING. DURING THE ATTACK A SEARCHLIGHT WAS BOSERVED BY ALL SIGNAL BRIDGE AND MANEUERING BRIDGE PERSONNEL INCLUJINGSTHE COMMANDUNG OFFICER OF TURNER JOY. THE BEAM OF THE SEARKHLUGHT DID NOT TOUCH THE SHIP, BUT WAS SEEN TO SWUNG IN AN ARC TOWARD TURNER JOY AND WAS IMVEDIATELY EXTINGUISHED WHEN AIRKRAFT FROM THE COMBAT AIR PATROL ORBITING ABOCE THE SHIPS APPROAKHED. TURNER JOY PERSONNEL MAKING STATEMENTS REGARDING THE SEARCHLUGHT SIGHTING KARE RECHARD M. BACION, [redacted] SIGNALMAN SECOND CLASS, US NAVY GARY D. CARROL, [redacted] SIGNALMAN

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THIRD CLASS, US NAVY. THE ATTACKING TORPEDO BOATS WERE ACTUALLY

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SAEN AND DWSCRIBED BY THE FOLLOWING TURNER JOY PERSONNEL: DONALD V. SHSRKEY, [redacted] BOATSWANS MATE THIRD CLASS, US NAVY; KENNETH E. GARRISON, [redacted] SEAMAN, US NAVQ; DELNER JONES, [redacted] SEAMAN APPRENTICE, US NAVY; AND ARTHUR B. ANDERSON, [redacted] FIRECONTROLMAN SEAMAN APPRENTICE, US NAVY. THESE PERSONNEL SIGHTED THE TORPEDO BOATS WHEN THE COVBAT AIR CONTROL AIRCRAFT OERHEAD DROQPED FLARES. NONE OF THESE PERSONNEL HAD SEEN A MOTOR TORQEDO BOAT BEFORE (TURNER JOY NOT HAVING BEEN IN THE 2 AUGUST ACTION), BUT ON THE BASIS OF THEIR OBSERVATIONS EACH ON INDEPENDENTLY DREW AN ACCURATE SKETKH OF A MOTOR TORPEDO BOAT SIMILAR OO THOSE KNOWN TO BE OPERATIONAL IN THE NORTH VIETNAMESE NAY. MOREOVER, THE SKETKHES WERE SIMILAR TO THE TORPEDO BOAEU WHICH HAD ATTACKED THE MADDOX IN DAYLIGHT ON 2 AUGUST. COMMANDER G.H. EDMONDSON,

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US NAVY, COMMANDING OFFICER OF ATTACK SQUADRON 52, AND HIS WINGMAN

WERE FLYING COMBAT AIR PATROL IN THE ICINITY OF MADDOX AND TURNER JOY AT THE TUME OF THE TORPEDOSSTTACK. BOTH OFFICERS WERE FLYING AE ALTITUDES RANGING BETWEEN 700 AND 1500 FEET WHEN THEY SIGHTED GKN FLASHES ON THE SURFACE OF THE WATER AS WELL AS LUGHT ANTI-AIRCRAFT BURSTS AT THEIR APPROXIMATE ALTITUDE. ON ONE PASS

OVER THE US DESTROYERS, BOTH PILOTS POSITIVELY SIGHTED A "SNAKEY" WAKE ONE AND ONE-HALF MILES AHEAD OF THE LEAD DESTROYER, USS MADDOX. THE WEATHER WAS OVERKAST WUTH LIMITED VISIBILITY HOWEVERN SURFACE VISIBUDITY WAS SUFFICIENT FOR SERGEANT MATTHEW B. ALLASNE, [redacted], USMC, AND LANCE CORPORAL DAVID A. PROUTY, [redacted], USMCI WHO WERE MANNING MACHINE GUNS ON MADDOX, TO SIGHT LIGHTS PASS UP TYE PORT SIDE OF THE SHIP, GO OUT AHEAD, AND THEN PASS DOWN THE STARBOARD SIDE. BOTH BELIEED THE LIGHTS TO BE FROM ONE OR MORE SMALL BOATS GOUNG AT HIGH SPEED.

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2. FOREGOUNG NARRATIVE DIRIVED FROM OQERATIONAL SUMMARIES AND A SIRUES OF STATEMENTS WHICH HAVE BEEN FORWARDED TO CINCPACFLT BT MESSAGE AND ARE BEING FORWARDED SEPARATELY TO CINCPAC AND JCS. POUNTS INCLUDED IN THIS NARRATUVE ARE SUBSTANTIATED IN GREATER JDETAIL IN THESE STATEMENTS.

3. APART FROM THE ONE INSTANCE OF MACHIPE GUN BULLET STRIKING THE USS MADDOX DURING THE ACTUON ON 2 AUGUST, THERE WAS NO DAMAGE INFLICTED ON ANY U. S. UNIT DURING EITHER ACTION.

4. QHOTOGRAPHY OBTAINEDIFROM ON BOARD USS MADDOX DURING THE 2 AUGUST ACTION WILL 3 1942-4DED SEPARATELY BY MOST EPEDITUOUS MEANS. SO FAR AS CAN BE DETERMINED, THEJE WAS NO PHOTOGRAPHYR BTAINED DURING THE NIGHT ACTION ON 4 AUGUST.

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