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NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY

FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND

~~THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS CODEWORD MATERIAL~~

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD 14 JANUARY 1965

SUBJECT: Chronology of Events of 18-20 September 1964 in the Gulf of Tonkin

1. The report forwarded herewith contains the events, in chronological order, surrounding the incident on 18 September involving the U. S. destroyers Edwards and Morton in the Gulf of Tonkin.

2. In-so-far as the SIGINT aspects of the actions are concerned, the report is as complete as the need for documentation of SIGINT involvement appeared to necessitate. Documentation presented by the non-SIGINT portions of this report is only as complete as DIRNSA's receipt of relevant messages allowed.

FOR THE CHIEF, B2:

DELMAR C. LANG
LT. COL., USAF
CHIEF, B205

Copy to: DIR
D/DIR
ADN
ADP
B
B2
B26
HQ NSAPAC
NSAPAC REP VIETNAM ~~(C)~~
NSAPAC REP JAPAN
SUSLO (M)

28 September 1964

REVIEW OF THE DESOTO PATROL
16-2Ø September 1964

This report presents a resume' of intelligence developments and operational actions which were related to the Desoto Patrol in the Gulf of Tonkin, 16-2Ø September 1964. A chronology of significant events is attached as an Appendix.

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Chronology of Significant Events

I. PLANNING

A. CINCPAC-JCS Actions

On 9 September, CINCPAC queried CINCPACFLT views regarding the resumption of the Desoto Patrol in the Gulf of Tonkin. CINCPACFLT responded with a proposed orbit for a five day, two destroyer patrol. CINCPAC forwarded this proposal to JCS recommending a three day patrol with an orbit no closer than 2Ø miles from the North Vietnamese coastline or 12 miles from the offshore islands. The JCS concurrence, to CINCPAC also established that in case of attack, both ships and aircraft were to fire upon the target(s) with intent to destroy; ships were authorized to pursue attacker(s) to within three miles of shore; aircraft were authorized hot pursuit of any target(s) they could firmly identify as having attacked the Desoto. Aircraft pursuits were authorized to overfly North Vietnam, Hainan Island and the Chinese Communist mainland, if necessary. The patrol was originally scheduled to commence on 14 September but was twice postponed due to adverse weather and the political crisis in South Vietnam and did not proceed from its first point (17-1ØN 1Ø7-43E) until 162336Z. The patrol was conducted by the USS Morton and the USS Edwards.

B. NSA Actions

On 11 September DIRNAVSECGRUPAC informed DIRNSA of plans for an intercept team, USN-467P, to be aboard the USS Morton. DIRNSA was also advised of those naval command which were to be included as addressees for SIGINT reports containing reactions to or reflections of the patrol.

Upon receipt of DIRNAVSECGRU's 11 September message, the Chief, B205 called a meeting of appropriate B2 and P2 personnel to discuss those actions which were necessary to ensure maximum SIGINT support to the Desoto patrol as well as to determine the desired SIGINT tasking. It was agreed that the problem would be approached in two phases: first, to provide SIGINT support to a routine patrol and second, to make preparations to permit prompt SIGINT reaction in the event of hostile actions against the patrol.

In the first phase, messages were released on 11 September alerting the appropriate field stations to the forthcoming patrol. The messages outlined priority intercept targets and provided additional routine technical support to such tasking. In addition, B2 drafted a message for P2 release to the JCS requesting action to provide Queen Bee Delta collection from an orbit in the Gulf of Tonkin during the

NSA25X3

Desoto patrol. JCS concurred in this proposal. [redacted] and [redacted] programs were reviewed and it was concluded that all planning information concerning these programs was already being made available to DIRNSA.

DIRNSA requested that CINCPAC provide appropriate field stations with periodic position reports of the Desoto patrol in an effort to enhance SIGINT analytic efforts. However, CINCPAC was unable to comply in that the patrol was to be under EMCOM, a mode of radio silence.

In the second phase of DIRNSA support plans, in which the patrol was to be regarded as a potential target of hostile DRV or [redacted] reactions, a 12 September message was sent to field stations reviewing the intercept/forwarding/reporting problems encountered during the 2/4 August Gulf incident. In this, B205 advised of operational and reporting procedures to be followed and also informed field stations of the latest available information on the track the Desoto patrol was to follow.

C. In-House Actions

In anticipation of a possible incident in the Gulf of Tonkin, B205 took numerous in-house actions in an effort to attain a posture of optimum preparedness. All technical, reporting and administrative data was assembled in a central location and the B2 Conference Room was readied for immediate conversion into an operational watch area. A stand-by crew, including analytic personnel, was placed on 24 hour alert and all appropriate personnel were briefed as to their duties should the necessity arise. Messages were prepared to cover any SIGINT Readiness condition that might be called--leaving only the date to be filled in, a signature, and the concurrence of ADP before release. B205 instituted a skeleton watch during the critical hours of the first evening of the patrol (16/17 September, local).

II. NORTH VIETNAMESE REACTIONS

A. Summary/Background

The patrol vessels arrived at point Alfa (17-10N 107-43E) at 162336Z (morning of 17 September, Gulf of Tonkin time) and then proceeded on a northerly track along the DRV coast. The vessels continued on course without incident but under sporadic tracking surveillance by shorebased DRV radar elements and/or visual observation by DRV naval/shipping/fishing entities. On the morning of

18 September, the patrol returned on track in the vicinity of point Delta (18-42N 107- E) and continued along their northerly track until the evening when the vessels retired some 50 mile seaward to their night steaming area. Later that evening (18122ØZ), in the vicinity of 18-35N 107-5ØE and again at 181337Z near 18-3ØN 106-52N, the patrol vessels took unidentified radar targets under fire. Following the shelling and early on the morning of 19 September the patrol vessels and fighter aircraft searched the area unsuccessfully for debris or other evidence of the previous night's action prior to continuing their patrol from approximately point Echo (19-23N 106-1ØE) southward to point Alfa.

In response to urgent JCS/CINCPAC queries the vessels reported their fire had been prompted by five radar targets which were closing despite warning shots. No visual observation of the "targets" was made, nor was there any evidence that any rounds or torpedoes were expended against the U.S. vessels. Again based on radar surveillance the U.S. vessels claimed hits on three of the targets.

B. Surveillance

The Desoto vessels arrived at point Alfa (17-1ØN 107-43E) at 162336Z and then proceeded on a northerly track along the DRV coast. The initial reflection of DRV awareness of the presence of U.S. ships in the Gulf of Tonkin was at 17ØØ45Z when Northern Fleet Headquarters, Port Wallut, reported that the U.S. Seventh Fleet's intentions were to move into the area close to the shore for the purpose of provoking the DRV.

The Desoto vessels came under radar surveillance at least as early as 17Ø3ØØZ. DRV Naval Radar tracking entities were noted at a moderately increased state of readiness during the period 17-19 September with some 327 messages noted, approximately 98 of which reflected the Desoto mission. Although two messages from Haiphong gave orders to "report continuously" on the enemy destroyers, tracking was both sporadic and erratic when compared to activity noted during the August patrol. Comparison of the patrol's known position with available tracking indicates that although discrepancies up to ten nautical miles were observed in some reports, overall, the September trackings appear to be somewhat more accurate than the August patrol.

Available [redacted] messages indicate that throughout the patrol DRV naval entities were keenly aware and fairly accurately informed of the presence of the Desoto vessels. Fearing a South NSA25X3

Vietnamese incursion and expecting a U.S. provocation, the DRV Navy was geared to repulse the "intruders". To this end, DRV Naval authorities continually admonished subordinate units to effect a high level of defensive preparedness, to institute alert condition one, and to camouflage their locations. There were no firm SIGINT reflections of hostile intent such as were observed during the August patrol.

III. SIGINT SUPPORT

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A. Readiness Actions Implemented

Approximately one hour and fifteen minutes after the USS Morton opened fire on closing targets, and approximately thirty minutes subsequent to B205's receipt of the CRITIC from COMNAVFORJAPAN, DIRNSA declared SIGINT READINESS BRAVO "OUTBOARD" at NSA and appropriate field stations covering the North Vietnamese problem. Within this same thirty minute span, the B2 operations center was fully operational.

During the early morning hours of 19 September (local), SIGINT reflected the movement of at least six jet fighters and a transport aircraft from [redacted] In consideration of this and other unusual [redacted] communications activity, DIRNSA extended SIGINT READINESS BRAVO "OUTBOARD" to additional field stations [redacted]

Upon the termination of the patrol and when it became apparent that there were no firm indications of DRV/CHICOM actions, DIRNSA cancelled SIGINT READINESS BRAVO at 18Ø5Z on 2Ø September.

B. Washington Area Consumer Support

Early in the morning on 18 September, prior to the USS Morton's shelling, DIA levied a telephonic requirement on B2 for a summary of DRV reactions to the Desoto patrol on 16-17 September. This information had been requested by General Wheeler. DIA requested response by 15ØØ local time. Despite the insuing activity, B2 met this requirement by both cable and SIGINT product prior to 17ØØ hours. The information was updated, per DIA request, the following morning.

At approximately 1Ø45 on 18 September, a request was received from the Secretary of Defense for elaboration of certain SIGINT information relating to the incident. The Chief, B205 was

immediately dispatched to the Pentagon where he briefed the Director, DIA and his staff and later assisted in drafting a memorandum for the Secretary of Defense. From there he went to CIA where he briefed General Carter on his activities at the Pentagon.

Throughout the period of 18-2Ø September the B2 Operations Center was in almost constant telephone contact with both DIA, JCS, JRC and the SECDEF Watch officer, responding to queries and apprising them of all SIGINT developments as they occurred. All requirements which necessitated written responses were prepared in the most expeditious manner possible and disseminated to the requestor by message or by courier. Where practicable, these responses were immediately followed-up with serialized product to the community.

In addition, throughout 18-2Ø September B2 maintained senior analysts and linguists on board at all times to monitor field translations, technical data, etc. with an eye toward accuracy and presentation and to ensure further dissemination to appropriate consumers if required.

The prompt NSA reaction that this effort permitted is well evidenced in the following example. On 2Ø September, USN-27 issued a CRITIC to the effect that an attack by DRV naval elements upon the Desoto patrol was possible that evening. Within two hours of the time of intercept, the B2 Operations Center had received the relevant technical data, retranslated and interpreted it and issued an amplifying product to the intelligence community which clarified the original CRITIC pointing out that the DRV concern pointed equally as well to the possibility of an attack on South Vietnamese "raiders" as it did to an attack on the Desoto patrol.

IV. OPERATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS ENCOUNTERED

A. Communications Outages

SIGINT Readiness Bravo Outboard was implemented during a period when CRITICOM circuits were overloaded and a backlog existed at several stations. The additional load of high precedence traffic, equipment failure, and poor atmospheric conditions resulted in unusually difficult communications problems.

Throughout the period of the Readiness, B2 was plagued with non-receipt of or excessive delays in the arrival of badly needed product and technical material. Washington Consumers were also

concerned about the lack of timely SIGINT input. In some instances IMMEDIATE items took as long as 27 hours to reach Washington and FLASH items took 6-7 hours.

In exploring the problem, B2 contacted the T1 Duty Officer and was informed of the general deterioration of communications. With the details then available, B2 was in a position to advise local consumers on the matter on a continuing basis. In addition, B2 brought the situation to the attention of the Director and ADP. Subsequent action resulted in the declaration of a "minimize" condition in an attempt to alleviate the situation.

B. Distribution of USN-467P Input

The manner in which USN-467P reported significant intelligence gleaned from their intercept has caused considerable concern. The problem lies in the fact that while the platform had no SIGINT reporting responsibilities per se it did forward certain intelligence items to selected consumers, i. e., DIA, JCS and Naval commands. While the items reported were relevant to the platform's role of direct support ot the patrol vessel, and were therefore of direct interest to the addressees selected, it prompted CIA and the White House to form the opinion that DIA was getting information they weren't.

Fortunately the case in point was explainable because of the communications difficulties, however, future platforms must have more definitive reporting instructions and the necessary mechanics clearly established to avoid any further instances of this nature.

INTRODUCTION

The following report presents a chronological summary of the events surrounding the 18-20 September Desoto Patrol incident involving two U. S. destroyers, the U.S.S. Edwards and the U.S.S. Morton, on patrol in the Gulf of Tonkin.

Desoto Patrols, accomplished to assert the right of U. S. vessels to patrol in international waters and for the purpose of collecting intelligence, were established in April 1962 and have operated since in waters off the China and North Vietnam coastlines.

In this instance, the U.S.S. Morton had a SIGINT collection team aboard designated USN-467P. The team included one manual Morse position, one radio-telephone position, and one combined manual Morse/radio-telephone [redacted] position. The personnel complement included both Chinese and Vietnamese linguists. The team's primary mission was to provide immediate support to the patrol itself, and secondarily to intercept [redacted] DRV communications in accordance with tasking provided by DIRNSA.

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DIRNSA plans for support of the Desoto Patrol were in two phases. One phase delt with the patrol under routine circumstances, provided relevant SIGINT tasking instructions and necessary procedures for continued technical support for the period when the patrol would be in progress. The other phase regarded the patrol as a potential target for hostile North Vietnamese or [redacted] actions. To cover that contingency, instructions were issued which specified the intercept, forwarding and reporting procedures to be implemented in the event of an incident.

In reading the following report it may be helpful to bear in mind that messages originated by CTF 77 were from the task force commander of the Seventh Fleet; those messages from the patrol were designated CTG 77.6.6. USN-414T, indicated as the originator on some messages, was a Marine contingent at USM-626J (Phu Bai, South Vietnam) charged, in conjunction with USM-626J, with the collection, processing and reporting of North Vietnamese naval communications. It should also be borne in mind that, aside from the SIGINT information which is as complete as the purpose of this report appeared to require, this report is based solely on that information available to NSA and does not purport to contain all relevant non-SIGINT information.

CHRONOLOGY - SEPTEMBER 1964 DESOTO PATROL IN THE GULF OF TONKIN

090429Z CINCPACFLT submitted a proposal to CINCPAC for a two-destroyer Desoto Patrol in the Gulf of Tonkin. (Tab 1)

092209Z CINCPAC concurred with JCS proposal to resume Desoto Patrol. (Tab 2)

102339Z JCS authorized a three day patrol, giving rules of engagement . (Tab 3)

110354Z DIRNAVSECGRUPAC informed DIRNSA that a SIGINT support element, designated as USN-467P, would embark aboard the USS Morton and gave navigational reference points for the patrol. (Tab 4)

112117Z DIRNSA informed appropriate field stations of the forthcoming patrol. (Tab 5)

121733Z DIRNSA sent a message to JCS (JRC) requesting QUEEN BEE DELTA collection from Gulf of Tonkin orbit stressing the importance of VHF communications from airfields in [redacted] and the DRV. (Tab 6) NSA25X3

121945Z DIRNSA passed collection guidance for USN-467P. (Tab 7)

121951Z DIRNSA issued reporting guidance to the appropriate field stations to be implemented in the event of hostile reactions to the Desoto Patrol. (Tab 8)

122020Z DIRNSA requested CINCPAC to provide periodic position reports of the Desoto vessels to enhance SIGINT support to the patrol itself as well as to the intelligence community. (Tab 9)

131203Z DIRNSA informed appropriate field stations, of revised track, for the patrol. (Tab 10)

131836Z Chairman, JCS implemented positive control over the patrol to ensure immediate withdrawal if required due to political unrest in South Vietnam. (Tab 11)

140623Z CINCPAC informed DIRNSA that hourly position reports for the vessels was not feasible since the patrol would be under EMCOM (a mode of radio silence). (Tab 12)

141952Z JCS advised of decision to proceed with Desoto Patrol with a 24 hour delay in execution. (Tab 13)

151155Z USS Morton advised that the Desoto Patrol was virtually ready and that she intended to cross Latitude 17 at 160600H. (Tab 14)

191121Z DIRNSA summarizes current movement of fighter aircraft [redacted] (Tab 67)

191131Z DIRNSA published a recap of SIGINT observations relating to 2/4 August and 18 September, Gulf of Tonkin Naval engagement. (Tab 68)

191412Z Morton issued a further recap of events. (Tab 69)

191522Z USN-27J reported that an element of DRV Navy to change from Grade-One to Grade-Three alert. (Tab 70)

191528Z 191548Z USN-27 issued a CRITIC, "the Desoto will be attacked tonight". (Tab 71)

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191600Z DIRNSA issued a message to DIA updating the info passed the day before in reponse to the Chairman JCS requirement, -- see Tab 53. (Tab 72)

191608Z DIRNSA issued a further report clarifying information of a reported increase in volume of messages [redacted] (Tab 73)

191704Z DIRNSA issued a follow-up to USN-27 CRITIC concluding that DRV concern apt to be over South Vietnamese vessels as well as U. S. destroyers. -- see Tab 71. (Tab 74)

191821Z JCS deferred Desoto Patrol. (Tab 75)

192000Z DIRNSA advised appropriate field stations of suspension of the Desoto Patrol. (Tab 76)

200225Z Desoto Patrol and strike posture cancelled. (Tab 77)

201200Z USN-27J reported a message that all DRV stations were to beware of the Seventh Fleet south of the Demarcation Line. (Tab 78)

201805Z DIRNSA terminated SIGINT READINESS BRAVO OUTBOARD. (Tab 79)

201819Z DIRNSA issued report to all relevant field stations terminating SIGINT READINESS BRAVO OUTBOARD. (Tab 80)

230436Z USN-27 relayed a message originated by USN-467P in reply to a DIRNSA query providing a list of the SIGINT products received by the USS Morton prior to 18 September. (Tab 81)

250326Z USN-27 advised that USN-467P was deactivated as of 232359Z. (Tab 82)

151808Z DIRNSA provided additional guidance to USN-467P and appropriate field stations. (Tab 15)

152200Z DIRNSA provided second day Patrol schedule to appropriate field stations. (Tab 16)

161702Z DIRNSA passed additional evaluation instructions to appropriate field stations. (Tab 17)

161810Z DIRNSA furnished technical aid to USN-467P and appropriate field stations. (Tab 18)

161917Z DIRNSA provided further technical support. (Tab 19)

170315Z USN-27J reported possible alert of DRV Naval Forces. (Tab 20)

170336Z USN-27 reported that the Desoto Patrol had commenced at 170736H. (Tab 21)

170515Z USN-27J reported DRV establishment of "alert rank 1". (Tab 22)

170722Z A DRV Naval message reported the movement of the Desoto Patrol. (Tab 23)

170830Z USN-27J reported on further details of DRV alert. (Tab 24)

170845Z USN-467P reported that DRV Naval Sub-Unit Six received orders "to postpone the Battle". (Tab 25)

171110Z USN-27 reported that DRV radar placed the patrol at 1732N-105E (near point Bravo). (Tab 26)

171521Z Upon receipt of the message from USN-467P (Tab 25), DIRNSA asked USN-27 and USN-27J to confirm or deny the report from their own sources. (Tab 27)

171530Z
171648Z USN-27 and USN-27J responded to DIRNSA's query (Tab 27). Intercept indicated DRV maintaining defensive vice offensive posture. (Tab 28)

171655Z DIRNSA advised appropriate field stations to assure technical back-up on all serialized products. (Tab 29)

171750Z USN-27 reported a DRV Naval Unit in vicinity of point Delta. (Tab 30)

180247Z USN-467P reported that a DRV Naval vessel was preparing for " Battle". (Tab 31)

180350Z USN-27 reported that DRV radar detected the presence of two (enemy) destroyers. (Tab 32)

180356Z USN-27 reported that DRV Naval vessels and shore stations were ordered to effect alert condition One. (Tab 33)

180646Z USN-27 published a further resume of DRV message activity. (Tab 34)

180920Z USN-27J reported that the DRV Navy was to take precautions against South Vietnamese vessels attacking the shore. (Tab 35)

181256Z The Morton reported the situation well in hand, no need for additional aircraft overhead. (Tab 36)

181301Z COMNAVFORJAPAN released a CRITIC stating that "at 181233Z, USS Morton commenced firing on closing targets, request cover". (Tab 37)

181338Z USN-27 reported that DRV shore stations were to increase the strength of their areas, and be able to distinguish between American ships. (Tab 38)

181347Z DIRNSA declated SIGINT READINESS BRAVO, and provided reporting guidance for appropriate field stations. (Tab 39)

181408Z DIRNSA gave further translation on "Battle Postponement" --see Tab 25. (Tab 40)

181426Z The Morton reported possibility of 3 hostile surface targets sunk. (Tab 41)

181440Z USN-27J reported that radio stations are to promote dispersion, camouflage, and prepare the surface preparations. (Tab 42)

181542Z USS Morton recaps events of attack. (Tab 43)

181550Z JCS queries CINCPAC for specific details of the attack. (Tab 44)

181614Z USN-27 reported that DRV shipping communications reflected the presence of the Desoto Patrol. (Tab 45)

181748Z DIRNSA asked NSAPAC REP VIETNAM ~~(0)~~ and USN-27 for specific details of the attack. (Tab 46)

181749Z DIRNSA set forth procedures for field stations to follow in event of weather reporting suggested a deployment of Vietnamese [redacted] forces. NSA25X3 (Tab 47)

181945Z USN-27J reported the presence of Desoto Patrol in vicinity of Hon Matt. (Tab 48)

181948Z DIRNSA reported the possibility that DRV Naval authorities fear actions by South Vietnamese vessels. (Tab 49)

181950Z DIRNSA issued a Gulf of Tonkin report, gisting significant messages that preceded the attack on the U. S. Destroyers. (Tab 50)

182034Z DIRNSA requested AFSSO SAC to forward daily forecasts of weather conditions for the Gulf of Tonkin. (Tab 51)

182038Z DIRNSA instituted a partial "minimize" on CRITICOM circuits in the European and Meditteranean Areas. (Tab 52)

182133Z DIRNSA responded to a DIA request for SIGINT reflection of DRV surveillance of Desoto Patrol. (Tab 53)

182343Z USS Morton fired warning shots. (Tab 54)

190134Z DIRNSA implemented CRITICOM "minimize" in Pacific Area. (Tab 55)

190152Z CINCPAC, in a message to CINCPACFLT, requested more concrete evidence that the Desoto destroyers were actually under attack. (Tab 56)

190154Z CINCPAC advised the Patrol to be prepared to initiate or repeat patrol in accordance with original three day itinerary. (Tab 57)

190227Z USN-27J reported that a message intercepted from a shore station stated that the enemy fired on the ship. (Tab 58)

190238Z DIRNSA requested NSAPAC REP VIETNAM ~~(C)~~ to establish communications with Phu Bai by CRITICOM or whatever means available. (Tab 59)

190306Z DIRNSA released a report on [redacted] communications anomalies noted on 18 and 19 September. (Tab 60) NSA25X3

190410Z NSAPAC REP VIETNAM ~~(C)~~ advised of continuing circuit outage between Saigon and Phu Bai. (Tab 61)

190438Z The Morton advised she could find no evidence of debris to support the attack. (Tab 62)

190525Z USN-27J reported that a DRV message stated that they (DRV) must execute correctly alert grade ONE. (Tab 63)

190542Z DIRNSA published a report that the 18 September engagement in the Gulf of Tonkin revealed no preparation for initiation of an attack on U. S. destroyers. (Tab 64)

190803Z DIRNSA published a report of the DRV Navy on Alert Conition ONE. (Tab 65)

191005Z DIRNSA extends SIGINT READINESS BRAVO OUTBOARD. (Tab 66)

PP RUEPCR

DE RUEPCR 185 11/1817Z

P 111816Z

FM JCS

INFO RUEPWW/WHITE HOUSE

RUEPCR/DIRNSA

O 090429Z

FM CINCPACFLT

TO RUHPA/CINCPAC

INFO RUMFUL/COMSEVENTHFLT

BT

TOPSECRET

GULF OF TONKIN DESOTO PATROL (S)

A. DISCUSSIONS YOUR CAPT O'CONNELL MY CAPT GIBSON PM 8 SEP.

B. CINCPAC 062317Z FEB 63

C. CINCPAC 152334Z AUG 64

1. AS DISCUSSED IN REF A, A PROPOSAL IS HEREBY SUBMITTED TO CONDUCT A TWO DESTROYER DESOTO PATROL INTO THE GULF OF TONKIN IN THE LATTER PART OF SEP OR EARLY OCT FOR ABOUT A FIVE DAY PERIOD. INFO HERE CONFORMS TO THE FORMAT PRESCRIBED BY REF B.

PAGE 2 RUEPCR 185 TOPSECRET

A. COMDESDIV 52 IN MORTON (DD 948) WITH ADDITIONAL DD TO BE DESIGNATED. MORTON WILL BE CONFIGURED WITH COMM BAN SIMILAR TO THAT PREVIOUSLY INSTALLED IN MADDOX.

B. SHIPS ASSIGNED WILL DEPART EITHER SOUTH CHINA SEA OPERATION AREA, SUBIC OR KAOHSIUNG DEPENDENT ON THEIR LOCATION

WHEN PATROL IS ORDERED TO COMMENCE. PATROL CAN COMMENCE ANYTIME DURING THE PERIOD 17 OCT--? OCT. 72 HOURS NOTIFICATION REQUIRED.

C. PROPOSED ITINERARY IS AS FOLLOWS:

D DAY MINUS MAXIMUM THREE DAYS - DEPART FOR POINT ALFA.

D MINUS ONE - UNREP VICINITY 16N 11ØE.

D DAY - COMMENCE PATROL. PATROL BETWEEN POINTS ALFA BRAVO, CHARLIE AND DELTA.

D DAY PLUS ONE - PATROL BETWEEN POINTS DELTA, ECHOE, FOXTROT AND GOLF.

D DAY PLUS TWO - PATROL BETWEEN POINTS FOXTROT, GOLF AND HOTEL.

D DAY PLUS THREE - PATROL BETWEEN POINTS GOLF, FOXTROT, ECHO AND DELTA.

D DAY PLUS FOUR - PATROL BETWEEN POINTS DELTA, CHARLIE BRAVO AND ALFA. WITHDRAW FROM GULF OF TONKIN AND TERMINATE PATROL ON COMPLETION.

D. TO BE DETERMINED.

2. NAVIGATION REFERENCE POINTS:

ALFA	17-1ØN 1Ø7-43E
BRAVO	17-54N 1Ø6-54E
CHARLIE	18-1ØN 1Ø6-43E
DELTA	18-42N 1Ø6-11E
ECHO	19-23N 1Ø6-1ØE
FOXTROT	19-5ØN 1Ø6-3ØE

GOLF 2Ø-Ø8N 1Ø7-ØØE

HOTEL 2Ø-26N 1Ø7-3ØE

3. IN ORDER TO PROVIDE OPERATIONAL FLEXIBILITY FOR CARRYING OUT THE MARITIME AND INTELLIGENCE OBJECTIVE OF THE PATROL, THE DESOTO COMMANDER WILL BE AUTHORIZED TO CONDUCT RANDOM PATROL AT MODERATE SPEEDS ALONG THE DESIGNATED SEGMENT OF THE TRACK EACH DAY. THE PATROL GROUP WILL COMMENCE THE COASTAL PATROL DAILY ONE HOUR AFTER SUNRISE, RETIRING TO SEAWARD ONE HOUR BEFORE

SUNSET AND DURING PERIODS OF REDUCED VISIBILITY.

4. THE PATROL GROUP WILL REMAIN AT LEAST TWENTY MILES OFF THE NVN MAINLAND AND TWELVE MILES OFF NVN ISLANDS THROUGHOUT THE PATROL EXCEPT AS DISCUSSED IN PARA SEVEN FOLLOWING.

5. AIR COVER WILL BE PROVIDED BY THE YANKEE TEAM CVA. A SUBMARINE CAN BE STATIONED IN THE GULF OF TONKIN FOR SAR IF NECESSARY.

6. THE DESOTO COMMANDER WILL BE UNDER THE OPCON OF CTG 77.X IN THE CVA FOR THIS PATROL.

7. IN THE EVENT OF HOSTILE ATTACK, PATROL SHIPS AND AIRCRAFT WILL COMPLY WITH RULES OF ENGAGEMENT CONTAINED IN REF (C).

GP-ONE

BT

2

ZCZCTCC379ZKZK PP ZLA ZSL AOH HII DE

SPS781

EUH54Ø

PP RUEPCR

DE RUEPCR 184 11/1815Z

P 1118142

FM JCS

INFO RUEPWW/WHITE HOUSE

RUEPCR/DIRNSA

P Ø922Ø9Z

FM CINCPAC

TO JCS/ZEN

INFO CINCPACFLT

ADMINO CINCPAC

COMSEVENTHFLT

COMUSMACV

BT

TANGO THREE FOR ADMINO CINCPAC

DESOTO PATROL - GULF OF TONKIN ~~(S)~~

A. CINCPAC FLT Ø9Ø429Z PASEP

1. IN VIEW OF TIME FACTOR REF (A) IS PASSED DIRECT. CINCPAC CONCURS WITH PROPOSAL AS OUTLINED SUBJECT TO FOL COMMENTS:

A. RECOMMEND FOLLOWING RULES OF ENGAGEMENT:

IN THE EVENT OF HOSTILE ATTACK, THE PATROL SHIPS AND AIRCRAFT ARE DIRECTED TO FIRE UPON THE HOSTILE ATTACKER WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF INSURING DESTRUCTION.

SHIPS ARE AUTHORIZED TO PURSUE THE ENEMY TO THE RECOGNIZED THREE MILE TERRITORIAL LIMIT. AIRCRAFT ARE AUTHORIZED HOT PURSUIT INSIDE TERRITORIAL WATERS (THREE MILES) AGAINST SURFACE VESSELS AND INTO HOSTILE AIRSPACE (INCLUDES DRV, HAINAN ISLAND AND MAINLAND CHINA) AGAINST ATTACKING AIRCRAFT WHEN NECESSARY TO ACHIEVE DESTRUCTION OF IDENTIFIED ATTACK FORCES. SHIPS AND AIRCRAFT WILL CONFINE THEIR ACTIONS TO THE ATTACKING SHIPS AND/OR AIRCRAFT.

OF REF A, SAR WOULD BE PROVIDED BY OTC OF CVA TG HAVING OPCON OVER DESOTO UNITS. IAW SOP FOR SAR OTC OF NAVAL FORCE MAY CALL ON OTHER SAR FACILITIES IN AREA FOR ASSISTANCE, E.G. 2ND AIR DIV WHICH HAS AMPHIBIAN RESCUE ACFT IN DANANG AREA. ADDITIONALLY CVA TG OPERATING IN VICINITY OF PT YANKEE WOULD HAVE OTHER DE'S AVAILABLE PLUS ONE DD PROBABLY OR WATCH DO STATION APPROX VIC OF 17-2ØN USE DURING DESOTO OPERATION.

2. SUBJ TO FOREGOING RECOMMEND DESOTO PATROL PROPOSAL IN REF (A) BE APPROVED FOR EXECUTION ON D-DAY 17 SEP.

3. FOR CINCPACFLT, WHEN PATROL APPROVED BY HIGHER AUTHORITY AND IN EVENT 34A MAROPS ARE AUTHORIZED FOR RESUMPTION, DIRLAUTH COMUSMACV TO AVOID MUTUAL INTERFERENCE AND COORDINATE INFORMATION. ~~GP-3~~

BT

[redacted]

3

ZKZK OO ZLA AOH HII DE

OO RUEPCR

DE RUEPCR 143 11/15Ø9Z

O 111508Z

FM JCS

INFO RUEPCR/DIRNSA

RUEPIA/CIA

1Ø2339Z

FM JCS

TO CINCPAC

INFO CNO

CINCPACFLT

COMUSMACV

COMSEVENTHFLT

WHITE HOUSE

SECDEF

STATE DEPT

BT

~~T O P S E C R E T~~ JCS 8518 J3 SEND

SUBJ: DESOTO PATROL (U)

REF: A. CINCPACFLT MSG DTG Ø9Ø429Z (NOTAL) PASEP

B. CINCPAC MSG DTG Ø922Ø9Z (NOTAL)

1. YOU ARE AUTHORIZED TO EXECUTE MISSION PROPOSED BY REFERENCE A FOR A PERIOD OF 3 DAYS. D-DAY IS 15 SEPT SAIGON TIME.

2. THE FOLLOWING RULES OF ENGAGEMENT ARE APPROVED FOR THIS PATROL:

[redacted]

IN THE EVENT OF HOSTILE ATTACK, THE PATROL SHIPS AND AIRCRAFT ARE DIRECTED TO FIRE UPON THE HOSTILE ATTACKER WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF INSURING DESTRUCTION. SHIPS ARE AUTHORIZED TO PURSUE THE ENEMY TO THE RECOGNIZED THREE ILL TERRITORIAL LIMIT. AIRCRAFT ARE AUTHORIZED HOT PURSUIT INSIDE TERRITORIAL WATERS (THREE MILES) AGAINST SURFACE VESSELS AND INTO HOSTILE AIRSPACE (INCLUDES DRV, HAINAN ISLAND AND MAINLAND CHINA) AGAINST ATTACKING AIRCRAFT WHEN NECESSARY TO ACHIEVE DESTRUCTION OF IDENTIFIED ATTACK FORCES. SHIPS AND AIRCRAFT WILL CONFINE THEIR ACTIONS TO THE ATTACKING SHIPS AND/OR AIRCRAFT. ~~GP-3~~

BT

(unclassified until filled)

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(Supersedes N2288 REV JUN 61
to be used until exhausted)

~~SECRET~~
SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

COPY NR.

ACTION PRECEDENCE	INFO PRECEDENCE	SPECIAL HANDLING
PRIORITY	ROUTINE	~~COMINT CHANNELS~~

FROM: DIRNAVSECGRUPAC

DATE: 11 SEPT 64

ACT:
INFO:

TO: DIRNSA

NSA25X3

INFO: DIRNAVSECGRU [redacted]
USN-27 HQ NSAPAC
[redacted] USN-27J

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ADNSG

S E C R E T ~~COMINT CHANNELS~~

DESOTO PATROL (C)

A. CINCPACFLT 102103Z NOTAL GENSERV

B. CINCPACFLT 090429Z NOTAL GENSERV

1. REF B, AS AMPLIFIED BY REF A, PROPOSES A TWO DESTROYER DESOTO PATROL IN GULF OF TONKIN, COMMENCING FROM POINT ALFA (LISTED BELOW) 15 SEP AND CONTINUING FOR ABOUT THREE DAYS. PATROL SHIPS NOT DEFINITELY DESIG TO DATE. NAVSECGRUDET (DESIG USN 467P) WILL BE EMBARKED IN ONE PATROL SHIP TO PROVIDE SIGINT DIRECT SUPPORT TO PATROL UNITS AND CONDUCT SIGINT COLLECTION OPERATIONS.

2. REF A PROVIDES FOL NAVIGATION REFERENCE POINTS FOR PATROL:

ALFA	17-10N 107-43E
BRAVO	17-54N 106-54E
CHARLIE	18-20N 106-42E
DELTA	18-42N 106-11E
ECHO	19-23N 106-10E

DRAFTER: WMF/RC/11-3-39

RELEASING OFFICER

RELEASED AT (ZULU): Z

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AGO NR.

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~~SECRET~~

DTG 110354Z

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ACTION PRECEDENCE | INFO PRECEDENCE | SPECIAL HANDLING

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FROM: DATE:

TO:

FOXTROT 19-50N 106-30E

GOLF 20-08N 107-00E

HOTEL 20-26N 107-30E

3. SLN 467P WILL HAVE ONE EA MM, RT, AND MM/RT/[redacted] POSIT AND GRI KWR-37 BCST RECEIVE TERMINAL. PATROL SHIPS' ELINT COLLECTION CAPABILITY WILL BE AUGMENTED BY USN 467P ELINT OPER. [redacted] WILL COORDINATE SIGINT COLLECTION TASKS FOR USN 467P AND, UNLESS OTHERWISE ADVISED, WILL BE GUIDED BY AUG DESOTO COLLECTION ASSIGNMENTS.

NSA25X3

4. REQUEST APPROPRIATE SIGINT STAS BE TASKED TO SUPPORT DESOTO PATROL. ALL MSGS IN SUPPORT OF DESOTO PATROL SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO USN 467P USING [redacted] AS CRITICOMM ROUTING INDICATOR AND FLAGGED "DESOTO SUPPORT" IN ADDITION TO USN 467P, ENSURE ALL SIGINT PRODUCT CONTAINING REFLECTIONS/REACTIONS TO DESOTO PATROL INCLUDE CINCPACFLT, COMSEVENTHFLT, CTF 77, COMNAVFORJAPAN AND COMNAVPHIL AS ADEES.

P.L. 86-36

DRAFTER | RELEASING OFFICER | RELEASED AT (ZULU) Z

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AGO NR.

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~~SECRET~~

DTG 110354Z

(unclassified until filled)

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SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

COPY NR.

ACTION PRECEDENCE	INFO PRECEDENCE	SPECIAL HANDLING
PRIORITY	ROUTINE	~~COMINT CHANNELS~~

FROM: DIRNSA

DATE: 11 SEP 64

TO: [redacted]
USA-32
[redacted]

USN-27J
USN-27
[redacted]
USN-39N
USN-25
[redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted]
USN-467P [redacted]
[redacted]
USM-626J

INFO: DIRNAVSECGRU
DIRNAVSECGRUPAC
ASSTDIRNAVSECGRU (COURIER)
CGUSASA
[redacted]
PACSCTYRGN
[redacted]
HQ NSAPAC
[redacted]
[redacted]
USAFSS
[redacted]
AFSS FM (COURIER)

NSAPAC REP PHIL
[redacted]
SUSLO (M)
NSAPAC REP VIETNAM (C)
[redacted]
CH ASAPAC
CINCPAC
ONI
CINCPACFLT
COMSEVENTHFLT
CTF 77
COMNAVPHIL

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NSA25X6

5

~~T O P S E C R E T COMINT CHANNELS~~

P214/Ø353

SURFACE SURVEILLANCE (DESOTO PATROL)

P.L. 86-36

1. THIS MSG TO ADVISE PLANS FOR SURFACE SURVEILLANCE OPERATION IN GULF OF TONKIN AREA. PATROL WILL BE CONDUCTED BY USS MORTON (DD-948) AND ONE OTHER DESTROYER WITH CMDR DESTROYER DIV 52 EMBARKED. PATROL

DRAFTER	RELEASING OFFICER	RELEASED AT (ZULU)
[redacted] P214, 4687S	[redacted] CH P214, 4688s	112122 Z
MARKING		PAGE 1 OF 3 PAGES
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		AGO NR. Ø927Ø/11

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FROM:

DATE:

TO:

TO BE HELD 15 TO 18 SEPTEMBER (SAIGON TIME). COMINT COLLECTION TEAM USN-467P WILL BE EMBARKED. 2. AREA OF OPERATION. MORTON WILL CONDUCT RANDOM PATROL ALONG FOLLOWING TRACK:

POINT	LOCATION
ALFA	17.10N 107.43E
BRAVO	17.54N 106.54E
CHARLIE	18.20N 106.43E
DELTA	18.42N 106.11E
ECHO	19.23N 106.10E
FOXTROT	19.50N 106.30E
GOLF	20.08N 107.00E
HOTEL	20.26N 107.30E

PATROL WILL MOVE INTO COASTAL TRACK ONE HOUR AFTER SUNRISE AND RETURN TO SEA ONE HOUR BEFORE SUNSET AND DURING PERIODS OF REDUCED VISIBILITY. PATROL WILL REMAIN 20 NM OFF NORTH VIETNAMESE MAINLAND AND 12 NM FROM OFFSHORE ISLANDS. AIR COVERAGE WILL BE PROVIDED BY U.S. CARRIERS.

3. ANTICIPATE THIS PATROL MAY GENERATE [redacted] VIETNAMESE COMMUNIST REACTIONS. IN THIS REGARD, U.S. ACTION ADDEES FORWARD: SIGINT REPORTS CONTAINING: A. ALL SIGNIFICANT REFLECTIONS/REACTIONS TO

NSA25X3

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NSA25X3
NSA25X6

TO:

THIS OPERATION IN ESTABLISHED VEHICLES AT APPROPRIATE PRECEDENCE ENSURING THAT ONI, CINCPAC, CINCPACFLT, COMSEVENTHFLT, USN-467P, CTF 77, COMNAVPHIL, [redacted] AND COMNAVFOR JAPAN ARE AMONG ADDEES (WILL ADD CTF 77 TO TECHINS 4ØØ3 LATER). USE [redacted] ROUTING INDICATOR FOR USN-467P. B. ANY ROUTINE TECH SUPPORT DATA FOR EMBARKED TEAM (AFTER PATROL HAS COMMENCED), BY APPROPRIATE PREC TO USN-467P USING [redacted] AS CRITICOMM ROUTING INDICATOR. KEEP MSG VOLUME TO ESSENTIAL MINIMUM AND FLAG ALL MSGS QTE DESOTO SUPPORT UNQTE, AND INFOR DIRNSA, [redacted] AND OTHER ADDEES AS APPROPRIATE.

4. FOR [redacted] REQUEST [redacted] FORWARD REFLECTIONS AS ABOVE

P.L. 86-36

CONCUR:

B2Ø4 [redacted]
PØ53
PØ4
D33
P2Ø4

SHOWN TO:
ADNSG [redacted]

M/R: This message forwards information concerning USS MORTON (DD-948) DESOTO patrol from 15 to 18 September.

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PRIORITY	NONE	~~COMINT CHANNELS~~

FROM: DIRNSA

DATE: 12 SEP 64

TO: JCS, JRC

~~T O P S E C R E T COMINT CHANNELS~~

P21/Ø354

ACRP/DESOTO PATROL

REF MY Ø92Ø4ØZ, P214/Ø332

IN VIEW DESOTO PATROL SCHEDULED IN GULF OF TONKIN 15 TO 18 SEPTEMBER, SUGGEST JCS/JRC ACTION TO PROVIDE QUEEN BEE DELTA COLLECTION FROM GULF ORBIT (18TH TO 2ØTH PARALLELS) DURING DESOTO OPERATIONS. JUSTIFICATION CONTAINED IN REFERENCE PARTICULARLY PERTINENT DURING SCHEDULED NAVAL PATROL. VHF COMMUNICATIONS FROM AIR ACTIVITIES IN [redacted] AND HANOI AREAS, AS WELL AS FROM [redacted] ACTIVITIES, POTENTIALLY VITAL DURING THAT PERIOD.

NSA25X3

M/R: Reference contains airborne collection requirements in the Gulf of Tonkin and stresses the importance of VHF communications from airfields in [redacted] and in North Viet Nam. Such communications could have great significance during the time of the DeSoto Patrol. This action concurred in by Chief, B2.

P.L. 86-36

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[redacted] B23/4793S	[redacted] USA/CHIEF,P21	Z

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COPY NR.

ACTION PRECEDENCE	INFO PRECEDENCE	SPECIAL HANDLING
IMMEDIATE	PRIORITY	NONE

FROM: DIRNSA

DATE: 12 SEP 64

TO: USN-467P [redacted]
[redacted]
DIRNAVSECGRUPAC
[redacted]
USM-626
USM-626J

INFO: DIRNAVSECGRU
ASSTDIRNAVSECGRU (COURIER)
NSAPAC REP VIETNAM (Ø)
HQ NSAPAC
[redacted]
NSAPAC REP PHIL
[redacted]
[redacted]
SUSLO (M)

PACSCTRYRGN
AFSS FM (COURIER)
CUSASAPAC
[redacted]
USA-32
USN-27J
[redacted]
USAFSS

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ASALNGP

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P214/Ø355

P.L. 86-36

HEREWITH IS COLLECTION GUIDANCE FOR USN-467 PAPA DESOTO PATROL.

PART ONE: PRIMARY TARGETS

A. [redacted] NORTH VIETNAMESE VOICE

1. SEARCH 1ØØ-15Ø MC VHF WITH SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON FIGHTER ACTIVITY AND GROUND CONTROLLERS FROM THE FOLLOWING AIRFIELDS/ AREAS IN [redacted] NORTH VIETNAM. AS MANY AS FOUR DIFFERENT FREQS IN THE ABOVE BAND CAN BE EMPLOYED AT ONE TIME:

DRAFTER	RELEASING OFFICER	RELEASED AT (ZULU)
[redacted] B2Ø4/4377s	[redacted] USA/CHIEF P21	Z

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FROM:

DATE:

TO:

PHUC YEN NORTH VIETNAM (129.5 MCS)

NSA25X3

SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON AIRCRAFT OPERATING ON 5.3, 101.25, 118.1, 125, 125.20, 129, 129.5, 143.25 AND 143 MC. PROBABLY ACTIVE BETWEEN 2300-1500Z (VHTS 50106 APPLIES IN PART).

2. SEARCH FOR VHN NAVAL R/T (SHIP TO SHIP, SHIP TO SHORE). VHN PATROL BOATS EMPLOY 607 (1.5 - 12 MC AM) AND 609 (100-156 MC AM) TYPE RADIOS. SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON DRV NAVAL FAST PATROL BOATS NOTED JULY-AUG 64 OPERATING ON 131.20 AND 131.5 MC. BOATS WERE USING TACTICAL CALLS COMPRISING TWO-PART PLACE NAMES (E.G., NAM DINH CALLING SONG CA). REFERENCES TO USE OF 5.828 AND 125 MC HAVE ALSO BEEN NOTED. FISHING FLEET TRAWLERS EMPLOY HF VOICE IN 3 MC RANGE.

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4. SEARCH 5Ø - 1ØØ MC FOR GCI, AIR WARNING AND AAA COMMUNICATIONS PROBABLY ON SINGLE CHANNEL VOICE. POSSIBLE THAT SOME MULTICHANNEL ACTIVITY WILL BE HEARD. CALLSIGNS CAN BE CODE WORD OR TWO DIGIT.

B. NORTH VIETNAMESE MANUAL MORSE

1. VH NAVY

VHNB 5Ø1Ø9 (NAVAL TRACKING NET), FREQ RANGE 2ØØØ-7ØØØ KC. OBJECTIVE IS TO LOCATE OUTSTATIONS COPS AND TRACKING STATIONS.

2. AIR WARNING/DEFENSE

AAA - ASSOC (VHZB 5Ø113). SUB-FILTER CENTERS TO MAIN FILTER CENTER (VHZB 5Ø112). MIL REGION FOUR (SOUTHERN DRV) RADAR TRACKING FACILITIES (VHZB 5Ø6Ø2), DELTA AREA COUNTERPART (VHZB 5Ø119, 5Ø12Ø).

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TO:

NSA25X3

PART TWO: SECONDARY TARGETS. SEARCH FOR AFTER PRIMARY TARGETS ON A TIME AVAILABLE BASIS.

B. NORTH VIETNAMESE VOICE/MULTICHANNEL

1. VH GROUND FORCES UNITS EMPLOY BOTH HV/VHF R/T. SPECIAL INTEREST IN SEARCH FOR R/T POSSIBLY EMPLOYED BY AAA UNITS IN RED

DRAFTER | RELEASING OFFICER | RELEASED AT (ZULU) Z

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FROM: DATE:

TO:

RIVER DELTA (APPROX 19:30N TO 20:30N). MAY USE R109 (21 - 28.5 MC FM) WITH MORSE STANDBY COMMUNICATIONS.

2. SEARCH FOR LOW LEVEL DRV AND VC VOICE 20 - 88 MC (FM).

3. VH [redacted]

NSA25X3

THESE TRANSMISSIONS ARE BELIEVED TO BE EMANATING FROM AT LEAST THE SOUTHERN PORTION OF NORTH VIETNAM AND POSSIBLY VINH LINH.

PART THREE: ELINT [redacted] /NORTH VIETNAMESE

1. CONDUCT GENERAL SEARCH THROUGHOUT FREQUENCY RANGE 50 - 10,750 MC: RECORD ANY NEW OR UNUSUAL SIGNALS AT HIGHEST SPEED AVAILABLE.

2. SEARCH FOR [redacted] TRANSMISSIONS 595 - 625 MC. BQ09 TRANSMISSIONS FROM PROBABLY [redacted] WERE INTERCEPTED BY AN AIRBORNE COMMUNICATION RECONNAISSANCE PLATFORM ON 8/11 SEPTEMBER.

3. REQUEST COMINT ALERT ELINT WHEN COP'S NOTED PASSING SIGHTING REPORTS TO DETERMINE TYPES OF RADARS UTILIZED TO TRACK TARGETS OR WHEN VESSELS OBSERVED IN VICINITY OF DESOTO.

PART FOUR: TECH SUPPORT TO BE SENT DIRECTLY TO USN-467P (USE

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TO:

ROUTINE INDICATOR [ ] AS FOLLOWS:

1. FOR [ ] PROVIDE TECH SUPPORT [ ]

2. FOR [ ] PROVIDE TECH SUPPORT ON VHN TARGETS TO INCLUDE VHNB TEXTA AND [ ] CRYPTO SYSTEM DATA. ALSO PASS LOCATIONS OF SURFACE SEARCH RADAR TRACKING COP'S FOR EMPHASIS ON ELINT COLLECTION.

3. FOR [ ] REQUEST PROVIDE NECESSARY TECH SUPPORT SPECIFICALLY INCLUDING VHTS/VHZB/VHAB TEXTA.

PART FIVE:

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FORWARDING/EVALUATING OF ABOVE INTERCEPT TO FOLLOW.

P.L. 86-36

NSA25X3

DRAFTER | RELEASING OFFICER | RELEASED AT (ZULU) Z

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~~SECRET KIMBO~~
SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

COPY NR.

ACTION PRECEDENCE	INFO PRECEDENCE	SPECIAL HANDLING
PRIORITY	ROUTINE	NONE

FROM: DIRNSA

DATE: 12 SEP 64

TO: USN-27
USN-27J
USA-32
[redacted]
NSAPAC REP VIETNAM ~~(C)~~
[redacted]

INFO: HQ NSAPAC
NSAPAC REP PHIL
[redacted]
DIRNAVSECGRU
ASSTDIRNAVSECGRU
PACSECRGN
USASAPAC
[redacted]

DIRNAVSECGRUPAC

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P.L. 86-36

~~S E C R E T KIMBO~~

B205/304-64

SUBJECT: REPORTING OF COMMUNIST REACTIONS TO FORTHCOMING GULF OF TONKIN DESOTO PATROL.

REF P214/0353/112117Z

1. CANNOT, OF COURSE, PREDICT [redacted] DRV REACTION TO FORTHCOMING DESOTO PATROL IN GULF OF TONKIN, BUT, ASSUMING SITUATION SIMILAR TO 2-4 AUGUST PATROL COULD ARISE, WISH TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF EXPERIENCE GAINED DURING THAT CRISIS.

DRAFTER	RELEASING OFFICER	RELEASED AT (ZULU)
D. C. LANG/Lt Col/Ch B205/5174s	DELMAR C. LANG/Lt Col/ChB205/5174s	121915 Z

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DTG 121951Z

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ACTION PRECEDENCE | INFO PRECEDENCE | SPECIAL HANDLING

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FROM:

DATE:

TO:

2. FOR USN-27J: REQUEST YOU ACCOMPLISH COMINT PRODUCT REPORTING IAW ESTABLISHED PROCEDURES. DURING CRISIS USN-414T ISSUED MULTITUDE OF [redacted] MESSAGE EXTRACTS WHICH WOULD HAVE SERVED INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITITES NEEDS BETTER HAD THEY BEEN REDUCED/CONVERTED TO NORMAL PRODUCT. SIGINT PRODUCERS NEEDS BEST MET THEN BY ELECTRICAL FORWARDING OF ACTUAL MESSAGES AS TECHNICAL FOLLOW-UPS TO SERIALIZED PRODUCT REPORTS. NOT CERTAIN BUT BELIEVE USN-414T ACTION MAY HAVE BEEN DUE TO THEIR BELIEF SUCH FORWARDING NECESSARY IN SUPPORT OF SSG/SOG KITKAT RESPONSIBILITIES. DO NOT BELIEVE REFLECTIONS/REACTIONS TO DESOTO PATROL REQUIRE REPORTING IN KITKAT CHANNELS. NEEDS REP VIETNAM AND COMUSMACV FOR THESE REFLECTIONS/REACTIONS CAN BE SATISFIED BY REGULAR SERIALIZED PRODUCT REPORTING. REQUEST NSAPAC REP VIETNAM CONFIRM THIS BY RETURN MESSAGE.

3. FOR [redacted] REQUEST EVERY EFFORT BE MADE TO PROVIDE FASTEST ELECTRICAL FORWARDING POSSIBLE OF FULL TECH DETAILS OF RELEVANT INTERCEPT ACCOMPLISHED BY QUEEN BEE DELTA. FOR EXAMPLE: DURING GENERAL PERIOD OF LAST GULF OF TONKIN CRISIS

NSA25X3

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TO:

NSA25X3

QUEEN BEE DELTA HEARD [redacted] BASED FIGHTERS ACTIVE ON VHF AT SAME TIME RADAR TRACKING REPORTS SUGGESTED [redacted] FIGHTERS WERE MOVING INTO NORTH VIETNAM. RECEIPT BY SIGINT PRODUCERS OF FULL TEXT TRANSCRIPT THIS FIGHTER VOICE ACTIVITY WITH MINIMUM DELAY WOULD HAVE MATERIALLY ENHANCED OUR CAPABILITY TO ACCURATELY REPORT RAPIDLY DEVELOPING EVENTS. REQUEST ALL TRANSCRIPTS WHEN ELECTRICALLY FORWARDED INCLUDE DIRNSA (DDI IOH AND ZAD), [redacted] USA-32 AND [redacted]S ADDEES. PRECEDENCE OF FORWARDING AT YOUR DISCRETION BASED ON CRITICALITY OF SITUATION/ DEVELOPMENTS. IF SIGINT PRODUCT ISSUED BY YOU FORWARD TRANSCRIPTS BY AT LEAST SAME PRECEDENCE AS USED FOR PRODUCT REPORT.

4. FOR USN-27: REQUEST YOU RESUME ISSUANCE OF DAILY CHICOM/DRV DIGEST - DESOTO PATROL (P05/1018/131606Z AUG APPLIES).

5. FOR [redacted] IN THE EVENT OF ADDITIONAL FIGHTER MOVEMENTS FROM CHINA INTO NORTH VIETNAM

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HOPEFUL MORE RAPID RESOLUTION OF MOVEMENTS/"FALSE" MOVEMENTS POSSIBLE THAN WAS SOMETIMES THE CASE DURING LAST CRISIS. RAPID MOVEMENTS OF RELEVANT TECHNICAL DATA TO [redacted] FOR ALL INDICATIONS APPARENT IN VH AIR MATERIAL AND TO [redacted] FOR ALL INDICATIONS APPARENT IN [redacted] AIR MATERIAL IS, OF COURSE, ESSENTIAL (REQUEST DIRNSA DDI IOH, AOH BE ADDEE ALL FORWARDING). DFCAR FOR VH AIR PROBLEM AS ESTABLISHED MY B205/303-64 SHOULD BE MOST HELPFUL IN THIS REGARD BUT IN EXTREMELY TENSE AND FAST MOVING SITUATION VERY TIMELY TECH FOLLOW-UP REPORTING TO SERIALIZED PRODUCT REPORTING ESSENTIAL WITH DFCAR, IN THIS SITUATION, PROVIDING ROUTINE DAILY WRAP-UP OF TECH DATA AND ACTY IN ESTABLISHED, FORMATTED REPORT. SUGGEST WHERE RESOLUTION OF ACTY REQUIRES TECHNICAL JUDGMENT BASED ON BOTH VH AND [redacted] AIR ACTIVITY MAXIMUM USE BE MADE BY [redacted] OF TELECON EXCHANGES. NSA WILL DO ALL POSSIBLE TO ASSIST IN THIS REGARD.

NSA25X3

6. FOR ALL ADDEES: IN DISTRIBUTION OF SIGINT PRODUCT CONTAINING REFLECTIONS/REACTIONS TO DESOTO PATROL ESSENTIAL TO ASSURE THAT FOLLOWING ARE INCLUDED AS ADDEES (WRITING

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FROM: DATE:

TO:

IN WHERE NECESSARY):

USN-467 PAPA (USE ROUTING INDICATOR [redacted]

CINCPACFLT USN-27

COMSEVENTHFLT [redacted]

CTF 77

COMNAVFORJAPAN

COMNAVPHIL

ALL CVA NSG-DETS WESTPAC

REQUEST [redacted] ADVISE ALL FIELD STATIONS NOT ADDEES OF THIS MSG TO ASSURE INCLUSION THESE ADDEES IN ANY SIGINT PRODUCT THEY MAY ISSUE RELATING TO DESOTO PATROL. ALL MESSAGES SENT IN SUPPORT OF DESOTO PATROL MUST BE SENT TO USN-467 PAPA (ROUTING INDICATOR [redacted] FLAGGED "DESOTO SUPPORT". INCLUDE, AS INFO ADDEES ALL SUCH SUPPORT MESSAGES: USN-27, [redacted]

P.L. 86-36

NSA25X3

M/R: This message provides general reporting guidance to field units for forthcoming DeSoto Patrol in Gulf of Tonkin.

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PRIORITY	PRIORITY	NONE

FROM: DIRNSA

DATE: 12 SEP 64

TO: CINCPAC

INFO CINCPACFLT
HQ NSAPAC
NSAPAC REP PHIL
NSAPAC REP VIETNAM (C)
[redacted]
DIRNAVSECGRUPAC

USN-27
USJ-27J
[redacted]
SUSLO (M)

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AUSLO

P.L. 86-36

~~S E C R E T KIMBO~~

NSA25X3

NSA25X6

B205/306-64

SUBJECT. POSITION REPORTS FROM DESOTO PATROL

1. OUR SIGINT SUPPORT TO THE DESOTO PATROL ITSELF, AND TO THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY AT LARGE, COULD BE SUBSTANTIALLY ENHANCED BY RECEIPT OF PERIODIC POSITION REPORTS OF DESOTO PATROL VESSELS. IDEAL WOULD BE HOURLY POSITION REPORTS FOR BOTH DESTROYERS. IF SELECTED FIELD STATIONS COULD BE IN RECEIPT SUCH REPORTS ON TIMELY BASIS CORRELATION OF THIS INFORMATION WITH SIGHTING REPORTS PASSED ON VARIOUS [redacted] NORTH VIETNAMESE COMMUNICATIONS COULD THEN READILY BE MADE. IT WOULD THEN BE POSSIBLE TO KNOW WITH VIRTUAL CERTAINTY THAT COMMUNIST SIGHTINGS, AND INDICATED INTENTION TO COUNTER THE SIGHTED VESSEL, WAS A REFERENCE TO THE DESOTO PATROL

DRAFTER: D. C. LANG/Lt Col/ChB205/5174s

RELEASING OFFICER: DELMAR C. LANG/Lt Col/Ch B205/5174s

RELEASED AT (ZULU): 122000 Z

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DATE:

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TO:

VESSELS AS OPPOSED TO ANY/ALL OTHER VESSELS ON WHICH SIGHTING REPORTS ARE ROUTINELY PASSED AND INTERCEPTED.

2. STATIONS/PROCESSING CENTERS WITH TIMELY NEED FOR THE INFORMATION ARE: [redacted] [redacted] DIRNSA, USN-27, USN-27J, [redacted], USA-32, [redacted] ALTHO AT LEAST HOURLY POSITION REPORTS PREFERRED, REGULAR POSITION REPORTS AT LONGER TIME INTERVALS WOULD BE HELPFUL IF HOURLY REPORTS TOO BURDENSOME OR OTHERWISE NOT POSSIBLE.

NSA25X3

NSA25X6

3. IF YOU CONCUR, REQUEST NECESSARY ACTION TO PROVIDE COMMENCING WITH ARRIVAL AT BEGINNING OF TRACK ON 15 SEP.

M/R: This message requests CINCPAC to arrange for hourly position reports on DeSoto Patrol vessels in order that maximum SIGINT support can be provided.

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PRIORITY	ROUTINE	~~HANDLE VIA COMINT CHANNELS ONLY~~

FROM: DIRNSA

DATE: 13 SEPTEMBER 1964

TO: [redacted]
USA-32
[redacted]
USM-626
USM-626J
[redacted]
[redacted]
USA-57
USM-9
[redacted]

INFO: PACSCRYRGN
[redacted]
[redacted]
NSAPAC REP TAI
[redacted]
SUSLO (M)
NSAPAC REP VIETNAM (C)

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NSA25X3
NSA25X6

~~T O P S E C R E T/COMINT CHANNELS~~

P.L. 86-36

B205/310-64

SUBJ: 15-18 SEPT DESOTO PATROL IN GULF OF TONKIN

FOLLOWING ALTERS TRACK INDICATED IN MY P214/0353/112117Z:

PATROL WILL BE CONDUCTED IAW FOLLOWING ITINERARY (TRACK AS STATED IN P214/0353 EXCEPT FOR POINTS GOLF AND HOTEL WHICH WILL NOT BE USED):

(1) D DAY - 15 SEPT: COMMENCE PATROL. PATROL BETWEEN POINTS ALFA, BRAVO, CHARLIE AND DELTA.

(2) D DAY PLUS ONE: PATROL BETWEEN POINTS DELTA, ECHO AND FOXTROT

(3) D DAY PLUS TWO: PATROL BETWEEN POINTS DELTA, CHARLIE, BRAVO

DRAFTER	RELEASING OFFICER	RELEASED AT (ZULU)
D. C. LANG, LTCOL, 5174S	D. C. LANG, LTCOL USAF/CHB205	131155 Z

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AGO NR. 09007/13

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FROM:

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TO:

AND ALFA. WITHDRAW FROM GULF OF TONKIN AND TERMINATE PATROL.

PATROL IS TO BE ADJUSTED AT THE DISCRETION OF THE PATROL COMMANDER IN ORDER TO EFFECT PATROL AS DESCRIBED ABOVE AND YET ALLOW FOR MAXIMUM FLEXIBILITY TIMEWISE TOWARDS MAXIMUM ALL SOURCE INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION.

M/R: Provides information needed by field stations and processing centers regarding track to be used by Gulf of Tonkin Desoto Patrol which is to commence on 15 September Saigon Time.

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~~TOP SECRET~~

DTG

ZSL DESPS139U253Ø

RUEPCR

DE RUEPCR Ø65 13/184ØZ

Z 131836Z ZFF3

FM JCS

TO RUHPA/CINCPAC

INFO ZEM/CNO

RUHPB/CINCPACFLT

RUATUL/COMSEVENTHFLT

RUEHCR/AMEMB SAIGON

RUEMCR/CTF 77

CUMCCR/CTG 77.6

RWEWCR/COMDESDIV P2

RUECCR/USS MORTON

RUECCR/USS RICHARD S EDWARDS

BT

~~T O P S E C R E T~~ JCS 86Ø9 CHAIRMAN SENDS

SUBJECT: DESOTO PATROL

REFERENCE: 8518-64 DTG 1Ø/2339Z SEP (NOTAL)

1. AS RESULT OF HIGH LEVEL WASHINGTON CONFERENCE ON SITUATION SVN, IT IS DESIRED THAT CAPABILITY TO POSTPONE SCHEDULED DESOTO PATROL BE ESTABLISHED. DECISION TO PROCEED OR POSTPONE WILL BE TAKEN IN WASHINGTON BY 18ØØ HOURS EASTERN DAYLIGHT TIME 14 SEPTEMBER.

2. REQUEST YOU ESTABLISH POSITIVE CONTROL AND ADVISE LATEST TIME YOU MUST HAVE DECISION IN ORDER FOR PATROL TO WITHDRAW PRIOR TO REACHING POINT ALPHA. ~~GP-3~~

BT

DE YHLANA 14/Ø625Z SEP

ZKZK PP SOA DE

P 14Ø623Z

FM CINCPAC

TO DIRNSA

CINCPACFLT

INFO DIRNAVSECGRUPAC

[redacted] NSA25X3 NSA25X6

NSAPAC REP VIETNAM ~~(0)~~

[redacted]

USN-27

USN-27J

SUSLO (M)

HQ NSAPAC

NSAPAC REP PHIL

[redacted] P.L. 86-36

[redacted]

USA-32

[redacted]

ZEM

~~S E C R E T KIMBO~~ DESOTO PATROL - GULF OF TONKIN

A. DIRNSA B2Ø5/Ø6-64 DTG 122Ø2ØZ

1. REF A SUGGESTED DESOTO PATROL MAKE HOURLY POSIT REPORTS IF POSSIBLE IN ORDER RELATE THEM WITH COMMUNIST SIGHTING REPORTS AND INDICATED INTENTIONS TO COUNTER SIGHTED VESSEL.

2. DESOTO PATROL WILL OPERATE UNDER EMCON CONDITIONS DURING SOME PHASES OF PATROL NEGATING TRANSMISSION POSIT REPORTS DURING THESE PERIODS.

3. DESOTO PATROL UNITS EMBARKED COMINT CAPABILITY PERMITS RECEIPT OR VARIOUS SIGHTING REPORTS AND NVN [redacted] INTENTIONS. BASED ON THIS WOULD APPEAR THAT INFO DESIRED BY REF A COULD BE FULFILLED AS FOLLOWS:

NSA25X3

A. DESOTO PATROL UNIT RECEIVES NVN [redacted] SIGHTING REPORTS AND EQUATES THEM WITH HER POSIT.

B. IF SIGHTING REPORT AND RELATED ENEMY INTENTION TO COUNTER MSG JIBES WITH DESOTO PATROL POSIT, DESOTO UNIT WILL BREAK EMCON AND GIVE POSIT, COURSE, AND SPEED WITH TIME TO ALCON PATRICULARLY ADDEES PROVIDING SIGINT SUPPORT.

C. IF SIGHTING REPORTS AND/OR NVN [redacted] INTENTION TO COUNTER MSGS DO NOT JIBE WITH DESOTO PATROL SHIP POSIT DESOTO UNIT WILL REMAIN SILENT. FROM THIS SILENCE INTERESTED ADDEES CAN DEDUCE THAT SIGHTING REPORT AND/OR NVN [redacted] INTENTION TO COUNTER DO NOT EQUATE WITH DESOTO.

D. WHENEVER DESOSO UNIT IS REQUIRED TO TRANSMIT SHE WILL INCLUDE HER POSIT, COURSE, SPEED, AND TIME.

4. BELIEVE PROCEDURE OUTLINED IN PARA WILL MEET REQUIREMENT IN REF A.

5. FOR CINCPACFLT. REQUEST DESOTO UNIT CARRY OUT INTENT OF PARA ABOVE.

DE RUEPCR Ø96 14/1955Z

Z 141952Z ZFF6

FM JCS

TO RUHPA/CINCPAC

INFO ZEN/CNO

RUHPB/CINCPACFLT

RUMSMA/COMUSMACV

RUATZL/COMSEVENTHFLT

RUEPCR/DIRNSA

RUEPIA/CIA

RUEHCR/AMEMB SAIGON

RUMFUI/CTG 77

RUMGCR/CTG 77.6

RUMGCR/COMDESDIV 52

RUMGCR/USS MORTON

RUMGCR/USS RICHARD S. EDWARDS

RUEPWW/WHITE HOUSE

ZEN/SECDEF

RUEHCR/STATE DEPT

BT

~~T O P S E C R E T~~ JCS 8625 JCS SENDS.

SUBJECT: DESOTO PATROL ~~(U)~~ REF: JCS 86Ø9 DTG 131836Z

DECISION IS TO PROCEED WITH EXECUTION OF DESOTO PATROL, HOWEVER, YOU ARE AUTHORIZED DELAY EXECUTION OF PATROL UP TO 24 HOURS. REQUEST YOU ADVISE JCS IF LONGER DELAY IS REQUIRED AND WHEN PATROL COMMENCES. ~~GP3.~~

BT

13

DE RUEPCB 13Ø 15/1855Z

O 151854Z

FM JCS

INFO RUEPWW/WHITE HOUSE

RUEPCR/NSA

RUEHCR/STATE

RUEPIA/CIA

O 151155Z

FM CTU 77.6.6

TO AIG 181

ZEN/CTF 77

ZEN/CTG 77.6

INFO ZEN/TU 77.6.6

ZEN/CTF 76

RUWDAF/MOPHOTO PAC

RUMSMA/COMUSMACV

ZEN/NAVCOMMSTA PHIL

RUMJIR/AMEMB SAIGON

BT

~~S E C R E T~~

DESOTO PATROL OPSUM (~~S~~)

A. JCS 141952Z

B. CINCPACFLT 132311Z

C. COMSEVENTHFLT 12Ø633Z

1. 152ØØØH POSIT 16-55N 1Ø8-23E. BOTH SHIPS FUELED BY CTG 77.6 AND NOW HAVE 94 PER CENT ON BOARD. WEATHER AND SEA CONDITIONS MUCH IMPROVED.

2. INTEND SET EMCON AT 1524ØØH EXCEPT FOR [redacted] AND SURFACE RADAR NAVIGATIONAL SWEPS. NSA25X3

PAGE 2 RUMFCR B ~~S E C R E T~~

3. UNIDIR INTEND CROSS LAT 17-ØØN AT 16Ø6ØØH AND COMMENCE ASSIGNED PATROL AT 16Ø74ØH IN CONSONANCE WITH REFS ALFA, BRAVO, CHARLIE.

~~GP-3~~

BT

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ACTION PRECEDENCE	INFO PRECEDENCE	SPECIAL HANDLING
PRIORITY	ROUTINE	NONE

FROM: DIRNSA

DATE: 15 SEPTEMBER 1964

TO: USN-467P

INFO: USN-27
USN-27J
USM-626J
NSAPAC REP JAPAN
[redacted] (c)
HQ NSAPAC
DIRNAVSECGRUPAC
[redacted]
[redacted]

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NSA25X3
NSA25X6

S E C R E T KIMBO

B261/537/64

SUBJECT: DESOTO SUPPORT

1. IF INDICATIONS IN THE VHNAH-3 TRACKING CODE DURING THE UPCOMING DESOTO PATROL ARE COMPARABLE TO THE 31 JULY - 2 AUGUST PERIOD THE FIRST SURFACE RADAR TRACKING OF THE PATROL WILL BE REPORTED FROM VINH SON WHO IS PRESENTLY USING TX CALLSIGN C5VP. AS THE PATROL MOVES NORTH A RADAR STATION IN THE VICINITY OF CAP ST ANNE WITH TX CALLSIGN PSPJ AND AN OBSERVATION POST ON HON MATT WITH TX CALLSIGNS JB3K WILL PROBABLY REPORT ITS POSITION. (JB3K IS PROBABLY A VISUAL SIGHTING STATION.) AS THE PATROL MOVES NORTH A RADAR STATION AT MY DUC WITH TX CALL 9WPU WILL PROBABLY TRACK AND REPORT ITS POSITION, ETC.

P.L. 86-36

DRAFTER	RELEASING OFFICER	RELEASED AT (ZULU)
[redacted] B2Ø3/5214s	[redacted] CH/B261/5158s	151745 Z

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TO:

2. WHEN THE INSTALLATION OF SURFACE RADAR WAS BEING PLANNED IT SEEMS THAT THE MILEAGE OF THE COASTLINE [redacted] THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE BORDER WAS DIVIDED BY THE RELIABLE EFFECTIVE RANGE OF THE SURFACE RADAR TO BE ERECTED. THIS IS APPARENTLY CONFIRMED FROM THE DISTANCES BETWEEN KNOWN LOCATIONS OF THE SURFACE RADAR, VIZ., THE DISTANCE BETWEEN VINH SON AND A SITE IN THE VICINITY OF CAPE ST ANNE IS 7Ø MILES, AND FROM THIS SITE TO MY DUC IS 7Ø MILES, FROM MY DUC TO DO SON PENINSULA IS 7Ø MILES WITH EACH STATION OVERLAPPING THE ONE ON EITHER SIDE OF IT. THE RELIABLE EFFECTIVE RANGE FOR THIS TYPE OF RADAR IS APPROXIMATELY 35 MILES. THE DISTANCE FROM VINH SON TO THE 17TH PARALLEL IS 7Ø MILES BUT A SURFACE RADAR IS NOT IN THIS AREA EVEN THOUGH THE PATTERN OF KNOWN SURFACE RADAR STATION SITES SUGGESTS THAT ONE SHOULD BE LOCATED HERE. THE INSTALLATION OF SURFACE RADAR HERE MAY HAVE BEEN LEFT FOR A FUTURE DATE BECAUSE OF ITS PRESENT VULNERABILITY TO ATTACK FROM SOUTH VIETNAMESE JUST ACROSS THE BORDER. NOTHING IS KNOWN ABOUT NORTH VIETNAMESE SURFACE RADAR [redacted] MOST INTERESTED IN COLLECTION OF ANY EMISSIONS FROM ISLE DU KERSAINT 21-22N 1Ø7-57E AND PERHAPS THE ISLAND OF KAOTO 21-Ø1N 1Ø7-5ØE AND

NSA25X3

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TO:

SHAPAK WAN 20-57N 107-46E.

3. THERE ARE ADDITIONAL RADAR SITES OTHER THAN THOSE LISTED WHICH ARE 70 MILES APART, AND BECAUSE OF LAND MASSES BLOCKING THE LINE OF SIGHT A SUSPECTED SITE ON LONG CHAU (ISLE NORWAY) IS LOGICAL BECAUSE THE RADAR LINE OF SIGHT FROM DO SON PENINSULA IS BLOCKED BY LAND FOR SOME SHIPS ENTERING HA LONG BAY.

4. IN ADDITION TO RADAR, THERE ARE A FEW VISUAL SIGHTING COPS BUT THERE DO NOT SEEM TO BE MORE THAN 12 COPS IN OPERATION BY THE NORTH VIETNAMESE. FOLLOWING ARE TWO PREVIOUSLY UNREPORTED SURFACE RADAR LOCATIONS ALONG WITH THEIR TRANSMITTING CALLS:

SOG1 POSSIBLY ON DO SON PENINSULA 20-41N 106-47E

ZSLH POSSIBLY ON ISLE NORWAY 20-37N 107-10E

5. [redacted] THE COPS TRACK THEIR OWN PATROL AND TORPEDO BOATS AS WELL AS ENEMY SHIPS. IT CAN BE DETERMINED FROM THE MESSAGES HOW MAY BOATS

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DATE:

TO:

ARE IN A GIVEN TARGET SIGHTING AND IF THE QUANTITY OF PATROL BOATS EXCEEDS THAT WHICH MIGHT BE CONSIDERED AS A ROUTINE SHADOWING OPERATION IT MAY INDICATE AN IMMINENT ATTACK. PRIOR TO THE ATTACK ON 2 AUGUST TRACKING MESSAGES GIVING THE MADDOX'S POSITION WERE IDENTIFIED WITH A DINOME OF 62 IN THE A2AB POSITION, THE DRV PT BOATS WERE IDENTIFIED WITH 58 AS A2AB, A GENERAL CATEGORIZATION OF NON WARSHIPS WAS IDENTIFIED WITH ØØ AS A2AB

M/R: Support to forthcoming DeSoto Patrol. Priority precedence employed due to need for timeliness in receipt of this information.

DRAFTER | RELEASING OFFICER | RELEASED AT (ZULU) Z

DOCUMENT MARKING

PAGE 4 OF PAGES 4

AGI NR.

AGO NR. Ø82/15

REFERS TO MESSAGE
GO
AGI
DTG
SUSPENSE

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

~~SECRET KIMBO~~

DTG.

(unclassified until filled)

NSA FORM N2288 REV AUG 63
(Supersedes N2288 REV JUN 61 to be used until exhausted)

~~TOP SECRET~~
SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

COPY NR.

16

ACTION PRECEDENCE	INFO PRECEDENCE	SPECIAL HANDLING
IMMEDIATE	PRIORITY	~~COMINT CHANNELS~~

FROM: DIRNSA

DATE: 15 SEP 64

TO: [redacted]
USA-32
[redacted]
USM-626

USN-27J
USN-27
[redacted]
UNCODED
USM-626J

INFO: DIRNAVSECGRU
DIRNAVSECGRUPAC
ASSTDIRNAVSECGRU
CGUSASA
[redacted]
PACSCTYRGN
[redacted]
AFSS FM
HQ NSAPAC
[redacted]
USAFSS
[redacted]

NSAPAC REP PHIL
PACOM ELINT CENTER
SUSLO (M)
NSAPAC REP VIETNAM (C)
[redacted]
CH ASAPAC
CINCPAC
ONI
CINCPACFLT
COMSEVENTHFLT
CTG-77
COMNAVPHIL

DISTRIBUTION
P2
P21
P212
P214
PØ4
PØ5
B
B2
B21
B22
B23
B24
B25
B26
C15
D31
D32
D33
ADNSG
AFSS FM
ASALNGP
AUSLO
DRF
OP-922Y1
PØ55

NSA25X3
NSA25X6
P.L. 86-36

~~T O P S E C R E T COMINT CHANNELS~~

P214/Ø366

A. JCS 151657Z CITE 8663

B. MY 142Ø42Z PØ55/292-64

1. REF ALFA REPORTS DESOTO PATROL NOW SCHEDULED TO COMMENCE OPERATION ONE HOUR AFTER SUNRISE 17 SEP LOCAL TIME.

DRAFTER	RELEASING OFFICER	RELEASED AT (ZULU)
[redacted]/P214/5128s	[redacted] CHIEF, P214/4688s	152150 Z

PAGE 1 OF 2 PAGES

AGI NR.

AGO NR. Ø925Ø/15

REFERS TO MESSAGE	SECURITY CLASSIFICATION	DTG
AGO AGI DTG SUSPENSE	~~HANDLE VIA COMINT CHANNELS ONLY~~ ~~TOP SECRET~~	152200Z

(unclassified until filled)

NSA FORM N2288 REV AUG 63
(Supersedes N2288 REV JUN 61 to be used until exhausted)

~~TOP SECRET~~
SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

COPY NR.

ACTION PRECEDENCE | INFO PRECEDENCE | SPECIAL HANDLING

DISTRIBUTION

FROM:

DATE:

TO:

2. PATROL WILL BE CONDUCTED ACCORDING TO THE FOLLOWING SCHEDULE:

	ARRIVE	DEPART
POINT A	162348Z	
POINT D		17Ø957Z
POINT D	172344Z	
POINT F		18Ø955Z
POINT D	182344Z	
POINT A		19Ø949Z

M/R: Provides additional data on DESOTO Patrol.

DRAFTER | RELEASING OFFICER | RELEASED AT (ZULU) Z

DOCUMENT MARKING

PAGE 2 OF PAGES 2

AGI NR.

AGO NR. 25Ø/15

REFERS TO MESSAGE
AGO
AGI
DTG
SUSPENSE

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

~~HANDLE VIA COMINT CHANNELS ONLY~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

DTG

(confidential HVCCO until filled)

NSA FORM N2288 REV AUG 63
(Supersedes N2288 REV JUN 61 to be used until exhausted)

~~SECRET KIMBO~~
SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

COPY NR.

ACTION PRECEDENCE	INFO PRECEDENCE	SPECIAL HANDLING
ROUTINE	ROUTINE	NONE

FROM: DIRNSA

DATE: 16 SEPT 64

TO: USN-467P [redacted]
[redacted]

INFO: DIRNAVSECGRUPAC
DIRNAVSECGRU
ASSTDIRNAVSECGRU (COURIER)
NSAPAC REP VIETNAM (C)
HQ NSAPAC
[redacted]
NSAPAC REP PHIL
[redacted]
[redacted]
SUSLO (M)
USAFSS
PACSCTYRGN
AFSS FM (COURIER)

CH ASAPAC
PEC
[redacted]
USN-27
USN-27J
USA-32
[redacted]
USA-57
[redacted]
USM-9
USM-626
USM-626J
[redacted]

DISTRIBUTION
P2
P21
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PØ5
B
B2
B21
B22
B23
B24
B25
B26
B27
ADNSG
AFSS FM
ASALNGP
ADP
AUSLO
DRF
P215

NSA25X3
NSA25X6

~~S E C R E T KIMBO~~

P214/Ø371

SEPTEMBER DESOTO PATROL

FORWARDING/EVALUATION INSTRUCTIONS. FLAG ALL INTERCEPT DESOTO.

P.L. 86-36

A. MM DISTRIBUTION:

(1) UNCODED COPIES 1 AND 2 TO NSA, ATTN: B22.

COPY 3 TO UNCODED

COPY 4 TO UNCODED

COPY 5 TO USN-27.

RETAIN REMAINDER.

DRAFTER	RELEASING OFFICER	RELEASED AT (ZULU)
[redacted] P214, 4687s	[redacted] CH., P214, 4688s	Z

PAGE 1 OF 4 PAGES

AGI NR.

AGO NR. Ø9Ø78/16

REFERS TO MESSAGE	SECURITY CLASSIFICATION	DTG
AGO N AGI O DTG N SUSPENSE E	~~SECRET KIMBO~~	161702Z

(confidential HVCCO until filled)

NSA FORM N2288 REV AUG 63
(Supersedes N2288 REV JUN 61 to be used until exhausted)

~~SECRET KIMBO~~
SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

COPY NR.

ACTION PRECEDENCE | INFO PRECEDENCE | SPECIAL HANDLING

FROM: DATE:

DISTRIBUTION

TO:

(2) VH: COPIES 1 AND 2 TO NSA, ATTN: B26.

COPY 3 TO USM-626J

COPY 4 TO USM-9

COPY 5 (VHS/N) TO USN-27

[redacted]

COPY 6 TO USN-414

B. R/T MULTICHANNEL DISTRIBUTION:

(1) [redacted] ALL TAPES TO [redacted] ATTN: [redacted]

(2) VH: ALL [redacted] TO USM-626J, ALL [redacted] TO USA-32.

C. ALL ELINT MATERIAL TO PACOM ELINT CENTER.

D. FOR ALL: FOR PURPOSES OF THIS PATROL, REQUEST ANY ELECTRICAL CORRESPONDENCE WITH NSA INCLUDE DDI'S ZULU LIMA ALFA, ALFA OSCAR HOTEL AND HOTEL INDIA INDIA.

E. EVALUATION INSTRUCTIONS:

(1) FOR [redacted] REQUEST YOU PROCESS ALL [redacted] INTERCEPT IMMEDIATELY AFTER RECEIPT AND PROVIDE EVALUATION ELECTRICALLY TO DIRNSA, ATTN: P21 AND B22. UPON COMPLETION TRANSCRIBING, FORWARD 2 COPIES OF TRANSCRIPTS TO DIRNSA, ATTN: B22, ONE COPY TRANSCRIPT TO

NSA25X3

DRAFTER | RELEASING OFFICER | RELEASED AT (ZULU) Z

DOCUMENT MARKING

PAGE 2 OF 4 PAGES

AGI NR.

AGO NR. 78/16

REFERS TO MESSAGE
AGO
AGI
DTG
SUSPENSE

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

~~SECRET KIMBO~~

DTG

(confidential HVCCO until filled)

NSA FORM N2288 REV AUG 63
(Supersedes N2288 REV JUN 61 to be used until exhausted)

~~SECRET KIMBO~~
SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

COPY NR.

ACTION PRECEDENCE | INFO PRECEDENCE | SPECIAL HANDLING

DISTRIBUTION

FROM: DATE:

TO:

[redacted]

(2) FOR USM-626J/USA-32. UPON COMPLETION TRANSCRIBING, FORWARD GIST ELECTRICALLY AND HARD COPIES OF TRANSCRIPTS TO DIRNSA, ATTN: B26; ONE COPY TO [redacted] ONE COPY TO USM-9; ONE COPY VHN/S TO USN-27; ONE COPY VHA/T/V/Z TO USA-57. HOLD TAPES MINIMUM 90 DAYS BEFORE ERASURE.

(3) FOR USM-626J: REQUEST YOU PROVIDE EVALUATION VHM INTERCEPT AS EXPEDITIOUSLY AS POSSIBLE AFTER RECEIPT AND FORWARD ELECTRICALLY TO DIRNSA, ATTN: P21, B26 AND NSAPAC REP VIETNAM ~~(C)~~.

(4) FOR [redacted] REQUEST YOU PROVIDE EVALUATION VHA/T/V/Z INTERCEPT AS EXPEDITIOUSLY AS POSSIBLE AFTER RECEIPT AND FORWARD ELECTRICALLY TO DIRNSA, ATTN: P21, B26 AND NSAPAC REP VIETNAM (C).

(5) FOR USN-27: REQUEST YOU PROVIDE EVALUATION VHN/S INTERCEPT AS EXPEDITIOUSLY AS POSSIBLE AFTER RECEIPT AND FORWARD ELECTRICALLY TO DIRNSA, ATTN: P21, B26 AND NSAPAC REP VIETNAM (C).

(6) FOR PACOM ELINT CENTER: REQUEST EVALUATION DESOTO PATROL TAKE UPON COMPLETION ANALYSIS. FORWARD TO DIRNSA, ATTN: C15, B22, B26, NSAPAC REP VIETNAM ~~(C)~~ AND [redacted]

NSA25X3

NSA25X6

DRAFTER | RELEASING OFFICER | RELEASED AT (ZULU) Z

DOCUMENT MARKING

PAGE 3 OF PAGES 4

AGI NR.

AGO NR. 78/16

REFERS TO MESSAGE
30
AGI
DTG
SUSPENSE

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

~~SECRET KIMBO~~

DTG.

(confidential HVCCO until filled)

NSA FORM N2288 REV AUG 63
(Supersedes N2288 REV JUN 61 to be used until exhausted)

~~SECRET KIMBO~~
SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

COPY NR.

ACTION PRECEDENCE	INFO PRECEDENCE	SPECIAL HANDLING

FROM:

DATE:

DISTRIBUTION

TO:

(7) FOR DIRNAVSECGRUPAC: REQUEST DIRNSA (P21, B22 AND B26) BE PROVIDED A COPY OF NAVSECGRUDET SIGINT OPERATIONS REPORT UPON COMPLETION OF PATROL

- -

CONCUR: [redacted] B204 T11 (DDI's only) [redacted], P215

P.L. 86-36

SHOWN TO: [redacted] ADNSG

M/R. This message provides forwarding and evaluation instruction for September DESOTO Patrol to units concerned.

DRAFTER

RELEASING OFFICER

RELEASED AT (ZULU) Z

DOCUMENT MARKING

PAGE 4 OF PAGES 4

AGI NR.

AGO NR. 78/16

REFERS TO MESSAGE
AGO
AGI
DTG
SUSPENSE

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

~~SECRET KIMBO~~

DTG

(confidential HVCCO until filled)

NSA FORM N2288 REV AUG 63
(Supersedes N2288 REV JUN 61 to be used until exhausted)

~~SECRET KIMBO~~
SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

COPY NR.

ACTION PRECEDENCE	INFO PRECEDENCE	SPECIAL HANDLING
PRIORITY	PRIORITY	NONE

FROM: DIRNSA

DATE: 16 SEPTEMBER 1964

TO: USN-467P

INFO: USN-27
USN-27J
USM-626J
HQ NSAPAC
NSAPAC REP PHIL
NSAPAC REP VIETNAM (C)
[redacted]
DIRNAVSECGRUPAC
[redacted]
[redacted]

DISTRIBUTION
B
B2
B22
B26
PØ4
PØ5

NSA25X3

NSA25X6

18

~~S E C R E T KIMBO~~

B261/54Ø/64

SUBJ: DESOTO SUPPORT

[redacted]

P.L. 86-36

DRAFTER
[redacted]/B2Ø3/5214s

RELEASING OFFICER
[redacted] CH/B261/5158s

RELEASED AT (ZULU)
161735 Z

PAGE 1 OF 3 PAGES

DOCUMENT MARKING

AGI NR.

AGO NR.
Ø9117/16

REFERS TO MESSAGE
AGO N
AGI O
DTG N
SUSPENSE E

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION
~~SECRET KIMBO~~

DTG
161810Z

(confidential HVCCO until filled)

NSA FORM N2288 REV AUG 63
(Supersedes N2288 REV JUN 61 to be used until exhausted)

~~SECRET KIMBO~~
SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

COPY NR.

ACTION PRECEDENCE | INFO PRECEDENCE | SPECIAL HANDLING

DISTRIBUTION

FROM:

DATE:

TO:

NSA25X3

DRAFTER

RELEASING OFFICER

RELEASED AT (ZULU)
Z

DOCUMENT MARKING

PAGE 2 OF 3 PAGES

AGI NR.

AGO NR.
117/16

REFERS TO MESSAGE
TO
AGI
DTG
SUSPENSE

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

~~SECRET KIMBO~~

DTG.

(confidential HVCCO until filled)

NSA FORM N2288 REV AUG 63
(Supersedes N2288 REV JUN 61 to be used until exhausted)

~~SECRET KIMBO~~
SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

COPY NR.

ACTION PRECEDENCE | INFO PRECEDENCE | SPECIAL HANDLING

FROM:

DATE:

TO:

DISTRIBUTION

REQ YOU INCLUDE DATE-TIMES IN YOUR ELINT REPORT WHEN RADAR SIGNALS WERE FIRST INTERCEPTED AND TIME OF SHUTDOWN. THIS INFORMATION WILL FACILITATE THE PLACEMENT OF PRESENTLY UNLOCATED NAVAL SURFACE RADAR SITES

NSA25X3

M/R: Furnishes timely support to current DeSoto patrol. Priority precednece employed due to imminent commencement of patrol.

DRAFTER

RELEASING OFFICER

RELEASED AT (ZULU)
Z

DOCUMENT MARKING

PAGE 3 OF 3 PAGES

AGI NR.

AGO NR.
117/16

REFERS TO MESSAGE
O
AGI
DTG
SUSPENSE

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

~~SECRET KIMBO~~

DTG.

(confidential HVCCO until filled)

NSA FORM N2288 REV AUG 63
(Supersedes N2288 REV JUN 61 to be used until exhausted)

~~SECRET KIMBO~~
SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

COPY NR.

ACTION PRECEDENCE	INFO PRECEDENCE	SPECIAL HANDLING
PRIORITY	PRIORITY	NONE

FROM: DIRNSA

DATE: 16 SEPT 64

TO: USA-32
USN-467P
USA-37

INFO: [redacted] DIRNAVSECGRUPAC
PACSCTYRGN

~~S E C R E T KIMBO~~

DESOTO SUPPORT

P214/0376 (USA-37 PASS TO [redacted] FOR ACTION)

RECENT VHF INTERCEPT INDICATES [redacted] TORPEDO BOATS

USING [redacted] REQUEST YOU MONITOR THESE FREQUENCIES

DURING FORTHCOMING DESOTO PATROL FOR POSSIBLE [redacted] NAVAL

ACTIVITY

- -

SHOWN TO: AFSS FM,
ADNSG, [redacted]

M/R. This message provides appropriate field stations with further technical support for the DESOTO Patrol beginning on 17 September in the Gulf of Tonkin. No concurrence necessary. Submitted by [redacted] B2051.

DISTRIBUTION
P2
P21
P214
B2
B22
AFSS FM
ADNSG

NSA25X3
NSA25X6

P.L. 86-36

19

DRAFTER	RELEASING OFFICER	RELEASED AT (ZULU)
[redacted] P214/4687s	[redacted] Ch., P214/4688s	161910 Z

DOCUMENT MARKING

PAGE 1 OF 1 PAGES

AGI NR.

AGO NR. 09178/16

REFERS TO MESSAGE	SECURITY CLASSIFICATION	DTG
NO AGI NONE DTG NONE SUSPENSE NONE	~~SECRET KIMBO~~	161917Z

ZZ [redacted]

P.L. 86-36

DE [redacted] 17 17/Ø315Z SEP

R 17Ø315Z

FM USN-27J

TO QUEBEC ONE/CHARLIE

[redacted]/AFSSO SAC

[redacted]/AFSSO CONAD

[redacted]/AFSSO TAC

COMNAVFORJAPAN

[redacted]/USN 467P

COMNAVPHIL

COMTAIWANDEFCOM/US

CTG 77

ZEM

~~S E C R E T KIMBO~~

DESOTO SUPPORT

2/Q1/VHN/RØ7-64 RPT 2/Q1/VHN/RØ7-64. ST 22Ø SPOT REPORT

POSS ALERT OF DRV NAVAL FORCES

MESSAGES PASSED BY NORTHERN FLEET ACTY POSS BAI CHAY TO ALL STATIONS AND SHIPS FROM U/I ENTITY/PERSONALITY INTERCEPTED 17Ø212Z, ALERTED AGAINST SHORELINE PROVOCATION AND CAUTIONED AGAINST ENEMY ATTACH BY AIR OR SEA.

(unclassified until filled)

NSA FORM N2288 REV AUG 63
(Supersedes N2288 REV JUN 61 to be used until exhausted)

~~SECRET~~
SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

COPY NR.

ACTION PRECEDENCE	INFO PRECEDENCE	SPECIAL HANDLING
IMMEDIATE	NONE	NONE

FROM: USN-27 DATE: 17-SEP-64

TO: DIRNSA //ADVANCE COPY TO SNOO//
[redacted]
USN-27J
[redacted]
USA-32
USA-57
[redacted]

FROM: CTU 77.6.6

TO: AIG 181
CTF 77
CTG 77.6

INFO: CTU 77.6.6
CTF 76
MOPHOTOUPAC
COMUSMACV
NAVCOMMSTA PHIL

DISTRIBUTION

ACT: B2
INFO: B
B22 NSA25X6
B23
B26 NSA25X3
D31
PØ4
PØ5
PØ55
P2
DRF

21

~~S E C R E T~~

SOTO PATROL OPSUM (S)

A. COMSEVENTHFLT 12Ø633Z

1. COMMENCED PATROL IN ACCORD REF A. PASSED THROUGH POINT ALFA 17Ø736H.

~~GP-3~~

L23 NOTE: DTG 12Ø633Z IS NOT LOCATED L23 OR T1

DRAFTER: JEM/CAE/ 17-2-27

RELEASING OFFICER:

RELEASED AT (ZULU): Z

PAGE 1 OF 1 PAGES

AGI NR. 55641

AGO NR.

DOCUMENT MARKING

DOWNGRADED AT 12 YEAR ~~INTERVALS; NOT AUTOMATICALLY~~ DECLASSIFIED.

REFERS TO MESSAGE
NO
AGI
DTG
SUSPENSE

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

~~SECRET~~

DTG 17Ø336Z

[redacted]

DE [redacted] 29 17/Ø514Z SEP

ZKZK ZZ HHA NRL DE

Z 17Ø515Z ZYH

FM USN 27J

P.L. 86-36

TO QUEBEC NE/CHARLIE

[redacted]/AFSSO SAC

[redacted]/AFSSO CONAD

[redacted]/AFSSO TAC

COMNAVFOR JAPAN

[redacted]/USN 467P

COMN PHIL

COMTAIWANDEFCOM/US

CTF 77

ZEM

~~S E C R E T KIMBO~~

DESOTO SUPPORT

2/Q1/VHN/R1Ø-64 RPT 2/Q1/VHN/R1Ø-64 ST22Ø

FOLLOWUP NR Ø2 TO 2/Q1/VHN/RØ7-64, SPOT REPORT DTG 17Ø315Z

POSS ALERT OF DRV NAVAL FORCES

1. BADLY GARBLED MSG PASSED BY PORT GIANH AT 17Ø4Ø3Z TO SWATOW PGM-259 AND DET 2 (SOUTHERN FLEET ENTITIES) MAKES REFERENCES TO:

QTE DIRECTION 99 ((DEGREES)) UNQTE, QTE SPEED 18 UNQTE, QTE ALERT RANK 1 UNQTE, QTE THAN LE (U/I, UNLOCATED) TO MOBILIZE AND WAIT IN THE AREA UNQTE.

A MSG INTERCEPTED 17Ø42ØZ TO NORTHERN FLEET SWATOW PGM, POSS T-142, FROM NORTHERN FLEET ACTY, PBNSHZR CHAZ MYMZTVTFD QTE AQIT IN AREA, CAMOUFLAGE AND MUCFLNRE.I,153. ADDTL GARBLED EXTRACTS AS FOLLOWS: THE ENEMY HAS ((1GRU)) PROVOKED LF ATTACK US BY SEA AND AIR. ((1GRU)) DURING 17 AND 18 SEP

Ø722Z 17 SEP 64 [redacted]

NR 29 CK 62 17 SEP 1355G

TO SUB-UNIT 2, 253, (2grG), 259. AT PRESENT THERE ARE TWO DESTROYERS AT A DISTANCE OF 25 NAUTICAL MILES GOING VERY SLOW XGM HAVE 1 AIRCRAFT CARRIER.

NSA25X3

[redacted]

9AXZ/S2CI DE JI2U 3684M Ø722Z 17SEP

S2CI DE JI2U 3685M Ø724Z 17 SEP

23

DE [redacted] 48 17/Ø832Z SEP

ZKZK OO HHA DE

O 17Ø8ØZ ZYH 17Ø83ØZ

FM USN-27J

TO QUEBEC ONE/CHARLIE

[redacted]/AFSSO SAC

[redacted]/AFSSO CONAD

[redacted]/AFSSO TAC

COMNAVFORJAPAN

[redacted] USN 467P

COMTAIWANDEFCOM/US

CTF 77

ZEM

P.L. 86-36

~~S E C R E T KIMBO~~

DESOTO SUPPORT

2/Q1/VNH/R12-64 RPT 2/Q1VHN/R12-64, ST22Ø

FOLLOWUP NR ONE TO 2/Q1/VHN/RØ7-64. S¼PT RE¼PRT DTG 17Ø315Z

POSS ALERT OF DRV NAVAL FORCES

1. MSG PASSED BY SOUTHERN FLEET NAVAL ACTY PORT GIANH TO DET 2, YP T-25 AND SWATOW PGM 259 AT Ø714Z, DIRECTED ALL STATIONS TO QTE SET GRADE 1 ALERT UNQTE.

2. DRV SOUTHERN FLEET DET 6 AND 7 WERE ADVISED BY SOUTHERN FLEET ACTY, POSS BEN THUY, THAT 2 ENEMY DESTROYERS QTE APPEARED UNQTE 22NM OFF SON ZWONG ISLAND (18.Ø6N 1Ø6.27E) AT Ø452Z. ADDRESSEES WERE DIRECTED TO QTE REENFORCE ((1GR U)) -BE ALERT-FIERCELY STABLE. COMMUNICATE WITH K (U/I COMMAND AUTHORITY, PORT WALLUT) UNQTE. GARBLED PORTION SAME MSG CONTAINED QTE NORTH THERE ARE MANY SUPPORT AIRCRAFT UNQTE.

24

COMMENT: THE IDENTITY OF THE AIRCRAFT WAS NOT GIVEN.

25Ø

ZZ [redacted]

P.L. 86-36

DE [redacted] 6- 17/1214Z SEP

ZKZK ZZ NRL SOA DE

Z 17Ø845Z

FM USN-467P

TO DIA

CNO

CINCPAC

CINCPACFLT

COMUSTDC

COMSEVENTHFLT

COMNAVFORJAPAN

CTF 72

DIRNAVSECGRU

DIRNAVSECGRUPAC

DIRNSA

JCS

[redacted]

USN-27

USN-27J

[redacted]

[redacted]

ZEM

NSA25X3
NSA25X6

25

~~S E C R E T KIMBO~~

SPOT INTELLIGENCE ITEM

1. FOL PARTIALLY GARBLED MSG PASSED AT Ø81ØZ FROM VINH SON TO BEN THUY: QUOTE TO SUB UNIT SIX (ONE GRU GARBLED) RECEIVED ORDERS TO POSTPONE THE BATTLE UNQUOTE.

[redacted]

P.L. 86-36

DE [redacted] 125B 17/11Ø9Z SEP

ZKZK OO HHA NNN NRL DE

O 171111ØZ ZYH

FM USN 27

TO DIST QUEBEC/MIKE

PLUS [redacted]

NSA25X3

USN 27

USN 467P

ZEM

~~S E C R E T KIMBO~~

2/Q/VHN/R1ØØ-64 ST22Ø RPT 2/Q/VHN/R1ØØ-64 ST22Ø

FOLLOW-UP NR Ø1 TO USN 27 2/Q/VHN/RØ7-64 SPOT REPORT

POSSIBLE ALERT OF DRV NAVAL FORCES

SUBSEQUENT RELAY (TOI 17Ø923Z) OF PREVIOUSLY REPORTED MSG IDENTS THE OBJECTS UNDER DRV SURVEILLANCE AS QTE TWO DESTROYERS UNQTE AND INDICATES THE TIME OF SIGHTING AS 1Ø2ØG (Ø32ØZ). ALTHOUGH UNIDENTIFIED, THE OBSERVATION WAS PROBABLY TAKEN BY VINH SON THUS LOCATING THE PATROL AT APPROXIMATELY 17-52N 1Ø5-5 (NEAR POINT BRAVO) AT THE TIME OF SIGHTING.

COMMENTS: CURRENTLY AVAILABLE DRV NAVAL COMMUNICATIONS INTERCEPT HAS REFLECTED KNOWLEDGE OF THE PATROL'S PRESENCE OFF THE VIETNAMESE COAST. HOWEVER, EXCEPT FOR THE MESSAGE REPORTED ABOVE WHICH WAS RELAYED ON NAVAL TRACKING FACILITIES, THE TRACKING NET CONTINUES TO BE PRACTICALLY NIL HEARD. COMINT TENDS TO INDICATE THAT THE DRV HAS ADOPTED A DEFENSIVE RATHER THAN OFFENSIVE POSTURE BUT ARE "PREPARED FOR COMBAT" (B).

(confidential HVCCO until filled)

NSA FORM N2288 REV AUG 63
(Supersedes N2288 REV JUN 61 to be used until exhausted)

~~SECRET KIMBO~~
SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

COPY NR.

ACTION PRECEDENCE	INFO PRECEDENCE	SPECIAL HANDLING
FLASH	IMMEDIATE	NONE

FROM: DIRNSA

DATE: 17 SEPTEMBER 1964

TO: USN-27
USN-27J

INFO: USN-467P
SSO DIA
CNO
CINCPAC
NSAPAC REP VIETNAM ~~(C)~~ 1
COMUSMACV

[redacted] NSA25X3

DISTRIBUTION
ADP
P05
P04
B
B2
B23
B26
DRF
P055

~~S E C R E T KIMBO~~

B205/318-64

REF USN-467P SPOT INTELLIGENCE ITEM DTG 170845Z. REQUEST IMMEDIATE ACTION TO CONFIRM/DENY 0810Z INTERCEPT REPORTED CITED ITEM, FROM INTERCEPT ACCOMPLISHED YOUR STATION. ALSO REQUEST THOROUGH SEARCH ALL INTERCEPT FOR ANY RELATED/RELEVANT ITEMS. REPLY BY FLASH PRECEDENCE TO ADDEES USN-467P SPOT INTELL ITEM [illegible]US COMUSMACV AND NSAREPVIETNAM. NEGATIVE REPLY REQUIRED.

DRAFTER	RELEASING OFFICER	RELEASED AT (ZULU)
D. C. LANG, LT. COL., USAF	D.C. LANG/LTCOL USAF/CHB205/5174s	171505 Z

DOCUMENT MARKING

PAGE 1 OF 1 PAGES

AGI NR.

AGO NR. 09048/17

REFERS TO MESSAGE
[illegible]TO
[illegible]
DTG
SUSPENSE

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

~~SECRET KIMBO~~

DTG 171521Z

27

ZKZK ZZ HHS DEZPC451

ZZ [redacted]

DE [redacted] 87 17/163ØZ SEP

ZKZK ZZ NRL SOA DE

Z 171163ØZ ZYH

FM USN 27J

TO [redacted] /USN 467P

P.L. 86-36

DIA

CNO

CINCPAC

CINCPACFLT

COMUSTDC

COMSEVENTHFLT

COMNAVFORJAPAN

CTF 72

DIRNAVSECGRU

DIRNAVSECGRUPAC

DIRNSA

JCS

[redacted]

USN 27

[redacted]

[redacted]

NSA25X3

COMUSMACV

NSAPAC REP VIETNAM ~~(C)~~

ZEM

~~S E C R E T KIMBO~~

A. USN-467P SPOT INTEL ITEM 17Ø845Z

B. USN 27J FOLLOW-UP NR Ø5 TO 2/Q1/VHN/R DTG 17Ø853Z NOTAL

C. DIRNSA B2Ø5/318-64 DTG 171521Z

1. MSG REPORTED INTERCEPTED REF ALFA WAS VERSION REF BRAVO INTERCEPTED THIS STA AT 17Ø832Z.

2. REF BRAVO USES QTE INH UNQTE AS SIGNATURE. SEARCH CONFIRMED THIS PERSONALITY TO BE LINKED WITH SOUTHERN FLEET ACTIVITY IN THE PAST. BELIEVE USE OF QTE DINH UNQTE TO MEAN POSTPONE AS REPORTED REF ALFA INCORRECT IN THIS INSTANCE, DUE TO LOCATION IN SENTENCE STRUCTURE.

3. FOL IS USN 27J VERSION REPORTED REF BRAVO QTE:

TO DETACHMENT 6 ((1GR U)) RECEIVE ORDER ((POSS TO FIGHT))

DINH ((U/I PERSONALITY))

COMMENT: UNRECOVERED GRP BELIEVED TO MEAN QTE HAVE NOT YET UNQTE. UNQTE.

4. NO RELATED ITEMS NOTED THIS MSG.

22Ø

Z [redacted]

DE [redacted] 178B 17/1646Z P.L. 86-36

ZKZK ZZ AOH RNI NRL DE

Z 171648Z ZYH

FM USN 27

TO DIRNSA

USN 27J

INFO DIA

CNO

CINCPAC

CINCPACFLT

COMUSTDC

COMSEVENTHFLT

COMNAVFORJAPAN

CTF 72

DIRNAVSECGRU

DIRNAVSECGRUPAC

JCS

NSA25X3

[redacted]

USM 9

NSAPAC REP VIETNAM (C)

COMUSMACV

ZEM

~~S E C R E T COMINT CHANNELS~~

A. DIRNSA B205/318-64 DTG 171521Z

1. RAW TFC INTERCEPT JUST RECEIVED USN-27J TOI 170832Z

REAFFIRMS USN-467P SPOT INTELL ITEM WHEN AN UNIDENT SOUTHERN FLEET ENTITY STATED QTE SUB-UNIT 6 ACKNOWLEDGED THE ORDER TO POSTPONE THE BATTLE UNQTE.

2. ONLY OTHER RELATED ITEM MAKING MENTION OF BATTLE WAS INTERCEPTED ON SHIPPING COMMS REPORTED MY 2/Q/VHS/R44-64 DTG 17Ø938Z RE-QUOTED FYI: AIR DEFENSE HQS SENDS ((2GR G)) ESPECIALLY REINFORCE THE BORDER IN ORDER TO DEFEND AGAINST ENEMY ACTIVITIES IN THE AIR AND ON THE OCEAN. BE PREPARED FOR COMBAT.

3. REMAINING INTERCEPT INDICATES DRV MAINTAINING DEFENSIVE VICE OFFENSIVE POSTURE.

21Ø

(unclassified until filled)

NSA FORM N2288 REV AUG 63
(Supersedes N2288 REV JUN 61 to be used until exhausted)

~~SECRET~~
SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

COPY NR.

29

ACTION PRECEDENCE	INFO PRECEDENCE	SPECIAL HANDLING
IMMED	PRIORITY	~~COMINT CHANNELS~~

FROM: DIRNSA

DATE: 17 SEPT 64

TO: USN-27J
USA-32
USA-57
USM-626J
[redacted]

NSA25X3

INFO: HQ NSAPAC
[redacted]
NSAPAC REP VIETNAM (C)
DIRNAVSECGRU
USAFSS
CGUSASA
PACSECRGN
USASAPAC
DIRNAVSECGRUPAC

P.L. 86-36

DISTRIBUTION
ADP
PØ5
B
B2
B26
B23
B22
B21
DRF
ADNSG
AFSS FM
ASALNGP

S E C R E T COMINT CHANNELS

B2Ø5/319-64

SUBJ: TECH BACK-UP TO REPORTING ON DESOTO PATROL

FURTHER MY B2Ø5/3Ø4-64/121951Z AND REF USN-467P SPOT INTELL ITEM DTG 17Ø845Z NOTAL.

1. MUST AGAIN EMPHASIZE NEED FOR REPORTING, VIA TECH SUPPLEMENT TO SERIALIZED PRODUCT, THE BASIS ON WHICH PRODUCT WAS FORMED.

2. FOR EXAMPLE: ALTHO CANNOT ASK U.S.S. MORTON TO TRANSMIT TECH BACK-UP MATERIAL THE DESIRABILITY OF USN-27J/USN-27/NSA POSSESSION, ON MOST TIMELY BASIS, OF ACTUAL RAW TRAFFIC FORMING BASIS FOR USN-467P SPOT INTELL ITEM IS OBVIOUS. BY SAME TOKEN USN-27/NSA POSSESSION OF RAW TRAFFIC (ACTUAL MSGS ETC) FORMING BASIS FOR THE TWO USN-27J SPOT REPORTS AND SPOT SUPPLEMENTS ALREADY ISSUED ON CURRENT DESOTO PATROL

DRAFTER: D. C. LANG,LTCOL,USAF, CH B2Ø5/5174

RELEASING OFFICER: D.C.LANG,LTCOL,USAF,CH B2Ø5/5174s

RELEASED AT (ZULU): 171630 Z

PAGE 1 OF 2 PAGES

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AGI NR.

AGO NR. Ø9Ø77/17

REFERS TO MESSAGE
AGO
AGI
DTG
SUSPENSE

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION
~~HANDLE VIA COMINT CHANNELS ONLY~~
~~SECRET~~

DTG 171655Z

(unclassified until filled)

NSA FORM N2288 REV AUG 63
(Supersedes N2288 REV JUN 61 to be used until exhausted)

~~SECRET~~
SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

COPY NR.

ACTION PRECEDENCE | INFO PRECEDENCE | SPECIAL HANDLING

DISTRIBUTION

FROM:

DATE:

TO:

IS ALSO OBVIOUS.

3. AGAIN URGENTLY RESTATE REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL PRODUCERS OF SIGINT PRODUCT RELATING TO CURRENT DESOTO PATROL TO FORWARD VIA SAME PRECEDENCE AS PRODUCT REPORT ITSELF THE REQUIRED TECHNICAL INFORMATION IN FORM OF TECH SUPPLEMENTS IAW SECTION IV, PARA 5 BRAVO OF TECHINS 4Ø14.

4. FOR USN-27J: REQUEST YOU IMMEDIATELY FORWARD TECH SUPPLEMENTS FOR YOUR TWO SPOT REPORTS (AND SUPPLEMENTS) VIA IMMEDIATE PRECEDENCE IAW TECHINS 4Ø14

M/R: Field stations have not been, and are not now, adhereing to the requirements of TECHINS 4Ø14 in the forwarding of technical back-up reports to their serialized product.

DRAFTER | RELEASING OFFICER | RELEASED AT (ZULU) Z

DOCUMENT MARKING

PAGE 2 OF 2 PAGES

AGI NR.

AGO NR. Ø77/17

REFERS TO MESSAGE
NO
AGI
DTG
SUSPENSE

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

~~HANDLE VIA COMINT CHANNELS ONLY~~

~~SECRET~~

DTG

30

OO [redacted]

DE [redacted] 19ØB 17/1748Z SEP

P.L. 86-36

ZKZK OO HHA NNN NRL DE

O 17175ØZ ZYHH

FM USN 27

TO DIST QUEBEC/MIKE

NSA25X3

[redacted]

USN 467P

ZEM

~~S E C R E T KIMBO~~

2/Q/VHN/R1Ø1-64 ST22Ø RPT 2/Q/VHN/R1Ø1-64 ST22Ø

FOLLOW UP NR Ø2 TO USN-27J 2/Q1/VHN/RØ7-64 SPOT REPORT

POSS ALERT OF DRV NAVAL FORCES.

THERE ARE INDICATIONS OF A DRV NAVAL UNIT IN THE VICINITY OF 18-53N 1Ø5-34E. AT 17Ø955Z AN UNIDENT STATION INFORMED A COMRADE THU AND SUB-UNIT SEVEN TO ALLOW THE UNIT TO GO UP TO YUAN ZUONG (18-53N 1Ø5-34E). THIS POSITION WAS POINTED OUT TO BE ALONG THE SOUTHERN BANK AND 2.7 NAUTICAL MILES FROM THE UNIT'S PRESENT POSITION.

COMMENT: THIS POSITION IS APPROX 3Ø MILES WNW OF ENTRY POINT DELTA (18-42N 1Ø6-11E) OF DESOTO VESSEL AT 172344Z.

2ØØ

ZZ [redacted]

DE [redacted] 77B 18/Ø533Z SEP

P.L.
86-36

ZKZK ZZ SOA NRL DE

Z 18Ø534Z ZYH

FM USN 27

TO DIA

CNO

CINCPAC

CINCPACFLT

COMUSTDC

COMSEVENTHFLT

COMNAVFORJAPAN

CTF 72

DIRNAVSECGRU

DIRNAVSECGRUPAC

DIRNSA

JCS

[redacted]

USN 27

USN 27J

[redacted]

NSA25X3

NSA25X6

COMUSTDC

CTG 77.6

CTG 77.7

CTF 77

ZEM

Z 18Ø247Z ZYH

FM USN 467P

TO USN 27

ZEM

~~S E C R E T KIMBO~~

TITLE SPOT INTELLIGENCE

ITEM P1. FUP FOL PARTIALLY GARBLED MSG PASSED AT Ø247Z FROM UNIDENT VESSEL TO UNIDENT SHORE BASED SHIPPING NET CONTROL STATION ("CAN SEE CLEARLY NR 946) AND (95Ø. PREPARING FOR BATTLE. MET ANOTHER (X GRPS MISSED)1 -/975 1ØØ METERS) AWAY (CAN SEE CLEARLY 946) AND (59Ø PRESENTLY PREPARING TO (GARBLED) PLEASE INFORM THE DISTRICT OSCAR OSCAR PLEASE INFORM THE DISTRICT AND OSCAR OSCAR. DISTRICT 228ØØ."

PARA 2. USS EDWARDS DELTA DELTA 9Ø5 AND USS MORTON DELTA DELTA 948 AT TIME OF INTERCEPT PASSED TWO FISHING VESSELS DISTANCE TWO THOUSAND YARDS. NO CRS CHANGES OR OVERT ACTIONS MADE.

OO YDRKDA YDRKDO YDRLDN YEKAXA YEKHDH

DE YMZDAH 55B 18/Ø348Z SEP

ZKZK OO HHA NNN NRL DE

O 18Ø35ØZ ZYH

FM USN 27

TO DIST QUEBEC/MIKE

[redacted] NSA25X3

PLUS USN 467P

ZEM

~~S E C R E T KIMBO~~

2/Q/VHN/R1Ø2-64 ST 22Ø RPT 2/Q/VHN/R1Ø2-64

FOLLOWUP NR Ø3 TO USN-27J 2/Q1/VHN/RØ7-64 SPOT REPORT

POSS ALERT OF DRV NAVAL FORCES

AT 18Ø254Z, HAIPHONG INFORMED THE RADAR SITE AT MY DUC

AND/94 THE SITE IN THE VICINITY OF HON NGU

OF THE PRESENCE OF TWO (ENEMY) DESTROYERS AT Ø83ØG AND

ORDERED THE STATION(S) TO REPORT CONTINUOUSLY BACK TO ((K)).

(HAIPHONG). THE VESSELS WERE REPORTED AT A RANGE OF 18 NM

FROM AN UNDETERMINED POINT.

THIS IS THE INITIAL REFLECTION OF THE DESOTO PATROL THUS

FAR NOTED ON DRV NAVAL NETS ON 18 SEPT.

ZKZK PP HHS HII NRL DE

P 18Ø356Z

FM USN-27

TO QUEBEC/TANGO

[redacted]

USN 467P

CINCPAC

ZEM

NSA25X3

~~S E C R E T KIMBO~~

[redacted] ST 161, 229 RPT [redacted] ST 161, 229

DRV [redacted] FOR PERIOD 1617ØØZ - 171659Z SEPT 64

I. HIGHLIGHT:

A. AT 17Ø2Ø3Z PORT WALLUT INFORMED ALL STATIONS AND SHIPS THAT THE 7TH FLEET WAS ACTIVE FROM ZOI ((2 GR G)) TO KHANG NGAI (UNLOCATED). ALL STATIONS AND SHIPS WERE FURTHER INFORMED THAT HQS REALIZED THAT THE ENEMY COULD ENTER THE GULF AND STEAM CLOSE TO THE SHORELINE THEREBY PROVOKING THE DRV. ALL WERE ORDERED TO GUARD AGAINST A POSSIBLE ENEMY ATTACK FROM THE AIR OR THE SEA AND OTHER POSSIBLE PROVOCATIONS. AT 17Ø714Z BEN THUY INFORMED THE T-259, T-253 AND SUB-UNIT 2 THAT AT 1ØØØG 17 SEPTEMBER, THERE WERE TWO DESTROYERS BEARING 99 DEGREES, RANGE 28. NAUTICAL MILES, COURSE 3Ø9 DEGREES, SPEED 18 KNOTS. ALTHOUGH NO POINT OF REFERENCE WAS MENTIONED OBSERVING SITE WAS PROBABLY VINH SON. ALL SHIPS WERE ORDERED TO EFFECT ALERT CONDITION 1 AND COMMENCE PATROLS, GUARDING AGAINST A POSSIBLE ATTACK.

II. DRV NAVY, FLEET OPERATIONS:

A. LEVEL OF ACTIVITY:

1. DRV NAVAL COMMUNICATIONS WERE NORMAL DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD WITH TEN VESSELS ACTIVE, INCLUDING: SO-1 CLASS SUBCHASERS T-227, T-231, SWATOW CLASS PGMS T-12Ø, T-134, T-142, T-146, ¢-259, YARD PATROL VESSEL T-253, UNIDENTIFIED T-31 UNIDENTIFIED T-26.

B. MAINLINE NETS:

1. COMMAND NET UNOBSERVED. ON THE ADMIN NEES, DRV NAVAL HQS HAIPHONG WAS ACTIVE WITH NORTHERN FLEET HQS PORT WALLUT, SOUTHERN FLEET HQS BEN THUY, AND SUBORDINATE ACTIVITY QUANG KHE. REMAINING COMMAND/ADMIN NETS CONSIDERED NORMAL.

2. ROUTINE PREFLIGHT MESSAGE WAS PASSED TO NORTHERN FLEET ELEMENTS.

C. NORTHERN FLEET AREA, PORT WALLUT:

1. NORTHERN FLEET MOBILE ACTIVITY INCLUDED: SO-1 SUBCHASERS T-227, T-231, SWATOWS T-12Ø, T-134, T-142, T-146, SUB-UNITS 1, 2, AND 3.

2. AT 17ØØ14Z THE T-142 WAS ORDERED QTE NOT TO FIRE UNQTE. ALTHOUGH NOT SPECIFIED, THIS ORDER PROBABLY REFERS TO GUNNERY EXERCISES (SEE FOLLOWING).

3. AT 17ØØ46Z THE T-227 WAS INFORMED THAT ON THE MORNING OF 17 SEPTEMBER SHE WOULD TEST FIRE HER 2ØMM GUNS AT HANG DUAB (UNLOCATED).

4. AT 17Ø231Z THE T-12Ø WAS INFORMED THAT SHE WOULD RETURN TO PORT AT 1 ((5G 18 SEPTEMBER TO TAKE ON WATER.

5. AT 17Ø3Ø5Z THE T-231 ANCHORED UNSPECIFIED AREA, AFTERNOON AND EVENING OF 17 SEPTEMBER.

6. AT 17Ø42ØZ THE T-146 WAS INFORMED THAT THE "ENEMY HAS THE INTENTIONS OF PROVOKING AND POSSIBLY ATTACKING BY MEANS OF THE SEA AND AIR ROUTES" SHE WAS ORDERED TO CAMOUFLAGE, PREPARE FOR A POSSIBLE ATTACK AND AWAIT FURTHER ORDERS.

D. SOUTHERN FLEET AREA, BEN THUY:

1. SOUTHERN FLEET MOBILE ACTIVITY INCLUDED: SWATOW T-1ØN YARD PATROL VESSEL T-253, UNIDENTIFIED T-326, UNIDENTIFIED T-26, SUB-UNITS 2, 6 AND 7.

2. AT 17Ø83ØZ, UNIDENTIFIED SOUTHERN FLEET ACTIVITY REPORTED THAT SUB-UNIT 6 ACKNOWLEDGED THE ORDERS WHICH POSTPONED THE BATTLE. SIGNIFICANCE THIS ORDER UNDETERMINED, NO OTHER OFFENSIVE ACTIONS INDICATED DRV NAVY COMMS.

3. AT 17Ø955Z AN UNIDENTIFIED ACTIVITY INFORMED COMRADE THU AND SUB-UNIT 7 THAT THE SUB-UNIT WAS TO GO AND REMAIN AT YUAN ZOUNG (18-53N 1Ø5-34E) (See 2/Q/VHN/R1Ø1-64).

4. 3-5 171213Z SUB-UNIT 2 WAS INFORMED THAT THE T-326 HAD A SMALL ENGINE FITTING OUT OF ORDER.

E. TRACKING:

1. HAIPHONE, PORT WALLUT, BEN THUY TRACKING CONTROLS WERE ACTIVE WITH BACH LONG VI, DO SON, HON MATT, HONG NGU LN MY DUCH, VINH SON, AND FIVE UNIDENTIFIED OUTSTATIONS. FORTY THREE MESSAGES WERE OBSERVED. DESOTO PATROL PROBABLY REFLECTED IN ONLY FIVE OF TRACKING MESSAGES.

NSA25X3

III. [redacted] ACTIVITY:

A. NO REFLECTIONS DESOTO PATROL NOTED IN AVAILABLE [redacted] [redacted] INTERCEPT.

PP

DE 94B 18/Ø643Z SEP

P.L.
86-36

ZKZK PP HHA NNN NRL DE

P 18Ø646Z

FM USN 27

TO DIST QUEBEC/MIKE

PLUS

USN 27J

NSA25X3

USN 467P

ZEM

34

~~S E C R E T KIMBO~~

2/Q/VHN/R1Ø3-64 ST 22Ø RPT 2/Q/VHN/R1Ø3-64 ST 22Ø

FOLLOW UP NR Ø1 AND FINAL TO 2/Q/VHN/R99-64 SPOT REPORT.

I. PROBABLE DRV REACTIONS TO PRESENCE OF DESOTO PATROL.

1. THROUGHOUT THE DAY OF 17 SEPTEMBER DRV NAVAL ENTITIES WERE AWARE OF THE PRESENCE OF THE DESOTO VESSELS. ALL INTERCEPT TENDS TO IMPLY THAT THE DRV NAVY ASSUMED A DEFENSIVE POSTURE AND WAS NOT PREPARING TO REACT OVERTLY AS EXPERIENCED ON 2 AND 4 AUGUST. THERE IS BUT ONE MSG OF UNDETERMINED SIGNIFICANCE WHICH STATED THAT SUB-UNIT 6 (A SOUTHERN FLEET ENTITY) ACKNOWLEDGED ORDERS WHICH POSSIBLY STATED THE BATTLE HAD BEEN POSTPONED.

2. AT 17ØØ54Z PORT WALLUT REPORTED THE PRESENCE OF THE QTE SEVENTH FLEET UNQTE TO ALL SHIPS AND STATIONS ((A)). THEY WERE DIRECTED TO DEFEND FORCIBLY IN THE GENERAL SOUTHERN AREA AND GUARD AGAINST ENEMY ATTACK BY SEA OR AIR. AT 17Ø429Z PORT WALLUT INFORMED THE SWATOW T-146 THAT THE ENEMY HAD INTENTIONS

OF PROVOKING AND ATTACKING THE DRV ON 17 AND 18 SEPTEMBER. ((B)) PORT WALLUT AGAIN AT 17Ø514Z ADMONISHED AN UNIDENT STATION TO CAMOUFLAGE AND PREPARE FOR POSSIBLE ATTACKS. AT 17Ø714Z BEN THUY INFORMED THE SWATOW T-259, YP T-253, AND SUB-UNIT 2 THAT THE 1ØØØG OBSERVATION FROM AN UNSPECIFIED LOCATION CONSISTED OF TWO DESTROYERS BEARING 99 DEGREES, RANGE 28 NAUTICAL MILES, COURSE 3Ø9 DEGREES, SPEED 18 KNOTS. ((C)) ALL STATIONS WERE DIRECTED TO ASSUME ALERT CONDITION ONE. THIS OBSERVATION WAS PROBABLY TAKEN BY VINH SON RADAR SITE THUS LOCATING PATROL IN VICINITY 17-52N E (NEAR POINT BRAVO) AT TIME OF SIGHTING. AGAIN AT 17Ø92ØZ UNSPECIFIED (PROB VINH SON) STATION REPORTED THE SAME INFORMATION WITH A TIME OR SIGHTING OF 1Ø2ØG. AT 17Ø955Z COMRADE THU OF SUB-UNIT 7 WAS PERFITTED TO TAKE HIS UNIT TO XUAN ZUONG (18-53N 1Ø5-34E). THIS POSITION IS APPROX 3Ø MILES WNW OF DESOTO VESSELS ENTRY TO POINT DELTA (18-42N 1Ø6-11E). ((D)) PORT WALLUT REPORTED THE DESTROYERS POSITION AS 46 DEGREES APPROX RANGE 26 MILES. COURSE 328 DEGREES, SPEED 15 KNOTS FROM AN UNSPECIFIED POSITION. TIME OF OBSERVATION REPORTED AT 143ØG AND ONCE AGAIN PROBABLY REPORTED FROM VINH SON.

3. DRV TRACKING FACILITIES OPERATED AT A NORMAL LEVEL ON 17 SEPTEMBER, PASSING APPROXIMATELY 75 MESSAGES, ONLY FIVE OF WHICH REFLECTED THE MOVEMENTS OF THE DESOTO PATROL. ALTHOUGH NOT OBSERVED ON THE TRACKING NET, THE RADAR SITE AT VINH SON (17-57N 1Ø6-3ØE) PROBABLY TRACKED THE VESSELS IN THE VICINITY OF POINT BRAVO AT APPROXIMATELY 17Ø32ØZ. AT 17Ø6Ø4Z, VINH SON REPORTED THE VESSELS TO BE AT 18-Ø6N 1Ø6-53E. THE PATROL WAS SUBSEQUENTLY TRACKED BY HON MATT (18-47N 1Ø5-58E) FROM 17Ø945Z AT 19-39N 1Ø6-22E ON A NORTHWESTERLY COURSE TO 18-43N 1Ø6-2ØE AT 171ØØØZ,

THENCE NORTHEASTERLY TO 18-53N 1Ø6-32E AT 171135Z WHERE TRACKING CEASED.

4. THIS WILL BE A FINAL REPORT IN THIS SPOT REPORT SERIES. SUBSEQUENT REFLECTIONS OF DRV REACTION WILL BE PUBLISHED IN A NEW SPOT SERIES OR OTHER APPROPRIATE VEHICLE.

((A)) 2/Q/VHN/R99-64

((B)) 2/Q1/VHN/R1Ø-64

((C)) 2/Q1/VHN/R11-64

((D)) 2/Q1/VHN/R1Ø1-64

6Ø3

NNNN

OO [redacted]

DE [redacted] 51 18/Ø935Z

ZKZK OO HHA NRL DR

O 18Ø92ØZ ZYH

FM USN 27J

TO QUEBEC ONE/CHARLIE

[redacted]/AFSSO SAC

[redacted]/AFSSO CONAD

[redacted]/AFSSO TAC

COMNAVFORJAPAN

[redacted]/USN 467P

COMNAVPHIL

COMTAIWANDEFCOM/US

[redacted]

USN 39

[redacted]

ZEM

~~S E C R E T KIMBO~~

DESOTO SUPPORT

2/Q1/VHN/R18-64 RPT 2/Q1/VHN/R18-64, ST 22Ø

FOLLOWUP NR 1Ø TO 2/Q1/VHN/RØ7-64, SPOT REPORT DTG 17Ø315Z

POSS ALERT OF DRV NAVAL FORCES

1. MSG INTERCEPTED DIRECTING TO TAKE PRECAUTIONS AGAINST SOUTH VIETNAMESE VESSELS TAKING ADVANTAGE OF AMERICAN SHIPS AS PRESENCE TO ATTACK THE SHORE. RELY ON HEADQUARTERS TO CONTROL THE SITUATION. PRECAUTIONS AGAINST AIR ATTACK ON PORT GAINH WAS NOTED IN GARBLED MSG WHICH ALSO MADE

P.L. 86-36

NSA25X3

35

REFERENCE TO QTE AVOID PROVOCATION UNQTE AND QTE PROMOTE DISPERSION AND CAMOUFLAGE UNQTE.

2. FOL VESSEL MOVEMENTS DIRECTED:

SWATOW PGM T-255 AND T-259 RETURN PORT AT 1812ØØZ AND REPORT SITUATION OF BACH ((1GR G)) TO GIANH RIVER AREA.

SWATOW PGM T-253 REMAIN QUANG LOC (U/L).

T-326 (UXI) RETURN PORT TONIGHT (18 SEP), POSS PORT GIANH.

2ØØ

ZKZK OO ZAD

ZKZK OO ZSL ZLA AOH HII DE

OO RUEPCR 378

DE RUMGUN 289 18/1256Z

Z O 181256Z

FM CTG SEVEN SEVEN PT SIX

TO RUATUL/BVKG/COMSEVENTHFLT

RUHLHL/CINCPACFLT

INFO RUEKDA/JCS

RUECW/CNO

RUHLHQ/CINCPUCN

RUMFUI/ULKT/CTF SEVEN SEVEN

RUEPCR/WHITE HOUSE

RUEPCR/STATE DEPARTMENT

RUEKDA/SEC DEF

RUEPIA/CIA

RUEPCR/DIRNSA

RUMJIR/AMEMB SAIGON

RUMSMA/COMUSMACV

RUMFS/COMNAVPHIL

RUMFCR/CTU SEVEN SEVEN PT SIX PT SIX

RUMFKB/CTU SEVEN ZERO PT TWO PT ONE

RUEAHQ/DIA

BT

~~T O P S E C R E T~~

TONKIN GULF DESOTO PATROL (S)

SITREP TWO

A. COMSEVENTHFLT 12Ø633Z

B. MY 18ØØØ1Z

1. 18123ØZ NAVY PEON POSIT IARRN OPERATE,

REQUESTING AIR IMVER REPORTS FIRING ON CLOSING TGTS.

BHR LAUNCHED 2 F8 18124ØZ. CONSTEL 2 F4B CTLD I.

BOTH CVA HAVE 4A4/2 AIH COND I LOADED FOR

PT BOATS. FLARES INCLUDED

2. 181145Z WAVY PEON REPORTS QUOTE BELIEVE

SITUATION IN HAND AT PRESENT. DO NOT

REPEAT NOT REQUIRE ADDITIONAL ACFT. OVERHEAD UNQUOTE.

GP-1

BT

CRITIC CRITIC CRITIC CRITIC CRITIC CRITIC CRITIC CRITIC CRITIC CRITIC

ZZ YEKAAH

DE YADLKR

ZKZK ZZ ZZZ DE

ZYH

FM COMNAVFORJAPAN

TO DIRNSA

ZEM

~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~

FOLLOWING RECEIVED FROM CTG 77.6.6 OVER [illegible] NET.

AT 181233Z AM FIRING ON CLOSING TARGET. REQUEST COVER

MSG WAS SENT TO USTDC FOR RELAY.

C FM 18/13Ø1Z SEP DTG 1813Ø1Z

37

ZZ [redacted]

DE [redacted] 174B 18/1337Z SEP

P.L.
86-36

ZKZK ZZ SOA NNN NRL DE

Z 181338Z ZYH

FM USN 27

TO DIST QUEBEC/MIKE

ZEN USN 467P

ZEM

~~S E C R E T KIMBO~~

2/Q/VHN/R1Ø5-64 ST 22Ø RPT 2/Q/VHN/R1Ø5-64 ST 22Ø

FOLLOWING MESSAGE PASSED FROM PORT WALLUT TO UNIDENTIFIED ENTITY AT 181Ø38Z: //2 PART MESSAGE COMPLETE//

NR 32. TO ALL STATIONS. THE ENEMY IS CARRYING OUT PROVOCATIONS: ALL STATIONS WILL INCREASE THE STRENGTH OF ((THEIR)) AREAS; ((BE ABLE TO)) DISTINGUISH AMERICAN SHIPS; SOUTHERN AREA. TRY YOUR BEST TO AVOID PROVOCATIONS; HOLD AGAIN THE PROPOSAL OF NEW OPERATIONS OF KH 1ØØ ((A)); WARD OFF ENEMY AIRCRAFT ATTACKS. ALL STATIONS PROMOTE DISPERSING ((1GRU)) PREPARE ALL TO BE READY. SUGGEST SHIPS IN THE SOUTHERN AREA ((BEWARE)) U.S. ATTACK RAIDER SHIPS ENTERING INTO SHORE. THANK

((A)) AS IN TEXT, MEANING UNKNOWN

38

(confidential HVCCO until filled)

NSA FORM N2288 REV AUG 63
(Supersedes N2288 REV JUN 61 to be used until exhausted)

~~TOP SECRET DINAR~~
SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

COPY NR.

ACTION PRECEDENCE	INFO PRECEDENCE	SPECIAL HANDLING
FLASH	IMMED	NONE

FROM: DIRNSA

DATE: 16 SEP 64

TO: USN-27
USN-27J
[redacted]
[redacted]
USM-626J
USM-9

INFO: [redacted]
USAFSS
CUSASA
[redacted]
[redacted]
SUSLO (M)
HQ NSAPAC
ASSTDIRNAVSECGRU
[redacted]
NSAPAC REP VIETNAM ~~(C)~~
NSAPAC REP PHIL
[redacted]
CUSASAPAC
PACSECRGM
DIRNAVSECGRUPAC
DIRNAVSECGRU

DISTRIBUTION
ADN
ADP
PØ5
PØ4
D31
D32
B
B2
B22
B21
B23
B24
B26
AUSLO
PØ55
ADNSG
DRF

P.L. 86-36

~~T O P S E C R E T DINAR~~

B2Ø5/316-64

NSA25X3
NSA25X6

SUBJECT: SIGINT READINESS

1. IN VIEW OF RECENT ACTIONS AGAINST THE DESOTO PATROL IN THE GULF OF TONKIN, SIGINT READINESS BRAVO IS DECLARED AT ACTION ADDRESSEES THIS MESSAGE. 2. REPORTING TO BE ACCOMPLISHED IAW FOLLOWING: A. ALL FIELD STATIONS REPORT DRV [UNCODED] REFLECTIONS/ REACTIONS TO DESOTO PATROL AS OBSERVED IAW TECHINS 4Ø14 AND 4Ø19 AT PRECEDENCE APPROPRIATE TO SIGNIFICANCE OF ACTY. ASSURE THAT USN-467P (ROUTING DESIGNATOR [redacted]), CINCPAC, CINCPACFLT, COMSEVENTHFLT, COMNAVPHIL, COMNAVFORJAPAN, NSAPAC REP VIETNAM ~~(C)~~, USN-27, [redacted] USN-39, AND ALL CVA DETS WESTPAC ARE INCLUDED AS RECIPIENTS ALL

P.L. 86-36

DRAFTER	RELEASING OFFICER	RELEASED AT (ZULU)
P. W. TRITSCHLER, B2Ø51, 5174s	D.C.LANG,LTCOL,USAF,CH B2Ø5, 5174s	181335 Z

DOCUMENT MARKING

PAGE 1 OF PAGES 2

AGI NR.

AGO NR. Ø9Ø18/18

REFERS TO MESSAGE
AGI
DTG
SUSPENSE

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION
~~TOP SECRET DINAR~~

DTG 181347Z

39

(confidential HVCCO until filled)

NSA FORM N2288 REV AUG 63
(Supersedes N2288 REV JUN 61 to be used until exhausted)

~~TOP SECRET DINAR~~
SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

COPY NR.

ACTION PRECEDENCE	INFO PRECEDENCE	SPECIAL HANDLING

FROM: DATE:

TO:

DISTRIBUTION

REPORTS, WRITING IN TO ESTABLISHED DISTRIBUTIONS AS REQUIRED. SIX HOUR REPORTING NOT RPT NOT REQUIRED. IMPORTANT THAT TECH DATA FORMING BASIS ALL REPORTS BE FORWARDED SOONEST POSSIBLE TO [redacted] DIRNSA AND [redacted] FLAG ALL REPORTS SIGINT READINESS BRAVO OUTBOARD. B. [redacted] WILL PROVIDE TIMELY WRAP-UP REPORTING AS REQUIRED OF ALL [redacted] REFLECTIONS/REACTIONS. 3. FOR [redacted] APPREC YOU ARRANGE SUCH [redacted] PARTICIPATION AS YOU DEEM APPROPRIATE

NSA25X3
NSA25X6

COMCUR: PØ5, Dr. Shinn
ADP, [redacted]

PROPOSED BY:
B Group, [redacted]

NSA25X6

/R: Instructions to field units for reporting developments under SIGINT READINESS BRAVO OUTBOARD. This action approved by Chief, B2 and Chief, PØ5.

DRAFTER	RELEASING OFFICER	RELEASED AT (ZULU) Z
DOCUMENT MARKING		PAGE 2 OF PAGES 2
		AGI NR.
		AGO NR. Ø18/18

REFERS TO MESSAGE	SECURITY CLASSIFICATION	DTG
GO AGI DTG SUSPENSE	~~TOP SECRET DINAR~~	

P.L.
86-36

DE

DE

DE 556 18/1412Z SEP

ZKZK RR RNI DE

O 1814Ø8Z ZYH

FM DIRNSA

TO OSCAR/VICTOR XRAY

USN 467P

ALL CVA NSG DETS WESTPAC

ZEM

~~S E C R E T KIMBO~~ CHANGE 2 2/Q/VHN/R12-64

CHANGE 2

DRV NAVAL MESSAGE POSSIBLY REFERS TO "BATTLE POSTPONMENT"

1. CONTINUED ANALYSIS OF A DRV NAVAL MESSAGE PASSED AT 17Ø834Z BY UNIDENTIFIED CORRESPONDENTS INDICATES THE MESSAGE SHOULD READ:

"SUB-UNIT 6((1)), (C VAL LET US KNOW) IF YOU HAVE RECEIVED ORDERS TO FIGHT. ((SIGNED)) DINH((2))

2. CHANGE TITLE TO READ: "DRV NAVAL MESSAGE POSSIBLY REFERS TO "BATTLE ORDERS."

- - - - - - - - - - -

((1)) AN ELEMENT OF SOUTHERN FLEET AND PROBABLY COMPRISED OF THREE VESSELS.

((2)) PROBABLY THE INDIVIDUAL PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED AS DEPUTY COMMANDER OF SUB-UNIT AND SKIPPER OF SWATOW 495.

ZKZK OO ZAD ZHA DECA837

ZKZK OO ONN ZSL DEDZB13Ø

CDA 435VV KCG489VV PHAHØ52B327VH068ØTFC681UN16Ø

OO RUEPCR RUEPIA

DE RUMGUN 315 18/1426Z

O 181426Z

FM CTG SEVEN SEVEN PT SIX

TO RUATUL/COMSEVENTHFLT

RUHLHL/CINCPACFLT

INFO RUEKA/JCS

RUECW/CNO

RUHLHQ/CINCPAC

RUMFUKDZU5KT/CTF SEVEN SEVEN

RUEPCR/WHITE HOUSE

RUEPCR/STATE DEPT

RUEKDA/SEC DEF

RUEPIA/CIA

RUEPCR/DIRNSA

RUMJIR/AMEMB SAIGON

RUMSMA/COMUSMACV

RUMFS/COMNAVPHIL

RUMFCR/-ØEV/CTU SEVEN SEVEN PT SIX PT SIX

RUAGFL/M3TC/CTU SEVEN ZERO PT TWO PT ONE

RUEAHQ/JCS

~~T O P S E C R E T~~

TONKIN GULF DESOTO PATROL (S)

SITREP FOUR

A. COMSEVENTHFLT 12Ø633Z

B. MY 181337Z

1. 181355Z WAVY PEON REPORTS HE HAS HELD TOTAL OF FIVE HOSTILE SURF TGTS AND HAS XARED ON ALL GR REPORTS BELIEVE THREE TGTS SUNK.

2. NEGATIVE DAMAGE TO DESOTO SHIPS 1814Ø8Z.

3. 1814Ø8Z. WAVY PEON REPORTS PROCEEDING TO POINT NORTHEAST OF POINT ALFA GUND WILL AMPLIFY INFO SENT PREVIOUSLY. ALL QUIET AT PRESENT. GP-1

ZZ

DE [redacted] 77 18/441Z SEP

P.L.
86-36

ZKZK ZZ HHA DE

Z 181440Z ZYH

FM USN 27J

TO USN 27

INFO DIRNSA

ZEM

~~S E C R E T KIMBO~~

DESOTO SUPPORT

A. USN-27 181338Z

1. MESSAGE REPORTED REF A INTERCEPTED THIS STA AND REPORTED AS FOL:

RADIO STATIONS PROMOTE DISPERSION AND CAMOUFLAGE AND PREPARE THE SURFACE PREPARATIONS. TAKE PRECAUTIONS AGAINST THE SVN SHIPS TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE AMERICAN SHIPS TO ATTACK AND RAID THE COAST. THANH NVN

2. CACS DAIR SUCQ TIDENSIPHAAF HANS NGUYJ TRANG CHUAANR BIJ CACS MAWTJ SAWNR SANGF. DEEF PHOCGF TAUF MIEENF NAM LOWIJ ZUNGJ TAUF MYX TAANS COONG BIEETJ KICHS VWOF BOWF. THANH

3. MSG INTERCEPTED AT 1001Z. TEXT ESSENTIALLY SAME AS MSG INTERCEPTED AT 1004Z WITH ADD AS FOL: TAKE PRECAUTIONS AGAINST ENEMY AIR ATTACK. DEEF PHONGF MAYS BUY DICHJ TAANS COONG

DE RUEPCR 194 18/2Ø53Z

Z 182Ø52Z

INFO RUEPWW/WHITE HOUSE

RUEHCR/STATE DEPT

RUEPIA/CIA

RUEPCR/NSA

Z 181542Z

FM CTU 77.6.6

TO AIG 181

RUMSSA/COMUSMACV

ZEN/CTF 77

RUMFUAO/C7OG/CTF 76

ZEN/CTG 77.7

ZEN/CTG 77.6

RUWDAF/MOPHOTOUPAC

ZEN/NAVCOMMSSA PHIL

BT

~~S E C R E T~~

AMPLIFYING REPORT ON DESOTO 181327Z SITREP

1. SITREP FOLLOWS IN TWO PARTS FACTS AND OPINIONS .

A. AT 181992H MORTON AND EDWARDS STEAMING IN COLUMN DISTANCE 2ØØØ YDS COURSE 13Ø SPEED 2Ø KTS CONDITION OF READINESS THREE, AT LAT 15-48N LONG 1Ø6-48.6E.

B. MADE SURFACE RADAR CONTACT AT 181943H BRG 118 RANGE 2Ø,5ØØ YDS TRACKED ON COURSE 213 AT 17 KTS NO LIGHTS SHOWING. WATCHED CONTACT CLOSING UNTIL A 11,5ØØ YDS WITH A 15Ø-34ØØ YD CPA.

C. AT 181950H WITH TARGET AT APPROX 9500 YDS TURNED RIGHT 30 DEGREES AND INCREASED SPEED TO 25 KTS TO CLEAR CONTACT MORE. AT 2014 TURNED RIGHT 60 MORE DEGREES WHEN RANGE CONTINUED TO CLOSE CONTACT SIT TO 2 CONTACTS CAME RIGHT AND INCREASED SP TO 23 KNOTS. HEARD HYDROPHONE EFFECTS ON SAME BEARING. (NOTE: TRAINING OF SNARMEN CONDUCTED YESTERDAY.)

D. 182000H SSS COND OF READINESS ONE BOTH SHIPS TURNED 60 DEGREES FURTHER RIGHT TO EVADE TORPEDOES IN CASE FIRED.

E. 182006H MADE SURFACE CONTACT BRG 292 RANGE 11,200.

F. 182008H CHANGED COURSE TO 160. AND SPEED TO 15 KNOTS TO PASS BETWEEN CONTACTS IN CASE FRIENDLY.

G. NO CONTACTS SHOWED ANY LIGHTS.

H. 182154H DECIDED TO MOVE BETWEEN AND AWAY FROM TARGETS RAPIDLY.

I. 182018H CONTACTS ON BOTH BOWS CLOSING TRACKED AT SPEEDS FROM 22-35 KNOTS.

J. 182019H AT BEARING 7 RANGE MILES DIRECTED MORTON FIRED ONE WARNING SHOT AHEAD OF CONTACTS ON PORT BOW.

K. 182020H WHEN TARGETS CONTINUED TO CLOSE RAPIDLY ORDERED MORTON TO OPEN FIRE.

L. AT 182022H DIRECTED EDWARDS TO FIRE WARNING SHOT AHEAD OF CLOSING

TARGET ON HIS SIDE.

M. 182023H MORTON CEASED FIRE, HITS OBSERVED, ONE TARGET DISAPPEARED OTHER OPENED RAPIDLY TO SOUTHWEST.

N. AT 182025Z DIRECTED EDWARDS TO OPEN FIRE ON TARGET CLOSING ON HIS SIDE. FOUR HITS OBSERVED BY EDWARD TARGET APPEARED AND CEASED FIRE AT 182032H.

O. 182Ø28H MORTON FIRED WARNING SHOT AT TARGET BEARING 145-85ØØ WITH HYDROPHONE EFFECTS OPENED FIRE AT 2Ø26H. THREE HITS OBSERVED TARGET FADED.

P. BOTH SHIPS FIRED ON TARGET AT Ø79-85ØØØ AT 2136 ONE DIRECT HIT BY MORTON AND FIVE HITS OBSERVED BY EDWARD. TARGET DISAPPEARED.

Q. 182137H CEASED ALL FIRING.

R. NO TARGETS VISUALLY SIGHTED. NO DESCRIPTION POSSIBLE.

TOTAL ROUNDS FIRED BY MORTON 56-5 INCH 128-3 INCH. BY EDWARDS 2Ø5 INCH 6ØØ5 INCH NO KNOWN ROUNDS FIRED AT EITHER MORTON OR EDWARDS.

S. NO KNOWN TORPEDOES FIRED AT EITHER SHIP.

T. ALL CONTACTS RADAR

3. OPINIONS TYPE SHIP NOT KNOWN COULD BE SWATOWS OUTSIDE OF GUN RANGE. IF SWATOWS ONLY EXPLANATION FOR NOT USING ALL OF SPEED IS UNSURE OF DESTROYER POSITIONS.

GP-3

Z 181550Z

FM JCS

TO UHPA/CINCPAC

INFO RUPB/CINCPACFLT

BT

~~T O P S E C R E T~~ JCS 8790

1. ANSWERS TO FOLLOWING QUESTIONS REQUIRED ASAP AT HIGHEST LEVELS:

A. WAS IT INTENTIONAL ATTACK?

B. WAS TARGET FIRING?

C. WHAT WAS THE TARGET?

D. WHAT MANEUVERS DID THEY MAKE?

2. REQUEST REPLY IN PARTS IF NECESSARY. ~~GP-3~~

ZKZK OO DZI ZHA DELAA545LDA824ZDA327AHL6Ø5

OO

DE 199B

ZKZK OO NOL NNN NSD NRL DE

P.L.
86-36

O 181614Z ZYH

FM USN 27

TO DIST QUEBEC/INDIA

PLUS ALL CVA NSG DETS WESTPAC

USN 467P

USN 27J

ZEM

~~S E C R E T KIMBO~~

2/Q/VHS/R46-64 ST22Ø FOR EVALUATION SIGINT READINESS BRAVO, OUTBOARD, REPORT NUMBER 2.

DRV SHIPPING COMMS REFLECT PRESENCE OF DESOTO PATROL.

AT 181419Z THE CARGO VESSEL THONG NHAT INFORMED HAIPHONG IN A MULTI-SUBJECT MESSAGE THAT QTE THE ENEMY SHIP WAS SOUTHEAST OF HON MATT AND AT 21Ø55 ((SIC)) ADDITIONAL ENEMY ((1GR U)). UNITS PREPARE FOR BATTLE UNQTE.

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NSA FORM N2288 REV AUG 63
(Supersedes N2288 REV JUN 61 to be used until exhausted)

~~TOP SECRET DINAR~~
SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

COPY NR.

ACTION PRECEDENCE	INFO PRECEDENCE	SPECIAL HANDLING
IMMEDIATE	IMMEDIATE	NONE

FROM: DIRNSA DATE: 18 SEPTEMBER 1964

TO: NSAPAC REP VIETNAM (Ø)
USN-27

INFO: USN-27J

DISTRIBUTION
B
B2
ADP
DRF
PØ5
B26
NSACC

4.6

~~T O P S E C R E T DINAR~~

B26/4Ø5/64 WS 53Ø

HAVE URGENT REQUIREMENT HIGH LEVEL SOURCE FOR ANY SIGINT

ANSWERS TO FOLLOWING QUESTIONS RELATING TO CURRENT DESOTO INCIDENT:

A. WAS IT INTENTIONAL ATTACK?

B. WAS TARGET FIRING?

C. WHAT WAS THE TARGET?

D. WHAT MANEUVERS DID THEY MAKE?

R: This action directed by Gen. Blake.

DRAFTER [redacted]/B26Ø5/4718

RELEASING OFFICER [redacted]/CH/B26/324Ø

P.L. 86-36

RELEASED AT (ZULU)
181730 Z

PAGE 1 OF 1 PAGES

AGI NR.

AGO NR.
Ø9Ø96/18

DTG
181748Z

REFERS TO MESSAGE
AGO N
AGI O
DTG N
SUSPENSE E

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION
~~TOP SECRET DINAR~~

(confidential HVCCO until filled)

NSA FORM N2288 REV AUG 63
(Supersedes N2288 REV JUN 61 to be used until exhausted)

~~SECRET KIMBO~~
SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

COPY NR.

ACTION PRECEDENCE	INFO PRECEDENCE	SPECIAL HANDLING
PRIORITY	PRIORITY	NONE (LIZ) (IOH)

FROM: DIRNSA

DATE: 18 SEP 64

TO: [redacted]
USA-32
[redacted]

INFO: [redacted]
NSAPACREP PHIL
NSAPAC REP VIETNAM ~~(C)~~
[redacted]
AFSS/FM (COURIER)

DISTRIBUTION
ADP
A
DRF
A2
A232
B2
B231
PØ5
PØ55
T11

P.L. 86-36

NSA25X3

47

~~S E C R E T KIMBO~~

A2/3283

1. DURING PERIOD OF SIGINT READINESS BRAVO OUTBOARD REQUIRE FOLLOWING ACTIONS: REPORT (PRIORITY PRECEDENCE) TO [redacted] AND DIRNSA (DDI LIZ AND IOH) ANY WEATHER REPORTING THAT WOULD SUGGEST MOVEMENT DEPLOYMENT OF VIETNAMESE/CHICOM FORCES. GENERAL GUIDANCE PROVIDED TECHINS 7ØØ2.

2. SPECIFICALLY REQUEST THE FOLLOWING FROM NORTH VIETNAMESE COMMUNICATION ENTITIES:

A. ALL WEATHER APPEARING ON DRV AIR DEFENSE (VHZ) AND VHA/VHV COMMUNICATIONS.

B. ALL HALF-HOURLY WEATHER APPEARING ON ANY VHT ENTITIES AND ON CSTG 5Ø2Ø1.

DRAFTER	RELEASING OFFICER	RELEASED AT (ZULU)
[redacted] LT USN, CH A232,5196s	[redacted] CAPT USN, CH A2,4707	181715 Z
		PAGE 1 OF 2 PAGES
		AGI NR.
		AGO NR. Ø9Ø97/18

P.L. 86-36

REFERS TO MESSAGE	SECURITY CLASSIFICATION	DTG
AGO AGI DTG SUSPENSE	~~SECRET KIMBO~~	181749Z

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~~SECRET KIMBO~~
SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

COPY NR.

ACTION PRECEDENCE | INFO PRECEDENCE | SPECIAL HANDLING

FROM:

DATE: 18 SEP 64

TO:

DISTRIBUTION

C. OTHER THAN NORMALLY TRANSMITTED TERMINAL AIR FORECASTS ON VHT ENTITIES AND CSIB 5Ø2Ø1.

D. OUT OF AREA/COUNTRY WEATHER DATA REQUEST.

E. NORTH VIETNAMESE WEATHER APPEARING ON ANY [redacted] ENTITY.

F. INTRODUCTION OF ANY ENCRYPTION SYSTEMS

CONCUR:

B23, [redacted] USAF
B231,

NSA25X3
P.L. 86-36

M/R: Providing guidance to field stations in reporting under present alert conditions.

[redacted], CAPT, USAF/A2321/42Ø7s

DRAFTER | RELEASING OFFICER | RELEASED AT (ZULU) Z

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PAGE 2 OF PAGES 2

AGI NR.

AGO NR. Ø97/18

REFERS TO MESSAGE
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DTG
SUSPENSE

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

~~SECRET KIMBO~~

DTG

[redacted]

DE [redacted]

ZKZK ZZ HHA NRL DE

H/W CORRECTED COPY DESTROY ALL OTHERS

[redacted]

DE [redacted] 1Ø1 18/1946Z SEP

ZKZK ZZ HHA NRL DE

Z 181945Z ZYH

FN USN-27J

TO QUEBEC ONE/CHARLIE

[redacted]/AFSSO SAC

[redacted]AFSSO CONAD

[redacted]AFSSO TAC

COMNAVFORJAPAN

[redacted]/USN 467P

COMNAVPHIL

COMTAIWANDEFCOM/US

[redacted]

NSA25X3
P.L. 86-36

48

ZEM

~~S E C R E T KIMBO~~

DESOTO SUPPORT

2/Q1/VHN/R2Ø-64 RPT 2/Q1/VHN/R2Ø-64 ST22Ø SPOT REPORT

DRV PREPARATIONS AGAINST ATTACK.

1. IN A MESSAGE INTERCEPTED IN FOUR PARTS FROM 181719Z TO 181826Z FROM POSS BAI CHAY ADDRESSED TO ALL STATIONS AND THE SWATOW PGM-S T-12Ø, T-134 AND THE SO-1 SUBCHASER T-227, TWO AMERICAN DESTROYERS WERE REPORTED 4Ø NAUT MILES EAST OF HON MAT (18-43N 1Ø5-57E). AN AREA DIRECTIVE WITHIN THE MESSAGE INDICATED IT WAS PRIMARILY FOR NAVY AND AIR DEFENSE AND ALL STATIONS SHOULD QUOTE COMPLETELY DISPERSE ((1GR U)) - REINFORCE AREAS - PREPARE - MAINTAIN EXACTLY INTENTIONS ((1GR U)) ((MINHS-SIC)) ((1GR U)) HAS JUST BEEN PUBLISIZED ((2GR U)) EXTERMINATE ENEMY UNQUOTE. THE MESSAGE CONTINUED WITH A TONE THAT INDICATED FEAR ON AN ATTACK AND INSTRUCTED THAT COMMUNICATIONS BE MAINTAINED IN THE AREA. IT ENDED WITH QUOTE THE WARSHIP IS DOING EXACTLY WHAT ((1GR U)) SAID THAT IT WOULD UNQUOTE.

6Ø4 18/1956Z SEP

P.L. 86-36

ZKZK OO RNI DE

O 181948Z ZYH

FM DIRNSA

TO OSCAR/VICTOR XRAY

USN-467P

ALL CVA NSG DETS WESTPAC

ZEM

~~S E C R E T KIMBO~~

2/O/VHN/R14-64 ST 22Ø

DRV ANTICIPATES ATTACK BY SOUTH VIETNAMESE VESSELS

FURTHER STUDY OF THE DRV NAVAL MESSAGE REPORTED IN 2/O/VHN/R1Ø5-64 INDICATES THAT DRV NAVAL AUTHORITIES FEAR SOUTH VIETNAMESE SHIPS MIGHT TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE SITUATION IN THE GULF OF TONKIN:

"NUMBER 32. TO ALL STATIONS: THE ENEMY IS ADVANCING TO PROVOKE ((US)). ALL STATIONS STRENGTHEN YOUR AREAS AND DISTINGUISH BETWEEN AMERICAN AND SOUTH VIETNAMESE SHIPS. AVOID PROVOKING ((THEM)). ADOPT THE NEW OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES OF K-1 ((UNIDENTIFIED COMMAND AUTHORITY, NORTHERN FLEET AREA)). ALL STATIONS DISPERSE ((1 GR U)).

MAKE PREPARATIONS FOR EVERY POSSIBILITY AND BE READY TO DEFEND AGAINST SOUTH VIETNAMESE SHIPS TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE ((PRESENCE OF)) U.S. SHIPS TO ATTACK THE SHORE.

((SIGNED)) THANH

COMMENT:

IN LIGHT OF THE ABOVE, IT APPEARS THAT THE DRV IS NOT ONLY APPREHENSIVE OF U.S. ACTIVITIES IN THE GULF OF TONKIN, BUT IS CONCERNED THAT THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE MAY LAUNCH RAIDS ALONG THE COAST OF THE DRV UNDER COVER OF ANY CONFUSION CAUSED BY THE PRESENCE OF U.S. SHIPS.

P.L. 86-36

JHDEA

6Ø3 18/1955Z SEP

ZKZK OO RNI DE

O 18195ØZ ZYH

FM DIRNSA

TO OSCAR/VICTOR XRAY

USN-467P

ALL CVA NSG DETS WESTPAC

/WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

ZEM

~~S E C R E T KIMBO~~ 2/O/VHN/R13-64 ST 2ØØ

GULF OF TONKIN SITUATION REPORT NO. 1

THROUGHOUT THE DAY OF 17 SEPTEMBER 1964, DRV NAVY MESSAGES INDICATED THAT THEY WERE AWARE OF THE PRESENCE OF U.S. DESTROYERS IN THE GULF OF TONKIN. THOUGH ONE MESSAGE ON THAT DAY ASKED A NAVAL ELEMENT IF IT HAD RECEIVED ORDERS TO FIGHT, THERE WERE NO FIRST INDICATIONS OF HOSTILE INTENT. MOST MESSAGES ALERTED FLEET ELEMENTS TO THE PRESENCE OF HOSTILE SHIPS AND ADVISED THEM TO GUARD AGAINST POSSIBLE ATTACK.

THE U.S. DESTROYERS BEGAN THE PATROL AT 2336Z, 16 SEPTEMBER. THEY FIRST CAME UNDER RADAR SURVEILLANCE AT Ø6Ø4Z, 17 SEPTEMBER WHEN AN INDENTIFIED STATION PASSED A TRACKING ORIGINATED BY THE RADAR FACILITY AT VINH SON (17-57N 1Ø6-3ØE). NO FURTHER TRACKINGS WERE OBSERVED UNTIL Ø945Z, 17 SEPTEMBER WHEN HON MATT (18-48N 1Ø5-58E) BEGAN TO CONTINUOUSLY TRACK THE DESTROYERS THROUGH 1133Z; A SINGLE TRACKING WAS LATER OBSERVED AT 233ØZ. VINH SON, WHICH ORIGINATED THE FIRST TRACKING AT Ø6Ø4Z, 17 SEPTEMBER DID NOT COMMENCE CONTINUOUS TRACKING UNTIL 2116Z, THAT DAY; ITS LAST TRACKING WAS NOTED AT 2227Z.

THE USS MORTON REPORTED THAT IT WAS FIRING ON A CLOSING TARGET AT 1233Z, 18 SEPTEMBER.

FOLLOWING ARE GISTS OF THE MORE SIGNIFICANT MESSAGES WHICH PRECEDED THE ATTACK ON THE U.S. DESTROYERS:

17Ø2Ø3Z: PORT WALLUT INFORMED ALL STATIONS AND SHIPS THAT THE SEVENTH FLEET WAS ACTIVE. ALL STATIONS AND SHIPS WERE FURTHER INFORMED THAT HEADQUARTERS REALIZED THAT THE ENEMY COULD ENTER THE GULF AND STEAM CLOSE TO THE SHORELINE THEREBY PROVOKING THE DRV. ALL SHIPS AND STATIONS WERE ORDERED TO GUARD AGAINST A POSSIBLE ENEMY ATTACK FROM THE AIR OR THE SEA AND OTHER

POSSIBLE PROVOCATIONS.

170418-
171025Z: MESSAGE INTERCEPTED REPORTED TWO ENEMY DESTROYERS UNDER OBSERVATION. DESTROYERS WERE THEN SHADOWED BY T-520 UNTIL 171550Z.

170420Z: THE T-146 WAS INFORMED THAT THE "ENEMY HAS THE INTENTIONS OF PROVOKING AND POSSIBLY ATTACKING BY MEANS OF THE SEA AND AIR ROUTE." SHE WAS ORDERED TO CAMOUFLAGE, PREPARE FOR A POSSIBLE ATTACK AND AWAIT FURTHER ORDERS.

170526Z: MESSAGE TO ALL STATIONS AND ALL VESSELS STATED THAT RADAR CONTACT HAD BEEN MADE WITH THE TWO (DESTROYERS).

170714Z: BEN THUY INFORMED THE T-259, T-253 AND SUB-UNIT 2 THAT, AT 1000G ON 17 SEPTEMBER THERE WERE TWO DESTROYERS BEARING 99 DEGREES, RANGE 28 NAUTICAL MILES, COURSE 390 DEGREES, SPEED 18 KNOTS. THE OBSERVING SITE WAS POSSIBLY VINH SON. ALL SHIPS WERE ORDERED TO EFFECT ALERT CONDITION 1 AND COMMENCE PATROLS, GUARDING AGAINST A POSSIBLE ATTACK.

170722Z: MESSAGE TO DET 2, 253 AND 259: "AT PRESENT HAVE TWO DESTROYERS TO THE NORTHWEST 25 NAUTICAL MILES GOING SLOWLY TO THE SOUTH. 90 MILES FROM DONG HOI ((THERE IS)) ONE AIRCRAFT CARRIER.

170830Z: AN UNIDENTIFIED FLEET ACTIVITY ASKED SUB-UNIT 6 IF IT HAS RECEIVED ORDERS TO FIGHT. THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS ORDER IS UNDETERMINED.

172115Z: TRACKING REPORTS FROM VINH SON PLACED TARGET(S) AT APPROXIMATE POSITION OF 18-33N 106-46E, COURSE 299.

172338Z: MESSAGE STATED THAT "TWO ENEMY DESTROYERS OBSERVED AT

1118 AT 1725. LOST THE TARGET - TURNED OVER SHADOWING RESPONSIBILITY TO THE 52Ø."

18Ø247Z: A MESSAGE PASSED FROM AN UNIDENTIFIED VESSEL TO AN UNIDENTIFIED SHORE BASED SHIPPING NET CONTROL STATION STATED: "CAN SEE CLEARLY NUMBER 946 AND 95Ø. PREPARING FOR BATTLE." THE NUMBER OF THE USS EDWARDS DD IS 95Ø AND THE USS MORTON DD IS 948. AT THE TIME OF INTERCEPT THE TWO U.S. DESTROYERS PASSED TWO FISHING VESSELS AT A DISTANCE OF 2,ØØØ YDS.

18Ø255Z: MESSAGE STATED POSITION OF TWO DESTROYERS.

18Ø418Z: THE CARGO VESSEL THONG-NNAT INFORMED HAIPHONG THAT THE ENEMY SHIP WAS HEADING FROM THE SOUTH ON A NORTHERLY COURSE.

181Ø38Z: MESSAGE TO ALL STATIONS WARNING THEM OF THE ENEMY ADVANCING TO PROVOKE THEM. STATIONS ARE ORDERED TO STRENGTHEN THEIR AREAS, DISTINGUISH BETWEEN U.S. AND SOUTH VIETNAMESE SHIPS, AND AVOID PROVOKING THEM. MESSAGE ALSO WARNED AGAINST SOUTH VIETNAMESE SHIPS TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE PRESENCE OF U.S. SHIPS TO ATTACK THE SHORE.

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~~SECRET KIMBO~~
SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

COPY NR.

ACTION PRECEDENCE	INFO PRECEDENCE	SPECIAL HANDLING
PRIORITY	PRIORITY	NONE

FROM: DIRNSA

DATE: 18 SEP 64

TO: AFSSO SAC

INFO AFSSO AWS
AFNICC (COURIER)
NSA REP SAC

DISTRIBUTION
A
A2 2
A234 5
AFNICC(FM)
PØ4
PØ5
ADP
DRF
B2
B23

S E C R E T KIMBO

A2/3287

AFSSO SAC PASS TO SIO DET 1, 3WW

AFSSO AWS PASS TO SIO AWS

REQUEST DAILY FORECAST OF WEATHER CONDITIONS FOR GULF OF TONKIN

CONCUR:
B23, [redacted]

P.L. 86-36

Purpose: To support B2 effort during SIGINT Alert Readiness BRAVO Outboard.

[redacted] A234/4933s

DRAFTER
[redacted], MAJ, USAF, CH A234 4933s

RELEASING OFFICER
[redacted] CAPT, USN, CHA2, 4707

RELEASED AT (ZULU)
181955 Z

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~~SECRET KIMBO~~

DTG
182Ø34Z

51

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~~TOP SECRET DINAR~~
SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

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52

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Ø9238/18

REFERS TO MESSAGE
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SUSPENSE

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION
~~TOP SECRET DINAR~~

DTG
182Ø38Z

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(Supersedes N2288 REV JUN 61 to be used until exhausted)

~~TOP SECRET DINAR~~
SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

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ACTION PRECEDENCE	INFO PRECEDENCE	SPECIAL HANDLING

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RELEASING OFFICER

RELEASED AT *(ZULU)* Z

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SUSPENSE

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SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

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INFO PRECEDENCE

SPECIAL HANDLING
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(Supersedes N2288 REV JUN 61 to be used until exhausted)

~~SECRET KIMBO~~
SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

COPY NR.

ACTION PRECEDENCE	INFO PRECEDENCE	SPECIAL HANDLING
IMMEDIATE	NONE	NONE

FROM: DIRNSA

DATE: 18 SEPTEMBER 1964

TO: DIA/ISIC (CIIC) ATTN COL GASPARD
JCS J3 (JRC CDE FITZWATER)

DISTRIBUTION
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NSACC

~~S E C R E T KIMBO~~

B2Ø5/323/64

SUBJECT: DESOTO SURVEILLANCE

1. PURSUANT TO TELEPHONIC REQUIREMENT THIS DATE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS SUPPLIED. INFORMATION ALSO RELEASED AS 2/O/VHN/R13-64 18195ØZ.

2. THROUGHOUT THE DAY OF 17 SEPTEMBER 1964, DRV NAVY MESSAGES INDICATED THAT THEY WERE AWARE OF THE PRESENCE OF U.S. DESTROYERS IN THE GULF OF TONKIN. THOUGH ONE MESSAGE ON THAT DAY ASKED A NAVAL ELEMENT IF IT HAD RECEIVED ORDERS TO FIGHT, THERE WERE NO FIRM INDICATIONS OF HOSTILE INTENT. MOST MESSAGES ALERTED FLEET ELEMENTS TO THE PRESENCE OF HOSTILE SHIPS AND ADVISED THEM TO GUARD AGAINST POSSIBLE ATTACK.

THE U.S. DESTROYERS BEGAN THE PATROL AT 2336Z, 16 SEPTEMBER. THEY FIRST CAME UNDER RADAR SURVEILLANCE AT Ø6Ø4Z, 17 SEPTEMBER WHEN AN UNIDENTIFIED STATION PASSED A TRACKING ORIGINATED BY THE RADAR FACILITY AT VINH SON (17-57N 1Ø6-3ØE). NO FURTHER TRACKINGS WERE OBSERVED UNTIL Ø945Z, 17 SEPTEMBER WHEN HON MATT (18-48N 1Ø5-58E) BEGAN TO CONTINUOUSLY TRACK THE DESTROYERS THROUGH 1135Z;

53

DRAFTER	RELEASING OFFICER	RELEASED AT (ZULU)
[redacted] CH B2Ø51/5174s	[redacted] CH B2Ø51/5174s	182130 Z
		PAGE 1 OF 5 PAGES
		AGI NR.
		AGO NR. Ø9294/18

P.L. 86-36

REFERS TO MESSAGE	SECURITY CLASSIFICATION	DTG
TO AGI DTG SUSPENSE	~~SECRET KIMBO~~	182133Z

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TO:

A SINGLE TRACKING WAS LATER OBSERVED AT 233ØZ. VINH SON, WHICH ORIGINATED THE FIRST TRACKING AT Ø6Ø4Z, 17 SEPTEMBER DID NOT COMMENCE CONTINUOUS TRACKING UNTIL 2116Z, THAT DAY; ITS LAST TRACKING WAS NOTED AT 2227Z.

THE USS MORTON REPORTED THAT IT WAS FIRING ON A CLOSING TARGET AT 1233Z, 18 SEPTEMBER.

FOLLOWING ARE GISTS OF THE MORE SIGNIFICANT MESSAGES WHICH PRECEDED THE ATTACK ON THE U.S. DESTROYERS:

17Ø2Ø3Z: PORT WALLUT INFORMED ALL STATIONS AND SHIPS THAT THE SEVENTH FLEET WAS ACTIVE. ALL STATIONS AND SHIPS WERE FURTHER INFORMED THAT HEADQUARTERS REALIZED THAT THE ENEMY COULD ENTER THE GULF AND STEAM CLOSE TO THE SHORELINE THEREBY PROVOKING THE DRV. ALL SHIPS AND STATIONS WERE ORDERED TO GUARD AGAINST A POSSIBLE ENEMY ATTACK FROM THE AIR OR THE SEA AND OTHER POSSIBLE PROVOCATIONS.

17Ø418-
171Ø25Z: MESSAGE INTERCEPTED REPORTED TWO ENEMY DESTROYERS UNDER OBSERVATION. DESTROYERS WERE THEN SHADOWED BY T-52Ø

DRAFTER | RELEASING OFFICER | RELEASED AT (ZULU) Z

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AGO NR. 294/18

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TO:

UNTIL 171550Z.

170420Z: THE T-146 WAS INFORMED THAT THE QTE ENEMY HAS THE INTENTIONS OF PROVOKING AND POSSIBLY ATTACKING BY MEANS OF THE SEA AND AIR ROUTE. UNQTE SHE WAS ORDERED TO CAMOUFLAGE, PREPARE FOR A POSSIBLE ATTACK AND AWAIT FURTHER ORDERS.

170526Z: MESSAGE TO ALL STATIONS AND ALL VESSELS STATED THAT RADAR CONTACT HAS BEEN MADE WITH THE TWO (DESTROYERS).

170714Z: BEN THUY INFORMED THE T-259, T-253 AND SUB-UNIT 2 THAT,

A AT 1000G ON 17 SEPTEMBER THERE WERE TWO DESTROYERS BEARING 99 DEGREES, RANGE 28 NAUTICAL MILES, COURSE 390 DEGREES, SPEED 18 KNOTS. THE OBSERVING SITE WAS POSSIBLY VINH SON. ALL SHIPS WERE ORDERED TO EFFECT ALERT CONDITION 1 AND COMMENCE PATROLS, GUARDING AGAINST A POSSIBLE ATTACK.

170722Z: MESSAGE TO DET 2, 253 AND 259: QTE AT PRESENT HAVE TWO DESTROYERS TO THE NORTHWEST 25 NAUTICAL MILES GOING SLOWLY TO THE SOUTH. 90 MILES FROM DONG HOI (THERE IS) ONE AIRCRAFT CARRIER UNQUOTE.

170830Z: AN UNIDENTIFIED FLEET ACTIVITY ASKED SUB-UNIT 6 IF IT HAD

DRAFTER | RELEASING OFFICER | RELEASED AT (ZULU) Z

DOCUMENT MARKING

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FROM:

DATE:

TO:

RECEIVED ORDERS TO FIGHT. THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS ORDER IS UNDETERMINED.

172115Z: TRACKING REPORTS FROM VINH SON PLACED TARGET(S) AT APPROXIMATE POSITION OF 18-33N 106-46E, COURSE 299.

172338Z: MESSAGE STATED THAT QTE TWO ENEMY DESTROYERS OBSERVED AT 1118 AT 1725. LOST THE TARGET-TURNED OVER SHADOWING RESPONSIBILITY TO THE 520 UNQUOTE.

180247Z: A MESSAGE PASSED FROM AN UNIDENTIFIED VESSEL TO AN UNIDENTIFIED SHORE BASED SHIPPING NET CONTROL STATION STATED: QTE CAN SEE CLEARLY NUMBER 946 AND 950. PREPARING FOR BATTLE UNQTE. THE NUMBER OF THE USS EDWARDS DD IS 950 AND THE USS MORTON DD IS 948. AT THE TIME OF INTERCEPT THE TWO U.S. DESTROYERS PASSED TWO FISHING VESSELS AT A DISTANCE OF 2,000 YDS.

180255Z: MESSAGE STATED POSITION OF TWO DESTROYERS.

180418Z: THE CARGO VESSEL THONG-NHAT INFORMED HAIPHONG THAT THE ENEMY SHIP WAS HEADING FROM THE SOUTH ON A NORTHERLY COURSE.

DRAFTER | RELEASING OFFICER | RELEASED AT (ZULU) Z

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ACTION PRECEDENCE | INFO PRECEDENCE | SPECIAL HANDLING

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TO:

181038Z: MESSAGE TO ALL STATIONS WARNING THEM OF THE ENEMY ADVANCING TO PROVOKE THEM. STATIONS ARE ORDERED TO STRENGTHEN THEIR AREAS, DISTINGUISH BETWEEN U.S. AND SOUTH VIETNAMESE SHIPS, AND AVOID PROVOKING THEM. MESSAGE ALSO WARNED AGAINST SOUTH VIETNAMESE SHIPS TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE PRESENCE OF U.S. SHIPS TO ATTACK THE SHORE.

M/R: Response to DIA request for SIGINT reflections of DRV surveillance of Desoto Patrol. This satisfied PROD Requirement 562-64.

DRAFTER | RELEASING OFFICER | RELEASED AT (ZULU) Z

DOCUMENT MARKING

PAGE 5 OF 5 PAGES

AGI NR.

AGO NR. 294/18

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ZKZK MO ZSL ZLA AOH HII DE

SPS 497

OO RUEPCR

DE RUEPCR 8Ø 18/Ø31ØZ

O 19Ø3Ø9Z

FM JCS

RUEPCR/WHITE WHITE

RUEHCR/STATE DEPT

RUEPIA/CIA

RUEPCR/NSA

P 182343Z

FM CINCPAC

TO AIG 929

INFO RUHPHR/CINCUSARPAC

RUHPM/CINCPACFLT

RUHLKM/CINCPACAF

RUMSMA/COMUSMACV

RUAMC/COMUSKOREA

RUAGFL/COMUSTDC

RUAUAZ/COMUSJAPAN

RUMFS/CINCPACREP PHIL

RUKDAG/CINCAL

RUWGALB/CINCNORAD

RUFLC/USCINCEUR

RUAPAL/USCINCSO

RUCJHK/CINCSTRIKE

RUECBAC/CINCLANT

RUHPCR/CINCSAC

RUHPHK/CINCPAC ADV

RUMGO/CINCPAC ACC

BT

~~T O P S E C R E T~~

TONKIN GULF (U)

SITREP 1 THROUGH 1812ØØZ

1. AT 181143Z GULF OF TONKIN DESOTO PATROL CONSISTING OF DD'S MORTON AND EDWARDS MADE RADAR CONTACT WITH SURFACE TARGETS CLOSING AT SPEEDS FRCOM 22-35 KNOTS. WARNING SHOTS FIRED, TARGETS CONTINUED CLOSING. TARGETS ENGAGED DURING PERIOD 18112ØZ TO 181337Z. ESTIMATED FOUR TO FIVE TARGETS TAKEN UNDER FIRE.

NO TARGETS VISUALLY SIGHTED. NO KNOWN ROUND OR

PAGE REPCR 8Ø ~~T O P S E C R E T~~

TORPEDOES FIRED AT EITHER DD.

2. AREA TO BE SEARCHED AT DAYLIGHT FOR EVIDENCE. PREPARATIONS BEING MADE FOR POSSIBLE RETALIATORY ACTION BY PACFLT AND PACAF UNITS.

3. RESUMPTION OF DESOTO PATROL AWAITING JCS APPROVAL.

4. 2Ø F-1ØØ'S DIRECTED PROCEED CLARK AND DANANG.

5. NO OTHER ACTIONS ORDERED. ~~GP-3~~

BT

Non - Responsive

(unclassified until filled)

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~~SECRET~~
SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

COPY NR.

ACTION PRECEDENCE	INFO PRECEDENCE	SPECIAL HANDLING
IMMEDIATE	IMMEDIATE	~~COMINT CHANNELS~~

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Ø9ØØ2/19

REFERS TO MESSAGE	SECURITY CLASSIFICATION	DTG
[redacted] AGI DTG SUSPENSE	~~HANDLE VIA COMINT CHANNELS ONLY~~ ~~SECRET~~	19Ø134Z

55

ZIZI PP ZLA HII AOH ZAD DE

PP RUEPCR

DE RUEPCR 95 19/Ø537Z

P 19Ø536Z

FM JCS

INFO RUEPWW/WHITE HOUSE

RUEHCR/STATE DEPT

RUEPIA/CIA

RUEPCR/NSA

19Ø152Z

FM CINCPAC

TO TUHLHL/CINCPACFLT

INFO RUMFCR/COMSEVENTHFLT

RUMFCR/CTF 77

RUMFCR/CTG 77.6

RUMFCR/CTG 77.6

RUMFCR/CTU 77.6.6

RUEKDA/JCS

BT

~~S E C R E T~~

DESOTO INCIDENT (U)

1. I APPRECIATE THE EFFORTS OF ALL COMMANDS CONCERNED IN THEIR EFFORTS TO KEEP ME AND HIGHER AUTHORITY INFORMED AS EVENTS UNFOLDED IN THE LATEST TONKIN GULF INCIDENT OF 18 SEP. NEVERTHELESS, THE INFORMATION RECEIVED WAS NEITHER SUFFICIENTLY COMPLETE NOR SUFFICIENTLY TIMELY TO MAKE A RAPID AND FACTUAL ANALYSIS OF THE OCCURRENCE IN ORDER TO DETERMINE THE PROPER COURSE OF ACTION. IN THIS INSTANT, THROUGH POSSIBLY NO FAULT OF YOUR OWN, THERE IS STILL NO CONCRETE EVIDENCE THAT

THE DESOTO PATROL DESTROYERS WERE ACTUALLY UNDER ATTACK. THIS IS

A VITAL PIECE OF INFORMATION DIRECTLY BEARING ON FUTURE ACTIONS. THE POSITIVE TO NEGATIVE VERIFICATION OF THIS INFORMATION IS STILL LACKING SOME 13 HOURS AFTER THE INCIDENT.

2. I WANT TO FULLY IMPRESS UPON ALL CONCERNED THE VERY GREAT NEED FOR MINUTELY DETAILED INFORMATION TO BE TRANSMITTED TO ME AND HIGHER AUTHORITY BY THE FASTEST MEANS POSSIBLE. EACH AND EVERY OFFICER IN COMMAND AUTHORITY IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ENSURING THAT THE FLOW OF INFO FROM ON-THE-SCENE IS PROMPT, CONTINUOUS AND DETAILED.

~~GP 4~~

ZKZK PP ZAD DEAN

ZKZK PP ZSL ZLA AOH HII DE

PP RUEPCR

DE RUEPCR 1Ø4 19/Ø641Z

P 19Ø64ØZ

FM JCS

INFO RUEPWW/WHITE HOUSE

RUEHCR/STATE

RUEPIA/CIA

RUEPCR/NSA

19Ø154Z

FM CINCPAC

TO RUHLHL/CINCPACFLT

INFO RUMSMA/COMUSMACV

RUEKDA/JCS

RUMFSS/COMSEVENTHFLT

BT

~~S E C R E T~~

DESOSO (U)

A. MY QOPPRUZ

B. JCS 8838 DTG 182358Z

1. REF A DIRECTED COMPLIANCE REF B FOR COMPLETION THIRD DAY DESOTO PATROL 19 SEPT HOTEL.

2. BE PREPARED ON 2Ø SEPT HOTEL TIME TO INITIATE OR REPEAT PATROL IN ACCORDANCE WITH ORIGINAL THREE DAY ITINERARY. DO NOT INITIATE UNTIL DIRECTED BY CINCPAC.

3. OPLAN 34A MAROPS WILL NOT BE INITIATED UNTIL COMPLETION DESOTO PLUS 24 HOURS. ~~GP-1~~

ZKZK OO NRL HOL HHA DE

OO Y [redacted]

DE YADNHV 1Ø 19/Ø23ØZ SEP

ZKZK OO RNI NRT NOL HHA DE

O 19Ø227Z ZYH

FM USN 27J

TO QUEBEC ONE ALFA

[redacted] AFSSO CONAD

[redacted] AFSSO SAC

[redacted] AFSSO TAC

PLUS [redacted] USN 467P

COMNAVPHIL

ALL CVA DETS WESTPAC

ZEM

P.L. 86-36

~~S E C R E T KIMBO~~

2/Q1/VHN/R22-64 ST22Ø SIGINT READINESS BRAVO, OUTBOARD

REPORT NUMBER 1

INITIAL REFLECTION THIS STA NAVAL ACTION/ENGAGEMENT NOTED DRV COMMS FROM SOUTHERN FLEET ACTY, POSS BEN THUY, INTCPTD 19ØØ5ØZ STATING QTE THE ENEMY FIRED AT THE SHIP AND ONLY THEN WAS ABLE TO FIRE AGAIN UNQTE.

COMMENT: THE STATEMENT PROB REFERS TO THE FIRING OF WARNING SHOTS BY THE US SHIPS AND WHEN NO ATTEMPT TO ALTER COURSE TAKEN THEM THE US SHIPS JUSTIFIED IN FIRING FOR EFFECT

(unclassified until filled)

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SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

COPY NR.

ACTION PRECEDENCE	INFO PRECEDENCE	SPECIAL HANDLING
FLASH	IMMEDIATE	~~HANDLE VIA COMINT CHANNELS ONLY~~

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59

FROM: DIRNSA DATE: 19 SEPTEMBER 1964

TO: NSAPAC REP VIETNAM ~~(0)~~

INFO: HQ NSAPAC

~~C O N F I D E N T I A L COMINT CHANNELS~~

B205/324 537

ACUTELY AWARE HERE OF COMPLETE BREAKDOWN CRITICOM CIRCUIT BETWEEN SAIGON AND PHU BAI AND ELSEWHERE IN YOUR GENERAL AREA. IN VIEW PRESENT SIGINT READINESS BRAVO OUTBOARD THE DIRECTOR REQUESTS YOU IMMEDIATELY TAKE ALL NECESSARY STEPS TO ESTABLISH COMMUNICATIONS WITH PHU BAI BY CRITICOM OR WHATEVER OTHER MEANS AVAILABLE. CANNOT OVER EMPHASIZE URGENCY OF THIS MATTER. IF ALL EFFORTS TO ESTABLISH ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS FAIL, SUGGEST COURIER BY HOTROD AIRCRAFT. RESPONSE REQUESTED BY THE DIRECTOR

CONCUR: GEN DAVIS

M/R: In addition to steps being taken locally to correct communications deficiencies, subject message intended to obtain all possible help from Saigon.

DRAFTER	RELEASING OFFICER	RELEASED AT (ZULU)
[redacted] WATCH OFFICER B2	[redacted] LTCOL USAF, CHB205	190233 Z
		PAGE 1 OF PAGES 1
		AGI NR.
P.L. 86-36		AGO NR. 09006/19

REFERS TO MESSAGE	SECURITY CLASSIFICATION	DTG
AGO N AGI O DTG N SUSPENSE E	~~HANDLE VIA COMINT CHANNELS ONLY~~ ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~	190238Z

[redacted]

SPOT REPORT
19 SEPTEMBER 1964
DIST: O/VX PLUS
ALL CVA NSG DETS WESTPAC
ST 16Ø

NSA25X3

[redacted]

18 AND 19 SEPTEMBER

60

[redacted]

DE [redacted]

ZKZK ZZ RNI DE

ZEL

EE [redacted] 17 19/Ø411Z SEP

ZKZK ZZ RNI DE

Z 19Ø41ØZ ZYH

FM NSAPAC REP VIETNAM (C)

TO DIRNSA (ATTN DIRECTOR AND T1)

INFO HQ NSAPAC

ZEM

P.L. 86-36

61

~~C O N F I D E N T I A L COMINT CHANNELS~~

CITE: F46/2954 SW 6Ø3 SH 2Ø26

PRESENT STATUS OF COMMUNICATIONS CRS SAIGON

1. PRESENTLY ONE CIRCUIT IS OPERATIONAL FROM CRS SAIGON. ALFA CIRCUIT BECAME OPERATIONAL AT Ø8ØØ LOCAL. CIRCUIT WAS IN AND OUT FROM 133Ø LOCAL 18 SEP TO Ø8ØØ LOCAL 19 SEP. BRAVO CIRCUIT STILL OUT.

A. BACKLOG AT PHU BAI FOR CRS SAIGON:

IMMEDIATE - NONE

PRIORITY - Ø FOR 626 AND 4Ø FOR USM-9

B. BACKLOG CRS SAIGON TO PHU BAI:

IMMEDIATE - 2Ø

PRIORITY - 2Ø

C. ZVA BACKLOG - IMMED - 4Ø PRIORITY - 2Ø

2. CIRCUIT OUTAGE DDNC 1962 AND 1H16.

AT Ø53ØZ 18 SEPT 1964 CRITICOMM CIRCUITS DDNC 1962 AND 1H16 WERE LOGGED OUT THIS STATION BECAUSE OF EQUIPMENT TROUBLES BETWEEN HUE AND PHU BAI (BIRD DOG VHF) AT Ø8ØØZ 18 SEPT 1964 THIS STATION NOTIFIED HAT VOA WAS OVER RIDING THE FREQUENCY USED ON DDNC 1962 AND 1H16.

THIS PROBLEM WAS ELIMINATED AT 1215Z 18 SEPT 1964. AT THIS IMX FREQUENCIES WERE AVAILABLE BUT THE TCC-2Ø'S WERE STILL INOPERABLE. THE CONDITIONS EXISTING WERE PASSED ON TO ADVON OLL TEST FOR CORRECTION. 39TH SIGNAL BN. (ADVON TOL TEST) IS THE RESPONSIBLE AGENCY FOR THESE TWO UP COUNTRY CIRCUITS.

BY 2372Z 18 SEPT 1964, THE CONFIGURATION OF DDNC 1962 WAS CHANGED TO ONE USING TH-5'S AND THE AN/GRC-1Ø.

2358Z 18 SEPTEMBER 1964. DDNC 1962 WAS FULLY OPERATIONAL AND AVAILABLE FOR TRAFFIC.

THIS STATION NOTIFIED THAT REPAIRS WERE ON THEIR WAY TO HUE TO ATTEMPT REPAIRS ON TCCAWP'S. UNTIL SUCH REPAIRS ARE ACCOMPLISHED THIS STATION HAS ONLY ONE (1) CIRCUIT AVAILABLE. AN RVN CIRCUIT HAS BEEN PRE-EMPTED FOR DDN: 1962.

OUTAGES ON DDNC 1962 AND 1H16

18Ø53Ø - 18Ø8ØØZ - TCC-2Ø

18Ø8ØØ - 181215Z - TCC-2Ø AND VOA

18125 - 182312Z - CCAWP

182312 - 182358Z - RESTATED SSNCH CIRCUIT ALIGNMENT.

3. MACV STAFF, J6, 39TH SIGNAL, 3RD RRU PROVIDING EVERY EFFORT AVAILABLE TO RESTORE COMM.

4. STANDING BY FOR APPROVAL OF AIRCRAFT PLAN TO MOVE TRAFFIC AS SUGGESTED IF SITUATION DOES NOT IMPROVE.

ZKZK OO ZAD DE

ZKZK OO ZSL ZLA AOH HII DE

OO RUEPCR

TO NSA

RUMGUN 116 19/Ø438Z

Z 19Ø438Z

FM CTG SEVEN SEVEN PT SIX

TO RUATUD/BVKG/COMSEVENTHFLT

RUHLHL/CINCPACFLT

INFO RUEKDA/JCS

RUECW/CNO

RUHLHQ/CINCPAC

RUMFUI/74KT/CTF SEVEN SEVEN

RUEPCR/WHITE HOUSE

RUEPCR/STATE DEPT

RUEKDA/SEC DEF

RUEPIA/CIA

RUEPCR/DIRNSA

RUMJIR/AMEMB SAIGON

RUMSMA/COMUSMACV

RUMFS/COMNAVPHIL

RUMFCR/CTU SEVEN SEVEN PT SIX PT SIX

RUMSJB/M3TC/CTU SEVEN ZERO PT TWO PT ONE

RUEAHQ/DIA

BT

~~T O P S E C R E T~~

TONKIN GULF DESOTO PATROL (S)

SITREP EIGHT

A. COMSEVENTHFLT 12Ø633Z

B. MY 18211ØZ

QMV AIR SEARCH IN PROGRESS CONTINUOUSLY FOR ATTACK EVIDENCE SINCE LAST REPORT. A1H AND E1B SEARCH ACFT AUGMENTED BY A3B ACFT FIRST LIGHT SEARCH CONCENTRATED AREA BOUNDED BY FOL COORDINATES:

PAGE TWO RGUN 116 ~~T O P S E C R E T~~

19-ØØN, 1Ø6-ØØE/19-ØØN, 1Ø6-15E

19-Ø5N, 1Ø6-53E/18-35N, 1Ø7-2ØE

2. VISUAL SEARCH SOMEWHAT HAMPERED BY 5-6ØØ FT CEILINGS 3NM (EST) VISIBILITY: HOWEVEROTS EST COMPLETE VISUAL AND RADAR COVERAGE, NO, RPT NO SURE CONTACTS AND NO DEBRIS OR OTHER ATTACK EVIDENCE LOCATED OR DETECTED.

3. GAST TWO SEARCH A1H DUE LAND CONSTEL 19Ø63ØZ. NEGATIVE SEARCH RESULTS REPORTED WHILE AIRBORNE.

4. USS COLUMBUS PROCEEDING RDVU WITH AND REFUEL USS MORTON/EDWARDS POSIT 17N, 1Ø8E ABT 1911ØØZ.

5. STRIKE PREPARATIONS IN PROGRESS.

GP-1

DE [redacted] 22 19/Ø53ØZ

ZKZK OO RNI NRL NOL HHA DE

O 19Ø525Z ZYH

FM USN 27J

TO QUEBEC ONE/ALFA

ZMDOZKC/AFSSO CONAD

[redacted]/AFSSO SAC

[redacted]/AFSSO TAC

[redacted]USN 467P

COMNAVPHIL

[redacted]ALL CVA DETS WESTPAC

ZEM

P.L. 86-36

~~S E C R E T KIMBO~~

2/Q1/VHN/R3-64 ST22Ø SIGINT READINESS BRAVO, OUTBOARD, REPORT NUMBER 2

1. HEADQUARTERS ((ADVISORY)) FROM PORT GIANH TO DETACHMENT 2 AND TWO U/I VESSELS T-253 AND T-259 RELATED THAT AT ØØ52G THE AMERICAN DEPARTMENT OF STATE MET AND MADE PUBLIC THAT AMERICAN SHIPS WERE ATTACKED ON NIGHT OF 18 SEPT. ALL STATIONS ARE TO QUOTE EXECUTE CORRECTLY ALERT GRADE ONE UNQUOTE. GARBLED PORTION OF TEXT STATED QUOTE ((2GR U)) HAVE ORDERED AN ALERT OF ((2 GR U)) IN THE PHILIPPINES. HONOLULU IYWF PREPARING. UNQUOTE.

2. COMMENT: FROM APPEARANCE THEN THE STATEMENT OF ALERT IN THE PHILIPPINES POSSIBLY WAS USED TO REFER TO THE STATUS OF UCVS. MILITARY PERSONNEL STATIONED THERE.

P.L. 86-36

ZKZK ZZ RNI DE

Z 190542Z ZYH

FM DIRNSA

TO OSCAR/VICTOR XRAY

ALL CVA NSG DETS WESTPAC

USN-467P

ZEM

~~S E C R E T KIMBO~~ 2/O/VHN/R15-64

DRV NAVY APPEARS TO BE TAKING DEFENSIVE ACTIONS.

A PRELIMINTARY FIELD STATION REPORT INDICATES THAT THE COMMUNICATIONS OF THE NORTH VIETNAMESE NAVAL FORCES PASSED SUBSEQUENT TO THE 18 SEPTEMBER ENGAGEMENT IN THE GULF OF TONKIN REVEALS NO PREPARATIONS FOR INITIATION OF AN ATTACK ON THE U.S. DESTROYERS MORTON AND EDWARDS.

AS OF 190145Z SIGINT GLEANED FROM A SPARSE AMOUNT OF INTERCEPT SUGGESTS THAT DEFENSIVE PREPARATIONS ONLY ARE BEING MADE.

DE [redacted] 522 19/Ø8Ø8Z SEP

O 19Ø8Ø3Z ZYH

FM DIRNSA

TO OSCAR/VICTOR KILO

ZEM

~~S E C R E T KIMBO~~

VIETNAMESE (NORTH) [redacted] WS 1359-64 2/O/VHN/T19-64 ST 22Ø

DIST: HCF

DRV NAVAL RULES OF ENGAGEMENT

FR ((U/I)): DUONG ((A)) (ZWONGR) 19 SEP 1964 151G

TO ((U/I)): - - - -- NR 29

CAMOUFLAGE TO TAKE COVER FROM SHIPS OF THE OPPOSITION. IF THE ENEMY FIRES UPON YOUR SHIP, ONLY THEN MAY YOU RETURN FIRE. COMMUNICATE WITH K ((B)) TO RECEIVE ORDERS. Ø5ØØG - ALERT CONDITION ONE.

((A)) UNIDENTIFIED PERSONALITY PREVIOUSLY NOTED ISSUING ORDERS FROM BEN THUY.

((B)) UNIDENTIFIED COMMAND AUTHORITY (OPERATIONS) HAIPHONG (B VAL)

MS 27, 19 SEP 1964 ØØ5ØZ

NSA25X3
P.L. 86-36

[redacted]

ZKZK OO RNI DE

O 191ØØ5Z ZYH

FM DIRNSA

TO USM-626

[redacted]

NSA25X3
P.L. 86-36

HQ NSAPAC

NSAPAC REP VIETNAM (C)

[redacted]

NSAPAC REP JAPAN

NSAPAC REP PHIL

USN-27

USN-27J

[redacted]

USAFSS

CGUSASA

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

SUSLO (M)

USA-32

USM-626J

USM-9

ASSTDIRNAVSECGRU

CUSASAPAC

PACSECRGN

DIRNAVSECGRU

DIRNAVSECGRUPAC

ZEM

NSA25X3
NSA25X6
P.L. 86-36

~~T O P S E C R E T DINAR~~ B2Ø5/326-64

SUBJECT: READINESS OUTBOARD EXTENDED

A. IN VIEW OF [redacted] REACTIONS/REFLECTIONS TO RECENT DESOTO INCIDENT IN GULF OF TONKIN ACTION (BRAVO) READINESS OUTBOARD IS EXTENDED TO INCLUDE ACTION ADDEES THIS MESSAGE. ALL FIELD STATIONS REPORT DRV [redacted] REFLECTIONS/REACTIONS TO DESOTO PATROL AS OBSERVED IAW TECHINS 4Ø14 AND 4Ø19 AT PRECEDENCE APPROPRIATE TO SIGNIFICANCE. USN-467P (ROUTINE DESIGNATOR [redacted]), CINCPAC, CINCPACFLT, COMSEVENTHFLT, COMNAVPHIL, COMNAVFORJAPAN, NSAPAC REP VIETNAM ~~(C)~~, USN-27, [redacted] AND ALL CVA DETS WESTPAC TO BE INCLUDED AS RECIPIENTS OF ALL REPORTS. WRITE IN TO ESTABLISHED DISTRIBUTION AS REQUIRED. SIX HOUR REPORTING NOT RPT NOT REQUIRED. URGENT NEED

FOR ALL TECH DATA ON WHICH REPORT IS BASED ASAP TO DIRNSA, [redacted] NSA25X3 NSA25X6

AND [redacted] FLAG ALL REPORTS SIGINT READINESS BRAVO OUTBOARD.

[redacted]

ZKZK OO RNI DE

O 191121Z ZYH

FM DIRNSA

TO OSCAR/VICTOR XRAY

ALL CVA NSG DETS WESTPAC

USN-467P

SSO FT RICHIE

ADDEUR

ZEM

NSA25X3
P.L. 86-36

~~S E C R E T KIMBO~~ [redacted] ST 175, 225

EXTENSION OF SIGINT READINESS BRAVO "OUTBOARD":

IN VIEW OF [redacted] ACTIVITIES BEING REFLECTED IN SIGINT, THE SIGINT READINESS BRAVO "OUTBOARD" DECLARED BY DIRNSA AT 181348Z SEPT IS EXTENDED TO INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING STATIONS: [redacted].

THE CURRENT MOVEMENT OF FIGHTER AIRCRAFT FROM [redacted] TOWARDS THE SOUTH, COUPLED WITH FIFTEEN MINUTE WEATHER REPORTING BEING OBSERVED ON [redacted] FIGHTER OPERATIONS COMMUNICATIONS, SUGGESTS THE POSSIBILITY THAT THESE FIGHTERS ARE BEING TRANSFERRED [redacted]. ALTHOUGH

UNCODED

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A RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THIS ACTIVITY, AS WITH [redacted] ACTIVITY PREVIOUSLY REPORTED, AND THE EVENTS IN THE GULF OF TONKIN IS NOT YET EVIDENT IN SIGINT THE COINCIDENCE IN TIMING DOES NOT ALLOW THIS POSSIBILITY TO BE OVERLOOKED.

NSA25X3

ADDITIONAL REPORTING ON THESE, AND ALL OTHER DEVELOPMENTS, WILL BE ACCOMPLISHED AS THE EVENTS ARE OBSERVED.

P.L.
86-36

ZKZK OO RNI DE

O 191131Z ZYH

FM DIRNSA

TO OSCAR/VICTOR XRAY

ALL NSG DETS WESTPAC

USN-467P

ZEM

~~S E C R E T KIMBO~~ SECTION ONE OF THREE 2/O/VHN/R16-64 ST 22Ø

RECAP OF SIGINT OBSERVATIONS RELATING TO 2/4 AUGUST AND 18 SEPTEMBER GULF OF TONKIN NAVAL ENGAGEMENTS

THIS REPORT REVIEWS DRV NAVAL CORRESPONDENCE SINCE SHORTLY BEFORE THE USS MORTON AND USS EDWARDS COMMENCED THEIR DESOTO PATROL AND THROUGH 181130EDT. FOR PURPOSES OF COMPARISON AND/

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OR CONTRAST, A BRIEF RESUME OF DRV NAVAL COMMUNICATIONS WHICH PRECEDED THE 2 AND 4 AUGUST ATTACK ON THE USS MADDOX IS INCLUDED (SEE PART II). ADDITIONALLY, THE DISPOSITION OF DRV NAVAL VESSELS ON 17 SEP, AS CAN BE DETERMINED IN SIGINT, IS COVERED (SEE PART III).

PART ONE: DRV NAVAL COMMUNICATIONS, 16-18 SEP

DRV NAVAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM 161244Z THROUGH 181844Z INDICATED NO EVIDENCE OF DRV PREPARATIONS TO LAUNCH AN ATTACK AGAINST THE TWO U.S. DESTROYERS ON PATROL IN THE GULF OF TONKIN.

THE PATROL BY MORTON AND EDWARDS COMMENCED AT 162336Z. AT 170054Z VAN HOA (PORT WALLUT) ALERTED ALL STATIONS TO "SEVENTH FLEET" ACTIVITY AND INSTRUCTED THEM TO TAKE PRECAUTIONS AGAINST ENEMY ATTACKS. AT 170418Z TWO ENEMY DESTROYERS WERE REPORTED UNDER SURVEILLANCE AND FROM AT LEAST THIS TIME ONWARD DRV AUTHORITIES APPARENTLY KEPT CLOSE TRACK OF THE PATROL. OVER THE NEXT FEW HOURS NAVAL ELEMENTS AND PATROL BOATS WERE ALERTED TO THE PRESENCE AND MOVEMENTS OF THE PATROL AND TOLD TO TAKE PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES. REFERENCES TO "BATTLE PREPARATION" OR "BATTLE ORDERS" AND "CLASS ONE ((ALERT))" WERE NOTED, BUT IT IS PROBABLE THAT THESE REFERENCES REFLECT SIMPLY "BATTLE STATION" PROCEDURES.

TRACKING CONTINUED THROUGH THE NIGHT AND ON THE MORNING OF 18 SEPTEMBER AN UNIDENTIFIED VESSEL REPORTED VISUAL SIGHTING OF DD 946 ((SIC: USS MORTON IS DD 948 AND DD 950 USS EDWARDS)). AT 181038Z "ALL STATIONS" WERE TOLD THAT THE ENEMY WAS "ADVANCING TO PROVOKE" THE DRV AND ORDERED ACTIONS TO STRENGTHEN ALL AREAS AND "AVOID AGAINST PROVOKING THEM." THE STATIONS WERE ALSO WARNED

AGAINST "RAIDER" ATTACKS AGAINST THE DRV COASTLINE TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE PRESENCE OF THE US SHIPS.

AT 181233Z THE US SHIPS REPORTED OPENING FIRE ON THREE ENEMY TARGETS WHICH HAD BEEN CLOSING IN ON THEM. (WHILE NO COMINT EVIDENCE OF THE PRESENCE OF THESE THREE BOATS IS AS YET AVAILABLE, IT IS PROBABLE THAT COMMUNICATION AMONG THESE BOATS WOULD HAVE BEEN CONDUCTED BY RADIO-TELEPHONE.

THE FIRST DRV REACTION TO THIS INCIDENT AVAILABLE AT THIS WRITING WAS TRANSMITTED "TO ALL STATIONS" AT 181719Z. IT STATES THAT "AT 1930G (1230Z) 2 US DESTROYERS ((WERE LOCATED)) 40 NM EAST OF HON MATT. IN THE GIANH RIVER WE HEARD GUN FIRE." THIS MESSAGE SPECULATES POSSIBLE ENEMY ACTIONS, SUCH AS ATTACKS ON "OUR MILITARY, POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC TARGETS, MAINLY NAVAL AND AIR DEFENSE," AND ORDERS PREPAREDNESS, ALERTNESS AND MAINTENANCE OF CLOSE COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTING.

THE FOLLOWING IS A SELECTED CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS AS REFLECTED IN DRV NAVAL CORRESPONDENCE AVAILABLE THROUGH 181844Z.

161244Z VAN HOA (PORT WALLUT) TO SUB-UNITS 1, 2, 3 AND BOATS 122, 124, 130, 132, 134, 144 AND 146 ORDERING EACH TO SEND ONE MANY WHO HAD PERFORMED OUTSTANDINGLY IN COMBAT TO RECEIVE "A FLAG" ON 18 SEP.

162236Z DESOTO COMMENCES PATROL

170054Z VAN HOA (PORT WALLUT), DRV NAVY BASE, ALLERTS ALL STATIONS AND SHIPS TO FACE "SEVENTH FLEET IS ACTIVE" AND COULD ENTER GULF AND PROVOKE THE DRV. ALL ELEMENTS TO GUARD AGAINST POSSIBLE ENEMY ATTACK FROM AIR OR SEA AND OTHER POSSIBLE PROVOCATIONS.

17Ø2Ø4Z MESSAGE FROM BOAT TO GIANH RIVER REGION. ROUTINE "TODAY WE'RE TO STUDY ON BOARD SHIP."

17Ø231Z T12Ø ORDERED TO RETURN TO PORT AT 1818ØØG TO TAKE ON WATER.

17Ø418Z MESSAGE REPORTED TWO ENEMY DESTROYERS UNDER OBSERVATION. SHADOWED ((TRACKED)) BY 52Ø UNTIL 17155ØZ.

17Ø42ØZ T146 ALERTED, TOLD TO CAMOUFLAGE, PREPARE FOR

SECTION TWO OF THREE 2/O/VHN/T16-64

POSSIBLE ATTACK, AWAIT FURTHER ORDERS.

17Ø43ØZ TO SUB-UNIT 7. ROUTINE MESSAGE. HAVE THREE NAMED INDIVIDUALS PRESENT ON NIGHT OF 18 SEP. ARE TO REPORT ON 19 SEP FOR A "RECAPITULATION."

17Ø526Z MESSAGES TO ALL STATIONS AND BOATS STATED THAT VINH SON RADAR CONTACT HAD BEEN MADE WITH THE TWO ((DESTROYERS)).

17Ø6Ø4Z COMINT REFLECTS RADAR SURVEILLANCE OF DESOTO BY VINH SON (17-57 1Ø6-3ØE) RADAR STATION.

17Ø64ØZ SUB-UNITS 6 AND 7 ALERTED. INFORMED OF THE TWO ENEMY DESTROYERS AND GIVEN LOCATION AS OR 1152G ((Ø452Z)). TOLD THAT "((1U)) NORTH HAS MANY SUPPORTING AIRCRAFT" SPECULATES THAT ENEMY MAY COORDINATE THIS OPERATION WITH ACTIVITIES IN LAOS, SHELLING OF THE COAST, OR SUPPORT OF ((SOUTH VIETNAMESE)) RAIDERS/BOATS TOLD TO BE ALERT, MAINTAIN COMMUNICATIONS.

170714Z BEN THUY NOTIFIED T259, T253 AND SUB-UNIT 2 THAT AT 171000G (170300Z) THERE WERE TWO DESTROYERS AT BEARING OF 99 DEGREES, RANGE 28 NM, COURSE 390 DEGREES, SPEED 18 KNOTS. ALL SHIPS PLACED ON A CLASS ONE ALERT, TOLD TO COMMENCE PATROLS, GUARD AGAINST POSSIBLE ATTACK.

170722Z MESSAGE TO T259, T253 AND SUB-UNIT 2 GIVING LOCATION DATA ON TWO DESTROYERS. ADDS THAT THERE IS ONE AIRCRAFT CARRIER 90 MILES OFF DONG HOI.

170830Z SUB-UNIT SIX RECEIVED MESSAGE ASKING IF IT HAB RECEIVED COMBAT ORDERS ((OR "ORDERS TO FIGHT")).

170920Z "TO ALL STATIONS," ADDRESSED TO T120, 134, 142,

170940

171004 227 GIVING LOCATIONS, ETC. ON THE TARGETS

171029

171038 ACCORDING TO VINH SON RADAR.

171126

170939 SIGNAL INSTRUCTIONS TO T134, 120, 142 CONCERNING

171039

171044 SUB-UNITS 1, 2 AND 3.

170945Z HON MATT (18-48 105-58) TRACKED DESOTO CONTINUOUSLY UNTIL 1135Z.

170955Z SUB-UNIT 7 ORDERED TO STOP AT XUAN ZUONG (18-44 105-44) FOR THE NIGHT

171046Z T227 INFORMED THAT CARGO SHIP DOAN KET WOULD TEST HER 20MM GUN(S) "THIS MORNING".

171213Z SUB-ELEMENT 2 RECEIVED QUERY: WHICH ENGINE ON T326 BROKE DOWN?

172115Z VINH SON TRACKING LOCATED TARGET(S) AT 18 DEGREES 33' 106 DEGREES 46', COURSE 249.

172116Z- VINH SON CONTINUES TRACKING

172227Z

172330Z SINGLE TRACK OBSERVED (HON MATT?)

172338Z LOCATION REPORT ON TWO ENEMY DESTROYERS. TARGET LOST; SHADOWING (TRACKING) RESPONSIBILITY TURNED OVER TO 520.

180247Z UNIDENTIFIED VESSEL REPORTS TO UNIDENTIFIED SHORE-BASED SHIPPING NET CONTROL THAT "CAN CLEARLY SEE NUMBER 946 AND 950. PREPARING FOR BATTLE." ((USS EDWARDS IS DD 950; MORTON IS DD 948. AT TIME OF INTERCEPT OF THIS MESSAGE DESOTO PASSED TWO FISHING VESSELS AT 2000 YARDS DISTANCE.

180255Z LOCATION OF THE TWO DESTROYERS REPORTED.

180418Z DRV CARGO SHIP "THONG NHAT" INFORMED HAIPHONG OF HEADING OF ENEMY SHIP STATED UNITS PREPARED FOR COMBAT. (CONTAINED IN [redacted] MESSAGE OF ROUTINE REPORTING FORMAT CONCERNING CARGO OF THONG NHAT) NSA25X3

181038Z ALERT TO ALL STATIONS WARNING THEM OF ENEMY ADVANCING TO PROVOKE THEM. STATIONS ORDERED TO STRENGTHEN THEIR AREAS, DISTINGUISH BETWEEN US AND SOUTH VIETNAMESE SHIPS AND AVOID PROVOKING THEM. ALSO WARNED AGAINST SOUTH VIETNAMESE SHIPS TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE PRESENCE OF US SHIPS TO ATTACK THE ((DRV)) SHORE.

181233Z MORTON OPENS FIRE

1814Ø2Z TO SUB-UNIT 7 AND ALL STATIONS. ROUTINE PRE-FLIGHT MERCHANT SHIPPING MOVEMENTS INFORMATION.

181719Z 4-PART MESSAGE TO ALL STATIONS ADDRESSED TO 12Ø,

181844Z (1U) 134,227. "AT 193ØG (123ØZ) 2 USS DESTROYERS 4Ø NM EAST OF HON MATT. IN THE GIANH RIVER WE HEARD GUNFIRE. SPECULATES AT POSSIBLE ENEMY ACTIONS SUCH AS ATTACKS ON "OUR MILITARY, POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC TARGETS, MAINLY NAVAL AND AIR DEFENSE." ORDERS PREPAREDNESS, STRESSES NEED TO MAINTAIN COMMUNICATIONS, KEEP UP WITH EVENTS AND REPORT THEM.

FINAL SECTION OF THREE 2/O/VHN/T16-64 ST 22Ø

PART TWO: DRV NAVAL COMMUNICATIONS PRECEDING DRV ATTACKS OF 2 AND 4 AUGUST ON THE USS MADDOX

THE FOLLOWING IS A RESUME OF DRV NAVAL ACTIVITIES OBSERVED IN SIGINT WHICH PRECEDED THE ATTACKS ON THE USS MADDOX ON Ø2 AND Ø4 AUGUST. THIS REPORT IS DIVIDED INTO TWO PARTS, A AND B, TO COVER THE FIRST AND SECOND ATTACKS RESPECTIVELY.

A. THE FIRST ATTACK, Ø2 AUGUST

1. BEGINNING AT Ø11Ø18Z AUG, DRV NAVAL AND RADAR FACILITIES BEGAN REPORTING ON POSITION OF WHAT APPEARED TO BE THE DESOTO PATROL. (2/G11/VHN/RØ1-64, Ø11635Z; AND 2/Q/VHN/R27-64, Ø12152Z).

2. AT Ø11627Z, A MESSAGE WAS SENT FROM BEN THUY NOTING THAT IT HAD BEEN "DECIDED" TO FIGHT THE ENEMY TONIGHT-WHEN YOU RECEIVE DIRECTING ORDER. "2/Q/VHF/R26-64, Ø11924Z)"

3. AT Ø11652Z, THE OBSERVATION POST AT HON ME ISLAND AND A PGM BOAT WERE INFORMED OF THE DESOTO PATROL'S POSITION. (2/Q/VHN/T27-64 Ø12152Z)

4. BETWEEN Ø12213Z AND Ø2ØØØ7Z, INTERCEPTED TRAFFIC INDICATING CONTINUING DRV REPORTING ON THE POSITION OF THE DESOTO PATROL. (2/Q/VHN/R28-64, Ø2Ø414Z).

5. AT Ø2Ø612Z, AN UNIDENTIFIED SHORE STATION ORDERED THE T-146 TO "TURN BACK TO THE PATH OF THE ENEMY TO ATTACK." (2/Q/VHN/R29-64, Ø21232Z).

6. AT APPROXIMATELY Ø2Ø716Z, USN-27 ISSUED A CRITIC MESSAGE, BASED ON A DRV [redacted] WHICH INDICATED THAT DRV CRAFT WERE ON CLOSE WITH THE "ENEMY" AND TO USE TORPEDOES. NSA25X3

7. BETWEEN Ø2Ø3Ø9Z AND Ø2Ø732Z, DRV NAVAL COMMUNICATIONS CONTINUED TO KEEP THE DESOTO UNDER CLOSE SURVEILLANCE. DURING THIS PERIOD, DRV NAVAL VESSELS WERE APPARENTLY GROUPING TO ATTACK. (2/Q/VHN/R29-64, Ø21232Z).

8. AT Ø2Ø8Ø7Z, THE MADDOX REPORTED SHE WAS UNDER ATTACK BY THREE DRV PT BOATS.

FOLLOWING THE ACTION ON Ø2 AUGUST, COMINT REFLECTED THE NORTH VIETNAMESE ENGAGING PRIMARILY IN "MOP-UP" ACTIONS, PRINCIPALLY CONCERNED WITH LOCATING THEIR DAMAGED PT BOATS AND TOWING THEM BACK TO PORTS. MEANWHILE, THEY CONTINUED TO TRACK AND REPORT ON THE U.S. VESSELS IN THE GULF OF TONKIN.

B. THE SECOND ATTACK, Ø4 AUGUST

1. Ø4Ø927Z: INTERCEPTED DRV NAVAL MESSAGES INDICATED FURTHER MILITARY ACTIONS AGAINST THE U.S. MIGHT BE CARRIED OUT. (USN-414T DTG Ø4114ØZ AUG).

2. AT Ø4114ØZ USM-626J REPORTED EVIDENCE OF "IMMINENT PLANS OF DRV NAVAL ACTION POSSIBLY AGAINST DESOTO MISSION." (2/G11/VHN/R11-64, Ø4114ØZ AUG).

3. AT Ø414ØØZ, THE TICONDEROGA REPORTED THAT THE MADDOX OPENED FIRE AGAINST A PT BOAT.

PART THREE: DISPOSITION OF DRV NAVAL FORCES AS EVIDENCED IN SIGINT ON 17 SPETEMBER

A STUDY OF ALL AVAILABLE MESSAGES INDICATES THE FOLLOWING DISPOSITION OF DRV NAVAL FORCES ON THE DAY (17 SEPTEMBER 1964) PRECEDING THE 18 SEPTEMBER ENGAGEMENT IN THE GULF OF TONKIN.

SOUTHERN FLEET:

AT 17Ø955Z SUB-UNIT 7 WAS TO ANCHOR AT XUYAN DUONG (18-44/1Ø5-44). SUB-UNIT 7 IS TENTATIVELY HELD BY NSA AS CONSISTING OF UNIDENTIFIED TYPE VESSELS T253, T255, T257.

DURING 17 SEPTEMBER SUB-UNIT 6 WAS NOTED ON SOUTHERN FLEET COMMUNICATIONS AND HENCE PRESUMED TO BE IN SOUTHERN FLEET WATERS. SUB-UNIT 6 IS TENTATIVELY HELD TO CONSIST OF UNIDENTIFIED TYPE VESSELS T377 AND PROBABLY TWO OTHERS WHOSE VESSEL NUMBERS ARE UNKNOWN.

ALTHOUGH THE VESSELS COMPRISING SUB-UNITS 6 AND 7 ARE UNIDENTIFIED AS TO TYPE IT IS THOUGHT THAT THEY ARE PROBABLY SWATOWS.

NORTHERN FLEET:

THE FOLLOWING UNITS/VESSELS WERE OBSERVED ACTIVE ON DRV NORTHERN FLEET COMMUNICATIONS ON 17 SEPTEMBER AND HENCE THROUGHT TO BE IN NORTHERN FLEET WATERS:

SUB-UNIT 1, SUB-UNIT 2 AND SUB-UNIT 3, ALL OF WHICH ARE UNIDENTIFIED AS TO NUMBER OR TYPE OF VESSEL.

VESSEL T12Ø - UNIDENTIFIED AS TO TYPE

VESSEL T134 - PROBABLE SWATOW

VESSEL T142 - PROBABLE SWATOW

T227 - UNIDENTIFIED AS TO TYPE

ZKZK ZZ ZAD DE

ZKZK ZZ ZSL ZLA AOH HII DE

RUEPCR

DE RUEPCR 223 19/1917Z

Z 191916Z

FM JCS

INFO RUEPWW/WHITE HOUSE

RUEHCR/STATE DEPT

RUEPIA/CIA

RUEPCR/NSA

191412Z

FM CTU 77.6.6

TO RUHLHL/CINCPACFLT

RUECW/CNO

INFO RUATUL/BBKG/COMSEVENTHFLT

RUMFUI/U4KT/CTF 77

RUMFUN/H3WX/CTU 77.6

BT

~~S E C R E T~~

DESOTO (U)

(A) CINCPACFLT 190234Z

1. THIS IS SECTION ONE THREE , A STATEMENT MAIN BATTERY OFFICER, USS MORTON (DD 948) SUBJ: SURFACE ENGAGEMENT, NIGHT OF 18 SEPTEMBER

AT CONDITION 3 WATCH. FIRST TARGET PICKED UP APPROXIMATELY 1940. LOCKED ON AND TRACKING 1945. RANGE 7,000 YARDS. TARGET CLOSING AT HIGH SPEEDS 115000) DEES AT 20 KNOTS. 1950 GENERAL QUARTERS SET. ONE ROUND FIRED ACROSS TARGET'S BOW. TARGET CONTINUED TO CLOSE

AT HIGH SPEED. 1921 COMMENCED RAPID CONTINUOUS FIRE. FIRST FEW ROUNDS NOTED TO BE SHORT OF TARGET. RECEIVED PLUS 5ØØ YARDS SPOT FROM GUN CONTROL. SHOT THEN APPEARED TO BE DIRECTLY ON TARGET. AFTER SEVERAL ROUNDS APPEARED DIRECTLY ON TARGET, RANGED CEASED CLOSING AND TARGET DISAPPEARED FROM SCOPE. CEASED FIRING 2Ø23.

2. TRACK SEVERAL TARGETS AT APPROXIMATELY 13,ØØØ YARDS INTO 11,ØØØ YARDS. AT THIS TIME TARGETS APPEARED TO SPLIT, ONE CLOSING, ONE STAYING AT APPROXIMATELY 11,ØØØ YARDS. TRACK CLOSING TARGET INTO APPROXIMATELY 5,ØØØ YARDS AT WHICH TIME TARGET OPENED IN RANGE, WHILE SECOND TARGET CLOSED AT HIGH RATE OF SPEED. THIS SEEMED TO BE THEIR DESIGNED METHOD OF ATTACK. EXPERIENCED DIFFICULTY IN TRACKING CLOSING TARGETS BECAUSE OF SMALL RADAR RETURN AND JAMMING. JAMMING WAS IN THE FORM OF RADAR INTERFERENCE, TO WIT: SINE WAVE EFFECTS ON B AND SWEEPS, SPIKE EFFECTS AND BLOT OUT EFFECTS ON A AND R SWEEP. ALL INCOMING TARGETS WERE TRACKED AND EITHER LOCKED ON GAITED. THROUGHOUT ENGAGEMENT ENCOUNTERED BLOT OUT EFFECTS ON ALL SWEEPS SIMILAR TO WEATHER OR JAMMING. UPON MANY OCCASIONS TRAGETS SEEMED TO HEAD FOR THESE AREAS OF COVER. CHANGING FREQUENCIES AND PULSE REPETITION RATE ELIMINATED MOST OF THE ELECTRONIC EFFECTS (JAMMING). TARGETS WERE TAKEN UNDER FIRE

DURING THIS TIE TWICE. AT TIMES 2Ø26 COMMENCED FIRING, 2Ø27 CEASED FIRING: TIE 2Ø32 COMMENCED FIRING, 2935 CEASED FIRING.

3. RECEIVED DESIGNATION OF TARGET AT 8,ØØØ YARDS CLOSING AT HIGH SPEEDS, 22 KNOTS. 2Ø39 TAKEN UNDER FIRE, SHOT APPEARED TO BE DIRECTLY

ON TARGET IN RADAR SCOPE. TARGET OBSCURED BY SPLASHES AND DISAPPEARED FROM SCOPE. CEASED FIRING 2043 AT RANGE 4,000 YARDS.

4. RECEIVED DESIGNATION OF TARGET CLOSING HIGH SPEED. 2114 FIRED ROUND ACROSS ITS BOW. TARGET OBSERVED TO TURN AWAY AND OPEN RANGE.

5. RECEIVED DESIGNATION OF TARGET AT 15,000 YARDS. LOCKED ON AND OBSERVED TWO SMALL TARGETS. TARGET SPLIT, ONE MAINTAINING ITS RANGE, THE OTHER CLOSING. LOCKED ON CLOSING TARGET AT 11,000 YARDS. 2126 FIRED WARNING SHOT ACROSS THE BOW. TARGET CONTINUED TO CLOSE IF RANGE. TIME 2131 COMMENCED FIRING AT RANGE 9,000 YARDS. TARGET COMPLETELY OBSCURED BY SHOT. ESTIMATED 20 ROUNDS. NO TARGET VISIBLE ON SCOPE WHEN SHOT SPLASH CLEARED AWAY. CEASED FIRING 2132.

6. SEVERAL MORE TARGETS TRACKED BUT NOT TAKEN UNDER FIRE WHEN RAGE OPENING.

7. NOTES:

1. HEAVY ELECTRONIC JAMMING OR INTERFERENCE NOTED DURING FIRST PART OF ENGAGEMENT.

2. TARGETS THROUGHOUT APPEARED EXTREMELY SMALL, VERY DIFFICULT TO LOCK ON AND TRACK.

3. ONE TARGET TRACKED AT PLUS 30 KNOTS, THE REST TRACKING APPROXIMATELY 20 TO 23.

O 191522Z ZYH

FM USN 27J

TO QUEBEC ONE/ALFA

[redacted]/AFSSO CONAD

[redacted]/AFSSO SAC

[redacted]/AFSSO TAC

PLUS [redacted] USN 467P

P.L. 86-36

COMNAVPHIL

YXDLXH/ALL CVA DETS WESTPAC

ZEM

S E C R E T KIMBO

2/Q1/VHN/R26-64 ST 22Ø SIGINT READINESS BRAVO, OUTBOARD, REPORT NUMBER 5

HAVE INDICATION THAT ELEMENT DRV NAVAL FORCE SOUTHERN FLEET AREA TO CHANGE FROM ALERT GRADE ONE TO GRADE THREE AT 1922ØØZ.

CRITIC CRITIC CRITIC CRITIC CRITIC CRITIC CRITIC CRITIC CRITIC CRITIC CRITIC

ZCZC

NSA25X3

ZKZK

ZYH

FM USN 27

TO DIRNSA

ZEM

~~S E C R E T KIMBO QUEBEC~~/GOLD

CRITIC-2-64

INTERCEPT RECEIVED 191513Z INDICATES DESOTO WILL BE ATTACKED

BY VHN ENTITIES TONIGHT. SPECIFIC TIME UNDETERMINED

CFT. 1199//115527Z SEPT DTG 191528Z

ZZ YEKAAH

DE YMZDAH 93B 19/1547Z SEP

ZKZK ZZ ZZZ DE

Z 191548Z ZYH

FM USN 27

TO DIRNSA

ZEM

~~S E C R E T KIMBO~~

SPECIAL TECHNICAL SUPPLEMENT TO CRITIC MESSAGE 2-64

GWIR 253, 259, PHAAN DOOIJ ((1GRU)). ((1GRU)) BAOS DOONG

TINHF HUONGS. NGAY S BAOS CAOS TANS PHONG KHOONG.

DEEM DANHS BIETTJ KICHS. TRACKS

VHNB 5Ø5Ø/97INJ DE JI2U/3684M/1513 DDA:

191513Z/USN-27:

NR 47 CK 35 19Ø9 212Ø BT

TO 253, 259, SUB UNIT ((1GRU)). ((1GRU)) ALERT CONDITION SIT-

UATION1. IMMEDIATELY ((2GRG)) AIR DEFENSE NIGHT STRIKE

RAIDERS. TRACK.

(confidential HVCCO until filled)

NSA FORM N2288 REV AUG 63
(Supersedes N2288 REV JUN 61 to be used until exhausted)

~~SECRET KIMBO~~
SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

COPY NR.

ACTION PRECEDENCE	INFO PRECEDENCE	SPECIAL HANDLING
IMMEDIATE	NONE	NONE

DISTRIBUTION
DRF
ADP
B
B2
B21
B22
B23
B26
PØ5
NSASCC

72

FROM: DIRNSA

DATE: 19 SEPTEMBER 1964

TO: DIA/CIIC ATTN: COL GASPARD
JCS J3 (JRC CDR FITZWATER)

~~S E C R E T~~ KIMBO

B2Ø5/327

DESOTO SURVEILLANCE

REF: B2Ø5/323/64

1. THIS MESSAGE UPDATES INFO CONTAINED REFERENCE MESSAGE. AT 181233Z THE USS MORTON REPORTED OPENING FIRE ON THREE (LATER CORRECTED TO FIVE) ENEMY TARGETS WHICH WERE CLOSING IN ON HER. 181719Z - A MESSAGE TO ALL STATIONS STATED QUOTE AT 193ØG (123ØZ) 2 US DESTROYERS ((WERE LOCATED)) 4Ø NM EAST OF HON MAT. IN THE GIANH RIVER WE HEARD GUN FIRE UNQUOTE. THE MSG CONSIDERS POSSIBLE ENEMY ACTIONS SUCH AS ATTACKS ON MILITARY, POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC TARGETS, MAINLY NAVAL AND AIR DEFENSE. CALLS FOR ALERTNESS, PREPAREDNESS, AND CLOSE COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTING.

19Ø12ØZ - HAIPHONG INFORMED A CARGO VESSEL, DOAN KET, THAT QUOTE THE ENEMY WAS AT PRESENT STRONGLY ACTIVE, TO PREPARE FOR BATTLE AND NOT TO AWAIT ORDERS UNQUOTE. COMMENT: USN-27 (THE INTERCEPT SITE) STATED FELT THIS WAS A DEFENSIVE REACTION.

DRAFTER: [redacted] 5174s

RELEASING OFFICER: DELMAR C. LANG, LT COL, USAF
CH B2Ø5, 5174s

P.L. 86-36

RELEASED AT (ZULU): 191540 Z

PAGE 1 OF 3 PAGES

AGI NR.

AGO NR. Ø9Ø16/19

REFERS TO MESSAGE
AGO
AGI
DTG
SUSPENSE

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION
~~SECRET KIMBO~~

DTG 1916ØØZ

NSA FORM N2288 REV AUG 63
(Supersedes N2288 REV JUN 61 to be used until exhausted)

~~SECRET KIMBO~~
SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

COPY NR.

ACTION PRECEDENCE | INFO PRECEDENCE | SPECIAL HANDLING

DISTRIBUTION

FROM:

DATE:

TO:

190309Z - A BADLY GARBLED MSG FM AN UNID MOBILE UNIT IN NORTHERN FLEET INFORMED HAIPHONG THAT THEY WERE PREPARING IMMEDIATELY. MSG MENTIONS INDIVIDUALS WHO, FROM INFO DERIVED FROM MSGS NOTED IN LATE AUGUST, MAY REFER TO DRV NAVAL VESSEL COMMANDERS ACTIVE IN THE NORTHERN FLEET AREA.

THE ABOVE MSGS ARE THE ONLY REFLECTIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN RECEIVED HERE RELATIVE TO THE GULF OF TONKIN INCIDENT. TO DATE, NONE OF THEM APPEAR TO BE OFFENSIVE IN NATURE. IN ADDITION, THERE HAVE BEEN CERTAIN REFLECTIONS OF ACTIVITY IN [redacted] COMM FACILITIES WHICH MAY BE RELATED. DETAILS AS FOLLOWS:

NSA25X3

DRAFTER | RELEASING OFFICER | RELEASED AT (ZULU) Z

DOCUMENT MARKING

PAGE 2 OF 3 PAGES

AGI NR.

AGO NR. 016/19

REFERS TO MESSAGE
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SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

~~SECRET KIMBO~~

DTG.

(confidential HVCCO until filled)

NSA FORM N2288 REV AUG 63
(Supersedes N2288 REV JUN 61 to be used until exhausted)

~~SECRET KIMBO~~
SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

COPY NR.

ACTION PRECEDENCE | INFO PRECEDENCE | SPECIAL HANDLING

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FROM: DATE:

TO:

NSA25X3

2. ADDITIONAL RELEVANT MESSAGES ARE INCLUDED IN 2/O/VHN/R16-64, 191138Z QUOTE RECAP OF SIGINT OBSERVATIONS RELATING TO 2/4 AND 18 SEPTEMBER GULF OF TONKIN NAVAL ENGAGEMENTS UNQUOTE.

M/R: Message updates info sent to JCS and DIA on 18 September in response to PRODD Requirement NR 562-64.

DRAFTER | RELEASING OFFICER | RELEASED AT (ZULU) Z

DOCUMENT MARKING

PAGE 3 OF 3 PAGES

AGI NR.

AGO NR. Ø16/19

REFERS TO MESSAGE

AGO
AGI
DTG
SUSPENSE

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

~~SECRET KIMBO~~

DTG.

NSA25X3

DE YEKAAH 53Ø 19/1612Z SEP

ZKZK OO AZS DE

O 1916Ø8Z ZYH

FM DIRNSA

TO OSCAR/VICTOR XRAY

ALL CVA NSG DETS WESTPAC

ZEM

~~S E C R E T KIMBO~~ 2/O/CCN/R14-64 ST 16Ø

FOLLOW-UP NR ONE TO DIRNSA 2/O/[redacted]/R13-64 SPOT REPORT, DTG 19Ø3Ø6Z

[redacted] THE TRANSMISSION OF THREE MESSAGES DURING A TWO-HOUR PERIOD VIS-A-VIS AN OCCASIONAL MAXIMUM OF TWO FOR AN ENTIRE DAY CONTINUES TO BE INEXPLICABLE. HOWEVER, THIS ACTIVITY IS NOT CONSIDERED SIGNIFICANT SINCE ALL AVAILABLE DATA DOES NOT REVEAL A RESUMPTION OF THIS ACTIVITY THROUGHOUT THE REMAINDER OF THE DAY, AND THE ROUTINE TRANSMISSION OF PRACTICE MESSAGES CONTINUES.

FINALLY, IT IS PRESUMED THAT COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN [redacted] WERE ESTABLISHED SINCE NO FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS WERE OBSERVED BEING TRANSMITTED BETWEEN [redacted]. FURTHER, THERE HAS BEEN NO MANIFESTATION OF UNUSUAL SHIP ACTIVITY IN THE [redacted] AREA. SHIPS ARE BELIEVED TO BE ENGAGED IN ROUTINE PATROL AND COASTAL SURVEY OPERATIONS AND ARE SUFFICIENTLY DISPERSED WITH NO OSTENSIBLE CONCENTRATIONS OR EVIDENCE OF IMMINENT BUILDUPS.

CONSEQUENTLY, DATA CURRENTLY AVAILABLE FROM COMINT REVEALS NO APPARENT ASSOCIATIONS OF THE FOREGOING ACTIVITY WITH THE 18 SEPTEMBER INCIDENT INVOLVING THE USS MORTON AND USS EDWARDS. ACCORDINGLY, THIS WILL BE A FINAL REPORT OF THIS ACTIVITY UNLESS FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS ARE OBSERVED WHICH HAVE ANY POTENTIAL SIGNIFICANCE.

P.L. 86-36

KZK ZZ RNI DE

Z 1917Ø4Z ZYH

FM DIRNSA

TO OSCAR/VICTOR XRAY

ALL CVA NSG DETS WESTPAC

USN-467P

~~S E C R E T KIMBO~~ 2/O/VHN/R17-64

NSA FOLLOW-UP TO USN-27 CRITIC NR 2-64:

A TRANSLATION ACCOMPLISHED AT NSA OF THE MESSAGE ON WHICH THE USN-27 CRITIC REPORT WAS BASED INDICATES THAT THE MESSAGE READS AS FOLLOWS: QUOTE FROM: (POSSIBLY) BEN THUY TO T253 AND T259 AND SUB UNIT (ONE GROUP UNRECOVERED). (ONE GROUP UNRECOVERED) ALERT CONDITION SITUATION ONE. BY DAY (POSSIBLY DISPERSE FOR) AIR DEFENSE. BY NIGHT STRIKE THE RAIDERS. (SIGHED) TRACH UNQUOTE. COMMENT: BEN THUY IS THE LOCATION OF THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE SOUTHERN FLEET. THE VESSELS T253 AND T259 ARE TENTATIVELY THOUGHT TO BE MOTOR TORPEDO BOATS. THE SIZE OF THE SUB-UNIT, IN TERMS OF NUMBER OF VESSELS, IS UNKNOWN. IN LIGHT OF CONCERN PREVIOUSLY EXPRESSED BY NORTH VIETNAMESE NAVAL AUTHORITIES OVER GUARDING AGAINST THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE RAIDERS THE POSSIBILITY EXISTS THAT THEIR CONCERN AS EXPRESSED IN THIS MESSAGE IS AS APT TO BE FOR SOUTH VIETNAMESE VESSELS AS IT IS FOR THE U.S. DESTROYERS.

191821Z

FM JCS

TO RUHPA/CINCPAC

INFO ZEN/CSA

ZEN/CNO

ZEN/CUSAF

RUECEM/XMX

RUHPB/CINCPACFLT

RUMSMA/COMUSMACV

RUATUL/COMSEVENTHFLT

RUEPCR/NSA

RUMFUI/CTF 77

RUMGUN/CTG 77.6

RUMFCR/CTU 77.6.6

RUMGCR/USS MORTON

RUMGCR/USS RICHARD & EDWARDS

RUEHCR/AMEMB SAIGON

RUEPIA/CIA

RUEPWW/WHITE HOUSE

RUEHCR/STATE DEPT

ZEN/SECDEF

~~T O P S E C R E T~~ JCS 8869-64 JCS SENDS.

SUBJECT: DESOTO PATROL (U)

REFERENCE: A. JCS 8838 DTG 182358Z

1. DEFER DESOTO PATROL UNTIL FURTHER INSTRUCTED. ~~GP-3~~

(unclassified until filled)

NSA FORM N2288 REV AUG 63
(Supersedes N2288 REV JUN 61
to be used until exhausted)

~~TOP SECRET~~
SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

COPY NR.

ACTION PRECEDENCE	INFO PRECEDENCE	SPECIAL HANDLING
IMMEDIATE	PRIORITY	~~COMINT CHANNELS~~

FROM: DIRNSA

DATE: 19 SEPTEMBER 1964

TO: USM-626 [redacted] USN-86
USA-37 [redacted] USN-27
USN-27J [redacted]
USA-57
USA-32
USM-626J
USM-9

INFO: USAFSS
CGUSASA
[redacted]
[redacted]
SUSLO (M)
HQ NSAPAC
ASSTDIRNAVSECGRU
[redacted]
NSAPAC REP VIETNAM ~~(C)~~
NSAPAC REP PHIL
[redacted]
CGUSASAPAC
PACSECTYRGN
DIRNAVSECGRUPAC
DIRNAVSECGRU

DISTRIBUTION
ADN
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PØ5
D32
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B2
B21
B22
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B26
NSASCC
AFSS FM
ASALNGP
ADNSG
DRF

NSA25X3
NSA25X6

76

~~T O P S E C R E T COMINT CHANNELS~~

B2Ø5/329

SIGINT READINESS BRAVO OUTBOARD

1. HAVE BEEN INFORMED THAT DESOTO PATROL SUSPENDED FOR AT LEAST ONE WEEK. WILL KEEP ADDEES ADVISED

M/R: Notification of decision with regard to DESOTO Patrol. SNOO is aware of this action.

P.L. 86-36

DRAFTER	RELEASING OFFICER	RELEASED AT (ZULU)
[redacted] CH B2Ø51/5174s	[redacted] CH B2Ø51/5174s	191945 Z
		PAGE 1 OF PAGES 1
		AGI NR.
		AGO NR. Ø9Ø25/19

REFERS TO MESSAGE
GO N
AGI O
DTG N
SUSPENSE E

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION
~~HANDLE VIA COMINT CHANNELS ONLY~~
~~TOP SECRET~~

DTG
192ØØØZ

OO RUEKDA RUECW RUEPCR RUEPIA RUEAHQ

DE RUMFUN 52 2Ø/Ø225Z

Z O 2ØØ225Z

FM CTG SEVEN SEVEN PT SIX

TO RUATUL/COMSEVENTHFLT

RUXHLL/CINCPACFLT

INFOR ELDA/JCS

RUECW/CNO

RUHLHQ/CINCPAC

RUMGUI/U4L5/CTF SEVEN SEVEN

RUEPCR/WHITE HOUSE

RUEPCR/STATE DEPT

RUEKDA/SEC DEF

RUEPIA/CIA

KEPCR/DIRNSA

RUMJIR/AMEMB SAIGON

RUMSMA/COMUSMACV

RUMFS/COMNAVPHIL

RUWPCR/AP3V/CTU SEVEN SEVEN PT SIX PT SIX

RUMSBJ/M3TC/CTU SEVEN ZERO PT TWO PT ONE

RUEAHQ/DIA

BT

~~T O P S E C R E T~~

TONKIN GULF DESOTO PATROL (S)

SITREP ELEVEN AND FINAL

A. COMSEVENTHFLT 12Ø633Z

B. MY 192135Z

1. IAW DIRECTIVES FROM HIGHER AUTHORITIES, DESOTO PATROL TERMINATED AND STRIKE POSTURE CANCELLED.

2. USS MORTON WITH COMDESCIV 52 EMBARKED/ USSR EDWARDS ENROUTE JOIN TG 77.6. USS SABALO ORDERED WITHDRAW GULF OF TONKIN LIFEGUARD STA AND HONORED JOIN CTG 77.7.

PAGE TWO RUMXMMFUN 52 ~~T O P S E C R E T~~

3. CTG 77.6 INS CONSTEL WITH MORTON/EDWARDS WILL PROCEED SUBIC FOLL TRANS YANKEE TEAM DUTY TO CTG 77.7 2Ø SEP IAW COMSEVENTHFLT 2ØØØ26Z. NOTAL.

4. THIS IS FINAL SITREP.

GP-1

2Ø12ØØZ

[redacted]/AFSSO CONAD

[redacted]/AFSSO SAC

[redacted]/AFSSO TAC

COMNAVPHIL

[redacted]/ALL CVA DETS WESTPAC

ZEM

P.L. 86-36

~~S E C R E T KIMBO~~

2/Q1/VHN/R28-64 ST22Ø SIGINT READINESS BRAVO, OUTBOARD, REPORT NUMBER 7

MSG INTERCEPTED AT 2ØØ945Z STATES THAT SEVENTH FLEET STILL SOUTH OF DEMARCATION LINE AND THAT GOIN XON ISSUED ORDERS TO CARRY OUT GULF PATROL.

COMMENT: IDENTITY GION XON NOT KNOWN THIS STA. MSG ADDRESSED TO ALL STATIONS AND POSS REFERS TO ENTIRE GULF TONKIN.

78

ZKZK OO NRL HHA NOL DE

[redacted]

P.L. 86-36

ZKZK OO RNI DE

O 2Ø18Ø5Z ZYH

FM DIRNSA

TO OSCAR/VICTOR XRAY

USN-467P

ALL CVA NSG DET WESTPAC

SSO FORT RITCHIE

ADDEUR

ZEM

NSA25X3

~~S E C R E T KIMBO~~ 2/O/[redacted]/R11-64 ST 175,22Ø

SIGINT READINESS BRAVO OUTBOARD TERMINATED

IN VIEW OF THE POSTPONEMENT OF FURTHER PATROLLING BY US SHIPS IN THE GULF OF TONKIN AND THE LACK OF EXTENSIVE [redacted] OR DRV REACTION, SIGINT READINESS BRAVO OUTBOARD IS HEREBY TERMINATED. NORMAL REPORTING PROCEDURES HAVE BEEN RESUMED.

79

(confidential HVCCO until filled)

NSA FORM N2288 REV AUG 63
(Supersedes N2288 REV JUN 61 to be used until exhausted)

~~TOP SECRET DINAR~~
SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

COPY NR.

ACTION PRECEDENCE	INFO PRECEDENCE	SPECIAL HANDLING
IMMEDIATE	PRIORITY	NONE

FROM: DIRNSA

DATE: 2Ø SEPT 1964

TO: USN-27
USN-27J
[redacted]
USM-626
[redacted]
[redacted]
USM-626J
USM-9
[redacted]
USA-57
USA-68

INFO: HQ NSAPAC
NSAPAC REP VIETNAM ~~(C)~~
[redacted]
NSAPAC REP PHIL
USAFSS
CGUSASA
DIRNAVSECGRU
CUSASAPAC
PACSCTYRGN
DIRNAVSECTRUPAC
ASSTDIRNAVSECGRUPAC
UNCODED
[redacted]
SUSLO (M)

NSA25X3

NSA25X6

DISTRIBUTION
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B24
B26
C3
P1
AUSLO
NSASCC
ASALNGP
AFSS/FM
DRF

~~T O P S E C R E T DINAR~~

B2Ø5/331/64

SRB OUTBOARD TERMINATION

REF: A. DIRNSA B2Ø5/319-64, 171655Z SMCLN B. DIRNSA B2Ø5/326/64, 191ØØ5Z. IN VIEW OF SUSPENSION OF DESOTO PATROL AND LACK OF EXTENSIVE [redacted] DRV REACTIONS, SIGINT READINESS BRAVO OUTBOARD DECLARED REF ALFA AND EXTENDED REF BRAVO HEREBY TERMINATED. ACTION ADDEES WILL RESUME NORMAL REPORTING POSTURE

M/R; Termination of SIGINT Readiness condition. This action was discussed with Chief, B2, ADP, and DIR. SNOO aware of this action.

DRAFTER	RELEASING OFFICER	RELEASED AT (ZULU)
[redacted] B2Ø51/5174s	[redacted] CH B2Ø51/5174s	2Ø1745 Z
		PAGE 1 OF 1 PAGES
		AGI NR.
		AGO NR. Ø9ØØ7/2Ø

P.L. 86-36

REFERS TO MESSAGE	SECURITY CLASSIFICATION	DTG
AGO	~~TOP SECRET DINAR~~	2Ø1819Z
AGI		
DTG 191ØØ5Z		
SUSPENSE		

80

P.L. 86-36

ZKZK PP ZLA AOH HII NRL DE

P 23Ø436Z

FM USN 27

TO DIRNSA

INFO CNO

HQ NSAPAC

CINCPAC

DIRNAVSECGRU

DIRNAVSECGRUPAC

ZEM

~~T O P S E C R E T DINAR~~ SECTION ONE OF TWO

OIC USN 467P ORIGINATES

SIGINT SUPPORT TO DESOTO PATROL

A. DIRNSA B2Ø5/328-64 DTG 191144ØZ

B. DIRNSA B2Ø5/334-64 DTG 221629Z (PASEP)

1. REF ALFA NOT HELD USN 27 OF USN 467P FILES.

2. AS REQ REF BRAVO HEREWITH BY TOI/TOR DESOTO REFLECTIONS

REACTIONS AND POSS RELATED SIGINT INFO RECD ABOARD USS MORTON

PRIOR 181233Z:

TOI 17ØØ15Z MSG FM PORT WALLUT TO UNIDENTIFIED "//IN HERE// DO NOT FIRE PROBABLY RELATED TO FIRING TRAINING.

TOI 17Ø238Z MSG FM PORT WALLUT TO T12Ø "NR 15. TO ALL STATIONS AND ALL SHIPS. ((GRM)) ARRIVE KHANG ((QRM)). RECOGNITION OF THE ENEMY BY HEADQUARTERS ((1GRG)) POSIBILITIES: ((2GRG)) ENTER ((2GRU)) PROVIDE ((XGM)) WITH FORCE THE SOUTHERN AREA ((4GRG)). ALL STATIONS WAIT ((2GRU)) TAKE PRECAUTIONS (AGAINST) THE ENEMY ATTACK (WHETHER) BY SEA OR AIR ((2GRG)) PROVOKE."

TOR 17Ø258Z USN 27 PASSED FOL MSG: "1. FOLLOWING GIST [redacted] FURNISHED FYI: A. 17Ø554Z/27: THE SEVENTH FLEET'S INTENTIONS ARE POSSIBLY TO MOVE IN AND TO PROVOKE. ALL STATIONS ARE NOTIFIED THE ENEMY COURSE IS CLOSE TO SHORE PLANNING TO PROVOKE US. B. BASED ON CORRUPT TEXT - [redacted] DE NGL2 ((PORT WALLUT))"

NSA25X3

TOI 17Ø41ØZ USN 27J 2/Q1/VHN/RØ7-64. DTG 17Ø315Z

TOI 17Ø411Z USN 27 2/Q/VHN/R99-64 DTG 17Ø258Z

TOI 17Ø42ØZ FM PORT WALLUT TO UNIDENTIFIED "NR 18. (YOU) MUST WAIT ((2GRU)); PREPARE TO CAMOUFLAGE; THE ENEMY (WILL) POSSIBLY PROVOKE AND ATTACK US BY SEA (AND/OR) BY AIR: ((2GRU)) INSIDE THE 17TH AND 18TH OF SEP."

TOR 17Ø55Z USN 27J 2/Q1/VHN/RØ6-64, DTG 17Ø12ØZ

TOI 17Ø528Z FM PORT WALLUT TO UNIDENTIFIED "NR ((SHIP BLKS)) ALL SHIPS RELAY STATION R2D ((2GRG)) ((2GRG)) OBSERVED AT 1Ø2Ø HRS 2 DESTROYERS AT BEARING OF 99//SHIP BLSK//SPEED 18 KNOTS."

TOR 17Ø618Z USN 27J 2/Q1/VHN/R1Ø-64 DTG 17Ø515Z

TOI 17Ø725Z FM BEN THUY TO UNIDENTIFIED "//IN HERE// COAST; ALSO POSSIBLE ((22GRU)) TO RAID ((2GRU)). "K" ((XGRM)) GUARD ((3GRU)) REMAINING

COMMUNICATION WITH "K".

TOI 17Ø745Z FM BEN THUY TO UNIDENTIFIED "ENEMY POSSIBLE ((2GRU) WITH ACTIVITY AT LAOS; POSSIBLE SHELL THE COAST LINE; ALSO COULD POSSIBLE ((2GRU)) RAID ((2GRU)). "A'S" DIRECTIVES ((2GRU)) MUST STRENGTHEN ((2GRU)); GUARD; MAINTAIN COMMUNICATIONS WITH "K".

TOI 17Ø81ØZ FM VINHSON TO BEN THUY "TO SUBUNIT 6 ((1GRU)) RECEIVED ORDERS TO POSTPONE THE BATTLE.

TOI 17Ø919Z FM PORT WALLUT TO T231 "NR 22. TO ALL STATIONS, T12Ø, 134, 142, T227. ((2GRU)) REPORTS 143ØG AT A BEARING OF 46 DEGREES, RANGE 26HCM, COURSE 328 DEGREES, SPEED 15 KNOTS; 2 DESTROYERS THREATENING."

TOR 17Ø938Z USN 27J 2/Q1/VHN/R13-64 DTG 17Ø853Z

TOR 171ØØØZ WUN 27J 2/Q1/VHN/RØ8-64 DTG 17Ø335Z

TOI 171Ø45Z FM PORT WALLUT TO UNIDENTIFIED SHORE STATION NORTH FLEET "NR 2. TO T134, 12Ø, 142. WITHIN THE RADIO NET, THE ORDER IN WHICH TO COME UP (IS AS FOLLOWS): SUB-UNIT ONE, THEN SUB-UNIT TWO, THEN SUB-UNIT 3 ((4GRU)) REPEATEDLY DISORDERLY BY NITE ((REMAINDER OF HLNT GRBLED)).

TOR 171253Z USN 27J 2/Q1/VHN/R12-64 DTG 17Ø83ØZ

TOR 171845Z USN 27J PASSED FOL MSG

"1. MSG REPOERTED INTERCEPTED REF

ALFA (17Ø81ØZ ENTRY) VERSION REF BRAVO INTERCEPTED THIS STA AT 17Ø823Z.

2. REF BRAVO (171ØØØZ ENTRY) USES QTE DINH UNQTE AS SIGNATURE.

SEARCH CONFIRMED IN VERSION REPORTED REF BRAVO QTE: TO DETACHMENT 6 "(GARBLED)"

TOR 171910Z USN 27 2/Q/VHN/R1Ø1-64 DTG 171750Z

TOR 172Ø12Z DIRNSA 2/O/VHN/R12-64 DTG 171652Z

TOR 18ØØ37Z USN 27J PASSED FOL MSG: "A. USN 467P SPOT INTEL ITEM 17Ø845Z

B. USN 27J FOLLOW-UP NR Ø5 TO 2/Q1/VHN/2Ø7-64 DTG 17Ø853Z NOTAL

C. DIRNSA B2Ø5-318-64 DTG 1. MSG REPORTED INTERCEPTED REF ALFA WAS VERSION REF BRAVO INTERCEPTED THIS STA AT 17Ø832Z. 2. REF BRAVO USES QTE DINH UNQTE AS SIGNATURE. SEARCH CONFIRMED THIS PERSONALITY TO BE LINKED WITH SOUTHERN FLEET ACTIVITY IN THE PAST. BELIEVE USE OF QTE DINH UNQTE TO MEAN POSTPONE AS REPORTED REF ALFA INCORRECT IN THIS INSTANCE, DUE TO LOCATION IN SENTENCE STRUCTURE. 3. FOL IS USN 27J VERSION REPORTED REF BRAVO QTE: TO DETACHMENT RECEIVED ORDERS ((POSS TO FIGHT)) DIN. ((U/I PERSONALITY)) COMMENT: UNRECOVERED GRP BELIEVED TO MEAN QTE HAVE NOT YET UNQTE. NO RELATED ITEMS NOTED THIS STA."

TOR 18Ø217Z USN 27J 2/Q1/VHN/R11-64 DTG 17Ø7ØØZ

TOR 18Ø219Z USN 27 2/Q/VHN/R1ØØ-64 DTG 171111ØZ

TOI 18Ø247Z FM: U/I (ON SHIPPING/FISHING FREQ) TO. VOU2 (SHORE STA CONTROL):

"CAN SEE CLEARLY 946, 95Ø. PREPARING FOR BATTLE. MET ANOTHER //QRM// ABOUT 1ØØ METERS AWAY CAN SEE CLEARLY NR 946, NR 95Ø PRESENTLY PREPARING((GRBL)) PLEASE INFORM DISTRICT AND OO DISTRICT 228ØØ."

NOTE: ANTENNA RIGGED FISHING CRAFT PASSED BY DESOTO (DISTANCE 2ØØ YARDS)).

~~T O P S E C R E T DINAR~~ FINAL SECTION OF TWO

TOI 18Ø3Ø5Z FM PORT WALLUT TO: U/I

NR YM GO 142, 134, 12Ø, AT 193ØL 18 SEP THE T142 RETURN TO PORT ((2GRU)). T 183ØG 19 SEP THE T132 (SWATOW) RETURN TO PORT ((2GRU)) TO ADMINISTER ((2GRU)) FIRING AND ((2GRU)) AFTERWARDS

RETURN TO BAI CHAY TO TAKE ON ((2GRU)) Ø33ØG 2Ø SEP ((2GRU))
ANCHORAGE AREA ((GEM)) CONTINUED

TOI 18Ø324Z FM: PORT WALLUT TO: T146, T12Ø
TO ((2GRG)) Ø955G; NR 28. TO T12Ø TRANSMIT (TO) COMRADE KIM.
((GRG)) 17 SEP 2 DESTROYERS WERE OUT A SEE. AT Ø63ØG 18 SEP
(THE TWO DESTROYERS) WERE ((1GRG)) NAUTICAL MILES NORTHEAST OF
HON MATT. T Ø83ØG (THE DESTROYERS) WERE 18 NAUTICAL MILES FROM
HON MATT.

TOI 18Ø329Z FM: PORT WALLUT TO: U/I
193ØG 18 SEP THE T142 (SWATOW) RETURN TO PORT ((2GRU)). A
183ØG 19 SEP T132 RETURN TO PORT ((2GRU)) TO ADMINISTER ((2GRU))
FIRING AND ((1GRU)) AFTERWARDS RETURN TO BAI CHAY TO TAKE ON
((2GRU)) ..3ØG 2Ø SEP RETURN TO ANCHORAGE AREA ((2GRU))

TOI 18Ø435Z FM: U/I VES TO: CONTRO
PULLING IN NETS NOW THE ENEMY SHIPS ARE DOING ((GBLD)). AGAIN
ALMOST ((1GRU)) HERE TO RELEASE //SHIP BLKS// FLY DOWN. IN ORDER
TO PREPARE FOR BATTLE ((1GM)) RUN AND BE SEPARATED FROM THE NET
((GARBLED)) VIEWPOINT IN ORDER TO PULL IN THE NET URGENTLY//SHIP
BLK// FLY DOWN. (I M) RETURNING TO THUONG RIVER, PRESENTLY
AWAITING NEWS.

TIO 18Ø435Z FM: CONTROL TO: U/I VES
(YOU) CONTINUE TILL 163Ø. THE NET WILL HAVE PLANS (OR STRITGEY)
AFTER ((1GRG)).

TOI 18Ø445Z FM: U/I TO: U/I
NR 2. TO 49. COMRADE NHAN (IS) RETURNING (FOR) THE NETTING:
COMRADE CAN GO OVER TO THE BOAT (TO MEET) COMRADE NHAN. IN

TOI 18Ø62ØZ MSG FM PORT WALLUT TO IDENTIFIED: NR 3Ø. TO T12Ø, T227
TRANSMIT TO COMRADE KIM. AT 1Ø13G 2 DESTROYERS ARRIVED 3Ø NM NORTHEAST

OF LACH CHAO, HEADQUARTERS REMINDS ALL STATIONS TO REINFORCE (OR STRENGTHEN) THEIR DOMMINS AND EXECUTE EXACTLY THE DIRECTIVE NR 6Ø3 OF AUG 22, 1964.

TOR 18Ø64ØZ USN 27 [redacted] DTG 17112 Z NSA25X3

TOR 18Ø72ØZ USN 27 2/Q/VHN/R1Ø4-64 DTG 18Ø656Z

TOI 18Ø813Z FM T12Ø TO PORT WALLUT: //IN HERE// SPEED TO ATTACK (OR AMBUS) IN THE BORDER ((2GRU)) HIGHEST DEGREE //QRM// ALREADY ((2GRU)) FIRM SITUATION.

TOI 18Ø817Z FM T12Ø TO PORT WALLUT: THE ENEMY IS CONTINUING TO PROVOKE ((2GRU)) HAVE ORDERS FOR ALL STATIONS. STRENGTHEN (YOUR) AREAS; DISTINGUISH AMERICAN SHIPS; SOUTHERN REGION. DO YOUR BEST TO AVOID PROVACATIONS: TO GRSP (ND) TO ADVOCATE K QJS NEW WAR. TAKE PRECAUTIONS (AGAINST) AN AIRCRAFT ATTACK, ALL STATIONS ((2GRU)) NANCE, DISPERSE (AND) CAMOUFLAGE; ALL PRESENT ((2GRU)) BATTLE

(KIM IS NOW BOARD THE T12Ø, WHICH EXPLAINS WHY A SWATOW CLASS PGM IS ISSUING ORDERS SUCH AS THESE)

TOI 181ØØ2Z FM PORT WALLUT TO UNIDENTIFIED: //IN HERE// STRENGTHEN THE AREAS; DISTINGUISH AMERICAN SHIPS; SOUTHERN AREA; DO YOUR BEST TO AVOID PROVOCATIONS; GRISP (AND) ADVOCATE K-1'S NEW WAR; TAKE PRECAUTIONS (AGAINST) AN ENEMY AIRCRAFT ATTACK ((2GRU)) CONTINUED ALL STATIONS RISE FORWARD PREPARE EVERYONE TO BE READY. TAKE PRECAUTIONS (AGAINST) AN ATTACK WITHIN (OUR) LIMITS BY THE AMERICAN SHIPS IN THE SOUTHERN AREA.

TOI 181145Z USN 27J 2/Q1/VHN/R15-64 DTG 18

(unclassified until filled)

NSA FORM N2288 REV AUG 63
(Supersedes N2288 REV JUN 61 to be used until exhausted)

~~SECRET~~
SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

COPY NR.

ACTION PRECEDENCE	INFO PRECEDENCE	SPECIAL HANDLING
ROUTINE	ROUTINE	COMINT CHANNELS

FROM: USN-27 DATE: 25 SEP 64

TO: DIRNAVSECGRU

INFO: DIRNAVSECGRUPAC

[redacted]

COMUSIDC
COMNAVFORJAPAN
COMSEVENTHFLT
CTF 72
CINCPACFLT
CNO
DIRNSA
ASST DIRNAVSECGRU

DISTRIBUTION
B
B2
B26
D32
PØ4
PØ5
P2
ADP
T1
DRF
ADNSG

NSA25X3

~~S E C R E T COMINT CHANNELS~~

SEPT DESOTO (C)

A. CINCPACFLT 23Ø4Ø6Z NOTAL

1. USN 467P DEACTIVATED 232359Z IAW REF ALFA.

L23 NOTE: DTG 23Ø4Ø6Z UNABLE TO LOCATE L23.

82

DRAFTER: DON/HH

RELEASING OFFICER:

RELEASED AT (ZULU):

DOCUMENT MARKING:

PAGE 1 OF 1 PAGES

AGI NR. 57524

AGO NR.

REFERS TO MESSAGE
AGO
AGI
DTG
SUSPENSE

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION
~~HANDLE VIA COMINT CHANNELS ONLY~~
~~SECRET~~

DTG 25Ø326Z