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SECRET KIMBO

21 October 1964

Mr. Thomas L. Hughes
The Director of Intelligence and Research
Department of State
Washington, D. C.

Dear Tom:

I have reviewed with interest the memorandum prepared by your people on the possibility that the DESOTO Patrol may have fired on vessels assigned to shadow it.

I understand our analysts have discussed this paper with your people. In view of the lack of hard evidence covering the actual targets fired upon by the DESOTO Patrol, your concluding paragraph constitutes a rational "speculation". However, as you probably know by now, the particular evidentiary basis advanced by you in support of this thesis is substantially affected by the fact that NSA claims the "T-520" referred to is a land based radar station rather than a North Vietnamese naval ship with radar.

I appreciate your sending this paper to me and would be glad to hear from you further on the subject should further analysis be necessary.

Sincerely,

JOSEPH F. CARROLL
Lieutenant General, USAF
Director

Declassified and approved for release by NSA on 02-14-2006 pursuant to E.O. 12958, as amended

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