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OFFICE LOG 24 OCT 1962

0900 CNO went to JCS meeting

1040 CNO called from meeting because of sub contact (CTG 44.3 241000Z).

✓ 1040 NSA notified flag plot that the Russian ships had turned back. The word was received by message and plotted. Flag plot notified SECDEF, CJCS and SECNAV. RADM Lowrance who was there decided to deliver report in person to CNO and left for the latter's office. RADM Lowrance arrived before CNO and gave the report to VADM Griffin (CNO Rep) who left immediately for flag plot with RADM Lowrance. Neither told anyone else of the report.

1042 CAPT Kidd received a call from the White House that GEN Taylor wanted to talk to CNO.

1043 CNO returned and placed call to GEN Taylor who brought up the ship's change in course which CNO didn't know about because of circumstances surrounding his notification.

1044 VADM Griffin arrived.

1045 CNO and VADM Griffin left for flag plot to talk to ESSEX on single side-band.

1103 CNO returned.

1118 GEN Taylor and aide reported en route to flag plot from White House.

1121 CNO left for flag plot.

1137 CJCS and CNO arrived.

1139 CJCS left after notifying CNO that the President had ordered that there should be no leaks concerning the course change.

1143 CAPT Kidd called COL Berry on the no leak order.

? 1145 CAPT Kidd requested CNO 232333Z for CNO.

1146 CAPT Kidd called CDR Stroud and said to notify him first on developments of obvious importance such as the course change.

1149 CNO 232333Z delivered.

1150 CAPT Kidd notified CAPT Houser on the no leak order.

Declassified

24 OCT 1962

~~Declassified~~

- 1151 CNO ordered distribution of Executive Committee Record of Action is to be restricted to 00, 03, 06 and 09.
- 1155 Sent large white document to 06.
- 1156 CAPT Houser notified CAPT Kidd that Mr. McNamara and Mr. Gilpatrick will be at flag plot for a briefing at or a little before 1600. Word passed to plot.
- 1200 RADM Lowrance arrived and said that the message CNO requested was in processing.
- 1201 Received intelligence message by messenger.
- 1220 CNO left to see SECNAV
- 1233 CNO 232333Z sent to COL Berry and SECDEF's aide.
- 1328 Messenger reported with red board data to show CNO which had previously been seen by ADM Ricketts and CAPT Kidd. VCNO reportedly commented at that time that the information should not be shown outside the Navy.
- 1331 Messenger delivered message COMASWFORLANT 241644Z.
- 1333 Discussion of how to employ Latin American forces if used between CAPT Miller, CAPT Riera and VADM Griffin. CAPT Misser said CNO had signed the policy paper concerning their use.
- 1340 CNO said in reference to a message from C of S Italian Navy that a reply should be sent saying that he wants to eliminate any doubts concerning ADM Bigliardi's visit and that he is looking forward to the visit with great anticipation. In case the situation so indicates "I would have no hesitation in coming to you." He then walked into his office with VADM Griffin, saying "I'm amazed we don't get any more from air reconnaissance."
- 1345 CNO left for flag plot and then JCS conference.
- 1356 CAPT Kidd dictated a message to ADM Bigliardi.
- 1357 Received a message via messenger.
- 1405 Ass't. Secretary of the Treasury Sullivan called CAPT Kidd, who asked RADM Shade to call the Secretary and handle the matter.
- 1415 Call from CAPT Garrett. CAPT Kidd's side of the conversation: "Who diverted her?" "How far away is the Essex?"
- 1416 CAPT Kidd called Gold Room duty officer and told him to

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Sender was  
dust CNO.

deliver the following message to CNO: "Essex ordered close contact."

- 1417 CAPT Garrett called again and CAPT Kidd immediately called the Gold room and added to the above message: "ESSEX pigeons 175 miles."
- 1429 CAPT Woodville returned call and CAPT Kidd told him of CNO's message to ADM Bigliardi.
- 1440 Report by officer on afternoon briefings and a controversy over one requested by RADM Lee.
- 1444 ADM Ricketts requested plotting board showing positions of snorkle contact.
- 1445 CAPT Kidd called CDR Stroud for the board.
- 1510 CAPT Kidd called RCN ADM Peers (Canadian Joint Staff) and invited him to a rundown by VCNO, but he wasn't in, so left message to return call.
- 1521 VCNO left for White House situation room.
- 1527 Word of VCNO's departure called to Gold Room for relay to CNO.
- 1529 VADM Griffin reported that Mr. McNamara was in flag plot. CAPT Kidd called and confirmed this and VADM Griffin left for flag plot.
- 1537 RADM McCain arrived and the following exchange occurred:
  - ADM: Have 5 or 6 of those ships turned back?
  - CAPT: (No response)
  - ADM: I'm trying to find out.
  - CAPT: You won't find out. The President has ordered that no information will be released concerning the movement of ships.
  - ADM: I won't tell them that.
- 1539 CAPT Kidd, reviewing messages, commented that there was a 5-hour delay in op. immed. traffic. CINCLANTFLT 241446 to CCD 18 (CNO infor) reporting KIMOVSK first intercept was received by message center at 241935Z. ] X
- 1554 VADM Griffin returned.
- 1558 RADM Lowrance arrived and talked to CAPT Kidd regarding ship course changes, intelligence photos and reasons for course change. Also, release of photographs and above information to the press.
- 1631 An officer checked with CAPT Kidd regarding an aerial photo of a ship which was being cleared for release. It was

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to be a low level one and no high level shots were to be released. There was a need to show the cargo.

- 1646 CAPT Kidd and CDR Skidmore had a discussion regarding the low level photo for release.
- 1710 VCNO returned from the White House and dictated a memo for the record.
- ✓ 1715 RADM McCain arrived and discussed problems of answering the press who were mad and clamoring for word on sightings. He said that diversionary replies involving tides, sea conditions and weather were embarrassing and unacceptable to the reporters. He said that he needed information to give them and that Mr. Sylvester was stalling them with evasive replies as best he could. He left when informed that Mr. Sylvester was calling for him.
- 1734 RCN ADM Peers called and CAPT Kidd told him VCNO could not now brief him.
- ✓ 1737 RADM McCain and CAPT Thomas arrived and reported that Mr. Sylvester had released the information of the Russian ships turning around.
- 1741 CNO arrived with VADM Beakley and asked if we had any hospital ships in commission.
- 1750 Word received no hospital ships in commission.
- 1755 CAPT Kidd called CAPT Riera and said CNO would like to know when we can expect to intercept No. 21 on the list of incomers.
- 1805 Call to CAPT Kidd. His side of the conversation: "120 miles west... Essex. About 3 hours to contact with No. 21."
- 1818 CNO departed the office.
- 1825 VADM Beakley departed after a brief discussion with VADM Sharp and VADM Griffin of aircraft intercept problems. He used a chart.
- ✓ 1855 CNO put out the word for maximum relaxation in the office for the night because he didn't expect anything important was going to happen.
- ✓ 1900 CAPT Kidd informed CNO that emergency traffic was running about 4 hours late and op. immediate 5 to 7 hours. "This accounts for the White House concern on the receipt of timely information." He further said that the overload was not on the special circuits set up to receive sensitive traffic, but was in the normal Navy communication channels and procedures. He suggested that the delay might cause CNO embarrassment

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and if it looks like this might happen, perhaps the admiral might like to take some action. The admiral received the information without comment.

1910 CAPT Kidd passed to someone on the phone that Mr. Gilpatrick had given the green light to closing on and identification of those ships approaching Cuba.

2035 CNO departed for the night

NOTES: Throughout the day messages and intelligence information was delivered by messenger to the office.

All afternoon, officers brought sighting reports as requested by VCNO.

All day, plot officers reported periodically to CAPT Kidd, who plotting position changes on charts near his desk.

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27 OCT 1982