

TOP SECRET
[REDACTED]
24 October 1962 - A.M. (VADM GRIFFIN)

1. Upon receipt of information that there was a possibility that several Soviet ships had turned back, the following actions were taken:

a. CNO, who was in JCS meeting, notified.

b. Admiral Smith, CINCUSNAVEUR, was called and requested to exert maximum recon effort to ascertain position of these ships in his area of responsibility.

c. General Taylor, Chairman JCS, and Secretary McNamara were notified.

d. On instructions from White House Commander Carrier Division 18 in ESSEX was called on single side band and directed not to conduct intercept but to maintain surveillance of Soviet ship assigned to him.

2. Deputy CINCLANTFLT called with a request to continue the Peruvian section of UNITAS III through to completion on 4 November. This proposal envisaged the training exercise being run by the Senior Officer remaining after Rear Admiral Tyree and his staff were flown back to Trinidad. Deputy CINCLANTFLT was informed that in view of the fact that South American Navies were offering ships for our use in connection with the current crisis that psychologically it would probably not be wise to continue this training exercise with U.S. ships. Accordingly, the U.S. ships in UNITAS III were to be returned to current commands.

3. Vice Admiral Wellborn called and requested that he be kept informed as well as possible in connection with the current situation in order that his effectiveness in the United Nations might be enhanced. He was assured that we would keep him so informed to the best of our ability. He further advised that should it be necessary to pass classified traffic to him as a matter of urgency, there was a secure channel from the JCS War Room to Colonel Cunningham on his staff in New York.

P.M.

4. Secretary McNamara was briefed in Intelligence Plot about 1545. At the conclusion of this briefing he requested that we prepare for him as full a picture as possible of the situation regarding the turn-around of Soviet merships following Presidential speech and proclamation. The effort here is to produce a document which to the best of our ability can be sufficiently good to be convincing to those who may not want to believe our unsubstantiated statements in this matter. Rear Admiral Lowrance has this project for action.

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Declassified

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


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 UCKCR Z00 W K
 UCKCF ZON2 NRA
 UECCF ZON2 WRJ
 UTPCR ZON2 KR
 ULACR ZON2 TR
 250198Z
 CINCLANTFLT
 INFO ZEN/CINCLANT
 ONE THREE SIX
 MASWFORLANT
 NO

33 Log
 42-00-01-03-06-60-61
 42-07-12-13-14-15-16


241523Z
 CINCLANTFLT
 CTF ONE THREE SIX

S E C R E T
 FROM HIGHEST AUTHORITY. DO NOT STOP AND BOARD. KEEP
 UNDER SURVEILLANCE. MAKE CONTINUOUS REPORTS.
 FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS TO FOLLOW. ACKNOWLEDGE.

5/0188Z

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DECL

GNN