

Sources for charts, cables, and memos: U.S. Navy Operational Archives, Naval Historical Center, Washington Navy Yard, Cuba History Files, boxes 68, 69, and 70

Sources for deck logs: U.S. National Archives, Record Group 24

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TOP SECRET
CARIB

AS OF 24 OCT 1962 22300

PREPARED BY CNO FLAG PLOT

Pensacola
ANTIETAM

Mayport
4 DD

St Petersburg
1 DD

Key West
1 ATA
1 ATF

Miami
1 ATF

1 AUX
2 DD

1 DD

1 DD

Glmo
1/8 MAR
2/2 MAR

2 ATF
1 AK
6 DD
1 SS
2 MSO

1 AMPHIB
1 AVP
1 TAP
1 AF

2/6 MAR
5 AMPHIB

1 SS

COMPHIBLANT
1 AMPHIB

COMPHIBGRU 4
1/6 MAR

THETIS BAY
OKINAWA
6 AMPHIB

1 AE
1 AF
2 AO

2 DD

COMCARDIV 2
ENTERPRISE
14 DD
2 DD

COMCARDIV 6
INDEPENDENCE
2 DD

1 AO
1 AE
2 DD

2 AMPHIB

COMCARDIV 18
ESSEX
2 DD

1 DD

1 DD

1 DD

1 DD

1 DD

1 DD

1 DD

1 DD

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1 DD

1 DD

1 DD

1 DD

1 DD

1 DD

San Juan
1 TAF

1 ARS

2 MSO

1 AMPHIB

1 ARS

2 MSO

1 AMPHIB

1 AO

1 AE

2 DD

1 AMPHIB

1 AMPHIB

Canal Zone

Panama

Trinidad

DECLASSIFIED

UNITED STATES ATLANTIC FLEET
NAVAL AIR FORCE
CARRIER DIVISION SIXTEEN
FLEET POST OFFICE, NEW YORK, NEW YORK

02120

FB2-16:31: rgh
5700
Ser: 0326
14 December 1962

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (Classified upon removal of enclosures)

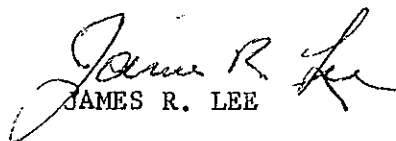
From: Commander Carrier Division SIXTEEN
To: Commander Naval Air Force, U. S. Atlantic Fleet

Subj: Cuban Crisis; documentation of

Ref: (a) CNAL msg 291931Z OCT
(b) CTG 83.2 ltr FB2-16:31:mlw, 3300, ser 0030-62 of 13 Nov 62
(c) CINCLANTFLTINST 03360.5F

Encl: (1) LCDR G. B. BIRD, USN, USS RANDOLPH (CVS 15) Memorandum for the Record of 31 Oct 62
(2) Narrative of CDR L. M. MILLSAPS, USN, VS-36
(3) Narrative of LT Dwight I. WORRELL, USN, VS-36
(4) Narrative of CDR George W. COGSWELL, USN, HS-7
(5) Narrative of LT Russell L. CLEMENT, USN, VS-26
(6) Narrative of CDR John F. GILLOOLY, USN, VS-36
(7) Narrative of LTJG William MORONEY, USN, VS-26
(8) Narrative of CDR Hal A. HAMBERG, USN, VS-26
(9) Narrative of LCDR Ed R. DAY, USN, VS-36
(10) NARRATIVE of LT Russell C. DREW, USN, VS-26
(11) NARRATIVE of LCDR James L. MILLER, USN, VS-26

1. Enclosures (1) through (11) are submitted in compliance with reference (a). These enclosures originally formed part of reference (b) which was submitted to Commander in Chief, U. S. Atlantic Fleet in accordance with reference (c).


JAMES R. LEE

Copy to:
USS RANDOLPH (CVS 15)
COMCVSG 58

5700

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

CONFIDENTIAL

Narrative by CDR L. M. MILLSAPS, USN, VS-36, Plane Commander of S2F-3 side number JT43 concerning participation in prosecution of contact C-19.

A confidential message had been received stating that a Russian "P" submarine had been sighted by a Patrol aircraft operating out of Bermuda, but that the submarine had dived and contact had been lost. The RANDOLPH was ordered to the area to investigate.

Our operating area was covered with heavy weather, including a heavy squall line. The briefing officer informed us that the tactics to be used were to be at our own discretion due to the 15 hour old datum, plus the ship's inability to communicate with the patrol aircraft presently on station.

The scheduled 0200R launch of 27 October 1962 was delayed more than two hours due to the weather being zero zero. We were finally catapulted at 0435R into an extremely black, rainy night. CDR L. M. MILLSAPS, Executive Officer of Air Anti-Submarine Squadron THIRTY-SIX was the pilot and Flight Leader; LTJG D. T. CONGHEIL, JR., the co-pilot, and our regular crew members were PELLINO, AM1 and KNOTT, AN. Three other aircraft were launched to assist us in our mission. There were two other S2F Trackers, belonging to our sister squadron VS-26, and an E1B from VAW-12.

We were vectored to the east about 150 miles with orders to establish communications with the patrol aircraft on station, and after evaluating the tactical situation, to set up a suitable search pattern.

About 100 miles east we established communications with the P5M aircraft on station. He was "cold", and had no further information to pass on to us except the initial sighting some 16 hours previous. At that time he had only one useful sonobuoy in the water. Also present in the area was the Russian trawler SHKVAL, and we decided to use this trawler located at 26° 24' N 68° 28' W as our datum. He was dead in the water and would be a good visual and radar datum, plus presenting no interference to our sonobuoys. At 0530R we rendezvoused over the trawler with the P5M, received the SWAP report, assumed Contact Area Commander, and layed a JEZEBEL Sonobuoy pattern. The position of the trawler was relayed to the RANDOLPH via the E1B, together with information on search plan.

At 0604R, PELLINO, our JEZEBEL operator in the number four seat of the aircraft, called, "Drawing on MAYPOLE 9" (our westernmost sonobuoy). I asked him for the lines he was receiving on his gram and after discussing it thoroughly, we agreed that it was a definite Russian FOXTROT class submarine signature. Although the other S2F aircraft were not drawing, we instructed the aircraft nearest MAYPOLE 9 to close and drop codar plants ALPHA and BRAVO while we closed the area.

We commenced pointing on ALFA and BRAVO plants at 0622R. With the use of the relator our best lines gave a bearing of 360° from the plants.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Enclosure (2)

CONFIDENTIAL

Both aircraft flew 337° magnetic 15 miles to drop plants CHARLIE and DELTA to obtain our cross bearings. Best bearings were 090° magnetic from plants CHARLIE and DELTA. This gave us a fix approximately 5 miles due east of plants C and D and 14 miles north of plants A and B.

Immediately after obtaining the fix, we called for added VS and Helicopter (HSS-1N) assistance from the RANDOLPH, plus a surface attack unit of destroyers.

Upon arriving at our fix at 0647R we dropped the SPDC warning as prescribed by the Department of Defense and promulgated by message to nations of the world, to warn all submarines to surface in the area of the Cuban quarantine.

This warning brought no results, and we commenced JULIE offset bombing after receiving a close-in "A" range on our datum sonobuoy. While laying our 3000 yard five buoy JULIE pattern, we were joined by three other VS aircraft. One other S2F aircraft was placed in the 3000 yard bombing pattern with us, while the other two aircraft were placed in a 1500 yard MAD pattern around the datum. The entire pattern of sonobuoys was laid and all aircraft in position by 0705R. A second "A" range was received at this time (0705R) on our datum JULIE sonobuoy, indicating close proximity to that sonobuoy, but the penetrator bombing gave negative results.

At 0726R, after being cold for 20 minutes, the aircraft and helicopters we had previously requested arrived on station and SNAP was executed. We were told to return to the RANDOLPH, and left station at 0745R. The oncoming aircraft continued to prosecute the contact.

The Russian FOXTROT submarine was subsequently surfaced later in the day a few miles to the northeast of our datum.

Task Force ALFA, whose primary mission is protection of the Eastern coast of the United States, and to whom the RANDOLPH is assigned as the Anti-Submarine Warfare carrier, did its job when it counted most.

The comparatively new S2F aircraft and its associated electronics gear performed splendidly. Coordination between aircraft and sister squadrons, plus all other units involved, added up to a "first" for the United States Navy that will long be remembered. Also may we add in closing, it was a personal experience that we will never forget.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DECLASSIFIED

MA



DECK LOG BOOK

OF THE

U.S.S. BEALE

DD 471

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER

COMMANDED BY

R. J. LOOMIS, COMMANDER, U. S. N.

Attached to { TWO HUNDRED EIGHTY SECOND Division,
TWENTY EIGHTH Squadron,
FOURTH Flotilla,
SECOND FLEET Fleet,
FIFTH Naval District,

Commencing 0001 1 OCTOBER, 19 62,
(zone time and date)

at NORFOLK, VIRGINIA,
(location)

and ending 2400 31 OCTOBER, 19 62,
(zone time and date)

at SEA,
(location)

TO BE FORWARDED DIRECT TO THE BUREAU OF NAVAL PERSONNEL AT THE END OF EACH MONTH

UNITED STATES SHIP BEALE (DD-471)

Saturday 27 October 1962

(Day) (Date) (Month)

00-04 Underway in accordance with COMASWFORLANT OP ORD 16-62 in company with TG 83.2 less USS CONWAY (DD-507), USS MURRAY (DD-576), USS LOWRY (DD-770) and USS WALLER (DD-466). Ships present are the USS RANDOLPH (CVS-15), USS BACHE (DD-470), USS CONY (DD-508) and USS EATON (DD-510). OTC is CTG 83.2 in the RANDOLPH. The ship is in station 4 of an 11C4 axis 000, course 114 speed 20, when on station the guide, the USS RANDOLPH, bears 000, 4,000 yds. The task group is enroute to relieve TG 81.5 in their prosecution of an unidentified submarine contact. Readiness condition IV, material condition YOKE is set through. 0029 Maneuvering to make a BT drop. 0056 c/c to 160. 0102 c/s to 15 kts. 0115 c/c to 114. 0310 c/s to 10 kts. 0338 c/s to 15 kts. 0350 c/s to 20 kts.


E. W. BALES
LTJG USN

04-08 Steaming as before. 0415 Maneuvering to make BT drop. 0436 c/bc to 055. c/bc to 15 knots. Maneuvering to regain station. Randolph operating aircraft. Turned off navigational lights. 0445 Aircraft operations complete. Turned navigational lights on. 0450 c/bc to 114. c/bc to 20 knots. 0614 CTU 83.2.2, with LOWRY, CONWAY, WALLER and MURRAY joined rendezvous. Maneuvering to station 7 of eight ship circular screen, on circle 5. 0638 On station with guide bearing 315, distance 5000 yards. 0655 c/bc to 010. 0707 c/bc to 114. 0712 c/bc to 170, c/bc to 20 knots. 0730 Mustered the crew on stations; absentees: none. 0746 c/bc to 010. c/bc to 12 knots. 0750 c/bc to 025.


J. W. PETERSON
LT USN


08-12 Steaming as before. 0810 c/c 095. 0918 Made daily inspection of magazines and smokeless powder samples; conditions normal. 0919 c/c 120. 1018 c/c 030. 1030 c/c 050. 1031 c/c 015. 1033 c/c 350. 1037 c/c 060. 1056 c/c 030. 1111 c/c 060. 1145 Set condition of readiness III.


W. KEEL
LTJG USN

12-16 Steaming as before. 1225 c/c to 045. 1240 c/c to 060. 1257 c/c to 340. 1312 c/c to 045. 1327 Shifted the electrical load to #2 ships service generator while repairing #1 ships service generator. 1340 c/c to 340. 1352 c/c to 045. 1405 c/c to 340. 1447 c/c to 050. 1504 c/c to 340. 1515 #1 ships service generator repaired. Split the electrical load. 1529 c/c to 045. 1550 Detached to proceed in company with the USS CONY and the USS MURRAY on esc 220 sp 25 kts. to investigate an unidentified submarine contact. CO USS BEALE is SAU Commander.


E. W. BALES
LTJG USN

16-18 Steaming as before. 1620 c/bc to 18 knots. 1631 Proceeding to close sonar contact, classified possible submarine by MURRAY. 1640 All ships holding sonar contact. Maneuvering to pinwheel counter-clockwise on circle 3. 1659 Dropped 5 hand grenades as challenge to submarine for identification. No response. 1710 Challenged submarine on sonar. No response. 1733 All units completed challenges to submarine. No response. 1740 Moved to pinwheel circle 1.8.


J. W. PETERSON
LT USN

APPROVED:

EXAMINED:


E. J. LEOHIS, CDR,

U.S.N. COMMANDING.


W. E. CLARKE, LCDR,

U.S.N.

UNITED STATES SHIP BEALE (DD-471)

Saturday 27 October 62
(Day) (Date) (Month)

SMOOTH REMARKS—CONTINUED

18-20 Steaming as before. 1847 Assumed control of S2F air craft at datum. 1920 Relieved as OTC by CTO 83.2.2 COMDESRON 28. Continuing the pinwheel on unidentified sonar contact.

J. KEELEY
LTJG USN

20-24 Maneuvering as before. 2050 Submarine, identified as USSR type "FOXTROT" surfaced at 27°36'N, 66°00' W on easterly course, slow speed. 2052 Aircraft commenced illumination and photographic runs on submarine. 2148 Set condition IASW. Set material condition ZEBRA. 2200 Commenced approach from astern of submarine for close-in photo run. Maneuvering to pass 500 yards on parallel course. Commenced illuminating with 24" searchlight and aircraft searchlights. 2229 Photo run completed maneuvering to regain pinwheel. 2231 Set material condition YOKE. 2245 Secured from condition IASW Set condition of readiness III/

J. W. PETERSON
LTJG USN

APPROVED:

R. J. LOOMIS, CDR,
U. S. N. COMMANDING.

EXAMINED:

W. E. CLARKE, LCDR,
U. S. N. NAVIGATOR.



DECK LOG BOOK

OF THE

U.S.S. _____ CONY _____

DD-508

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER

COMMANDED BY

W. H. MORGAN, CDR, _____, U. S. N.

Attached to {
TWO EIGHTY TWO _____ Division
TWENTY EIGHT _____ Squadron
FOUR _____ Flotilla
ATLANTIC _____ Fleet
FIFTH _____ Naval District

Commencing _____ 0001 (+5R), 1 OCTOBER _____, 1965
(zone time and date)

at _____ DESTROYER SUBMARINE PIERS, NORFOLK, VIRGINIA _____
(location)

and ending _____ 2400 (+4Q), 31 OCTOBER _____, 1965
(zone time and date)

at _____ 25°03'N, 71°27'W _____
(location)

steaming as before. 1640- Maneuvering on various courses at various speeds while on helicopter sonar contact. 1642- Set Condition LASW. Sonar contact - Maneuvering to remain within 3000 yards of contact. 1729- Challenged submarine contact by dropping five (5) hand grenades. 1753- Secured from Condition LASW. 1900- CTU 83.2 assumed command. LOWRY replaced MURRAY in pinwheel circle three.

J.V. Burchett
J.V. BURCHETT
LTJG USN

Steaming as before. 2052- Submarine surfaced. 2120- Submarine identified as KORABLX, nationality: USSR, on course 090°, speed 5 knots. 2227- Passed submarine 100 yards to starboard for better identification. 2308- Maneuvering to remain within 3000 yards of KORABLX.

J.V. Burchett
J.V. BURCHETT
LTJG USN

1900
1901
1902
1903
1904
1905

J.V. Burchett

REVIEWED:

EXAMINED:

M.H. Morgan
M.H. MORGAN, CDR, U.S.N.
COMMANDING

M. Childress
M. CHILDRESS, LCDR, U.S.N.
NAVIGATOR

DECLASSIFIED

TOP SECRET

C-18 - POSITIVE FOXTROT 28200Z
 DETECTED 24 OCT - PSM - SINKER DESIGNATED
 241500Z. PROSECUTED TG 8L5 AND 136.2.
 (P)DDVNP; SURFACED 261539Z - FOXTROT P4945
 SUBMERGED; PROSECUTED BY DDVMSNP;
 INTERMITTENT CONTACT - COLD SINCE 281400Z
 SEVERAL POSSIBILITIES CLOSE BY. AT 292310Z
 C-18 SURFACED. SUBMERGED 300522 2DD & VS HOLDING

C-19 - POSITIVE FOXTROT
 DETECTED 292311Z BY TG 8L5 PSM SURFACED
 SUBMERGED; PROSECUTED BY PSM & S2F WITH
 RADAR, JULIE, & MAD CONTACT UNTIL 270215Z
 SURFACED 270215Z, THEN SUBMERGED TRACKED
 INTERMITTENTLY UNTIL SURFACED 282200Z
 PROCEEDED WEST WITH 2DD ESCORT REDUCED
 TO 1DD AND THEN C-19 SUBMERGED AT 292311Z
 BARRY COLD 292345. CONTACT DEEP

C-20
 SOSUS PROBABILITY AREA ESTABLISHED 261048Z
 P2V OF TG 8L7.9 SIGNALLED SURFACE "P" AT 262145Z.
 SUBMERGED 2150Z. SOSUS/MP CONTACT INTERMITTENT.
 LAST CONTACT 291400Z

C-23 POSITIVE "P"
 VP A/C SIGHTED SURFACED "P" 271910Z SUBMERGED.
 TRACKED WITH JULIE UNTIL RAIN SQUALL AT
 272310. P2V PROSECUTED; SOSUS CONTRIBUTED.
 RANDOLPH S-2-Fs REGAINED CONTACT 291615Z TO
 291800Z

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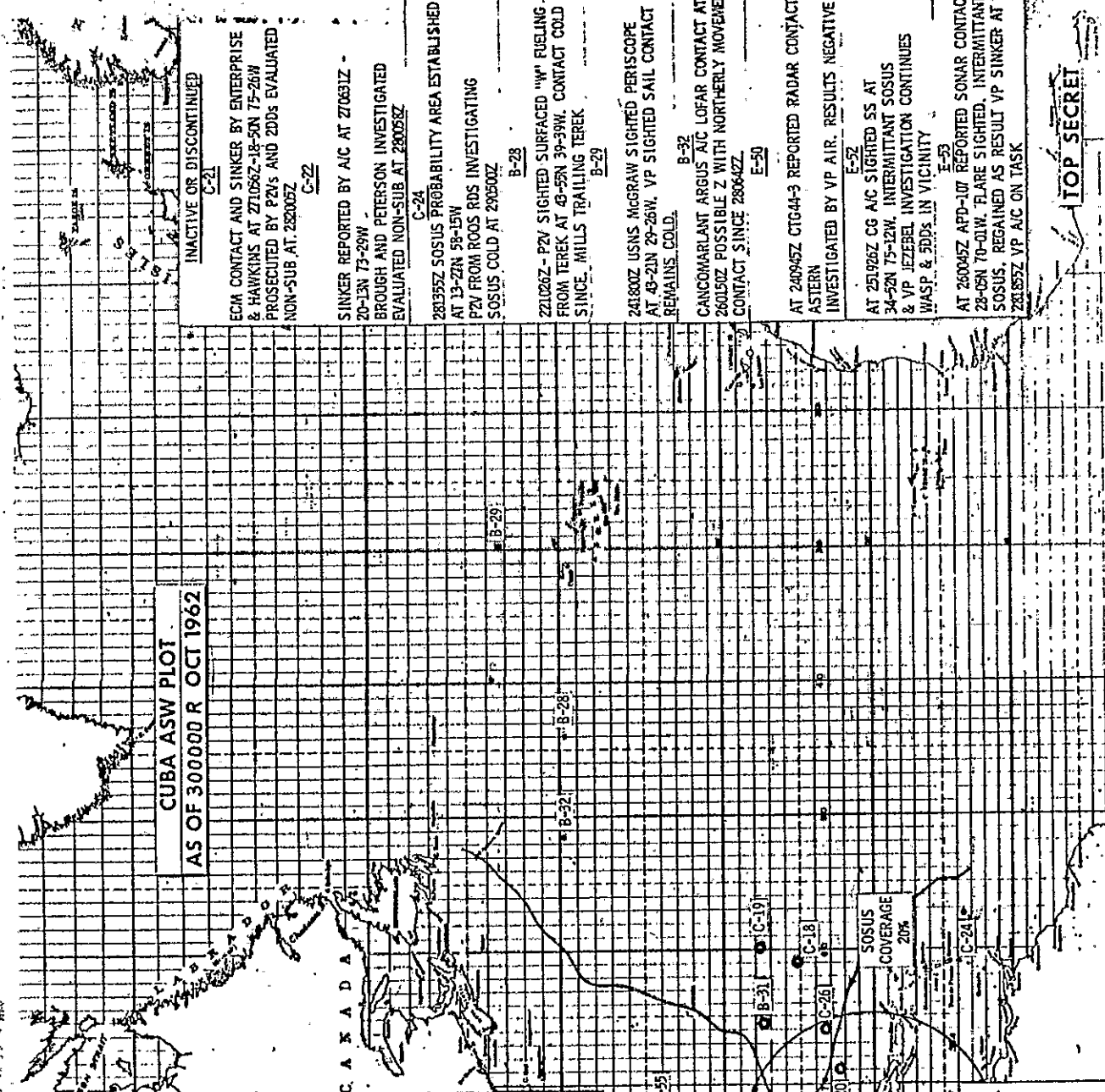
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CUBA ASW PLOT
 AS OF 300000 R OCT 1962

C A K A D A

SOSUS
 COVERAGE
 20%

CALIFORNIA

INACTIVE OR DISCONTINUED
 C-21

ECM CONTACT AND SINKER BY ENTERPRISE
 & HAWKINS AT 271062Z-18-50N 75-26W
 PROSECUTED BY P2Vs AND 2DDs EVALUATED
 NON-SUB AT 282005Z
 C-22

SINKER REPORTED BY A/C AT 270631Z -
 20-15N 73-29W
 BROUGH AND PETERSON INVESTIGATED
 EVALUATED NON-SUB AT 280558Z
 C-24

281355Z SOSUS PROBABILITY AREA ESTABLISHED
 AT 13-22N 58-15W
 P2V FROM ROOS RDS INVESTIGATING
 SOSUS COLD AT 290500Z
 B-28

271202Z - P2V SIGHTED SURFACED "M" FUELING
 FROM TERK AT 43-55N 39-39W. CONTACT COLD
 SINCE. MILLS TRAILING TERK
 B-29

241800Z USNS MCGRAW SIGHTED PERISCOPE
 AT 49-21N 29-26W. VP SIGHTED SAIL CONTACT
 REMAINS COLD.
 B-32

CANCOMARLANT ARGUS A/C LOFAR CONTACT AT
 260510Z POSSIBLE Z WITH NORTHERLY MOVEMENT
 CONTACT SINCE 280642Z.
 E-50

AT 240945Z CTG44-3 REPORTED RADAR CONTACT
 ASTERN
 INVESTIGATED BY VP AIR. RESULTS NEGATIVE
 E-52

AT 251926Z CG A/C SIGHTED SS AT
 34-52N 75-12W. INTERMITTENT SOSUS
 & VP JEZEBEL INVESTIGATION CONTINUES
 WASP & 5DDs IN VICINITY
 E-53

AT 260047Z APD-107 REPORTED SONAR CONTACT
 28-05N 70-01W. FLARE SIGHTED. INTERMITTENT
 SOSUS. REGAINED AS RESULT VP SINKER AT
 281852Z VP A/C ON TASK

TOP SECRET