Telephone conversation between Secretary McNamara and Admiral Sharp:

McNamara: Hello, Ollie, this is Bob McNamara. What's the latest information on the action?

Sharp : The latest dope we have, Sir, is a sort of summation SITREP by CTG 72.1, and it indicates a little doubt on just exactly what went on and we are trying to get a recap of it right now to -- apparently the thing started by a sort of ambush attempt by the PTs.

McNamara: In what respect? Describe that.

Sharp : I can't, Sir, because I haven't got it. That's all it said.

McNamara: OK.

Sharp : It said initial ambush attempt was definite. And that they were bothered by freak radar echos and the sonar men giving these torpedo contacts, and, of course, in that sort of thing, these young fellows are apt to say any noise is a torpedo, so that, undoubtedly, there were not as many torpedos -- you know, at one place there they had 21. There undoubtedly weren't that may. And we had the -- the reports are a little confusing on what happened. Neither ship saw a ship or a wake. The TURNER JOY tracked two contacts and fired on -- that is, tracked them for a considerable period, and fired on, I think, something like 13 contacts. They -- she claims three boats hit and one sunk, for sure -- The Turner Joy. The Maddox, let me see, she doesn't claim a boat -- oh yes, she does, too -- she claims one or two, as I recall it, now. So that is the general picture, Sir.

McNamara: There isn't any possibility there was no attack, is there?

Sharp : Yes, I would say that there is a slight possibility, and that is what I am trying to find out right now, and about 20 minutes ago I told Tom Moore to get in touch with these people and get a definite report on it.

McNamara: OK. How soon do you think it will come in?

From the National Security File
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ERROR: undefinedresource
OFFENDING COMMAND: findresource

STACK:

/0
/CSA
/0
/CSA
-mark-
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