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August 5, 1975

SWEDISH AIR FORCE ENCOUNTER WITH AIR FORCE ONE

Air Force One was delayed at Helsinki due to the prolonged meetings between the President and Brezhnev. In order to make up some time enroute to Bucharest, McClellan refiled his flight plan just after take off. The revised flight plan was cleared with and approved by Stockholm and Malmo control centers. (These are the control centers that control the airspace in that area.)

*Ground control unaware that fighter was alongside AF 1. So ground control*

When the Swedish fighter appeared, we were not aware of his exact purpose. He wiggled his wings on the left side of Air Force One, slipped underneath Air Force One and flew on the right side. McClellan was in radio contact with the ground control but not with the Swedish fighter. He questioned ground control about the purpose of the fighter. ~~They in turn~~ contacted someone by telephone and shortly after that the Swedish aircraft flew away.

Major Barrett answered questions from the press on the "incident". He answered quite truthfully that no one really knew why it was there and assumed that it was merely a friendly salute.

As a result of the call to ground control by McClellan, they ~~altered~~ Air Force One's course a few degrees to the left.

*ALTERED*

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If there were any restricted areas involved, McClellan says he was not aware of them. He did know of two small restricted areas and was clearly ~~over them~~ **NOT OVER THEM.**

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There is no legal or any other type of demand or ~~claim~~ **CLAIM** being made by either the Swedish government or the U. S. government.

SWEDISH PAYMENTS TO DOD OFFICIAL

Q: Do you have any comment on a Swedish report on a \$250,000 payment to an Air Force Attache?

A: Questions on this matter are properly referred to State and DOD as the agencies that handle sales of military equipment to Sweden.

FYI: State and Defense will say that we have over the years provided selected defense articles to Sweden and that normal and proper payments for this material have been made and controlled by a vigorous accounting system. The Secretary of the Air Force has asked his General Counsel for assurances that these accounting procedures have been strictly followed with regard to Sweden.

SWEDISH ELECTIONS

Q. Any comment on the defeat of the Socialist government in Sweden?

A. It is not appropriate for us to comment on the domestic politics of another country.

Q. Do we expect any changes in US-Swedish relations as a result of this election?

A. We have no reason not to expect our good relations with Sweden to continue under the new government.

Q. Any comment on reports that Sweden is buying satellite recon photos of East European military forces?

A. No comment.

3. FYI: ~~The Swedish Government will announce soon that King Carl XVI Gustaf intends to make an informal visit to the United States in 1976~~ in connection with the Bicentennial Celebration

Q: Do you have any reaction from the President to the Swedish announcement that King Carl Gustaf will visit the U.S. in 1976?

A: The President was pleased to learn that His Majesty, King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden, will pay a visit to the United States in connection with the Bicentennial activities of several Swedish-American communities in this country.