

MAY 15, 1975

Office of the White House Press Secretary

NOTICE TO THE PRESS

Chronology of Events
Wednesday, May 14 and Thursday, May 15, 1975
Regarding the SS MAYAGUEZ Incident

WEDNESDAY, MAY 14, 1975

12:25 a. m. The President to the Oval Office.
12:35 a. m. The President in the Residence.
1:40 a. m. The President to the Oval Office.
7:44 a. m. General Scowcroft and Mr. Peterson to the Oval Office.
8:05 a. m. The above out. Mr. Marsh to the Oval Office.
8:20 a. m. Mr. Marsh out.
8:21 a. m. Mr. Rumsfeld to the Oval Office.
8:55 a. m. Messrs. Marsh, Calkins, Friedersdorf, Nessen,
Greenspan, and Greener to the Oval Office.
9:20 a. m. The above out.
9:35 a. m. Secretary Kissinger to the Oval Office.
9:40 a. m. General Scowcroft to the Oval Office.
10:15 a. m. The above out.
10:16 a. m. The President to the Family Theatre to greet Michigan
businessmen.
10:30 a. m. The President returned to the Oval Office.

(MORE)

WEDNESDAY, MAY 14, 1975 (cont.)

10:33 a. m. Secretary Kissinger to the Oval Office.

10:37 a. m. Secretary Kissinger out.

10:43 a. m. Prime Minister denUyl, Foreign Minister van der Stoel, Netherlands Ambassador Robert Tammenoms Bakker, Director General for Political Affairs Charles Rutten, Secretary Kissinger and General Scowcroft in.

11:47 a. m. Above out except for Secretary Kissinger and General Scowcroft.

12:05 p. m. Secretary Kissinger and General Scowcroft out.

12:13 p. m. Secretary Kissinger to the Oval Office.

12:19 p. m. Secretary Kissinger out.

12:21 p. m. Mr. Hartmann and Mr. Friedman to the Oval Office.

12:40 p. m. Mr. Friedman out.

12:59 p. m. Messrs. Cannon, Dunham, Greenspan, Seidman and Lynn to the Oval Office.

1:19 p. m. The above out.

2:01 p. m. The President to the Roosevelt Room to greet Nassau County Businessmen.

2:42 p. m. The President returned to the Oval Office.

3:52 p. m. The President to the Cabinet Room for NSC Meeting.

5:42 p. m. The President to the Oval Office.

6:00 p. m. Mr. Rumsfeld to the Oval Office.

(MORE)

WEDNESDAY, MAY 14, 1975 (cont.)

6:09 p. m. Secretary Kissinger to the Oval Office.

6:11 p. m. Secretary Kissinger and Mr. Rumsfeld out.

6:23 p. m. Mr. Rumsfeld to the Oval Office

6:27 p. m. Mr. Rumsfeld out.

6:29 p. m. Mr. Rumsfeld to the Oval Office.

6:31 p. m. Mr. Rumsfeld out.

6:40 p. m. The President to the Cabinet Room for Bipartisan Leadership Meeting.

7:47 p. m. The President to the Oval Office.

7:47 p. m. General Scowcroft and Senator Stennin to the Oval Office

7:49 p. m. The above out.

7:49 p. m. The President to the Residence.

8:22 p. m. The President to the North Portico.

8:23 p. m. The President to the Red Room.

8:29 p. m. PHONE CALL: Incoming from Secretary Kissinger.

8:37 p. m. PHONE CALL terminated.

8:41 p. m. The President to the State Dining Room.

8:50 p. m. PHONE CALL: Incoming from Secretary Kissinger.

8:52 p. m. PHONE CALL terminated.

8:55 p. m. PHONE CALL with Senator Mansfield.

8:57 p. m. PHONE CALL terminated

(MORE)

WEDNESDAY, MAY 14, 1975

8:57 p. m. PHONE CALL: Incoming from Secretary Kissinger.

9:01 p. m. PHONE CALL terminated.

10:10 p. m. The President to the Red Room.

11:00 p. m. The President to the Oval Office.

11:03 p. m. Secretary Kissinger to the Oval Office.

11:05 p. m. General Scowcroft and Mr. McFarland to the Oval Office.

11:06 p. m. Mr. Rumsfeld to the Oval Office.

11:08 p. m. PHONE CALL: Incoming from Secretary Schlesinger.

11:10 p. m. PHONE CALL terminated.

11:11 p. m. PHONE CALL: Incoming from the Vice President.

11:13 p. m. PHONE CALL terminated.

11:14 p. m. Mr. Smyser brings memo re. 30 man crew.

11:15 p. m. PHONE CALL: Incoming from Secretary Schlesinger.

11:18 p. m. PHONE CALL terminated.

11:17 p. m. Mr. McFarland news 37 and the Master found by Wilson.

11:18 p. m. Confirmation from Master that Wilson found entire crew.

11:27 p. m. General Scowcroft out.

(MORE)

WEDNESDAY, MAY 14, 1975 (cont.)

- 11:29 p. m. All out.
- 11:30 p. m. The President to the Residence to change clothes for statement to the Press.
- 11:44 p. m. The President to the Oval Office.
- 11:44 p. m. PHONE CALL: Outgoing to Secretary Schlesinger.
- 11:56 p. m. PHONE CALL terminated.
- 11:46 p. m. Messrs. Rumsfeld and Nessen to the Oval Office.
- 11:49 p. m. Secretary Kissinger and General Scowcroft to the Oval Office.
- 11:50 p. m. Mr. Marsh to the Oval Office.
- 11:51 p. m. Mr. Hartmann to the Oval Office.

THURSDAY, MAY 15, 1975

- 12:14 a. m. PHONE CALL: Outgoing to Congressman Rhodes, talked.
- 12:14 a. m. General Scowcroft out.
- 12:15 a. m. Mr. Marsh out.
- 12:18 a. m. General Scowcroft to the Oval Office.
- 12:20 a. m. Mr. Marsh to the Oval Office.
- 12:20 a. m. PHONE CALL: Outgoing to Senator Scott, talked.
- 12:23 a. m. PHONE CALL: Outgoing to Senator Case, no answer, did not talk.
- 12:30 a. m. President in the WW Press Room for statement.
- 12:31 a. m. The President to the Oval Office.
- 12:33 a. m. The President to the Residence.

(MORE)

THURSDAY, MAY 15, 1975 (cont.)

- 12:35 a.m. PHONE CALL: Incoming from Secretary Schlesinger,
talked.
- 7:45 a.m. The President to the Oval Office.
- 7:45 a.m. General Scowcroft and Mr. Peterson to the Oval Office.
- 9:50 a.m. Secretary Kissinger to the Oval Office.
- 9:55 a.m. General Scowcroft to the Oval Office.
- 10:20 a.m. The above out.
- 10:29 a.m. The President to the South Grounds to greet the
Shah of Iran and the Empress Farah.
- 11:09 a.m. The President returns to the Oval Office with the Shah.
- 11:16 a.m. Secretary Kissinger to the Oval Office.

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Chronology of Military Operations Related to the Release of the
SS MAYAGUEZ

The chronology which follows deals with events that took place from late afternoon of May 14, Washington time, until the early morning of the following day. All times are given in Eastern Daylight Time.

-- 4:45 p.m., orders are issued, emanating from an NSC meeting, to begin the military operations for the recovery of the SS Mayaguez and crew.

-- 5:14 p.m. to 5:20 p.m., U.S. assault forces take off from stations.

-- 6:03 p.m., instruction issued by CINCPAC Headquarters for supporting strikes on selected targets near Kompong Som.

-- 6:58 p.m. to 7:22 p.m., Marine assault force arrives at USS Holt and is taken on board.

-- 7:07 p.m. to 7:26 p.m., Phnom Penh domestic radio service carries a broadcast in Cambodian that states that the Cambodian Government will order the Mayaguez to withdraw from Cambodian territorial waters. No mention of release of crew.

-- 7:09 p.m., assault force arrives at Koh Tang Island and receives fire.

-- 8:06 p.m., the Cambodian broadcast, monitored by the Foreign Broadcast Information Service and translated into English, was carried on the FBIS wire.

-- 8:15 p.m., the FBIS wire report is delivered to Secretary Kissinger, who immediately informs the President.

-- 8:45 p.m., support aircraft begin attacks against targets at military installations near Kompong Som.

-- 8:45 p.m. to 9:05 p.m., Marines from the USS Holt board and take control of the SS Mayaguez. They find evidence that the vessel had been occupied until just before their arrival.

-- 10:23 p.m., a boat was reported near Koh Tang Island flying a white flag.

-- 11:07 p.m., the USS Wilson takes aboard the occupants of that boat. The occupants were determined to be the entire crew of the SS Mayaguez.

-- 11:16, the order was given to cease all offensive operation and begin to withdraw. The Commander of the forces on the island requests additional ground forces to provide security for a successful withdrawal.

-- 0:25 a.m., May 15, the Mayaguez crew is returned to its vessel.

At this point, efforts are continuing to extract the ground security force and to rescuing personnel from the downed helicopter.