

*August 3, 1964*

9:46 A.M.

**To Robert Anderson<sup>1</sup>**

[*Extract*]

...

**President Johnson:** O.K. Here's what we did: We [were] within their 12-mile [territorial waters] limit, and that's a matter that hasn't been settled. But there have been some covert operations in that area that we have been carrying on—blowing up some bridges and things of that kind, roads and so forth. So I imagine they wanted to put a stop to it. So they come out there and fire and we respond immediately with five-inch guns from the destroyer and with planes overhead. And we cripple them up—knock one of them out and cripple the other two. And then we go right back where we were with that destroyer, and with another one and plus plenty of planes standing by. And that's where we are now.

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1. Tape WH6409.03, Citation #4632, Recordings of Telephone Conversations—White House Series, Recordings and Transcripts of Conversations and Meetings, Lyndon B. Johnson Library.