

**LOG OF**  
**PRESIDENT TRUMAN'S EIGHTH VISIT**  
**TO KEY WEST, FLORIDA**

**MARCH 12 – APRIL 10, 1950**

**No. 8**

**COMPILED BY**  
**LtCdr. WILLIAM M. RIDGON, USN**

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## **THE PRESIDENT'S PARTY**

### **THE PRESIDENT**

Mrs. Harry S. Truman  
Miss Margaret Truman

Honorable Fred M. Vinson, The Chief Justice of the United States  
Honorable John R. Steelman, The Special Assistant to the President  
Honorable William D. Hassett, Secretary to the President  
Honorable Matthew J. Connelly, Secretary to the President  
Honorable Charles G. Ross, Secretary to the President  
Honorable Clark J. Clifford, Special Counsel to the President  
Honorable Charles S. Murphy, Special Counsel to the President  
Honorable Stanley Woodward, Chief of Protocol, Department of State  
Major General Harry H. Vaughan, USA (Res.), Military Aide to the President  
Rear Admiral Robert L. Dennison, USN, Naval Aide to the President  
Brigadier General Wallace H. Graham, USAF, Personal Physician to the President  
Brigadier General Robert B. Landry, USAF, Air Aide to the President  
Honorable David K. Niles  
Honorable Donald S. Dawson  
Honorable David H. Stowe  
Honorable George M. Elsey, and  
Honorable Stephen T. Spingarn, Administrative Assistants to the President

## **WHITE HOUSE STAFF**

Commander Harrison H. Holton, USN, Liaison for members of the Press  
Lieutenant Commander William M. Rigdon, USN, Assistant to the Naval Aide to the President  
Mr. Dewey E. Long, Chief of White House Communications and Transportation Office  
Captain Harvard E. Dudley, Signal Corps, USA  
Master Sergeant Homer E. Wolff, USA  
Sergeants first class Bernard Putterman and Edward R. Schrader, USA, White House Communications Office  
Mr. Jack Romagna, Personal Stenographer to the President  
Mr. E. L. Cuckenberg, White House Staff Room  
Chief Yeoman Charles J. Langelo, USN, and  
Chief Yeoman Burnace L. Winkler, USN, Naval Aide's Office  
Chief Photographer's Mate Paul Begley, USN, Party Photographer  
Mr. J. E. Giordano and Mr. Harry Charnley, White House Garage  
Chief Steward Arthur S. Prettyman, USN, Valet to the President

## SECRET SERVICE

Mr. U. E. Baughman, Chief of the Secret Service  
Mr. Carl Dickson, Assistant Chief of the Secret Service  
Mr. George W. Taylor, Administrative Assistant to the Chief of the Secret Service  
Mr. James J. Rowley, Supervising Agent, White House Secret Service Detail  
Mr. H. J. Nicholson, Asst. Supervising Agent, White House Secret Service Detail  
Mr. G. A. Behn                      Mr. J. T. Sherwood                      Mr. F. M. Boring  
Mr. J. E. Campion                      Mr. M. L. Gies                      Mr. R. W. Scouten  
Mr. F. M. Barry                      Mr. E. C. Lawrence                      Mr. A. P. O'Malley  
Mr. R. H. Kellerman                      Mr. S. G. Stout                      Mr. B. A. Fugler  
Mr. C. E. Peyton                      Mr. J. A. Walters                      Mr. L. E. Boggs  
Mr. V. P. Mroz                      Mr. P. B. Doster                      Mr. W. F. Shields  
Mr. R. Jamieson

## NEWS CORRESPONDENTS

Mr. R. G. Nixon	The International News Service
Mr. Merriman Smith	The United Press Association
Mr. Ernest B. Vaccaro	The Associated Press
Mr. A. H. Leviero	The New York Times
Mr. Frank Holeman	The New York Daily News
Mr. Carl Levin	The New York Herald Tribune
Mr. William Moore	The Chicago Tribune
Mr. Joseph H. Short	The Baltimore Sun
Mr. Walter Fitzmaurice	Newsweek Magazine
Mr. Windsor Booth	Time Magazine
Mr. Clifford Hulme	The London Daily Graphic
Mr. Joseph A. Fox	The Washington Star

## RADIO CORRESPONDENTS

Mr. Frank Bourgholtzer	The National Broadcasting Company
Mr. Edwin W. Darby	The Transradio Press Service
Mr. William M. Henry	The Mutual Broadcasting Company
Mr. Bryson Rash	The American Broadcasting Company
Mr. Jack Beall	The American Broadcasting Company
Mr. Earl Godwin	NBC Television
Mr. Charles Collingwood	Columbia Broadcasting Company

## PHOTOGRAPHERS

Mr. Harvey Georges	Associated Press Photos
Mr. Murray Alvey	Warner's Pathe News
Mr. Alfonso A. Muto	International Newspictures
Mr. Charles Corte	Acme Newspapers

### **USS WILLIAMSBURG (AGC 369)**

Commander D. J. MacDonald, USN	Commanding Officer
Lieut-Commander W. J. Hurst, USN	Executive Officer
Commander H. D. Warden (MC) USN	Medical Officer
Lieut. L. L. Woodward, USN	Engineering Officer
Lieut. H. W. Hiller, USN	Communications Officer
Lieut. W. C. Slye, USN	First Lieutenant
Lieut. H. D. Moore (SC) USN	Commissary and Stores Officer
Lieut. A. J. Shepherd (SC) USN	Assistant Commissary and Stores Officer
Lieut. (jg) R. G. Alexander, USN	Navigator

### **USAF CONSTELLATION "SAM 8608"**

Colonel C. C. Moomaw, USAF	Plane Commander
Captain W. G. Draper, USAF	First Pilot
Captain V. Puglist, USAF	Navigator
T/Sgt. R. F. Ellis, USAF	Radio Operator
M/Sgt. P. F. Stifflemire, USAF	First Aerial Engineer
M/Sgt. W. Acker, USAF	Second Aerial Engineer
S/Sgt. Pete Mitko, USAF	Flight Attendant
M/Sgt. L. Borega, USAF	Plane Guard
T/Sgt. L. B. Campbell, USAF	Plane Guard
T/Sgt. W. E. Perry, USAF	Plane Guard

### **USAF DC-6 "INDEPENDENCE"**

Colonel F. W. Williams, USAF	Plane Commander
Major E. F. Smith, USAF	First Pilot
Captain E. P. Christensen, USAF	Navigator
Mr. Eugene Lucas, Douglas Aircraft	Company Consultant
M/Sgt. F. J. Willard, USAF	Flight Engineer
M/Sgt. F. A. Winslow, USAF	Flight Engineer
T/Sgt. G. E. Robinson, USAF	Radio Operator
T/Sgt. R. E. Hughes, USAF	Traffic Clerk
T/Sgt. R. W. Boord, USAF	Plane Guard
T/Sgt. L. M. Larson, USAF	Plane Guard
T/Sgt. H. N. Callaway, USAF	Plane Guard
M/Sgt. E. E. Bishop, USAF	Plane Guard

### **USN R4DZ**

Lieut. T. J. Beare, USN	Plane Commander
Lieut. E. J. Parrish, USN	First Pilot
Aviation Radioman 1/c R. L. Hodges, USN	Radio Operator
Aviation Machinist's Mate 2/c M. E. Lutz, USN	Flight Engineer

## STAFF OF THE LITTLE WHITE HOUSE

### From USS "WILLIAMSBURG"

Lieut. H. D. Moore (SC) USN	
Lieut. A. J. Shepherd (SC) USN	
Chief Steward I. Esperancilla, USN	Chief Steward V. Devera, USN
Chief Steward M. Floresco, USN	Chief Steward R. Pascual, USN
Chief Steward R. Bachiller, USN	Chief Steward V. Manuel, USN
Chief Steward E. Peralta, USN	Chief Steward G. Riolo, USN
Chief Steward M. Sepulchre, USN	Chief Steward B. Licodo, USN
Chief Steward C. Bautista, USN	Steward 1/c S. Pollosco, USN
Steward 3/c M. Dela Vega, USN	Steward 3/c D. Javier, USN
Steward 3/c J. Malapit, USN	Steward's Mate R. Paragas, USN

### From Naval Station, Key West

Steward 1/c J. C. Cepeda, USN	Steward 2/c B. S. Retoriano, USN
Steward's Mate E. Balan, USN	Steward's Mate C. Beltran, USN

## MOVIE OPERATORS

Chief Electrician's Mate F. C. Sandow, USN	USS WILLIAMSBURG
Electrician's Mate 1/c D. A. Putt, USN	USS WILLIAMSBURG

## WESTERN UNION COMPANY STAFF

Mr. C. S. Linkins	National Press Representative	Washington, D.C.
Mr. O. D. McEachern	Florida District Manager	Orlando, Florida
Mr. R. A. Rollins	Operator	Miami, Florida
Mr. B. R. Arnold	Operator	Miami, Florida
Mr. W. R. Crews	Operator	Jacksonville, Florida
Mr. W. H. Olsen	Operator	Key West, Florida
Mr. S. A. Jones	Operator	Key West, Florida
Mr. R. R. Church	Operator	Miami, Florida

## FLORIDA STATE HIGHWAY POLICE

Captain Reid Clifton	Sgt. Roy Hancock
Pvt. S. R. Walker	Pvt. M. J. Willer

## **LOG OF THE PRESIDENT'S EIGHTH VISIT TO KEY WEST, FLORIDA**

### **Sunday, 12 March**

The USS WILLIAMSBURG (AGC 369), with the President of the United States embarked, departed from the Naval Gun Factory, Washington, D.C., at 9:52 AM for Key West, Florida, where the President was to vacation until April 10<sup>th</sup>. Accompanying the President as his guests were the following members of his staff: Honorable John R. Steelman, Honorable William D. Hassett, Honorable Charles G. Ross, Honorable Charles S. Murphy, Major General Harry H. Vaughan, Rear Admiral Robert L. Dennison, Brigadier General Wallace W. Graham, Brigadier General Robert B. Landry, and Honorable David H. Stowe. Mrs. Truman, Mrs. Steelman, Mrs. Ross, Mrs. Stowe, the Honorable Louis A. Johnson (Secretary of Defense) and Mr. U. E. Baughman (Chief of the Secret Service) were among those on hand at the Naval Gun Factory to see the President and his party off for Key West. The weather was cold and cloudy.

Also embarked in the WILLIAMSBURG were: Mr. James J. Rowley (Supervising Agent), Mr. Henry J. Nicholson (Assistant Supervising Agent), Mr. John E. Campion, Mr. Roy H. Kellerman and Mr. Charles E. Peyton, all of the White House Secret Service Detail; Lieutenant Robert L. Livingston, Aerographer's Mates second class Howard T. Kilpatrick and Robert L. Showalter, and Seaman Aerographer Paul W. Fiedler, members of an aerological team from the Naval Air Station, Anacostia, D. C.; Chief Photographer's Mate Paul Begley (Navy Photographic Center, Anacostia), Chief Yeoman Burnace L. Winkler (Naval Aide's Yeoman), and Chief Steward Arthur S. Prettyman (Valet to the President).

Traditional honors, consisting of "manning the rail" and tolling of the ship's bell, were rendered by the WILLIAMSBURG as she passed Washington's Tomb at Mount Vernon (at 11:11 AM).

Lunch was served at 1 PM. After lunch the President retired to his quarters, where he rested until 4 PM.

At 6:30 PM, when at a position near the confluence of the Potomac River and Chesapeake Bay, the destroyer USS WILLIAM C. LAWE (DD 763) rendezvoused with the WILLIAMSBURG to act as escort for the voyage to Key West. The motorboat LENORE, which had accompanied the WILLIAMSBURG from Washington, was then detached and directed to return to the Naval Gun Factory.

The LAWE had on board several members of the Press and the Secret Service who had embarked at the Naval Air Test Center, Patuxent, Maryland, that forenoon. These included: Messrs. Robert G. Nixon, representing the International News Service; Merriman Smith, the United Press Association; Ernest B. Vaccaro, the Associated Press; Edwin W. Darby, the Transradio Press Service; Anthony H. Leviero, the New York Times; Frank Bourgholtzer, the National Broadcasting Company; Harvey Georges, Associated Press Photos; Murray Alvey, Warner's Pathe News; and John T. Sherwood

and Vincent P. Mroz of the Secret Service. Because of limited berthing and messing space, the LAWE could not accommodate other members of the Press party. Remaining correspondents and photographers went on to Key West singly so as to arrive there by the afternoon of March 15<sup>th</sup>.

The LAWE also had on board special radio teletype equipment and an operating team from the Navy Department Communication Office – Lieutenant (jg) C. D. Scallorn, Chief Radiomen R. E. Elder and P. G. Gladd, and Radioman first class R. L. Ledbetter – to handle press matter originated by the correspondents embarked.

Dinner for the Presidential party was served at 7 PM. Following dinner the motion picture “Twelve O’clock High” was shown in the Presidential dining salon. The President did not attend. At 8:45 PM he retired to his quarters where he spent the remainder of the evening.

The WILLIAMSBURG and LAWE passed the Chesapeake Bay entrance buoy at 12:29 AM and headed out to sea. It had been decided to proceed south via a course which would generally follow the contour of the coastline as it was considered that such a course would offer smoother sailing at this time of the year.

### **Monday, 13 March**

The WILLIAMSBURG made radar landfall on Cape Hatteras at 8:47 AM. Cape Hatteras bore 261 degrees and was 29,400 yards distant. Rough seas were encountered all day. From 3:25 PM on, conditions were such that it was desirable for the WILLIAMSBURG to proceed at two-thirds speed. The President and most members of the party stuck to their quarters all day. Attendance at meals was light.

At 7:26 PM the WILLIAMSBURG passed Cape Lookout lighted buoy abeam to starboard, about 12,600 yards distant.

No movie was shown this evening.

### **Tuesday, 14 March**

The WILLIAMSBURG passed Frying Pan Shoals lightship abeam to starboard at 5:01 AM, distant 4,650 yards.

The seas moderated during the forenoon and the weather warmed up somewhat as the WILLIAMSBURG and LAWE neared the Gulf Stream. By afternoon the WILLIAMSBURG was again riding comfortably, and standard speed (14 knots) was resumed. The President took a walk about the ship and spent part of the afternoon on the after deck.

This evening the President radioed Mrs. Truman that everyone had recovered from the effects of the rough weather; that they were in sight of the Florida coast; and all were happy.



After dinner, the motion picture “Cinderella” was shown. The President did not remain for the movie but instead retired to his quarters where he spent the remainder of the evening.

### **Wednesday, 15 March**

The sea was smooth and the weather somewhat warmer today. The President and members of his party spent much of the forenoon on deck enjoying the bright warm sun.

At 11 AM the LAWE came within hail of the WILLIAMSBURG (to port) to permit the news photographers to take newsreel and still pictures of the President, who was on the after deck at the time. The LAWE resumed her position astern of the WILLIAMSBURG after the picture making.

At 2:01 PM the WILLIAMSBURG passed Jupiter Inlet light abeam to starboard, 12,000 yards distant. During the afternoon the WILLIAMSBURG was recognized and hailed frequently by fishing craft.

At 6:15 PM the WILLIAMSBURG passed Fort Lauderdale abeam to starboard, distant 1,600 yards; and at 7 PM she passed the North Miami Beach lighted buoy abeam to starboard distant one mile. The President and members of his party went on deck to view the brilliantly lighted skylines of Miami Beach and Miami.

After dinner the motion picture “Red Danube” was shown in the Presidential dining salon. The President did not attend. He spent the evening in the after lounge and at 1 AM retired to his quarters.

### **Thursday, 16 March**

The WILLIAMSBURG entered the Naval Station, Key West, harbor at 6:53 AM and at 6:58 AM moored to the north quay wall. The President and Admiral Dennison were on the flying bridge as the ship entered port. The President talked with a number of the correspondents and photographers who were on hand and told them that despite reports to the contrary he and the others in his party had a very nice cruise.

The LAWE followed the WILLIAMSBURG in port and was moored to pier “B” at the Naval Station. All other traffic in Key West harbor was suspended during the entry of the WILLIAMSBURG and the LAWE.

A 21-gun salute to the President was fired by the Naval Station saluting battery, commencing at 8 AM. Immediately upon conclusion of this salute the President, accompanied by his aides – General Vaughan, Admiral Dennison and General Landry – disembarked from the WILLIAMSBURG. He was greeted, as he stepped ashore, by Captain Cecil C. Adell, Commander of the Naval Base at Key West. Honors – flourishes, “To the Colors” and present arms – were rendered by a bugler and a Marine

guard drawn up on the quay abreast the WILLIAMSBURG. The President's flag was lowered in the WILLIAMSBURG and simultaneously hoisted on the Naval Station Administration Building. The President took the honors and then exchanged greetings with a number of civic and naval officials who had assembled at the Naval Station to welcome him back to Key West for his eighth visit. They included:

Honorable Louis M. J. Eisner, Mayor of Key West  
Honorable Ralph D. Spalding, City Manager of Key West  
Honorable Bernie C. Papy, State Representative from Monroe County, Florida  
Captain O. A. Smith (MC) USN, Commanding Officer, Naval Hospital, Key West  
Captain R. S. Quackenbush, USN, Commanding Officer, Naval Air Station, Key West  
Captain W. R. Caruthers, USN, Commanding Officer, Fleet Sonar School, Key West  
Captain H. H. Connelley, USN, Commanding Officer, USS GRAND CANYON (AD 28)  
Captain J. R. Lee, USN, Commanding Officer, Development Squadron One  
Captain C. E. Weakley, USN, Commanding Officer, Surface Anti-Submarine  
Development Detachment  
Captain E. C. Stephan, USN, Commander Submarine Squadron Four  
Captain W. T. Nelson, Commanding Officer, USS HOWARD W. GILMORE  
(AS 16)  
Captain N. Lucker, USN, Commanding Officer, Underway Training Unit  
Captain W. E. Ellis, USN, Commanding Officer, Fleet All Weather Training Unit,  
Atlantic  
Commander J. B. Swain, USN, Commander Destroyer Division 601  
Sheriff Berlin A. Sawyer of Monroe County, Florida  
Chief of Police Joseph Kemp of Key West

The President went ashore half an hour earlier than was originally scheduled; arrival ceremonies had been set for 8:30 AM. Mayor Eisner and Mr. Spalding arrived at the Naval Station just in time to greet the President before he left for the Little White House.

After the exchange of greetings, the President, in company with Major Harold A. Hayes, USMC, made an inspection of the Marine guard. He then spoke briefly with members of the press and posed for the photographers. Following this, he and his aides walked the one block, down a lane lined on both sides with white-clad officers and enlisted personnel, to the Little White House (Quarters "A-B").

The President's first act on reaching the Little White House was to telephone Mrs. Truman (in Washington) to report his safe arrival. He then went to his desk in the living room where he worked on a batch of mail that had been flown down from Washington the day before. Included in the papers signed at this time were S.471, S.576, S.1310, S.1552, S.1737, S.1764, S.2125, S.2429, S.2441, HR 2023 and HR 6670.

At 9:45 AM the President, attired in his Key West "uniform" – a colorful sports shirt, slacks and cap – and accompanied by Admiral Dennison, General Vaughan, General Landry, General Graham and Mr. Stowe, left the Little White House and walked

to pier "B". Commander T. H. Suddath, Commanding Officer of the LAWE, was presented to the President. The President thanked Commander Suddath for his fine escort service and complimented him on having a trim and efficient ship. The President presented Commander Suddath two photographs of himself – one autographed to him personally and the other to the officers and crew of the USS WILLIAM C. LAWE. (The newspaper correspondents who cruised in the LAWE also had nothing but praise for the LAWE and her crew).

After the chat with Commander Suddath, the President and those accompanying him continued on foot to Truman Beach at the Naval Station where they changed to swim suits and spent the remainder of the forenoon. They were joined at the beach later by Mr. Steelman, Mr. Hassett and Mr. Murphy. The President, General Graham, General Vaughan, Mr. Murphy and Mr. Stowe went swimming. The President said the water was about the warmest he had ever found it there. The volleyball advocates lost no time returning to action. A team composed of General Vaughan, Mr. Nicholson, Mr. Behn and Mr. Boggs, tied a team of Admiral Dennison, Commander Warden, Mr. Campion and Mr. Doster – one game each.

Lieutenant R. E. Sims, USN (courier) left the Little White House at 10 AM to return official mail to Washington.

The President left the beach at 11:55 AM, and motored back to the Little White House.

Lunch was served at 1 PM. After lunch the President retired to his quarters where he rested until 4 PM.

At 3:15 PM, the Honorable Matthew J. Connelly arrived at the Little White House and joined the President's party. Mr. Connelly came down from Washington in the aircraft INDEPENDENCE. The INDEPENDENCE was sent down to Key West to stand by in case air transportation should be needed for the President. Mr. U. E. Baughman (Chief of the Secret Service), and Mr. Jack Romagna and Mr. Harry Charnley of the White House staff also were passengers on the same flight.

The Honorable David K. Niles arrived at the Little White House at 4:35 PM and joined the President's party. Mr. Niles had been visiting in Miami and came from there in a naval aircraft (R4DZ).

Dinner was served at the Little White House at 7 PM. After dinner the motion picture "The Third Man" was shown in the living room. The President did not attend. He remained on the south porch and visited with members of his party until 12:40 AM, when he retired to his quarters.

The President occupied Suite #4 at the Little White House; Mrs. Truman and Miss Truman, #3; Mr. Murphy and Mr. Woodward, #2; Mr. Ross and Mr. Connelly, #1; Mr. Steelman and Mr. Hassett, #5; and General Landry the single bedroom. General Vaughan, Admiral Dennison, General Graham and Mr. Elsey were quartered in the WILLIAMSBURG. Mr. Niles, Mr. Dawson, Mr. Stowe and Mr. Spingarn were billeted at Quarters "L".

The newspaper and radio correspondents and members of the Secret Service and White House staff were billeted at the Naval Station and Sonar School Bachelor Officers Quarters. Some of the correspondents elected to live at hotels in Key West. The facilities of the Sonar School Officers Mess and the Commissioned Officers Club at Fort Taylor were made available for their subsistence.

An advance party of Lieutenant Commander William M. Rigdon, Chief Stewarts C. Bautista and B. Licodo and Steward third class D. Javier arrived in Key West on 13 March and readied the presidential quarters

Lieutenant Commander Rigdon and his party traveled from Washington in a naval aircraft (R4DZ) piloted by Lieutenant Thomas J. Beare, USN. The aircraft remained at Key West, under the control of the Naval Aide and was used to perform special missions for members of the President's party. Commander H. H. Holton (Office of Public Relations, Department of the Navy) also came to Key West via this aircraft.

Mr. Gerald A. Behn, of the White House Secret Service detail, arrived in Key West on 14 March. He supervised security arrangements for the President's visit. He was assisted by Lieutenant Commander Rigdon, Mr. John A. Marshall (of the Miami office of the Secret Service) and Mr. William S. Douglas (of the Naval Intelligence Office at Miami). Secret Service agents F. M. Barry, J. A. Walters, P. B. Doster, R. W. Scouten, F. M. Boring, S. G. Stout and L. E. Boggs joined Mr. Behn on March 15<sup>th</sup>, coming down from Washington on the Navy mail plane.

Mr. D. E. Long, W. L. Burton, Captain H. E. Dudley (USA), Master Sergeant H. E. Wolff (USA), and Sergeants P. Putterman (USA) and E. R. Schrader (USA), all of the White House Communications office, set up and operated the special telephone and telegraph facilities used by the Presidential party. The Little White House switchboard was set up in Building #97 and all calls for the President and members of his party were channeled through this board. Radio communications were handled by the regular facilities (duplex radio teletype) of the WILLIAMSBURG.

The President's mess was operated by WILLIAMSBURG personnel under the supervision of Lieutenant H. D. Moore, commissary and stores officer of the WILLIAMSBURG. Lieutenant Moore was assisted by Lieutenant Alfred J. Shepherd, Supply Corps, USN, also of the WILLIAMSBURG.

A press office and a branch telegraph office were established in the Naval Station BOQ for the convenience of the correspondents. Commander Holton served as liaison

officer for the Naval Aide with the members of the Press. Mr. Carroll S. Linkins of the Washington office of the Western Union Company supervised the operation of the telegraph office.

A clerical force consisting of Mr. Romagna, Mr. E. L. Cuckenberg (White House staff room) and Chief Yeoman Winkler (later relieved by Chief Yeoman C. J. Langello) served the Presidential party. Office space was provided in the administration building and in Building #97.

Special airmail service, providing two round trips each week between the White House and Key West, was maintained during the period of the visit. Naval aircraft and naval officer couriers were employed in this service.

New York, Washington and Baltimore newspapers were delivered daily at the Little White House by officials of the National Airlines through the courtesy of Mr. John L. Morris, Vice President of the company. This thoughtful service enabled the President and members of his party to keep abreast of the news and was genuinely appreciated by all hands.

In addition to the regular Secret Service detail, a guard was maintained around the Little White House by Marine Corps personnel attached to the Naval Base. A special pass authenticated by the naval base security officer and countersigned by a member of the secret service was necessary in order to be passed into or out of the area surrounding the Presidential quarters.

Two White House Lincoln convertibles were driven to Key West by Mr. M. L. Gies and Mr. E. C. Lawrence, members of the Secret Service, for use of the party. They were accompanied by Mr. J. G. Giordano (White House chauffeur). These cars were augmented by four Lincoln sedans and four Ford sedans, loaned to the Secret Service by Mr. Cecil Holland, President of the All Miami Motors Co., of Miami. One convertible, driven by a Secret Service agent, was used for the President and the other as a Secret Service follow-up car. The Lincoln sedans were used to provide transportation for members of the President's party. Enlisted drivers were furnished by the Commander, Naval Base. The Ford sedans were used by the Secret Service. Members of the press were permitted to call in taxicabs when they required transportation. Sedan omnibus service was provided by the Officers Club to transport them to and from Fort Taylor for meals.

### **Friday, 17 March**

The President slept late and did not come down from his quarters until 8:30 AM. He spent a short while on the south porch reading the morning newspapers and, at 8:45 AM, sat down to breakfast where he was joined by Mr. Steelman, Mr. Hassett, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Niles, Mr. Stowe and General Graham.

At 9:40 AM the President, General Graham and Captain Adell left the Little

White House and walked to Truman Beach. Captain Adell accompanied them to the Beach, then asked to be excused and returned to his office. He followed this same procedure each morning that he accompanied the President to the beach. Mr. Steelman, Mr. Niles, Mr. Stowe, General Landry, General Graham, Admiral Dennison and Mr. Murphy went down to the beach later and joined the President. The President, Mr. Steelman, Mr. Niles and General Vaughan went swimming. There were too few candidates so there was no volleyball game. Some members of the party played softball. Mr. Stowe and General Graham took a walk up the beach in search of seashells. While at the beach the President observed the LAWE standing out to sea to rejoin her division which was then engaged in fleet maneuvers.

Arrangements were made to use the EPPERSON (DD719) or the SARSFIELD (DD837), both destroyers based at Key West, should an escort for the WILLIAMSBURG be required during the President's stay at Key West.

The President left the beach at 11:50 AM, and motored back to the Little White House.

Mr. Ross held a press conference at 12 noon. During the stay at Key West he met daily with the correspondents. The Pressroom at the Naval Station BOQ was used for his meetings which were usually held at noon. Many of the routine announcements normally made at the White House were given out at Key West. This practice pleased most of the correspondents but some complained that the "workload" interfered with their recreation.

Lunch was served at 1:55 PM. Following lunch the President retired to his quarters where he rested until 4 PM.

Lieutenant C. D. Wrenn, USN (courier) arrived from Washington and delivered official mail to the Little White House at 5:45 PM.

Mr. Connelly, Admiral Dennison, General Vaughan, General Graham, General Landry and Mr. Hassett left the Little White House at 6 PM and motored to the Commissioned Officer Club at Fort Taylor where they attended a reception given by the members of the club in honor of the presidential and press parties.

Dinner was served at 7 PM. Mr. Connelly and Admiral Dennison dined out. At 8 PM the motion picture "When Willie Comes Marching Home" was shown. The President did not attend.

After the movies had been concluded, the President moved to the living room where he whiled away several hours playing classical recordings on the phonograph, which were mostly Chopin. The President played some of them over and over again and explained to other members of the party the differences in technique of various artists. The records were part of a number the President brought with him from Washington.

The routine for the succeeding days of the visit at Key West was very much the same as today's. Informality prevailed around the clock. Breakfast was served at the convenience of the guest. Usually lunch was served at 1 PM, and dinner at 7 PM. About 9:45 each morning all hands, not otherwise engaged, assembled at the Little White House and left for the beach where they spent the forenoon sunning, swimming or playing volleyball. The afternoons generally were free for rest. Motion pictures were shown nightly. Those members of the party who did not care to attend the movies gathered on the south porch after dinner for informal discussions or a game of cards. All was not play, however, for in between periods of relaxation the President and members of his staff transacted a considerable amount of official business.

### **Saturday, 18 March**

The President came down from his quarters at 8:30 AM. He brought with him and turned over to Lieutenant Commander Rigdon for return to Washington a batch of official mail that he had signed in his room this morning. This mail included three proclamations – “Seventeenth Decennial Census;” “Cancer Control Month, 1950,” and “Pan American Way;” also S.88, S.493 and S.1283.

Admiral Dennison and General Landry left the Little White House at 8:30 AM, and motored to the Key West Golf Course where they spent the afternoon playing golf with, and as guests of, Captain Adell and Commander R. Goodman (Medical Officer of the Naval Station).

The President sat down to breakfast at 8:40 AM. He was joined by Mr. Steelman, Mr. Hassett, Mr. Murphy and Mr. Niles.

At 9:50 AM, the President and General Vaughan left the Little White House and motored to Truman Beach. They were joined there later by Mr. Steelman, Mr. Hassett, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Niles, Mr. Stowe and General Graham. The President, Mr. Hassett, Mr. Niles and General Graham went swimming.

Lieutenant Wrenn left for Washington at 10 AM with official mail. The members of the special communication team that had been embarked in the LAWE and the aerological team embarked in the WILLIAMSBURG returned to Washington via the same mail plane.

The President left the beach at 11:50 AM and motored back to the Little White House.

Lunch was served at 1 PM. After lunch the President retired to his quarters where he rested until 3:30 PM. He came downstairs at that time and went out to the west garden where he sat and chatted with General Vaughan, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Steelman, Mr. Niles, Mr. Ross, Mr. Stowe and General Graham until 4:15 PM, when he returned to the house.

Chief Justice Fred M. Vinson and the Honorable Clark M. Clifford arrived at the Little White House at 5:20 PM and joined the President's party. Admiral Dennison met

them at Boca Chica. The Chief Justice and Mr. Clifford traveled from Washington to Miami in an Air Force plane. The Naval Aide sent the Navy R4DZ to Miami to bring them off to Key West.

A sudden wind and rainstorm struck Key West at 6:45 PM. It did not abate until 7:30 PM. The storm served as a real test for the tightness of the quarters. Several areas were flooded before they could be closed off.

Dinner was served at 7 PM. Admiral Dennison and Mr. Connelly dined out. The President and his guests enjoyed an angel-food cake which Mrs. Vinson had baked and which the Chief Justice had brought down with him.

Following dinner the motion picture "Riding High" was shown in the living room. Neither the President nor the Chief Justice attended. After the movies the President moved to the living room where he entertained the Chief Justice and several other members of his party with another concert of his recordings. He retired to his quarters at 1:45 AM.

The Chief Justice and Mr. Clifford were billeted in Suite #3.

### **Sunday, 19 March**

The President came downstairs at 7:40 AM. He left the Little White House at 7:50 AM, accompanied by two Secret Service agents and took a walk about the Naval Station. During the course of the outing he stopped and chatted with several service men. He visited the quarters where the newsmen were billeted but found no one stirring at that early hour. Later he went by the WILLIAMSBURG and looked in on General Vaughan and General Graham who were still in bed.

The President returned to the Little White House at 8:15 AM and sat down to breakfast at 8:20 AM, with Mr. Clifford, Mr. Hassett, Mr. Niles and Mr. Murphy. The occasion was enlivened by discussion of poetry that ensued. The President got stuck in quoting a passage of "The Walrus and the Carpenter." No one present could help him out so he found it necessary to have Burton E. Stevenson's "Home Book on Verse" sent down from the Blair House.

Mr. Hassett and General Landry left the Little White House at 8:55 AM and motored to the Naval Station Chapel where they attended mass. They were accompanied by Commander Donald J. MacDonald and Mr. Giordano.

After breakfast the President went out to the west garden where he sat for the next hour chatting with Mr. Clifford and General Graham.

The President, the Chief Justice, Mr. Clifford, Admiral Dennison, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Stowe, Mr. Niles and Captain Adell left the Little White House by motor at 10:50 AM for the Naval Station Chapel where they attended divine services conducted by



Chaplain Rennie. (Lieutenant W. A. Rennie, Protestant Chaplain of the Naval Station). The topic of his sermon was "The Sacrifice of Self." Following the sermon, four infants, children of personnel attached to the Naval Base, were baptized by Chaplain Rennie.

At the conclusion of the services at the Chapel, the President and his party continued on to Truman Beach, where they arrived at 11:50 AM. General Vaughan, General Landry, Mr. Hassett and Mr. Steelman joined them there later. The Chief Justice, Admiral Dennison and Captain Adell left the beach party at 11:00 AM and returned to the Little White House. The President, Mr. Murphy and Mr. Stowe went swimming. A volleyball match was played with Team #1 (Mr. Baughman, Mr. Rowley, Lieutenant Commander Rigdon, Mr. Nicholson and Mr. Gies) defeating Team #2 (General Vaughan, Mr. Clifford, Mr. Mroz, Commander Warden and Mr. Horton) two games to one.

At 1:00 PM General Graham and Mr. Niles left the Little White House and motored to Boca Chica where they enplaned for Miami (Navy R4DZ). General Graham made the principal address at the dedication of the Variety Children's Hospital at Miami.

The President left the beach at 1:20 PM, and motored back to the Little White House.

A picnic lunch was served in the north garden at 2:00 PM. After lunch the President retired to his quarters where he rested until 4:00 PM.

Mr. Baughman left Key West this afternoon to return to Washington.

Honorable Stanley Woodward arrived at the Little White House at 7:30 PM and joined the President's party. Mr. Woodward had just returned from South America and came over from Miami in the Navy plane (R4DZ). Mr. Niles returned from Miami in this same aircraft.

The President complained of not feeling up to par and retired to his quarters at 7:55 PM. He was attended by Commander Warden who diagnosed his ailment as a slight stomach upset and informed the Chief Justice that the President was then resting comfortably.

Dinner was served at 8:00 PM. After dinner the motion picture "Francis" was shown. All members of the party, except the President, attended.

### **Monday, 20 March**

Shortly after midnight Key West experienced another rainstorm accompanied by winds of moderate force. No damage was noted, however.

The President came downstairs at 7:20 AM. He worked at his desk in the living room until 8:00 AM, when he went in to breakfast. He was joined by Mr. Hassett, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Niles and General Landry.

At 9:40 AM the President talked by telephone on a conference hook-up with the Vice President and the Speaker of the House, both of whom were in Washington at the time.

At 10:00 AM the President, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Niles, Admiral Dennison and General Vaughan left the Little White House and motored to Truman Beach. The Chief Justice, Mr. Clifford, Mr. Woodward, Mr. Hassett, Mr. Stowe, Mr. Steelman and General Landry went down to the beach later and joined the party. The water was a bit cool this morning and the President and Mr. Murphy were the only members of the party to go swimming. At volleyball, a team comprised of General Vaughan, Lieutenant Moore, Mr. Rowley, Mr. Nicholson and Mr. Scouten defeated the team of Admiral Dennison, Mr. Behn, Commander Warden, Mr. Woodward and Mr. Clifford, two games to one.

The President left the beach at 11:30 AM and motored back to the Little White House.

Lunch was served at 1:00 PM. After lunch the President retired to his quarters where he rested until 4:00 PM.

At 6:30 PM, Lieutenant W. K. Davis, USN (courier) arrived at the Little White House from Washington with several sacks of official mail. The Honorable George M. Elsey came down from Washington in this mail plane and joined the President's party. Other passengers were Mr. Robert M. Redmond (White House Gardener) and Mr. Andrew P. O'Malley of the White House Secret Service Detail.

General Graham returned from Miami at 6:45 PM (Navy R4DZ) and rejoined the party.

Dinner was served at 7:00 PM. Afterwards, by special request of several members of the party, the motion picture "The Third Man" was again shown at the Little White House. The President did not attend.

The President retired to his quarters at 12:30 AM. He worked at his desk for some time before retiring, acting on mail that arrived this evening.

### **Tuesday, 21 March**

General Landry left the Little White House at 6:20 AM and motored to Boca Chica where he enplaned for Washington to attend the funeral of the late General Muir S. Fairchild, Deputy Chief of Staff of the Air Force. General Landry traveled to Miami in the Navy R4DZ and thence to Washington via Eastern Airlines.

The President came downstairs at 7:10 AM. He worked at his desk in the living room until 8:05 AM, when he had breakfast together with General Vaughan, Mr. Hassett, Mr. Woodward, Mr. Niles and Mr. Elsey.

At 9:15 AM, the President went out into the west garden where he sat and chatted with Mr. Clifford and Mr. Elsey until 9:50 AM.

Lieutenant Davis left the Little White House at 9:30 AM, with official mail for return to Washington.

At 10:00 AM, the President, Mr. Steelman, Mr. Woodward, Mr. Elsey and Captain Adell left the Little White House and walked to Truman Beach. Enroute, they stopped at the marine railway. Mr. Murphy, Mr. Niles, General Vaughan, Mr. Hassett, Mr. Ross and Mr. Stowe joined the party at the beach later. The President, Mr. Elsey, Mr. Niles, Mr. Murphy and Mr. Stowe went swimming. At volleyball Mr. Woodward, Mr. Behn, Mr. Elsey, Mr. Scouten and Mr. Nicholson teamed up to take two out of three games from General Vaughan, Lieutenant Commander Rigdon, Commander Warden, Mr. Boring and Captain Dudley.

The President left the beach at 11:50 AM and motored back to the Little White House.

Lunch was served at 1:05 PM. Admiral Dennison lunched on board the USS HOWARD W. GILMORE as the guest of Captain Stephan.

After lunch the President retired to his quarters where he rested until 3:00 PM. He worked at his desk in the living room from 3:00 to 3:30 PM. From 3:30 to 4:00 PM the President conferred with Mr. Steelman, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Elsey, Mr. Ross and Mr. Stowe. The conference was held in the north garden.

At 4:30 PM the Honorable Donald S. Dawson arrived at the Little White House and joined the President's party. He had been visiting in Miami and came on to Key West in the Navy R4DZ. Mr. Henry Leidner, civilian employee of the Army Signal Corps, arrived via this same aircraft. He had been called to Key West to effect repairs to the Army-type communication equipment installed in the WILLIAMSBURG.

At 5:45 PM the President left the Little White House and walked to the Naval Station dental office where Lieutenant Commander Lukens repaired a loose crown on one of his teeth. The President was accompanied by Admiral Dennison and a Secret Service agent. They returned to the Little White House at 6:15 PM.

Dinner was served at 7:15 PM. Mr. Dawson and Mr. Connelly dined out. After dinner the motion picture "Tell It to the Judge" was shown at the Little White House. The President did not attend. He retired to his quarters at 9:30 PM where he spent the remainder of the evening.

Mr. Horton (Secret Service agent) left Key West this morning to return to Atlanta.

### **Wednesday, 22 March**

The President came downstairs at 7:30 AM and sat down to breakfast with Mr. Hassett who was eating early, as he planned to leave Key West at 8:00 AM on a fishing expedition. The President accompanied Mr. Hassett to the BIG WHEEL, moored at the north quay wall, where they arrived at 7:55 AM. Enroute, the President decided that since all other members of the party had forsaken Mr. Hassett, he would go fishing with him. The President's sudden decision caused a flurry of excitement with the Secret Service and the Naval Station authorities. Nevertheless all arrangements were quickly completed and, at 8:05 AM, the President, Mr. Hassett and Commander MacDonald departed in the BIG WHEEL for the fishing grounds off Sand Key. A second motor boat was called into service and, with Mr. Nicholson and one other Secret Service agent embarked, left the Naval Station at 8:30 AM to join the BIG WHEEL.

At 10:00 AM General Vaughan and Mr. Woodward left the Little White House and walked to the beach. They were joined at the beach later by Mr. Stowe, Mr. Dawson, Mr. Niles, Mr. Elsey and Mr. Clifford.

The fishing party returned to the Naval Station at 12:20 PM. Mr. Hassett reported a catch of one 4-pound grouper and Commander MacDonald a barracuda weighing approximately the same. The President said that he had just gone along for the ride and did not fish. The Chief Justice, Mr. Ross, Mr. Clifford and several of the news and radio correspondents and photographers were on the dock to meet the President as he disembarked from the BIG WHEEL. The brightly colored sports shirt the President was wearing attracted considerably more attention than the fact that he reported a negative catch.

The President returned to the Little White House at 12:30 PM. Lunch was served at 1:00 PM. Following lunch the President retired to his quarters where he rested until 3:30 PM.

Dinner was served at 7:15 PM. After dinner several members of the party attended a showing of the motion picture "Mother Didn't Tell Me." The President remained on the south porch.

General Landry returned to Key West at 8:30 PM and rejoined the party. He came down from Washington in an Air Force B-25 piloted by Captain Dickerson.

The President retired at 12:35 PM.

### **Thursday, 23 March**

Admiral Dennison, Mr. Elsey, Mr. Hassett, Mr. Murphy and Mr. Woodward had early breakfast and left the Little White House at 7:30 AM. They motored to the Operational Development Station, where they embarked in a naval craft and departed for

the operating area off Key West. They spent the day witnessing anti-submarine exercises by units of Task Force 65. Assistant Secretary of the Navy J. T. Koehler also was a member of the party that witnessed this demonstration of the latest type weapons and methods of anti-submarine warfare.

The President came downstairs at 7:35 AM and sat down to breakfast at 7:40 AM, where he was joined by Mr. Niles and General Graham.

General Graham left the Little White House at 7:55 AM and motored to Boca Chica where he enplaned for Washington (Air Force B-25, Captain Dickerson). General Graham continued on to Edgewood Arsenal, Maryland, where he spoke before a medical group.

The President worked at his desk in the living room from 8:00 to 8:30 AM.

At 10:00 AM the President, General Vaughan, General Landry and Mr. Clifford left the Little White House and walked to Truman Beach. They were joined there later by Mr. Steelman, Mr. Niles and Mr. Dawson. The President and Mr. Niles went swimming. Later the President tried his hand at pitching horseshoes, and at shuffleboard. A volleyball match ensued in which a team consisting of Mr. Clifford, General Vaughan, Mr. Dawson, Commander Warden and Captain Dudley took two out of three games from a team led by General Landry (General Landry, Lieutenant Commander Rigdon, Mr. Behn, Mr. Gies and Mr. Kellerman).

The President left the beach at 12:00 noon and motored back to the Little White House.

Lunch was served at 1:00 PM. Following lunch the President and the Chief Justice went out to the west garden where they posed for photographers.

Mr. Clifford left the Little White House at 2:10 PM and motored to Boca Chica. At Boca Chica he enplaned in the Navy R4DZ for Miami. From Miami he continued on to Chicago via commercial airlines.

The President retired to his quarters at 2:15 PM where he rested until 3:30 PM.

Lieutenant W. J. Boo, USN (courier) delivered several sacks of White House mail to the Little White House at 4:45 PM. Mr. George W. Taylor (U. S. Secret Service) and Chief Quartermaster F. F. Stirewalt (USS WILLIAMSBURG) were passengers on the mail plane that brought Lieutenant Boo down from Washington.

Dinner was served at 7:15 PM. Mr. Connelly and Mr. Woodward dined out. The motion picture "Key to the City" was shown after dinner. The President visited with members of the party and did not attend.

The President retired to his quarters at 1:20 AM.

## **Friday, 24 March**

The President worked at his desk in his suite this morning and did not come downstairs until 8:45 AM. Included in the papers signed this morning were SJ.161 and S.2205. He sat down to breakfast at 9 AM, where he was joined by Mr. Elsey, Mr. Niles, Mr. Hassett and Mr. Stowe.

At 9:15 AM Mr. Hassett, General Landry, Mr. Stowe and Commander MacDonald left the Little White House and motored to Boca Chica. At Boca Chica they enplaned in the Navy R4DZ for Havana where they planned to do some sight-seeing and shopping.

The Chief Justice left the house at 9:45 AM and motored to Boca Chica where he enplaned for Washington (Air Force B-25, Captain Smith). He was accompanied to Boca Chica by Mr. Woodward.

Lieutenant Boo left the Little White House at 10:15 AM for Boca Chica. He had with him a dispatch of official mail for return to Washington. Chief Yeoman Winkler, Mr. Redmond, Chief Quartermaster Stirewalt, Chief Steward Licodo and Mr. Taylor returned to Washington via this mail plane.

The President, accompanied by Admiral Dennison, Mr. Elsey and General Vaughan left the Little White House at 10 AM and walked to the beach. They were joined there later by Mr. Steelman, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Niles, Mr. Dawson and Mr. Woodward. The President, Mr. Niles, Mr. Dawson, Mr. Steelman, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Woodward and General Vaughan went swimming. At volleyball, Team #1 (Mr. Dawson, Lieutenant Moore, Lieutenant Commander Rigdon, Mr. Lawrence, Mr. Taylor and Mr. Woodward) took three straight games from Team #2 (Mr. Elsey, Mr. Behn, General Vaughan, Admiral Dennison, Mr. Nicholson and Mr. Walters).

While at the beach this morning the deck chair in which General Vaughan was reclining slipped several notches and in an effort to check his fall the General suffered a painfully mashed finger on his left hand – the first casualty of the vacation.

The President left the beach at 12:10 PM and motored back to the Little White House.

Lunch was served at 1:15 PM. After lunch the President retired to his quarters where he rested until 4 PM.

Mr. Dawson and Mr. Niles left the Little White House at 4:30 PM and motored to Boca Chica. At Boca Chica they enplaned in the Navy R4DZ for Miami where they spent the weekend visiting with friends.

At 2:30 PM a special showing of the motion picture “Francis” was held at the Naval Station BOQ for the newspaper and radio correspondents.

Mr. Hassett returned from Havana at 6:50 PM (Navy R4DZ). General Landry, Mr. Stowe and Commander MacDonald remained in Havana.

Dinner was served at 7 PM. Mr. Connelly and Admiral Dennison dined out. After dinner the President and all members of the party moved to the living room where they witnessed a showing of the newsreel of their sea voyage south and the March of Time entitled "The Golden Twenties." The President did not remain for the showing of the feature picture "Spring in Park Lane."

The President retired at 12:15 AM.

### **Saturday, 25 March**

The President came downstairs at 8:30 AM. Together with Mr. Steelman, Mr. Hassett, Mr. Elsey and Mr. Woodward, he sat down to breakfast at 8:40 AM.

At 9:50 AM the President and General Vaughan left the Little White House and walked to the beach. They were joined there later by Mr. Steelman, Mr. Woodward, Mr. Hassett and Mr. Elsey. The President, Mr. Steelman, Mr. Woodward and General Vaughan went swimming. Mr. Woodward and Mr. Elsey went boating. Mr. Elsey rowed out around old Fort Taylor. On his way back to Truman Beach he was challenged by the security picket boat. The President and others at the beach lent Mr. Elsey no assistance at all as they signaled the picket boat to chase him away. Mr. Elsey rowed frantically to get back within the roped-off enclosure but the patrol boat overtook him before he could do so. Despite the signals from the beach, Mr. Elsey convinced the security patrol of his identity and was permitted to re-enter the restricted area. At volleyball, Team #1 (Lieutenant Commander Rigdon, Commander Warden, Mr. Rowley, Mr. Nicholson, and Mr. Peyton) stood off Team #2 (Mr. Marshall, Mr. Behn, Lieutenant Moore, Mr. Woodward and Mr. Taylor) at one game each.

The President left the beach at 12 noon and motored back to the Little White House.

Lunch was served at 1 PM. After lunch the President retired to his quarters where he rested until 3:30 PM.

Dinner was served at 7 PM. Admiral Dennison and Mr. Connelly dined out.

Mr. Stowe and Commander MacDonald returned from Havana (Navy R4DZ) at 8:15 PM.

At 8:30 PM the motion picture "Jolson Sings Again" was shown at the Little White House. The President did not attend.

The President retired at 11:45 PM.

The President sent congratulations to King Paul today on the 129<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Greek Independence.

### **Sunday, 26 March**

The President came downstairs at 7:50 AM. He spent a few minutes on the south porch reading the morning papers and, at 8 AM, in company with two Secret Service agents, left the Little White House for a walk. He walked along the naval station waterfront where he witnessed several servicemen fishing, then left the naval station by way of Green Street gate and visited the business section of Key West. He walked down Green Street to Duval Street; thence to Southard Street; and returned to the Naval Station by way of the Southard Street gate. He returned to the house at 8:30 AM.

At 8:35 AM the President sat down to breakfast. He was joined by Mr. Hassett and Admiral Dennison.

Mr. Hassett left the Little White House at 8:55 AM and motored to the Naval Station Chapel where he attended mass. He was accompanied by Commander MacDonald and Mr. Giordano.

Mr. Dawson returned from Miami at 9:30 AM and rejoined the party.

At 10:50 AM the President, Admiral Dennison, General Vaughan, Mr. Woodward, Captain Adell, Mr. Dawson and Mr. Elsey left the Little White House and motored to the Naval Station Chapel where they attended divine services conducted by Chaplain Rennie. Chaplain Rennie's sermon was on "The Gospel on the Road to the Cross." At the conclusion of the services the President and his party left the chapel and continued to Truman Beach, where they arrived at 11:55 AM. Before leaving the chapel the President congratulated Chaplain Rennie for his fine sermon. As the party was preparing to depart for the beach the President leaned from his car and called a little girl over to shake hands. She was Beverly, three-year-old daughter of Roy Ormond, chief motor machinist's mate.

At the beach the President was joined later by Mr. Stowe, Mr. Steelman, Mr. Ross, Mr. Hassett, Mr. Murphy, and General Landry (who returned from Havana this afternoon). The President, Mr. Woodward, Mr. Dawson, Mr. Stowe and Mr. Elsey went swimming. Mr. Elsey went rowing again but did not venture beyond the roped-off area.

The President left the beach at 1:15 PM and motored back to the Little White House.

The Honorable James E. Webb, Under Secretary of State, called at the Little White House at 1:45 PM. He was brought down from Washington in an Air Force B-17 (Captain Young).

Lunch was served at 2 PM. Secretary Webb was a luncheon guest. Admiral Dennison and General Landry dined out.



After lunch the President, Secretary Webb, Mr. Dawson, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Steelman, Mr. Elsey and Mr. Connelly moved out to the north garden where they conferred until 4:20 PM.

At 4:55 PM Secretary Webb, Mr. Murphy and Mr. Dawson left the Little White House by motor for Boca Chica where Secretary Webb and Mr. Murphy explained (Air Force B-17) for Washington, and Mr. Dawson for Miami (Navy JRB).

General Graham returned from Washington at 6:30 PM. Mr. Niles returned from Miami at 8 PM.

Dinner was served at 8 PM. After dinner the motion picture "On the Town" was shown at the Little White House. The President did not attend.

The President retired at 12:35 AM.

### **Monday, 27 March**

The President came downstairs at 7:30 AM. He spent the next ten minutes on the south porch reading the morning newspapers and then, in company with two Secret Service agents, left the house for a walk about the Naval Station. He returned at 7:55 AM, and at 8 AM sat down to breakfast with Mr. Woodward, Mr. Ross, Mr. Elsey, General Graham and Mr. Niles.

After breakfast the President moved to his desk in the living room where he worked on his mail until 9 AM. At 9 AM he met in the west garden with Mr. Elsey, Mr. Ross, Mr. Niles, Mr. Connelly and Mr. Steelman and conferred with these gentlemen until 9:30 AM.

At 9:40 AM the President talked by telephone (on a conference hookup) with the Vice President, the Speaker of the House and the House Majority Leader, all of whom were in Washington at the time.

At 10:10 AM the President, General Vaughan, Admiral Dennison, Captain Adell, and Mr. Woodward left the Little White House and motored to Truman Beach. They were joined there later by General Landry and Mr. Dawson. A heavy surf was running this morning, the seas at times coming up over the top of the seawall, so no one went swimming. At volleyball, Team #1 (Commander MacDonald, Mr. Doster, Mr. Gies, Mr. Walters, Mr. Behn) took two out of three games from Team #2 (Commander Warden, Mr. Nicholson, Mr. Taylor, Mr. Kellerman, Mr. Dawson and Captain Dudley).

The President left the beach at 11:45 AM and motored back to the Little White House.

Secretary of Defense Louis A. Johnson arrived at the Little White House at 12 noon. He was met at Boca Chica by Admiral Dennison, Mr. Woodward and Mr.

Connelly, who accompanied him to the Little White House. He came down from Washington in the Air Force Constellation "Sam 8610" (Colonel Moomaw, pilot).

Lunch was served at 1 PM. Secretary Johnson was a guest. After lunch the President conferred with Secretary Johnson until 3 PM. Afterwards they posed for newsreel and still photographs. The conference was held in the north garden.

At 3 PM the President retired to his quarters where he rested until 4 PM.

At 4:05 PM Secretary Johnson left the Little White House and motored to the Naval Station BOQ where he met with the newspaper and radio correspondents. From this meeting he continued on to Boca Chica where he enplaned for his return flight to Washington. General Graham, Mr. Taylor (Secret Service) and Lieutenant H. W. Hiller (USS WILLIAMSBURG) returned to Washington with Secretary Johnson. Admiral Dennison, Mr. Connelly and Captain Adell accompanied Secretary Johnson to Boca Chica.

Dinner was served at 7 PM. Mr. Connelly and Mr. Elsey dined out. After dinner the motion picture "Wabash Avenue" was shown at the Little White House. The President did not attend.

Honorable S. J. Spingarn arrived at the Little White House at 11:15 PM and joined the President's party. Lieutenant Sims (courier) arrived with White House mail at the same time. Their aircraft had been delayed enroute several hours because of adverse weather encountered between Washington and Key West. Chief Yeoman C. J. Langello, Mr. B. W. Fugler (Secret Service) and Mr. Everett Thompson, Special Passenger Agent of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, arrived via this same plane. Mr. Thompson conferred with Mr. Long on operating details of the contemplated trip of the President to Grand Coulee, Washington.

The President retired to his quarters at 11:55 PM. He worked at his desk before retiring, and signed HR-7207 and S.1746. Mr. Hassett did not feel well and remained in his room all day.

### **Tuesday, 28 March**

At 7:20 AM General Landry, General Vaughan, Mr. Long, Mr. Behn, Mr. Marshall, Mr. Campion and Sergeant Roy Hancock (Florida State Highway Patrol) left for Boca Chica where they enplaned in the INDEPENDENCE for a flight to the Air Force Proving Ground at Eglin, Florida.

The President came downstairs at 7:30 AM. He spent a brief period on the south porch reading the morning newspapers and at 7:40 AM left the house for a walk around the Naval Station. He was accompanied by two Secret Service agents.

The President returned to the Little White House at 8 AM and at 8:20 AM sat down to breakfast. He was joined by Mr. Steelman, Mr. Niles and Mr. Woodward.

A pouch containing White House mail was dispatched to Washington this morning in custody of Secret Service Agent J. T. Sherwood, who returned to Washington via today's mail plane.

The President and Mr. Stowe left the Little White House at 10 AM and walked to the beach. They were joined there later by Admiral Dennison, Mr. Steelman, Mr. Woodward, Mr. Niles, Mr. Ross, Mr. Spingarn, Mr. Elsey and Mr. Dawson. The President, Mr. Steelman, Mr. Woodward and Mr. Niles, Mr. Spingarn, Mr. Stowe and Mr. Ross went swimming.

The President left the beach at 12 noon and motored back to the Little White House.

Lunch was served at 1 PM. Afterwards the President retired to his quarters where he rested until 4 PM.

General Vaughan and General Landry and their party returned from Eglin at 2:30 PM.

Mr. Steelman left the Little White House at 5 PM for Meacham Field, where he enplaned (National Airlines) for Washington. He did not return to Key West until April 3rd.

Dinner was served at 7 PM. Mr. Elsey and Mr. Connelly dined out. Following dinner the President moved to the living room where, together with the members of his party, he attended a showing of a late newsreel. He did not remain for the feature picture "Man on the Eiffel Tower."

General Graham returned to the Little White House at 11 PM, and rejoined the party. He was brought down from Washington in an Air Force B-25 (Captain Walrod). His White House assistants, Captain H. V. Pifer (Medical Corps, USAF) and Sergeant E. F. Gasber (USA) accompanied General Graham on the southward flight.

The President retired at 1:30 AM.

### **Wednesday, 29 March**

The President came downstairs at 8:25 AM. He had breakfast at 8:35 AM, together with Mr. Hassett, Mr. Elsey, Mr. Niles, Mr. Dawson, Mr. Spingarn, General Vaughan and Mr. Ross.

Mr. Elsey went to Havana this morning where he remained overnight. He traveled via a commercial airlines plane.

The President worked at his desk in the living room from 9 to 9:30 AM.

At 9:50 AM the President, Mr. Woodward, Mr. Spingarn, Mr. Niles, left the Little White House and walked to Truman Beach. They were joined there later by Mr. Dawson, General Graham, Mr. Stowe and General Landry. The President, Mr. Woodward, Mr. Niles, Mr. Stowe and Mr. Spingarn all went swimming.

At volleyball Team #1 (Lieutenant Moore, Captain Dudley, Mr. Spingarn, Mr. Fugler and Mr. Woodward) trimmed Team #2 (Commander Warden, Mr. Dawson, Lieutenant Commander Rigdon, Mr. Behn and Mr. Boggs) two games to one.

The President left the beach at 12:05 PM and motored back to the Little White House.

The Secretary of the Army, the Honorable Gordon Gray, arrived at the Little White House at 12:20 PM. General Vaughan and Admiral Dennison met him at Boca Chica and accompanied him to the house.

Lunch was served at 1 PM. Secretary Gray was a guest. Following lunch the President and Secretary Gray moved out to the north garden where they conferred until 2:15 PM.

At 2:15 PM the President retired to his quarters where he rested until 4 PM.

General Graham, Mrs. Graham, their son and daughter, Captain Pifer and Sergeant Gasper embarked in the BIG WHEEL at 2:15 PM and spent the afternoon fishing off Key West.

At 2:35 PM Secretary Gray left the Little White House for Boca Chica where he enplaned in an Air Force aircraft for his return flight to Washington. Admiral Dennison and General Vaughan accompanied him to Boca Chica.

Dinner was served at 7 PM. Mr. Connelly dined out. After dinner the President witnessed the showing of a late newsreel. He did not remain for the feature picture "The Fighting Man of the Plains."

The President retired at midnight.

A B-25 (Captain Walrod) which had been held at Key West to take special mail to Washington was released at 9 PM to return to Washington. The special mail was not sent.

### **Thursday, 30 March**

The President came downstairs at 7:40 AM and, at 7:45 AM, sat down to breakfast. He was joined by Mr. Hassett, Mr. Stowe and Mr. Niles.

General Landry left the house at 7:45 AM for Boca Chica where he enplaned for Miami (Navy R4DZ).

At 8:05 AM the President left the Little White House and walked to the north quay wall to see Mr. Hassett and Mr. Stowe off on a fishing trip. It was found that the "small craft" warning had been broadcast for the Key West area, so rather than take any chances the fishing expedition was called off and the President, Mr. Hassett and Mr. Stowe returned to the Little White House.

The President worked at his desk in the living room from 8:30 AM to 9 AM.

At 9:50 AM the President, Mr. Hassett, Mr. Woodward, General Vaughan, Mr. Stowe and Captain Adell left the Little White House and walked to Truman Beach. They were joined there later by Mr. Niles, General Graham, Mr. Dawson, Mr. Spingarn and Mr. Ross. The President and Mr. Woodward went swimming. At volleyball Team #1 (General Vaughan, Mr. Champion, Mr. Behn, Mr. O'Malley and Commander Warden) took two out of three games from Team #2 (Mr. Stowe, Mr. Fugler, Lieutenant Commander Rigdon, Mr. Woodward and Sergeant Gasber). Mr. Dawson proved to be the second casualty of the party when he injured his foot on a metal object as he was leaving the surf.

The President left the beach at 12:10 PM and motored back to the Little White House.

At 1 PM Mr. Stowe and Lieutenant Sims (with White House mail) left the Little White House for Boca Chica where they embarked in the INDEPENDENCE and returned to Washington. Mr. Behn and Mr. Thompson also returned to Washington via this flight of the INDEPENDENCE.

Lunch was served at 1:05 PM. Following lunch the President retired to his quarters where he rested until 3 PM.

At 3:30 PM the President was host to the newspaper and radio correspondents and photographers at a picnic in the north garden. Following the picnic the President held a press conference. A cold front reached Key West this afternoon. During the night the temperature dropped to 55 degrees.

Lieutenant C. D. Wrenn, USN (courier) delivered official mail at the Little White House at 6:45 PM. Mr. Carl Dickson (Assistant Chief of the Secret Service) and Lieutenant Hiller came down from Washington in the same aircraft as Lieutenant Wrenn.

Dinner was served at 7 PM. Mr. Connelly and Mr. Elsey dined out. After dinner, the President and all members of the party moved to the living room where they witnessed a showing of the motion picture "The Bicycle Thief."

The President retired at 1:35 AM.

## **Friday, 31 March**

It was still quite cold this morning – the thermometer registered 58 degrees at 6 AM.

The President came downstairs at 7:45 AM. He sat on the south porch reading the morning newspapers until 8 AM, when he had breakfast with Mr. Dawson.

The President worked at his desk in the living room from 8:45 AM to 9:15 AM. He signed mail that included S.609, S.1543, HJ Res 398, and S.3084.

Mr. Dawson left the Little White House at 9 AM for Meacham Field where he embarked in a private aircraft for flight to Miami.

Lieutenant Wrenn left the Little White House with official mail at 9:20 AM for Boca Chica where he enplaned for Washington. Mr. Elsey returned to Washington in this same aircraft. Their flight to Washington was delayed twice by engine trouble. The take-off at Boca Chica was delayed for half an hour and their plane put down at Daytona about three hours later to again effect repairs.

At 9:50 AM the President, General Vaughan and Captain Adell left the Little White House and walked to Truman Beach. They were joined there later by Admiral Dennison, Mr. Woodward, Mr. Niles and Mr. Springarn. The President and Mr. Woodward went swimming. At volleyball the team captained by Mr. Woodward (Mr. Woodward, Commander Warden, Mr. Boggs, Mr. Springarn and Mr. Rowley) defeated General Vaughan's team (General Vaughan, Lieutenant Commander Rigdon, Mr. Campion, Captain Pifer, Mr. O'Mally) three straight games.

The President left the beach at 12 noon and motored back to the Little White House.

Lunch was served at 1 PM. After lunch the President retired to his quarters where he rested until 4 PM.

Mr. Woodward and Lieutenant Commander Rigdon left the Little White House at 2 PM for Boca Chica where they enplaned (Navy R4DZ) for Havana. Chief Photographer's Mate Begley accompanied them.

At 3:30 PM Mr. Connelly and Mr. Niles left the Little White House for Boca Chica where they enplaned (Navy JRF) for Miami.

Mr. Neil Helm, Carruthersville, Missouri, called at the Little White House at 4 PM.

General Landry returned from Miami at 6:40 PM.

Dinner was served at 7 PM. Mr. Helm was a guest. Following dinner the motion picture "Young Man with a Horn" was shown at the Little White House. The President did not attend.

Mr. Helm departed at 11 PM to return to his hotel in Key West.

The President retired at 11:45 PM.

The cold front had dissipated and the weather warmed up somewhat this afternoon.

A fire at Perrine, Florida, located just south of Miami, burned cables and knocked out all telephone and telegraph communications into Miami except for the special Morse wire established by Mr. Long. The cables were repaired and service restored within a few hours. In the meanwhile all communications for the party were handled by the radio teletype of the WILLIAMSBURG.

### **Saturday, 1 April**

The President came downstairs at 8:30 AM. He sat on the south porch reading the morning newspaper until 8:45 AM, when he sat down to breakfast with Mr. Hassett.

At 9:55 AM the President, accompanied by Secret Service agents Campion, Fugler and Boggs, left the Little White House and walked to Truman Beach. He was joined there later by General Landry, Mr. Spingarn and Mr. Woodward. (Mr. Woodward, Lieutenant Commander Rigdon and Chief Begley returned from Havana at 11 AM). The President, Mr. Woodward and Mr. Spingarn went swimming. At volleyball, Team #1 (Mr. Spingarn, Mr. Walters, Mr. Campion, Mr. Fugler and Mr. Boggs) won three straight from Team #2 (Mr. Woodward, Captain Pifer, Commander Warden, Captain Dudley and Chief Yeoman Langelo).

Lunch was served at 1 PM.

The First Lady and Miss Margaret Truman arrived at the Little White House at 2:50 PM and joined the party. General Vaughan and Admiral Dennison met them at the railroad station in Miami and accompanied them on the drive to Key West. Mrs. Truman came from Washington and Miss Truman from Toledo, Ohio, where she completed her concert tour on Wednesday evening. Secret Service agents William F. Shields and Robert Jamieson also accompanied the ladies.

At 4 PM Mr. Thomas McWhirter and Mrs. Eileen M. Nolte, census enumerators from Key West, called at the Little White House and Mrs. Nolte interviewed the First Family. Following the interview, the President, Mrs. Truman and Miss Truman went out into the west garden where they posed with Mrs. Nolte for newsreel pictures.

Mr. Dawson returned from Miami at 4:30 PM and rejoined the party.

Dinner was served at 7 PM. Following dinner the motion pictures "Cinderella" and "The Third Man" were shown at the Little White House. The President did not attend.

The President and the ladies retired to their respective quarters at midnight.

### **Sunday, 2 April**

The President came downstairs at 8 AM and, at 8:05 AM, sat down to breakfast with Mr. Woodward and General Graham.

General Landry left the house at 8:25 AM for Key West where he attended mass.

Mr. Hassett and Commander MacDonald left the Little White House by motor at 8:55 AM for the Naval Station Chapel where they attended mass.

The President sat out in the west garden from 8:30 to 9 AM, reading the morning newspapers and chatting with various members of the party.

At 10:55 AM, the President, Mrs. Truman, Miss Truman, Admiral Dennison, Mr. Woodward, Mr. Dawson and Captain Adell left the Little White House and motored to the Naval Station Chapel where they attended divine services. The services were conducted by Chaplain Rennie. The topic of his sermon was "The Triumphal Entry."

The church party returned to the Little White House at noon and at 12:15 PM the President, Mrs. Truman, Miss Truman, General Vaughan, Mr. Woodward and Captain Adell motored to Truman Beach. Admiral Dennison, Mr. Dawson, Mr. Hassett and Mr. Ross joined them there later. The President, Miss Truman, Mr. Woodward, and Admiral Dennison went swimming. At volleyball Margaret's team (Miss Truman, Lieutenant Moore, Commander Warden, Mr. Mroz, Mr. Rowley and Captain Pifer) defeated General Vaughan's team (General Vaughan, Admiral Dennison, Commander MacDonald, Lieutenant Commander Rigdon and Mr. Campion) two games to one.

The President, Mrs. Truman and Miss Truman left the beach at 1:55 PM and motored back to the Little White House.

The President worked at his desk in the living room from 2 to 2:15 PM, during which time he signed a letter to Senator Tydings (Chairman of Senate Foreign Relations Sub-Committee) with reference to the release of government files concerning loyalty investigation of certain employees of the Department of State and a message to the Congress concerning the Farm Bill (HJ Res.398).

A picnic lunch was served in the north garden at 2:15 PM. After lunch the President retired to his quarters where he rested until 6 PM.

Mr. Dawson left the Little White House at 3:15 PM and motored to Boca Chica where he enplaned (Navy R4DZ) for Miami.



Dinner was served at 8 PM. Following dinner, the President and all members of the party moved to the living room where they witnessed a showing of the motion picture "Cheaper by the Dozen."

The President and the ladies retired to their respective quarters at midnight.

### **Monday, 3 April**

The President came downstairs at 7:45 AM and had breakfast at 7:50 AM in company with Mr. Hassett. He left the house at 8:05 AM and walked to the north quay wall where he saw Mr. Hassett, Commander MacDonald, Commander Warden and Captain Pifer embark in the BIG WHEEL and leave on a fishing expedition. He returned to the Little White House at 8:10 AM and worked at his desk in the living room until 9:30 AM.

At 9:45 AM the President talked by telephone (on a conference hook-up) with the Vice President, the Senate Majority Leader and the House Majority Leader, all of whom were in Washington at the time.

At 10:10 AM the President, Miss Truman, General Vaughan, General Landry and Captain Adell left the Little White House and walked to Truman Beach. They were joined there later by Admiral Dennison, Mr. Woodward, Mr. Ross, General Graham, and Mr. Spingarn. The President, Miss Truman, Mr. Woodward, General Vaughan and General Landry all went swimming. The volleyball line-up was: Admiral Dennison, General Vaughan, Mr. Rowley, Mr. Nicholson, Mr. Shields and Mr. Boggs versus Mr. Spingarn, Lieutenant Commander Rigdon, Lieutenant Moore, Captain Dudley, Mr. Jamieson and Mr. Champion. Admiral Dennison's outfit took three straight games.

The President and Miss Truman left the beach at 12:10 PM and motored back to the Little White House.

Mr. Hassett's fishing party returned to the Naval Station at 1 PM. The President, Miss Truman and Admiral Dennison met them as they disembarked. Mr. Hassett was bursting with pride as he belatedly produced three large cobia (38 pounds, 20 pounds and 17 pounds). His 38-pounder, we were informed, was just one pound short of the record catch for the year at Key West. This fact had no apparent effect on his pride of the 38-pounder which he struggled to lift high enough to exhibit to all hands. Commander MacDonald got a 12-pound cobia and a 12-pound amberjack; and Captain Pifer two cobia (13 and 12 pounds). After considerable ceremony of photographing and weighing the fish for record, Mr. Hassett was satisfied to leave his catch in the hands of the boat crew, and accompanied the President and Miss Truman back to the Little White House.

Lunch was served at 1:15 PM. After lunch the President retired to his quarters where he rested until 4 PM.

Mr. Steelman returned from Washington at 5:30 PM; Mr. Niles returned from Miami at 5:35 PM.

At 6:45 PM Lieutenant (jg) Robert S. Jones, USN (courier) arrived at the Little White House and delivered a consignment of White House mail.

Dinner was served at 7 PM. Admiral Dennison dined out. After dinner the President and all members of his party moved to the living room where they witnessed a showing of the motion picture "Champagne for Caesar." Miss Truman, Mr. Ross and Mr. Niles remained for a fourth showing of "The Third Man."

The President and the ladies retired to their quarters at midnight. The President worked on his mail before retiring.

### **Tuesday, 4 April**

The President came downstairs at 7:45 AM. He spent the next 15 minutes on the south porch reading the morning newspapers and, at 8 AM, sat down to breakfast with General Landry, Mr. Niles and Mr. Woodward.

At 8:15 AM General Landry, Admiral Dennison and Captain Adell left the Little White House for the Key West Golf Club where they spent the forenoon playing golf.

The President worked at his desk in the living room from 9 to 9:30 AM.

Lieutenant Jones left the Little White House at 9:35 AM for Boca Chica to enplane for Washington. He had with him a dispatch of official mail. Captain Pifer and Sergeant Gasber returned to Washington in this same aircraft. Mr. Dickson (Assistant Chief of the Secret Service) left Key West this forenoon via commercial aircraft to return to Washington.

At 10:10 AM the President, Miss Truman and General Vaughan left the Little White House and walked to Truman Beach. They were joined there later by Mr. Steelman, Mr. Woodward, Mr. Ross, Mr. Spingarn and Mr. Niles. All except Mr. Ross and Mr. Spingarn went in swimming. After the swim, a volleyball team captained by Margaret (Miss Truman, Mr. Woodward, Lieutenant Commander Rigdon, Mr. Spingarn, Mr. Fugler, Commander Warden and Mr. Boggs) took two out of three games from General Vaughan's crew (General Vaughan, Lieutenant Moore, Mr. Champion, Mr. Shields, Mr. Jamieson, Captain Dudley and Mr. Nicholson).

The President and Miss Truman left the beach at 12:15 PM and motored back to the Little White House.

Lunch was served at 1:15 PM. Following lunch the President retired to his quarters where he rested until 4 PM.

Dinner was served at 7 PM. After dinner, Miss Truman, accompanied by Lieutenant Moore, left the Little White House and motored to Radio Station WKWF on

Stock Island where Miss Truman listened to a broadcast of the program "Carnegie Hall" on which her friend, Miss Helen Traubel, appeared that evening. This program was not carried by WKWF but through special arrangements made by Mr. John Spottswood, owner of the station, was picked up by a special short wave receiver and piped to a speaker in the studio for Miss Truman's pleasure.

Miss Truman and Lieutenant Moore returned to the Little White House at 8:45 PM, at which time movies were started. The feature "Love Happy" was shown. The President did not attend.

The President and the ladies retired at 11:30 PM.

### **Wednesday, 5 April**

A hard rain descended on Key West during the night. The windows in the First Lady's room leaked quite badly. She and Miss Truman found it necessary to use towels to mop up the water to prevent it from damaging the rugs.

The President came downstairs at 7:20 AM. He did not take a walk but, instead, sat on the south porch and read the morning newspapers until 7:45 AM, when he went to breakfast with Mr. Hassett, General Landry and Mr. Niles.

After breakfast the President moved to his desk in the living room where he worked until 9:45 AM.

At 9:55 AM the President, Miss Truman, General Vaughan and Captain Adell left the house and walked to Truman Beach. They were joined there later by Mr. Woodward, General Landry, Mr. Steelman, Admiral Dennison, General Graham, Mr. Niles and Mr. Ross. The President, Mr. Steelman, Miss Truman, Mr. Niles and Mr. Woodward went swimming. At volleyball Team #1 (Miss Truman, Admiral Dennison, Commander Warden, Mr. Woodward, Mr. Mroz and Mr. Boring took two out of three games from Team #2 (General Vaughan, General Landry, Mr. Shields, Mr. Nicholson and Mr. Scouten).

The President and Miss Truman left the beach at 12:10 PM and motored back to the Little White House.

A picnic lunch was served in the north garden at 1:15 PM. Mrs. Truman and Miss Truman entertained Mrs. Adell (wife of Captain Adell), Mrs. Smith (wife of Captain Smith), Mrs. Nelson (wife of Captain Nelson) and Mrs. Harris (wife of Commander M. H. Harris) at lunch on board the WILLIAMSBURG. This group of ladies came in several times each week during the stay at Key West and kept the Little White House plentifully furnished with beautiful floral decorations. After his lunch, the President walked to the WILLIAMSBURG where he greeted Mrs. Truman's luncheon guests.

The President returned to the Little White House at 2 PM and retired to his quarters where he rested until 4 PM.

The INDEPENDENCE returned to Key West this afternoon. Mrs. Landry was a passenger. She came to Key West to join General Landry for the trip to Santiago, Chile. Colonel Williams brought with him from Washington a dispatch of White House mail.

A 4:15 PM, dressed in their most colorful sports attire, all hands moved out to the west garden where they posed for a group picture.

At 6:45 PM, another storm, accompanied by rain, wind and lightning, struck Key West. Repairs had been effected in the First Lady's room and no further flooding was experienced.

Dinner was served at 7 PM. General Landry dined out. After dinner the President and all others moved to the living room where they witnessed a showing of the motion picture "Francis." Mrs. Truman and Miss Truman stayed on later to see the March of Dimes subject "The Golden Twenties."

The President and the ladies retired at 12:30 PM.

#### **Thursday, 6 April**

Another cold front, accompanied by strong north wind, reached Key West today and it was quite cool about the house.

The President came downstairs at 7:50 AM and sat down to breakfast at 8 AM, together with Mr. Niles, Mr. Hassett, Mr. Spingarn and Mr. Woodward. After breakfast the President went to his desk in the living room where he worked on mail until 8:45 AM.

At 8:20 AM Mr. Joseph Giordano left for Washington with a special dispatch of White House mail, containing a message to the Congress on the subject of unemployment compensation. Mr. Giordano was taken to Miami in a naval aircraft (R4DZ). From Miami on he traveled via Eastern Airlines.

At 9:30 AM the President, assisted by his aides, General Vaughan, Admiral Dennison and General Landry and General Graham, made an inspection of the Marine detail assigned to guard the Little White House. On completion of the inspection the President addressed the men, thanked them for their excellent services and complimented Major Hayes on their military bearing and appearance. Major Hayes had his men drawn up in the court yard just outside the Little White House and to the south of the Administration Building.

General Landry left the Little White House at 9:40 AM for Boca Chica where he enplaned in the INDEPENDENCE for a flight to Santiago, Chile, [where he picked up] President Gabriel Gonzales Videla and his official party for a visit to the United States. Mrs. Landry accompanied General Landry on the flight to Santiago. Miss Truman, Admiral Dennison and Mr. Woodward accompanied General and Mrs. Landry to Boca Chica and saw them off. They returned to the Little White House at 10:45 AM.

Mrs. Truman, accompanied by Lieutenant Moore, left the house by motor for Key West where she did some shopping and sightseeing. They returned at 11:30 AM.

The President, Miss Truman, General Vaughan, General Graham, Mr. Steelman, Mr. Niles, Mr. Woodward and Captain Adell left the Little White House at 10:10 AM and walked to Truman Beach. A cold wind was blowing and the surf was running quite high – at times breaking over the seawall – so no one went swimming. All hands spent their time in the lee of the pavilion enjoying the warm sun.

The President and Miss Truman left the beach at 12:20 PM and motored back to the Little White House.

Lunch was served at 1 PM. After lunch the President retired to his quarters where he rested until 4 PM.

Although the house was all closed up, it was still quite cold this afternoon. A wood fire was lighted in the living room fireplace. Electric heaters were used in the dining room and some bedrooms.

Lieutenant Davis arrived from Washington at 6:30 PM and delivered a dispatch of official mail at the Little White House.

Dinner was served at 7 PM. After dinner the motion pictures “Dear Wife” and “Ichabod and Mr. Toad” were shown in the living room. The President did not attend.

The ladies retired at 11:30 PM. The President retired at 1:05 AM.

A special showing of the motion picture “The Third Man” was held for the correspondents and photographers this afternoon at the Naval Station theatre.

### **Friday, 7 April**

The President came downstairs at 8 AM. He remained on the south porch reading the morning newspapers until 8:30 AM when he sat down to breakfast together with Mrs. Truman, Miss Truman, General Graham, Mr. Hassett, Mr. Steelman, Mr. Niles and Mr. Woodward.

At 9 AM Mrs. Truman, Miss Truman and Mr. Woodward left the Little White House and motored to Key West where they attended Good Friday services. They returned at 10:15 AM.

At 9:45 AM General Graham left for Boca Chica where he enplaned (Navy mail plane) for Washington. Lieutenant Davis accompanied General Graham and took back with him to Washington a pouch containing official mail.

Lunch was served at 11:45 AM today in order to permit Mrs. Truman to get away

by 12:45 PM. Mr. Connelly and Mr. Dawson returned from Miami at 12:40 PM, just in time to see Mrs. Truman off for Miami. Mrs. Truman and General Vaughan motored to Miami from where they continued by train to Washington. Captain Dudley returned to Washington via the same means.

Agents Gies and Lawrence, who drove Mrs. Truman to Miami, continued on to Washington with the two Lincoln convertibles that had been sent down to Key West for the use of the President and the Secret Service. Through the courtesy of Mr. John Spottswood, a Mercury convertible was made available for the use of the President during the remainder of the visit.

At 1:15 PM the President retired to his quarters where he rested until 4 PM.

At 4:10 PM Miss Truman left the house and motored to Key West where she did some shopping. She was accompanied by Lieutenant Moore. They returned to the Little White House at 6 PM.

Dinner was served at 7 PM. Mr. Connelly, Mr. Hassett and Mr. Spingarn dined out.

The motion picture "Fighting Man of the Plains" was shown at the Little White House this evening. The President did not attend.

The President and Miss Truman retired to their respective quarters at 11:55 PM.

### **Saturday, 8 April**

The President came downstairs at 7:25 AM. He read the morning newspapers and visited with members of the party until 8 AM when he sat down to breakfast with Mr. Niles, Mr. Dawson and Mr. Hassett. Admiral Dennison left the house at 8:15 AM for the Key West Golf Course. He was accompanied by Captain Adell.

After breakfast, the President sat around the fire in the living room and visited with members of the party until 9:50 AM, when he, Miss Truman, Mr. Woodward and Mr. Niles left the house and walked to Truman Beach. They were joined there by Mr. Steelman and Mr. Dawson. The President, Miss Truman, Mr. Woodward, Mr. Niles and Mr. Dawson all went swimming. (The sea water was 71 degrees this morning). At volleyball Team #1 (Lieutenant Commander Rigdon, Mr. Mroz, Mr. Scouten and Mr. Boring) took two out of three games from Team #2 (Miss Truman, Mr. Woodward, Commander Warden, Mr. Stout and Mr. Nicholson). This was Miss Margaret's team's first loss.

The President and Miss Truman left the beach at 12:10 PM and motored back to the Little White House.

Lunch was served at 1 PM. After lunch the President retired to his quarters where he rested until 4 PM.

Dinner was served at 7 PM. Miss Truman dined out. She was accompanied by Lieutenant Moore. Later she attended the regular Saturday night dance at the commissioned Officers Club at Fort Taylor.

The motion picture "Captain China" was shown at the Little White House this evening. The President did not attend. After the movies, he spent an hour or longer in the living room playing phonograph records.

Miss Truman returned to the Little White House at 1:20 AM, and at 1:30 AM she and the President retired to their respective quarters.

### **Sunday, 9 April**

Early reveille was held this morning to permit the President and members of his party to attend Easter sunrise services. The President came downstairs at 5:45 AM and was somewhat surprised to find that Miss Truman was up and awaiting him. At 6 AM the President, Miss Truman, Mr. Steelman, Mr. Ross, Mr. Dawson, Mr. Niles, Mr. Woodward and Captain Adell left the house and motored to the Naval Station Recreation Beach where they attended Easter sunrise services. Admiral Dennison joined them at the site of the services. The services were conducted jointly by Chaplain Rennie, Chaplain Garrett, (Lieutenant G. L. Garrett, USS GILMORE) and Chaplain Oliver (Lieutenant A. M. Oliver, U. S. Naval Hospital). Chaplain Rennie delivered the sermon. The University of Florida glee club, in Key West for a concert at a local high school, participated. The combined choirs of Naval Station, Naval Hospital and Air Station chapels also took part in the services, attended by about 200 service men and their families.

The President and other members of the church party returned to the Little White House at 6:50 AM. Breakfast was served at 7 AM with all hands except Mr. Connelly, Mr. Hassett and Mr. Spingarn present. The table was appropriately decorated and colored Easter eggs, with names of members of the party, were used for place cards.

At 8:55 AM Mr. Hassett and Commander MacDonald left the Little White House and motored to the Naval Station Chapel where they attended mass.

At 9:50 AM the President, Miss Truman, Mr. Dawson, Mr. Niles and Mr. Woodward left the Little White House and walked to Truman Beach. The President, Miss Truman, Mr. Dawson, Mr. Woodward and Mr. Niles went swimming – the President and Margaret made the most of the remaining hours of their holiday by going in twice. There was bright sunshine but the water was a bit cool – 71 degrees. At volleyball, Team #1 (Mr. Woodward, Commander Warden, Mr. Mroz and Mr. Boring) took two straight games from Team #2 (Lieutenant Commander Rigdon, Lieutenant Moore, Mr. Scouten and Mr. Stout).

The President and Miss Truman left the beach at 12:10 PM and motored back to the Little White House.

Lunch was served outdoors in the north garden at 1 PM. After lunch the President retired to his quarters where he rested until 4 PM.

Dinner was served at 7 PM. Captain Adell and Colonel Chester C. Moomaw, USAF, were guests. After dinner the motion picture "Rope and Sand" was shown. The President did not attend.

The President and Miss Truman retired to their respective quarters at 11:15 PM.

### **Monday, 10 April**

The President came downstairs at 7:50 AM and all hands joined him at breakfast at 8 AM.

Party baggage was assembled and sent off to Boca Chica while the President was at breakfast and promptly at 9:30 AM the President, accompanied by his entire party and Captain Adell, embarked in motor cars and left the Naval Station for Boca Chica.

The route from the quarters to the Caroline Street gate was lined with white-clad naval personnel at "man the rail" stations; sideboys and Marine guards were stationed at the gate. A 21-gun salute was commenced as the President left the limits of the Naval Station and his flag was lowered at the Administration Building.

The route through the city was down Caroline to Simonton; Simonton to Truman; and Truman Avenue to Boca Chica. The motorcade was led by Captain Clifton, Sergeant Hancock and Privates Walker and Willer of the Florida State Highway Patrol.

The President arrived at Boca Chica at 9:50 AM. He and other members left their motorcars at once. The President shook hands with a number of those assembled – senior naval officers, Mayor Eisner, City Manager Spalding, Chief of Police Kemp and several motorcycle officers of the Key West police force, Captain Clifton and members of his patrol; then talked briefly with members of the press; and at 10 AM boarded the waiting aircraft (Air Force Constellation "SAM 8608" – Colonel Moomaw, (pilot) to bring an end his eighth visit to Key West and the longest vacation he had had since entering the White House. The aircraft bearing the Presidential party was airborne at 10:03 AM and took departure for Washington. Embarked were the President, Miss Truman, Mr. Steelman, Mr. Hassett, Mr. Connelly, Mr. Ross, Mr. Woodward, Admiral Dennison, Mr. Niles, Mr. Dawson, Mr. Spingarn, Commander Warden, Mr. Rowley, Mr. Nicholson, Mr. Romagna and Chief Steward Prettyman. The members of the press, embarked in an Eastern Airlines Constellation, departed Boca Chica at 10:06 AM. Their aircraft accompanied the Presidential plane on the flight to Washington. Commander Holton, Chief Yeoman Langelo, Chief Photographer's Mate Begley, Mr. Giordano, Mr. Long, Mr. Charnley, Mr. Burton, Mr. Chuckenberger, and Sergeants Wolff, Putterman, Schrader and all other Secret Service agents returned to Washington in the press plane. Lieutenant Beare, in the Navy R4DZ, departed Boca Chica at 10:13 AM for Anacostia. With Lieutenant Beare were Stewards Riolo, Sepulchre, Bautista and Javier. Lieutenant Commander Rigdon returned to Washington via privately owned automobile.



The Presidential plane landed at the Washington National Airport at 1:47 PM, completing a very pleasant flight from Key West. The press plane arrived six minutes ahead of the Presidential plane. The President looked tan and fit as he descended from the plane. In the crowd gathered to welcome him back were seven members of his Cabinet – Secretary Acheson, Secretary Snyder, Secretary Johnson, Attorney General McGrath, Secretary Sawyer, Secretary Tobin, Secretary Chapman, also Fleet Admiral Leahy, Mr. Charles S. Murphy and Under Secretary of State Webb.

After exchanging greetings with many of those on hand, the President stayed on a few minutes longer to talk briefly with members of the press. He then entered a waiting motorcar and left for the Blair House.

The WILLIAMSBURG remained at Key West to assist with the reception of President Gonzales of Chile who spent the night of April 11<sup>th</sup> at the Little White House. The WILLIAMSBURG departed Key West the afternoon of April 12<sup>th</sup> for Miami, where she remained until Sunday, April 16<sup>th</sup>. She returned to Washington and moored at the Naval Gun Factory, Washington, at 9:58 PM on Tuesday, 18 April.

**RECORD OF MAXIMUM AND MINIMUM TEMPERATURES  
AT KEY WEST**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Maximum</u>	<u>Minimum</u>
16 March	82	74
17 March	77	69
18 March	83	65
19 March	82	70
20 March	83	74
21 March	85	75
22 March	79	73
23 March	74	66
24 March	80	65
25 March	81	66
26 March	82	71
27 March	84	76
28 March	85	76
29 March	84	74
30 March	76	62
31 March	68	56
1 April	77	66
2 April	80	55
3 April	83	74
4 April	85	74
5 April	84	65
6 April	71	59
7 April	65	55
8 April	73	57
9 April	75	62

