

Log of
PRESIDENT TRUMAN'S
9TH VISIT to
KEY WEST, FLORIDA
and
FT. JEFFERSON NATIONAL MONUMENT

MARCH 2 – 22, 1951

Compiled by
Lt. Comdr. William M. Rigdon, USN

Contents

Roster of the President's Party, Staff and Press	ii – vi
The Log	1 - 35
Some Interesting Facts about Key West	36 - 37
Fort Jefferson National Monument	38 - 39
Record of Maximum and Minimum Temperatures at Key West March 2 – 22, 1951	40
Letter to Captain C. C. Adell, USN, Commander, Naval Base, Key West	41

THE PRESIDENT'S PARTY

The President

Fleet Admiral William D. Leahy, USN
Honorable W. Averell Harriman
Honorable John R. Steelman
Honorable Charles S. Murphy
Honorable William D. Hassett
Honorable Matthew J. Connelly
Honorable Joseph H. Short
Honorable Stanley Woodward
Rear Admiral Sidney W. Souers, USNR
Major General Harry H. Vaughan, USAR
Rear Admiral Robert L. Dennison, USN
Brigadier General Wallace H. Graham (MC) USAFR
Brigadier General Robert B. Landry, USAF
Honorable David K. Niles
Honorable David H. Stowe
Honorable George M. Elsey
Mr. Russell P. Andrews
Mr. David E. Bell
Mr. Joseph G. Feeney
Mr. W. J. Hopkins
Mr. David D. Lloyd
Colonel C. J. Mara, USA
Mr. Philleo Nash
Mr. Richard E. Neustadt
Mr. Irving Perlmeter
Mr. Roger W. Tubby

WHITE HOUSE STAFF

Lt. Comdr. W. M. Rigdon, USN	Major G. J. McNally, Signal Corps, USA
Mr. D. E. Long	Captain H. E. Dudley, Signal Corps, USA
Captain Ray L. Miller (MC) USAR	Mr. R. A. McMullin
Mr. J. Romagna	Mr. E. M. Fauver
Chief Yeoman C. J. Langelo, USN	Mr. H. B. Colvin
Chief Photographer's Mate Paul Begley, USN	Mr. W. L. Burton
Yeoman 2/c E. Kesselman, USNR	Mr. A. S. Prettyman
Mr. E. L. Cuckenberg	M/Sgt. W. H. Brown, USA
Mr. R. A. Duffy, Jr.	M/Sgt. B. Putterman, USA
Mr. Harry Charnley	M/Sgt. H. E. Wolff, USA
Mr. J. D. Giordano	Sgt. E. F. Gasber, USA

SECRET SERVICE

Mr. James J. Rowley, Supervising Agent
Mr. Henry J. Nicholson, Asst. Supervising Agent
Mr. Gerald A. Behn, Asst. Supervising Agent

Mr. K. E. Balge	Mr. H. S. Knight
Mr. F. M. Barry	Mr. R. R. Lapham
Mr. L. E. Boggs	Mr. J. W. Lemons
Mr. F. M. Boring	Mr. G. B. McCann
Mr. J. E. Campion	Mr. M. S. Mileski
Mr. P. B. Doster	Mr. V. P. Mroz
Mr. A. M. Downing	Mr. A. P. O'Malley
Mr. D. B. Flohr	Mr. E. P. Roberts
Mr. B. A. Fugler	Mr. R. W. Scouten
Mr. M. L. Gies	Mr. J. T. Sherwood
Mr. R. M. Hare	Mr. W. F. Shields
Mr. C. L. Honess	Mr. S. G. Stout, Jr.
Mr. R. J. Jamison	Mr. R. H. Taylor
Mr. R. H. Kellerman	Mr. P. T. Usher,

All of the White House Detail;

Mr. John A. Marshall, Supervising Agent in Charge, Miami Office;
Mr. James Beary, Supervising Agent in Charge, Washington, D.C. Field Office;
Mr. William S. Douglas, Agent in Charge, ONI Office, Miami.

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PRESS

Mr. Ernest B. Vaccaro	The Associated Press
Mr. Robert G. Nixon	The International News Service
Mr. Ernest L. Barcella	The United Press Association
Mr. Anthony Leviero	The New York Times
Mr. Joseph A. Fox	The Washington Star
Mr. William P. Flythe	Hearst Newspapers
Mr. Floyd Norman	The Chicago Tribune
Mr. Ned Russell	The New York Herald Tribune
Mr. Bert Andrews	The New York Herald Tribune
Mr. Robert Ruth	The Baltimore Sun
Mr. Edwin Darby	Time Magazine
Mrs. Vera Clay	Newsweek Magazine
Mrs. Esther Van Wagoner Tufty	Michigan League of Home Dailies
Mr. Henry La Cossitt	The Saturday Evening Post
Mr. Leon Wellstone	The State Department (Voice of America)

Mr. Jack McCardle	The Philadelphia Bulletin
Mr. Jack Doherty	The New York Daily News
Miss Carolyn Workman	The Cincinnati Star Times
Mr. Richard Harkness	The National Broadcasting Co.
Mr. Frank Bourgholtzer	The National Broadcasting Co.
Mr. William Hillman	The Mutual Broadcasting Co.
Mr. Bryson Rash	The American Broadcasting Co.
Mr. Harold Stickler	The American Broadcasting Co.
Mr. Griffing Bancroft	The Columbia Broadcasting Co.
Mr. Macon Reed	The Transradio Press Service
Mr. Henry Griffin	The Associated Press Photos
Mr. Frank Cancellare	The Acme Newspictures
Mr. Henry Walker	Life Magazine
Mr. George Skadding	Life Magazine
Miss Helen Fennell	Life Magazine
Mr. Thomas Craven	Paramount News (newsreel pool)
Mr. John Sandstone	Telenews
Mr. Bradford Kress	NBC Television
Mr. John Langanegger	NBC Television
Mr. Carrol S. Linkins	Western Union Telegraph
Mr. P. C. Darcey	The Pullman Company

USS WILLIAMSBURG (AGC 369)

Captain D. J. MacDonald, USN	Commanding Officer
Lt. Comdr. W. J. Hurst, USN	Executive Officer
Commander H. D. Warden (MC) USN	Medical Officer
Lt. Comdr. Leo W. Roberts (SC) USN	Supply and Mess Officer
Lieut. W. A. Campbell, USN	Operations Officer
Lieut. W. C. Slye, USNR	First Lieutenant
Lieut. R. G. Alexander, USN	Navigator

USAF C-118 "INDEPENDENCE" CREW

Colonel F. W. Williams, USAF	Plane Commander
Lt. Col. E. F. Smith, USAF	First Pilot
Captain E. P. Christensen, USAF	Navigator
Mr. Eugene F. Lucas	Douglas Aircraft Representative
M/Sgt. F. J. Willard, USAF	Aerial Engineer
M/Sgt. F. A. Winslow, USAF	Aerial Engineer
M/Sgt. B. M. Stickler, USAF	Aerial Engineer
M/Sgt. G. E. Robinson, USAF	Radio Operator
M/Sgt. R. E. Hughes, USAF	Flight Attendant

M/Sgt. E. E. Bishop, USAF	Plane Guard
M/Sgt. H. N. Callaway, USAF	Plane Guard
M/Sgt. L. D. Campbell, USAF	Plane Guard
T/Sgt. W. E. Perry, USAF	Plane Guard
S/Sgt. L. M. Larson, USAF	Plane Guard

NAVY AIRCRAFT (R4DZ No. 17289)

Lt. Comdr. Fred S. Card, Jr., USN	Pilot
Lieut. Thomas J. Beare, USN	Co-pilot
Aviation Chief Machinist's Mate Robert Pope, USN	Plane Captain
Aviation Radioman 3/c Charles R. Fross, USN	Radio Operator

NATIONAL AIRLINES DC-6 CREW

Southbound Trip

Captain Joseph Bailey
Co-Captain Armond Dyas
Engineer William McKendree
Stewardess Evelyn Turner
Stewardess June MacDonald

Northbound Trip

Captain Joseph Bailey
Co-Captain William H. Bullock
Engineer Laurence W. Shields
Stewardess Evelyn Turner
Stewardess June McDonald

Mr. John L. Morris, Vice President, National Air Lines
Mr. Gilbert W. Paul
Mr. Robert Carlin (southbound flight only)

STAFF AT QUARTERS "A-B" AND "L"

From USS WILLIAMSBURG

Chief Steward I. Esperancilla, USN	Chief Steward C. Bautista, USN
Chief Steward R. R. Pascual, USN	Steward 1/c S. Pollosco, USN
Chief Steward G. Riolo, USN	Steward 3/c S. I. Corpus, USN
Chief Steward E. Peralta, USN	Steward 3/c B. Pandes, USN
Chief Steward R. Bachiller, USN	Steward 3/c C. Lomibao, USN
Chief Steward V. DeVera	Steward 3/c A. Sohagon, USN
Chief Steward M. Sepulchre, USN	Steward 3/c A. Fernandez, USN
Steward's Mate A. Rogayan, USN	Steward's Mate F. Dizon, USN
Steward's Mate D. Manolo, USN	Steward's Mate P. Lara, USN

From NAVAL STATION, KEY WEST

Chief Steward C. Buenavista, USN
Steward 1/c J. C. Cepeda, USN
Steward's Mate J. Bernardino, USN
Steward's Mate M. Rosette, USN

Movie Operators from USS WILLIAMSBURG

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

LOG OF PRESIDENT TRUMAN'S 9TH VISIT
to
KEY WEST, FLORIDA, AND FORT JEFFERSON

Friday, 2 March

The President embarked in the INDEPENDENCE (USAF C-118 aircraft #46505) at the Military Air Transport Terminal, Washington National Airport, and departed at 1:00 PM, for Key West, Florida, where he was to vacation during the next three weeks. Accompanying him were: Fleet Admiral William D. Leahy; Honorable William D. Hassett, Secretary to the President; Honorable Matthew J. Connelly, Secretary to the President; Honorable Joseph H. Short, Secretary to the President; Major General Harry H. Vaughan, USAR, Military Aide to the President; Rear Admiral Robert L. Dennison, USN, Naval Aide to the President; Brigadier General Robert B. Landry, USAF, Air Force Aide to the President; Colonel C. J. Mara, USA, Assistant Military Aide to the President; and Honorable George M. Eley, Administrative Assistant to the President, members of the President's party; and Captain Ray L. Miller, Medical Corps, USAR, and Mr. Jack Romagna of the White House staff; Mr. James J. Rowley, Supervising Agent, White House Secret Service Detail; Mr. Henry J. Nicholson, Assistant Supervising Agent, White House Secret Service Detail; and Mr. Arthur S. Prettyman, Valet to the President.

Mrs. Truman, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Labor, the Honorable Averell Harriman, Under Secretary of State James E. Webb, Under Secretary of Treasury Edward H. Foley, and Assistant Secretary of Treasury John S. Graham were among those at the airport to see the President off.

Shortly after the INDEPENDENCE was airborne, the President went to the flight station and visited briefly with Colonel Francis W. Williams, USAF, the pilot, and other members of the plane crew. He then retired to his quarters where he remained during most of the three hour and fifty minute flight to Key West, which was smooth and uneventful.

The INDEPENDENCE landed at the Naval Airfield, Boca Chica, Florida, at 4:50 PM, and the President disembarked at 4:55 PM, followed by Admiral Leahy and the other members of his party. As the President left the plane, his flag was broken at the control tower at Boca Chica.

Aground at Boca Chica, the President was greeted by Captain Cecil C. Adell, USN, Commander, Naval Base, Key West, and Senior Officer Present. Captain Adell then presented the following senior naval officers and members of the Key West Citizens Committee, who had gathered at Boca Chica to welcome the President back to Key West for his ninth visit: 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; Captain M. Durski, USN, Commanding Officer, Surface Anti-Submarine Development Detachment, Atlantic Fleet; Captain E. W. Parish, USN, Commanding Officer, Air Development Squadron One; Captain E. C. Stephan, USN, Commander Submarine Squadron Four; Captain S. J. Lawrence, USN, Commanding Officer, Fleet All Weather Training Unit; Captain J. B. Swain, USN, Commander Destroyer Division 601; Honorable John Carbonnell, Mayor; Honorable Louis Carbonnell, Honorable L. M. J. Eisner, Honorable C. B. Harvey, City Commissioners; Mr. Dave King, City Manager; Honorable Joe Allen and Honorable Frank Bentley, Monroe County Commissioners; and Mr. Earl R. Adams, President of Key West Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Irving Perlmeter, Assistant to Mr. Short; Lt. Comdr. William M. Rigdon, Assistant to the Naval Aide; Mr. Dewey E. Long, White House Transportation Officer; Messrs. Walter Burton, Harry Charnley, Robert A. Duffy of the White House Staff; and a number of Secret Service agents who had come south via the press plane were waiting at the airfield together with the members of the press party. (The press plane – a National Airlines DC-6 – had departed Washington National Airport at 11:35 AM and arrived Boca Chica at 3:15 PM).

Also at Boca Chica to meet the President were Messrs. G. A. Behn, J. T. Sherwood, Paul Doster, Morgan L. Gies, D. B. Flohr and J. A. Marshall of the United States Secret Service; Mr. William S. Douglas, Office of Naval Intelligence; Lieutenant J. G. Gallop and Patrolmen S. R. Walker, M. J. Wilder and W. W. Johnson of the Florida Highway Patrol; Lieutenant Harry L. Baker, Acting Chief of Police, Key West, and several other members of Key West Police force.

After an exchange of greetings and pleasantries, the President spoke briefly with members of the press while pictures were taken by the newsreel and news photographers.

The President and members of his party then, at 5:00 PM, left Boca Chica by motor for the Naval Station, Key West. Riding in an open convertible with the President were Admiral Leahy and Captain Adell. The Naval Air Station street from the landing apron to the Roosevelt Highway was lined with white-clad officers and enlisted men at “man-the-rail” stations.

In addition to the regular city and county police, naval shore patrolmen were stationed at intervals all along the 8½-mile route, which had been cleared of all vehicular traffic and parked cars.

The 15-car motorcade, led by units of the Florida Highway Patrol and Key West City police, proceeded down Roosevelt Boulevard to Truman Boulevard, right on Duval Street to Caroline Street, left on Caroline to the Naval Station gate. Groups of people – natives and tourists alike – clad in shorts, bathing suits and summer clothes, were out along the highway, but from the city limits to the Caroline Street gates the streets were lined with young and old, each eager for a glimpse of the President.

The motorcade arrived at the Caroline Street gate of the Naval Station at 5:20 PM. The President was “piped aboard” by a boatswain’s mate and eight side boys. He then left his car to be greeted by Captain J. A. Fitzgerald, USN (Executive Officer, Naval Station) and to receive honors by the Naval Station Marine Guard. A 21-gun salute was commenced as the President entered the Naval Station and simultaneously his flag was hoisted at the Naval Base Administration building. After being greeted by Captain Fitzgerald, the President, accompanied by Captain Adell and Major Charles D. Barrett, MSMC (Commanding Officer, Marine Barracks, Key West), inspected the Marine Guard, commanded by Captain Willmar M. Bledsoe, USMC.

On completion of inspection of the Marine Guard, the President again entered his automobile and the motorcade continued on to the Little White House (Quarters “A-B”) at the Naval Station. The route along the way from Caroline Street gate to the Little White House was lined with white-clad officers and enlisted men at “man-the-rail” stations.

At the Little White House, the President and members of his party were greeted by Captain Donald J. MacDonald, USN, (Commanding Officer of the USS WILLIAMSBURG). Captain Adell paid his respects and left for his quarters. All hands were then shown to their respective rooms where they changed to lighter clothing, and proceeded to settle down to vacation routine. At 6:30 PM, the President talked by telephone with Mrs. Truman (at Blair House) and Miss Margaret Truman (in New York City). A conference hook-up was used.

Dinner was served at 7:15 PM. There were no guests.

Following dinner, movies were shown in the living room of the Little White House. The feature was “Southside 1-1000.” The President did not attend. He visited with members of his party until 12:45 AM, when he retired to his quarters for the night.

The President occupied his usual quarters at the Little White House (Suite #4); Admiral Leahy and Mr. Steelman, #5 (downstairs); Mr. Harriman and Mr. Hassett, #3; Mr. Connelly and Mr. Elsey, #2; General Landry and Mr. Short, #1; General Vaughan, Admiral Dennison and General Graham were quartered in the WILLIAMSBURG. The WILLIAMSBURG had arrived at Key West on February 28 and was moored at the north quay wall about 100 yards distant from the Little White House. Mr. Andrews, Mr. Bell, Mr. Feeney, Mr. Hopkins, Mr. Lloyd, Colonel Mara, Mr. Nash, Mr. Niles, Mr. Neustadt, Mr. Perlmeter, Mr. Stowe and Mr. Tubby were billeted in nearby Quarters “L.”

The President’s mess was operated at the Little White House. With the arrival of additional guests on March 5, a second mess was established at Quarters “L” for the convenience of the guests billeted there. The household staff was drawn from the WILLIAMSBURG and the Naval Station, and operated under the supervision of Lt. Comdr. Roberts.

Members of the White House staff and the Secret Service were quartered at the Naval Station Bachelor Officers Quarters (Bldg. #128) and the Sonar School Officers Quarters Annex (Bldg. #217). The facilities of the Sonar School Officers Mess and the Naval Station Commissioned Officers Club at Fort Taylor were made available for their messing. Because of lack of facilities on the Naval Station, the newspaper and radio correspondents and photographers were required to live at hotels in Key West. Arrangements were made to accommodate the entire press party at the La Concha Hotel but some members of the group chose to live elsewhere.

A press office and a branch telegraph office were set up in Bldg. #128 for the convenience of the members of the press party. Mr. Carroll S. Linkins of the Washington, D. C. office of the Western Union Company supervised the operation of the telegraph office.

Radio Communications for the party were handled by the regular facilities of the WILLIAMSBURG (duplex radio teletype). Four supervised telephone circuits between Key West and Washington were employed for the use of the Presidential party. All telephone calls for the President and members of his party were channeled through the Little White House switchboard, which was set up in Bldg. #97 and manned by members of the White House communications staff. A direct telegraph wire, from Bldg. #97 at Key West to the White House in Washington was also employed. Because of the heavy traffic load handled during the 1950 visit, the telephone switchboard had been increased from a one-position to a two-position board. The toll circuits between Key West and the White House were in use a total of 5735 minutes on official business during the March 1951 visit.

Frequent air mail service was maintained between the White House and Key West. Naval aircraft and naval officer couriers were employed in this service.

An advance party consisting of Messrs. G. A. Behn, John T. Sherwood, Paul B. Doster, Morgan L. Gies, D. B. Flohr, and John A. Marshall of the Secret Service; Major G. J. McNally, USA, Captain H. E. Dudley, USA, Mr. R. A. McMullin and Master Sergeants H. E. Wolff, B. Putterman and W. H. Brown of the White House communications staff; Chief Photographer's Mate Paul Begley, USN; and Chief Yeoman Charles J. Langelo, USN, had been sent to Key West to assist the Commander Naval Base with preparations for the President's visit.

A Navy R4DZ type aircraft (#17289), Lt. Comdr. Fred S. Card, Jr., USN, pilot, was sent to Key West on February 28th, for use of the President and members of his party during the period of the stay at Key West.

Strict security was observed throughout the period of the visit. In addition to an increased Secret Service detail about the Little White House, an armed guard was maintained around the house by Marine Corps personnel, and a continuous watch was kept at the beach used by the President and also at adjacent Fort Taylor.

On all of his walks the President was accompanied by an increased number of Secret Service agents, and during his passages between Boca Chica and Key West all vehicular traffic was stopped and no parking was permitted within one block of the various thoroughfares over which the President traveled. No general visiting was permitted within the Naval Station, and a special pass, signed by the Naval Base security officer and countersigned by a representative of the Secret Service, was required for one to be permitted to enter or leave the grounds of the Little White House.

Three Lincoln sedans, one Mercury sedan and four Ford sedans were sent to Key West by Mr. Cecil Holland, President of the All Miami Motors Co., and placed at the disposal of the President's party during the period of the visit. The Lincoln and Mercury 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 detail. The White House automobiles (Lincoln convertibles) were sent down from Washington, one of which was used by the President and the other by the Secret Service as a follow-up car.

Through the courtesy of Mr. John L. Morris, Vice President of the National Air Lines, New York, Washington and Baltimore newspapers were delivered daily at the Little White House, usually in time to be read at the breakfast table.

A clerical force under the supervision of Lt. Comdr. W. M. Rigdon and consisting of Chief Yeoman C. J. Langello, Mr. J. Romagna and Yeoman 2/c E. Kesselman handled the secretarial work for the President and members of his party. Because of the extremely heavy workload, Mr. E. L. Cuckenberg was brought down from Washington on March 16 to augment this force. Chief Yeoman J. C. Petty, USN (USS WILLIAMSBURG) was also called in from time to time to assist.

Saturday, March 3

The President arose at his usual early hour but remained in his room until 7:35 AM while working on official papers. He observed this routine daily while at Key West and it enabled him to clear up a bulging brief case he had brought down from Washington.

The President came downstairs at 7:35 AM and, at 7:40 AM, he left the Little White House for a walk about the Naval Station. He was accompanied by three Secret Service agents. He returned to the house at 8:00 AM and sat down to breakfast with Admiral Leahy.

The President worked at his desk in the living room from 8:30 AM to 10 AM.

At 10:05 AM, the President, Mr. Short, General Vaughan, General Landry, Colonel Mara and Mr. Perlmeter left the Little White House and walked to Truman

Beach at the southeastern side of the Naval Station. On the way to the beach the President noticed a little boy rubbing his eyes as if he were crying. He stopped to enquire what the trouble was and found that it was only the strong glare of the sun bothering him. The President talked with the boy, four year old Edward Slayton, and his father, Lieut. T. E. Slayton, USN, a few minutes before continuing to the beach. Captain Adell accompanied the President to the beach, paid his respects and then left to return to his office. He followed this same procedure each time the President visited the beach. At the beach all hands changed to swim suits and spread themselves in the warm sun. Later, the President, General Vaughan, General Landry and Mr. Perlmeter went swimming in the surf. Admiral Leahy motored down to the beach later and joined the party.

Sides were chosen and a volleyball match was organized. The team comprised of General Vaughan, General Landry, Colonel Mara, Lt. Comdr. Roberts, Mr. Balge and Mr. Taylor divided two games with a team made up of Commander Warden, Lt. Comdr. Rigdon, Mr. Nicholson, Mr. Behn, Captain Miller, Mr. Jamieson and Mr. Fugler.

The President, Admiral Leahy, General Vaughan and Colonel Mara left the beach at 11:45 AM and motored back to the Little White House. The other guests remained for more sun and returned singly.

Mr. Short met with members of the press at noon in the press room at Bldg. #128. He saw them once daily thereafter, alternating the hour – noon one day and 4:00 PM the next day.

Lunch was served at 1:00 PM. There were no guests. After lunch the President went to his quarters where he rested until 4:00 PM.

Admiral Dennison and General Landry left the Little White House at 2:00 PM and motored to the Key West Golf Club where they spent the afternoon playing golf with and as guests of Captain Adell and Commander R. Goodman, Medical Officer of the Naval Station.

At 2:05 PM, General Vaughan, Colonel Mara, Major McNally, Captain Miller and Mr. McMullin embarked in the naval station motor boat "BIG WHEEL" (former Navy crash boat) and left for the fishing grounds off Key West. They returned at 5:30 PM, with a catch of one medium sized barracuda.

At 2:40 PM, Mr. Connelly left the Little White House and motored to Boca Chica. At Boca Chica he embarked in Mr. Poncet Davis' Beachcraft and departed for Miami, where he spent the weekend visiting with friends.

The President came downstairs at 4:00 PM and went out in the south garden where he spent two hours reading and chatting with members of his party.

At 6:00 PM, the President talked by telephone with Mrs. Truman and Miss Truman. A three-way conference hookup was used. Mrs. Truman was at the Blair House and Miss Truman in New York City at the time.

Dinner was served at 7:00 PM. There were no guests.

Following dinner, the motion picture "The Outriders" was shown at the Little White House. The President did not attend. He remained on the south porch, visiting with members of his party, until midnight when he retired to his quarters for the night.

Sunday, 4 March

The President arose at 6:30 AM but remained in his quarters until 7:25 AM and at 7:30 AM left the Little White House for a 15-minute walk about the Naval Station. He was accompanied by three Secret Service agents. On his return to the house he sat on the south porch and read the morning newspapers. He and Admiral Leahy sat down to breakfast at 8:00 AM, to be joined later by Mr. Hassett.

At 8:00 AM, Emil Kesselman (Yeoman second class, USNR, attached to the Surface Anti-Submarine Development Squadron, Key West) reported to the Naval Aide for temporary duty. He was assigned to assist Mr. Hassett and Mr. Short.

At 8:30 AM, the President moved out to the west garden where he spent the next half hour reading.

Mr. Hassett and Captain MacDonald left the Little White House at 8:50 AM and motored to the Naval Station Memorial Chapel, where they attended religious services.

At 10:00 AM, the President, Captain Adell, General Vaughan, Colonel Mara and Mr. Perlmeter left the Little White House and walked to Truman Beach. Admiral Leahy, Mr. Hassett, Mr. Short, General Landry and Mr. Elsey came down later and joined the President.

The President, Mr. Short, General Vaughan, Colonel Mara and Mr. Perlmeter enjoyed a most refreshing swim.

At volleyball, team "A" (Colonel Mara, Mr. Flohr, Captain Christensen, Lt. Comdr. Rigdon and Mr. Behn) took two straight games from team "B" (General Vaughan, Commander Warden, Captain Miller, Mr. Perlmeter and Mr. O'Malley).

The President, Admiral Leahy, General Vaughan and Colonel Mara left the beach at 11:50 AM and motored back to the Little White House.

Lunch was served at 1:45 PM. There were no guests. After lunch, the President went to his quarters where he rested until 4:00 PM.

At 6:00 PM the President and all members of his party assembled in the living room of the Little White House where they listened to the radio broadcast of Tallulah Bankhead's "Big Show." Miss Margaret Truman appeared on the show as a guest artist. Through courtesy of the National Broadcasting Company the program was piped by special wire from Miami directly into the Little White House and the reception was perfect. The group listened with great enjoyment to the entire program, which lasted until 7:30 PM.

Dinner was served at 7:45 PM. Captain Adell was a guest of the mess. After dinner, the President moved to the south porch where he visited with Captain Adell and members of his party. Captain Adell took his leave at 10:30 PM.

At 8:45 PM, the motion picture "Born Yesterday" was shown. The President did not attend.

The President retired to his quarters at 11:45 PM.

Monday, 5 March

The President came downstairs at 7:20 AM. He had been up since his usual early hour, but remained in his quarters while working on official papers. At 7:30 AM, he and Mr. Short left the Little White House for a walk that took them out into the city of Key West. They were accompanied by a detail of Secret Service agents. The President and Mr. Short returned to the house at 7:50 AM and, at 7:55 AM, they sat down to breakfast with Admiral Leahy.

After breakfast, the President went to the living room where he spent the next hour listening to phonograph recordings made by Miss Truman.

At 9:55 AM, the President, Captain Adell, General Vaughan, Admiral Dennison and Mr. Perlmeier left the Little White House and walked to the beach. Admiral Leahy, Mr. Hassett, Mr. Short and Mr. Elsey went boating in the rubber raft.

At volleyball the team comprised of General Vaughan, Mr. O'Malley, Mr. Jamieson, Mr. Nicholson, Mr. Flohr, Mr. Rowley and Colonel Mara divided two games with a team made up of Mr. Behn, Mr. Taylor, General Landry, Commander Warden, Mr. Short, Captain Miller and Mr. Champion.

At 11:00 AM, while at the beach, the President talked by telephone with the Vice President, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Senator E. W. McFarland (Senate Majority Leader) and Congressman John W. McCormack (House Majority Leader). A 5-way conference hook-up was employed and matters usually taken up at the President's weekly conference with these Congressional leaders were discussed.

While the President was at the beach, Mrs. Adell (wife of Captain Adell), Mrs. O. A. Smith (wife of Captain Smith) and Mrs. W. T. Nelson (wife of Captain Nelson) replenished and rearranged the floral decorations at the Little White House. This same group of ladies came in twice weekly during the visit and, thanks to them, the house was always beautifully decorated.

The President and all members of the beach party, except Mr. Hassett and Mr. Elsey, left the beach at 11:45 AM, and motored back to the Little White House.

General Landry left the Little White House by motor at noon for Boca Chica, where he enplaned for Miami.

Lunch was served at 1:00 PM. There were no guests. After lunch the President went to his quarters where he rested until 4:00 PM.

Mr. Connelly rejoined the party at 3:45 PM. He returned from Miami via Mr. Poncet Davis' private plane.

Lieut. W. Q. Damon, USN (courier) arrived at the Little White House at 5:45 PM, with four sacks of official mail. Mr. J. G. Feeney, Mr. R. E. Neustadt and Mr. Philleo Nash, all of the White House staff, came down from Washington via the same aircraft as Lieut. Damon, and joined the President's party. Mr. Feeney, Mr. Neustadt and Mr. Nash were billeted at Quarters "L" and with their arrival a mess was established at Quarters "L." Lieut. T. J. Beare, USN, reported for duty as co-pilot of Navy R4DZ 17289, as relief for Lieut. Casey.

Dinner was served at 1900. There were no guests.

Motion pictures were shown at the Little White House, commencing at 8:00 PM. The feature picture was "Halls of Montezuma." The short subject "Queens of the Seas" was also screened. The President did not attend. He spent the evening out on the south porch, visiting with others of the party.

At 11:45 PM, the President went to his quarters. Before retiring, he signed mail that had been brought down from Washington by Lieut. Damon.

Tuesday, 6 March

The President came downstairs at 7:30 AM. He left the Little White House at 7:35 AM, accompanied by three secret service agents, and went for a walk about the Naval Station. The President returned to the house at 7:55 AM and at 8:00 AM joined Admiral Leahy at breakfast.

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

Lieut. Damon left the Little White House at 9:10 AM with two sacks of official mail for return to the White House. He motored to Boca Chica, where he enplaned for Washington, D. C. Lieut. Casey returned to Washington via the same aircraft.

At 9:50 AM, the President, Captain Adell, General Vaughan, Colonel Mara, Mr. Elsey, Mr. Nash and Mr. Neustadt left the Little White House and walked to the beach. General Landry returned from Miami this forenoon and then went down to the beach and joined the group there.

The President, General Vaughan and Colonel Mara enjoyed a most refreshing swim – the water temperature was 75 degrees. Mr. Elsey spent his time boating.

In the day's volleyball match, team "A" (Mr. Behn, Mr. Flohr, Mr. Perlmeter, Mr. Fugler, Lt. Comdr. Rigdon, Colonel Mara and General Vaughan) divided two games with team "B" (Captain Miller, Mr. Nicholson, Commander Warden, Mr. Campion, General Landry, Mr. Balge and Mr. Neustadt).

The President, General Vaughan, Mr. Nash and Colonel Mara left the beach at 11:05 AM and motored back to the Little White House.

The Honorable Charles E. Wilson, Director of Defense Mobilization, arrived at the Little White House at 11:30 AM to confer with the President. Mr. Wilson came from Fort Lauderdale to Boca Chica in an Air Force C-47. Admiral Dennison met him at Boca Chica and escorted him to the Little White House.

After an exchange of greetings at the house, the President and Mr. Wilson moved out to the north garden, where they sat for more than an hour while they discussed official business.

Lunch was served at 1:00 PM. Mr. Wilson was a guest of the President.

Immediately after lunch (at 1:55 PM) Mr. Wilson left by motor for Boca Chica, where he enplaned for Washington, D. C. Admiral Dennison accompanied him to Boca Chica. Enroute to Boca Chica, Mr. Wilson stopped at the press room (Bldg. #128), and talked briefly with members of the press.

At 2:00 PM the President retired to his quarters where he rested until 3:45 PM.

A party comprised of Mr. Connelly, Mr. Feeney, Colonel Mara, Captain Miller and Captain Dudley embarked in the 'BIG WHEEL' and departed from the Naval Station at 2:10 PM for a bit of deep sea fishing off Key West. They returned to the Little White House at 6:00 PM. Mr. Feeney reported a catch of three dolphin and one bonita; Captain Dudley, three dolphin, and Captain Miller two dolphin.

Admiral Dennison, General Landry, Mr. Elsey, Mr. Short, Mr. Perlmeter and Mr. Nash left the Little White House at 5:40 PM and motored to the Commissioned Officers Club at Fort Taylor, where they attended a cocktail party given by the members of the club.

At 6:00 PM the President talked by telephone with Mrs. Truman and Miss Truman. Mrs. Truman was at Blair House and Miss Truman was in New York City at the time.

General Vaughan attended the dinner given this evening by the Key West Chapter 283, National Sojourners, at the First Presbyterian Church, Key West.

Dinner was served at the Little White House at 7:30 PM. Mr. Connelly, General Vaughan, Admiral Dennison and General Landry dined out.

At 8:30 PM, the President went to his quarters where he spent the remainder of the evening.

After dinner, the motion picture "The Magnificent Yankee" was screened at the Little White House.

Wednesday, 7 March

Captain Miller left the Little White House at 7:30 AM, to return to Washington. He motored to Boca Chica, from where he was ferried (Navy R4DZ 17289) to Miami; from Miami he continued on to Washington via National Airlines.

The President came downstairs at 7:35 AM. He sat on the south porch until 7:45 AM, talking with Admiral Leahy. He left the Little White House at 7:45 AM for a walk which took him out the Greene Street gate, up Greene Street to Whitehead Street, and back to the Naval Station via the Marine Barracks gate. He was accompanied by three Secret Service agents. The President returned to the house at 8:00 AM and at 8:05 AM sat down to breakfast with Admiral Leahy and Mr. Short.

General Vaughan left the Little White House by motor at 9:25 AM for Boca Chica. At Boca Chica he boarded the private plane of Mr. Harold Keats and departed for Fort Lauderdale where they spent the night.

The President, Captain Adell, General Landry, Mr. Feeney, Mr. Nash, Mr. Perlmeter, Mr. Neustadt and Colonel Mara left the Little White House at 9:55 AM and walked to the beach. Admiral Dennison, Mr. Elsey, Mr. Short and Admiral Leahy came down later and joined the President. The President, Mr. Nash, Mr. Short, Mr. Perlmeter and Colonel Mara went swimming. The water was very smooth and invigorating.

At volleyball, team "A" (Mr. Short, Mr. Roberts, Mr. Behn, Mr. Flohr, Mr. Gies) took two straight games from team "B" (Commander Warden, Lt. Comdr. Rigdon, Mr. Hare, Colonel Mara, General Landry, and Mr. Mileski).

The President, Admiral Leahy and Colonel Mara left the beach at 11:45 AM and motored back to the Little White House. Other members of the party came along later.

Lunch was served at 1:00 PM. There were no guests.

The President retired to his quarters at 1:45 PM where he rested until 3:30 PM.

General Landry and Captain Adell left the Little White House at 2:00 PM and motored to the Key West Golf Club where they spent the afternoon.

Mr. Short, Mr. Feeney, Captain MacDonald and Mr. Nash embarked in the "BIG WHEEL" at 2:15 PM and departed for the fishing grounds off Key West.

Mr. John R. Steelman, the Assistant to the President, arrived at the Little White House at 3:30 PM and joined the President's party. He came to Miami from New York by National Air Lines and was ferried over from Miami in the Navy R4DZ.

The President, Admiral Dennison, Mr. Connelly and Mr. Perlmeter left the Little White House at 5:50 PM and walked over to the north quay where they met Mr. Short and his fishing party on their return to Key West at 5:55 PM. Not a single catch was reported.

The President then returned to the Little White House from where he talked by telephone with Mrs. Truman and Miss Truman. Mrs. Truman was at Blair House; Miss Truman in New York at the time.

Dinner was served at 7:00 PM. There were no guests. Immediately following dinner, the motion picture "Kim" was shown in the living room of the Little White House. The President and all members of the party attended.

The President went to his quarters at midnight where he remained for the night.

Thursday, 8 March

General Landry, Mr. Feeney, Mr. Nash and Captain MacDonald embarked in the 'BIG WHEEL' and left the Naval Station at 7:10 AM for the fishing grounds off Key West.

The President came downstairs at 7:30 AM. He sat on the south porch until 7:40 AM, reading the morning newspaper, and then left the house for a walk about the Naval

Station. On the walk he was accompanied by four Secret Service men. He returned to the house at 7:55 AM and, at 8:00 AM, sat down to breakfast with Admiral Leahy and Mr. Steelman.

The President worked at his desk in the living room from 9:00 to 9:40 AM. At 9:30 AM the photographers came in and made pictures of the President dictating to Kesselman, Yeoman Second Class.

At 9:55 AM the President, Captain Adell, Colonel Mara, Mr. Short, Mr. Elsey and Mr. Neustadt left the Little White House and walked to the beach; Admiral Leahy and Mr. Perlmeter came down later and joined the President.

The President, Mr. Short, Mr. Neustadt and Mr. Perlmeter went swimming. Mr. Elsey preferred boating.

At volleyball – team “A” (Mr. Short, Mr. Behn, Lt. Comdr. Roberts, Mr. Neustadt, Mr. Scouten, Mr. Lapham) took two out of three games from team “B” (Mr. Nicholson, Mr. Flohr, Mr. Rowley, Colonel Mara, Lt. Comdr. Rigdon and Commander Warden).

Mr. Steelman left the Little White House by motor at 10:30 AM for Boca Chica, where he enplaned for Miami to spend the day.

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

General Landry and his fishing party returned to Key West at 12:30 PM with total catch of three: Mr. Feeney, one barracuda; Mr. Nash, one mackerel; and Captain MacDonald, one mackerel.

A picnic lunch was served in the north garden at 1:15 PM for the combined “A-B” and “L” groups. There were no guests.

At 2:00 PM the President retired to his quarters where he rested until 4:00 PM.

General Vaughan returned from Fort Lauderdale at 2:30 PM and rejoined the President’s party.

Mr. Elsey and Mr. Neustadt left the Little White House at 3:20 PM and paid a visit to the submarine CLAMAGORE (SS343) tied up at a pier at the naval station.

The President went out into the west garden at 4:10 PM where he sat and read until 5:30 PM.

The Honorable W. Averell Harriman, Special Assistant to the President, arrived at the Little White House at 5:40 PM and joined the President's party. He came from Washington to Miami via National Air Lines and was brought off to Key West in the Navy R4DZ. Mr. Steelman returned from Miami via this same aircraft.

Brigadier General Wallace H. Graham (MC) USAFR, the President's personal physician, arrived at the Little White House at 6:15 PM and joined the President's party. He came down from Washington via today's mail plane.

At 6:20 PM Lieut. A. C. Dragee, USN (courier) arrived at the Little White House from Washington with four sacks of White House mail which he delivered to Lt. Comdr. Rigdon.

Dinner was served at 7:00 PM. There were no guests. Following dinner, the motion picture "Cyrano de Bergerac" was screened at the Little White House. The President and all members of the party present attended.

The President went to his quarters at 12:15 AM. Before retiring, he signed the mail that arrived this afternoon.

Friday, 9 March

Mr. Short, Mr. Feeney, Mr. Nash, Commander Warden and Mr. Prettyman embarked in the "BIG WHEEL" at 7:00 AM and departed for the fishing grounds off Key West.

The President came downstairs at 7:30 AM. He left the Little White House at 7:40 AM for a walk about the Naval Station, accompanied by three Secret Service Agents. He returned to the house at 8:05 AM and, at 8:10 AM, sat down to breakfast with Admiral Leahy and Mr. Hassett. General Landry left the house at 8:15 AM for the Key West Golf Club, where he spent the forenoon.

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

Lieut. A. C. Dragge left the house at 9:30 AM with three sacks of White House mail for return to the White House.

The President, Captain Adell, Mr. Harriman, Colonel Mara, Mr. Perlmeter, General Graham, and Mr. Elsey left the Little White House at 10:00 AM and walked to the beach. General Vaughan, Admiral Leahy, Mr. Hassett, Mr. Steelman, Mr. Short, Mr. Nash and Mr. Feeney came down later.

General Graham started immediately on a hunt for seashells but soon found that the new sand that had been put on the beach since our last visit had covered up all shells.

The President, Mr. Perlmeter, General Vaughan and Colonel Mara went swimming. The temperature of the water was 75 degrees. Mr. Elsey took charge of the rubber raft and went boating.

At volleyball, team "A" (Mr. Lapham, Lt. Comdr. Rigdon, Mr. Flohr, Lt Comdr. Roberts, General Vaughan, Colonel Mara and Mr. Behn) took two straight games from team "B" (Mr. Nicholson, Mr. Harriman, Mr. Perlmeter, Admiral Dennison, Mr. McCann, Mr. Mileski and Mr. Gies).

Mr. Short and his fishing party returned to the Little White House at 11:05 AM, bringing with them a total catch of 19 fish. Catch: Mr. Feeney, three mackerel and two barracuda; Mr. Short, three barracuda; Commander Warden, two mackerel and two barracuda; Mr. Nash, one mackerel (24 lbs.) and two barracuda; Mr. Prettyman, three barracuda (one a 26 pounder) and one mackerel.

The President, Admiral Leahy, Mr. Harriman and General Vaughan left the beach at 11:55 AM and motored back to the Little White House.

Lunch was served at 1:00 PM. There were no guests. After lunch, the President retired to his quarters, where he rested until 4:00 PM.

Mr. Hassett, Mr. Feeney, Mr. Nash and Colonel Mara embarked in the "BIG WHEEL" at 2:00 PM and left for sea on a fishing trip. They returned at 5:30 PM with no fish.

General Landry left the Little White House at 6:45 PM and motored to Boca Chica. At Boca Chica he enplaned for Miami where he spent the weekend with friends.

At 7:20 PM the President talked with Mrs. Truman and Miss Truman by telephone. Mrs. Truman was at Blair House and Miss Truman in St. Louis, Missouri, at the time.

Dinner was served at 7:40 PM. There were no guests. Admiral Dennison dined out.

The motion picture "All About Eve" was shown in the living room of the Little White House, commencing at 8:40 PM. The President did not attend. He spent the evening about the house, visiting with others in the party.

Mr. E. M. Fauver arrived in Key West today and joined the communications staff.

The President retired to his quarters at midnight.

Saturday, 10 March

Mr. Feeney and Colonel Mara embarked in the 'BIG WHEEL' at 7:10 PM and departed for the fishing grounds off Key West.

The President came downstairs at 7:00 AM. He did not go for a walk this morning. He chatted with Admiral Leahy until 8:00 AM when he, Admiral Leahy, Mr. Steelman and Mr. Hassett went in to have their breakfast.

The President, Captain Adell, Mr. Harriman, General Vaughan, General Graham left the Little White House at 9:50 AM and walked to the beach. Mr. Short, Mr. Perlmeter, Mr. Neustadt, Mr. Steelman and Admiral Leahy came down later and joined the party. The President, General Vaughan, Mr. Harriman, Mr. Short, Mr. Perlmeter and Mr. Neustadt went swimming – the temperature of the water was 76 degrees.

At volleyball: Team "A" (Mr. Perlmeter, Lt. Comdr. Roberts, Commander Warden, Mr. Gies, Mr. Lapham, Mr. Nicholson and Mr. Scouten) took two out of three games from team "B" (Mr. Short, General Vaughan, Lt. Comdr. Rigdon, Mr. Flohr, Mr. Lemons and Mr. Harriman).

Honorable Stanley Woodward, American Ambassador to Canada, arrived at the Little White House at 11:15 AM and joined the President's party. He was ferried over from Miami in the Navy R4DZ.

The President, Admiral Leahy, Mr. Harriman and General Vaughan left the beach at 11:50 AM and motored back to the Little White House.

The fishing party returned to the Little White House at 12:15 PM. Mr. Feeney brought in one mackerel and one barracuda; Colonel Mara, one mackerel.

A picnic lunch was served in the north garden at 1:00 PM. The guests at Quarters "L" joined for lunch.

After lunch, the President retired to his quarters where he rested until 3:45 PM.

From 4:00 to 5:00 PM, the President worked at his desk in the living room, during which time he signed official mail. This mail included HR 1001. (An Act to authorize the construction of modern naval vessels and for other purposes – naval construction and conversion bill).

Honorable Charles S. Murphy, Special Counsel to the President, arrived at the Little White House at 5:35 PM and joined the President's party. He came down from Washington via the mail plane. Messrs. R. R. Redmond and W. E. Hepner, of the White House staff, and W. F. Shields (Secret Service) arrived via the same plane.

Lieut. W. Q. Damon, USN (courier) arrived from Washington and delivered four sacks of official mail to Lt. Comdr. Rigdon at 5:40 PM.

At 6:00 PM the President talked by telephone with Mrs. Truman and Miss Truman. Mrs. Truman was at the Blair House and Miss Truman in St. Louis.

Dinner was served at 7:00 PM. There were no guests. Mr. Short dined out.

During the afternoon Mr. Elsey shifted to Quarters "L" to make room at Quarters "A" and "B" for Mr. Murphy.

After dinner the motion picture "USS TEAKETTLE" was screened at the Little White House. The President did not attend. He spent the evening on the south porch visiting with members of his party.

The President went to his quarters at 11:30 PM. Before retiring he signed official mail that had been brought down by Lieut. Damon.

Sunday, 11 March

The President came downstairs at 7:50 AM. He did not go for a walk this morning. At 8:05 AM, he sat down to breakfast with Admiral Leahy, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Hassett, Mr. Woodward, Mr. Harriman, Admiral Dennison and Mr. Elsey.

The President and Mr. Murphy met in the living room and conferred from 8:30 AM until 10:00 AM.

Mr. Hassett and Captain MacDonald left the Little White House at 8:50 AM and motored to the Naval Station Memorial Chapel where they attended religious services. Mr. Connelly attended religious services in Key West.

Lieut. Damon left the Little White House at 9:50 AM with two sacks of official mail for return to Washington.

Admiral Dennison and Mr. Feeney left the Little White House by motor at 10:10 AM for Boca Chica. At Boca Chica they enplaned for Miami where they spent the day.

The President, Admiral Leahy, Mr. Harriman, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Short, Mr. Woodward and Lt. Comdr. Roberts left the Little White House at 10:45 AM and motored to the First Baptist Church, Key West, where they attended religious services conducted by the Reverend George McNeil Ray. On entering the church, the President signed the visitors' register. He then took a seat in the same pew that he occupied on a previous visit to this church. After the services, the President congratulated Rev. Ray on his fine sermon. The party then left the church and returned to the Little White House.

The President, Mr. Harriman, Mr. Steelman, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Hassett, Mr. Short, General Vaughan, Mr. Woodward, Mr. Perlmeter, Mr. Nash and Colonel Mara left the Little White House at 12:05 PM and motored to the beach.

The President, Mr. Harriman, General Vaughan, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Short, Mr. Perlmeter and Mr. Steelman went swimming. The temperature of the water was 76 degrees.

At volleyball: Team "A" (General Vaughan, Mr. Scouten, Mr. Rowley, Mr. Hare, Colonel Mara, Mr. Flohr and Mr. Behn) divided honors (one game each) with Team "B" (Commander Warden, Lt. Comdr. Roberts, Mr. Lapham, Mr. Woodward, Mr. Shields, Mr. Short and Mr. Perlmeter). Mr. Short broke a second pair of glasses while playing volleyball. He broke the first pair the previous day also while engaged in a game of volleyball.

The President and all members of the party left the beach at 1:35 PM and motored back to the Little White House.

Lunch was served at 2:00 PM. There were no guests.

After lunch, the President moved to his quarters where he rested until 4:30 PM.

General Landry returned from Miami at 5:30 PM. Admiral Dennison and Mr. Feeney returned from Miami at 6:30 PM.

At 7:00 PM the President talked by telephone with Mrs. Truman (at Blair House) and Miss Truman (in St. Louis).

Dinner was served at 7:30 PM. There were no guests. Mr. Connelly, Admiral Dennison and Mr. Feeney dined out.

Following dinner, the motion picture "Go for Broke" was shown at the Little White House. The President and all members of the party present attended.

The President retired to his quarters at 12:45 AM.

Monday, 12 March

The President came downstairs at 7:45 AM. A few minutes later he left the Little White House and took a walk about the Naval Station. He was accompanied by Secret Service agents McCann, Scouten, Knight and Lemons. He returned to the house at 8:10 AM and sat down to breakfast with Admiral Leahy, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Harriman and General Graham.

Mr. Hassett, Colonel Williams, Lt. Colonel Smith, Commander Warden and Arthur Prettyman embarked in a naval station motor boat (picket boat) at 8:15 AM and departed for the fishing grounds off Key West. The "BIG WHEEL" was laid up for repairs and was not available.

At 8:30 AM General Graham, Captain MacDonald, Lt. Comdr. Roberts, Mr. Neustadt, Mr. Nash and Mr. Redmond left the Little White House and motored to Boca Chica. At Boca Chica they enplaned for Havana where they spent the day shopping and sightseeing. The President saw them off at the Little White House.

Speaking from his quarters, at 11:00 AM, the President talked by telephone with the Vice President, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Congressman McCormack, all of whom were in Washington. A 4-way conference hookup was used.

At 11:20 the President, Captain Adell, Mr. Harriman, Mr. Short, General Vaughan, Mr. Woodward, General Landry, Mr. Perlmeter, Colonel Mara and Mr. Feeney left the Little White House and walked to the beach. Admiral Leahy, Mr. Steelman and Mr. Murphy came down later and joined them.

The surf was rough for the first time but not so rough as to keep the President, Mr. Harriman, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Woodward, Mr. Feeney, Mr. Short and Mr. Perlmeter from going swimming.

At volleyball: Team "A" (General Vaughan, General Landry, Mr. Woodward, Mr. Nicholson, Mr. Shields and Mr. Flohr) trounced Team "B" (Mr. Rowley, Mr. Behn, Mr. Lapham, Colonel Mara, Mr. Scouten and Mr. McCann), two out of three games.

The President and all members of the party left the beach at 12:50 PM and motored back to the Little White House.

Lunch was served at 1:30 PM. There were no guests.

After lunch the President retired to his quarters where he rested until 4:00 PM.

Mr. Hassett's fishing party returned at 3:20 PM with total catch of twelve. Mr. Hassett had two grouper and two mackerel; Colonel Williams, one mackerel; Lt. Colonel Smith, three grouper (one a 26-pounder) and one mackerel; Commander Warden, one mackerel; and Arthur Prettyman, one barracuda and one grouper.

General Graham and his group returned from Havana at 6:50 PM. The President and others of the party greeted him with the news of his selection for promotion to Major General. The President had approved the report of the selection board earlier in the afternoon.

Dinner was served at 7:00 PM. There were no guests.

Following dinner the motion picture "Rawhide" was shown at the Little White House. The President did not attend. He spent the evening about the house visiting with other members of the party.

Miss Truman telephoned the President at 11:15 PM to report her safe arrival in New York.

Tuesday, 13 March

A thunderstorm, accompanied by winds of approximately 40 miles per hour, struck Key West about 4:00 AM. It was cloudy and gusty with intermittent rain all day.

The President came downstairs at 7:30 AM. It was drizzling rain at the time, so he did not go for his usual morning walk.

The President sat down to breakfast at 7:50 AM together with Mr. Hassett, Admiral Leahy, Mr. Harriman, Mr. Hassett and Mr. Feeney.

It was quite cool at the usual beach hour, so the President called off his trip to the beach. He remained indoors and spent the afternoon working on official papers and listening to phonograph recordings made by Miss Truman.

Lunch was served at 1:00 PM. There were no guests. After lunch the President retired to his quarters where he rested until 4:30 PM.

At 4:45 PM all hands assembled in the living room where a group picture was made by the party photographer.

The President talked by telephone with Mrs. Truman and Miss Truman at 6:00 PM. Mrs. Truman was at the Blair House and Miss Truman in New York City.

Dinner was served at 7:00 PM. There were no guests.

Lieut. W. Q. Damon, USN (courier) arrived from Washington at 7:30 PM with three sacks of official mail which he delivered to Lt. Comdr. Rigdon. Mr. D. E. Bell, Mr. D. W. Lloyd, Mr. R. P. Andrews, Mr. W. J. Hopkins and Mr. R. W. Tubby, all of the White House staff, arrived at the same time and joined the President's party. They came down from Washington via today's mail plane.

Following dinner, the motion picture "Mr. Music" was screened at the Little White House. The President did not attend. He spent the evening about the house. The President went to his quarters at 12:30 AM. Before retiring he signed mail which was delivered Tuesday evening.

Wednesday, 14 March

The President came downstairs at 7:20 AM and at 7:35 AM left the house for a walk about the Naval Station. He was accompanied by Secret Service agents Doster, Boggs, Hare and Knight. He returned to the Little White House at 7:45 AM and went in to breakfast with Admiral Leahy and Mr. Harriman.

Mr. J. Giordano arrived Key West this morning, via National Air Lines, and joined the White House staff. Mr. Giordano brought down from Washington a special dispatch of White House mail. Mr. R. A. McMullin and Major G. J. McNally (Signal Corps) USA, left Key West this forenoon via National Air Lines, to return to Washington.

At 9:00 AM, Mr. Harriman left the Little White House by auto for Boca Chica where he enplaned for Hobe Sound, Florida. Colonel Mara, Mr. Nash, Mr. Neustadt and Mr. Perlmeter left at 9:20 AM and motored to Boca Chica where they enplaned in the mail plane to return to Washington. Lieut. Damon left at the same time with three sacks of official White House mail. Mr. W. E. Hepner (White House police) also returned to Washington via today's mail plane.

The President worked at his desk from 9:30 AM to 10:00 AM, during which time he signed mail that had been brought down by Mr. Giordano. This mail was returned to the White House by special courier (J. W. Harper, Interior Controlman 1/c, USN, a member of the crew of the USS WILLIAMSBURG) who departed Key West at 3:45 PM, via National Air Lines, for Washington.

The President, Captain Adell, General Vaughan, Mr. Woodward, Admiral Dennison, General Graham, General Landry, Mr. Feeney, Mr. Bell, Mr. Andrews and Mr. Tubby left the Little White House at 10:25 AM and walked to the beach. Mr. Steelman, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Short and Mr. Lloyd joined later. (The President changed his beach schedule to this later hour to allow members of his staff more time in the forenoon to handle their urgent business). The President, Mr. Bell and Mr. Tubby took a brief dip in the surf even though the water was cold, murky and uninviting.

At volleyball, team "A" (Mr. Woodward, General Vaughan, Mr. Bell, Commander Warden, Mr. Flohr, Mr. Boggs, Lt. Comdr. Roberts) took three straight from team "B" (Mr. Nicholson, Mr. Behn, Mr. Doster, Mr. Rowley, Mr. Tubby and Mr. Shields).

The President, General Vaughan, General Graham, Mr. Woodward, Mr. Andrews and Mr. Feeney left the beach at 12:20 PM and motored back to the Little White House.

Lunch was served at 1:30 PM. There were no guests. Admiral Leahy dined out.

Mr. Niles arrived at the Little White House at 2:00 PM and joined the President's party.

After lunch the President retired to his quarters where he rested until 4:00 PM.

General Landry left the Little White House at 2:25 PM and motored to the Key West Golf Club where he spent the afternoon.

At 6:00 PM the President talked by telephone with Mrs. Truman (at Blair House) and Miss Truman (in New York City).

Dinner was served at 7:00 PM. Colonel Williams was a guest. The fact that it was his birthday anniversary was duly observed.

After dinner the motion picture "The Man Who Cheated Himself" was screened. The President did not attend. He spent the evening about the house.

Colonel Williams left the Little White House at 10:45 PM to return to his quarters.

The President retired to his quarters at midnight.

Thursday, 15 March

Mr. Woodward and General Graham embarked in a motor boat and left the naval station at 7:25 AM for the fishing grounds off Key West. The "BIG WHEEL" was temporarily out of commission while her engines were being replaced.

The President came downstairs at 7:35 AM. He left the house five minutes later and took a walk about the station. He was accompanied by Secret Service agents Doster, Kellerman, Downing. The President returned to the Little White House at 7:55 AM and, at 8:00 AM, sat down to breakfast with Admiral Leahy.

The President worked at his desk in the living room from 8:30 AM to 10:00 AM.

The President, Captain Adell, General Vaughan, Mr. Short, Mr. Feeney and Mr. Tubby left the Little White House at 10:25 AM and walked to the beach. Mr. Hopkins, Admiral Leahy, General Landry, Mr. Steelman, Mr. Andrews and Mr. Niles came down later and joined the party.

The President, General Vaughan, Mr. Tubby and Mr. Niles went swimming. The water was much warmer than yesterday.

At volleyball: Team "A" (General Vaughan, Mr. Hopkins, Mr. Short, Mr. Bell, Mr. Behn, Mr. Downing, Mr. Flohr and Mr. Shields) took two out of three games from team "B" (Mr. Rowley, Mr. Doster, Lt. Comdr. Rigdon, Mr. Kellerman, General Landry, Mr. Gies, Mr. Nicholson and Mr. Tubby).

The President, Admiral Leahy, General Vaughan and General Landry left the beach at 12:15 PM and motored back to the Little White House. Mr. Woodward and General Graham returned from their fishing trip at 12:30 PM empty handed.

Lunch was served at 1:00 PM. There were no guests. After lunch the President retired to his quarters where he rested until 3:00 PM.

At 3:00 PM the President met in the living room with all members of his party. They discussed the press conference which was scheduled for 3:30 PM.

At 3:30 PM, the President moved out to the north garden where he met with the members of the press. Newsreel and news photographs were taken before the conference. The President read two prepared statements and then for twenty minutes answered questions posed by the various correspondents. The conference was concluded at 4:00 PM, and the President returned to the Little White House.

Mr. Connelly and Mr. Feeney left the Little White House at 4:50 PM and motored to Boca Chica, where they enplaned for Miami. Mr. Connelly visited friends in Miami; Mr. Feeney continued on to Washington.

At 6:00 PM the President talked by telephone with Mrs. Truman, who was at the Blair House, and Miss Truman, who was in New York City at the time.

Mr. Edward Jacobson of Kansas City, Missouri, arrived at the Little White House at 6:10 PM and called on the President. He was the overnight guest of the President.

Dinner was served at 7:00 PM.

Commencing at 8:00 PM, the motion picture "I'll Get By" was screened at the Little White House. The President did not attend. He spent the evening about the house.

Messrs. Bell, Lloyd, Andrews, Tubby, Captain MacDonald, Colonel Williams, Lt. Colonel Smith, Lt. Comdr. Roberts, Lt. Comdr. Rigdon and Lieut. Perkins attended a banquet give at the Casa Marina Hotel this evening by the City of Key West and Monroe County for members of the press, Secret Service, and Presidential parties. "Tony" Vaccaro served as master of ceremonies but the highlight of the evening was Henry Nicholson's rendition of several Scotch ditties.

The President retired to his quarters at 12:15 AM.

Friday, 16 March

The President came downstairs at 7:30 AM. He left the house 10 minutes later on his regular morning walk. He left the Naval Station via the Greene Street gate, walked east to Duval Street, right on Fleming Street, then back to the Naval Station via the Marine Barracks gate. He returned to the Little White House at 8:00 AM and at 8:05 AM sat down to breakfast with Admiral Leahy and Mr. Jacobson.

General Landry left the Little White House at 8:30 AM and motored to the Key West Golf Club where he spent the forenoon.

The President worked at his desk in the living room from 8:30 AM to 10:00 AM.

The President, Captain Adell, Mr. Jacobson, Mr. Hopkins, Mr. Andrews, Mr. Short, General Vaughan and Mr. Tubby left the Little White House at 10:30 AM and walked to the beach. Mr. Steelman, Mr. Bell, Mr. Murphy, General Graham, Admiral Dennison and Mr. Woodward came down later and joined the party.

The President, Mr. Niles, Mr. Bell, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Short and Mr. Tubby enjoyed a refreshing swim.

At volleyball: Team "A" (Admiral Dennison, Lt. Comdr. Rigdon, Mr. Lloyd, Mr. Bell, Mr. Downing, Mr. Behn, Mr. Rowley, Lt. Comdr. Roberts) took three straight games from Team "B" (Mr. Short, Mr. Tubby, Mr. Kellerman, Commander Warden, Mr. Nicholson, General Vaughan, Mr. Hopkins, Mr. Flohr).

At 11:00 AM Mr. Hassett left the Little White House and motored to Boca Chica. At Boca Chica he enplaned for St. Petersburg, where he spent the day visiting with friends.

The President, General Vaughan, General Graham and Mr. Jacobson left the beach at 12:20 PM and motored back to the Little White House. At 1:00 PM, the Honorable Sidney S. McMath, Governor of Arkansas, called at the Little White House as a guest of General Landry. General Landry met the Governor at Boca Chica on his arrival from Havana and escorted him to the house.

Lunch was served at 1:30 PM. Governor McMath was a guest of the mess. Governor McMath left the Little White House at 2:25 PM and motored to Boca Chica, where he enplaned for Miami. He was escorted to Boca Chica by General Landry.

The President did not take his usual rest this afternoon. He spent the afternoon about the living room listening to recordings, and out on the west lawn watching General Landry and Admiral Dennison, who were practicing at golf.

Mr. Jacobson and Mr. Steelman left the Little White House at 3:10 PM by motor for Meacham Field, where they enplaned for Miami – Mr. Steelman visited friends and Mr. Jacobson continued on to Kansas City, Missouri.

Mr. Niles left the Little White House at 4:30 PM and motored to Boca Chica. At Boca Chica he enplaned for West Palm Beach, where he visited friends.

Mr. Hassett returned to the Little White House at 5:15 PM.

Mr. David H. Stowe and Rear Admiral S. W. Souers, USNR, members of the President's staff, arrived from Washington at 5:15 PM and joined the party. Chief Ship's Clerk G. B. Prophet, USN (courier) arrived at the same time, bearing four sacks of White House mail. Mr. J. M. Beary, Mr. F. M. Boring, V. P. Mroz, all of the Secret Service; and Sgt. E. F. Gasber and Mr. E. L. Cuckenberg of the White House staff arrived via the same aircraft.

At 6 PM the President talked by telephone with Mrs. Truman and Miss Truman. Mrs. Truman was a Blair House; Miss Truman was in New York City.

Dinner was served at 7:00 PM. There were no guests. Following dinner, the motion picture "Bird of Paradise" was shown at the Little White House. The President did not attend. He spent the evening about the house.

Mr. Hassett and Mr. Bell attended Henry Nicholson's St. Patrick's Day party at Fort Taylor Officers Club this evening.

The President went to his quarters at 12:15 AM. Before retiring he signed official mail which had been brought down from Washington by Mr. Prophet.

Saturday, 17 March

General Graham, Chief Boatswain's Mate R. B. Driver, Chief Commissaryman S. Goodman, and Mr. Arthur Prettyman, embarked in the "BIG WHEEL" and left Key West at 7:10 AM on a fishing trip.

The President came downstairs at 7:25 AM and, at 7:30 AM, sat down to breakfast with Mr. Hassett and Admiral Souers. He did not take a walk this morning.

General Landry left the Little White House at 8:00 AM and motored to Boca Chica. On arrival at Boca Chica he enplaned for Miami where he visited friends.

Mr. Hassett, Mr. Bell, Mr. Lloyd, Mr. Tubby, Captain MacDonald, Lt. Comdr. Rigdon, Mr. Beary, Mr. Shields and Chief Photographer's Mate Begley left the Little White House at 8:30 AM and motored to Boca Chica. At Boca Chica they embarked for a flight to Havana where they spent the day shopping and sightseeing.

Mr. Hopkins, Mr. Sherwood, Mr. Doster, Chief Ship's Clerk Prophet left the Little White House at 9:15 AM by motor for Boca Chica where they embarked in the mail plane to return to Washington. Mr. Prophet carried with him two bags of White House mail.

The President, Captain Adell, Mr. Woodward, Mr. Short, Mr. Andrews, left the Little White House at 10:20 AM and walked to the beach. Admiral Leahy, Admiral Souers, General Vaughan, Admiral Dennison and Mr. Stowe came down later and joined the party.

The President was the only swimmer this morning. He was in the water about ten minutes.

At volleyball: Team "A" (Admiral Dennison, General Vaughan, Lt. Comdr. Roberts, Mr. Nicholson, Mr. Flohr and Mr. Boggs) took two out of three games from Team "B" (Mr. Behn, Commander Warden, Mr. Woodward, Chief Yeoman Langelo, Mr. Honess and Mr. Downing).

The President and all members of the party left the beach at 12:15 AM and motored back to the Little White House.

The President went to his quarters and came downstairs shortly thereafter wearing bright green trousers – in recognition of St. Patrick's Day.

A picnic lunch was served in the north garden at 1:00 PM. Guests from Quarters "L" joined the President at lunch. After lunch, the President retired to his quarters where he rested until 4:15 PM.

At 4:30 PM the President, Admiral Dennison, Mr. Woodward, Mr. Stowe, left the Little White House and walked over to the north quay as the "BIG WHEEL" returned alongside with General Graham's fishing party. They were the proud possessors of seven nice fish, including a 46-pound amberjack which General Graham claimed.

Admiral Dennison and Mr. Woodward left the Little White House at 4:35 PM and motored to Boca Chica. At Boca Chica they enplaned for Boca Raton (Delray Beach, Florida) and West Palm Beach, respectively. Admiral Dennison visited friends and Mr. Woodward continued on to Washington.

Mr. Hassett and his sightseeing party returned from Havana at 5:15 PM.

The President talked to Mrs. Truman and Miss Truman at 6:00 PM. Mrs. Truman was at the Blair House and Miss Truman in New York City.

Dinner was served at 7:00 PM. There were no guests.

Commencing at 8:00 PM, the motion picture "Two Flags West" was screened at the Little White House. The President and all members of the party present attended. Immediately upon conclusion of the movies, the President retired to his quarters.

Sunday, 18 March

The President came downstairs at 7:40 AM and left for a walk about the Naval Station. He was accompanied by Secret Service agents Honess, Kellerman, Lemons and Boggs. He returned to the house at 7:50 AM and sat down to breakfast with Admiral Leahy, Mr. Hassett and Admiral Souers.

Mr. Hassett and Captain MacDonald left the Little White House at 8:55 AM to attend mass at the Naval Station memorial chapel.

Mrs. E. T. Rohrback, her son and daughter-in-law, called at the Little White House at 10:00 AM and visited with Admiral Leahy in the north garden until 11:00 AM.

Mr. Hassett left the Little White house at 10:45 AM on a motor trip in Miami.

The President, Captain Adell, Admiral Souers, Mr. Short, Mr. Bell, Mr. Lloyd, General Graham and Lt. Comdr. Roberts left the Little White House at 10:50 AM and motored to the Naval Station memorial chapel, where they attended divine services conducted by Lieut. Harold F. Menges, Chaplain Corps, USN. After church, the President shook hands with Chaplain Menges and thanked him for his fine service. The President and the church group then returned to the Little White House.

At noon the President, Captain Adell, Admiral Souers, Mr. Short, General Graham, Mr. Andrews, General Vaughan left the Little White House and motored to the beach. Mr. Murphy, Mr. Lloyd and Mr. Bell came down later and joined the President.

The President, Mr. Tubby, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Lloyd and Mr. Bell went swimming.

At volleyball: Team "A" (Lt. Comdr. Roberts, Lt. Comdr. Rigdon, General Vaughan, Mr. Bell, Mr. Nicholson and Mr. Boggs) took two out of the three games from Team "B" (Commander Warden, Mr. Short, Mr. Behn, Mr. Flohr, Mr. Downing and Mr. Tubby).

At 1:20 PM, while at the beach, the President talked by telephone with Mrs. Truman and Miss Truman.

The President, Admiral Souers, General Vaughan, General Graham, Mr. Stowe and Mr. Murphy left the beach at 1:35 PM and motored back to the Little White House.

Lunch was served at 2:00 PM. The Quarters "L" group lunched with the President at the Little White House. Admiral Leahy dined out.

Following lunch the President retired to his quarters where he rested until 4:50 PM. Mr. Steelman returned from Miami at 6:00 PM. General Landry returned from Miami at 6:15 PM. Admiral Dennison returned from Delray Beach at 6:20 PM.

Dinner was served at 7:15 PM. There were no guests.

After dinner the motion picture "Of Men and Music" was screened at the Little White House. The President and all members of his party present attended.

Mr. Hassett returned from Miami at 9:30 PM.

The President retired to his quarters at 12:10 AM.

Monday, 19 March

The President came downstairs at 7:10 AM. He sat on the south porch until 7:30 AM, talking with Admiral Souers, when he left the Little White House and took a walk about the Naval Station. He was accompanied by Secret Service agents Usher, Honess and Boggs. The President returned to the house at 7:55 AM and sat down to breakfast together with Admiral Leahy and Admiral Souers.

Mr. W. F. Shields (Secret Service agent) left Key West this morning, via commercial airlines, to return to Washington, D. C.

The President worked at his desk in the living room from 8:30 AM until 10:15 AM.

At 10:30 AM the President, Captain Adell, Admiral Souers, General Vaughan, Mr. Short, Mr. Tubby, Mr. Andrews and General Graham left the Little White House and walked to the beach. Mr. Steelman, Admiral Leahy, Admiral Dennison, Mr. Murphy and Mr. Lloyd went down later and joined the party.

At 11:00 AM the President talked by telephone with the Vice President, the Speaker of the House, Senator McFarland and Congressman Priest, all of whom were in Washington. A 5-way conference hook-up was used. Later, the President, Mr. Murphy, Admiral Souers, Mr. Short and Mr. Lloyd went swimming.

At volleyball: Team "A" (Admiral Dennison, Lt. Comdr. Rigdon, Mr. Short, Mr. Gies, Mr. Boggs, Mr. Behn, Mr. Flohr) took two out of three games from Team "B" (Mr. Bell, Mr. Nicholson, Commander Warden, Captain Dudley, Mr. Usher, Mr. Tubby and General Vaughan).

At 11:35 AM the Honorable W. Stuart Symington arrived at the Little White House. He was an overnight guest of the President. Mr. Symington came to Boca Chica from Hobe Sound and was met at Boca Chica by General Landry, who escorted him to the house.

The President, Admiral Leahy, General Vaughan, Admiral Souers, General Graham and Mr. Andrews left the beach at 12:10 PM and motored back to the Little White House.

Lunch was served at 1:30 PM. There were no guests. After lunch the President retired to his quarters where he rested until 3:30 PM.

At 2:40 PM, Admiral Souers left the Little White House and motored to Boca Chica. At Boca Chica he enplaned for Miami where he visited with his mother.

Mr. Symington, General Landry, Commander Goodman and Lt. Comdr. Roberts left the Little White House at 3:00 PM and motored to the Key West Golf Club where they spent the afternoon.

The President, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Bell, Mr. Lloyd met on the south porch at 3:30 PM and worked until 5:00 PM on the draft of the speech scheduled to be delivered by the President on 26 March. Following this meeting, Mr. Symington conferred with the President approximately thirty minutes.

At 6:30 PM, the President talked by telephone with Mrs. Truman and Miss Truman.

Dinner was served at 7:00 PM. There were no guests.

After dinner movies were shown in the living room of the Little White House. The President and all members of the party present attended. The documentary film "The Hungnam Story" and the feature picture "Father's Little Dividend" were screened.

The President retired to his quarters at 12:20 AM.

Tuesday, 20 March

Mr. G. A. Behn and Morgan L. Gies (both of the Secret Service) left Key West this morning to return to Washington; Mr. Behn via commercial airlines; Mr. Gies via White House automobile (Lincoln convertible).

The President came downstairs at 7:40 AM. He did not go for his usual morning walk. At 7:50 AM he went in to breakfast with Admiral Leahy, Mr. Short, Mr. Hassett

and Mr. Anthony Leviero (correspondent for the New York Times). Mr. Leviero was a guest of Mr. Short.

At 8:30 AM General Graham and Mr. Harold T. May, a personal friend, embarked in the "BIG WHEEL" and left the naval station on a fishing trip.

At 10:15 AM, the Honorable Eric Johnston, Economic Stabilization Administrator, arrived at the Little White House to confer with the President and members of his staff. Mr. Johnston came down from Washington via commercial airlines and was brought over from Miami in the Navy R4DZ. General Landry met Mr. Johnston at Boca Chica and escorted him to the Little White House.

The President, Captain Adell, Mr. Johnston, Mr. Symington, Mr. Hassett, Mr. Short, General Vaughan, General Landry, Mr. Tubby and Mr. Andrews left the Little White House at 10:30 AM and walked to the beach.

Mr. Murphy, Mr. Steelman, Mr. Stowe and Mr. Bell went down later and joined the party. The President, Mr. Symington, Mr. Johnston, Mr. Stowe and Mr. Short went in swimming.

At volleyball: Team "A" (Commander Warden, Lt. Comdr. Roberts, Mr. Tubby, Sgt. Gasber, Mr. Flohr, and Mr. Downing) took three straight from Team "B" (General Vaughan, Mr. Nicholson, Lt. Comdr. Rigdon, Mr. Boggs, Captain Dudley and Mr. Usher).

The President, Mr. Steelman, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Johnston and Mr. Stowe left the beach at 12:00 noon and motored back to the Little White House.

The President, Mr. Johnston, Mr. Steelman, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Hassett, Mr. Short and Mr. Stowe met on the northwest porch at 12:15 PM and conferred until 1:20 PM.

Lunch was served at 1:30 PM. Mr. Johnston was a guest of the President. Admirals Leahy and Dennison dined out.

Mr. Symington, Mr. Johnston and Mr. Murphy left the Little White House at 3:00 PM and motored to Boca Chica. Mr. Symington enplaned for Hobe Sound; Mr. Johnston and Mr. Murphy went to Miami, thence returned to Washington, D. C.

The President retired to his quarters at 3:15 PM where he rested until 3:45 PM.

At 4:00 PM the President, accompanied by General Vaughan, Admiral Dennison, General Graham, General Landry and Captain Adell inspected the detail of Marines who guarded the Little White House. Major Barrett had his men drawn up on the concrete court just south of the administration building.

Following the inspection of the Marines, Admiral Dennison, on behalf of the Secretary of the Navy, presented the Navy Department Safety Award to Captain Adell. This is an award for achievement in safety and was awarded to the Naval Station, Key West, for its outstanding performance during 1950 in the field of accident prevention. Nineteen-fifty was the fourth successive year the station was so recognized. Following the presentation, the President told Captain Adell and a group of his heads of departments and leading men:

“Since I have been President of the United States, one of my hobbies has been accident prevention, and improving the health conditions in the country as a whole.

“The fundamental and basic thing in the case of people who are crippled as a result of accidents is to prevent the accident from happening.

“In the automobile wreck record of this country, there have been more people killed and injured since 1915 than were killed in all the wars we ever fought, beginning with the Revolution. There were more people injured in those accidents than were injured in all the wars we ever fought. The property damage amounts to more than a billion dollars a year.

“Industrial accidents come next in order, and they have been very materially cut down, as have automobile accidents. I think we have cut down automobile accidents by more than ten thousand a year by the efforts which we have put forth, and almost have industrial accidents.

“You know, the two most dangerous places in the whole country, aside from the automobile, are the kitchen and the bathroom, so be careful when you are working in the kitchen, and be sure you are in good condition when you take a bath.”

Lieut. R. B. Chevalier, USN (courier) arrived at the Little White House from Washington and delivered three sacks of White House mail. Newsreel and still picture sequences showing the handling of the mail were made on his arrival at Boca Chica and also at the Little White House.

At 6:00 PM the President talked by telephone with Mrs. Truman and Miss Truman.

Mr. Connelly and Mr. Niles rejoined the President's party at 7:15 PM.

Dinner was served at 7:30 PM. There were no guests. Following dinner the motion picture subjects “Seven Cities of Washington” and “Grounds for Marriage” were screened. The President and all members of the party present attended. The President left the movies at 10:00 PM and went to his quarters. Before retiring he signed official mail that had been brought down by Lieut. Chevalier.

Wednesday, 21 March

Reveille was held at 6:00 AM for all hands. Breakfast was served at 6:45 AM. At 7:20 AM the President and all members of his party, except Mr. Steelman, left the Little White House and walked to pier "B" where they embarked in the USS SARSFIELD (EDD 837). Captain Adell also accompanied the President. All hands were greeted by Commander H. F. Wells, USN, the commanding officer, as they went aboard. Lt. Comdr. Roberts, Lieut. W. A. Campbell, Mr. Nicholson, Mr. Flohr, Chief Stewards Esperancilla and Pascual also were in the SARSFIELD. At 7:31 AM the SARSFIELD departed for Dry Tortugas Islands, 68 miles west of Key West. The USS COOLBAUGH (DE 217) rendezvoused with SARSFIELD outside Key West harbor and escorted. Secret Service agents O'Malley, Douglas, Marshall and Roberts and six WILLIAMSBURG stewards were embarked in the COOLBAUGH. The SARSFIELD anchored off Dry Tortugas at 11:18 AM. The President and party were transferred to the "BIG WHEEL" and put ashore at Garden Key at 11:43 AM. The President was met at the boat landing by Mr. John R. DeWeese (Superintendent of Fort Jefferson National Monument) and Mrs. DeWeese, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Santini and their three children, Mr. and Mrs. John Wilson and their three children, Mr. Douglas Ford and Mr. Anzuelo Moreno. The President shook hands with each one, including the children. The President, accompanied by members of his party and Mr. DeWeese, then made a foot tour of Fort Jefferson. A picnic lunch was served at 12:35 PM. Card tables and folding chairs were set up in the courtyard of the old fort and service was by stewards brought over from the WILLIAMSBURG. Lt. Comdr. Roberts had brought the lunch from Key West. Although rain squalls were encountered on the trip over from Key West, it was clear and sunshiny during the entire period the President was ashore at Fort Jefferson.

After lunch the President took a short walk. Before leaving Fort Jefferson the President and his entire party signed the visitors register.

At 1:31 PM the Presidential party embarked in the "BIG WHEEL" and left Fort Jefferson for the SARSFIELD. They transferred to the SARSFIELD at 1:57 PM and she departed immediately on the return trip to Key West. Once underway, the President retired to the Captain's cabin, where he rested for approximately two hours.

At 5:05 PM, as the SARSFIELD stood into port, a 21-gun salute was fired by shore battery of Naval Station, Key West. Personnel of the USS HOWARD W. GILMORE and USS WILLIAMSBURG were at "man-the-rail" stations. At 5:10 PM the SARSFIELD moored to pier B, Naval Station. The President, followed by members of his party, left the SARSFIELD at 5:20 PM and walked back to the Little White House. He was interviewed by members of the press as he left the SARSFIELD.

At 6:00 PM the President talked by telephone with Mrs. Truman and Miss Truman.

Admiral Souers returned from Miami at 6:20 PM.

Dinner was served at 7:30 PM. Captain MacDonald was a guest of the mess.

After dinner the motion picture "Under the Gun" was screened at the Little White House. The President did not attend. He spent the evening about the house visiting with others of the party.

The President retired to his quarters at 1:15 AM.

Lieut. Chevalier left the Little White House at 9:15 AM to return to Washington, D. C. He had with him three sacks of official mail for return to the White House. Messrs. Beary, Honess, Lapham, Jamison, Downing, Lemons, Taylor, Mileski, Sgts. Gasber and Brown, and Stewards Bautista, Lomibao and Lara also returned to Washington via today's mail plane.

Mr. Steelman spent the day at the Little White House working on his official mail.

Tuesday, 22 March

General Landry left the Little White House at 7:00 AM for Boca Chica where he enplaned for Miami. He returned to the Little White House at 12:15 PM.

The President came downstairs at 7:20 AM. He and Admiral Souers left the house at 7:25 AM and took a 15-minute walk about the Naval Station. They were accompanied by Secret Service agents Barry, Kellerman and Usher.

The President, Admiral Souers and Mr. Niles sat down to breakfast at 7:50 AM. The President worked at his desk in the living room from 8:30 AM to 9:45 AM.

The President, Captain Adell, Admiral Souers, General Vaughan, Mr. Stowe and Mr. Steelman left the Little White House at 10:00 AM and walked to the beach. Mr. Niles, Mr. Bell, Mr. Tubby, Mr. Lloyd and General Graham went down later and joined the party.

The President, Mr. Lloyd, Mr. Steelman, Mr. Short and Mr. Bell went swimming.

At volleyball: Team "A" (Commander Warden, Mr. Bell, Mr. Lloyd, Mr. Campion, Mr. Tubby and Mr. O'Malley took two out of three games from Team "B" (General Vaughan, Lt. Comdr. Rigdon, Mr. Rowley, Mr. Fugler and Mr. Balge).

The President, Mr. Steelman, General Vaughan and Admiral Souers left the beach at 12:00 noon and motored back to the Little White House.

A picnic lunch was served at 12:45 PM in the north garden, in which the Quarters "L" guests joined.

Party baggage was picked up while the guests were at lunch and sent on to Boca Chica for loading in the INDEPENDENCE.

At 1:25 PM, thirty minutes ahead of announced schedule, the President, all members of his party, Captain Adell and Captain Smith embarked in motor cars and left the Little White House for Boca Chica. The motorcade paused at the Caroline Street gate while honors were rendered (Marine guard, side boys) and a 21-gun salute commenced by the Naval Station saluting battery. Caroline Street, inside the Naval Station, was lined with white-clad naval personnel at "man-the-rail" stations.

The motorcade arrived at Boca Chica at 1:45 PM. All hands left their motor vehicles and, after an exchange of pleasantries and handshakes with senior officers and civic officials on hand to see the President off, the President and members of his party went aboard the INDEPENDENCE.

The INDEPENDENCE departed Boca Chica at 2:00 PM for the Washington National Airport. Embarked were: The President, Admiral Leahy, Mr. Steelman, Mr. Hassett, Mr. Connelly, Mr. Short, Admiral Souers, General Vaughan, Admiral Dennison, General Graham, General Landry, Mr. Niles, Mr. Stowe, Mr. Rowley, Mr. Nicholson, Mr. Romagna and Mr. Prettyman.

The press plane (National Air Lines DC-6) departed Boca Chica at 2:02 PM. Embarked were: Mr. Andrews, Mr. Bell, Mr. Lloyd, Mr. Tubby, Mr. Long, Lt. Comdr. Rigdon, Mr. Fauver, Mr. Colvin, Mr. Burton, Mr. Charnley, Mr. Giordano, Chief Yeoman Langello, Sergeants Putterman and Wolff, Chief Photographer's Mate Begley, Mr. Cuckenberg, Mr. Balge, Mr. Barry, Mr. Usher, Mr. Boggs, Mr. Champion, Mr. Fugler, Mr. Hare, Mr. Kellerman, Mr. Knight, Mr. McCann, Mr. Roberts, Mr. O'Malley, Mr. Scouten, Mr. Boring, Mr. Mroz, Mr. Vaccaro, Mr. Nixon, Mr. Barcella, Mr. Leviero, Mr. Fox, Mr. Flythe, and Mr. Norman, Mr. Andrews, Mr. Ruth, Mr. Darby, Mrs. Clay, Mr. Doherty, Mr. Wellstone, Mr. Bourgholtzer, Mr. Bancroft, Mr. Reed, Mr. Stickler, Mr. Griffin, Mr. Cancellare, Mr. Skadding, Mr. Craven, Mr. Kress, Mr. Langanegger, Mr. Linkins, Mr. Darcey, Mrs. Bancroft, Mrs. Stickler and Mrs. Norman.

The press plane arrived at the Washington National Airport at 5:45 PM.

The INDEPENDENCE landed at the Washington National Airport at 5:50 PM. The President was met there by Mrs. Truman. Also in the crowd on hand to welcome the President were: The Secretary of State, the Secretary of Defense, the Attorney General, the Secretary of Agriculture, District Commissioner F. J. Donohue and Mrs. Short and their two children.

After an exchange of greetings, the President talked briefly with members of the press, and then left with Mrs. Truman for the Blair House.

The Navy R4DZ departed Boca Chica a few minutes after the press plane and returned to Anacostia.

Captain Dudley and Mr. Flohr left Key West by motor car this afternoon to return to Washington.

The WILLIAMSBURG departed Key West during the early morning of Friday, 23 March, and moored at the Naval Gun Factory, Washington, D. C., during the afternoon of 26 March, thus completing the movement of the Presidential task force out of Key West.

Some Interesting Facts about Key West

Key West is a city of 21,792 population. It is one of the oldest cities in Florida and contains many historical and interesting places. It is situated on Key West, an island, approximately 4 miles long and 1 mile wide, at the southern end of the Florida Keys, and claims the distinction of being the southernmost city in the United States.

The Spanish explorers gave Key West its name. Coming ashore for fresh water, they found the island strewn with whitened bones and called it Cayo Hueso, meaning Bone Key. "Key West" is a corruption of the Spanish "Cayo Hueso," pronounced "Ka-yo Way-so." The bones the Spaniards found there were said to be those of Indian warriors of the tribes that engaged in a battle which resulted in almost complete extermination of two tribes.

Key West was the base for Spanish adventurers, pirate crews and commercial fishermen. It developed as a permanent settlement in the early 1800's when marine salvage and commercial fishing became profitable. English and Negroes from the Bahamas were the first permanent settlers.

In 1823, Commodore David Potter was sent to Key West with part of the U. S. fleet to drive pirates from the Keys. Following this campaign, families from New England, Virginia and the Carolinas settled there, along with Tories who fled to the Bahamas during the American Revolution. Key West has some of the charm of old New Orleans and some of the foreign flavor of Havana, with a distinct atmosphere of its own.

Throughout the city's history, naval activities have contributed to the economy of the city. After the First World War garrisons of the Naval Station were removed. Shortly after December 7, 1941, the station was recommissioned and since that time an estimated \$37,000,000 has been spent by the Navy in developing the Naval Base here.

During the Civil War, Key West was closely held and guarded by the Union Navy, its ships successfully defeating any attempt by the Southern forces to enter the Gulf. More Navy ships were berthed there than any other United States port. In 1899 the battleship "MAINE" sailed from Key West to its rendezvous with disaster in Havana harbor.

Two months later, on April 23, the first shot of the Spanish American War was fired from the USS "NASHVILLE" across the bow of the Spanish steamer "Buena Ventura" just a half-mile off Key West.

The Gulf Stream, which flows along the Florida Keys enroute northward, is one of the world's finest fishing grounds. Only five miles off shore from Key West, this natural habitat of fighting game fish is easily reached within an hour's run from the Naval

Station. Gulf Stream fishing produces sailfish, bonito, jack, snapper, barracuda, jewfish, shark, marlin, wahoo, dolphin, cobia, mackerel, grouper and tarpon.

The discovery of a new fishing ground for shrimp between Key West and Dry Tortugas is a major development in Florida's fishing industry. Today there are approximately 400 shrimp trawlers docking their catches in Key West.

In 1942 the Florida Keys Aqueduct Commission, in cooperation with the U. S. Navy, placed in service an 18-inch pipe line with a daily capacity of 3,000,000 gallons of artesian well water extending 130 miles from Homestead to Key West. This line is the longest of its type in the world and provides an adequate supply of pure water. A booster pumping station has been installed midway along the line, to increase the volume of water served Key West.

Key West weather is ideal, particularly from October to July. It is the only frost free city in the United States. Snow and fog are unknown. Here one may swim almost every day of the year, in either the Atlantic Ocean or the Gulf of Mexico.

Gorgeous flowers abound everywhere. Purple and red bougainvillea climb to the roofs of quaint old houses, that have never known paint and are over a hundred years old. Large and colorful red and pink hibiscus, delicately tinted oleanders bloom perpetually. In December the poinsettia blooms profusely.

Until recent years, Key West had been handicapped by lack of adequate transportation facilities to the north. A new highway completed early in 1944 provides a continuous, modern high-speed road to Miami.

* * *

Fort Jefferson National Monument, Florida

At the end of the Florida Keys, almost 70 miles west of Key West, is the cluster of islands called Dry Tortugas. Fort Jefferson National Monument includes the seven Dry Tortugas Islands named “las tortugas” – the turtles – because of the great amount of turtles which breed there. The later name “Dry Tortugas” warns the mariner that there is no fresh water there.

Fort Jefferson, largest of nineteenth century American coastal forts, is a half mile in perimeter and covers most of 16-acre Garden Key. From foundation to crown its 8-foot-thick walls stand 50 feet high. It has three gun tiers and was designed for 450 guns and a garrison of 1500 men.

The fort was started in 1846, and although work went on for almost 30 years, it was never finished. The U. S. Engineer Corps planned and supervised the building. Artisans imported from the north and slaves from Key West made up most of the labor gang. After 1861 the slaves were partly replaced by military prisoners, but slave labor did not end until Lincoln freed the slaves in 1863.

To prevent Florida’s seizure of the half-complete, unarmed defense, Federal troops hurriedly occupied Fort Jefferson (January 19, 1861), but aside from a few warning shots at Confederate privateers, there was no action.

Little important work was done after 1866, for the new rifled cannon had already made the fort obsolete. Further, the engineers found that the foundations rested not upon a solid coral reef, but upon sand and coral boulders washed up by the sea. The huge structure settled, and the walls began to crack.

For almost ten years after the war, Fort Jefferson remained a prison. Among the prisoners sent there in 1865 were the “Lincoln Conspirators” – Michael O’Laughlin, Samuel Arnold, Edward Spangler, and Dr. Samuel A. Mudd. Dr. Mudd, knowing nothing of President Lincoln’s assassination, had set the broken leg of the fugitive assassin, John Wilkes Booth. The innocent physician was convicted of conspiracy and sentenced to life imprisonment at hard labor.

Normally, Tortugas was a healthful post, but in 1867 yellow fever came. From August 18 to November 14 the epidemic raged, striking 270 of the 300 men at the fort. Among the first 38 fatalities was the post surgeon, Major Joseph Sim Smith. Dr. Mudd, together with Dr. Daniel Whitehurst, from Key West, worked day and night to fight the scourge. Two years later, Dr. Mudd was pardoned.

Because of hurricane damage and another fever outbreak, Fort Jefferson was abandoned in 1874. During the 1800’s, however, the United States began a naval building program, and Navy men looked at this southern outpost as a possible naval base.

In 1898 the Navy began a coaling station outside the fort walls. The big sheds were hardly completed, however, before a hurricane smashed the loading rigs.

As the military moved out again, fire and storms and salvagers took their toll, leaving the Gibraltar of the Gulf the vast ruin that it is today.

Temperatures at Key West

March 2 – 21, 1951

<u>Date</u>	<u>Max. (air)</u>	<u>Min. (air)</u>	<u>Max. (water)</u>
2	80	70	73
3	80	72	74
4	81	70	74
5	82	70	74
6	80	68	74
7	81	68	78
8	79	68	73
9	80	68	69
10	81	69	69
11	80	70	69
12	80	70	70
13	76	65	73
14	74	64	70
15	74	62	73
16	75	64	73
17	77	63	73
18	81	71	73
19	82	72	71
20	82	72	69
21	81	66	66

(Above from U. S. Weather Bureau records)

THE WHITE HOUSE
Washington

24 March 1951

My dear Captain Adell:

I wish to thank you for a most pleasant visit at the Naval Station, Key West. The three weeks' time passed all too rapidly.

You have been in command at Key West since my visit there in early 1948. Subsequently I have visited six times. Each visit has been, from my standpoint, extremely satisfactory. The thoroughly efficient way in which all arrangements have been handled and the thoughtful consideration shown me and members of my party reflect great credit upon you and your command.

I wish to express my personal thanks to you and through you, to the officers and men under your command who have contributed so much in order to make our visits so pleasant.

I am forwarding a copy of this letter to the Secretary of the Navy, with the request that he include it with your official record.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) HARRY S. TRUMAN

Captain Cecil C. Adell, USN
U. S. Naval Station
Key West, Florida

