

**LOG OF**

**President Truman's Trip**

**To**

**Key West and Orlando**

**Florida**

**March 6 - 19 1949**

**LOG NO. 6**

**Compiled by**

**Lieut. Comdr. William M. Rigdon, U.S.N.**

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AT KEY WEST	

## **LIST OF THE PRESIDENT'S PARTY**

The President

Honorable John R. Steelman

Honorable William D. Hassett

Honorable Matthew J. Connelly

Honorable Stanley Woodward

Major General Harry H. Vaughan, U.S.A. (res.)

Rear Admiral Robert L. Dennison, U.S.N.

Brigadier General Robert B. Landry, U.S.A.F.

Mr. William J. Bray

Honorable Charles G. Ross, joined March 10<sup>th</sup>

Brigadier General Wallace H. Graham, U.S. A. F., joined March 10<sup>th</sup>

Chief Justice Fred M. Vinson, joined March 12<sup>th</sup>

Mr. Eben A. Ayers, joined March 12<sup>th</sup>

## **STAFF**

Lieutenant Commander William M. Rigdon, U.S.N.

Mr. Dewey E. long

Captain A.P. Harris, Medical Corps, A.U.S.

Mr. Russell A. McMullin

Mr. Edwin A. Fauver

Mr. Jack Romagna

Major George J. McNally, Signal Corps, U.S.A.

Captain Harvard E. Dudley, Signal Corps, U.S.A.

Master Sergeant Homer E. Wolff, U.S.A.

Sergeant First Class William H. Brown, U.S.A.

Sergeant Bernard Putterman, U.S.A.

Chief Photographer's Mate John T. McCrosson, U.S.N.

Draftsman Third Class Jack E. Norton, U.S.N.

Chief Steward Arthur S. Prettyman, U.S.N. (ret.)

## SECRET SERVICE

Mr. James J. Rowley  
Mr. Henry J. Nicholson  
Mr. Gerald A. Behn  
Mr. John E. Campion  
Mr. Ray H. Kellerman  
Mr. Frank M. Barry  
Mr. William F. Shields  
Mr. Gerard B. McCann

Mr. Morgan L. Gies  
Mr. Paul T. Usher  
Mr. John A. Walters  
Mr. John T. Sherwood  
Mr. Richard G. Kauffman  
Mr. Arvid J. Dahlquist  
Mr. Charles H. Patnode

## REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PRESS

### Newspaper Correspondents

Mr. Robert G. Nixon  
Mr. Ernest B. Vaccaro  
Mr. Merriman Smith  
Mr. John Cutter  
(Mr. Cutter relieved Mr.. Smith during visit)  
Mr. Joseph A. Fox  
Mr. Anthony Leviero  
Mr. Thomas F. Reynolds  
Mr. Joseph H. Short  
Mr. Carl Levin  
Mr. Jack Doherty  
Mr. Laurence H. Burd  
Mr. Windsor Booth  
Mr. Marshall Andrews  
Mr. Walter Fitzmaurice  
Mr. John Carlton  
Mr. Henry Brandon  
Mr. Marquis Childs

International News Service  
The Associated Press  
United Press Association  
United Press Association  
  
The Washington Star  
The New York Times  
The Chicago Sun-Times  
The Baltimore Sun  
The New York Herald Tribune  
The New York Daily News  
The Chicago Tribune  
Time - Life Magazines  
The Washington Post  
Newsweek Magazine  
Miami Daily News  
Kinsley Newspapers of England  
United Features Syndicate

## **RADIO CORRESPONDENTS**

Mr. Bryson Rash  
Mr. Frank Bourgholtzer  
Mr. Charles Collingwood  
Mr. Charter Heslep  
Mr. Robert Hinkley  
Mr. Elmer Davis

American Broadcasting Company  
National Broadcasting Company  
Columbia Broadcasting System  
Mutual Broadcasting System  
American Broadcasting Company  
American Broadcasting Company

## **NEWSREEL POOL PHOTOGRAPHERS**

Mr. Thomas Craven  
Mr. Alfred O'Eth

Paramount News (camera)  
Paramount News (sound)

## **TELEVISION PHOTOGRAPHERS**

Mr. Joseph Vadala  
  
Mr. John Langanegger

National Broadcasting Company  
Television (camera)  
National Broadcasting Company  
Television (sound)

## **STILL PHOTOGRAPHERS**

Mr. Byron H. Rollins  
Mr. Milton Freier  
Mr. Alfonso A. Muto  
Mr. Robert W. Kelly

Associated Press Photos  
Acme Newspictures, Inc.  
International News Photos  
Life Magazine

## MISCELLANEOUS GROUP

Colonel M.M. Frost	Vice President, Eastern Airlines
Mr. Harrison Knapp	District Passenger Agent, Eastern Airlines
Mr. John W. Chambers	Traffic Representative, Eastern Airlines
Mr. Parker F. Engle	State Department
Mr. Harry Karr	Pennsylvania Railroad
Mr. Carroll S. Linkins	Western Union
Mr. O.D. McEachern	Western Union
Mr. Frank E. Jackson	Office of Naval Intelligence
Mr. Cecil Sewell	Office of Naval Intelligence
Master Sergeant J.W. Parker	White House
Mr. William D. Simmons	White House
Mr. Harry Charnley	White House

## U.S. S. WILLIAMSBURG

Commander Donald J. MacDonald, U.S.N.	Commanding Officer
Commander Jesse B. Gay, Jr., U.S.N.	Executive Officer

## The INDEPENDENCE (air Force DC-6)

Lieutenant Colonel Francis W. Williams, U.S.A.F.	Pilot
Major Elmer F. Smith, U.S.A.F.	Co-pilot
First Lieutenant E. P. Christiansen, U.S.A.F.	Navigator
Mr. Gene Lucas, Douglas Aircraft Company	Consultant
Master Sergeant Fred J. Willard, U.S.A.F.	Flight Engineer
Master Sergeant Frederick A. Winslow, U.S.A.F.	Flight Engineer
Technical Sergeant G. E. Robinson, U.S.A.F.	Radio Operator
Technical Sergeant Robert E. Hughes, U.S.A.F.	Traffic Clerk
Master Sergeant E. Bishop, U.S.A.F.	Plane Guard
Master Sergeant L. Borega, U.S.A.F.	Plane Guard
Technical Sergeant H. N. Callaway, U.S.A.F.	Plane Guard
Technical Sergeant L.D. Campbell, U.S.A.F.	Plane Guard

## **THE PRESS PLANE (E.A.L. Constellation)**

Mr. H.T. (Dick) Merrill	Captain
Mr. W. C. Nielsen	Pilot
Mr. E.L. Graham	Flight Engineer
Mr. Art Gray	Purser
Miss Paula Reed	Flight Attendant

## **U.S.NAVY R-5-0-Z**

Lieutenant (jg) John R. Morse, U. S. N.	Pilot
Lieutenant (jg) William D. Ellis, U. S. N.	Co-pilot
Aviation Chief Machinist's Mate W.H. Becker, U. S. N.	Flight Engineer
Aviation Radioman Second Class A.P. Russell, U. S. N.	Radio Operator

## **STAFF OF THE LITTLE WHITE HOUSE**

(All personnel from the U.S. S.WILLIAMSBURG)

Lieutenant Hoye D. Moore (SC) U. S. N.	Officer in Charge
Chief Steward Irineo Esperancilla, U. S. N.	
Chief Steward Sesinando Guadamor, U. S. N.	
Chief Steward Cayetano Bautista, U. S. N.	
Chief Steward Ramon H. Pascual, U. S. N.	
Chief Steward Mariano Floresca, U. S. N.	
Chief Steward Marcelo Sepulchre, U. S. N.	
Chief Steward Vincent DeVera, U. S. N.	
Chief Steward Raynero Bachiller. U. S. N.	
Steward First Class Domingo Olembario, U. S. N.	
Steward Third Class Santos Corpus, U. S. N.	
Steward's Mate First Class Janito Malapit, U. S. N.	
Steward's Mate First Class Clemente Macatucob, U. S. N.	
Steward's Mate First Class Demetrio I. Javier, U. S. N.	

## THE PRESIDENT'S ITINERARY

<u>Arrived</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Departed</u>
	Washington, D.C.	0845, 3-6-49
1234, 3-6-49	Key West, Florida.	0913, 3-8-49
1029, 3-8-49	Orlando, Florida	1520, 3-8-49
1621, 3-8-49	Key West, Florida	1101, 3-19-49
1445, 3-19-49	Washington, D.C.	
Distance	-	
	Washington to Key West	- 1047 statute miles
	Key West to Orlando	- 282 statute miles
	Orlando Air Force Base to Rollins College, Winter Park, Florida	- 12.5 statute miles
	<b>TOTAL DISTANCE TRAVELED</b>	<b>2683 statute miles</b>



## THE LOG

### Sunday, 6 March:

The INDEPENDENCE (Air Force DC-6) , with the President of the United States embarked, arrived at the Naval Airfield, Boca Chica, Florida, at 12:34 p.m. The President was enroute to the Naval Station, Key West, for a fortnight's vacation. He was accompanied by:

Honorable John R. Steelman, The Assistant to the President;

Honorable William D. Hassett, Secretary to the President;

Honorable Matthew J. Connelly, Secretary to the President;

Honorable Stanley Woodward, Chief of Protocol, State Department;

Major General Harry H. Vaughan, U.S.A. (Res.), Military Aide to the President;

Rear Admiral Robert L. Dennison, U.S.N., Naval Aide to the President;

Brigadier General Robert B. Landry, U.S. A. F., Air Force Aide to the President;

Mr. William J. Bray, Assistant to Mr. Steelman, members of his party; And,

Captain Anderson P. Harris, Medical Corps, A.U.S., Assistant to the President's Physician;

Mr. Henry J. Nicholson, White House Secret Service Detail;

Mr. Jack Romagna, White House Staff; and

Chief Steward Arthur S. Prettyman, U.S. N. (Retired), valet to the President.

The INDEPENDENCE made the flight non-stop from the Military Air Transport Service Terminal, Washington National Airport, in three hours and 49 minutes.

On hand at Boca Chica to meet the President as he disembarked at 12:37 p.m. were:

Fleet Admiral William D. Leahy, U.S.N., Chief of Staff to the  
Commander in Chief, U.S. Armed Forces. Admiral Leahy  
had been in Key West since January 29<sup>th</sup>, recuperating from  
an operation and working on his memoirs;  
Captain Cecil C. Adell, U.S.N., Commander, Naval Base, Key West;  
Honorable A. Maitland Adams, Mayor of Key West;  
Mr. Ralph D. Spalding, City Manager of Key West;  
Sheriff Berlin A. Sawyer of Monroe County;  
Captain A.G.W. McFadden, U. S. N., Commanding Officer,  
Sonar School Squadron;  
Captain J.A. Farrell, Jr., U.S.N., Commanding Officer, Naval Station;  
Captain W.R. Carruthers, U.S.N., Commanding Officer, Underwater  
Training Unit;  
Captain O.A. Smith, Medical Corps, U. S. N., Medical Officer in  
Command, Naval Hospital;  
Captain F.L. Busey, U.S. N., Commanding Officer, Naval Air  
Station;  
Captain W. E. Klein, Medical Corps, U.S. N., Medical Officer,  
Naval Air Station;  
Captain P.H. Fitzgerald, U.S. N., Commander, Destroyer  
Squadron SIXTY,  
Captain J.R. Lee, U.S.N., Commanding Officer, Anti-submarine  
Development Squadron ONE;  
Commander E.S. Lee, Jr., U.S.N., Executive Officer, Fleet All  
Weather Training Unit;  
And the following members of the Citizens Welcoming Committee  
of Key West:

Mr. John M. Spottswood (Chairman);  
Mr. Everett Russell;  
Mr. Albert J. Mills;  
Mr. Paul Sher;  
Mr. Frank J. Bentley; and  
Judge William V. Allbury

Also present at Boca Chica were:

Lieutenant Commander William M. Rigdon, U.S.N.,  
Assistant to the Naval Aide to the President;  
Captain Tobe Bass of the Florida Highway Patrol;  
Chief Joseph Kemp of the Key West Police;

Mr. Paul T Usher, White House Secret Service Detail;  
Mr. Rudolph M. McDavid, Agent in Charge, U.S. Secret  
Service Office at Miami;  
Mr. Frank E. Jackson, Agent in Charge, U.S. Naval  
Intelligence Office at Miami;  
Mr. Russell A. McMullin of the White House Transportation  
Office;  
Captain Harvard E. Dudley, Signal Corps, U.S.A., White  
House Signal Center; and  
Lieutenant Clyde Carlon;  
Patrolman S.R. Walker;  
Patrolman R. E. Gracey and  
Patrolman W.A. Stevens, all of the Florida Highway Patrol.

After the exchange of greetings, the President remained at the naval airfield to await the arrival of the Washington newspapermen and photographers. Their plane was scheduled to land at Boca Chica in advance of the President's plane but had been delayed and did not arrive until 12:44 p.m. When the President observed the press plane taxiing up the runway, he hurried to the spot where it was to be parked. All passengers were held aboard the press plane until the President had reached the foot of the ramp. From that position he welcomed them to Key West; inquired as to why they were late; and, in a bantering mood, "interviewed" Mr. Robert G. Nixon, the President of the White House Correspondents Association. The interview was recorded as follows:

The President: Well, where have you been? Where have you been? Come on down. Where's the President of the White House Correspondent's Association? I want to ask him a few questions.

Mr. Vaccaro: We have been running as fast as we could.

The President: You couldn't catch up!

Mr. Doherty: Mr. President, there's no barber on that plane, and we couldn't get a shave. First plane I ever saw like that.

Admiral Leahy: I don't see how they could get that many people in a plane.

The President: I don't either.

Voices: Here's the president now.

The President: Where's the band? (Hail to the Chief hummed by the crowd).

The President: (to Mr. Nixon) What about Molotov, Mr. President?

Mr. Nixon: Yes, Yes, indeed.

The President: All right.

Mr. Nixon: I agree.

The President: and No, too ?

Mr. Nixon: And No, too. On the other hand, perhaps I shouldn't comment on the matter. It is rather difficult to assay at the moment. We have the matter under considerable study.

The President: What happened to your plane?

Mr. Nixon: A minor accident in the air --- threw a propeller.

The President: I am making this interview for Hearst, so you had better be careful.

Mr. Nixon: I hope Jack (Jack Romagna) is taking notes.

(Laughter).

In addition to the representatives of the White House Correspondents Association and the White House Photographers Association, the following members of the White House Staff and Secret Service Detail arrived at Boca Chica via the press plane.

#### **WHITE HOUSE STAFF**

Mr. Dewey E. Long;  
Mr. Harry Charnley,  
Chief Photographer's Mate John T. McCrosson, U.S.N.

## WHITE HOUSE SECRET SERVICE DETAIL

Mr. Roy H. Kellerman  
Mr. Frank M. Barry  
Mr. Morgan L. Gies  
Mr. John T. Sherwood

Mr. William F. Shields  
Mr. Gerald B. McCann  
Mr. John A. Walters  
Mr. Richard G. Kauffman

Mr. Arvid J. Dahlquist

The Presidential Party embarked in waiting automobiles and, at 12:55 p.m., Departed Boca Chica for the eight and one half mile drive to the Naval Station at Key West. The motorcade proceeded via Roosevelt Ave. (the Key Highway) to Truman Avenue, right on Duval Street and left on Caroline Street. Key West was enjoying perfect weather and the city extended its usual warm welcome to the President on his sixth visit. All along the route through the city groups of residents and visitors gathered and waved and clapped their hands as the President passed by.

The Presidential motorcade arrived at the Caroline Street gate of the Naval Station at 1:10 p.m. The President was greeted at the gate by Commander J.A. Fitzgerald, Executive Officer of the Naval Station. The President left his car here and was accorded full military honors – eight side boys, “To the Colors” by the Marine bugler And “present Arms” by the Marine Guard. The President, accompanied by Captain Adell, then inspected the marine Guard. The President’s flag was broken at the administration building. As it was Sunday, no gun salute was fired.

After the ceremony at the Caroline Street gate, the President and Captain Adell re-entered their vehicle and the motorcade continued to the Presidential quarters (Quarters A-B, or the Little White House as it is now unofficially known). The route from the gate to the Little White House was lined on both sides by white-clad officers and enlisted men at “man-the-rails” formation.

The Presidential party arrived at the Little White House at 1:18 p.m., where they were greeted by Commander Donald J. MacDonald, U.S.N., Commanding Officer of the U.S.S. WILLIAMSBURG (AGC-369), and Lieutenant H. Dennis Moore, Supply Corps, U.S.N., Presidential Mess Officer. The President and all members of his party immediately disembarked and entered the house. The members of the press and White House staff continued on to the Naval Station bachelor officer’s quarters (building #128).

At 1:20 p.m., the President telephoned Mrs. Truman, who was then in Washington, and reported his safe arrival. Then, he and members of his party retired to their respective quarters and changed to sport clothes. Later they assembled in the living room and made an inspection of the newly decorated Little White House.

At 1:55 p.m., Captain Bass, Lieutenant Carlon, Patrolmen Walker, Gracey and Stevens – of the Florida Highway Patrol, called on the President and presented him with a box of Florida –grown citrus fruits.

Lunch was served at 2 p.m. Admiral Leahy was a guest of the Mess.

Admiral Leahy departed at 2:50 p.m., to return to his quarters (Quarters L).

Immediately following lunch, the President dispatched telegrams of Condolence to Mrs. J. Melville Broughton (widow of the late Senator Broughton) and to Mrs. William F. Urban (sister of the late W.G. Andrews, former Congressman from New York).

The President retired to his suite at 3 p.m., where he rested until 5 p.m. Mr. Steelman and Mr. Connelly spent the afternoon on the new sun-porch. Mr. Woodward motored to the Enlisted Men's Beach (Truman Beach) for a swim in the Atlantic.

Mr. Hassett, who, in the absence of Mr. Ross and Mr. Ayers, acted as press secretary for the President, met with the press at 4 p.m. The conference was held at the press headquarters which had been established in building #128 at the Naval Station. Mr. Hassett likewise met with the press daily at 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., until Mr. Ross arrived on Thursday, March 10th, and took over this duty.

At 5:05 p.m., Mr. J.H. Lasseter (4012 N.E. 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave., Miami) called at the Little White House and was presented to the President. Mr. Lasseter is the interior decorator who redecorated and refurnished the Presidential quarters at Key West. He departed at 5:10 p.m.

Admiral Leahy returned to the Little White House at 7:15 p.m. and was a dinner guest of the President's Mess. He left at 8:20 p.m., to return to his quarters.

After dinner, the President moved to the south porch where he spent the evening visiting with other members of his party. He retired to his suite at 12:45 a.m.

The motion picture "A Letter to Three Wives," starring Jeanne Crain, Linda Darnell and Ann Sothorn, was shown at the Little White House this evening. The President did not attend.

In order to provide more adequate fire protection and to improve its livability, certain alterations had been made to the Little White House since the President's last visit.

The exterior appearance of the house was changed but little. Three Bedrooms on the second floor (#2, #3, and #4) were enlarged by extending them into what had been an east porch; the first floor porch (south porch) was raised to the level of the interior of the house and lengthened some five feet. The roof of this porch was converted into a sun deck. The west second floor porch was partitioned to provide a sitting porch for bedroom # 3; the main foyer was enlarged by taking out an inner set of double doors; a telephone booth was built in on each floor; a sprinkler type fire alarm system was installed throughout the house; and two steel fire escapes were installed from the second floor.

The house was also completely redecorated and refurnished. The interiors were done in a modest and tasteful manner with an early American theme of decoration prevailing throughout the house. Rooms were painted in subdued tones of gray, green, and blue. Exteriors were painted white.

The repairs, renovations and repainting were done by the Public Works Department of the Naval Station, under the direction of Commander Alexander E. Husband, Civil Engineer Corps, U.S. Navy. The redecoration and refurnishing of the interior was accomplished by the Haygood Lasseter Interiors (4012 N.E. 2nd Avenue, Miami, Florida). The decorator's work had been given added color and Navy interest by a number of oil paintings, lithographs in color and ship models obtained on loan from the U. S. Naval Academy Museum.

The President occupied his usual quarters – suite #4, the north second floor suite; Mr. Hassett and Mr. Connelly shared bedroom #2; Mr. Woodward occupied bedroom #1; Mr. Bray, the small bedroom; Mr. Steelman, bedroom #5 (first floor). General Vaughan, General Landry, and Admiral Dennison were quartered in the WILLIAMSBURG. The WILLIAMSBURG had arrived at Key West on Monday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, and was moored at the north quay wall, about 100 yards distant from the Little White House.

The President's Mess was set up in the Little White House. Lieutenant Moore, assisted by the staff of Filipino cooks and stewards from the WILLIAMSBURG (see page VI), operated the mess.

The newspapermen, radio correspondents and photographers accompanying the Presidential party, members of the White House staff and White House Secret Service Detail were quartered at the Naval Station bachelor officer's quarters (building #128). They were subsisted at the Commissioned Officers Mess located in building #106 directly across the street from building #128. A press room and a Western Union telegraph room were set up in building #128 for the convenience of the members of the press.

A marine guard was maintained around the Little White House during the period of the President's visit and only those persons holding special passes approved by the Secret Service were permitted to enter the grounds or the house.

Radio communications between the Presidential party and the White House were handled by the regular facilities (duplex radio teletype) of the WILLIAMSBURG. Two direct telephone circuits between Key West and Washington were employed for the exclusive use of the Presidential party. In order better to handle the large volume of telephone traffic usually experienced, a special one-place switchboard was installed at the Naval Station, Key West (in building # 97). Male operators, drawn from the White House (White House Signal Center and White House Communication Center), manned this board and all calls for the President or members of his party were channeled through the Little White House switchboard. A direct telegraph wire to the White House was also installed in building #97 to augment the radio and telephone facilities.

An advance party, consisting of the following personnel, had preceded the President to Key West to complete necessary arrangements incident to the visit:

Lieutenant Commander William M. Rigdon, U.S. N.;  
Major George J. Mc Nally, Signal Corps, U.S. N.  
White House Signal Corps Detachment;  
Captain Harvard E. Dudley, Signal Corps, U.S.A.  
White House Signal Corps Detachment;  
Mr. Paul T. Usher, White House Secret Service Detail;  
Master Sergeant Homer E. Wolff, U.S. A.,  
White House Signal Corps Detachment;  
Sergeant Bernard Putterman, U.S.A.,  
White House Signal Corps Detachment;  
Sergeant First Class William H. Brown, U.S. A.,  
White House Signal Corps Detachment;  
Mr. Russell A. McMullin, White House Communication Office;  
Mr. Edwin M. Fauver, White House Communication Office; and  
Draftsman Third Class Jack E. Norton, U.S.N., Naval Aide's Office.

Lieutenant Commander William Rigdon served as Secretary for the Presidential party during the visit to Key West.

Agent Usher was in charge of advance security arrangements at Key West. He was assisted by Mr. McDavid and Mr. Jackson.

Chief Photographer's Mate John T. McCrosson, U.S. N., on temporary duty from the U.S. Naval Photographic Center, Anacostia, D.C., served as photographer for the Presidential party.



Seven sedans – a Lincoln convertible, two Lincoln four-doors and four Ford four-doors, had been sent down to Key West from Miami for the use of the Presidential party and the Secret Service. This courtesy was extended by Mr. Cecil Holland, president of the All-Miami Motors Company. This pool was augmented as necessary by automobiles drawn from the Naval Base.

A 10-place Naval transport plane (R-5-O-Z Lockheed Lodestar) had been sent to Key west from the Naval Air Station, Anacostia, to perform special missions for the President and members of his party. This plane was under the command of Lieutenant (jg) John R. Morse, U.S.N. Lieutenant (jg) William D. Ellis, U.S.N. was the co-pilot.

Mrs. Farrell, Wife of Captain J.A. Farrell, Commanding Officer of the Naval Station, was most thoughtful and helpful during the visit. She came in each morning, while members of the party were at the beach, and replenished the beautiful floral decorations.

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**Monday, 7 March:**

Key West was visited by a rainsquall during the early morning. The weather had cleared by 9:30 a.m., however, and the remainder of the day was clear with bright sunshine.

At 8 a.m., the Naval Station fired a 21-gun salute in honor of the President.

General Vaughan and General Landry were the fishing enthusiasts of the vacation party. They left the Little White House at 9:30 a.m., on the first of several ventures into the waters around Key West which have become known as one of the great deep sea fishing grounds in the world. They used the “Big Wheel,” a 65-foot former torpedo retrieving boat which has been converted to a fishing boat.

The President did not put in his appearance until 9:40 a.m., this morning. He came downstairs at that hour and admitted that he had slept until 9:30 a.m. When asked if the gun salute had disturbed him, he remarked that he had heard only the last four guns and had turned over and gone back to sleep. Mr. Connelly stole party honors from the President, however, as he did not arise until later.

The President sat down to breakfast at 9:45 a.m., with several members of his party.

At 10:15 a.m., the President left the Little White House and walked to the Enlisted Men's Beach at the Naval Station. He was accompanied by Mr. Steelman, Mr. Woodward, Admiral Dennison and Mr. Bray. Admiral Leahy joined him there a short while later. At the beach the members of the party changed to bathing trunks and spent the next hour and thirty minutes swimming and loafing in the sun.

The beach, which is now known locally as Truman Beach, had been redecorated since our last visit. The pavilion had been renovated and palm trees and oleander bushes had been transplanted there to give it a real tropical air. A concrete shuffle board had also been installed.

The party left the beach at 11:50 a.m. and motored back to their respective quarters.

Lunch was served in the President's Mess at 1:30 p.m. There were no guests.

General Vaughan and General Landry returned to the Little White House at 1:45 p.m., in time to join the others at lunch. They brought back a nice catch of 94 ½ pounds -- 13 grouper (the largest a 19 – pounder) and one mackerel, and a most unusual fish story. They contended that their largest grouper took both their lines, one by his mouth and the other line with his tail and that was the way he was reeled in. This story, together with the news of the President having overslept for three hours, provided Mr. Hassett with two items of "believe it or not" news for his news conference today.

Lunch was over at 2:50 p.m. The President then retired to his suite where he rested until 5 p.m.

The President sent a message of condolence to Miss Vera Bloom, daughter of the late Congressman Sol Bloom of New York.

Mr. Steelman and Mr. Hassett spent the afternoon working on a speech the President was scheduled to deliver at Rollins College on Tuesday, March 8<sup>th</sup>.

Rear Admiral C.B. Momsen, U.S.N., Assistant Chief of Naval Operations, and Captain Adell jointly entertained the members of the press this afternoon at a reception held at the Officers Club at Fort Taylor. Members of the President's party were invited to attend but were unable to do so because of previous commitments.

Dinner was served at 7 p.m. There were no guests.

After dinner, the President, Mr. Steelman, Mr. Hassett and Admiral Dennison retired to the living room where they continued work on a speech the President was scheduled to make at Rollins College, Winter Park, Florida. The other members of the party spent the evening about the quarters.

The President retired to his suite at 10:50 p.m.

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**Tuesday, 8 March:**

The President came downstairs at 7:15 a.m. He spent the next thirty minutes on the south porch reading the morning newspaper. He sat down to breakfast at 7:45 a.m., with the members of his party.

The newspaper and radio correspondents, photographers and Secret Service agents departed Boca Chica at 8:15 a.m., in the Eastern Airlines chartered plane, for Orlando, Florida. They arrived at Orlando at 9:45 a.m. Their plane, a DC – 4, was manned by the following crew: Captain W.O. Hudgins, pilot; W.C. Nielsen; Flight Attendant Miss Paula Reed; and Purser Art Gray.

The President, Mr. Hassett, Mr. Connelly, General Vaughan, Admiral Dennison, General Landry, and Captain Adell departed from the Little White House at 8:46 a.m., and motored to the Naval Airfield at Boca Chica. Mr. Hassett and Captain Adell rode in the automobile with the President.

Mr. Steelman, Mr. Woodward and Mr. Bray left the Little White House at 9 a.m. and embarked in the “Big Wheel” for some deep sea fishing. They returned at 1:20 p.m. with a catch of only one fish – a small barracuda taken by Mr. Bray.

The Presidential party arrived at Boca Chica at 9:06 a.m. They immediately boarded the INDEPENDENCE and were airborne for Orlando at 9:15 a.m. Captain Busey and Captain Klein were at the airfield to see the President off. Embarked in the INDEPENDENCE were: The President, Mr. Hassett, Mr. Connelly, General Vaughan, Admiral Dennison, General Landry, Lieutenant Commander Rigdon, Captain Harris, Mr. Nicholson, Mr. Romagna, and Chief Steward Prettyman. The President was enroute to Winter Park, Florida, where he was to be a guest of Dr. Hamilton Holt, President of Rollins College. The President’s visit was two-fold in purpose – to pay tribute to Dr. Holt who was soon to retire after 24 years as President of Rollins College, and to receive the honorary degree of Doctor of Humanities (L.H.D.) from the college.

Winter Park (population 8000) is located in the pine region of Central Florida – four miles north of Orlando, 142 miles south of Jacksonville, and 105 miles northeast of Tampa.

The INDEPENDENCE landed at the Orlando Air Force Base at 10:29 a.m. As he left his plane, military honors by an Air Force band and honor guard were accorded the President. He was greeted by Dr. Holt, Governor Fuller Warren (Florida), Senator Claude Pepper, Senator Spessard L. Holland, Congressman A.S. Herlong, Jr., Mayor William Beardall (of Orlando), Mayor B.R. Coleman (of Winter Park), Brigadier General Ralph Stearley, U.S.A.F. (Commanding General, 14<sup>th</sup> Air Force, Orlando Air Force Base), Brigadier General Ralph A. Snavely, U.S.A.F. (Vice Commander, 14<sup>th</sup> Air Force), and Colonel J.G. Williams, U.S.A.F. (Commanding Officer, Orlando Air Force Base).

Mr. James J. Rowley and Mr. Gerald A. Behn of the White House Secret Service Detail had arrived in Orlando on Saturday, March 5<sup>th</sup> and were in charge of arrangements for the President's visit. They were assisted by the following Secret Service agents: Mr. James M. Beary (from the Jacksonville office); Messrs. Lewis C. Padgett, Lane Bertram, Robert M. Hancock and Albert F. Miller (of the Atlanta office); and Mr. John J. Kiljan (of the Birmingham office). Mr. Cecil Sewell, attached to the Memphis office of the Office of Naval Intelligence and who was in Orlando on leave of absence, also assisted Mr. Rowley.

On conclusion of the welcoming ceremonies at the Air Force Base, the Presidential party and the official welcoming party embarked in open automobiles and departed for Rollins College at Winter Park. Dr. Holt and Governor Warren rode in the car with the President. The route followed took us through the business district of Orlando, where the streets were lined solid, four and five deep on each side, with happy folks. It was estimated that more than 100,000 people were out to see and to greet the President. The President's car was driven by a Secret Service agent (Mr. Morgan Gies). All other automobiles in the Presidential motorcade were driven by students (coeds and young men) from Rollins College.

The motorcade was halted on North Mills Street, Orlando – at the causeway across Lake Estelle. The President, at 11:05 a.m., alighted from his car and was greeted by Mrs. Charles O. Andrews (widow of the former United States Senator) and Mr. Charles O. Andrews, Jr. Mr. Andrews presented to the President approximately fifty guests who had been invited to witness the ceremony to be held at the causeway. Mayor Beardall extended to the President the official greetings of his city. The President responded and, with a pair of scissors handed to him, cut the ribbon symbolizing the dedication of the causeway as the “Charles O. Andrews Causeway” honoring the memory of Senator Andrews. The President paid special tribute to Senator Andrews, referring to him as a great public servant and fine gentleman.

At 11:12 a.m., the President re-entered his automobile and the motorcade continued on to Rollins College at Winter Park. The motorcade arrived on the campus of Rollins College at 11:20 a.m. The President, Dr. Holt, Governor Warren and members of their official parties disembarked and entered the administration building.

The President and Dr. Holt, dressed in cap and gown, left the administration building at 11:45 a.m. and joined at the end of the academic procession to the Knowles Memorial Chapel, where the convocation honoring the President was held. Other members of the official parties went directly to the chapel.

The convocation began promptly at noon with the playing of the organ solo “Grand March” from “Tannhauser.” Every seat in the chapel was occupied. Governor Warren in a short address (Annex A), presented the President for the awarding of the honorary degree of Doctor of Humanities. Dr. Holt then awarded the honorary degree to the President. Dr. Holt was assisted by Dr. Wendell C. Stone, Dean of Rollins College, and Dr. Arthur D. Enyart, Dean of Men at Rollins. Also present on the stage were President J. Hills Miller of the University of Florida; President A. B. Ashe of the University of Miami; President Ollie Edmunds of Stetson University; President Doak Campbell of Florida State University; President E. C. Nance of Tampa University; and Vice President Charles Thrift of Florida Southern College – representatives of Florida’s six other institutions of higher learning. Following his investiture, President Truman mounted to the rostrum and delivered a brief address (see Annex B for text). His talk was not broadcast.

At the conclusion of the convocation ceremony, at 12:45 p.m., the President and Dr. Holt led the academic procession out of the chapel. The procession continued across the campus to the Rollins Walk of Fame, where the President took part in a simple ceremony of pulling a cord which dropped into place in the Presidential section of the Walk of Fame a slab of stone bearing the inscription “Harry S. Truman, Grandview, Missouri.” The stone had been brought several years ago from the President’s ancestral home at Grandview. It was presented to Rollins College by the late mother of the President, who asked particularly that the stone be inscribed “Grandview.” The Walk of Fame, containing almost 900 names, is a tree-shaded campus path flanked by stones from the homes of famous people, living and dead, from all over the world. Each stone is carved with the celebrity’s name and the place from which it was taken.

From the Walk of Fame, the President and Dr. Holt, accompanied by their official parties, walked to nearby Wilson House where they doffed their caps and gowns. After a brief pause there, they motored to Dr. Holt’s home – in Winter Park, about one mile distant from Wilson House – where the President received and then joined a number of other guests at a buffet luncheon given by Dr. Holt. Those present included: The President, Dr. Holt, Mr. Hassett, Mr. Connelly, General Vaughan, Admiral Dennison, General Landry, Governor Warren, Mr. Newman C. Brackin, Dr. Perry E. Murray, State Chief Justice Alto Adams, Mr. Frank Wright, Senator and Mrs. Pepper, Senator and Mrs. Holland, Congressman Herlong, Mayor and Mrs. Coleman, Mayor Beardall, Miss Shadie Beardall, General Stearley, General Snavely, Mr. Martin Anderson, Mr. Alfred McKeithan, Dr. and Mrs. Ashe, Dr. and Mrs. Edmunds, Dr. Thrift, Dr. and Mrs. Miller, Dr. Campbell, Dr. Nance, Dean and Mrs. Stone, Dean Enyart, Dean Marian Cleveland, Dean and Mrs. T. S. Darrah, Mr. and Mrs. John Tiedtke, Mrs. Hattie Strong, Mrs.

Andrews, Mr. Andrews, Jr., Mr. Walter Hays, Dr. E. O. Grover, Mrs. Charles Bassett, Miss Linda Woods, Mrs. Mary Price, Mr. and Mrs. Winthrop Bancroft, Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Caldwell, Mrs. W. T. Foster, Mrs. Webber Haines, Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Lawton, Mr. and Mrs. Hugh McKean, Dr. and Mrs. Louis Orr, Mr. Arthur Schultz, Dr. and Mrs. Eugene Smith, Mr. and Mrs. L. Corrin Strong, Mr. N. P. Yowell, Miss Constance Holt, Mrs. Rose Dresser, Mrs. Osborne Wilson, and Tappy and Coleman (young grandsons of Dr. Holt).

Members of the press were served a buffet luncheon at the Kappa Alpha Fraternity House on the Rollins campus.

After lunch, Dr. Holt and his guests retired to the garden, where Dr. Holt, the President, Governor Warren, and Doctors Nance, Edmunds, Miller, Thrift and Dean Stone posed for pictures by photographers.

At 2:45 p.m., the President and members of his staff departed from Dr. Holt's home and motored back to the Orlando Air Force Base. Dr. Holt, Governor Warren, Mayor Coleman, Mayor Beardall, General Stearley, and General Snavely accompanied them to the airfield.

The Presidential party arrived at the Air Force Base at 3 p.m. Military honors were rendered by an Air Force band and honor guard. The President, in company with Colonel Williams, inspected the guard. He then bade goodbye to Dr. Holt, Governor Warren, Mayor Beardall, Mayor Coleman, General Stearley, General Snavely and Colonel Williams. Before boarding the INDEPENDENCE at 3:16 p.m., the President also shook hands with a group of Florida Highway Patrolmen who had worked with the Secret Service at Orlando and Winter Park, and the students from Rollins College who had chauffeured the automobiles in the Presidential motorcade.

The INDEPENDENCE departed from the Orlando Air Force Base at 3:20 p.m., and set course for Key West. Mr. Rowley, Mr. Behn and Mr. Gies took passage in the INDEPENDENCE on the return trip. The press left Orlando at 3:25 p.m.

The INDEPENDENCE landed at Boca Chica at 4:21 p.m. The President was met there, as he left his plane, by Captain Adell, Captain Busey and Captain Klein. The Presidential party left immediately by motor for the Naval Station, Key West, where they arrived at 4:45 p.m. Captain Adell accompanied them to the Little White House, paid his respects, and then departed.

Admiral Leahy called on the President at 4:50 p.m. He departed at 5:35 p.m., to return to his quarters.

Lieutenant Henry N. Levy, U.S.N., courier, arrived at the Little White House at 5 p.m., with four sacks of White House mail. He had been brought down from Washington in a naval aircraft piloted by Lieutenant George W. Dunn, U.S.N.

Dinner was served at the Little White House at 7 p.m. There were no guests. After dinner, the President moved to the south porch where he visited with members of his party until 10:40 p.m. At that time he retired to his suite, where he worked on official mail until midnight, when he turned in for the evening.

The motion picture "A Foreign Affair," starring Jean Arthur and John Lund, was shown at the Little White House this evening. The President did not attend.

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**Wednesday, 9 March:**

The President came downstairs at 7:15 a.m. He left the house at 7:40 a.m. and took a walk about the Naval Station. He was accompanied by two Secret Service agents. He returned to the Little White House at 7:55 a.m. and sat down to breakfast at 8 a.m.

Rear Admiral Momsen was a breakfast guest of the Mess. After breakfast, he and the President moved to the south porch where they talked for about thirty minutes. Admiral Momsen departed at 9:15 a.m. to return to his quarters.

Lieutenant Levy left the Little White House at 9:50 a.m., by motor for Boca Chica. He had with him two sacks of official mail for delivery to the White House. He was transported to Washington via naval aircraft.

At 10 a.m., the President, Dr. Steelman, General Vaughan, General Landry and Mr. Bray left the Little White House and walked to the Enlisted Men's Beach where they spent the remainder of the forenoon. They were joined at the beach later by Admiral Leahy, Mr. Woodward, and Admiral Dennison. Mr. Connelly was still upholding his crown as champion sleeper. He did not put in his appearance downstairs until 12:30 p.m.

The beach party left the beach at 11:30 a.m., and returned to their respective quarters.

The President and Admiral Dennison left the Little White House at 12:45 p.m. and walked to Quarters L, where they lunched with Admiral Leahy. Mr. Steelman, Mr. Connelly, Mr. Woodward, General Vaughan, General Landry and Mr. Bray motored

to the Casa Marina Hotel (Key West), where they had lunch. Mr. Hassett dined at the Little White House. He had Lieutenant Commander Rigdon and Lieutenant Moore as his guests.

The President and Admiral Dennison returned to the Little White House at 2:10 p.m. The President immediately retired to his suite where he rested until 5 p.m. Mr. Steelman, Mr. Connelly, Mr. Woodward, General Vaughan, General Landry and Mr. Bray returned to the Little White House at 3:20 p.m. Mr. Steelman, Mr. Connelly and Mr. Bray spent the remainder of the afternoon on the new sun deck.

Dinner was served in the President's Mess at 7 p.m. After dinner, the party assembled on the south porch where they visited until 11:40 p.m. The President then retired for the evening. Before retiring, the President sent a telegram of condolence to Miss Mildred Dryden, Independence, Missouri, on the death of her brother, George Dryden.

The motion picture "Whispering Smith," starring Alan Ladd and Brenda Marshall, was shown at the Little White House this evening. The President did not attend.

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**Thursday, 10 March:**

The President came downstairs to the south porch at 7:10 a.m. and spent the next thirty minutes there reading the morning newspaper. He left the house at 7:40 a.m. in company with two Secret Service agents and took a 20-minute walk about the Naval Station. He returned to the Little White House at 8 a.m. and sat down to breakfast at 8:05 a.m.

At 8:20 a.m., General Vaughan and General Landry left the Little White House for another try at deep sea fishing. They walked to the boat landing at the north quay where they were joined by Commander MacDonald and Commander P. L. Warden (Medical Officer of the WILLIAMSBURG). The group embarked in the "Big Wheel" and departed at 8:30 a.m. for the fishing grounds.

The President, Mr. Steelman, Mr. Woodward, Admiral Dennison and Mr. Bray left the Little White House at 9:50 a.m. and walked to the Enlisted Men's Beach. Admiral Leahy and Mr. Hassett joined them later. The entire party left the beach at noon and motored back to their respective quarters.

General Vaughan and his fishing party returned to the Naval Station at 12:45 p.m. with a catch of three fish – a 25- pound wahoo and two small mackerel. General Landry was photographed with his wahoo, which he entered in the 1949 Key West Fishing Tournament. At last account he was leading the field for the trophy in the wahoo class.



Lunch was served in the President's Mess at 1 p.m. There were no guests.

After lunch, the President retired to his suite where he rested until 4 p.m.

Mr. John Tiedtke, Treasurer of Rollins College, and Mr. Hugh McKean, a professor at the same institution, called on General Vaughan at 2:25 p.m. General Vaughan received them on board the WILLIAMSBURG.

Mr. Connelly left the Little White House at 5 p.m. and motored to Boca Chica where he enplaned for Miami. He was transported to Miami in a naval aircraft (R-5-0-Z), piloted by Lieutenant Morse). He remained in Miami until Tuesday, March 15<sup>th</sup>, visiting friends. Lieutenant Morse returned to Key West this evening.

Mr. Charles G. Ross, Secretary to the President, and Brigadier General Wallace H. Graham, U.S.A.F., the President's Physician, arrived at the Little White House at 6:50 p.m. and joined the President's party for the remainder of the stay at Key West. They were brought down from Washington in a naval aircraft (R-5-O-Z), piloted by Lieutenant J. V. Hart, U.S.N.). Lieutenant George W. Williams, U.S.N.R., White House courier, was a passenger in this same plane. He delivered three sacks of White House mail to Lieutenant Commander Rigdon at 7 p.m.

Admiral Leahy was a dinner guest of the President's Mess.

After dinner, the first four chapters of the motion picture version of General Eisenhower's story "Crusade in Europe" were screened at the Little White House. Admiral Leahy, Mr. Charter Heslep and Mr. Robert Hinkley were guests for the movies. The President did not attend. He spent the evening on the south porch visiting with members of his party.

Admiral Leahy, Mr. Heslep and Mr. Hinkley departed at 10:15 p.m.

At 10:35 p.m., the President left the south porch and moved to his desk in the living room where he worked on official mail that had arrived during the afternoon. Among the documents approved at this time were Senate Bills S198, S279 and S307.

The President retired at 11 p.m.

Mr. Ross shared room #5 with Mr. Steelman. General Graham was berthed at the WILLIAMSBURG.

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**Friday, 11 March:**

The President came downstairs at 7:15 a.m. He spent the next 25 minutes on the south porch reading the morning newspaper. He left the house at 7:40 a.m. for his morning walk about the Naval Station. He was alone except for two Secret Service agents.

The President returned to the Little White House at 8 a.m. and sat down to breakfast with several members of his party at 8:10 a.m.

The INDEPENDENCE departed Boca Chica at 10 a.m. for Washington. The President made it available to Chief Justice Vinson who was scheduled to come to Key West and join the President's party. Major McNally returned to Washington via the INDEPENDENCE.

Mail was dispatched to the White House this morning. It was sent in custody of Lieutenant Colonel Williams, pilot of the INDEPENDENCE. Lieutenant George W. Williams, the courier who brought the mail down from Washington, remained over in Key West to complete a special temporary duty assignment given him by his office.

The President, Mr. Steelman, Mr. Woodward, General Vaughan, General Graham, General Landry and Mr. Bray left the Little White House at 9:50 a.m. and walked to the Enlisted Men's Beach where they spent the remainder of the forenoon sunning and swimming. Mr. Ross, Mr. Hassett and Mr. Ayers attended a press conference held at BOQ 128 and joined the President at the beach later. Admiral Leahy and Admiral Dennison also went to the beach later and joined the party.

The President left the beach at noon and motored back to his quarters, as did all others who were at the beach with him.

Lunch was served in the President's Mess at 1 p.m. There were no guests.

The President retired to his suite at 1:45 p.m. where he rested until 4 p.m.

A telegram expressing his heartfelt sympathy was dispatched by the President to Philip Cohen, Esquire, Cincinnati, Ohio, when he learned of the passing of Mr. Cohen's father.

Dinner was served in the President's Mess at 7 p.m. There were no guests. Admiral Dennison dined out.

After dinner, the party moved to the south porch where they visited until midnight.

The President retired at midnight.

The motion picture "Whiplash," starring Dane Clark, Alexis Smith and Zachary Scott, was shown at the Little White House this evening. The President did not attend.

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**Saturday, 12 March:**

The President came downstairs at 7:10 a.m. and, following his custom, spent the next thirty minutes on the south porch engaged in reading the morning newspaper. He then took his usual morning stroll about the Naval Station, returning to the house in time to have breakfast at 8:05 a.m.

Mr. Hassett left the house at 8 a.m. and walked to the boat landing where he was joined by Commander MacDonald. They embarked in the "Big Wheel" and departed at 8:15 on a fishing expedition. Mr. Hassett kept his plans for the trip a deep secret from the other members of the party. He later explained that he felt he could fish much better without any competition.

The President, Mr. Woodward, General Vaughan, Admiral Dennison, and Mr. Bray left the Little White House at 9:50 a.m. and walked to the Enlisted Men's Beach. They were joined later by Mr. Steelman, Mr. Ross, Admiral Leahy and General Landry. The entire group left the beach at 11:30 a.m. and motored back to their respective quarters. The President spent the next hour out on the west lawn reading a book.

General Graham and Mr. Woodward left the house at 11:30 a.m. with Mr. Bernard Papy (Key West) and motored up the Florida Keys. They took with them a picnic lunch and during their outing collected a number of beautiful seashells and coral formations.

Chief Justice Fred M. Vinson, Congressman George A. Smathers (Fourth District, Florida – Key West), and Mr. Eben A. Ayers, Assistant to Mr. Ross, arrived at the Little White House at 12:45 p.m. The Chief Justice and Mr. Ayers joined the President's party. Mr. Smathers, who had come to Key West in the INDEPENDENCE with the Chief Justice, called to pay his respects to the President. The President's aides, General Vaughan, Admiral Dennison and General Landry, met the Chief Justice at Boca Chica and escorted him to the Little White House. The President greeted the new arrivals at the front door and later posed with the Chief Justice and Mr. Smathers on the west lawn for still and newsreel pictures. The Chief Justice brought with him an angel food cake which had been baked for the President by Mrs. Vinson and entrusted to his care for safe delivery.

Chief Ship's Clerk Gail B. Prophet, U.S.N., White House courier, delivered four sacks of mail to Lieutenant Commander Rigdon at 12:50 p.m. Mr. Prophet had been brought down in the INDEPENDENCE.

Mr. Hassett and Commander MacDonald returned to the Naval Station at 1 p.m. Mr. Hassett produced a catch of one 16-pound grouper and a 10-pound barracuda, both of which he immediately iced for future mounting. Commander MacDonald brought back a 32-pound grouper.

Lunch was served at 1:15 p.m. Mr. Smathers was a guest of the President and his party.

After lunch (2:10 p.m.), the President saw Mr. Smathers, Admiral Dennison and General Landry off in the "Big Wheel" for an afternoon of fishing. The boats had been kept standing by in the hope that the Chief Justice and others of the party would go along but they had other plans. The President then, at 2:15 p.m., returned to the house and retired to his suite where he rested until 4 p.m. The Chief Justice also engaged in what he described as the luxury of a daytime nap.

Mr. Woodward and General Graham returned from their outing at 4:30 p.m.

The fishing party returned at 5:15 p.m. with three small grouper – each of them too small to admit to ownership.

Mr. Smathers paid his respects to the President and departed at 5:40 p.m. for his hotel in Key West.

Dinner was served at 7 p.m. There were no guests.

The President retired to his quarters at 9:45 p.m. He spent some time working on official mail before turning in for the evening.

The movie "Mother is a Freshman," starring Loretta Young and Van Johnson, was shown at the Little White House this evening. The President did not attend.

The Chief Justice occupied Suite #3 during his visit at the Little White House. Mr. Ayers shared Suite #1 with Mr. Woodward.

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### **Sunday, 13 March:**

The President slept late this morning and did not come downstairs until 8 a.m. The Chief Justice joined him on the south porch a few minutes later. They chatted and read the morning newspapers until 8:20 a.m. when they left the house, in company with two Secret Service agents, for a walk about the station. They returned to the Little White House at 8:40 a.m.

Mr. Bray left the house at 8:30 a.m. and attended Catholic Mass at St. Mary's Church in Key West. Mr. Hassett, General Landry and Commander MacDonald attended a later Mass at this same church.

Breakfast was served at 9:15 a.m.

Chief Ship's Clerk Prophet left the Little White House at 9:20 a.m. with official mail. He motored to Boca Chica where he embarked in a naval aircraft, piloted by Lieutenant Hart, for the return trip to Washington. Captain Harris returned to Washington via this same means.

At 10:50 a.m., the President, the Chief Justice, Mr. Woodward, General Vaughan, Admiral Dennison, Captain Adell, Mr. Ayers and Lieutenant Commander Ridgon left the Little White House and walked to the Naval Station chapel where they attended religious services. The services were conducted by Lieutenant Charles C. Hartung, the Protestant Chaplain for the Naval Base. After the conclusion of the church services at 11:50 a.m., the entire party motored back to the Little White House where they changed to informal dress.

The President, the Chief Justice, Mr. Steelman, Mr. Woodward, General Landry, Mr. Ayers and Mr. Bray left the house at noon and motored to the Enlisted Men's Beach where they spent the next hour and fifteen minutes. They motored back to their quarters at 1:15 p.m.

All hands, dressed in their most colorful sports shirts, assembled on the west lawn at 1:30 p.m. when a group photograph was made by a Navy Photographer (Photographer's Mate First Class S. E. Yekalis from the Naval Air Station, Key West).

Luncheon was served at 2 p.m. Admiral Leahy and Major General Raymond E. Bliss, Medical Corps, U. S. Army (Surgeon General of the Army) were luncheon guests.

Admiral Leahy and General Bliss departed at 3 p.m. The President and the Chief Justice retired to their respective suites where they rested until 6 p.m.

Dinner was served at 7:30 p.m. There were no guests. After dinner the President and the Chief Justice moved out to the south porch where they visited until 12:20 a.m., when they retired for the night.

The motion picture "Wake of the Red Witch," starring John Wayne, was shown at the Little White House this evening. Neither the President nor the Chief Justice attended.

The President sent a telegram of condolence this evening to Senator and Mrs. McClellan, Camden, Arkansas. Within a few days after they had buried a son, who was killed in World War II, a second son of the McClellan's was killed in an automobile accident.

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**Monday, 14 March:**

The President came downstairs at 7:45 a.m. He left the house at 7:50 a.m. and took a walk about the Naval Station. He was unaccompanied except for two Secret Service men.

The President returned from his walk at 8:05 a.m. and sat down to breakfast at 8:10 a.m. After breakfast he moved to his desk in the living room where he spent the next hour working on his official mail.

General Vaughan, General Landry, and Mr. Bray left the Little White House at 9 a.m. and motored to Boca Chica. At Boca Chica they enplaned in a naval aircraft (R-5-0-Z, piloted by Lieutenant Morse) and departed for Havana for a shopping and sightseeing tour.

A few minutes after his departure from Boca Chica, a message was received for General Vaughan which advised that his mother was quite ill. General Vaughan was contacted on his arrival at Havana through Captain T. F. Cullin, U.S.N., U. S. Naval Attaché there, and the message was delivered to him.

The President, the Chief Justice, Mr. Steelman and Mr. Woodward left the Little White House at 9:50 a.m. and walked to the Enlisted Men's Beach. They were joined there later by Mr. Ross and Admiral Dennison.

The beach party returned to the Little White House by motor at noon. Mr. Ross and Admiral Dennison left immediately by motor for Boca Chica to contact a group of the White House photographers who had taken still and moving pictures of the party from a Navy airship while the President and his guests were at the beach this forenoon. An airship flight had been arranged for the photographers (Mr. Craven, Mr. Vadala, Mr.

Rollins, Mr. Freier and Mr. Muto) to take background shots of Key West and the Naval Base but Mr. Ross felt that their actions in photographing the party at the beach from the low level they did was an invasion of the President's privacy. At his request, the movie film was turned over to Mr. Ross for viewing before release to the newsreels. The still photographers declined to turn their film over to Mr. Ross and destroyed their plates before leaving the air station. The movie film was sent to the Navy Photographic Center (Anacostia) where it was processed. It was returned to Key West on Friday, March 18<sup>th</sup>.

Lunch was served at 1 p.m. There were no guests. Mr. Hassett dined out. General Vaughan returned to the Little White House in time to have lunch with the other members of the party. He was brought back from Havana in the Naval aircraft piloted by Lieutenant Morse. Immediately after lunch (at 2:10 p.m.), General Vaughan departed by motor for Boca Chica where he enplaned in a naval aircraft (Lieutenant Morse, pilot) and departed for Fayette, Missouri, to visit with his mother. Because of unfavorable weather General Vaughan's plane put down at St. Louis, Missouri (about 10:30 p.m.) and he continued his journey by rail and motor.

The President visited the WILLIAMSBURG from 1:50 p.m. to 2:05 p.m. On his return to the Little White House he retired to his suite where he rested until 4 p.m. The Chief Justice likewise rested until 4 p.m.

Dinner was served at 7:15 p.m. Mr. Woodward dined out.

The President and the Chief Justice spent the evening on the south porch visiting with other members of the party. They retired at 12:30 a.m.

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**Tuesday, 15 March:**

The President came downstairs at 7:15 a.m. He sat on the south porch and read the morning newspapers until 7:45 a.m. when he and the Chief Justice left the Little White House for their morning walk. They were accompanied by two Secret Service agents. They returned to the house at 8 a.m. and sat down to breakfast with several other members of the party.

At 9:05 a.m., a rainsquall visited Key West. It rained violently for about twenty minutes. This was followed by a slow, drizzling rain which prevailed until 10:30 a.m. and caused the President to call off his daily visit to the beach.

The INDEPENDENCE left Boca Chica at 9:30 a.m. for Miami. The INDEPENDENCE was dispatched to bring off General of the Army George C. Marshall and Mr. William D. Pawley (former Ambassador to Brazil) whom the President had invited to come to Key West. General Graham was a passenger. He spent the day in Miami on official business.

General Marshall and Mr. Pawley arrived at the Little White House at 12:37 p.m. Mr. Connelly accompanied them from Miami and Admiral Dennison and Captain Adell met them at Boca Chica and escorted them to the Presidential quarters. The President met his guests at the front door where greetings were exchanged. Later they all moved out to the west lawn where pictures were taken. Admiral Leahy had joined the party in the meantime and he stood in the group photograph. Afterwards the group gathered on the south porch where they visited until lunch time.

Lunch was served at 1:15 p.m. The President had Admiral Leahy, General Marshall and Mr. Pawley as his guests.

After lunch, the President and Mr. Pawley retired to the living room where they conferred for 25 minutes.

General Marshall and Mr. Pawley left the Little White House by motor at 2:50 p.m. for Boca Chica where they enplaned in the INDEPENDENCE and returned to Miami. Mr. Connelly and Admiral Dennison accompanied them to Boca Chica.

The President rested from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Lieutenant Morse arrived at Boca Chica at 4:15 p.m., having completed a round trip to St. Louis.

Lieutenant Levy delivered three sacks of official mail at the Little White House at 5:25 p.m. He made the trip from Washington to Key West in a naval aircraft (R-5-0-Z) piloted by Lieutenant D. D. Lurvey, U.S.N. Major McNally, Mr. William D. Simmons and M/Sgt. J. W. Parker of the White House staff also were passengers in this plane.

General Landry and Mr. Bray returned from Havana this afternoon. They traveled in a naval aircraft (JRB) furnished by the Naval Air Station, Key West.

The President worked on his mail from 6 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Included among the documents signed at this time were Senate Bills SJ Res 22, S29, S593, and an Executive Order establishing a board to investigate the cause of a dispute between the Wabash Railroad Company and the Ann Arbor Railroad Company and their employees.

Dinner was served at 7 p.m. Mr. Connelly was absent; he dined in Key West.

After dinner the President moved out to the south porch where he visited with the Chief Justice and other members of his party until 11:30 p.m., when he retired.



The motion picture "John Loves Mary," starring Jack Carson, Patricia Neal and Edward Arnold, was shown at the Little White House this evening. Neither the President nor the Chief Justice attended.

General Graham returned to Key West at 11:15 p.m. The INDEPENDENCE waited over in Miami in order to bring him back to Key West.

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**Wednesday, 16 March:**

The President came downstairs at 7:15 a.m. He read the morning newspapers until 7:50 a.m., when he and the Chief Justice left the house for a stroll about the Naval Station. They were accompanied on the walk by two Secret Service men. They returned at 8:10 a.m.

The President and the Chief Justice had breakfast together at 8:15 a.m. with several other members of the party.

After breakfast the President moved to his desk in the living room where he worked on his official mail.

Mr. Hassett, Mr. Ayers, Commander MacDonald and Lieutenant Commander Rigdon left the Little White House at 9:05 a.m. and motored to Boca Chica where they enplaned for Havana. They traveled via a naval aircraft (R-5-0-Z) piloted by Lieutenant Morse. They spent the day sightseeing in Havana as the guests of Mr. Barney Relin.

Lieutenant Levy left the Little White House at 10:25 a.m. with two sacks of official mail.

The Chief Justice left the house at 10:30 a.m. by motor for Boca Chica, where he enplaned in the INDEPENDENCE for return to Washington. Mr. Ross, Admiral Dennison and General Landry accompanied the Chief Justice to Boca Chica. Lieutenant Levy, Mr. Behn, WAVES H. F. Tyser and E. E. Rhodes, and Seaman S. M. Mott also were passengers in the INDEPENDENCE.

After seeing the Chief Justice off, the President, Mr. Steelman, Mr. Woodward, Mr. Bray and Captain Adell left the Little White House (at 10:32 a.m.) and walked to the Enlisted Men's Beach. General Graham followed at 10:50 a.m.

The beach party returned to the Little White House at 12:30 p.m. motor. The President stood out on the west lawn and watched a skywriter who wrote "Pepsi Cola" and the "Viva Harry." The President then went to his desk in the living room where he worked on his official mail until 1:15 p.m.

Lunch was served at 1:30 p.m. Captain Adell was a luncheon guest. During lunch plans were made for a fishing expedition and departure time was set for 4:15 p.m. Lunch was over at 2:20 p.m. and the President retired to his suite where he rested until 4 p.m. Captain Adell departed at 2:20 p.m.

At 4:15 p.m., the President, Mr. Steelman, Mr. Connelly, Mr. Ross, Mr. Woodward, Admiral Dennison, General Graham, General Landry, and Mr. Bray left the house and walked to the boat landing at the north quay, where they embarked in small craft (torpedo retriever boats) and departed for open water to do some deep-sea fishing. Captain Adell joined up as they left the Little White House. The Presidential party was divided into two teams. Team No. 1: The President, Mr. Ross, Mr. Woodward, General Landry and Mr. Bray. Team No. 2 consisted of Mr. Steelman, Mr. Connelly, Admiral Dennison, General Graham, and Captain Adell. Team No. 1 embarked in the "Big Wheel;" Team No. 2 in the "Lady Bird." The photographers and members of the press trailed along in a third small craft. While the President was embarked in the "Big Wheel" his flag was lowered at the administration building of the Naval Station and flown in the "Big Wheel."

Mr. Hassett, Mr. Ayers, Commander MacDonald and Lieutenant Commander Rigdon returned to the Little White House at 6:50 p.m. just in time to witness the return of the fishermen.

The fishing expedition returned to the Naval Station at 7 p.m. The team catches were brought onto the dock for weighing and measuring and it was quickly determined that the President had taken most of the honors. His 16-pound barracuda was the longest fish caught; his 16 ½-pound grouper was the heaviest fish brought in; and his team, with a total of 59 ½-pounds, took the prize for the largest catch. Mr. Woodward got a 15-pound barracuda and a 6-pound grouper; Mr. Bray a 6-pound grouper. General Graham's 15-pound grouper represented the total catch of Team No. 2. Prizes were distributed as follows:

Longest fish -	\$15.00 -	The President.
Heaviest fish -	\$15.00 -	The President.
Team catching most fish by weight -	\$25.00 -	Team No. 1
(\$5.00 to each member of the team)		

The \$55.00 prize money was raised by each participant contributing \$5.00 to the pool and the person catching the least fish (by weight) contributing an additional \$5.00. Thus, Mr. Bray's 6-pound grouper cost him better than 80 cents a pound.

The President and members of his party returned to the Little White House at 7:15 p.m. Dinner was served at 7:30 p.m. There were no guests.

After dinner, the President moved out to the south porch where he remained until 12:15 a.m., at which time he retired.

**Thursday, 17 March:**

The President came downstairs at 7:15 a.m. After reading the morning newspaper he took a 15-minute walk about the Naval Station. He was accompanied by two Secret Service agents. He returned to the Little White House at 7:55 a.m. and sat down to breakfast at 8 a.m. with several members of his party.

Mr. Ross left the house at 8:40 a.m. He spent the day with his sister, Miss Ella Ross, who lives at Captiva, Florida – located on Captiva Island near Fort Myers. Mr. Ross was taken to Fort Myers in a small naval aircraft (R-5-0-Z), piloted by Lieutenant Morse. At Fort Myers he was met by Lieutenant Britt (Florida Highway Patrol) who took him to Sanibel Island where he was met by his sister. On his return trip he was brought from Captiva Island to Punta Rasa by his sister in a private cabin cruiser. Lieutenant Britt met him there and took him to Fort Myers. Lieutenant Morse, who had remained over at Fort Myers, then returned him to Key West.

The President, Mr. Steelman, Admiral Dennison, General Landry and Mr. Bray left the Little White House at 9:45 a.m. and walked to the Enlisted Men's Beach. Mr. Connelly, Mr. Woodward, Mr. Hassett, General Graham and Mr. Ayers joined them at the beach later.

The President, accompanied by Mr. Connelly and Admiral Dennison, left the beach at 11:55 a.m. and motored to the Casa Marina Hotel in Key West, where he called on Mr. Leonard Hicks (owner of the hotel) and was shown on an inspection tour of the hotel and its grounds. They returned to the Little White House at 12:20 p.m. Mr. Steelman, Mr. Woodward, Mr. Hassett, General Graham, General Landry and Mr. Bray, in the meantime, returned to the house at 12:05 p.m.

Lunch was served at 1 p.m. After lunch the President retired to his suite where he rested until 3 p.m.

Chief Ship's Clerk Prophet arrived at the Little White House at 2:30 p.m., with four sacks of official mail. He came down from Washington in the INDEPENDENCE, which returned to Key West this afternoon. Mr. Charles H. Patnode of the White House Secret Service detail was another passenger in the INDEPENDENCE.

At 3:40 p.m., Mr. Leonard Hicks called at the Little White House and visited with the President. He was accompanied by Mrs. Hicks, his mother (Mrs. Latha Hicks) and Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Hicks, Jr. He and his party had been shown through the WILLIAMSBURG by Admiral Dennison just previous to their call on the President. Mr. Hicks and his party departed at 4:15 p.m.

At 4:20 p.m., the President, in company with Captain Adell, made an informal inspection of the detachment of Marines detailed to guard the Little White House. The Marines were formed up in ranks on the concrete driveway adjacent to the west garden of the Little White House. The President then returned to the Little White House and joined others of his party on the south porch, where he remained until dinnertime.

While the President was inspecting the Marines, Mr. Ayers, Mr. Rowley and Admiral Dennison viewed the pictures taken from the naval airship by the newsreel photographers on Monday, March 15<sup>th</sup>. Commander Eli Vinock, Security Officer for the Naval Base, Mr. Craven, Mr. Rollins and Mr. Vadala sat in on the screening. It was mutually agreed to eliminate certain scenes which revealed the exact location of the Little White House in relation to other buildings of the Naval Station (frames 78385 to 78395 of the pictures made by Mr. Vidalia and frames 76915 to 76926 of those made by Mr. Craven). The remaining pictures were then released for publication.

Mr. Ross returned from Captiva at 6 p.m.

Admiral Dennison and Mr. Connelly dined out this evening.

After dinner the President moved to his desk in the living room where he worked on official mail that arrived this afternoon. Mail signed at this time included Senate Bills S170 and S673. He then moved to the south porch where he spent the remainder of the evening, until 12:10 p.m., when he turned in.

Admiral Dennison attended the Press-Secret Service St. Patrick's Day party held at the Echoasis Club on the Naval Station this evening. Henry Nicholson, with his Irish songs and ditties, was the star of the floor show, emceed by Bob Nixon. The President did not attend but he remarked the following morning that Nicholson's singing had kept him awake until the party broke up. A further check revealed that there was little or no sleeping throughout the Naval Station until Nicholson had signed off. All members of the President's party were invited but, except for Admiral Dennison, they were unable, because of previous plans, to attend.

### **Friday, 18 March:**

The President came downstairs at 7:15 a.m. At this time he was handed a revised draft of Secretary Acheson's proposed speech on the Atlantic Pact (editor's note: later called NATO), which had been received by radio during the night. The President modified his usual routine and instead of going for a walk he remained at the house while he studied the draft of the proposed speech.

The President sat down to breakfast at 8 a.m. After breakfast he moved out to the south porch where he conferred with Admiral Leahy, Mr. Steelman, Mr. Hassett and Mr. Ross.

Chief Ship's Clerk Prophet left the Little White House at 9:15 a.m. with two sacks of White House mail. He was taken to Washington in the naval aircraft piloted by Lieutenant Lurvey. Lieutenant Williams, Draftsman J. E. Norton, Chief Steward S. Bergado and Steward's Mate C. Mojica, were passengers in this same plane.

The President held a press conference at 9:30 a.m. It was held outdoors in the north garden and was attended by Admiral Leahy and all members of the President's party. Newsreel and still pictures were made during the course of the conference, which terminated at 9:45 a.m.

The President, Mr. Woodward, General Graham, General Landry and Mr. Bray left the Little White House at 9:50 a.m. and walked to the beach. Mr. Hassett, Mr. Ross, Mr. Steelman and Mr. Ayers went down later. Admiral Leahy remained at the Little White House while he studied the draft of the Atlantic Pact speech. He then motored to the beach where he joined the President's party. All hands left the beach at noon.

There were no guests at lunch, which was served at 1:15 p.m.

The President rested from 1:45 p.m. to 2:15 p.m. At 2:27 p.m., he, Admiral Dennison, General Graham, General Landry and Captain Adell left the Little White House and motored to the Fleet Sonar School at the Naval Station. They were greeted there by Captain McFadden and Captain Carruthers, the commanding officer and prospective commanding officer of the school. In a 15-minute ceremony held before an assembly of the school, the President made a brief address to the graduating class and presented diplomas to the graduates. He told them:

“It is a very great pleasure for me today to present these diplomas to these young men who have spent some time becoming experts in their lines. They are getting an education that will be of untold value to the country in case of emergency.

“The Navy now not only has the surface of the sea to look after, but the air over it, and the water beneath. These young men have been making studies in their special line of work that will be of untold value to the country in the future, and may be a contributing factor to the peace of the world.

“I am happy, due to the fact that I am here on vacation, to present these diplomas to these able and distinguished young men from Maine to California, literally.”

The President, Admiral Dennison, General Graham and General Landry returned to the Little White House at 2:50 p.m. The President then retired to his suite where he rested until 4 p.m.

Dinner was served at 7:10 p.m. Mr. Connelly dined out. After dinner the President moved to the south porch where he visited with members of his party. They all listened to the broadcast of Secretary Acheson's speech from 10:30 to 11 p.m. On the conclusion of the broadcast, the President dispatched the following congratulatory message to the Secretary of State:

"Have just listened with great satisfaction to your clear, lucid, and forceful speech. You have given the country an admirable exposition of the principles and objective of the Atlantic Pact. Thoughtful citizens will now understand that the proposed treaty, operating in complete harmony with the Constitution, will strengthen and support the United Nations and make that sorely tried organization an instrument of a just and enduring peace. Reception excellent over southernmost radio station in the country and entire staff join me in hearty congratulations on a superb effort."

The President retired at midnight.

### **Saturday, 19 March:**

The President came downstairs at 7:30 a.m. He read the morning newspapers until 7:50 a.m. He sat down to breakfast with the members of his party at 8 a.m. Admiral Leahy, who had closed his mess, was a breakfast guest of the President's mess.

General Landry cancelled plans for a final try at "getting the big one." The "Big Wheel" had been held in readiness since 5:30 a.m., but the General was unable to persuade anyone to accompany him on a fishing trip.

The President left the Little White House at 8:40 a.m. for a 15-minute walk about the Naval Station. He was accompanied by two Secret Service agents.

After breakfast, all hands engaged in packing preparatory to our departure for Washington. Baggage was collected at 9:30 a.m. and sent on to Boca Chica for loading on board the INDEPENDENCE.

The Presidential motorcade departed from the Little White House at 10:25 a.m. for Boca Chica. Captain Adell and Admiral Leahy rode in the automobile with the President. Members of the press joined up while the motorcade was still within the Naval Station.

Full military honors were accorded the President as he left the Naval Station – officers and enlisted men were at "man-the-rail" along Caroline Street; at the Caroline Street gate eight side boys and a Marine guard were drawn up. A Marine bugler played "To the Colors" and the guard "presented arms" as the President's automobile

paused momentarily. The President did not leave his car to inspect the guard. A 21-gun salute was fired and the President's flag was lowered at the administration building as he passed out the gate.

After the ceremony at the Caroline Street gate, the motorcade continued on down Caroline Street to Simonton Street; up Simonton Street to Truman Avenue; left on Truman Avenue to Roosevelt Boulevard; and out Roosevelt Boulevard to Boca Chica. Captain J. W. Smith of the Florida Highway Patrol led the procession. Clusters of Key Westers and tourists were out along the streets and highway to bid the President goodbye.

The Presidential motorcade arrived at the Naval Airfield, Boca Chica, at 10:40 a.m. As at the Naval Station, officers and men were at "man-the-rail" stations along the road leading from the main gate to the spot where the INDEPENDENCE was parked.

All hands disembarked at once. The President talked with the newspapermen, shook hands with the members of the Citizens Welcoming Committee; the senior naval officers assembled there; with Captain Smith; three other Florida Highway patrolmen; and several officers of the Key West police force. He then bade goodbye to Captain Adell and Mayor Adams and, at 10:52 a.m., boarded the INDEPENDENCE. Lieutenant Colonel Williams immediately taxied his ship to the runway for the takeoff.

The INDEPENDENCE departed Boca Chica at 11:01 a.m. and set course for Washington. Passengers embarked were: The President, Admiral Leahy, Mr. Steelman, Mr. Hassett, Mr. Connelly, Mr. Ross, Mr. Woodward, Admiral Dennison, General Graham, General Landry, Mr. Ayers, Mr. Rowley, Mr. Nicholson, Mr. Gies, Mr. Romagna, Mr. Patnode and Chief Steward Prettyman.

The press plane was airborne two minutes later. Embarked were: Mr. Nixon, Mr. Vaccaro, Mr. Cutter, Mr. Fox, Mr. Leviero, Mr. Reynolds, Mr. Short, Mr. Levin, Mr. Doherty, Mr. Burd, Mr. Booth, Mr. Andrews, Mr. Fitzmaurice, Mr. Carlton, Mr. Rash, Mr. Bourgholtzer, Mr. Collingwood, Mr. Davis, Mr. Craven, Mr. Rollins, Mr. Freier, Mr. Muto, Mr. Kelly, Mr. Vadala, Mrs. Reynolds, Mrs. Vaccaro, Mrs. Fox, Mrs. Long, Master John H. Long, Miss Judith Lee Long, Miss Patricia Carlyle, Miss Jacquelin Carlyle, Miss Frances Morris, Lieutenant Commander Otto E. Sporrer, Chaplain Corps, U.S.N., Major Louis Cukela, U.S.M.C. (Retired), Mr. Champion, Mr. Kellerman, Mr. Barry, Mr. Shields, Mr. McCann, Mr. Walters, Mr. Sherwood, Mr. Kauffman, Mr. Dahlquist, Mr. Usher, Master Sergeant Parker, Mr. Simmons, Mr. Long, Mr. Engle, Mr. Fauver, Mr. Charnley, Mr. Karr, Chief Photographer's Mate McCrosson, Lieutenant Commander Rigdon and Mr. Chambers. The press plane was commanded by Captain Dick Merrill and he had with him the same crew as for the southbound trip.

The return trip was made in record time. Taking no chance of having the President beat them in again, the press boys had prevailed on the Eastern Airlines to use a super-charged Constellation for the flight to Washington. In a most comfortable flight, the Constellation traveled the 1047 miles from Key West to Washington in three hours and 37 minutes, putting down at the Military Air Transport Terminal, Washington National Airport, at exactly 2:40 p.m.

The INDEPENDENCE arrived at the Military Air Transport Terminal, Washington National Airport, five minutes later. The Presidential party disembarked at once. The Honorable James Forrestal, Secretary of Defense; Mr. Louis A. Johnson (who succeeded Mr. Forrestal on March 28<sup>th</sup>); and the Honorable Charles Sawyer, Secretary of Commerce, were among the large crowd on hand to meet the President. After greeting numerous friends, the President talked for several minutes with members of the press and was photographed. Then, he and the members of his party embarked in automobiles and departed for their respective homes.

Lieutenant Moore and his crew of stewards closed the Little White House after our departure. The WILLIAMSBURG remained at Key West until Monday, March 21<sup>st</sup>, when she departed for Miami. She spent two days at Miami and continued on to the Naval Gun Factory, Washington, D.C., where she arrived during the forenoon of March 27<sup>th</sup>.

The 10-place Navy transport plane that had been at Key West on detached duty with the Naval Aide to the President departed Key West at 9:30 a.m. to return to its regular base – the Naval Air Station, Anacostia, D. C. It arrived at Anacostia at 4:05 p.m. B. L. Winkler YN1; C. Bautista SDC; S. Guadamor SDC; I. Esperancilla SDC; B. Siam SD2; D. I. Javier TN; and M. Reguindin TN, returned to Washington via this aircraft. Winkler, Siam and Reguindin had been on temporary duty at Key West with Admiral Leahy. Commander H. E. Cross, U.S.N., from the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, and who had been in Key West on temporary duty, was also a passenger on this plane.

Major McNally, Captain Dudley, Sergeants Wolff, Brown and Putterman returned to Washington by train, to complete the exodus from Key West.

Except for the brief visit with Mr. Hicks at the Casa Marina Hotel and one fishing trip, the President did not leave the Naval Station during the entire period of his stay at Key West. He followed the same leisurely routine observed on all previous vacations spent there. He declined all social invitations and thoroughly enjoyed the informality and escape from routine afforded him at Key West.

The President personally opened all his mail at Key West – a privilege not usually accorded him – and appeared to derive a great deal of satisfaction in reading the cross-section of public opinion which was addressed to him.



After his return from Key West, the President addressed the following letter to the Secretary of the Navy expressing his appreciation for all that was done by the Navy to make his sixth visit to Key West a pleasant and profitable vacation:

“22 March 1949

My dear Mr. Secretary:

I have just returned from a most pleasant two weeks' visit at the Naval Base, Key West, Florida. I was particularly pleased with the improvements made to the quarters assigned to my use and wish to express my appreciation to Rear Admiral J. J. Manning, U. S. Navy, Chief of the Bureau of Yards and Docks, and to all the others who were responsible.

Captain Cecil C. Adell, Commanding Officer of the Naval Base, and Captain Joseph A. Farrell, Commanding Officer of the Naval Station, spared no effort to meet all possible requirements. The arrangements made for my visit were more than satisfactory.

I should appreciate it if you would express my personal thanks to the officers mentioned above, and to the officers and men at the Naval Base, Key West, for making my visit such a memorable and happy one.

Sincerely yours,

/S/ HARRY S. TRUMAN”

## **Annex A**

### **REMARKS OF GOVERNOR WARREN**

A man who has been elevated to the highest position in the gift of the nation by the untrammelled suffrage of all people needs no introduction to this or any other American assembly. Whether the name of Harry S. Truman will echo down the corridors of time, whether he is marking or making an epoch in human progress, will not and can not be decided today. Contemporary praise or blame is not the verdict of history.

But this we do know: The man who holds the office of President of the United States occupies the most exalted political position on earth. Not only is he the chosen leader and the servant of a free people, but he is their constituted spokesman in the affairs of the world.

Whether in politics, economics, ethics or religion, a man may think and act as a reactionary, a conservative, a liberal or a radical. President Truman is a liberal. What are the great liberal issues now before our people and all peoples that must engage the attention of the statesmen? At least three of these are transcendent and in each one of them President Truman has already played the role of a leader. They are, in brief, the race issue, the economic issue and the peace issue. They are all fundamentally issues of justice.

The race issue is the issue of how to substitute helpfulness and hopefulness for hatefulness and despair in those regions here and abroad where two or more races live together in the same or proximate territories.

The economic issue is largely the issue of distribution. The human race can now produce enough to feed, clothe and shelter every man, woman and child in the civilized portions of the earth. But we have not yet learned how to distribute these blessings equitably. Surely the brains and the will-power exist to work out an economy which will bring our people and all peoples to a planned and disciplined plenty, and this when accomplished will banish the curse of poverty from the earth.

The peace movement is nothing but the substitution in the international realm of law for war. We have substituted law for war within nations. But between nations the only final way for a sovereign state to assure its rights is by the use of force, and force when applied by one nation to another is war. In other words, the nations of the world are in that state of evolution where without a qualm they claim the right to settle their disputes in a manner in which they would put their own subjects to death for imitating. Surely in an atomic age the peoples of the earth will not cease working for a "more perfect union," whose goal will be some sort of a world government with sovereign powers over states and peoples. (editor's note: reference to United Nations)

By its history, by its material power, by its moral prestige and by the genius of its people the United States is the key to these great issues. President Truman, by virtue of his office, is the key to the United States. It is for these reasons that we have assembled here this morning to honor our President for giving his all in his commanding, but lonely, office to lead our country, and through our country the world, to higher and happier levels where justice and peace abide.

Mr. President, I have the honor to present to you Harry S. Truman for the honorary degree of Doctor of Humanities.

## **ANNEX B**

# **ADDRESS OF THE PRESIDENT**

Rollins College, Winter Park, Florida

Governor Warren, President Holt, distinguished educators, and all the friends of this great school:

This is for me a very happy and a very solemn occasion. The Governor's address was a masterpiece. It covers the situation with which we are faced. It brings to realization a hope that I have long entertained. I am deeply sensitive of the honor which this college has bestowed upon me.

Rollins College has served the State of Florida and the nation faithfully and well through more than three score years. I shall always treasure the memory of this day and the parchment which admits me into the noble society of Rollins alumni. The men and women which this institution has given the world now for sixty-odd years have upheld the ideals of democracy wherever they have found their life work.

It gives me special pleasure by my presence here today to bear witness to the debt which we owe to the man who has guided the destinies of Rollins College for almost a quarter of a century – Dr. Holt.

Since he assumed the presidency of this institution he has made it a focal point in our effort to educate American youth in principles of freedom under true democracy. You know, there is not a word in the English language that has been so severely abused during the last ten years as that word DEMOCRACY. Some people make a travesty of that word. That is one of the greatest words in the history of the English language, and it should stand for just exactly what we mean when we say democracy, and not for a counterfeit.

Doctor Holt has brought to his work distinguished leadership with a background of accomplishment in many fields. Although he will soon retire from active academic

work, he will continue his labors for peace and international good will.

Never before has this country needed as it does today the leadership of thoroughly trained men and women. We must have leaders inspired from their earliest years with the ideals of true democracy.

Education is our first line of defense. In the conflict of principle and policy which divides the world today, America's hope – our hope – of the world, is in education. Through education alone can we combat the tenets of communism. The unfettered soul of free men offers a spiritual defense unconquered and unconquerable.

We may not know what is behind the iron curtain, but we do know that the intelligence of the people in the embattled democracies of Europe, who live in front of the iron curtain, is the world's best hope for peace today.

Education is the most important task before us. The Congress should enact legislation authorizing Federal grants to the States to assist in meeting the operating expenses of elementary and secondary schools. There is general agreement that such aid can be given without interference with State responsibility for the scope and content of the teaching.

If our country is to retain its freedom in a world of conflicting political philosophies, we must take steps to assure that every American youth shall receive the highest level of training by which he can profit.

A soundly conceived federal scholarship program in our colleges and universities is a necessary step in attaining this goal.

Education has been defined as a bulwark against the acids of fascism and communism. Neither of these totalitarian forms of government can survive examination by educated men and women – men and women free to search for the truth and imbued with the principles of liberty set forth in the preamble to the Constitution of the United States – the greatest document of government, in my opinion, that has ever been written by the hand of man. That Constitution gives us the ability to live together in peace. It gives us the ability to see that justice comes to every man, be he big or be he small, be he rich or be he poor.

If this great institution will continue to turn out leaders, I am not at all afraid of what the next generation in the world will bring forth.

We are working for peace. We want peace. We pray for peace all the time in the world. And to attain that peace, we must all learn how to live together peaceably, and do to our neighbors as we would have our neighbors do to us. Then we will have a happy world, and that's what we want.

## MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM TEMPERATURES AT KEY WEST

Date	Minimum	Maximum
March 6 <sup>th</sup>	61	79
March 7 <sup>th</sup>	69	80
March 8 <sup>th</sup>	63	73
March 9 <sup>th</sup>	64	76
March 10 <sup>th</sup>	63	81
March 11 <sup>th</sup>	67	75
March 12 <sup>th</sup>	60	79
March 13 <sup>th</sup>	67	80
March 14 <sup>th</sup>	73	82
March 15 <sup>th</sup>	72	76
March 16 <sup>th</sup>	65	74
March 17 <sup>th</sup>	67	79
March 18 <sup>th</sup>	70	83
March 19 <sup>th</sup>	67	80









