

Secrecy on Pueblo Inquiry

Few presidential assignments have gotten the secrecy treatment accorded former Under Secretary of State George Ball's recently concluded review of various agency performances during the Pueblo incident. Ordered by the White House to gather all the facts, the Ball study was looked upon as one way to head off a possible Tonkin-type Congressional investigation.

It's understood Ball's final report to the President was oral rather than written— one way to avoid any news leaks. Though he worked out of what is now Under Secretary for Political Affairs Charles Bohlen's office, only a handful of State Department officials knew what Ball was doing.