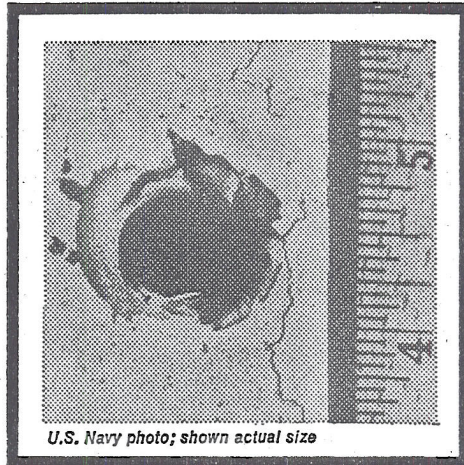


# The "credibility gap" was born here.



U.S. Navy photo; shown actual size

This photograph shows the total damage inflicted by North Vietnam in the 1964 incident in Tonkin Gulf: a 1/2-inch bullet hole in the USS *Maddox*. The slug, encased in plastic, went to the Pentagon and served frequently as Exhibit A in lectures to suspicious senators. Today, even its caliber is still a secret from the public.

"Aggression — deliberate, willful, and systematic aggression — has unmasked its face to the entire world," President Johnson said of the incident. The United States response ultimately resulted in dropping more tons of bombs on North Vietnam than we dropped in all of World War II and the Korean War combined.

What *did* happen at Tonkin Gulf on August 2 and 4, 1964? Not even the Pentagon Papers revealed the full story.

- Was the patrol a routine one? Or was the *Maddox* a spy ship like the *Pueblo*?
- Why can't the Navy prove that a second attack (on August 4) ever took place?
- Why did the Navy conceal from the Secretary of Defense important information about the ship's mission and details of the attacks?
- Was the Tonkin Gulf incident provoked to give a pretext for escalating the Vietnam War?

Eugene G. Windchy spent three years seeking out the answers in research and in-depth interviews with the officers and men of the *Maddox* and USS *Turner Joy*. The result of what *Publishers' Weekly* calls his "prodigious investigative talents" is the clearest, most startling account yet published of the turning point in the longest, costliest war in our history.

# **Tonkin Gulf**

**A documentary of the incidents  
and their consequences by  
Eugene G. Windchy**

With photographs and map, TONKIN GULF  
is just published and at all booksellers now.

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