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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

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Ser 001688F61

27 MAY 1964

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MEMORANDUM OF INFORMATION FOR THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

Subj: Indian Ocean Islands (U)

Ref: (a) Memo of Info ser 001670F61 dtd 12 May 1964

1. To minimize anticipated propaganda attacks in the UN, when news becomes known of UK intentions to detach the Chagos Archipelago, Aldabra Island and Agalega Island, the UK, in consultation with the US, has agreed that detachment (and the joint survey of Chagos) should be deferred until after the Committee of 24 recesses on June 26.

2. Although the UK, apparently at the urging of its UN Mission, is reexamining its original concept of placing the islands under direct UK administration, our Embassy at London believes this will not affect the basic UK decision to move ahead after the Committee of 24 recesses and before it reconvenes on September 15.

3. Comment. Navy continues ready to proceed with the Diego Garcia survey, which now will probably not be scheduled before late July or August.

Richard S. Craighill
Director, Politico-Military Policy Division

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