

OAS, NHC, CO R62, 1965, Bx 24, 11000/2  
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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS  
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

"CARD"  
003S



IN REPLY REFER TO  
Op-601F2/sk  
Ser 0034P60

15 JAN 1965

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OP-00  
OP-002  
OP-003  
OP-004  
OP-005  
OP-006  
OP-00C

MEMORANDUM FOR THE VICE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS

Subj: Indian Ocean Islands (U)

1. The attached outgoing message was received following our discussion yesterday afternoon.
2. It reflects informal information passed to OSD(ISA) regarding possibilities of intermittent U.S. presence on the island once access rights are secured.
3. Since this is a joint State-Defense message and was approved by ISA, I believe it answers your requirement for a formal submission from OSD to State.
4. Unless otherwise directed therefore, we will not press OSD to forward further confirmation of this requirement.

A. McB. JACKSON  
Vice Admiral, USN  
Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Plans and Policy)

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*[Faint handwritten notes and signatures]*

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INFO: CJCS-1 DJS-1 SJCS-1 J3-2 J5-2 DIR/DIA-1 NMCC/DDO-2  
SECDEF-5 A-5 GC-1 IL-1 ODRE-1 CSA-2 SAF-2 CNO-2  
CMC-2 FILE-1 (22)WS/RAM 2982 IS 67444

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# OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ collect  
☐ CHARGE TO

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CALL 53337  
FOR NMCC/MC  
SERVICE

1.14 02 48

JAN 13 1242PM

ACTION: AmEmbassy LONDON PRIORITY 4285

INFO: CINCLANT, CINCPAC, CINCSTRIKE for POLADS

LIMDIS

STATE/DEFENSE MESSAGE

Indian Ocean Island Facilities

Embtel 2982

Embassy requested inform Fonoff soonest that areas in

Indian Ocean having most potential for US military requirements  
are:

a. Diego Garcia - As Embassy aware this site required  
for establishment of communications station and supporting  
facilities, to include air strip and improvement of offloading  
capability. Additionally consider that detachment proceedings  
should include entire Chagos Archipelago, primarily in interest  
security but also to have available other sites in Archipelago  
and supporting facilities  
for future contingencies. With respect communications station  
we would expect initiate architect-engineer and design work

as quickly

Drafted by:

G/PM:CAFreshman:iss 1/13/65

Clearance

Telegraphic transmission and

classification approved by: G/PM - Jeffrey C. Kitchen

BNA - Mr. Judd (subst)

AFI - Mr. Oulashin (subst)

UNP - Miss Brown (subst)

DOD/ISA - Mr. Bronez

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as quickly as site available for detailed topographical surveys. We would expect break ground late calendar 1966 for permanent facilities, and have station operational late calendar 1968. In the interim, should circumstances demand, austere communications could be established on van-mounted, concrete-pad-supported basis within period of 3 to 5 months assuming satisfactory arrangements can be made for support of 40-50 operating personnel. FYI. Funds previously programmed for station were deleted by Senate Committee due non-availability of site. Now programmed in Navy FY 1967 construction budget. Possibility of reprogramming in FY 1966 budget presents serious difficulties and would produce at most only 4 or 5 months difference in construction target date, since Navy prepared fund now the architecture-engineer and design work which would be required in any case. END FYI.

b. Aldabra - While nothing specific planned and no funding requests scheduled by US at this time, obvious potential usefulness of Aldabra as a staging area for air operations impels strong recommendation that this island be included in any detachment package, in US/UK interest over long term. FYI We note from UK survey

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survey report that detachment Aldabra would not involve financial outlay; that population problem minimal; and that UK now has repossession rights under its lease arrangement with Seychelles lessee. End FYI.

c. Coetivy, Agalega, Farquahar, Ile des Roches and Cosmoledos -

Since UK intends quote single-bite unquote detachment proceedings (Deptel 3636), strongly urge Fonoff favorably consider stockpiling all or in order their listing some of these islands. They too have military potential and, again over long term, we consider our mutual security interests in Indian Ocean justify UK detach them on precautionary planning basis, particularly if resulting political and financial burden not disproportionate to indicated long-range advantages their availability.

State and Defense consider that with Fonoff having thus been informed of US requirements in Indian Ocean, US and UK will have taken first positive step in admittedly protracted and difficult undertaking. We prepared be responsive fully and promptly as practicable to any questions British may have in order facilitate necessary British decisions. More specifically, we prepared to

meet

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meet in London with UK officials on relatively same representational level and basis as last February meetings. If British consider this would be helpful in keeping matters moving.

British Embassy also being informed.

GP-3

END

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