P R 232148Z FM CINCPACELT TO CINCPAC

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SECTION ONE OF TWO SECRET

INDIAN OCEAN STUDY (U)

A. CINCPAC: 182004Z (NOTAL)

B. SM-1400-50 OF 20 NOV 1960 (UNIFIED COMMAND PLAN)

1. REF A REQUESTED COMMENTS ON THE INDIAN OCEAN STUDY CONDUCTED BY THE CENTER FOR NAVAL ANALYSIS. THIS STUDY CONCLUDED THAT CONSIDERATION SHOULD BE GIVEN TO THE DEPLOYMENT OF A MARINE BATTALION CANDING TEAM (BLT) WITH RELATED AMPRIBIOUS AND ESCORT SHIPS TO THE INDIAN OCEAN ON A SUSTAINED BASIS. THE PREFERRED MAKE-UP OF THIS "POLICY OPTION" FORCE WOULD BE A MARINE REINFORCED BLT, 1 LPH, 1 LPD, 2 AKA,

4. DD AND 1 AF. POL NEEDS WOULD BE MET BY UNREP FROM MSTS, TANKERS ENROUTE TO WESTPAC FROM THE MIDEAST OR BY ADVADE ON A 10-15 DAY CYCLE, THE STUDY WAS THOROUGH. IN ITS ANALYSIS OF THE GEOGRAPHICAL. ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL FACTORS OF THE INDIAN OCEAN LITTORAL, HOWEVER, IT FAILED TO POINT OUT SOME OF THE OPERATIONAL ASPECTS OF COMMITTING A PERMANENT FORCE IN THE INDIAN OCEAN WHETHER IT BE AN ATTACK CARRIER GROUP OR A BATTALION LANDING TEAM WITH ASSOCIATED SHIPS.

2. CINCPACELT HAS LONG APPRECIATED THE STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE OF THE INDIAN OCEAN, HOWEVER, CURRENJ AND PROBABLY FUTURE FORCE LEVEL RESTRICTIONS DO NOT PERMIT THE US TO MAINTAIN NAVAL FORCES IN ALL AREAS OF THE WORLD. FLEET RESOURCES MUST BE STRATEGICALLY POSITIONED WHERE THE THREAT IS THE GREATEST AND WHERE THE REACTION TIME CAN BE HELD TO A MINIMUM. FOR THE COG

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FORSEEABLE FUTURE THE GREATS. THE CAT IN THE PACOM AREA WILL BE IN SOUTHEAST ASIA. US 18 WHERE SEVENTHELT STRENGTH IS NOW FOCUSED.

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- 3. IT IS RECOGNIZED THAT IN THE MORE DISTANT FUTURE THE TEREAT MAY CHANGE TO THE INDIAN OCEAN LITTORAL AND AT THAT TIME WE MUST BE PREPARED TO COUNTER THIS THREAT AND SHIFT OUR DEPLOYMENT PATTERNS TO THIS AREA. THE PACELI. WILL BE PREPARED TOWDO THIS MINEN SUCH A SHIFT IS WARRANTED. FLEXIBILITY IS ONE OF OUR GREATEST ASSETS: HOHEVER'S OF PRIMARY CONCERN REGARDING DEPLOYMENTS IN THE INDIAN OCEAN IS THE LENGTHENING OF THE LOGISTIC SUPPLY LINES. IFIFORCES ARE DEPLOYED TO THIS AREA ON A CONTINUOUS BASIS IT WOULD BE NEDESSARY TO DEVELOP A FLEST ANCHORAGE AND AN AUSTERE FORWARD BASE WITH AN AIRSTRIP, THESE FACILITIES WOULD PERMIT RAPID RESUPPLY OF CRITICAL SPARE PARTS AND ADEQUATE SHIP MAINTENANCE, FURTHER, ADDITIONAL LOGISTIC SUPPORT SHIPPING WILL BE REQUIRED BECAUSE OF THE LENGHENED SUPPLY LINES. THE ISLANDS OF THE INDIAN OCEAN HAVE RECENTLY BEEN SURVEYED AND DIEGO GARCIA IN THE CHAGDS: ARCHIPELAGO APPEARS TO HAVE THE BEST POTENTIAL TO SATISFY ALL OF THE ABOVE REQUIREMENTS. THE UNITED STATES SHOULD PROCEED WITH NEGOTIATIONS WHICH WOULD ENABLE THE U.S. NAVY TO USE DIEGO GARCIA FOR ANY FUTURE CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS OR IN THE EVENT FORCES MIGHT SOME DAY BE COMMITTED.
- 4. I BELIEVE THE BEST WAY OF FILLING THE MILITARY SECURITY GAP IN THE INDIAN OCEAN AREA FOR THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE IS TO DEPLOY A CARRIER TASK GROUP TO THIS AREA INTERMITTENTLY FOR A ONE TO TWO MONTH PERIOD WHEN CONDITIONS IN SEASIA WILL PERMIT. THE CONCORD SQUADRON RECENTLY PROVED THE PACFLT ABILITY TO FILL THE GAP IN THE INDIAN OCEAN WITHOUT OVERTAXING THE MOBILE LOGISTICS FORCES. AS AN ALTERNATIVE. IF THE SEASIA SITUATION EVERY STABILIZES, IT MAY BE POSSIBLE TO DEPLOY THE SPECIAL LANDING FORCE (SLF) TO THE INDIAN OCEAN INTER-MITTENTLY ON A "SOLANT AMITY" TYPE CRUISE. SUCH A . LPH/LPD FORCE LEVELS ARE INCREASED. AGAIN. AN AUSTERE BASE FOR THIS TYPE FORCE WOULD BE NECESSARY NOT ONLY FOR THE REASONS STATED ABOVE BUT ALSO TO ALLOW THE. TROOPS TO BIVOUAC AND TRAIN ASHORE.
- 5. IN CONNECTION WITH THE INCREASING INTEREST IN THE

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INDIAN OCEAN AREA, I RECOMMEND A REVIEW OF T DEMARCATION BETWEEN CINCPAC AND CINCLANT ARE. F RESCONSIBILITY AS SET TOTAL IN REF B. THE PRESENT LINE COTS A PIECE OF THE AN SA OUT OF THE PACOM AND ALGO SPLITS THE BAY OF BELICAL, CINCPAC HAS PLANNING RESPONSIBILITIES IN THE AMEAN AREA AND COULD OPERATE HIS MAVAL FORCES IN THE BAY OF BENGAL IN SUPPORT OF CINCHEAFBA. CONTINGENCY PLANS. AS IT NOW STANDS THE LINE OF DEMARCATION CUTS THE BAY OF BENGAL INTO TWO PARTS. THE WESTERN SECTIONTO LANTCOM AND THE EASTERN SECTON TO PACOM. FURTHERMORE, THE WESTERNMOST BOUNDARY OF THE ANZAM AREA IS 78 DEGS E LONGITUDE FROM THE TIP OF INDIA SOUTH TO THE POLE. THIS THEN HAS PART OF THE ANZAM AREA INCLUDED IN THE CINCLANT AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY. IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE LINE OF: DEMARCATION BETWEEN CINCLANT AND CINCPAC BE CHANGED AS FOLLOWS: FROM THE POINT 25 S, 60E TO THE POINT ON SOUTHERN TIP OF INDIA WHERE THE LONGITUDE LINE OF 78E TOUCHES THE INDIAN SHORE. THIS HOULD PLACE ALL

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MANUAL MESSAGE

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TO CINCPACE

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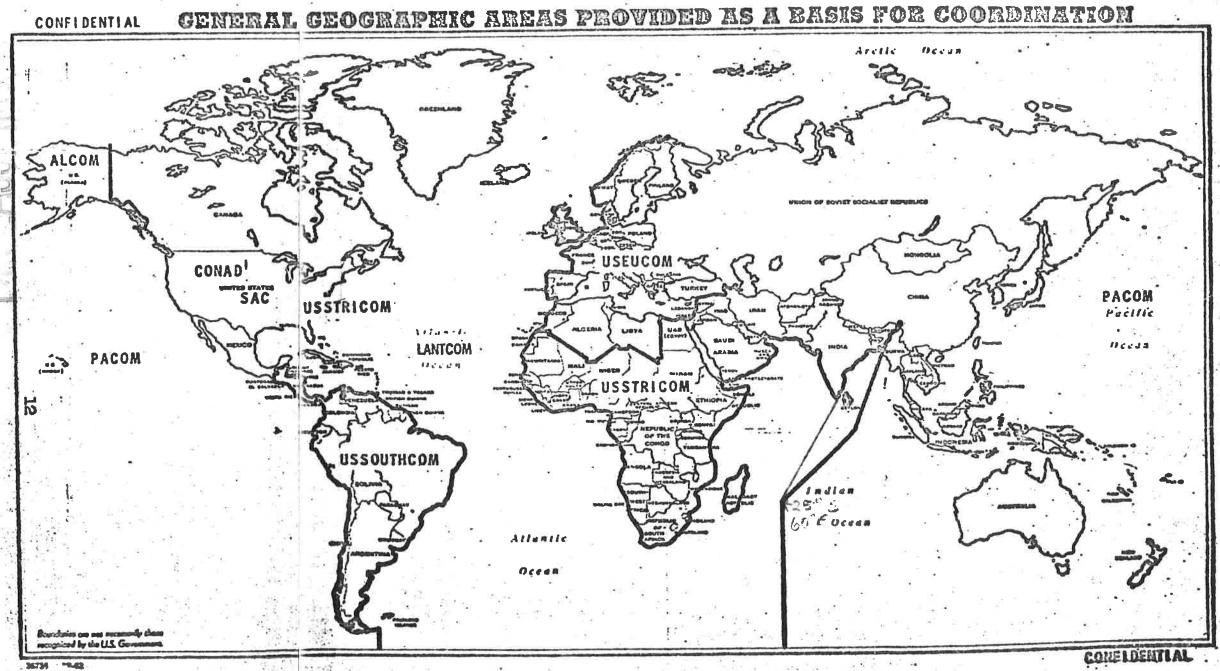
OF THE ANZAM AREA IN THE PACOM AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY AND WOULD NOT DIVIDE THE BAY OF BENGAL.

6. IN SUMMARY, CINCPACELT DOSS NOT CONGUS IN THE COMMITTMENT OF A BLT OR ANY OTHER FORCE TO THE INDIAN OCEAN ON A PERMANENT BASIS WITH THE THREAT IN SEASIA AS IT NOW EXISTS. PERIODIC COMMITTMENT OF A CARRIER GROUP SUCH AS THE CONCORD SQUADRON STILL APPEARS TO BE: THE BEST SOLUTION. FURTHERMORE, NEGOTIATIONS SHOULD PROCEED TO OBTAIN RIGHTS TO DIEGO GARCIA AND ULTIMATELY TO: DEVELOP THAT ISLAND FOR CONTINGENCY USE. IN THE EVENT LARGE SCALE NAVAL OPERATIONS BECOME NECESSARY IN THE INDIAN OCEAN. FINALLY, A READJUSTMENT TO THE LANTCOM/PACOM LINE OF DEMARCATION TO GIVE PACOM THE BAY OF BENGAL AND ALL OF THE ANZAM: AREA IS RECOMMENDED.

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