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OP-90 FILES: 11000/2
09h/c

SECRET

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20350

19 JUN 1967

CNO BRIEFING SUMMARY

OP-001
OP-002
OP-003
OP-004
OP-005
OP-006
OP-00C
OP-00D

IN REPLY REFER TO
Op-61FS/agb
Ser 001786P61

19 JUN 1967

Special handling required not releasable to foreign Nationals

SECRET

MEMORANDUM OF INFORMATION FOR THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

Subj: Navy Proposal for Fleet Support Activity on Diego Garcia (S)

Ref: (a) Op-61 Memo Ser 001772P61 of 31 May 67

Encl: (1) Copy of Memo from ISA to JCS of 2 June 67

1. The information in my memorandum of 31 May (reference (a)) has been modified by subsequent events.
2. The talks mentioned by Mr. McNaughton with Prime Minister Wilson on UK East of Suez policy took place earlier than the 7 June date he had anticipated. Secretary McNamara did not participate in the talks to the extent originally planned and ISA decided it would be inappropriate to raise the Diego Garcia problem at that time.
3. Assistant Secretary McNaughton has requested the JCS to comment on the desirability and contingency usefulness of the Navy proposal and on whether the U.S. should proceed unilaterally with construction if the UK decides not to participate (enclosure (1)).
4. The JCS plan to combine the ISA request and CINCLANT's message asking for endorsement of the Navy proposal. No deadline has been set for the paper but the JCS best estimate at this point is that it should be ready at the end of June.
5. Op-61 Comment. ISA does not plan to request a decision on the Diego Garcia project until after the JCS have addressed the problem. We are concentrating our efforts on getting a strong, positive endorsement from the JCS both on the substance of the Navy proposal and on the kind of approach to the UK that you have previously discussed with Secretary McNamara. Indications are that JCS action officers are sympathetic to the Navy position.

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6. All of the above paragraphs are classified Secret.

James W. O'Grady

JAMES W. O'GRADY
Director, Politico-Military
Policy Division

Copy to:
UNDERSECNAV

Op-00

Op-09

Op-06

Op-04

Op-03

Op-60

Op-96

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INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS

SECRET NOFORN

ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

In reply refer to:
I-23377/67

2 June '67

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHAIRMAN, JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

SUBJECT: Proposed Naval Facility in Diego Garcia (S)

The Secretary of the Navy has recently proposed that we proceed with the construction of a \$26 million support facility on Diego Garcia in the Chagos Archipelago. I would appreciate having the current views of the Joint Chiefs of Staff on Diego Garcia. Specifically, I would welcome:

a. Your view as to the desirability of proceeding now to construct a naval support facility on Diego Garcia and the value of such a facility in various contingencies. Consideration also should be given to possible requirements for support facilities for functions of other Services. (1)

b. An evaluation as to whether we should proceed with this facility, if required, without UK agreement to participate in construction funding and/or operating costs. (2)

1s/
John T. McNaughton

Prep'd by: Robt. Murray/AS/SPS Plans Div.
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ENCLOSURE (1) to CNO - Sec/Memo on 12BPL