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From: Mr. T.A.G. CHARLTON Assistant Under Secretary (Air Staff)

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

Main Building, Whitehall, LONDON S.W.1

Telephone: WHITEhall 7022, ext. 7543

Our reference: AUS(AS)/479
Your reference:

27th September 1967

Dear Ron

ALDABRA: DRAFT AGREEMENT

I enclose, as promised, yesterday, a draft of the sort of agreement which we think would be necessary between the British and US Governments to cover the arrangements for sharing the capital cost of the Aldabra project and for joint use of the airfield.

2. As you will see, the draft agreement is in fairly general terms, and all details of the facilities to be shared are relegated to an Annex. What we have in mind is that the Agreement itself (though not the Annex) should be published: this should be helpful from the point of view of presentation to scientific opinion, since the text would make it clear that the two Governments were taking very seriously the need to protect the ecology of the island to the maximum extent possible. A draft of the Annex is currently being prepared on the basis of the schedule of requirements agreed between the Royal Air Force and the US Air Force and I hope to be able to send this to you within a few days.

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 12958, Sec. 3.6

NLI/RAC 00-313 5-25-04

By NO NARA, Date 6-18-03

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3. I should make it clear that this is only a tentative draft which we are putting forward without commitment as a basis for negotiation. It has not at this stage been submitted for approval to United Kingdom Ministers. If the general lines on which we are approaching the matter seem acceptable to you, I suggest that, once a definite decision has been taken on the Aldabra project (and assuming it to be favourable) a small team of US representatives should come to London to work out with us, ad referendum, the terms of the final document.

A copy of this Letter goes to Sykes in the Foreign Office.

Yours

Charlton

T.A.G. CHARLTON

Mr. Ronald I. Spiers,
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