



XR DEF15 ND-45

### Department of State

CONFIDENTIAL 067

PAGE Ø1 CANBER 06566 310701Z

ACTION PM-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-12 EUR-20 EA-15 CIAE-00 H-02 INR-08

NSAE-00 NSC-10 P-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS=20: USIA-12

NASA-04

/132 W

034456

RI 310630Z DEC 70 FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6499 INFO AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS: AMEMBASSY LONDON AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM AMEMBASSY ADDIS: ABABA AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI CINCPACELT CINCLANTFLT COMIDEASTFOR DOD/ISA

CONFIDENTIAL CANBERRA 6566

JOINT EMBASSY/USDAO MESSAGE

SUBJ: STAGING AND SUPPORT FOR DIEGO GARCIA.

(A) STATE 208825 - DEF 15 IND- 215

(B) PORT LOUIS 1/40 ER DEF 15 WD- 4K

I. EMBASSY PLANS RAISE PROPOSED USE FACILITIES COCOS ISLANDS ORALLY WITY DEA NEXT WEEK. IN VIEW STRONGLY FAVORABLE GOA REACTION: TO PLANS FOR DIEGO GARCIA, WE BELIEVE GOA WILL GIVE PERMISSION FOR STAGING PURPOSES OUTLINED REF A.

IN COURSE OF EMBASSY APPROACH TO GOA RELUSE OF COGOS, WE: WOULD ALSO LIKE: TO BRIEF GOA ON: INITIAL: STAGING AND SUPPORT OPERATION: INCLUDING PROPOSED USE OF: MAURITIUS. SUCH BRIEFING WOULD ANTICIPATE SERIES OF LOGICAL QUES-

CONFIDENTIAL



## Department of State

## TELEGRAM

#### CONFIDENTIAL

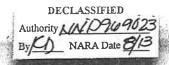
PAGE: 02 CANBER: 06566 310701Z

TIONS FROM GOA ABOUT SUPPORT OPERATIONS. INFORMATION ABOUT MAURITIUS PORTION OF OPERATION COULD BE CONFINED TO DESCRIPTION GENERAL NATURE OF SUPPORT EXPECTED THERE INCLUDING SUPPLY OF SOME FOODSTUFFS, ETC. PROVISION THIS INFORMATION WOULD HAVE ADDED VIRTUE OF PUTTING GOA IN PICTURE SHOULD FURTHER REQUIREMENTS FOR USE OF COCCS: FOR: SUPPORT OF DIEGO GARCIA DEVELOP AFTER AIRSTRIP IS: COMPLETED OR IN EVENT IT DECIDED GO BACK TO DRIGINAL PLAN OF STAGING ALL THREE PERSONNEL INCREMENTS THROUGH COCOS. IF CONSIDERED PREFERABLE WE COULD DELAY APPROACHING GOA UNTIL PORT LOUIS HAS TAKEN INITIAL BOUNDINGS WITH GOM. AFTER PLANS ARE FIRM, WE WOULD ALSO LIKE APPROVAL BRIEF OUR BRITISH COUNTERPARTS HERE.

- WITH REGARD USE OF COCOS FOR STAGING TWO PERSONNEL PICKUPS, WE WOULD APPRECIATE MORE DETAILED INFORMATION EVEN THOUGH TENTATIVE INCLUDING TYPE OF AIRCRAFT AND: SHIPS, ROUTES TO BE TAKEN, REQUIREMENTS FOR FUEL, ETC. IN VIEW VERY LIMITED ACCOMMODATION OF WEST ISLAND, SITE OF AIRPORT WHERE ONLY 124 EUROPEANS (AND NO COCOS IS-LANDERS) RESIDE, WOULD BE NECESSARY SCHEDULE SHIP AR-RIVALS PRIOR ARRIVAL PERSONNEL BY AIRCRAFT. SUGGEST ARRANGEMENT BE MADE SIMILAR TO THAT PROPOSED FOR PORT LOUIS, I.E., TRANSPORT OF PERSONNEL DIRECTLY FROM AIR-PORT TO SHIPS WITHOUT NEED FOR TEMPORARY ACCCOMMODATION. WITH REGARD SHIPS, LATEST INFORMATION IS THAT ONLY 131/2-FOOT DRAFT SHIPS MAY ENTER HARBOR AREA WEST ISLAND AND THAT MAXIMUM DRAFT FOR SHIPS IN OUTER ANCHORAGE IS 23 FEET. BROCHURE ON COCOS ISLANDS BEING TRANSMITTED BY POUCH TODAY FOR ATTENTION PM/ISO.
- WITH REGARD SUPPORT OPERATIONS AFTER AIRSTRIP COMPLETED ON DIEGO GARCIA, WE BELIEVE AUSTRALIANS WOULD BE
  INTERESTED IN SUPPLYING SOME ITEMS FROM HERE. WE HAVE
  INDICATED: IN BILATERAL: DEFENSE PROCUREMENT TALKS US
  INTEREST AND WILLINGNESS OBTAIN MORE PRODUCTS INCLUDING
  FOODSTUFFS FROM AUSTRALIAN SOURCES. PROCUREMENT OF
  EXCELLENT HOMOGENIZED MILK IN AUSTRALIAN COULD BENEFIT
  BOTH OUR PURPOSES, ESPECIALLY SINCE SUPPLY OF MILK FROM
  MAURITIUS SEEMS DOUBTFUL. OVER LONGER TERM THERE MAY
  BE: POSSIBILITIES OF AUSTRALIA'S SUPPLYING WHOLE
  RANGE OF OTHER ITEMS, E.G., CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS,

CONFIDENTIAL

get is something





# Department of State TELEGRA

#### CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE: 03 CANBER: 06566 310701Z

AVIATION, FUEL ETC. WEI REALIZE MATTERI OF TRANSPORT, WOULD HAVE TO BE WORKED OUT BUT WOULD APPRECIATE!

DEPARTMENT'S CONSIDERATION AND ADVICE THIS MATTER. AS:
MATTER OF TACTICS SHOULD IT PROVE POSSIBLE PROCURE SUPPORT ITEMS FROM AUSTRALIA, WE REQUEST INITIAL DISCUSSIONS BE HELD HERE. WE BELIEVE OUR EXPERIENCE! IN THIS
FIELD WITH GOA OFFICIALS WOULD BE USEFUL! IN: OBTAINING
BEST POSSIBLE DEAL AND! IN: RELIEVING SOME: PRESURE: ON
EMBASSY WITH REGARD PROCUREMENT IN! AUSTRALIA BY US:
FACILITIES HERE. OF: INTEREST TO GOA ALSO WOULD BE POSSIBILITY THAT SIGNIFICANT NUMBER US PERSONNEL FROM
DIEGO GARCIA MIGHT WISH: VISIT AUSTRALIA ON LEAVE DURING!
THREE-YEAR CONSTRUCTION PERIOD PROVIDED SUITABLE AIR
TRANSPORTATION CAN BE ARRANGED.

5. AS DEPARTMENT AND DOD: AWARE, GOA IS VERY RECEPTIVE TO: USE OF AIRPORT AT COCOS: FOR VARIETY OF PURPOSES: LIKE AD HOC AIRCRAFT STOPOVERS AND SUPPORT FOR APOLLO PROGRAM ON CONTINUING BASIS INCLUDING OUR CURRENT REQUEST FOR USE OF COCOS FOR APOLLO 14 NEXT MONTH. IN VIEW OUR EXCELLENT RELATIONS WITH AUSTRAIA, WE RECOMMEND EVERY EFFORT BE MADE PROVIDE EVEN LIMITED: BENEFITS: IN WAY OF PROCUREMENT, ETC., WHICH ARE POSSIBLE IN CIRCUMSTANCES.

6. WOULD APPRECIATE AS MUCH INFORMATION AS POSSIBLE ON QUESTIONS RAISED PARA 3 ABOVE FOR USE: IN OUR DISCUSSIONS WITH GOA. IF POSSIBLE WE WOULD LIKE INFORMATION ON PARA 4 WITHIN FOUR-SIX WEEKS.

GP-3. RICE

CONFIDENTIAL