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ACTION: Amembassy LONDON

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SUBJECT: Diego Garcia Relocations

REFERENCE: A - London 2509

B - London 2925

JOINT STATE/DEFENSE MESSAGE

1. HMG position described by URWICK in reftel <sup>A</sup> is acceptable to USG. FONOFF course of action with MOULINIE appears to be most appropriate. We are encouraged that his ownership of land on Agalega gives him interest in moving activities there.
2. We are concerned, however, about new British timetable. Planning here has proceeded on assumption that some workers and families might remain on Diego Garcia

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ISA/EMRA: Mr. Neher *nm*PM/ISO: Capt. From *nm*

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EUR/BMI - Mr. Waller *nm*AF/I - Mr. Kormann *nm*OASD/ISA - Mr. Barringer *nm*

DRAFTING DATE

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PM/ISO: J. Stoddart *nm*ISA/ER - Mr. James *nm*ISA/NESA - Dr. Timberlake *nm*J-5 - BGen Edwards *nm*Op 61 - Capt Crawford *nm*

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(continued)

serious problems.  
through 1971 or perhaps into early 1972. This would cause  
mean that some of population might still be on Diego  
by US. The British timetable reported refuel could  
displacement of some workers to areas not being used  
on major portion of western half of atoll would force  
this would pose some difficulties. Early site preparation  
say, four or five months after construction begins, even  
to accept presence of some of this population for, XXXX  
as early as March 1971. Although we would be prepared  
appropriates funds in FY 71, construction could start  
for a short period after construction began. If Congress

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ROGERS

end.

guidelines outlined therein.

4. We have no objection to HMG proposal refel B using HMG to plan to accomplish move in more expeditious manner. RONOFF request you reflect our concern and encourage that we reject HMG schedule but in conversations with service to US personnel there. This does not mean local community on Diego having an economic stake in want to preclude the establishment of even a small and visibility of station as low as possible. We also of weakening our efforts to keep publicity at a minimum construction starts would have additional disadvantage

3. Presence of population for entire year after

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