

UNCLASSIFIED

E44

UNCLASSIFIED

PTQ2054

RELEASED IN FULL

PAGE 01 PORT L 00525 01 OF 02 061246Z

ACTION SCT-00

INFO	LOG-00	NP-00	AF-00	AID-00	A-00	ACQ-00	CA-01
	CCO-00	CG-00	CIAE-00	COME-00	CTME-00	INL-00	USNW-00
	DODE-00	DOEE-00	DOTE-00	SRPP-00	DS-00	EB-00	EUR-00
	FAAE-00	FBIE-00	UTED-00	VC-00	H-01	TEDE-00	INR-00
	INSE-00	IO-00	LAB-01	L-00	VCE-00	M-00	AC-01
	NEA-00	DCP-01	NRCE-00	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OCS-03	OIC-02
	OMB-01	PA-00	PER-00	PM-00	PRS-00	ACE-00	P-00
	SP-00	IRM-00	SSO-00	SS-00	TEST-00	TRSE-00	T-00
	USIE-00	USSS-00	EPAE-00	PMB-00	DSCC-00	LBA-00	PRM-00
	DRL-02	G-00	NFAT-00	SAS-00	/013W		

-----AA81B2 061249Z /38

R 061241Z MAY 02

FM AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7966

INFO SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 PORT LOUIS 000525

SENSITIVE

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: PREL, KTIA, PTER, PIR, MP

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 PORT L 00525 01 OF 02 061246Z

SUBJECT: MAURITIUS: AMBASSADOR'S CALL ON FOREIGN MINISTER  
GAYAN

1. (SBU) SUMMARY: AMBASSADOR JOHN PRICE PRESENTED CREDENTIALS TO MAURITIAN PRESIDENT CARL AUGUSTE OFFMANN ON APRIL 26 AND BEGAN THAT DAY A SERIES OF COURTESY CALLS ON THE GOM. THIS CABLE REPORTS ON THE AMBASSADOR'S CALL ON GOM FOREIGN MINISTER ANIL GAYAN. GAYAN LAMENTED THE BREAKDOWN OF ORDER IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND APPEALED FOR A NEW USG POSITION ON DIEGO GARCIA. END SUMMARY.

2. (SBU) THE AMBASSADOR, ACCOMPANIED BY THE DCM (NOTETAKER) CALLED ON FOREIGN MINISTER ANIL GAYAN ON APRIL 26. AFTER INTRODUCTORY PLEASANTRIES, GAYAN LAUNCHED INTO DISCUSSION OF THE MIDDLE EAST AND DIEGO

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

GARCIA.

3. (SBU) MIDDLE EAST: FM GAYAN WELCOMED AMBASSADOR TO MAURITIUS ANNOUNCING THAT HE WOULD SOON LEAVE FOR SOUTH AFRICA FOR A MEETING OF THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT. HE WAS SURE THAT THE CRISIS IN THE MIDDLE EAST WOULD DOMINATE DISCUSSIONS. HE COMMENTED THAT WITH THE MIDDLE EAST, THE SITUATION WAS ALWAYS "ONE STEP FORWARD, TWO STEPS BACK." ASKED TO CLARIFY, GAYAN REPLIED THAT "THE ONLY SIDE TO EVER MOVE BACKWARD IS PALESTINE, WHILE THE ISRAELIS ALWAYS MOVE FORWARD." GAYAN CHARGED THAT THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT'S RESPONSE WITH REGARD TO WHATEVER IT PERCEIVED TO BE THE THREAT FACED WAS "WAY OUT OF PROPORTION." HE SAID THAT BECAUSE OF THE WAY THE GOI HAD HANDLED ARAFAT AND THE PALESTINIANS IN REFUGEE CAMPS ISRAEL HAD "LOST ITS MORAL HIGH GROUND," AND A SEVERELY

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 PORT L 00525 01 OF 02 061246Z  
TARNISHED IMAGE WOULD "STAY WITH ISRAEL FOR MANY, MANY YEARS." THE AMBASSADOR THANKED GAYAN FOR THE WELCOME AND SAID THAT THE USG WAS WORKING HARD WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF BOTH SIDES IN THE MIDDLE EAST CRISIS LIVING IN PEACE.

4. (SBU) TERRORISM: GAYAN INFORMED THE AMBASSADOR THAT THE MFA WOULD SOON SEND A FAVORABLE RESPONSE TO THE EMBASSY'S DIPLOMATIC NOTE REGARDING ASSISTANCE ON MARITIME INTERCEPTIONS. IN CONJUNCTION WITH THAT RESPONSE, THE GOM WILL ASK FOR USG ASSISTANCE WITH PORT SECURITY. GAYAN SAID THE GOM WOULD FORMALLY ASK FOR USG ASSISTANCE IN OBTAINING A CONTAINER SCANNER FOR THE MAURITIAN PORT AUTHORITY.

5. (SBU) DIEGO GARCIA: LASTLY, GAYAN ANNOUNCED THAT PRIME MINISTER JUGNAUTH INTENDS TO WRITE PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH ABOUT THE GOM POSITION ON THE CHAGOS ARCHIPELAGO. DECLARING THAT THE GOM "WILL PURSUE THIS MATTER." GAYAN STATED THAT THE GOM HAD "NO DIFFERENCE WITH THE USG AS FAR AS USE OF DIEGO GARCIA WAS CONCERNED AND THAT GOM POLICIES WERE VERY CONSISTENT WITH "YOUR" WAR ON TERROR. HE CONTINUED THAT THE GOM HAD APPROACHED THE UNITED KINGDOM ABOUT THE CHAGOS ARCHIPELAGO AND HAD RECEIVED A FAVORABLE RESPONSE. "THIS IS AN ISSUE OF GREAT IMPORTANCE TO US AS IT CONCERNS OUR TERRITORIAL SOVEREIGNTY. WHATEVER OBJECTIVE WE HAVE IN GETTING SOVEREIGNTY IS NOT GOING TO BE INIMICAL TO YOUR ACTIVITIES IN DIEGO GARCIA OR TO ALL YOUR ACTIONS THERE." HE ASKED THAT IN A SPIRIT OF FRIENDSHIP, THE USG WORK WITH THE GOM ON A WAY FORWARD. NOTING THAT THE SOVEREIGNTY ISSUE IS A DISPUTE WITH THE UK, GAYAN SAID

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED  
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04            PORT L 00525 01 OF 02 061246Z  
THAT THE GOM HAD DECIDED THAT NOW WAS THE TIME TO ACT  
BECAUSE THE UK HAS TOLD THE GOM THAT THE UK-US TREATY  
TIED ITS HANDS. WHEN THE AMBASSADOR REMINDED GAYAN THAT  
THE UK-US TREATY LEASED THE LAND TO THE USG UNTIL THE  
YEAR 2016 WITH AN OPTION FOR 20 MORE YEARS UNTIL 2036,  
GAYAN SNAPPED THAT "AS FAR AS WE'RE CONCERNED, IT SHOULD  
NEVER HAVE BEEN UNTIL 2016!"

6. (SBU) THE AMBASSADOR TOLD GAYAN THAT TERRORISM OF ANY  
KIND WAS NOT GOOD. PEACE WAS NECESSARY AND IMPORTANT FOR  
ENHANCING PEOPLE'S LIVES. SUPPORTING PEACEFUL EFFORTS  
WOULD ALSO BE IMPORTANT FOR USG-GOM BILATERAL RELATIONS.  
HE EXPRESSED GREAT RESPECT FOR ALL THAT MAURITIUS HAD  
ACCOMPLISHED SINCE INDEPENDENCE - ESTABLISHING DEMOCRACY,  
ACHIEVING AN ECONOMIC STANDARD OF LIVING HIGHER THAN MOST  
OF AFRICA, AND PRESENTING A MODEL GOVERNMENT IN THE  
REGION. THE SANCTITY OF CHAGOS ARCHIPELAGO WAS IMPORTANT  
TO WORLD PEACE.

7. (SBU) GAYAN THANKED THE AMBASSADOR FOR THE PRAISE AND  
SAID THAT HE HOPED THE SAME SPIRIT WOULD CONTINUE ONCE  
OUR TWO SIDES DISCUSS THE CHAGOS ARCHIPELAGO. HE SAID  
THAT THE GOM HAS NOT SAID ANYTHING TO INTERFERE WITH USE  
OF DIEGO GARCIA. IT BELIEVES, HOWEVER, THAT THE OTHER  
ISLANDS IN THE CHAGOS ARCHIPELAGO CAN BE USED FOR OTHER  
PURPOSES, INCLUDING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES SUCH AS LAND,  
FISHING, AND ECO-TOURISM.

8. (SBU) THE AMBASSADOR REITERATED THE USG POSITION  
REGARDING CHAGOS. HE STATED THAT THE USG HAD A LEASE

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 05            PORT L 00525 01 OF 02 061246Z

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED            PTQ2055

PAGE 01            PORT L 00525 02 OF 02 061246Z  
ACTION SCT-00

INFO	LOG-00	NP-00	AF-00	AID-00	A-00	ACQ-00	CA-01
	CCO-00	CG-00	CIAE-00	COME-00	CTME-00	INL-00	DODE-00
	DOEE-00	DOTE-00	SRPP-00	DS-00	EB-00	EUR-00	FAAE-00
	FBIE-00	UTED-00	VC-00	H-01	TEDE-00	INR-00	INSE-00
	IO-00	LAB-01	L-00	VCE-00	M-00	AC-01	NEA-00

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

DCP-01	NRCE-00	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OCS-03	OIC-02	OMB-01
PA-00	PER-00	PM-00	PRS-00	ACE-00	P-00	SP-00
SSO-00	SS-00	TEST-00	TRSE-00	T-00	USIE-00	USSS-00
PMB-00	DSCC-00	LBA-00	DRL-02	G-00	NEAT-00	SAS-00

/013W

-----AA81B6 061249Z /38

R 061241Z MAY 02  
 FM AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS  
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7967  
 INFO SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY  
 AMEMBASSY LONDON  
 AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
 USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 PORT LOUIS 000525

SENSITIVE

E.O. 12958: N/A  
 TAGS: PREL, KTIA, PTER, PIR, MP

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 PORT L 00525 02 OF 02 061246Z  
 SUBJECT: MAURITIUS: AMBASSADOR'S CALL ON FOREIGN MINISTER  
 GAYAN

WITH THE UK, WHICH CONTAINS THE OPTION TO RENEW UNTIL  
 2036. THOSE WERE THE FACTS AS THEY ARE WRITTEN ON THE  
 LEASE DOCUMENT. THE CONCERNS THAT ALL NATIONS HAD WITH  
 REGARD TO TERRORISM ARE DIRECTLY RELATED TO THE USG  
 ABILITY TO PROTECT AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE OUR USE OF THE  
 ARCHIPELAGO, AS IS.

9. (SBU) IN CLOSING, GAYAN RESPONDED THAT THE GOM WISHED  
 TO REASSURE THE USG THAT IT HAS "NO ISSUE AT ALL" WITH  
 THE USG'S USE OF DIEGO GARCIA. THE GOM UNDERSTANDS THE  
 DEFENSE AND STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE OF USG ACTIVITIES THERE.  
 HE SAID THAT THE GOM SEEKS AN OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS ITS  
 VIEWS FREELY AND CONFIDENTIALLY WITH THE USG.  
 PRICE

UNCLASSIFIED

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

UNCLASSIFIED