

OP-00 FILES: 11000
09 Feb 2/10

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20350

BRIEF

IN REPLY REFER TO
Op-61/cy
Ser 01712P61
5 FEB 1971

00 BRIEFED

14 FEB 1971

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS

Via: The Vice Chief of Naval Operations

NW

Subj: Status Report on International Aspects of Diego Garcia (U)

Ref: (a) Op-61 memo ser 01678P61 of 22 Jan 1971 (C-1151)
(b) CNO Action Sheet 85-71 of 26 Jan 1971

1. (U) In accordance with VCNO note on reference (a) the following is the third weekly status report on the international aspects of Diego Garcia.
2. (C) OPNAV staffing on the response to the British skeleton draft memorandum of understanding (MOU) on the Diego Garcia facility is almost complete. A USN draft MOU will be submitted to the VCNO for approval early in the week of 8 February. After his concurrence it will be forwarded via OSD to State for transmittal to CINCUSNAVEUR and Embassy London. The Navy draft will follow the language and intent of the 1966 BIOT agreement as closely as possible and will allow maximum flexibility of operations on the island. The outgoing message will fulfill the requirement set forth in reference (b) that CINCUSNAVEUR be given guidance for use in negotiations with the British.
3. (C) On 29 January, the reconnaissance party reported that they would leave Diego Garcia that day. The party concluded that the construction plan is feasible as described in the Management Engineering Plan.
4. (C) Activities in support of staging for the first phase of construction continue. Embassy Port Louis is conducting an economic study to determine the feasibility of purchasing provisions in Mauritius. Embassy Canberra is making final arrangements for staging three groups of construction personnel through Cocos Island, in mid-April, mid-May, and mid-June.
5. (U) Under Secretary of State IRWIN has requested a briefing on Diego Garcia. Capt. GRAESSLE (Op-942), the Project Coordinator, will present the briefing on 8 February with assistance from

THERE WERE
NO PROBS WITH IRWIN,
THOUGH HE WAS NON-COMMUN.

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GROUP 4
Downgraded at 3 year
intervals; declassified
after 12 years

1863

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Op-61 and Op-92. Under Secretary of State JOHNSON and four assistant secretaries will also attend. RADM SMALL and RADM FITZPATRICK will represent Navy at the briefing.

Walter L. Small

WALTER L. SMALL
Director, Politico-Military Policy Division

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