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

OP-00 FILES: 11000

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IN REPLY REFER TO

OP-941C1C1/jmt
Ser 002229P941
14 NOV 1972

OO BRIEFED
11/16/72

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHAIRMAN, JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

Subj: Proposed Improvements for Diego Garcia (S)

Ref: (a) SECNAV Memo of 22 Sep 72, subject: "Kagnew Station,
Ethiopia (U)"
(b) SECDEF Memo of 26 Oct 72, subject: "Kagnew Station,
Ethiopia"
(c) DEPSECDEF Memo of 26 Oct 72, subject: "Kagnew
Station, Ethiopia"

OP-00 _____
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OP-005/006 _____
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1. (S) By reference (a), Navy proposed the closure of Naval Communications Station, Asmara, Ethiopia concomitant with completion of improvements at Diego Garcia. If the Diego Garcia improvements were funded in FY-74, Navy stated that Asmara could be closed by June 1976. By references (b) and (c), OSD has requested additional information from Army and Navy as well as your views regarding this proposal. Separate correspondence has been prepared for signature of The Secretary of the Navy responding to these requests. A copy will be provided to you when signed. This memorandum is intended to provide you information not explicitly requested by OSD but of value in your review.

2. (S) The purpose of our efforts is to provide for Navy tactical communications in the Western Indian Ocean, Persian Gulf, Red Sea and Mozambique Channel areas without NAVCOMMSTA, Asmara. Reliance on two stations (Asmara and Diego Garcia) for continued communications support is costly. Additionally, if Asmara were closed suddenly due to political necessity, there would be a void in communications support in these areas. Consequently, we have proposed improvements at Diego Garcia which would permit it to provide requisite coverage at less annual cost than retaining both facilities.

3. (S) Construction of additional communications buildings, transmitter and receiver facilities, and support facilities will be required to permit transfer of communications functions from NAVCOMMSTA Asmara. Included in this construction are facilities designed to meet Navy special communications (HARE) and Ocean Surveillance requirements as well as require-

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SUBJ TO G.D.S. OF E.O. 11652
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ments established by the National Security Agency. These improvements will permit assignment of additional manpower for Project "C" and HFDF, and establishment of a collection effort as well as the facilities requisite to a closure of Asmara. The major construction projects are:

a. Mission

Receiver Bldg. 5,000 sqft.
Transmitter Bldg. 5,250 sqft.
COMMOPS (including Security Groups) 4,150 sqft.
SATCOMM - Hardstand.

b. Support

Air Cargo 2,000 sqft.	Fire station 3,000 sqft.
Warehouse 4,200 sqft.	Laundry 4,000 sqft.
Cold Storage 2,440 sqft.	EEQ 264 man.
PW shops/stores 9,620 sqft.	Mess hall 2,592 sqft.
Crash station 7,200 sqft.	<u>Exchange</u> 590 sqft.

c. Recreation

Chapel 2,655 sqft.	Theatre 3,500 sqft.
Special Services 2,300 sqft.	<u>Club</u> 600 sqft. add'n
Hobby Shop 3,100 sqft.	Playing Crts. 3.
Education Center 4,125 sqft.	AFRTS 1,200 sqft.
<u>Library</u> 1,678 sqft. add'n	

d. Utilities

Water Tank 500,000 gal.
Power 2,400 KW add'n
Transmitter S/B Power 1,200 KW add'n
Transmitter sub-sta 1,500 KVA
Distribution various add'n

4. (S) These improvements are not prohibited by our understanding on Diego Garcia with the British, although they are not specifically authorized. Inasmuch as no additional land is required beyond that already authorized, we foresee no significant problems in this area. However, Congress needs to be brought onboard these proposals. Assume I have your permission to discuss them with Messrs Symington, Stennis and Hebert as before.

F. J. HARLFINGER, II
Vice Admiral, U.S. Navy

Director, Command Support Programs

Copy to:
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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20350

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

Subj: Kagnew Station, Ethiopia (U)

(S) In accordance with your memorandum of 19 February 1972, subject: Closure of Intelligence Activities, Navy has investigated the possibility of relocating its communications facilities elsewhere. Relocation prior to FY-74 would not be feasible because of construction and installation requirements at the relocation sites. Therefore, in conjunction with the activities concerned, Navy has developed a plan for the orderly transfer of Kagnew Station responsibilities from Army to Navy as directed.

(S) Relocation of Naval Communications from Kagnew Station is feasible and is in consonance with Navy's long range plans for communication modernization. It will also reduce our dependence on a large number of HF facilities world-wide. Current planning also calls for Fleet Satellite Communication capability in Diego Garcia. The necessary programming action for submission to Congress is being staffed. An outline of this program, its estimated costs and milestones for improvement of Diego Garcia communications capacity is enclosed. If this program were funded in FY-74 and if non-competitive procurement were utilized, the upgrade could be completed in FY-76 allowing a phaseout of Naval Communication Station Asmara at the end of FY-76. Competitive procurement would delay the phaseout from Asmara at least 15 months. I strongly favor the early relocation from Asmara in order to reduce our vulnerability to potential political problems in Ethiopia.

(S) To facilitate Navy relocation, I recommend that Navy not assume the responsibilities for Kagnew Station. It should be noted that costs of major magnitude are inherent in and must be directly attributable to the transfer of responsibilities, such as PCS orders including air transportation, transportation of dependents, shipment of household effects, and relocation allowances which have not been programmed. For the Navy, this

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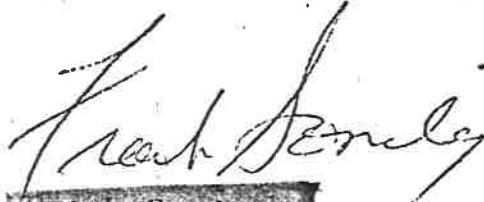
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unprogrammed cost is almost \$2.0M. In the same manner, the Army will incur similar unprogrammed costs in early transfer of Army personnel. In light of this, noting that the Navy communications functions can be relocated at the end of FY-76, it would appear to be more economical for both Military Departments if the Army were to retain overall responsibility for the continued operation and maintenance of Kagnev Station and the DCS communications there. Since the cost of operating the facility should be approximately the same regardless of which Service is the sponsor, this course of action avoids the one time costs of transfer.

(U) Members of your staffs in Intelligence, International Security Affairs and Telecommunications have been briefed on the above proposals. An early decision in these matters would facilitate planning affecting the movement of personnel to and from Kagnev Station.



Frank Sanders

Under Secretary of the Navy

Copy to:

Deputy Secretary of Defense
Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff
Assistant Secretary of Defense (Comptroller)
Assistant Secretary of Defense (Intelligence)
Assistant Secretary of Defense (International
Security Affairs)
Assistant Secretary of Defense (Telecommunications)
Director, National Security Agency
Secretary of the Army
Secretary of the Air Force

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PROPOSED DIEGO GARCIA IMPROVEMENTS (S)

1. (S) The proposed improvement of the austere communications facility at Diego Garcia will enable this station to provide Fleet communications support to one Carrier Task Group and one Underway Replenishment Group, as well as communications support to COMIDEASTFOR throughout the Indian Ocean, Persian Gulf and Red Sea areas. This improvement will augment the existing limited high frequency communications capability with satellite communications and additional LF/HF transmitters and receivers in order to greatly improve the reliability of Naval Communications in these geographic areas. This proposed increased reliability and capacity at Diego Garcia will allow us to phaseout NAVCOMMSTA Asmara, provide DCS connectivity between CINCPAC and CINCEUR operational areas, and Presidential communications support as well as improved fleet support communications to the Naval operating forces in this area.

2. (S) This proposed improvement program would be effected by either private contractors or SEABEES. The project cost of each is shown below. Option a. does not reflect the cost of SEABEE labor and deployment support.

a. SEABEES (\$M)

	<u>FY74</u>	<u>FY-75</u>	<u>FY76</u>
Plant Imp.	6.528		
OPN	9.051		
O&MN	<u>.504</u>	<u>.6</u>	<u>1.6</u>
	16.083	.6	1.6
		TOTAL:	\$18.283M

b. CONTRACTOR (\$M)

Plant Imp.	16.845		
OPN	5.231		
O&MN	<u>.604</u>	<u>.6</u>	<u>1.6</u>
	22.580	.6	1.6
		TOTAL:	\$24.780M

3. (S) If this improvement program is funded in FY-74 and if non-competitive procurement of major equipment is authorized, the program could be completed in FY-76 allowing a phaseout of Naval Communication Station Asmara at the end of FY-76. If competitive procurement methods were used for major equip-

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ment acquisition, the phaseout from Asmara would be delayed at least 15 months.

4. (S) Milestones:

OCT 72 - FY-74 budget submission to Secretary of Defense

MAR 73 - Diego Garcia communications facility commences initial operational capability (current construction)

JUL 73 - Budget approval (FY-74) money (OPN); commence equipment acquisition (21 months)

SEP/
DEC 73 - Funding authorized.

SEP 74 - SEABEE completion of Diego Garcia current construction program. Begin construction of additional facilities.

MAR 75 - Equipment procurement completed. Completion of additional facilities required for equipment installation. Commence equipment installation and checkout (12 months)

JUL 75 - Personnel augmentation commences

MAR 76 - Completion of Operational Test Checkout; completion of remaining facilities; station operational

JUN 76 - Close NAVCOMMSTA Asmara

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

094B

Subj: Kagnew Station, Ethiopia (U)

Ref: (a) SECDEF memo of 19 FEB 1972; subject: Closure
of Intelligence Activities (U)

941

Encl: (1) Draft Memo to SECDEF

941B

1. (S) Reference (a) tasked the Navy to assume the base support and all mission responsibilities (less AFTAC) at Kagnew Station beginning in FY-74. Additionally, the Navy was tasked to investigate the feasibility of relocating its communications facility elsewhere or to reduce the base to the optimum manageable and cost-effective size.

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2. (S) Relocation of the Naval Communications functions to Diego Garcia is feasible provided that the communications capacity of the austere facility now under construction is substantially improved. While a consolidation of Kagnew Station is feasible, relocation to Diego Garcia is strongly recommended to reduce our vulnerability to potential political events in Ethiopia. The Navy's long range planning for communications modernization includes satellite communications. One of the goals of the Fleet Satellite Communications System current programming is to reduce dependence on the multiplicity of HF stations in such places as Kagnew.

3. (U) Briefings on these proposals have been given to the staffs of OSD (ISA, Telecommunications, and Intelligence). While favorably inclined, these staffs requested letter submission of our proposals. Accordingly, I recommend that you sign the enclosed proposed response to the Secretary of Defense, which advises the Secretary that Navy functions at Kagnew Station can be relocated and recommends to him that Army retain base and mission responsibilities allowing Navy relocation.

M. F. WEISNER

ADMIRAL, U.S. NAVY

ORIG: LCDR W.E. KEARNS, 941C1C1, X54498
TYPED: M. COOPER - RETYPED: R.C. CORSI
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What does this mean

26 OCT 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY
SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

SUBJECT: Kagnew Station, Ethiopia

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OP-09	_____
OP-09C	_____
OP-002/003	_____
OP-005/006	_____
OP-08C	_____
OP-00B	_____
OP-00F	_____
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OP-00H	_____
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This is in reply to the memoranda from the Under Secretary of the Army and the Under Secretary of the Navy of 17 October and 22 September 1972 respectively, regarding Kagnew Station.

The proposal to relocate Navy's communications activities from Kagnew appears to have considerable merit but will require a detailed review of the implications that such a move would have for (i) the residual activities (Base and DCS communications, MYSTIC STAR, STONEHOUSE, AFTAC and the diplomatic telecommunications system); (ii) our relations with Ethiopia; (iii) our understanding with the British on Diego Garcia and (iv) the budgetary factors involved. In order that that review may go forward expeditiously, I am requesting the views of the Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff on the technical aspects of Navy's proposal, including the long-term need for continuing the functions now being performed by NAVCOMSTA at Kagnew and whether there are other appropriate sites or other methods of meeting the requirement than relocation to Diego Garcia that should be considered. I, therefore, request that Navy submit a detailed relocation plan, with a copy to the CJCS, within ten days in order that it may be considered within the context of the FY 74 budget process. Of particular importance is the size of the posed Diego Garcia expansion beyond that covered by the US/UK agreement.

In order to fully assess the implications of this proposal (relocation plan and the Kagnew housekeeping functions) it is requested that the Army and Navy, in consultation, each submit a statement of financial/manpower resources by appropriation for FY 74 through 76 (in budget detail FY 73-74) and within ten days so that this matter can be resolved within the PBD process.

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APPROPRIATE ACTION AND PREPARE
REPLY FOR SECRETARIAL SIGNATURE
OP-00 TICKLER DATE: 1 OCT 72

Kenneth Rusk
Deputy

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SUBJECT TO GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE OF
EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652. AUTOMATICALLY DECLASSIFIED
AT TWO YEAR INTERVALS. DECLASSIFIED ON 12-31-00

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THE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

26 OCT 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHAIRMAN, JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

SUBJECT: Kagnev Station, Ethiopia

The Secretary of the Navy has proposed the relocation of the Navy's communications facility from Kagnev Station, Ethiopia to Diego Garcia. Enclosed is a copy of my reply to the Secretary of the Navy which asks the Navy to submit a detailed relocation plan within 10 days with a copy to be provided to you.

After you receive the Navy's plan, I would appreciate your views on the plan and its implications for the residual activities at Kagnev. Your reply should also give consideration to other sites or other methods for meeting the Navy's requirements rather than through a relocation of facilities to Diego Garcia. Your comments should include cost data and the personnel and technical problems that you see in the various alternatives.

I would like to have the results of your review as soon as practical so that appropriate action can be taken prior to the FY 74 Budget Decision on the consolidated telecommunications program.


Kenneth Rush

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AT TWO YEAR INTERVALS. DECLASSIFIED ON 31 Dec 80

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Sec Def Cont Nr. X- 5152