



OP-00 FILES 11000
09 CHAP 3/18

c/s # 1007-71

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

DECLASSIFIED

Op-61/1a1
Ser 033P61
15 MAR 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS

Via: Vice Chief of Naval Operations *W*

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

Ref: (a) Op-61 memo ser 01678P61 of 22 Jan 1971
(b) Op-61 memo ser 01780P61 of 26 Feb 1971

1. (U) In accordance with VCNO note on reference (a), the following is the status report on the international aspects of Diego Garcia for the two-week period ending 12 March.
2. (C) USS VERNON COUNTY (LST-1161) arrived at Diego Garcia on schedule on 9 March 1971. VERNON COUNTY carried the landing party which will prepare for the arrival of the first large contingent of naval construction force personnel aboard USS CHARLESTON (LKA-113) about 20 March. To date, all activities related to the staging of personnel and material for the station are proceeding on schedule according to the Management Engineering Plan.
3. (C) Following approval by the VCNO, the draft agreement between the U.K. Ministry of Defense and the U.S. Department of Defense has been forwarded to OSD/ISA for further transmittal to the Department of State. While all DOD chops have not yet been received, indications are that there will be almost no suggested changes to the Navy draft.
4. (C) Final arrangements have been made for the visit of Navy representatives to London on 15 March to begin detailed discussions on U.K. participation in the manning of the Diego Garcia station. Captain R. J. Brabant of COMNAVCOMM will lead a team of three personnel.
5. (C) USS CHARLESTON (LKA-113) was forced to make an emergency port call at Capetown, South Africa in order to obtain medical attention for one of its crew. CHARLESTON will still arrive Port Louis about 15 March in time to accomplish the pick-up of naval construction personnel.

Copy to:

Op-03 Op-44
Op-04 Op-60
Op-094 Op-06
Op-092

DOWNGRADED AT 3-YEAR INTERVAL
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS

Walter L. Small
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