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RELEASED IN FULL

PAGE 01      PORT L 00452 150343Z  
ACTION AF-00

INFO	LOG-00	NP-00	AID-00	AEX-00	ACQ-00	CEA-01	CIAE-00
	COME-00	CTME-00	INL-00	USNW-00	DOEE-00	ITCE-00	SRPP-00
	DS-00	EB-00	EXME-00	EUR-00	E-00	UTED-00	VC-00
	FRB-00	H-01	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-00	ITC-01	LAB-01
	L-00	VCE-00	AC-01	DCP-01	NSAE-00	OES-01	OIC-02
	OMB-01	OPIC-01	PA-00	PM-00	PRS-00	ACE-00	P-00
	SP-00	SSO-00	SS-00	STR-00	TEST-00	TRSE-00	T-00
	USIE-00	PMB-00	DSCC-00	PRM-00	DRL-02	G-00	SAS-00

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P 150341Z APR 02  
FM AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7918  
INFO SADCC COLLECTIVE  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
JOINT STAFF WASHDC//J5  
CNO WASHINGTON DC//N3/N5  
SECDEF WASHDC  
NSC WASHDC

UNCLAS PORT LOUIS 000452

SENSITIVE

DEPARTMENT FOR AF/FO

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02      PORT L 00452 150343Z

E.O. 12958: N/A  
TAGS: OVIP, PREL, ETRD, MARR, PHUM, MP  
SUBJECT: PROPOSED VISIT OF PRIME MINISTER JUGNAUTH TO  
WASHINGTON

1. (SBU) THIS IS AN ACTION REQUEST. PLEASE SEE PARAGRAPH 7.
2. (SBU) GOM PRIME MINISTER SIR ANEROOD JUGNAUTH TOLD THE CHARGE (4/10) THAT HE WOULD LIKE TO MEET WITH SECRETARY POWELL DURING THE COURSE OF HIS VISIT TO THE U.S. NEXT MONTH. PM JUGNAUTH WILL TRAVEL TO NEW YORK TO ATTEND CEREMONIES RELATED TO THE UN CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD, MAY 8-9. HE IS WILLING TO TRAVEL TO WASHINGTON FOR THE MEETING WITH THE SECRETARY.

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3. (SBU) IN REQUESTING THE MEETING, PM JUGNAUTH INDICATED THAT HE WANTS PERSONALLY TO EXPRESS HIS COMMITMENT TO HAVING THE AGOA FORUM IN MAURITIUS AND TO ASSURE THE USG OF THE GOM'S ABILITY TO HANDLE IT. HE WILL SEEK MORE INFORMATION ABOUT USG REQUIREMENTS, AND PERHAPS ASK FOR A USG POINT OF CONTACT. IF THE MEETING IS SCHEDULED, PM JUGNAUTH WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY INDUSTRIAL COMMERCE AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE MINISTER JAYEN CUTTAREE. CUTTAREE IS PM JUGNAUTH'S POINT PERSON TASKED WITH OVERSEEING MAURITIAN PREPARATION FOR THE FORUM.

4. (SBU) URGING THE USG TO MAKE A DECISION ON THE FORUM'S VENUE WILL BE THE CENTRAL FOCUS OF THIS PROPOSED BILATERAL. IT IS PROBABLE, HOWEVER, THAT, GIVEN THE CHANCE, PM JUGNAUTH WILL ALLUDE TO FM GAYAN'S CHAT WITH THE SECRETARY IN

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 PORT L 00452 150343Z

MONTERREY AND TO THE LETTER RECEIVED FROM UK FOREIGN SECRETARY JACK STRAW ON DIEGO GARCIA, AS WELL. IMMEDIATELY AFTER TALKING WITH PM JUGNAUTH, THE CHARGE SPOKE WITH MINISTER CUTTAREE AND CAUTIONED THAT TURNING THE PROPOSED BILATERAL INTO AN EXPANDED POLICY SESSION WITH REGARD TO DIEGO GARCIA MIGHT NOT AUGUR WELL FOR A FAVORABLE AGOA FORUM VENUE DECISION. CUTTAREE TOOK THE POINT AND ASSURED THE CHARGE THAT HE AND THE PM HAD CONSIDERED MEETING WITH THE SECRETARY SPECIFICALLY TO CEMENT MAURITIUS' SUCCESS IN BEING THE 2002 VENUE. NEITHER POLITICIAN WANTS TO JEOPARDIZE THAT PRIZE BY ANTAGONIZING THE USG. CUTTAREE CONTINUED THAT THE USG HAD TO EXPECT THE PRIME MINISTER TO MAKE AT LEAST A PASSING REFERENCE TO DIEGO GARCIA BECAUSE GOM SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE CHAGOS ARCHIPELAGO IS DOGMA FOR JUGNAUTH'S PARTY AND BECAUSE PM JUGNAUTH IS AWARE THAT THE SECRETARY HAD ALREADY BEEN APPROACHED BY FM GAYAN ON THE SUBJECT. CUTTAREE ASSURED THE CHARGE THAT AFTER REAFFIRMING GOM INTEREST IN EVENTUALLY HOLDING FRIENDLY TALKS WITH THE USG ON DIEGO GARCIA, THE PM WOULD NOT DWELL ON THE ISSUE.

5. (SBU) COMMENT: EMBASSY PORT LOUIS THINKS THAT THE SECRETARY AND OTHER WASHINGTON PRINCIPALS WOULD BE FAVORABLY IMPRESSED BY JUGNAUTH'S "GRAVITAS" AND BY HIS BRASS TACKS APPROACH TO GETTING THINGS DONE. PM JUGNAUTH'S DESIRE TO PRESS THE POINT ON HOSTING THE AGOA FORUM ILLUSTRATES JUST HOW SERIOUS THE GOM IS ABOUT THE PROPOSITION. SCHEDULES PERMITTING, AFFORDING PM JUGNAUTH AN OPPORTUNITY TO MEET APPROPRIATE-LEVEL REPRESENTATIVES FROM USG AGENCIES DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN AGOA MATTERS WOULD BE HIGHLY BENEFICIAL. EMBASSY HAS ALSO RECEIVED WORD THAT THE ANNUAL U.S.-UK CONSULTATIONS ON DIEGO GARCIA WILL BE HELD IN LONDON IN MID-

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 PORT L 00452 150343Z

MAY. THE PROPOSED BILATERAL WITH PM JUGNAUTH COULD STRENGTHEN THE USG POSITION AT THOSE CONSULTATIONS, PUTTING ON RECORD THE FULL DESCRIPTION OF THE GOM PROPOSAL REGARDING THE CHAGOS ARCHIPELAGO AND AFFIRMING USG POLICY WITH REGARD TO IT.

6. (SBU) COMMENT CONTINUED: ORDINARILY, PM JUGNAUTH IS A MAN OF FEW WORDS. HE IS A FIRM, NO-NONSENSE DEFENDANT OF ALL HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES AS WELL AS OF DEMOCRACY, TRANSPARENCY, FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY, AND OPEN MARKETS. HE HAS ALSO BEEN UNFLINCHING IN HIS SUPPORT FOR USG POLICIES AND ACTIONS IN THE GLOBAL COALITION AGAINST TERRORISM.

7. (SBU) ACTION REQUESTED: POST ASKS THE DEPARTMENT TO GIVE SERIOUS THOUGHT TO SCHEDULING TIME FOR THE SECRETARY TO RECEIVE PM JUGNAUTH IN MAY.

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