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PTQ3084

RELEASED IN PART  
B1, 1.4(B), 1.4(D)

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ACTION AF-00

INFO	LOG-00	COR-01	NP-00	AMAD-00	INL-00	USNW-00	PERC-00
	DS-00	EUR-00	FBIE-00	VC-00	H-01	TEDE-00	IO-00
	LAB-01	VCE-00	NEA-00	DCP-01	PM-00	SA-00	ASDS-01
	PMB-00	DSCC-00	DRL-02	NFAT-00	SAS-00	/007W	
				-----DAEED 190908Z /38			

R 161247Z AUG 02 ZDS  
FM AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8332  
INFO SADC COLLECTIVE  
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI  
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
SECDEF WASHDC  
NSC WASHDC  
JOINT STAFF WASHDC//J5  
CNO WASHINGTON DC//N3/N5  
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
AMEMBASSY RIYADH  
ISLAMIC CONFERENCE COLLECTIVE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 PORT LOUIS 000976

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y - ADDING DECL/CLASSIFY BY INFO

DEPT FOR AF/E, H, PM/ISA, NAIROBI PLEASE PASS TO CODEL  
SHELBY

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 08/16/2012  
TAGS: OREP, KTIA, MARR, PREL, MP, UK, XF  
SUBJECT: CODEL SHELBY'S MEETING WITH PM JUGNAUTH

CLASSIFIED BY DCM BISA WILLIAMS FOR REASONS 1.5 B AND D.

1. (C) SUMMARY: CODEL SHELBY VISITED MAURITIUS AUGUST  
11-13 MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER SIR ANEROOD JUGNAUTH  
AND DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER PAUL BERENGER ON BILATERAL AND  
INTERNATIONAL SECURITY MATTERS, AND TOURING A TEXTILE  
MANUFACTURING PLANT. IN THEIR MEETINGS, THE TWO  
MINISTERS ADVISED CODEL SHELBY THAT THE GOM WOULD  
CONTINUE TO PRESS FOR SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE ENTIRE CHAGOS

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ARCHIPELAGO, BUT INTENDED TO DO SO AFTER A PATIENT  
CAMPAIGN OF "CONFIDENCE-BUILDING." THEY EXPRESSED DEEP  
APPRECIATION FOR THE SENATE'S PASSAGE OF "AGOA II"  
LEGISLATION, [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] THE TOUR OF A MAURITIAN TEXTILE  
FACTORY WHICH STOOD TO TRIPLE ITS EXPORTS TO THE U.S.  
BECAUSE OF THE AGOA II BILL, DEMONSTRATED HOW EFFICIENTLY  
RUN MAURITIAN FACTORIES ARE AND HOW IMPORTANT THE AFRICA  
GROWTH AND OPPORTUNITY ACT WILL BE NOT ONLY FOR  
MAURITIUS, BUT FOR SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA. END SUMMARY.

AGOA II AND THE FORUM  
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2. (C) THE AMBASSADOR AND CODEL SHELBY MET WITH PM  
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JUGNAUTH AND DPM BERENGER SEPARATELY ON AUGUST 12 BUT  
COVERED SIMILAR TOPICS IN BOTH MEETINGS. PM JUGNAUTH  
WARMLY WELCOMED SENATORS SHELBY AND SPECTER, FIRST  
THANKING THEM FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO PASSAGE OF THE  
AMENDED VERSION OF THE AFRICA GROWTH AND OPPORTUNITY ACT  
(AGOA II) CONTAINED IN HR 3009, THEN EXPRESSING SINCERE  
GRATITUDE FOR THE USG DECISION TO ACCEPT PM JUGNAUTH'S  
INVITATION TO HOST THE AGOA-RELATED U.S.-SUB-SAHARAN  
AFRICA TRADE AND ECONOMIC COOPERATION FORUM IN MAURITIUS  
EARLY NEXT YEAR. THE PROSPECT OF PRESIDENT BUSH'S  
ATTENDANCE AT THE FORUM HAS THRILLED THE MAURITIAN  
PEOPLE, AND JUGNAUTH'S WORDS OF APPRECIATION REFLECTED  
THAT EXCITEMENT. SENATOR SHELBY ENCOURAGED PM JUGNAUTH  
TO CONSIDER MEANS IN ADDITION TO AGOA THROUGH WHICH THE  
USG COULD BOLSTER MAURITIAN ECONOMIC GROWTH. HE  
EMPHASIZED THAT AMERICAN BUSINESSES WOULD BE INTERESTED  
IN PARTICIPATING IN GOM INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT PLANS,  
AND HE HOPED THE GOM WOULD ALLOW US FIRMS AN OPPORTUNITY  
TO PARTICIPATE. JUGNAUTH NODDED ENTHUSIASTICALLY AND  
PROMISED TO FOLLOW UP WITH THE AMBASSADOR. DECLARING  
THAT THE GOM'S PHILOSOPHY HAS BEEN TO PROMOTE TRADE OVER  
AID FOR MAURITIUS, PM JUGNAUTH BEAMED AT SENATOR  
SPECTER'S PRAISE FOR MAURITIUS' "MODEL WORK FORCE" --  
LITERATE, HARD WORKING, AND EFFICIENT.

CHAGOS ARCHIPELAGO AND DIEGO GARCIA  
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3. (C) COMMENTING THAT THE USG AND MAURITIUS ENJOYED VERY  
GOOD RELATIONS, PM JUGNAUTH STATED THAT THE GOM

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NONETHELESS BELIEVED THAT BILATERAL RELATIONS WERE  
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AFFECTED BY "A SMALL PROBLEM" OF THE CHAGOS ARCHIPELAGO.  
HE HOPED THAT IN TIME, "AS TWO GOOD FRIENDS," OUR TWO  
COUNTRIES WOULD COME TO AN UNDERSTANDING (OF HOW TO  
RESOLVE IT). SENATOR SHELBY RESPONDED THAT HE WAS AWARE  
OF THE USG POSITION ON THE CHAGOS ARCHIPELAGO. WHILE HE  
APPRECIATED THE PRIME MINISTER'S VIEWS, IT WAS NOT WITHIN  
THE SENATE'S INTEREST TO INTERVENE ON FOREIGN POLICY  
ISSUES WITH THE GOM. (FYI: DPM BERENGER ELABORATED ON  
THE SOVEREIGNTY THEME DURING HIS MEETING, REPORTED  
SEPTTEL.)

CHANGING USG IMAGE ON MIDDLE EAST APPROACH  
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4. (C) RESPONDING TO THE SENATORS' INQUIRY, PM JUGNAUTH  
REAFFIRMED THE GOM'S COMMITMENT TO FIGHT TERRORISM, USING  
"ALL MEANS " POSSIBLE.

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EXPLAINING THAT MAURITIUS' PARTICIPATION IN VARIOUS  
MULTIATERAI ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS THE AFRICAN UNION,

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R 161247Z AUG 02 ZDS  
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SECDEF WASHDC

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NSC WASHDC  
JOINT STAFF WASHDC//J5  
CNO WASHINGTON DC//N3/N5  
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 03 PORT LOUIS 000976

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SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY (SADC) AND  
COMMUNITY OF EAST AND SOUTHERN AFRICAN STATES (COMESA)  
MEANT THAT HE AND OTHER GOM OFFICIALS OFTEN HEARD THE  
INTERNAL VIEWS OF AFRICAN LEADERS.

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5. (C) CONTINUING THAT "EVERYBODY AGREES" WITH THE USG  
ASSESSMENT OF OSAMA BEN LADIN, JUGNAUTH ADVISED THE USG  
TO "BRING THE SITUATION TO A POINT OF GETTING (WORLD)  
SYMPATHY" BEFORE TAKING ACTION AGAINST IRAQ.

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6. (C) PM JUQNAUTH EMPHASIZED THAT THE U.S. AND MAURITIUS  
WERE FRIENDS WITH MANY THINGS IN COMMON: DEMOCRACY, RULE  
OF LAW, RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, ETC. HE ALSO STRESSED  
THAT THERE WERE IMPORTANT DIFFERENCES BETWEEN MAURITIUS  
(IN TERMS OF DEMOCRATIC VALUES) AND OTHER AFRICAN STATES.  
FOR THAT REASON, HE BELIEVED THAT THE USG COULD  
APPRECIATE THE GOM VIEW.

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AGOA FORUM & SECURITY  
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7. (C) THE AMBASSADOR POINTED OUT THAT BIIATERAL RELATIONS WERE AT SUCH A HIQH POINT THAT IT SEEMED WHATEVER THE GOM REQUESTED, THE USG WAS INCIINED TO SUPPORT. HE RECAIED THAT THE GOM HAD LOBBIED HARD FOR PASSAGE OF AGOA II IANGUAGE IN THE RECENTIY PASSED TRADE BIII, AND SURE ENOUGH THE LANGUA9E WAS ACCEPTED. WHEN THE GOM VOLUNTEERED TO BE THE FIRST AFRICA STATE TO HOST THE U.S./SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA TRADE AND ECONOMIC COOPERATION FORUM, THE USG WEIGHED THE OPTIONS AND ACCEPTED THE GOM OFFER. THIRDIY, WHEN PM JUGNAUTH TOID THE AMBASSADOR THAT THE GOM REALLY WANTED TO HAVE PRESIDENT BUSH ATTEND THE FORUM, THE PRESIDENT LATER ANNOUNCED HIS INTENTION TO TRAVEL TO AFRICA TO MAKE AN APPEARANCE AT THE FORUM, IF POSSIBLE. JUGNAUTH WAS VISIBLY PLEASED WITH THE AMBASSADOR'S ACCOUNT AND SAID THAT PRESIDENT BUSH'S VISIT TO MAURITIUS WILL BE A "GREAT HONOR" FOR THE ENTIRE COUNTRY.

8. (C) ASKED ABOUT SECURITY PRECAUTIONS CONTEMPLATED FOR THE FORUM, JUGNAUTH INDICATED THAT SECURITY PLANNING WAS WELL UNDERWAY. HE SAID THAT MAURITIUS DID NOT HAVE

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TERRORIST GROUPS, PER SE, BUT THAT THERE WERE POCKETS OF MUSLIM FUNDAMENTALISM. [REDACTED]

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HE CONFIRMED THAT THE MAURITIAN CONSTITUTION CONTAINED PROVISIONS FOR THE DEATH PENALTY, BUT THAT THE REVISED PENAL CODE DID NOT. HIS ADMINISTRATION HAS TERMED CAPITAL PUNISHMENT "SUSPENDED." JUGNAUTH SAID THAT THE MUSLIM POPULATION OF MAURITIUS WAS ROUGHLY 18 PER CENT. MUSLIMS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES TRAVELED TO MAURITIUS FREELY, AND WERE NOT MUCH OF A CONCERN. [REDACTED]

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TOUR OF TEXTILES FACTORY  
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9. (U) PRIOR TO MEETING THE PRIME MINISTER, THE CODEL VISITED A TEXTILES FACTORY WHICH STOOD TO TRIPLE ITS EXPORTS TO THE U.S. AS A RESULT OF PASSAGE OF THE TRADE BILL CONTAINING "AGOA II" LANGUAGE PERMITTING EXPORTS OF KNIT-TO-SHAPE ARTICLES. THE FACTORY EMPLOYED OVER 2,000 WORKERS, NINETY PER CENT OF WHOM WERE MAURITIAN NATIONALS. IT WAS A MODEL OF STATE-OF-THE-ART TECHNOLOGY, SAFE AND WORKER-FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENT,

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CLEANLINESS, AND PRODUCTIVITY. THE TOUR OF A MAURITIAN TEXTILE FACTORY DEMONSTRATED HOW EFFICIENTLY RUN MAURITIAN FACTORIES ARE AND HOW IMPORTANT THE AGOA WILL BE NOT ONLY FOR MAURITIUS, BUT ALSO FOR SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA. SEN. SHELBY TOLD PM JUGNAUTH THAT BOTH SENATORS HAD BEEN VERY IMPRESSED WITH THE FACTORY'S CLEANLINESS AND WORKMANSHIP.

DELEGATION

- - - - -  
10. (U) AMBASSADOR PRICE ACCOMPANIED THE CODEL THROUGHOUT THEIR VISIT. ALSO ACCOMPANYING WERE ANNE CALDWELL, EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO SENATOR SHELBY, MARK HEILBRUN, LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR FOR SENATOR SPECTER, CHRISTOPHER FORD, SSCI PROFESSIONAL STAFF MEMBER, LTC. EDWARD PUSEY, USARMY, DR. ANNETTE SHELBY, AND THE DCM (NOTETAKER).  
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