INCOMING MESSAGE

THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

CONFIDENTIAL

PRECEDENCE	(ACTION)
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PRECEDENCE (INFO

ROUTINE

ROUTINE

R Ø71818Z

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO RUEHCR/SECSTATE WASHDC

PARAPHRASE NOT REQUIRED Ref by msg number in unclassified reply prohibited.

INFO RUSBKP/AMEMBASSY KARACHI RUSBAE/AMEMBASSY NEWDELHI RUCQHKB/CINCMEAFSA RUEPDAWXDEFENSE DEPT

CONFIDENTIAL

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ACTION DEPT 98 INFO KARACHI Ø2 NEWDELHI Ø4 CINCMEAFSA Ø5 DOD 11 FROM LONDON JULY 7, 7 PM

CINCMEAFSA FOR POLAD

NEW DELHI'S 41 TO DEPT

INDIAN OCEAN

FOLLOWING IS PERTINENT EXTRACT FROM ECONOMIST ARTICLE JULY 4.
(WHICH PRIMARILY DEVOTED TO FUTURE OF ADEN):

"SEARCH (FOR ALTERNATIVE BASE) HAS PROPERLY BEEN ON FOR WELLSITUATED, SPARSELY POPULATED, POLITICALLY UNEXPLOSIVE HAVEN IN
INDIAN OCEAN. EYES, LOGARITHMS AND COMPASSES HAVE BEEN TURNED
TO MAURITIUS AND SEYCHELLES; POINTERS SUGGEST THAT THERE IS GOOD.
DEAL TO BE SAID FOR ONE OF ISLAND DEPENDENCIES MAURITIUS, ONE
AT LEAST OF WHICH DOES HAVE NATURAL HARBOUR AND WAS USED DURING
SECOND WORLD WAR."

ARTICLE GOES ON TO STATE THAT POSSIBLE PURPOSE OF INDIAN OCEAN BASE (STEPPING STONE TO FAR EAST, MOUNTING POST FOR PEACE-KEEPING OPERATIONS AS IN EAST AFRICA, GUARD AGAINST ARAB TAKE-OVER BIDS LIKE KUWAIT INCIDENT IN 1961, WARNING EYE ON UK OIL

COG....OSD-15....JCS/J5-6 CJCS-2 DJS-3 SJCS-1 J3-6 J4-2 SACSA-5 DIA-14 NMCC-2 JSSC-1 SAMAA-1 CSA-2 CSAF-2 CNO-2 CMC-10 FILE-1 (75)WIS

REFERENCE NOT HELD IN JCS

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PRECEDENCE (ACTION)

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INTERESTS) COLLECTIVELY JUSTIFY MILITARY EFFORT. LOGIC OF AMERICAN INSISTENCE ON STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE OF UK MOBILE FORCE IN AREA AND UK IMPATIENCE ABOUT UK POLITICAL DIFFICULTIES IN ADEN POINTS UNERRINGLY TO JOINT ANGLO-AMERICAN EXERCISE. THERE STILL EXISTS NEED FOR AUXILIARY FIREMEN OUTSIDE OF UN WHO CAN DO PEACE KEEPING JOBS QUICKLY AND WITHOUT FUSS AND WHOSE PRESENCE MAY ACT AS DETERRENT. SUCH EFFORTS SHOULD BE SHARED AMONG ALLIES. UK TREASURY WOULD BLESS US FOR ANY FINANCIAL HELP IF PROPERLY SURVEYED, PROFESSIONALLY IDENTIFIED AND POLITICALLY PRACTICABLE SUPPLEMENTARY BASE IN INDIAN OCEAN (AS NOW NOT UNLIKELY) SHOULD BE DECIDED UPON; IF HELP GOES BEYOND THIS - AND IT MAY WELL - ALL THE BETTER.

COMMENT: CAT'S HEAD AT LEAST IS OUT OF THE BAG.

GP-4 BRUCE.

BT

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