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OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

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Origin

ACTION: CIRCULAR 1045

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Info

SS

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P

USIA

INR

RMR

Ref: CA-5125; DEPTTEL 698 Karachi, 1033 New Delhi

Subject: US Naval Deployment in Indian Ocean Area

1. Purpose this message is to provide further background information

~~information~~ re introduction American military power into Indian

Ocean area and to obtain your views on questions contained Para

6 as well as other comments you care to make.

2. Designation Indian Ocean Task Force has been abolished as unduly restrictive in that it might link our military presence

to specific geographic region and not connote full operating area Naval unit will be a numbered Task Group of Seventh Fleet and consists envisaged for the force. ~~Task Force designation Ninth Fleet is to~~ of one attack carrier, three destroyers, and one fleet oiler. ~~be used until permanent designation is decided upon~~

3. Defense has indicated preference for two cruises of next six month period.

thirty days' duration each during ~~first half of next year~~

State has requested Defense to:

4. ~~Current State thinking~~

Start after

a. ~~Defer~~ initial cruise ~~until~~ mid-February to avoid conflict

~~conflict~~ with Muslim religious observances during Ramadan.

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E.O. 13292, Sec. 3.5
NLJ 05-29

By ~~NS~~ NARA Date 4-18-05

Drafted by:

G/PM:GMuller:ms 12/5/63

Telegraphic transmission and

classification approved by:

G - Mr. Johnson

Clearances:

NEA-Mr. Jernegan

AF-Mr. Tasca

FE-Mr. Hilsman

BNA-Mr. Judd

RFM-Mr. Van Hollen

S/P-Capt. Colby

G/PM-Mr. Kitchen

S/S Miss Moor

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b. Schedule initial cruise visit to Djakarta prior to entry into Indian Ocean; this cruise to include Pakistani, Indian and Malaysian ports, as well as cruise in Gulf of Oman with weapons demonstration for Shah if this can be arranged.

5. In deciding on final schedule and on types of activities to be scheduled, we are guided by following basic considerations:

a. Our new military presence in general area of Indian Ocean should convey reassurance and increased American interest without being ostentatious. Our purpose as outlined in CA-5125 is to stabilize, deter, and take action at this time designed to minimize possible adverse shifts of balance of power at later date, especially in event CHICOMs should attain nuclear capability.

Naval aspect of carrier

b. While nuclear aspect of carrier's dual capability is asset from this point of view, and presumably more politically palatable than would be land based nuclear arms, we realize there may be reaction from neutralists and groups favoring nuclear free zone. Nuclear capabilities therefore should be treated low key unless circumstances not now existing should make nuclear emphasis desirable. In this respect we recognize the low key treatment suggested must be generally commensurate with reassurance theme. In no case should nuclear capability be attributed to any specific vessel. FYI: This is necessary because of delicate problems involved in connection with entry of US naval ships into position Japan. END FYI.

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c. We must convey concept that we are establishing continuing ~~military presence~~ military presence, although carrier may initially be present in Indian Ocean area only on intermittent basis. However, pending further State/Defense examination we should avoid speculation re full time deployment.

d. In developing initial and subsequent schedules we should bear in mind desirability observing some balance of port calls between allied and receptive non-allied countries.

e. With exception special occasions deployments will generally be within framework of informal visits/good will missions.

f. We should ~~always~~ always be alert to great psychological advantage of utilizing such a force for prompt disaster relief as circumstances indicate.

g. In developing deployment schedules we will bear in mind special British and Australian interests in area and avoid ~~conflict~~ conflict of schedules with UK/Australian port calls. Schedule will be coordinated with SOLANTAMITY (South Atlantic friendship) visits to African ports.

6. With these general considerations in mind request your views (without rpt without discussing local authorities) soonest on following:

a. What are pros and cons Task Group visit your area?

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b. In developing future schedules, what ^{importance} ~~importance~~ should visit ~~to your country be given?~~ How frequently should port calls take place and for what duration? (FYI we obviously ~~ish~~ wish to avoid saturation or wearing out our welcome; for ports ^{Task Group} lacking deep water, ~~fleet~~ can be split up, with the carrier anchored some distance offshore while smaller elements ~~could be~~ ~~might~~ moor inside harbors.)

c. What are optimum dates for visit and when should port calls be avoided, taking into ^{account} ~~account~~ such factors as prevalent weather, religious and national holidays, likely availability of local leaders, press attention, etc?

d. Do you envisage any ^{difficulties} ~~difficulties~~ with local ~~population~~ population? What is degree and likelihood of possible Communist or other demonstrations?

e. What type of activities would best suit our purposes ^{Group} ~~Group~~ locally? i.e. protocol calls by ~~fleet~~ commander and return calls and visits by local notables; underway weapons ~~man~~ demonstrations of carrier flight operations for Heads of State and for military leaders; general visiting by populace at invitation of local US diplomatic mission ^{people} people to ~~people~~ and civic action-type activities, etc.

f. What are recreation facilities in your area for large ^{For Pretoria:} ~~For Pretoria:~~ What racial discrimination hazards should be anticipated?

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8. From your point of view, what would be most desirable

Task Group visits?

way of casting initial announcement re ~~accession of India~~ Except

for London, Karachi and New ~~Delhi~~ discussion with local officials will

planned

be deferred until after announcement which tentatively ~~planned~~ about

December 20.

FOR LONDON. Embassy should at earliest opportunity and at highest

planned Task Group visit.

appropriate level inform HMG of ~~accession of India~~. Embassy should stress

our naval presence

that we wish not only have fullest consultation with UK on concept ~~accession~~

but will consult fully on ~~accession~~ visits where British interests involved

(e.g. Malaysia, Indonesia). You should also inform HMG that Secretary

plans go over whole subject with Foreign Secretary Butler during NATO

Ministerial Meeting. Secretary will express ~~hope~~ we can have further

discussions with British on all Indian Ocean problems, including island

base question and communications facilities on Diego Garcia, sometime

in mid-January.

FOR USRO. We contemplate informing NAC after Secretary's talk with

Butler.

FOR CANBERRA. You will be instructed re timing approach to Australians

FOR NEW DELHI and KARACHI. General Taylor's visit December 16-20 will

present suitable occasion to inform Indians and Paks and to explain role

Task Group

we expect ~~accession~~ to play as ~~accession~~ deterrent and ~~accession~~ stabilizing force

FOR HONGKONG. Please cable assessment requested CA-5125.

And, RUSK

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NOTE: Pouched by OCT

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