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THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

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JCSM-312-64
11 April 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

Subject: Indian Ocean Island Facilities (U)

1. Reference is made to a memorandum by the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (ISA), I-22222/64, dated 17 March 1964, subject as above, which requested the concurrence or comments of the Joint Chiefs of Staff concerning the results of the US-UK discussions on the above subject, together with information and guidance with regard to further steps to be taken.

2. The Joint Chiefs of Staff concur in the agreed recommendations set forth on pages 7-9 of the attachment to the reference. For clarity and ease of reference, these recommendations are attached hereto as Appendix A. It should be noted that there are no plans for a military construction program in this area, at present, other than the DCS communications station.

3. The Joint Chiefs of Staff reaffirm the requirement for a DCS communications station in the Indian Ocean and approve the conduct of the US/UK survey when it becomes possible, in the judgment of the United Kingdom, to proceed. In order to determine possible uses beyond the establishment of the communications station, an additional representative from each military department should be included. Their function will be to report through Service channels the potential uses of the Chagos Archipelago. Appendix B hereto depicts the composition of the recommended survey party.

4. Survey of available island sites in the western sector of the Indian Ocean probably would have to be conducted separately from the above, in order not to delay the survey of a communications site. In

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Re: JCS 2294/28-7 (J-5)

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this regard, a small team composed of Service departmental representatives would make the survey and make recommendations through Service channels to the Joint Chiefs of Staff. For continuity, the individuals should be those who engage in the general Chagos survey, if timing permits. It is considered that the survey team should inspect and report upon the military support potential of Desroches, Coetivy, the Cosmoledos, and the Aldabras.

5. The objective in a joint US/UK approach to Australia regarding the Cocos Islands should be limited initially to obtaining access rights and utilization of currently existing facilities.

6. An indication of specific requirements at Diego Garcia and other selected locations beyond the DCS communications station and the Seychelles satellite tracking facility is contained in Appendix C hereto. The potential requirements would be used as a basis for any surveys conducted.

7. Captain W. J. Stencil, USN, J-5, Extension 72609, is designated as a point of contact for arrangements in regard to the surveys in general. Lt. Colonel S. A. Goldman, USAF, J-6, Extension 73337, is designated as a point of contact for survey of Diego Garcia as a communications station site.

For the Joint Chiefs of Staff:

SIGNED

J. W. DAVIS
Rear Admiral, USN
Deputy Director, Joint Staff

Attachments

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