

DECLASSIFIED

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 Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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ACTION: PM-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-12 EUR-20 EA-15 NEA-13 SS-20 L-04 NSC-10

CIAE-00 INR-08 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DODE-00 PRS-01 P-03

USIA-12 RSR-01 /126 W 108826

R 111245Z JAN 71
 FM AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2011
 INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
 AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
 CINCLANTFLT
 COMIDEASTFOR
 AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT LOUIS 0029

SUBJ: DIEGO GARCIA

REF: PORT LOUIS 0026; STATE 002874

1. BRIEFED BRITISH HICOM CARTER ON DEVELOPMENTS: DIEGO PROJECT JANUARY 11. TOLD HIM PRIMIN HAD AGREED TO OUR STAGING OPERATION WITH SOLE CAVEAT THAT IT BE EXECUTED AS QUIETLY AS POSSIBLE. I HAD STRESSED ONLY LOCAL REQUIREMENT WOULD BE FOR BUS TRANSPORT AND SPECULATED TO CARTER WHETHER HMS MAURITIUS MIGHT BE IN POSITION BE HELPFUL IN ORDER REDUCE PROFILE. CARTER DID NOT KNOW BUT, AFTER DISCUSSION, WE AGREED IT WOULD BE BETTER EMPLOY LOCAL BUSES AS IN CASE OTHER USN VISITS AND IN ORDER GIVE AT LEAST THIS MUCH BUSINESS MAURITIUS.

2. RE LOCATING MAURITIAN ILOIS HERE, CARTER HAS ASKED LONDON SEND OUT RESETTLEMENT EXPERT TO STUDY FEASIBILITY. HE NOTED PROBLEM HAS MANY ASPECTS, NOT LEAST SOCIOLOGICAL, AND SAID HE HOPED SOLUTION ADOPTED WOULD NOT ONLY SERVE TO COMPENSATE ILOIS BUT WOULD ALSO CONTRIBUTE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MAURITIUS. HICOM CONTINUED GIVE TENTATIVE THOUGHT TO NORTHERN IRRIGATION SCHEME THIS CONNECTION.

Port Louis 29 11/1/71