

Def 1 UK - US

## INCOMING TELEGRAM Department of State

Action

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RR RUEHC  
DE RUDTCR 4060C 3201440  
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R 161307Z NOV 66  
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON  
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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

☒ Retain class'n ☐ Change/classify to  
☒ With concurrence of Sec, UK  
☒ Declassify ☐ In part and excise as shown  
EO 12356, Sec 1.3 (a) (

FPO/HDR by RUEHC

1966 NOV 16

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DEF 31-60

STATE DEPT. DECLASSIFICATION REVIEW

☐ Retain class'n ☐ Change/classify to

☒ Declassify with concurrence of

after

EO 12958, 25X

IPS/CR/IR by web Date: 3/28/97

1. FOLLOWING ARE MAJOR TOPICS COVERED IN CONVERSATION NOV 15 BETWEEN JEFFREY KITCHEN, ACCOMPANIED BY POLMIL COUNSELOR, AND ARTHUR (HEAD, DEFENSE DEPT - FONOFF):

A. LIBYA. ARTHUR SAID UK PLANNED TO BEGIN RUNDOWN OF CYPRUS STOCKPILE ON 1 JAN BUT WOULD HAVE TO TOUCH BASE FIRST WITH MAKARIOS, SINCE RUNDOWN WOULD PPUT 3,000 CYPRIOTS OUT OF WORK. RUNDOWN WOULD BE ACCOMPLISHED AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE AND SHOULD BE COMPLETED BY MARCH. UK FORCE OF 1-1/3 BATTALIONS WOULD BE REMOVED BY END OF AUG AND TOTAL OF POUNDS 3 MILLION FOREIGN EXCHANGE SAVING WOULD BE REALIZED. ARTHUR EXPRESSED APPRECIATION TO US FOR ITS WILLINGNESS TO MAKE AVAILABLE C-130'S ON CONTINGENCY BASIS, SINCE THIS WAS FACTOR WHICH PERMITTED IMPLEMENTATION OF CYPRUS WITHDRAWAL.

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ARTHUR SAID HE UNDERSTOOD THAT CONTINGENCY AIRLIFT PLAN WAS STILL UNDER CONSIDERATION IN EUROM AND LATTER HAD NOT YET FORWARDED RECOMMENDATION TO PENTAGON. HE ALSO UNDERSTOOD FROM UK EMBASSY WASH PENTAGON POSITION WAS THAT IT WAS NOT NECESSARY TO MAKE JOINT PLANS DESIGNATING DEPOTS IN UK. WHILE UK WOULD HAVE PREFERRED SUCH PLANS, IT WOULD SUFFICE TO HAVE AN INFORMAL UNDERSTANDING THAT US AIRCRAFT WOULD COME TO DESIGNATED AIR FIELDS IN UK IN EVENT CONTINGENCY PLANS HAD TO BE ACTIVATED, AND THAT IN EFFECT US WOULD ACCEPT UNILATERAL UK PLAN. KITCHEN UNDERTOOK TO INQUIRE INTO STATUS OF THIS MATTER. ARTHUR CONFIRMED KITCHEN UNDERSTANDING THAT US AIRCRAFT WOULD BE ADDITIVE, AND WOULD BE CALLED UPON ONLY TO FILL GAPS REMAINING AFTER UK MILITARY AND CIVILIAN AIRLIFT HAD BEEN USED TO MAXIMUM. ARTHUR SAID UK PLANNED TO CALL ON US ONLY IF UK WERE "SUNK" AND THEN ONLY UP TO WORST CASE OF 200-ODD SORTIES WHICH HAD BEEN DISCUSSED.

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DECLASSIFIED  
EO 12958, Sec 1.3

NND 971026  
By HRM/AL Date 4/10/97

London - 4060  
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RECEIVED BY

Def 15 and 26.5  
for Def 15 and 26.5

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US thinks +  
wants UK to  
IT join P 06

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REPRODUCTION AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

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-3- London 4060, November 16

WHETHER INDEPENDENCE COULD IN FACT BE ACHIEVED BY THAT DATE BUT PROBABILITY IS UK WOULD LOWER ITS STANDARDS RADICALLY AND GET OUT EVEN IF SITUATION WAS UNSTABLE AND IT LOOKED LIKE GOVT WOULD COLLAPSE THE NEXT DAY. KITCHEN NOTED WASH CONCERNS RE SITUATION IN MIDEAST AREA, ACCOMPANIED BY INCREASING SOVIET ACTIVITIES IN SOMALIA AND ALGERIA. HE FELT IT WOULD BE

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WORTH LOOKING VERY HARD AT UK'S DEFENSE REVIEW DECISION ON ADEN. ARTHUR SAID SOME ELEMENTS IN WHITEHALL WOULD WELCOME STRONG US REPRESENTATIONS ON THIS SUBJECT. HOWEVER, IN FEB 1965 WHEN UK HAD REVIEWED ITS DEFENSE REVIEW DECISIONS WITH US, US HAD ARGUED HARD AGAINST CUTS EITHER IN FAR EAST OR IN EUROPE BUT HAD "SCARCELY BATTED AN EYELASH OVER ADEN" THIS HAD NOT GONE UNOBSERVED. THERE WAS A FAIR AMOUNT OF FEELING IN WHITEHALL THAT DEFENSE REVIEW DECISIONS TO STAY EAST OF SUEZ BUT TO GET OUT OF MIDEAST HAD BEEN A MISTAKE, SINCE THERE WERE NO ALTERNATIVES TO UK PRESENCE IN MIDEAST WHILE EAST OF SUEZ UK PRESENCE MADE LITTLE MATERIAL DIFFERENCE. HOWEVER, US PRESSURES FOR UK TO STAY IN SOUTHEAST ASIA AND IN EUROPE CONTINUED AND BRITAIN "COULD NOT STAY EVERYWHERE." THEREFORE HE COULD HARDLY SEE MINISTERS GOING BACK ON ADEN DECISIONS. IF US WERE REALLY WORRIED ABOUT SITUATION THEY SHOULD TELL NASSER, WHOM WAS SOURCE OF THE TROUBLE IN SOUTH ARABIA, TO LAY OFF. THIS IS THE ANSWER THAT FONSEC WOULD GIVE TO ANY US REPRESENTATIONS. ARTHUR NOTED THAT BASIC PROBLEM IN BRITAIN WAS THAT ARABS, LIKE FRANCO, HAD NO FRIENDS OR LOBBY IN EITHER PARTY, WHILE BOTH EUROPEANS AND ASIANS DID.

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2. COMMENT: CONVERSATION FOLLOWED PRODUCTIVE SESSION BY US-UK TEAMS NEGOTIATING FINAL AGREEMENT FOR US ACCESS TO BIOT ISLANDS AND WAS FRANK AND FORTHRIGHT.

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-4- London 4060, November 16

ON LIBYA IT APPEARS THERE WAS MISUNDERSTANDING BETWEEN BRITISH MILITARY AND FOREIGN OFFICE, WHICH KITCHEN CLEARED UP TODAY. US/UK CONTINGENCY AIRLIFT PLAN IS BEING CONSIDERED BY EUCOM BUT SHOULD BE FORWARDED TO JCS SHORTLY. IN ADDITION, US DOES WANT INFORMATION ON DESIGNATED BRITISH DEPOTS AND AIRHEADS IN UK AS PART OF SUPPORTING INFORMATION FOR PLAN. BRITISH NOW UNDERTAKE TO PRODUCE LATTER INFORMATION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE (PRESUMABLY BEFORE END OF YEAR).

\* [ SUBSEQUENT TO CONVERSTATION ARRANGEMENTS WERE MADE FOR KRIEBEL OF US DEL AND A USNAVEUK REP TO MEET TODAY WITH ROYAL NAVY FOR INFORMAL PRELIMINARY CONVERSATIONS RE US NAVY THINKING ON A NAVAL SUPPORT FACILITY ON DIEGO GARCIA.

3. DEPT REPEAT AS DESIRED. BRUCE  
BT

*planning for if already; i.e. beyond  
comms facil*

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