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- Affairs, he said, objected both to the manner of dissemination and to the errors of fact. not consistent with a desire to improve Soviet-Australian relations, nor was it "sensible." The Department of Fore pacts such as "PATO" and "SATO." Woolcott said that Department did not "like" the Assistant Secretary for Europe, Africa, Middle East and Commonwealth Affairs. Woolcott informed Smirnov that the ment's displeasure to Counsellor M. V. Smirnov rather than Ambassador Mesyatsev, who speaks virtually no English. Smirnov was called in by Richard Woolcott, former Australia High Commissioner in Ghana who is temporarily acting as keep the matter in relatively low key and express the Departtendency to link Australia with non-existent blocs and Officers of the Department of Foreign Affairs tone of the Beglov article and Australian
- similar news bulletin. Australian Embassy in Moscow is not permitted to put out a Embassy News Bulletin. He also reminded Smirnov that the 4. Smirnov attempted to explain (rather lamely, according to Woolcott) that the article was merely a "topical" item event the article was disseminated in the official Soviet cott cut off this argument by pointing out that there is no genuinely private news agency in the USSR, and that in any written by a private journalist for a "news agency.". Wool-
- and not merely those of the Department of Foreign Affairs. Soviet Ambassador Mesyatsev personally that Woolcott's comments represented the views of the Government of Australia, versation with Ambassador Mesyatsev at the Yugoslav National Sir Keith subsequently implemented his 5. According to Woolcott, the Prime Minister and the Foreign Minister, both in Sydney at the time, had been considerably Day Reception. Having received word of Woolcott's conversation with Smirnov, they instructed DFA Secretary Sir Keith Waller to inform exercised about the article and the attendant publicity. instructions in con-

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Some of the articles appear, in fact, to be literal retrans-

original idiom. written in English, by persons who do not understand the lations into English from Russian of articles originally

Copies of the article from the Soviet News Bulletin are

attached.

the Small toy attempted to captain the the lately according to model that the control when the control of the captain the control of the control of the captain the control of the control of the captain the control of the captain the c

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PRETEXTS FOR NEW BASES

Spartak Beglov, APN political observer

After reading in mid-November announcements carried by British newspaper's concerning an Anglo-American plan for setting up a big military
base on Diego-Garcia island, I concluded that precisely herein one should
seek a clew to the noisy campaign in Western papers as regards so-called
"Soviet military presence in the Indian ocean".

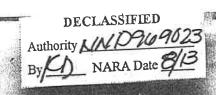
It will be a mistake to believe this Western version and infer that the decision on the construction of the base is merely a "forced reply" to a suddenly emergent" threat". This is the impression British and U.S. military and propaganda headquarters want to create. In reality, the idea of the base had originated much earlier than the excuse was found for it.

The small atoll island of Diego-Garcia is part of the Chagos Archipelago, situated in the very center of the Indian ocean. After Mauritius had been granted independence, Britain bought this atoll from the Mauritius government for 3,000,000 pounds.

The idea of establishing a base on this atoll first came under discussions between the USA and Britain in I964 (we stress: I964!), i.e. under the former Tory government. This is what the British "Guardian" November I6 testifies. Yet the Labour government, which later came to power, put the thing aside in connection with its new policy cutting down British military commitments and expenses East of Suez.

While in opposition, the conservatives criticised the labourites because their line was aimed at "eliminating" the remnants of Britain's imperialist might and impact in the East. At the time there was no mention of "Soviet threat" among the conservatives' arguments. The causes were called by their proper names: the interests of big British capital investors and the owners of oil resources and other raw materials.

On taking power, the Tories immediately declared their intention to restore the British positions East of Suez. Thus, they declared about arms supplies to the racialist regime of the South-African republic and,



of Soviet sea frontiers is 47,000 km.

One merely has to glance at the map to make sure that a ship bound One merely has to glance at the map to make sure that a ship bound from a Soviet port, say Leningrad (30 degrees Eastern longitude), must double another port, say Vladivostok (I40 degrees Eastern longitude), must double another port, say Vladivostok (I40 degrees Eastern longitude), as a result of half the globe. The three-year idleness of the Suez Canal, as a result has led to these communications have a supplied to the second longitude. nair the grove. The difference of these communications being israeli aggression against Egypt has led to these communications being Israell aggression against agypt has led to these communications being practically doubled. It is not Soviet ships alone which have started to practically doubled. It is not Soviet ships alone which have started to practically doubled. It is not Soviet ships alone which have started to practically doubled. It is not Soviet ships alone which have started to practically doubled. It is not Soviet ships alone which have started to practically doubled. It is not Soviet ships alone which have started to practically doubled. It is not Soviet ships alone which have started to practically doubled. It is not Soviet ships alone which have started to practically doubled. It is not Soviet ships alone which have started to practically doubled. It is not Soviet ships alone which have started to practically doubled. It is not Soviet ships alone which have started to practically doubled. It is not Soviet ships alone which have started to practically doubled. It is not Soviet ships alone which have started to practically doubled. It is not soviet ships alone which have started to practically doubled. It is not started to practically doubled. It is not soviet ships alone which have started to practically doubled. It is not soviet ships alone which have started to practically doubled. It is not soviet ships alone which have started to practically doubled. It is not soviet ships alone which have started to practically doubled. It is not soviet ships alone which have started to practically doubled. appear at the meridian of capetown and madritudes, but also the vessels of all countries practising fishing and merchant-and-passenger narigation.

The problems involved in the provision of fuel and water supplies for the problems involved in the provision of fuel and profession. communications, as well as their maintenance and protection, have increase ed in the same proportion.

It ought to be said that the growth of the Soviet marine is a manifestation of Soviet economic advance. The proportional expansion of the Soviet SAMENT OF THE STATES OF THE ST

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SUBJECT: DIEGO GARCIA

REFIT PORT LOUIS: 11095

AFTER(RUNNING WIRE SERVICE REPORT ON DIEGO ANNOUNCEMENT, MAURITIAN PRESS WITH TWO EXCEPTIONS HAS GIVEN LITTLE ATTENTION TO ISSUE.

INDEPENDENT EXPRESS DECEMBER 16 GAVE HISTORICAL RUNDOWN OF PROJECTAND SPECULATED ON EMPLOYMENT POSSIBILITIES. DECEMBER 21

OPPOSITION MAURICIEN DESCRIBED PLIGHT 300 JOBLESS, UNCOMPANION OF PROMEDIAN POSSIBILITIES. DECEMBER 21

OPPOSITION MAURICIEN DESCRIBED PLIGHT 300 JOBLESS, UNCOMPANION MAURITIUS: MAFTER INDEPENDENCE PAPER REPORTS UDM. POLITICIAN OLLIVRY TAKING THEIR CASE TO BRITISH AND IF UNSUCCESSFUL WILL APPEAL TO UN "COMMISSION FOR REFUCES". MAUHITIANS REMAIN PREDCCUPIED WITH INTERNAL PROBLEMS. NEITHER MMM NOR OTHER POLITICAL OPPOSITION HAS REFERRED DIEGO ISSUE.



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