INCOMING TELE	GRAM Departmen	nt of State
Action NNNNZCZCL RR RUEHC DE RUDT CR ZNY SSSSS R 161307Z	SEGRET  DD493  4060C 3201440  NOV 66 SSY LONDON TE WASHDC  C STATE DEPT. DEC	DEPARTMENT OF STATE  Retain class'n Change classify to  With concurrence of Declassify part and excise as shown  EO 12356, Sec. 1.3 (a) (  FPETHDR by CLASSIFICATION REVIEW MID 15 DET 31-60  CLASSIFICATION REVIEW MID 15 DET 31-60  Change/classify to  with concurrence of

LIMDIS

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

after\_

EO 12958, 25X

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 WITHDRAAWAL.

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ARTHUR SAID HE UNDERSTOOD THAT CONTINGENCY AIRLIFT PLAN
WAS STILL UNDER CONSIDERATION IN EUCOM 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
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

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By HRM/AL 20 4/10/97

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B. BIOT. KITCHEN HOPED THAT UK'S ALDABRA ENGINEERING ASSESSMENT WOULD BE MADE AVAILABLE TO US SHORTLY (LONDON 3156). HE PROPOSED, AND ARTHUR AGREED, THAT USAF AND RAF WORK CLOSELY AND DIRECTLY TOGETHER AFTER BASIC AGREEMENT CONCULUDED. COLSTUBBS OF US DEL WAS SEEING RAF THIS AFTERNOON. WITH

PAGE 3 RUDTCR 4060C S E C R E T
RESPECT TO DIEGO GARCIA, KITCHEN SAID THAT US FELT IT HAD
BEEN BETTER TO EASE OFF ON CONDUCTING DEFINITIVE ENGINEERING
SURVEY IN ORDER NOT TO COMPLICATE LAND ACQUISITION
PROBLEM. HE RECALLED UK OCEANOGRAPHIC VESSEL
WAS TO VISIT AREA IN LATE SPRING AND SAID WE WOULD
ACCEPT UK'S INVITATION TO PUT 5-6 US NAVAL PERSONNEL
ON BOARD FOR SURVEY. HE RECOUNTED THAT SECREF HAD TENTATIVELY
APPROVED US NAVY PLANS TO INSTALL US FACILITIES
WITH QUICK EXPANSION CAPABILITIES, INCLUDING RUNWAYS,
COMMUNICATIONS, DREDGING AND TANK FAR, BUT FINANCING NOT APPROVED.
HE SUGGESTED THAT US TEAM COME TO LONDON FOR DIRECT
DISCUSSIONS WITH ROYAL NAVY IN JAN/FEB. CINCUSNAVEUR
WOULD BE US AGENT FOR THESE DISCUSSIONS. DESPITE FACT US
PROJECT HAD NOT BEEN FINANCED, LARGELY BECAUSE OF VIETNAM REQUIREMENTS, HE FELT THAT NEVERTHELESS TIME WOULD BE WELL USED. ARTHUR
SAID THAT GOVERNOR OF SYCHELLES AS GOVERNOR DESIGNATE OF BIOT, HAD
BEEN INSTRUCTED WITHIN PAST WEEK TO PROCEED TO ENACT LEGISLATION
AUTHORIZING LAND ACQUISITION. THE INTENTION WAS TO BEGIN BUYING
OPERATIONS IN JAN. KITCHEN INQUIRED WHETHER ROYAL NAVY INTEREST IN
DIEGO GARCIA LIKELY TO REVIVE UNDER INFLUENCE OF US INTEREST.

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ARTHUR THOUGHT THAT THIS WOULD BE CASE. ALTHOUGH INTEREST

MAY REMAIN ESSENTIALLY MARGINAL FOR PERIOD OF NEXT FEW YEARS IT

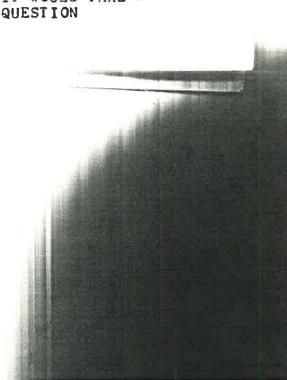
WOULD BE LIKELY TO INCREASE AFTER THAT. HE ADDED THAT

MOST OFFICIALS IN WHITEHALL WERE CONVINCED THAT UK COULD

NOT STAY IN SINGAPORE FOR MORE THAN A FEW YEARS.

C. ADEN. KITCHEN INQUIRED WHETHER THERE WAS ANY
POSSIBILITY OF BRITISH RECONSIDERATION OF DECISION TO GET
OUT OF ADEN AS OF JANUARY 1, 1968. ARTHUR INDICATED THAT
JAN 1 WAS ONLY A PLANNING DATE AND THAT IN FACT DEPARTURE
MIGHT BE DELAYED FOR A FEW MONTHS BUT THAT THERE WAS ABSOLUTELY
NO INCLINATION TO RECONSIDER BASIC DECISION. AS OF NOW IT
AS FIRM UK INTENTION, "COME HELL OR HIGH WATER," TO GET OUT
PEDIATELY AFTER INDEPENDENCE WAS ACHIEVED. IT WOULD TAKE
ARTHQUAKE TO CHANGE THIS. IT WAS STILL A QUESTION

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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

PAGE 5 RUDICR 4060C S E C R E T
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 DEFENSYA
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 HADE
LITILE MATERIAL DIFFERENCE. HOWEVER, US PRESSURES FOR UK
TO STAY IN SOUTHEAST ASIA AND IN EUROPE CONTINED AND
BRITIAN "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,
WHMMWAS 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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... ARCHIVES

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 HE 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 ARRINGEMENTS WERE MADE FOR KRIEBEL OF US DEL AND A USNAVEUR REP TO MEET TODAY WITH ROYAL NAVY FOR INFORMAL PRELIMINARY CONVERSATIONS RE US NAVY I HINKING ON A NAVAL SUPPORT FACILITY ON DIEGO GARCIA.

3. DEPT REPEAT AS DESIRED. BRUCE

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