Subj-Num 164-66 125/25/6/237 Authority 140 959000 BYLAN NARA Cate 1417

DEF 15 Ind. Department of State, INCOMING TELEGRAM

35 Action

FROM:

SECRET

Control: Rec'd:

24528

AUGUST 28, 1964

2:28 PM

**ACTION:** 

SECSTATE 996, IMMEDIATE

INFO:

DOD 72, PRIORITY USUN 87, PRIORITY

LONDON

CINCMEAFSA 33, PRIORITY

DATE:

AUGUST 28, 7PM

LIMDIS

SUBJECT: INDIAN OCEAN FACILITIES

REF: EMBTEL 975

EMB OFFICERS MET WITH ESTERBROOK WHO SHOWED THEM HIS PROPOSED STORY ON INDIAN OCEAN BASES. WHILE STORY LARGELY INTERPRETATIVE IT SPECIFICALLY IDENTIFIES DIEGO GARCIA, ALDABRA, TYPES OF FACILITIES WHICH MIGHT BE LOCATED UPON ISLANDS AND PROPOSED PLAN TO PLACE ISLANDS UNDER LONDON ADMINISTRATION PRIOR DETACHMENT.

AS A RESULT DISCUSSIONS ESTERBROOK AGREED DELETE PARAGRAPHS RELATING TO DETACHMENT, TO REMOVE ANY INDICATION THAT SPECIFIC DECISIONS HAVE BEEN MADE ON ISLANDS CONCERNED AND GENERALLY MAKE STORY LESS DEFINITE IN ITS CONCLUSIONS. ESTERBROOK REFUSED DELETE PARAGRAPH WHICH STATES THAT WASHINGTON POST HAS BEEN SITTING ON STORY SINCE JUNE 13 AT STATE DEPARTMENT REQUEST.



ESTERBROOK HAS CABLED FRIENDLY THAT HE IS REVISING STORY IN LIGHT HIS DISCUSSIONS TODAY WITH EMBASSY OFFICERS AND SAYING EMB ESTERBROOK LEAVING IT TO FRIENDLY TO FINDS STORY ACCEPTABLE. DETERMINE WHETHER STORY SHOULD BE RUN ON SATURDAY OR SUNDAY EDITION.

WHILE WE WOULD HAVE PREFERRED LESS SPECULATIVE AND MORE FACTUAL

SECRET

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Authority MND 959000 BWAN NARA Cate 11-17

## SECRET

-2-996, AUGUST 28, 7PM, FROM LONDON

STORY AND LESS HIGHLIGHTING OF COMMITTEE OF 24 PROBLEM. WE BELIEVE ESTERBROOK PROPOSED REVISION WILL BE THE BEST THAT CAN BE ACHIEVED AT THIS END.

HAVE INFORMED FONOFF RESULTS DISCUSSIONS WITH ESTERBROOK. FONOFF STATES IT HAS ADVISED UK EMBASSY WASHINGTON OF DEVELOPMENTS.

GP-3.

BRUCE

MCA

NOTE: ADVANCE COPY TO S/S-O AUGUST 28 AT 2:37 PM PASSED WHITE HOUSE AT 3:10 PM

SECRET