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NC 25439

TOR:281754Z AUG 74

R 281136Z AUG 74
FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 01
INFO RUFHMR/AMEMBASSY RABAT 353
RUFJCX/AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT 441
RUTADR/AMEMBASSY DAKAR 4291
RUEHCR/AMCONSULATE BANJUL 366
RUFHMR/MCONSUL CASABLANCA 146
BT

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UNCLAS ABIDJAN 6950
PASS: COMMERCE, NMFS, FOREIGN FISHERIES
DEPT FOR S/FNW-COA
E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: BFIS, XY, MO, MR, SG, GA
SUBJ: JOINT FISHING VENTURES-NW AFRICA

1. A SLOW PROLIFERATION OF JOINT FISHING VENTURES WITH NORTHWEST AFRICAN COASTAL COUNTRIES HAS BECOME A DELUGE DURING THIS CALENDAR YEAR, FROM PRESS RELEASES, AND OTHER COMMUNICATION MEDIA THERE HAS BEEN ANNOUNCED THAT APPROXIMATELY 31 JOINT VENTURES ARE EITHER UNDER DISCUSSION OR ALREADY CONSUMATED WITH FOUR NW AFRICAN NATIONS. BECAUSE OF THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF THESE NEGOTIATIONS IT IS POSSIBLE THE NUMBER OF JOINT VENTURES COULD BE MUCH GREATER.
2. THE FOUR COUNTRIES ARE MOROCCO, MAURITANIA, SENEGAL AND GAMBIA. MOROCCO PRODUCED OVER 300,000 TONS OF FISH LAST YEAR BUT CONSIDERS ITSELF AN UNDERDEVELOPED NATION IN RELATION TO ITS OFFSHORE RESOURCES. MAURITANIA'S OWN FISHERIES ARE MINISCULE, BUT THE LACK OF AN INTERNAL INFRASTRUCTURE IS SLOWLY BEING REMEDIED THROUGH LOANS FROM INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND THE TALENT AND MATERIAL PROVIDED THROUGH JOINT VENTURES. SENEGAL IS QUITE PROUD OF THE STEADY CLIMB IN ITS OWN FISH PRODUCTION TO 250,000 TONS/YEAR, BUT ALSO REALIZES ITS POTENTIAL IS MUCH GREATER. GAMBIA'S ARTISINAL FISHERY IS SLOWLY EXPANDING BUT IT HAS NOT HAD ANY INDUSTRIAL FISHERY UNTIL FOREIGN FISHING COMPANIES MOVED INTO THE COUNTRY IN RECENT YEARS. THOUGH IT HAS A SMALL COASTLINE ITS KNOWN OFFSHORE RESORCES HAVE NOT BEEN EXPLOITED TO GAMBIA'S BENEFIT.

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3. TWO COUNTRIES, FRANCE AND SPAIN HAVE BEEN WORKING THE REGION FROM LOCAL SHORE BASES FOR MANY YEARS AND JAPAN HAS HAD NEGOTIATED AGREEMENTS WITH MAURITANIA FOR SEVERAL YEARS, HOWEVER, THE RECENT UNILATERAL EXPANSIONS OF FISHING ZONES HAS CURTAILED THE FISHING ACTIVITIES OF THE LARGE FOREIGN FLEET WITH HAS BEEN BUILDING UP FOR THE LAST TEN YEARS IN THE CANARY ISLANDS. THIS FACT HAS STIMULATED THEIR INTEREST TO FORM JOINT VENTURES SO THEY CCAN CONTINUE WORKING IN THIS RICH AREA. SOME OF THE LARGER UNITS OF THIS FLEET HAVE BEEN FORCED TO FISH OFF ANGOLA AND SOUTH AFRICA TO KEEP THE VESSELS OCCUPIED, ALTHOUGH THE EXTRA TIME INVOLVED TO GO TO SW AFRICA FROM NW AFRICA AND RETURN IS A DETRACTANT. COUNTRIES FROM CENTRAL WEST AFRICA ARE ALSO ANXIOUS TO FISH IN THIS AREA BECAUSE DEMAND FOR FISH IS INCREASING IN THEIR COUNTRIES WHILE THEIR RESOURCES ARE BEING DEPLETED FROM OVERFISHING. FURTHER INCENTIVE WAS PROVIDED DURING THE MARCH 1974, CEECAF SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING IN DAKAR, SENEGAL WHEN REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NW AFRICAN COUNTRIES EMPHASIZED THEIR INTEREST IN FORMING JOINT VENTURES.

4. JOINT FISHING VENTURES ARE ALREADY NEGOTIATED OR UNDER DISCUSSION BETWEEN THE FOLLOWING COUNTRIES:

MOROCCO: BELGIUM, CANADA, FRANCE, JAPAN, KUWAIT, SOUTH KOREA, SPAIN, U.S., USSR

MAURITANIA: ALGERIA, BULGARIA, CUBA, FRANCE, GHANA, GREECE, IVORY COAST, JAPAN, NIGERIA, NORWAY, ROMANIA, SPAIN, SWEDEN, USSR

SENEGAL: FRANCE, GHANA, IVORY COAST, NIGERIA, USSR

GAMBIA: GHANA, JAPAN, USSR SMITH

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NC 22179

TOR:240925Z AUG 74

R 232157Z AUG 74
 FM SECSTATE WASHDC
 TO RUESRS/AMEMBASSY CARACAS 6420
 INFO RUEHDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 8324

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 WS Ahrens
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 CONFIDENTIAL
 LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 185968
 E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: PLOS

SUBJECT- LOS; COMMITTEE II ARTICLES ON ISLANDS

1. DEPT AGREES THAT TUNISIAN AND LA DRAFT ARTICLES ARE OBJECTIONABLE AND HARMFUL. LANGUAGE OF BOTH DRAFT ARTICLES IS IMPRECISE, RHETORICAL AND INAPPROPRIATE FOR INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION HAVING FAR-REACHING AND ENDURING LEGAL IMPORTANCE.

2. WHILE SOME STATES MIGHT ARGUE THAT TUNISIAN AND LA DRAFT ARTICLES PERTAIN TO GUAM, AMERICAN SAMOA, VIRGIN ISLANDS (WHICH ARE ON COMMITTEE OF 24'S LIST OF NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES), AND PUERTO RICO (NOT ON LIST), WE CONSIDER OUR TERRITORIES PART OF U.S. AND NOT UNDER "COLONIAL DOMINATION, RACIST REGIME OR FOREIGN OCCUPATION." IT IS OBVIOUS, NONETHELESS, THAT ADOPTION OF DRAFT ARTICLES COULD INVOLVE US IN DISPUTES AS TO THEIR APPLICABILITY TO OUR TERRITORIES.

3. PUERTO RICAN PEOPLE EXERCISED THEIR RIGHT OF SELF-DETERMINATION BY ADOPTING A CONSTITUTION IN A REFERENDUM OF MARCH 3, 1952, PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMMONWEALTH OF PUERTO RICO FREELY ASSOCIATED WITH THE UNITED STATES. IN ITS EIGHTH SESSION UNGA ADOPTED RESOLUTION 748 RECOGNIZING THAT PUERTO RICO HAD EXERCISED SELF-DETERMINATION AND HAD ACHIEVED SELF-GOVERNMENT, AND ACCORDINGLY PUERTO RICO WAS TAKEN OFF COMMITTEE OF 24'S LIST. GA REAFFIRMED DECISION BY REFUSING IN 1971 TO PLACE QUESTION OF PUERTO RICO ON AGENDA. PEOPLE OF PUERTO RICO REPEATEDLY HAVE REAFFIRMED IN FREE ELECTIONS DECISION TO ESTABLISH COMMONWEALTH RELATIONSHIP WITH U.S.

FYI: AT CUBA'S INITIATIVE COMMITTEE OF 24 DISCUSSED PUERTO RICO IN 1972 AND 1973 DESPITE OUR STRONG OBJECTION THAT IT INAPPROPRIATE FOR COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER TERRITORY WHICH UNGA DECLARED SELF-GOVERNING IN RESOLU-

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TION 748 AND WHICH ACCORDINGLY NOT ON COMMITTEE'S LIST OF NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES, END FYI.

4. MALAGASY PROPOSAL, WHICH APPARENTLY ADVANCED TO SATISFY UKDEL ARGUMENTS, IS ALSO OBJECTIONABLE. MALAGASY PROPOSAL PROVIDES EXEMPTION ONLY FOR NON-INDEPENDENT TERRITORIES WHICH ARE ON COMMITTEE OF 24 LIST OF NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES (I.E., UNDER SCRUTINY OF COMMITTEE OF 24) AND THUS IMPLIES ERRONEOUSLY, IN OUR VIEW, THAT INDEPENDENCE ONLY LEGITIMATE OPTION FOR TERRITORIES ON LIST. IT IS OUR VIEW THAT TERRITORIES WHICH DO NOT HAVE DESIRE FOR INDEPENDENCE, MAY ELECT (IN ACT OF SELF-DETERMINATION, AS DID PUERTO RICO) SELF-GOVERNING STATUS IN ASSOCIATION WITH INDEPENDENT STATE, AND THUS MERIT REMOVAL FROM LIST OF NON-SELF-789;34,8,8 5344859483. UNDER MALAGASY PROPOSAL, IT APPEARS THAT A TERRITORY OPTING AS DID PUERTO RICO WOULD BE DENIED BENEFITS OF LOS TREATY.

5. USDEL SHOULD WORK ENERGETICALLY AGAINST TUNISIAN AND LA DRAFT ARTICLES. DELEGATION MAY WISH TO POINT OUT IN ITS REPRESENTATIONS THAT: A) "COLONIAL DOMINATION" AND "RACIST REGIME" ARE AMBIGUOUS POLITICAL TERMS WHICH WILL CERTAINLY BE INTERPRETED DIFFERENTLY BY DIFFERENT PARTIES. THIS CAN ONLY LEAD TO DISSENSION IN IMPLEMENTATION OF ANY LOS TREATY; B) THE BASIC THRUST OF THE TUNISIAN AND LA DRAFTS IS TO DENY TO LOCAL INHABITANTS THE BENEFITS OF LOS TREATY, (I.E., THE PROPOSALS WOULD HURT THE INHABITANTS OF THE TERRITORIES MORE THAT THE "COLONIAL" POWER ADMINISTERING THEM); C) PROHIBITING AN AREA FROM ENJOYING THE RIGHTS UNDER AN LOS TREATY WHILE IMPLYING IT MUST NONETHELESS FULFILL OBLIGATIONS THEREUNDER IS APT TO UNDERMINE THE MEANINGFULNESS OF AN LOS TREATY -- ALTERNATIVELY, IF THIS PROPOSAL PLACES SUCH AREAS ENTIRELY OUTSIDE AN LOS TREATY THIS SERIOUSLY UNDERCUTS THE UNIVERSALITY WHICH ALL STATES REALIZE IS NECESSARY FOR AN EFFECTIVE LOS TREATY; D) EXCLUSION OF NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES FROM PROVISIONS OF LOS TREATY COULD CAUSE COMPLI-CATIONS AND CONFLICTS WITH NEIGHBORING STATES IF AND WHEN THE STATUS OF SUCH TERRITORIES BECAME ALTERED.

6. TERRITORIES ON LIST OF NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES

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ARE: SOUTHERN RHODESIA, NAMIBIA, TERRITORIES UNDER PORTUGUESE ADMINISTRATION, SPANISH SAHARA, FRENCH SOMALILAND, BRITISH HONDURAS, FALKLAND (MALVINAS) ISLAND, GIBRALTAR, ANTIGUA, DOMINICA, ST. KITTS-NEVIS-ANGUILLA, ST. LUCIA AND ST. VINCENT, COMORO ARCHIPELAGO, SEYCHELLES ISLANDS, ST. HELENA, GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS, PITCAIRN ISLAND, SOLOMON ISLANDS, NEW HEBRIDES, AMERICAN SAMOA, GUAM, NIUE AND THE TOKELAU ISLANDS, TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS, COCOS (KEELING) ISLANDS, PAPUA NEW GUINEA, BRUNEI, U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS, BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS, BERMUDA, TURKS AND CAICAS ISLANDS, CAYMAN ISLANDS, MONTSERRAT, KISSINGER

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TO AMEMBASSY CARACAS PRIORITY 6401

BT
SECRET STATE 185214

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS

SUBJECT: LOS: CONTINENTAL MARGIN DELIMITATION

REF: (A) CARACAS 7662, (B) CARACAS 7771

WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING DELEGATION'S REASONING FOR PROPOSING APPARENT SHIFT IN TACTICS FROM LOW KEY POSTURE, WHICH IS AUTHORIZED BY NSDM 260. PRESENTATION OF U.S. APPROACH TO SEVERAL BROAD MARGIN STATES SEEMS LIKELY TO RESULT IN WIDESPREAD IDENTIFICATION OF PROPOSAL AS U.S. PROPOSAL, WITH RESULTING DIMINUTION OF "HONEST BROKER" NEGOTIATING ROLE. WE WOULD ALSO BE INTERESTED IN RECEIVING ANY COMMENT DEL MAY WISH TO OFFER ON WHAT THE EFFECT OF U.S. NEGOTIATING FIRST WITH BROAD MARGIN STATES MIGHT BE ON OUR ABILITY TO ACHIEVE OUR VARIOUS OBJECTIVES IN THE NEGOTIATIONS.

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