

[REDACTED]

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THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20505

National Intelligence Officers

[REDACTED]

14 May 1980

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence  
Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

VIA: Deputy Director for National Foreign Assessment

FROM: Robert C. Ames  
National Intelligence Officer for Near East and South Asia

SUBJECT: SCC Meeting of 13 May 1980 - "Security Framework"

1. Action Requested: None; the following is for your information. (U)

(b)(1) 2. Background: This was the tenth in a series of SCC meetings on the Security Framework for the Persian Gulf/Indian Ocean. The Agenda was covered except for the [REDACTED] item that will be handled by the Aaron-Carlucci-Newsom group. A short discussion of Somalia was added to the Agenda. [REDACTED]

3. Deployments: DoD noted that the Pacific MAU now in the Indian Ocean is scheduled to depart the area at the end of May. DoD suggested that until regional exercises could be arranged, the MAU should not be replaced. A MAU would be rotated into the Mediterranean on 25 June and by that time exercises might be scheduled and this unit could be used. This would leave a gap in US presence at a time when the Soviets are conducting exercises near Suqutrah Island. Would our departure give the wrong signal? The President approved this force presence and in order to justify the gap, DoD should draw up a deployment plan through the end of 1980. [REDACTED]

4. Exercises: Beacon Compass 80 is on with the UK and Australia for October-November 1980. Perhaps Kenya and Oman can be brought in and Egypt might be lined up for a TACAIR deployment/exercise. Ambassador Habib will discuss this matter with the Omanis and the Kenyans will be on board when the facilities agreement is signed. State is to prepare a paper on what countries and in what order we should approach for exercises. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

5. Allied Activities: The most important contributions the allies can make are: 1) increase their contribution to NATO, 2) enroute access, 3) occasional regional deployments, 4) build up their own rapid deployment capabilities, and 5) increase assistance to Turkey. The major problems are: 1) getting the allies to pick up the inevitable draw downs in Europe, and 2) getting agreement on the definition of our mission in the Indian Ocean.

6. Saudi Financing: We cannot expect the Saudis to be the bankers of our foreign policy in the region, [REDACTED] Have Ambassador West [REDACTED] with the Saudis on our perceptions of security issues in the region and how we can share responsibility.

7. Somalia: The level of assistance no longer appears to be a problem. The essential ingredient in an agreement is now a security pledge against an unprovoked attack. Perhaps such a pledge, with a follow-up military exercise, will do the trick. Security is what is on the Somalis minds and they will come to realize that with Kenyan and Omani agreements in our pockets, Somali facilities are less essential. The time to move might be now. Our Ambassador will take soundings on this.

8. No date for the next "Security Framework" meeting was given. (U)

*Robert C. Ames*  
Robert C. Ames

NIC/NIO/NESA:RCAmes [REDACTED]

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