

Message Text

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ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 EB-07

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FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7843

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 13453

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, RP

SUBJECT: LORAN A AGREEMENT

REF: (A) STATE 217677 (B) STATE 199801

1. IN ACCORDANCE WITH 175 AUTOHORITY (REFTELB) AND AUTHORITY TO MAKE LORAN A AGREEMENT EFFECTIVE AS OF JANUARY 1, 1975 (REFTEL A), EMB HAS DISCUSSED MATTER WITH PHIL NAVY. PHIL NAVY CONCURS AND PRESENTLY OBTAINING FINAL CLEARANCE FROM DFA IN WHICH THEY EXPECT NO DIFFICULTY.

2. AS DEPT NOTED IN REFTTEL A, ONCE AGREEMENT IS SIGNED, EITHER PARTY MUST THEN NOTIFY OTHER OF DESIRE TO EXTEND AGREEMENT FOR ANOTHER YEAR PRIOR TO NOVEMBER 1, 1975. THEREFORE, DUE TO THE LATENESS IN SIGNING THE AGREEMENT, IT WOULD APPEAR REASONABLE TO MAKE DURATION OF INITIAL AGREEMENT TWO YEARS, THEN RENEWABLE ON YEARLY BASIS. ALSO, BY MAKING INITIAL AGREEMENT OF TWO YEARS IT WULD INSURE NO ADDITIONAL DEMANDS FOR SECOND YEAR OVER WHAT WAS INITIALLY AGREED. IN THIS CONNCECTION, SHOULD BE RECALLED THAT AGREEMENT PROVIDES FOR CONSULTATION PRIOR TO EXTENSION WHICH WOULD PROVIDE OPEN DOOR FOR PHILS TO PRESENT REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL SUPPORT AND EQUIPMENT AS CONDITIONS FOR EXTENSION. IF THIS CHANGE WOULD NOT CAUSE FURTHER DELAY OR DIFFICULTY UNDER 175 AUTHORITY, BELIEVE TWO YEAR PERIOD PRESENTS LESS RISK; THEREFORE, REQUEST AUTHORITY TO REVISE INITIAL AGREEMENT AS STATED ABOVE. WE HAVE NOT DISCUSSED THIS
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WITH THE PHIL NAVY BUT ASSUME THEY WOULD POSE NO OBJECTION

AS THEY WOULD VIEW TWO-YEAR AGREEMENT, UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES, AS BUREAUCRATICALLY VERY REASONABLE.

3. IF TWO-YEAR INITIAL AGREEMENT RENEWABLE YEARLY NOT FEASIBLE AT THIS TIME, REQUEST AUTHORITY TO APPROACH GOP AT TIME OF EXCHANGING NOTES WITH PROPOSAL TO EXTEND INITIAL AGREEMENT FOR ONE YEAR. EMB BELIEVES PREFERABLE FOR USG TO PROPOSE EXTENDING AGREEMENT AS LORAN A OPERATION GENERALLY RECOGNIZED AS BENEFICIAL TO USG INTERESTS. ALSO, BY IMMEDIATELY OFFERING TO EXTEND INITIAL AGREEMENT, WE MAY FINESSE ANY RESIDUAL GOP IDEA OF REQUESTING CHANGE IN SUPPORT ARRANGEMENTS FOR FOLLOWING YEAR. IN ANY EVENT, DO NOT BELIEVE GOP WILL TAKE INITIATIVE TO REQUEST EXTENSION.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: AUTHORITY TO MAKE DURATION OF LORAN A AGREEMENT TWO YEARS RENEWABLE YEARLY OR IN THE ALTERNATIVE, AUTHORITY TO PROPOSE RENEWAL FOR ADDITIONAL YEAR AT TIME THAT NOTES ARE EXCHANGED. AS TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE, REQUEST DEPT ADVISE EMB ASAP OF FEASIBILITY OF PROPOSALS SO THAT WE MAY GET PHILIPPINES THINKING ALONG SAME LINES.
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