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ACTION PM-05

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SUBJ: DIEGO GARCIA RELOCATION: AGELEGA IN DOUBT

REF: LONDON 3168 *10/13/70*

1. FONOFF'S URWICK TELLS US THAT INITIAL REPORT FROM MOULINIE AND CO. VERY DISCOURAGING RE POSSIBILITY OF DEVELOPING AGELEGA ISLAND FOR RELOCATION DIEGO WORKER POPULATION. CONSIDERABLE FURTHER STUDY REQUIRED BEFORE ANY FIRM CONCLUSIONS CAN BE DRAWN. HOWEVER, BASIC ECONOMIC FACTORS INDICATE DEVELOPMENT OF AGELEGA TO ABSORB SUBSTANTIAL NUMBERS OF DIEGO POPULATION WOULD BE PROHIBITIVELY EXPENSIVE.

2. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION, URWICK AGREED THAT THESE INITIAL CONCLUSIONS BY MOULINIE COULD IN PART BE TACTICAL GAMBIT TO EXTRACT MAXIMUM BRITISH CONTRIBUTION. HE THOUGHT NO CONCLUSION OR ACTION WARRANTED AT THIS STAGE BUT WISHED TO FLAG POTENTIAL MAJOR PROBLEM.
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