

Department of State TELEGRAM

CONFIDENTIAL 928

PAGEI 04 LONDONI 10391 : 161847Z

47: KCTIONNAF+19:

INFO OCT #04 EUR 20 NEAP 13 EAP 15 CLAEF 00 DODE 00 PM 05 H-02

INR#08: LF04 NSAE-00: NSC-10: PF03: R66-01 PRS-01 SS-20

USIA-12 RSR-01 //1351 W

084289

RI 164644Z DEC 701 FM AMEMBASSY LONDON TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2061 AMEMBASSY PORT LOUTS: INFO AMEMBASSY NATROBI

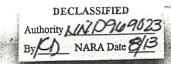
CHOINE FEIT DEEN TTI A LILLONDON 10391

SUBJECT: DIEGOGGARCIA POPULATION

REFT PORT LOUIS: 1109 Pof 15 Jul -d.

1. AS' DEPARTMENT IS: AWARED WHOLE: QUESTION: OF: RELOCATION OF WORKER POPULATION ON DIEGO GARCIA HAS BEEN IN LIMBO BECAUSE OF CONSTRAINTS WE IMPOSED REGARDING ANY UKIGOM TALKS DURING PERIOD OF CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW. FCO: IS PAINFULLY AWARE OF DIFFIGULTIES: OF PERSUADING GOM TO ADD TO ITS PRESENT UNEMPLOYMENT PROBLEM: NEVERTHELESS: ALTERNATIVE: SOLUTIONS: AREINOT EASY TO FIND FOO IS WORKING ON SEVERAL POSSIBLE ANGLES BUT ITTIS NOT YET CLEAR WHERE THEY WILLICOME OUT . IN MEANTIME, WISH TO RECALL FOLLOWING FACTS OF WHIC'S CARTERUSEEMS UNAWARE (A) THERE IS NO THOUGHT OF TRANSFERRING 400 PERSONS TO MAURITIUS OF TOTAL POPULATION OF LESS THAT 400 NOW ON DIEGO GARCIA, ABOUT 230 ARE: SEYCHELLOIS: AND FCO INTENDS: RETURN THEM: TO! SEYCHELLES OF REMAINDER ABOUT 20 BORN IN MAURITIUS: AND ABOUT 125 BORN ON ISLANDS. LATTER: GROUPS KNOWN AS ILOIS, PARTICULARLY TROUBLESOME: TO HMG BECAUSE THEY HAVE DUAL NATIONALITY OF BOTH UK AND MAURITIUS FCO WOULD LIKE TO TREAT ILOIS: AND MAURITIANS IN SAME MANNER SO AS NOT TO CALL

CONFIDENTIAL





## Department of State

## TELEGRAM

## CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE | Ø2 LONDON: 10391 164847Z

ATTENTION TO DISTINCTION. BUT NON-SEYCHELLOIS POPULATION PROBABLY NOT MORE THAN 150. (B) AGELEGA MAY PROVIDE PARTIAL SOLUTION TO RELOCATION PROBLEMS BUT NOT WHOLE ANSWER . MOULENIE HAS TENTATIVELY INDICATED WILLINGNESS TO TRANSFER SMALL NUMBER FROM DIEGO GARCIA TO AGELEGA PLANTATIONS BUTTTHES WOULD PROBABLY HAVE TO BELAT LATER STAGE OFFICURI CONSTRUCTION SINCE NO HOUSING, ETC., IS READY TO RECEIVE THEM AT AGELEGA. ICT RESETTLEMENT AT PEROS BANHOS AND SALOMON REMAINS A POSSIBILITY FOR SOME PORTION OF DIEGO GARCIA POPULATIONS BUT PROBABLY ONLY ASHATTEMPORARY PALLIATIVE . PERMANENT RELOCATION THERE WOULD: REQUIRE ADDITIONAL BRITISH INVESTMENT WHICH SEEMS HIGHLY UNLIKELY. (D) LATEST FONOFF! THUNKING SEEMS: TO BE THAT AT LEAST SOME OF ILDIS AND MAURITIANS WILL HAVE TO GO BACK TO MAURITTUS THEY KNOW THIS WILL BE HARD TO SELL! AND MAY COST HMG SOME MONEY.

2. THUS BRITISH HAVE A REAL PROBLEM, ESPECIALLY IF THEY TRY TO MEET OUR SCHEDULE. WE BELIEVE FONOFF INTENDS TO DO UTMOST TO SOLVE IT, EVEN IF IT MEANS REAL COST TO HMG TREASURY AND AN ADVERSE MAURITIAN REACTION. FONOFF HAS PRESSED HARD: IN PAST REPOSSIBLE EMPLOYMENT SOME WORKERS BY U.S. BUT IN FACE OF CONSISTENTLY NEGATIVE RESPONSE APPEARS. TO HAVE ABANDONED IDEA. WE STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT QUESTION BE REVIEWED NOW: IT IS DIFFICULT TO BELIEVE FACILITY WILL NOT REQUIRE SOME MENTAL WORKERS. DIEGO COPRA HANDS WOULD PROVIDE CHEAP LABOR POOL AND EMPLOYING THEM WOULD ASSIST IMMEASURABLY IN EASING RELOCATION PROBLEM AND ASSURING CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE NOT DELAYED.

CONFIDENTIAL