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ACTION: PM=06:

INFO: OCT-01 AF-08: EUR-14 SS-14 NSC-10: CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-06 NSAE-00 P-03 RSC-01 USIA-12: PRS-01 L-03 RSR-01

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R 201120Z OET 71
FM: AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC: 2645
INFO: AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AFSEFOL=9: MAHE
NMCB: 40 DIEGO GARCIA

CONFIDENTIAL PORT LOUIS: 0977

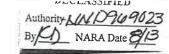
REF# AFSCFOL-9 MAHE 260735Z AUG 71

SUBJECT: DIEGO GARCIA ILOIS

1. BYACUATION ILDIS FROM DIEGO HAS NOW HIT LOCAL PRESS UNDER BANNER HEADLINES: OCTOBER 20. ARTICLES BASED: ON PRESS CONFERENCE OCTOBER 19 CALLED BY MMM LEADER BERENGER AND UDM POLITICAN OLLIVRY (WHO REPRESENTING: MMM IN: DOCK ARBITRATION). BERENGER REPORTEDLY RECEIVED LETTER OCTOBER 6 RPT 6 FROM FNU SERVINA WHO DESCRIBED AS SECRETARY OF SEYCHELLES PEOPLES UNITED PARTY AND: OF SEYCHELLES TRANSPORT AND GENERAL WORKERS: UNION.

2. UNDER HEADLINE "146 PEOPLE EXPELLED: FROM DIEGO: IN PRISON: IN THE SEYCHELLES" LEADING DAILY AND OTHER PAPERS REPORT BERENGER/
OLLIVRY AS HAVING STATED 146 INDIVIDUALS TRANSPORTED VIA "NORDVAER"
TO: SEYCHELLES, APPARENTLY IN TRANSIT FOR MAURITIUS. GROUP: LODGED IN MAHE "PRISON" IN ABASENCE OTHER: AVAILABLE QUARTERS. ASSERTING "HUMANITARIAN" INTERESTS, BERENGER/OLLIVRY DEMAND COMPENSATION FOR THESE: "REFUGEES" FROM GOVERNMENTS OF MAURITIUS; UK AND US AS WELL: AS CHAGOS-AGALEGA, LTD. (MOULINIE) WHICH AFFILIATED:
LOCAL: CONGOLMERATE ROGERS AND CO. MMM DAILY PLAYS UP PRESS CONFERENCE UNDER BANNER HEADLINES, CLAIMING AN ALLEGED 500-RUPEE COMPENSATION PAYMENT PER INDIVIDUAL HAS NOT BEEN PAID:

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AND RESETTLEMENT BENEFITS ALSO DUE FROM HMG. ARTICLE CLAIMS
INDIVIDUALS UNABLE OBTAIN PASSPORTS FROM SEYCHELLES AURHORITIES
DESRITE "OCFOBER 5 DOCUMENT" ATTESTING THAT SEYCHELLES REGARDS
THEM AS "CITIZENS UKLAND COLONIES". ACCOMPANYING EDITORIAL
STATES RETROCESSION DIEGO TO MAURITIUS IS "IMPERATIVE" OF MMM

3. COMMENT: ABOVE INFO APPARENTLY BASED ON SERVINA LETTER.

USG: SO: FAR NOT RPT NOT SINGLED OUT FOR CRITICISM. RECOGNIZE
BRITISH HAVE: PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY BUT THIS GETS READILY
BLURRED HERE IN PUBLIC: EYE BY REASON OUR DOMINANT ROLE AT
FACILITY (MMM PAPE INDICATES EMBASSY MAY BE APPROACHED AS WELL
AS BRITISH HIGH COMMISSION). WOULD APPRECIATE INFO ON STATUS
MOVEMENT ILOIS (LATEST WE HAVE IS AUGUST REFTEL) AND SPECIFIC
DETAILS "JAILING" INCIDENT SEYCHELLES. IT HAD BEEN OUR IMPRESSION
(PARA 6, LONDON 4528, MAY 19) THAT TRANSPORTATION ILOIS OUTSIDE
(CHAGOS ARCHIPELAGO WOULD NOT BE ACCOMPLISHED UNTIL SOME ORDERLY
ARRANGEMENTS MADE TAKE CARE OF THEM ELSEWHERE. FROM HERE APPEARS
THIS CONCEPT OVERTAKEN AND THAT IMMEDIATE HARDSHIP SITUATION
MAY HAVE ARISEN. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES I BELIEVE PROMPT
ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN RESOLVE SUCH ISSUES AS COMPENSATIONAND
RELOCATION LEST PROBLEM BECOME RUNNING SORE IN WESTERN RELATIONS
HERE.

4. BRITISH HICOM CARTER SIMILARLY WITHOUT CURRENT INFO AND HAS QUERIED LONDON AND MAHE. RECALLS PRIMIN AGREED IN PRINCIPLE SOMETIME AGO THAT MAURITIAN ILOIS (INCLUDING THOSE ALREADY HERE WHO CANNOT BE ABSORBED LOCAL ECONOMY) WOULD BE SETTLED COPRAPLANTATIONS AGALEGA WITH HMG FOOTING BILL AND THAT THIS WOULD DISCHARGE BRITISH RESPONSIBILITY. PRIMIN HAS NOT SO FAR SUBMITTED THIS PROPOSAL CABINET BUT AT THAT TIME NO DIFFICULTY FORESEEN. BREWER