

CYPHER

TO IMMEDIATE FCO TELMO PERSONAL 176 OF 23 SEPTEMBER
INFO FORT LOUIS, WASHINGTON AND NEW DELHI.

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

REF YOUR TELMO PERSONAL 148: REPORT ON DIEGO GARCIA EVACUEES. 28

1. Mr Paul Moulinie and Mr Felix Hoareau, Superintendent of Prisons, were interviewed today by Attorney-General on my behalf.
2. In 1971 when the Islanders of Diego Garcia were evacuated to Mahe there was no suitable accommodation whatever available. The Superintendent of Prisons offered to allow them to use a new block of the Prison which had just been completed and never been used. Mr Paul Moulinie agreed to this and the evacuees stayed there for a period of two to three weeks. Their food was paid for by the Company and cooked by the Prison staff. No coercion was used; the evacuees were perfectly free to come and go as they pleased; and no complaints were made either to the Prison Authorities or to the Company. They were all happy. Certain politicians wished to take photographs but were not permitted to do so and their films were seized. One of these films (undeveloped) is in the custody of the Superintendent of Prisons. Do you want it sent to you, if so, advise soonest.

FCO pass all.

DALE