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13: ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-20 CIAE-00 PM-08 H-02 INR-06 L-03 NSAE-00

P-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12 EB-11

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R 161010Z OCT 72 FM AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3419 INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON CINCUSNAVEUR DOD

UNCLAS PORT LOUIS 0972

SUBJECT: PRESS REPORT ON ILOIS SETTLEMENT

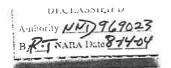
1. MAJOR LOCAL DAILY EXPRESS FEATURED ON OCT 16 ARTICLE ON ILOIS SETTLEMENT SUMMARIZED PARA 2.

2. ACCORDING EXPRESS, GOM, NOT ILOIS, WILL RECEIVE "10 MILLION RUPEES" PRINCIPALLY FOR RESETTLEMENT AND ECONOMIC REINTEGRA-TION. "LONG MONTHS" LIKELY PASS BEFORE GOM RESPONSIBILITY DISCHARGED. SPECIAL PRIME MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE SET UP LOOK AFTER ILOIS HAS NOT BEEN ACTIVE. ISSUE DEMONSTRATES LACK FORE-SIGHT AND PLANNING ON PART GOM AND HMG. "ALL EXPELLED PEOPLE DO NOT COME FROM UGANDA". THIS REPRESENTS "ONE OF SADDEST EPISODES" OF RECENT MAURITIAN HISTORY. BOTH GOM AND HMG KNEW WELL BEFORE "SALE" OF DIEGO TO UK THAT PEOPLE OF DIEGO GARCIA "WHO ARE LEGALLY MAURITIAN" WOULD HAVE TO BE TRANSFERRED. SINCE RELOCATION ON AGALEGA WITH MOULINIE COMPANY PROVED UNECONOMIC. PEOPLE OF DIEGO GARCÍA HAD TO BE RETURNED MAURITIUS FROM OUTSET, BUT GOM RELUCTANT WELCOME THEM, IN SPITE OF REALITIES: DIFFERENT COVERNMENTS INVOLVED, MAURITIAN, BRITISH AND AMERICAN, BATTED ISSUE BACK AND FORTH LIKE TENNIS BALL . FINALLY "UNDER PRESSURE OF USG FOR PROMPT SOLUTION, THAT GOVERNMENT NOT WISHING TO BE INVOLVED IN DETERIORATION OF SOCIAL SITUATION IN THE CONTEXT OF DEFENSE TREATY IN INDIAN OCEAN AND FEARING INTERNATIONAL COMPLICATIONS", AN AGREEMENT WAS REACHED BETWEEN BRITISH AND

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MAURITIAN GOVERNMENTS. ACTUALLY 300 FAMILIES (OR 1250 PEOPLE) ALREADY IN MAURITIUS AND "ACCORDING CERTAIN INDICATIONS" 150 OTHER "FAMILIES" ARE EXPECTED.

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