

Ref: FCO 31/402

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SECRET



OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR,  
B. I. O. T.  
VICTORIA,  
SEYCHELLES.

Ref. No. BIOT/157/172/II

3rd July, 1969

*the Whitehall  
figures long awaited!  
Dear F. J. J.*

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11 JUL 1969  
HPN 181

73) Would you please refer to the Commissioner's letter BIOT/157/172/II of 16th June, 1969 in which we promised to send you up to date population figures for Chagos.

2. I am enclosing the tables with this letter and I hope that the form I have chosen to set them out in is clear. It is not quite the form in which you asked for it but I am afraid that the family mobility which is a feature of Ilois life makes any other form of presentation complex and cumbersome. The figures were compiled at a time when some of the inhabitants were leaving by ship and others had just arrived and you will see that there are a number of family households without an adult male. This will no doubt have been rectified by the time you receive this letter and it is an indication of one further problem we shall have to face if we have to resettle the population.

3. The figures were compiled by the island managers who submitted detailed lists giving names of the members of each family. So far as possible we have checked this against our records to ensure that the division between Seychellois, Mauritians and Ilois is as accurate as possible. The only figure which causes me some concern is that for adult female Ilois on Peros Banhos. This has fallen from 43 in March 1968 to 27 now but the number of Ilois children has only decreased by 9. I will seek an explanation when I go to the island. However, as the position is never static I think we can accept the figures as sufficiently accurate for general consideration of the problem and the attached summary of the position may be useful. As you will see from this summary and from our telegram BIOT 24 it may be possible to settle all the Ilois now in Chagos on Agalega. Those in Mauritius, however, remain unaccounted for.

*J. R. Todd*  
(J. R. Todd)

F. Matthews, Esq.,  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office,  
London, S.W.1.

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POPULATION OF CHAGOS - JUNE 1969

DIEGO GARCIA

1. Population

	ADULTS			CHILDREN	TOTAL
	Male	Female	Total		
Seychellois	108	32	140	49	189
Mauritians	5	3	8	4	12
Ilois	27	30	57	72	129
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>330</b>

#5 + other  
125

2. Household Size

No. of persons in household	SEYCHELLOIS	MAURITIANS	ILOIS	TOTAL
1	75	3	-	78
2	16	1	12	29
3	7	1	4	12
4	2	1	3	6
5	4	-	1	5
6	1	-	3	4
7	1	-	3	4
8	2	-	2	4
9	1	-	-	1
10	-	-	1	1
11	1	-	1	2
Single persons	75	3	-	78
Families	33	3	30	66
<b>Total no. of Households</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>144</b>

#5

3. Incomplete family units

	FAMILIES WITHOUT		TOTAL
	ADULT MALE	ADULT FEMALE	
Seychellois	-	1	1
Mauritians	-	1	1
Ilois	3	-	3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>

#5

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PEROS BANHOS

1. Population

	ADULTS			CHILDREN	TOTAL
	Male	Female	Total		
Seychellois	10	3	13	3	16
Mauritius	3	2	5	3	8
Ilois	38	27	65	75	140
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>164</b>

2. Household Size

No. of persons in household	SEYCHELLOIS	MAURITIANS	ILOIS	TOTAL
1	7	1	17	25
2	1	-	5	6
3	1	1	5	7
4	1	1	6	8
5	-	-	2	2
6	-	-	4	4
7	-	-	3	3
8	-	-	1	1
9	-	-	-	-
10	-	-	-	-
11	-	-	1	1
<b>Single persons</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Families</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>Total no. of Households</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>57</b>

3. Incomplete Families

	FAMILIES WITHOUT		TOTAL
	ADULT MALE	ADULT FEMALE	
Seychellois	-	-	-
Mauritians	-	-	-
Ilois	5	1	6
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>

SAIOMON

1. Population

	ADULTS			CHILDREN	TOTAL
	Male	Female	Total		
Seychellois	14	7	21	22	43
Mauritians	1	-	1	-	1
Ilois	40	29	69	84	153
TOTAL	55	36	91	106	197

2. Household Size

No. of Persons in household	SEYCHELLOIS	MAURITIANS	ILOIS	TOTAL
1	8	1	25	34
2	1	-	2	3
3	1	-	3	4
4	-	-	4	4
5	2	-	5	7
6	2	-	5	7
7	-	-	-	-
8	1	-	2	3
9	-	-	2	2
10	-	-	1	1
Single persons	8	1	25	34
Families	7	-	24	31
Total no. of households	15	1	49	65

3. Incomplete families

	FAMILIES WITHOUT		TOTAL
	ADULT MALE	ADULT FEMALE	
Seychellois	1	1	2
Mauritians	-	-	-
Ilois	5	-	5
TOTAL	6	1	7

**TOTAL CHAGOS**

**1. Population**

	ADULTS	Male	Female	Total	CHILDREN	TOTAL
Seychellois	132	42	90	174	74	248
Mauritians	9	5	4	9	7	21
Ilois	105	86	19	191	231	422
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>312</b>	<b>691</b>

**2. Household Size**

No. of Persons in household	SEYCHELLOIS	MAURITIANS	ILOIS	TOTAL
1	90	5	42	137
2	18	2	19	38
3	9	2	12	23
4	3	2	13	18
5	6	1	8	14
6	3	1	12	15
7	1	1	6	7
8	1	1	2	3
9	1	1	2	3
10	1	1	2	3
11	1	1	2	3
<b>Single Persons</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>137</b>
<b>Families</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>129</b>
<b>Total no. of households</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>266</b>

**3. Incomplete Families**

FAMILIES WITHOUT ADULT MALE	ADULT MALE	TOTAL
1	2	3
1	1	2
13	1	14
14	4	18

Seychellois  
 Mauritians  
 Ilois  
 TOTAL

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RESETTLEMENT OF POPULATION OF CHAGOS

To be moved at 6 months notice from Diego Garcia

SEYCHELLOIS Total 189  
75 single persons  
33 families (65 adults and  
49 children)

All to be returned to Seychelles unless  
U.S. can provide employment for men.

MAURITIANS Total 12  
3 single persons  
3 families (5 adults and  
4 children)

To be returned to Mauritius.

ILOIS Total 129  
30 families (57 adults and  
72 children)

To be sent to Peros Banhos and Salomon  
in first instance.

To be removed gradually from Peros Banhos and Salomon?

SEYCHELLOIS Total 59  
15 single persons  
10 families (19 adults and  
25 children)

To be returned to Seychelles.

MAURITIANS Total 9  
2 single persons  
2 families (4 adults and  
3 children)

To be returned to Mauritius.

ILOIS (including those transferred from Diego Garcia)  
Total 422  
42 single persons  
61 families (149 adults and  
231 children)

To be resettled in Agalaga and Mauritius?