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SECRET

(27)

Mr. J. Thomas, Defence Policy Department

DIEGO GARCIA

(25) Thank you for sending me a copy of your minute of 29 October to Mr. Sykes about the American proposals for Diego Garcia. It seems that we can't broach the subject of re-settlement to the Mauritians until 1 January 1980 and that the Americans want all the labour evacuated from the island by 30 June 1970. Even with using Salomon and Peros Banhos for the temporary re-location of part of the labour, this seems to us to be an impossibly tight time-table and we think the Americans should be so informed.

Pen
(E. H. M. Counsell)

Copy to:

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