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CYPHER/CAT A
PRIORITY COMMONWEALTH OFFICE TELEGRAM NUMBER 423

TO PORT LOUIS 9 OCTOBER 1968

ARCHIVES No. 61 11 OCT 1968 (PJ 10/10)

SECRET UK EYES ONLY.

NCXT 45 . 46 .

ADDRESSED TO PORT LOUIS TELEGRAM NUMBER 423 OF 9 OCTOBER REPEATED FOR INFORMATION TO GOVERNOR SEYCHELLES.

YOUR TELEGRAM NUMBER 387. RESETTLEMENT OF MAURITIANS FORMERLY RESIDENT IN BIOT.

LOCAL REPRESENTATIONS ETC REFERRED TO IN TELEGRAM UNDER REFERENCE STILL AWAITED BUT MEANWHILE YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT NO (REPEAT NO) FORMAL WRITTEN AGREEMENT WAS CONCLUDED BETWEEN BRITISH AND MAURITIUS GOVERNMENTS ON THE COST OF RESETTLING MAURITIANS FORMERLY LIVING ON DIEGO GARCIA OR ELSEWHERE IN CHAGOS ARCHIPELAGO.

2. NEVERTHELESS AT A LANCASTER HOUSE MEETING ON 23 SEPTEMBER 1965, ATTENDED INTER ALIA BY SECRETARY OF STATE AND RAMGOOLAM, MAURITIANS MINISTERS VERBALLY ACCEPTED IN PRINCIPLE THAT THE £3 MILLION COMPENSATION WOULD BE QUOTE OVER AND ABOVE DIRECT COMPENSATION TO LANDOWNERS AND THE BEGIN UNDERLINING COST OF RESETTLING OTHERS APPEARED IN THE CHAGOS ISLANDS CEASE UNDERLINING UNQUOTE.

- 3. THE PHRASE QUOTE OTHERS AFFECTED UNQUOTE REFERS TO PERSONS NECESSARILY REMOVED FROM ONE OR OTHER OF THE ISLANDS BECAUSE OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF DEFENCE FACILITIES THEREON. OBVIOUSLY THERE ARE NOT YET QUOTE ANY PERSONS AFFECTED UNQUOTE IN THIS CONTEXT. IT IS DIFFICULT TO SEE HOW HMG CAN BE HELD IN ANY WAY RESPONSIBLE FOR ACTION TAKEN BY ROGERS AND CO IN 1967 IN DECIDING AGAINST REMPLOYMENT OF THESE MAURITIANS.
- 4. IT IS SUGGESTED THAT YOU MAKE AN INTERIM REPLY TO THE MAURITIUS GOVERNMENT ON THE LINES OF PARAGRAPH 3 ABOVE.
- 5. (FOR GOVERNOR SEYCHELLES CNLY) FOLLOWING IS
- (A) TEXTS OF TELEGRAM UNDER REFERENCE AND OF
- (B) COMMONWEALTH OFFICE TELEGRAM NUMBER .389.

/(A) YOUR

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(A)

YOUR TELEGRAM NUMBER 389. RESETTLEMENT OF MAURITIANS FORMERLY
RESIDENT IN BIOT. AFTER PRESS CAMPAIGN OF INCREASING INTRISITY
MAURITIUS GOVERNMENT HAVE FORMALLY REQUESTED INFORMATION ABOUT OUR
PROPOSALS FOR RESETTLEMENT. COPIES OF REPRESENTATIONS AND OTHER
BACKGROUND MATERIAL COLLECTED LOCALLY FOLLOWS BY BAG ON MONDAY

2. ALTHOUGH CLEARLY REPRESENTATIONS PREDATE DEVELOPMENT ON DIEGO
GARCIA IT DOES NOT FOLLOW THEY STEM PRIMARILY OR MAINLY FROM ANY
EMPLOYER/EMPLOYEE DISPUTE. INDEED SUBSEQUENT INFORMATION SUGGESTS
THE CONTRARY. YOUR TELEGRAM AND FOLLOWING LETTERS ANYHOW DO NOT
REPLY TO DAWSON MORAYS LETTER. URGENT GUIDANCE FOR INTERIM REPLY
TO MAURITIUS GOVERNMENT WOULD BE APPRECIATED TOGETHER WITH COPIES OF
RELEVANT AGREEMENTS FOR OUR OWN INFORMATION.

(B)

TELEGRAM NUMBER 389.

YOUR TELEGRAM NUMBER 347.

RESETTLEMENT OF MAURITIANS FORMERLY RESIDENT IN BIOT.
TWO DISTINCT ISSUES ARE INVOLVED HERE:

- (A) THE POSSIBILITY OF ANY FUTURE RESETTLEMENT OF MAURITIANS RESIDENT IN DIEGO GARCIA BECAUSE OF AMERICAN PROPOSALS TO DEVELOP AN QUOTE AUSTERE COMMUNICATIONS FACILITY UNQUOTE ON DIEGO GARCIA: AND (B) THE REPRESENTATIONS MADE BY THE MAURITIUS MINISTRY OF SOCIAL SECURITY REFERRED TO IN DAWSON-MORAY'S LETTER 32/5 OF 27 JULY. 2. ON (A) LETTERS FROM MORRIS AND COUNSELL IN REPLY TO YOUR LETTER 10/32_OF 22 AUGUST FOLLOW IN NEXT BAG.
- 3. AS REGARDS (B) THE PRESENT MAURITIAN REPRESENTATION CANNOT POSSIBLY STEM FROM ANY QUESTION OF THE REMOVAL OF MAURITIAN RESIDENTS CONSEQUENT UPON PROPOSALS FOR THE MILITARY DEVELOPMENT OF DIEGO GARCIA. ON THE CONTRARY THIS APPEARS TO BE A MATTER SOLELY BETWEEN EMPLOYER AND EMPLOYEE IN WHICH WE WOULD NOT (REPEAT NOT) BE INVOLVED.
- 4. DELAY REGRETTED BUT IT HAS BEEN NECESSARY TO CONSULT OTHER DEPARTMENTS.

CROSEC

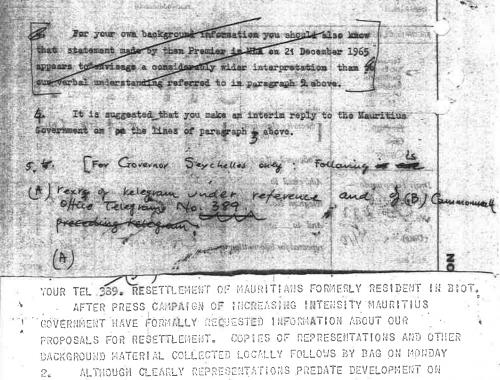
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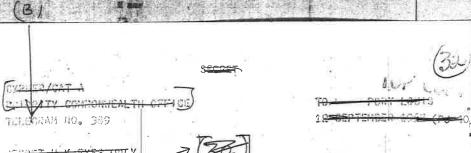
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Registry No. Date and time (G.M.T.) tele PJ 10/10 reach addressee(s) DEPARTMENT SECURITY CLASSIFICATION PRIORITY MARKINGS Priority PRIORITY Security classification —if any SECRET UK EYES ONLY Cypher [Codeword—if any] Addressed to PORT LOUIS Draft Telegram telegram No. (Date) repeated for information to And to:-BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN Saving to. Repeat to: Your Telegram No. 387. Resettlement of JOUERNOR Meuritians formerly resident in BIOT. BEYCHELLES Local representations etc referred to in telegram under reference still awaited but meanwhile you should know that no (repeat no) formal written Saving to:agreement was concluded between British and Mauritius Governments on the cost of resettling Mauritians NOTHING TO formerly living on Diego Garcia or clsewhere in Chagos Archipelago. Nevertheless at a Lancaster House meeting on 23 September 1965, attended k inter alia by Secretary of State and Ramgoolam, Mauritians Ministers verbally accepted in principle that the £3 million compensation Distribution:would be quote over and above direct componention to FILES: landowners and the cost of resettling others in EAD the Chagos Islands unquote. PIOD The phrase quote others effected unquote Copies to:refers to persons necessarily removed from one or knowledge other of the islands because of the development of defence facilities thereon. yet quote any persons affected unquote in this context. It is difficult to see how HMG can be held in any way responsible for action taken - 67 Roy - + Co. in 1967 is deciding against x-employer



GOVERNMENT HAVE FORMALLY REQUESTED INFORMATION ABOUT OUR
PROPOSALS FOR RESETTLEMENT. COPIES OF REPRESENTATIONS AND OTHER
DACKGROUND MATERIAL COLLECTED LOCALLY FOLLOWS BY BAG ON MONDAY
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ANYHOW DO NOT REPLY TO DAWSON HORAYS LETTER. URGENT GUIDANGE FOR
INTERIM REPLY TO MAURITIUS GOVERNMENT WOULD BE APPRECIATED TOGETHER
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 AN AUSTERS CO-MUNICATIONS FACILITY' ON DIEGO GARCIA: AND
- (12) THE REPRESENTATIONS HADE BY THE MAURITIUS MINISTRY OF SOCIAL SECURITY REFERRED TO IN DAYSON-KORAY'S LETTER 32/5 OF 27 JULY.
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