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B. Connell

CYPRER CAT A

SECRET

IMMEDIATE SEYCHELLES TO COMMONWEALTH OFFICE

TELNO BIOT 64

14 OCTOBER 1968

SECRET

*Copied to Mauritius*

MATTHEWS LETTER Q.C. 10/16 OF 2 OCTOBER 1968.

DIEGO GARCIA.

MOULINIE AND COMPANY INFORMED BY OWNERS THAT M.V. MAURITIUS HAS BEEN CHARTERED TO TAKE "PETROLEUM PRODUCTS" TO DIEGO GARCIA IN NOVEMBER. ASSUME THIS IS IN CONNECTION WITH GEODETIC SURVEY. GRATEFUL CONFIRMATION.

2. ~~MOULINIE WOULD LIKE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE OPPORTUNITY TO RECRUIT ILOIS FROM MAURITIUS TO INCREASE LABOUR FORCE MAINLY ON DIEGO GARCIA. NUMBER INVOLVED WOULD BE 100 MEN PLUS FAMILIES.~~ THIS WOULD INCLUDE MOST OF THOSE REFERRED TO IN ~~MY~~ TELEGRAM NO. BIOT 64. *our? \**

3. ~~IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS SCHEME WOULD HELP TO SOLVE PRESENT DIFFICULTIES WITH BOSNIAN (WHICH MAY BE INTENSIFIED WHEN SAILING BECOMES KNOWN) WOULD INCREASE COST AND DIFFICULTY OF RESETTLEMENT IF DIEGO GARCIA IS LATER TO BE EVACUATED AND WOULD OF COURSE MAKE PROPOSAL IN YOUR TELEGRAM NO. BIOT 63 IMPOSSIBLE. WITHOUT DETAILS OF EXTRA LABOUR IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO GIVE ACCURATE CHECK OF ADDITIONAL RESETTLEMENT COST WHICH WOULD BE ABOUT \$600 PER FAMILY AND \$250 PER SINGLE MAN. ASSUMING SIMILAR MARRIED/UNMARRIED RATIO TO THAT THAT AMONG ILOIS NOW IN CHAGOS I.E. 1 : 2 ADDITIONAL COST WOULD BE \$37,000.~~

*"Bosnian" ?*

4. VERY EARLY DECISION IS REQUIRED DUE TO SAILING OF M.V. MAURITIUS SOMETIME IN NOVEMBER.

SIR H. NORMAN WALKER

FILES

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P.I.O.D.

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