

16th March 1974

In my letter of 9th March on the BIOT accounts I said that we intended to produce an account for the period up to 31st March 1973 showing separately the commercial and evacuation costs. This is being done but as an interim measure I am sending you details of compensation and other payments. It may help if I set out first the sequence of movements leading to the final evacuation. 4/1

2. (a) In September/October 1971 Diego Garcia was closed. 27 Ilois and their dependants were transferred from Diego Garcia to the other Chagos islands. 44 Seychellois and their families were repatriated to Seychelles.
  - (b) In November 1972, 62 Ilois and their families were repatriated to Mauritius.
  - (c) In May 1973 the final 74 Ilois were repatriated to Mauritius and the Manager and his staff returned to Mahe.
3. Compensation payments took two forms.
- (a) Those transferred from Diego Garcia to the other Chagos islands received compensation of Rs 500 per family. The total cost was £750. This is not 27 x Rs 500 as in some cases there were more than one labourer in the same family.
  - (b) Those whose contracts were prematurely terminated received compensation for this. The total paid came to £6,724.

/2....

4. Passages and expenses other than on the NORDVAER came to £2,416. It is difficult to establish a cost for passages on the NORDVAER as she was on charter and was partly employed on evacuation duties and partly on normal commercial duties. As a rough guide taking half the cost of the first two voyages and all of the last this would give a total of some £12,000. A more accurate assessment will be made in the final account.

5. These payments are summarised in the attached paper. They are based on the papers in my files and will be checked in Moulinie's accounts when these are produced in a consolidated form.

(J R TODD)

A C Stuart Esq  
Hong Kong and Indian Ocean Dept  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office  
LONDON SW 1

JRT/MCR

EVACUATION COSTS

(a)	Compensation for transfer from Diego Garcia to other Chagos islands	£ 750
(b)	Compensation for premature termination of contracts	£6,724
(c)	Passages etc for Ilois	13,416
(d)	Passages for Seyhellois	1,000
		<hr/>
		<u>£21,890</u>

Victoria  
Mahe-Seychelles

The Commissioner British Indian Ocean Territory,  
Through the Administrator B.I.O.T.,  
Queen's Building,  
Victoria,  
Mahe, Seychelles.

Dear Sir,

As already verbally mentioned, our Mauritian partners are now experiencing certain technical difficulties.

We consequently regret to have to give you notice of termination at the end of six months from the 1st. July 1967 of the lease of the Islands listed in the schedule attached to the lease made on the 15th. April 1967.

I wish to remain, Sir,  
Your most obedient servant.



Chairman.

Ps. To be on file.

N 30.6.67

20th August, 1973.

The Administrator,  
B.I.O.T.,  
Victoria,  
Mahe.

Dear Sir,

We would refer to your letter dated 14th June 1973 asking for the breakdown of costs involved in closing down the Chagos plantations as distinct from normal running costs.

After considerable research, we have extracted figures which are given below, covering the period October 1971, i.e. the date of the closure of Diego-Garcia to this date. These are given in Appendix I. and their total is, we believe, a close approximation of the total expenditure incurred on compensations and repatriations following the closing down of the islands. Appendix II. gives a classification of the items according, as far as possible, to the categories shown in your letter.

We are of the opinion that the period from April 1971 to June 1973 should be considered as a period of evacuation and resettlement. Any money we have been able to get from the sales of the coconuts during this lapse of time should be considered, not as an agricultural revenue, but as sums of money recouped during the process of abandoning the islands. To such sums the present and future sales of the material we have brought back from the Chagos Islands should be added.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) M. Loustau-Lalanne.

M. LOUSTAU-LALANNE  
Moulinie & Co. (Sey) Ltd.

P.S. For your information, we have received today, claims from three other Ilois, one receiving medical treatment here, and two working at Agalega.

<u>1971.</u>	Oct.	(1)	Compensations to labourers for contracts terminated. 44 Seychellois from Diego-Garcia	9376.20
	"	(2)	Transport of baggage	747.00
	"	(3)	Food for labourers proceeding to Mauritius	150.00
	"	(4)	Hotel accommodation to employees proceeding to Mauritius	1420.00
	"	(5)	Passages for employees proceeding to Mauritius	2250.00
	"	(6)	Compensations to 3 Seychellois labourers for contracts unfulfilled	543.25
	"	(7)	Resettlement scheme, Cargo expenses	960.00

<u>1972.</u>	July.	(8)	Passage of Mr Raphael Louis, to Mauritius by B.C.A.C. (Mr Raphael Louis, employee from Diego-Garcia and Peros Banhos repatriated by air)	680.00
	"	(9)	Compensations to labourers on repatriation to Mauritius (Paid by Rogers & Co. Mauritius, 15 Ilois-4 of whom were originally from Diego-Garcia)	5900.00
	August	(10)	Hotel accommodation Mrs Douce & Mr Gangiah at Continental Hotel 3 days @ Rs.35.00 per person in transit to Mauritius	210.00
		(11)	Passport charges. 16 Passports Oct. '71 160.- 12 " July '72 120.-	280.00
		(12)	M.V. Mauritius. Cost of passages Mahe-Mauritius. 11 @ Rs.300.00 each 3,300.- 13 @ Rs.150.00 " 1,950.-	5250.00

comp payment \*

	Nov.	(13)	Compensations to 62 employees on repatriation to Mauritius. Paid by Rogers & Co. Mauritius	39400.00
	"	(14)	Food for passengers M.V. Nordvaer	10102.00
<u>1973.</u>	May	(15)	Food for passengers M.V. Nordvaer	10363.80
	June	(16)	Paid by Rogers & Co. Mauritius - Compensations to labourers from Diego-Garcia. Voy.331 of 14.10.71 14 @ Rs.300.00	4200.00 ✓
		(17)	Paid by Rogers & Co. Mauritius. Compensations to 74 labourers	22700.00 ✓
	July	(18)	Paid by Rogers & Co. Mauritius. Compensation to Yvon Dyson from Peros Banhos	2436.00 ✓ 11,6768.75
	"	(19)	Compensation for loss of employment: Henry Sauzier	4200.00 ✓

'73	June	(20)	Compensation for loss of employment: W. Prosper	1188.00
		(21)	" " " " " : Mrs Prosper	2376.00
		(22)	" " " " " : R.d'Offay	1584.00
		(23)	" " " " " : M.d'Offay	2400.00
	"	(24)	Food for labourers M.V. Nordvaer to Mauritius	3343.30
				<u>Rs. 131,860.05</u>

11084.-  
10271  
-308130

(3)	150.00	No such payments	(1)	9376.20	(2)	547.00
(4)	1420.00	can be traced in our	(6)	543.75	(7)	960.00
(5)	2250.00	accounts in respect	(9)	5900.00		
(8)	680.00	of Seychellois labourers.	(13)	39400.00		
(10)	210.00	The payments were made either direct	(16)	4200.00		
(11)	280.00	by the B.I.O.T. office	(17)	22700.00		
(12)	5250.00	or included in (b).	(18)	2436.00		
(14)	10102.00		(19)	4200.00		
(15)	10363.80		(20)	1188.00		
			(21)	2376.00		
			(22)	1584.00		
			(23)	2400.00		
			(24)	3343.30		
				<u>Rs. 99647.25</u>		
	<u>Rs. 30705.80</u>					<u>Rs. 1507.00</u>

Total: Rs.131,860.05

- Notes: 1. Items (a) & (d) of your letter have been lumped together as no reliable records are available of the number of labourers, transferred to Peros Banhos. Taking however items (9) and (15) of Appendix (1), it would seem that there were 27 labourers transferred from Diego Garcia to Peros Banhos and eventually repatriated to Mauritius and that the compensations paid to them amounted to Ts. 10,100.00 \*
2. The numbers involved are as follows:-
- 27 Ilois labourers transferred from Diego-Garcia to Peros Banhos and later to Mauritius.
  - 44 Seychellois repatriated from Diego Garcia.
  - 62 Ilois labourers transferred from Salomon and Peros Banhos to Mauritius in November 1972.
  - 74 Ilois labourers transferred from Peros Banhos to Mauritius in May 1973 on final closure.

*but not Schibou*