(A) BRITISH HIGH COMMISSION,

PORT LOUIS.

4 October, 1968.

Dear Porter

(32/5)

Resettlement of Mauritians formerly resident in B.I.O.T.

Further to previous correspondence and our telegram No. 387 of 3 October on this subject. I now enclose a copy of a communication from the Prime Minister's office setting out the Mauritian case in greater detail.

In an effort to obtain additional background information on this problem I spoke last week with Mr. Rene Maingard, Chairman of Rogers & Co., Port Louis, the Mauritius agents for the Chagos and Agalega Company. A copy of my report of that interview is also attached.

A lengthy article drawing attention to the plight of the distressed islanders appeared in the "Mauricien" of 21 September under the headline "After the transfer of Chagos - what will Ramgoolam do for the ilois?" and deploring the lack of humanism by the Wilson government.

As requested in our cable, guidance and advice is urgently required.

LAST REF. 37 NEXT 46. REF.

(E. G. WICKENS)

P. B. Porter, Esq., East Africa Department, Commonwealth Office, London, S.W.1.