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C O N F I D E N T I A L UKCOMMONLY  
TO IMMEDIATE FCO TELNO 413 F 20 OCTOBER AND INFO  
GOVERNOR SEYCHELLES ( PERSONAL)

1. HEADLINED QUOTE DISTRESS OF REFUGEES FROM PEROS BANHOS, DIEGO  
GARCIA AND AGALAGEA UNQUOTE LE MILITANT, JOURNAL OF THE MMM REPORTS  
CONVERSATION BETWEEN BERENGER AND GUY OLLIVRY WITH JOURNALISTS  
YESTERDAY DEPLORING THE TREATMENT OF MAURITIUVANS FROM ABOVE  
ISLANDS WHO ARE IN DISTRESSED STATE, TORN FROM THEIR COUNTRY OF  
ORIGIN. EXPRESS ALSO CARRIES SAME STORY.



2. BERENGER HAS RECEIVED LETTER FROM SERVINAL, SECRETARY OF  
SPUP, INFORMING HIM THAT 146 PEOPLE HAVE JUST BEEN REMOVED FROM  
DIEGO GARCIA DESTITUTE AND ARE IN TRANSIT AT SEYCHELLES ON WAY  
TO MAURITIUS. SERVINAL STATES THAT THE MAURITIAN ILOIS HAVE  
BEEN LODGED IN PRISON. BERENGER MAKES FOLLOWING OTHER POINTS:

A. THESE ARE THE LAST BATCH OF REFUGEES, OTHERS WHO WERE  
DISPLACED BEFORE HAVE RECEIVED NO FORM OF COMPENSATION OR  
RETIREMENT BENEFIT

B. THERE ARE SOME 300 FAMILIES IN MAURITIUS IN UTTER  
DISTRESS. MOST OF THOSE ILOIS ARE IN MAURITIUS: BUT THERE ARE  
SEVERAL IN SEYCHELLES.

SEVERAL IN SEYCHELLES.

C. THE MAURITIUS GOVERNMENT SOLD DIEGO GARCIA FOR £3M AND THESE UNFORTUNATES TORN FROM THEIR NATIVE COUNTRY HAVE RECEIVED NOTHING.

D. ILOIS MOSTLY EMPLOYED BY CHAGOS AGALEGA LTD( AFFILIATED TO ROGERS LAND CO) WERE PROMISED A COMPENSATION OF RS 500, BUT THIS HAS NOT MATERIALISED.

3. BERENGER STATES THAT HE INTENDS TO RESOLVE THIS PROBLEM AND WILL DEMAND FROM ALL CONCERNED NAMELY MAURITIUS GOVERNMENT, THE BRITISH AND AMERICAN GOVERNMENTS AND THE COMPANIES WHO EMPLOYED THEM, ADEQUATE COMPENSATION FOR THESE ILOIS. MAURITIUS, IN COMMON WITH CEYLON, INDIA AND AFRICAN LITTORAL COUNTRIES DOES NOT WANT THE NUCLEARISATION OF THE INDIAN OCEAN.

BERENGER ALSO STATES THAT A FEW OF THESE LAST IN HABITANTS NOT SEEING THAT EXPULSION WAS IMMINENT APPEALED TO PARUL MOULINIE AND THAT LATTER HAD PROMISED THEM RS 500 WHICH HE NOW DENIES. THEY WERE GIVEN CHOICE OF TRANSFER TO PEROS, AGALEGA OR SALOMON OR REPATRIATION TO MAURITIUS OR SEYCHELLES BUT THAT UNWILLING TO WORK FURTHER FOR HIS COMPANY ON ACCOUNT OF THEIR HARSH ATTITUDE THEY CHOSE REPATRIATION. IN OCTOBER 146 PEOPLE WERE EMBARKED ON - NORDVAER- AND SENT TO MAHE. THE SEYCHELLOIS WERE ACCOMODATED WITH RELATIONS BUT THE QUOTE CREOLES UNQUOTE OF THE ISLANDS WERE LODGED IN PRISON. THESE WILL BE IMMEDIATELY EMBARKED ON THE - MAURITIUS- FOR RETURN TO MAURITIUS WHERE THEY WILL DOUBTLESS SWELL THE RANKS OF THE UNEMPLOYED. ABOUT 200 PEOPLE WILL SOON BE REPATRIATED TO MAURITIUS. ALL THESE WORKED FOR THE CHAGOS AGALEGA COMPANY. THEIR MAIN DEMANDS ARE- PAYMENT OF BONUS

AND BONUS MENTIONED IN THEIR CONTRACT, COMPENSATION PAYMENT FOR EXPULSION.

5. BERENGER ENDS BY STATING THAT IT IS UP TO THE BRITISH HIGH COMMISSION, IN VIEW OF BIOT BEING UNDER BRITISH SOVEREIGNTY TO FURNISH SATISFACTORY AND REASONABLE HELP FOR THESE RECENT VICTIMS OF IMPERIALISM.

6. GRATEFUL FOR EARLIEST COMMENTS AND STATEMENT OF TRUE POSITION. IN ANSWER TO PRESS ENQUIRIES WE ARE SIMPLY SAYING THAT WE HAVE SOUGHT CLARIFICATION FROM YOU. I HAVE RECEIVED NO ENQUIRY FROM MAURITIUS GOVERNMENT. GOVERNOR SEYCHELLES SHOULD KNOW THAT BERENGER IS NOW IN A FAR STRONGER POSITION TO MAKE TROUBLE.

7. FCO PLEASE PASS IMMEDIATE PERSONAL GOVERNOR SEYCHELLES.

CARTER

BT