

15.

the fact that it will necessitate the curtailment of the Phoenix Islands Settlement Scheme by over 50% should be taken into account.

For a similar reason I would suggest that, other things being equal or nearly so, the Gardner Island site, which is unobjectionable, should be chosen in preference to the western site on Hull Island.

Mr. J. H. James has been largely engaged in work in connection with the migration of the air service. Subsequently he prepared a survey of the cultivated and uncultivated land on Hull Island. He is now engaged in the partition and separation of native lands and the construction of buildings on the Government Station.

(a) Subject to political considerations it is recommended that, on the completion of Mr. James' work on Hull Island, he should be either -

(1) Transferred to Gardner Island, where his services would be most valuable in supervising and speeding up the work of clearing and planting, or

(2) Detached. It is himself not anxious to stay on Hull Island unless there is some work to be done there, as the station facilities are only adequate to support a small number of personnel.

(3) Retained on Hull Island, where the value of his work is not so great as on Gardner Island, but where he can continue to assist in the development of the island. It is suggested that he should be transferred to Gardner Island, where his services would be most valuable in supervising and speeding up the work of clearing and planting.