



Invasion of Grenada condemned in Calcutta

● We received a letter from Vidya Muni of Calcutta, India, condemning the U.S. invasion of Grenada and enclosing a photo of a protest demonstration organized by the Communist Party of India, West Bengal State Council, and an editorial published in the Bengali communist daily *Kalantar*, also censuring the aggression.

The following are excerpts from his letter:

The events in Grenada have been receiving extensive coverage in all sections of the Indian press over the last few days and there has been universal condemnation of the U.S. aggression there in the name of restoring law and order... On 28.10.83 a large number of youth and student organizations of West Bengal... held a mass protest demonstration and march throughout important Calcutta streets, culminating in a street meeting in front of the United States Information Service office where an effigy of President Reagan was burnt... Trade unions, women's organizations and others have also expressed their protest and demanded immediate withdrawal of U.S. troops.

And in California

Jeanette Badal of Berkeley, California, wrote *Granma* to express her feelings about "the U.S. government's despicable invasion of sovereign Grenada." Jeanette says that she visited Grenada earlier this year and met some of the Cuban cooperation workers. "I was profoundly moved by the dedication and commitment of the Cuban internationalist workers there... It was thrilling to even imagine the extensive change possible in our world if only more people in more places could learn from this example."

She goes on to describe her and others' reaction to the U.S. invasion of the tiny

Caribbean country. "There is widespread grief and intense anger throughout this area of the U.S.... Conscious and informed people everywhere share the loss of the Cuban people at this time — and will continue to share the struggle as well."

"Our resolve has only deepened because of this shameful display of imperialist aggression. Despite the deep sorrow we are all currently feeling, we will continue to grow and learn and work together until we have truly won the battle against the blind greed of opportunistic warmongers."

Jeanette inquires about the well-being of the Cuban friends she made in Grenada. We ask her to review the November 20 and November 27, 1983 issues of *GWR*, and we thank her for her support and condolences.

The dangers of radiation

We had a letter from Byron Galle who is a member of Citizens Against Video Victimization, headquartered in Hollywood, California. This group tries to make known the dangerous effects of the radiation given off by television, video and computer screens. He cites documentation that points to the connections between this type of radiation and cancer, chromosomal damage, sterility and birth defects.

Byron points out that the screen could easily be made safe but that there is no economic incentive to do so. He states that his group's attempts to publicize the danger have met with great resistance and that, in fact, he has witnessed a great cover-up. He explains this rejection as follows: "All television networks and cable channels are ultimately owned by mammoth multi-national corporations, which also own all the newspaper chains and almost all the radio networks. This is what happened to freedom of the press."

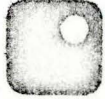
We thank Byron for his letter and hope that the scientific information on the dangers of radiation will be publicized.

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A SPECTER IS HAUNTING SPICE ISLAND

GRENADA: LIE No. 14

BY FÉLIX PITA ASTUDILLO
Special for Granma Weekly Review

 AFTER JANUARY 5, 1984, opinions are increasingly divided on explaining President Reagan's asinine remarks about the tiny island of Grenada. On that day, in a speech over the Voice of America, the U.S. president assured his listeners in a serious tone that the people of Grenada and Governor-General Sir Paul Scoon had asked the United States for assistance to protect them from the Cuban government.

Most observers assert that, true to his form, this was Reagan's 14th lie about the occupied island. Others say that Reagan lacks the coherence to utter 14 consecutive lies and attribute this feat to the general incompetence of his advisers. A few others come forth with a clinical-political explanation and diagnose acute "Reaganosis," incompatible with the truth and closely related to the president's peripheral circulation.

Regardless of what the explanation is of the latest presidential goof, the general impression is that the U.S. invaders and their few supporters on the island are desperately trying to escape from a ghost. In shades of Macbeth, they appear obsessed with the legend and ghost of Maurice Bishop. Four years of net benefits for the people of Grenada cannot be written off with a stroke of a pen, and whatever solution the invaders come up with will be judged at the ballot box.

Washington knows this and is fully aware of the implicit danger. The first news came in November when Chicago Tribune correspondent George de Lama revealed that teams of U.S. army psychologists were in Grenada to set up a propaganda campaign designed to destroy the image of Maurice Bishop and the New Jewel Movement and their example to the Grenadian people.

A spokesman for the U.S. army told De Lama that the main idea was to try Bernard Coard and Hudson Austin — considering that as leaders of the coup they were rejected by the people — but in such a way that it would also be a trial against Bishop and the New Jewel Party.

Quoting the occupation authorities, De Lama said that the purpose of the U.S. military propaganda was to transform the image of the United States from "imperialist oppressor" to "liberator."

Not even the U.S. press — and still less those who have agreed to form part of the eggshell government in St. George's — believe the propaganda campaign will succeed. The Chicago Tribune commented that many people doubted that the new regime in its desire to erase the past would be able to maintain popular programs such as adult education, credits for home construction, sports for young people and free medical service.

Another well-known correspondent, William Montalbano of the Miami Herald, said it was evident that Grenada's political future would be shaped to a large extent by the way the Grenadian people evaluate their political past — and that past is called Bishop.

Montalbano asserted flatly that Grenadians saw in Bishop an admired, charismatic leader of worldwide fame never before known on that small island of 100 000 inhabitants. This is why he believes that talking about imminent elections in Grenada is totally unrealistic and that from the U.S. standpoint, the elections don't bear thinking about for at least two years.

It seems as if Montalbano's views are shared by the occupation authorities. According to a feature article published in the Mexican magazine Proceso, Washington is not in favor of a presidential election in Grenada before 1986 "for fear of another Bishop."

The article goes on to say that U.S. officials maintain that moving the election up would probably lead to "unsatisfactory results."

"What we're really worried about," an officer of the invading army told Proceso, "is that once things get going again these people will go and elect another Bishop."

Proceso was surprised at the fact that fear of the appearance of another Bishop prevails despite political controls over the population, intense propaganda, military and financial aid, and even capital investment on the island.

The Grenadians' empathy with the Cuban cooperation personnel remains alive. The London daily the Guardian wondered recently who had filled the great void left by the Cuban construction workers, doctors, teachers and others who had worked night and day for the Grenadian people's well-being. That's one reality that Reagan's anti-Cuba attacks will never be able to wipe out, no matter how hard he tries.

The problem of elections in Grenada has become a headache for the false apostles of "free elections." When other armies of occupation were devastating Europe, 40 years ago, they were at least able to find collaborators to set up "governments" and give legal appearance to their outrageous actions. In Grenada all the United States' technology and might have proved useless. There are no signs of a Grenadian Vichy or Petain, and the key issue in any solution is an election.

Meanwhile, President Reagan's only option is to keep adding beads to his long rosary of lies about Grenada. He's just strung the 14th.