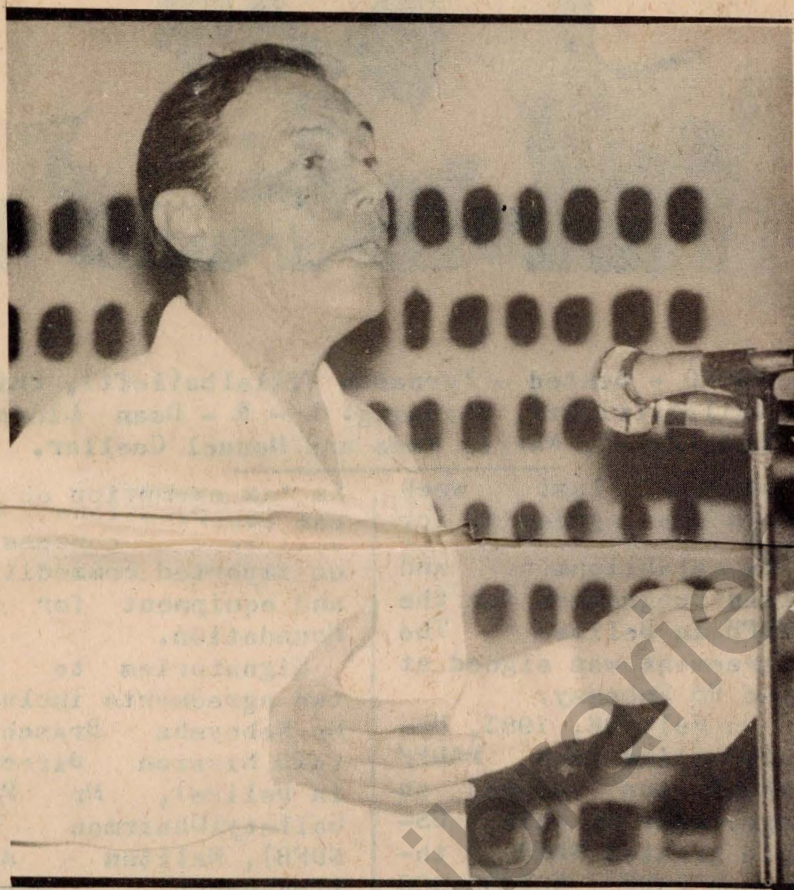


BELIZE OPPOSED TO GRENADA INVASION



PRIME MINISTER PRICE - BELIZE FAVOURED A FACT - FINDING MISSION TO GO TO GRENADA INSTEAD OF AN INVADING FORCE.

THE BELIZEAN LEADER ATTENDED AN EMERGENCY MEETING OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF CARICOM TO DISCUSS THE GRENADA SITUATION LAST WEEKEND IN PORT OF SPAIN.

The Government of Belize has issued a statement on the recent events in Grenada. The statement reads:

1. The Government of Belize condemns the senseless killing of Prime Minister Maurice Bishop and members of his Cabinet and Union leaders and mourns the loss of this CARICOM leader and the suffering of the people of Grenada.

2. At the emergency meeting of Heads of Government of 12 CARICOM countries last weekend in Trinidad and Tobago, it was agreed to follow the legal procedures to sus-

pend Grenada from CARICOM. The Organization of Eastern Caribbean States for its part, decided to impose immediate trade and economic sanctions against Grenada.

3. On the question of military intervention for four countries - the Bahamas, Belize, Guyana and Trinidad and Tobago, opposed the call to invade Grenada.

4. Our Government remains fully committed to the principles of non-intervention in the internal affairs of other states, the non-use of force and respect for the right of self-determination.

EDITORIAL

THE INVASION OF GRENADA

There is no doubt that Belize has made the right decision in opposing the invasion of Grenada. It was not a matter of taking sides, it was a matter of doing the right thing for Belize and Grenada in keeping with our commitment to certain principles that we consider sacred.

There is no doubt that the invasion had the effect of prolonging the fighting. More lives were lost, more suffering was brought upon the Grenadian people and the situation became more volatile. This is why the Belizean people support the Government's decision. Because it was fair and just.

The fact that there was a rebellion in Grenada does not give the right to any country to invade, especially when it is clear that the invading forces were not invited by the Grenadians.

There are rebellions and coups in the region quite often, there was one in Guatemala three months ago and no one invaded the country. The invasion of Grenada was an open and flagrant violation of the human rights of the Grenadian people, and it was contrary to the principles of non-intervention in the internal affairs of other states, the non-use of force and respect for the right to self-determination.

As we go to the press we learn that the great majority of countries of the region have condemn the move. Some are calling for the withdrawal of troops from the island.

Prime Minister Price said that the CARICOM heads of Government emergency meeting in Grenada last weekend had initially arrived at a decision to send a fact-finding mission to Grenada, to have a first hand look at the situation. Belize, Mr Price said went along with this idea. However, eight CARICOM countries eventually rejected the idea and some of them joined six other Eastern Caribbean states in the invasion plans along with the United States of America.

The question now is, what's going to happen in Grenada? What will be the effects of the invasion on other countries of the area? There is definitely a lot of uncertainty. There is no doubt that the situation was created by the bloody rebellion in Grenada, but it was made worse by the invasion.

FORT GEORGE CONVENTION

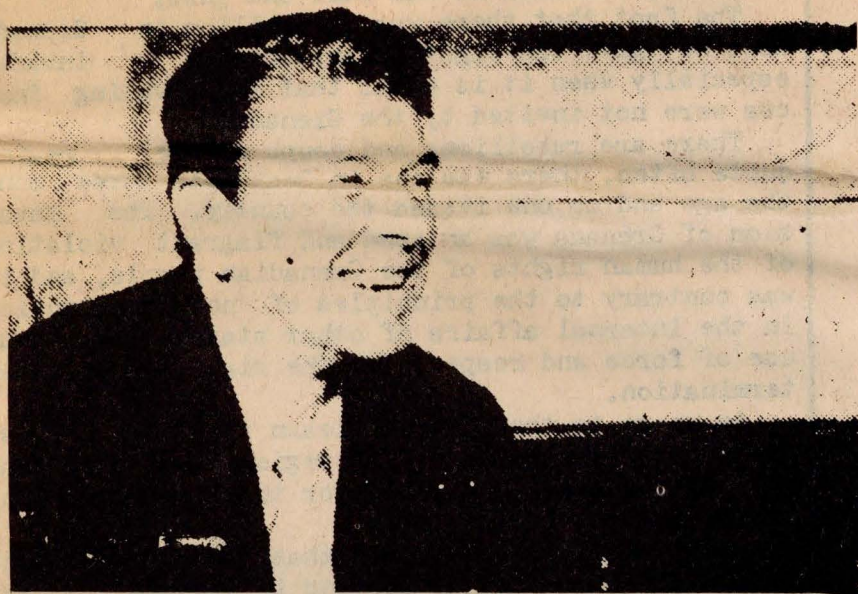
At a large and enthusiastic convention of the P.U.P. Fort George Division held last Monday night at Independence Hall, Mrs Molly Fonseca was selected as the standard bearer to contest the upcoming Belize City Council elections.

Mrs Molly Fonseca, the wife of former Chief Education Officer William Fonseca, is an active and popular community worker.

The convention was chaired by Fort George Representative Mr Said Musa.

Beleze News *Oct. 30 1983*

THE INVASION OF GRENADA



PRESIDENT REAGAN - UNPRECEDENTED THREAT TO THE PEACE AND SECURITY OF THE REGION CREATED BY THE VACUUM OF AUTHORITY IN THE REGION.

President Reagan formally notified the US Congress Oct. 25 that he had committed US troops in Grenada, saying he acted, "in view of the overriding importance of protecting the lives of the US citizens in that island nation."

The President acted, according to US reports

in keeping with one section of the War Power Act, which comes into play when American troops are sent abroad.

He said "it is not possible at this time" to say how long the troops will remain in Grenada.

Press reports say 40 people or more, inclu-

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ding prime minister Bishop and three of his ministers were killed in the rebellion.

It is still not clear what caused the rebellion and there is no information on the man who reportedly started the coup, deputy prime minister, Bernard Coard.

Grenada is reportedly isolated except for the troops from the US and some Caribbean states which landed Oct 25.

The invasion has been condemned by the majority of countries in the region.

The Government of Belize made it clear that

INVASION

it was opposed to the invasion.

Prime Minister Price who attended an emergency meeting of Heads of Government of CARICOM last weekend in Port of Spain said the 12-member states of the community had initially agreed on sending a fact-finding mission to Grenada. However, the plan was put aside by a majority of the countries who favored an invasion.

Fighting was reported in Grenada as late as Wednesday but there are no details on casualties.

holding a cycling clinic at the Central Park in Orange Walk Town for young cycling enthusiasts.

ANGLICANS HOLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR GRENADA

The Anglican Diocese in Belize joined the rest of the West Indies Province of the Church in a Day of Prayer for Grenada on Sunday, Oct. 23.

A release from Bishop Thorpe in Belize City said His Grace, the Archbishop of the West Indies and Bishop of the Winward Islands (which includes Grenada) had called for the Day of Prayer "for the people of Grenada in this their time of severe crisis."

The Prime Minister of Grenada, Mr Maurice Bishop, three of his ministers and at least two labour leaders were killed last week in violence in the island of Grenada.

The Anglican Bishop of Belize, the Rt Rev Keith A MacMillan, called for a fervent day of prayer, both privately and publicly, on behalf of the people of Grenada, "that they may be strengthened to bear the strains and stresses of their crisis, and that God will grant unto them a happy issue out of all their afflictions."

The priests of the Diocese were requested to name Grenada as a special intention at each service of the Holy Eucharist on that day, and to offer a special prayer for that country and nation during the intercessions at that service.

Belize Times JAN. 1, 1984

REVIEW 1983

POLITICS

Grenada's bloody coup in October had a direct impact on Belize when Prime Minister Mr George Price attended an emergency meeting of CARICOM to discuss the situation.

At the meeting in Port of Spain, Trinidad, Belize opposed a plan by six Caribbean states to send in troops to the island to quell the rebellion which had claimed the lives of Prime Minister Maurice Bishop and three of his

ministers as well as union leaders and dozens of other Grenadians.

Eventually, Grenada was invaded by the US with support from the 6 CARICOM states. And the killings continued.

Belize repeated that it remained fully committed to the principles of nonintervention in the affairs of other states, the non-use of force and respect for the right of self-determination.

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Grenada: Rebuilding Again

By Canute James

In the aftermath of the bloody coup and the US led invasion of Grenada last October, not much attention has been given the economic problems of that helpless island.

There are justifiable grounds for the widespread concern, both inside and outside Grenada, for the island's political future. But all this will inevitable turn on what can be done to effectively repair the island's shattered economy.

Much will depend on the donors conference in Barbados which is being co-ordinated by the Caribbean Development Bank, (CDB) in an effort to raise foreign financing to aid the Grenadian economy.

Nicholas Braithwaite, chairman of Grenada's interim administration, and the island's **de facto** prime minister, said the donor countries will be presented with a list of projects which Grenada would like to have financed.

COMPLETING THE AIRPORT

It is expected that the conference will be attended by the United States, Canada and Britain, several other western industrialised

countries, and financial institutions including the World Bank and the CDB.

One important project which the donors will be asked to consider, according to Braithwaite, is the completion of the controversial international airport on the island's South.

Construction was interrupted by the invasion. It was being built with financial and technical assistance from Cuba, backed by about US\$60 million in loans from several western countries and Arab states.

Plessey Airports of Britain, the company which was supervising the construction of the airport through a US\$10 million credit (backed by the British Export Credits Guarantee Department), is keen on completing the work.

Braithwaite has said that the company will be allowed to do this, but only if the interim administration can raise the US\$15 million needed to complete terminal buildings and other infrastructure.

Grenadians regard the completion of the airport as being central to the expansion of the island's tourism, and therefore fundamental to its economic future.

DISAPPOINTMENT

There is no small measure of disappointment in Grenada at the decision of the United States government not to commit Federal funds for the completion of the airport, although Washington has earmarked US\$18 million in aid for the island.

The British government has said also that it does not regard the airport as a suitable project for aid. It remains to be seen, however, if at the

donors conference, these countries will contribute indirectly to the completion of the airport on a multilateral basis.

Having gone out on a limb to attack the Bishop administration for building the airport (which Washington said the island did not need) on grounds that the facility was intended as a Soviet/Cuban base, the United States, although it may be willing to contribute funds for the facility, needs more time before it can execute a diplomatic **volte face**.

Braithwaite has a list of other projects which will be put to the conference, including the repair of existing hotels and the building of new ones, to increase tourism capacity.

He has said also that public utilities, and infrastructure such as roads, would be high on the list being put to being put to the conference.

Like most of its neighbours in the region, however, Grenada will have to turn to the International Monetary Fund for help. The

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country recently lost access to a US\$14 million Extended Fund Facility, negotiated by the Bishop government.

Braithwaite says it was not the disruption of the island's economy, caused by the coup and the invasion, which resulted in the failure of the economic performance criteria agreed by the Bishop government and the IMF, but that the economy would have failed regardless.

NEGOTIATING WITH IMF

The interim administration is now negotiating with the Fund for a Standby Credit for one year. This will fit in with the plan to hand over by December to an elected government, and not leave the incoming administration with economic conditions which it might find distasteful.

Despite all this possible help, however, the future of the island's economy will depend on exploiting to the fullest existing productive capacity. The island, for example, has a possible market in the United Kingdom for 16,000 tonnes of bananas annually, but shipments in recent years have been about one half of this.

Geest Industries, which markets the Windward's bananas in the UK, has been exhorting the island's farmers to increase production, and recently increased the price it pays.

Grenada was on the verge of a setback through the cancellation of a Soviet contract to purchase one million pounds of nutmegs per year for the next five years. Braithwaite has explained, however, that with the break in diplomatic relations between the island and the USSR, an unnamed United States importer was now buying what should have gone to the Soviet Union.

The uncertain political situation in Grenada, and the diversion caused by planning for elections, will make more difficult the task of overcoming some of the deeper problems of the island's economy.

At the end of December, for example, the island's budget deficit was the equivalent of US\$3.5 million, while arrears on payments to international agencies was US\$1.8 million.

There is an apparent willingness to help, even among several countries which objected to the October invasion. But the interim government is likely to be very wary about taking potentially controversial decisions.

It will be left to a new and elected government to rehabilitate the Grenadian economy.

Belize Times Nov. 6 1983

AFTER THE GRENADA INVASION

The UN vote on Grenada should leave no doubt in our minds as to how unpopular the US decision to invade the Eastern Caribbean island is.

The invasion of Grenada created many problems for many countries in the region. Some of these problems are yet to come up.

The United States invaded Grenada despite the fact that Great Britain had expressed its opposition to such a move. No doubt relations between these two allied countries will suffer a setback. However minor the strain in US-British relations it can have repercussions on other countries.

Initially the US Government said it has sent troops to Grenada to protect the lives of some 1,000 of its citizens on the island. But as it turned out the US marines are now fighting a war in Grenadian territory.

US troops are now being withdrawn from Grenada but the damage has been done, a precedent has been set and there remains a lot of uncertainty as to the future of other states in the region.

In Nicaragua, for example, the people have been told to prepare for a US invasion. Nicaraguan Sandinista Defence Minister Humberto Ortega urged Nicaraguans last week to strengthen civil defence units, fire-fighting brigades and first aid procedures to prepare for an American attack.

"The Yankee attacks are savage," he said. "But let's see if they have the manhood to sacrifice many American boys who will spill their blood here because they will collide with a resistance a billion times greater than in Grenada."

"We don't want war, but if they intervene, they will find themselves bogged down. They will find a Vietnam," Ortega said.

We in Belize can only hope and pray that this will not happen.

Grenada: It's a Matter of Law

The recent US invasion of Grenada was a clear violation of US obligations under international law and the United Nations Charter. It has made global relations less stable and more dangerous and was not in the best interest of the United States.

The UN Charter, the world community's constitutional framework for maintaining our fragile international peace requires that "all nations shall refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state." This rule of non-intervention, the most fundamental substantive norm of international law of the Organization of American States: "No state or group of states has the right to intervene, directly or indirectly for any reason whatsoever, in the internal or external affairs of any state."

There are only a very limited number of legal exceptions allowed to the prohibition of the use of armed force. The United States may avail itself of none of these to justify its invasion of Grenada.

Armed force may be used when sanctioned by the United Nations. The Organization of Eastern Caribbean States is not a permissible substitute for the UN, and if it purports to authorize what the UN Charter forbids, it must fail: The global community and international law recognize the UN Charter as supreme. No treaty or charter of a regional organization can grant a nation or group of nations the right to invade some other nation.

The use of armed force is also allowed by the UN Charter when engaged in "individual or collective self-defen-

se, IF AN ARMED ATTACK OCCURS." This is not relevant in the instant case; Grenada has not attacked any nation.

As an extension of the doctrine of self-defense, customary international law permits a limited use of force by a nation seeking to protect its nationals endangered abroad. Based upon the principle of necessity, this justification can be invoked by the "protecting state" only when: 1) there is an imminent threat of injury to its nationals; 2) the "protecting state" requests the government in place to protect its nationals and that government fails or is unable to do so; and 3) the use of force is strictly confined to that necessary for protecting and extricating endangered nationals.

Another doctrine that might be offered to justify the use of American armed force in Grenada is humanitarian intervention: one nation may invade another when citizens of the second nation (Grenada, in the present context) suffer a consistent pattern of gross violations of human rights.

Though most international law scholars do not believe this doctrine can be used to provide legal justification for the use of armed force, the Reagan Administration has seemingly sought to invoke it. The doctrine requires for its invocation, however, that conditions sink to the most abysmal level of human-rights violations, such as widespread bayonetting of babies in the streets and the wanton killing of innocent civilians.

Whatever one may think of any of the recent governments of Grenada, no one has contended that there have been widespread human-rights violations of the level necessary to invoke the doctrine of humanitarian intervention. Every day the US maintains relations with and supports governments that preside over ongoing human-rights disasters far worse than anything reported to have occurred in Grenada.

International law as summarized above, reflects the view of the global community that the use of force by one nation against another may occur only under the most extreme circumstances and only when absolutely required. No such necessity existed in Grenada.

Some may argue that international law doesn't really exist or that even if it does exist the Soviets don't obey it and therefore neither should the United States when strategic interests are involved. International law DOES exist, is often invoked by the United States against others, and has clearly defined rules, whether we choose to obey them or not.

In fact, the United States usually obeys international law. It should have done so with regard to Grenada because furthering the rule of international law is in the best interest of the United States in that it helps ensure world peace, stability and security. It is in America's interest to have a world where nations don't invade each other.

The United States is a nation long committed to the rule of law, both domestically and internationally. Belief in pluralism and respect for the right of others to do things in their own way are inherent in our notions of democracy and freedom. Americans have always decried the argument that "might makes right". We traditionally accept and encourage, if not actually celebrate, peaceful heterogeneity both at home and abroad. The invasion of tiny Grenada by mighty America demeans the values for which we stand.

When the Soviet Union unlawfully invades Afghanistan or shoots down an unarmed civilian airliner, American leaders must have the moral authority to point a finger of shame at them. A return to gunboat diplomacy, in violation of international law, undercuts our ability to lead the international community in isolating those who violate the rule of law.

By restoring to the unlawful use of armed force, the United States has increased the chances that others, too, will resort to force rather than trust in peaceful means of dispute resolution such as negotiation, patience, and forbearance. Claiming that American use of force is blessed by kindly anti-Communist motives makes US actions no less illegal and will hardly enable us to shake off the bully's mantle.

How can we claim to be better than the Soviets when we too, blatantly disregard international law?

(This article was written by Martin Feinrider, an associate professor of law, specializing in international law and the protection of human rights, at Nova University Center for the Study of Law in Fort Lauderdale)

CASUALTIES IN GRENADA WERE HIGHER THAN REPORTED BY U.S., SAYS B.B.C.

Belize - Sunday
Times, Nov. 13,
1983

The British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) reported last week that 42 US servicemen died in the invasion of Grenada.

The BBC correspondent in Grenada quoted sources there as saying the final death toll could be as high as 70. He said also that as many as 20 helicopters were shot down in combat with Cuban and Grenadian forces.

The BBC, which has a very high credibility rate worldwide, also said Grenadian civil casualties exceeded one hundred.

The US Defence Department has reported the BBC report as "incorrect."

A spokesman in Washington said US casualties are 18 killed and 91 wounded. He said only 5

helicopters were shot down during the fighting.

Grenada now has an interim Governing Council. The Council will be headed by Mister Allister McIntyre who is expected to leave his post at the United Nations shortly.

Meanwhile, the acting head of Grenada's temporary government, Mr Nicholas Braithwaite has said Grenada hopes to become a non-aligned country.

A bloody coup in Grenada last month resulted in the death of Prime Minister Maurice Bishop and three of his ministers, the coup was followed by an invasion led by the United States of America with the help of several Caribbean states.