



Three weeks after the intervention in Grenada by combined American and Caribbean forces, life seemed to be back to normal with the exception of armed soldiers out on patrol and helicopters moving equipment or carrying troops to the mountain areas in search of remnants of the P.R.A. and Cuban forces.

Pearls Airport although open to civilian aircraft, remained heavily defended and busy with military traffic, taxing the capabilities of the air traffic controllers. Parked on the apron was a Cubana airliner caught by the conflict, it had arrived the day before the intervention having delivered a Cuban Colonel sent to organise defenses on the island. One wing was damaged by a truck and the cockpit instruments had been smashed by the U.S. Marines when they landed to prevent its removal. There has been much speculation as to when, or if, it will ever be sent back.

It was immediately obvious from G Day onwards that most Grenadians were pleased with the intervention, but there remains a reluctance sometimes to talk openly, probably through years of conditioning under two repressive regimes. Of all those I spoke to, only one man expressed reservations over the American action and he had been a senior official and close confidante of Maurice Bishop. Otherwise the general feeling was that the Americans should remain as long as possible, the question of elections seemed to be of little concern.

Everywhere there was an air of optimism contrasting sharply with the de-



Maurice Bishop looking tired and strained at his last press conference.

The Aftermath

by Dick Sinclair

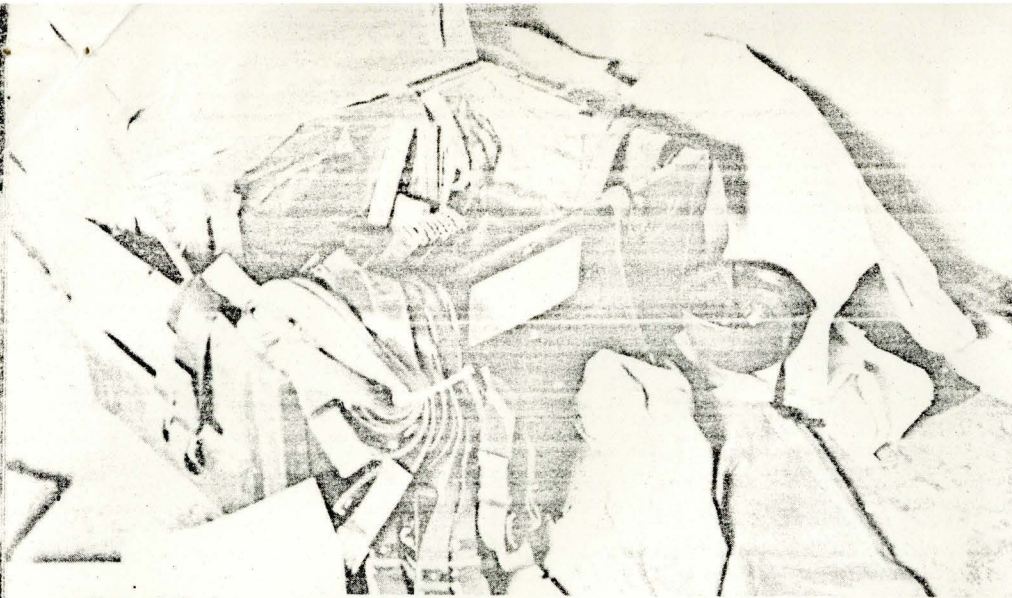
spondent mood that prevailed on my previous visit in early October before the crisis began. At that time, despite the window dressing projects of road resurfacing, new schools, and the Point Salines airport, plus talk of economic improvement, the country was experiencing a serious decline in its productive sector. Banana production was less than a third of former levels, and the price paid to farmers was about 20% less than that of the other Windward islands.

Nearly all of the last two years' crop of nutmegs were still to be sold, cocoa production was down and most hotel

rooms were empty. Many farmers, fearful of the Government's Marxist policies on land acquisition, had stopped ploughing money back into their properties, so much so that large areas of once productive land lay abandoned. Douglaston Estate near Gouyave, 800 acres and once one of the finest cocoa and banana plantations in the Windwards, was almost completely overgrown in bush because of the government's pressure on the owner who had been denied permission to sell portions of the estate to recover financial losses. It was also facing acquisition. Small farmers feared a similar fate.

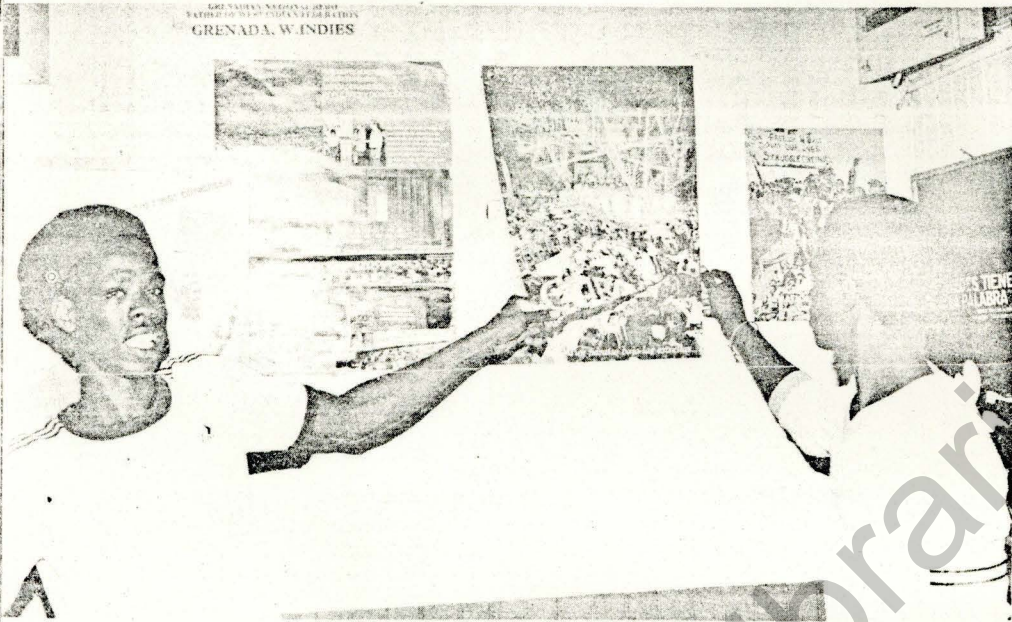
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One of the boxes of military equipment showing slings. Behind are rifle racks and a map of island on floor.

GRENADA WINDIES



Grenadian youth tear down Cuban propaganda posters after the intervention.



With the country's economy deteriorating it was inevitable that dissension would spread through the ranks of the ruling party. Opportunists usually show themselves at such times. The Grenada crisis has proved no exception to this rule.

About the overthrow of Maurice Bishop and events leading up to it, a source who had been close to him gave some interesting details. According to this source, more than a year ago Bishop had been warned that Bernard Coard was manoeuvring to take over the leadership but he ignored the advice and took no action. However, just before his last trip to Eastern Europe, the party proposed the idea of joint leadership Bishop agreed to consider it but stalled the issue by asking for specific details. While in Czechoslovakia, Jacqueline Creft put through an overseas call to warn him that Coard, using his position as acting prime

minister was placing his supporters into key positions and trimming responsibilities of Bishop's men. She also told him that it was strongly felt that on his return via Cuba he should raise the issue with President Fidel Castro. He rejected the idea on the grounds that it was purely an internal matter that he could handle.

On Bishop's return to Grenada on Saturday 8th October, instead of the normal welcoming party of ministers including Coard, only Selwyn Strachan, shabbily dressed, showed up at Pearls to meet him. For the following two days he remained at home ignored by most members of his government. By Tuesday 11th he had been warned that there was a plot to kill him and he spent most of that day with close associates devising a plan to defeat Coard. Out of this came that story about his spreading "a vicious lie that Coard was planning to kill him" as was reported by Radio Free Grenada in statements by Major Leon Cornwall and later General Hudson Austin himself.

Despite his efforts, by Friday 14th he had rejected the idea of joint leadership, been expelled from the NJM party and placed under house arrest. Bernard Coard meanwhile had resigned from his government posts allegedly to clear his name, but, as it now appears, to direct the final act of Bishop's overthrow.

On Tuesday 18th after the country had gone through four days without any effective government, President Castro, alarmed over the worsening situation and the strong possibility that the "Revolution" was in danger and becoming an embarrassment, telexed a message to his Ambassador Julian Rizzo in Grenada for delivery to the Coard faction calling for Bishop's release and dialogue to resolve the crisis. He also asked that a copy of the message to be shown to the pro-Bishop ministers who, by this time, had given up on their attempts to meet with Coard to try and resolve matters and were submitting their resignations despite threats of arrest by Strachan who was then the spokesman for the new Junta. It is alleged that Castro considered using his forces in Grenada to release Bishop and placed them on the alert, but decided against this course of action for fear of provoking an American intervention. By the following day, the Cubans apparently had decided to avoid becoming involved. A former aide recently revealed that after release Bishop had sent him to the Cubans to request help but they claimed that they were unable to contact Havana on the telephone for instructions.

On Wednesday 19th when the large crowd of supporters stormed Bishop's home and released him he was in the bath at the time. In his hurry to leave he had only enough time to put on a pair of

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shorts and this explains the stories about his being only in underpants. He had **not**, said my source, been ill treated while under arrest. However he had not eaten for two days for fear that the food his captors brought him might be poisoned, hence his weak condition. Jacqueline Creft, who had voluntarily placed herself under arrest in order to visit him, accompanied him onto the streets.

The mystery of that day was: Why did Bishop lead the crowd to Fort Rupert? According to sources he wanted a telephone to contact the outside world, in particular CBC Radio in Barbados which is listened to by many Grenadians. His intention was to get a message through to counteract the attacks from Radio Free Grenada. To effect this he sent local businessman Chasley David with a team to the telephone company to keep the lines to the Fort open, to reconnect journalist Alister Hughes' telephone, and to disconnect Bernard Coard's phone.

The soldiers at Fort Rupert allowed Bishop in and while he waited for outside communications to be established refreshments were served from the canteen. Meanwhile at Fort Frederick, overlooking St. Georges, the Army under Coard's direction despatched three armoured cars to deal with the situation. They were led by two hotheads: Abdullah and Redhead. Their specific instructions were to disperse the crowd by force and in the *melée* to kill Bishop and his cohorts on

the grounds that they were leading an insurrection which had to be suppressed.

Bishop survived the army's attack in which over one hundred people died, only to surrender and by summarily executed along with eight others including the four ministers.

The Revolutionary Military Council which was announced as the new government that night declared that Bishop's supporters had opened fire on the soldiers, but my sources and others have claimed that the fort's armoury was locked and that there were only about seven automatic weapons belonging to soldiers on duty. Members of the crowd took these up and fired in defence after the armoured cars attacked.

Despite the actions of the army, Bishop must also be held responsible for leading his supporters, including many school children, into what he must have known would be a confrontation with the army. It is interesting to note that throughout his political career, Bishop always placed school children in the forefront of his demonstrations. In the end it gave his enemies the chance to use it against him in their version of the happenings on that fateful day.

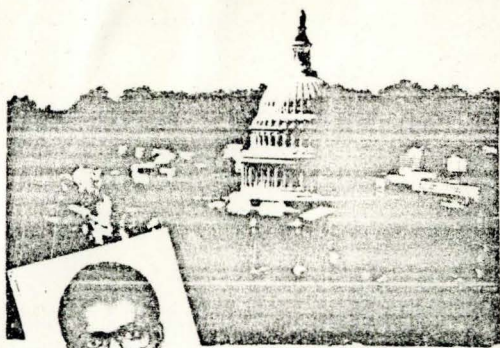
One final piece of information that was revealed gives a clear insight into the mentality of those who planned to rule Grenada. On the night following the massacre, a macabre ceremony was held at Fort Frederick, presided over by Sel-

wyn Strachan: it was called, said my source, an "Emulation Ceremony". The word is confusing but the purpose was to commend those who had performed well in their duties that day. Afterwards there was much merrymaking and prominent among the jokes passed around was how those executed had begged for their lives in their last few terrifying moments. Also at the Fort that night was Bernard Coard lurking in the shadows quietly issuing orders.

Without question Coard and his Revolutionary Military Council were violent and determined men who expected to rule a country that despised them even though to have stayed in power, they would have had to brutalise the populace into submission. It is small wonder that on Sunday November 15th thousands of Grenadians filled the churches to give thanks for their delivery.

In evaluating the course of events an interesting point arises. There are signs that there was collusion on the part of the Soviet Union and Coard to depose Bishop and create a pure communist state as happened in Afghanistan. Yet there is strong evidence that Cuba favoured Bishop, being less concerned with ideology than with having a staunch ally. If the information is to be believed they even considered a rescue.

Does this imply that Cuba and their masters in Russia do not always have a common policy?



Report from Washington
Mark Alleyne

Grenada: Being objective

The wisdom and legality of the United States' decision to intervene in Grenada is still being debated now and will continue to be for several years. This is so because a lot of questions remain to be answered concerning the justification for the move by the United States and the handful of Caribbean islands.

Some observers here are still not satisfied that the US got involved mainly because the Reagan administration feared for the safety of US citizens following the military coup of mid-October on Grenada. Indeed, informed sources here disclosed that the US was possibly planning an invasion as much as two weeks before October 25 when the Army finally did land on the island, reportedly at the behest of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS). Some are even not convinced that there was an authentic request from the tiny islands for the US to intervene. And one congressman, who went on a fact-finding visit to the islands days after the Grenada operation, said here on his return that the Caribbean leaders with whom he met seemed more interested in getting rid of "Leftist or Marxist" governments and having more leaders in the region "who reflected their 'moderate' views."

At the basis of all the skepticism and opposition (the little there is, because the opinion polls have been giving the President massive support) is the understanding that military invasions historically have had a bad record. From the excursions of Alexander the Great, to the designs of Napoleon and Hitler to the more recent case of Afghanistan, history is replete with examples of peoples' territorial and political sovereignty being violated in the long-term best interests of no one.

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The Grenada case gives more reason to be suspicious because of the particular history of US relations with the Caribbean islands and with Grenada in particular.

Firstly, it is now a minor point that US displeasure with the Marxist regime in St. George's lasted the entire four years of the People's Revolutionary Government (PRG) existence, from President Carter to Reagan, US resentment of the island having such close ties with Cuba and the Soviet Union was well known. Washington had refused to formally accept the credentials of a Grenadian Ambassador to the United States, the administrations were angered by repeated speeches by Bishop and other Grenadian revolutionaries denouncing US "imperialism"; and Reagan's suspicion that the island's international airport, which was under construction with Cuban help, would be used as a staging point for Angola-bound "terrorists" was well known.

Indeed, the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) had actually formulated plans to destabilize Grenada. The Washington Post broke the news on the front page of its Sunday edition of Feb. 27 this year. According to the report "the CIA developed plans in the summer of 1981 to cause economic difficulty for Grenada in hopes of undermining the political control of Prime Minister Maurice Bishop." The move reportedly was scrubbed when it was opposed by the Senate Intelligence Committee. The story noted: "Covert operations against Grenada were first discussed in the Carter administration after the new Bishop government supported the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan and openly solicited economic aid from Cuba. But after reviewing options, according to current and former administration officials, President Carter rejected all but propaganda measures."

The invasion, which eventually occurred on October 25, was also suspected by the Grenadians as far back as two years ago. In July 1981, the PRG prepared Grenada for war based on information it said it had received that US military exercises on the island of Vieques off Puerto Rico was actually a dress rehearsal for an invasion of Grenada. Later that year, in September, the island was put on military alert for similar reasons. (Rep. Ronald Dellums of California said after returning from Grenada in early November that it was his understanding that most of the arms which the Americans found on the island were stockpiled during that time of anticipation).

All along Washington tried to do everything in its power to restrict international lending to Grenada, even though organizations such as the Caribbean Development Bank were involved. THE BAJAN, DECEMBER 1983

velopment Bank, the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries and the International Monetary Fund saw it fit to lend to the PRG. For example, the US blocked Grenada's efforts to secure European Economic Community aid for its international airport, and later offered \$4 million to the Caribbean Development Bank on the condition that none of the money go to Grenada. In the latter instance the US was actually encouraging the bank to violate its charter. However, good sense prevailed and the money (with the string attached) was refused.

A particularly sore point in Grenada-US relations was the refusal of the US to extradite former Grenadian Prime Minister, Eric Gairy, who was granted political



Eric Gairy pontificates at a Press Conference in Barbados in August.

asylum in the US when the 1979 coup occurred while he was in New York. A matter of weeks before the bloodshed in St. George's and the US invasion, Gairy mysteriously reappeared in the Caribbean. He spent close to a month in Barbados, and apparently wanted to stay longer had his passport not expired and he was deported back to the US.

The historical context also includes a long record of American military intervention in the Caribbean this century. In 1915 and 1916 US troops were sent to Haiti and the Dominican Republic. In the first case, a similar reason to that cited for the Grenada invasion was given — to restore order. In the second, the reason was to prevent Germany from landing troops on the island. But the most memorable occasion was the abortive Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba in April 1961. In that instance, CIA-backed anti-Castro Cuban refugees attempted to change the then three-year-old Cuban

government but were defeated miserably by Castro's forces. However, the intervention most recalled in the media here since the Grenada operation was the landing of US Marines on the Dominican Republic in April, 1965.

Fully aware of this background groups such as the Congressional Black Caucus, TransAfrica and the National Conference of Catholic Bishops have opposed the Grenada intervention. But the President and the Caribbean nations which undertook the action say they want to restore democracy on Grenada.

What has happened in the days and weeks following the intervention, after the widespread public support became known was that a number of important figures, who were initially skeptical about the administration's motives, were won over into favouring the move. Such persons included House Speaker, Thomas P. O'Neill, and Maryland Democratic Representative, Michael Barnes who chairs the House Subcommittee which oversees US foreign policy in the Caribbean.

With support for the military action in the Republican-controlled Senate already arranged along party lines, support from the leadership in the Democratic House means that the President is in a good position to have the stay of Marines in Grenada extended beyond the Christmas deadline which was imposed by congress immediately after the Grenada airlift.

All this means that the Reagan administration, already armed with its Caribbean Basin Initiative of economic aid and its propaganda machinery well-oiled, is in a very strong position to influence the future course of political events in Grenada, and indeed the entire eastern Caribbean.

But as has already been noted, intervention of all kinds does not have an impressive history. In Grenada, the US has one of two main choices. It can have matters go the way of Chile where the CIA helped to impose a right-wing dictatorship in 1973. Or it can follow the noble example it set in Japan after World War II. In the former case, there now exists a military-controlled state in which the government has suppressed opposition. The latest Amnesty International report says that there are 650 cases of "disappeared" persons in Chile and 311 people were allegedly tortured by the government between 1979 and 1981. Japan, in contrast, is now a world power, rivalling even the United States. Reasons for Japan's success have not only been the industriousness of the Japanese people but a number of innovations made by the Americans when they occupied the country from 1945 to 1952. Such reforms included a democratic constitution, drafted under the infamous (and famous) General, Douglas MacArthur.

Cross Talk



from London

George Hunte

Anti-Americanism!

Grenada brought to boiling point the latent anti-Americanism that has been spawning in Britain for decades but which has become almost hysterical because of the decision to instal cruise missiles from the United States as a deterrent to Soviet aggression in Western Europe.

The Grenada affair became linked with British fear that the United States will precipitate a nuclear war with the USSR. Cuba, far from being a threat in Britain was seen by many as an innocent victim of American invasion. Sixteen Labour M.P.'s actually despatched a telegram of condolence to the government of Cuba lamenting the big-bad-wolf tactics of the American invaders. Even when expression was given to some sympathy for the Grenadan people contempt for the Caribbean was not concealed. The Sunday Express carried a front page article in which "whatever goes on in the Caribbean" was described as "pretty small potatoes" and patronisingly suggesting that Britain might be willing to send to Grenada "a small police contingent and election officials".

By contrast the leader writer of The Times of October 31st in an editorial entitled "Nato and the Caribbean" took the view that Western Europe's indifference to developments in the Caribbean was bound to create tension within the North Atlantic Alliance. The writer also backed Sir Paul Scoon as being entitled to use his prerogative to confer legitimacy, even retrospectively, on the whole operation to restore law and order in Grenada, without reference to anybody including the Queen. He berated the Foreign Office which declined to "authenticate the approaches made by Sir Paul to the Dominican Prime Minister". According to The Times editorial, "the logic was that because he did not ask a British diplomat for help, he did not ask anybody. That is a sad relic of a colonial attitude towards the West Indies states, which

seems in Whitehall to have outlived any worthier sense of responsibility".

The Times editorial was refreshing after the sneering remarks made by Labour's shadow Foreign Secretary Denis Healey suggestive of his disbelief in Dominica's Prime Minister's statements at the United Nations with reference to Sir Paul Scoon. The islands that cooperated in America's rescue operation on Grenada got far more understanding from the House of Lords.

Lord Soames said there had been fear, chaos and anarchy in Grenada and asked who could have asked for intervention if it was not the Governor General and governments of nearby islands also in the Commonwealth?

"If" he asked, "the United States had not responded to the requests of the Governor General and other governments in the area at the time, and then in a few months a major arms build-up in Grenada had become evident, could that not have created a much more serious situation for the whole world, a sort of second Cuban missile crisis with the risk of a major confrontation?"

In a letter to The Times Lord Glenconner likened the British rounding on the United States over Grenada to "bawling out the surgeon who operates on a burst appendix without getting the permission of the next of kin". He expressed fears that the "gangrene" might break out again in another limb of the former British Caribbean islands, now comprising more than a dozen assorted mini-States. And he suggested that all the nations concerned, including in particular USA, Great Britain, France and the European Economic Community should consult together to remove the anomalies in the Caribbean once and for all, so that the convalescence and prognosis may be favourable. He suggested, too, that a strong dose of federation might be indicated.

Only when people of Grenada were shown on British TV saying "God bless America. Thank God for Reagan" did some counterpoise to the anti-American blast appear. But Channel 4, which had rudely cut off Dr. Thomas, spokesman for the Eastern Caribbean to make way for Denis Healey's political attack on Sir Geoffrey Howe for not condemning "the American invasion", was not slow to come up with a programme dubiously entitled 'Black on Black' in which the Prime Minister of Jamaica was pilloried as an American stooge and Manley was given full opportunity to blast Seaga and Reagan.

Lord Hankey also noted anti-Americanism in the BBC programme Panorama. They were leaning over backwards to put the Americans in court.

Said he: "Rather what one would expect from Panorama, a bunch of leftists".

If there is a moral for the Caribbean island governments to be learnt from the Grenadan affair it is that they can expect little support from the British Parliament or Press. Unless they can get together and speak with a strong voice to defend their own points of view those points of view will not be heard.

If a strong dose of federation is not indicated, at least a strong approach to vital common interests is, and if Europe is not interested, the American Eagle is more likely to be a good neighbour than the Moscovite Bear in Cuban clothing.

"Federate W.I."

A young music-playing Barbadian from Christ Church symbolizes a wind of change that has blown across the travel world of Britain.

He is 34-year-old David Stuart, former pupil of Wesley Hall and Combermere School. His appointment by British Airways as Marketing Sales Development Manager for the Caribbean is evidence of the airline's recognition of a potential market among 2.5 million first, second and third generation of Britons with West Indian heredity.

It follows the recommendation made late in 1982 of a British Airways research exercise code-named, "Federate W.I."

David Stuart's first task will be to develop close working relationships with specialist Afro-Caribbean travel agents inclusive of those, like Don Gooding, whose homeland is Barbados.

It may even be argued that, without the pioneer work done by Frank Broome, another Barbadian, who founded the successful Rainbow Travel and others like Don Gooding that followed after, the recognition by British Airways of the Caribbean potential market in Britain might have come much later.

Don Gooding who has been operating Budget Travel in Hammersmith's King Street for fourteen months tells me that of the 3000 tickets he has sold since opening about two-thirds came from the 'West Indian' British community.

An old Lodge schoolboy Don came to Britain in 1966 after a year's teaching at St. Patrick's School in Christ Church to become a male nurse. For two years he followed that profession at St. Francis' Hospital in Haywards Heath until he felt the call of the RAF, enrolling for 4½ years and being sent abroad, after initial training, to Singapore. He remained there for 3½ years, returned to Britain, retrained for work with the Post Office and eventually joined the High Commission in London to work with the British office of the Barbados Board of Tourism. From 1974 to 1980 he travelled through-

out the British Isles and was actively engaged while doing this in encouraging the cricketing attractions of Barbados for cricket-minded travellers. He still regards cricketing travellers as very important and takes some satisfaction from the cricketing enthusiasm of his daughter who, he hopes, one day will captain a women's cricket tour of the West Indies.

Before starting Budget Travel, Don worked for Bahos, a group of apartment owners linked with Barbados through Rex Allamby of Margate Apartments. Modestly, Don points out that he is only one of the new Caribbean-originating and oriented travel organisers. He pays great tribute to Frank Broome, to K. Edwards of North London, to Les Joseph, an Antiguan, of Stoke Newington, to Uncle Sam's Travel operated by a Jamaican in Birmingham, as well as to shipping operators like Owen Eversley and Colin Carter of Barbados.

Colin Carter is secretary of the Caribbean Chamber of Commerce of the United Kingdom and his organisation has been holding talks with the West India Committee's Executive Director David Jessop, exploring avenues of mutual interest.

The quiet confidence that Don Gooding has in the future of the specialist travel he has undertaken stems from the acquisition of knowledge that must be of

value to the official promoters of tourism inside Barbados. Indeed, judging by the number of obviously Caribbean-oriented travel associates and promoters at the Board of Tourism's reception for their new representative in the UK, June Alleyne, there are enough specialist advisers to form a UK branch of the board.

Certainly the need to make the Caribbean known in the UK in no way resembles the need of the sixties and seventies. In the eighties the Caribbean is very well known by all serious travel operators, warts and all.

What the Caribbean, and Barbados no less than any other resort requires, is expert marketing based on expert knowledge. And British Airways is leaving no stone unturned, as the arrival to high office of David Stuart exemplifies.

Among his objectives are: the re-examination of fare levels; developing new types of fares; the evaluation of a Caribbean travel club offering members extra travel benefits like emergency insurance and easy payment plans; a study of the potential benefits of selective advertising in community newspapers and magazines; and a new approach to the Afro-Caribbean community as a distinct target marked with an identity of its own.

British Airways is important, because, as Mr. Stuart says: "It is the principal airline serving the West Indies from Bri-

tain, with flights to more islands from London than any other airline."

Already since David Stuart's incumbency British Airways has introduced an increased baggage allowance on its Jamaican flights (up to 100 pounds in no more than two bags). It hopes to extend this concession to all its Caribbean routes. Bags must not exceed 62 inches in total. The usual cabin bag is also allowed.

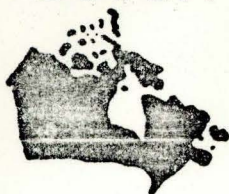
Bajan Sunshine

The owner of a horse called Bajan Sunshine, P.C. Green has given Barbados splendid publicity by winning the Cesarewitch in October.

Grenadian Gloom

By contrast the news of political upheaval in Grenada has sparked off gloom for that island's tourist prospects. Writing in the Daily Mail of October 18 Roderick Gilchrist wrote under the title The Poisoning of Paradise Island that "this happy place has once again proved that Moscow's unrelenting will to dominate will prevail wherever they step on the sand, and that they are ruthless in subjecting the independent will of the people. That red flag over Grand Anse Beach casts a long shadow over the Caribbean and the whole free world."

CANADA



Out in the cold

by Edward W. Barrett

Winter arrived early in Canada this year. And the chill came from the Caribbean. The invasion of Grenada by Commonwealth nations left official Ottawa in a cold fury and with the feeling that Canada has been snubbed, indeed insulted.

These few excerpts from Hansard, the official report of parliamentary proceedings, may give some idea why Canada feels she is being regarded as a security risk:

Opposition leader Brian Mulroney: "Was the government asked for advice or input by the United States of America or any of the Caribbean allies to whose friendship the Prime Minister has made frequent reference?"

Prime Minister Trudeau: "The answer is no, in so far as Caribbean allies are concerned". (He added a State Department official was in touch with the Canadian embassy but gave no details).

"I do not know why invasion was necessary. The leader of the opposition quotes President Reagan as saying that the invasion was also intended to maintain the democratic system. The leader of the opposition said that should suffice for me. Obviously it is sufficient for him. I ask him what would happen if the United States gave itself authority to invade any country where the democratic system did not exist?"

Observers noted that Mr. Trudeau, who was about to start off on a European journey seeking to ease East-West tensions, was obviously keeping his temper under control.

Tory John Bosley: "Can (the prime minister) please inform the House how it can be that the senior member of the Commonwealth in this hemisphere, Canada, was not consulted or advised, or in any way involved by the Caribbean countries involved. How can he possibly explain to the House why Jamaica and Barbados did not want to get Canada's advice at any time?"

Mr. Trudeau: "I think the answer to that is rather simple. These countries, as facts show, were determined to support an invasion. They know Canada is not in the habit of supporting invasions of other countries".

Mr. Bosley: "Last week the Prime Minister initiated something that I think

a lot of Canadians hope will work, and that is an attempt to solve East-West tensions. If the Americans, the Jamaicans and Barbadians, and our allies in the Caribbean have no trust in the Prime Minister and the government of Canada, why should Canadians believe his initiative will work?"

Mr. Trudeau: "I think the question is very well put. I would certainly say that those Canadians who believe that Canada should have its armies ready to invade islands or other countries, the government of which they disagree with, should vote for the Honourable member of his party. The others can vote for our party".

Actually no one tried to make political mileage out of the crisis. Opinion across the nation was divided, although Canada's sentimental ties with its Commonwealth cousins certainly was a factor considered by those who supported the invasion.

What nearly everyone found galling was that Canada was not informed and three days after the invasion Canadians were astounded, or amused, depending on their temperament, when they learned that even up to that time the "messenger" hadn't delivered the message.

Dominica Premier Eugenia Charles told the press on the Friday after the invasion that she was the one who was supposed to tell Mr. Trudeau but she said, "I'm still trying to get through to him. I haven't got his number. I've asked someone to get his number for me".

Concerning Barbados, Canada's acting external affairs minister, Gerald Regan recalled: "Our high commissioner, Mr. Noble Power, met with Prime Minister Adams last Friday (before the invasion). In the course of the discussion Prime Minister Adams mentioned the possibility of the Eastern Caribbean states considering military action and it would have to be discussed at a subsequent meeting of those states. He made no mention of a decision for an invasion, nor did he make any mention of any participation by the United States.

"The accuracy of his recollection of that meeting and the report he gave on it is confirmed by a meeting High Commissioner Power had yesterday with Prime Minister Adams in which the prime Minister apologized, through Mr. Power,

to our prime minister for there not being prior consultations with Canada".

As the Grenada crisis moves into the background one bitter memory lingers, one that sensitive Canadians won't forget: It was a statement by Kenneth Dam, U.S. deputy secretary of state, to Canada's ambassador to Washington. Canada was not consulted on the Grenada invasion, he said, "because of concerns on the security side that the invasion shouldn't be too widely known".

In other words Canada couldn't be trusted. Said Mr. Mulroney: "This kind of statement should not be left on the record unchallenged". Said Mr. Trudeau: "I must say I share the astonishment of the leader of the opposition".

Canadians were clearly disturbed and they wondered how many other nations shared this U.S. sentiment.

ACROSS THE LAND

"Canada is looking for immigrants who can establish job-creating businesses and bring new investment spirit as well as new skills and product lines," according to the immigration department which at the same time announced a slash of 10 per cent in the number of immigrants to be admitted next year. Between 90,000 and 95,000 people will be admitted in 1984. reason for the cutback is to protect Canadians' jobs, but if a potential immigrant is an entrepreneur who can create jobs he will be very welcome indeed...

A Quebec Human Rights Commission inquiring into racism in the taxi industry (black drivers being discriminated against by despatchers who are told by callers they want white chauffeurs) chugs on and on. First brought to public attention in the spring of 1982 the situation apparently hasn't changed a bit and the commission in an interim report (132 pages) recommends legal action against the firms involved. At the present rate of action most of the accused will be old age pensioners before they appear in court. Nearly all of the black drivers involved are from Haiti and have been attracted to Montreal by a common language...

Ontario has quietly taken the first step toward making French an official language in the courts of the province. The attorney-general, Roy McMurtry modestly remarked it didn't really grant new rights because there is already a complete range of court services for 95 per cent of Franco-Ontarians. This though is a symbolic recognition of that fact. At the same time Manitoba voted in a non-binding referendum (75 to 25 per cent) against making itself by-lingual even in the shadow of a forthcoming Supreme Court decision that may give them no choice. It's a long and bitter story that goes back 100 years but the six-per cent of the population that speaks French will likely come out the winners.