

NEWS RELEASE

Committee of Women for Progress
P.O. BOX 277
Kingston 19

23rd October, 1983

The Committee of Women for Progress is shocked and horrified at the news that the Jamaican Government has begun to take steps to use Jamaican soldiers to invade Grenada alongside U.S. marines and some Caribbean countries. This move can only mean more bloodshed and killing of thousands more innocent men, women and children.

Any genuine efforts at reducing the danger to the Grenadian people would surely look toward a more humane and sober approach. This requires firstly, efforts to get the true facts, especially to ascertain whether the new government is bringing down brutality on the Grenadian people or whether calm and normalcy is being restored. Secondly, all efforts at diplomatic measures must be fully exhausted prior to the use of force.

The CWP calls on all well-thinking Jamaican women, individuals, churches, trade unions and organisations, regardless of our different views and our common pain on recent developments in Grenada to call on the Jamaican Government to immediately withdraw Jamaican soldiers from this hateful carnage and invasion of our sister Caribbean people. We should call on our Members of Parliament our organisations and individuals to protest this dastardly act.

Jamaican soldiers and their families must also resist any efforts to be used to kill or be killed in this senseless invasion against their Caribbean brothers and sisters.

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Linnette Vassell
Co-ordinator, COMMITTEE OF WOMEN FOR PROGRESS

Oct 20 / 83

NEWS RELEASE

The death of Cde Maurice Bishop and several other Grenadian sisters and brothers in the crisis that has emerged in that country has brought deep grief to the Committee of Women for Progress.

We like vast numbers of Jamaican women have come to have and appreciate the Grenadian revolution because, in face of continuing difficulties, their Peoples Revolution has brought concrete benefits and gains including reduced unemployment, improved education, maternal and child care, and upliftment of the status of women.

These gains are however gravely endangered by threat of external intervention and economic blockade. In these conditions women and children will suffer the most. Vengeance, hostility economic blockade and armed intervention cannot help the people of Grenada.

That is why we call on Jamaican women and people to reject any such measures, which can only bring more hardship on the Grenadian people. We appeal to the Jamaican Government not to initiate or support any call or action for intervention in Grenada.

No one but the Grenadian people themselves can solve their problems, in the same way that it is we the Jamaican people who must solve the deep economic and social problems which plague us.

We extend the deepest solidarity with the National Women,s Organisation of Grenada and the Grenadian people, particularly at this most difficult time.

Signed:

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L. Vassel.

Coordinator.