

Free elections do not necessarily mean democracy

THE FOLLOWING speech was delivered by Karl Hudson-Phillips, political leader of the Organisation for National Reconstruction (ONR) on Friday October 28, 1983.

WE MUST ALL express anxious concern about the development of the situation in Grenada. Grenada is popularly known as our sister island and there are present in Trinidad and Tobago perhaps as many Grenadians, if not more, than actually reside in Grenada itself.

The problem in Grenada in a very real sense has touched each and every individual in Trinidad and Tobago and, no doubt, in the Caribbean as a whole. What is taking place in Grenada must be causing considerable human suffering to our Caribbean brothers and sisters there and it is, therefore, necessary that we show anxiety and concern.

The information available to me indicates that the vast majority of the population in the Caribbean islands is in favour of armed intervention in Grenada. The governments of only three English speaking Caribbean territories have indicated their disapproval of the action. These three Governments are those of Trinidad and Tobago, Guyana and Belize.

As Trinidadians and Tobagonians it is necessary for us to discuss and assess the situation calmly and without emotion because I am of the view that what has happened recently in Grenada will have a profound effect on the lives of all Caribbean peoples in the future.

The events in Grenada could not have happened if the democratic way of life had been maintained. We have come to learn that the mere holding of elections does not necessarily guarantee the continuance of democracy. Democracy only thrives where the people are alert and when their Governments practise democracy in all its many facets and ways.

It is very easy for us to say that we are democratic when in several areas we do not practise democracy. Every time a Government fails to practise democracy it is making it easier for democracy to be destroyed. Any action, any decision, however small, which is undemocratic is an action which is contributing to the death of democracy. The great principles of democracy may be clearly and simply stated:-

1. The right to freedom of speech, movement and belief;
2. The right to elect a Government by free and fair elections;
3. The maintenance of the rule of law and a free independent judiciary;
4. The right to have institutions which are free in themselves and which are constantly permitting the expression of views and sentiments of the population.

Any action which prejudices these three great principles is action which will eventually lead to the breakdown of democracy in any country. However small that country might be; however popular that action might be — it is action which spells the death of democracy.

The events in Grenada did not start with Maurice Bishop. If there was no Eric Gairy there would have been no Maurice Bishop; if there was no Maurice Bishop there would have been no General Austin. If there was no General Austin we would not have seen the frightening spectacle of armed intervention in Grenada.

It is well for us to recall that the Government of Gairy was supposedly elected by free and fair elections. They were elections in which the very Maurice Bishop and three of his colleagues won seats in the Parliament of Grenada. The mere fact, however, that Gairy was elected did not mean that his Government was democratic or that it practised democracy.

There were several violations of the democratic principles under Gairy — denial of freedom of speech and movement; denial of the rule of law and the independence of the judiciary; denial of the right of free institutions expressing the will of the population of Grenada.

It was these denials of basic fundamental principles which catapulted Grenada into the Bishop regime under which the principles of

democracy, as we know and respect them, were totally denied and violated. I pause here because there are several people in Trinidad and Tobago who say that it could never happen here, and that the democratic record of Trinidad and Tobago is without blemish.

Is this really so? Does the freedom of speech in Trinidad and Tobago mean that everybody feels free to speak his mind without fear that he will lose his job or suffer some other form of political victimisations? Can we say that we have an impeccable record with respect to the independence of the judiciary and the rule of law?

Can we honestly say that the Government has not interfered with our judges and that those accused of crimes are always brought before our courts of law to be sentenced according to the verdict of the jury? Can we say that under our democracy justice is even-handed and that there is not one rule for the rich and another for the poor; that there is not one rule for those supporting one party and another rule for those who do not?

I pose these questions because in analysing the situation we must analyse ourselves too ensure that there does not exist in Trinidad and Tobago a germ of what has happened in Grenada.

At the time of the last Election, the ONR was heavily criticised because of our position on Grenada. Our position then and our position now has not changed. In 1981 we stated clearly that we did not like the manner in which Maurice Bishop had come to power in Grenada but that it was necessary to call a Caribbean Heads of Government Conference (at that time one had not been called for seven years) and that Bishop should have been invited to such a Conference.

We said that we must talk to Bishop. For that statement several of you here said that the ONR was Communist and that you would not vote for the ONR because of that. How times have changed. They very people who were then criticising the ONR are those who are now shedding the largest crocodile tears because of his brutal and savage murder.

Who knows, had we entered into genuine dialogue with Maurice Bishop he might have been alive today and democracy might have been alive today in Grenada.

This brings us to a review of the position of the Government of Trinidad and Tobago with respect to the Caribbean in general and Grenada in particular. It is to be remembered that the original position of Trinidad and Tobago with respect to the now defunct Federation was that in any federation the constitution should guarantee the free movement of goods and people.

In the disappointment that this was not achieved, we had the famous statement from Trinidad and Tobago that "one from ten leaves nought" — referring to the little ten excluding Jamaica and Guyana. Notwithstanding this, Grenada took up an offer which Trinidad and Tobago had previously made of unitary statehood with Trinidad and Tobago.

Blaize, then Premier of Grenada, made formal approaches to Trinidad and Tobago but by this time Trinidad and Tobago had changed its mind and decided to go it alone. Gairy then came to power. Previously, under the former Colonial power, when there was a problem in Grenada as a result of Gairy's "red sky" policy, police officers were sent from Trinidad and Tobago to assist in the restoration of law and order.

With Gairy in power, however, the attitude of Trinidad and Tobago was one of strict non-interference and non-comment in what was going on in Grenada. Trinidad and Tobago officially turned a blind eye to massive human rights violations in Grenada as it is now doing to similar violations in other parts of the Caribbean. When the Gairy Government went broke, the Trinidad and Tobago Government came to his rescue without the slightest caution or admonition that he was behaving in an undemocratic way.

Then came Bishop. When Bishop seized power in Grenada, again there was no official condemnation from the Trinidad and Tobago Government about the manner in which he seized

power. Not a word was said. A lot of people were glad that Gairy had been removed but did not like the way in which Bishop did it.

Nobody was prepared to say that all of us, by our silence, had contributed to the situation which caused the Grenada Revolution of 1979. It is now history that the only official position taken by the Government of Trinidad and Tobago was the waving about in Parliament by the Prime Minister of an unopened letter from Maurice Bishop.

Now would be a good time to open that letter and see what Maurice Bishop was saying to the Prime Minister and people of Trinidad and Tobago. Alas, Bishop is now dead and there is nothing anybody can do to bring him back.

On the wider Caribbean scene, Trinidad and Tobago it is true has made generous contributions, both financial and otherwise, to our Caribbean neighbours. This cannot be denied. What is in question is the manner in which this was done and also what did we get in return for it.

The two are not unconnected. While we made these contributions, we failed to seize the initiative and to occupy our rightful place as the economic, political and intellectual leaders of the Caribbean. We lost a glorious opportunity to influence the course of events, particularly in the Eastern Caribbean.

For all the money we spent, BWIA is still not the national carrier. Indeed, without logic we spent money to support LIAT and Caribargo which compete with BWIA. The latest fiasco, of course, has been the whole question of inter-regional trade, the currency practices and protection policies of the very Caribbean countries whom we have so generously supported.

The cause for this is nobody else's but our own. We failed to insist, when we had bargaining power, on conditions which were beneficial to Trinidad and Tobago. No Government worth its salt would have continued doling out money, left, right and centre, to people who refused to make BWIA the regional carrier, for instance.

The problem was we had no foreign policy and we still have no foreign policy.

Coming closer to the events of the last two weeks, we must consider some of the further background. The Government of Trinidad and Tobago was literally caught with its pants down. For years now the ONR has been pleading for diplomatic offices to be opened in the Eastern Caribbean, including Grenada. For years the Trinidad and Tobago Government has had an Ambassador to the Eastern Caribbean resident in Trinidad and Tobago.

While all the trouble was going on in Grenada, the Trinidad and Tobago Ambassador was in Trinidad looking at the opening of Channel 9. If the Government were serious, he should immediately have been ordered to go to Grenada to see and give a first hand report on what was going on there. Was Bishop free or was he under house arrest?

Was Coard the man in charge or was he merely a puppet? Did Bishop want political asylum and would Trinidad and Tobago have given him political asylum? None of these questions could be answered because we had nobody there to tell us what was going on. The result was that the Trinidad and Tobago Government went into a Heads of Government Conference last weekend totally blindfolded.

At that stage the ONR saw the impending threat. In a press release of the 20 October 20, 1983, even before the invasion of Grenada, we stated as follows:-

"An even more serious threat is now posed to the political, social and economic stability of the Caribbean. We in the ONR have been demanding since the inception of our party that the Trinidad and Tobago Government should have had some diplomatic presence in Grenada, if only to monitor the events there."

THE SCENE IN GRENADA

FEW SIGNS OF THE IMPRINT OF WAR

ST GEORGE'S, Monday (CANA-Reuter) - There are remarkably few signs of the imprint of war in St George's, just a few days after U.S. Marines stormed the steep hills on which the Grenadian capital is built.

Foreign journalists allowed into Grenada over the weekend saw only isolated signs of the battle between American troops and defending Cuban and Grenadian units, suggesting care was taken on both sides not to involve the civilian population.

Damage is limited to the key areas of Butler House which is the office of the Prime Minister and Fort Frederick.

GUTTED

The police headquarters, at the waterfront, north of the harbour is gutted but it is not clear whether this was the result of shelling or sabotage.

There was also some damage to Richmond Hill Mental Institution, just below Fort Frederick, which the U.S. authorities have said was shelled by accident last Tuesday. No firm estimate has been made yet of casualties there.

Otherwise there was no sign of damage to civilian houses or commercial premises, apart from some broken windows from looting.

UNDAMAGED

The picturesque Carenage area down at the waterfront, with its historical Georgian-style buildings, is undamaged and even close to Fort Rupert buildings were not damaged.

Grenadians themselves chatted freely with the first visitors, and some quickly caught on that some money was to be made from selling scraps of information on the coup which toppled Prime Minister Maurice Bishop and the subsequent invasion.

St George's is a small

town of 30,000 and news travels fast. Although details of Bishop's death may never be known for certain, Grenadians are convinced their leader was eliminated by the military rulers that took over on October 19.

"Bishop was killed by his enemies in the (New Jewel) Movement," said 19-year old Steven Hall. He said the former Prime Minister had been found tied to a bed in his official residence, having been placed under house arrest on the orders of deputy Prime Minister Bernard Coard, dressed only in his underpants.

"The crowd took him down to the marketplace and then up to Fort Rupert, where three armoured cars came and started firing into the crowd," he said.

The military authorities at the time said that 17, including Bishop and three Cabinet colleagues had died, but this figure has been disputed. Hall, who was up at the fort, said many more people were killed.

SMASHED

On the way up to Bishop's house, on the continuation of Lucas Street, is Education Minister Jacqueline Creft's Japanese car, parked at her mother's home with a smashed windscreen. The car is said by residents to have been appropriated by the military rulers and retaken after the invasion.

Also along Lucas Street, which runs up from the marketplace towards the Governor-General's house, is the now boarded-up headquarters of the New Jewel Movement (NJM). Bishop and colleagues from the NJM began the present chapter in Grenadian history four and a half years ago when they ousted Eric Gairy in a dawn coup.

At Fort Rupert, named after Bishop's father who was killed 10 years ago during Eric Gairy's administration, there is considerable damage from shelling and a

wealth of revolutionary Cuban and Soviet literature.

Sitting alongside old fort cannons on the battlements, with a commanding view of the approaches to St George's Harbour, is a Soviet anti-aircraft gun and piles of boxes containing shells.

Inside the fort barracks were found mortar bombs and thousands of rounds of ammunition, mostly soviet-made.

The scene in St George's, which is controlled by the joint Caribbean task force of 300 soldiers and police officers, contrasts heavily with that on the road south to Point Salines Airport where men of the 82nd airborne division have mounted roadblocks.

The area is supervised and guarded with Howitzer emplacements as a deterrent against continued sniper activity in the hills.

In the first few days there was considerable sniper fire here, but the U.S. troops are now dug in in strength.

U.S. fails to bar Grenada

UNITED NATIONS, Monday (CANA-Reuter) - The United States failed today to bar Grenada delegate Caldwell Taylor from the U.N. General Assembly.

Delegates applauded Taylor's response that Grenada was "not an American colony" and that his Caribbean nation was now being occupied by U.S. troops.

"American soldiers at this moment are in our country, butchering our people," he said.

U.S. delegate Jose Sorzano asserted that Taylor was not entitled to represent Grenada because the island nation's Governor General Sir Paul Scoon -- the representative of Britain's Queen Elizabeth as head of state -- had advised the U.N. that no one was authorised to represent it at this time.

Sorzano said Grenada had submitted no formal credential papers to the U.N. for examination by the General Assembly's credentials committee.

Taylor, who observed that Sorzano was "not speaking of a representative from Puerto Rico," said that he did not know where the Governor-General was.

He had heard that the official, Paul Scoon, was aboard an American carrier. "I don't know if he is being held hostage," Taylor added.

He said that he had not been told not to sit in the assembly.

There was applause from all parts of the hall at the end of Taylor's brief statement.

The president, Jorge Illueca of Panama, said that the matter raised by the United States was one with which members were familiar. According to the rules, a representative whose presence in the assembly was challenged had the right to remain provisionally until his credentials were examined by the credentials committee.

"In the meantime, the representative of Grenada will continue to occupy his seat in the Assembly," Illueca ruled.

The credentials issue came up as the General Assembly prepared to ballot to fill vacancies on the security council, effective January 1.

Barbados, the Caribbean nation said to have played a key role in urging the U.S. to mount an invasion of Grenada and whose own troops took part in the operation, was one of two candidates from the hemisphere seeking to succeed Guyana on the 15-nation council.

Dessima Williams challenges

SIR PAUL'S AUTHORITY

BRIDGETOWN, Monday (CANA) -- The diplomat who headed Grenada's mission to the Organisation of American States (OAS) prior to the recent coup, Dessima Williams, has challenged the authority of Governor General Sir Paul Scoon to form a new government or dismiss diplomatic representatives.

In a statement on behalf of "concerned Grenadians abroad", telexed from Washington to the headquarters of the Caribbean News Agency (CANA) here, Miss Williams stressed that the recognised government of Grenada continues to be the People's Revolutionary Government (PRG).

"This continues to be a matter of political reality inside Grenada and in the international community as well", she said, "so that Paul Scoon's operating with political legitimacy is a hoax aimed at misleading public opinion at this time."

Last, Saturday, Sir Paul, who has asserted his position as the sole constitutional authority in St George's following the bloody military takeover nearly two weeks ago, announced that he was planning the formation of an interim administration and he has ordered the temporary closure of Grenada's diplomatic missions.

But Williams asserted that the Governor General exists at the pleasure of the Government. She said his role and authority were well defined through the channels of the PRG, a point that was clearly understood and taken when Sir Paul accepted the post.

"The Governor General therefore has no political authority to either dissolve or form a government, nor to dismiss diplomatic representatives

of the said government", Williams said.

She observed that in order to form a new government Sir Paul would have assumed the powers of the PRG, sole, and legitimate government of the people and state of Grenada.

"By virtue of this, it must be interpreted that he would be single-handedly responsible for carrying out a coup using U.S. military forces", she said, "we therefore call on all patriotic Grenadians to disassociate themselves from the political manoeuvring of Paul Scoon and the U.S Government."

She said that the involvement of the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States, Jamaica and Barbados in last Tuesday's U.S-led invasion

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Continue to oppose the invasion

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sion was an attempt to subvert the legitimate authority of the Caribbean Community (Caricom) to effectively deal with Caribbean issues.

"Why shouldn't Caricom be in the forefront assisting in the search for a solution to this matter, when the experience and maturity of this regional organisation is so well established?" she asked.

Williams said resistance by Grenadians was a demonstration of national unity in the face of foreign aggression, which she said strongly impelled all of them to continue working against all political and military attempts to destroy the revolution.

On behalf of the Grenadians, she issued a call to the international community to assist the Grenadian people in six specific ways:

1. Continue to oppose the invasion and occupation of Grenada -- a small sovereign state of the Americas and call for immediate unconditional withdrawal of all foreign troops.

2. Continued recognition of the PRG as the sole, legitimate government of the Grenadian people, as well as recognition of existing diplomatic representatives and missions worldwide.

3. Humanitarian and relief assistance to the victims of this unjust war and assault against our people. The efforts of organisations friendly to the Grenada revolution are particularly welcomed in this hour of need.

4. Demands for a full and comprehensive investigation of the facts on and surrounding the invasion and occupation of Grenada. Fact finding missions and parliamentary hearings can be specially useful.

5. Demands for decent burials of all those heroic Grenadians who have died as well as full accounting for and proper treatment of all persons missing, wounded and imprisoned, in particular women and children. (and)

6. Demands for an immediate end to inhumane restrictions on travel to and from Grenada, communications and information.

Schools, shops, offices reopen U.S. MARINES SHIP OUT

ST GEORGE'S, Monday (CANA) -- Schools, shops and offices reopened in Grenada today, as some ease returned to the Eastern Caribbean tourist island, paralysed for the last two weeks by a political crisis.

The reopening, in answer to a weekend call by the Governor General Sir Paul Scoon, coincided with the pull out of American marines who invaded Grenada nearly a week ago to crush a military coup in which Prime Minister Maurice Bishop and at least 16 other people were killed.

School children waved at troops of the Caribbean Security Force in the streets of St George's, witnesses said.

Military sources said the U.S. Marines are being replaced by additional units of the 82nd airborne division due to fly in from Puerto Rico.

Jamaican Colonel Ken Barnes, Commander of the ground forces which now control the capital, said today "St George's is very quiet now and we have the situation under control." There had been some looting earlier, mainly for food, but this had ceased.

Intervention is sometimes necessary and permissible

By STANLEY VICTOR SMITH, International Relations Correspondent

IT IS SOMETIMES necessary and, in this instance, crucial that someone should consider the intervention in Grenada from a pure legal standpoint; in other words, within the confines of international law, objectively and without emotion.

Let me state at the outset that if one gives the current law its true meaning, Cuba and the Soviet Union had wrongfully intervened in the internal affairs of Grenada with the consequences not even thought of by most of us until Maurice Bishop was killed and alleged murders committed.

While I agree that no state has the right to intervene directly or indirectly for any reason whatsoever, in the internal or external affairs of any other state, if this has been contravened by other states then the international community must correct the situation.

It is their duty to do so. It is argued here that the facts collected over the years from the fall of Sir Eric Gairy to the rise of General Austin that there had been intervention, subtle and clever, whereby the intervening States,

not the USA or OECS) in their efforts to dictate the course and form of government resorted to subtle and covert methods from which the use of force and the threat of the use of force in one form or other was present.

Those who are against the intervention argue that armed intervention is illegal in international law, whether by one state or a group of states. They add that the use of force is unlawful and cite Article 2 (4) of the Charter of the United Nations which reads:

"All members shall refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state, or in any other manner inconsistent with the purposes of the United Nations".

The preamble to the Charter of the UN provides inter alia that the members are determined to prevent war and to recognise fundamental human rights; in order to achieve these ends the members agree inter alia "to unite our strength to maintain international peace and security and to ensure, by the acceptance of principles and institution of methods that armed force shall not be used save in the common

interest".

Note the exception where it (armed force) is necessary in the common interest.

The threat of force is contrary to Article 2 (4) of the Charter. It not only existed towards the nationals of Grenada who were saddled with rulers who were not constitutionally elected but who contrary to their (Grenadians) wishes were following a form of government foreign to them.

To the OECS countries it was in contravention to their treaty and to the charter of the UN. The threat of force, the preven-

tion of war between the super powers in the region was fundamental and the basic human rights of Grenadians guaranteed in their constitution was being eroded by an illegal regime.

Where the security of your country is in jeopardy, where there has been indirect intervention by a state or states, other states must react.

Grenada is a sister isle, a close neighbour, forged as we were from the same colonial power. We must be concerned.

be very concerned and become involved so that the country could revert to

normalcy.

So let us look at the circumstances:

1 Wasn't Cuba interfering directly and indirectly in the internal affairs of Grenada. Cuban soldiers, arms, so-called technocrats, construction of a military base, Cuban training for Grenada's army.

2 Why are the ambassadors of Cuba and Russia Generals in their own right?

3 Why were there over thirty Russian Advisors (military).

4 Why in a population of 105,000 is there need for a

militia of 20,000 and an army of 3,000.

But remember in all of this the Russians and Cubans are honourable men; so are they all very honourable men.

5 Since Sir Eric Gairy how many citizens of Grenada have suffered indignities? How many have been imprisoned and murdered?

6 What's Sir Eric Gairy tolerated (Mongoose gang with him) by the British, how many human rights violations did he commit? Does Mrs Thatcher know? But Gairy is an honourable man, Sorry Sir Eric, so too, Fidel, Hudson, Ber-

nard and Andropov.

Now some of our people scream, rant and rave and condemn our West Indian brothers and sister: Seaga, Adams, Compton and Eugenia. I have to say no, they have "guts" and the interest of the region at heart. They love our Grenadian bretheren. They are humanitarians, they understand and appreciate the problem.

Thank God we here in Trinidad and Tobago live in a democratic country with its Bill of Rights enshrined in our constitution with a free and fearless press brave enough to print, I hope, my article.

Guyana's Parliament condemns intervention

GEORGETOWN, (CANAL) -- The Guyana National Assembly (Parliament) has approved a government resolution condemning last week's intervention in Grenada by foreign forces led by the United States.

The resolution, introduced by Prime Minister Doctor Ptolemy Reid received the full backing of the Opposition People's Progressive Party (PPP).

The rightist-oriented United Force (UF) which has two members in the fifty-three seat House did not attend the sitting.

At the conclusion of the meeting, the House observed one minute silence as a mark of respect for the late Grenadian Prime Minister Maurice Bishop, who was shot dead by the military before it seized



●BULLETS...and more bullets, part of the ammunition cache found in Grenada.

power in an October 19 coup that triggered the invasion.

"The invasion constitutes a flagrant violation on the principles of non intervention and non interference in internal af-

fairs, respect for the territorial integrity and sovereignty of states, in particular, and of the charter of the United Nations and of international law in general", the motion said.

The motion called on the National Assembly to "strongly condemn the armed intervention in Grenada by the United States of America, regrettably supported by some Caribbean countries, which has resulted in the death of and injury to many persons, including unarmed civilians from indiscriminate bombardment, shelling and other military activity by the aggressors."

Speakers on both sides of the House condemned the invasion as a violation of all international law, and a transgression of the Charter of the United Nations.

Opposition leader Doctor Cheddi Jagan expressed his party's full support, describing the invasion as "a vulture/ eagle descending connivance of the regional hawks" in supporting the "brutal" invasion.

This was a reference to Jamaica, Barbados, Dominica, Antigua, St Lucia, St Vincent and St Kitts-Nevis which invited the American landing on Grenada's behalf under the terms of a joint defence treaty.



POLICEMEN took up guard outside the United States Embassy, Port of Spain yesterday, no

doubt in anticipation of trouble in the aftermath of the U.S.-led invasion of Grenada.

PLANS FOR THE INVASION WERE LEAKED

KINGSTON, (CANA)-- Plans for the invasion of Grenada to topple the Marxist military government installed in an October 19 coup there were leaked to army leader General Hudson Austin by one of the Caribbean Community (Caricom) countries that took part in the regional summit two weekends ago, the Jamaica Prime Minister, Edward Seaga, charged last night.

"When at the meeting at the weekend we discussed the plan for invasion we are fortunate that we never mentioned a time or date because when I visited Grenada today I was told that immediately after the meeting was over those plans were given to General Austin in Grenada", Seaga told a rally of his ruling Jamaica Labour Party (JLP) in the south central parish of Clarendon.

Seaga said that the action was to the "everlasting disgrace" of the country which he refused to name, but observers here immediately conjectured that he was attacking Guyana, whose President, Forbes Burnham, has been severely critical of the U.S.-led invasion.

Guyana co-sponsored a U.N Security Council Resolution condemning the resolution, which the United States vetoed.

Burnham, Trinidad and Tobago's George Chambers, Linden Pindling of Bahamas and Belize's George Price, at the Caricom Summit opposed the idea of an armed intervention, which, ostensibly, was to remove a security threat to Grenada's neighbours and restore Parliamentary democracy to the island.

After failing to reach a consensus on the matter the Organisation of East Caribbean

to Gen. Austin by a Caricom country, says Edward Seaga

States (OECS), the regional sub-group representing the Leeward and Windward Islands, caucused quietly with Jamaica and Barbados to invite the U.S. to help topple Austin.

Austin's army had seized power after the military had killed leftwing Prime Minister Maurice Bishop and a number of his colleagues -- the climax of a power struggle in the ruling New Jewel Movement (NJM), that had itself gained power in a 1979 revolution.

Relations between Grenada and the U.S. had been cold since the NJM's ousting of eccentric Sir Eric Gairy and Grenada's Peoples Revolutionary Government had constantly alleged there were U.S. plans to invade.

Seaga said that there was concern that had there been any forewarning of the invasion "those vicious butchers" who were at the helm in Grenada would have held Americans on the island hostage and killed the Governor General, Sir Paul Scoon, "the only constitutional authority in the country."

Said the Prime Minister: "Hence we made

our plans in great secrecy.

"Hence, we did not express the plans to those countries who are now complaining they didn't know because we did not want anything to leak out and it is a good thing that we made it in secrecy because we had traitors among us."

The reference to countries complaining of having not been told about the plans apparently came out of George Chambers' remarks that he had heard nothing more of the intention until after troops had landed on Grenada last Tuesday.

Seaga said that there were treacherous people who were willing to give up the invasion plans that would have caused serious bloodshed.

He went on: "Among them who say that they don't agree with what we are doing (are those who) didn't play the role to stand by. They played the role of traitors so that the enemy knew what our plans were so that they could do certain things to stop us and in doing so risked human lives."

RADIX TO TAKE A BREAK FROM ACTIVE POLITICS

ST. GEORGE'S, Tuesday (CANA) -- Former Grenada Government Minister Kenrick Radix has announced his intention to take a break from active politics here.

Radix who resigned

last month as Industrial Development Minister in the leftwing People's Revolutionary Government when a power struggle erupted in the then ruling New Jewel Movement, said he was bowing out of politics for the time being to analyse the new political situation in the country.

"The next step is to study what the Grenadian people want and to give them what they want when they decide," said the former minister, who was a close friend of slain Prime Minister Maurice Bishop.

Asked if he would try to revive the 12-year-old New Jewel Movement, whose hold on the reins of power was removed when the army took power after killing Bishop on October 19, Radix indicated that this would depend on what the people wanted.

Radix, who took refuge in the Cuban Embassy when the U.S.-led forces intervened six days after Bishop's death to topple the military regime, called on the Americans to go home and allow the Gre-

nadian people to solve their own problem.

A barrister-at-law, Radix was detained by the People's Revolutionary Army after he had led a

mid-October demonstration protesting Bishop being placed under house arrest. Supporters later freed Bishop who precipitating the military coup.

Meeting challenge

WASHINGTON, (CANA-Reuters). U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger said today the invasion of Grenada showed the Soviet Union it is not in its interest to challenge the United States.

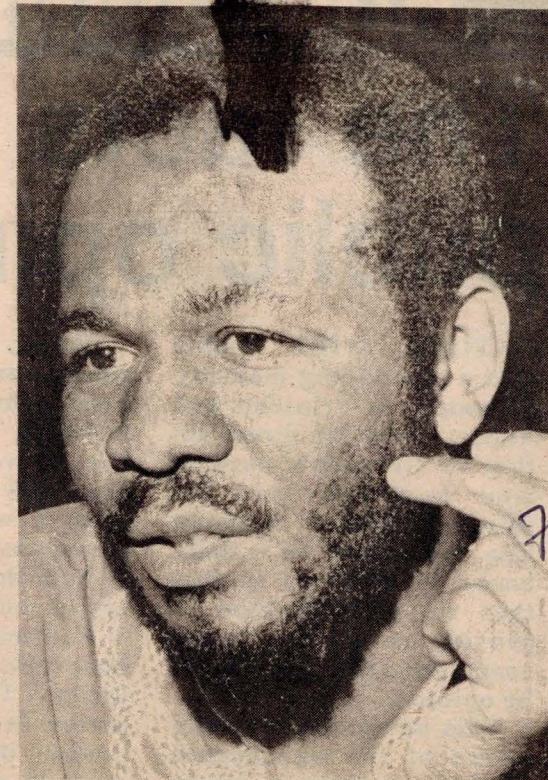
He said in a speech to a veterans' group that the Soviet Union had increased its ability to threaten freedom not only on its borders but also in the Western Hemisphere.

He said U.S. forces, however, responded to that threat in the invasion

of Grenada on October 25, adding:

"By demonstrating that we have the ability, and the will, to meet these challenges we also help convince our adversaries that it is not in their interest to threaten freedom."

"We send a clear signal that the United States will not allow its citizens to be threatened, that we will not be held hostage to nations which do not share our abhorrence of war and tyranny," he said.



KENRICK RADIX

Sunday — national

day of prayer

for Grenadians

ST. GEORGE'S, Tuesday (CANA) -- The Grenada Council of Churches which represents the principal Christian denominations here, has declared Sunday, November 13, a national day of prayer.

The announcement was contained in a message signed by the acting chairman of the council, Roman Catholic Bishop Sydney Charles, and read in Roman Catholic, Anglican, Methodist and Presbyterian churches last Sunday.

It expressed thanks to God that Grenadians could now look forward to a life of freedom and peace. This follows the recent political upheaval which saw a bloody military coup and a joint United States-Caribbean force landing to oust the army rulers and restore democratic rule.

"Our gratitude goes out also to all who made this possible by answering the appeal of the Governor General," the message said, "and particularly to the American and Caribbean forces who responded to the call for help."

The message offered, as the church's first concern, "sympathy and prayers to the bereaved relatives and to the wounded and suffering."

"The challenges that face us now are immense," the message said. "Under God, we must make our country a place of peace based on justice, truth, love and freedom."

"The Governor General has announced we will have elections within a year," the message said, "and it is therefore imperative that, as a nation, we prepare ourselves adequately for all that this involves."

**Deceitful regime
turned on itself**

Bishop a scapegoat

From ANDY JOHNSON, St George's

MORE AND MORE, as Grenadians continue to throw off the yoke of socialist containment and outright repression, Grenada is revealed as having been run by a wicked, vindictive, deceitful and mistrustful regime which turned on itself when the going got decidedly rough and the truth had to be confronted.

It was a regime led by a brilliant, charismatic young lawyer who would break all the rules by which he had lived and build an impressive career; a regime which lied and kept secret from its peoples in order to keep them people under control; a regime which broke its own laws in order to silence critics and to exercise naked power. That is what the socialist revolution in Grenada was all about.

BITTER STRUGGLES

Lloyd Noel, a 48-year-old lawyer and foundation member of Joint Endeavour for Welfare, Education and Liberation (Jewel), was spending his sixth day out of confinement at the hands of the regime he helped to build and which he served as its first Attorney General after the March 1979 coup which propelled the party into power in Grenada.

Noel, a native of Gouyave, had been put in detention on July 11, 1981, after he had led a series of challenges against what he considered to be the excesses and the betrayal of prior principles by the Bishop government.

"All during my two years and three months in prison nobody ever came to ask me my name or to interrogate me as the cause of my detention," Noel said on Wednesday. He said the charges against him were that he had been involved in the publication of a newspaper, the Grenadian Voice, which was critical of some of the action taken against the human rights of ordinary Grenadians.

"They simply turned their backs on their own principle that people should have the right to speak up when things

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Bishop regime turned on self

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ings go wrong," Noel said, adding that this was one of the principal grounds on which the movement had fought bitter struggles against the regime of Eric Gairy before he was overthrown in a coup which Noel said he never favoured and wasn't a part of.

He agreed to join the new government as Attorney General some months after March 19, 1979, with the assurance from Maurice Bishop that the NJM would hold early elections and legitimise their occupation of leadership in Grenada. "He told Tom Adams in my presence on the phone," Noel said, "that they were going to hold elections soon, very soon."

Instead, he said, the movement changed its stance from being the provisional revolutionary government to the People's Revolutionary Government almost without notice, and thereafter it had no desire to turn back.

He said that in all the movement's years of mobilising Grenadian people against Gairy's 20-odd year rule, "we never sold the people any Marxist line, in the sense that we were going to do anything which ran counter to justice, human rights, respect for property and so on." He said, therefore that the party had begun to move "too fast" along the Marxist road once they had seized power.

He spoke of the PRG's seizure of the Coca Cola factory and its taking over of banks in the country, without justification or without giving proper rationale or doing it other than that was the Marxist way to function.

He spoke of Bishop's resentment when he (Noel) decided to represent one of the men who were charged with the bombing of the PRG rally in 1980. "They felt that I should not represent a man who was charged with a crime against the government and because he was an accused murderer."

But Bishop had represented the man who was accused of killing Innocent Belmar who was Gairy's police chief, Noel pointed out, and he represented accused murderer Desmond Trotter in Dominica, people in Guyana, Jamaica and elsewhere in the Caribbean.

Noel also challenged the PRG's passport law after he resigned from the government and the party in June, 1980, and was on a Commonwealth Law Fellowship in London, England. He wrote telling Grenadians that they had to resist such laws because they were "terrible and Draconian" and that the time might come when it would be "too late" for them to resist the excuses of the Bishop regime.

"At that point I knew tht they would be looking for me, but I could not care, because I felt that they were betraying all what they stood for," he said.

On his return to Grenada in 1981, Noel said he challenged the PRG's detention of Ralph Thompson, whom he described as the 'J' in Jewel, because Thompson had dared to criticise the actions of the government in favouring persons who had become close to it only after March 19, 1979, and forgetting those who had struggled with it from the inception. "They found I had no right to do that," he said.

He said they disallowed a writ of Habeus Corpus he brought in Thompson's favour, and the matter was stalemated until Thompson died in hospital as a result of his being in detention without trial. "They just called his wife and gave her his body and that was it," Noel said. "He had 11 children."

He spoke of his attempt to represent Strachan Phillip, another NJM stalwart from "the early days", who, along with Hudson Austin, helped lead the attack on the True barracks in the overthrow of Gairy. But Phillip was killed in suspicious circumstances after he was said to

have been involved in the June 19, 1980 bombings.

"Up to now if you go to his house in St David's you will see the bullet holes all over his house. It is like a strainer," Noel said.

Noel also corroborated what other Grenadians said about the PRG's confiscation of private property, adding to that which they had declared, while in opposition, was illegally taken by Gairy. He said it was going against everything the PRG had ever said while it was in opposition for the party to appropriate private land and such operations as the country's banana and nutmeg boards.

"There was no reason for them to do that. There was already enough state land, but when I told Maurice these things he would say that that is how socialism should function."

"They went and manipulated all the trade unions, putting in top party people in the leadership of the unions, and that was something we used to criticise Gairy for," he added.

"When these things became the pattern of the government, I decided once and for all that we had to part company," Noel said. From mid-1980, therefore, his days were numbered and the publication of the Grenadian Voice was the "last straw" in the eyes of the PRG.

"We broke no law. In fact we were operating totally in accordance with Maurice's own law about publications, but they felt that we were giving the masses the opportunity to be critical and that this would open the eyes of the people and thereby to create confusion for the revolution."

He said his incarceration had the effect both of signalling to Grenadians that if Lloyd Noel could be put under manners by his own friends and colleagues for what amounted merely to challenging their rule, then it could happen to anybody in Grenada, but at the same time, it also began to show the world that the violation of basic rights was part of the style of government among the PRG.

During his detention, Noel said, his mother-in-law died and although her body was in a funeral home in St George's, for eight days his several requests to Bishop for him to at least go and view the body were all ignored.

The secrets the regime kept from the people included the fact that there were people even in the party who did not know of the existence of the NJM central committee, which was the final decision-making body in the party and the government.

"Historical hindsight should teach us that this was one of the fundamental errors of the party," Bishop's former press secretary Don Rojas told a group of reporters here last weekend.

He said people in the country had no idea of how party policy was made and who made it. The Central Committee comprised 15 members, with Phyllis Coard being the lone woman.

Among them were at least five members of the armed forces including Hudson Austin, Leon Cornwall who was brought back to Grenada from his ambassadorship in Cuba and Christopher Stroud, another member of the short-lived Revolutionary Military Council. All week Grenadians were asking where this central committee had come from and on what authority did it make some of the decisions which affected the lives of the people. Bishop had not been honest when he gave a figure to the Caricom Heads of Government Conference in Port of Spain last July about the number of people still being held in detention, most of them without charge or trial.

When he was released last Thursday, Lloyd Noel said

there were 103 detainees at the Richmond Hill Prison in St George's. He said 78 of them were never brought to trial and it was not true, as Bishop said on occasion that there had not been enough lawyers to bring the detainees to trial in Grenada. "There was no charge on which to bring them," Noel asserted. "It was perceived to be part of the classical Marxist style that there must be people in detention without trial."

There were a mother and two daughters among seven women in detention. The charge against them was thrown out by a judge, but they were nevertheless kept in detention. A Trinidadian prisoner, who was killed while trying to escape custody on the morning of the invasion had been held in prison almost a year after his nine months' jail term, was up on a conviction for being in possession of drugs.

When Bernard Coard announced to the world earlier this year that Grenada's economy had grown by 5 per cent during the past year, and Bishop and Strachan publicly endorsed that, they were deliberately lying to the people and to the world, according to Noel and other Grenadians in St George's this week.

One employee of the psychiatric hospital said that there was absolutely no evidence to support that claim because of what was known to be a rundown in the island's nutmeg banana, cocoa and tourist industries, which were the main revenue earners.

"It is more likely that the economy may have fallen off by 105 per cent," Noel asserted, demonstrating that there was no way Grenadians could attempt to prove the government wrong for fear of what could happen to them.

There was no opposition party, for instance, which would have challenged such statements, Noel said, because among the dictates of the PRG regime they had held Winston Whyte in detention for more than four years because he had allegedly attempted to form a political party.

"Imagine that we formed a party to fight Gairy. We were in opposition and we printed a paper to air our views to the people, and then when they got into power they decided to put people in jail for doing the same things," he lamented. "And the thing is that the paper we printed was illegal according to laws established by Gairy, and which were assented to in international legal circles."

"The overriding theme of conversations with Grenadians who have been expressing their views on the leadership which kept them closetted and shackled for four and a half years, is that there had been a slide downhill from very early after the regime took power."

The situation simply became acute when the party faced squarely the prospects for the revolution in the years ahead, and came to terms with the fact that the experiment in political domination had resulted in serious shortcomings in social and economic progress.

They naturally attempted to lay blame for that on some quarter and it happened that the lot fell on Maurice Bishop. The charge was that he was not moving fast enough to implement party policy and therefore he had to be removed. What the rest of the world, whose eyes are not heavily focussed on Grenada, must never lose sight of, according to Lloyd Noel and other Grenadians, is the face of deterioration over these four and a half years.

"It must never be accepted," Noel said on Wednesday, that this situation came about only because of the crisis which began on October 13. That would be to fall into the trap Coard and Austin have set and it would be wrong to do so.

Express Nov. 6, 1983

Dem men tough as hell, said Bishop



MICHAEL ALS

"DEM MEN tough as hell and I just as tough. We go see. They have their model and I have mine."

Michael Als, chairman of the People's Popular Movement (PPM), yesterday attributed those fateful words to slain Prime Minister Maurice Bishop the day before he was executed in a statement issued by Als on Thursday on his role in the Grenada crisis.

Als, who said he went to Grenada shortly before the bloodbath there at the request of members of the New Jewel Movement (NJM), said he was informed of the split in the party by deputy Prime Minister Bernard Coard on Tuesday, October 18.

Among things he said Coard told him was that "relations between him (Coard) and Maurice (Bishop) were becoming strained" and that because of the rumour that Coard and his wife planned to assassinate

the Prime Minister, "things were at a low ebb."

Als said he spoke to other members of the NJM central committee but could not contact other key figures like Unison Whiteman, Vincent Noel and George Louison.

He also said Coard "had a distinct fear for his life due to the crisis and particularly the rumour."

Als also said when he inquired about the Cuban role in the NJM split, "I was told that the position of non-interference in the internal affairs of the NJM was Cuba's position."

He said he was given minutes of central committee meetings, apprised of statements made by certain security officials. The documents and the information he received told him:

(1) There was a serious crisis in State work, mass work, party work and media propaganda;

(2) There was a crisis of confi-

dence in the NJM's immediate leadership;

(3) The entire party was itself alarmed;

(4) A proposal for joint leadership with Maurice and Bernard was one definite way out of the above situation which had developed in the party.

But Als said the situation had deteriorated "into a state of complete confusion" because:

(1) Maurice on his return from Hungary and Czechoslovakia decided to change his mind on the question of joint leadership in the NJM, and therefore go against a decision of the party, for which an overwhelming majority, including Maurice, had voted in favour;

(2) A rumour had been spread indicating that the deputy Prime Minister and his wife were engaged in a plot to kill Maurice Bishop;

(3) Maurice had been placed under house arrest;

(4) The entire hierarchy of the party was split.

Als said he sought and got permission to see Bishop and they spoke for over two hours on the day before crowds freed Bishop from house arrest.

"We first greeted and hugged each other," Als said. "He jokingly indicated that I had made a major breakthrough since the only other persons allowed to see him were Jackie (former Education Minister Creft), who was also under house arrest, and his mother."

Als said when he raised the issues with Bishop, Bishop said he was very concerned about what was going on.

Said Als: "He (Bishop) was not clear what could have been done in the situation since the party, with the exception of a few comrades, were against him."

Als also said Bishop admitted that after agreeing to joint lead-

ership he had changed his mind "since he was not clear how it would operate." Bishop also reportedly said he did not want to be relieved of 'strategy and tactics' because control of the party would then "lean heavily on Bernard" and he was "not prepared to allow this to happen."

Bishop was also quoted as saying that relations between himself and Coard "were in a poor state." He had been made suspicious because Coard had not turned up at the airport to meet him "as he usually did when he returned from a major trip. He felt something was up."

Bishop also "vehemently denied any participation in the rumour" and although "a number of people had warned him about Bernard, he had always dealt firmly with such persons since he did not believe such nonsense."

Als said Bishop "was of the view

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Bishop: They have their model, I have mine

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that the large body of the party members were against him based on his self-confessed weaknesses in the area of party work. They did not take into consideration that he had tremendous responsibilities and that there was only so much a person could do."

The decision to detain him "had only cemented the differences," Als reported Bishop as saying, and that "the use of the radio by General Austin and Major (Liam) Cornwall was unfair since they did not give his side of the story."

Als said he asked Bishop about his health. "He said he had a queasy stomach but he was okay. He was

smoking incessantly and appeared to be in a state of mental agitation."

Als said he also told Bishop that prior to coming to see him, Cletus St Paul, Bishop's security chief, had "given a statement to security implicating him (Bishop) in the rumour." Bishop was shaken by this, Als said, and indicated it was a plot to discredit him.

Als then said he and Bishop "came down to the proposals I thought would or could be useful if both parties would agree to it."

These were:

(1) That he speak to the nation in his capacity as Prime Minister even if it meant a controlled speech, i.e. one agreed upon by the central committee and himself, calling for calm

and indicating a settlement of the crisis was in sight;

(2) That the deputy Prime Minister and himself meet immediately (that night) and thrash out their differences in the name of the party, the revolution and the people;

(3) Work out a line that would squash the rumour talk immediately since that was the real storm of the crisis;

(4) See if the Cubans would play a role in the matter since the NJM and the CCP (Communist Party of Cuba) were close.

Als said Bishop told him he "had no difficulties with the radio broadcast" but that Whiteman and Louison "should be party to drafting it up". The difficulty here, Bishop

reportedly said, was that "Austin and Cornwall had already given a one-sided approach in his view of the matter."

Bishop also reportedly told Als he would "really like to discuss matters with Bernard" and he had said all he had to say on "this rumour nonsense."

Als said Bishop then told him in parting: "Boy, dem men tough as hell and I just as tough. We go see. They have their model and I have mine."

Said Als: "We shook hands. I told him to give Jackie my regards."

Following this meeting, Als said he was told Bishop had then had a meeting with a four-person delegation of the central committee and

at that meeting these proposals were put forward:

(1) He (Bishop) remain as the Prime Minister and leader of the revolution;

(2) He admits responsibility for the crisis;

(3) He abides by the decision of the party on the question of joint leadership.

That night, Als said, Whiteman told Radio Antilles he had resigned as Foreign Minister and that Louison, Norris Bain and Tourism Minister Ramdhanny had also resigned with a resignation expected from Creft.

The following day, Wednesday, October 19, crowds freed Bishop from house arrest. Said Als: "The widest cross section of the Grenada population was there."

RESULTS OF A SUNDAY EXPRESS POLL ON THE GRENADA CRISIS

THE EXECUTION of Maurice Bishop and several of his Cabinet Ministers in Grenada on October 19, 1983 and the establishment of a new Revolutionary Military Council under the leadership of General Hudson Austin generated a tremendous amount of concern and anxiety in Caribbean and American ruling circles, leading eventually to a decision by the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States, Jamaica and Barbados, to invite the United States to lead an invasion of

Grenada to restore 'order and democracy' and dismantle a regime which appeared to be moving inexorably into the Soviet Bloc.

There was a tremendous amount of public debate as to whether it was advisable to negotiate first with the new military regime — the solution favoured by the President of Guyana and the Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago and which was 'agreed' to by the Heads of Caricom States at a

meeting held at the Hilton Hotel on October 22 and 23 (or at least so it was thought) — or to invade Grenada immediately to knock out the regime before it could take pre-emptive defensive steps.

In order to discern how the people of Trinidad and Tobago reacted to this fundamentally new development in Caribbean politics, 502 persons chosen from 15 representative population centres were interviewed by 11 field operators on October 28 and 29.

The sample was asked first of all whether they believed that there should first have been negotiations with the RMC designed to settle the issues involved without the use of force, or whether they believed that force was the only alternative.

An overwhelming majority (63 per cent) was of the view that the latter was the case, with only 28 per cent taking a position which supported that of the Government of Trinidad and Tobago.

1,000 victims of U.S. aggression?

express radio...

The contretemps in Grenada has again dominated the world's airwaves in the past week, as the Caribbean Interpreters and Translators Bureau monitored shortwave broadcasts for the SUNDAY EXPRESS:

RADIO NETHERLANDS (English): Grenada, a member country of

the British Commonwealth, has been invaded by the Americans against the express wishes of the British Prime Minister, Margaret Thatcher.

The affair has caused a bigger Washington-London rift than Whitehall was initially prepared to admit. The Governor General's admission that he

personally asked the Americans to invade has made things worse. But the British Government insists that it has no power whatever over the former colony. Nine years ago Grenada became fully independent.

Admittedly, the Governor General, Sir Paul Scoon, is the Queen's rep-

resentative. But he represents the Queen of Grenada, who can only ask the government of Grenada, not the London government, for any advice on Grenadian matters.

If it can be avoided that Britain is dragged in because of the constitutional situation, there is still the

fear, voiced by quite a few in London, that Sir Paul Scoon may allow Washington to install him as head of a right-wing puppet government. Whatever happens, Whitehall wants to avoid Queen Elizabeth being portrayed as the monarch who props up U.S. imperialism in the Caribbean.

The British are prepared to make recommendations on the elections due to be held but Mrs Thatcher does not want to contribute to a Commonwealth peace force for Grenada.

RADIO MOSCOW (Spanish): The US aggression in the Caribbean basin is taking on a more dangerous character. Fol-

lowing the invasion of Grenada one week ago, American marines landed in the tiny island of Carriacou, a dependency of Grenada. The interventionists carried out in both islands punitive operations.

According to reports, the number of victims of the new terrorist actions of Washington is about 1,000. In its attempt to break the resistance of the Grenadian patriots, Washington is threatening to capture Cuban technicians and the island as hostages.

RADIO NETHERLANDS (English): India and China have made important progress toward resolving the long-standing border dispute between the two countries. After week-long official talks recently concluded in New Delhi, our correspondent filed this report:

This was the fourth round of official-level talks between New Delhi and Peking on the border question, and for the first time in two decades there were visible signs of a genuine willingness to resolve the issue once and for all. The boundary dispute,

which provoked a full-scale war between India and China in 1962, involves 33,000 kilometres in the western sector of the Sino-Indian border which India contends is under illegal occupation by China.

For its part, China maintains that the MacMahon Line in the eastern sector had deprived it of 19,000 square kilometres and questions the legitimacy of Indian territory of over 2,000 square kilometres in the middle sector. So far no headway was possible, as each side continued to justify its own claims and maintain rigid positions throughout

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Cuba seen as Carib menace

the past three rounds of talks.

In marked contrast, last week's talks resulted in an agreement by both sides to incorporate both the Indian and Chinese approaches to the border question and evolve a satisfactory solution to the problem.

Official sources in the Indian foreign ministry said that there was concurrence on the consideration of historical evidence, custom and tradition as important factors involved in an agreed formula for determining the boundary. Both sides also agreed to draw up a common set of principles, including one which conceded the inadvisability of the use of force in settling border disputes.

VOICE OF AMERICA (English): The Zimbabwe government stated that former Prime Minister Bishop Abel Muzorewa was arrested because he is suspected of having subversive connections with South Africa. Bishop Muzorewa's UANC party charged that the arrest is part of the Zimbabwe government's plans to muzzle opposition parties in the country.

Zimbabwe Minister of Security Emerson Munongagwa said that Bishop Muzorewa was arrested because it had been discovered that the Bishop had planned to travel to South Africa. Munongagwa alleged that Bishop Muzorewa was intending to meet with his intimate friends in the leadership of the South African government.

VOICE OF AMERICA (English): Tactical aircraft have been flown to Puerto Rico for possible support of US forces on Grenada.

BBC (English): Cuban diplomats at various points around the Carib-

bean are bearing the brunt of criticism of Havana's allegedly subversive role in the region.

The U.S.-led invasion of Grenada should have given Cuba a powerful propaganda weapon for criticising the heavy-handed activities of Uncle Sam in the Caribbean. But instead, many officials in Havana find themselves preoccupied with salvaging what they can of Cuba's battered reputation in the region.

The Grenadian Governor General, Sir Paul Scoon, has ordered the Cuban Ambassador to leave as arrangements go ahead to repatriate the seven hundred or more Cuban troops, technical advisers and workmen who had been living on the island during Mr Bishop's Marxist regime.

In Jamaica, a Cuban journalist has been implicated in an alleged Soviet plot to murder a Jamaican diplomat, and in Suriname, Colonel Desi Bouterse, who seized power last year, has suddenly turned against his Cuban friends. Last week, he told the Ambassador to leave, now, he is expelling more than a hundred Cuban diplomats and advisers.

Diplomats are used to being dressed down when their governments transgress what their host country considers to be civilised behaviour.

The scale and speed of the present expulsions are most unusual. It reflects the belief in Washington and among many of its allies that Cuban diplomatic personnel are themselves involved in highly subversive actions, sometimes geared to undermining the authority of the host government, and fomenting dissent.

For several years, western intelligence sources have been insisting that President Castro is systematically filling vacant ambassadorial posts with top officials from the Cuban Secret Service. They accuse the Cubans of master-minding gun-running to revolutionary groups committed to the overthrow of right-wing regimes in Latin America. There were widespread fears in Central America and the Caribbean that the Cubans, and by implication their Soviet allies, were planning to use Grenada as a base for covert operations.

The United States has recently intensified its efforts to discredit the Cubans amongst their Spanish-speaking neighbours. U.S.-Cuban relations are at their lowest ebb since the Cuban missile crisis 20 years ago. The Cubans have now accused the American forces in Grenada of holding as hostages its diplomatic personnel and prisoners captured during the fighting, and has branded U.S. policy as irrational.

President Castro believes that Washington is cultivating hysteria and paranoia about the so-called red menace in the Caribbean. He must have smiled at the fruitless U.S. assault yesterday on the tiny island of Carriacou, off the coast of Grenada, where the Americans had hoped to uncover some Cubans.

But there is nothing else in the present situation to amuse him. The United States has an aircraft carrier and several other vessels joining its forces in the Caribbean in a show of strength aimed at deterring any further Cuban adventurism.

PATRICK SOLOMON:

Living in the shadow of 'Big Brother'

NOTHING succeeds like success, so that it is not surprising that a number of persons who opposed the American invasion of Grenada and many more who were wavering, are now jubilantly supporting the participants.

The Grenadian people, too, overwhelmingly gave thanks to those whom they regard as their rescuers.

That, of course, was to be expected. A tremendous burden has been lifted from their shoulders and in such circumstances, they are not likely to look a gift horse in the mouth. The fact that there will be a price to pay later on has not entered their minds.

The politicians however, cannot be so easily dismissed. They at least should have understood the deeper implications of what they proposed to visit on the people of Grenada and not allowed themselves to be panicked into premature action which would have far-reaching consequences.

One of the immediate dangers, of course, was avoided by the manner in which the so-called multi-national forces were deployed. Had the Caricom troops been used in active combat and suffered the casualties visited on the U.S. soldiers, the praise and benediction now showered on the Caricom leaders would have been replaced by bitter tears and reproaches on the part of bereaved relatives, who would not see any reason why their loved ones should be killed fighting against people who had done them no harm.

As it is, Tom Adams can speak emotively of the heroism and self-sacrifice of the Barbadian soldiers, who show magnificent courage in guarding unarmed Cuban prisoners of war and the few public buildings that were not destroyed by American bombs and heavy artillery.

In the midst of all the fighting the U.S. commanders still found time to discriminate against the foreign press, more particularly from countries that were less than enthusiastic about the invasion. Apparently restrictions of human rights and freedoms, including freedom of the press, is a violation only when committed by



DR SOLOMON

Marxists.

The excuse that security was involved is just so much eye-wash. What the Americans were concerned about was that only favourable reporting would occur and that the horrible, even criminal blunders by the army would not be made public until a plausible explanation could be manufactured. The bombing of a mental hospital with the killing of 40-odd inmates is a case in point.

Meanwhile the diplomatic situation becomes "curiouser and curiouser", as Alice would say.

Prime Minister Adams of Barbados claims that the first suggestion of U.S. intervention in Grenada came from a U.S. official who wanted to stage a rescue operation to free Maurice Bishop. President Reagan denies that any such thing took place, but he and Tom Adams do not accuse each other of lying.

Prime Minister Chambers complains that he was not informed of the firm decision to invade until after the event and then only through the U.S. Ambassador. Tom Adams says he told our High Commissioner, Basil Pitt, before the Heads of Caricom meeting in Port of Spain and asked him to convey it to his Prime Minister. Basil Pitt denies this and Adams calls him an outright liar.

TAPE RECORD

Seaga says of the invasion: "We made our plans in great secrecy. Hence we did not express the plans to those countries, who are complaining they did not know because we did not want anything to leak out and it is a good thing we did because we had traitors among us." Who is lying, Pitt, Adams or Seaga?

Adams is reported to have said that he has a tape record of the conversation between himself and Basil Pitt which he is forwarding to Prime Minister Chambers. Shades of Watergate! I wonder if there is a Rose Mary Woods in the picture, too.

I cannot predict how this controversy will end, but nothing in Basil Pitt's history gives one to believe that he is either a fool or a knave. I also find it extremely difficult to believe that, if Tom Adams had confided to Pitt the fact of the impending invasion, the Barbados delegate to the Port of Spain meeting would not have had occasion to mention it, even casually, to George

Chambers in which case Chambers would not have stated categorically that he had been kept in ignorance, without himself being called an outright liar by a crude Barbados Prime Minister, who is obviously unschooled in the language of diplomacy.

Furthermore, all the talk of secrecy is just sheer rubbish. Long before the Port of Spain meeting, discussions were going on about the possibility of military intervention in Grenada and more than one OECS Head of Government made statements to the press along those lines. After so much publicity, did these sawdust Caesars really believe that Hudson Austin and Co. were not preparing their defences and keeping a watchful eye night and day?

To say that a leak from the Port of Spain meeting, whoever was responsible, was any more dangerous than the outspoken comments by Caricom leaders before-hand is utter nonsense.

The plain fact is that the American paranoia about communism, at its height under the Reagan administration, was skillfully injected into the minds of some Caricom leaders, ably supported by the egomania of some and the poverty of others. The British Foreign Secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe, was only too right when he said that while the U.S. could assess the security situation in their own way, there is no justification for crossing the territorial borders of another country just because you disapprove of the type of government they have.

I may add to this, that many of the sanctimonious hypocrites who talk about restoring human rights and freedoms to the people of Grenada will not lift a finger to impose economic sanctions, let alone military force, against South Africa, where 70 per cent of the population are not only denied human rights, but are treated like a sub-human species with no rights of any kind.

American reaction to the communist bogey has reached its highest stage of hysteria since the McCarthy era but, fortunately for the American people, it is turned outwards, rather than inwards against themselves. And so every country, however small or impoverished, which decides on a way of life different from that approved by Big Brother, immediately becomes a threat to the U.S. monolith.

In the view of the American President, the

arms build-up in Grenada and the construction of an international airport were designed for the sole purpose of launching an attack on the other islands in the region, one by one.

That is absurd. I do not know why it is that so many people are willing to believe that the Soviets and the Cubans are idiots. If they were they would not have survived so long in a world which was largely hostile from the inception of the 1917 revolution.

It should be clear to anyone with an unprejudiced mind that the one thing which would justify American intervention would be an attack on an independent state, whose shout for help would be heard all the way to the United Nations as well as Washington.

SO-CALLED PATRIOTS

The obvious reason for the fortification of Grenada was to stave off an invasion of Grenada by so-called patriots, much like the Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba under President John F. Kennedy, an invasion which failed because Kennedy did not want it to become an obvious U.S. effort and held back air support at the crucial moment. Reagan is much more hawkish than Kennedy and certainly has learned a lesson from the "Bay of Pigs fiasco".

As to the airport, the British company involved in its construction has categorically denied that it is designed for military purposes, pointing out that there are no less than 11 special facilities needed at a military air-base, none of which was being installed at Point Salines.

Now that we are approaching the end of hostilities, the task of reconstructing Grenada, physically and socially, will have to be started soon. In spite of press restrictions there is ample evidence of considerable devastation in certain areas and reparation will be costly and time-consuming. The Grenadian people have had more than one cup of sorrow to drink since independence and there will probably be others.

Meanwhile, let us wish them well in their efforts at reconstruction, for they are still our brothers.

SUNDAY OPINION

Liberty first

THE FLUSHING-OUT operation in Grenada is almost at an end and the suggestion has been made from the Department of Defense that U.S. operations in that country will be winding down. Having earlier expressed regret over the necessity of involving the Americans in what is essentially a Caribbean matter, we are most encouraged at these early signals of withdrawal. It is to be hoped that the U.S. will now capitalize on the goodwill they have built for themselves by leaving as early as possible now that the main task has been accomplished.

One could speculate from now until Doomsday about President Reagan's motives, but the simple fact is that without his intervention, the people of Grenada would today be living under the gun of a murderous regime of thugs. England, Canada, other Commonwealth and European countries and, of course, the Eastern bloc would have done all their denouncing from the safety of their shores.

Even the Government of this country, having previously announced that it would not sit down at the same table for discussions with "General" Austin and his regime, would have had to find some miraculous way to give effect to its decision to attempt negotiations as a first step. Indeed it would have been quite a feat to negotiate with a murderous group of men with whom we had previously announced we were not prepared to talk.

erty of the individual. If that were so it would be meaningless to subscribe to the fundamental principles of the United Nations charter which are essentially based upon the dignity and worth of the individual.

The rule of territorial integrity was, in our view, constructed to meet an entirely different set of circumstances, and

was in essence designed to protect the people of smaller nations from the ambitions of larger and more powerful states. It could never have envisaged the unique combination of events in Grenada, neither could it have anticipated the closeness of the Caribbean family, merely separated by water and the politics of sovereignty.

No one can deny that the people of Grenada were trapped. They were trapped by men who not only threatened to shoot on sight if instructions were not followed, but who demonstrated their willingness to do so by shooting their former leaders and several of their innocent countrymen and women.

Can there be any logic, then, to the argument that such a murderous gang of cutthroats had vested in them the sovereignty of Grenada, and that international law, therefore, required that the population should either remain in captivity or be murdered whenever they resisted? Conversely, how were these terrorized people to be freed without external assistance?

It is now history that Governor General Sir Paul Scoon who represents the only link with constitutionality in Grenada (a tenuous one, we are forced to admit) officially invited external intervention. That appears to have satisfied certain of the purists and to have given some degree of legitimacy to the multi-lateral intervention.

agreement that may have been framed to meet entirely different circumstances. The only principles that are lastingly endure are those that are, in the final analysis, concerned about achieving human justice. We deeply regret that our government was unable to understand this, and chose instead a course of action that in effect abandoned the people of Grenada to their fate.

Express Nov 6 1983

MICHAEL MANLEY

Grenada invasion will be regretted

KINGSTON — Let us begin by accepting that the invasion of the independent and sovereign state of Grenada by the military forces of the U.S.A. is popular throughout the smaller islands of the Eastern Caribbean region and has majority support in Jamaica.

Nonetheless it is, in my view, wrong. Furthermore, I believe that it is going to set a precedent which we the Caribbean people will regret bitterly one day.



MANLEY

I was among the first in the world to denounce absolutely the detention and subsequent killing of Maurice Bishop. The party which I led was united in the call for the non-recognition and isolation of the ruling military council and for Caricom and international action such as selective sanctions to secure the downfall of that regime. So when I state my position, I do not speak as any apologist for the events which came before the invasion.

When there is a murder, there is often the temptation to follow it with lynching. Lynchings often enjoy vast, emotional support at the moment. This does not make them right. Lynch law is the end of civilisation even where the man who hangs from the tree was clearly and unmistakably guilty. Accordingly, the popularity

of the invasion does not influence our judgment of the matter.

There is a principle in international relations that is sacred above all others. It is the principle of the sanctity of the sovereign territory. It is the principle which provides that foreign forces must never enter another man's territory unless properly invited by the duly constituted authority of that country to help it defend itself from some external threat.

It is further understood that an invasion to save one's nationals under real threat in another country can be a special circumstance in justifying military intervention limited to the rescue of the nationals so threatened.

Therefore, when we all go out on an emotional joyride about U.S. troops defeating the army of Grenada with its population of about 110,000, what we are celebrating is the abrogation of this most fundamental principle. Furthermore, the smaller we are the greater is our dependence on the principle and the more serious the implications of the breach.

ARRANT NONSENSE

So let us examine the reasons that have been advanced to justify this act of such shattering implications for the future.

Our first problem is that the grounds have changed from day to day. So I will take them in turn.

1. Restoring democracy.

If restoring democracy is to be the test, we must ask whose version of democracy, as decided by whom and to be imposed by whom. If Grenada, then we must instantly insist that Honduras, Guatemala, Chile, Paraguay, Uruguay, Haiti, South Africa — to name but a few — must be taken on by U.S. force.

Equally, the Soviet Union does not accept Western democracy as true democracy. Presumably, therefore, the Soviet army must instantly march against the whole of Western Europe. A moment's reflection reveals that the argument is arrant nonsense.

2. The invasion was a response to an invitation under the OECS treaty.

The treaty between the seven members of the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States is clear on two points. Firstly, the members pledge to come to each other's help if there is in the face of an external threat to their peace and security. Secondly, action of this kind must result from an unanimous decision.

Six of the seven members of the OECS say they felt threatened by Grenada. But Grenada is not an external entity, being itself a part of the organisation. In the second place, Grenada was not a party to the decision to have itself invaded.

Again, one has only to examine the proposition to see it collapse as nonsense. As to the suggestion that the Governor General called for the invasion, one can only observe that this suggestion is surfacing very late in the day and certainly does not square with two other facts.

One Prime Minister has already said that he

wanted to invite Grenada to free Bishop. In any event, why did the representative of the Queen of Grenada not send a message to his sovereign indicating his desire have U.S. troops invade the country?

3. The safety of the U.S. students.

FIRST TARGET

The principal of the St George's Medical School appeared on U.S. television the day before the invasion stating that there was no danger. Two days later he was again on television saying that there had been danger. Needless to say, the invasion itself had caused fighting in the vicinity of the medical facility, and it seemed clear that the danger to the students only arose because of the invasion and the proximity of the school to the first target which was the new airport.

In any event, if the safety of the students were Washington's concern, the action would have been limited to that objective.

Four of the people named by Seaga have denied having been to either Soviet Union, Cuba or Grenada this year. Manley listed another four, including a lawyer with no connections with the PNP.

He also said a number of his party members had visited Cuba for various legitimate reasons, including for work on behalf of UNESCO and representing the West German sporting goods company, Puma.

Eyre 88 Nov. 6, 1983

By DAVID RENWICK
Parliamentary Affairs
Reporter

THE MORE one hears and sees what is said and written about Grenada, and the more one reflects on the matter, the more sensible does Prime Minister Chambers' insistence on first exploring the non-violent option begin to seem.

It is now abundantly clear that the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) and Barbados had one thing in mind and the United States (and possibly Jamaica) something entirely different.

The first group, comprising Grenada's colleagues in the Eastern Caribbean (Saint Lucia, St Vincent, Dominica, Antigua, St Christopher/Nevis and Montserrat) panicked, as A.N.R. Robinson, international lawyer and political luminary has put it, and sought to do whatever came to hand to neutralise the Army regime that had taken over from the civilian New Jewel Movement government in the midst of confusion and bloodshed.

Though the Dominican Prime Minister, Eugenia Charles, has dissolved her own small army (after, it should be noted, some of its members were said to have given support to a guerilla-inspired effort to dislodge her government), the other independent OECS states have military forces of varying sizes and types, and the last thing they would want would be for their own soldiers to get any ideas from what had happened in Grenada.

It could not have been violence, per se, that worried them, because former Prime Minister Eric Gairy had employed a violent group, the Mongoose Gang, to frighten the New Jewel Movement in Grenada, and the Eastern Caribbean Prime Ministers of the day never even lifted their voices in protest.

Maurice Bishop, the man over whom so many hypocritical tears have been shed these last few weeks, successfully used violence to come to power and then kept the society under firm control by employing a gun-toting, motley group of youngsters, with nothing else to do, as a standing People's Revolutionary Army, who could be seen all over the island at all times, thus effectively intimidating and silencing all political opposition.

While Eastern Caribbean leaders did try to persuade Bishop to legalise his regime through elections, I heard none of them condemn the militarism and the violence he used to remain in power (and it is manifestly a form of violence to drag a man away from his family, lock him up for years on end, not bother to put him through even a show trial and show not the slightest concern for whether his family survives or starves).

Since the violence of the New Jewel regime passed unnoticed in the Eastern Caribbean, one must conclude it was the *aegre* of violence practised by "General" Austin and his troops that brought on the sudden rush of concern about events in the Spice Island.

In short, it was not the event which related to the governance of Grenada that concerned the U.S. much as the Cuban/Russian connection.

The perceived interests of the United States were the paramount consideration, not those of Grenada and the Eastern Caribbean in general. The request to Washington for assistance came as a heaven-sent opportunity to deal with the Cuban/Russian presence once and for all.

That is why United States Government spokesmen have not been stressing things which should be of major concern to the Grenadians, such as the new possibilities of free

NJM, Gairy must not be barred from polls

Seaga and Charles out of place to suggest it



SEAGA



CHARLES

an military bases, the capture of the local Marxists like Bernard Coard and so on.

The principles at stake in the Grenada situation have been all but forgotten as the whole rhetoric of the military operation has swung sharply towards the good fortune of the United States in "getting there in time", as President Reagan put it, presumably to save Grenadians and the Caribbean (not to mention the United States itself) from the menace of the Communist threat.

The facts of the matter, as op-

posed to the myths, the emotion and the hysteria, are that "General" Hudson Austin, his People's Revolutionary Army, Bernard Coard and the rest have all been in the forefront of power in Grenada ever since 1979.

Austin was a minister in the NJM Government Cabinet, Coard was Deputy Prime Minister. They have not suddenly descended from the sky. What they did was turn against the glamorous leader of the "revolutionary" and instigate his death and that of other Ministers who supported him.

Bishop was, in the end, 'hoist on his own petard'. He abolished all the political and social institutions that previously existed and when the time came that he needed some framework within which he could legitimately mobilise his supporters, he found none, except demonstration and confrontation and Austin had the more deadly weapons.

What Grenada now needs is what it has needed since 1979 — an atmosphere of legality and constitutionalism that permits the maximum exercise of individual freedom (individuals have not mattered since 1979, only the collectivist interests of the party and ideology), the restoration of the authority of the police over that of the Army (the police have been virtually powerless since the NJM took control), the inviolability of the judiciary and of judicial decision-making, the right of individuals and groups to form political parties and express political views without let or hindrance, freedom to publish and criticise, freedom, in short, from the climate of fear which has hung over Grenada since 1979 and which Austin only took to extremes but did not initially create.

It is impossible to know now whether these things could have come to pass on the basis of the persuasive, rather than the military, option but it would have been infinitely preferable had it been so.

The sanctions the Caricom territories were prepared to impose might well have worked in the long run, and worked in a way that produced a solution more lasting than the one likely to emerge in the aftermath of the invasion.

In short, it would have been much better for the Grenadians them-

and social objectives. The new conquerors become almost as autocratic as the old.

The consensus that could hopefully have arisen from the approach favoured by Prime Minister Chambers would have avoided that and been free of the conflicting aims and objectives of the different interventionists that may now seriously complicate the only principle that matters — the restoration of a democracy in Grenada that places maximum stress on the individual rights of Grenadians and not on the global strategic fixations of the superpowers.

FOOD-RATIONING WAS ON THE WAY Grenadians in no big hurry for elections

In the
wake
of U.S.
rockets



GEORGETOWN: Workers start to dig through the rubble of the Richmond Hill mental institution to search for more bodies buried when U.S. airplanes struck the building with rockets during the recent invasion. At least 17 bodies have been found. (UPI Radiophoto)

REPEATING THE theme that last Tuesday's invasion by U.S. and Caribbean forces here happened "just in time" Grenadians continued yesterday to tell the tales of a people in captivity, and of the plans by the ill-fated revolutionary New Jewel Movement (NJM) Government to tighten the grips on citizens here.

There was a plan for the introduction of ration cards for citizens here. The cards had already been printed and the NJM's People's Revolutionary Army was reported to have seized vital supplies of food from various shops and stores in different parts of the city, according to reports.

Some people these days are apparently prepared to talk and talk profusely, but still people look over their shoulders every time they attempt to say something candidly, the apparent result of years of having to watch out for whatever they say. Others give statements but would refuse to be identified, for fear of reprisals.

In fact a large number of Grenadians seem not to be too eager either for the Americans to leave or for holding elections in this country which has been stunned by three major shocks in two weeks.

First was the news that their Prime Minister had been placed under house arrest by members of a one-party regime which had previously thought to be solidly united in the interest of socialist revolution and of the people.

Then there was the horrible deaths, the circumstances of which were not clearly articulated for several days afterwards, of the Prime Minister and several other persons, in unprecedented civil disorder and then the country was immediately placed under martial law with the imposition of a four-day 24-hour curfew and soldiers given the right to shoot to kill.

This led to an invasion by American and Caribbean forces, an invasion which Grenadians overwhelmingly prefer to call "a rescue mission," the same Grenadians who had for four and a half years been heavily sensitized by its NJM government's line of thought to the possibility that their country was under threat of invasion.

But, it seems, in the afterglow of that "rescue mission", Grenadians have found an opportunity to speak their minds.

People in a village just east of St George's were saying Monday night that the statement by former Finance Minister and Deputy Prime Minister Bernard Coard about Grenada's financial growth

From
ANDY JOHNSON
St George's

were unchallenged because there was nobody inside the country to challenge it. "You had to be in the National Women's Organisation (NWO), the National Youth Organisation (NYO) or the people's militia in order to get somewhere in this society," one man said. People are willing to say that the revolution had done some good in areas such as health services, education, infrastructure development and welfare services.

But people have said that there was a great limitation on what they could say, even in the privacy of their homes. One man told of some people arrested for no other obvious reason than discussions with close friends and relatives held the night before.

They suspected that "spies" of the NJM Government were under their houses eavesdropping on the conversation.

One employee of the psychiatric hospital at Richmond Hill, scene of fierce fighting between PRA and U.S. troops, said that the male workers were entitled to two pairs of pants, six shirt jacs and two pairs of boots a year. They had not received any such supplies in four years.

The people had no idea of the existence of the central committee in the NJM, according to most Grenadians in St Georges. They had no idea of what was going on in the high ranks of the party.

"The boys in the PRA, some of them had no schooling. But they were driving new cars and threatening people with guns in the city. These were the people behind the revolution," one man said.

The revolution confiscated some people's homes, they took away some people's lands and property for their own uses.

Express Nov. 6 1983

'FORCE WAS THE ONLY WAY'

QUESTION 1: Do you think that military forces should have been used to settle the Grenada problem, or should efforts have been first made to negotiate a solution with General Austin and the new military government?

1. Force was only alternative — 63 per cent
2. Negotiate with Austin and RMC — 28 per cent
3. Don't know/No opinion — 9 per cent

Of those who felt that force was the only alternative, 61 per cent felt that the decision to invite the United States to participate in and lead the invasion was justified while only 20 per cent took the view that the invasion force should have consisted only of troops from Caricom States.

QUESTION 2: (If pro-invasion) Do you think the decision to invite the United States to participate in the invasion was justified or should the invading force have involved Caricom states only?

1. United States invitation justified — 61 per cent
2. Caricom effort only — 20 per cent
3. Don't know/No opinion — 9 per cent

To what extent did Trinidadians believe that their country should have been part of the invading multinational force? This question was put to all respondents, whether they were pro-invasion or not. Fifty-six per cent of those polled felt that Trinidad and Tobago should have been part of the force while one third (32 per cent) were opposed. The remainder (19 per cent) were equivocal in their views.

QUESTION 3: Do you think Trinidad and Tobago should have joined in the invasion?

1. Yes — 56 per cent
2. No — 32 per cent
3. Don't know/No opinion — 12 per cent

There was a considerable amount of national and regional controversy as to whether the Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago 'knew' or 'was told officially' that an invasion had been agreed upon by the six Caricom States before the meeting of Caricom Heads of Governments was held in Trinidad at which it was agreed that the strategy of negotiating first with the RMC would be tried.

Prime Minister Chambers told the Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago on October 26 that he had not been 'told officially' about the invasion and that the first official word he had about it came from the United States Ambassador to Trinidad and Tobago on the morning of Monday, October 24.

A great deal of anger and skepticism was generated by this statement with some saying that Trinidad and Tobago had been humiliated and betrayed 'once more' by its Caricom partners and others frankly disbelieving what Chambers told Parliament.

The latter group also felt that whether Chambers was told officially or not, he ought to have known if he was on top of his job.

Either way, it was felt, he looked foolish. When asked whether or not they believed what the Prime Minister told Parliament, 49 per cent said they believed his version while 32 per cent said they did not and 19 per cent could not make up their minds.

QUESTION 4: Do you believe that the Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago did not really know in advance that Grenada was to be invaded?

1. Believe Prime Minister Chambers — 49 per cent
2. Don't believe Chambers — 32 per cent
3. No opinion/Don't know — 19 per cent

The Prime Minister has also been criticised editorially by both daily newspapers and by several citizens for the manner in which he handled the crisis.

Some people were heard to say they felt ashamed to be Trinidadian and that Trinidad had forfeited its claim to be a leading power in Caricom. Our poll shows that public opinion was evenly divided on the issue. Forty three per cent said they 'approved' of the manner in which the Prime Minister had handled the crisis with 45 per cent expressing disapproval and 12 per cent saying they had no opinion.

QUESTION 5: Do you on the whole approve or disapprove of the way in which Prime Minister Chambers has handled the Grenada crisis?

1. Approve — 43 per cent
2. Disapprove — 45 per cent
3. No Opinion — 12 per cent

Since his execution by General Austin, Maurice Bishop has come to be regarded as something of a hero to many who had previously vilified him.

The Prime Ministers of Barbados and of Dominica, who were among Bishop's staunchest detractors, indicated publicly that there was an incipient entente between themselves and Bishop. Prime Minister Chambers also appeared to have established a warm relationship with the slain leader in the last few months.

Given the need to legitimise the invasion, American and regional press comment was also, in the main, favourable to Bishop who was projected as a moderate patriot and social democrat who was taking steps to constitution reform and to hold elections thereafter.

Given the circumstances in which he met his death, the favourable comment from established sources and the high regard in which he was normally held by left wing elements, it is hardly surprising that a substantial number of our respondents expressed 'regret' that the Bishop's regime had been overthrown.

Sixty-five per cent of those polled said they regretted the demise of the regime compared to only 18 per cent who expressed their 'relief' and 17 per cent had no opinion to express.

QUESTION 6: Would you describe yourself as being upset or relieved that the Bishop regime has been overthrown?

1. Upset — 65 per cent
2. Relieved — 18 per cent
3. No opinion — 17 per cent

THE MEDIA AND THE GRENADA CRISIS

The Grenada Crisis generated a tremendous amount of interest and attention to the various organs of the media increased substantially. Trinidad and Tobago Television emerged as the most favoured source of information about the crisis (33 per cent) followed by Radio 610 (16 per cent) and the EXPRESS (13 per cent). The Trinidad Guardian and Radio Trinidad were next with 9 per cent with Radio Free Grenada being the choice of 2 per cent of the sample.

Twenty three per cent of those polled said they had no special preference or that they preferred the cover-

age of radio stations in Barbados.

QUESTION 7: Which news source do you think provided you with the best coverage of the Grenada crisis?

1. TTT — 28 per cent
2. Radio 610 — 16 per cent
3. EXPRESS — 13 per cent
4. Guardian — 9 per cent
5. Radio Trinidad — 9 per cent
6. Radio Free Grenada — 2 per cent
7. Other — 23 per cent

In order to determine which of the two daily newspapers (The Guardian and the Express) Trinidadians sought out first for information on Grenada, the sample was asked to indicate their own preference. Response showed that the EXPRESS was the paper chosen by 50 per cent compared with only 29 per cent who turned first to the Trinidad Guardian and 21 per cent with no particular preference.

QUESTION 7: Which of the two daily newspapers did you read first to obtain information about the Grenada crisis?

1. Express — 50 per cent
2. Guardian — 29 per cent
3. Other — 21 per cent

Although both daily newspapers took roughly the same editorial line on most issues during the week of the Grenada crisis, over one-third of those polled (35 per cent) said the EXPRESS better reflected their view in its editorial coverage of the 'crisis.'

Just over one-fifth (21 per cent) said they preferred the Guardian. Ten per cent said they did not read editorials while 23 per cent were unaware as to which of the two best reflected their viewpoint. Another 21 per cent provided responses which were not easily classified. Some of these said they detected no particular difference in the views expressed.

QUESTION 9: Which of the two daily newspapers best reflected your own point of view in its editorials?

1. Express — 35 per cent
2. Guardian — 21 per cent
3. Don't read editorials — 10 per cent
4. Don't know — 23 per cent
5. Other — 21 per cent

Express

Nov. 6, 1983

'Yanks can stay as long as they like'

ST GEORGE'S — There were several variations on an overwhelmingly popular view here last Wednesday as Grenadians said they were savouring their first real day of freedom in four and a half years.

"God bless America: God bless Ronald Reagan, Eugenia Charles and Tom Adams; after God is America and Ronald Reagan."

These were the words being expressed all day by Grenadians young and old, male and female at the Market Square here, as they reacted to the occupation of their country by more than 5,000 U.S. troops and the crisis leading to that occupation which itself was the result of a severe political split in the socialist New Jewel Movement (NJM).

"As far as I am concerned the Americans could stay here as long as they want. They are more than welcome and I am speaking for the majority of Grenadian people today," said Fitzroy Alexander, a 27-year-old father of three who said that Gre-

nadians were now freely expressing themselves for the first time since March 13, 1979, when the government of Eric Gairy was toppled in a coup in which the NJM installed Maurice Bishop as prime minister.

Bishop was killed on October 19 along with several other government ministers, trade unionists and civilians when huge crowds freed him from house arrest at the hands of opponents within the NJM.

The country was then plunged into six days of martial law when army Commander Hudson Austin ordered a four day, 24-hour curfew, announcing that anyone violating the rules would be shot on sight.

An invasion force led by 1,900 American troops and including 300 drawn from six countries of the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS), Jamaica and Barbados stormed the island early in the morning of October 25 and Wednesday was the first day that Grenadians had a chance to meet and

talk with each other, to react to what has become of their country over these last three weeks.

"Without Bishop we don't want no socialism. No communism. If Bishop was around the people would not be so in favour of the Americans here. We would have defended this country."

"But if Bishop was the man who was pushing socialism to us and the same people who walked side by side with, ate and slept with day and night, embracing him all the time, and they themselves turned around and murdered him in cold blood, how do you expect us to trust those people again," Alexander said, with several people in the Market Square nodding in approval.

"Anybody who comes now and talking socialism we are going to get them. Right now socialism is dead and buried in Grenada. We want a system here like the Americans. Grenadians would like to become a part of the United States now," he said.

Another man said that

there would be no one to "shove guns into our faces here any more."

He said that the Americans should stay for as long as they wish because, as several others envisaged, their country could revert into a state of conflict if the American troops were to retreat too soon.

"There are still some of them in the hills and at large about the place and we do not feel safe as yet without the Americans," he added.

People were also animated in their sentiments for revenge on Grenada's former deputy Prime Minister Bernard Coard who is believed to have led the assault on Maurice Bishop as the party disintegrated under the crisis.

"We want Coard and Strachan in the Market Square and they must not be killed instantly as they killed Bishop. We must get justice for the way they murdered Bishop. The people of Grenada want justice and they are going to get it," one woman said.

COMPENSATION TIME: NOT ENOUGH E.C.\$

ST. GEORGE'S, Tuesday (CANA-Reuter) - Nobody showed up with a bullet hole through his hat when the U.S. Army opened a compensation office in a Grenada shopfront to pay for damage caused during its invasion.

But American soldiers in the quayside office yesterday were quickly dealing with residents' complaints of broken windows and dented cars as well as the curious case of the missing scuba gear.

Operating under the Foreign Claims Act, U.S. forces abroad compensate civilians who suffer non-combat damage as a consequence of the military presence.

Lieutenant Colonel John Weber's men were checking chits signed by American soldiers to confirm they had somehow damaged a vehicle or broken a window as they deployed on the island.

PROBLEM

Weber said there was a slight problem with money because the U.S. Treasury did not have enough Eastern Caribbean currency and compensation must be paid in local coin.

"But a man is coming with a bag and it should

be cash on the barrel head on Thursday," said Weber. Captain Mark Warren, in charge of validating claims, explained his rule of thumb: "Is it more likely, or less?"

He said of the 60 visitors yesterday, nine had enough documents to prove their claims but the rest had been sent away for more evidence.

Weber said his team could approve claims up to \$ 2,500 on the spot but larger ones needed the approval of higher authority.

FAIRLY SLOW

Business at the unadvertised office was off to a fairly slow start, he said "but we've got a sign coming."

Warren said most claims were "what you'd expect, vehicle and property damage." But one category this morning was puzzling him.

Diving shops near the U.S. troop camp at Point Salines, with its excellent beaches and swimming, reported that gear like air tanks and ballast belts had started disappearing.

"You can bet I'm going to be talking to the military police about this," said Warren.

LAST BATCH OF CUBANS GO HOME

ST. GEORGE'S, Tuesday (CANA) - The last group of Cubans captured by invading U.S. forces in Grenada left for their homeland today, along with a first group of holed-up Cuban Embassy personnel, U.S. officials said.

Lino Gutierrez of the U.S. Foreign Service's Cuban Liaison Office told reporters that 101 Cuban prisoners, and eight women and three children from the Cuban Embassy were placed aboard U.S. army transport planes and flown to Barbados, where they will board a Cuban commercial airliner for the trip home.

The rest of the 599 Cubans taken prisoner, including 57 wounded Cuban soldiers, have already been returned to Cuba.

Early last week Grenada's Governor General Sir Paul Scoon gave the Cubans 24 hours to remove all but one of their diplomatic representatives in Grenada.

But the Cubans vowed to remain on the island to ensure the evacuation of Cuban prisoners and wounded and to settle the question of what would be done with Cubans killed in combat.

U.S. officials said that after the departure of the eight women and three children, 26 Cuban diplomats would remain at the embassy.

He said they could leave tomorrow but there was a strong possibility they would not because of questions surrounding the 42 Cubans killed in the U.S.-led invasion, whose bodies are still on the island.

Gutierrez said the Cuban diplomats were requesting that Cuban forensic specialists come to Grenada to examine the bodies, but Sir Paul has refused to allow any more Cubans into Grenada.

Arms display for Washington

WASHINGTON, Tuesday (CANA-Reuter) - Some of the military equipment U.S. forces captured in their invasion of Grenada will be put on display at Andrews Air Force Base near Washington beginning on Friday, the Pentagon said today.

Most of the arms were flown to Andrews yesterday and today and then taken to the army's Aberdeen proving grounds, north of Baltimore, Maryland,

where they will be inventoried and studied for their intelligence value, the Pentagon said.

The arms left at Andrews would remain on public view from Friday, U.S. Veterans Day, until November 20, if interest warranted, the Pentagon added.

It said the display would include small arms, machine guns, ammunition, armoured personnel carriers and other military equipment of Soviet, Cuban and North Korean origin, as well as photographs of captured secret documents.

Snipers in the hills

CALIVIGNY, Tuesday (CANA-Reuter) - Up to 50 Cuban resistance fighters are still hiding in the lush tropical forests of Grenada, working alone as snipers or in small commando groups, the Commander of U.S. forces on the island said today.

Gen. Jack Ferris told

reporters his information came from military intelligence and also from civilian reports of sniper activity, the last received three days ago.

He said some 2,000 U.S. troops were sweeping the main island of Grenada and smaller outlying islands.

CARICOM SECRETARY PLEDGES

positive response to request for assistance

GEORGETOWN, Tuesday (CANA) -- Secretary General of the Caribbean Community (Caricom) Secretariat Roderick Rainford has pledged "positive and practical response to any request for assistance to support the process of rehabilitation of Grenada."

The pledge was made by Rainford during talks in St. George's yesterday with Governor General Sir Paul Scoon, a release from the Secretariat said here today.

"Mr. Rainford welcomed the opportunity of visiting Grenada and meeting with the Governor General, especially in view of the deep concern felt within Caricom and in the Secretariat about the recent traumatic experience of the Grenadian people and about the future of this Caricom member," the release said.

A spokesman for the Secretariat told CANA, the discussions with Sir Paul covered the progress being made in returning Grenada to normalcy and to enable it to continue full involvement in Caricom affairs.

Rainford promised positive and practical response to any request for assistance to support the rehabilitation process in Grenada.

U.S. led forces invaded Grenada October 25 to remove the island's military government and restore democratic rule. As a first step, Governor General Sir Paul Scoon will announce an interim government tomorrow.

THE PITT RECALL

Adams: We can find no precedent

BARBADOS Prime Minister Tom Adams said yesterday his government could find no precedent for the situation which led to him calling for the recall of Basil Pitt, Trinidad and Tobago's High Commissioner to Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean Caribbean states.

Lyle Murray, a personal aide to the Barbados Prime Minister, told the EXPRESS yesterday that Adams said his government had been looking for prior incidents in which a diplomat publicly contradicted a head of government in the country where the diplomat was accredited. "But we have found no precedent," Murray reported Adams as saying.

Murray was fielding questions for his Prime Minister on the diplomatic rift which has developed between Trinidad and Tobago and Barbados concerning a conversation between Pitt and Adams prior to the October 25 invasion of Grenada.

Following the October 25 invasion of Grenada in which Barbados and Jamaica joined with the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States in calling for the United States to intervene militarily in Grenada Prime Minister George Chambers told a special session of parliament here had no official knowledge of the plan, in his capacity as current chairman of Caricom, and chairman of a special meeting of Caricom heads of states which met in Port of Spain two days before the invasion.

Adams said subsequently that he told Pitt of the plan during a conversation on October 21, as one reason why he, Adams, could not attend the summit in Port of Spain. Pitt has

maintained that Adams never spoke of any invasion plan during the conversation which took place prior to a meeting of the OECS countries in Barbados at which the decision on military intervention was taken.

Barbados Foreign Minister Louis Tull also said during a telephone interview yesterday he had no personal contact with anybody in the Trinidad and Tobago Government about the invasion plan when he attended the meeting in Port of Spain as head of his country's delegation.

Tull said he was aware of a conversation between Adams and Pitt and that Pitt was supposed to have relayed information from that conversation to Chambers. In reply to a question he said Adams had not told him of the conversation with Pitt or of the invasion plan.

Tull also dismissed as "total and utter nonsense" a report that the United States President Ronald Reagan was sponsoring a plan for a new Caricom which would exclude Trinidad and Tobago and Guyana.

He said it was "an insult to the integrity of Barbados or any Caricom country" for anyone to accept that the United States could tell any of those countries with whom to associate.

"Reagan is not a member of Caricom," Tull said, commenting on the report in a British newspaper that Reagan was sponsoring a plan for an association of Caribbean states, which plan would replace Trinidad and Tobago with the Dominican Republic and Haiti.

"We are a family. We must have our quarrels and we will solve them ourselves," Tull said, talking about the current strain in relations among Caribbean states surrounding the invasion of Grenada, and more particularly about the tense relationship between Tobago and Barbados.

Chambers told the emergency 'Caricom' sitting

Burnham said that Nigeria, Ghana, Liberia and other African states which also faced internal crises in their political leadership similar to Grenada's did not not choose to seek military intervention by outside interests.

Saying that the question of a military intervention in Grenada was "fully discussed" at the Hilton meeting, the source conceded that Chambers was right nevertheless in his claim that he was not officially informed of the plan by the OECS countries, Barbados and Jamaica to go into Grenada with the help of the United States.

"It is a matter of interpretation," the source said, claiming while Chambers was not being dishonest about his knowledge of the invasion plan, it would have been "quite obvious to anyone by the dullest" who attended the Port of Spain meeting that the countries involved were going ahead with the invasion plan, which took place two days after the meeting, on October 25.

He said, however, that when it became clear to the meeting that Trinidad and Tobago and Guyana were among the objectors to the plan, those governments were told nothing more, indicating that it became a matter of the security of the plan.

Meanwhile an aide to Barbados Prime Minister, Tom Adams, said yesterday that Adams spoke with Chambers October 21, but he did not broach the question of the invasion because, "Mr Adams said he felt he could not trust the security of the conversation on the telephone."

According to the aide, Chambers returned a call from Adams earlier that day and the conversation centred around the exact venue for the special meeting of heads of government. A source in Port of Spain said yesterday Adams spoke with Chambers twice that day

but he did not mention anything about the invasion plan.

Chambers told a meeting of the Women's League of the People's National Movement in Fyzabad last Sunday that this country could be victimised for the stand the Government took on the invasion of Grenada.

But when asked yesterday whether the Government felt isolated in the region because of that position, a source at the Ministry of External Affairs said certain developments around the world had given the Government "strong comfort" in the matter.

He pointed to the number of governments which have condemned the Reagan administration for heading the invasion, and the staging of demonstrations by West Indians in several North American cities against the governments of Barbados and Jamaica for their participation in the invasion, while those citizens supported the position of the Trinidad and Tobago Government.

IS THIS THE BODY OF PM BISHOP?

CALIVIGNY, Tuesday (CANA-Reuter) - The body of slain Prime Minister Maurice Bishop may be among four corpses unearthed today in a common grave in Grenada, U.S. officials said.

The grave was dug up by U.S. troops on a tip from a man who reported seeing four bodies, one of them Bishop's, buried by Grenadian soldiers in a shallow pit at this military camp near St George's, the officials said.

The recovered bodies could not be immediately identified, but Bishop's dental records will be matched against them and results should be known within a few days, they said.

Bishop and an unknown number of his supporters were killed by Grenadian troops on October 19 at Fort Rupert in a bloody coup that brought to power hardline Marxists led by General Hudson Austin, who is now in custody. The bodies of those killed have never been found.

U.S. Army Capt. Henry Ferris, head of the army graves registration team in Grenada, told reporters that a cook who used to work at Camp Calivigny reported seeing Grenadian troops drag four bodies to a trash pit at the rear of the camp, which was the main ammunition storage depot for the Grenadian People's Revolutionary Army (PRA).

According to the cook, the soldiers first tried to burn the bodies, then filled the pit with earth.

Ferris told reporters it was important to the Grenadian people that Bishop's body be found.

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 9, 1983

With more than 120,000 Grenadian nationals living in T&T

IT ⁷⁶⁰⁴WOULD MEAN DECLARING WAR ON THEIR FAMILIES

By ANDY JOHNSON

PRIME Minister George Chambers told the emergency meeting of Caricom leaders in Port of Spain on the then crisis in Grenada last month there were more than 120,000 Grenadian nationals living in Trinidad and Tobago, and for him to agree to any military intervention in that country would be to declare war on their relatives. He said he was not about to do that.

The EXPRESS found out yesterday that this was Chambers' adamant position when the question of a military intervention in Grenada came up at the meeting, held at the Trinidad Hilton October 22 and 23.

A source revealed that Chambers indicated "quite clearly" he was not going to favour a military intervention in Grenada, which was at the time being ruled by a military council headed by army commander Hudson Austin, following the slaying of Maurice Bishop October 19.

"I have my notes. I made extensive notes from that meeting," the source said, adding that Chambers did not wish to discuss the question of military intervention in Grenada further to stating his position on the matter.

He said the 12 heads of government in the region were told that a decision was taken during a meeting of six countries of the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States in Barbados the previous night that there should be a military intervention was told that a decision was taken to seek extra-regional assistance in the intervention.

Chambers responded to that by saying it would amount to the reintroduction of colonialism into the region, the source said adding that Guyana's executive President, Forbes Burnham also frowned on the plan, saying it was illegal. Burnham also told the meeting that whether or not the OECS, of which Grenada was a member, called for the intervention, he was against it because that was not the way in which other groups of Third World countries, such as the African states settled their disputes.



●BRIDGETOWN: Gail Reed, wife of Cuba's Grenadian Ambassador Julian Torres Rizo, is greeted by a Cuban official after being transferred by American military authorities at the airport here. Eight women and three children, who had been holed up in the Cuban Embassy, accompanied the last of the Cuban prisoners from Grenada. (UPI Radiophoto).

Compliment Nizam Mohammed

THE EDITOR: Representative Nizam Mohammed ought to be complimented on his outstanding response to the Prime Minister's motion in the House on Tuesday. I refer to the Grenada matter of course.

What a pity that his speech was not carried on television. It certainly was as valuable as the Prime Minister's, in that it carried possible explanations for the rationale behind the OECS/Jamaica/Barbados decision to ask the U.S. government for help.

If I were the Prime Minister of any of the smaller islands, I would have acted likewise.

Having come here to the emergency meeting with a decision more-or-less made that invasion was a high priority, they are told that Guyana and Trinidad did not support the move.

What should they have done? Cancelled the planned invasion?

They did precisely what was required. They be-

came secretive, and said no more in the presence of those who opposed, and with good reason too.

His intelligence service must be the best in the world, or someone was feeding him information from Trinidad.

There was no reason whatsoever for Trinidad to be made a part of the invasion plan. Military strategy does not cater for dissenters to be informed at any level.

I recall well remarks made by Prime Minister Tom Adams at the CARICOM Conference recently hosted by Trinidad. The general feeling throughout the region is that Trinidad is the Land of Indecision. Those sentiments expressed by Adams have been expressed on the radio and in newspapers all over the Caribbean.

With this kind of record, how could the OECS countries waste more time trying to convince Trinidad to participate in the multi-national force?

Mr Chambers re-

inforces this feeling when he told the emergency meeting that he would have to go to Parliament before he committed the armed forces of this country to operate outside the territory.

In other words, the Caribbean would have been waiting, and waiting, and

we all know Carnival around the corner.

Then again, maybe the OECS politics knew that the government could not have made a decision like that without consulting Randy Burroughs. And he is in Paris.

ST. CLAIR CYNIC,
Lady Chancellor Hill.

Letters

To the Editor:
35 Independence Square
Port of Spain

The main issue

THE EDITOR: The only thing that is very regrettable in the Grenada situation is that all Caricom countries have not realised that the main issue is democracy against communism.

Communism is a cancer — it spreads sometimes slowly, sometimes quickly but it is always spreading. When discovered (as in Grenada) the only cure is to cut it out immediately. Tact, firmness and understanding would not have worked. They did not work too well with Bishop, they would not have worked at all with Austin.

We, the people of the Caribbean and particularly

Trinidad and Tobago have got to decide now whose side we are on. There can be no middle of the road — the Americans permit it, but the Russians do not.

Eugenie Charles and the OECS must be commended for the firmness and speed of their actions in a very difficult situation. It is regrettable that they felt unable to confide in Mr. Chambers.

My hopes now are for a rapid end to the fighting and a free Grenada going forward ever, backward never.

JOHANNA NOTHNA-GEL,
Westmoorings.

Stop the spread

THE EDITOR: Many of my colleagues earnestly believe that Michael Als, who appears to have been an eyewitness to the brutal murder of Prime Minister Maurice Bishop and his ministers and trade union officials, was specially invited to Grenada in time to see and to learn how to overthrow governments in a violent manner.

We think that bank workers and workers in general should have nothing to do with this aider and abetter of those vicious inhuman criminals, who now call themselves leaders of Grenada who should and must be wiped off the face of this earth, before they bring more suffering to the people of Grenada.

This man Als appeared and told Grenada on how Prime Minister Maurice Bishop died, even a blind man could see that the entire murders were

pre arranged and pre planned up to the slightest details.

The four day air fare for 24 hours a day is unknown, anywhere in the world before and its only an opportunity to completely dispose of all bodies without funerals and post mortems.

We believe that a close watch should be kept on Als and his 'fetal colleagues' as the violent overthrow of Governments and their leaders by violent means and murders seem to be spreading throughout the West Indies. It started with Suriname with a similar bloody coup, now Grenada. Who is next? we ask.

No one in authority would be safe with such criminals at large. It is time to rid the world of Als and his Grenadian spread their tentacles of blood to Trinidad.

H OTTLEY,
Laventille.

Why a slap in the face?

THE EDITOR: Why does Karl Hudson-Phillips feel that it was a "slap in the face" for Trinidad to have been left out of the OECS decision to invade Grenada?

From what I understand after hearing the Prime Minister's speech, the matter was discussed at length at the emergency meeting at the Hilton.

When Trinidad and Guyana expressed negative feelings towards the invasion option, the other countries had to end the discussions with those who opposed. It is as simple as that.

As it is, the news was leaked to General Hudson Austin on the same day (Sunday October 23) because by that afternoon, Radio Free Grenada car-

ried a very detailed broadcast listing all the names of the countries which supported and opposed the invasion of Grenada.

Who leaked this information to Grenada?

One must recall a similar incident during the negotiations with the Americans for the return of Chaguatamas. Dr Eric Williams told this writer months later that he was convinced that someone on the local team was leaking information to the Americans, and that he wanted to fire "every blasted one of them" but could not.

The other point I wish to make is that the rest of the Caribbean does not hold this country in high esteem. A Barbadian politician once said in his

Parliament that trying to get a decision out of the Trinidad government was like trying to extricate an ostrich egg from a pigeon.

Trinidad is the Land of Carnival and fetes. This is our image, and this image is not confined to the Caribbean by any means. Even the Prime Minister of Singapore shares these sentiments.

Perhaps when Mr Hudson-Phillips becomes Prime Minister he can set about to change this image. But I certainly will remember that for a long time, he was part of the party that parted for twenty-five years. So was I for that matter.

SINECURE,
Ellerslie Park.

Grenada was liberated

THE EDITOR: Notwithstanding the apparent disapproval of the action taken in Grenada by the combined U.S./Caribbean Forces that is now being voiced by some pro Western Nations as well as a number of local institutions, it is clearly evident that the overwhelming majority of Caribbean people, like myself, regard this as the liberation of the Grenadian people rather than act of aggression perpetrated by outside forces.

To those who may wish to disagree with this point of view, I would strongly suggest that the following facts be considered:

1) Regardless of how he came into power and notwithstanding his own disregard for some fundamental human rights, it is a fact that at the time of the executions both Maurice Bishop and the other Cabinet Ministers and Trade Union leaders who died with him had the overwhelming support of the Grenadian people.

2) It is a fact that a very small minority of ruthless killers who had no popular support took control of the army and ruthlessly executed the accepted leaders of the Grenadian people.

3) It is a fact that a high ranking Soviet General was in command of the Russian Embassy at the time these murders took place. It is also a fact that after the radio station was seized by the U.S./Caribbean combined forces, the rebel army faction continued to broadcast under the name of Radio Free Grenada from a transmitter located inside the Soviet Embassy. This clearly indicates that the Russian Government was fully supporting the rebel army that had murdered the popular leaders of the Grenadian people.

4) It is a fact that a colonel in the Cuban Army was in command of the so-called Cuban "construction workers" who put up a furious fight to defend that same rebellious army unit that had only days before executed the popular leaders of the people and who up to the time of the invasion, were holding the entire population of Grenada under harsh military rule and continuing to murder innocent people in the class.

It should, therefore, be obvious to all that both the Russians and Cubans were in full collaboration with the murderous elements who seized power in Grenada and should be held equally responsible

for all that has ensued.

Call it a breach of International Law if you wish. There are times when the laws of God must take precedence over the laws of man and I salute the courageous leaders of the United States and those Caribbean Nations who, notwithstanding the opinion of others, bravely came to the rescue of our black brothers and

sisters in their darkest moment of despair.

As a citizen of Trinidad and Tobago I hang my head in shame that our leaders did not have the courage to do likewise but appeared to sit in endless debate while the lives of thousands of Caribbean people stood in dire peril.

NANCY MORGAN,
Petit Valley,

CARNIVAL MENTALITY

THE EDITOR: It has happened again. Once more the Government of Trinidad and Tobago and some "people" have displayed their carnival mentality when dealing with something important.

A time has arisen for Mr. Chambers to finally do something wise and he "bombed out."

Now, the great talkers of Trinidad have come forward. You'll hear things like we were double-crossed or back-stabbed by Jamaica, Barbados and the other Caribbean states, who called on America to intervene in Grenada. Don't you think that all the other countries have been closely looking at Trinidad and Tobago.

They know that we are all talk and no action they know that we allowed our country to be governed by a set of "bobolees" and "squanderers." Now tell me, does it make any sense at all talking about anything important with us.

The Caribbean does not have the necessities to put

a stop or even a temporary calm to what is going on in Grenada and that is a pity. The country that was supposed to get their stiff behinds down to Grenada and do something about the situation seems to be more afraid than the Grenadians themselves.

I hope that I can get some "feed" back on this, and that some one can answer, why is it that no one seems to be interested in the fact that the Cubans are in Grenada, and that they are the ones doing the fighting or rather putting up the assistance to bring peace back to the "spice island."

Why doesn't someone or some organisation call on Cuba to withdraw their troops from Grenada.

I think that I speak for a lot more than a few people in Trinidad and Tobago when I say "thank you America and stay close by. Trinidad will need you soon."

CONCERNED CITIZEN
Tabaquite

Appreciated

THE EDITOR: I wish to voice my appreciation of the USA's courageous invasion of Grenada in response to a request for help from those governments among us with the guts and good sense not to sit back and let events deteriorate to the point of no return.

Even if Cuba has had no dealings in the events so far as has been reported, it would not be long before the Cubans took advantage of the chaos and uncertainty and would soon be deeply involved. That direction had been taken there would have been no turning back.

Thus the decision for the U.S. to invade was the only option open to any rational person who be-

lieves in freedom and democracy. As could have been expected, our Government has been completely spineless and made no commitment one way or the other.

Of course there will be protests from many people.

Particularly disgusting is the negative response of the British government: after using these islands for their own intents during Colonial times they now discard us, turn their backs on us in times of trouble, and then condemn the U.S. for helping.

You may not be perfect, but as a friend you're by far the best choice around.

BRIAN NOTHNGEL,
Westmoorings.

Reagan's popularity after Lebanon and Grenada crises still to be contested

WASHINGTON, Tuesday, CANA-Reuter- Using his celebrated gifts as the "great communicator" of American politics, President Reagan appears to have turned the potentially damaging Grenada and Lebanon crises to his own sharp advantage with U.S. voters.

While this trend may prove short-lived as public euphoria over the successful Grenada invasion fades, new polls show Reagan riding a sudden crest of popular esteem as a decisive leader as he readies for his week-long trip to Korea and Japan.

If, as the president often says, "the people will tell me" whether to seek re-election in 1984, the message he is now getting may add up to a strong plus as he nears a decision.

The apparent pro-Reagan fall-out from the Grenada operation and the bomb blast that killed at least 230 members of the U.S. peace-keeping force in Beirut caught pollsters and opposition democratic critics off-guard for two reasons:

First, foreign policy and the related "fear of war" issue had been seen as his weak spot in repeated opinion surveys.

Second, the September 23 marine deaths in Beirut initially hit the U.S. public with a demoralising shock-effect and, standing alone, would likely have damaged Reagan badly.

The stunning news of the Grenada invasion just three days later at first compounded the confusion and anxiety as people wondered what its purpose was, why U.S. troops were suddenly embroiled in two foreign conflicts and how many more would die.

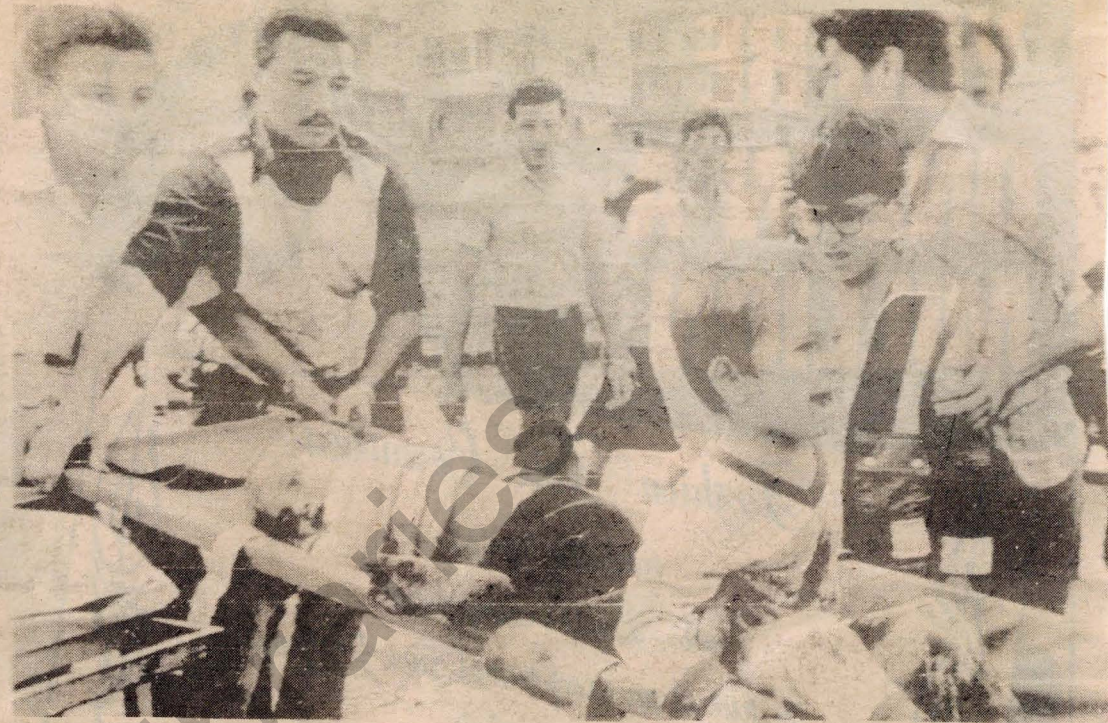
What saved a grim situation for Reagan was his decision to make a television speech on both issues once the Grenada strike was in its second day and achieving its goals at modest cost.

Direct appeal to patriotic sentiment is a technique the polished and persuasive former screen actor has used many times in political rows, but seldom with such dramatic results.

A survey by ABC news and the Washington Post, done before and after his speech and released this past week, said he had reversed opinion on his handling of the Lebanon crisis from 53 per cent against to 52 per cent in favour. On Grenada, the shift was from bare majority support to 65 per cent backing.

A second poll by USA newspaper reported very similar results. It said Reagan had neutralised the Lebanon issue and made Grenada a publicity triumph "in one bold stroke."

TRIPOLI: Two Lebanese brothers, wounded by an exploding shell in the inter-Palestinian fighting in this northern Lebanese port are carried by Civil Defense workers into the Red Cross Hospital. The boy on the left later died of his wounds and their mother was seriously injured. (UPI Radiophoto)



Patriotic support over Grenada came as no great shock once success was evident. What did surprise some analysts was that it was strong enough to buy Reagan backing on Lebanon as well and to boost general confidence in him on foreign issues.

One reason appeared to be sheer national pride in a clear-cut, victorious assertion of U.S. power after years of frustrations. The Iran hostage crisis of 1979-80 is still remembered as an especially galling humiliation.

Reagan raised that very point, noting that U.S. troops had rescued many Americans stranded on Grenada and adding: "The nightmare of our hostages in Iran must never be repeated."

Still, polling analysts say it is by no means clear this rallying-round-Reagan will endure on international issues.

The ABC-Post poll, for instance, found that most Americans are still deeply worried about the vulnerable marines in Beirut despite the current inclination to back him on that issue.

In addition, these crises have diverted attention from such festering problems as the conflict in El Salvador and the nuclear arms race. These have fanned "war scare" anxieties in the past and were causing Reagan's foreign policy ratings to tumble before the impact of events in Lebanon and Grenada.

Express Nov. 9 1983



HAVANA: Cuban President Fidel Castro talks with his brother, Raul, Defence Minister, after arrival of the fourth flight of former prisoners from Grenada. The two walked back to the terminal after greeting about 100 Cubans back to their homeland. UPI Radiophoto.

NOW THE WORLD KNOWS GRENADA

ST. GEORGE'S, Tuesday, (CANA-Reuter) -About two years ago a public relations firm was hired to draw attention to a Caribbean island almost no one had heard of - a lush, little place called Grenada.

Today, one bloody coup and one U.S. invasion later, the name recognition problem has been solved, and Grenada is now the best-known island this side of the Falklands.

The people in the tourism business, Grenada's second largest industry after agriculture, worry about the effect their sudden celebrity will have. They wonder whether holiday-makers seeking tropical paradise will think of choosing an island out of the headlines.

Moreover, they realise that when the last U.S. soldier has gone home, the country's enormous tourism problems, headed by inaccessibility and limited hotel rooms, will still be as serious as even.

"Everyone in the world now knows about a place called Grenada," says Jane Belfon, Director of the Ministry of Tourism here. "Before, the few people who had heard of us thought we were in Spain."

In its efforts to publicise the island, Grenada's public relations agency used a strategy of education, placing advertise-

But will tourism benefit from its sudden fame?

ments in tourism industry publications and offering subsidized trips to familiarise tour agents and travel writers.

They were rewarded by glowing reviews, and Belfon says that for the first seven months of this year tourism was up 17 per cent over the same period last year.

Grenada had hoped to attract 33,000 stay-over tourists this year - a big increase over last year's 25,000 but still nothing like a capacity crowd.

Never in its history, Belfon, said has Grenada been filled with tourists, even in the boom days of the 1970s before energy problems, airline troubles, and before political turmoil, which gave some travel agents the idea that the country might not be safe.

The leftist experiments of Grenada's New Jewel Movement attracted a peculiar brand of tourist, the academic who wanted to witness the country's social change firsthand. Indeed, one liberal New

York travel agency began selling Grenada tours along with its other packages to Cuba, Hanoi and other leftist meccas.

Grenada's tourism problems were compounded by intertwined deficiencies. The island is not easy to reach, served only by a few daily flights by 48-seat prop planes which land at the small Pearl's Airport, a gruelling hour's drive from St. George's.

To get more tourists, a larger, closer airport was needed, and islanders were pinning their hopes on the large landing strip on which hundreds of Cubans were working at the time of the October 25 invasion.

Now, that strip is filled with U.S. military aircraft, and Belfon says there has been no commitment to finish it.

Even if it is finished, there are questions about how many jumbo jetfulls of tourists will come to an island with a scant 1100 rooms, many of them rustic at best.

"People acted like the new airport would be a magic answer," says W.B. Jacobs, owner of a small inn outside St. George's. "I knew that wasn't true - people want to come where there are many nice hotels and we just don't have enough yet."

As an example of poor understanding of tourists' needs, Jacobs mentions one hotel, supposedly built to attract upper income travellers, which had no hot water or air conditioning.

"They don't understand," Jacobs said. "I don't care how nice and

pure the Caribbean is, Americans want to shave with hot water."

The list of woes continues. One short cut to tourist dollars which bypasses the hotel and airport dilemma, is cruise ships, and with frequent sails by boats out of Miami, Grenada's day-visitor business was picking up.

But all that ended a few weeks ago after Grenada's military coup, which sparked the series of events leading to the invasion.

"When the news got out about the Prime Minister's Maurice Bishop's arrest, the cruise ships stopped coming," Belfon said.

Despite the crushing weight of these problems, Belfon is hopeful. "There will be a lot of curiosity now, and we need to take advantage of it before the people forget about us again."

"People were starting to discover us, and they liked what they found. We were getting a lot of repeat visitors, and they need to know that whatever has happened, Grenadians haven't changed."

Seaga meets Reagan

WASHINGTON: President Reagan meets with Jamaican Prime Minister Edward Seaga at the White House. A leak of the decision to intervene in Grenada heightened fears about the safety of Americans on the island prior to the U.S.-led invasion, said Seaga. Speaking to reporters after meeting Reagan, Seaga also said General Hudson Austin, leader of Grenada's Marxist regime was told of the plan 36 hours before the invasion. (UPI Radiophoto)



GRENADA TODAY

200 PRA members are in custody

ST GEORGE'S, Tuesday (CANA) -- Some 200 former members of Grenada's disbanded People's Revolutionary Army (PRA) are now in the custody of the United States military, it has been announced here.

According to Major Allan Douglas of the Caribbean peace keeping force, the ex-Grenadian soldiers are being held at Point Salines to the south of the island, after being handed over to the Americans between Friday and Saturday.

Major Douglas said that the former Grenada soldiers were among the 1,300 army and militiamen who surrendered at Queen's Park, a mile from here, to the Caribbean peace keeping forces following an ultimatum from Governor General Sir Paul Scoon.

He said these detainees, who were already processed by the Caribbean peace keeping forces, are expected to undergo further interrogation from the United States military, who were instrumental in helping to crush the military junta of General Hudson Austin two weeks ago.

Of the local Grenadian soldiers who surren-

dered to the Caribbean forces - made up of soldiers and police officers from several regional states - some 1,069 were militia personnel - a revolutionary unit here.

Major Douglas also reacted to increasing complaints from a wide cross section of the Grenadian population that a number of "hard core elements" of the former ruling New Jewel Movement (NJM) could still be seen on the streets.

He said: "Do we expect to just go around and pick up all of these people associated with the New Jewel Movement: it is not our intention to just pick up people without some good reason."

Stating that unless the Caribbean peace keeping force was presented with evidence of the dangers posed by these former NJM activists "we would not just go around and pick up people."

"We are from Caribbean democratic countries and this is what we are here trying to let flourish, and we would not just pick up people at random and hand them over to the Americans for interrogation," he added.

On the question of how long the Caribbean peace keeping force intended to remain in the island in the drive to restore law and order following civil unrest in which Prime Minister Maurice Bishop was executed, Major Douglas

said this would be as long as the forces were needed.

He said the more than 300 soldiers and police officers making up the Caribbean forces on the island would remain in Grenada as long as they are needed as a peace keeping force.

Major Douglas who is of the Jamaican Defence Force, indicated that the Caribbean forces would most likely be on the island to help in overseeing the holding of free and fair elections but said the important thing was that those governments who have soldiers in Grenada should be proud of them.

According to him: "What is more important is that Grenadians have accepted us with open arms and any thing we want, even to laundering our clothes, they are prepared to pay the bills for us."

"This has helped to boost the morale of our men and it is a good experience for them," he added.

Major Douglas also repeated earlier statements that no member of the Caribbean force died during the invasion.

Eighteen U.S. soldiers died along with 42 Cubans. No figures have so far been given on the number of Grenadians killed although at least 16 patients perished when a mental hospital was accidentally bombed by the Americans.

TO HOLD FREE AND FAIR ELECTIONS

one of the aims
of the interim
govt in Grenada

ST GEORGES, Wednesday (CAN) -- Nicholas Brathwaite, appointed today as acting chairman of Grenada's interim administration to-night dismissed suggestions that the advisory council would be a United States puppet.

"Our concern would be to have Grenada accepted as a non-aligned country, as well as an active member of the Caribbean Community (Caricom) the United Nations and the Commonwealth," Brath-

waite told the Caribbean News Agency.

Brathwaite will, act as chairman until confirmation is received that economist Alistair McIntyre could join the administration from his post as deputy Secretary-General of the Geneva-based United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). McIntyre is due at the U.N in New York tomorrow to discuss the matter.

The appointment of nine-members of the council follows the U.S-led invasion of Grenada on October 25. It marks the first step in a return to civilian authority.

Mr Brathwaite who is director of the Georgetown-based Commonwealth Youth Centre said that Grenada was now in a unique situation and it is not the intention of the caretaker administration to declare any policy for the people.

"We are really expected to serve to help the country in the holding of free and fair elections and to set up the timetable in which we think that this free and fair elections can be held in the country," he added.

The former Grenada Chief Education Officer also spoke on what he considers to be the main tasks of the interim government.

He said the priority would be to take the necessary steps to get the country to return to some form of normalcy and this would include having the civil service and the Government machinery functioning properly again.

There is also a need, he said to help re-establish through community education the concept of the democratic process where the people can choose their own government through the ballot box.

Grenada has not had elections for seven years.

According to Mr Brathwaite it is too early to say what would be the programme of the interim administration.

However, he said the members serving on the body are expected to be in a good position to know the types of programmes to be pursued for the lifetime of the interim administration which should be between six months to one year.

BODIES IN A GRAVE

three
males, one
female

WASHINGTON, Wednesday (CAN) - A U.S. official said today the remains of three males and one female appear to be in a grave on Grenada where other officials have said former Prime Minister Maurice Bishop may have been buried.

State Department spokesman Alan Romberg said forensic evidence would be required for any positive identification.

Officials in Grenada said yesterday the grave may contain the remains of Bishop, who was killed in a military takeover October 19 along with three of his ministers.

BEATEN

Deputy Secretary of State Kenneth Dam said last week that one of the three, Education Minister Jacqueline Creft, was apparently beaten to death.

Romberg also told reporters today U.S. officials now estimate 59 Cuban and Grenadian fighters were killed in the U.S.-led invasion of Grenada. Romberg said that total was based on field reports and was subject to change.

He said he had no figures on how many civilians were killed.

The Pentagon said today its figure on U.S. servicemen killed in the invasion remained at 18.

STILL SNIPER FIRE

ST GEORGES, Wednesday (CAN) -- United States troops may have encountered sniper fire today in the hills of Cafe, residents said.

They said that several rounds of shots were fired and United States aircraft were flying unusually low. Soldiers were seen carrying a number of arms and ammunition from the area.

Yesterday U.S. military officials said that up to 50 remnants of the Grenada army and Cubans were still at large in lush hilly areas.

U.S.-led forces invaded Grenada October 25 to remove the army from power and restore civilian government.



●PETITE CALIVIGNY: U.S. Army soldiers carry a body from a mass grave here. Three to four badly burned bodies were removed near a former PRA military camp. Officials suspect that the remains of former Prime Minister Maurice Bishop may be in the mass grave, stemming from the massacre. (UPI Radiophoto).

FORBES BURNHAM SAYS GUYANA WILL HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH A GOVERNMENT THAT'S

A PUPPET OF THE U.S.

GEORGETOWN, Wednesday (CAN-NA-Reuter)-Guyana will have nothing to do with any interim administration in Grenada that merely proves to be a puppet of the United States, President Forbes Burnham said today.

"If the Government appointed by the Governor-General (Grenada's Governor General Sir Paul Scoon) turns out to be palpably close to Washington we will have nothing to do with it. We want no deal with any puppet government of the U.S., Barbados or Jamaica," he said in an interview.

Guyana has condemned the U.S.-led invasion of Grenada last month and described Caribbean countries that supported it as stooges for American imperialism.

Burnham spoke shortly before Scoon named an interim eight-member administration.

He said he would accept the new government even though he doubted its legal basis: "We have to accept the reality of the new situation, but it is

important that he (Scoon) assume his proper role as Governor-General and follow the advice of his administration."

Burnham said he was concerned that Scoon would become a tool of the U.S. policy in Grenada and said free elections should be organized as soon as possible.

OBJECTED

The Guyanese leader objected to the presence of a peace-keeping force involving the U.S., Jamaica and Barbados in Grenada but said Guyana would accept a security presence involving Commonwealth countries until elections are held.

"Grenada should be governed without the supervision of the Eastern Caribbean States or any foreigners the country. Reconstruction should be carried out by a government responsive to the will of the people," he said.

Burnham said the only political grouping capable of this was the New Jewel Movement of slain Prime Minister Maurice Bishop.

Surviving NJM leaders have cautioned an eventual reorganization of the movement. Former Industry Minister Kendrick Ra-



ribbean Community (Caricom) and Seaga has proposed a new grouping, without Guyana if necessary. Burnham has strongly objected to this.

"I am hopeful that when tempers have cooled, Caricom would move forward. If not, Guyana will not participate in a Caricom 2 and I have good reasons to believe some others will not either," Burnham said.

SHARED

He did not name any country, but noted that Trinidad, Belize, and the Bahamas have largely shared Guyana's position up to now.

Guyana was one of the four founding members of Caricom, a regional integration group comprising 13 past and present British colonies. Burnham is the only co-signatory still in office just over ten years after the treaty took effect.

dix, a close friend of Bishop, said it depended on the will of the people.

Asked about suggestions from Barbados and Jamaica that his government may have been behind Grenada's apparent readiness for a U.S. landing, Burnham said it was not true and noted that Seaga had said the decision was leaked by a country which participated in the invasion (the Eastern Caribbean States, Jamaica and Barbados).

As a result of the Grenada crisis, a serious split has developed in the Ca-

U.S. forces head in Grenada says human rights violated

ST GEORGE'S, (CANA-Reuter)—U.S. searches of houses, roundups of suspected leftists and the establishment of camps for detainees have violated the human rights of Grenadians, according to the head of American forces here.

Major General Jack Farris told Reuters in an interview that Grenadians were still supportive of the October 25 U.S.-led invasion of their island home, but, could soon get tired of searches of their cars and homes by U.S. troops.

Farris said that the U.S. forces' main objective was still to round up suspected members of the now-disbanded People's Revolutionary Army, which served the former government ousted by the invasion.

"We pick'em up and

we take'em down to a detainment camp where we interrogate them and we keep'em there long enough to cross reference their interrogation with all the others, he said, adding that if the cross reference aroused suspicion of crimes against the people, the detainees

many in 10-cubic-foot boxes in the sweltering tropical sun for interrogation and detention.

Dandridge said roundups and interrogation of Grenadians would continue but would most likely be done at the prison.

"When you do all this there is an effect on civil liberties and

from the island, and the rest of the PRA renegades can be captured, the 2,300 U.S. forces remaining here cannot leave the island.

He said other criteria must be met as well before there can be a U.S. pullout.

These include a functioning police force and government, which Farris said could take anywhere from 40 days to four months. Other military sources said it could take up to one year.

Political and other military sources, however, said that the longer the United States remained on the island the greater the chances the Grenadians would turn against the U.S.

"That is why I want to get on with getting these thugs rounded up and stopping these searches and getting the island back to a normal state, where we don't have to use emergency powers violating peoples' human rights, Farris said.

FOCUS ON THE CARIBBEAN

are held. U.S. spokesman James Dandridge has said that the Americans would dismantle the detention camp they had some 10 miles (16 km) east of the capital.

The last of the 148 prisoners detained in the camp were to be released, and at least 40 have been transferred to the Richmond Hill Prison in St George's.

During its three weeks of operation, the camp has processed and detained some 1,100 political and military prisoners, holding

human rights, I am very sensitive to that ... so what we need to do as fast as we can is get all these people in, get them interrogated and get them back into society or up to the prison, Farris said.

He said hundreds of U.S. forces were combing the countryside looking for what he believes are up to 30 Cuban resistance fighters who did not leave the Island when hundreds of others were deported by the Grenadian Government.

He said that until the Cubans were routed

Barbados to defend action on Grenada

BRIDGETOWN, (Cana)—Barbados is sending two ministers to next week's meeting in Belgium of Socialist International to explain the island's role in the U.S.-led invasion of Grenada, a government statement said.

It is part of a diplomatic initiative announced this week by Prime Minister Tom Adams following strong international condemnation of the military intervention last October 25. Barbados provided a token contingent of troops and policemen to help crush a military junta that had seized power in a bloody coup.

The ruling Barbados Labour Party is a

member of Socialist International a grouping of social democratic parties, many of whom joined in the criticism of the invasion.

The Barbados delegation to the three-day meeting starting next Wednesday will include Health Minister O'Brien Trotman and Henry Forde, the former Foreign Minister who has been appointed a Minister and Special Envoy of Mr Adams for the meeting.

The main theme of the three-day bureau meeting, to be held in the European Parliament in Brussels, is Disarmament and Arms Control. Delegates will also discuss the world economy.

Pro-U.S. protest in St. George's

ST GEORGES, Sunday (Cana)—About half-a-dozen people staged a peaceful pro-American demonstration in St. George's today but failed to get Saturday shoppers to join them.

The demonstrators stood in front of the state-owned National Commercial Bank and carried placards calling on U.S. President Reagan to allow American troops to stay on Grenada as the island returns to civilian administration following the U.S.-led invasion last month.

Some of the placards read God Bless America, leave the Americans right here and 'We don't want no Cubans'.

But the pleas of the demonstrators for more support fell on deaf ears.

Washington said this week that U.S. troops will be pulled out of Grenada by December 23.

UNITED NATIONS, Wednesday, (CANA) - Guyana remains committed to the Caribbean Community (Caricom) and its decision to oppose seven of its Caricom partners who provided forces for the invasion of Grenada was based on the principle of non-intervention in the affairs of states, its Ambassador to the United Nations has said.

Ambassador Noel Sinclair has been explaining the Guyana decision to co-sponsor a U.N. security decision resolution exploring the invasion by forces from the United States, Barbados, Jamaica and five nations of the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS). The U.S. vetoed the resolution which was later revived and overwhelmingly approved in the general assembly.

Sinclair said Guyana had no intention of undermining the foreign policy position of Caricom adopted for international conferences. Its own foreign policy was based on principles of the Charter of the United Nations and that of the non-aligned movement, he said.

The vociferous condemnation by Guyana of the intervention has brought strains within Caricom. Jamaica has taken the initiative to begin the process of restructuring the Community without Georgetown which has said it does not wish to participate. The Caricom Secretariat is located in the Guyana capital.

Sinclair told CANA that his country had decided to be party to a U.N. resolution because it knew of no arrangement or agreement within the region that gives member states the right to invite

YES, GUYANA REMAINS COMMITTED TO CARICOM

says country's Ambassador to the United Nations

intervention in any other state of the Caribbean.

The OECS have cited Article Eight of the Treaty establishing the organisation as the legal basis on which the request for American military aid was made. This section deal with the security of the seven members of the OECS.

"I say definitely there is no arrangement or agreement that gives any state in the Caribbean, the right to invite intervention, invite invasion in any other state of the Caribbean. When you think about it, the moment this kind of behaviour becomes practice, the moment it becomes a rule all our states are in danger", Sinclair said.

Sinclair said that there must be always "non-intervention, non-interference in the internal affairs of states and nothing about any Caricom or

OECS arrangement that places any limitation on such respects can be accepted."

"I can't conceive if ever, becoming accepted practice one or two or a few states in the region can decide that because they do not like the Government of a particular state they are free to invite outside intervention to change that state of affairs in that country", he said.

The Ambassador said Guyana found it "unacceptable that the people of Grenada could be party to an intervention in their own country". "What I find unacceptable is the people of Grenada invited what they suffered over the past few days..." "I find it hard to believe that."

Sinclair dismissed reports that Guyana was backing the resolution due to its border problems

with neighbouring Venezuela. That country has been claiming five-eighths of Guyana territory and Mr Sinclair said that his country had backed the security council resolution on Grenada "out of a position of principle."

"Our present problem with Venezuela had nothing to do with it... of course there are very vital principles at stake in connection with Venezuela's claim to our country" Sinclair added.

"Guyana's foreign policy has not changed, it has always been a foreign policy based on principle, the Charter of the United Nations and on the principles of the non-aligned movement."

"There has been absolutely no change in that foreign policy, we also have a commitment to Caricom...and that continues to be Guyana's position," Sinclair said.

WHO'S WHO IN THE INTERIM GOVERNMENT

ST GEORGE'S, Wednesday (CANA) -- The following are pen sketches of the nine members of the advisory council announced today by Governor-General Sir Paul Scoon.

Chairman-designate Meredith Alistair McIntyre: Best known in the Caribbean as Secretary-General of the Caribbean Community (1974-78) during the difficult years following the oil crisis.

A graduate of the University of the West Indies (UWI) McIntyre, served as the director of the Institute of Social and Economic Research of the UWI Jamaica before joining Caricom. He has been working with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) since 1977 and is currently deputy secretary-general. Is married with three children. He will be responsible for finance, trade and electoral affairs.

Acting chairman, Nicholas Brathwaite, 58, is director of the Guyana-based Commonwealth Youth Programme. He is a former Chief Education Officer of Grenada. His services have been provided under the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Cooperation. His portfolios is education, youth and community development and sports.

Dr James De Vere Pitt: An educator who would serve the interim administration in the areas of construction, housing and environmental matters and science and technology. Dr Pitt who holds a Ph.D in Botany from the University of Reading in Britain is the current director of the local science council. He also holds degrees in Natural Sciences from the University of the West Indies and Liverpool University in Britain.

Joan Purcell: The only woman serving on the interim government is the holder of a Degree in Sociology from the University of the West Indies (UWI). Mrs Purcell after graduating from UWI returned home to take up the post as director of the local Canadian Save the Children Fund (CANSERVE). She is responsible for labour, employment and women's affairs.

Dr Patrick Emmanuel: The Holder of a Ph.D in Political Science from the University of the West Indies would be the chief spokesman for the interim administration on foreign affairs. Dr Emmanuel is a senior fellow at the Institute of Social and Economic Research of UWI, Barbados and a one time lecturer at the St Augustine Campus. He is reported to have turned down a top post with the former ruling New Jewel Movement of Maurice Bishop which seized power here in a March 13, 1979 coup.

Dr Allan Kirton: Permanent Secretary to former Jamaican Prime Minister Michael Manley and presently serves Edward Seaga. The holder of a Degree in Natural Science from the UWI and a Doctorate in Government,



MCINTYRE

Kirton is expected to look after the civil service and the secretariat of the council. He's also a former lecturer in Public Administration and Government at the Mona Campus of UWI as well as an ex-Fisheries Officer in Grenada, and Director of Fisheries in Jamaica. He also served as Jamaican Ambassador to the Law of the Sea Conference. He is 50.

Christopher Williams: An educator by profession. Held a number of teaching posts in the country before becoming the headmaster of the Waltham Junior Secondary School in the country which was upgraded to a full secondary school by the Maurice Bishop regime.

Mr Williams who is also a welfare and youth worker has not been assigned a portfolio by Sir Paul but has been designated to assist the head of the council.

Arnold Cruickshank: The holder of a diploma in agriculture from the former Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture in Trinidad. He is a former graduate of the Grenada Boys' Secondary School and presently serves as the senior manager of the Agricultural Division of the Barbados-based Caribbean Development Bank (CDB).

Mr Cruickshank would oversee agriculture and natural resources and industrial development in the interim administration.

Raymond Smith: He has been named to hold the responsibility of telecommunications, information and postal services in the care-taker government. Mr Smith, the current Advisor to the Grenada Government on telecommunication matters is a past manager of the former Windward Islands Broadcasting Services (WIBS).

OUR OPINION

T&T HAS A ROLE TO PLAY IN GRENADA'S FUTURE

WHATEVER scurrilous writers may report about plans to oust Trinidad and Tobago out of Caricom, the truth remains that Trinidad and Tobago remains part of the Caricom entity. Whatever Prime Minister George Chambers chagrin with his Caricom colleagues, he cannot afford to be party to any break-up of the integration movement, as some well-meaning, but misguided, people have been suggesting.

Actually, the Prime Minister, while allowing some of his ire to show during his recent address to the women's arm of his party, was careful to describe the "wounds" which he received as a consequence of the Grenadian crisis as "very deep", but "not fatal." Between those two conditions, there is life in the patient, yet, even if some delicate treatment remains necessary.

The meeting with Alistair McIntyre, designated head of the interim administration of Grenada, is of special significance, and, to be fair, for Mr. Chambers a political coup of sorts, if only because it has the symbolic value of providing evidence that Trinidad and Tobago does care about its Grenadian brethren.

Mr. Chambers during his address seemed nonplussed that anybody in their right mind could ever accuse Trinidad and Tobago of neglecting Grenada and he reiterated a number of occasions on which he had stepped forward to save the late Maurice Bishop's goose, so to speak.

But that is the popular perception both here and in Grenada and whatever the Prime Minister's deliberate confusing of scurrilous polls conducted by other newspapers and the scientific, accurate polls that ours have proven to be, he has to move, and move with dispatch, to deal with it.

The truth is, Trinidad and Tobago has a vital role to play in the future of our troubled sister country and it is necessary to clear the decks quickly of the bad "vibrations" of the last 14 days so that we can be in a position to keep at bay the opportunists and agents

provocateur who will seek to make hay in the Grenadian sun.

So the initial rapport with Mr. McIntyre is to be welcomed, as, indeed, is the call for a fact-finding mission made by Mr. Chambers and many other Trinidadian citizens. It is ludicrous in the extreme that, to date, there is not even an approximate figure of the number of Grenadians who died as a result of violence in that country both before, during and after the invasion.

Are we to believe that the war was so meticulously exact that the only people killed were Americans and Cubans. As it stands a Tapia delegation which visited Grenada for 48 hours have reported that an estimate of 200 Grenadian dead has been given.

That is a staggering total given the number of Cuban and American dead that were reported and raises real questions for which the Caribbean must demand answers. How many people, in fact, were killed during that orgy of madness that attended Maurice Bishop's death? Who ordered the shooting of whom and what about those reports of school children being gunned down because they marched wanting their leader back.

We think it is important that we know the nature of the Caribbean beast, lest by mitigating the extent of the savagery we do not leave a poignant enough lesson for future generations tempted to give men total power over their lives. We think that it is vital that generation after Caribbean generation understand of the evil that has been wrought in the name of a discredited ideology imposed upon a people in yet another variant of the colonialism of the mind that has been our history.

As yet, the "comrades" have not come out from their holes to revise recent history to suit their own nefarious purposes but, mark our words, they soon will and it will be a serious omission on our part if we do not, as far as it is humanly possible, garner all the evidence and engrave, for all time, this great evil that has been wrought.

We get nothing, then we can lose nothing

THE EDITOR: The Grenadian episode has in it many lessons for Trinidadians and one of them is the contempt with which Trinidad and Tobago is held by Caricom countries. Caricom countries have demonstrated in no uncertain manner exactly how they regard George Chambers, his government and the people of this country.

It matters not whether one agrees or disagrees

with the stand of this country in the Grenadian impasse. That has absolutely nothing to do with the gross discourtesy exhibited by the OECS countries, Jamaica and Barbados to their colleague and Chairman, at that, of their Caricom grouping.

It matters not whether Tom Adams did or did not inform Mr Pitt on that Friday of their decision on armed intervention in

Grenada. What matters is that Caricom Heads met the following day and never saw it fit to so inform the Chairman of what they had decided.

The fact is that having taken the decision they led the Chairman up the garden path by encouraging him to hold a meeting which they knew was just a charade.

The obvious question is how could these Caricom

Heads dare to treat the Chairman of Caricom, the Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago with such callous disrespect. How could these countries who have been beneficiaries of Trinidad and Tobago's goodwill behave in such a manner.

Surely it cannot be because of Trinidad's stand in the matter which was not known when they took their decision. Furthermore their behaviour is nothing new and consistent with their treatment of this country in the past.

The answer lies simply in two facts. First they are treacherous by nature. Secondly it is because this government has established a reputation for inefficiency, indecisiveness, dishonesty and plain stupidity.

This government's naivete is such that Caricom countries have for years been making a fool of this Government. This government, through their vacillations, dishonesty, and indecisiveness has brought this country into disrepute in the Caribbean.

Nevertheless, it is hoped that this Government, naive and stupid as they are, must by now realise their true position vis-a-vis the other Caricom countries. Consequently we must have favours to give in full — strict business.

We get nothing from Caricom so there should be no fear of losing anything. We must realise that for a long time it has been "we on we own." We do have to pull out but we can play the same game as the others — being there and not there.

HARVEY DICKSON, Tableland.

Grenadians are not 'our stock'

THE EDITOR: Now that the war between Freedom and Slavery in Grenada is over and the smoke has cleared revealing the corpses of many natives and several Cubans and Americans, the British Government and her allies in Non-Involvement are quite prepared to bury the dead, bandage the wounded and send in men to establish a "peace-keeping" force on the island.

Where were they when the battle was raging? Sitting on the fence of non-interference, although from my side it reads "non-cooperation," and taking it all in, like the spectators at a boxing match!

And what peace is there now to keep? How did it come about? Oh, the Americans saw to that, although they were wrong to interfere. But we will take over from here.

The trouble there was none of America's business: let them pick up their dead and wounded

and clear out and no thanks to them. We have all agreed, all 108 of us in the United Nations, that they should not have interfered.

"But what if the island had been turned completely into a slave camp under psychopathic killers, as seems to have been indicated?" one ventures to ask. "What if it had become a bastion for the exportation of armed revolution and the destruction of human rights and freedoms throughout the world?"

They reply with one voice: "Grenada's affair. Exclusively Grenada's affair."

The vote in the United Nations condemning the American involvement in Grenada is the most ominous sign I have seen of the coming ruin of the world, for when those 108 nations voted, they voted against any one of themselves coming to the assistance of any other in any

circumstances whatsoever.

They severed the links between one another and showed mankind a disunited front. And, as Caricom after the affair, so is the United Nations crumbling sand.

In this masque being performed in the Great Hall of the United Nations Great Britain is most to be condemned for when she fought against the Argentinians in the Falklands War she fought not for "freedom" but for "sovereignty" and for the Falklanders, whom Ms Margaret Thatcher described as "our stock," exactly as she does in Northern Ireland.

But although Grenada is a member of the Commonwealth and has a resident Governor-General, the Grenadian people are not "our stock." She missed the point that in the human family we are all "our stock."

BARNABAS J. RAMON-FORTUNE, Barataria.

Cuba's military network lives on

Some western diplomats regard Moscow's role in the partnership as predominant because it has poured vast sums of military and economic aid into Cuba since the 1959 revolution and, in effect, foots the bills for Cuba's overseas operations.

It started with the Cubans financially supported by the Soviet Union and the only way they can pay

Moscow back is by sending troops round the world, one said.

Western governments estimate Soviet aid equals more than one-quarter of Cuba's gross national product, totalling some \$4 billion last year, or \$11 million a day.

A leading American professor of Soviet affairs, Jiri Valenta, says Havana could not sustain its mili-

tary commitment in Angola and Ethiopia without substantial Soviet help.

The benefits to the Soviet Union from the alliance are manifold. In the Caribbean, it gives Moscow a forward base close to the United States.

In Africa, Cuba's military involvement enables Moscow to maintain indirect influence while avoiding commitment of Soviet

troops which would spark a stronger U.S. response.

Castro, a popular elder statesman of the non-aligned movement, provides Moscow with a close ally with wide influence in the Third World -- although he failed, during three years as chairman from 1979, to get the 101-nation movement to acknowledge the Soviet Union as its natural ally.

What was all the fuss about?

THE EDITOR: The "Express" of Wednesday November 2 (Page 28) carried a rather interesting news story.

It was headed "Pressman resigns" and informed us that the Deputy Press Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Mr Les Janka, who ranked as a Senior White House Press spokesman, had sent in his resignation to President Reagan.

His reasons were that he "felt he was given misleading information" by U.S. officials regarding the American invasion of Grenada. This misleading information he had unknowingly passed on to reporters as fact.

On the same page "The

Express" carried another news story. In this it was stated by the highly respected British firm Plessey Airports, a firm which was heading the construction of the controversial Point Salines Airport, that President Reagan's claims that the Airport was a military one, were baseless.

The firm listed 11 facilities that were needed at a military airport and none of these were being installed at the Grenada airport. Among these were "radar, as opposed to navigational aids, anti-air defences and underground weapons and fuel storage facilities."

In fact, said the spokesman for Plessey, the air-

port conformed to international civil aviation standards and was designed to facilitate the economic development of Grenada. The spokesman added significantly that "if the British Government had been unhappy about the nature of the contract it would never have allowed the Exports Credits Guarantee Department to underwrite it."

What has all the fuss and bother been about? Needless to say, I support wholeheartedly the Trinidad and Tobago Government's stand in this matter. The crisis was an entirely Caribbean crisis.

NEVILLE GUISEPPI,
Arima.

Government in their true light

THE EDITOR: The present happening in Grenada has certainly helped to show our government up in their true light. Its inability to perceive the seriousness of the problem, not to follow the situation closely, not to understand what was being planned and its inability to take a strong stand.

Our country seems to function (albeit poorly), in spite of our leaders and the rest of the Eastern Caribbean will impress their opinions on the rest of the world without Trinidad and Tobago.

The non-existence of policy on internal matters is mirrored in our lack of policy on foreign affairs. Perhaps members of our government are truly humble and would not like to impose their ideas on others, or perhaps they

have no opinions and hide behind walls of paper and conventions. The letter appears to be painfully true.

In this whole sordid affair, the only firm and immediate action taken was to use our forces to repel innocent Grenadians trying to flee from an intolerably frightening situation; why did (do?) they have to acquire visas via Barbados?

In the past our government turned a blind eye on their entry into this island; their labour and votes have always been welcome. The total lack of humanitarian feelings for our nearest Caribbean neighbours is inexcusable.

Today I'm ashamed of being a Trinidadian.

A. CHANG,
Valsayn Park.

Get rid of the poisons

THE EDITOR: How could Dr. Millette say that the invasion of Grenada was an "outrage to the freedom and independence of Grenada." When the people freed Bishop and shots were fired at them, wasn't that an outrage to the freedom of choice that Grenadians wanted?

Dr. Millette continues that neither Barbados, Jamaica or any of the other islands involved in the multi-national forces, were affected by the events in Grenada, yet they wanted us to believe that they had

a responsibility to stop Austin and his assassins.

What Dr. Millette is saying that no Caribbean island had any right to interfere with Grenada's situation. I say Dr. Millette is "boo." I think that as soon as Trinidadians reject men like Dr. Millette, David Abdullah, Michael Als and the rest of political-trade union clowns, we would be better off.

Imagine that Mr Abdullah says that American involvement in Grenada is to establish a regime that

is favourable to America. I wish to ask Mr Abdullah what were the Cuban and Russian advisors doing in Grenada?

What kind of regime were they trying to establish? Mr. Abdullah is saying plain that while he supported communist influence in Grenada, he does not support democratic influence. I think it is time that Trinidad authorities rid our society of such poisons.

DONALD CLARKE,
Arima.

My political future is uncertain, says ex-Grenadian AG

ST GEORGE'S, Wednesday, CANA -- Former Attorney-General and Director of Public Prosecutions in Grenada's ex-Peoples Revolutionary Government (PRG), Lloyd Noel, who spent the last two years in jail as a political detainee of the PRG is uncertain about his political future.

Noel, who is being mentioned as a strong contender in the promised general elections, said here today that, until he has assessed "what the interim government is doing, what foreign governments are doing and what grenadians are thinking," he will not decide whether or not he will enter the political arena.

"My options are open," he said, "but they are open to the extent depending on what I hear or read between the lines as the weeks and months develop. That will determine where I go and how I go there."

Noel said he has been a "political animal" for too long to sit on the sidelines when general elections are held and this means that, if he is not involved in the campaign, he will not be in Grenada.

Governor-General Sir Paul Scoon has promised elections within a year following the October 25 U.S.-led invasion to restore democratic rule after a military coup. An interim government to prepare for elections will be announced today.

"I would not like to see myself failing to make a contribution," Noel said, "and, if I can make a contribution for the people of Grenada, for my family, for the friends who suffered with me, then I

would certainly want to do it. But I hope Grenadians will understand that I must consider my family and my mother, if not first, then with equal priority with my other commitments and obligations to my country."

Noel said if he contests the general elections, it will be on a platform "left or centre" but he rejected the Marxist ideology of the New Jewel Movement from whose central bureau he resigned in 1977 and

from whose People's Revolutionary Government he resigned in 1980.

"I would expect that wherever I put my feet again or lean my head," he said, "we would have to be very clear on a truly democratic institution bringing forth what I would call social justice rather than Marxist socialism."

Noel said if concern for the poor and oppressed were associated with being "left" then he is a "leftist" but he emphasised a difference.

"My base," he said, "comes not because of Marx but because of Christ. I see (him) as the saviour rather than Marx."

Noel said he had always considered Bishop a brilliant lawyer, a man of high intelligence and, until he realised otherwise, a dedicated Grenadian acting in the interest of his people's

social, political and economic advancement.

"I am afraid, to my bitter experience, that that image has been tarnished by the years after March 13, 1979 and now, in retrospect, I realise he was more committed to an international fraternal movement than to a Grenadian domestic scenario," he added.

Noel was a member of the leftwing New Jewel Movement (NJM) since it was created in 1973 but resigned from the central bureau in 1977. After the March 13, 1979 coup which brought the party to power, he acted as Attorney General but resigned in 1980 from the People's Revolutionary Government because of undisclosed "differences of opinion" with Bishop -- differences he still refuse to disclose.

"I like to feel I kept my

side of the bargain which he agreed with me at the time," he said, "and, now he is not here to reply, I am not going to take advantage of that situation. I will say we disagreed ideologically and leave it at that."

Noel was arrested in July 1981 because of his association with publication of an independent newspaper "The Grenadian voice". He was held as a detainee, until together with all detainees at Richmond Hill Prison, he broke out of the jail on the day after the American

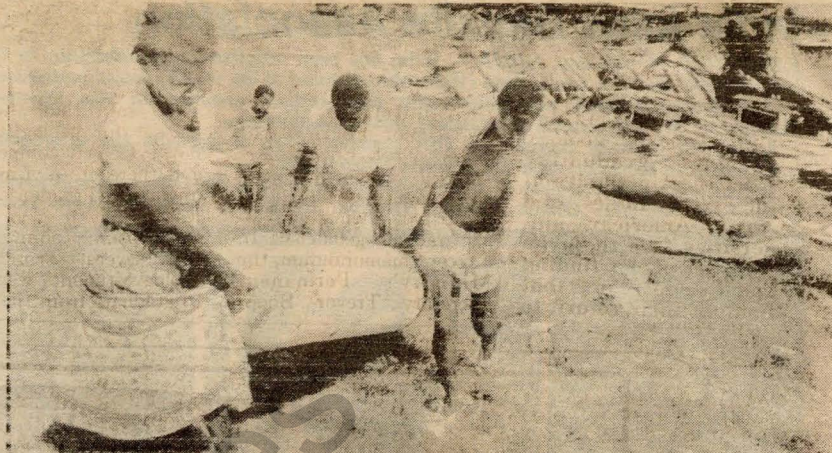
rescue mission arrived on the island.

Referring to General Hudson Austin, head of the short-lived military regime, Noel said he had never seen him as "this hard line military man which seemed to have emerged" from the incident at Fort Rupert on October 19 when the Peoples Revolutionary Army fired on unarmed civilians.

"I always found him a likeable, charming chap," Noel said, "very firm in his convictions for social justice. If, as the situation tends to suggest, he be-

came a hard line Marxist, it must have happened over the years we have been out of association."

Noel said that until October 19, he would have thought that Austin "worshipped the ground Maurice Bishop walked on." He had always considered Austin was Bishop's "right hand", but Noel said he wanted it remembered that Strachan Phillip (another prominent NJM member) was also close to Bishop but Phillip "was murdered on June 19, 1980 by the forces of the PRG."



PETITS CALIVIGNI: GRENADIANS carry a cooking gas cylinder from a destroyed PRA military camp here. This is near the area where the search continues for a mass grave believed to contain the bodies of officials and demonstrators massacred by the Grenadian army. (UPI Radiophoto)

Express NOV. 10 1983

What Austin has done to Grenada

THE EDITOR: I am sending this letter to you via a friend. It is about Michael Als.

I was a member of the militia and I am a supporter of the NJM under Maurice Bishop, our late and beloved Prime Minister.

I hear plenty of talk about what Michael Als does. Let me tell you this. Michael Als used to be in Grenada often. He always used to be up in Bishop's house and Bernard Coard's house. When he came the last time, I saw him at the Carifta cottage talking with some people. He knows me by eyesight but not by name.

I used to greet him because everybody used to say he was a friend of Grenada. He always used to say how great Maurice and the NJM were and how we should all give the revolution support.

I was a member of the BGWU (Bank and General Workers Union) in Grenada and Vincent Noel and Michael Als were always with one another.

I did see Michael Als up by the fort (Rupert). He was just watching things and telling people to cool it and don't get excited and cool down. I saw when Vincent (Noel) brushed him aside and told him it was they who were in control now and it would have been bad for all those who attacked Maurice.

Als told him to cool it, and Vincent went back up by the railings in the fort and said there were going to be no compromise and no negotiations with the

bastards who locked up our leader.

Michael Als was looking very sad and he asked a Rastafarian what he going to do with the AK (rifle) he had in his hand and the Rastafarian replied that the AK was to deal with the central committee.

Als told him it looked like civil war if guns were in all kinds of people's hands. The Rastafarian shrugged his shoulders and said it was too late for that and Maurice and the masses were in control. Als told him to cool it.

I was standing up by Als and some other people and then he went down the road and I didn't see him again until after all the blood and shooting, taking a girl, who was bleeding, up to the hospital. I found he was brave, brave because those soldiers were just shooting a set of people.

I understand he was in Grenada to talk to the big boys like Coard and Bishop and Austin. I feel he did talk about all the things that were going on.

I heard his voice saying on Radio Free Grenada that everything was calm. That was not so true because everybody was in their house hiding and afraid to come outside. He did say that the army shot after Maurice and Vincent gave the orders to open fire.

The man that I saw start the shooting was Vincent Noel, my president general. He shot two soldiers coming off the tank and was shot and fell

over the rail. Then the soldiers in the tank fired some big shells directly at the building. Just like that. Regardless of who was around.

I lay down in the yard in front of the fort.

After the excitement cooled down and they gave us what they said was four hours to get food, I saw Als by Mathew's shop and I came up to him and he had tears in his eyes. Plenty of people were shocked and I went up to him and said: They've killed our leader.

Als said something I could not understand and he put a hand on my shoulder and told me to be cool.

Things might work out, he said. And someone told him he was talking rubbish because Maurice was already dead, they didn't even give him a funeral, and Als told him he knew that.

He then told Als he was behaving as though he (Als) was for Austin, but Als told him he was for the New Jewel Movement. Came the other chap's reply: NJM what? Austin is in charge.

There were a lot of people by the shop and Als asked me if I wanted a soft drink. He opened his black briefcase and took out a dollar and gave it to me. I asked him for five dollars and he gave me. Other people ask him for change and he said and he said he did not have any more.

Then he told us to join the militia and someone shouted "no, no." Another

person said that it was Grenada soil and no foreigner could land on it. Just then someone else in the crowd said it didn't matter who came because Maurice was already dead, butchered by Austin and company.

Als told them to settle their differences and a fellow called Georgie took up a stone for Als. I walked off and stopped patrol jeep but they drove off and then he went in car, heading for Grand Anse.

Als and Vincent Noel were real good friends and I am sure he was sorry Vincent was dead now but Als shouldn't have said things were calm when Austin's soldiers had already shot so many Grenadians.

People are suffering Grenada. I don't support American soldiers here but it's better than Austin. Maurice had no right to go to the fort but he was our Prime Minister and I could have gone anywhere he pleased.

We never heard what he had to say because now he is dead. Plenty of people are missing. Als should have tried harder to get Maurice and the others closer. He failed and in this mess in Grenada must have made him a sad man for life.

Please print this. It is the God's truth. Tell the world what Austin has done to us.

ANETTE CHARLES
St George's

Grenada needs weapons

Express Nov. 10. 1983

THE EDITOR: I wish to request a little patience from those who read this letter since I must travel the world before reaching Trinidad and Tobago.

The former Marxist Government of Grenada must be seen in a world context before its full significance can be understood. Consider the following:

1) The conflict between the super powers employs many weapons and one of these is oil. The importance of oil to the economics of the U.S. and the West has been demonstrated forcibly over the last ten year.

2) The strategy of Soviet Russia, therefore, is to gain control of the countries with large oil production capability. This is done either by installing communist governments in those countries or in the countries adjacent to them (which is often easier) and exporting subversion. A look at the accompanying map will illustrate the following points.

A. The oil producing Middle East countries (Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Iran, United Arab Emirates, Kuwait) are gradually being surrounded by countries with communist governments (Syria, USSR, Afghanistan, South Yemen, Aden) and communists are fighting to takeover Somalia and Oman.

B. The tremendous Mexican reserves are being threatened in the south by the communist government in Nicaragua and by the communist Cuban supplied guerillas fighting to take over in Guatemala and El Salvador.

C. Venezuela has to its east the governments of

Guyana and Suriname which are sympathetic to the communist cause. To the north, there is Grenada which was sympathetic to the communist cause and but a few miles south of Grenada there is Trinidad.

You will note the proximity of Trinidad to the Orinoco Basin which will in the future be the major oil producing area in Venezuela. Trinidad is therefore a stepping stone with an indiscipline army, a Coast Guard unable to keep its boats running and a rising number of unemployed resulting from the tightening recession.

3) This plan is not admitted by the Soviets but the facts can be checked

and there are enough chess pieces in place on the board for the strategy to be clear.

Put in this context, it becomes clear why Grenada needs warehouses of weapons along with a first class airstrip and naval facilities at Egmont, one of the best protected harbours in the Caribbean. The threat that Grenada offered to Trinidad under the Austin/Coard dictatorship is obvious.

Those of us who value the future of Trinidad and Tobago as a democracy therefore will be immediately thankful for the decisive action taken recently in Grenada.

PATRIOT.
Tobago

Thanks to those who helped in the invasion

THE EDITOR: I am not a politician, nor an International Relations Expert nor yet a lawyer but simply a 'man in the street' who, none the less, add my quota on the Grenada invasion by U.S. and Caribbean Forces.

According to Mr. Chambers:

(1) It is regrettable that a solution involving the non use of force, proposed during the emergency meeting of the Heads of Government was not allowed to be pursued.

(2) It is regrettable that a solution of a purely CARICOM nature was not allowed to be pursued.

(3) It is regrettable that measures involving the use of force as a first resort have been embarked upon.

(4) It is regrettable that military intervention of this nature has been imported into the Caribbean.

In the first case, considering the circumstances and manner of the Austin regime take over from Bishop and the resultant assassination of Bishop and his Cabinet could one possibly conceive negotiation once absolute power had been attained? There was existing the rule of gun which would have been accepted as the norm.

In the second case according to the tone of Mr. Chambers address, the only 'solution' of a CARICOM nature was one of embargos. The result would have been (a) the starvation of 110,000 innocent Grenadians (b) a greater dependence on Cuba for food and survival. (This brings to mind the 'pettiness of Williams' on the Bishop coup in not opening his letter. Perhaps a situation of this nature could have been averted then, who knows.

In the third case, considering the foregoing, which would only prolong the suffering of Grenadians and the eventual slaughter of hundreds, not

to mention their deprivation of basic human rights the only solution was a armed intervention, regional or imported, which pound the difficulties of the restoration of acceptable law and order.

Had it been a regional force, would the Cubans refuse to defend their multi-million dollars investment in Grenada? Please bear in mind that Grenada's airport is a very convenient jumping off point to Latin America.

In the fourth instant it is inconceivable that the Combined Army forces of the Caribbean, Trinidad included, could have made any impact on the known Cuban Engineers in Grenada. The Engineer corp in military language comprises of some 750 men.

What would have happened had a totally Caribbean force dared to set foot on Grenada soil would have been termed massacre for us, thousands would have been killed, a spread of hostilities throughout the Caribbean and a consequent 'importation' of armed forces into the area. Just look at what is happening with 1900 fully trained, experienced U.S. Commandos at the moment.

To entire Grenada situation is regrettable, and I must compliment Miss Eugenia Charles and other heads of Government who courageously took the initiative in acting as promptly as they did, recognising the problems and the constraints and taking firm and decisive action.

My thanks also to Mr Reagan and his proud American people for the assistance given and congratulate him on his 'bonus' which will prevent or at least defer Russian/Cuban intervention in the Caribbean and Latin America.

ANTHONY P. KING.
Port of Spain

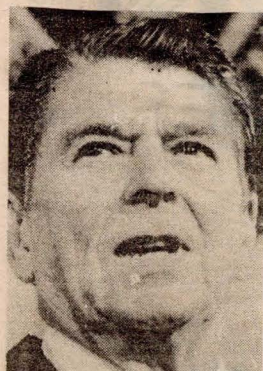
U.S. invasion breaks link in communist chain but...



CASTRO



BISHOP



REAGAN

LONDON, Wednesday, (CANAL-Reuters) — By smashing Cuba's influence in tiny Grenada, the United States has disrupted only one area of activity overseas by the Soviet Union's most active ally.

Cuba's involvement, widely seen in the west as supporting Soviet strategic aims and underpinned by Soviet aid, extends into Africa and the Red Sea area.

Havana has more than 38,000 troops - one-quarter of its regular armed forces - supporting revolutionary governments in seven or more countries, mostly in Africa, according to the international institute for strategic studies in London.

It amounts to one of the biggest and most widely spread military networks in foreign countries, except for those of the two superpowers on the territory of their allies and special cases such as the big Soviet force in Afghanistan, Israel's and Syria's troops in Lebanon and Vietnam's in Kampuchea.

Most of Moscow's Warsaw Pact European allies have no men under arms abroad, preferring aid projects to military involvement in the Third World as a way of spreading influence.

East Germany, the

U.S. marines in Grenada

most active pact ally overseas after the Soviet Union, has about 2,300 men abroad spread over nine countries, according to the London institute.

Cuba's biggest presence is in Angola, where an estimated 25,000 Cuban troops are backing a Marxist government.

In U.S. and South African eyes, the Cubans remain the chief stumbling block to an independence settlement for South African ruled Namibia (South West Africa).

They intervened in Angola during the country's 1975-76 civil war and stayed to help the government tackle an insurgent campaign backed by Pretoria. Angola is a base for Namibian guerrillas who have waged a bush war against South Africa for 17 years.

In a stand backed by Washington, South Africa insists that the Cubans must withdraw from Angola before it will allow a Namibian independence plan to proceed. Angola and other black African states reject this linkage.

mocracy.

U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Kenneth Dam said the Soviet Union, Cuba and North Korea had agreed to provide Grenada, under signed agreements, with arms and military equipment worth \$37.8 million.

Washington was concerned that the tiny spice island could be used as a staging area for subversion of nearby countries and for interdiction of shipping lanes in a crisis.

Cuba could have used Grenada for the transit of troops and supplies to Africa, and the island could have served as a staging post for supplies sent to Central America from eastern Europe and Libya, Dam said.

Western military analysts believe Cuba's role in Africa forms part of strategic planning by its dominant Soviet ally, although Cuba is not a member of the Warsaw Pact. But they agree President Fidel Castro has some freedom of movement in deciding where he is ready to deploy Cuban forces.

Havana's second biggest African force is in Ethiopia, where an estimated 11,000 Cuban troops intervened as part of a Soviet-sponsored operation in 1977.

Some 2,000 Cuban troops are stationed in other African countries, including Congo and Mozambique, with a further 300 in South Yemen, according to the institute.

Closer to home, Cuba's involvement in Grenada since assassinated Marxist premier Maurice Bishop came to power in 1979 was only one plank in its internationalist policy.

Cuba is the main supporter of the Sandinist government in Nicaragua, supplying arms, thousands of military advisers, training and other aid, and is said by Washington to be backing left-wing insurgents in other Central American countries.

The United States saw Cuba's activities on Grenada as part of a Soviet-sponsored plan to establish a communist military base in the eastern Caribbean.

After the October 25 U.S.-led invasion of the island, President Reagan set Grenada firmly in an east-west context, calling it a Soviet-Cuban colony being readied as a major military bastion to export terror and undermine de-

Even critics of Reagan's broad brush view of the world, which sees Soviet allies as acting largely at Moscow's behest, concede that Havana is unique in its readiness to maintain large contingents of troops abroad in pursuit of a common cause.



Lessons from Gairy and Bishop

The stability that Grenada deserves

THE EDITOR: The surprising and shocking events of the last few weeks in Grenada have placed the entire eastern Caribbean region firmly in the forefront of the world's news headlines. The United States military intervention in Grenada is to be condemned and must be condemned on the grounds of territorial integrity, sovereignty, and self-determination.

I do not intend to deal with the pros and cons of that particular issue. However, Sir, I should like, with your permission, to express a point of view on a possible constitutional course that could be followed in Grenada to ensure a restoration of law and order.

From a legal, and to a lesser extent, a political point of view, the immediate document that must be referred to is the constitution that came into effect on February 7th, 1974. It is only from this document that any credible attempt can be made at forming a caretaker government to attend to the day-to-day affairs of Grenada and to supervise the conduct and holding of elections at the earliest possible opportunity.

Section 19 of the 1974 constitution states as follows: "There shall be a governor-general of Grenada who shall be appointed by Her Majesty and shall hold office during Her Majesty's pleasure and who shall be Her Majesty's representative in Grenada." Sir Paul Scoon is the person to whom the provisions of section 19 listed above refer and, therefore, it is he who must become the primary figure in the chain of events that will follow.

The most important task facing the governor-general is the immediate appointment of a Prime Minister. However, be-

fore he does that, he ought to take note of the existence of Parliament before the 1979 coup d'état and the role that it can now play in making his task easier. Section 52 (2) of the 1974 constitution reads as follows: "Subject to the provisions of subsection (3) of this section Parliament, unless sooner dissolved, shall continue for five years from the date of the first sitting of Parliament after any dissolution and shall then stand dissolved."

DISSOLVE

The last general elections were held in Grenada in 1976, so that technically speaking parliament stood dissolved as of 1981 and is still dissolved to this day. Bearing this legal technicality in mind, the Governor-General may then seek to act under the terms of section 58 (5) of the 1974 constitution which states as follows: "If occasion arises for making an appointment to the office of Prime Minister or any other minister while Parliament is dissolved, then, notwithstanding any other provision of this section, a person who was a member of the House of Representatives immediately before the dissolution may be appointed as Prime Minister or any other Minister and a person who was a Senator immediately before the dissolution may be appointed as any minister other than Prime Minister." Whatever decision Sir Paul Scoon may make under this section rests entirely with him. He is guaranteed that protection under Section 58 (9) which reads as follows: "In the exercise of the powers conferred upon

him by subsections (2), (5) and (6) of this section the Governor-General shall act in his own deliberate judgement."

The Governor-General may choose whomever he wishes to become Prime Minister of Grenada so long as that person was a member of the House of Representatives prior to the coup of 1979. Let us all hope that the lessons of the past will assist him in making a wise decision for the overall benefit of Grenada.

Once a caretaker Prime Minister and Cabinet have appointed, the Governor-General can then direct his attention to the office of the supervisor of elections which was established under the 1974 constitution. According to Section 35 (2): "The functions of the office of Supervisor of Elections shall be exercised by the person holding or acting in such public office as may for the time being be designated in that behalf by the governor-general acting in his own deliberate judgement." Once more the Governor-General has a free hand in this matter and this is crucial to initiating the process for free and fair elections.

I have sought in the foregoing paragraphs to suggest a means by which the constitutional, legal and political dilemma that now faces Grenada may be resolved. The lessons of the divergent extremes of the Gairy and Bishop eras have now been learnt. Out of all of this should come a desirable and refreshing political stability which Grenada so richly deserves.

HAMID A. GHANY,
England.

Express

Nov. 19 1983

'A husband and wife quarrel'

AN ECONOMIST of the University of the West Indies has supported the American-led intervention in Grenada which followed the killing of Prime Minister Maurice Bishop on October 19.

Dr Trevor Farrell of the economics department, UWI, St Augustine, told a packed auditorium at the JFK Theatre that the "slaughter of Bishop and others appalled something in us."

Farrell was one of the invited

speakers at a panel discussion, titled: "Intervention and an attack on the rights of the people of Grenada," held at UWI on Thursday.

Before making this statement, Farrell made it clear that he was against any form of intervention, whether it was from the Russians or the Americans. But, he said the welfare of the human being came first in the events which took place in Grenada and on humanitarian grounds the intervention was justified.

tified.

He reminded his listeners that the principal clause of the United Nations Charter was the right to life and liberty. "When it is a situation where people are being slaughtered—whether it was in Grenada, Barbados, Jamaica, or Trinidad and Tobago, intervention could be justified on humanitarian grounds," he said.

In attempting to make himself clear on the subject, Farrell used as an example, a wife and

husband quarrel. He said that if his neighbour should begin abusing or even slapping up his wife, it would not be his (Farrell's) right to interfere. But if the dispute reached to a point where the husband began chasing the wife with a cutlass, it would be his right as a human being to intervene.

He said that what was most interesting about the whole Grenada conflict was that a Prime Minister can be placed under house arrest for allegedly spreading a

rumour. "Is there a law against spreading a rumour?" he asked.

Farrell warned that in the coming years Trinidad and Tobago might be in a similar situation. "The International Monetary Fund will be coming to tell us about free markets while revolutionaries will tell us about state farms," he said.

He said that to import political doctrines into the Caribbean was yet another form of colonialism. "Beware," he said, "Think for yourselves."

UWI Libraries

GRENADA DEBATE TURNS UGLY

A PANEL DISCUSSION on the Grenada issue at the University of the West Indies on Thursday was rowdily interrupted by students after one of the participants, People's Popular Movement chairman Michael Als, was called "liar" and "murderer" before being roundly booed.

Als, together with Dr Trevor Farrell of UWI's Economics Department, and Clive Weatherhead of the Workers Association of Trinidad and Tobago (WATT) were invited by the University's Executive Affairs Committee to speak on the Grenada conflict as part of the 42nd International Student's Day celebration.

The theme of the discussion was titled: "Intervention and an attack on the rights of the people of Grenada," and the venue was the JFK auditorium.

Als opened the discussion by giving a blow by blow account of the events which led to the killing of former Grenadian Prime Minister Maurice Bishop, Education Minister Jacqueline Creft, Unison Whiteman, and other New Jewel Movement functionaries.

But Als was never able to convince the packed auditorium that what took place at Fort Rupert on October 19 was not outright murder.

The listeners, the majority of them students, began showing their displeasure by grumbling and sucking their teeth when Als reiterated his movement's stand on the Grenada issue.

"PPM's position was not in line with the imperialist choir boys," he said. He also singled out Barbados Prime Minister, Tom Adams, Jamaica's Prime Minister, Edward Seaga, and

Dominica's Prime Minister, Eugenia Charles as the ones to whom he was referring.

He said the dramatic freeing of the late Prime Minister by the masses on October 19 moved Bishop "from house arrest to mass arrest."

He said he witnessed that event and when they were taken away by the large crowd, Bishop was dressed in merino, short pants and rubber slippers, while Creft had on a short pants and a blouse.

He said "counter revolutionaries" had been capitalising on the political crisis and some businessmen played a part in

spreading the rumour that former deputy Prime Minister Bernard Coard wanted to bring communism into Grenada and Bishop did not want that.

But it was when Als tried to tell his audience, that on reaching Fort Rupert, Bishop ordered his followers to disarm the soldiers there, an irate female voice responded sharply: "Als, you lying."

This outburst was greeted with a gusty round of applause and a tirade of "Als, you murderer. Als go home."

Als stuck adamantly to his view by saying that "it was not surprising that people in this country want to believe what the newspapers want them to believe — I saw when the green Mazda motor car arrived and arms were distributed and whether people wished to believe it or not it was the truth."

He said that to his mind, all evidence relating to what really happened at Fort Rupert on that fatal day was that Maurice Bishop and others were singled out by members of the Revolutionary Military Council and shot to death. To this a student responded once again the he (Als) was a liar. Als replied that in time to come, people would accept the facts as they really were.

Als also said that it was a "stinking lie" perpetrated by the American media that the Cu-

bans were the ones doing all the fighting when the American forces landed in Grenada. He said it was young black Grenadians who were being killed by the Americans.

Als had a tougher time convincing his listeners during the question period. Though most of the questions were directed at him, many of the students used that period to express their opinion on the Grenada conflict and how they felt about Als himself.

One female student told Als he had insulted them by coming on the campus and relating his side of the story. "It is very insulting for Als to come and tell us that Maurice Bishop was placed under house arrest for spreading some frivolous rumour," she said.

The International Students Day celebration started around 10 a.m., Thursday, with an exhibition focussing on cultural and indigenous aspects of various Caribbean islands.

At around 12 noon, a ring of students demonstrating for non-intervention and world peace, comprising just over two dozen of the 4000 students on the campus, set up two mock nuclear missiles symbolizing the superpowers, the United States and Soviet Russia, and burnt both.



Burning symbolizes call for an end to nuclear build-up by the superpowers.

The whole thing is a nightmare

THE EDITOR: I attended a mass meeting at Woodford Square called by the OWTU on the Friday after Grenada's Prime Minister and a number of his colleagues soldiers and curlians were killed.

Everybody was very emotional, Alan Alexnader even said that Alistair Hughes, Kenrick Radix and George Louison were killed by the RMC. I was sad and shocked.

Some of the speakers even said fellow trade unionist Michael Als should be killed for stating that the RMC was in full control of Grenada. They said that they supported sanctions, embargoes, invasion (Caribbean-style). Everybody was whipped into a frenzy. Trinidadian trade unionists too loud mouth and irresponsible. No speaker said it was an internal affair of Grenada. Everybody was down on Coard and Austin neck. Now I am a Grenadian working on a construction site. I used to be in the PRA but I could not live on \$200.00 a month that I was getting since I was a family man, so I leave in April 1982 and come to Trinidad. I like Trinidad.

Let me say this. I hear the Americans blow up plenty hotels, business places, the mad house, homes and hundreds of people dead. Now what I ask myself — which one worse, the RMC or the US invasion? A lot of them who speak in the square

only shedding crocodile tears over Grenada.

When I was a PRA man our Prime Minister used to come and talk to us. Lecture us on following discipline and orders and how we must never give up we arms and never shoot at the masses because the PRA had to serve the masses. He used to tell us of Lebanon, South Africa, Nicaragua and so on. I love the man and I love Hudson Austin, the general because the same talk Maurice give us he use to give us.

Then I read the Express on how confusion in Grenada. We had one love there. One love I tell you. Everybody was for the revo, for the zonal councils and parish councils and the PRA. We didn't like the Cubans so much but they was building our airport. Then this thing break up with Bishop on one side and coard on the other side. This break my heart very much because I was saving up my money to go back home. I was even taking a draughtsman course to help out when I go back home. I blame both of them for this destruction of Grenada.

The Maurice get free and went up in Fort Rupert. I used to be stationed in Fort Rupert and Fort Frederick. I does pray to god to find out why he went up there instead of the market place and get shoot down. why he didn't leave the soldiers with their guns? Why Austin let PRA

men shoot Bishop and why Bishop and his good friends fall out after they pass through so much under Gairy.

But as a Grenadian I say the RMC would have to pay for the crime. The thing should have been left to Grenadians to settle first. If somebody in PNM kill Chambers (God forbid) and two other PNM bigbugs, should other nations like the USA come in Trinidad and bomb up the place and say is democracy they come for?

As a Grenadian I feel people was just fealous of the revlution and decide to mash it up once and for all. We should have been left to settle we own affairs. Why America and the others did not go in when Gairy get remove in march, 1979?

I say each country should settle their own affairs for themselves. Sir, you don't know how I love Maurice Bishop but I still say we in Grenada should be left alone to solve we problems.

Finally I think Mr. Chambers, the Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago right not to go in and stain his hands with Grenadian people blood. I feel not only Grenada mash up but Caricom unity, trade union unity and political unity everywhere, and sir, nobody wants Eric Gairy now.

The whole thing is a nightmare.

STANDORD JAMES,
Cocorite

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT SEEKING Emergency aid for Grenada

STRASBOURG, Friday, (CANA-Reuter)- The European Parliament today called for an international emergency aid programme for Grenada, in a resolution which made no criticism of the United States role in invading the island last month.

The assembly's centre-right majority pushed through a motion which noted the armed intervention by U.S. and Caribbean forces, considered that a process leading to free elections was underway, and emphasised the need to maintain good relations between the U.S. and community member states.

During the debate, Simone Veil (Liberal, France) described critics of the U.S. action as hypocrites who ignored the fact that the Grenadian people had been deprived of their rights after a coup by totalitarian forces.

Diana Elles (Conservative, Britain) said the invasion must not be allowed to drive a wedge between the U.S. and its European allies.

British socialist member Alf Lomas said the real threat posed to U.S. interests by Grenada stemmed from the example of social pro-

gress which it held up to the inhabitants of corruptly-run Caribbean states.

Responding to the debate, community development commissioner Edgard Pisani said he hoped arrangements for resuming Common Market development aid to Grenada, which was frozen just before the invasion, could be made soon.

Pisani said the commission would consider any request for emergency humanitarian aid if it was sure that it would reach the local population.

U.S. specialists unable to identify 4 bodies

WASHINGTON, Friday, (CANA-Reuter) - U.S. specialists have not been able to identify four bodies, thought possibly to include that of former Prime Minister Maurice Bishop, found in a common grave on Grenada, an official said today.

"Our forensic team had to give up," said the U.S. official, who asked not to be named. "the bodies were partly dismembered and apparently there was nothing to work with."

There had been reports witnesses saw the bodies of Bishop and other leaders buried there after they were killed in a military takeover October 19.

General Hudson Austin, who headed the military government, announced four leaders had been killed: Prime Minister Maurice Bishop, Foreign Minister Unison Whiteman, Education Minister Jacqueline Creft and Housing Minister Norris Bain.

Break the impasse on Grenada says Caribbean Congress of Labour

HEADS of Government of the 13 Caricom states should urgently convene a meeting to break the current impasse and to restore the community to its former position. This was part of a resolution taken on Caricom by the Caribbean Congress of Labour (CCL) at its 8th Triennial Congress just concluded in Barbados.

And in a resolution taken on the Grenada crisis, the Congress called for the withdrawal of foreign forces, and decided to appoint a fact-finding mission to "investigate and report expeditiously to a special meeting of the General Council, the facts and wishes of the Grenadian people." It was taken after five hours of debate among the 120 delegates.

The delegation from the Trinidad and Tobago

RESOLUTION

go Labour Congress (TTLC) comprised president Vernon Glean, who is also outgoing president of the CCL, Carl Tull, General Secretary of the TTLC, and Duncan Jacob, president of the National Petroleum Staff Association.

On the Caricom resolution, the Caribbean Congress stated that the military intervention in Grenada re-

sulted in strained relations between Caricom member states which would work to the detriment of Caricom in the areas of trade and related matters.

The Congress called on member states to resist any proposed restructuring of Caricom, and for an urgent meeting "to restore the community to its ex-ante position."

The Caribbean labour body condemned the atrocities committed by the Revolutionary Military Council of Grenada, but stated that the sovereignty of independent

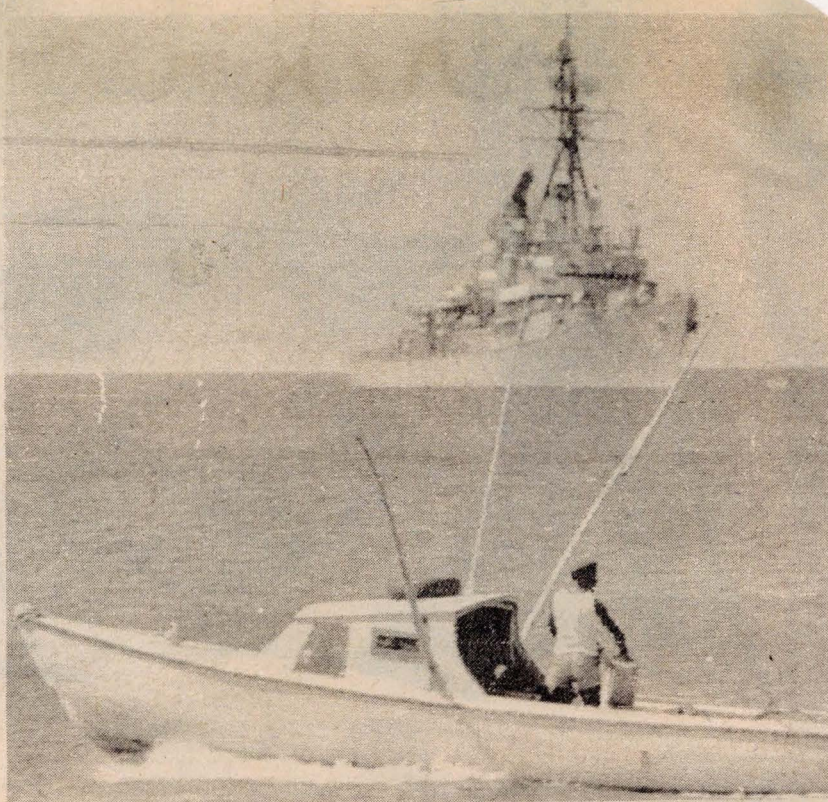
states was sacrosanct.

That resolution read: "Whereas military intervention in the independent nation of Grenada is repugnant to the principle of sovereignty and can have far-reaching repercussions of a regional and global nature.

"Be it resolved that this 8th Triennial Con-

gress of the Caribbean Congress of Labour expresses its deep concern at the military intervention and calls for the early withdrawal of all such forces from Grenada.

TTLC's president Vernon Glean and general secretary Carl Tull were elected to serve on the General Council.



A U.S. Navy warship looms in the background as fisherman from St George's, Grenada, leave the Melville Street fish market for the morning catch on

Thursday. All U.S combat troops are expected to leave by Christmas, but more than 2,000 non-combat troops will remain in Grenada. (UPI Radiophoto).

Watch for 'The Voice' of Grenada

A SPECIAL edition of THE VOICE, the daily paper of Grenada for which Alistair Hughes writes and Leslie Pierre edits, will be distributed on Wednesday in a limited edition in Trinidad and Tobago by the TRINIDAD EXPRESS.

THE VOICE was forced to suspend publication two years ago by the Bishop government after only a single issue had appeared.

Following the U.S.-led invasion its journalists, some of whom had been imprisoned by the military regime of Hudson Austin, were free to speak out and are beginning publication again, with the assistance of the TRINIDAD EXPRESS and leading newspapers in Jamaica and Barbados.

The EXPRESS sent several members of its production and editorial staff to Grenada last week to help THE VOICE get started again. Mervyn Wells, EXPRESS night editor, spend the week in Grenada and helped with the layout of the first issue.

The 16-page landmark issue, titled "A New Beginning," will include eyewitness reports of what happened in Grenada before and after the killing of the Prime Minister and

part of the cabinet and the reign of terror under a short-lived military regime that was overthrown by the invading forces. It also will describe plans for the interim government.

"A New Beginning" will be sold through the EXPRESS circulation department starting Wednesday at \$1.50 a copy. Only 2,000 copies will be available for sale in Trinidad and Tobago.

...express radio...express radio...express radio...express radio...express radio...express radio... express radio...

The Caribbean Interpreters and Translators Bureau monitors international shortwave radio broadcasts for the SUNDAY EXPRESS, selecting items of particular interest to Caribbean

British pride hurt over Grenada

listeners:

VOICE OF AMERICA (Spanish): Jesus Iglesias Rauco, special correspondent of the Argentine daily, La Prensa, states that the

people of Grenada welcomed the United States intervention. He says that the U.S. decision to organise in Grenada a free election, together with the terri-

fied stupor caused by the execution of Mr Bishop and various members of his Cabinet, was, according to many Grenadians, including many demo-

cratic socialists sympathetic to Bishop in person but opposed to his regime, the determining factor in the general acquiescence, in some cases the enthu-

siasm, with which the population greeted the U.S. intervention.

La Prensa also discusses the British reaction to the events in Grenada. It says that

Jamaica and other states of the Eastern Caribbean warned the Government in St George's 36 hours in advance that an invasion was imminent, but did not warn Great Britain of an initiative in which her Commonwealth partners were taking part.

Iglesias Rauco ends his article by saying that, in short, the ambivalent reactions of Great Britain, very similar to those of other nations, seem only designed to satisfy wounded pride or Victorian prudery, as well as to preserve the principle of non-intervention, though a few remember the obvious Soviet and Cuban intervention in the island; and above all to reserve to herself the role of friendly mediator in Central America, with or without the collaboration of Washington.

RADIO NETHERLANDS (Spanish):

The Secretary General of the Organisation of American States surprised the organisation at its meeting in Washington with the announcement of his impending resignation, to give way to a younger secretary general who, according to Orfila himself, will be capable of acting more aggressively than a man of 58 who has already completed a whole term at the head of the organisation and who is tired.

According to Orfila, aggressiveness is of the utmost importance, since the organisation is on the way to being relegated to the role of a second-class organisation.

In his resignation speech, Orfila claimed that the OAS now hardly carries out its responsibility as a political forum for the Western Hemisphere

and its duty to mediate between North and South America to bring the two continents closer together. These ideas, Mr Orfila said, which gave birth to the Organisation in 1948, were never taken seriously in practice.

It would be a good idea, he said, to consider the possibilities of reforming the Charter of the OAS to enable it to act more effectively against terrorism, infiltration and what he called "the new methods of intervention."

The Secretary General also criticised the United States. Washington, he said, shows scant understanding of the feelings of Latin America, and, worse yet, seems to have no interest in them. The United States does whatever it wants, with no regard for the feelings or interests of the Latin American nations.

RADIO NETHERLANDS (Spanish):

Latin American economies continue to shrink under the weight of external debt in spite of the recovery of the U.S. economy.

Prices of Latin American exports continue to fall, interest rates are stagnant, and the banks only lend if the borrowers have the approval of the Inter-

national Monetary Fund. These are the words of the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA), Mr Enrique Iglesias.

The problem of the economic and financial crisis in Latin America threatens to become a real regional catastrophe. A dispassionate analysis of the situation shows that the responsibility for the crisis is, in most cases, shared.

So in part it is due to new administrations and mistaken economic practices, and in part it is the responsibility of the international banking community, the multilateral organisations and the governments of the developed countries.

In the midst of this economic tempest, the most urgent problem is certainly that of the external debt. And its solution is not to be found in renegotiation coupled with a drastic programme of austerity, which is the method recently adopted.

The imbalances in the world economy have become more acute in recent times

and this has caused an erosion of the international framework in which the countries of Latin America have traditionally conducted their external economic relations. This has in turn brought about a crisis in the model of development adopted by these countries, showed up their external vulnerability and made clear the need to strengthen the economic security of the region.

In the search for new and effective solutions, ECLA has organised a conference which will take place in Quito, Ecuador, in January of next year, although the immediate future offers no great perspectives. Everything seems to indicate that the most appropriate road to follow is the adoption of a common strategy for all the countries of the region.

The two main planks of this strategy must be the reinforcement of the economic collectivity and the rapid implementation of a programme of action for the purpose of strengthening economic cooperation and inte-

gration of the region.

Regional economic security and independence are two links of the same chain. In short, the developing countries should adjust their ambitions, adapt to new models of development characterised by a greater emphasis on local and regional markets.

RADIO CANADA INTERNATIONAL (French):

El Salvador and not Nicaragua is likely to be the site of the next United States military intervention in the Western Hemisphere. Several elements make this Salvadorean hypothesis realistic.

The first is that the military situation of the Salvadorean government is bad. The U.S. takeover of the army in the spring has not produced the expected results; in addition, the offensive launched by the guerrillas in September is altering the geography of the zones under government control.

The political situation is no better. The constituent assembly is deadlocked; the promised elections seem less

and less likely to take place, and rumours of coups d'etat increase daily. The second factor is that an American intervention is not only considered inevitable in the long run but seems already to be in preparation.

If one is to believe the Salvadorean rebels,

Guatemalan and Honduran units are massing on the frontiers; and the Americans admit more freely every day that the political situation is bad. The U.S. press and particularly the U.S. television are giving enormous publicity to the revival of the death

squads, which they present as an obstacle to democracy and to the implementation of Washington's policies.

The third and last factor is that, in the thinking of the Reagan administration, an intervention in El Salvador has the following advantages: it would

apparently be less costly than against Nicaragua; it would answer the urgency of the situation; it would be in favour of the government and not against it; and it would be easy to justify as a blow against the far right as well as against the insurgents

SUNDAY OPINION

A SECOND CHANCE AT FREEDOM

AS THE horror over the events in Grenada subsides we must turn to the realities that confront the living. Sadly, life is far from a bed of roses for the people of that beleaguered country and they will need all the help they can get to pick up the pieces and resume a normal existence.

One immediate need is for communications so that people may again be informed on an on-going basis about events taking place in their midst. Fortunately Grenadians are well-served by men like Alister Hughes, Leslie Pierre, Lloyd Noel and Tillman Thomas who share that conviction.

Even before the smoke had fully cleared, these men, three of whom, Pierre, Noel and Thomas, had spent more than three years in Bishop's prisons, had agreed among themselves that an independently owned and operated newspaper was one of the priorities to which they had to address themselves.

They decided that "The Voice", the second issue of which newspaper had been siezed and banned by Bishop through the infamous introduction of retroactive legislation, should resume publication.

A meeting of the directors was convened last week to which the publisher of this newspaper was invited and firm decisions were taken to get the paper on the road. Since then other members of the Caribbean press have, likewise, made commitments to assist and the first publication will be on sale tomorrow.

It may be difficult even now for people in this country to understand the compulsion that drives such men to treat the re-introduction of a free press with such absolute priority.

This freedom we have always taken for granted in this country. But our friends in Grenada know differently. They understand that press freedom is not an issue that concerns only those who work in the media but that it is one of the fundamental planks on which democracies are built.

Bishop, too, understood this and therefore moved decisively while at the height of his popularity to destroy that threat to his policies. Grenada was charted on a course that left no room for dissent among the population, and left them without a voice to determine who should run their affairs.

That, of course, is the pattern in all repressive

regimes. Cloaking their evil intent with mindless claptrap about press barons and press lords serving their own class interests, they, then proceed to erect systems that have only one aim — to keep them in power forever.

The free press is always the first freedom to go, understandably so, since for these regimes to flourish they must do so by crushing the spirit of the individual and the first step in that process is to remove any avenue where the individual could voice his protest against any official action — letting no dog bark, with a vengeance.

Totalitarianism is, undoubtedly, the most dehumanising system ever devised on the face of this earth and it remains a source of wonder to us that, even now, there are still people who watch this kind of tyranny in the face and embrace, and urge others, to embrace it.

So we tip our hats to Leslie Pierre and his colleagues who understand that a free press is one of the beacons of liberty and who even before they got their own lives in order have hastened to give Grenadians a voice that has been denied them over the last four and a half years.

In the absence of any newspaper, in essence an inexpensive and widely distributed public forum, Grenadians were unaware that there was a Central Committee which was the final arbiter of their fate. What arrogance on the part of these people who dared to tell the world that they were running a free and democratic country!

In the absence of a newspaper and in the presence of a rigidly controlled radio station that was anything but free, Grenadians were unaware that, almost from the very beginning, the party that ruled in their name had begun to deteriorate with the minutes of its meetings being at one and the same time a ludicrous and tragic picture of supposedly intelligent men struggling to fit their Caribbean country into a nineteenth century political system that has only, so far, managed to enslave millions.

Caribbean people and indeed, free men the world over, should wish "The Voice" well. Seldom do a people get a second chance at freedom. The reemergence of "The Voice" is proof that the people of Grenada have.

Why Maurice Bishop must be a hero

By DR GEOFFREY FRANKSON

THE MOST FAMOUS revolutionary in Western history was hanged from a cross nearly 2000 years ago — we still commemorate his death every Sunday. Most of his successors have also come to a violent end, violence being, from all appearances, an inescapable aspect of change in human society.

This should not be too surprising: the power structure in all societies, animal or human, is maintained through force or the threat of force, whether the social system be totalitarian, as in many communist countries, proportionately representative as in most of Europe, or a tolerant oppression, as found in the USA.

Peaceful change is only possible in a society that arrives at a genuine consensus on the politics of change (and some Scandinavian countries have come pretty close to doing so), but such a consensus will not be realised as long as there is even a small minority who can claim that their political potential is limited by social or economic factors. Anarchy might well be the only solution.

Except to anarchists and bleeding hearts, Maurice Bishop's death will not be too troubling. For his supporters it was untimely; a setback, but heroic. For his detractors, it was an inevitable result of his misguided notions. Progressive West Indians will fall into the former category. They will reflect on Bishop's endeavours in an historical perspective — something sadly lacking in those who opposed his ideas — and they will rest assured that the things for which he struggled and died will sooner or later come to pass.

The inevitability of these things frightens our status quo supporters: the fear of change translates into a fear of progress. Although Bishop has died, they are still nervous and hiding their fears behind loud cheers for the Americans, for the threat lingers on; the hopes of 'the masses' remain, and the masses are everywhere.

There are countless Grenadians all over the world and Maurice Bishop will rise again and again. The masses are moving as they have been moving since the abolition of slavery and try as they might, the Americans and their lackeys can do nothing to stop them.

Still, they will try, and naturally they will place every issue in an ideological framework. It is easier to deal with labels than with processes; dichotomies are simpler than systems. Those who supported Bishop are — or used to be — called 'communists'; those who did not support the invasion are called 'leftist'; anything to do with Cuba is 'bad'. Reality, however is never as simple as a dichotomy, and those with simple attitudes are bound to wind up confused.

The many foolish contradictions that have surfaced in the Press over the last few weeks are inevitable, and have amply demonstrated the shallowness of the media's perspectives on Caribbean affairs. It is appalling that Trinidadians should have within memory lived through the Butler era, thrown out the Americans, earned their independence, established a republic, attempted a federation, experienced the 1970 'revolution', wallowed in oil-wealth, built the OWTU, acknowledged the Cuban and the Grenadian revolutions and still tolerate such simplistic attitudes towards recent events. (Or is it that journalism only attracts simple-

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minded people, and the selected letters to the editor are mainly written by extremists?).

Be that as it may, change must come to these islands, and in these complicated societies change will be a complex affair. The ease with which we talk about 'left' and 'right' cannot be translated into easy solutions. There will be no 'communist' revolution (whatever that is) in any of these islands, but neither must the Americans succeed in forcing their anti-communism on us.

What was happening in Grenada was not a side show in the struggle between Moscow and Washington, and it is an insult to those Grenadians who worked so hard on the adult literacy programme and on the immunisation campaign to suggest that it was. West Indians have their own history to live and they will live that history no less painfully than other people are living theirs. To restrict them to one 'camp' or another is to belittle their judgement and will undermine their capacity to rule

The many foolish contradictions that have surfaced in the Press over the last few weeks are inevitable, and have amply demonstrated the shallowness of the media's perspectives on Caribbean affairs. It is appalling that Trinidadians should have within memory lived through the Butler era, thrown out the Americans, earned their independence, established a republic, attempted a federation, experienced the 1970 'revolution', wallowed in oil-wealth, built the OWTU, acknowledged the Cuban and the Grenadian revolutions and still tolerate such simplistic attitudes towards recent events. (Or is it that journalism only attracts simple-minded people, and the selected letters to the editor are mainly written by extremists?).

themselves.

More than most of his contemporaries, Maurice Bishop recognised these verities; indeed, the evidence suggests that he died because of his refusal to align himself completely with one side or the other. He was 'leftist' because he was committed to change, not vice versa, and meaningful change in the Caribbean context means moving 'left' of the status quo; it cannot mean anything else.

There is no 'rightist' concept that is not status quo is at heart; there is no conservative and coherent theory or praxis that could free the West Indian masses from the mental and physical shackles of colonialism and also avoid domination of the economy, lifestyle and culture by a materialistic elite.

The 'right' only exists in relation to the 'left'. Its supporters define themselves, not by promulgating ideas, but by castigating the 'left'. By calling people 'communists' they say who they are. They exploit the fear of change; they play on natural insecurities and invoke the wrath of God on their 'evil' opponents, but they have nothing new to contribute to the progress of society. It is testimony to their failure that Bishop should turn out to have been popular with the masses and respected by his fellow Caricom leaders — even as Seaga's 'deliv-

erance' of Jamaica is failing to come to pass.

In the aftermath of Bishop's death, the need for the change he sought is clearer than ever. The public response to the American invasion, like the response to the 'rebel' cricketers, has shown just how backward the masses are in their concepts of freedom, self-reliance and self-respect, and just how much in its infancy the Grenadian revolution was. West Indians now look like fools to the rest of the world — and this impression will only get stronger as more truths come out.

They have been fed a pack of lies by their leaders; they have been treated with contempt by the Americans; they have been misled by their own 'free' press, like the American people, subjected to a manipulation of public opinion that would be laughable if it were not so disgusting. Worst of all, they do not even know how foolish they sound singing 'God bless America'.

Those who doubt the validity of these charges should read again the newspaper reports of the last two weeks in October; they should reflect on the treatment of West Indian media personnel by the Americans; on the systematic 'disinformation' that was released during and immediately after the invasion; on the contradictions between Seaga and Adams, Adams and Reagan, Reagan and U.S. reporters, and on the paucity of information about Grenadian fatalities.

There was one chaotic day in Grenada: the day Bishop was killed. There were no more executions; no American lives were threatened. Austin had no support in the Caribbean, little in Grenada and even less in Cuba: he could not have lasted.

If there were large stockpiles of arms in Grenada (and increasingly it seems there were not) then they must have been in trans shipment (perhaps to Angola, a good thing), for they were not in the hands of the Grenadians and there was no Cuban army in Grenada.

Nor could there ever have been; the Cubans are not that stupid. The USA would never have tolerated a Cuban army in Grenada, much less a Cuban attack on any other island — and little Grenada was certainly not going to attack anyone. The airport was for tourists — it had been in order to expand the economy — and tourists do not visit communist military bases.

As the Americans landed, 'stiff' resistance was reported from 'two thousand' Cubans, many of whom 'took to the hills' (those hills, mind you, being several miles from Point Saline). Six hundred were immediately secured; now we find that there were only another 184, less than 100 of whom were soldiers, and only 24 were killed. No fierce battles have been described, and apart from the asylum inmates, three Grenadian deaths have been acknowledged.

So who were those 600 Americans fighting? What was all the bombing and strafing about? Either scores of Grenadians are dead or the USA was deliberately terrorising the defenceless population of a tiny island. Anyway you look at it, October 25 was a day of shame for which there can be no 'justification'.

There are now a lot of fool-

(SEE PAGE 9)

(FROM PAGE 8)

ish-looking and foolish-sounding people around: fools like Bernard Coard who thought they could challenge Bishop's leadership; fools like Austin who thought they would be accepted as a government after their butchery; fools in Grenada who think the Americans are benefactors who came to rescue them; fools in the other islands who think the Americans invaded on humanitarian grounds, and fools who believe the Americans will pull out 'as soon as possible'.

Actually, we all look like fools: we jumped out of the lap of mother England; danced our little independence dances; played our little Caricom game; got scared by the communist bogeyman, and got slapped by our American aunt. It was a slap in the face that the whole world disapproved of — even mother England — but we say, yes, we deserved the slap for tolerating Maurice Bishop and his revolutionary ideas; thank you, America, we did not know what we were doing.

Fortunately, Trinidad and Tobago is not in so shameful a position as the rest, and indeed, the Grenadian crisis may yet turn out to be the best thing that has happened for this country since 1970. We are being forced into a more mature internationalism that will have widespread implications for local politics and economics.

Already, from some things that have been said, it should be clear to all thinking Trinidadians that the affairs of this country cannot be placed in the hands of those who did not win a seat. When emotions have cooled and events are re-examined in the light of West Indian principles which have evolved over years of struggle against colonialisms, Eric Williams's successor may well be the only Caricom leader to remain in power.

But, we hope, even his government will soon be replaced by a group of younger men committed to a new society characterised by its honesty, self-reliance and the true freedom that only comes with economic security at all levels. Theirs will be a government with meaningful representation of all the people; a government with independent policies, dedicated to Caribbean unity, and not just passively non-aligned, but actively anti-Soviet and anti-American, recognising that these two ideological monoliths are responsible for all the fear and malevolence that divides the world — and the Caribbean — today.

Contrary to a commonly expressed opinion, West Indians

do not have to choose sides. That is the mistake Bishop made (which he was recently trying to correct) and which Seaga and Adams are making. We are far from the Soviet Union and we have the backing of the rest of the world in the face of American imperialism. We are in a good position to adopt mature and independent policies, and we can afford to dispassionately select the good and reject the bad in any system or ideology.

It is not a matter of sitting on a fence: we have to start building our own society in our yard, between the two fences.

When we do we will have initiated our own revolution, and we will be able to talk about 'revolution' without fear. People will then come to understand

growth. Mistakes have been and will be made: the Grenadian revolution never claimed to be pure or perfect. Some people suffered unfairly under Bishop; an unknown number have now died, and many, perhaps most Grenadians are glad that this period in their history is over. But those who struggle for progress; those brave soldiers who fought, not in defence of Austin and his thugs, but for Grenadian sovereignty, are the real heroes of the people.

When the dust has cleared and the fear has gone, the American action will be seen for what it is; the lackeys will know who they are, and the real Caribbean men will stand up to be counted.

That day might be some time in coming for people are feeling insecure. A line is being drawn

For now, we have to suffer this silly intermission during which otherwise intelligent people are calling both Reagan and Bishop 'heroes', or condemning both as oppressors, and generally trying to sort out their confused dichotomies. Things, we are told, are returning to 'normal' in Grenada.

We cannot be sure what this curious word means over there, but in this country, 'normal' means O'Halloran and Thomas-Hussens, politicians who somehow become millionaires, clothing merchants demanding sexual favours from employees, stroke specialists and bed-money, white women being abused in the streets by unemployed youths with inferiority complexes, American-accented radio announcers blasting foreign music on all four stations, 'pressure' from the Joneses next door, and escape into rastafarianism or drugs.

that revolution does not necessarily mean violence; it does not mean that bad men will dominate the society and take from people their property and their freedoms. What it does mean is a change in the consciousness of ordinary folk; a recognition among those poor in material possessions, that they too are entitled to health, education and employment, and that corridors of power can extend into urban ghettos and country villages.

Revolution does not mean that massa is dead, but rather that he is obsolete — like courtiers in a republic or inches in a metric system.

Undoubtedly, a majority of West Indians still has a colonial mentality. The media still speaks for that majority, and leaders like Seaga, Adams and Charles can still win elections — even Gairy has a chance. Our economies are still bound by imperialist traditions; our notion of freedom is still anti-communist rather than nationalist, and democracy is still perceived solely in terms of the ballot box. But we are not quite as backward as we were twenty years ago: the minority that understands what Bishop was trying to achieve has grown — in number and in maturity.

The experience of the last few weeks has been a part of that

between 'right' and 'left', and the 'left' is being widely indicted. The 'right' however is now dominant in the Americas: in the USA, Guatemala, Honduras, Costa Rica, Uruguay, Brazil, Chile, Jamaica, Haiti, Puerto Rico, Dominica, Antigua, Barbados, St Lucia and St Vincent.

It is one of the ironies arising out of West Indian naivete that we rant and rave about communism when there is a far bigger threat of right-wing oppression — and the 'right' in this hemisphere has been far more brutal than the 'left'. It is the 'right' that is associated with police brutality, death squads, 'dirty' wars, mongoose gangs, witch-hunts, detention and torture, public order acts and the invasion of sovereign states.

These evils do not come to pass overnight; they creep up slowly on simple-minded and complacent populations. And after it has happened, the oppressed in these countries have no one to help them, for the USA has never intervened in a right-wing dictatorship, no matter how blood-thirsty. Americans have never assisted liberation movements fighting impoverishment, racism or social injustice anywhere in the world; they are committed to no cause other than that of their strategic position vis-a-vis the Russians.

Small wonder the communists are sometimes seen as a 'necessary evil', for without communist 'intervention' and support there would be no hope for the blacks of southern Africa; no hope for the peasants of Central America; and China, where a quarter of humanity lives, would still be a land of famine, pestilence and abject poverty.

Those who are complacent about the 'right' in the Caribbean should note Tom Adams's call for a 'list' of proscribed persons in the coming Grenadian elections — lists have a way of growing. It was Adams who sent troops to St Vincent in 1979, police to Dominica in 1981, and stationed his coast guard off St Lucia during the May elections last year. It was his party organ, the 'Beacon', that called for state control of the media in August of this year.

The leader of the opposition has claimed that CIA agents were training the Barbadian military, and under Adams, military expenditure has grown from BD \$500,000 a year in the mid-seventies to over BD\$10 million a year — hence the calypso 'Government boots' which Adams has banned from the radio.

Adams also banned a Vicentian Marxist lecturer, Ralph Gonsalves, from the Cave Hill campus, and has revoked the work permit of Rickey Singh, Guyanese editor of Caribbean Contact, the only liberal newspaper of note in the English-speaking Caribbean (and, shamefully, not a word of protest from our 'freedom-loving' Trinidadian editors who were so concerned about Alister Hughes in Grenada!). Where will it all end?

For now, we have to suffer this silly intermission during which otherwise intelligent people are calling both Reagan and Bishop 'heroes', or condemning both as oppressors, and generally trying to sort out their confused dichotomies. Things, we are told, are returning to 'normal' in Grenada.

We cannot be sure what this curious word means over there, but in this country, 'normal' means O'Halloran and Thomas-Hussens, politicians who somehow become millionaires, clothing merchants demanding sexual favours from employees, stroke specialists and bed-money, white women being abused in the streets by unemployed youths with inferiority complexes, American-accented radio announcers blasting foreign music on all four stations, 'pressure' from the Joneses next door, and escape into rastafarianism or drugs.

If this is normalcy then people should understand why Maurice Bishop must be a hero.

By DAVID RENWICK

Parliamentary

Affairs Reporter

Bishop was no martyr

LESLIE PIERRE, the Grenada businessman and community leader, said something very perceptive when he was released from the detention to which he had been illegally consigned by the former People's Revolutionary Government (PRG).

It was, "We should be careful about turning Maurice Bishop into a martyr."

Some extraordinary people have been assisting the process of the late Bishop's martyrdom in the wake of his brutal murder by his own People's Revolutionary Army (PRA).

They include Tom Adams, the Prime Minister of Barbados, who, in trying to cast Bishop as the "good guy" done in by the "bad guys" on the extreme left wing of his New Jewel Movement and the bloodthirsty PRA officer corps, insisted that he had been "drifting towards moderation" in his political views.

It seems hard to believe this is the same Adams who spent a considerable part of his time in recent years engaged in a bellicose shouting match with the slain Grenada leader, and had withdrawn VIP privileges from PRG ministers passing through the Barbados airport.

President Ronald Reagan, of all people, came close to elevating Bishop to something approaching sainthood when explaining why the United States had responded to the request to lead the military assault on the island. Hearing Reagan speak about Bishop, you would think that the soldiers who gunned him down had had no previous connection with the deceased leader and that the Cubans had forced their way into Grenada to threaten the whole Eastern Caribbean and even the U.S. itself, almost against Bishop's will.

Like Leslie Pierre, I am concerned at the attempt, intentional or otherwise, to whitewash the political administration over which Bishop quite happily presided for four years.

Before the sanitisation effort gets too far advanced and Bishop comes to be seen as the folk hero of the revolution, manfully confronting (no doubt single-handedly) the forces of extremism and darkness, let us rehearse for the last time (since my readers must, by now, be impatient for me to move off the tortured subject of Grenada) some of the major elements that characterised the type of government Maurice Bishop was unapologetically willing to lead in Grenada since 1979.

(1) It was a government conceived and nurtured in illegality and unconstitutionality. The New Jewel Movement seized power by force of arms (the same thing the Austin faction of the PRA eventually turned around and did to Bishop himself) and kept it by force of arms.

(2) It was a government that ran the country through "people's laws". These were laws concocted behind closed doors by Bishop and his closest cronies and then handed down by decree for the population to obey instantly. There was, of course, no open discussion on proposed new laws, as would take place in other Caricom countries, no pressure of public opinion ("public opinion" was Bishop's opinion and Marxist ideology), no discussion in the press, no contrary points of view.

(3) The judicial and law-interpretation process was conducted on the basis of whim, fancy and ideological prejudice. The few judicial officers who remained in Grenada were expected to produce verdicts that satisfied the administration. The concept of an "independent judiciary" which prevails elsewhere in Caricom (even the judges in Guyana have not entirely lost their self-respect) was unknown in Grenada.

The respected "Caribbean and West Indies Chronicle" magazine of London writes in its latest issue, as part of a survey which considered aspects of human rights in the region, "An Amnesty International observer attended the trial in Grenada of five people charged in connection with a bomb explosion at a government rally in 1980.

"Originally charged with murder, the defendants were subsequently tried retroactively under an anti-terrorist law introduced by government decree. The new law, carrying a mandatory death sentence, does not provide for trial by jury. Four of the defendants were sentenced to death, three of them on uncorroborated testimony. The fifth was cleared of all charges but is still in detention."

(4) Bishop headed a government that deliberately set out to create a climate of fear within the small Grenadian community. Not to prattle continuous verbal support for the revolution was to

be considered subversive; at best, hostile.

Any dissenting view, however mild, was branded "anti-revolutionary" and people began looking over their shoulders and checking who might be outside their doors before they were willing to talk even in the privacy of their own homes.

(5) Bishop headed a government that had no hesitation in militarising the society. Everybody was conditioned to be a fighter for the revolution, down to schoolchildren not yet in their teens, who were assiduously taught to mouth anti-imperialist slogans and to join one of the various youth groups, where they recited revolutionary songs and adopted postures of pugnacious defiance.

Bishop took a leaf out of the Guyanese book and created a "people's militia" separate from the standing army as a paramilitary force. It was a common sight to see 15-year-olds waving guns in a menacing manner.

(6) The Bishop Government's most renowned aberration was detention without trial and hundreds of people at different times were simply whisked off to jail under People's Law Number Eight, which sanctioned preventive detention, subject only to Ministerial review.

Bishop was quite happy to sit down to dinner every night, knowing that some people his Government perceived to be "threats" to itself were languishing in custody year after year. It would be interesting to know what he thought of the idea of "preventive detention" when it was finally visited upon himself.

(7) Bishop casually shut down the independent "Torchlight" newspaper a few months after assuming power and promptly made the printing and publishing of newspapers, other than the one his Government owned, illegal. Leslie Pierre found himself in "preventive detention" for precisely that crime -- daring to exercise the right given him by the Constitution that Bishop consigned to the dustbin to record information and opinion in printed form.

(8) Bishop had no hesitation about down-grading the role of the police force in Grenada, apparently seeing it as too representative of the constitutional framework that preceded his arrival. The visible evidence of authority on the island became the motley crowd of the unwashed and the unemployable known as the People's Revolutionary Army, and the well-trained police force was relegated to directing traffic and investigating minor crimes.

Maurice Bishop and the New Jewel Movement, therefore, represented a way of political life that diverged sharply from the Caricom norm and was alien to regional tradition.

The divergence did not begin with the coup by the extremist wing of the PRA; it existed all the time. What "General" Hudson Austin did was simply give it a more brutal and bloodthirsty twist.

Bishop cannot be conveniently extricated at this stage from culpability for the ghastly events which overtook the Isle of Spice in October. He was quite happy to set in motion a new ideological and social culture in Grenada that paid little heed to the rights of man, the liberty of the subject and the principles that govern political life in the civilised Caribbean.

The fact that he himself was eventually consumed by it is his own misfortune and certainly does not justify any belated attempt to cast Bishop in the role of latter-day saint. The truth is, he was as much a sinner as the rest of his wretched and vulgar band of fellow-travellers.

GRENADA TODAY

Bishop supporters flee into the hills

ST. GEORGE'S, Grenada, Thursday, CANA—About 40 armed supporters of slain Grenada Prime Minister Maurice Bishop have fled into the hills and are scared, a former aide to Bishop said today.

The aide, who spoke on condition that he was not named, also said last month's U.S.-led invasion of the island may well have averted a bloody civil war between factions of the New Jewel Movement which ruled Grenada for four and a half years before it was ousted in an October 19 military coup.

Bishop was killed by soldiers during the take-over. Six days later U.S. troops landed on the island to remove the military rulers.

It was a power struggle between Bishop and his Deputy Bernard Coard which sent off the chain of events leading to the invasion.

Bishop's former aide told CANA the 40 supporters of Bishop moved into the hills of St. Paul's and another area in southern Grenada after Bishop had been killed at army headquarters.

"If the Americans did not intervene, we would have had to fight for our lives because some of us went to the Prime Minister to free him (from house arrest) and were actually in the room (at army headquarters) with him just before those soldiers came up to the fort and opened fire," the aide said.

Ailing McIntyre says no to G'da

ST. GEORGE'S, Thursday (Cana)—members of Grenada's Interim Advisory Council regret that economist Ailing McIntyre is unable to

take up the chairmanship of the council, Attorney-General Anthony Rushford said today.

Rushford was react-

ing to the announcement in New Delhi earlier today by Commonwealth Secretary-General Shridath Ramphal that McIntyre is ill and could not accept the offer to lead the interim administration. McIntyre needs four months medical treatment, Ramphal said.

Everybody is sorry that McIntyre is ill and disappointed that he is not coming, Rushford said.

The interim administration will run Grenada until elections can be held sometime next year.

Hope Grenada will hold elections soon

THE EDITOR: One of our sister islands, the beautiful Grenada, was recently the centre of international strife and chaos, when their Prime Minister, Maurice Bishop, was tragically killed in that island.

In the light of the disaster that took place recently in Grenada, we take it as a duty to the people of the Caribbean, to remind our citizens, that any crisis, any disaster that takes place in any of our Caribbean countries automatically becomes our crisis and our concern.

We need to

Caribbean neighbours know that we are as one with them, and that we will support them in times of need and distress.

American intervention in Grenada was inevitable. We have neither the forces, the man-power or ammunition or even the right as a Caribbean neighbour to move in and fight in one of our sister isles, unless it is for their defence. And in this case where wrong was done it would be in their defence.

It is likely that without intervention on the part of the Americans and other concerned neighbours of the Caribbean, Grenadians may well have come to the point where they would have become a danger to themselves, or a target for more insidious activity.

We all pray for Grenada and a hope that in the very near future, they will be able to vote for a Government of their choice.

JOAN CARRERA,
Belmont.

U.S. ASSISTANCE STILL NEEDED—HUGHES

WASHINGTON, Thursday, (CANNA)—Grenada, where the United States intervened to topple a military junta, still needs American assistance - but not at the expense of its political independence, respected Grenadian journalist Alister Hughes has said.

Hughes made the comment while addressing members of the U.S. house subcommittee on western hemisphere affairs here recently. Committee Chairman Michael Barnes had invited Hughes to address the body.

Hughes said: "The Americans are seen as the emissaries of God, having come to relieve us," he added: "We

dent newspapers such as the "Voice" forced to close.

The "Voice" was closed in 1981, after publishing a number of reports critical of the government, but Saturday last rolled off the printing presses, making what Hughes said is the beginning of a free press in the small Caribbean Island. The independent "Torchlight" newspaper was closed in 1979, and the "Catholic Focus", published by the Catholic Church, in 1980.

Hughes said that if we had a free flow of ideas and information the repression and turmoil of the past years could have been prevented. Unfortunately, he said, freedom of information was not the style of the regime we had.

meetings and censor the press.

Hughes explained that these powers are not automatically in effect, and that publication of the "Voice" is evidence of a free press.

FOCUS ON NORTH AMERICA

want your help, but we don't want it at the expense of becoming your satellite. What I am saying is: "Please help, but be careful."

Hughes, a veteran journalist who reports for the Caribbean News Agency (CANA) and other western media was jailed by the junta shortly after the army took power in a coup in which Prime Minister Maurice Bishop was killed.

Hughes was freed after U.S. and Caribbean troops invaded Grenada last month to topple the military and restore elected government.

Hughes told the congressional hearing that one of the casualties of the leftist government which had ruled Grenada from March 1979 was freedom of information, with indepen-

Trinidad-born democratic member of the subcommittee, Mervyn Dymally, an outspoken critic of the U.S. action in Grenada, asked Hughes what authority the U.S. army had to conduct search and seizure operations on the island.

Hughes replied: "I am not in a position to argue the legal point of the operations. I just see the U.S. army continue what they came to do. It's a cleaning up operation. We need military action to establish normality."

Chairman Michael Barnes, a democrat, who called the U.S. operation justified after a fact-finding tour to the island, said he was surprised that the Governor-General, Sir Paul Scoon, had claimed the power to ban public

Erect a monument to honour the Americans

THE EDITOR: Sir, I am not a politician nor am I an expert on international affairs, but from a purely humanitarian point of view, I am unable to understand how one can condemn the action taken by the United States of America and the Caribbean countries involved in rescuing the Grenadians from the clutches of a bunch of mad, ruthless and power hungry lot, who are completely lacking of all human values and moral principles.

Such people who have no regard for the order of law, rules, and moral principles can be only dealt with by sheer brute force and violence, such as the United States alone could have inflicted.

It is with great sadness that I have to say that I am most disappointed and ashamed at the stand taken by our government on this matter as a whole.

It is my firm view that it would have been totally senseless and useless and a waste of valuable resources to send any fact finding or peace making mission to such irresponsible

and power hungry people, who are capable of going to any extremes in their quest for power.

From the very outset, any fairly intelligent and even minded person could have clearly seen that the whole affair was a planned manoeuvre by Russia and Cuba, using the senseless and power hungry Coard and Austin combination to achieve their ends by slaughtering Bishop and those that supported him, because they seemed to be moderately shifting away from the hard-line communist way in the interest of their country.

Our Government speaks of sending fact finding and peace making missions to Grenada, but why don't they send these mission to Guyana where the people of that country are suffering the worst form of atrocities and human right violations at the hands of Burnham.

I would rather not address him as President, because it is an established fact that he is in office by default of all moral and legal principles one can think of. A glaring example was the Walter Rodney affair. If at anytime

any such missions was sent to that country, what came out of it? Only a waste of valuable resources.

As critical as the situation is in Guyana in this regard, I would agree that any military intervention in the internal affairs of that country by another country would be wrong, but in the case of Grenada where the circumstances are completely different in many ways, and poses a grave threat to the entire Caribbean, in my view the action taken by the United States of America and the Caribbean countries involved was one hundred per cent justified.

Since the very presence of the Russians and the Cubans in Grenada was as a result of their interference in the internal affairs of that country when Bishop had taken over from Gairy. It is no use hypocritically pretending that this was not so.

I am certain that if a referendum was to be held in Grenada as to whether the military intervention by the United States was welcome or not, I am very certain that at least ninety per cent of the people will vote in favour. It is only the hardline Marxist supporters who are very few in numbers will vote against.

In my view if the vast majority of Grenadians welcome the actions, then nothing in the world matters. Be it charter, rules, treaty or whatever.

In conclusion I wish to congratulate the United States of America and the Caribbean countries involved for their timely intervention in rescuing the Grenadians, and possibly the entire Caribbean in the long run from the cancerous disease of communism.

Through your column Sir, I wish to suggest to the Grenadian people to erect a monument as a token of their gratitude to the United States of America and the Caribbean States involved for the invaluable service rendered in their darkest hour of need.

RAMSUBHAG SINGH,
Marabella.

POLITICS

After Grenada, Anglo-American relations still remain intact



INDIRA GANDHI

The elusive affair

THERE were more telephone calls than usual to British diplomatic missions in America last month, especially in the mid-west. The message was clear and constant: We supported you in the Falklands war — why didn't you support us in Grenada? Middle America is thoroughly pissed off, observed one diplomat.

If there were no special relationship, one of the under-secretaries in the Pentagon would not have complained bitterly last week: Any awkwardness Thatcher and Geoffrey Howe suffered over Grenada was a fly

speck compared to what we suffered in South America because we supported you in the Falklands. But we suffered silently.

But what is special about Anglo-American relations? Perhaps it is the fact that, although the President told Mrs Thatcher about his invasion plans 20 hours later than the British thought he should have done, he still bothered to inform them before he signed the order.

The relationship also exists when someone in the State Department decides that Zimbabwe should be punished for

the White House not to over-react too much when the Soviets shoot down a civilian airliner. It is the presence in Washington, normally in the balmy days of its extended autumn, of a remarkable number of

British Ministers.

In the other direction, a survey carried out recently at the U.S. Embassy in London recorded 15,000 Americans visiting Britain on some kind of official business in a single

year. One of them will be here soon — Kenneth Dam, a senior State Department official, who will breakfast with Mrs Thatcher, as part of American efforts to smooth out the fallout over Grenada.

No British or American civilians were killed in Grenada. So the damage to the Anglo-American alliance has been limited. The President was very lucky, says one who observed the affair from the inside. But Grenada does reveal what the special relationship is not. It cannot prevent either Britain or the United States altering each other's fundamental conception of their own national interests, as the Falklands and Grenada have shown.

Mrs Thatcher twice told the President — once by letter, then by telephone — that the invasion would increase opposition to the deployment of cruise and

Pershing missiles in western Europe. The State Department agreed with the Prime Minister, but both Mr Reagan and Mr Shultz thought the invasion of Grenada was more important to the national interest. The President was cleaning up the neighbourhood.

The strength of the relationship depends on the bond between President and Prime Minister. In the past 20 years Kennedy and MacMillan got on well. Lyndon Johnson thought he had Harold Wilson in his pocket. Nixon, who was no less scornful of Wilson, thought that Heath was too pro-European. Callaghan nurtured his friendship with Ford and Carter, for whom Mrs Thatcher felt ill-disguised contempt. The relationship between Mr Reagan and Mrs Thatcher, cemented by an uncomplicated view of what is

right and what is wrong, is as strong as any since 1963.

The special relationship will continue. But one senior State Department official told me recently that, while America's relations with Britain are the fondest, the relationship with Germany is the most important politically. This view is not universally held, but it does suggest that what is special is not necessarily the most crucial.

They have never done what we've told them to and, as our resources diminish, we will have less influence and less leverage here, my special advisor on the relationship told me last week. But, at least the language is common enough to discuss the special relationship. I did my own poll. Does it exist, I asked? Of course it bloody does, replied 100 per cent of those questioned.