

# The Grenada

# NEWSLETTER

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## THE QUEEN VISITS

Two days of bright sunshine gave way on October 31st to overcast skies and rainy weather as the Royal Yacht "Britannia" dropped anchor "under the guns" of Fort George at 9.00 a.m.

Crowds gathered early at the Carenage in St. George's inner harbour where Queen Elizabeth II of Grenada and of Great Britain landed at 10.00 a.m. on a specially constructed pier and was greeted by her Representative, Governor General Sir Paul Scoon and Lady Scoon.

Also at this point, the Queen was greeted by Prime Minister Herbert Blaize who presented the Ministers of his Cabinet, Dr. Francis Alexis, Mr. George Brizan, Mr. Ben Jones, Mr. George McGuire, Dr. Keith Mitchell and Mr. Daniel Williams. He presented also Mr. Marcel Peters, Leader of the Opposition.

After a brief "walkabout", the Queen and her husband, the Duke of Edinburgh, motored to York House, Parliament Building, where she addressed both Houses of Parliament and declared open a special session of the 3rd Parliament.

Shortly after 6.00 a.m. on that day, the "Tyrell Bay", flagship of the Grenada coast guard, left the harbour together with her two police launch escorts and, just after 8 a.m., "Britannia" was seen approaching the outer harbour from the west flanked by "Tyrell Bay" on her port side and a British destroyer escort on her starboard, the "Tyrell Bay" and escort each being about 1,000 yards from the Royal yacht.

"Britannia" is not a beautiful boat, her foredeck seems too short to be in proportion with the height of her superstructure and her length. But there is something majestic in the presentation of her black hull, white topsides and yellow smokestack.

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FOUNDED 17TH AUGUST 1973

She flew the Union Jack at her bow and the White Ensign at her stern. "Britannia" has three spars and she flew Grenada's flag from the after spar. The flags on the other two spars were the Queen's personal ensign and her flag of the Lord High Admiral of the British fleet.

At Parliament hundreds of enthusiastic Grenadians thronged the approaches to York House as the Queen read the Throne Speech.

Prepared by the Government of Grenada, the Throne Speech reflects the Grenada Government's policies, and the Queen said the Government will give further support to the Royal Grenada Police Force and encourage a healthy relationship between the police and the community.

"My Government supports the Regional Security Scheme", she said, "and will cooperate in any reasonable plan to enhance the security of the Caribbean region".

Grenada's commitment to the Organisation of East Caribbean States and to "the wider Caribbean community" is emphasised in the speech but there is no hint of or reference to the "coldness" which existed between St. George's and London following Britain's failure to support the "Rescue Mission" of 25th October 1983. Any anti-British feeling here as a result of that failure is so small as to be considered almost nonexistent and the closest the Throne Speech gets to commenting on the relationship involved is a reference to the commonwealth.

"My Government's faith in the commonwealth is unshakeable", the Queen said, "and my Government will continue to make their contribution towards the growth and vitality of the commonwealth".

The speech referred to several matters which are already common knowledge. Among these are Grenada's commitment to the Organisation of East Caribbean States, United Nations and the Organisation of American States.

There was reference to the emphasis on development of agriculture and tourism, to the current road reconstruction programme and to the decision to "privatise" certain state enterprises. Two <sup>new</sup> matters were introduced in the speech.

"The newly established National Economic Council will design a comprehensive development strategy to incorporate plans for the reduction of unemployment and for enhancing economic growth", the Queen said.

The other new matter is the decision to codify the labour laws, and the Queen said steps will be taken to create better understanding between employers and employees.

Dressed in light blue with a light blue hat, the Queen left Parliament with Prince Philip for Government House where she conducted an investiture of persons honoured in her last Birthday Honours List. The Duke also

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presented awards in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.

Following this the Queen hosted a luncheon on the "Britannia" and attended a rally at Queens Park where rain and a muddy Queens Park did not dampen the enthusiasm of thousands of Grenadians who turned out to give her and the Duke of Edinburgh a warm welcome.

That welcome was formalised in an address by Prime Minister Herbert Blaize who said much had happened in Grenada since the Queen visited the island in February 1966.

"We have experienced changing fortunes on several fronts", he said, "we have had to bear, at times, unusual burdens, but I believe we have come out of our difficulties and anxieties with added faith and courage".

Mr. Blaize said that, during all the difficult times, Grenadians have been fortunate in having the Queen as the country's Head of State, as this gave hope in times of despair and provided the necessary symbol of authority to make a new beginning.

This reference appears to be to the fact that, after the Marxist revolution of 1979, the Peoples Revolutionary Government retained the Queen as Grenada's Head of State and Governor General Sir Paul Scoon as her representative.

Because of this, after the assassination of Prime Minister Maurice Bishop and members of his Cabinet on 19th October 1983, Sir Paul was able to assume executive authority and request the military intervention which rescued the island from anarchy.

Referring to the hundreds of school children assembled for the occasion, the Prime Minister said it would be their responsibility to keep the torch of peace and international understanding alight.

"They have inherited a democratic way of life which allows decisions to be made by consent", he said, "and they will have to grow up learning that our democracy will work only as well as all the people want it to work".

In her reply, the Queen said this visit brought back many happy memories of her previous visit nearly 20 years ago . . . In the last few years, she said, Grenada has been through momentous events and the island has emerged with tremendous credit.

"As your Queen", she said, "I want to congratulate the people of Grenada on the way you have prepared for and carried through the recent parliamentary elections which underlined your commitment to democracy".

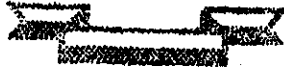
More remains to be done, she said, and Grenada's friends in the commonwealth and beyond will help in the process of reconstruction.

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The active part being played by young people in reconstruction should be encouraged, she said, and adults have a responsibility to recognise the good in the young and to help them to build on it.

"By the example of decent conduct, honest advice and responsible guidance", the Queen said, "adults can ensure that the natural exuberance and fine qualities of young people can be channelled in the right direction..."

Following a reception at Government House and the Beating of the Retreat on the Carenage by the band of the Royal Marines, Her Majesty boarded the royal yacht "Britannia" shortly after dark, setting sail for Trinidad, the next stop in the programme of the royal visit to the Caribbean.



### FESTIVE WELCOME FOR QUEEN

Guest News Story

By

Kernan Turner

Associated Press Chief Of Caribbean Services

Queen Elizabeth II arrived to a festive welcome dampened by rain October 31st missing by a few days the second anniversary of the U.S.-led military intervention condemned at the time by the British.

Red, green and gold Grenadian flags were hoisted from rooftops of buildings lining the harbour. A lone U.S. flag fluttered from a pole.

The pomp and circumstance surrounding the visit contrasted sharply with last week's low-key, commemoration of the October 25, 1983 invasion. It was a more somber occasion, with ecumenical Church services and speeches, but little popular participation.

The Queen, accompanied by Prince Philip, arrived aboard the H.M.Y. Britannia, the royal yacht used to ferry her on an eight-nation tour of the commonwealth Caribbean. Trinidad was the final stop November 1st.

The Britannia anchored at the entrance to the narrow harbour.

Fort George, army headquarters known as Fort Rupert when Marxist Prime Minister Maurice Bishop was executed in 1983, fired a 21-gun salute.

Members of the 560-strong Royal Grenadian Police, trained by the U.S. since the invasion, roped off the area and stood guard.

The monarch stepped ashore from a barge in her role as Queen of Grenada, like most members of the British Commonwealth, recognize her as Head of State.

The welcoming committee included Governor General Sir Paul Scoon and Prime Minister Herbert Blaize, victorious last December in the first elections

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held here since a 1979 coup put the island on a leftist path culminating in a radical army junta's bloody takeover of Bishop's government in 1983. Bishop was executed on October 19, and U.S. and Caribbean Forces intervened six days later.

Nineteen people accused of murdering Bishop are imprisoned and awaiting trial.

Sir Paul, as Queen Elizabeth's representative, remained the only constitutional authority after Bishop's murder and called on the United States and Grenada's neighbours within the organization of Eastern Caribbean States to help. He served briefly as Head of Government before turning power over to an Interim Government.

More than 6,000 U.S. soldiers participated in what is known here as the "Rescue Mission". All U.S. troops have left the island.

The invasion cost the lives of 19 U.S. soldiers, 42 Cubans who were building an airport on the island and 24 Grenadian civilians.

President Reagan said the mission was primarily intended to rescue 800 American medical students.

Little sentiment has been expressed here against the Queen's visit. Most Grenadians understand that the Queen, as Head of State, does not participate in political decisions, and it was her representative on the island who called for help.

"This (visit) will go a far way in healing any breach that was apparent when they did not take part" said Parliament House Speaker Hudson R. Scipio.

Other leaders said the Queen's visit confirmed Grenada's stability and return to constitutional rule.

Britain was not asked to help, Prime Minister Blaize said in a news conference, adding that Britain had held the mistaken view that military action was unnecessary.

"Since that time they have shown that they understand the Grenada situation and are prepared to be cooperative", he said.

Mr. Blaize reported spending US\$118,000 on preparation for the Queen's visit, including downtown painting, road repairs, street decorations and the Royal jetty. Political opponents accused the Government of squandering a half million dollars.

"We object to the massive expenditure on the Queen's visit" said Mr. George Louison, Bishop's Agriculture Minister and a member of the Marxist Maurice Bishop Patriotic Movement.

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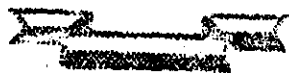
The Movement distributed a Press Release saying Great Britain's economic support of South African apartheid had forced the Movement to reject a formal invitation to attend state functions honouring the Queen.

Former Prime Minister Sir Eric Gairy, rightwing Head of the Grenada United Labor Party, also said he had rejected an invitation. Sir Eric was overthrown by Bishop's New Jewel Movement in 1979. Sir Eric's Party won one Parliament seat in the December election.

Mr. Blaize, in Washington for radiation treatments recently for a prostate disorder, held a rally in a park across from the White House and later met with President Reagan.

"Thank God for President Reagan, thank God for the United States of America", he said then.

The United States has invested heavily in Grenada since the intervention, approving US\$62.2 million so far for U.S. Aid projects on the 133-square mile island, with a population of 92,000. The aid included US\$19 million to complete the international airport begun by the Cubans.



#### BLAIZE'S HEALTH "GOOD"

Doctors who treated Prime Minister Herbert Blaize at Walter Reed hospital in Washington have pronounced his health to be "good", but the Prime Minister must return to the hospital in 6 months for a further check.

Mr. Blaize disclosed this in an airport interview on October 27th on his return to the island after an absence of 7 weeks.

"The doctors talk of my health being good", he said, "and you know that I arthritis and you can't get rid of that overnight, but so far as the problem that I went there for is concerned, the prostate disorder, they think they have completely dealt with it and I will have to return in a few months for a once over".

The Prime Minister denied the report that he has had a surgical operation on his prostate and said he is not surprised that these "rumours" have been spread.

If one has a prostate "disorder" similar to his, he said, there are 3 ways of dealing with it. One, Mr. Blaize said, is by surgical operation "if it is serious enough", and the other two ways are by radiation or drugs.

"They chose to do it by radiation", he said, "because it was not necessary to do a surgical operation".

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Mr. Blaize said he had had the full course of radiation and it had gone the way the doctors expected. The radiation had made him feel tired and "dried out" at times, he said, but this was expected and he had not been allowed to feel too tired because things were happening every day and "they pretended as though I was running an office in the hospital room".

One of the things which were happening was a meeting with President Reagan and Mr. Blaize said he issued an invitation to Mr. Reagan to visit Grenada and this will take place "if it can be worked out".

Another happening attended by Mr. Blaize was a ceremony at Andrews Air Force Base on October 25th when "Grenada Day" was recognised by the Armed Forces in the presence of U.S. Secretary of State George Schultz, Secretary of Defence Casper Weinburger and Vice President George Bush.

Mr. Blaize attended the recent Commonwealth Prime Ministers Conference in the Bahamas and said he had taken the opportunity there to discuss the "visa problem" with Prime Minister George Chambers of Trinidad & Tobago.

Since the military intervention of October 1983, Trinidad & Tobago (and Jamaica) has imposed visa restrictions on Grenadians resident in Grenada and it has been stated that this was to prevent an influx into Trinidad of ex-members of the Marxist Peoples Revolutionary Government and Army.

"We have worked out an arrangement whereby the thing will be cleared", he said. "Mechanisms have been resolved and I expect an exchange of letters when Prime Minister Chambers gets home".

Mr. Blaize said a Trinidadian official is to come to Grenada and arrangements are to be made for Grenadians travelling to Trinidad to get "pre clearance". There will be an office in Grenada, he said, and when Grenadians have been cleared through that office, they will not have to go through Immigration in Trinidad.

"The opportunity was taken to discuss the matter in the Bahamas because the Prime Minister of Trinidad & Tobago and I were both in retreat", he said, "and we think we have worked out this thing satisfactorily. It is just to be formalised now and that will be done as fast as possible".

Prime Minister Blaize feels the most important achievement of the Bahamas Conference is that it reached consensus on the South African question.

"All have agreed that the apartheid system in South Africa must be brought to an end", he said. "The only question was would it be brought to an end peacefully or would it have to be the subject of a blood bath".

There could not be complete agreement as to what should be done, he said, but the feeling, mood and determination was a firm indication of "commonwealth togetherness".

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Mr. Blaize said he had had the opportunity in the Bahamas to clear the "non-sensical situation" about Grenada with reference to the military intervention of October 1983.

"This matter sparked again at the Conference", he said, "and maybe I was too spirited in my reply, but it was considered that it brought the whole issue to an end".

Mr. Blaize said no longer will be heard raised the question of the "invasion of Grenada", of "Grenada's oppression by the United States", of "a big country taking advantage of other people", and of "Grenada not being given an opportunity to resolve its internal affairs".

Two days before, Mr. Blaize said, there had been a rally in LaFayette Square in Washington, near the White House, where it had been recognized that the observance of "Grenada Day" was useful to bring into focus the struggles of all other people under communism.

"They brought people from Afganistan, Nicaragua and Angola" he said, "all of them saying Grenada has given them a sense of hope that they too will get rid of communism".

Mr. Blaize said he had spoken at that rally and had pointed out that the lesson of Grenada is not that the island had been removed from communism but "to make sure nobody thinks they are too far or too small to be involved in communism and, once you get out, your friends cannot turn their backs on you".

"They (friends) must see to it that you maintain the aspirations that people had when they got you free", he said.

Before his return to Grenada, Mr. Blaize, in an interview at Walter Reed Army Medical Centre on October 23rd, told the United States Information Agency (USIA) that, at his meeting with President Reagan, he had discussed the fact that the Grenada Government is persuing its goal towards "settling the economy".

A Press Release issued on October 29th by the United States Information Service in Grenada reports that Mr. Blaize said also he had met a number of Congressmen who seemed to understand that the U.S. had invested a great deal in the "rescue mission" of 25th October 1983.

"These Congressmen also seem to understand that if by any chance the enthusiasm of the United States and its people were to wane", the Prime Minister said, "it could give the opening to the communists to come back".

Mr. Blaize told USIA that, in addition to his discussions with Mr. Reagan and Members of Congress, he had used his time in Washington to seek new investment and aid for Grenada.

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"My administration is giving top priority to updating Grenada's infrastructure", he said, "and the Industrial Development Corporation is charged with attracting new business ventures to the island".

On the future of his New National Party and his staying in office as Prime Minister and Political Leader, Mr. Blaize said, "I plan to stay as long as I have the support of the Party, which is such a young Party (that) its future is certainly long and promising".



#### SIR ERIC GAIRY TURNS DOWN INVITATION

Sir Eric Gairy, one-time Prime Minister of Grenada and Political Leader of the Grenada United Labour Party (GULP), did not meet Queen Elizabeth when she visited the island on October 31st.

The "Grenada Guardian", official organ of GULP, in its issue for the week ending November<sup>2nd</sup> said Sir Eric had been invited to attend some of the functions in honour of the Queen but the invitations had been returned.

Sir Eric said, "The whole atmosphere is pregnant with hypocrisy and sham", the newspaper reports.

According to the "Grenada Guardian", Sir Eric said that, with reference to the money spent on preparations for the Royal visit, Government was "wanton-ly spending taxpayers money which should be used to provide jobs for the jobless youths everywhere in Grenada".

"Queen Elizabeth is an extremely intelligent person with a good sense of humour", Sir Eric said, "and may, when convenient, take a good and hearty laugh at the raiment of hypocrisy and falsehood in which St. George's has been dressed for her welcome".

Sir Eric felt too that the Queen's programme should have taken her out of St. George's into the countryside. He suggested she should have been taken around the island, see a waterfall, see "poor villagers who live on starvation wages" and "try a drink of coconut water from the hands of a peasant".

When he returned from "exile" last year, Sir Eric said, he was told by Governor General Sir Paul Scoon that he (Gairy) would be treated like an "ordinary citizen" and Sir Eric felt this does not pay sufficient respect to his knighthood.

"Sir Eric Gairy feels that was, invirtue, a disrespect to the Queen and a suggestion of blame on the Queen", the newspaper said. "He feels a man considered to be an "ordinary citizen" should not be invited as "The Right Honourable Sir etc" with special stickers (for his car) and other paraphernalia such as has been done".

"Scoon would (sic) not be allowed to blow hot and cold at the same time in connection with my status", Sir Eric said. "Moreover, our Gracious Majesty Queen Elizabeth II knows me personally and I have had the pleasure and privilege to dine with her on the "Britannia" and also at Buckingham Palace ..."

Sir Eric was made a Knight Bachelor (Kt. B) by the Queen in her Birthday Honours List in 1977 when he was Prime Minister of Grenada.

Previously, he had announced four other knighthoods conferred upon him. They are the Knighthood of the Grand Cross Doctorate in Political Science from the Ecclesiastical University of England, the Knight Grand Cross of the Sovereign Greek Order of St. Dennis of Zante, the Knighthood of the Distinguished Sovereign Military Order of Malta and the Knighthood of the Order of Toledo, Spain.

In connection with the last mentioned, his Grace the Archbishop of Toledo, Dr. D. Marcelo Gonzalez, Primate of Spain, advised NEWSLETTER that there is no Order of Knights of Toledo in his Diocese and "...neither I nor this Archbishopric granted any award to anyone..." in Grenada.

With reference to the British Honour given to Mr. Gairy, shortly after its announcement, the then British High Commissioner to Grenada, Mr. C.E. Diggines, explained at a Press Conference in Grenada that, with reference to Colonial Honours given to persons in independent countries of the commonwealth, these honours are awarded on the recommendation of the Government of the country.



#### CONFLICTING REPORTS ON STRIKE

Sir Eric Gairy, President of the Grenada Manual Maritime and Intellectual Workers Union (GMMIWU), said in an interview with NEWSLETTER on November 6th the strike called by GMMIWU in the agricultural sector continued to be successful, especially on the Government-owned farms.

"Of the 23 State farms", he said, "seventeen are on complete strike and none are working at full capacity".

The success of the strike was denied by a source close to the Grenada Farms Corporation (GFC), the body which manages all State farms.

That source told NEWSLETTER the strike is "as good as dead", new workers are being gradually employed and, daily, the industrial action is having less and less effect on production from the farms.

The source said the fortnightly shipment of bananas is indication of the diminishing effect of the strike on Government farms. The average fortnightly shipment of bananas from Government farms, he said, is 33 tons.

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The first shipment after the strike was severely affected and that shipment fell to only 11.9 tons.

"The trend for the next two shipments was upward", he said, "and for those two shipments, GFC shipped, respectively, 28 tons and 30 tons".

As far as the production of other crops is concerned, the source says, the GFC operation is not yet at full capacity but the work force is being increased gradually and he expected a return to normal within a reasonable time.

Geest Industries Ltd. is the buyer of Grenada's bananas and their shipment figures also indicate a diminishing effect of the strike.

A spokesman for the company says the estimate of the island's fortnightly shipments is 320 tons and the first shipment after the strike started on September 30th suffered more than a 10 percent fall to 284 tons.

The two shipments since then have showed a trend in the other direction. The first amounted to 324 tons and the second to 332 tons.

"The 10 Government farms which grow bananas normally produce about 10% of each shipment", the spokesman said. "Nine of those farms contributed to the last shipment and the production is almost back to normal".

In his interview, Sir Eric said there are 42 privately owned farms in Grenada but GMMIWU is not concentrating its attention on these because the Union has indications that the private sector is willing to meet the demand of EC\$11 and EC\$12 a day for women and men, respectively, which the Union is now asking.

"We realised that some of the (private sector) employers with whom we spoke are willing to pay what we are asking for" Sir Eric said. "They believe the people should get even more than they are asking but they are afraid to offend Government".

Sir Eric said the Union is trying to have a meeting with Government to discuss the matter and he has already had talks with Mr. Ben Jones who was, at the time of the talks, acting Prime Minister.

"Left to the Minister of Agriculture, George Brizan", he said, "there would be no meeting because it appears he regards the strike as a matter of politics, but my talk with Mr. Jones leads me to believe we will have a meeting with Government to resolve the matter".

Sir Eric said his Union has never asked employers to pay the "full economic wage" which, he said, would be about EC\$38 per day. What the Union asked was a figure which took into consideration the fact that the worker has a piece of land to grow something to supplement the wage received, and he considered the present wage demands to be reasonable.

HUMPHREY ON HUNGER STRIKE

Mrs. Ann Humphrey, wife of Chester Humphrey, who is now held in custody in Grenada pending his extradition to the United States to answer charges of gun running, says her husband has been on a hunger strike since September 2nd. He has now been transferred from Richmond Hill Prison to the General Hospital in a very low condition, she said in an interview with NEWSLETTER on November 1st.

Mr. Humphrey was arrested in the United States in February 1979, a few weeks before the New Jewel Movement (NJM) revolution of March 1979 and, together with James Wardally, another Grenadian arrested at the same time, was charged with smuggling arms to Grenada.

The case was fixed to be heard in Washington in October 1979, but the two men jumped bail and arrived in Grenada shortly before the hearing date.

Humphrey and Wardally, both prominent members of NJM, played important roles in the island's Trade Union Movement. Humphrey was in Grenada at the time of the military intervention in October 1983 but Wardally was then on a Trade Union course behind the "Iron Curtain". He is reported to be resident now in East Germany and has escaped the extradition proceedings which were started against Humphrey in July 1984.

The case against Humphrey was heard both in the Magistrates Court and in the High Court, the decision in both instances going against him, and it is now to be heard by the Appeal Court.

Mrs. Humphrey says her husband was first brought to the General Hospital from the Prison on October 30th, was returned to the Prison on October 31st and was brought back to hospital on November 1st.

There are three conditions Humphrey has laid down which must be satisfied before he will abandon his strike, she said.

"Chester has not been allowed to see his lawyer", she said, "and the first condition which must be satisfied is that he must see his lawyer. The other two conditions are that he must be allowed to see his family and that his handcuffs be removed".

Mrs. Humphrey says Mr. Clarence Hughes is her husband's lawyer but, when it was pointed out to her that Mr. Hughes is resident in Guyana and Humphrey would be unable to see him at will, she said there are two Grenadian lawyers who have not been retained but who Humphrey would like to see.

"Chester asked to see Mr. Fennis Augustine and Mr. Robert Grant who represented him previously", she said. "They are not really his lawyers but he asked to see them and this was refused".

As far as seeing her husband is concerned, Mrs. Humphrey says she had been able to get near to him only when he was being moved into the hospital

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on November 1st, and she was told by the warders that, on instructions from the Prison Authorities, Humphrey is to see no one.

Present also at the interview was Mr. Derek Allard, Chairman of the "Free Chester Humphrey Campaign" (FCHC), and he said FCHC demands Humphrey's immediate "unconditional release".

Mr. Allard is President of the Bank and General Workers Union (BGU) which was founded by another prominent NJM member, Vince Noel. Noel died in the massacre of October 19th 1983.

"With all due respect to the Law and with no interference with the Courts", Mr. Allard said, "we feel that no Grenadian should be extradited from his homeland to face alleged charges in another country, charges which were laid some 5 or 6 years ago".

Mr. Allard said this is Humphrey's second hunger strike since he was arrested 20 months ago. The first time was last year and, after some 50 or 60 days, family and friends persuaded him to call off the strike.

There was an attempt on November 1st by some friends to reach Humphrey to persuade him to abandon the strike, Mr. Allard said, but with the ban on visitors, he did not think they had been able to achieve anything.

Mr. Allard said a letter was sent on November 1st from FCHC to every member of Parliament asking their "good office to ensure the immediate unconditional release of outstanding Trade Unionist, Chester Humphrey, from prison before he dies".

The United States accused Humphrey of sending arms to Grenada in 1978 "to facilitate the overthrow of the Gairy dictatorship", the letter says, and, for the past 14 months, the U.S. has sought his extradition.

"The FCHC views with deep concern the very real possibility that Chester may die if urgent action is not taken", the letter says. "We therefore call on you to help save the life of this outstanding Grenadian citizen".

Humphrey is not allowed visitors but an informed source said his wife was able to see and speak with him on November 4th.

A spokesman for the Prison Authorities told NEWSLETTER, up to the time Humphrey was transferred to the General Hospital on November 1st, he had not been on a complete hunger strike but had taken fluids.

An informed source close to the Hospital told NEWSLETTER on November 5th that since his admission, he has refused all food, examination and treatment.

Humphrey now occupies a bed in one of the public wards and is guarded by three Prison Officers. He was visited on November 5th by Commissioner of Prisons, Lionel Maloney.

MURDER ACCUSED PRODUCES "ANALYSIS"

Leon Cornwall, in custody in Grenada awaiting trial for the murder of the late Prime Minister Maurice Bishop and others, has produced a written analysis of Grenada's 1984 elections, which analysis was considered at a recent conference in Toronto organised by the U.S. based National Congress of Black Lawyers.

The 15-page document, which appears to have been compiled late in 1984 or early 1985, indicates the author's access to information and statistics not easily obtained from a prison cell, and Prison Authorities are unable to say how this was achieved.

"It is clear Cornwall had considerable assistance from outside", one source close to the Prison told NEWSLETTER. "It is impossible to say who gave that assistance but there are obvious suspects".

Cornwall's "analysis" may be divided into 4 parts. In the first, he condemns and rejects the elections of December 1984, the second and third are devoted to attacking the New National Party (NNP) and Maurice Bishop Patriotic Movement (MBPM), and the final part is a call for the rebuilding of the New Jewel Movement (NJM).

From the Grenadian point of view, Cornwall says, the result of the 1984 elections was not a vote for Prime Minister Herbert Blaize and his NNP but a vote against Sir Eric Gairy and his Grenada United Labour Party.

"The most important factor considered by the Grenadian people during the elections" held under U.S. occupation was, at all costs, to stop the return of Eric Gairy to power in Grenada", he says.

From Washington's point of view, Cornwall says, the elections had other significance. The results, according to him, signify completion of another phase in the U.S. plan to "justify and legitimise their illegal October 25th invasion of our country", to hold Grenada as "a surrogate of U.S. imperialism", shatter confidence in any future "revolutionary process" and give the impression that democracy is being practiced in Grenada.

The United States will assist NNP to win the support of Grenadians, he says, but he does not think this will succeed.

According to him, the "class character" of NNP combined with the "deepseated roots of the Grenada revolution in the consciousness of the Grenadian masses" weighs against success in this endeavour.

In his attack on NNP, Mr. Cornwall says this party is "pro-Imperialist", "pro-Yankee", and "owes its very birth to the efforts of the invaders and occupiers of our country".

He refers to the meeting at Union Island in the Grenadines in August 1984 when NNP was established, and says that meeting was sponsored by the U.S.

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through "three of its bosom friends", the Prime Ministers of Barbados, St. Lucia and St. Vincent.

"U.S. Imperialism not only established NNP" he says, "but gave tremendous other assistance so that the anti-Gairy vote would go to them".

Twice as much space in the document is devoted to the attack on MBPM as is given to the attack on NNP.

MBPM's total failure in the elections is attributed by Cornwall to "a rejection of MBPM opportunism", and he charges that the main MBPM election platform was the calling for the hanging of the 19 now awaiting trial for the murder of Maurice Bishop and others.

"The execution of the NJM Central Committee was the MBPM main campaign theme", he says. "They told the people to forget those men in jail," they as good as dead already".

Cornwall's document goes at length into the "opportunistic" character of MBPM and says that party missed its chance to get popular support in the in the elections.

"The Peoples Revolutionary Army and party membership combined amounts to some 1200 young, disciplined and energetic comrades living in every village throughout Grenada", he said, "who, with a totally different approach by MBPM, could have worked for them in the 'elections'".

Cornwall says that, at the time he was writing, it was difficult to say how the situation would evolve, but it was certain the U.S. would "seek to keep Grenada under its heels".

"To break this Yankee dominance, restore the independence and sovereignty of our country and liberate our people", he says, "a serious, determined struggle of popular character must be waged".

The NJM must find ways of rapidly reorganising and rebuilding itself, Cornwall says, and this must involve "all genuine patriots and progressively-minded persons" in an "anti-imperialist front".

That front, he says, should be oriented on 2 plants, (1) anti-foreign occupation, and (2) propaganda, agitation and "concrete struggle" for the restoration and continuation of the programmes of the revolution

Addressing the Black Lawyers Conference at which Cornwall's document was circulated, Mrs. Jacqueline Samuels-Brown, one of the Jamaican Defence Barristers representing Cornwall and the other 18 defendants, is quoted as saying that the trial is being used to discredit the NJM revolution.

"The trial", she said, "is part of a process to put the final nail in the coffin of the revolution".

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Mrs. Samuels-Brown said, according to the Canadian newspaper "Share", that "authorities are using the trial to justify an American-led military intervention ..."

She alleged that supporters of the NJM revolution are being "intimidated and silenced" and that "the trial is a continuation of the invasion of Grenada".

There has been a "concerted and deliberate attempt" to prevent the accused from getting proper representation, Mrs. Samuels-Brown is quoted as saying, but the prisoners have recently gained access to lawyers.



#### EX-MEMBERS OF "MONGOOSE GANG" RELEASED

On the recommendation of the Advisory Committee on the Prerogative of Mercy eleven prisoners were released from Richmond Hill Prison on November 8th.

Four were serving terms for murder and they are Lloyd Frederick, Strachan Julien, Francis Simon and Ralph Charles. Two others, Norris St, Bernard and Francis William were convicted of housebreaking and stealing, and one, Clifton Joseph, was guilty of manslaughter.

The other four, Albert Clarke, Alston Hood, Moslyn Bishop and Raphael Brizan were in 1979 convicted, together with four others, for attempted murder and causing grievous bodily harm.

These men were part of the "Mongoose Gang", also known at various times as the Secret Police, Police Aids, Night Ambush Squad, Voluntary Intelligence Unit for the Protection of Property, Voluntary Special Guards, Special Reserve Police and Volunteers for the Protection of Human Rights.

According to the Duffus Commission of Inquiry which investigated the breakdown of law and order in Grenada in 1973/74, the "Mongoose Gang" inflicted "unspeakable atrocities" on many Grenadians and "the responsibility for their establishment, recruitment and control was peculiarly that of Mr. Gairy (Sir Eric) in his personal capacity ..."

Two of the four men charged with Clarke, Hood, Bishop and Brizan, in 1980, won an appeal against the sentence of attempted murder but had their sentences for causing grievous bodily harm increased. There has been no appeal by the four men released.





CONSTITUTION REPORT SUBMITTED

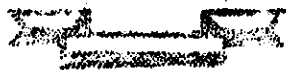
The Constitution Review Commission, appointed last February to review Grenada's 1974 Independence Constitution, handed its report to Governor General Sir Paul Scoon on November 5th.

The 5-man commission, headed by Sir Fred Phillips, former Governor of St. Kitts/Nevis, received recommendations from the public at private and public hearings for making "amendments, reforms and changes" for "promoting the peace, order and good government of Grenada".

In their Terms of Reference, the Commissioners were directed to ensure that their report included recommendations to provide for a change in the Constitution to prevent anyone from serving as Prime Minister for more than 10 years.

The Commissioners were also to make provision that persons elected to Parliament are, in the face of "persistent malrepresentation" or other sufficient cause, subject to recall by the people in the constituencies they represent.

It is expected that following examination by Cabinet, the Commission's report will be published for public discussion.

ECCB: PROBLEMS REMAIN

The Grenadian economy experienced mixed fortunes during 1984 in the performance of its two main sectors, Agriculture and Tourism.

This is the finding of the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank (ECCB) recorded in its report for the financial year ended 31st March last and, as a result of this finding, ECCB says the island's real economic growth is not expected to exceed one percent.

In 1983, there was a decline of 1.6% in "real growth" and, ECCB says the 1984 improvement resulted largely from an increase in stay-over visitors and a sharp expansion in construction activity.

Some of this construction, the Bank says, reflects repairs to property damaged during the October 1983 military intervention.

"Agriculture, which accounts for about 20% of the gross domestic product and provides employment for at least 25% of the island's labour force, showed no signs of growth in 1984" the ECCB report says.

Bananas, cocoa, nutmegs and mace, Grenada's four main agricultural exports, together earned only EC\$26.9 million in 1984, as compared with EC\$30.9 million earned in 1983.

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As compared with 1983, the volume of banana exports declined in 1984 and because of the depreciation of the pound sterling (in which currency the crop is paid for), export values declined even more substantially, falling by 3.9% to EC\$7.9 million.

The value of nutmegs exported also declined in 1984 and was EC\$3.9 million lower than the EC\$9.5 million earned in 1983.

"As a result of marketing difficulties", the report says, "there was a significant accumulation of nutmeg stocks during the year".

Mace, a by-product of nutmeg, also suffered a decline in export value in 1984. Receipts from mace were down by EC\$1.1 million (46.4%) while in volume terms it fell 68.7% to 97 tonnes.

Of the four main agricultural crops, ECCB says, as compared with the preceding year, only cocoa grew in value exported in 1984. Receipts increased by EC\$1.2 million (10.7%) to EC\$12.1 million.

"This improvement, however", says the ECCB report, "was the result of an increase in the price of cocoa exported rather than any increase in volume as the latter fell by 3.2 %"

The total number of visitors to Grenada in 1984, cruise and stay-over, fell to 73,669 from the 1983 figure of 82,666, but overall tourist expenditure increased as a result of a 21.7% increase in stay-over visitors.

The ECCB report says the Caribbean region remained the primary source of visitors to Grenada in 1984 and regional stay-over visitors, primarily from Trinidad, increased by 27% to 13,755.

"The U.S. market, which accounted for 16% of stay-over visitors in 1983, increased its share to 21% in 1984", the report says, "mainly as a result of increased marketing activity in North America".

According to the ECCB report, Grenada's balance of visible trade worsened by EC\$5.1 million in 1984. Total imports in both 1983 and 1984 were approximately EC\$154 million and the deteriorated position in the latter year resulted from a fall of EC\$5.3 million in the value of total exports.

Member countries of ECCB are Antigua, Dominica, Grenada, Montserrat, St. Kitts, St. Lucia and St. Vincent, and the Bank's report says, in 1984, there was a moderate economic recovery in most of these countries.

"Gross domestic product, in real terms, is estimated to have increased to about 4% for the area", ECCB says, "with the rate being somewhat higher than average in Antigua and St. Lucia".

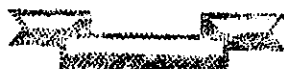
According to ECCB, the rate of inflation in the area declined from 3.7% in 1983 to 2.2% in 1984, and domestic exports (mainly to extra-regional markets) expanded by almost 11% to EC\$526 million.

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The increase in exports was not enough to finance the more rapid increase in retained imports which rose by 15.6% to EC\$1389 million, the report says, and the deficit in visible trade balance moved up from EC\$730 million in 1983 to EC\$920 million in 1984.

"There was, however, an improvement in the Services Account of the Balance of Payments," the report says, "as a result of a significant increase in Tourist earnings which grew by 20.6% to EC\$556 million in 1984.

ECCB points out that, in spite of some improvement in certain economic areas, problems still remain. The unemployment rate for the area appears to have shown little improvement, the report says, while a number of territories continued to experience fiscal difficulties.



#### ILO SEMINAR - SAFETY & HEALTH

A one-day seminar on "Occupational Safety and Health" opened here on November 6th under the joint sponsorship of the Government of Grenada and the International Labour Organisation (ILO).

The seminar was under the direction of Mr. Astley Leslie, 60, ILO Regional Advisor and, in an interview with NEWSLETTER, he said the Caribbean cannot avoid the consequences of developments now taking place in the region, particularly in the field of industry.

"These developments bring with them increased risks which have to be faced and dealt with by both employers and employees", he said.

The seminar was particularly appropriate at this time to awaken the interest of persons concerned, he said, and to assist them to come to grips with the kinds of difficulties new developments will bring.

Mr. Leslie said the question of "labour inspection" has been a great concern in ILO and that concern is expressed through the ILO Caribbean Labour Administration Centre which he heads and which has its office in Barbados.

The ILO Advisor said his office covers the Caribbean from Bermuda to Surinam excluding the Spanish and French speaking countries and the objective is "to assist ministries and departments of labour to improve their levels of efficiency".

"We work entirely with Governments", he said, "although we maintain close contact with employers and workers organisations in the region and representatives of those organisations are invited to our seminars."

Addressing the opening session of the seminar, Minister for Labour, Dr. Francis Alexis, said the Grenada Government's policy has two objectives, employment and safety.

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Unemployment in the island now stands at 24%, he said, and he referred to an influx of persons who are now employed in Grenada without holding work permits.

Something must be done about this, he said, and he has addressed a memorandum to the Ministry of National Security identifying several persons who are working in the country without work permits.

"It is not that we want to become very parochial or small-minded", he said. "Grenadians work in several other countries and, if we were to embark on a process of persecuting non-nationals in the country there would be repercussions".

That is not the policy of the Government, Dr. Alexis said, but where work in the country can be done by nationals, the Ministry of Labour will not issue work permits to non-nationals.

The Minister said Grenada's "Factories Legislation" is old and in need of repair, and the seminar had come at an appropriate time.

"The matter of updating the Labour Laws is a question being actively pursued now by Government", he said, "and a Labour Code is being got together".

That code should be ready by the end of 1986, he said, and the discussions of the seminar would serve as a guide to the Labour Department in making the Safety and Health laws more suitable to Grenada.

Also speaking at the seminar was Mrs. Angela Smith, Director of the Grenada Employers Federation (GEF). She expressed pleasure that the seminar was being held and stressed the importance of educating persons to industrial hazards so that accidents can be prevented.

"Speaking from the employers point of view", she said, "too few of us are aware of these areas and the time is now when we must do something about it".

The seminar was attended by representatives from the Labour Department, the GEF and from the Trade Union movement.



#### USAID SCHOLARSHIPS GRANTED

Two Grenadians have been given scholarships by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to study at universities in the United States.

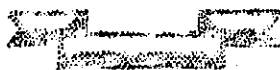
A USAID release says Mr. Angus Smith, Budget Officer in the Ministry of Finance left Grenada in August to attend the Arthur D. Little Management Education Institute in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and is expected to resume his duties in August 1986.

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Mr. Smith, a certified accountant, will study for a Master of Science in Management degree.

The other scholarship has gone to Mr. Irvin F. Ollivierre, Principal of Grenada Teachers College and Co-ordinator of the In-service Education programme. He left Grenada in September for a one-year course of study at Harvard University's Graduate School of Education in Cambridge, Massachusetts to obtain a Master's degree.

Mr. Ollivierre holds a University of the West Indies Bachelor of Science degree in Education and has 27 years of teaching experience.



#### MEDICAL SCHOOL SPONSORS OPEN HEART SURGERY

A 6-year old Grenadian, Andy Paul, successfully underwent open heart surgery at North Shore University Hospital, Mansette, New York, and returned home on October 17th.

A Press Release issued by the St. Georges University School of Medicine says Andy is the first child taken outside of Grenada for such surgery, and the operation was sponsored by the School of Medicine with the cooperation of the Ministry of Health, the Rotary Club, BWIA and LIAT.

St. Georges University School of Medicine has, for some years, been sponsoring the "Heart to Heart Programme" in conjunction with North Shore University Hospital, the release says, but, until now, the programme has been limited to St. Vincent where the University also operates Kingstown Medical College.

"Before the military intervention in Grenada", the release says, "the Government was reluctant to send similar heart cases to the United States".

To date, 15 children from St. Vincent have had their hearts repaired free of cost at North Shore University Hospital, the release says.

Alister Hughes



Cynthia Hughes

9th November 1985

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