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FILE No. ANR 1/5 (Part B)

TITLE: INTERNAL SITUATION
IN GRENADA

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REFER TO

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(and dept, where necessary)

TO
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PART B

FILE No. ANR 1/5

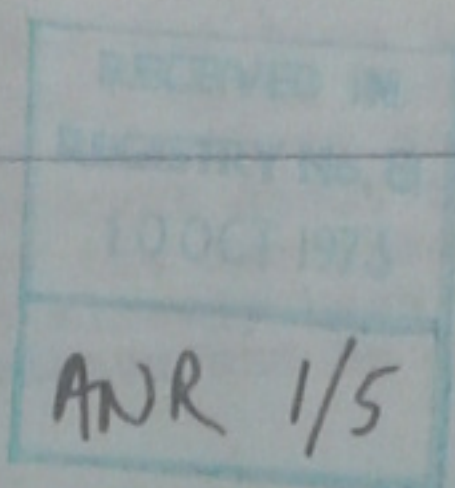
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62



Office of the Deputy British Government Representative
PO Box No 132 St Vincent

HE Mr E O Laird CMG MBE
Castries



Your reference

1/5

Our reference

2 October 1973

Date

R.R.K. in New York

PA
Mum

21/10

Copies to Sir D. Williams
Mr. Hargreaves
Mr. Collier

THE GRENADA POLITICAL SCENE

1. The week's visit to Grenada from which I have just returned gave me an opportunity of sensing the current political feeling in the island and I came to the conclusion that nothing has changed in any significant way and the assessment of the general direction in which the country is moving since the Independence talks in London is still valid.

(59) -
(Part A)

2. The two dissident trade unions about which I wrote to you in my letter 1/5 of 6 September, the Seamen and Waterfront Workers' Union and the Commercial and Industrial Workers' Union, came to attention again during my visit. They threatened to call a strike and sought through the Chamber of Commerce to effect a shut down of commercial premises. This failed because only two establishments did in fact shut down and they only for a short time from lack of support. The Premier saw the leaders of these trade unions and told them quite firmly that if they went ahead with their strike he would bring forward the establishment of the Grenada Defence Force, provisionally projected for next month, would mobilize them at once and get them and the Police to operate the port. He would not permit the country and people of Grenada to be held to ransom by the action of irresponsible unions. That was the end of that.

(63) -
(See also
f (61))

3. In my letter by this bag on the recent Government reshuffle I have commented on the fascinating insight I had into Gairy's style of management of his political machine. He still dominates the scene and is still very much in command. It is noticeable that there is nothing half-hearted about his supporters; they are his ardent disciples. The opposition are not much in evidence at present. It is true that they have made representations about the distribution and circulation of the draft Constitution, but, as I have reported in another letter, I do not think that there is any longer much substance in this allegation. The Parliamentary Opposition is possibly quiescent because Herbert Blaize is prostrate with a recurrence of his back trouble and the extra-parliamentary opposition in the form of the New Jewel Movement is largely inactive, possibly because they sense that there is nothing meaty

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enough in the Constitution for them to make any useful issue of and that they will have to wait until Gairy has full control after Independence before they can throw down any challenge to him. When I asked Gairy what he thought about the constitutional proposals for Carriacou put forward by the Carriacou Constituency Committee he said that provision had already been made in the Constitution for a local council in Carriacou and he did not propose to go any further than that.

4. Since the Premier's philosophy is that "If you are not for me you are against me" it is inevitable that some opposition to him is a permanent feature of the political scene. Nevertheless I see no reason after this visit to change my assessment that he is still making an effort to win friends so long as they do not slow up his own forward march in his long political career now nearing its climax. He is obsessed with the need for his leadership to be positive and permanently visible, and now that he has achieved the decision he wanted on the constitutional future of the country the process of herding, pushing, pulling, cajoling and kicking Grenada into Independence derives its momentum from himself and his true supporters; it carries with it a number of others who now see it as prudent to get on the band wagon before the separation of the sheep and goats begins in earnest after February 7, and it inevitably leaves aside some who, whilst stopping short of overt opposition to him, are nevertheless disquieted at his code of political morality and seem anxious to avert their attention from what they half-know is happening behind the scenes as though by so doing they may avoid being counted as pillars of his hegemony if a day of reckoning should come. Perhaps, with one eye over their shoulders on the NUFF credo on the justification of political assassination in Trinidad, they suspect that JEWEL may choose their time to pick up their hidden arms and settle the score at some time in the future.

5. The outward signs of this disquiet have been the recent resignation of the Speaker and of Dr Bierzynski, Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Health, Housing and Labour. He gave as the public reason for his resignation the discovery of a heart condition but I found nobody in Grenada who really believed that. I also found the Governor rather more dispirited than I have seen her for some time. She spoke resignedly about the political complexion of the country and said "I feel like a mother sitting watching her children creating chaos and I shut my eyes and try to pretend they are not there". I notice that whereas she always used to refer to the Premier in conversation with me as "Eric" she now spoke of him as Mr Gairy and with a shrug of the shoulder here and there indicated that the former closeness of understanding between them had slipped away in the stress of recent months. I think she was in a depressed mood because she has not yet been told whether she is to carry on, even temporarily, as Governor General after Independence: she said she felt that she was entitled to be told and if she did not hear soon she would ask the Premier openly. I advised her that if she were to do so she might wait until after the debate in the House when the resolution about Independence goes through. I had the impression that she has quite made up her mind that she will not

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be asked to be Governor General and in various quarters in Grenada last week I heard it rumoured that David Pitt would be nominated for the job.

6. Nevertheless, although there is this characteristic uncomfortableness in the Grenada political scene Gairy marches on with vigour and confidence. He has a quite remarkable capacity for getting around and meeting the people: in my admittedly limited experience in the Caribbean he seems to know a larger proportion of the people personally than other Caribbean leaders; he is indefatigable socially and starts his day frequently at 4 a.m. when he has only got to bed three hours before that. He is continuing to make friends and to de-fuse some of his former antagonists. He has a very retentive memory for personalities and divides people simply into two categories, those who support the Government and those who do not.

7. This capacity for knowing the people and method of judging them were in evidence in the Independence Secretariat. He has established a practice of taking the Cabinet along to meet the Independence Celebrations Committee about once a week for a stock-taking of progress. I attended two such meetings last week in the course of which the membership of the Committee and Sub-Committees was reviewed name by name. This was the method of fulfilling the requirement that membership of committees was subject to Cabinet approval. Gairy knew every name that was suggested and was almost embarrassingly frank in giving reasons for rejection of some of them. The total number of committees had risen to 33: he repeated his wish to keep it down to 21 but after six hours of such meetings we had only succeeded in getting them down to 30. It is certainly a way of harnessing the political interest and patriotic enthusiasm of the people of Grenada: a number of persons nominated were put on to committees for the frankly expressed reason that they "wanted to serve".

8. The progress of the Independence arrangements is impressive subject only to the reservation in my letter of 6 September about the provision of funds to pay the bill. I am reporting separately on the current financial situation.

G W Baker

cc D G Reid Esq
Caribbean Dept
FCO

S G Kelly Esq
Bridgetown

CONFIDENTIAL

PP SNOWI

RPS 235A

CYPHER/CA T A

FM CASTRIES 291447Z

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TO IMMEDIATE FCO TELNO 327 OF 29 NOVEMBER REPEATED FOR INFORMATION TO PRIORITY PORT OF SPAIN, BRIDGETOWN, ST VINCENT AND SNOWI. GRENADA.

WE HAVE DISCUSSED SITUATION WITH SLO. OUR CONCLUSIONS HERE ARE -
(A) PROBLEM IS TO DETERMINE PURPOSE OF THOSE BEHIND STRIKE WHICH RESULTED YESTERDAY IN NO WATER, ELECTRICITY, TELEPHONE OR FUEL. THERE HAVE BEEN NO DISTURBANCES.

(B) MOST LIKELY EXPLANATION IS THAT THOSE WHOM GAIRY HAS PERSONALLY ANTAGONISED (A SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER) HAVE JOINED FORCES WITH IDEALISTIC AND MORE EXTREME MEMBERS OF JEWEL (MANY OF WHOM HAVE GOOD REASON TO WANT TO REMOVE GAIRY FROM POWER) SEMICOLON AND THAT THIS OPPOSITION TO GAIRY HAS IN ADDITION ATTRACTED SUPPORT FROM LEADERS OF MODERATE OPINION.

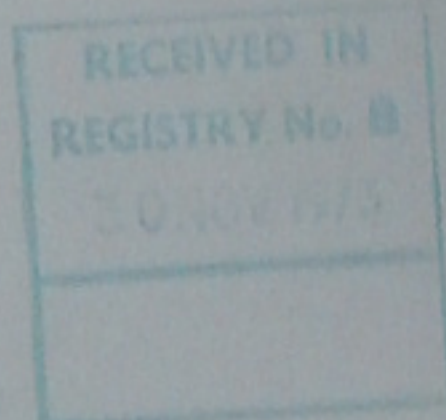
(C) MAIN DANGER IS HEAD-ON CLASH BETWEEN GAIRY AND HIS PERSONAL OPPONENTS. IF STRIKE DRAGS ON FOR ANY TIME GOVERNMENT MUST REACT. THIS COULD PRODUCE COUNTER-REACTION INSPIRED BY JEWEL AND LEADING TO DISTURBANCES.

(D) ANNOUNCEMENT OF COMPOSITION OF COMMISSION OF ENQUIRY OUGHT TO HELP TO RESTORE STABILITY. BUT DIFFICULTIES OVER OIL SUPPLIES COULD HAVE OPPOSITE EFFECT.

(E) WE HAVE NO EVIDENCE TO LEAD US TO BELIEVE THAT BRITISH SUBJECTS IN GRENADA ARE IN ANY KIND OF DANGER. LIAT ARE OPERATING NORMAL SERVICES TO AND FROM THE ISLAND TODAY.

2. ON INFORMATION AT PRESENT AVAILABLE TO ME I RECOMMEND THAT COLONEL BLAND SHOULD FLY OUT AS PLANNED. OUR PRESENCE IN GRENADA NEXT WEEK MAY WELL HAVE STABILISING INFLUENCE ON DEVELOPMENTS.

LAIRD



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Cambridge
Dept 134

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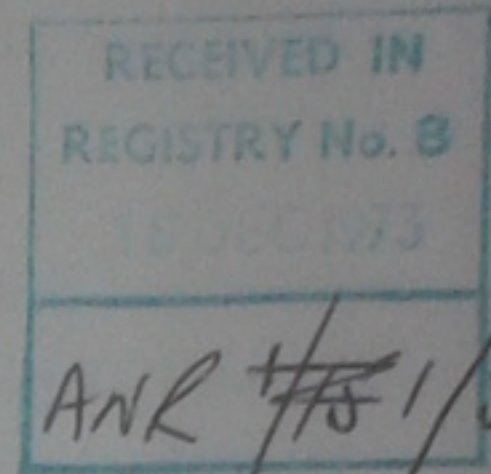
17 December 1973

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JOINT INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE (A)

LATIN AMERICA CURRENT INTELLIGENCE GROUP



GRENADA - SECURITY SITUATION

The attached draft item will be considered at the meeting of the group on TUESDAY 18 DECEMBER 1973, at 10.30 in Room 226 Cabinet Office.

Cabinet Office
17 December 1973

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Mr. Newsam
Draft revised at
this morning's meeting. New
version will appear this
evening or tomorrow
morning. J
18/12

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R. L. C. to Mr. N. N. N.

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GRENADA - SECURITY SITUATION

1. We have previously assessed* that Premier Gairy was likely to face further challenges from those who oppose his policies. On 11 December a group of 22 protesting organisations, including all the main Trade Unions, the Civil Service Association and the Chamber of Commerce, threatened Gairy with a general strike from the 27 December and until such time as he and his government resigned.
2. The main opposition to Gairy is derived from those whom the Premier has personally antagonised and the numbers of the New Jewel Movement (NJM). This opposition has now attracted support from the leaders of moderate opinion who are providing the NJM with the numerical strength that they previously lacked. The selection of 27 December allows the organisers to give the 14 days notice legally required before a strike involving the essential services.
3. Gairy shows no signs of submitting to the ultimatum. He claims that he has made considerable concessions to the opposition following the November protests that stemmed from allegations of police brutality. In his opinion the NJM tactics are designed to obstruct a settlement. He has announced that he will hold a rally of his supporters in St Georges on 23 December.
4. There is little room for manoeuvre in the stand taken by Gairy or his opponents and we believe that the resulting confrontation - likely to be fairly widely supported by those opposed to Gairy now that the NJM has been able to make common cause with the more moderate organisations.
5. In the past the NJM has tended to exercise restraint in resorting to violence, although we believe that they have the capacity to stir up disorders to the point where the weak and inefficient police force would lose control. Much will depend on whether the NJM judge that their interest will be served by violence.
6. A frigate of the West Indies Squadron will be in Barbados, about 23 hours steaming away, from mid December and early January.

* JIC(A)(N) 73 of 27.11.73

17 December 1973

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GRS 488A
IMMEDIATE
CYPHER CAT A

RE PORT OF SPAIN 181255Z

SECRET

TO IMMEDIATE FCO TELNO 267 OF 18 DECEMBER, 1973

1. SLO TRINIDAD REQUESTS YOU PASS FOLLOWING TELEGRAM TO
SNOVI, CASTRIES, BRIDGETOWN, AND KINGSTOWN (ST VINCENT).

TELNO 2.

FROM SLO TRINIDAD
IMMEDIATE

SECRET

REFERENCE OUR TELEGRAM NO 383 (TO HEAD OFFICE) AND 392 (TO SLO
WASHINGTON) OF 12 DECEMBER 1973.

SOURCE REPORT

1. A REGULAR AND NORMALLY RELIABLE SOURCE HAS REPORTED ON THE
BACKGROUND TO THE MEETING HELD BY THE COMMITTEE OF 22 ORGANISATIONS
ON DECEMBER 11.
2. SOURCE STATED THAT THE MAIN WORRY THE COMMITTEE HAD WAS THAT
A.S.P. BELMAR HAD NOT BEEN CHARGED, WAS STILL USING A POLICE
VEHICLE AND HAD VISITED POLICE HEADQUARTERS ON A NUMBER OF OCCASIONS.
IF THE PREMIER COMPROMISED ON THIS ISSUE BY ALLOWING BELMAR TO BE
CHARGED THEN THE ORGANISATIONS MIGHT AGREE CALL OFF STRIKE BUT
SOURCE KNEW THAT BELMAR HAD STATED THAT IF PREMIER ALLOWED HIM
TO BE CHARGED HE WOULD SHOOT PREMIER.
3. SOURCE STATED THAT THERE WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY BE A GENERAL STRIKE
ON 27 DECEMBER AND THAT THE BULK OF THE CIVIL SERVANTS WOULD JOIN IN

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Enter on Grenada internal S. Truett
L. Hume to Mr. Preston & Mr. Reid (OR) to see
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WITH OTHERS MAKING EXCUSES FOR THEIR ABSENCE. HE BELIEVED THE ORGANISATIONS WERE DETERMINED TO PURSUE THIS TO THE END UNLESS PREMIER COMPROMISED BELMAN AND SATISFIED PUBLIC THAT POLICE AIDED HAD BEEN DISBANDED AND DISARMED.

4. SOURCE STATED MAIN OBJECT WAS ENSURE TOTAL HUMILIATION OF PREMIER SO THAT HE COULD NOT AGAIN REPEAT HIS DICTATORIAL ACTIONS AND COULD NOT THEREFORE RISK SAME PROCEDURES AFTER INDEPENDENCE. THIS BODY FELT THAT IF PREMIER RESIGNED AND CALLED ELECTIONS HE WOULD BY THE ACT OF RESIGNATION HUMBLE HIMSELF TO SOME DEGREE AND MOST OF THE ORGANISATIONS WOULD BE PREPARED SEE GAIRY REFLECTED THERERAFTER. CERTAINLY THEY WOULD NOT WISH GIVE POWER NEW JEWEL MOVEMENT (NJM).

5. NJM ARE KEEPING WELL IN THE BACKGROUND BECAUSE THEY REALISE ORGANISATIONS ARE DOING THEIR WORK FOR THEM AND LEADERS STILL ABSENT. SOURCE ALSO STATED THAT NJM CONSIDERED THEY WERE NOT YET READY FOR FINAL CONFRONTATION AND HAD NO INTENTION USING VIOLENCE AT PRESENT.

SOURCE COMMENT

6. SOURCE COMMENTED THAT PREMIER WAS NOW IN EMBARRASSING POSITION BECAUSE IF HE ALLOWED BELMAR TO BE CHARGED THE FACT WOULD WORRY HIS CLOSE SUPPORTERS. SOURCE ALSO SAID THAT BELMAR WAS OF SUCH A TEMPERAMENT THAT HE MIGHT WELL ATTEMPT ASSASSINATE PREMIER AND HE BELIEVED PREMIER WOULD TRY TO REACH SOME ACCOMMODATION WITH BELMAR BEFORE ALLOWING HIM TO BE CHARGED.

7. SOURCE BELIEVED THAT WHEREAS STRIKE WOULD BE FAIRLY EFFECTIVE SEAMENS UNION WHO WERE ON DAILY PAID WAGES MIGHT NOT BE WILLING JOIN IN AND SCHOOLS WOULD BE ON HOLIDAY.

8. SOURCE WAS OF THE OPINION THAT PREMIER WAS IN EXTREMELY CRITICAL POSITION PARTICULARLY SINCE HE WOULD NOT RESIGN. THIS MEANT THAT HE MIGHT WELL FORCE CONFRONTATION BY ORDERING POLICE AGAINST STRIKERS OR OTHERS IN WHICH CASE ANY VIOLENCE WHATSOEVER COULD LEAD IN PRESENT CLIMATE TO CONSIDERABLE REPERCUSSIONS. HOWEVER HE WAS FIRM THAT NO VIOLENCE WAS CURRENTLY PLANNED BY ANY PARTY AND THAT CHURCHES HAD SO FAR BEEN ABLE TO EXERT MODERATING INFLUENCE.

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FIELD COMMENT

9. SOURCE IS IN A GOOD POSITION TO KNOW AND HAS GOOD ENTREE INTO NLI AS WELL AS INTO THE ORGANISATION. HOWEVER SOURCE HAD NOT, WHEN I SAW HIM, BEEN ABLE TO DEBRIEF HIS CONTACT WHO ATTENDED THE MEETING ON 11 DECEMBER.

10. SOURCE WAS ADAMANT THAT A COMPROMISE WAS POSSIBLE AS OUTLINED IN PARA 6 ABOVE.

SIGCHES

FILES
PUBD
CARIBBEAN DEPT
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SIR G ARTHUR
MR THOMSON
MR HANLEY
MR LAMOUR

SECRET

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S E C R E T

FIELD COMMENT

9. SOURCE IS IN A GOOD POSITION TO KNOW AND HAS GOOD ENTREE INTO NJM AS WELL AS INTO THE ORGANISATION. HOWEVER SOURCE HAD NOT, WHEN I SAW HIM, BEEN ABLE TO DEBRIEF HIS CONTACT WHO ATTENDED THE MEETING ON 11 DECEMBER.

10. SOURCE WAS ADAMANT THAT A COMPROMISE WAS POSSIBLE AS OUTLINED IN PARA 6 ABOVE.

DIGGINS

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P U S D
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SIR G ARTHUR

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POS/FCO 006/18

OO SNOWI BERMUDA

OO CASTRIES

OO BRIDGETOWN

OO KINGSTOWN (ST VINCETN)

GRS 700A

FM PORTOFSPAIN 181255Z

SECRET

TO IMMEDIATE FCO TELNO 268 OF 18 DECEMBER.

1. S L O TRINIDAD REQUESTS YOU PASS FOLLOWING TELEGRAM
TO SNOWI, CASTRIES, BRIDGETOWN, AND KINSTOCCEEE KINGSTOWN
(ST VINCENT)

TELNO 3.

TO HEAD OFFICE

OUR TEL NO 309

TO SLO WASHINGT ON

OUR TEL NO 395

I M M E D I A T E

SECRET

FROM SLO TRINIDAD

BT

1. AN UNTESTED SOURCE BUT WHOSE RELIABILITY IS NOT IN QUESTION
HAS REPORTED THAT FROM DISCUSSIONS HE HAD WITH MEMBERS OF THE CHA-
-AMBER OF COMMERCE HE IS SURE THAT THERE WILL BE A GENERAL STRIKE ON

- AR
1. AN UNTESTED SOURCE BUT WHOSE RELIABILITY IS NOT IN QUESTION HAS REPORTED THAT FROM DISCUSSIONS HE HAD WITH MEMBERS OF THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE HE IS SURE THAT THERE WILL BE A GENERAL STRIKE ON DECEMBER 27 AND THAT HE AND MANY OTHER OF HIS FRIENDS ARE STOCKING UP WITH PROVISIONS ALREADY. HE HAS BEEN TOLD THAT THE STRIKE MIGHT LAST A LONG TIME.
 2. SOURCE STATES THAT ALTHOUGH THE POLICE AIDES HAVE BEEN DISBANDED OFFICIALLY, ROAD BLOCKS ARE STILL BEING SET UP AND SOME MEMBERS OF THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ARE FRIGHTENED TO GO OUT A NIGHT AND ONE AT LEAST HAS REFUSED HIS INVITATION ON THESE GROUNDS.
 3. SOURCE UNDERSTANDS THAT 22 ORGANISATIONS ARE UNITED IN TWO THINGS NAMELY FEAR AND BRUTALITY AND A DESIRE TO FORCE THE RESIGNATION OF THE PREMIER BECAUSE THEY NO LONGER TRUST HIM, AND FROM DISCUSSIONS SOURCE HAS HAD WITH HIS FRIENDS DOES NOT BELIEVE THE ORGANISATIONS AND IN PARTICULAR THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE HAVE REALLY THOUGHT OUT THE CONSEQUENCES OF SUCH A RESIGNATION BELIEVING ONLY THAT THE GOVERNOR WILL SOMEHOW SOLVE THE SITUATION.
 4. SOURCE SAID HE HAD HEARD MENTION THAT HOSTEN, MINISTER OF FINANCE, MIGHT BE A SUITABLE PERSON TO TAKE OVER THE GOVERNMENT, BUT SOURCE'S FRIENDS HAVE TOLD HIM THAT HOSTEN IS NOW OPENLY ASKING FOR BRIBES.
 5. SOURCE STATED THAT THE HOTELIERS AND BUNGALOW OWNERS ARE RECEIVING MANY CANCELLATIONS OF BOOKINGS AND SEVERAL WELL KNOWN OWNERS OF CHALETS ON GRANDE ANSE HAVE TOLD HIM THAT THEY APPARENTLY HAVE NO TENANTS.
 6. A SECOND SOURCE WHO VISITED GRENADA ON DECEMBER 10 THE DAY BEFORE THE MEETING OF THE ORGANISATIONS AND WHO IS AN UNTESTED SOURCE BUT WHOSE RELIABILITY IS NOT IN QUESTION HAS REPORTED THAT WHEN THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MET ON DECEMBER 10 TO SEEK APPROVAL FOR THEIR DELEGATES ACTION THE FOLLOWING DAY, THERE WERE 61 MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE. THE PREMIER ALSO ATTENDED WITH HIS OWN SUPPORTERS NAMELY SMALL SHOP-KEEPERS. THE RESULT OF A SECRET BALLOT GIVEN APPROVAL OF THE CHAMBERS ACTION WAS 48 IN FAVOUR 15 AGAINST AND 3 DESTROYED PAPERS.
 7. SOURCE SAYS THAT HE WAS TOLD THAT IT WAS THE CHAMBERS INTENTION TO CALL A GENERAL STRIKE IF PREMIER DID NOT ARREST THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALLEGED BRUTALITY INCLUDING ASP BELMAR AND DISBAND AND DISARM POLICE AIDES TO SATISFACTION OF REPRESENTATIVES OF 222 ORGANISATIONS. SOURCE UNDERSTOOD THAT THERE WOULD BE MUCH SUPPORT FOR THE STRIKE AND EVEN THE DOCTORS ARE EXPECTED TO TAKE

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7. SOURCE SAYS THAT HE WAS TOLD THAT I WAS THE CHAMBERS INTENTION TO CALL A GENERAL STRIKE IF PREMIER DID NOT ARREST THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALLEGED BUTALITY INCLUDIN G ASP BELMAR AND DISBAND AND DISARM POLICE AIDES TO STAISFACTION OF REPRESENTATIVE OF 222 ORGANISATIONS. SOURCE UNDERSTOOD THAT THERE WOULD BE MUCH SUPPORT FOR THE STRIKE AND EVEN THE DOCTORS ARE EXPECT TO REFUST ANY WORK EXCEPT ON EMERGENCY CASES. SOURCE SAID HIS CONTACTS BELEIVED THE CIVIL SERVANTS ASSOCIATION WOULD GO ON STRIKE, AND SOURCE SAID THAT HE HAD HEARD THAT FRANK CHERMAN, -A CABINET SECRETARY, WAS OPPOSED TO PREMIER AND HAD SUPPORTED THE STRIKE CALL UNOFFICIALLY. SOURCE ALSO SAID THAT THE LARGER FIRMS WOULD PAY THEIR EMPLOYEES FULL SALARIES WILST ON STRIKE.

8. SOURCE REPORTED THAT A PREVIOUSLY STAUNCH SUPPORTER OF PREMIER CHANGED SIDES RECENTLY. THIS MANY ALSO A MEMBER OF CHAMBER OF COMMERCE TOLD HIM THAT BOTH HOSTEN AND PETER BYNOE, HUSBAND OF GOVERNOR WEREPERTURBED BY PRESENT SITUATION. THIS ~~MAN~~ ^{MAN} ALSO INDICATED TO SOURCE THAT IF GAIRY RESIGNED, HOSTEN MIGHT PROVE A MOST ACCEPTABLE ALTERNATIV, ALTHOUGH HE WAS AT PRESENT COMPLETELY UNDER PREMIERS THUMB.

9. ALL SOURRCES CONTACTS TOLD HIM THAT THERE WAS NO QUESTION OF PREMIER RESIGNING AND THAT ONLY A BULLETTT WOULD REMOVE HIM.

FIELD COMMENT

10. IT IS INTERESTING THAT SECOND SOURCE WAS PRESEBT BEFORE THE METING OF THE 22 ORGANISATIONS AND THAT AT THAT TIME THEIR THOUGHTS WERE SEEMED CONCERNED WITH THE AALLEGED BRUTALITY AND OTHER DEMANDS FOR THE DISBANDMENT OF THE POLICE AIDES ETC, THAN THAT A CALL FOR THE RESIGNATION OF THE PREMIER.

11. BOTH SOURCE HAVE GOOD CONTACTS WITHIN THE CHAMBER OF COMMERECE AND WOULD BE REPEATING THE BUSINESS AMN'S VIEWS. THEY DO NOT HAVE ANY KNOWLEDGE OF TRADE UNIONS AFFAIRS THOUGHT BOTH, AND IN PARTICULAR ONE, THE FIRST SOURCE, ARE AWARE OF THE NJM AND THE POSSIBILITY OF THE MANIPULATION OF THE CHAMBER ANDOF THE ORGANISATIONS BY THAT MOVEMENT. NEITHER HAD ANY INFORMATION WHICH WOULD INDICATE THAT THE NJM WERE MANIPULATIONMANIPULATING THE ORGANISATIONS TO THEIR ADVANTAGE.

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TO IMMEDIATE FCO TELNO 266 OF 18 DECEMBER, 1973

1. S L O TRINIDAD REQUESTS YOU PASS THE FOLLOWING TELEGRAM TO
SNOWI, CASTRIES, BRIDGETOWN, AND KINGSTOWN (ST VINCENT)
TELNO 1

FROM SLO TRINIDAD

TO HEAD OFFICE - OUR TELNO 307

COPY TO SLO WASHINGTON - OUR TELNO 393

IMMEDIATE

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REFERENCE OUR TELEGRAM NO 303 OF 12.12.73 (392 TO WASHINGTON).

DATE OF INFORMATION: DECEMBER 13

GRENADA SECURITY SITUATION

1. A REGULAR AND RELIABLE SOURCE HAS REPORTED ON THE MEETING
HELD AT ST. GEORGE'S ON DECEMBER 11, BY THE COMMITTEE OF 22 ORGAN-
ISATIONS.

2. SOURCE SAID THAT IT WAS THE INTENTION OF THE ORGANISATION
TO BRING GRENADA TO A STANDSTILL UNTIL ONE SIDE OR THE OTHER GAVE
IN AND SAID THAT HE HAD INFORMATION THAT A MEMBER OF THE NEW JEWEL
MOVEMENT (NJM) HAD SAID THAT THE MOVEMENT INTENDED TO HAVE THE
SITUATION SO TENSE BY FEBRUARY 4 THAT INDEPENDENCE WOULD BE A
COMPLETE NON-EVENT. HE ALSO HAD INFORMATION THAT THE NJM HAD

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PLANS TO RAID THE POLICE ARMOURY AND WERE CONSIDERING ATTACKING REMOTE POLICE STATIONS IN ORDER TO OBTAIN ARMS, BUT NO PLANS HAD BEEN FORMULATED AS FAR AS HE KNEW.

3. SOURCE SAID THAT MANY PERSONS WITHIN THE VARIOUS 22 ORGANISATIONS SUPPORTED THE NJM AND HE WOULD EXPECT THEM TO HAVE HAD AN INFLUENCE ON THE DECISION TAKEN BY THE COMMITTEE. SOURCE ALSO MENTIONED THAT SEVERAL PERSONS HAD COME OUT STRONGLY AGAINST THE PREMIER SINCE THE TROUBLES BEGAN IN NOVEMBER, AND HE BELIEVED THAT THESE PERSONS HAD IN THE PAST BEEN UNDERGROUND SUPPORTERS OF THE NJM.

4. SOURCE STATED THAT 10 LBS OF BLACK GUNPOWDER HAD BEEN FOUND ON A RIVER BED AND IT WAS BELIEVED THAT THIS WAS FOR USE BY THE NJM. SOURCE BELIEVES THAT THIS GUNPOWDER COULD HAVE COME FROM THE EXPLOSIVE STORE USED BY WIMPEY, WHO ARE REPAIRING AIRPORT RUNWAY AND REQUIRE STONE.

5. SOURCE, WHO IS IN A POSITION TO KNOW, REPORTED THAT ALTHOUGH THE POLICE AIDES HAD BEEN DISBANDED, AND THE ACTING POLICE COMMISSIONER HAD NOT PAID THEM SINCE ABOUT THE END OF NOVEMBER, THE AIDES HAD TWICE BEEN TOLD TO STAND TO DURING DECEMBER AND HAD NOT BEEN DISBANDED. AS HE RECKONED THAT SOME 30 PER CENT OF THE POLICE FORCE, INCLUDING SOME INSPECTORS AND SEVERAL NCOS, SUPPORTED NJM OR WERE SYMPATHETIC TOWARDS THE NJM, HE THOUGHT THAT KNOWLEDGE OF THE STAND TO MUST BE CONSIDERED TO BE KNOWN BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

6. SOURCE SAID THERE WOULD BE A STRIKE ON 27 DECEMBER, WHICH MIGHT WELL BE SUPPORTED BY THE CIVIL SERVANTS' ASSOCIATION (CSA), SOME MEMBERS OF WHO M WOULD STRIKE DELIBERATELY. OTHERS WOULD ABSENT THEMSELVES POSSIBLY WITH SOME EXCUSE, BECAUSE THEY WOULD BE AFRAID TO REPORT FOR DUTY. MANY SENIOR CIVIL SERVANTS WERE NOW AGAINST THE PREMIER FOR ONE REASON OR ANOTHER, BUT MAINLY BECAUSE THEY FELT HE HAD SOME GRUDGE AGAINST THEM OR AGAINST A RELATIVE. ORGANISATIONS MOST LIKELY TO SUPPORT THE STRIKE WOULD BE THE TECHNICAL AND ALLIED WORKERS UNION (TAWU), THE COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL WORKERS UNION (CIWU), AND THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE. MANY MEMBERS OF THE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION AND THE LAW SOCIETY WERE OPPOSED TO THE PREMIER.

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7. SOURCE STATED THAT PERSONS LIVING IN THE TOWNS AND IN PARTICULAR ST. GEORGE'S AND GRENVILLE WERE OPPOSED TO THE PREMIER BUT HE STILL HAD CONSIDERABLE SUPPORT IN THE VILLAGES AND SOURCE FELT THAT THE PREMIER WOULD CALL A MEETING TO WHICH HIS SUPPORTERS COULD COME IN ORDER TO DEMONSTRATE HIS STRENGTH. PREMIER HAD SAID HE HAD NO INTENTION OF RESIGNING.

SOURCE COMMENT

8. SOURCE BELIEVED THAT THE ONLY THING WHICH KEPT SO MANY VARIED ORGANISATIONS TOGETHER WAS A DESIRE TO DESTROY THE PREMIER, AND THAT ONCE THIS HAPPENED, THE ORGANISATIONS WOULD LOSE THEIR COHESION. SOURCE DID NOT THINK THE ORGANISATIONS HAD THOUGHT OUT THE NEXT STEP SHOULD THE PREMIER RESIGN, BUT BELIEVED THAT THEY HOPED THAT EITHER THE GOVERNOR WOULD CALL UPON ANOTHER MEMBER OF THE GOVERNMENT TO FORM A CABINET OR THAT THERE WOULD BE ANOTHER ELECTION.

9. SOURCE ALSO COMMENTED THAT SENATOR DEREK KNIGHT HAD NOT ATTENDED ANY MEETING OF THE CABINET RECENTLY, AND SINCE HE WAS A MEMBER OF THE TECHNICAL AND ALLIED WORKERS UNION WHO ARE MAKING MUCH OF THE RUNNING WITHIN THE ORGANISATIONS, IT IS JUST POSSIBLE THAT HE MIGHT HAVE HIS EYE ON THE PREMIERSHIP.

FIELD COMMENT

10. SOURCE HAD NOT DE-BRIEFED HIS CONTACT WHO ATTENDED THE MEETING ON DECEMBER 11, AND WAS UNABLE TO STATE THE EXACT AIM OF THOSE ATTENDING THE MEETING, OR GIVE AN INDICATION OF THE MOOD OF THE MEETING.

1. THE GOVERNOR, UPON WHOM I HAD CALLED BEFORE SEEING SOURCE, WAS OF THE OPINION THAT THE ORGANISATIONS FELT THAT IN SOME WAY SHE WOULD BE ABLE TO SOLVE THE SITUATION BUT SHE TOO HAD NO IDEA AS TO THE EXACT THINKING BEHIND THE ORGANISATIONS' RESOLUTION.

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SECRET

12. BASICALLY, THE ORGANISATIONS RATHER THAN THE NJM HAVE TAKEN THE LEAD BUT HAVE NOT THOUGHT OUT EITHER THEIR ULTIMATE AIM OR THEIR STRATEGY.

DIGGINES

[REPEATED AS REQUESTED]

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SIR G ARTHUR
MR THOMSON
MR HANKEY
MR LARMOUR

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Telephone No. 2231

Technical & Allied Workers' Union

Cable Address: TECHU

Established: 25th May, 1958
Registered: 2nd June, 1958

AFFILIATED TO:-

Trade Union Council
St. George's, Grenada.

Postal Telegraph & Telephone
International, Bienne, Switzerland.

International Union of Food and
Allied Workers' Associations
Rue Necker 15
1201 Geneva - Suisse

PRESIDENT: Curtis B. Stuart
SECRETARY: Simon Green
TREASURER: Reginald Dowe

P.O. BOX 405,
OTWAY HOUSE,
THE CARINADE,
ST. GEORGE'S,
GRENADA, W. I.

December 12, 1973.

His Excellency E.O. Laird esq., C.M.G., M.B.E.,
George Gordon Building,
Castries,
St. Lucia.

Sir,

The reconvened meeting of the Representatives of the Organisations set out hereunder, held at Otway House, St. George's, on Tuesday 11th December 1973, after reviewing the progress made relative to the undertaking given by the Premier by letter of 29th November 1973, by an overwhelming majority agreed that none of the four (4) points had been complied with as agreed, in the circumstances the following Resolution was passed:

WHEREAS this Representative Body which met on 26th and 27th November 1973 because of the grave situation in our society brought about by a breakdown of Law and Order and Police brutality and which, as a result forwarded a four (4) point resolution to the Government and subsequently met and agreed on a course of Action with the Premier geared towards the implementation of these four (4) points

AND WHEREAS that our resumed meeting on Tuesday 11th December 1973 when it was by an overwhelming majority agreed that the said four (4) points were not complied with as agreed to and promised by the Premier

Be it resolved that the said Representative Body move a vote of No Confidence in the Premier and his Government

BE IT further resolved that this Representative Body recommend to its members that their Labour and Services be withdrawn on the 27th December 1973 and continuing unless and until the Premier and/or his Government resigns

/AND BE IT.....2

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His Excellency,

AND BE IT further resolved that this Resolution be forwarded to the Premier, the Governor and the British Government Representative to the Associated States in St. Lucia.

- THE GRENADA TECHNICAL & ALLIED WORKERS' UNION
- THE GRENADA CIVIL SERVICE ASSOCIATION
- THE GRENADA SEAMEN & WATERFRONT WORKERS' UNION
- THE GRENADA UNION OF TEACHERS
- THE COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL WORKERS' UNION
- THE PROGRESSIVE LABOUR & GENERAL WORKERS' UNION
- THE GRENADA HOTEL ASSOCIATION
- THE GRENADA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE INC.
- THE GRENADA MASTERS & MISTRESSES ASSOCIATION
- THE LEAGUE OF CONCERNED CITIZENS
- THE LIONS CLUB
- THE TAXI OWNERS & DRIVERS ASSOCIATION
- THE INTERCHURCH COUNCIL
- THE HEADMASTERS & HEADMISTRESSES
- THE UNION OF SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS
- THE GRENADA EMPLOYERS' FEDERATION
- THE GRENADA MEDICAL ASSOCIATION
- THE GRENADA LAW SOCIETY
- THE GRENADA JAYCEES
- HEADS OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC, ANGLICAN, METHODIST AND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCHES
- THE GAS DEALERS ASSOCIATION
- THE GOVERNING BODY OF ASSISTED SECONDARY SCHOOLS
- THE GENERAL WORKERS' UNION
- THE ROTARY CLUB OF GRENADA

.....*Curtis B. Stuart*.....
Curtis B. Stuart,
Chairman,
Representative Body of Organisations.