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LATIN AMERICA REPORT

No. 2622

CONTENTS

ENERGY ECONOMICS

CUBA

Nico Lopez Petroleum By-Products Operations Viewed
(Raul Palazuelos; TRIBUNA DE LA HABANA, 17 Oct 82)..... 1

Electric Power Consumption Down in Havana Province
(Raul Palazuelos; TRIBUNA DE LA HABANA, 19 Oct 82)..... 4

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Offshore Gas Facility Is One of World's Largest
(TRINIDAD GUARDIAN, 16 Nov 82)..... 6

COUNTRY SECTION

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

CARICOM Summit Hears Speeches by Caribbean Leaders
(THE DAILY GLEANER, 17, 16 Nov 82, TRINIDAD
GUARDIAN, 15 Nov 82)..... 7

Report on Opening Session, by Balford Henry, Marcia
Erskine

Seaga Speech, by Balford Henry

Address by Chambers, by Marcia Erskine

Vere Bird Remarks, by Balford Henry

Burnham Pre-Summit Proposals

Next Foreign Ministers Meeting, by Balford Henry

Praise for Cooperation, Editorial

ARGENTINA

Presidential Hopeful Luder States Views on National Accord
(Italo Argentino Luder Interview; VIGENCIA, Oct-
Nov 82)..... 17

Government Changes Seen by Year's End
(J. Iglesias Rouco; LA PRENSA, 25 Nov 82)..... 22

BAHAMAS

Text of Chairman Hanna's Address to PLP Convention
(THE HERALD, 29 Oct 82)..... 25

'HERALD' Editor Criticizes U.S. Position on Namibia
(Fred Mitchell; THE HERALD, 29 Oct 82)..... 28

Interview With Commissioner of Police Gerald Bartlett
(THE HERALD, 4 Nov 82)..... 30

Minister's Wife Hits FNM Call for League of Women Voters
(THE HERALD, 29 Oct 82)..... 35

Outgoing PLP Chairman Maynard Urges More Active MP's
(THE HERALD, 29 Oct 82)..... 36

Details of Inner Workings of PLP Officer Voting
(Fred Mitchell; THE HERALD, 29 Oct 82)..... 38

New French Ambassador Massenet Presents Credentials
(THE TRIBUNE, 9 Nov 82)..... 40

Opposition to Casinos Mounts; Pindling Stands Firm
(THE TRIBUNE, various dates)..... 41

Vanguard Party Objections, by Gladstone Thurston
Further Church Opposition, by Athena Damianos
Pindling Stand, by Athena Damianos

PLP Disputes Report on 'Don't Pay Phone Bill' Speech
(THE TRIBUNE, 5 Nov 82)..... 44

BARBADOS

Barrow Views CARICOM Summit, Warns of U.S. Influence
(ADVOCATE-NEWS, 12 Nov 82)..... 45

Three Public Workers Union Leaders Ousted From Office
(Marva Cossy; SUNDAY SUN, 7 Nov 82)..... 46

Power Struggle Within Opposition DLP Examined (Henry Christopher; SUNDAY ADVOCATE-NEWS, 7 Nov 82).....	47-
Measures To Boost Sugar Industry Proposed, Taken (ADVOCATE-NEWS, 11, 12 Nov 82).....	50
New Acreage Incentive Plan	
Government Seeks Foreign Aid To Modernize Fishing Industry (ADVOCATE-NEWS, 11 Nov 82).....	52
Teachers Union Gets Strong Support in Strike Action (ADVOCATE-NEWS, 12 Nov 82).....	54
Briefs	
Rise in Unemployment	56
 CUBA	
Latin America Since Malvinas Crisis Described (Carlos Sanchez Flores; PRISMA LATINOAMERICANO, Oct 82).....	57
Industrial Investment Policy for Next 20 Years Noted (Gonzalo M. Rodriguez Mesa; ECONOMIA Y DESARROLLO, May-Jun 82).....	67
New Soviet Ambassador Katushev Interviewed (Konstantin F. Katushev Interview; BOHEMIA, 5 Nov 82)...	75
Soviet Fishing Official in Cuba Interviewed (Victor Schein Interview; BOHEMIA, 5 Nov 82).....	80
'Barbados Crime' Commemorated, CIA Still Blamed (GRANMA, 6 Oct 82).....	82
PCC Central Committee Anniversary Hailed (GRANMA, 2 Oct 82).....	84
 DOMINICA	
Report on New Income, Profits Tax Law Starting in 1983 (THE CARIBBEAN AND WEST INDIES CHRONICLE, Aug/Sep 82).....	86
 GUYANA	
Study Shows Private Sector Has Significant Economic Role (THE CARIBBEAN AND WEST INDIES CHRONICLE, Aug/Sep 92).....	89

JAMAICA

Special Police Back on Duty With Permission for Weapons (THE DAILY GLEANER, 17 Nov 82).....	91
PNP Statement Disputes PNC Analysis of By-Election (THE DAILY GLEANER, 16 Nov 82).....	92
Farmers, Union Oppose Government Plan for Sugar Industry (TRINIDAD GUARDIAN, 10 Nov 82).....	93
Briefs	
Return of Power Workers	95

MEXICO

PPS Sees United States Behind Antinational Conspiracy (EXCELSIOR, 29 Oct 82).....	96
De la Madrid on Foreign Policy, Guatemalan Refugees (Sara Lovera; UNOMASUNO, 26 Oct 82).....	99
PAN Founder Criticizes Current Party Orientation (Manuel Roque Madriz; UNOMASUNO, 26 Oct 82).....	101
Corruption Denounced as Chief Evil Threatening Society (Emilio Goichechea Luna; EXCELSIOR, 27 Oct 82).....	103

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Teachers Association Gets New President Replacing Taylor (TRINIDAD GUARDIAN, 10 Nov 82).....	106
Talk of Opposition Unity as Alliance Holds Convention (TRINIDAD GUARDIAN, various dates, SUNDAY GUARDIAN, 14 Nov 82).....	107
Discussion of Unification	
Tapia House Leadership	
Praise for Best, Editorial	
Alliance Conference Features	
ONR Denial of Unity Talks	
Alliance Assessment of Economy	
Panday Convention Speech, by Tony Fraser	
Call for Economic Changes	
Progress Reported in Government-Labor Job Security Talks (TRINIDAD GUARDIAN, 10 Nov 82).....	116

Union-TTEC Dispute Narrows; Issues Go to Industrial Court (TRINIDAD GUARDIAN, 10, 11 Nov 82).....	118
Wage Negotiations Narrowing of Differences, by Norris Solomon	
ONR Leader Outlines Plan for Caroni Reorganization (ADVOCATE-NEWS, 8 Nov 82).....	120
Political Analysis Sees Opportunity for Rise of ONR (David Renwick; THE CARIBBEAN AND WEST INDIAN CHRONICLE, Aug/Sep 82).....	122
Briefs	
Texaco-Union Accord	124
OK for Citibank	124

NICO LOPEZ PETROLEUM BY-PRODUCTS OPERATIONS VIEWED

Havana TRIBUNA DE LA HABANA in Spanish 17 Oct 82 p 6

/Article by Raul Palazuelos/

/Text/ The suggestion comes to the reporter directly from the party and the Provincial Energy Saving Commission: there is evidence of good work in the saving of sources of energy in the Nico Lopez Refinery. The suggestion was not surprising. The Chemical-Mining-Energy Labor Union had already given us some hints on the job performed by the 29 socialist work brigades of the enterprise, which is located in the offshore municipality of Regla.

Upon arriving at the tiny office of Carlos Dubois, assistant director of maintenance of the Nico Lopez Petroleum By-Products Manufacturing Enterprise, one cannot resist the temptation of bombarding him with a lot of questions: How is the saving activity organized in the enterprise? What is the participation of the working masses and what are the factors that guide them? What is the policy being followed? What are the savings to the country and our province? ...

Raul Latuff, secretary of the energy saving commission headed by Dubois himself, arrives at the same time as the steaming coffee brought in by the amiable secretary of Carlos. The statistical and control documents, all neatly organized, also arrive, as well as Benito, the emulation secretary of the labor union bureau. Benito Alonso is always sparkling, full of a bubbling enthusiasm, sticky but at the same time accurate with the information. There is no detail in the task of the workers that Benito does not know, as I believe that he knows each of the 2,200 workers of the refinery.

A Policy of Saving

"The first thing is to put a stop to waste. That is where a saving policy should start. That first, and then implement methods of rational use. The strict application of consumption norms is an unavoidable factor in those two steps. Then one can start producing savings."

That is the way Dubois explains it. Then he goes into details. An effective saving cannot be attained by decree. There must be a combination of administrative instructions, persuasion and systematic work on the part of the

party and the labor union, and the action of the workers organized in brigades in order to be able to quantify the results. But the main element is always man, the producer.

The consolidation of the saving task began with the elimination of waste: repair all kinds of leaks, improve thermal insulation, determine the standards of utilization of the equipment and of consumption, etc. The task is directed by the saving commissions of each area, composed of a chairman and a secretary; technicians and qualified workers; innovators and rationalizers who make up the Innovators and Efficiency Experts Committees (CIR's); and party, youth, labor union and administrative leaders.

At present, more than 252 workers make up that important labor cell embodied in the socialist work brigades. They implement the guidelines for the rational use, saving and optimization of energy resources.

What, Where, When and Why Save?

Among the prescribed measures, Benito Alonso explains, is the accurate control of the consumption of energy. For instance, the one applied by the operators of boilers and ovens, among others.

Consequently, all consumption indices are standardized and are the responsibility of the brigade and each one of its members. Their level of application is such that it will be possible to reevaluate and optimize them in the near future. Moreover, the more efficient technological parameters have been accurately determined in order to ensure a more effective combustion of the petroleum used as feedstock. This vital aspect is checked up as often as three times a day.

According to Benito, the workers themselves display the greatest interest in the application of the controls in question because the special "save energy" emulation that the labor union of the sector created has caught on with such an enthusiasm that not even the flare of the refinery can outshine it. And if this were not enough, the work of the saving commission of each shop and the power plant of the enterprise is being checked up twice a month. Three saving meetings have been held already--the last one on 3 October--and two energy- and fuel-saving acts.

In the midst of the investment program of restoration and modernization which will make it possible to increase the output of petroleum by-products by means of the optimization and improvement of its operations, the Nico Lopez Refinery, which has received a firm electric energy commitment in view of its strategic nature, knows that it can also contribute to the production of that kind of energy. Thus, the investments intend to provide it with electric cogeneration capabilities by means of the reutilization of the gases and fumes of the technological refining process.

All Right, But How Much Was Saved?

Here Raul Latuff brings out his precious documents and starts quoting actual figures, values and results. Latuff says:

"As to electricity, we had saved at 30 August 1,255,400 kWh, that is, a little more than 1 MWH equivalent to 433 tons of fuel oil. As to petroleum fuel, our saving amounts to 8,212 tons."

Suddenly Benito jumps up and says: "Add it all up, for that is what our workers have saved the province and the country."

The calculator comes out. There are additions, multiplications... The result: 8,645 tons of petroleum saved up to August worth \$1,867,320. And the year is not ended yet! What will the total saving of the workers of the refinery be, then, by the end of the year? We will have to return and to highlight it again.

Saving with a Saving Example

Ricardo R. Rodriguez is a B operator of the largest liquefied natural gas (LNG) plant in the country, located in the Nico Lopez Refinery. A labor union leader and a communist militant, he has been chosen the best operator of the semester and the best worker in the processing category of the chemical-mining-energy trade of the city of Havana. He is a member of the ANIR National Association of Innovators and Efficiency Experts. Ricardo says: "I innovated in the preheating furnace of the plant when I replaced the pilot light of the fuel oil burner with three gas pilot lights of 40-pound pressure. This makes it possible to use 40-pound pressure gases, which are of no commercial value, for preheating the plant. It was a gas that was being wasted! The colleagues of my socialist work brigade backed me up in my work. That is why it was successful."

The innovation is still being studied by the BTJ Youth Technical Brigade and the CIR of the plant.

8414

CSO: 3248/208

ELECTRIC POWER CONSUMPTION DOWN IN HAVANA PROVINCE

Havana TRIBUNA DE LA HABANA in Spanish 19 Oct 82 p 1

/Article by Raul Palazuelos/

/Text/ It was determined that a sizable decline in electric power consumption was registered in Havana Province up to September according to the work performed by the Provincial Saving Commission, which was headed by Jose Gonzalez Frances, vice chairman of the Central Planning Board (JUCEPLAN), and Atanasio Reyes, member of the Executive Committee of the Havana People's Government and chairman of the area saving commission.

In accordance with the information furnished by the statistics section, the decline in electric power consumption in the province up to the close of the reporting period on 30 September was 4.9 percent ... /typographic error/ Consumption, which amounted to 661,572.9 MWH, was reduced to 629,315.3 MWH for a saving of 32,257.6 MWH.

Among the state organizations of national subordination whose enterprises are located in the area, savings were effected pursuant to plans of 3.8 percent at the MINBAS /Ministry of Basic Industry/, 14.7 percent at the MINIL /Ministry of Light Industry/, 2.7 percent at the MINAZ /Ministry of the Sugar Industry/, 5.6 percent at the MICONSA /Ministry of Construction/, and 19.7 percent at the MICOM /Ministry of Communications/. On the reverse side of the coin, the largest consumers were the SIME /Steelworking Industry/ with an overconsumption of 11.6 percent, and the MINAGRIC /Ministry of Agriculture/ with 6.7 percent.

It was also found out from the representative of the Petroleum By-Products Distributing Enterprise that there is a low rate of compliance in the recovery of used oil in the province amounting to 76.3 percent of the projected goal (only 876 tons of the planned 1,136 tons were collected). Lubricants are items of great economic value because a good portion of them--especially SAE-30--are imported.

In the course of the checkup conducted by the vice chairman of the JUCEPLAN, it became evident that Havana has done a good job in regulating the use of fuel oil stoves in restaurants and in commercial, educational and other types of establishments. Turning off those stoves for 3 hours daily at noon, particularly in the 70 basic secondary farm schools in the area, has brought about considerable savings.

For his part, Gonzalez Frances explained that with regard to saving, one must compare the consumption plan of the main sources of energy with the level of development of the managerial activity and its results.

It was also disclosed that there is already a biogas plant operating in Havana at the Nina Bonita Livestock Enterprise, and that it is planned to bottle the methane that it produces for use as fuel for tractors in place of the hydrocarbon fuel. It is also planned to install another plant in Nazareno to make use of the new and replenishable source of animal excrement.

Furthermore, there are already 12 windmills in operation and another 12 under repair in the agricultural sector, among the 187 windmills in the area.

The report of Ilsa Llanes, chairwoman of the saving commission of San Antonio de los Banos, which noted the good job done at that municipality, was most illustrative of the absorbing task performed in the province.

8414

CSO: 3248/208

OFFSHORE GAS FACILITY IS ONE OF WORLD'S LARGEST

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 16 Nov 82 p 1

[Text]

AMOCO Trinidad Oil Company yesterday began installation of one of the world's largest gas producing facilities, at Amoco's Cassia gas field 35 miles southeast of Galeota Point in water depth of 220 feet.

The massive steel jacket, built in Houston, Texas, arrived on Saturday last. The trip took 20 days.

Energy Minister, Mr. Patrick Manning, was among ministry officials at yesterday's splashdown launching. Others included Mr. Robert Powers, President and General Manager of Amoco, who overnighted on the giant barge — Ocean Builder — rented by Amoco at a cost of (US) \$110,000 per day, to install the platform.

When completed, the platform will accommodate some 20 wells, and would be capable of pumping 450 million cubic feet of gas a day on shore through a 30-inch pipeline being laid by the National Gas Company. The platform can also handle 10,800 barrels of gas condensate a day, which

will flow through a nine-inch pipeline.

Installation of the 30-inch pipeline for National Gas and the nine-inch line for Amoco is being done by the same U.S. firm — McDermott Inc.

As the 30-inch pipeline is being constructed in conjunction with the proposed Amoco Cassia platform and their pipelines, Amoco has been retained by National Gas as Project Managers.

McDermott already has on standby some eight large vessels, off Man-O-War Bay, Tobago, ready to begin work.

The massive steel jacket will be held in place by eight legs through which there would be heavy pile penetration. When completed, the platform which will be some 730 feet in height will have an upper deck from which drilling operations will take place, and a lower deck where production work will be done. Total weight of the structure will be over 4,000 tons.

There will be a total of some 25 vessels involved in the project.

CARICOM SUMMIT HEARS SPEECHES BY CARIBBEAN LEADERS

Report on Opening Session

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 17 Nov 82 pp 1, 20

[Article by Balford Henry and Marcia Erskine]

[Text]

OCHO RIOS, Nov. 16

JAMAICA'S COMMITMENT to CARICOM was re-affirmed here today by Prime Minister Edward Seaga as he made the keynote speech marking the opening of the third Heads of Governments conference being held at the Americana Hotel.

The meeting was officially opened with a hoisting of regional flags, a fanfare by buglers of the Jamaica Defence Force and a procession that saw Caribbean Heads of Governments individually greeting the host Prime Minister, Mr. Seaga, before taking their seats in the packed hotel ballroom.

CARICOM Secretary-General, Dr. Kurlough King, set the stage for the largely sober ceremony as he welcomed the guests, who included a number of local and foreign Ministers of Government, diplomats and technocrats.

Dr. King said that the long-awaited 'summit' (the last one was held seven years ago) marked "a great day in the life of CARICOM. He noted that the region was approaching the greatest economic crisis since the Great Depression of the 1930s and expressed the hope that this Conference would contribute to the progress of every member state.

Speeches followed by Prime Minister Seaga, Prime Minister Vere Bird, of Antigua-Barbuda; Prime Minister Eugenia Charles, of Dominica; Prime Minister George Chambers, of Trinidad and Tobago; and President Forbes Burnham, of Guyana.

Mr. Seaga expressed the hope that

the regional leaders attending the conference would exhibit soundness of judgment, clarity of purpose, and renewed commitment of interest in seeking to revive faith in the future.

CARICOM, he said, was the vehicle through which the Caribbean Community could work to make the future fulfill the hopes and aspirations of its peoples.

CARICOM was a valuable institution. Its development had taken place concurrently with the continuing evolution of the de-colonisation process in the region.

But more so there had emerged over the years among the countries which form the Community a set of common characteristics, not by common design but by common interests - things that were valued and believed in, which had been tested by time and adversity and which had become indelibly ingrained in the regional personality.

Mr. Seaga said that the validity and usefulness of CARICOM had been proven by its survival in spite of the fact that its leaders had not been able to meet for so long.

"In offering the sincere welcome of the Government and people of Jamaica, may I take this opportunity to re-affirm Jamaica's commitment to CARICOM and to express the hope that we will in this conference exhibit soundness of judgment, clarity of purpose and renewed commitment of interest as we seek to revive faith in our future," he said.

Miss Charles, who has the distinction of being the Caribbean's only female Prime Minister, was forceful in her declaration of the meeting as an opportunity to "reaffirm support of the integration movement — CARICOM".

She urged her fellow heads of government to work for "the cementing of friendship and to plan programmes of action to serve the entire Caribbean".

President Burnham was in a jocular-serious mood. Speaking without a prepared script, he termed the seven-year lapse since the last Heads of Governments Conference "most unfortunate".

President Burnham paid homage to ex-Barbados Prime Minister, Mr. Errol Barrow, and Antigua-Barbuda's Vere Bird for their role in the formation of CARIFTA which later evolved into CARICOM.

He urged leaders to look at the resources not only of their individual countries but of all the member states of CARICOM. This he said would afford more viability in the region and reduce the need to apply on a regular basis for foreign aid.

President Burnham said that rather than looking at questions such as an

amendment to the Treaty of CARICOM with regard to human rights, CARICOM should look to the strengthening of relations internally. "We are either a region or a concentration of little states, either a people or a colonisation of areas," he said.

"We cannot prattle about democracy internally if we do not accept a fact of ideological pluralism. Let's not make the Caribbean a place of empty rhetoric."

Mr. Burnham said he hoped the Conference would discuss the strengthening of regional integration as well as "the geographic integration of states". He asked that they look at territorial sovereignty, especially with regard to border disputes affecting Belize and Guyana.

President Burnham expressed the wish that another Heads of Government meeting be held next year in celebration of the tenth anniversary of the formation of CARICOM.

The Guyanese President's presentation was the last on the programme of the official opening.

After the opening ceremony, the leaders had a 15-minute coffee break before starting their private meeting.

Other Heads of Government attending the meeting, apart from those already named, are the Hon. John Compton, Prime Minister of St. Lucia; the Hon. Kennedy Simmonds, Premier of St. Kitts/Nevis; the Hon. Alfred Osbourne, Chief Minister of Montserrat; the Hon. Maurice Bishop, Prime Minister of Grenada; the Hon. George Price, Prime Minister of Belize; the Hon. J.M.G. 'Tom' Adams, Prime Minister of Barbados; the Hon. Lynden Pindling, Prime Minister of the Bahamas.

Mr. Hudson Tannis, Deputy Prime Minister of St. Vincent, represents his country.

Seaga Speech

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 17 Nov 82 pp 1, 20

[Article by Balford Henry]

[Text]

OCHO RIOS, Nov. 16:

“THE RIGHT OF A people to change a government in elections free and fair, and free from fear, is the most fundamental human right because it gives or takes from governments the instruments of power to give or take any other human right”.

This was stated by Jamaican Prime Minister Edward Seaga today as he called on CARICOM leaders not to lose sight of what he termed “profoundly important factors” in looking to the future of the community.

Addressing the opening ceremony of the CARICOM Heads of Government Conference in Ocho Rios, he named the region’s “meaningful” voice in international affairs among the factors. He said that the region should never forget that it has been able to speak vividly on matters of both economic and political significance, because one of its greatest strengths has always been the stability of moderation.

“But let it be fully recognized that our voice can only be valued to the extent that we have no blemish ourselves,” he said.

MR. SEAGA said given the political and economic systems which predominate in the CARICOM Community, the countries of the region were, among the developing countries, the group that stands next in line to achieve the kind of dynamic growth that the newly independent industrialised countries of South-East Asia have demonstrated:

“We are the logical group that can next aspire to reach a point of take-off provided that the gearing of needed capital and technology is not crippled by prolonged world recession,” the Prime Minister said.

Mr. Seaga said the extent to which the CARICOM Group represents a meaningful voice in international affairs — a voice which is in inverse

proportion to its size and numbers — was a distinctive point of pride.

“We must never forget that we have been able to speak vividly on matters of both economic and political significance, because one of our greatest strengths has always been the stability of moderation.

“THE PATH between extremes is one on which we have convincingly resettled. Our political traditions have, in the main, created an outstanding record of stable transitions of electoral power, indeed, moreso than any other region of the developing world.

“The right of a people to change a Government in elections free and fair, and free from fear, is the most fundamental human right because it gives or takes from Governments the instruments of power to give or take any other human right.

“We have been able on our record in the main, to play an active and valued role in consideration of human rights within a wider region which has been seriously blemished in this regard. This is a record which we must jealously guard improve and protect. But let it be fully recognized that our voice can only be valued to the extent that we have no blemish ourselves.”

DEALING WITH the third factor of tolerating difficulties, Mr. Seaga said that there was an extent to which the region must enjoy elements of commonality, welcome and tolerate differences — so long as those differences are not of such a nature or are exercised in such a manner, as to weaken, rather than strengthen either the individual sovereignties or mutual interests.

He also called on the region to

begin to consider the implications of the technological changes and geopolitical alignments implicit in present trends.

For example, he said, new important centres of power were emerging in the international community of the Pacific. Japan and the newly industrialised countries on the rim of the Euro-Asian land mass may soon dominate the future, shifting the fulcrum from the Atlantic. The micro-chip and bio-engineering sciences were dramatically changing the world.

"In CARICOM our community has the vehicle through which we can work to make our future fulfill the hopes and aspirations of our peoples. It is indeed a valuable institution," the Prime Minister said.

Mr. Seaga from a prepared text which was later distributed in booklet form said that seven years was significant length of time for a group of countries which first came to independence 20 years ago to wait to meet to discuss their problems.

He said that the time has come when the new leadership must view the region and its institutions from new perspectives.

"We will be looking therefore at how the elements of Caricom have been working over the years in order to determine what needs refinement, what may have proven to be unworkable and what needs to be strengthened.

"We must acknowledge change and the need for change where necessary, but not seek change for the sake of change," he said.

MR. SEAGA said that the current global recession which he rated as the worst in 50 years and which showed no sign of an early end, had been compounded by high interest rates and the scarcity of development capital, and more recently by an increasing protectionism in the major industrial countries.

One consequence of this protectionism, Mr. Seaga said, has been an increasingly pronounced deterioration in the terms of trade of the oil-importing developing countries.

Over the past 18 months the dollar price of commodity exports had fallen on the average by nearly one-third and primary commodities other than oil may now purchase less, in real terms, than they have done at any time since the Second World War, he said.

Another reason why the commu-

nity should be concerned about protectionism, Mr. Seaga said, was because some of the countries have endeavoured to promote export-oriented strategies of development. The direction that strategy takes in the future could only be determined by the priorities of individual countries, but as a group the community should not be unmindful of the obstacles imposed by protectionist policies in the path of that strategy.

"NOR SHOULD it be lost on us that as we strive to open the doors more fully in other marketplaces, it is a dream of limited value that we can keep our own doors firmly closed much longer," the Prime Minister said.

Mr. Seaga said that it was recognised that simple economic growth was not enough and the development of individual countries and the region has to be in the main internally generated. But that was possible only to the extent that the co-operation is based clearly and firmly on full appreciation of individual and regional capabilities.

He said that to exploit the resource base of the individual countries, it must be acknowledged that the region needed the stimulus of capital and technical resources which it does not possess.

"It is therefore extremely gratifying that we are now experiencing more intense international attention arising out of a deeper and long overdue recognition of the nature and the scope of the economic difficulties we face and their social and political consequences".

Speaking on the Caribbean Basin Initiative Mr. Seaga said: "It is with some urgency that I express the hope that the legislative approval to enact this Bill will be finalised this year. It would be difficult to discount expectations much longer."

Mr. Seaga said that the political and economic changes in the region indicated that now, more than ever, the region needed to look at the Caricom system with "inspired eyes and committed sensitivity," working together to consolidate and expand it.

He said that the accumulation of institutional and corporate house-keeping matters since the last meeting was such that a large portion of the time at this meeting would be used in getting those matters out of the way, and therefore, perhaps only a start could be made during this meeting in dealing with the difficulties which are worrying and of concern.

Address by Chambers

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 17 Nov 82 pp 1, 20

[Article by Marcia Erskine]

[Text] Ocho Rios, Nov 16--A growing disregard for the obligations of CARICOM and unhealthy competition in strategic economic areas such as energy and transportation have been identified among factors which make urgent the task of CARICOM Heads of Government now meeting here.

Trinidad and Tobago Prime Minister George Chambers said at the official opening of the Conference this morning that "a subservience of regional interests in vital areas of political and economic developments resulting in the conferring of benefits on extra-regional states, increasing vulnerability of movement due to external pressure and influences, and a growing resort to protectionism in the region in violation of the spirit of the Treaty of Chaguaramas were also major "negative factors in the community."

Such factors, he said, could have a divisive effect on CARICOM countries and peoples.

Mr Chambers said that economic situations and prospects which confront the region today call for fundamental adjustment by all Caribbean states.

He noted that Trinidad and Tobago, despite her oil resources, has not escaped the adverse effects of international recession. "I have already found it necessary to alert our population to the need to adjust to the realities of the situation," he said.

"Trinidad and Tobago has scrupulously adhered to obligations assumed under the Treaty of Chaguaramas. We have supported regional institutions and shared our limited resources with our CARICOM partners."

The Trinidad and Tobago Prime Minister, now in his second year in office, said that his government has also resisted what he termed "the vociferous demands from our manufacturers to take retaliatory action against members states which impose barriers and restrictions against Trinidad and Tobago manufactured goods and in diverse ways continue to breach the prescribed Rules of Origin of Treaty."

He said that Trinidad and Tobago's capacity to sustain this effort will depend on its ability to market both regionally and extra-regionally what it produces.

The Prime Minister said that the region has a choice of either promoting and strengthening functional cooperation or succumbing to divisive forces.

"The founders of CARICOM had a vision of the place of the Caribbean in the international community and of the Caribbean man in the world's society," Mr Chambers said.

He said that the Conference discussions this week cannot ignore developments in CARICOM in respect of the integration process during the seven-year lapse since the last Heads of Government Conference, but must address issues with candour and with a determination to find and implement solutions to problems afflicting the integration movement.

Mr Chambers called on the Conference to set as its objective the devising of arrangements and strategies which would enable CARICOM states to begin to cope with the challenges posed by a hostile international environment. He included in this category problems such as unemployment, inflation and economic instability.

Vere Bird Remarks

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 17 Nov 82 p 7

[Article by Balford Henry]

[Text] Ocho Rios, Nov 16--Prime Minister Vere Bird of Antigua/Barbuda told yesterday's official opening ceremony of the meeting of CARICOM Heads of Government that the development of the Caribbean cannot be reliant on the interest of others.

"We must take on the responsibility for our own development and so maintain our dignity and pride," Mr Bird said.

By such action the region would be spared the many frustrations and disappointments often experienced "when understanding seems to become misunderstanding and hopes turn to despair," Mr Bird who was speaking as the longest-serving leader of a Lesser Developed Country (LDC) in CARICOM, said.

"I am not saying that we must reject assistance from friendly sources which genuinely recognise that we live in an inter-dependent world. We are poor people and we must be practical enough to accept help. But those who give it should also acknowledge that they benefit many more times in terms of trade and world stability."

Mr Bird said that the lessons of the past and the conditions of the present emphasised that the prospects for the future lie in a joint approach to urgent economic problems. There was particularly the need to provide employment on an equitable basis and a need to pool resources in joint programmes of production to increase revenue.

He said that the Caribbean Community was "the most appropriate, logical and capable institutional vehicle" by which respective territories can "most effectively combat the pervasive economic hazards to which the fragile economies to the region are continually exposed."

"We must not shirk this task," Mr Bird said. "Nor must we shrink from its responsibility. The people of the Caribbean place a great deal of hope in this meeting. We have an obligation to them as we have to those leaders of the past who gave their lives to realise the goal of Caribbean co-operation."

Mr Bird said that the region should not believe that somehow it will escape the difficulties of the time including unemployment and a decline in the standard of living.

He said that the development of the region only assumed importance to the powers of the East and the West "when one feels threatened by the interests of the other in the region."

Burnham Pre-Summit Proposals

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 15 Nov 82 p 5

[Text]

GEORGETOWN, Sun., (Cana)

GUYANA's President, Forbes Burnham, has proposed that the Caribbean Community (Caricom) Heads of Government Conference in Jamaica discuss regional food security and the development and distribution of energy.

In a statement, President Burnham said Guyana had produced working papers on both subjects for discussion at the regional summit.

"...We are convinced that the region has the capacity, if resources are properly garnered and exploited, to feed itself, and thus reduce, if not eliminate, its growing dependence on imported food," he said.

"We have also proposed that the conference direct its attention seriously to the question of development and distribution of energy, for energy is the principal engine of development."

President Burnham said it was hoped that an impetus could be given to the regional food and nutritional plan, and that a coordinated approach to development and rational utilisation of the region's considerable energy potential could be achieved.

He described the third meeting of the Caricom heads, which runs from Tuesday until Thursday, as being important "...if only for the fact that it is the first such meeting being held for seven years."

During that period, he noted, there had been many significant changes, both political and economic, within Caricom, as well as outside of it.

"It is only fit and proper for the Heads of Government of Caricom to analyse these developments, and to assess their impact on the vitality and integrity of Caricom, and collectively chart the way forward for the survival and strengthening of the institution for regional economic integration," he said.

DECLINING PRICES

President Burnham noted the global recession, and said the industrialised countries were resorting more and more to protectionism, to shield their markets from competition from outside, while the costs of their

exports to the developing world continued to increase appreciably.

He felt that for countries like Guyana, there were added considerations, such as declining prices for their principal exports, and the curtailing of their capacity to attract adequate financial inflows to promote their development.

In the political arena, he said, the international situation was beset with tensions and turbulence, leading to an increase in the threat of armed conflict as a means of settling disputes.

"Differences between major powers are being transferred to Third World countries, and there is now a growing phenomenon of conflict, including armed conflict between developing countries," he said.

President Burnham added, "Within our own region, since 1975, we have witnessed the attempted incursion of mercenaries in the area and the threat to the territorial integrity of two member states — Belize and Guyana

— is being pursued with renewed vigour."

"It is my hope that during the conference, there will be in-depth discussions on the impact of the global economic situation on the community, international political developments, and the threat to peace and security within our region."

President Burnham said important matters which had been engaging the attention of Caricom leaders, such as the Caribbean Basin Initiative (CBI) and regional co-operation in maritime matters, provided ample scope for Caricom to manifest a unity of purpose and for the adoption of common positions.

"It is my belief that our approach to these issues should be guided by the need to preserve the integrity of our institutions, and to advance cohesion of our integration movement: for unless we are united in our efforts, decisions taken on these matters can, if we are not careful, have a divisive effect."

Next Foreign Ministers Meeting

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 16 Nov 82 p 1

[Article by Balford Henry]

[Text] Ocho Rios, Nov 15--Caricom Foreign Ministers unanimously agreed today that the next meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the region will be held in Antigua in the first half of next year.

The Foreign Ministers met all day at the Americana Hotel here where the Caricom leaders open their summit conference tomorrow. Today's meeting accepted Antigua's offer to host the next summit on several bases including the fact that that country is the newest independent nation in Caricom. The last meeting of the Heads of Government was held in 1975.

Under the chairmanship of Jamaica's Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Rt Hon Hugh Shearer, the foreign ministers dealt with six items which are on the agenda for the Heads of Government meeting which will be officially opened by Jamaican Prime Minister the Rt Hon Edward Seaga. Recommendations on the six items are to be forwarded to the Heads of Government prior to the start of the summit meeting.

The Foreign Ministers expect that if their proposals are accepted by the Heads of Government, it will greatly reduce the time needed to discuss those issues.

The question of the Human Rights amendment to the Treaty was not discussed by the Foreign Ministers. The feeling was that that matter should be dealt with exclusively by the Heads of Government.

Other matters dealt with were widening the membership of Caricom to include Haiti and Surinam; the forthcoming EEC-ACP negotiations; relations with countries outside of Caricom; and the Caribbean Basin Initiative.

[Editor's Note: THE DAILY GLEANER in English on 17 November, page 1, carried the following correction to the above item:

"Caricom Foreign Ministers are to meet in Antigua early next year, not the Heads of Government as incorrectly reported in the GLEANER yesterday.

The meeting was scheduled when the Foreign Ministers met on Monday in Ocho Rios the day before yesterday's start of the Caricom Summit."]

Praise for Cooperation

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 16 Nov 82 p 6

[Editorial]

[Text]

Today, twelve Caribbean Heads of Governments and the representative of Mr. Cato of St. Vincent begin their important talks on trade, finance, the economy, education, and politics in the Caribbean in the light of world problems.

It may sound strange, but while each Caribbean country has a general foreign policy with emphases here and there, no one country represented here at the Ocho Rios conference can be said to have a Caribbean policy. True enough, they are members of the CARICOM trading community; they also subscribe to the University of the West Indies (save for Guyana); they are world champions at cricket as a W.I. team (save for the Bahamas and Belize); they are members of the Caribbean Development Bank. But save for haphazard attempts in the past at sharing ambassadors by one or two

countries, there has been no general Caribbean foreign policy. At the UN, for example, voting usually finds Barbados and the Bahamas in a different lobby from Guyana and Grenada, and sometimes Jamaica, with Trinidad and Tobago being the great abstainer.

The Falklands issue gave the Caribbean a chance for a joint approach. And indeed their defiance of the illogical and emotional approach of the Latin Americans in O.A.S. on the issue was most welcome. But this was shattered at the UN earlier this month, when the Caribbean divided in response to the frivolous UN resolution calling for resumption of negotiations over sovereignty between the victors Britain and the aggressor-vanquished, the Argentinians.

We should hope that in the private caucuses at this meeting an

Ocho Rios Declaration will be hammered out setting out Caribbean principles of foreign policy to which all signatories can adhere. In 1964, the second Heads of Governments conference (before CARICOM) adopted the Declaration of Kingston on colonialism, apartheid, and racism. Fourteen years after, as the world has become more complex, we would expect a more sophisticated document which is less vague and which addresses questions such as the adherence to the principles of free choice of Governments, principles of freedom of expression, and of the Press, and a determination to establish a Human Rights Commission with power to hear and resolve disputes over human rights — civil and political and economic.

Elsewhere in this paper we have published the second of two advertisements by five newspapers in the region. These advertisements have pointed to the unhappy situation in Guyana where doubts are very strong about the people being free to express their choice, and where the free press has ceased to exist. The advertisement today calls attention to the sad situation in Grenada where elections are no longer the means of choice, and where freedom of expression and of the Press has been strangled.

We believe that the four newspapers with which we have joined — 'The Nation' and 'The Advocate' of Barbados, and 'The Express' and 'Trinidad Guardian' of Trinidad & Tobago — have shown the way to Caribbean citizens, and have appealed to the conscience of the Caribbean through their leaders gathered here at Ocho Rios.

We know that important

matters such as balance of payments, of trade freedom, Carib transport, university education, food production, of Caribbean examinations, of Caribbean copyright, and possibly even the future of Carifesta, and that of the Caribbean Basin Initiative will occupy the thoughts of the leaders. But we appeal to them to listen also to their conscience, and deal like statesmen with the challenge to Caribbean dedication to freedom and democracy. We see no need to talk of expulsion of any member, but the need for a consensus for democracy and freedom.

Let an Ocho Rios Declaration at the end of the meeting be void of empty and dull recitation of conference cliches, and let it point the way to a Caribbean Human Rights Charter; and let it be a firm agreement for closer cooperation, for mutual assistance (including technical assistance to the lesser developed) and on trade, finance, food production and on diplomatic initiatives and representation before the UN and its many agencies.

We welcome all the leaders who have come, and we wish for them a most pleasant stay. The whole Caribbean looks with anxiety at this meeting today which we hope will set a timetable for regular consultations at least every two years, and which, in that context, will chart a Caribbean course of co-operation for the next two years.

For we must never let the equality of "one country, one vote" at the UN, blind us to the reality of our size and our vulnerability as small single entities in this vast and unpredictable world.

PRESIDENTIAL HOPEFUL LUDER STATES VIEWS ON NATIONAL ACCORD

Buenos Aires VIGENCIA in Spanish Oct-Nov 82 No 62 pp 28-31

[Interview with Italo Argentino Luder by Ignacio Palacios Videla; date and place not specified]

[Text] "The only possible agreement consists of the immediate reestablishment of the state of law, truthful information on the serious issues that are pending, total, unlimited compliance with the Constitution and the prompt institutionalization of the country. The government need not agree on all this; it must simply do it. The in-depth accord among the political and social sectors to consolidate democracy will have to be arrived at after the next constitutional government has taken office." This statement was made to VIGENCIA by Dr Italo Argentino Luder, during a lengthy interview that we held in the office where his political activity is being organized. There, everything is feverish and dynamic: the four telephone lines operate constantly; and secretaries coordinate appointments, luncheons, dinners, press meetings, a feature article for a foreign newspaper, and the forthcoming visit to Chaco and San Juan.

Italo Argentino Luder, with good organization and a modern infrastructure which provides for his political rear guard, works hard, determined to appear as one of the most serious contenders for the presidential candidacy of the Justicialist Party, a movement which he joined in his youth, during the 1940's. In his long political career, Luder has held the highest-ranking public positions: acting president of the republic; president of the Senate of the Nation and of its Commission on Foreign Relations and Worship; member of the national constituent convention, and co-author of the constitutional reforms of 1949; and ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary on a special mission.

An attorney and doctor of legal and social sciences, he has engaged in extensive and intensive teaching activity, as a professor of political, constitutional and penal law, and of sociology, at the National Universities of Buenos Aires, La Plata and El Litoral, as well as at the Argentine Catholic University. Calm, objective and brainy, Dr Luder makes his judgments with assurance, accuracy and fluidity, intellectual traits which are combined with a careful elegance in his physical presence. These were the most important portions of his conversation with VIGENCIA.

VIGENCIA: What judgment would you make today of the last Peronist government, from a historical perspective and 6 and a half years after its fall?

Italo Argentino Luder: Every time the Justicialist Party occupied the government, it was typified by giving the people total political participation, in contrast to other periods of retrogression to a limited, restricted political participation. Between 1946 and 1955, the Justicialist Party granted women the vote, which meant the inclusion of women in the right to elect and to be elected. The national territories were also provincialized, thus affording their inhabitants access to political rights and to elective office. When it returned in 1973, the Justicialist Party repeated this conduct, incorporating the workers, the business owners and all social sectors into full participation. As for its ideological thinking, the Justicialist Party has publicly declared itself a follower of the social doctrine of the Church, which it has attempted to implement from the government, so as to establish a just social order and to affirm our economic development, and in this way to revalue our autonomous national decision-making power.

V: Please allow me to insist, Dr Luder. The last Peronist government received much criticism from various social sectors. I would like to know whether the Justicialist Party shares some of it, and whether it is deemed necessary to hold an internal process of self-criticism.

IAL: I believe that all the political and social sectors should make their own self-criticism, because the serious problems confronting the country for the past 50 years are due to a joint liability on the part of all of them. If we wanted to be completely sincere, we would have to admit that the political sectors are the ones which have had the least liability during the past 28 years. The country was governed for 19 years by de facto governments, and only for 9 years by constitutional governments. Of the latter, the Justicialist one, occupied the government for only 2 years and 10 months. This means that the amount of liability borne by the Justicialist Party should not be exaggerated, as some political commentators have usually done. It is customary to demand self-criticism of the Justicialists, and to forget that it should also be made by all political and social sectors. We are willing to make it so long as all the other sectors make it as well.

V: General Peron died on 1 July 1974. He was a substantial part of the Justicialist movement. Would you say that, upon Peron's death, the Justicialist Party was left an orphan in a sense? How is it confronting this new situation? What is the Justicialist Party like after Peron?

IAL: There is no doubt that General Peron's demise created an enormous void in the leadership of a large political movement organized around his leadership, which had the total consensus of all Justicialists. Peron's absence entails the need for confronting this phase with a different political methodology.

V: What is it?

IAL: It is based on an organization from bottom to top, wherein the leaders are the expression of the members' wishes. In his last years, Peron himself stressed the need for an organization that would initiate a new phase for Justicialism. Now, we are actually confronting it, emerging from a political ban that the present government imposed on the parties, and embarking on a phase of political activity, since the sanctioning of the statute. The Justicialist Party is confronting it without problems of any kind, because it has become aware of the fact that many

of the rights and obligations that we had previously delegated to Peron must now be assumed by us Justicialist Party members. To be a good Justicialist, it no longer suffices to remain faithful to an undisputed doctrine and leadership. It is also necessary, during this new phase, to have a wish for participation and an attitude entailing far greater commitments. I am referring to the commitment to become affiliated, and to participate in the elections of the authorities of the movement and the party, as well as in the elections of the candidates whom the party will offer to the people in the forthcoming electoral contest.

V: Do the internal lines that exist in the Justicialist movement represent deep-seated ideological differences, and could they threaten the movement's unity, leading to a split in it?

IAL: They are not lines more marked nor less natural than those noted in other political parties. Also playing their role herein are two different viewpoints and two different yardsticks for analyzing the same phenomenon. The internal movements of other parties are viewed as a reflection of internal democracy; the trends of opinion within the Justicialist Party, on the other hand, are judged as deep divisions which jeopardize unity and risk a split. This is not the case: They are mere tactical, methodological differences, or those relating to an assessment of the current situation. The Justicialist Party has two elements which insure and guarantee its unity: ideological consistency and the awareness of its historical leadership role. As for the former, Justicialism is the doctrine which brought about and justified its appearance on the national political scene, although it realizes that it must update the suitable instrumental means for implementing it. As for its historical leadership role, this consists of the deep-seated awareness of the fact that Justicialism is linked to the country's political future, and that Argentina's future depends on the total fulfillment of Justicialism as an expression of the democratically organized majority, with an updated political proposal.

V: Among the Justicialists, mention is made of "movement" and "party," and a distinction is made between the two. It is usually claimed that the party is only a part of the movement, and that the organized workers constitute its "backbone." How is this distinction conceived today? In the present situation, what is the relationship between party and movement, and between working class and movement?

IAL: I don't think that the movement and the party are contradictory. We are attempting to maintain the "movement-like" structure which historically typified Justicialism, because we are of the opinion that the movement facilitates the agreement on sectorial interests, and enables us to project ourselves toward the social groups in a far more extensive manner than a political party could do so. But we are not oblivious to the legal requirement to organize the party, because it is the necessary structure enabling us to become included in the legal order, and to aspire to challenging the political authority. As for the labor sector, we know that it is the historical class of Justicialism, which is typified, precisely, by having incorporated the workers, during 1945, into modern political participation, consumption and production. But there have been added to this historical class other sectors of different origins and social extraction: professionals, business owners, the middle class, and intellectuals, which have ended up forming a "polyclass" movement, without internal divisions, and with the ability to make an overall proposal to the people and the country. The working class' loyalty to Justicialism is a historical fact, acknowledged in the country. Now, the time has

come to place the stress on the middle class, which has at times been the most "misled" one in Argentine politics, but which has become aware that its interests are connected with those of the working people, and are not on the side of the upper bourgeoisie, that it has sometimes emulated and whose life-style it attempted to imitate.

V: Does the Justicialist Party have any concrete proposal for the youth?

IAL: The Justicialists have always received the youth among their cadres. At the present time, we are engaged in a major convocation for the political participation of the youth which has during recent years, been the victim of political disinformation and inactivity. If the young people are incorporated into Justicialism through this convocation, they are welcome! But we shall also be gratified if they channel their activity toward other political movements,, because what matters is their participation, which will represent a positive outcome for the country. But the youth must also understand that it has to enlist: The cadres are there, receptive to its membership and its education within the political parties, to take what the ancients called the "cursus honorem" (the honors course); and that it is impossible to attempt to reach the leadership of a political party from one day to the next, without experience: political militancy is difficult, self-sacrificing, prolonged and even risky.

V: Does the Justicialist Party have technical and professional cadres suited for government status?

IAL: It has them, and it has always had them, although they may lack the necessary notoriety or publicity. Many of them belong to the middle generations and the youth, and they are working actively on the preparation of the electoral program and platform that the Justicialist Party will publish next year.

V: Do you head an internal movement within the Justicialist Party?

IAL: I consider myself a national reference point, and think that my long political career and the high-ranking positions that I have held in the party and the government have caused anticipation regarding my political activity. I believe that I head a line within the movement, which does not mean that a group has been institutionalized. I prefer to maintain a fluid, mobile position with all the internal sectors, which will enable me to blend my political thinking with other proposals, and to work on behalf of the unity of the movement, through the formation of its leadership cadres and with the free, active participation of all Justicialists.

V: Do you aspire to be the Justicialist presidential candidate?

IAL: I aspire to serve my party in the position proposed by it. I believe that my experience, my career and my qualifications equip me for the highest possible rank. But this is a decision that is not up to me, but rather is incumbent on my fellow members, to whose wishes I submit.

V: Would you like to be the Justicialist presidential candidate?

IAL: It would be a high honor, just as it was a high honor to occupy the presidency of the republic provisionally during the last constitutional government.

V: What would you ask today of the government and the Armed Forces as emergency measures for emerging from the deepseated crisis confronting the country?

IAL: The process has been exhausted. It has ended its period of time, and the country's only alternative is institutionalization. The sooner this can be accomplished, the less of a price the country will pay. The present government leaders lack credibility and consensus for efficiently coping with the serious problems that we are undergoing. But this does not exempt the government from the obligation to adopt the essential emergency measures required to improve the situation in the most troubled areas, for example, the extremely serious socioeconomic situation.

V: There are other areas which are also very troubled; they are areas which are more political than economic or legal. It seems to me that one of them relates to human rights and, among them, the specific issue of the so-called "missing persons." Is there a solution for this question, or at least an outcome?

IAL: For the present, the immediate reestablishment of the state of law is necessary. The problem of the missing persons is one of the aspects of the lack of a state of law. There are other problems stemming from that same lack: those held without trial for 5 or 6 years, which represents an abusive exercise of the authority associated with martial law in Article 23 of the Constitution; the institutional acts whereby individuals have been politically disqualified, without a chance for defense or an acquittal, which are not only a violation of the Constitution, but also of Argentine legal tradition, imposing penalties which go into effect retroactively, and reversing the burden of proof. In short: the reestablishment of the state of law must be total and immediate; and, in this context, the problem of the missing persons requires a truthful explanation and report on the government's part to the public.

V: Do you think that this issue, like others which are equally troublesome and irritating, could be the subject of negotiations, an accord or an agreement, such as the government seems to wish?

IAL: There is no possibility of an accord that does not involve justice and the law. We have no access to the information at the present time, and therefore what we demand as a preliminary step is a major expression of candor and explanation of the truth. The accord among the social sectors to consolidate democracy will have to be reached immediately after the next constitutional government has taken office. For the present, the only possible accord consists of total, unlimited compliance with the National Constitution.

2909

CSO: 3348/100

GOVERNMENT CHANGES SEEN BY YEAR'S END

Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 25 Nov 82 pp 1, 6

[Column by J. Iglesias Rouco: "Adrift"]

[Text] The tragedy of the missing persons and the Malvinas war will weigh on the country's conscience, perhaps for generations. Whether that weight will, in the end, prove positive or negative from a historical standpoint will depend largely on what is done now. We have already stated that, generally speaking, we agree with the view of the Church regarding the need for "candor" on the part of all sectors (requiring, in the first place, total information), for giving up revenge and the "politicization" of these issues and for the assumption of responsibility by the political authorities, to be sure, without the exclusion of the responsibility incumbent on many portions of the community dissociated from the "process," owing to their actions or omissions.

By now, 5 months have elapsed since the fall of Puerto Argentino which, upon disclosing the countless shortcomings of the regime, also put a final end to it, so to speak. Since then, the military authority as it has been known during the past 6 years has been nothing but a political corpse. Nevertheless, many of its leaders are still bent upon keeping alive its vast and at times obscure network of interests, for the obvious purpose of incorporating them into the future "democracy"; all of this, clearly, with the cooperation of groups and individuals attached to parties, business firms and trade unions (whether in their top echelons or in their "rank and file" or intermediate groups) who, although they do not benefit from those interests now, are willing to protect them so long as they are allowed access to their generating source, that is, one of the many areas of influence which control the likewise numerous disbursement outlets of our corporative state. This frenzied race of appetites is what is currently preventing the government from governing, and too many sectors of parties and trade unions from carrying out the sensible, concerted action that the changing of the guard demands.

Changes in the Government?

It is now known that, during the first contact (the first one in this phase) between the bishops' liaison commission and the three secretaries of the armed forces, last Monday, not only was an agreement not reached, but there were not even close views on either side regarding the problem of the missing persons. But the most serious aspect is that, within the military government, no agreement has been noted concerning this and many other issues either; to the point where, often, what the

president says is almost completely unrelated to what the commanders say, or what one commander says is not the same as what another says. Hence, the government's paralysis, rooted in these contradictions, is becoming intolerable. For example, yesterday, several of our sources told us that the Junta is still calling for the immediate replacement of the ministers of labor and social action, particularly that of General Reston; but the president (they added) opposes these changes. Some even ascribe the following comment to Bignone: "If Reston goes, I go." Others claim that this is exactly what will happen before the year's end.

Exports Decline

So, no one should be surprised that the so-called external front is going adrift, after the Argentine "victories" in the United Nations and OAS, with which only a good comic opera could be staged, if the issue were not so serious and painful to the nation. But, in addition to the lack of political and strategic decisions in this area (a result, not only of the regime's chaos, but also of the frivolity of many of the politicians who hope to succeed it), steps are being taken which, within a short time, could put Argentina in an even more difficult situation among the group of civilized countries, including those of Latin America. The one involving recognition of the Arab League has been among them, but it is certainly not so critical as the one which is now about to convert Buenos Aires into a haven (and perhaps into a center of operations) for individuals such as the Bolivian military and others, whom the United States and Western Europe would like to neutralize. And the strangest part of it is that, while extraordinary efforts are being made in that direction, but few seem to be concerned by the alarming decline in our exports, the value of which, in June, did not exceed \$650 million, as opposed to \$1.070 billion during the same month last year (in May, it was \$746 million, as compared with \$943 million in May 1981). Thus, the widely publicized surplus in the trade balance for the first half, "estimated" months ago at nearly \$3 billion, has been limited to only \$1.712 billion, according to figures circulating among the government departments themselves which, as usual, are being held back from the public. From what we have learned, in September the drop in our sales was so sharp that, despite Mr Wehbe's "exporting campaign" and his promised curbs on imports, the trade balance was \$70 million, but in the negative direction.

Horses for Qadhafi

Apparently, this external situation has not, as we said, overly disturbed either the government or many of those who are now proclaiming themselves its most bitter foes. And, if that were not enough, there are many in both groups who still insist upon aligning Argentina in a "ghetto" with definitely pariah regimes, such as that of Colonel Qadhafi.

A few months ago, a considerable amount of uproar was raised by the news that Bignone's government, like that of Galtieri, was preparing to offer the Libyan dictator some small gifts in recognition of his "aid" during the Malvinas war. The news was quickly denied by the foreign ministry at that time; nevertheless, certain groups at San Martin Palace held discreet negotiations with the Casa Rosada and with the commanders to send a member of the military, no less, to Tripoli in order to take part in a tennis championship match that Qadhafi was attempting to

organize in his territorial possessions. Fortunately, the idea did not succeed, either here or there; because the Tripoli championship match also fizzled.

Yesterday, however, the rumors about further Argentine tribute to the Libyan colonel appeared again. The accounts were prompted by the trip that will be undertaken today in an Aerolineas plane (perhaps there is an advantage already) by the chief of the Remonta technical department, Colonel Soraidés, accompanied by a head groom and, some claim, two magnificent horses allegedly destined for Qadhafi's stables. This conjecture acquired more substance when it was learned that Colonel Soraidés will make a stop, not only in Paris, but also in Rome which, as we know, is the takeoff point for the main Western flights to Tripoli.

For many reasons, it is to be hoped that these rumors will not be confirmed. But if the military man is taking horses, and if they are really for Qadhafi, let us at least hope that the animals have been inoculated; because there has recently been discovered on several stud farms here the start of an epidemic of encephalomyelitis, a disease which, during summer or in torrid climates, such as that of the Maghreb, usually makes the best trained horses rabid.

In short, let us trust that the fitting appreciation to those who backed us during the war will not drag us to those deserts again. Today, many of the terrorists devastating the contemporary world are being trained on their sands.

2909

CSO: 3348/100

TEXT OF CHAIRMAN HANNA'S ADDRESS TO PLP CONVENTION

Nassau THE HERALD in English 29 Oct 82 p 2

[Text]

I DON'T WANT YOU TO FORGET that I came from Centreville because it is out of Centreville that the theme 'Get Involved' came. Dr. Offfff comes from the great constituency of Centreville, and it is he who excited the whole country when he sang these words: "Don't be no fool: Stay in school/let your mind become a tool/jails were made for fools to be/locked away from society." And then he added the chorus get involved.

I AM SURE you are all familiar with the lyrics of that popular tune. It carries a powerful message beneath its throbbing junkanoo beat and in its catchy lyrics. That message is of great significance to all Bahamians, but particularly our young people. Without our young people our future successes are doomed. We must invite them to come forward and to get involved.

THAT IS THE THEME of this great Progressive Liberal Party Convention. That is the message which I as the out-going chairman of the Young Liberals of the Progressive Liberal Party extend to all of the young people of the country. I urge you all to get involved. This is no time for cooling out on the blocks. This is no time for getting as high as the sky. This is a time to get involved. And to get involved you need a clear mind and a strong, healthy body. I can tell you about the need for a healthy body from recent personal experience. And I can tell you, I'm getting my house in order on that score, because I intend to be around for a mighty long time, the Lord willing.

THIS GREAT COUNTRY, and this great Progressive Liberal Party, have two shining examples of involvement. These two examples are none other than our leader, The Right Honourable Lynden O. Pindling and our Deputy Leader, the Honourable Arthur D. Hanna.

THEY BECAME INVOLVED shortly after they returned home from school in the United Kingdom. Their political consciousness was shaped by the struggles for independence, self-determination and racial equality that consumed the world after the Second World War. They could have chosen to remain silent and settle into comfortable law practices and become rich and fat. But they chose instead to get involved.

OF COURSE, the political, social and economic realities of our country then are not what they are today. Today's generation faces new realities, fresh problems to solve and demanding challenges. This generation of younger Bahamians must not fail. But they must Step Now, and answer the call to service. They must get involved.

IN MANY RESPECTS, the younger generation of Bahamians, PLPs and non PLPs, is more fortunate. They are able to stand on the shoulders of giants — men like Sir Milo Butler and Clarence Bain; our Deputy Prime Minister Arthur Hanna and our Prime Minister Lynden O. Pindling. I am not saying that the tasks are easier or the challenges are less demanding. What I am saying is that a great deal of work has already been done. The

major task of the young Bahamian, the young PLP, the Young Liberal is to accept the mantle, answer the call and get involved.

TO THOSE OF YOU who are listening who may have some doubts, let me reassure you that there is no greater organisation through which to achieve your objectives than the Progressive Liberal Party. The PLP has proven itself to be the greatest political force this country has ever known. It is led by men who have had their futures forged in the fires of their will. It is out of the greatest political organisation in this country that the Young Liberals was born.

THE YOUNG LIBERALS is not the first effort by young people in the PLP to band themselves together in an effort to make clearer the voice of the young people in the party. I was a small boy at the time but men like Perry Christie, Sinclair Outten, Jeffrey Thompson and Anthony Roberts were all members of an organisation called the National Committee for Positive Action. That was the youth arm of the Progressive Liberal Party in the early 1960s.

THEN there was the Junior Progressive Liberal Party in which I was an active member. That's when I first became active in the PLP in 1968. I had just completed high school.

SOME of you might remember the National Alliance which included men like Sean McWeeney, Fred Mitchell, Minky Isaacs, Johnny Bullard and myself. That was in 1977. Today, we have the Young Liberals, and in the Young Liberals we believe we have found the formula for a permanent and successful youth arm of the PLP.

I HAVE LAID OUT this history of youth involvement to demonstrate one fact. The PLP has always been concerned about its connections with young people. Let no one fool you; there has always been a place in this great party for young people.

ALL of the youth arms of the Progressive Liberal Party over the past decades have sought to provide what is commonly called critical support. For example, if there is a particular "hot issue" which affects the party, the Young Liberals can go on the attack. If a particular policy needs explanation and support, the Young Liberals can go on the attack. If the Opposition parties become too rambunctious the Young Liberals ought to be able to put them in their place.

THE YOUNG LIBERALS was an idea born out of the convention of 1981. At that time it was recognised by the party that there was a need to have an official forum for young people for the discussion of their ideas and for their involvement in the Central Party's machinery.

IN February of this year a very successful youth seminar was sponsored by the party. We knew that young people were enthusiastic in their support of the Progressive Liberal Party, but even those of us who knew that were overwhelmed by the responses to that gathering in February. Hundreds of young Bahamians, young PLPs had their say. It was then that it was finally confirmed to the public what we had always known that young people were not FNM. That meeting in February put the lie to the FNM. I might add that I do not think that they ever fully recovered.

IT was following the Gambier House meeting in February that we finally gave shape to our idea of forming the Young Liberals. A committee was appointed by the Chairman of the Party, Senator Andrew Maynard. I was appointed Chairman of the Organising Committee of the Young Liberals. With the help of an enthusiastic committee of persons, we moved from strength to strength. Because of limitations of time it is not possible to call everyone's name who were supporters of the Young Liberals, but I feel I would be remiss if I did not publicly thank Senator Andrew Maynard for his efforts as Chairman of the Party in supporting us. I ask you to join me in a round of applause for Senator Maynard, (Pause for Applause.) I should add also that our leader was a prime mover of the Young Liberals.

OUR FIRST BIG ASSIGNMENT after the initial organisational efforts were under way, came at the University of Wulff Road on Windsor Park in April of this year. Young Liberals from throughout New Providence spoke throughout that three day exercise, and we Young Liberals were among its proudest graduates.

AND then who could forget the massive turnout which we the Progressive Liberal Party were able to organise for the Labour Day Parade in which over 30,000 Bahamians poured out into the streets in support of the Progressive Liberal Party. On that day, the Young Liberals' contingent alone numbered 3,000.

WE GREW DRAMATICALLY from February to June. In February we were hundreds stronger. By June we were thousands strong. No other political organisation can claim that support. The Opposition's Youth Branch can only boast of the children of its leaders. It has no broad-based national support.

THROUGHOUT the campaign of the General Elections, the Young Liberals got involved. We formed branches throughout the country. We travelled extensively with the Prime Minister from his own constituency in Kemp's Bay, Andros to the shores of Grand Bahama, over to Eleuthera and down to San Salvador. Young Liberals gave vital support to the PLP.

AS I go on to my next assignment

in our party, I am confident that those who will guide the Young Liberals will do a good job. I promise that in whatever capacity that I am chosen to serve, I shall support the cause of the Young Liberals.

YOUNG LIBERALS, I want to leave you with a challenge, I want you to begin an aggressive programme of outreach to those who are not yet a part of your movement and our Progressive Liberal Party. This will mean going out onto the streets and working to bring in recruits. It can not be done in monthly meetings.

I WOULD ADVISE YOU that in your dealings with the party you should be frank and honest and speak your mind. The party must know what you are thinking. You have a right to be here and you have a right to speak. At the same time, I would caution you in the words of the

poem to go placidly amid the noise and haste. Remember to be at peace with all mankind but at war with its vices.

AND SO TONIGHT, I leave you with this. Mr. Session Chairman, Mr. Leader, fellow delegates, my brothers and sisters, no democratically-elected government is more than the sum total of the hopes, dreams, and aspirations of all its people. We, the young people of the PLP, must now work to see that those hopes, dreams and aspirations are realised. We have been called to ensure that this country, this land we call The Bahamas, is secure for generations yet unborn. And we must bravely answer this call, just as our leaders did more than 25 years ago.

MR. SESSION CHAIRMAN, fellow delegates, nothing less is at stake here today than the future of the Bahamian people and I say to you that this great struggle for those not yet born, and for the security and welfare of this country begins here with US and it begins TODAY. There is no getting around that.

MOST of us here came from humble beginnings. Very few, if any of us, are from the privileged class, but we have fought and we have overcome, in many instances, almost insurmountable odds.

MY BROTHERS AND SISTERS, I say to you that irrespective of everything, Bahamians are one people. We are indivisible. What concerns one, concerns all of us. We must all get involved for the betterment of this country. We must carry along those who did not themselves have the strength. We must be the shoulders upon which they will lean. We must be the guardians of their futures.

'HERALD' EDITOR CRITICIZES U.S. POSITION ON NAMIBIA

Nassau THE HERALD in English 29 Oct 82 p 3

[Article by Fred Mitchell]

[Text]

NASSAU, THE BAHAMAS, OCTOBER 28, 1982 — The Reagan Administration has been involved in protracted negotiations on the question of Independence for the United Nations trust territory Namibia, also known as South West Africa. On a recent swing through southern Africa, Henry Kissinger, former U.S. Secretary of State, predicted that Independence would come for the territory next year. There are those on the African side of the divide who disagree with that assessment.

IT IS DIFFICULT to see where the talks are headed at the moment. The South African who presently runs the territory in defiance of U.N. resolutions believe that they can take a strong stand in the negotiations because they have a friend in the Reagan Administration. Nothing that has come out of Washington in the last year would indicate that Mr. Reagan is prepared to lay down the law to South Africa.

WHAT IS IT THAT he ought to do? In the first place, the United States government needs to make a clear and unequivocal statement on the situation in South Africa. That statement should say that they are opposed to racism in South Africa and that South Africa ought to get out of Namibia immediately. In addition, the policy of apartheid or separate development of the races in South Africa must end.

THIS IS, OF COURSE, too much to hope for because of the inextricable economic, philosophical and ideological ties with the racist regime, or so it appears. The argument put forward by the present Administration in the U.S. is that they will not interfere in the domestic affairs of South Africa. This is a very interesting tack for a country that has successfully involved itself in countries in

this hemisphere, attempting to influence results. Their refusal in this case would appear to be self-serving.

IT IS A MATTER OF economics. It is a matter of the Western interests being more concerned about fighting Communism or anything that looks like it, instead of being concerned about human rights and the development of a people. It is about racism.

AND SO ONE CANNOT expect the South Africans to budge. They have successfully been able to sell in the corridors of power the notion that they are the last outpost of freedom in the world, the defender of Western interests. And so in the name of fighting international Communism, the West ought to support South Africa. Only the Americans buy this argument, and even they in their heart of hearts must know better.

THE SIMPLE FACT IS that the South African government by its continued intransigence in Southern Africa will only cause the peoples of the region to look to other countries that can help them. They must necessarily believe that the systems that produced the help for them, are the ones that are good for them.

This silly argument is taken to the extreme when the hysteria about Cuba in this hemisphere is projected into African affairs. There is a view in Washington that the Cuban troops that help to keep out the Southern African invaders must go before Namibia can be independent. The same South African Prime Minister who told his people that they must adapt or die and then promptly forgot the remark once Jimmy Carter lost the U.S. Presidency is the same one who has sold Washington the Cuban troop proposal.

Mr Reagan's people are now insisting in the negotiations that the Cuban troops must first get out of Angola which borders on Namibia and South Africa before the South Africans will agree to leave Namibia. What will happen if the Angolans agree to that. The South African troops will then leave Namibia all right, but leave in the wrong direction. Over the border they will go to Angola to topple the Government there and set up a black puppet. Quite frankly, the Angel army can not defend their country. So the Cubans must stay.

This point was made by a Minister of the Government of one of the Southern African states when he was here for the Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference. He asked a Bahamian Member of Parliament to encourage the leaders in this part of the world to drop a discreet bug into the ear of Ronald Reagan. He should be told in no uncertain terms that the Angolans simply cannot agree to his terms and they have to come with another proposal. Here's hoping the idea gets across.

CSO: 3298/135

INTERVIEW WITH COMMISSIONER OF POLICE GERALD BARTLETT

Nassau THE HERALD in English 4 Nov 82 p 2

[Text]

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Gerald Bartlett is the Commissioner of the Royal Bahamas Police Force, and has been for a little under three years. Prior to his present post he was the Deputy Commissioner of Police, under Commissioner Salatial Thompson, whom he took over from on January 1st

1980. Commissioner Bartlett can best be described as a no-nonsense man who gives direct answers when questioned. He makes his point concisely. The interview with Fred Mitchell took place on Tuesday October 26th, at Police Headquarters on East Street.)

* * *

THE HERALD: Commissioner, The Royal Bahamas Police Force is of course a very prominent organization in the country and there is always some sort of discussion about the Force — how it is performing, how it is doing, how it is serving the public — If I were to ask you, and I am asking you, how is the Police Force performing generally, what would you say?

COMMISSIONER: Fred, I would say under the present conditions, the Police Force is performing quite well. We have the problem of manpower shortage and we, at the moment, need more necessary equipment to enable greater efficiency. The men, under the present conditions, perform well, I feel they work hard there is no un-necessary grumble, as far as I know, about their duties. I'm quite satisfied at this time, with their performance.

THE HERALD: What is the relationship like between yourself and the other senior officers of the Force and those persons who are in the subordinate ranks? Is it a good one?

COMMISSIONER: The relationship, I consider, with subordinate members and our senior ranks of the Force, is very good. I don't think there is any member of the Force who would not tell me of his problems whether it be a personal one or one affecting the Force. I am continuously speaking with them about their problems and giving them advice, and I consider our relationships quite good.

THE HERALD: There has been some discussion about the question of promotions and that causing some problems on the Force. What is your assessment of that problem?

COMMISSIONER: The problem with promotions, especially among the junior ranks, Fred, within a force as small as we are, will always be a problem because the vacancies just don't exist to accommodate the number of qualified candidates. The machinery for the junior promotion is set up by recommendations from the divisional officers. These recommendations are studied by a promotion board of five to six senior officers. A man's file is examined carefully. All his reports over the years — his work and behaviour, and at the end of the day, to fill a vacancy of twenty, you may find fifty

qualified men. So what does the promotion board do then? They have the task of selecting twenty good men out of fifty good men, which is a very hard task, and of course someone must be left. This will create a problem that, Tom Jones knows he has been working well, he probably knows also that he has been recommended. When his name does not come out on the promotion list; of course Tom Jones says why me? Why was I left? Why wasn't Sam Smith left? And this is only natural, but this type of feeling doesn't last very long, because Tom Jones would also realise that Sam Smith is a good man too and well, I'll be there next time.

THE HERALD: O kay, you talked about two problems, you talked about the staffing and equipment problem. What is the present staff of the established strength of the Force and how close are you to being near that established strength?

COMMISSIONER: The established strength is 1408, at the moment we are 60 to 70 down from that establishment. The problem here Fred, is that we find the establishment is not

sufficient to cope with the everyday demands that are being made. Although it would seem that 60 to 70 down is not many, it means a lot to a Force this size, and this is really the problem as far as staffing goes.

THE HERALD: Does that figure exclude the Reserve Force?

COMMISSIONER: Yes, the Reserve Force here in Nassau is over 200, and if I may add here, they are a tremendous help to us, and to be honest with you, I don't think we could police the many functions, especially on weekends when we think about bazaars, cookouts, boxing and wrestling matches, I don't think we'd be able to cope without the help of the Reserves.

THE HERALD: How does one become a Police Officer and what are the qualifications for it?

COMMISSIONER: The qualifications are simple really, you must be a Bahamian, you must pass a written examination, and this is based on BJC standard. Once you get by that, you must then pass a physical examination, and once you get by that, provided you are a good character, you are enlisted.

THE HERALD: And is there another form of entry?

COMMISSIONER: Yes. We have provisions for direct entries, which we mostly fill with technical people. People in communications for example, they can come in at the inspectorate level.

THE HERALD: You say that you are quite close now up to strength, but there are, or there were some complaints certainly over this last political campaign over salaries and the question of the long working hours, do those still remain problems?

COMMISSIONER: The salary problem, Fred, will always remain a problem. You appreciate as well as I do, that there is always a need for more money, and whatever the salary structure may be at the time

there will always be, the need for a little more. So that one, I think, we could, more or less, push aside and as we are an agent of the Government we would just have to accept the Government's . . . standard — whatever they provide for us.

AS FAR AS THE POLITICAL SIDE OF IT, during the campaign of the last general elections there were many rumours about police officers which were of great concern to me. I'm happy to say not many were founded, or if they were founded they were not reported to me as such. There were instances where we had knowledge of chaps wearing a particular T-shirt for a particular party and campaigning here and there, but there was no concrete evidence brought to my attention that the man could have been dealt with. Those, as far as the T-shirts, etc., goes, were spoken to.

THE HERALD: Okay, there was one suggestion made, and this is coming from both political sides: the question of paying overtime to police officers. Has that ever been considered, and can something like that be done? And there was another suggestion too, and that was, allowing Police to do private security duty?

COMMISSIONER: Well, there is a provision in the Police Act where an off duty Police officer can work for a rate laid down in that Act. I don't believe the off duty police officer is all that enthused to work when he is off, for he finds that when he is required for duty — the next shift — this may be a problem; he cannot perform efficiently. So I'm happy that they are not enthused over that.

THE HERALD: Does he have to get permission, or can he just do it. .

COMMISSIONER: Yes, he has to get permission. In fact the application has to come to me — that if you need eight Police officers to do a particular job, then you must bring the application to me and I will find them for you. This is the way it is done.

THE HERALD: What about the question of overtime — is that possible?

COMMISSIONER: The question, Fred, is that it is possible but it is going to be a difficult one to pay police officers. What I mean is, Police officers are continually working overtime and it will be difficult to decide.

THE HERALD: I guess one thing would be, where to find the money.

COMMISSIONER: (laughs) Yes, but what I would prefer rather than overtime for Police Officers is if there were straight allowances given the Police Officer for whatever overtime he may have done, whether 2 hours or 100 hours, let's say; at the end of the month he knows that there is an allowance of 100-200 dollars for having worked but not saying that he worked for 50 hours this month and here's so much for that.

THE HERALD: One question I wanted to ask before we go on, is that I understand that certain officers, like at the rank of sergeant for example have to leave the force at age 45 if they haven't gone beyond that rank. I was never quite sure what that is, so perhaps you can explain that to us.

COMMISSIONER: Fred, the age of 45 is laid down in the Police Act as a retiring age. There are two conditions — either 25 years service or the age of 45, which ever comes first. That is to provide the officer an opportunity if he wants to leave. It's not compulsory that he leaves. The chap who may be asked to retire, is the chap who has not been performing well and the Commissioner may have been sympathetic towards him and carried him to that age so that he could earn a pension. It's not that it is compulsory that he leaves, for we have men serving now who have done their 25 years service or have attained the age of 45 and are on pension. They can go on a year-to-year service for up to ten years. The word compulsory is not altogether true.

THE HERALD: Does this apply to all officers on the force or only a certain. . .

COMMISSIONER: From the inspectorate up, they come under a different category. Their age is 55-60. So everyone below the rank of inspector comes under age 45 or the 25 year service.

THE HERALD: Can we deal now with some of the specific units in the Police Force and of course, there are two which are highly visible, one is the Criminal Investigation Department, and one is Internal Security, and I wonder what your assessment is of how the Criminal Investigation Department is performing its job, particularly since there was this spate of crime — this upswing in crime over the summer time.

COMMISSIONER: Before I answer that question, I'd like to set the Criminal Investigation Branch for you in perspective. The Criminal Investigation Branch is divided into sections. We have the General Investigation Section; the Serious Crimes Investigation; that section investigates all or most of the more serious crimes. We have the Commercial Crime Section which deals with fraud etc. Then we have the Flying Squad, which is the boys on the road. You might not even recognise them sometimes with beards and old clothes, but they are there, and they are simply looking out for incidents.

AND THEN WE have the General Patrol Section which is only patrolling, they are visible and answering calls at all times. Then we have the Dog Section which is also administered from the CID.

HAVING SAID THAT, All these sections have been performing very well. I am quite pleased, considering the conditions under which they work. These boys work 12-14 up to 18 hours a day and it hasn't hampered their efficiency. While they may at times complain about the long hours, it doesn't bother them when they are doing it. They work. They don't stop in the middle of it and say the hours are too long. They do their jobs, and probably at the end of the day, they'll say well, we're working some long hours. But it hasn't bothered their efficiency at all.

NOW THE INTERNATIONAL SECURITY DIVISION is a division which is set up to deal with internal insurrections etc. They are commonly known to people as the riot squad, but they perform many more duties. They do all the guards, Government House, the Prime Minister's residence, the British High Commissioner and wherever guards are needed. They also do all the ceremonial parades. Internal Security Division includes the Task Force, which do the island hopping dealing with drugs. You know, of course, that we work very closely with the Drug Enforcement Agencies from America, and they have provided us with transportation — such as helicopters — and the boys from the Task Force may be Gorda Cay this minute, Andros the next minute and Norman's Cay the next, but they are forever on the go.

THE HERALD: How is the relationship between the DEA and the Police Force?

COMMISSIONER: The relationship between the DEA and the Police Force is excellent. Glen Brown, who is their Chief Officer here, is very helpful to us. They provide us with information we could not get ourselves, and they help us as best they can in providing transportation. As you know, they are not permitted to do any police work in this country. This simply provide us with transportation, and we do the job.

THE HERALD: Now, of course, the Police are not immune to everything that's going on in the society, and drugs are a big thing right now. How has that affected the force? Have you had any incidence of that?

COMMISSIONER: Regretably, Fred, I'd have to say yes. Drugs have affected the Force. It's no secret that we've had incidences where drugs were stolen right from this compound. We had to prosecute young Police officers in the courts. We have evidence of some officers in the Family Island becoming involved.

THE HERALD: What sort of things can be done, or have been done to try and combat those problems?

COMMISSIONER: Fred, that problem has become very expensive to us. I say that because I find it necessary now, in some cases, to transfer men from various Family Islands, sometimes at periods as short or shorter than six weeks. Because the only way we can deal with it, the moment the information reaches me, is to move him out, and this is what I do. And it's a constant change over and it's becoming very expensive for me.

THE HERALD: Two things I'd like to talk now about crime generally. It is said that there is a relationship between crime and drug use. Is that in fact true?

COMMISSIONER: That is true, Fred. We find that in many cases of more serious crimes the chap was on drugs. We had an occasion to talk to a young man in hospital, who was shot. He didn't tell us how he got shot, but he said that he was a member of a group who, on the evening before would get under the tree and smoke drugs and plan what they would do during the night. They felt that once they were high on drugs they would become fearless. Many of the more serious crimes are drug related.

here in the drug trade and that some of the payoffs to the local boys are the arms and ammunition. So it doesn't have to come into Nassau as such. Once into the Islands — the Cays, and then finds her way into Nassau.

THE HERALD: What can the public do?

COMMISSIONER: The public can assist us by telling us of anyone or any number of persons who they know have possession of firearms. Because I can tell you, especially revolvers, there are very few licences.

THE HERALD: There are some conditions under which you can get it?

COMMISSIONER: The conditions are very, very strict and the grant of such licences are few and far between.

THE HERALD: So the public can help generally? The crime watch groups and everything . . . ?

COMMISSIONER: The crime watch groups are doing a tremendous job I said that the other day and I'm saying it again. In areas where they are operating, crime has fallen off considerably. I only wish more groups could spring up.

THE HERALD: As you look at the future of the Force, are there any particular things which you would like to see happen?

COMMISSIONER: Fred, I would like to see a well — equipped up-to-date communication system, and the required man-power necessary to police this country. The demands are getting more and more, therefore we need more man-power and communication equipment, more patrol cars on the road, and more men on the beat. This is what I would like to see.

THE HERALD: What I'm trying to figure out is, where does this whole idea of armed robbery, I mean we just seem to be getting all the violence and guns — where is all that coming from?

COMMISSIONER: The guns, Fred, are pretty easy to get. If you think of the many marines, airstrips — Americans and Columbians, who come

THE HERALD: Now as Commissioner, of course, you have to report to the Prime Minister and Minister of Home Affairs, and of course politicians would want to suggest from time to time that there is political interference in the Force. Can you say that that has happened?

COMMISSIONER: No. It has not happened during my predecessor's time, because during my predecessor's time I was Deputy Commissioner, and I knew most of the things that concerned him. It did not happen during his time and it has not happened during mine. The Prime Minister, the Minister, we discuss the problems of the Force. They do not interfere in the day-to-day running of the Force. That's my business.

THE HERALD: So your assessment then is that yes there are some problems but . . .

COMMISSIONER: Yes, there are problems and there will always be problems, as you will imagine, in running a Police Force. This is what we discuss. I see the Minister on every Monday morning and the Prime Minister every Thursday morning. Of course, the Prime Minister plays another role, because he is responsible for the security of this country, and I talk to him in that capacity as well. To advise him on what may be happening as far as security goes.

THE HERALD: Well I notice in the press over the last few weeks, there's been a lot of talk about the influence of cults, or I guess these new religions, would these come under the ambit of the Security and Intelligence branch?

COMMISSIONER: Yes. We know of them. And you know like I do, that they are not new. They have been in Jamaica for any number of years. Some of the boys here, are trying to patronise these people, but we have our eyes on them.

THE HERALD: What would you say to the young officer now on the Police Force who's just coming up. Should he stick it out, or should he say "Look there are too many problems, I should go find another career?"

COMMISSIONER: No, he should stick it out, Fred. The Force is quite a challenge to a young man, and it is quite a career as well. I would advise the young man who wants to make it a career to stick it out because there's no limit to where he can go and it's going to take the hard-working and dedicated young man to do it. If he is coming to fool around, not looking for a future, he's no good to the force or anybody else. But if he is dedicated and hard-working there's no limit to where can go.

THE HERALD: Commissioner, thank you very much.

MINISTER'S WIFE HITS FNM CALL FOR LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

Nassau THE HERALD in English 29 Oct 82 p 1

[Text]

THE idea put forward by Mrs. Janet Bostwiok, FNM Member of Parliament for the Yamacraw constituency for the establishment of a League of Women Voters will only divide the Bahamian people, Mrs. Bernadette Christie, wife of the Minister of Tourism said on women's night of the 27th annual PLP convention.

"A LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS can only be seen," said Mrs. Christie, "as an attempt to discriminate against male voters. Are we female voters or male voters? Or are we not in fact simply voters? Are we trying to build one society or are we trying to create more divisions?"

"OUR SOCIETY has enough divisions as it is, (we do not need) to stir up further divisions. We are Bahamians first, foremost, and always. It truly annoys me when public figures, who ought to know better, simply seek to copy ideas from other persons without understanding the true historical circumstances surrounding a particular idea. The League of Women Voters in the United States grew out of the particular circumstances current in the United States at the turn of the century. Those con-

ditions do not exist in today's Bahamas and, therefore, such an organisation is irrelevant to our experiences."

MRS. CHRISTIE said that because of The Bahamas' proximity to the United States, Bahamians tend to fall victim to the tendency to imitate what they see done in the United States.

"(WE MUST) examine issues from a Bahamian perspective (and) realise that our laws are created against the background of our social reality and must work to serve our needs."

MRS. CHRISTIE said that leaders have a special responsibility to protect and preserve the institutions which are the fabric and foundations of our society and if they destroy the institutions which are the bulwarks of our society simply to get political power, then, even if they succeed at getting power they will fail.

"EVENTS over the past year by certain elements within the main opposition party have sickened me," she said. "It appears that certain elements within that party were bent on destroying any person, place or thing in their pursuit of their political objectives. Their leaders can in no way condone or defend the tactics used . . . they must accept responsibility and the blame for what happened during the past year."

OUTGOING PLP CHAIRMAN MAYNARD URGES MORE ACTIVE MP'S

Nassau THE HERALD in English 29 Oct 82 p 1

[Text] Present and prospective PLP parliamentarians were told bluntly earlier this week that if they can't be bothered, they should not even consider contesting a constituency seat for the party.

"We've got to put more fire under the seats of Members of Parliament who pay little or no attention to their constituencies," thundered the out-going PLP Chairman Senator Edward "Dud" Maynard. "That kind of MP is unfair to the people who voted for the party, for they are entitled to diligent performance. That kind of MP is unfair to the party because he or she will cause the party to lose a seat. That kind of MP is (also) unfair to the country. We are building a nation and we don't have time for slackers."

Senator Maynard implored the delegates to the convention to discontinue paying attention to the nasty and vicious campaign being waged by the opposition forces in the Bahamas.

"We allow the opposition to use psychology on us and cause us to go at one another's throats...while they are calling us names," he said. "We must get on with the business of the people. While they are speculating, we should be articulating, ever mindful of the fact that we are the people's government."

Senator Maynard said that the PLP's supporters must be strong enough and bold enough to face the challenges of the '80s; call a spade a spade, but do it in the right place.

He also paid tribute to the Young Liberals who, he said, "came alive like a whirlwind and did their part to win the battle." But much remains to be done, he said. "We must encourage the young people to get involved in constructive and uplifting pastimes. We must encourage them to take proper advantage of the opportunities available in the country as a whole.

"The young liberals (have) grown from a spark to a tiny flame, from a tiny flame to a bon fire in Nassau and from a bon fire in Nassau it is growing all over these islands."

"Young liberals, you are called because you are young and strong. Have patience; learn to listen, for as foolish as it may seem, the most illiterate person has wisdom and experience," said Senator Maynard. "You will become wiser as you are instructed through the years."

Senator Maynard also acknowledged that since the last convention, "another flame began to glow more brightly, so instead of there being only one woman's branch in New Providence, there are four regional branches."

The regional branches Chairwomen are:

Mrs Judy Munroe--Western Region which includes the Constituencies of: Carmichael, Yellow Elder, Blue Hill, Delaporte and Fort Charlotte.

Lady Darling--Northeastern Region which includes the Constituencies of: Ann's Town, Centreville, Englerston, Pinedale, Salem and Shirlea.

Mrs Doris Burrows--Eastern Region which includes the Constituencies of: Bambo Town, Fox Hill, Holy Cross, Montagu, South Beach and Yamacraw.

Miss Peggy Francis--Central Region which includes the Constituencies of: Bain Town, Grants Town, St Agnes, St Barnabas, St Michael and Fort Fincastle.

The four regions were represented at the Convention. Also represented this time was a new Women's Branch of Kemp's Bay. By next convention the fire will have spread to all of the family islands.

CSO: 3298/135

DETAILS OF INNER WORKINGS OF PLP OFFICER VOTING

Nassau THE HERALD in English 29 Oct 82 p 1

[Article by Fred Mitchell]

[Text]

A BROAD COALITION OF forces within the Progressive Liberal Party handed Mr. Brenville 'Bulla' Hanna, the man from Centreville, a victory that in modest terms might be called massive and in generous terms a landslide. The vote for Mr. Hanna was 318 against 85 for his opponent the former Minister of Works, Mr. Simeon Bowe.

WHEN THE COUNTING WAS finished shortly before 1 a.m. and the victory was clear, the Young Liberals who had been Mr. Hanna prime movers on the floor ran up to him, hoisted him on their shoulders and took him through the room. A spontaneous cheer went up, and shouts of "Bulla! Bulla!" could be heard. It was the culmination for Mr. Hanna of a campaign for the highest office in the party, since he had his first unsuccessful run for office at the 1975 convention held at the Balmoral Beach Hotel.

THE SAME COALITION that joined together to ensure Mr. Hanna's victory was not in evidence in the other elections. This was one of the first elections in which there appeared to be no slate.

MR. IRRINGTON "MINKY" ISAACS lost out in his bid to move up to First Vice-Chairman from Fourth Vice-Chairman. He was defeated by Captain Ferneley Palmer, the former 2nd Vice Chairman. Mr. Palmer received 255 votes to Mr. Isaacs 146.

CHARLES MAJOR JR., who was unsuccessful in his bid for the PLP's nomination for the Grants Town constituency, was elected to the post of 2nd Vice-Chairman, receiving 290 votes of Cliff "Eulie" Bowe's 112.

MR. NEVILLE ADDERLEY, was elected Third Vice-Chairman. He was the party's standard bearer in the Montagu constituency during the last General Election. He received 202 votes; Perry Dean, a Council Member from the high Rock constituency got 84 votes; Gwen Moncur, the only woman in the race got 75; Godfrey "Pro" Pinder got 44.

HASSAM BROWN WAS elected 4th Vice-Chairman in a close race against Dennis Martin of Grand Bahama. Mr. Brown received 185 votes the Mr. Martin 174 votes. Jock Morgan of Spanish Wells got 42 votes. It is conceivable that had Mr. Morgan not been in the race, the result might have been different.

THE RACE FOR THE POST of Assistant Treasurer was also an interesting race. Mr. James Minns won easily over Mr. Gordon Soles, a new comer from Holy Cross. Mr. Minns received 278 votes and Mr. Soles received 160 votes. Those figures might suggest to Mr. Soles that he ought to try again next year.

AND SO THE SPECULATION as to who would be the successor to Andrew Maynard is over. The man is Bulla Hanna. He faces an enormous task. The work of the re-organization of the party must go on. It's various claimant groups are getting more active in their demands. These include the special interest groups, the Young Liberals and the Women's Branches.

THE ROLE OF CHAIRMAN is not only administrative, but it is also that of fund-raiser for the party, mediator of disputes, and enhancing the party's image in the eyes of the public.

MR. HANNA'S ELECTION to the Office of Chairman has been widely interpreted as a sign that young people have a place in the party and can in fact through hard work and dedication move up to the highest ranks in the party.

THE PRIME MINISTER DID NOT attend the election. This would seem to indicate that he was comfortable with either choice. That is

also a sign of the growing maturity of the party as well as it demonstrates that a healthy fight can take place, without schisms developing.

MR. HANNA WILL HAVE TO continue to build bridges to the younger members of the party and to the women and to members of Parliament. His relationship with the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Party will have to be one of close consultation. The country will also be looking at what the first appointments under his Chairmanship are.

THERE WERE MANY YOUNG people in the party who voted along generational lines and had hoped for a clean sweep of younger candidates. Clearly the consensus within the party is not in that direction. What has emerged from the election of these officers is a cross section of both the young and the old.

THE YOUNG LIBERALS ALSO had their first fundamental lesson in politics, and that is the value of alliances and the value of discipline. They must have learned how important it is to stick to your guns and your man; ignore propaganda. They must also know that alliances are built in politics more in the requirements of the moment than on age. Age is transient. Ideology is less transient. Ideology, philosophy and expediency have far more sway in politics than age.

NEW FRENCH AMBASSADOR MASSENET PRESENTS CREDENTIALS

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 9 Nov 82 p 6

[Text]

JACQUES Massenet, French Ambassador to the Bahamas, yesterday presented his Letters of Credentials to Governor-General Sir Gerald Cash.

Mr Massenet, a former representative with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Paris and Consul General in Saigon, told Sir Gerald that because the Bahamas had been endowed with gifts of nature, the quest for economic diversity, especially in the field of industry, allows the Bahamas to enjoy a "more favourable" situation than many other countries.

"My wish is that my compatriots would become more aware of the Bahamas, especially by visiting your country, not only to take advantage of your fine climate, but also, and more so perhaps, to establish more vibrant economic relations that do exist at the present time," Mr Massenet said.

Sir Gerald said that although the economic conditions were sometimes difficult, "the Bahamas continues to enjoy a good measure of success in the management of its economy."

He said that as a small country lacking any known major resources, the Bahamas finds itself "particularly dependant" upon the resourcefulness and ingenuity of its people to ensure the development of its economy."

Sir Gerald said that it was for this reason that the service activities were major contributors to the Bahamas' economy.

"It is also one of the reasons why the Bahamas values its association with France and other industrialized countries, for you can assist us in our efforts to diversify our economy as well as visit the Bahamas to relax and enjoy our climate and our peaceful way of life," Sir Gerald said.

OPPOSITION TO CASINOS MOUNTS; PINDLING STANDS FIRM

Vanguard Party Objections

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 8 Nov 82 pp 1, 10

[Article by Gladstone Thurston]

[Text]

THE SOCIALIST Vanguard Party has come out strongly against Prime Minister Lynden Pindling's decision to expand casino gambling and employ Bahamians as croupiers in the casinos.

"The Vanguard goes on record as saying that it is opposed to gambling in any form. In fact it is these practices which we are struggling against 365 days a year," the party stated.

Delivering the keynote address at the close of the Progressive Liberal Party's recently ended convention, Mr Pindling said a new casino will be built in the southwestern New Providence and another in West End Grand Bahama; to make a total of six casinos operating in the Bahamas.

Mr Pindling said the Government will re-open the Monte Carlo Casino in Lucaya and will not close the El Casino in downtown Freeport. Mr Pindling explained that the Government had decided "to use casinos more effectively as an instrument of economic development."

The extension of casino licences, the Vanguard recalled, was one of the issues that incurred the wrath of the Bahamian people in 1965 and sealed the fate of the now defunct United Bahamian Party, which governed the Bahamas at that time.

"The Progressive Liberal Party, the present government, was then the opposition, and it led the fight for strict controls over casino gambling in the Bahamas," the Vanguard stated.

With Mr Pindling's recent announcement concerning the expansion of casino gambling in the Bahamas, the Vanguard stated, the shoe is on the other foot.

"The question now is why has Mr Pindling decided on this course of action? It seems to us that it places his government in a serious dilemma at the beginning of his fourth term," the Vanguard said. "The situation is especially baffling since he has gone out of his way to make political appointments with close links to the church."

With an unemployment rate

of 30 per cent and with the government committed to a number of piece-meal social reforms which will cost money, the Vanguard warned that the Bahamas is in for a serious fiscal and monetary crisis.

Mr Pindling's decision at this time to increase the number of casinos, the Vanguard said, stands in stark contrast to his government's position in 1968.

Mr Pindling then was quoted as saying: "To put an end to speculation and lobbying, to make it clear to all and to simplify the already difficult task that will face the gambling commission, the government has decided that no further certificates of exemption will be granted to casinos anywhere in the Bahamas," the Vanguard recalled.

"After years of working closely with the gamblers, the PLP has apparently decided" that they are "not so bad after all," the Vanguard said, "so this extension should put an end to the opinion held by many that the PLP government is responsive to their wishes."

The church, the Vanguard pointed out, finds itself in a very difficult position on this issue.

"It will be interesting to see how those denominations who are heavily mortgaged to the government, and whose leaders have been sucking up to the Pindling leadership, will respond," the Vanguard said.

It recalled that during the last general elections "Pindling bounced from pulpit to pulpit and received the blessings of the majority of church leaders. Now we will see how faithful they will abide by their supposed-Christian principles on this issue."

"One particular disgusting case of religious boot-licking," the Vanguard claimed occurred during the hosting of Mr Pindling and FNM leader Kendal Isaacs at a special service presided over by Rev Charles Saunders of the Baptist community.

"The Vanguard Party, the only party in the election who opposed casino gambling, was excluded from this gathering," the party stated.

"We say that the present church-state dilemma on gambling serves some of these servile ministers well, for this is the price one pays when one's principles are for sale to the highest bidder."

Already ministers of religion including the Church of God and the Baptists have registered their opposition to the expansion of casino gambling.

While the Opposition FNM is not opposed to casino gambling, the FNM feels that additional casinos will not solve the unemployment problem and feels that government is "acting out of desperation."

Further Church Opposition

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 11 Nov 82 p 1

[Article by Athena Damianos]

[Excerpts]

A FIFTH religious group has come out in opposition to Prime Minister Lynden Pindling's plan to double the number of casinos operating in the Bahamas to six.

The Church of God of Prophecy, headed by Bishop Brice Thompson, said in a statement today that it "stands strongly" against all forms of gambling.

"The intention of Government to expand casino gambling in our country is viewed with much concern by the ministry of our church. It

is regrettable that the Government has taken this posture at a time when we are praying for the lessening of crimes and social evils in our land," the statement said.

The church viewed gambling as "an unnecessary evil" which should be kept out of the country at all costs.

The Church of God of Prophecy is the fifth religious group to oppose casino expansion in the country. The Church of God, Bahamas and Turks and Caicos, the Baptist Convention, the Assemblies of God and the Islamic Movement have all strongly protested expanding casino gambling.

Rev. Charles Saunders, president of the Baptist

Convention, said in a pastoral letter read in all churches Sunday that Mr Pindling told a group of Ministers he would not withdraw his decision to expand casino gambling.

Rev Saunders said that the matter transcended all political ties and barriers, and that Baptists should divest themselves of political considerations when considering the matter. The Baptist Church has a following of about 50,000 in the country.

Pindling Stand

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 9 Nov 82 p 1

[Article by Athena Damianos]

[Excerpts]

PRIME MINISTER Lynden Pindling, who once strongly opposed casino expansion, has told a group of Baptist Ministers that he will not withdraw his decision to increase the number of casinos operating in the Bahamas.

Rev. Charles Saunders, president of the Baptist Convention, said in a pastoral letter to all Baptist churches Sunday that the Executive Board met over the gambling matter one week ago.

It was agreed that a committee of the executive would call on the Prime Minister, the following day to discuss the matter.

The committee met with Mr Pindling for over two hours last Wednesday "and was unequivocally told by the Prime Minister that taking into consideration all the relevant circumstances, he could not withdraw his decision," the pastoral letter said.

The extension of casino licences was one of the issues that helped bring down the defunct United Bahamian Party. The PLP, then in opposition, led the fight for strict controls over casino gambling.

Mr Pindling told PLP Convention delegates 11 days

ago that the Government had decided "to use casinos more effectively as an instrument of economic development."

However, Deputy Prime Minister Arthur Hanna, then Education Minister, told the Miami Herald in February, 1967, that it was the Bahamas Government's intention to do away with casinos. Mr Pindling the following day labelled Mr Hanna's report as "not true."

"I am convinced that there is no such thing as clean gambling," Mr Hanna allegedly told the Herald. "I don't believe you can separate the mob from gambling and you cannot eliminate the elements that follow it, such as prostitution." The Miami Herald quoted Mr Hanna as saying.

The Miami Herald said that Mr Hanna told reporter Robert Reno that his view reflected the feeling of the Government and the party.

"The casino's contribution to the Bahamian economy is not enough to make them worth it and there is too much evidence that the profits are being returned to the US mob," the Herald reported Mr Hanna as saying.

PLP DISPUTES REPORT ON 'DON'T PAY PHONE BILL' SPEECH

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 5 Nov 82 p 1

[Text]

PAUL ADDERLEY, PLP Senate leader, last night claimed that an article appearing in The Tribune yesterday under the heading "Don't pay if phones don't work, says DUD" was a "manufactured concoction."

According to Mr Adderley, who addressed the Senate just after 7 pm, the whole article was a "misrepresentation of what Senator Maynard said."

"Nowhere in that article did I see Senator Maynard's speech accurately reported," Mr Adderley said. "I stand to be corrected, but I did not hear Senator Maynard say anything to the effect that if the phones don't work, don't pay the bill. I don't recall him saying such words," Adderley said.

Mr Adderley said that the "primary thrust" of Mr Maynard's speech was the attitude of the workers in the country, but said that the article completely "ignored the context in which it was made."

"The whole article was a misrepresentation of what Senate Maynard said. It was a manufactured concoction. The Tribune report said nothing about Senator Maynard blaming the workers," he said.

Mr Adderley also said that because there was no such thing

as an official record of the proceedings in the Senate, it would make it difficult to enforce the laws of contempt of the Senate Chamber.

He said that although minutes are kept, they are not verbatim and this "puts a higher responsibility on those who report the proceedings of these Chambers," he said.

Mr Adderley said that he had little concern for newspaper commentary, but

said that when it came to [word indistinct] reporting he felt that it was incumbent to report the facts.

"They, the reporters, are here to report what takes place in these chambers and they have no reason to be here if they do not report accurately what takes place," he said.

[• The Tribune's report was substantially the same as the Nassau Guardian's report this morning and the ZNS TV-13 news report last night which also reported Senator Maynard as saying people should not pay their bills if their phones were not in service].

BARROW VIEWS CARICOM SUMMIT, WARNS OF U.S. INFLUENCE

Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 12 Nov 82 pp 1, 9

[Text]

The Barbados Union of Teachers (BUT) has reported very solid support for the first day of the rotary strike action called by the union in its continuing dispute with Government.

Yesterday's action affected parts of St. Michael, St. Andrew, parts of St. John and parts of Christ Church. Among the schools most affected by this action were: The Mount Tabour, St. Matthias Boys' St. Saviour's, St. Andrew Boys' and Girls', St. Paul's primary, The Garrison Secondary, Parkinson Secondary and Springer Memorial.

At least three schools, according to the BUT, Mount Tabor, St. Saviour's and St. Matthias were closed.

The union also revealed that in some cases, notably South District primary school support for yesterday's action was even greater than that

recorded for the earlier industrial action called by the union. The BUT had successfully called a one-day strike.

The union emphasised its abiding willingness to reach an acceptable compromise, but noted the Government's continuing intransigence.

The series of rotary strikes will continue as planned, and according to the BUT, a number of schools will be affected today.

The BUT is protesting Government's decision to legislate salary increases for teachers and other members of the public service.

The Barbados Secondary Teachers Union, another teachers union now at loggerheads with Government is expected to meet tomorrow and discuss the matter as well as its proposals for special concessions from Government.

THREE PUBLIC WORKERS UNION LEADERS OUSTED FROM OFFICE

Bridgetown SUNDAY SUN in English 7 Nov 82 p 1

[Article by Marva Cossy]

[Text]

THREE members of the eight-man executive council of the National Union of Public Workers (NUPW) were unceremoniously "kicked out" of office last night for disobeying strike orders on October 19.

Former first Vice President Colton Bennett, treasurer Ulric Denny and public relations officer Litchfield Morgan, all lost their places on a "no confidence" motion that got overwhelming support at an NUPW extra-ordinary meeting yesterday.

Second vice-President Harriette Hunte, and assistant-secretary Alice Dalrymple, who were on legitimate leave and actually supported the strike, were exonerated from the charges against them.

Hunte was found to be on sick leave from September 30, and therefore in no position to participate in the strike, while Dalrymple's name had been submitted as one of those who stayed away from work the day the strike was called.

The no-confidence motion had

called on the delinquent unionists to resign, but it is understood they refused to step down last night and had to be expelled.

Bennett reported for work at the Psychiatric Hospital the day the strike was called, and later in a press interview declared: "We all have our views."

Denny reported sick, it is understood, the day before the strike, and Morgan had taken special leave.

Union sources said last night that the attendance at the three-and-a-half hour meeting left clear indication of the direction the NUPW would be moving.

They said it was also clear from views expressed that the failure of last month's strike resulted from a lack of confidence among the rank and file membership of the union in some of its executives.

It is the first no confidence motion of its kind to be supported in the public worker's union, and the first known occasion that top executives of a recognised trade union in Barbados have been kicked out of office.

President Horatio Cooke remains unimpeached and will continue as union leader.

The three vacancies must be filled in two weeks' time.

There was also no confirmation of the NUPW's next moves in connection with its dispute with Government.

POWER STRUGGLE WITHIN OPPOSITION DLP EXAMINED

Bridgetown SUNDAY ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 7 Nov 82 p 4

[Article by Henry Christopher]

[Text]

A few weeks ago when it was announced that Barbados' application for standing credit and compensatory financing had been speedily and routinely approved by the IMF (International Monetary Fund), the Opposition Democratic Labour Party (DLP), as was to be expected, rushed into print to offer criticisms.

On that occasion, the DLP's response was made by Mr. Branford Taitt, its president who, with great rhetorical flourish, charged that Barbados was sorely in need of "leadership."

One of the noteworthy features of that reaction was that as supposedly alternative "Government" the DLP once again did not offer a single "alternative" policy suggestion to demonstrate that as its 1981 General Elections slogan bragged "We Are Ready" Does its continual inability to present alternative programmes mean that the DLP is less "ready" today than it was 18 months ago?

That apart, it seemed rather strange for Mr. Taitt to be plunging into the intellectually tortuous area of international finance, a sphere to which heretofore it had not been known that he had been assigned.

The public would have at least expected a response from "Shadow Minister" of

Finance, Dr. Richie Haynes, or even former Prime Minister and for 15 years Minister of Finance, Mr. Errol Barrow. The public's expectations would have been based on the fact that Dr. Haynes has over the past three years been endeavouring to demonstrate his competence in the field of economics. On the other hand, Mr. Barrow would have qualified to comment on the basis of experience though not necessarily current capability.

As a result, the public has been left to wonder if the reported power struggle within the hierarchy of the DLP has not now reached the stage where it is beginning to fragment the party's image.

With Mr. Barrow having been dealt two resounding defeats in the two successive General Elections, the public has spelt out in no uncertain manner that he is no longer considered competent to lead this country.

This has meant that ever since September 1976, the DLP has been hiding from the inevitable task of selecting a replacement for Mr. Barrow who has failed to impress the national electorate. The ensuing internal battle has been said to boil down between Mr. Taitt and Dr. Haynes.

But do recent events now mean that the contest for

leadership has now broken into the public arena? Could it be that Mr. Taitt, who has had formal training in economics, is trying to establish credibility in this sphere as against Dr. Haynes who has had no formal training in it? Does it further mean that the public is likely to be getting more and more pronouncements from Mr. Taitt on economic questions, since it has come to be expected by the Barbadian electorate that anyone seeking to be Prime Minister of this nation has to have a good grounding in economics.

There is doubt that over the past few months Dr. Haynes has come across to the public as being way ahead of his Parliamentary colleagues where the question of economics is concerned. In fact, it has been heard said that in the most recent weeks he has probably suffered from over-exposure to the public through his inclination to magnify and seize upon every issue, no matter how mundane and routine.

Will Mr. Taitt therefore be "sharing" or competing for the spotlight on economics in future?

Furthermore, the public would have been interested in hearing a reaction from Mr. Barrow, a former Minister of Defence and Security, on the recent pact signed by Barbados and some of the neighbouring islands to establish a regional Coast Guard.

But instead, we got another statement from Mr. Taitt on the DLP position. Even if Mr. Barrow was out of the island, why could not Mr. Erskine Sandiford the Deputy Leader of the Opposition, who has acted as Leader of the Opposition, not have made the pronouncement on the regional Coast Guard? The public presumes that it was precisely for this reason that Mr. Sandiford was made Deputy Opposition Leader and occupies Mr. Barrow's seat during his absences from the Chamber. Maybe the DLP has not agreed that for it "a deputy's essential".

The situation is further complicated by the fact that to the public, statements attributed to the "President" of the DLP do not carry the same weight and have the same impact as those quoting the "Leader" of the Opposition which is a position provided for in the Constitution and paid for out of public funds.

Added to this, the constitution of the DLP was recently amended to permit holders of certain posts, including that of President, to be not limited to three consecutive terms as had been the case in the recent past.

Then too, Mr. Barrow at 62 years of age has recently proclaimed his willingness and fitness to continue to be Leader of the DLP "as long as it is the wish of my colleagues in the House of Assembly". This opens all kinds of intriguing possibilities for the future of the DLP.

What the public is now seeking to determine is "who speaks for the D.L.P.?" Is it Mr. Barrow, Mr. Taitt, Dr. Haynes, Mr. Sandiford? And is it being done singly or collectively?

This has to be made clear since the public has been perturbed and perplexed by a recent newspaper interview with Mr. Barrow. He is reported in another section of the press as saying that change in Barbados would only come about through "people power" and not "parliamentary tactics."

According to the report Mr. Barrow dismissed no-confidence motions as a "waste of time" and said that people should "publicly demonstrate their strong opposition to government."

Said Mr. Barrow: "The only changes for improvement that will come about for this generation of Barbadians will come when the citizens of this country take the same procedures used in St. Lucia and St. Vincent....that is, withdraw their support for government and publicly demonstrate their feelings."

Coming as it did so close to his controversial letter to the

Police requesting the names of politicians interviewed in connection with the so-called "Canefield Murders", the public is concerned about whether Mr. Barrow was articulating his personal views or just representing a party position.

Barbadians who care deeply and sincerely for the democratic future of their country have been aghast at the serious implications of Mr. Barrow's announcement. They have not yet forgotten how the DLP as a party never once publicly disassociated itself from the call by one of its most outspoken members in Parliament for a one-party state in Barbados. That call was made at a time when the DLP considered itself invincible at the polls. Of course, the electorate shattered that arrogance in September 1976.

The DLP is yet to recover from that blow, with Mr. Barrow perhaps taking it harder than most. The public recalls his initial refusal to serve as Leader of the Opposition.

Now comes this scary concept more than six years later. It is a concept that is more horrifying than all of our present economic difficulties triggered essentially by the international recession.

Can Barbadians afford to pass off Mr. Barrow's statement as the refusal of an aged politician to face the reality that the public has decreed that he has made his contribution at the top and should now let the newer generation continue the remorseless task of nation-building which he himself took over from the late Sir Grantley Adams.

It is known that along with the nation as a whole, some people in the DLP who are anxious to see its leadership situation formalised and stabilised in a de facto manner and not just on paper, feel embarrassed and worried when Mr. Barrow shoots of his mouth as he has of late.

They know that the Barrow personality cult is so well developed in the party that to try to criticise him far less muzzle or discipline him for statements of that ilk, would be to risk the leadership scramble to break wide open as people hasten to take side with the various factions of the party.

On the other hand, if not one voice is heard calling Mr. Barrow to task, the public can only rightfully conclude that his words are the views, wishes and plans of the party as a whole.

But that is not all on this issue.

MEASURES TO BOOST SUGAR INDUSTRY PROPOSED, TAKEN

New Acreage

Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 11 Nov 82 p 1

[Text] Output from the problem-plagued sugar industry is expected to be boosted with the planting of 90 acres of sugar cane at the River Plantation, St Philip.

The additional acreage of sugar cane could significantly increase the output of sugar which this year reached an all-time low of just under 90 000 tonnes.

Agriculture Minister Dr Richard Cheltenham yesterday toured the 600-odd acre plantation which has been leased for three years from the Barbados Shipping and Trading.

He said afterwards that 100 acres of land had been prepared and to date all but 10 had been planted with sugar cane. A further 130 acres of land there have been leased for dairy farming.

Dr Cheltenham said too that a mechanised system of planting had been introduced at the plantation.

He said such a technique pointed to the future since the average age among agricultural workers was in excess of 55 years, and it would seem to him that "we are going to have a problem with labour."

He noted also that the mechanisation programme in the island was replacing labour rather than displacing it.

The Minister appealed to those farmers who had not yet planted for the 1984 crop to do so now, so that the country can have a big crop the next two years.

Dr Cheltenham said he did not think the country would realise much more sugar next year than the case last year, and cited the southern part of the country where he said "we seem to have more cane tops than cane."

On the question of an insurance system for canes, Dr Cheltenham said that the Sugar Producers Association (SPA) were on the verge of announcing more about the scheme which he hopes would come into effect in the next reaping season.

Incentive Plan

Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 12 Nov 82 p 1

[Text]

A joint committee of sugar industry officials has proposed the introduction of a green cane incentive payment scheme as a means of reducing or eliminating unauthorised cane fires.

The committee, appointed by the Council of the Barbados Sugar Producers' Association and the Board of Barbados Sugar Factories Limited, was set up to look into the organisational reform of the management of the industry, the elimination of anomalies in the pricing of burned canes and the insurance coverage of cane fires, among other matters.

The committee had its origin in Government's price support formula for sugar, which has been designed not only as a support for the sugar industry but an incentive to produce more.

The committee's report was handed to cane growers during a meeting at Queen's Park House yesterday and is to be presented to Government today.

Some growers expressed disappointment that they were given no time to study the report.

However, President of the

Barbados Sugar Producers' Association, Mr. Geoffrey Armstrong, said the formulae had to be announced before the support price was made and they did not want the support price to be delayed for another two weeks.

The report showed the estimate benefits which would be recovered by the industry if the burning of cane was reduced or eliminated.

And it has been proposed that part of the benefits be utilised to make incentive payments to field staff and field sugar workers on their crop time earnings for the reaping of green cane.

Green cane incentives are to be made by individual growers to field staff.

The report noted that the burning of cane was perhaps the most serious threat to the survival of the industry and the need to take steps to reduce and, if possible, eliminate cane fires could not be over emphasised.

The committee said it recognised however, that the "controlled burning" of some cane in certain exceptional circumstances might be considered necessary.

~~It was recommended that~~ provision be made for the appointment of a committee, "with the necessary powers,"

to approve of "controlled burning" of cane "in certain necessary and exceptional circumstances."

The question of sugar cane insurance was raised during the meeting last August between the cane growers and Agriculture Minister Dr. Richard Cheltenham, who had explained how the support price formula would work.

The Minister spoke of exploitation of insurance gains following a cane fire

The General Insurance Association of Barbados has told the sugar producers that they consider that a policy of insurance could be produced whereby the premiums and claims could be adjusted in order that neither party to the contract might exploit a gain following a cane fire.

The committee said it was not yet in a position to report fully on the organisational reform of the management of the industry.

It said exhaustive discussions were held on the amalgamation of the Barbados Sugar Producers Association and the Barbados Sugar Factories Limited as one of the possible approaches to achieving improvement in management but no definite decision has yet been reached on this issue

GOVERNMENT SEEKS FOREIGN AID TO MODERNIZE FISHING INDUSTRY

Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 11 Nov 82 p 1

[Text] The Barbados Government is seeking financial assistance from abroad to modernise the local fishing industry.

Announcing this yesterday was Agriculture Minister Dr Richard Cheltenham who said it was still too early to hold out any expectation for the funds which could amount to \$2 million to be placed in a revolving fund.

Dr Cheltenham spoke to the Press shortly after completing a tour of Fiberpol, a local company which builds fishing boats, seats, vehicle bodies, among others, using fibre glass.

The company is located at Bentley, St Philip, earlier Dr Cheltenham had visited River Plantation also in St Philip.

Dr Cheltenham said there was a need to update and modernise the fishing fleet, to move from small bay boats which go out at 5 a.m. and returned at 2 p.m.

Move away from the use of hardwood and to the fibreglass in a big way; and also we need to move into ice boats which would allow fishermen to go for three or four days or longer.

He pointed out that for that exercise the country needed a large injection of capital.

"But obviously money at 16 percent interest will not appeal to the fishermen so that we need money which can be on-lentttto the fishermen at something like 10 or 12 percent at the most," the minister said.

He went on: "We have had an application to an international organisation concerned with these matters. We are awaiting the response and it is a bit too early to hold out any expectations but we are pursuing them."

He said Government was in the process of developing the infrastructure in the fishing, citing the Oistins Fish Terminal and the planned complex for Bridgetown, and Speightstown.

"With three new fishing complexes in Barbados within the next five years and given the right motivation and encouragement to the fishermen, I have no doubt we can see a transformation of the industry which is the intention on the part of the Government," Dr Cheltenham said.

On the operation of the company, Dr Cheltenham said that it had built six boats out of fibreglass and there was a seventh to come on stream later.

He said he was impressed with what he saw and noted that the company had outgrown its limited premises.

He said he was hoping his ministry working along with the Industrial Development Corporation (IDC) could assist the company in finding a location near the sea to carry on its operations.

The company was set up two years ago and employs 25 people.

CSO: 3298/148

TEACHERS UNION GETS STRONG SUPPORT IN STRIKE ACTION

Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 12 Nov 82 p 1

[Text]

Former Barbados Prime Minister and now leader of the Opposition in the House of Assembly, Mr. Errol Barrow, has called on Caribbean leaders attending the forthcoming CARICOM Heads of Government meeting in Jamaica, to discard any resolution which would confine the political directorates of the member countries in ideological straight jackets designed in the United States or elsewhere.

In a statement issued yesterday, Mr. Barrow who was Prime Minister for 15 years up to 1976 when his Democratic Labour Party lost the Government, said that the CARICOM heads of their respective Governments should devote their energies to strengthening of the regional integration movement, and the development of the University as a regional institution free from political interference and domination.

Mr. Barrow also urged the leaders to concentrate on the overall objective of restoring and defending the dignity and self-respect of the Caribbean people.

Mr. Barrow's statement reads:

"It has not been a practice of mine to jump into every debate on major or minor issues as seen by the news media or initiated by that growing number of self-important persons who like to see their names in print and

for whom in the words of the late Somerset Maugham 'passion exhausts itself at the mouth! But recently many persons have insisted that I should express my views on the forth-coming Conference.

"During my political career I have been involved in the promotion and stimulation of a variety of organisations and institutions which were calculated to be of an enduring nature for the improvement of the economic well-being and cultural upliftment of the Caribbean peoples.

"For the benefit of the younger generation these movements have ranged from the first meeting of Caribbean leaders Dr. Williams, Sir Alexander Bustamante, Dr.

Jagan and myself in 1963 to the formal launching of the Caribbean Community at Chaguaramas in Trinidad in 1970. Up to 1975 we helped to convene and attended no less than thirteen 'Heads of Government' meetings during which period of time we established, The Caribbean Free Trade Area; The Caribbean Development Bank; The Caribbean Meteorological Institute; The U.W.I. Camp at Cave Hill; The Law Faculty; all in Barbados.

"The Shipping Service; The Common Market and the Caribbean Community.

"It was never a precondition of our reaching agreement in

any of these specific areas that all contributing Governments should subscribe to a single ideology or make obeisance to the prevailing mythologies either of the American free-wheeling unbridled capitalism or to Soviet repressive totalitarianism.

"Indeed an examination of the diversity of political methodology between Sir Alexander Bustamante, Dr. Williams, Dr. Jagan, and your humble servant will disclose that ideological pluralism and a high level of political tolerance informed our discussions from the outset.

"In our dealings with countries outside the region, we maintained an attitude of rugged independence and negotiated our economic programmes on the principle of multilateralism. In other words we used our regional institutions such as the C.D.B. in order to maximise our efforts for national development.

"The first question which has been agitating the masses of people, the business community and the intellectuals of West Indian origin at home and abroad is why has it taken seven years for the political office holders to regain the momentum which we had developed?"

"The second question is why has this meeting been convened only after the visit of the President of the United

States to Jamaica and Barbados and the visit of the Barbados Prime Minister to Jamaica.

"I should like to urge the leaders, most of whom, including Mr. Seaga and Mr. Adams, Miss Charles and Dr. Simmonds are attending such a meeting as heads of their respective governments for the first time to discard any resolution which would confine the political directorates of the member countries in ideological straight-jackets designed and made in Washington or anywhere else.

"They should devote their energies to: The strengthening of the Regional Integration Movement: The development of our University as a regional institution free from political interference and domination and the overall objective of restoring and defending the dignity and self-respect of our Caribbean peoples.

"I place special emphasis on defending the dignity and self-respect of our people, since it must never be thought that poverty is a good enough excuse for abandoning these virtues. In this connection I should like to draw attention to a document which was under consideration at the Caricom Foreign Ministers meeting in Belize in April this year.

"The meeting expressed grave concern that to be defined as a qualifying

country for investment purposes, countries have to enter into bilateral executive arrangements with the US for the exchange of information. This information was not to be limited to nationals or residents of the US or to the beneficiary country, but would include information that would be otherwise subject to non-disclosure under local law."

"Such a condition is hardly consistent with the demands of true sovereignty. While we seek to maintain and strengthen relations of friendship with our neighbours, political leaders must always insist that the great disproportion of power between large nations and small countries should never work to the humiliation of the latter. This holds good whatever the ideology or political systems of the major power.

"We have survived a long history of servitude and colonial exploitation, and there is no other road for us to take now but a journey towards a larger freedom for all our people. That is why I join with thousands of other West Indians, at home and abroad, in wishing that the Heads of Government conference will be seen to be an example of warm, fraternal co-operation on behalf of the entire region.

"Caribbean solidarity and regional integration can never be achieved as a by-product of United States foreign policy."

BRIEFS

RISE IN UNEMPLOYMENT--Some 6 400 more Barbadians were out of work at the end of June than for mid-year 1981, according to official statistics released. The figures, compiled by the government's Statistical Department in its year-round sample survey of 45 districts in all 11 parishes, put Barbados unemployment for the 1982 second quarter at 15 percent. This amounted to 17 500 people--most of them women. The corresponding figure for mid-1981 was 11,000 jobless. In the 12 months up to June this year 3 800 women and 2 600 men joined the ranks of the unemployed. The total labour force at mid-year was 116 800. Some 57 300 men were working and 42 000 women. There were 10 300 women without jobs and 7 200 men, according to the Statistical Department. Second quarter unemployment among women was 19.7 percent, compared with 13.3 percent last year. For men the corresponding figures were 11.2 percent and 7.4 percent. In the first three months of this year were 7 900 women without jobs and 4 900 men. Total unemployment for that quarter was 11.7 percent out of a labour force of 113 800. (CANA) [Text] [Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 6 Nov 82 p 1]

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LATIN AMERICA SINCE MALVINAS CRISIS DESCRIBED

Havana PRISMA LATINOAMERICANO in Spanish Oct 82 pp 34-39

[Article by Carlos Sanchez Flores: "After the Malvinas, Serious Threat to Its Autonomy of Action"]

[Text] The Malvinas conflict showed Latin America who and where its real enemies are, as well as the pressing task of organizing concerted responses on the regional level to the frequent neocolonial aggression in the economic and political areas.

Despite the fact that Latin America has made some progress during recent years in devising certain mechanisms to preserve the purchasing power of some raw materials, the fact is that the economic aggression against Argentina, which accompanied the Malvinas conflict, proved that the specific instruments for addressing and counter-ing situations such as this had not yet been prepared.

On 17 May, in Caracas, Venezuela, the executive secretary of the Latin American Economic System (SELA) himself, Carlos Alzamora, stated: "This situation finds Latin America without the mechanisms that would enable it to confront, in a coordinated, collective manner, this serious threat to its autonomy of action and to the stability of its development processes, and unable to lend itself the reciprocal assistance that this emergency demands."

Therefore, he added: "It has become essential to design and execute a strategy that will allow Latin America to defend its economic security by organizing its capacity to respond to every instance of economic coercion or aggression, and by intensifying its potential for reciprocal assistance."

If this capacity for a regional response had been organized, Latin American experts think that, not only the Reagan administration, but also the nations of the European Economic Community, would have thought twice before becoming involved in economic-type aggression against a Latin American country which, in such an instance, would not have been isolated.

In this case, the United States alone would have jeopardized a total trade with Latin America which amounted to nearly \$66 billion in 1980, leaving a favorable balance of over \$6 billion for the United States. In addition, direct investments which in 1979 totaled \$36.834 billion, and produced a profit of \$6.295 billion that year, according to figures from the Commerce Department's "Survey of Current Business," would have been "put off."

Even without genuine collective defense plans, the countries of the area (surmounting political and ideological differences) almost unanimously reacted with dignity to the economic aggression from the United States, the European Community and Canada, with a spirit of solidarity in the economic and political realms with the Argentine people and the justice of their claim.

In the economic area, the SELA countries responded by setting up an Action Committee in Support of Argentina, while the five countries of the Andean Pact made offers to restructure Argentine foreign trade.

Concurrently, the 11 member nations of the Latin American Integration Association (LAIA) cited the feasibility of making maximum use of the bilateral mechanisms existing among the members of that entity, to back Argentina commercially.

In the political realm, the major backing came from the Movement of Nonaligned Nations, whose head, Fidel Castro, engaged in intensive effort on behalf of the defense of Argentine sovereignty and of the legitimate rights of the Argentine people to preserve their territorial integrity, including that in the Malvinas archipelago.

At the meeting of its Coordination Bureau, held at Havana in May, the Nonaligned Movement expressed its most forceful repudiation of the military and economic aggression being suffered at that time by the Argentine nation, as a result of the Anglo-United States action.

This movement of support, which included the African and Asian countries, proved unequivocally that the interests of those regions and of Latin America are common and not opposed, as the governments involved in the aggression have attempted to depict them.

While the first battle in this conflict has ostensibly ended, the Malvinas chapter served to show Latin America itself that its vast economic potential, combined with sufficient political desire, could be a deterring element to counter future aggression and not only in the military area. And Latin America will have to cope with that aggression more often than is thought, in the realm of prices, opportunities for access to markets, and the plunder of profits and of material, human and financial resources.

Current Problems

Furthermore, the Anglo-American aggression against Argentina took place at a particularly sensitive time for Latin America, exhausted by enormous payments on its foreign debt and by increasing protectionism in the industrialized capitalist countries, which have closed many doors to critical basic products of regional export, in a state of international recession, which had already cut the demand for some of those products and dropped the prices to depths never reached before.

In June, silver was quoted at \$6.00 per ounce, whereas, only 2 years earlier, its price was \$20.87.

According to high-ranking Peruvian officials, copper was quoted at \$0.60 a pound, a price considered one of the lowest in the past 100 years. The officials were of

the opinion that this price had a real purchasing power of only \$0.20 in 1960 currency. And the threat of further reductions continued to hover over these two latter minerals.

The silver price was a victim of the "dumping" started by the United States, and copper was the object of much speculation on the part of the oil companies, which have been taking control of its production in Chile and the United States, in what is actually the mines and processing sector; but in the market area, the international recession and shrinking demand kept the prices low.

Another one of the products seriously hurt from the standpoint of prices during 1982 was sugar, owing essentially to the policy of large subsidies for sugar beet production on the part of the European Economic Community which, concurrently, has not yet made any production commitment to the International Sugar Organization.

The American protectionist policy, redoubled this year under Ronald Reagan's administration, which put into effect again a limited, discriminatory system of import quotas, dumped on the so-called free market large volumes of sugar which depressed prices further, particularly during a year when greater production than demand has been predicted.

This policy has a unique effect on Latin America, which is the leading sugar producer and the main supplier of the United States.

Coffee and cacao, produced chiefly by Latin American and African countries, have not been dissociated from this downward trend in prices on the London and New York markets.

In connection with these problems, Enrique Iglesias, the executive secretary of the UN Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA), gave an account of the main difficulties affecting the region as a result of the international recession to the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), on 14 July of this year in Geneva.

In the first place, concerning the recession itself, Iglesias said that it could not be regarded as a mere cyclical turning point, but that the stagnation of economic activity has persisted for a far longer period than during previous recessions in the majority of industrial countries, and unemployment, which has affected nearly 30 million people in the countries of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), is the largest since the depression of the 1930's.

This phenomenon has brought about sharp hikes in interest rates which, he says, are comparable only to those in effect during the great depression, and, added to this are abrupt fluctuations in the leading international hard currencies.

Iglesias remarked: "We are observing the resurgence of dangerous protectionist courses of action, which would indicate a considerable retrogression in the positive tendency toward liberalization begun during the postwar period."

And he added, elsewhere: "The predominating theoretical concepts in the West (monetarist and Keynesian) have not succeeded in giving a satisfactory explanation for the causes of the stagflation (stagnation with inflation), much less finding the necessary measures for surmounting it."

Embarking on the subject of the repercussions that this situation has had on the Latin American countries, the ECLA executive secretary cited four basic points.

The first is the lack of dynamism in the demand among the industrialized countries with a market economy, which has considerably diminished the prices of basic products. Secondly, the high interest rates have brought about an enormous rise in the cost of the foreign debt service.

He pointed out that, for each point that bank interest rates rise, the debt service for the underdeveloped countries as a whole increases by about \$1 billion, and the figure for Latin America alone is about \$500 million; in view of the fact that this region accounts for half of the foreign debt of what is generically termed the developing world.

The third point cited by Iglesias relates to the restrictive fiscal policies of the capitalist industrialized countries, which have led to cuts in the financial assistance for development and to their ridiculously small contribution to the multilateral banking institutions and the national assistance programs; which has reached percentages far lower than the 1 percent of the gross national product demanded since 1960, when the first Decade of Development was launched.

These percentages range between one third and one quarter of a percent in the United States, EEC and Japan. Only a group of also underdeveloped countries, the oil exporters, are contributing amounts exceeding 1 percent as aid to development, although these contributions relate more to spontaneous policies than to a strategy organically agreed upon with the so-called Third World.

The aforementioned protectionist trends threaten to create difficulties for Latin American trade, particularly for its incipient manufactures, a situation cited as the fourth point.

The foregoing factors influenced the sharp decline in the Latin American growth rate to only 1.7 percent in 1981, the lowest for the postwar period. The external factor has also had an influence on the large deficit in current account (commerce and services) in the balance of payments, which totaled \$38 billion during the first year of this decade.

This deficit was due to the decline in the terms of exchange in the area's foreign trade, and to the high interest rates on short-term capital (on loans of up to a year).

The Foreign Debt

Iglesias has been paying particular attention to the disturbing rate of increase in the foreign debt, which, by the end of 1981, totaled \$240 billion, an amount double that registered only 3 years earlier.

Various institutions, such as OECD, have also been paying more heed to the foreign debt. In its magazine THE OBSERVER (November 1981), this organization states that the foreign debt of the so-called Third World rose from \$87 billion in 1971 to \$524 billion 10 years later; showing a mean progression of 20 percent per year.

The OECD study cited a group of 20 African, Asian and Latin American countries which had, since 1978, accumulated over two thirds of the total debt of the developing world, and which in 1980 had commitments amounting to \$307.3 billion (60 percent of the total Third World debt) and, in that year, paid \$65.3 billion in amortization and interest (72 percent of that paid by the Third World). In that group of 20 countries, there are six Latin American nations, namely: Brazil, Mexico, Venezuela, Argentina, Chile and Peru.

The portion of the debt contracted by OPEC nations is also rising, having increased from virtually nothing in the middle of the last decade to nearly 4 percent of the total Third World debt by mid-1981.

As an alternative to this tragic financial situation which has struck Bolivia, the Dominican Republic and Costa Rica in a spectacular manner, although virtually no country in the area has remained unharmed, the International Monetary Fund has demanded of the governments in the region the so-called adjustment policies; which mean sizable cutbacks in the fiscal budgets and the elimination of subsidies for food imports and retail distribution of hydrocarbons.

In a diagnostic report published in early July and reprinted on 14 July by the Caracas newspaper EL NACIONAL, the International Monetary Fund predicted that, despite its enormous oil wealth, Venezuela would not show economic growth this year, and that its balance of payments would have a deficit of about \$2 billion.

Pursuing its traditional line, which the governments in the area are increasingly resisting because of its ineffectiveness and unpopularity, the IMF recommends another rise in the price of gasoline, the freezing of wages, higher taxes for the population and complete market freedom; that is to say, freedom and guarantees for private investment, especially that of the American multinationals.

In commenting on these proposals, Haydee Castillo, vice-chairwoman of the Chamber of Deputies' Finance Commission, declared: "The IMF's estimates and suggestions have encountered major problems upon seeking to interfere in the internal policy of the countries."

In Costa Rica, where in August 1981 the critical economic situation led to the total suspension of service on the debt, both payments and interest, the IMF demanded of the government as one of the preliminary requirements for renegotiating a financial agreement that two hospitals already completed not be opened, in order to cut public spending in this way. Twelve months later, Costa Rica had not yet started paying its debt, which approaches \$4 billion.

Owing to the lack of available financial resources, the Bolivian Government has gone so far as to propose resorting to the old system of bartering in order to procure essential items for consumption from abroad; and, although the IMF experts consider it rather unlikely that this system will be put into effect, they appear to be alarmed by the fact that a country might attempt to resort to obsolete commercial procedures 18 years from the year 2000.

The indebtedness in the majority of Latin American countries has an overtly negative quality, which hampers any attempt at development; and, for the countries

beset by it, instead of aiding in the vast and costly tasks of development, it has become another burden to the economy, overtly conspiring against their progress.

Contrary to what some economists claim, without stopping to explain in depth, to the effect that the foreign debt is not being paid, because the countries can find new loans with which to pay for the old ones, the foreign debt is being paid and, in 1977, it involved payments exceeding \$11 billion; in 1978, exceeding \$18 billion; and in 1979, totaling \$25.033 billion, according to figures from the World Bank (Annual Report for 1981).

Those payments took between 10 and 64 percent of the export revenue of the various Latin American countries.

Outlays of this size, which are made apart from the renegotiations that the countries are carrying out with the international banks on increasingly usurious terms, entail a genuine curtailment of the region's development.

Reagan's Solution

In early December 1981, nearly all the Latin American countries demanded of the United States immediate changes and reforms in the economic relations between the United States and Latin America, which included modifications in the practices of the international financial agencies controlled by Washington which had limited the flow of financial resources.

The multinational companies themselves, excluding the United States banks, took from Latin America a total of \$31.927 billion by way of profits between 1970 and 1979; and, during that same period, they invested \$23.873 billion in the region, of which sum \$12.782 billion (53.5 percent) consisted of reinvestments of profits.

These statistics indicate that, during that period, the profit accrued for each dollar invested, including reinvestments, was \$1.34.

That plundering has increased with the participation of the private American banks, which are lending to Latin America at increasingly higher interest and with stiffer terms, particularly when it is a matter of contracting new loans with which to make payments on previous loans.

Between July and December of this year alone, the service on Argentina's foreign debt will force that country to make payments of \$7.2 billion on a foreign debt which totaled \$35.671 billion at the end of 1981, and which it is estimated will reach \$40.7 billion by the end of 1982.

Insofar as the 1983 payments are concerned, the creditor banks estimate that Argentina will be required to make outlays of \$19 billion; but that, in the event that the current interest rates are maintained, as well as a risk premium which rose after the military conflict with Great Britain over the Malvinas, the interest payments alone may reach \$6 billion.

Another country with greater economic weight in Latin America, namely, Brazil, had to pay \$2 billion as a bill alone in 1981; and by the end of 1981 its debt had risen

to \$70 billion, the amortization of which, according to some observers, will demand a sum equivalent to 70 percent of its exports for this year.

The World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the Inter-American Development Bank are accomplices of the private banks and the multinational investors in this spectacular plundering of the region's resources in the area of foreign exchange.

Not satisfied with this, President Ronald Reagan, far from accepting the request for making the demand from those credit agencies on Latin America flexible, proposed, at the annual joint meeting of the World Bank and the IMF, held in Washington during 1981, that the underdeveloped countries accept the World Bank as an arbitrator in any disputes that might arise between the governments and the multinational companies.

This, Washington claims, would help to establish a multilateral mechanism "for insuring foreign investments, that will offer guarantees against a certain type of political risk."

With respect to that aspiration, the government of Mexico stated that it could by no means agree to allow foreign investors to have preferential treatment which runs counter to its political constitution and legislation in the area of foreign investment.

As part of the revision of Latin America's economic relations with the United States, the foreign ministers requested the elimination of the high interest rates, asked that the multinational companies be kept under constant examination and that their own demand for transfer of technology be met; and reiterated their appeal for the immediate holding of global negotiations within the context of the United Nations.

President Reagan responded to those demands, which can by no means be described as exaggerated, with disdain, and with a plan for alleged assistance confined to the Caribbean and Central America.

That plan, submitted in February 1982 and known as the "Reagan mini-Marshall Plan," was, until mid-July, relegated to very secondary status by the Congress of the United States itself; not until 5 months later, did the Senate pass a bill, which it transferred to the House of Representatives for consideration.

The newspaper WASHINGTON POST, in an article entitled "The Big Fiasco in the Caribbean," published in early July, stated that if the administration had devoted to that bill "even a fraction of the eagerness" which it showed for obtaining the sale of AWAC radar-planes to Saudi Arabia, the Caribbean program would now be approved.

The plan originally called for emergency aid amounting to \$350 million to the regimes which are unconditional friends of the United States and willing to become involved in the cold war policy that Reagan wants to establish on a global scale and a regional one as well.

That plan, which evoked annoyance in Latin America from the outset, had \$243 million reserved for the rightwing regimes in trouble in Central America, especially that of El Salvador, for which \$128 million was allocated.

The bill forces the recipient countries, in exchange for limited trade pledges, to give the American multinational companies extensive facilities and incentives.

In their regional political aspect, the ridiculous advantages of the plan not only exclude Cuba, Nicaragua and Grenada, but also bind their recipients to assume a position of hostility and confrontation toward those nations.

In denouncing that bill, typified by its political aggressiveness and economic demagoguery, extensive sectors of public opinion in the Caribbean area have stated that the plan constitutes a political involution of the penetration strategy of the United States' governing circles which, 20 years ago, proposed a program involving \$20 billion as assistance for all of Latin America (an amount which was considered insufficient at the time), with the intention of neutralizing the attraction of the Cuban revolution in the region.

That program ended in categorical failure.

Concerted Action

In view of the serious problems that have been cited, which have entailed an obvious deterioration of the social status for nearly all the peoples of Latin America, by triggering heavy inflationary pressure that has eroded real wages and caused a marked increase in unemployment, the nations of the region (particularly since the Malvinas incident) have voiced the need for intensifying further still their line of concerted action vis-a-vis the industrialized capitalist countries.

In this context, Enrique Iglesias, in his speech to ECOSOC, urged the Latin American countries to increase their cooperation, in the sense of giving an impetus to the global negotiations concerning the main international economic problems within the United Nations.

Those negotiations should lead to a lending of equity to economic relations, and to a consideration of the external dynamics of the developing countries, that is, their access to technology, to markets and to better prices for their raw materials, as well as to less usurious financing terms.

The fact that, at the present time, the Latin American countries with different social systems are talking about lending greater cohesion to their positions in political entities in which the United States cannot engage in coercion or cause standstills conjures up the new atmosphere that this region is experiencing.

Both in the framework of ECLA and that of SELA, there is constant stress placed on the need to establish concerted action to protect Latin America's vital interests.

The harsh experience of the Malvinas war unequivocally proved that Latin America should and can create its own mechanisms for defense and negotiation when faced with economic and military aggression.

To be impervious to this reality would mean for the governments of the region that they were turning their backs to the future and to the imminent, virtually daily battles in the defense of the rights and resources of the nations in the area, and on behalf of a more just international order.

Delayed Legislation

The so-called Reagan plan for Central America and the Caribbean, a mockery of the economic demands of Latin America, was only partially approved by the United States Congress, more than 5 months after its submission.

The \$355 million in emergency loans was accepted within a supplementary budget of \$14.2 billion, which includes aid to the aged and other programs, the cost of which the White House wants to cut to a minimum.

Hence, it was not precluded that the long legislative negotiations on the amount appropriated for Central America and the Caribbean may be prolonged if the president vetoes the bill passed by the two houses.

The \$355 million is distributed thusly: for El Salvador, \$100 million; Costa Rica, \$70 million; Jamaica, \$50 million; the Dominican Republic, \$40 million; Honduras, \$40 million; Haiti, \$10 million; Guatemala, \$11 million; Belize, \$10 million; and the Eastern Caribbean countries, \$20 million; in addition to AFL-CIO grants to promote "free" or yellow trade unionism, \$4 million. In all, \$355 million, with all figures rounded off.

These funds approved by the House of Representatives and the Senate are only a third of the so-called "Reagan initiative" funds. The other two thirds relate to the opening of the American market for a certain number of exports, and the creation of incentives for investments by multinational firms in the area.

The latter two aspects of the plan are reportedly awaiting debate and approval by the legislators until after the congressional recess.

The \$355 million is far less than the foreign debt of 10 countries in this region which, in December, totaled \$9.062 billion, according to the 1981 Report of the World Bank.

At the end of 1981, the tremendous rise in interest rates for the oil account and the commercial deficits caused that figure to increase to \$15 billion for the combined debt of those who would allegedly benefit from Reagan's aid.

Estimating conservatively that the payments to cover that debt in 1982 will be 10 percent, this would mean outlays of \$1.5 billion. When it is converted into law, that aid only promises \$355 million.

The Latin American foreign ministers had already voiced their economic demands to the United States during a meeting held in Panama during December 1981. Reagan's emergency plan was Washington's response, and it proved to be a mockery for Central America and the Caribbean.

Response From SELA

The Eighth Latin American Council meeting of SELA resolved to devise a strategy that would bolster regional economic security and allow for an effective response to coercive measures imposed by third parties on one or more of its member states.

The meeting of ministers which convened in Caracas from 23 to 25 August of this year included representatives of the 26 states which are members of the Latin American Economic System (SELA), and expressed the view that Latin America and the Caribbean need to have an effective consultation procedure for coping with economic aggression.

The ministers were also of the opinion that this procedure should be endowed with the greatest flexibility from the standpoint of the convocation for it; and should materialize at a high-level meeting to decide upon the specific implementation of measures for direct economic support.

The Latin American Council is the suitable forum for this purpose, as resolved by the ministers gathered in the Council session, which is considered the most important meeting of SELA since it was founded in 1975.

The ministers decided that, when one or more member states are victims of coercive measures imposed by third parties, they can request the SELA Permanent Secretariat to call a special meeting of the Latin American Council on the ministerial level, to decide on the matter.

In order to determine the strategy on regional economic security, the Council agreed that there must be a meeting of experts to draw up the recommendations and devise the concrete steps to be taken, taking into consideration the experience accumulated by regional and subregional agencies.

That strategy includes the redefinition of the relations with the United States and the European Economic Community (EEC), authors and executors of measures for economic strangulation aimed against Argentina, a recent victim of British aggression.

Among the 32 resolutions passed, the regional agency also resolved not to resume the dialog with EEC until it lifts the embargo that it is maintaining against a state which is a member of SELA (Argentina).

It also demands the elimination of the embargo and the economic blockade, the freezing of funds, the suspension of loans and other economic pressures applied against certain developing countries.

2909

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INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT POLICY FOR NEXT 20 YEARS NOTED

Havana ECONOMIA Y DESARROLLO No 68, May-Jun 82 pp 108-139

[Article by Gonzalo M. Rodriguez Mesa, doctor of economic sciences and assistant professor of sectorial economy in the Department of Accounting and Finance at Havana University]

[Excerpt] Cuban Industrial Investment Policy from 1981 to 2000

The core of the country's economic policy for the 1981-2000 period is industrialization and a steady rise in the efficiency of social production as a means of satisfying the growing needs of the population and to complete construction on the technical-material base of socialism. The 1981-85 5-year plan fits precisely within this framework.

The 1981-1985 5-Year Plan

The following are some of the principal aims of the development plan for the current 5-year period:

--Real per capita income will be up 15 to 20 percent from 1980;

--Investment in the economy will increase by some 2 billion pesos over the previous 5-year period, when they totaled more than 15 billion. Nevertheless, the rate of accumulation will decline slightly, while the rate of consumption rises, with greater emphasis on meeting the needs of the less well-off;

--The new investments in production will be channeled mainly into industry, with higher priority accorded to the completion of investments already under way than to new investments and with emphasis on reducing the time needed to build, set up and place the investment targets on stream;

--The country's economic structure will continue to be enhanced, with emphasis on reducing overseas dependency. In this regard, the plan has a strong exporting and import-substitution thrust.

Thus, traditional exports are scheduled to expand, while continued emphasis will be placed on generating new exportable surpluses. Hence,

the production of citrus fruits will increase 2.5-fold; the production of complete plant and equipment with a view towards import-substitution and exports will be expanded; the output and export of cement will be boosted; overseas construction will be expanded several-fold, etc:

As far as imports are concerned, the goal is a 15 percent reduction in the imported component per peso of output;

--The policy of expanding infrastructure in accordance with the requirements of the country's economic and social development will be continued, to which end major priority will be given to the construction of warehouses and cold storage plants, port development and power generation.

As far as industrial investment policy is concerned, industry is expected to account for half of the 1,000 or so investment programs slated for completion during the 5-year period. Some of these investments are:

--Expansion and modernization of the sugar industry. Construction will continue on new sugar mills, eight of which will be completed during the 5 years. The daily milling capacity will increase 13 to 15 percent over the previous 5 years. These investments, together with those in agriculture, will boost sugar output between 20 and 25 percent over the 1976-80 period;

--Overhauling the Nicaro and Moa nickel plants, putting the Punta Gorda plant on line and the startup of construction on a new nickel plant in Las Camariocas, with major increases in output that will boost the country's export earnings. Furthermore, construction will begin on a complex to develop zinc, lead, pyrites and baryta and to produce sulfuric acid;

--The construction of the integrated iron and steel plant in Holguin and a 15-20 percent increase in the operating capacity of the "Antillana de Acero" plant. The country will also have new capacities for the production of automotive and railway equipment, of complete parts, plant and equipment and in the electronics industry. The Holguin farm equipment plant has already gone into operation;

--Continued heavy investment in the electric power industry, with power generation slated to rise by 50 percent. Noteworthy among the investments are the Juragua nuclear powerplant, the Centro hydroelectric plant, the Havana thermoelectric plant and the expansion of the Mariel, Santiago, Cienfuegos, etc thermoelectric plants;

--A 2.5-fold increase in fuel-related investments over the previous 5-year period, aimed at expanding our oil refining and derivatives production capacity; this includes the construction of a new refinery in Cienfuegos;

--In the chemicals branch, the scheduled investments will lead to substantial increases in the production of fertilizers, pharmaceuticals, tires, chlorine, caustic soda, detergents, insecticides and synthetic resins;

--Finally, light industry and the food industry will undergo major development, with particular emphasis on improving the structure and quality of production. In this regard, the textile, footwear, home furnishings, meat products and canned fruits and vegetables industries will play a prominent role.

Some Considerations as to Cuba's Industrial Development up to the Year 2000 and the Role of Industrial Project Assessment During This Period

Industry will play the decisive role in development up to the year 2000, as the above guidelines show, the main branches being the sugar industry, mining and metallurgy, the machine and electronic industries, chemicals and consumer goods (For a more detailed analysis, see Gonzalo M. Rodriguez Mesa, "Industrialization Strategy for the Future," in "Proceso de Industrializacion de la Economia Cubana," pp 251-300).

Our economy has considerable potential in these branches. In this regard we should underscore the potential represented by the total processing of sugar cane derivatives, the comprehensive utilization of laterites in producing iron, nickel, cobalt, chromium, aluminum and stainless steel, as well as the development of other mineral reserves to produce copper, lead, zinc, sulfuric acid, etc and to boost farm and livestock yields, all of this as a raw materials base for the development of the metallurgical, machine, chemical and food industries.

In this regard, we will require unprecedentedly heavy investment in order to expand the metallurgical industry; for the machine and electronic industries, which will have to meet our growing machinery, equipment and spare parts needs and systematically increase their share in the country's exports; in order to expand the the chemicals and consumer goods industries, both with a view towards meeting domestic needs and boosting exports; in order to continue expanding the electrification of the economy, etc.

We need only mention that bearing in mind the dimension and trends in our economy, we will have to invest no less than 30-40 billion pesos in industry over the next 20 years. In other words, the needed investments in industry alone exceed the total nationwide earnings generated by the country's economy over the first half of this century.

With this in mind, we should have no doubts that the most efficient possible use of these sizable investments will become extraordinarily important in the years to come. Boosting economic efficiency is unquestionably one of the main problems of our national economy and a basic link in building a socialist society.

The fundamental objective of a socialist society is to satisfy the populace's growing needs. Nevertheless, varying amounts of social labor can be used to manufacture a single product unit; therefore, these products can be made available to society with varying degrees of economic efficiency.

In this regard, economic efficiency means boosting the social productivity of labor. Hence, boosting the social productivity of labor is the yardstick by which the economic efficiency of socialist production is gauged. The greater the social productivity of labor is and, consequently, the lower production costs are (while meeting the populace's needs), the greater the economic efficiency of production will be.

Raising the economic efficiency of production (boosting social productivity) depends on two fundamental principles:

--An economically sound distribution of resources among the sectors and branches of the national economy

--Selecting the most efficient manner of utilizing the resources within each branch

The first principle has to do with national economic planning, specifically the amount and apportionment of investment. These have been and will continue to be the basic guidelines as far as industry is concerned, which is the main topic of this article.

The second principle has to do with the assessment of industrial projects. In this regard, the highest priority will be accorded to proper planning of the investment process, with everything that this entails in terms of drawing up the investment proposal, the task of investment, the blueprint, the most efficient contracting for plants purchased overseas, the optimization of construction and installation, as well as the proper performance of the various tests and adjustments during the startup period.

But this is not all. The formulation of investment proposals and tasks requires a great number of support studies, and selecting the most economical resource allocation will depend to a great extent on their technical and economic thoroughness.

Noteworthy among these studies are an analysis and projection of demand, capacity evaluations, the selection of technological alternatives, the determination of basic inputs, size and location studies, internal and external economic efficiency, etc. Depending on the stage and size of the project, these studies require special analysis and projection techniques of growing complexity.

In the specific case of our economy, an assessment of industrial projects must also include the following factors, in accordance with the directives of the Second Congress of the Cuban Communist Party:

--Knowledge about and the efficient utilization and protection of material resources; farmlands, forests, water resources, the continental shelf and mineral reserves must be regarded as resources of high strategic value.

--Achieving maximum utilization of labor resources, which will require a proper selection of technologies so that as advanced techniques are introduced where needed, other, less costly ones are also utilized and as much manpower as possible is used where feasible and rational.

--A transformation of the geographic mix through a more efficient distribution of production activities, a fuller and more rational utilization of human and material resources and a more balanced and rapid development of backward provinces.

--According high priority to investments aimed at expanding our foreign trade and making it more efficient.

To summarize, as an indispensable condition for economic growth, the country will have to allocate sizable resources for increasingly complex investments. This requires developing the national projects base and achieving higher levels of investment planning, organization, management and implementation than we have today (Fidel Castro Ruz, "Prospects up to the Year 2000," Main Report to the Second Congress of the Cuban Communist Party).

Conclusions

In drawing conclusions about Cuba's industrial development, we must keep these facts in mind:

--At the outset of the revolution the country was characterized by extraordinary structural distortions that made it impossible to begin rapid industrialization right away;

--In certain specific economic and historic circumstances, in order to undertake a process of rapid industrialization, a country must not only transform its factors of production but also go through a preliminary period aimed at eliminating or diminishing the main distortions hampering the start of industrial development;

--In the case of the Cuban economy, the 1959-1975 period represented the necessary preliminary stage for diminishing the main distortions hampering the start of rapid industrialization. The balance among the various sectors and branches of the economy improved, especially between agriculture and industry and among the various branches of industry.

--The structural transformations achieved from 1959 to 1975 included the following major developments:

a) Industry's share in national income rose from 29.8 to 37.3 percent;

b) Regional imbalances were reduced, as the nonsugar industrial output of the country's interior regions rose from 25 to 43.1 percent of the nationwide total;

c) The industrial sector share of the capital goods producing industries rose from 24.1 to 40.2 percent; therefore, the ratio between consumer goods industries and capital goods industries shifted from 3.2 to 1 to 1.5 to 1, the latter ratio being very similar to what it was in the European socialist countries before they began their rapid industrialization.

d) Major gains were made in the metallurgical and machine branch, which rose from a lowly 10th place in value of industrial output to 4th in 1975, and in the chemical industry, which jumped from 5th to 2nd spot;

e) Unemployment was eliminated, and skilled manpower shortages ceased to be an obstacle to the country's industrialization;

f) Striking successes were scored in the organization and modernization of agriculture, as the seasonal character of the Cuban economy was eliminated, with its resulting annual production crises;

g) The country's production infrastructure was clearly enhanced.

--In spite of these major gains, at the close of the 1971-1975 period the Cuban economy was still faced with severe restraints, mainly relating to distortions in foreign trade and, to a lesser extent, to electric power generation as a result of delays in starting up several generating units. As far as foreign trade was concerned, the development of Cuban industry during this period was not enough to make significant changes in our export mix; this ought to receive the most careful attention in the coming years because it is one of the main obstacles to achieving high growth rates.

--A second stage in the country's industrialization began in 1976, as industry became the economy's strategic sector. This can be seen in the striking increase in industrial investment, which rose from 1.4 billion pesos in 1971-1975 to 4.57 billion in 1976-1980. In this regard, whereas 21 percent of investment was earmarked for industry and 29 percent for agriculture in the 1971-1975 period, the relationship was reversed in the following 5-year period as industry received 35 percent and agriculture 19 percent.

--The 1976-1980 period was also characterized by the following major developments:

a) The sequence of industrial development, in which the trend towards the preferential development of group A industries intensified;

b) Heavy investment began to develop export industries;

c) Great strides were made in organizing the country and in expanding production infrastructure in general, as the distortions caused by inadequate power generation were eliminated;

d) Outstanding results were achieved in farm mechanization, irrigation and fertilization, as yields increased for crops that are used as raw materials for industry and as food for the populace;

e) Annual economic growth during this period averaged 4 percent, despite the continued dependence on sugar as our basic export and even though sugar prices on capitalist markets were 55 percent below average annual production costs from 1975 to 1979. To this we must add the skyrocketing prices of required imports from the capitalist area as a result of this system's economic crisis;

The failure to achieve higher growth rates can be partly attributed to the fact that the bulk of our investments, mainly the ones designed to gradually transform the pattern of our foreign trade and to further integrate our economy, have not yet begun to bear fruit;

--Our main areas of development up to the year 2000 are the sugar industry, mining and metallurgy, the machine and electronic industries, chemicals and the consumer goods branches, and our economy has considerable potential in all these areas;

In this context, the most efficient possible use of sizable investments will become extraordinarily important in the coming years and will depend largely on an economically sound allocation of resources among the sectors and branches of the economy and on selecting the most economical manner of utilizing these resources within each branch.

The increasingly complex investment process that the country will have to undertake is, therefore, vital, requiring the utmost thoroughness and quality work in formulating investment proposals, in the investment task and in the blueprints, as well as the most efficient contracting of machinery and equipment purchased overseas, the proper planning, organization and monitoring of construction and installation, and the proper performance of the various tests and adjustments during the startup period.

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8743

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NEW SOVIET AMBASSADOR KATUSHEV INTERVIEWED

Havana BOHEMIA in Spanish 5 Nov 82 No 45 pp 48-49

[Interview with the Soviet ambassador in Cuba, Konstantin F. Katushev, by the National News Agency; date and place not specified]

[Text] On the eve of the 65th anniversary of the magnificent epic that was the birth of the first socialist state on the planet, the National News Agency interviewed his excellency the ambassador of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Konstantin F. Katushev, to discuss the meaning of this historic date, the main tasks being performed by the Soviet people and the country's Leninist foreign policy.

[Question] What meaning does the celebration this year of the 65th anniversary of the victory of the Great October Socialist Revolution and of the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR hold for the Soviet people?

[Answer] The celebration of the 65th anniversary of the Great October Revolution and of the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR will enable the Soviet people, our friends overseas and all mankind to assess the historic experience of the new social system in our country, the accomplishments of the real socialism that emerged on the international scene and the unwavering international significance of Marxism-Leninism for the peoples that are striving for their true national liberation and taking the socialist path.

The Soviet Union has traveled a glorious path of revolutionary creation. The state-based unity of our various nationalities and their close-knit brotherhood enabled all of the peoples in our homeland to take the shining path of social progress and become the discoverers of the methods of building socialism. "Based on their own experience," the resolution of the Soviet Communist Party's Central Committee on the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR underscores, "the peoples of the Country of the Soviets became convinced that indivisible unity increases their strength and hastens socioeconomic development."

The triumph of the Great October Revolution and the formation of the USSR are a living embodiment of V.I. Lenin's ideas, of the Leninist theory of socialist revolution and of the Leninist principles of national policy.

Valuable experience was gained during the first 5 years of Soviet government in fraternal cooperation among the Soviet republics, which were formed from 1917 to 1922: the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic and the Transcaucasian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic, which unified Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia. Their peoples reached the historically legitimate conclusion that republics enjoying equal rights had to unite voluntarily. The groundwork for their unification in the State was worked out by V.I. Lenin and set forth in legislative form by the First Congress of the Soviets of the USSR, which on 30 December 1922 ratified the Declaration on the Formation of the USSR and the Treaty on the Formation of the USSR. It is for this very reason that this is the birthday of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

By joining forces, the peoples of our country achieved magnificent political, socioeconomic and ideological transformations. By means of the accelerated development of all spheres of activity in what used to be the backward periphery of prerevolutionary Russia, they achieved legal and de facto equality for all of our republics, all of the nations and nationalities of the USSR. While nationwide industrial production increased 169-fold during the years of Soviet government, it increased 254-fold in Byelorussia, for example; 256-fold in Kazakhstan; 304-fold in Moldavia; 379-fold in Kirghiz; 420-fold in Armenia. Industrial output in Latvia in 1981 was 46 times higher than in 1940 (the year it joined the USSR); it was up 49-fold in Estonia and 61-fold in Lithuania.

Soviet science and culture have scored truly immense successes. Our country forged the path to outer space for mankind.

General secondary education is taught in all the national languages of the peoples of the USSR. The general view is that Soviets read more than anyone else in the world. The USSR's multinational culture, imbued with deep-seated humanism and optimism, keenly reflects the glorious path of work and of victories that we traveled under the leadership of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union.

A society of developed socialism was built in the USSR, and a new historic community was formed: the Soviet people.

All of these fundamental transformations are included in the new Soviet Constitution, the fifth anniversary of which we celebrated this year.

To the Soviet people each new year is a year in which to further consolidate and develop the Soviet Government, one more step along the road of building communism.

The peoples of our country are celebrating the anniversaries of the October Revolution victory and of the formation of the USSR with fresh successes in all spheres of activity and are eagerly carrying forward the struggle to further develop our economy, science and culture, to eliminate the threat of war and to achieve lasting peace on earth.

[Question] What are the main tasks facing the Soviet people in the years to come?

[Answer] The resolutions of the 26th Congress of the CPSU contain the basic guidelines for our country's social and economic development during the 11th 5-year period and for the 1980's in general. The main task in the years to come is to assure the ongoing rise in the standard of living of the Soviet people on the basis of sustained national economic development, hastened scientific and technological progress, a shift to intensive economic development, a more rational utilization of the country's production potential, maximum conservation of all types of resources and better work quality.

We have to do more and better work to perform these tasks. We must strive to obtain the best results at the least expense and with high work quality. We must achieve maximum savings in all resources, by conserving and utilizing rationally what we produce. In a word, we must manage and employ our public wealth better.

The major socioeconomic task that the party set forth is to assure the further growth of the agricultural economy and to boost the production of foodstuffs and agricultural raw materials for industry.

The approach to this problem is reflected in our country's Food Program, which was approved by the CPSU's Central Committee Plenum in May 1982 and which the entire Soviet people has actively begun carrying out.

Major nationwide activities are in store for us to further enhance the material well-being of the Soviets.

The real income of the people must be up 16.5 percent per capita by the end of this 5-year period.

Public health care, schooling, physical culture and sports, hospital care and time-off for workers will be enhanced.

The Communist Party is oriented towards our creative multinational intellectuals, towards the wideranging use of the rich cultural heritage of all our country's fraternal peoples, and towards the creation of works imbued with the party's spirit and worthy of our homeland's present and future.

All of this strengthens the spiritual and material foundations of the socialist lifestyle, reinforces the rights and liberties of Soviet citizens, as stipulated in the Soviet Constitution, and sets the stage for the full flowering of the people's talents.

The Soviet people's major international task is to implement the active peaceful foreign policy of our party and the Soviet Government, a policy formulated by the 26th Congress of the CPSU, in order to create the necessary external conditions to achieve our great creative objectives. Along with the countries in the socialist community and with all the progressive forces on our planet, the Soviet Union will continue to try and carry out the Peace Program for the 1980's, as well as the peace initiatives set forth in its provisions and recently promoted by the Soviet leadership and supported by progressive world public opinion.

[Question] How are Leninist principles reflected in the Soviet party and government foreign policy and in the people's daily lives?

[Answer] From the very first day of the victory of the Great October Socialist Revolution, the CPSU and the Soviet State have been constantly waging a struggle for peace and for the restructuring of international relations based on the principles of equality and friendship among peoples. From Lenin's decree on peace, which was the first foreign policy document of the Soviet Government, to the Peace Program for the 1980's, which was developed by the 26th Congress of the CPSU, this has been the path of Soviet foreign policy. It is distinguished by loyalty to the cause of defending peace and socialism.

Unwaveringly following the Leninist course of foreign policy, the Soviet Union recently submitted a series of major peace initiatives, which received wideranging support from progressive world public opinion. Foremost among them we must mention the Soviet Union's solemn pledge not to be the first to use atomic weapons, a pledge contained in Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's message to the Second Special Session of the UN General Assembly on Disarmament; and the comprehensive Middle East settlement proposed by Comrade Brezhnev on 15 September of this year, as well as his suggestion a few days later that the leadership bodies of NATO and the Warsaw Pact issue statements regarding the nonextension of their spheres of action to Asia, Africa and Latin America.

In October of this year, at the plenary session of the 28th UN General Assembly, A.A. Gromyko, the USSR's foreign minister, submitted the new Soviet peace initiatives aimed at eliminating the danger of a nuclear catastrophe and at building trust among countries and peoples. We are well aware of our proposals "concerning an immediate halt to and ban on nuclear weapons testing" and "increasing efforts to eliminate the threat of nuclear war and guaranteeing the safe development of nuclear power."

The Soviet people fully and indivisibly approve of and support the foreign policy of the CPSU and the Soviet State, aimed at preventing another war. Convincing proof of this is the active involvement of the Soviet people in the peace movement. For example, more than 48 million Soviets took part in the mass activities during Action for Peace, Against Nuclear War Week, which was staged in our country before the opening of the Second Special Session of the UN General Assembly on Disarmament.

Another manifestation of Leninist principles in the CPSU's foreign policy is the development of the USSR's cooperation with liberated countries and the world national liberation movement without the discrimination, domination and subordination that characterize the capitalist world.

As far back as the turn of the century V.I. Lenin foresaw the awakening of the peoples enslaved by imperialism. He pointed out that the time would come when these peoples would play an active role in deciding the fate of all mankind. His prophetic words came true. We now live in that time.

Faithful to Lenin's legacy, the Soviet Union lends active support to the national liberation movements of the peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America and collaborates with the liberated countries that are struggling against imperialism, to bolster their national independence and for social progress.

The USSR has come out decisively for the elimination of the remnants of colonialism, against neocolonialism and racism and against the economic and political dictates of inequality. It consistently supports the anti-imperialist traditions of the Nonaligned Movement and contributes to the struggle of the developing countries to restructure international economic relations on a democratic basis.

The active and multifaceted development of relations with the aforementioned countries and with the national liberation movement is one of the main guidelines of the foreign policy of the CPSU and the Soviet State.

8743

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SOVIET FISHING OFFICIAL IN CUBA INTERVIEWED

Havana BOHEMIA in Spanish 5 Nov 82 No 45 p 34

[Article on interview with Victor Schein, representative of the Soviet Fish Industry Ministry in Cuba, by Raul Lazo; date and place not specified]

[Text] "The 20 years of cooperation in fishing between the USSR and Cuba represent a brilliant example of brotherhood; both peoples have sunk their deepest roots in proletarian internationalism."

These are the words of Victor Schein, the representative of the Soviet Fish Industry Ministry in Cuba. Recalling that the first agreement was signed 20 years ago by our commander in chief, Schein pointed out that our collaboration began at a time when Yankee imperialism was intensifying its economic blockade against Cuba, an aggressive act that was designed to starve our people into surrender.

"It was indispensable for Cuba to develop its fishing industry as a source of food. The agreement opened the doors to what is now the flourishing Cuban fishing industry. The initial nucleus consisted of five Soviet SRTR vessels in which the Cuban fishermen learned modern catch techniques. One of the results of this collaboration is the Fishing Port of Havana, which is one of the largest in Latin America."

More than 800 fishing vessels from our sister country, accounting for more than half of the 1,600 that have called at Cuban ports, have been repaired at this impressive technical and materials base, which was built with Soviet aid. More than 15 million pesos worth of repairs have been done here.

The representative of the Soviet Fish Industry Ministry stated that the collaboration in fishing has been very beneficial for both countries. "Cuba, for example, has received Soviet know-how in organizing its fishing fleet, in the land-based industry and in scientific and technological development...A great many Soviet specialists have come here over these 20 years, and many Cuban personnel have been trained back there."

Addressing the prospects for future cooperation, he emphasized: "It will be based on a mutual exchange of experiences. The USSR will help

in developing automated guidance systems, fishing forecasts in the various international areas and catch techniques."

"There are great prospects for repairing Soviet vessels here," he went on to say, "because you have a modern technical-materials base and skilled personnel who have already done major repairs on Soviet vessels. This line of work will expand. The specialists from our countries have beautiful work and brotherly emulation links."

In conclusion, Schein said that he was pleased to be here once again (this is his third trip), "with a people whom I admire for their spontaneity, sincerity and revolutionary spirit."

8743

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'BARBADOS CRIME' COMMEMORATED, CIA STILL BLAMED

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 6 Oct 82 p 1

/Text/ On a day like today, 6 years ago, an event took place that deeply stirred--and still stirs--the heart of our people and human sensitivity: the horrible Barbados Crime.

Seventy-three defenseless lives were struck down in a few seconds of agony and desperation. They were Cubans, Guyanese, and Koreans traveling on board the Cuban Aviation CUT-1201 regular air transport ship that blew up in mid air a few minutes after taking off from the capital of Barbados, where it landed after originally taking off from Guyana.

The investigations carried out afterward determined that it was a barbarous case of sabotage, the most horrible act of terrorism committed against a civil passenger plane that the world has ever seen. The assassins, who were agents on the payroll of the United States Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), were located, arrested, and moved to the Venezuelan capital. The guilt of Orlando Bosch, Luis Posada, Freddy Lugo, and Hernan Ricardo, agents of the CIA, was established in the proceedings held by the Supreme First Instance Criminal Court of our sister republic of Venezuela. The case was later changed to the military venue, where it is still in abeyance.

The horrible murder that took place on 6 October, 1976 has been condemned and abhorred by all sane and honest people in the world. In its general assembly held in Montreal, Canada, the International Civil Aviation Organization made a unanimous, vigorous pronouncement against such practices of terrorism and condemned the monstrous Barbados Crime. In the resolution adopted, the ICAO urged "states able to do so to pursue and punish with the utmost severity the criminals responsible for this act, in such a way that the punishment fits the crime and serves as a deterrent for future cases."

And it cannot be any other way. Humanity cannot tolerate release with impunity in such practices only conceivable in born criminals and in minds where all human sensitivity has been replaced by criminal cold-bloodedness, where they have been transformed into monsters serving the most ignoble and perverse interests. Today their services are used against Cuba; tomorrow they could be used against any other people. That is one of the lessons of history.

The assassins tried to kill the intelligence of the youth, the revolutionary and internationalist spirit of our people, and its will to overcome. In their Washington or Miami hideaways, they chalked new victims up on their paranoic list of crimes, but that blow failed to break our faith, nor did it weaken our conviction in the rightness of our cause. The pain only served to further affirm our decision to fight and our committment with history and to the blood of the eternal martyrs and heroes of the homeland.

We, the Cubans, will never forget the victims of that monstrous crime, the National Labor Hero, the pilots and copilots and navegators of Cuban Aviation, the stewardesses and the pursers, the delegation of young champion fencers, the fishermen who were coming home, and our Guyanese and Korean brothers. On the sixth anniversary of that tragic event, the people of Cuba, more firm and united than ever, as an expression of renewed committment, remember the beautiful words of Fidel at the farewell mourning ceremony for the victims of the Cuban plane destroyed in mid air: "An increasingly revolutionary, worthy, socialist, and internationalist homeland will be the grandiose monument that our people will erect in their memory of all those that have fallen or that are to fall for the sake of the revolution."

9983

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PCC CENTRAL COMMITTEE ANNIVERSARY HAILED

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 2 Oct 82 p 1

/Text/ In our country's most recent history, 3 October, 1965 has become a monumental date. Exactly 17 years ago on that very day, our first Party Central Committee was presented to the people.

Since then, our party has entered into its greatest stage of strengthening and development.

In the midst of the enthusiasm and revolutionary jubilation that characterized that ceremony held in the theatre which today bears the name of Karl Marx, the leaders of the rank and file and of the other divisions of our political vanguard who were present agreed by acclamation to adopt the name of the Communist Party of Cuba.

As Fidel explained, it was necessary for the name of the party to state, not what we were yesterday, but what we are today and what we want to be tomorrow.

That night, in a scene of indescribable emotion, Fidel read Che's farewell letter, in which that Heroic Guerrilla announced his decision to go off to combat imperialism in other lands.

Throughout these years, our party and our people have demonstrated, both in thought and in practice, that to be Communist is to be inseparably tied to the internationalist work at hand.

On that memorable October 3, Fidel also announced the creation of a new newspaper that would serve as an official organ of the Central Committee and that, "as a symbol of our revolutionary conception and of our path", would bear the name GRANMA.

Thus, our institution is also celebrating 17 years of uninterrupted work in the task of informing and orienting our people.

This recent anniversary of the introduction of the first Central Committee coincides with the worsening of the complex and tense international situation, which is basically due to the hawkish policy divorced from all reality that is being implemented by the Reagan Administration, one of the most important

elements of which is the hysterical and absurd campaign against the Cuban Revolution. But such campaigns come up against an unassailable rock, because our people is a united, firm, indomitable, and heroic people that gives unwavering support to its party, to the revolution, to Fidel. It is a people that is contending, revolutionary, Communist.

9983

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REPORT ON NEW INCOME, PROFITS TAX LAW STARTING IN 1983

London THE CARIBBEAN AND WEST INDIES CHRONICLE in English No 1569,
Aug/Sep 82 pp 6-7

[Text]

Dominica is introducing new tax legislation with the hope of closing certain loopholes for evasion which exist in the current legislation.

The new legislation, due to come into operation by the beginning of next year, seeks to expand the basis of the income tax to cover certain areas of income taxation which are at present not adequately provided for such as is the case with the restrictions on the deduction of management charges by companies.

The Bill is based on a model draft act providing for the taxation of income and profits, which was prepared by the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) Economic Affairs Secretariat, and presented to all member governments for their consideration and adoption as a possible basis for their fiscal policy approach.

"The Bill however does not represent an uncritical acceptance of the OECS model draft," said a white paper on the proposed legislation being circulated here for public comment.

It noted that "while the general structure and approach employed in the model were preserved in the draft local legislation, the technical concepts, administrative procedures, tax rates and policies regarding specific matters were thoroughly examined by a team operating within the Ministry of Finance," to ensure that the particular provisions of the Bill reflected the policies which the Government wished to preserve or present to the public for consideration.

The major objective of the OECS model was to introduce certain reforms in tax policy aimed at imposing a tax on company profits that is separated and distinct from the tax on dividend income of shareholders and also of improving the efficiency of taxation of non-residents by use of a final withholding tax on gross income payments to non-residents.

The OECS model is also aimed at treating branches of non resident companies on the same basis as fully fledged subsidiaries by deeming their transfer to head office to be dividends.

But the white paper notes that these reforms had already been achieved in Dominica as a result of recommendations of a fiscal review undertaken with assistance from the United Nations.

"The present act therefore merely seeks to refine those earlier reforms and integrate them into the rest of the tax law," said the paper.

It adds that "while the proposed legislation seeks to introduce a certain measure of reform in the approach towards taxation of income and profits in this country, it does not introduce any new tax as such."

"The Bill however attempts to refine the administrative techniques of imposition of the income tax in numerous areas so as to reduce evasion and avoidance, enhance equity of the tax by closing loopholes and improve compliance and enforcement procedures consistent with modern practice," the paper said.

"The total package also represents a much needed consolidation of the existing legislation and a major step in the direction of harmonisation of our approach to direct taxation with other OECS member states as well as with other member states of the Caribbean Community and the rest of the world," states the white paper.

When she delivered her 1982 to 83 budget to Parliament last month, Prime Minister Eugenia Charles said that for quite some time her Government had heard complaints about the high level of direct taxation to which personal incomes have been subjected.

She said that while attempts had been made by Government to adjust salaries and wages upwards to compensate for the effects of inflation, the increase in earnings has exposed income earners to higher marginal rates of income tax, although they may not have benefitted from any really significant increase in total purchasing power.

Since its last revision in 1966, Dominica's income tax ordinance has undergone numerous amendments many of which officials say have been made without giving enough consideration to the income tax structure as a whole.

"The preparation of the new legislation will permit Government to undertake a more comprehensive review of the role of the income tax, and to reorganise the structure of the Act to follow a more logical and systematic sequence" said the white paper.

This includes the insertion of headings for the separate major divisions of the Act so that provisions in the legislation can be more easily located.

Numerous changes in the administrative procedures of the income tax have been proposed in the Draft Act aimed at refining administration and improving the efficiency of operations in the Department.

According to the white paper, these include procedures for handling objections and appeals, the issue of notices, payment of tax in advance of assessment, and increases in the level of penalties associated with a wide variety of civil and criminal offences under the Act.

"The approach adopted in the new draft also helps clarify in the mind of the taxpayer and difference in entitlement to deduct what are expenses incurred in producing income as against concessional allowances which can be taken only against positive assessable income" said the paper.

The Eugenia Charles administration feels that the present tax system places an unreasonable proportion of the burden of financing the Government on lower income earners and Government employees.

It has been officially stated that persons earning income from certain sectors, such as agriculture, are completely exempt from income tax and pay relatively little or in most cases nothing in property tax and certainly are less dependant than Government employees on imported goods.

Said the white paper "the tax system as a whole weighs heavily against the urban lower and middle income worker and some adjustments should thus be made in the income tax to bring some relief to this group."

The paper notes that in Government's re-assessment of its overall fiscal policy, particular attention will be given to ensuring that the matter of financing the public sector is more equitably borne by all groups in the community, and that adjustments would be made in all areas of charges by the public sector to achieve this.

As far back as 1965, the United Kingdom, which provided the model on which the present income tax in Dominica is based, decided to change its own approach to taxation of incomes and profits to separate taxation of the profits of companies from the taxation of their shareholders.

While Dominica adopted the idea of a withholding tax on non-resident shareholders in the Finance Act of 1976, the island did not take the next step of legally separating the company from its shareholders.

"Thus the set off and gross up provisions contained in the existing ordinance were not repealed and this preserved the right of shareholders of local companies to claim credit for the tax paid by such companies against their own income tax liability," said the white paper.

The adoption of the new approach brings Dominica in line not only with the United Kingdom and the United States but also with most other countries of the world and with other CARICOM states.

Said the white paper "this alignment with other CARICOM states heightens the degree of harmonisation of taxation and fiscal policy among member states, and objective to which we were committed under the East Caribbean Common Market Agreement (Article 15) as well as under the Annex to the Caribbean Community Treaty (Article 40)".

The paper said that the harmonisation of taxation of individuals and companies within the OECS and CARICOM was highly desirable and consistent with Dominica's effort to harmonise incentives to develop the industrial and other sectors.

"It is also consistent with our efforts to promote free trade by eliminating tariff which would harmonise the terms and conditions on which consumer goods and raw materials enter the region from third world countries."

The proposed legislation will also benefit married as well as single citizens. At present any income of a married woman must be returned by her husband and charged in his name even if she makes a separate return of her earned income.

The proposed legislation would complete the process of separation of a married woman from her husband for tax purposes and make it possible for them to return the whole of their income in any separate assessment if they so choose.

If the married woman is separated from her husband, if he is a non-resident or if she chooses to be separately assessed, all of her income will be taxed in her own name.

"Provisions are also made to deal with the case of Trusts with and without beneficiaries' names, cases of Trust where benefits are at the discretion of the Trustee or Dependent on some contingency, as well as cases of settlements and other dispositions where the accrual of the income of Beneficiaries is dependent on some contingency."

Under the provisions for persons exempt from income tax, the white paper says that this part repeats the similar provisions of the existing legislation by enumerating the sources of income and persons who are exempt from income tax.

It said that some amendments to the existing legislation were proposed in that area, either as indications of what Government considers desirable in terms of policy, or to reflect new institutional and other developments.

"One example of these new exemption provisions is that at 25 (I)(C) which exempts from income tax and emoluments paid by any other Government or by any international organisation of which Dominica is a member, in so far as these emoluments are paid in connection with the provisions of technical co-operation services on terms and conditions prescribed in any agreement with Government."

The exemption to income tax would also benefit retired Dominicans.

The existing ordinance is reported to contain "a serious discrimination against retired persons who are Dominican nationals by denying them the benefit of the exemption from tax on their income received from external sources during their retirement."

Said the white paper "the exemption now applies to nationals as well as non-belongers and thus encourages Dominicans abroad to retire in Dominica."

CSO: 3298/149

STUDY SHOWS PRIVATE SECTOR HAS SIGNIFICANT ECONOMIC ROLE

London THE CARIBBEAN AND WEST INDIES CHRONICLE in English No 1569, Aug/Sep 82
pp 7-8

[Text]

A group which carried out a study of the private sector in the Guyanese economy has concluded that, contrary to the prevailing opinion, "somewhere between 35 and 40 per cent of the economy seems to be private."

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) funded the study, which was completed in July. It was conducted by three economic experts, Dr Kenneth Flamm, Dr Robert Davenport, and Miss Myrtle Bishop, on behalf of the Guyana Investment Company.

The 90-page report the Group said its estimate of 35-40 per cent for the private sector holds for a broad range of macro economic aggregates including value added (a measure of production that excludes the value of goods and services purchased as inputs), employment by the private sector, and even outstanding loans from the Commercial Banking system.

The prevailing view, it said, was that about 80 per cent of the Guyana economy was controlled by the State.

"The private sector dominates certain activities in Guyana, such as agriculture (other than sugar), forest products, fishing, miscellaneous services, housing, and mining (other than bauxite)," the report noted.

"Other sectors have a more even mix of private and public activity manufacturing (other than rice and sugar milling), construction, distribution, financial services, and transport and communication."

The Group added however, "Large sections of the economy are almost exclusive province of the State: sugar, bauxite, and the assortment of services provided by the Central Government."

The popularity quoted 80/20 public/private sector division approximates to the relative importance of each sector for a limited set of variables, the report indicated.

"It best describes the origin of Guyana's (legal) exports although it should be pointed out that 97 per cent of these exports seem to be marketed,

and therefore controlled by public corporations," the report noted.

"It was also a fairly accurate description of the division of flows of investment during the late 70s."

The Group said the study represents a first attempt at analysing the structures of and interaction between public and private enterprises in Guyana and that the large amount of information collected can serve as a first approximation to the complexity that is the economy of Guyana.

The Group estimated that of a total gross domestic product at factor costs of G\$1.350m in 1981 the private sector contributed G\$539.3m, or 39 per cent.

For sugar production, the total value added was G\$120m (private sector: 10 per cent) while milling, valued at G\$40m was all done by state-owned factories, giving an overall 7.5 per cent contribution by the private sector of a total G\$160m value added in the sugar industry.

Corresponding figures for rice production and milling were: production G\$43m for the private sector and G\$42.2m for the public sector (0.1 per cent difference), milling G\$11m for the private sector, G\$3.3m for the public sector (30 per cent).

Figures for other major sector of the economy in 1980 (private sector first):

- other agriculture: G\$54m, G\$52.4m (97 per cent)
- livestock: G\$44m, G\$43.4m (99 per cent)
- forestry: G\$19m, G\$13.7m (72 per cent)
- fishing: G\$20m, G\$15.7m (78 per cent)
- mining and quarrying: G\$10m, G\$14.6m (14 per cent) with the main contributor to this sector being G\$85m from the wholly state controlled bauxite industry.
- Other manufacturing: G\$150m, G\$78m (52 per cent)
- construction and engineering: G\$110m, G\$60m (55 per cent)
- Government: G\$276m
- Other Services: G\$362m, G\$193.4m (54 per cent).

The Report estimated that in 1981 total employment was 165,000 with 30,000 persons being traditional public service employees and about 75,000 other public sector workers, giving the public sector direct responsibility for 64 percent of persons employed.

The last estimate of unemployed was made in 1977 by a manpower survey which gave a figure of 14.3 percent but the study group reported a "general feeling" that unemployment has "increased substantially since the late 1970's and is thought by many we talked to to have been around 25 to 30 percent in 1981."

Data on company taxes paid to the Central Government showed that in 1981 private enterprises paid 55 percent of total receipts G\$130.1m, up from 48 percent of G\$118m in 1980, and 47 percent of G\$96.8m in 1979.

The Group said: "Private sector investment of G\$58m accounted for 51 percent of that total in 1970 while the share of the public sector was 55 million dollars.

"However, since then, fixed investment by the public sector has steadily risen to G\$433m in 1981 while private investment has fluctuated over the same period, reaching a maximum of only G\$70m in 1980. As a result of this the sector's share of total investment fell to a mere 12 percent (G\$60m) in 1981.

"Since 1969, the public sector has accounted for 78 percent out of the total outlays on investment," the Study Group added.

CSO: 3298/150

SPECIAL POLICE BACK ON DUTY WITH PERMISSION FOR WEAPONS

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 18 Nov 82 p 2

[Text]

Special Constables who on Friday ended the first phase of their intended series of three-day "sick out" were once again assigned duties on Monday following fresh instructions from the Commissioner of Police, Mr. Joe Williams.

On Friday when they ended their initial "sick-out," which began on Tuesday, the Specials involved were barred from duties on the instructions of the Commissioner. They were also not given firearms.

Speaking with the 'Gleaner', the Commissioner said he had taken this decision based on recent statements by the leadership of the Select Committee, which represents the rank and file of the Special Constabulary Force.

The Specials had planned to start the second phase of their "sick out" on Saturday but this was called off.

According to Inspector Herbert Welch, chairman of the Select Committee, the decision not to go out again was taken to facilitate a meeting with the Minister of National Security, the Hon. Winston Spaulding, who had indicated that he would not be prepared to meet with the

Committee if industrial action was in progress.

Inspector Welch described as "unfair" a comment by Police Commissioner Williams, that his, Mr. Williams', decision not to issue 'protesting' Specials with firearms after recent statements by the leadership of the Committee, was based on the Commissioner's not knowing what the Specials were going to do.

Inspector Welch said that the majority of Specials, were "honest, hard-working and loyal and have been risking their lives since 1938 in the service of their country".

"They have not let Jamaica down," he said, referring to those Specials "who have been gunned down while serving."

Inspector Welch said that the Force, like all organisations, had "bad eggs", but this should not be held against the majority. He emphasised that before going on "sick-out" on Tuesday morning the Specials had turned in their firearms at the request of the Committee as they reported off duty.

The "sick-out" was not an attempt to embarrass the Government but an attempt to get the authori-

ties to act to improve the welfare of the Force, Inspector Welch said. He listed a number of "poor conditions" being experienced, such as Specials receiving \$14 per day for wages.

Inspector Welch saw references to comments being made about alleged statements by the leadership of the Committee as "efforts to distort the issue of the state of Specials." He repeated that the Committee or the Force was "not subversive," and said it was improvement in the welfare of the Force which "the necessary industrial action" had been all about.

The Specials want the Government to resolve outstanding claims concerning working conditions; to dismiss Staff Officer, Deputy Commandant R. N. Harris; and for the Commissioner to "treat the Select Committee with respect."

Inspector Welch, Sergeant Joseph Maynard, Secretary of the Committee, and a delegate, Sergeant D'Sent Nicholas, have been charged with disobeying orders and being disrespectful to the Commissioner. Sgt. Maynard was suspended without pay on Friday.

PNP STATEMENT DISPUTES PNC ANALYSIS OF BY-ELECTION

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 16 Nov 82 pp 1, 5

[Text]

The PNP has replied to the JLP's interpretation of the JLP successes in last Thursday's three by-elections. In a long statement to the press, Dr. D.K. Duncan, the PNP general secretary, has said that the results represent a swing to the PNP. Dr. Duncan also said that "due to prior commitments, Party Leader Manley could only devote three hours to the campaign" divided equally between Warsop and Pembroke Hall.

Dr. Duncan said in part:

"By-elections were held in three local government divisions which were previously and traditionally held by the JLP. Two of the divisions, Rio Bueno and Warsop, are bedrock JLP areas and the other, Pembroke Hall, is a relatively safe JLP seat. In all three, despite their JLP tradition, the voters have shown reluctance to endorse the performance of the government by refusing to vote in numbers as high as 31.3 per cent as in the case of Rio Bueno when comparison is made with 1980 voting levels. (We emphasize this point only for the reason that the JLP seeks to interpret the by-election results as an endorsement of their performance since 1980). Additionally, in the case of Warsop, the results show a 2.5 per cent swing to the PNP compared with the 1981 results and in Pembroke Hall the swing to the PNP is a very significant 7.8 per cent.

Of the three by-elections, Pembroke Hall is the only one which carries national significance, as its history of voting demonstrates that it could marginally be categorized as a swing division; having been won by both parties on more than one occasion in elections dating back to 1972. If the level of swing recorded

against the JLP in Pembroke Hall were recorded in a general election, the PNP would increase its seat total by seventeen (17) to make a total of 26 seats.

THE ABOVE REFLECTS our summary of the meaning of the by-election results. They signify to us a reluctance to endorse the performance of the government and a clear trend towards the PNP of national significance. When the results of the by-election are seen in this light, we have to commend the spontaneous honesty of the JLP candidate in Pembroke Hall, Mr. Seymour Henry, who -- when confronted by the stark reality of the results -- was quoted by the 'Star' of Friday, November 12 as saying that the JLP must:

"... find ways and means of arresting what seems like a drift at this time ... We campaigned so hard. The results should have been more in our favour..."

The results were not in the JLP's favour because, despite spending massive amounts of money during the campaign in all three by-election divisions to re-surface roads; to bush roads; for "curbs and channelling"; for installation of new street lights in Rio Bueno; for increasing the purchase price of yams from 30c per pound to 90c; to remove the necessity for paying for parties and buns, etc., under the school lunch programme in Warsop; and bringing the full force of many Cabinet Members into the hustings; the swing moved against the JLP in two out of the three by-elections. The turnout of voters was 17 per cent below 1980 levels in Warsop, 24.6 per cent below 1980 levels in Pembroke Hall and 31.3 per cent below 1980 levels in Rio Bueno.

FARMERS, UNION OPPOSE GOVERNMENT PLAN FOR SUGAR INDUSTRY

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 10 Nov 82 p 20

[Text]

KINGSTON:
JAMAICA'S scheme to restructure its important foreign exchange earning sugar industry to make it more efficient and increase output, is running into stiff criticism — not least of all from opponents of a reported plan to lay off nearly 1,000 workers.

The proposals also include the closing of one of the seven state-owned sugar factories before last month's start of reaping of the 1982 second crop.

Not only the two trade unions which represent the estimated 50,000 sugar workers have come out against the plans, but the island's Cane Farmers Association, which represents private growers, as well as a Government parliamentarian are also balking.

ARGUMENT

The argument of the unions is that the proposed retrenchment will bring social and economic hardship to the workers, while Government back benches, Everaldo Warmington, is concerned with the economic implications for his South West St Catherine constituency if the sugar factory there is closed.

The Cane Farmers Association is worried about the possibility of declining capacity to grind.

That there are plans to shed a large amount of labour in the industry has been announced neither by the government nor the National Sugar Company (NSC), which operates the state-owned fac-

ories and estates. But neither have the persistent reports been denied.

BLAMED

Like the rest of the Caribbean, Jamaica's sugar production has been declining steadily, from nearly half a million tons in (long) tons in the mid 1960s to a meagre 201,000 tons last year — the lowest in three decades.

The Seaga Administration, which came to power near the end of 1980 has blamed the previous administration for the drastic decline and most of the ills that beset sugar. It has pledged to put things right and sharply push back up production.

The government feels that a viable industry will be able to make a more significant contribution to the national economy.

In January, Agriculture Minister Percival Broderick, lamenting the performance of the industry, noted that the island was utilising only about half of its 400,000 ton factory capacity, and 80 was missing out on the opportunity to earn vitally needed foreign exchange.

Jamaica, the Minister said, had guaranteed markets for 300,000 tons of sugar, with the potential to earn over \$200 million worth of foreign exchange each year.

The difference between the potential earnings from sugar as seen by the administration and last year's actual take of \$82.8 million indicates the government's concern for the industry.

AGREEMENT

In its April 1981 agreement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in exchange for a (US) \$650 million balance of payments facility, the Seaga Government envisaged that sugar production would reach 330,000 tons by 1983/84.

That projection has since been revised and the administration is now projecting a

target of 300,000 tons by 1984/85, a year later than originally scheduled.

As part of the effort to make good its programme the Administration has been improving inputs to the industry, such as providing fertiliser, repairing irrigation canals, building access roads and making available machinery and transportation that had been lacking during the former administration.

More fundamentally, last November it scrapped 23 sugar workers' cooperatives, established by the former administration and returned the lands on which they grew cane to the NSC.

The co-ops, the government said, had debts of \$82 million dollars, were inefficient and badly managed. Eight of the co-ops have appealed against the cancellation of their registration and an Appeal Board which can sit for as long as two years was recently set up to hear their complaints.

CLOSED

One of the government's sugar factories was also closed.

At the same time, the government ordered studies on the industries from the Jamaica National Investment Corporation (JNIC), a state body, and farmers were given substantial increases for cane delivered to the factories as an incentive.

Said Prime Minister Seaga prior to the start of the 1981/82 crop, which was originally forecast to produce 220,000 tons of sugar: "The sugar industry has one last chance to redeem itself for all the bad management, inefficient work, poor cultivation and inadequate supplies of the past.

"The government is prepared to give its full support in restructuring services and supplies for this coming crop, so that with the right inputs we shall see productivity rebound in 1983 to substantially higher levels."

(Cana)

CSO: 3298/151

BRIEFS

RETURN OF POWER WORKERS--Hourly-paid maintenance workers at the Jamaica Public Service Company's Old Harbour power station in St Catherine who went on strike on Friday to press for settlement of certain claims arising out of an April wage agreement returned to their jobs yesterday morning. The more than 50 workers who are represented by the Bustamante Industrial Trade Union and the National Workers Union stopped working after a meeting with the Minister of Public Utilities and Transport, the Hon Pearnel Charles failed to settle the matter. At a meeting at the Ministry of Labour on Monday, presided over by the Director of Industrial Relations, Mr Anthony Irons, the unions agreed to "use their best endeavours," to comply with the Ministry of Labour's request to have a work resumption yesterday morning. The parties will meet Mr Charles on November 30 at his Ministry for further discussions on the issue. The meeting was attended by Mr Lascelles Perry of the NWU, Mr Royland Williams of the BITU and Mr Fritz Christie of the JPSCo. [Text] [Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 17 Nov 82 p 1]

CSO: 3298/151

PPS SEES UNITED STATES BEHIND ANTI-NATIONAL CONSPIRACY

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 29 Oct 82 pp 23-A

[Political Advertisement: "In View of the Conspiracy, Unity of the Democratic, Patriotic and Revolutionary Forces"]

[Text] A new conspiracy against the Mexican state and people has been set in motion. Participating in a coordinated manner are all of the sectors traditionally opposed to the greater interests of the nation and the people: The reactionary and counterrevolutionary bourgeoisie within and outside the government, the political clergy, television channels and other mass communications media controlled by denationalized groups and the rightwing political parties and groups of the provocative ultra-Right. Behind them, coordinating and promoting their action, is U.S. imperialism.

It is helpful to recapitulate the facts. First they pressed for multiple economic and political concessions; they amplified and exploited the inflationary process to increase their fortunes at the cost of aggravating the misery of the workers; they speculated in all sorts of merchandise, including the foreign exchange needed by the country; they blackmailed the public authority to gain from it new advantages at the cost of provoking the worst economic crisis of modern times; they scoffed at the head of government, whom they called "devalued" without giving him a chance to respond; they robbed us and then put the entire responsibility on the government itself. Arrogant, they had already begun the final assault to capture political power; they openly threatened a coup; haughty, they demanded the resignation of the economic cabinet and even that of the president of the republic; they sought to destroy constitutional order and impede the assumption of power by the triumphant candidate supported by the people, Miguel de la Madrid; they believed that conditions were ripe for their final victory.

The patriotic and historic measures of 1 September disconcerted them. They lost sight of the fact that the electoral campaign, which regrouped the democratic, patriotic and revolutionary forces, had renewed the fighting capacity of supporters of national economic development with independence and of the growing state intervention in the economy. With the expropriation and nationalization of the banks and the generalized control of foreign exchange they lost some of their ability to blackmail, at least in regard to the lucrative route of capital export. In part they also lost economic strength. They were stunned by the energetic action, totally unexpected by them, and their first attempts to react were convulsive and uncoordinated.

Recovered from the surprise, they have regathered their forces and are hurling themselves into a furious new offensive. Involved are not just the expropriated bankers seeking revenge; the entire wide spectrum of antinational sectors participates in the conspiracy.

The starting signal for the new offensive came from abroad in a clearly interventionist act, the letter to Ronald Reagan by the 36 U.S. representatives.

The leaders of the business organizations COPARMEX [Employers Confederation of the Mexican Republic], CONCAMIN [Confederation of Industrial Chambers], CONCANACO [Confederation of National Chambers of Commerce], Coordinating Business Council, etc., cover the country holding subversive meetings, with the public provided by the clergy, and there they repeat the lies: "The country is going socialist; freedom is under attack; the next government will have to straighten things out." etc.

The political clergy is renewing its attack against the way opened by the Mexican revolution to advance toward achieving total national independence. The powerful economic groups unlawfully holding the concessions for television channels insist on attacking democratic life and inciting to repression. At the same time they let loose all manner of lies destined to sow unrest in the television audience, to confuse and disorient it. The rumors experts have put into motion all they have in a clear intent to generate psychological terrorism. The Trotskyists and Trotskites at the service of imperialism generate acts of provocation, thus joining the great conspiracy.

It would be naive to suppose that the offensive by these sectors is limited and sporadic. This would lead to a disarming of the forces fighting for the people and the nation. It is also helpful to remember that the reactionary and counterrevolutionary bourgeoisie is powerful and dangerous in a country like ours, not so much in regard to its own strength, but above all through the protection given to it by imperialism.

The repeated assertion that the nationalization measures are socialist in nature seeks to intimidate the vacillating petty bourgeoisie and to strengthen the proimperialist sector with the government and its party.

The conspiracy's purposes are clear: Once again they want to blackmail public authority; they want to demolish the unity of the democratic, patriotic and revolutionary forces that made possible the nationalization of the banks and its later elevation to constitutional status, as well as the establishment of generalized control of foreign exchange; they want to create a climate that would prevent the next president of the republic from fulfilling his progressive governmental program; instead of that, they want to force him to go backwards, to return to the policy of conciliation and compliance for which the people have had to pay such a high price.

The Popular Socialist Party calls on the working class, the peasant masses, the intellectuals with progressive ideas, the younger generation and all of

the Mexican people to close the door to the great conspiracy by the enemies of national sovereignty and popular interests. It calls on all the forces of the democratic, patriotic and revolutionary camp to increase their vigilance, to go on the offensive, to close ranks, to put aside all questions that are narrow in scope and small in dimensions and to strengthen the unity around the Mexican nation's greater interests, the only way in which it will be possible to consolidate the path of our revolution and advance toward the conquest of our full independence.

9746

CSO: 3248/220

DE LA MADRID ON FOREIGN POLICY, GUATEMALAN REFUGEES

Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish 26 Oct 82 pp 1, 4

[Article by Sara Lovera]

[Excerpts] President-elect Miguel de la Madrid Hurtado confirmed yesterday that Mexico's foreign policy will remain unchanged with respect to Cuba and Nicaragua; he assured that for those crossing the country's southern border out of fear or for political reasons there will be a continuation of aid without damaging the relations with Guatemala; he considered the advantages of giving legal status to Guatemalan refugees and he gave instructions to continue the conscientious study of the alternatives for maintaining relations with the United States and Guatemala in particular.

During a meeting of the PRI International Affairs Committee, the president-elect indicated, with respect to Central America, that the most disturbing problem is that of the region's social and political conflict that "has reached unusual extremes of violence." He approved Mexico's attitude of seeking a peaceful solution and the necessity of providing honest assistance in indicating and finding solutions to problems which out of their own dynamic "threaten to spread and become regional."

In regard to the United States--the meeting analyzed in detail the relations with the neighbors on the southern and northern borders--he affirmed that there is a necessity and a will to maintain relations that are dignified and respectful and characterized by the search for cooperation, "in spite of the asymmetries and differences and a past that has almost always been unfavorable and adverse for us."

At the end of the meeting attended by 12 foreign policy experts, several Mexican ambassadors abroad, as well as former secretaries of foreign relations, Senator Gonzalo Martínez Corbala indicated in summary that De la Madrid "was emphatic" in regard to the invariability of policy toward Cuba and Nicaragua and in the necessity of maintaining the agreements covering the right of asylum. He also said that the president-elect has considered the need to give legal status to refugees in national legislation.

During his speech De la Madrid affirmed that "through conviction" we will fulfill "rigorously and strictly Mexico's obligations in regard to asylum" and "we will be vigilant that no actions be undertaken from our territory that could affect the stability of the Central American countries."

Referring to Belize, he stated that Mexico will continue to respect the will of the nations; therefore, he put more importance on the fundamental principle of the sovereignty of the nation of Belize than on the demand for any particular right.

In expanding upon the relations between Mexico and the United States, he indicated that mature and positive relations will be sought, relations based on respect. But since our country has always adopted as its own the principle of judicial equality of states, he noted, this "permits us to maintain a position that is dignified and congruent with the objectives of national development in our relations with the greatest economic power in the Western world.

Therefore, he continued, "we have been able to discuss our differences in an atmosphere of understanding and respect," and he pointed out: "Not only have we made progress in bilateral relations, but we have also been able to achieve some success in stating the problems and solutions that affect the American continent and in general the world today."

Finally, alluding to Belize he indicated that all possible avenues will be explored to cooperate in favor of bringing about its economic independence and its territorial integrity.

The meeting, which lasted several hours, was opened by Pedro Ojeda Paullada, president of the PRI's National Executive Committee. He affirmed that the neighboring countries "are linked to us by strong bonds that transcend mere geographic proximity."

In turn, Mexico's ambassador to the United States, Bernardo Sepulveda Amor, in speaking of the prospects for relations with that country, stated that "in defining Mexico's foreign policy, relations with that nation have been of prime importance." He noted that this puts to the test "our capacity for continuing the foreign policy inherent in the national development project that defines the country: Sovereignty, economic independence, democracy and preservation of national identity."

And Jorge Bustamante, specialist and adviser in the matter of Mexican immigrants in the United States, said that a national integration plan is needed for the northern border, a plan that would include the defense of Mexicans abroad. He also stated that it is necessary to redesign the border development policy, with an orientation toward strengthening national independence, promoting the culture and contributing to the economic and social development of that zone's inhabitants.

9746
CSO: 3248/220

PAN FOUNDER CRITICIZES CURRENT PARTY ORIENTATION

Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish 26 Oct 82 pp 1, 6

[Article by Manuel Roque Madriz]

[Text] Morelia, Michoacan, 25 Oct--Luis Calderon Vega, founder of the PAN [National Action Party] and author of more than 10 books on sociology and politics, among them "La historia del PAN," said today that that party is in the hands of the Monterrey Group and ultra-Right industrialists. He stated that during the last year that political organization has abandoned the ideological principles of those who created it, where there was a convergence of liberal and humanist currents, and now it is pressuring its members to strive for fascism.

It was the Monterrey Group that ordered the PAN to condemn the nationalization of banks, he said, and he indicated the "imposition" of Monterrey industrialist Guillermo Castillo as youth leader, despite the fact that he was not registered as a candidate within the period required by regulations, as another example of his interference.

Calderon Vega, who for the last year has been in disagreement with the party that he founded along with Gomez Morin "because its ideological principles are distorted by business interests," stated that the PAN's condemnation of the nationalization of the banks is foreign to the party's true principles.

"PAN ideology, popularly known as favoring solidarism, does not propose radical changes to society. But it does approve of there being revolutionary measures that permit the operation or transformation of the economic, political and social structures. Pablo Emilio Madero, on the other hand, thinks that nationalization of the banks is a step by the government toward communism and an instrument to suppress private property brought about by Marxist ideologists," he explained.

He accused the national leader of that party, Abel Vicencio Tovar, and the former candidate for the presidency of the country, Pablo Emilio Madero, of "playing into the hands of reactionary forces."

He indicated that today PAN is a reactionary political force that seeks to confront the Mexican people by encouraging its members to oppose any revolu-

tionary action. He criticized the national leaders for "carrying out actions that do not correspond with the party line by expressing themselves in religious terms and trying to capitalize on the existing lack of social confidence in the government."

Calderon Vega noted that if there is a continuation of the influence of business interests within that political party "the same thing can happen in Mexico that happened in Germany with Nazism or in Italy with Fascism."

9746

CSO: 3248/220

CORRUPTION DENOUNCED AS CHIEF EVIL THREATENING SOCIETY

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 27 Oct 82 pp 7-A, 8-A

[Commentary by Emilio Goichechea Luna: "Mexico's Dilemma; An End to the Corruption"]

[Text] Without doubt the principal problem affecting our Mexican society is the cancer that is eating away at it, that has turned into corruption, that has been growing through the years and that threatens to devour that society in which we have believed for a long time now, an attitude taught to us by our parents, telling us that to have and to achieve something in life we need to work many, many years, every day, almost without rest.

Thus, looking back in time we saw our grandfathers and our fathers, men cast in the old mold, a large part of them without the education that we now enjoy, but who made up for that intellectual deficiency through great honesty rooted in principles that they made into great defenders of a society's values.

We saw that for our grandfathers or our fathers to be able to put together a small patrimony, whether it be a house or dwelling, an automobile, an annual pleasure trip or education for the children, they had to put in 10, 15, 20 or 30 years of arduous, constant and persevering work and only in this way, on the basis of such an effort, was it possible for a family to accumulate a little capital.

We also saw how a society loses patience and begins to take justice into its own hands, forgetting the values of saving and work, through the law of least effort seeking the capital to satisfy the foregoing wants, without going through so many years of work.

In view of the impossibility of controlling an absolutist bureaucracy, the increase in the Mexican bureaucracy, in public and semi-public jobs, local authorities, fideicommissa and other existing systems corrupts living together, daily creating more legislation, regulations, decrees and permits that must be completed before obtaining anything from the government.

More vigilance, supervision and control of private activity, more granting of permits and concessions--this has been the natural fruit of corruption.

Whereas our elders could not build their houses even after 10 or 15 years of being austere and saving where they could, today any public official can, if he wishes, not only build his house, the legitimate right of all Mexicans, but he can acquire very large sums that would be impossible to get through the honest, clean and self-interested work of the Mexican people.

The confusion in the public order has reached the point where on occasions it becomes mere red-tape or a requirement, generally useless, for its is not the intention that matters. Instead, it is simply a procedure requiring submission or payment of cash sums to win the favor of the official.

Even in the courts it is often said that a bad agreement is better than a good dispute, and based on the foregoing, it costs the average citizen more to defend himself than to be corrupted.

The phenomenon of corruption is serious and the deterioration of public morality and the values of a society that sustain public life has caused many Mexicans to think that in good faith and through a superhuman effort we want to bring to our society the morality required by a people.

We are pleased to see that President-elect Miguel de la Madrid is offering his people a moral renewal of society. We are at the threshold of a proposed moral renewal that we should not, as in the past, call "a new morality."

There is a single unique morality and it has roots; the new moralities inaugurated with political ends constitute vehicles for use in public life, positions taken by many officials, who, being corrupt people, seek to rob President-elect Miguel de la Madrid of the spirit of his theme and begin to take up the flag, thinking that the official most involved in combatting corruption will be the official most immune to investigation.

As recognized by Miguel de la Madrid, we should reestablish the values that have given us national identity, as a guide for correcting the decisions threatening that identity.

It is necessary for there to be a public strengthening of this life of honesty and to use the prestige of an honest government to support moral conduct by all citizens. Although it is true that a repressive attitude is not what generates social morality, since it should arise from profound principles mainly transmitted through education--there has now been a departure from these same principles--once it has been expressed publicly the only way to achieve improvement and moral renewal is through the strict and indiscriminate application of the law.

A combination of efforts and attitudes is required in this task. It is necessary for the authority that is seeking to preserve moral values to have the support of a conscious and responsible citizenry, to denounce the corrupt and not to allow itself to be defeated by those who use the aid of their positions to exploit the citizen.

But after our sad historical experience--I am an eyewitness in two recent cases--it is necessary for the person governing to protect those who make accusations. And their personal integrity must be guaranteed. Until now the only compensation for the citizen with the civil courage and integrity to oppose the corrupt has been fierce persecution, delay in the procedures or the creation of obstacles to hinder him in accomplishing what he sought or to make the operation so vexatious and difficult that the difficulties, the slow-down or the shameless police persecution turn the accusation back against the person making it, whereas the corrupt person enjoys the protection and the privilege of sheltering himself behind the same judicial authority that ought to prosecute him. As long as this terrorism exists the most honest of citizens will be defenseless against those with power.

We Mexicans do want moral honesty and we are prepared to support it. But we also want to be supported by the authorities. This is a relation that should be equitable and just. If we want to be completely effective there should be guarantees for anyone denouncing the corrupt. Otherwise, the moral renewal will be rhetoric only and the system will offer us new holocausts of pacification similar to what takes place every 6 years, but without erradicating the evil.

If these guarantees exist then we among the country's organized business people, led by the Confederation of National Chambers of Commerce, Services and Tourism, will commit ourselves to carrying out a public moralization campaign, presenting cases and evidence, which is abundant. Only a society based on morality and honesty will be able to preserve social coexistence. On the other hand, sooner or later corruption will be the death of the system.

9746

CSO: 3248/220

TEACHERS ASSOCIATION GETS NEW PRESIDENT REPLACING TAYLOR

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 10 Nov 82 p 1

[Text]

ANTHONY GARCIA, a Teacher I at the Five Rivers Junior Secondary School, has become the new president of the Trinidad and Tobago Unified Teachers Association (TTUTA).

Mr. Garcia who teaches on the school's morning shift, was the only nominee for the post which became vacant when Harold Taylor resigned last week Sunday.

Mr. Taylor said at the time that he was dissatisfied with the events that occurred at a meeting of the association's general council on Saturday, October 30.

Since the post became vacant TTUTA's election committee informed the association's "districts" that they had until 7 p.m. on Monday to nominate a successor to Mr. Taylor's post and the second vice president post which was also open following the resignation earlier this year of Dr. Paula Mark.

Mr. Garcia was the only nominee when nominations closed for the post of president while two persons Joseph Partap a Teacher II at the Chaguanas Senior Comprehensive School, and Deolaf

Ramnarine, a Teacher II but now on full time employment with the union, were nominated for second vice-president.

According to a release from the association, the chairman of TTUTA's election committee, Stephen Ramsamooj, will officially inform the general council at a meeting to be held at the Grant Memorial Presbyterian School on Saturday, about the list of nominations he has received.

Concerning the now vacant post of third vice president which was given up by Anthony Amir Ali whose resignation was accepted on Saturday by acting president Fr. Gerard Farfan, the latter said this post would have to be advertised to the various "districts" so that teachers can make nominations for the position.

Fr. Farfan said the association's election committee did not have sufficient time to advertise this vacancy to fit into the upcoming meeting.

As a result of Saturday's meeting, the association's Caroni district has postponed its bingo to take place that day to a date to be fixed, said the release.

TALK OF OPPOSITION UNITY AS ALLIANCE HOLDS CONVENTION

Discussion of Unification

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 13 Nov 82 p 1

[Text] The National Alliance is holding unity talks with two other opposition parties which contested the last general elections.

Mr Basdeo Panday, Opposition Leader in Parliament and leader of Alliance, told a Press conference yesterday that talks were being held with the Organisation for National Reconstruction and the National Joint Action Committee.

Last night Mr Karl Hudson political leader of the ONR confirmed that unity talks were held. He said that last Monday the national executive of the ONR met with Alliance leaders and proposals for fighting the Local Government elections were still being studied.

Senator Lloyd Best, who was at yesterday's Press conference held at Opposition House, said that during the last elections NJAC officials had appeared on the same platform as Tapia in the Tunapuna constituency.

Mr Panday and the Alliance of the United Labour Front of which he is also political leader, Tapia House Movement and the Democratic Action Congress, want to get all opposition parties united to fight the local and other elections.

He said that the National Alliance was working on deepening the party to fight the Local Government elections, constitutionally, due next March.

Mr Panday said that the doors were always open to hold talks with other groups.

Cordial Relations

He said the Alliance's relationship with the Organisation for National Reconstruction and the National Committee was cordial.

Mr Panday said the Alliance had been talking with the ONR and NJAC of the possibility of making one group to fight the local government elections and other elections.

Mr Hudson Phillips said "so far it's only informal talks we have had and it is for the national executive to say where we go from here."

Mr Hudson Phillips, however, said "we would not be in a position at this time to accede to the suggestions but this should not close the door for further unity talks."

The Alliance had called the Press conference to announce its first convention which takes place tomorrow at the Convention Centre, Chaguaramas and the resignation of Mr Best from the Senate.

Mr Panday, a trade unionist and lawyer said the convention will look at the present and future of the Alliance, ways on deepening it, state of the economy in Trinidad and Tobago and electoral and constitutional reforms.

Tapia House Leadership

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 13 Nov 82 p 1

[Excerpts] The Tapia House Movement is to elect a new chairman and a representative for the Senate by the middle of January when Senator Lloyd Best resigns.

Mr Best, 48, an economist, is quitting as political leader of Tapia which he founded 14 years ago. He said yesterday that next year he is taking up an assignment with the United Nations in Central Africa.

His reasons for quitting the political scene at this time were purely personal and will afford him the opportunity to earn some money.

He assured the National Alliance (Tapia is one of the three parties in the Alliance) that he will be coming back to Trinidad to fight the 1986 general elections or other major problems needing his presence here.

He will resign as a senator; chairman of Tapia, and as one of the political leaders in the National Alliance. He will continue to hold on to the directorship of the Trinidad and Tobago Institute of the West Indies and as managing editor of the Trinidad and Tobago Review.

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 15 Nov 82 p 8

[Editorial]

[Text]

SOMETIME within the next eight weeks Mr. Lloyd Best, the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate and the leading personality in the Tapia House Movement, will be flying out of Trinidad and Tobago for an assignment that may last about a year or so in Africa.

It will not be his first United Nations assignment and it may not be his last, either, since his stature as an economic thinker is high and the need for such persons is becoming more pressing as the days go by.

For Trinidad and Tobago, however, the departure of Mr. Best at an economic crossroads for the nation is a distinct setback.

In the post-colonial era, Mr. Best has been one of the most determined and high-principled academicians to let down their buckets in the region. With characteristic self-reliance and vision, Mr. Best set out to develop a new politics of the middle with the Tapia House Movement.

PATIENCE AND VIGILANCE

Although the Movement has never captivated voters, it has much respect among all classes. We think Mr. Best is aware that his Movement is merely an idea whose time has not yet come, but being a comparatively young man, he can exercise the necessary patience and vigilance to wait for the propitious opening.

Mr. Best announced before the last election that he would quit the University to serve Tapia and this is what he did, devoting himself to his research and publicising the Trinidad and Tobago Institute.

In the meantime we express the hope that his departure is not the signal of more brain drain, since at the 16th meeting of the West Indian Agricultural Economists, recently held in Trinidad, Mr. Alister McIntyre, another West Indian economic thinker, who has gone far along the United Nations pathway to eminence, reminded us all that in

our attempting to adjust our economies to changing international relations, we are faced today with an intellectual crisis just as great as the economic one and that indeed they cannot really be separated.

While Trinidad and Tobago and Tapia have had the benefit of Mr. Best in the Senate and elsewhere and losing him may mean for Tapia their having to find a replacement and perhaps chart a new and just as impressive course, it still remains a valid thought that there must be something seriously wrong when a society such as ours cannot keep and nurture the talents in its midst for itself permanently.

Mr. Best would, we suppose, explain all this as part of the price that people living on a plantation economy must expect and while we are prepared to admit that in the pre-Independence era, -exile of our best and brightest was routinely regarded not so much as a loss but as a proof of our own people's mettle, presumably we know better now and can evaluate the cost of brain drain.

Undoubtedly, Mr. Best has always deserved better of the nation and if he is called upon to weigh the personal cost because of any new developments here that may show that we have not prepared a better place for him in our home, then it would serve us right.

We should hope then that one of these days when in the course of time we have to turn to the United Nations for expertise that they will not humiliate us by sending us our own son.

Such a thing happened once before, it may be recalled. An application to an international agency resulted in our receiving a Trinidadian who had sometime before left our shores, discouraged because he could not find a suitable place in his people's heart and home.

Alliance Conference Features

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 13 Nov 82 p 3

[Text] The Alliance of three separate political parties will hold a convention tomorrow "to further the cause of national unity," consider "the present condition and future prospects of the country," and probably set the stage for another convention permitting the Alliance "to finalise our organisation and structure and elect all officers."

Rep John Humphrey, the St Augustine MP said this in a broadcast to the nation on Thursday night over TTT.

He termed the conference "crucially important for national well-being," and went on to discuss some of the problems of national unity in his ten-minute address to the nation, in its way a landmark.

Mr Humphrey declared: "The history of the politics of Trinidad and Tobago from the period of colonisation to the present is a history of division and exploitation. We have inherited institutions suited to a different place and a different time, institutions that were implanted in our country so that who would exploit it for their own ends could do so without hindrance.

Polarisation

"Of particular concern to myself and all of my colleagues in the Alliance is the racial polarisation of our society that was a conscious policy of the colonial administration that has in independence been exploited by our own politicians to the detriment of the society."

The religions represented in the country and the Constitution extol the theme of unity but "our politics threatens to break up our human family."

"Without political unity and unifying institutions there is no hope for us to build a great nation," Mr Humphrey added.

"As a member of the United Labour Front I would be the first to admit that the party is supported mainly by our brothers and sisters of Indian origin.

"But I recognise as well that the ruling party, the People's National Movement, is supported mainly by brothers and sisters of African descent.

"I am always saddened by expressions of racial antagonism, as I am certain most of you are saddened, but these antagonisms exist and they are used by ambitious and callous people to achieve their own selfish ends.

In Open Drains

The Alliance, views the Constitution "with great seriousness" and pays particular attention to the clause which states that the Constitution is the "supreme law of Trinidad and Tobago and any law that is inconsistent with this Constitution is void to the extent of the inconsistency," so that any "law that is used as the basis of a campaign of demolishing houses is void, if one is to take the Constitution seriously."

"We view with alarm the Government's present tendency to the illegal and unconstitutional use of force against the people at a time when the country's economy is receding due almost entirely to critical mistakes of the Government itself.

"We in the Alliance see the campaign against defenceless settlers on State lands which are the people's lands, as being used as a pretext to terrify the people with firepower in order to keep them in a state of submission. Not a single house was demolished because it stood in the way of development.

"The Government cannot justify its programme of demolition on the argument that there is no proper hygiene in squatters' settlements--not when the entire sewerage waste of the National Housing Authority development at Southern Main Road, Curepe, is being pumped into the open drains that flow through lower Curepe, Spring Village and eventually into the Caroni River.

"In addition to the little houses that are being demolished, the stalls of certain vendors are being demolished. We view the discrimination in that particular campaign as provocative.

"It is not a happy prospect but we have decided to meet the Government on their own terms. I am particularly determined in this regard."

With regard to decision-making, Mr Humphrey announced the Alliance is "committed to decentralising power and to the principle of local autonomy."

Tomorrow's convention, he predicted, would feature important statements from the leaders of the three parties and a comprehensive statement on the state of the economy by Mr Winston Dookeran, the MP for Chaguanas, to be followed by discussion from the floor. The selection of a leader would be undertaken in another convention early in the New Year.

ONR Denial of Unity Talks

Port-of-Spain SUNDAY GUARDIAN in English 14 Nov 82 p 1

[Text]

THE Organisation for National Reconstruction (ONR) yesterday denied that it is holding unity talks with the National Alliance or any other political party.

ONR's Political Leader, Mr. Karl Hudson-Phillips, said that a report to the effect in yesterday's "Guardian" was not correct.

He said that when a reporter spoke to him on Friday, he had not received any invitation to attend the Alliance convention today. And even if he had received such an invitation he would not be attending as he had no instructions from the ONR executive to do so.

Mr. Hudson-Phillips said the ONR and the Alliance met months ago and had exploratory talks on the single issue of electoral reform. Only one such meeting has taken place.

He spoke informally very recently with Opposition Senator Lloyd Best, who informed him that the Alliance was planning a public meeting and that he would be happy to see the ONR represented on the platform.

Senator Best's suggestion was communicated to ONR officers, Mr. Hudson-Phillips said. No Alliance representative was invited to the meeting nor did any attend.

ONR officers, according to Mr. Hudson-Phillips, felt it was inappropriate at this time to attend any such meeting. However they held the view that this should not close the door to discussions with any other political parties or groupings on specific issues.

Mr. Hudson-Phillips said he communicated this view to Mr. Best when he attended the funeral of the Senator's father last Tuesday.

The ONR Political Leader emphasised that no talks have taken place between the ONR and the Alliance on the question of local government elections.

Alliance Assessment of Economy

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 15 Nov 82 p 1

[Text] A National Alliance economist said yesterday that the 1983 budget will spell reduced subsidies for food, cement and petroleum products.

Member of Parliament for Chaguanas, Mr Winston Dookeran forecast increases in indirect taxation by way of higher rates by the Public Utilities sectors, heavy foreign borrowing and also heavy drawdown on surpluses accumulated during the oil boom.

His gloomy outlook for the economy next year was unfolded at the National Alliance's first convention held yesterday afternoon at the Chaguaramas Convention Centre.

The United Labour Front parliamentarian said that personal tax levels could be maintained but those were not the measures to bring success. He said scapegoats would be found.

The Alliance strategy, a seven-point plan--which he outlined, would serve the country better.

The new strategy for economic development had to shrug off any yielding to the threat of recession.

New Strategy

Savings in public expenditure could not bring about the development that Trinidad and Tobago required. For that a positive new strategy was needed. This, Mr Dookeran outlined as follows:

1. Foreign exchange management must be a central economic instrument.
2. Economic policies must deliberately seek to link the growth process with distribution targets.
3. Regional developments must be purposely encouraged via effective fiscal and other measures.
4. The distribution system which is the basis upon which the production structure is built and the consumption pattern formed must be at the centre stage in any economic plan.
5. Technology forecasting must be an ongoing process so as to ensure flexibility in the entire economic structure and the performance of that structure.
6. High skilled human based industries must be part of our long-term programme.
7. The method by which a plan is formulated would have the most telling impact on whether it can be implemented. Hence the need for wide participation in the planning process.

The first pre-requisite is to take the people into confidence and place the onus of development upon them. Another is to effect a genuine policy of economic nationalism based on the principles of social justice, individual security, self-resilience and national self-confidence.

When these are all put to work, fiscal and economic policy can then be formulated. Re-ordering of the educational system, the creation of new fiscal measures to encourage development of recreation as an industry, institution of innovative schemes for absorbing human skilled based industries, all were relevant inputs.

Industries that recycled waste and the knowledge industries should be established in the context of conservation requirements and the advanced information technology taking place internationally.

It is in the general context of which these form a part that all expenditures would be allocated, options appraised, choice exercised, priorities determined and sequences ordered, Mr Dookeran said.

Panday Convention Speech

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 16 Nov 82 p 3

[Article by Tony Fraser]

[Text] The overarching themes of the Alliance's inaugural convention held at Convention Centre, Chaguaramas on Sunday last centered on Mr Winston Dookeran's call for a new economic strategy, Senator Lloyd Best's sociological analysis to understand, intervene and bring all the forces of opposition to "salvaging this country from being in Babylon forever," and the contribution of Mr Basdeo Panday, Leader of the Opposition.

Mr Panday argued the case for Constitutional Reform to free the society of the inadequate Westminster political model.

According to Mr Panday what is needed is "an independent political constitution to meet the needs of a plural society." He feels that far from looking after the needs of pluralism, the PNM has fostered the "disease of racism." To combat this, the Leader of the Opposition advocates a plan that would embrace the whole society complete with its division along lines of race, class, geography. Otherwise, according to Mr Panday, what will continue is the suicidal pulling in different directions.

"The point I wish to make is that our society is too small to afford us the luxury of dividing our skilled manpower, if we are to survive and move forward. And that is exactly what our present political system has done to our nation," he said.

Same Reason

Mr Panday cited the example of Government back-benchers who are able to sit in Parliament for 15 years without saying a word on behalf of their constituents and yet be assured of being returned to Parliament. This is because the "government party has made race the real political issue and Parliament is treated with contempt." For the same reason, he claims, that whatever the Opposition says is wasted energy because freedom of speech is circumscribed by the racial tensions whipped up by the incumbent party.

The Leader of the Opposition is of the view that national unity must precede national progress. "And that a sine qua non (something of an indispensable condition) for national unity is electoral and constitutional reform." This he feels is the most urgent need of the country.

In working out the reform measures, Mr Panday feels that there is no singular formula for all times and that there must be national consensus on the formula. He suggests that the Wooding Constitution Draft would be a good point at which to start. Further, to facilitate arriving at the required national consensus and reform, the Government should open up the media for discussion on the issue involved.

Call for Economic Changes

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 16 Nov 82 p 16

[Text] **MR. WINSTON DOOKERAN and Mr. Lloyd Best, both former lecturers in economics at the University of the West Indies, UWI St. Augustine, called on Sunday for radical change in the economic management of Trinidad and Tobago.**

Mr. Dookeran, the Alliance MP, for Chaguana, and Mr. Best, Leader of the Opposition in the Senate, were addressing the inaugural convention of the National Alliance at Chaguaramas Convention Centre.

In his lengthy discourse on race and the political economy of Trinidad and Tobago Mr. Best warned: "Ahead is the prospect of a brutal adjustment to more realistic levels of spending, to more disciplined habits of work, and to more practical ways of living."

Too much of the nation's energies, he said, had gone into sustaining in office those whom independence had catapulted into office while

postponing adjustments that were necessary.

"Now, suddenly, the onset of falling output in oil and softening prices, too, have advanced some awkward issues."

These, he put, in the form of seven questions, pondering

whether "without the flood of petro-dollars" can we hope to feed ourselves (his answer: no), clothe our naked selves with Calvin Klein and Lee Copper, import equipment and materials and professionals and technicians, afford the completely knocked down crates of cars or even spare parts, transform the public utilities, sustain the welfare services, and "a decent level of employment or "eat out on the scale that (we) are doing now."

"Would there be fewer ten-day opportunities? Would the work be spread around by reverting to five-day cycles? Or would it be three-day cycles?"

Mr. Best reasoned that the urgent public questions those questions sparked required public answers: "All the indications are that the economy has long ago been needing a comprehensive overhaul. The (questions) require public answers and the Alliance is the only party that can give them."

"Caroni, obviously, has got to be made the hub of a vibrant food-producing industry; the youth must be inspired to return to work on the land; the whole regime of ownership, control, management, technology and organisation needs to be adapted to the objective of greater self-reliance, as well as greater dynamism in selling goods abroad."

POLITICAL QUESTION

"The whole structure of investment, production, consumption, banking, insurance, national insurance, etc., is crying out to be altered to the needs of a people independent, responsible and free."

"Now that the recession is here, and we can no longer postpone those urgently necessary adjustments, there arises a political question:"

"Who will intervene to rescue Trinidad and Tobago? Who will bell the cat? Can the Government intervene? Is there any kind of momentum to be discerned inside the ruling party? Is it possible to perceive a single individual in the ranks of the Government with the penetration, the authority, with the will and the wit and the skill to initiate a new departure on behalf of the people of Trinidad and Tobago? Can anybody in the administration organise a dance?"

"I wish we were in a position, this morning, to provide definite answers to all of these very awkward questions which, at this crucial historic moment, must be running through the imagination of the people."

"We know there must exist some individuals of goodwill, of professional competence and of personal integrity on the official bench as of Parliament."

"But are they in any position to make the needed difference? Have they incurred the political costs that are

necessary to be able to stand fearlessly up and speak? Or to stand up boldly to act?"

"I stand here in my shoes and I wonder."

Mr. Best blamed the display of state craft for its own sake continually put on by the Government, subordinating Parliament to the Cabinet, the public enterprises and the great departments of State remain in disorder and that includes ISCOTT:

Village councils were used to subvert county councils for partisan ends, and there was only "perpetual galaying and laylaying, an endless exercise in postponement and temporisation and a sheer ducking away from the responsibility of decision."

STRAIGHT CASE

So the case for a national party was a very straightforward one. Mr. Best emphasised, in launching into the description of the political tribes of the nation and the missed opportunities before now of forging a suitable alternative Government to the existing Government, climaxing this with a resolution to be debated after the luncheon adjournment.

The resolution reads: "Whereas the foregoing account of the political history of Trinidad and Tobago is true and honest, valid and frank, and worthy to be believed by all patriotic citizens of Trinidad and Tobago, be it resolved that the inaugural Convention of Parties be the initiation of the final stage in the formation of one single united party that will triumph over all comers, will endure, and will sustain its elevated endeavours for national unity and national advancement, so that the generations still to come will be able to say of this November day, in 1982, that it marked a red-letter day in the annals of Trinidad, Tobago and the West Indies."

PROGRESS REPORTED IN GOVERNMENT-LABOR JOB SECURITY TALKS

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 10 Nov 82 p 3

[Text] Proposals by Dr Zin Henry in his discussion paper on Retrenchment and Severance Benefits during the continuing tripartite talks have been largely accepted by the Trinidad and Tobago Labour Congress.

The discussions are being held by the Ministry of Labour, Social Security and Co-operatives with the Labour Congress and the Council of Progressive Trade Unions. Dr Henry is Adviser to the Minister of Labour.

The agreed purpose of the discussion is to provide for "greater security of employment by protecting against retrenchment of workers" and to provide for guaranteed payment of severance when retrenchment is unavoidable.

Exclusions

Those covered under the proposals would be workers who have had their jobs terminated for reason of redundancy or any other cause excluding dismissal for dishonesty. Also workers dismissed on the ground of retirement age where no pension plan exists apart from National Insurance.

If there is termination of work for reason of ill-health or injury and the worker is not eligible for compensation in respect of past service, apart from that provided by the National Insurance Scheme or the Workmen's Compensation Act, such a worker would also be covered.

Dr Henry proposes that the workers covered by the benefits should exclude: Workers serving a probationary period of employment; independent contractors or free lance agents (but not workers supplied on a labour only contract); workers employed on a fixed term basis for periods exceeding not more than four months; workers engaged to perform a specific task over an estimated period of time which is made known to the worker at the time of the engagement.

An employer who is thinking of retrenching workers should first consult the union involved with a view of averting, reducing or mitigating the situation, suggests Dr Henry.

If, following the discussions the employer still pursues his retrenchment plan, he must give notice to the union in writing and a copy sent to the Minister of Labour.

The letter must state the number of categories of workers involved, the length of their service and current wage rate, reasons and justification for the proposed retrenchment."

Also the date that the termination will occur, the criteria used in the selection of workers to be retrenched, and other relevant information.

The minimum period of notice should be 60 days.

Dr Henry's proposals suggest that the union has 15 working days from the day of receipt of the notice to reply in writing, stating any objections with a copy sent to the Minister of Labour.

Should the union require further information, it will then be given seven additional days in which to respond.

Intervention

Allowances are also made for discussion between the two parties and for the intervention of the Minister of Labour as he wishes.

The Minister is also empowered to curtail the discussion if he feels that no useful purpose is being served. He must advise the parties of this at least seven working days before the date of retrenchment.

CSO: 3298/153

UNION-TTEC DISPUTE NARROWS; ISSUES GO TO INDUSTRIAL COURT

Wage Negotiations

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 10 Nov 82 p 1

[Text]

THE Oilfields Workers Trade Union (OWTU) dropped its proposal for a wage increase for employees of the Trinidad and Tobago Electricity Commission (TTEC) to 65 per cent since September.

This was stated by a union official who explained that the union dropped its proposal from 75 per cent to 65 per cent when its issue was referred from the Industrial Courts back to the Ministry of Labour, Social Security and Co-operatives two months ago.

The official said when the wage negotiations between the union and the Commission first broke down and was referred from the Labour Ministry to the Industrial Courts in early September the union stood at 75 per cent and the Commission at 40 per cent.

But later that month the Industrial Court sent the matter back to the Labour Ministry and it was then that the union dropped ten per cent off its proposal.

Up to this time the Commission has not moved from its offer of 40 per cent neither

has the union shifted from theirs, as far as the official understands.

Yesterday's resumed negotiations took place before Minister of Labour, Social

Security Co-operatives, Errol Mahabir at Riverside Plaza for the second day concurrent as both the union and the Commission tried to reach a final decision for a new industrial agreement.

Sources also reported yesterday that an employee at the Commission's head office Alva Allen, who was arrested and charged with breaches of the Industrial Relations Act (IRA), has been suspended without pay, effective yesterday, until his case is determined by due process of law.

Neither the Commission or the union were available for comment.

Mr. Allen is a shop steward at the union's branch at the Commission's head office.

Mr. Allen was arrested at his desk on Wednesday, November 3, but was released on bail in the afternoon.

His case has been postponed until November 17.

Narrowing of Differences

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 11 Nov 82 p 1

[Article by Norris Solomon]

[Text]

THE DISPUTE between Trinidad and Tobago Electricity Commission and the Oilfields Workers Trade Union (OWTU) has been narrowed down considerably in talks at the Ministry of Labour, and outstanding matters, including wages, will be decided by the Industrial Court.

Final session of talks between the Commission and the Union under conciliation at the Ministry of Labour Social Security and Cooperatives took place yesterday.

Up to late last night 23 matters which had been referred to the Ministry by the court had been settled through conciliation.

Presiding at the talks was Minister of Labour, Social Security and Cooperatives, Rep Errol Mahabir, assisted by senior labour officials of the ministry.

On the wages issue the union is asking for 65 per cent, while the Commission's offer stands at 40 per cent for the agreement due to commence retroactive from January 1, this year.

According to ministry officials the Industrial Court is due to commence its first sitting on the matter on Monday and statements will be submitted by the parties concerned (OWTU and TTEC).

PENSION PLAN

Last week when the parties appeared in the court for directives the Attorney General's department also entered an appearance.

Actual hearing of the dispute will commence on Wednesday, November 24.

Minister Mahabir pointed out yesterday that since the matter was referred to the Industrial Court, the Ministry continued to conciliate in efforts to reduce

the number of matters to be decided by the court.

Among matters settled since talks resumed at the ministry on Monday were annual leave, sick leave, funeral and emergency leave, redundancy/retrenchment and regulation of contract work. The union and TTEC will meet on Monday, November 22 to discuss the pension plan.

Still to be decided by the Industrial Court are wages and allowances and matters relating to emergency crews and shift workers.

The Commission has called for no changes in the existing allowances while the union has submitted proposals for amendments in all but has reduced the original position.

Minister Mahabir said yesterday that the areas of dispute had been narrowed down considerably.

The union has also withdrawn clauses calling for provision of free electricity for workers and, according to Mr Mahabir the withdrawal was an indication of the union's support for increased rates by the Commission.

It was also agreed that the Industrial Inspector Supervisor, the Specialist

Medical Officer for occupational medicine, the Chief Electrical Inspector and representatives of the union and the company will visit the various areas of the Commission's operations, including the power stations, to examine safety conditions and suggest guidelines for use of chemicals and pesticides.

They will also report on the general work environment at the Commission's compounds.

Mr Mahabir said his ministry is also to pursue with the Commission the question of the appointment of a safety officer.

The union also agreed to withdraw its proposal for grievance procedure for discipline following agreement by the ministry to forward the issue for consideration of the Ministry of Public Utilities.

Heading the union's team at yesterday's talks was Mr Horace Noray while the Commission's team was led by Personnel Manager Mr Kenwyn Bailey.

The issue concerning the dismissed workers is still before the Ministry for conciliation as a separate dispute.

ONR LEADER OUTLINES PLAN FOR CARONI REORGANIZATION

Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 8 Nov 82 p 3

[Text]

PORT-OF-SPAIN, Trinidad, Sunday, (CANA) — A leading Trinidad and Tobago Opposition politician has thrown out a series of suggestions for re-organising a big state owned-sugar company here whose annual multi million dollar losses have left the future of the operation in doubt.

Deputy political leader of the Organisation for National Reconstruction (ONR), Mr. Surujrattan Rambachan, has suggested that Caroni Ltd, Trinidad and Tobago's largest sugar producers, be divided into a co-operative of small food-producing farms, while retaining a reduced sugar component.

In a paper blueprinting agricultural development for the country, Mr. Rambachan suggested that, in addition,

five-year interest free loans should be provided to the small-holders by the Agricultural Development Bank.

He said: "Trinidad and Tobago should pursue a strategy that would result in the assurance of a sufficient supply of sugar for domestic consumption and commercial purposes. In addition, (it) should pursue a strategy that would, through appropriate land effective utilisation of existing lands, materials and resources in Caroni Ltd, towards higher production of food and the development of agro-processing industries."

Mr. Rambachan said that two companies should be established, Caroni (1982) Cane Producing Limited, charged with the responsibility of producing as far as possible through the process of mechanisation, sugar for local consumption, and Caroni Co-operative Food Producers (1982) Ltd, charged with the responsibility of producing food on approximately 3 000 to 3 500 small farms to be created.

The former entity, he proposed, would continue to run Brechin Castle Factory producing a minimum of 60 000 tons of sugar for local use, "a buffer stock of between 20 and 25 per cent."

Mr. Rambachan said this would require the identifying of lands suitable for mechanisation and the following of a detailed plan covering mechanisation costs, equipment and technology.

"Sell Woodford Lodge and reform factories and transfer their employees to Brechin Castle or try to get them

alternative jobs through training — perhaps for downstream jobs at Point Lisas," Rambachan suggested.

He noted that to achieve a high level of motivation and commitment, a scheme of worker participation devised as follows should be implemented: paying workers severance benefits, offering them and farmers the

chance to buy 51 per cent of the cane producing entity, additionally, worker committees should be set up to ensure widest levels of participation, with elected worker representatives on the Board of Directors.

Mr. Rambachan said that excess factory capacity at Brechin Castle should be used to grind farmer's canes.

He added that through the Cipriani Labour College and the department of management at the University an Education plan to upgrade skills of workers in decision-making should be developed.

Mr. Rambachan saw the small farmers' co-operative as a joint venture between government and the farmers, who should be 51 per cent

owners and users of the equipment obtained from Caroni and held in a central pool for rental to farmers.

The co-op, he added, should have its own food processing and canning industry and also be responsible for buying crops from farmers on guaranteed prices bearing "significant relationship to market prices."

The three main aims of the strategy, he said, would be zoning crop production on the basis of land capability and soil surveys, giving farmers five-year interest-free loans from the agricultural development for establishing a proper working capital base, and the use of adult education programmes in farm management and food production.

CSO: 3298/152

POLITICAL ANALYSIS SEES OPPORTUNITY FOR RISE OF ONR

London THE CARIBBEAN AND WEST INDIES CHRONICLE in English No 1569, Aug/Sep 82
pp 12, 29

[Article by David Renwick]

[Text]

The Organisation for National Reconstruction (ONR) party, which attracted 22.08 per cent of the votes cast at the November 9, 1981 general election in Trinidad and Tobago yet did not win a single seat, has had its hopes lifted by the prediction that, despite this failure, it is likely to become the main Parliamentary opposition in the years ahead.

Dr John Gaffar La Guerre, a senior member of the Department of Government at the University of the West Indies (UWI), St Augustine, insists in the first post-election political analysis to emerge from the University, that the ONR's day is yet to come and its inability to win a seat should not blind observers to the fact that the party's voter support is extensive.

He points out that the ONR received almost as many votes (91,704 in 34 constituencies) as did the National Alliance coalition group which became the official Opposition in Parliament on the basis of the election results (92,572 in 36 constituencies) or more than the Alliance if the two Tobago constituencies are discounted.

Dr La Guerre's thesis rests on the assumption that the National Alliance (or, in effect, its principal member, the United Labour Front, which attracted most of the Alliance's support) will gradually find itself undermined by a two-pronged attack, from the People's National Movement (PNM) on the one hand and ONR on the other.

At the end of the battle, PNM would have taken away yet more seats from the ULF (it has already started with two in the 1981 election) and ONR might have picked up one (say, Oropouche, where its Deputy Political Leader, Suruj Rambachan, ran second to the ULF candidate), while PNM itself would have lost a couple of North Trinidad constituencies to ONR (say, St Joseph, where the

ONR man was fewer than 1,000 votes behind the PNM winner, Barataria or Diego Martin Central, where ONR leader Karl Hudson-Phillips put up a credible showing against the entrenched PNM electoral machine).

So much for the thesis. Whether it will be fulfilled, depends largely on the ONR itself and if it can maintain the pre-election momentum that belief in a possible victory helped create or even, in the first place, stay in existence as a political party.

There has been much grumbling from the ranks that Hudson-Phillips, the elegant but austere barrister and former Attorney General in a previous PNM Cabinet, was more of a liability than an asset in the election and should be ditched well in time for the next one (local government elections are due to take place in the second quarter of 1983).

Who could, or would, take his place, however and whether he, or she, is equal to the task of retaining the mass support evident from the election results and building upon it in a way to deliver actual seats next time, remains to be seen.

As for the Alliance, the challenge it is said to face from both PNM and ONR is compounded by the economic and social adjustments in the Trinidad society since 1973 and the fact that market forces are ineluctably depriving it of its agrarian base among sugar workers.

The areas in Caroni and Victoria counties that supported ULF in 1976 and its predecessor, the Democratic Labour Party (DLP) led by Dr Rudranath Capildeo before that, are gradually becoming more urbanised, with all that entails for changes in economic fortune, life-style and electoral taste. Chaguanas, Couva, Penal and others are becoming quite large and fast-moving townships and the

growing number of small businessmen and skilled workers in such places will tend to see their interests more closely aligned to the philosophies of the PNM and ONR rather than ULF.

What is more, the decline of sugar as an industry and the Chambers' Government's recognition of the fact that sugar growing and milling must be mechanised and severely rationalised if it is to survive at all in the 1980's only hastens the constriction of the ULF power base.

Mr Basdeo Panday, the leader of the ULF and the Alliance, clearly senses all this, which is why he is fighting tooth and nail against all the Government's various plans for converting sugar workers into a small farmer bourgeoisie. He may stem the tide temporarily but the logic of economics would seem to be against him, assuming the Chambers' Government is serious about its stated intention to reduce the losses in the state-owned sugar industry.

In an effort to neutralise the La Guerre prediction, Panday might be better advised to respond positively to the facts of economic life and seek out a new support base for the ULF by actively wooing the type of person whose improved economic circumstances would lead them to favour PNM or ONR.

So far, he has shown no interest in doing that or even in identifying any practical or ideological difference between those two

parties and his own group.

He does not lack fertile ground for unflattering observation: any convincing statements of policy on the part of the ULF/Alliance about how it could deal with the continuing problems of the housing deficit, poor maintenance, inflation, inadequate social welfare, an unsatisfactory public bus transport system, unreliable telephones and so on, in a way that has eluded the PNM, might yet elevate Panday's group into a position of favour with the huge middle class, lower middle class and urban working class vote that has traditionally ensured victory for the PNM and provided ONR with its following last November.

By contrast, the PNM is making every effort to enlarge the gains it made in ULF territory during the election. Despite being warned by Panday sometime ago to stay out of Caroni, Prime Minister George Chambers made a point of touring there earlier this year and subtly spreading the PNM gospel.

He did so well aware of the fact that PNM's drive into Central and South Central Trinidad in the election was not only confined to its

victories in Caroni East and Princes Town but was also reflected in its success in reducing the margin of victory of ULF candidates in such other constituencies as Siparia, Naparima, Couva South and Tabaquite.

Panday, for his part, has left it up to his Alliance associate, the Tapia House Movement, to make a half-hearted attempt at attracting support in the North but the effort, as La Guerre noted, has been "a dismal failure."

The implication is that the ULF might yet have a chance of salvaging survival from the jaws of potential oblivion if it disentangled itself from Tapia, recognised that ANR Robinson's Democratic Action Congress (DAC) party in Tobago is a special case and set about re-constituting itself as an aggressive rival to PNM and ONR on the basis of the class realities of the 1980's.■

BRIEFS

TEXACO-UNION ACCORD--Texaco Trinidad Inc and the Oilfields Workers' Trade Union have reached settlement for a new industrial agreement for the monthly paid staff of the company. Agreement was reached at the Ministry of Labour yesterday in talks presided over by Mr Errol Mahabir, Minister of Labour, Social Security and Cooperatives, and Senior Labour Officer Mr Winston Davidson. According to the terms of the agreement, the staff members in ten groups have been granted wage increases ranging from \$480 to \$1,155 in the first year, from \$280 to \$625 in the second year and from \$245 to \$640 in the third. The union's team was led by Mr Bennet Berkley, labour relations officer while Mr Arthur John, assistant manager, represented the company. [Text] [Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 12 Nov 82 p 7]

OK FOR CITIBANK--Cabinet, at its meeting on Thursday, agreed to the terms for the incorporation of Citibank N.A. in Trinidad and Tobago. Cabinet approved the terms of the Heads of Agreement to be signed between the Government of Trinidad and Tobago and the bank. The Agreement of Transfer, the Service Agreement and the Guarantee Agreement to be executed between Citibank and the localised bank have also been approved. The locally incorporated bank will be called the United Bank of Trinidad and Tobago Limited. Cabinet also agreed that the Minister of Finance and Planning fix a date for the effective transfer of the banking business of Citibank to the localised bank. [Text] [Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 13 Nov 82 p 1]

CSO: 3298/154

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