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LATIN AMERICA

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INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

ARGENTINA, VENEZUELA DISSATISFIED OVER PERSIAN GULF TALKS

PY091425 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1520 GMT 8 Jun 87

[Text] New York, 8 Jun (AFP)--It was learned today from diplomatic circles that Argentina and Venezuela share the uneasiness existing among the 10 non-permanent members of the UN Security Council over the manner in which the United States and the great world powers are handling the situation on the Persian Gulf.

Now that the main industrialized countries are meeting in Venice to discuss, among other issues, the possibility of promoting a resolution by the UN Security Council imposing an embargo on the sales of weapons to the fighting parties, and reaffirming the principle of free navigation in the Gulf, there is growing dissatisfaction among the other members of the council over the manner in which the negotiations are being conducted.

Ambassadors Marcelo Delpech and Andres Aguilar, of Argentina and Venezuela, respectively, will meet with UN Security General Javier Perez de Cuellar, and it is believed that they will discuss the council's negotiations and the situation on the Gulf.

Apparently, the two members of the council are dissatisfied over the fact that the FRG and Japan will meet in Venice with another non-permanent member--Italy--and with three world powers with the right to veto: United States, France, and Great Britain.

The great world powers forget that there can be no resolution without our votes stated an irritated diplomat who refused to be identified.

A delegation of the Arab League and the Iraqi foreign minister will visit Caracas and Buenos Aires this month to discuss the situation in the Persian Gulf.

The United States has already prepared a draft resolution bill that so far only the permanent members have seen. These members include the Soviet Union and the PRC.

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CSO: 3348/364

CARICOM OFFICIAL OFFERS PLANS TO STRENGTHEN GROUPING

Kingston THE DAILY CLEANER in English 26 May 87 p 1

[Text]

GEORGETOWN, Guyana,
May 25, Cana:

CARICOM Secretary-General Roderick Rainford has thrown out some suggestions for strengthening the struggling 12-member Caribbean Common Market, saying that first and foremost it must be made "more truly common."

Delivering the "Distinguished Rotary Lecture, 1987" here sponsored by the Rotary Club of Georgetown, Rainford also underscored the need for CARICOM countries to work towards a production structure more efficiently geared to the conditions of a viable common market.

He said one of the key lessons gleaned from the operation of the regional movement over the years is that "more rhetoric does not an integration movement make."

"However much the integration movement may be lauded and romanticised, it is, nevertheless, the case that if national affairs present a major challenge for the task of planning and management, the challenge in relation to regional affairs is, perhaps, even more severe," he told the gathering of Rotarians and invitees at the Pegasus Hotel.

The Jamaican economist said that by making the Common Market more truly common, producers and traders

in all parts of this region can plan with certainty and feel confident that all players are operating on an even-handed basis.

"This will require the dismantling of restrictions on intraregional trade, except where permitted by the Treaty [of Chaguaramas] or commonly endorsed by the member states, the further development and rationalisation of the Common External Tariff, the rules of origin and the regime of fiscal incentives to industry," he said.

He said his own personal image of the ultimate shape of the overall structure of production and trade in the common market is one that is roughly three-tiered in nature or based on three concentric circles.

The first circle, or the inner core, would comprise a number of regional industries, or integration industries and other major regional enterprises, whether in banking and finance, transportation or other fields.

These industries would essentially be basic resource industries or basic goods industries such as cement, paper pulp, certain forms of raw textiles, certain kinds of refractories, steel and aluminium ignots.

Because the products would require all or a large part of the regional market for the industries to be viable, they would be planned

and approved jointly by the member states for the common market as a whole, along with agreement on their location and on the protective arrangements and the incentives that would be accorded them.

He said the second circle would contain a set of specially designed regimes setting the framework of protection, incentives and other features for the development of intraregional production and trade for specific industries or products, but not involving any programming or allocation of capacity.

"Regimes such as the new marketing arrangement for primary agricultural products, now at an advance stage of implementation, and the regime being planned for the garment sector, would fall within the second circle," the CARICOM Secretary-General explained.

The third, or outer circle, he added, would comprise a wide range of other goods and industries deemed inappropriate for inclusion within any of the other two circles,

and in which production and trade would proceed under the basic provisions of the Treaty establishing CARICOM and in a context of the Common External Tariff as it stands from time to time.

In such a scenario, he explained, no one moves from the inner to the outer circle, one will be moving from a relatively high degree of centrally-planned production and trade to a situation where there is a freer play of the forces of competition.

He said all these considerations would enter into "the shaping of a common market for the future" and which would encourage beneficial trading developments in numerous directions.

"The farmers of the region, could, for example, gear themselves under the Common Market for arrangements not only to supply a greater part of the food requirements of the 5.5 million people of the community, but also of the 4.5 million tourists visiting the region each year," Rainford said.

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CSO: 3/93/238

CARIBBEAN NATIONS SEEK CLOSER TIES WITH FRENCH NEIGHBORS

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 27 May 87 p 9

[Text]

Bridgetown, May 23, CANA:

GOVERNMENT and business leaders are pushing for more trade between French and English-speaking Caribbean countries, but finding travel, language and import duties in the way.

English-speaking businessmen, accustomed to grabbing a passport and flying to a nearby island at a moment's notice to tie down a deal, complain that French travel requirements are cramping their style.

To get into the French overseas island-departments Guadeloupe and Martinique, a visa is necessary, and getting one could take some time — up to six weeks in the case of Guadeloupe.

"The visa is really a nuisance," Barbados Prime Minister Errol Barrow said.

Dominica Prime Minister Eugenia Charles agrees with him.

As far as language goes, Miss Charles has no problem doing business with her neighbours to the south and north because she is fluent in French. So too is St. Lucian leader John Compton. Several other islanders — Dominicans, St. Lucians, Vincentians — speak French, or a French dialect.

But for most CARICOM citizens — as well as the French — language remains a barrier to doing business.

"This is something we will have to deal with — perhaps crash courses for businessmen, but in addition we have to pay more attention to this area in the schools," Barbados Trade Minister Evelyn Greaves said recently.

Another worry is duty on imports, which French businessmen say make it hard for them to penetrate the CARICOM market.

General manager of the Martinique Chamber of Commerce, Henri Titina, also complained the French islands have to contend with negative lists (restricting imports of some products) in the community.

At the same time, Titina noted, the English-speaking states get duty-free concessions for exports to Martinique, Guadeloupe and French Guiana because CARICOM exports benefit from the duty-free provisions of a trade and aid convention between Europe and Third World states.

Some of the problems were discussed when businessmen and government officials from the Caribbean and Europe met in Martinique April 27 for a conference on commercial ties. Prime Ministers Barrow, Charles and St. Vincent's James Mitchell attended the meeting for brief periods.

Delegates reported an agreement to establish a joint public-private sector group from the French and English-speaking Caribbean to promote trade and economic co-operation.

The agreement took place against a background of deeper interest by CARICOM states in tapping or gaining access to regional markets in the face of declining community trade.

Business and government officials admit that there hasn't been much trade between the two sides.

In fact, a document released at the Martinique conference said CARICOM exports to the two French-speaking islands amounted to only one per cent of their total imports and that imports from the English-speaking grouping were even more negligible.

However, government officials say trade has improved in recent years and there are possibilities for a sharp improvement.

Barbados is studying the possibility of permanent representation in Martinique under a programme aimed at improving trade and other contacts with the French.

The Barbados Export Promotion Corporation is also encouraging exporters to look again at the Martinique market now that there has been a reduction in the value of the US dollar against the French franc.

Barbadians said they had found it difficult to sell to Martinique before because of the high dollar value.

Mitchell is among those supporting higher trade levels between the French and English speakers.

He suggested CARICOM states buy more goods from the French islands once the price is right.

Not everyone is thinking strictly of export sales; some businessmen have expressed an interest in joint ventures.

This is something which Titina says can be easily encouraged by a double taxation treaty between France and CARICOM states.

Government and business leaders have also underscored the need to boost tourism and cultural contacts.

The Martinique conference recommended that joint regional package tours be expanded.

According to Barrow, scrapping the visa requirement could stimulate tourism exchanges between Martinique-Guadeloupe and the CARICOM states.

The conference also recommended promotion of increased cultural and sporting contacts as well as student exchanges.

Dominica, whose several small traders are often in contact with the French islands, has made some moves to improve relations.

The Dominica Association of Industry and Commerce and the Guadeloupe Chamber of Commerce last month signed a co-operation agreement.

But Dominican officials say there are still several headaches. The government has persistently complained of Dominicans being ill-treated in the French islands.

Prime Minister Charles complained that one Dominican government minister carrying a diplomatic passport was refused entry to Guadeloupe, and she indicated a similar incident could lead to a break in diplomatic relations.

But French officials, including Overseas Development Co-operation Minister, Michel Aurillac, say Paris is as interested in a solution to this and other problems as their English-speaking friends.

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CSO: 3298/238

LATIN AMERICAN PUBLIC WORKS INSTITUTE PROPOSED

PY031457 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2258 GMT 2 Jun 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 2 Jun (DYN)--During a recent meeting in Havana, Argentina proposed the creation of specialized multinational companies and associations that will become "the construction force of the countries of the Group of 77 for their own projects."

This was today reported to President Raul Alfonsin by Public Works Secretary Jose Pedregal, who was a member of the Argentine delegation that went to the Cuban capital to participate in the meeting of construction, engineering, and consulting experts of the Group of 77 that was held from 18 to 21 May.

Pedregal told Alfonsin that Argentina also proposed creating a Latin American committee of structures [comite latinoamericano de estructuras--CLAES] and a technological studies center for public works [centro de estudios tecnologicos para la obra publica--CETOP].

He explained that the CETOP will consist of a national investigation and training center of international importance. "Its objective will be to improve the quality, efficiency, and cost of public works."

The public works secretary said that this center will have influence in Latin America by providing direct consultations and scholarships for training courses that will be given by professors from Argentina, Latin America, or any other country through technological and scientific cooperation agreements.

Pedregal, who attended the meeting with President Alfonsin along with Public Works Minister Pedro Trucco, proposed in Cuba "the encouragement of the creation of specialized multinational companies that will become the construction force of the countries of the Group of 77."

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CSO: 3348/364

DEVALUATION OF JAMAICA DOLLAR HITS EXPORTS FROM BARBADOS

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 28 May 87 p 3

[Text]

THE devaluation of the Jamaica Dollar led to a substantial reduction in exports from Barbados to Jamaica over the past two years, Mr. Winston Bayley, chairman of the CARICOM and Exports Committee of the Jamaica Chamber of Commerce has said.

Mr. Bayley, speaking at a committee meeting on May 21, also announced Barbados Manufacturers Trade Exposition B' Mex '87, Barbados' largest annual trade exposition, to be held at the Grantley Adams International Airport in Barbados, starting today a news release said.

The Exposition of Ba'jan products and services, which is organised by the Barbados Manufacturers Association, is schedule to run over a ten day period.

In addition, a seminar/workshop on topics: the "Barbadian Marketplace" and "Regional and Extra-regional Trading Opportunities," sponsored by the Caribbean Association of Industry and Commerce will be held on Friday, May 29.

The exhibits include: canned, frozen and smoked meat products;

sugar confectionery; frankfurters and grilled sausages; syrups and concentrate; artificial flavourings and colourings; condiments and spices; bread products and pastries; canned natural fruit juices, alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages; gents, ladies and children's wear; wooden, metal, plastic and upholstered furniture for home and office; industrial chemical for cleaning and pest control; industrial and

domestic paints; oils, varnishes, dyes, enamels; automative parts and accessories, construction material and finishes; cartons, cans and other packaging materials; domestic appliances including solar water heaters, the release said.

The exhibition, according to the release, offers an opportunity for a "new look" at the Barbadian products and the possibilities of importing those which might become competitive.

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CSO: 3298/238

INTERIOR MINISTER DENIES ARREST PLAN

PY151704 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2350 GMT 13 Jun 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 13 Jun (TELAM)--The Interior Ministry through judicial channels today denied press reports of a plan to arrest a group of people who were allegedly going to be placed at the disposal of the executive branch.

The denial refers to articles published in the Buenos Aires weekly EL INFORMADOR PUBLICO reporting that top-ranking government officials had drafted a list of people to arrest, including former President Arturo Frodizi.

One of the people mentioned by the weekly is lawyer Gaston Perez Izquierdo, who submitted a request for preventive injunction to Federal Judge Amado Piaggio of Lomas de Zamora, who in turn sent a note in this regard to the Interior Ministry. The Interior Ministry not only categorically denied the report of the arrest plan but also stated that it reserves for itself the right to file charges against people responsible for the publication.

In this regard the Interior Ministry released the text of the telegram sent to Judge Piaggio. The telegram says: In answer to the request for preventive injunction submitted by Gaston Perez Izquierdo, the Interior Ministry would like to point out to Your Honor that no list of people to be put at the disposal of the executive branch has been prepared.

The telegram adds that the state of law is fully in force in the Argentine Republic, therefore all citizens enjoy the rights established by the national Constitution.

The telegram also says that in the face of the publication of a list of people in EL INFORMADOR PUBLICO it is necessary to point out the malicious intention of the publication.

The message adds: False information was published and then people were frightened by speculation arbitrarily prepared to discredit the national government.

The Interior Ministry headed by Antonio Troccoli rejects any information related to the publication and would like to clearly state that it reserves for itself the right to file charges against people who without any basis or evidence published an alleged list and government plans with an intention which is not necessary to comment here but which can be easily interpreted by intelligent people.

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CSO: 3348/346

ARGENTINA

TROCCOLI ON ULTRA-RIGHTIST CELLS, ECONOMY

PY052010 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1515 GMT 5 Jun 87

[Text] La Plata, 5 Jun (NA)--Interior Minister Antonio Troccoli has held "ultrarightist cells" responsible for the bombings in past few weeks in Buenos Aires. He said that "these groups intend to destabilize a system that was chosen by most Argentines."

The interior minister yesterday lectured on "Today's Argentina" at the La Plata municipality building. The lecture was sponsored by the businessmen association and the industrialists association.

Concerning the due obedience law involving high-ranking military men involved in crimes committed during the so-called struggle against subversion, Troccoli said that "the measure is completely necessary, bearing in mind the circumstances being experienced by the country."

The interior minister added that "the opposition must realize that there are issues on which there should not be confrontations because such confrontations bring headaches which bring back sad memories."

Concerning the national economic situation, and especially the workers' situation, Troccoli stated that "we cannot afford to increase wages when this involves destroying an economic system that is trying to recover from a true disaster."

Concerning the bomb attacks in recent weeks in Buenos Aires and Buenos Aires Province, the interior minister agreed with the comments made 1 week ago by Secretariat for State Intelligence (SIDE) Chief Facundo Saurez.

In this regard, Troccoli reiterated that the attacks "come from ultrarightist cells that intend to destabilize a system that was chosen by most Argentines."

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CSO: 3348/346

ARGENTINA

PCA TO IMPLEMENT MORE CHANGES IN LEADERSHIP

XVI Congress Sets Course

PY091247 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 8 Jun 87

[Text] The Communist Party of Argentina [PCA] is ready to implement new changes in its central committee following the important political turn taken by the PCA National Congress. This is being interpreted as a strengthening of the sector known as the "Renewal Youth" which is headed by Patricio Echegaray.

The changes that have been implemented during the last year in the political strategy, as well as in the different party leadership bodies, have provoked an intense debate among the ranks of the PCA and have even caused some traditional PCA figures--like former presidential candidate Rubens Iscaro--to be expelled from the party.

PCA sources have explained to DYN that the structure of the new leadership, which will be officially revealed this week, will abide by "the course plotted" by the 16th PCA National Congress and is epitomized by the three maximum leaders of the PCA: Athos Fava, Patricio Echegaray and Jorge Pereyra.

Pereyra and Echegaray were the two most recent secretary generals of the PCA Youth Branch, and their promotion to the party leadership will be followed by the promotion of some 30 young members to important positions within the central committee. Among the new members will be Eduardo Sigal, Jorge Prigoshyn, Carlos Azzariti and Silvio Schaster.

Sigal will leave the general secretariat of the Communist Youth Federation in the hands of Alejandro Mosquera and will head the PCA political action commission. Prigoshyn will leave the vice presidency of the FMJD (World Federation of Democratic Youth) to become the national trustee of the party.

Azzariti was a member of the youth section of the Human Rights Permanent Assembly. He will leave that post to replace Jorge Bernstein at the public relations secretariat. Bernstein will be moved to another position in the leadership of the party. Schaster will head the directorate for International Political Relations.

Meanwhile, the Communist Youth Federation will be headed by an executive committee made up of Mosquera, who will become secretary general, and by Claudia Korol, Adrian Levendicker, Pablo Marrero and Oscar Laborde heading the student secretariats.

New Front Launched

PY101534 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2155 GMT 9 Jun 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 9 Jun (NA)--Twelve left-wing political parties, among them the Communist Party [PCA] and the Humanist Party [PH], today launched a Broad Front of Liberation [FRAL] as an "electoral alternative" to "Alfonsinism and Justicialism." The goal of the FRAL is to "represent the interests of the workers and the people."

These concepts were voiced during a press conference held in Buenos Aires to announce the FRAL's launching. The press conference was attended by leaders of the political parties that make up the FRAL.

The announcement on the creation of the FRAL was scheduled for yesterday, however, the ceremony was suspended as a result of the time required by the leaders to reach agreement on the terms of the "declaration of principles," which was released to the press today.

In addition to the PCA and the PH, the FRAL includes the Intransigents Advocating a Front [Intransigentes por el Frente], the Popular Democratic Left Party [Izquierda Democratica Popular], the MODEPA, the Revolutionary Intransigency Movement [Movimiento Peronista 26 de Julio], the Shirtless for Victory Party [Partido de los Descamisados para la Victoria], the New Republic Party [Partido Nueva Republica], the 1st May Socialist Party [Partido Socialista Primero de Mayo], the Green Ecologist Party [Partido Verde Ecologista], and the Liberation Radical Party [Radicalismo de Liberacion].

Out of the 12 parties that make up the FRAL, only the PCA and the PH have a legal status throughout the 24 electoral districts in Argentina for which reason the PCA and the PH are to represent the FRAL.

At the press conference, which was held at the Savoy Hotel in Buenos Aires at 1630, the PCA was represented by Athos Fava and Patricio Echegaray and the PH was represented by PH Secretary General Luis Ammann and PH Political Secretary Luis Milani.

In the founding act, the FRAL states that "in keeping with their past experience in setting up the People's Front [FP], in the call made by the new left-wing, and in the united policy implemented in the rally held on 1 May in the Atlanta soccer stadium," the signatories of the new front announce their decision to participate in the elections scheduled for 5 September.

The FRAL member parties state that "we consider that those elections will confront two political platforms." One platform involves "the Alfonsinist Government, and the other the Justicialist leadership, both the orthodox line and the renewal line, which agree on a modernization scheme that increases dependency and strengthens a new system of domination based on the bipartisan alternation in the government."

The FRAL member parties add that the agreement between the "Alfonsinism" and the Justicialism is reflected by "the main topics including the foreign debt, the military issue, and the handling of the social laws."

In the founding act, the FRAL adds: "The Alfonsinism and the Justicialism agree in maintaining the privileges and make the workers pay for the crisis, in demobilizing the people, in maintaining a trade union bureaucracy and slow down the struggle with the argument that 'only this is possible.'"

The FRAL adds that in the face of all this "it is indispensable to present to the electorate a real and true alternative, one that represents the interests of the workers and the people, that confronts the reactionary policy of the Austral Plan and the payment of the foreign debt, that solves the most pressing economic and social problems, and that will be an expression of 'never again' to a coups d'etat."

The FRAL concludes by calling "all political and social sectors that want to defeat the dependency project, based on a concerted program and a political and organizational proposal" that "will tend toward the development of a national and social liberation front as a tool for establishing a democratic, popular, and anti-imperialistic power."

Leftist Front Splits

PY081616 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2322 GMT 6 Jun 87

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 6 Jun (NA)--The Movement Toward Socialism [MAS] today acknowledged that its split from the People's Front [FREPU], which was made up by the MAS and the Communist Party [PC], "does not make us happy," because "the left was split in half at a moment when unity is more necessary than ever to confront the bipartisan system."

In a message to the PC Executive Board, the MAS leaders reiterated their will to favor "an electoral agreement," based on the 23 principles of the former FREPU, but with the condition of rejecting "the Democratic Commitment Act," signed by the PC, and of "democratically" electing the leftist candidates.

"We still have time to achieve the necessary unity," the MAS said.

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CSO: 3348/347

BUSINESSMAN DISCUSSES EFFECTS OF CAPITALIZATION

PY302022 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 30 May 87 p 3

[By Sebastina Letemendia]

[Text] With his traditional and confessed optimism, SADE [Argentine Electrical Power Company] holding company General Manager Vittorio Orsi, one of the so-called "industry chiefs," on Thursday expressed his views on the capitalization of the foreign debt.

In a press conference organized by the Centre of Argentine Engineers, Orsi stressed that Argentina is in urgent need of profitable investment to reverse the long-running downward trend of the country's economy. According to Orsi, the debt capitalization is a useful tool to achieve this, acting as an incentive for investment which will eventually lead to GDP growth and to an improvement in the balance of payments.

Debt capitalization should be aimed at privatizing the economy through a privatization of state-owned assets, Orsi remarked, pointing out that this was not an ideological stance but a practical one, based on the need for progress in the economy's different sectors.

When privatizing, capital should be channelled to investments that improve productivity and export capacity. Orsi particularly upheld the use of leasing mechanisms.

Orsi said that Argentina's capitalization allowance lags far behind that of Mexico or Chile. While Argentina has a ceiling of 1.9 billion dollars spread over five years (300 million the first year and 400 the following four), Mexico will capitalize up to 1.2 billion per year and Chile 1 billion.

Critics of the debt capitalization argue that it denationalizes the economy, but Orsi held that an excessive indebtedment puts the economy in a far more vulnerable condition than the denationalization arising from capitalization.

Another criticism stated that through capitalization the state buys the debt back at a price higher than its market value, but Orsi, supporting his argument with a hypothetical case, argued that this momentary loss is rapidly recovered, basically through taxes.

Orsi concluded that through capitalization Argentina would find itself once more among the developed countries and undergo a growth process, eventually providing confidence and security to investors.

Although he made clear that the capitalization would not on its own solve the foreign debt problem, Orsi said that it would turn a growth-limiting factor into a useful tool for development.

/12913

CSO: 3300/14

JOINT VENTURE WITH ITALY TO MANUFACTURE PLANES

PY072205 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 6 Jun 87 p 3

[Text] (NA)--A joint venture company made up of Argentine businessmen and an Italian aircraft firm will set up a plant in the Santa Fe province for the construction of seven-passenger planes, basically aimed at supplying Third World countries.

This operation calls for an estimated 12-million dollar investment and will employ some 300 people.

The new company is made up of the privately-owned Aerindus Santa Fe with 80 percent of the stock and Aeritalia (Paternavia and Fiat Aviazione aircraft companies) with 10 percent. The remaining 10 percent corresponds to the Santa Fe provincial government.

Aerindus Santa Fe President Horacio Schillizzi said that "production will begin next year: and the first plane is expected to be finished by September, 1987. According to the firm's contract, 24 aircraft have to be built during the first two years.

"The plane will be called Aerindus SF, and will be built under Partenavia licenses," Schillizzi said.

The plane will have a seven-passenger capacity and will reach a speed of 307 kilometers per hour, at a 5,850-metre altitude.

Schillizzi explained that the Italian company is interested in producing in Argentina because costs are lower. He said that labour accounts for 50 percent of production costs and that specialized workers in Argentina earn only 14 dollars per hour, while in Italy, they are paid 48 dollars.

He also said that planes produced in Argentina will be 40 percent cheaper than those produced in Italy and that the price will be at around 2250,000 dollars.

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CSO: 3300/14

ARGENTINA

ITALIANS DENY AGREEMENT WITH LOCAL COMPANY

PY091233 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2020 GMT 8 Jun 87

[Text] Rome, 8 Jun (DYN)--The Enterprise Aeritalia [Paternavia and Fiat Aviazione Aircraft Companies] today categorically denied a presumed agreement that, according to press reports published in Buenos Aires, it had signed with an Argentine private company.

The Italian enterprise has sent a communique to the Argentine morning newspaper AMBITO FINANCIERO correspondent in Rome to explain that no agreement has been signed with Argentine counterparts outside what is being negotiated with the Argentine Air Force.

According to Aeritalia, Horacio Schilizzi Moreno has conducted several negotiations with the firm "Paternavia," an associated member of the Italian Airline Company, for the purchase of several airplanes on behalf of the "Apart Flying" company. Schilizzi Moreno is president of this company.

These negotiations then turned into an attempt to obtain a license for the production of planes in Argentina, and later into a request for the purchase of a share of the "Paternavia" company.

There was another attempt, this time by the "Foreign Market Group S.A.," for the production of "Paternavia" planes in Santa Fe. Schilizzi Moreno is also president of this group.

Considering these requests, Aeritalia has stated that "it has already signed with the Argentine Government a cooperation agreement that covers all initiatives in the aeronautics sector, whether civilian or military."

"Therefore," he added, "the proposals submitted by your client will probably be considered, should they also be in the interest of the Argentine Government and should they also have the support of the government."

According to the Italian enterprise, this position has been explained to Schilizzi Moreno at the meeting he held with representatives of the Aeronautics Firm in Buenos Aires on 27 May 1987.

/9604

CSO: 3348/346

ARGENTINA

COMPLEMENTARY FISHING ACCORDS SIGNED WITH BULGARIA

PY131220 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1400 GMT 12 Jun 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 12 Jun (EFE)--The Argentine Economy Ministry has disclosed that Argentina and Bulgaria today implemented agreements signed by the two countries for deep-sea fishing in the South Atlantic near the Malvinas Islands.

The Bulgarian fishing ships "Fizalia," "Zargonaut," and "Rotalia" this weekend began to fish for squid and hake south of the 46th parallel, within 200 miles of the Argentine coast.

The agreement signed by Argentina and Bulgaria in 1986 establishes that Bulgarian fishing ships must use the same fishing methods used by the Argentine vessels and must include Argentine citizens among their crew.

The agreement also provides for a joint venture of Bulgarian fishermen with their Argentine colleagues which includes the transfer of technology.

This agreement is complementary to the one signed in mid-1986 by Argentina and the Soviet Union to catch 180,000 tons of fish in the same region of the South Atlantic, which has been in force since 23 May.

The fishing rights area that Argentina has granted the Soviet Union and Bulgaria off the southern part of the Latin American continent overlaps the "exclusive economic zone" of 200 maritime miles unilaterally declared by Great Britain around the Malvinas Islands, which has been in force since 1 February.

This region, where at least 300 fishing ships of 11 different countries, including Spain, Poland, Japan, and Taiwan, operate is subject to intense patrolling by Argentine and British armed vessels but no incidents have been reported yet.

/9604

CSO: 3348/346

ARGENTINA

BRIEFS

LEGISLATORS ATTEND CUBATUR-87--Santa Fe, 11 Jun (TELAM)--(?A group) of legislators from several Argentine provinces who belong to tourism committee visited Cuba, where they learned about that country's programs to promote tourism. The delegation, headed by Deputy Carlos Castro (Justicialist Party representative for Tucuman Province), head of the provincial committee also included businessmen from several provinces and travel agents who participated in the annual CUBATUR-87 Congress in Varadero. The members of the delegation met at the Argentine Embassy with representatives of the Cuban tourism field and Argentine Embassy First Secretary Carlos Riva. The legislators received information about the Cuban programs to promote tourism, and especially about summer tours of Varadero, Cayo Largo, and Havana. CUBATUR-87, which has been held for the past 9 years in Cuba, was attended by more than 1,200 representatives of the touristic world. It is estimated that a total of 8,000 Argentine citizens will visit Cuba this year, especially the tourist resorts during the month of July. [Text] [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1446 GMT 11 Jun 87] /9604

CAPITALIZATION SCHEME APPROVED--Economic Policy Under Secretary Juan Sommer announced this evening that the foreign debt capitalization regime has been approved. He made this announcement during a press conference he gave together with Foreign Debt Under Secretary Jorge Gonzalez, and Central Bank Director Daniel Marx. Sommer explained that this scheme will promote investments by converting the foreign debt of the public sector into Australes in order to invest them in projects that will increase Argentine exports. The project foresees the capitalization of \$1.9 billion in the next 5 years. Considering the clause that states that one new dollar will be invested for each capitalized dollar, the total investment will be about \$4 billion. [Text] [Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 0200 GMT 2 Jun 87] /9604

AMBASSADOR RESIGNS POST--The Executive Branch has accepted the resignation of Senator Hipolito Solari Irigoyen, Radical Civic Union-Chubut, as presidential adviser and roving ambassador. This was revealed this afternoon at Government House. Solari Irigoyen's resignation was accepted by the government through Decree No 841. [Text] [Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 0200 GMT 4 Jun 87] /9604

MISSION TO PRC, JAPAN--Buenos Aires, 27 May (TELAM)--Cordoba Governor Eduardo Angeloz heads a delegation that tonight left for the PRC and Japan to negotiate the installation of 12 food irradiation plants in the PRC. The Rio Tercero High Technology nuclear plant in Cordoba produces and distributes radioisotopes. Angeloz also said that they will negotiate in Japan the installation of a Honda International factory in his province. [Summary] [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0138 GMT 27 May 87] /9604

MILK-MEAT AGREEMENT WITH ITALY--Buenos Aires, 23 May (DYN)--The National Technological University has reported that the Argentine and Italian Governments signed an agreement to create a Technological Training and Development Center for the Milk and Meat Industry. This project will cost \$4 million. The new center will have two experimental plants, one for milk and another for meat. The Italian company ANCIFAP, of the IRI Group, will provide machinery, laboratory equipment, reference material, and training to technicians. [Summary] [Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1220 GMT 23 May 87] /9604

LA RIOJA-ROK AGREEMENTS--La Rioja, 2 Jun (TELAM)--The press office of the La Rioja Province Government House has announced that an official delegation of this province is in the ROK preparing cooperation and exchange agreements that will include investments in La Rioja. The delegation is preparing the agreements with the ROK Government Institute for Development and Research. Once the agreements are ready, La Rioja Governor Carlos Menem will travel to the ROK to sign them. [Summary] [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1419 GMT 2 Jun 87] /9604

CSO: 3348/346

PINDLING SCOTCHES TALK OF 'HATE AMERICA' CAMPAIGN

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 5 May 87 pp 1, 9

[Article by Anthony Forbes]

[Text]

THE Bahamas is pro-American and suggestions by the Opposition Free National Movement that the PLP Government is launching a hate America campaign is a lie, Prime Minister Lynden Pindling told about 10,000 supporters last night.

Closing the PLP's All-New Providence "All Aboard" Convention at the Poinciana Arena, the Prime Minister said he was "offended three-fold" by the suggestion by the FNM, which is playing dangerously with the lives of Bahamians.

The Prime Minister said that there is no country in the world which cooperates more closely in areas of mutual interest or extends a warmer greeting to the Americans, but it is the right and duty of Government to stand by the nation's sovereignty and demand respect for its independence.

According to the Prime Minister, any Bahamian or non-Bahamian who proposes a relationship in which the Bahamas must not and cannot disagree is proposing not friendship but servitude.

Telling the crowd who jammed the arena, its adjoining rooms and a makeshift tent outside that something very serious is happening, the Prime Minister said that there is a man going about town saying that Government is launching a hate-America campaign.

"There is a lot of loose talk these days, plenty of careless talk, and so it is good for all of us to be able to recognise loose and careless talk when we hear it," the Prime Minister said.

He noted that during the Second World War he learnt a British slogan which read: "Careless talk cost lives."

"Fellow delegates, those words are as true today and they were then," he said. "Whoever made that statement is playing dangerously with the lives of the Bahamian people."

"Let me make my position clear, fellow delegates. I, Lynden Oscar Pindling, am pro-American. I, the Minister of Finance of the Bahamas, am pro-American. I, the Prime Minister of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas, am pro-American," he said.

"As Lynden Pindling, as Minister of Finance and as Prime Minister, I know, understand and appreciate the enormous social and economic benefits our Bahamas have derived from our trading relationships with and our close geographic proximity to America and would not wish to see that relationship curtailed in any material way," he said.

"Therefore, as Lynden Pindling, as Minister of Finance and as Prime Minister, I am offended three-fold by the suggestion that the Government which I head is launching a hate-

America campaign," he said.

"The suggestion is a lie; just another of the many lies that are being concocted and spread about these days," he said.

The Prime Minister said that the suggestion could not have been made by a serious political analyst as it sounds more like the babbles of a political "nincompoop."

"The suggestion could not have been made by a political friend, either; it sounds more like the rumbles of one desirous of being a political stooge," the Prime Minister said.

He said that there is no doubt that there are people in the Opposition who are as pro-American as he is.

"However, everyone knows that there is no one in the Opposition who wanted to be Bahamian as much as I did; there is no one in the Opposition who fought for the right to be Bahamian and to be called Bahamian as much as I did; and there is no one in the Opposition who, since we won that right almost 14 years ago, have done more than I to protect and preserve all that is called Bahamian," he said.

"So the suggestion of our launching a hate-America campaign could only have been made by a political nincompoop," the Prime Minister said.

He said that no political leader with any savvy, with a

real appreciation of the Bahamian political scene or with the slightest understanding of the international political scene, could have uttered a so absolutely nonsensical and puerile statement.

The Prime Minister pointed out that despite the special relationship between the United States and Israel, an American was convicted and jailed for spying on the United States on Israel behalf, yet Israel has no hate-campaign against America.

He said that Japan and the United States are also great friends, yet two weeks ago, the US imposed a 100 per cent tariff on certain Japanese electronic products, which will cost Japan \$300 million.

He said that the US did so not because it hates Japan, but to protect a vital American interest.

Further, the Prime Minister noted that St Lucia, a Commonwealth Caribbean country, is pro-American and even agreed with and took part in the US-led invasion of Grenada in October, 1983.

However, he said that much to her surprise, St Lucia learnt last month that in March, 1986, the CIA was funnelling arms to Africa through St Lucia's airport on Boeing 707 and C-130 freighters owned by St Lucia Airways.

In addition, he noted, St Lucia found to her dismay that St Lucia Airways had played an important role in the Iran-Contra affair by flying important persons most of the way to Tehran, the capital of Iran.

The Prime Minister told the convention that the Bahamas was concerned when, in Febru-

ary, it learned that the country figured in the Iran/Contra affair not only with the charter of drug smuggling airplanes owned by drug smuggling Bahamians but also by using the country's banking facilities to help fund the Iranian affair.

He noted that the Secretary General of the United Nicaraguan Opposition, Mr Nais Sammoriba, opened a bank account in the Bahamas specifically for the purpose and the Bahamas has yet been able to get an explanation.

"So in the case of the Bahamas, the situation is no different from that of other pro-American countries, big and small," he said. "If, therefore, we differ with America, it is only because a vital Bahamian interest needs to be protected and not because we hate America or want anybody else to hate America."

He said that in the conduct of international affairs such minor conflicts between the individual interest of friendly, sovereign nations are, in one form or another, always present.

He said that it is for this reason that friendly nations maintain such close and open lines of communication.

"It is the friendly resolution of such misunderstandings and disagreements that prove the special relationship between sovereign nations," he said.

"Friendship has never meant that two friends never disagree," he said. "Instead, it means that mutual trust and affection allow them to resolve their disagreements with a handshake and a smile."

"So, fellow Bahamians, any Bahamian or non-Bahamian

who proposes a relationship in which we must not and cannot disagree is proposing not friendship but servitude. Any Bahamian politician who suggests that differences of opinion between friendly nations signal the beginning of hatred must be a liar or a fool," he said.

"But if he is a liar he is a dangerous liar and if he is a fool he is a dangerous fool," the Prime Minister said.

"His lies and foolishness, recklessly scattered abroad, can serious damage the special relationship which we enjoy with our neighbour and lead to disastrous consequences for honest, hardworking Bahamians," he said.

"His statements, made either recklessly or maliciously, can trigger a round of events which can dry up investment, depress tourism and unleash untold hardships on Bahamian families," the Prime Minister said.

"Members of the Free National Movement are tully aware that there is now and never will be any hate-America campaign led by this Government," he said. "We are pro-American."

"There is no country in the world which co-operates more closely in areas of mutual interest or extends a warmer greeting to her people," he said. "Nevertheless, our love for America can never match our love for the Bahamas."

"It is our right and our duty to stand by our sovereignty and to demand respect for our independence. It is a right which we cherish and a duty which we welcome," the Prime Minister said.

/9274

CSO; 3298/239

CHARGES OF LINKS TO DRUGS FIGURE IN ELECTION CAMPAIGNING

Pinder Denial

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 15 May 87 p 1

[Text]

LARRY Pinder today denied allegations by Prime Minister Pindling that he is an admitted "drug smuggler."

And official Opposition Leader Kendal Isaacs said that Pinder was not a paid bodyguard for him.

Mr Isaacs said that Pinder was a bodyguard in "a very unofficial capacity."

Said Mr Isaacs: "He wasn't a paid bodyguard. He felt I needed someone to look after me."

Although the Commission of Inquiry found that Pinder was an unreliable witness, Isaacs said he was never found to be a drug trafficker.

"When I realized what was being implied, I asked him not to bother (providing protection)," said Mr Isaacs. "That was probably a few months ago."

Addressing a PLP rally last night, Sir Lynden claimed that Pinder was an admitted drug smuggler. He claimed that Pinder had admitted working for Luis "Kojak" Garcia. He said Pinder is Mr Isaacs' friend and body guard.

Pinder today branded Sir Lynden's allegations as "foolishness."

Pinder said the Prime Minister should ask a member of his family about Retirement Road and if he doesn't find out "the whole story, tell him to ask his bodyguard Gerard Burrows."

He said when the Prime Minister goes to Abaco this weekend, he ought to find out from the residents there if, when Burrows was stationed there, they ever saw him (Pinder) without Burrows.

Pinder said he and Burrows grew up together and have been friends for a long time "and I don't believe there is anything much he can do to change that."

"I want Mr Pindling to refresh his memory and remember when I used to be at his house playing backgammon with Gerard, if he didn't know at that time if I was in any way involved in drugs."

Contrary to allegations made against him by Sir Lynden, Pinder said he is not involved in any way with any American agency.

"I am not a spy for the United States government," said Pinder. "One of his good friends who goes with him everywhere he goes, has a much closer relationship with agencies."

Adderley Allegations

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 29 May 87 p 5

[Text]

NASSAU, May 28, Cana—ATTORNEY GENERAL of The Bahamas, Paul Adderley, has accused two members of the opposition Free National Movement (FNM) of working with big drug-dealers.

Adderley told a rally, this week, by the ruling Progressive Liberal Party (PLP) that the FNM's Orville Turnquest was a director and secretary of a company here run by American fugitive and alleged drug-dealer, Robert Vesco.

He also said Turnquest owned 8,400 shares in a bank belonging to Vesco, for several years sought by the US

Government in connection with charges of milking mutual funds.

The Attorney-General also claimed that the FNM's Algernon Allen was identified by a drug-dealer, "Kojak" Garcia, as one of the people who worked with him in a drugs-smuggling operation linking Colombia, The Bahamas and the United States.

The reaction from Allen and Turnquest was not immediately known. The two names were the first mentioned by the PLP Government as it struck back at persistent FNM corruption charges, three weeks before a general election.

Pindling on U.S. Actions

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 30 May 87 p 11

[Text]

THE Bahamas is being used by the United States as a scapegoat for drugs entering the US, Prime Minister Lynden Pindling told a Progressive Liberal Party rally Thursday night.

Addressing an audience of about 1,000 during the combined Shirlea-Montagu rally at Malcolm Park, Sir Lynden said the Bahamas is being used by United States agencies to fly supplies to the Contra rebels in Nicaragua.

"We are an embarrassment to the United States of America," Sir Lynden said. "We are an embarrassment to them and that's why we are now being used as a scapegoat."

"With all their power and with all their might they cannot stop the flow of drugs into their country. They have to find an excuse. They want to blame it on some place else. They want to blame it on somebody else."

Sir Lynden recalled his interview this week with a reporter from Miami's Channel 7 (WSVN TV). The reporter, he said, asked how he felt about the Bahamas being described as the "cocaine islands."

"I told him I don't like that. Secondly, it aint true," said Sir Lynden. "I said how would you feel if I described Florida as the Cocaine State because, according to what you say, 88 per cent of the drugs entering the other States of the United States come through Florida. So, if that is true, and from what you say the Bahamas are, Florida must be the cocaine State of the United States."

Sir Lynden said that the Bahamas does not have any radar planes "to spot anything coming from one mile much

less a hundred miles. We don't have anything that could talk 2,000 miles down the road. We don't have one single helicopter."

"They could put a man on the moon and talk to him. They have got powerful telescopes, they could see him on the moon. They have aircraft that could fly 100,000 feet in the air and could tell you what you have written on your shirt, and they can't stop it, and I only have one eye, how I could stop it? They have to face facts. Aint no point trying to duck it."

The United States, he said, is using the Bahamas as part of a different operation. It is coming out now in hearings before the Senate concerning the Contra affairs in Nicaragua that the CIA, the DEA and other agencies "recruit all kinds of people, some criminals, some ex-criminals to fly supplies to Nicaragua and after they drop the supplies they can go on to Colombia and bring back anything they want."

"The plane that Glen Rolle owned was on one of those missions. Glen Rolle leased a plane to an American company. The plane was hired to fly a mission to Nicaragua. It was flown by Floridian pilots."

"After the plane dropped its load of materials in Nicaragua, it went on to Colombia where it picked up a load of drugs and on its way back it was shot down over Honduras. How do I know that? I read it in the papers."

"Who is Glen Rolle? That's an FNM drug-lord in Bimini," Sir Lynden alleged. "That's who he is. That's Arlington Butler's client, an FNM client."

FNM Candidate's Response

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 30 May 87 p 11

[Article by Colin Higgins]

[Text]

FREE National Movement parliamentary candidate for Fort Charlotte Arlington Butler has denied the Prime Minister's suggestion that he represented a reputed "drug lord." Mr Butler said he would not join Sir Lynden in "the political sewer."

Mr Butler affirmed the right of all persons to legal representation and said he would have no difficulty representing the reputed drug lord within the law.

The opposition candidate reminded Prime Minister Sir Lynden Pindling that when a son of his was charged with possession of drugs, he was allowed legal representation. "And therefore every other person's son within the Commonwealth, guilty or otherwise, should be afforded similar rights," Mr Butler said.

"I find Mr Pindling's attempt to sully my good name somewhat distressing in that in order to retain a power which he appears to have become accustomed to, he is prepared to destroy anyone who stands in the way of his retaining that power," he said.

"I have no intention of joining Mr Pindling in the political sewer where he descended and seems to be very comfortable and therefore will not resort to making any counter-attacks on him."

Mr Butler said it seems "absolutely essential" that one who claims to be head of state should be more responsible when dealing with those persons who are candidates in the elections, "particularly when it involves the individual's reputation."

The Prime Minister should pay greater attention to the truth, said Mr Butler, "if he still has the capacity to

distinguish between that which is truth and that which is not."

Following is Mr Butler's full statement: "The Prime Minister at a political rally last evening, in attempting to smear the names of FNM candidates, attempted to associate me with illegal actions - with representing an alleged drug lord out of Bimini by the name of Glen Rolle.

"The purpose of the statement was to suggest that I was one capable of protecting persons guilty of illegal actions and that if an FNM Government came to power there would be greater protection given by persons like myself.

"Whereas I believe that it is essential for all persons in the country to be represented whether they are guilty or not, as the constitution provides for such representation and the only way we will protect our own rights is to protect the rights of all persons within the Commonwealth no matter what their particular propensity.

"However, I have never represented Mr Glen Rolle at any time and he has never been one of my clients.

"But if he did in fact come to me for representation I would find no difficulty in representing him within the law. Mr Pindling must recognise that when his son was guilty of the possession of drugs, he was afforded the right of legal representation and therefore every other person's son within the Commonwealth, guilty or otherwise, should be afforded similar rights.

"I find Mr Pindling's attempt to sully my good name somewhat distressing in that in order to retain a power which he appears to have become accustomed to, he is prepared to destroy anyone who stands in the way of his retaining that power.

"I have no intentions of joining Mr Pindling in the political sewer where he descended and seems to be very comfortable and therefore will not resort to making any counter-attacks on him.

"But it seems to be absolutely essential that one who claims to be head of state should be more responsible when dealing with those persons who are candidates in the elections, particularly when it involves the individual's reputation. And he should pay greater attention to the truth, if he still has the capacity to distinguish between that which is the truth and that which is not," said Mr Butler.

FNM CANDIDATE WONDERS IF 'ACCIDENT' WAS REALLY ACCIDENT

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 11 May 87 p 4

[Article by Anthony Forbes]

[Excerpts]

YAMACRAW MP Mrs Janet Bostwick said she was told by "a lot of people" that the two-car smash-up on October 8, 1986, in which she was seriously injured, was not an accident.

Mrs Bostwick said she initially dismissed the suggestion, but when she read how young Gorman Bannister had told The Sunday Times that Colombian drug smuggler Joe Lehder had ordered the firebombing of former St John's MP Norman Solomon's car in 1981, she was forced to think again.

"You know, a lot of people have said it to me before, and I dismissed it at the outset. I said no, it couldn't happen. Persons said to me that my accident was no accident and I said no, no, it was an accident," Mrs Bostwick told an FNM rally at the Southern Recreation Grounds last week.

"When I heard what Gorman Bannister had to say about Norman Solomon, I had to think again," Mrs Bostwick told hundreds of supporters. "I wonder and I thank God Almighty that he put a shield around me. And they can do what they will, you know, and I thank God too."

"Janet is not afraid to die. But if something should happen to me and if I should die, there would be thousands and thousands who will rise up in my place and the victory will be won even more quickly," Mrs Bostwick said.

Mrs Bostwick, the first woman elected to parliament, was on her way home from the House of Assembly when her black Toyota Crown was involved in a collision with another car on the Eastern Road.

The accident sidelined Mrs Bostwick for several months, but earlier this year the Yamacraw MP returned to active politics.

In an interview with The Sunday Times of London, Gorman Bannister, son of Everette Bannister, a close friend of Prime Minister Lynden Pindling, said that during a trip with his father to Colombia to see Lehder, the drug smuggler talked about the firebombing of Mr Solomon's Jaguar in 1981.

Mrs Bostwick also told the rally that neither the Prime Minister nor the older Bannister denied the allegations made by

Gorman in The Sunday Times and in a subsequent NBC broadcast.

"I understand that Gorman Bannister is going to be giving some testimony before the Washington Senate Committee and, if he does give that testimony, then I wonder what Mr Pindling is going to do," she said.

"The American authorities think so much about Gorman Bannister that they have put him in protective custody and I wonder who wants to get Gorman Bannister because I heard or I read in the newspaper that Lehder will be cooperating with the US Government now," Mrs Bostwick said.

"So if Lehder is going to be cooperating with the US Government it don't seem like Lehder is the one to get Gorman Bannister. I wonder who wants to get him?" she asked.

"This is some really serious stuff that is going around in the Bahamas today. And so it behooves us to realize the type of enemy against whom we have been putting up a fight, a desperate, desperate enemy. We must expect anything," she said.

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CS0: 3298/239

PINDLING MAINTAINS CORRUPTION ISSUE HAS 'WORN THIN'

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 26 May 87 pp 1, 8

[Article by Dan Sewell]

[Text]

NASSAU, Bahamas (AP) — Prime Minister Sir Lynden Pindling says the drug corruption scandal that rocked his government won't prevent him from extending his 20-year-old leadership of this archipelago in national elections June 19.

"The opposition has been trumping corruption as an issue for several years and it's worn a little thin now," Pindling said in an interview Monday.

"I don't think it's having the effect on the general population they thought it would. This is a very small country and everybody knows somebody else and what people will do.

"I think the results of the election would show that the general public just doesn't buy the story that others have been attempting to sell them," he said.

Pindling spoke in his office in one of only a handful of interviews he has given since a Commission of Inquiry began investigating his government and his personal finances in 1984.

The investigation led to the resignations of two Cabinet members who were implicated and the dismissals by Pindling of two ministers who were critical of him. Pindling's deputy prime minister, who didn't state his reason, resigned in apparent protest of the alleged corruption within the government.

The commission was formed after a Sept. 5, 1983 NBC News report that included allegations by some U.S. drug authorities that Pindling and other top officials were taking bribes to protect drug smuggling.

Pindling said neither NBC nor U.S. drug agencies provid-

ed any evidence to the Commission to support that report.

"The conclusion I've come to is it's damn nonsense in the first place; it's just making an allegation," he said. "The Bahamian people may look stupid, but they aren't quite that bad."

After a 10-month investigation and hearings in 1984, the Commission report said no direct evidence linked Pindling to bribes. But it reported corruption among other government officials, police and friends of the prime minister.

The report also said Pindling spent \$4 million, eight times his government income in 1977-83, and that there were \$180,000 in unexplained deposits to his bank account.

Pindling said the money was accounted for by him, but not by his bank because it couldn't find the cheques. He said the \$180,000 represented many small cheques over a long period, not one lump sum.

Asked about the large contributions, he replied: "Did you complain when friends of President Reagan contributed \$2.5 million to buy him a house? So what the hell are you talking about? Is he supposed to be the only fellow whose got friends?"

Pindling, chuckling, said that there was no evidence that any funds, mortgages or other such transactions resulted in government influence.

"Bribes aren't just offered and taken. It seems to me they are offered for something forthcoming and in not a single instance was there an offer in return for something," he said.

He said a lot of Bahamians might claim to have influence

with him, "but that doesn't necessarily mean that everything else that follows is true. When he says he's a friend of the prime minister, that doesn't mean anything. I have 200,000 of them. That's why I'll win."

The Progressive Liberal Party of Pindling, whose 20-year rule is the longest tenure among any of the former British possessions in the Caribbean region, held a 32-11 margin in the Parliament over the Free National Movement. Virtually all politicians and political observers here expect the battle for the 49 seats up for election next month to be very close.

"I have one strong point, a record of performance, in comparison with the others, there is no choice," said Pindling, who broke the white minority hold on Bahamian government and led the nation to independence.

Pindling said the small population and the highly personal style of campaigning give him an advantage. He said the opposition is heavily supported on some islands by Bahamian drug traffickers because the traffickers believe they will have more freedom under the opposition.

The prime minister also expressed concern that there could be violence during the campaign, charging that armed opposition supporters disrupted one of his party's fund-raisers last Thursday.

Opposition leader Kendal Isaacs said Monday his party has campaigned peacefully, adding that the corruption issue will be the major issue leading his party to victory.

TRIBUNE KEPT FROM PINDLING NEWS CONFERENCE, POSES QUERIES

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 26 May 87 pp 1, 8

[Article by Athena Damianos]

[Text]

PRIME Minister Pindling, marshalling his forces to cushion the impact of the Commission of Inquiry report on the June 19 general election, has dodged answers to crucial public questions.

Yesterday, Sir Lynden invited The Guardian, ZNS and Channel 7 to a press conference. The Associated Press had a separate interview with him. The Tribune was deliberately shut out from the news.

Commented Tribune Editor Eileen Carron today:

"Obviously the Prime Minister's 'facts' are not sufficiently foolproof to stand up to Tribune questioning.

"Sir Lynden, in his present situation needs a timid press, or reporters who are not fully informed of the facts of Bahamian politics. The Tribune is neither and so yesterday's exclusion was a high compliment to our staff. Sir Lynden has always been more comfortable with foreign reporters who have only superficial knowledge of Bahamian politics. He soon loses them by never answering their questions and before they know what has happened, he has shifted gear and taken them on a completely different course. This he cannot do with Tribune reporters who would be right behind him with follow-up questions to keep him on target.

"Mr Bill Kalis, Sir Lynden's press secretary, said he did not

know why The Tribune was not invited. He said today that he was not involved with the invitations, nor did he know who was.

"Today I officially asked Mr Kalis to arrange an interview for our investigative reporter with the Prime Minister," said Mrs Carron. "Mr Kalis asked me to put the request in writing. When I said I did not see the need, he replied: 'Well, you don't have to write, I just thought it would improve your case.'

"The Tribune has no case to put," said Mrs Carron today. "Sir Lynden is the Prime Minister. The Tribune is the leading newspaper here and on behalf of the Bahamian people we would like to interview their chief elected representative on matters that concern them. This is the only case that should be necessary in a democracy. We are now awaiting a reply from the Prime Minister through Mr Kalis," said Mrs Carron.

The Guardian said that the Prime Minister plans to take his case to the public - two-and-half years after the Commission reported. The Guardian also said Sir Lynden would not answer "a few sensitive questions."

Sir Lynden deflected questions put to him by AP.

Had Sir Lynden been able to face The Tribune, the following matters would have been raised.

• Payments from foreign investors.

(1) Sir Lynden told AP reporter Dan Sewell that there was no evidence that any funds, mortgages or other such transactions resulted in government influence.

But a letter from Grand Bahama Development Co chairman Edward St George to Pindling dated May 3, 1982, raises a question mark. The letter was about a \$300,000 "gift" he paid into a secret account controlled by Pindling. The money was to be used on a tourist project in Pindling's impoverished Kemp's Bay constituency. The project collapsed. At least \$100,000 of the sum was diverted into Pindling's palatial mansion.

"As you can see," wrote Mr St George, "our main interest in this project was to help you politically in your constituency and we have no real interest in owning hotels, cottages, house or anything in Kemp's Bay."

In the letter, St George also complained that former Minister of Finance Arthur Hanna appeared to be taking every action possible to bring the Freeport economy to a standstill.

"I do not need to trouble you by repeating my list of complaints, but I feel strongly if we are to continue to support you and your government, something should be done about the hostility that appears to exist

between the Ministry of Finance and Freeport."

St George wrote that Pindling had assured him that this was not official Government policy and that matters like an illegal moratorium on Freeport liquor licences and untoward delays in approving business licences would receive his attention after the 1982 general election.

"If this is the case, we wish you well in the next election and look forward as seeing you as Prime Minister of the Bahamas for many years to come," he wrote to Pindling.

"If this is not the case, it has never been my wish to fight Government policies or its Ministries, so I shall spend a great deal more time in England more productively and merely spend holidays in the Bahamas..."

(2) \$750,000 payment from foreign investors. St George and Sir Jack Hayward of the Development Company, with which Government does business on an almost daily basis, gave Pindling \$750,000.

(3) \$200,000 indirectly from Sorkis Webbe. The money, part of \$275,000 Everette Bannister received from American Sorkis Webbe, who was identified in the House of Assembly as a mafia associate. The Webbe group was seeking to take over management of Government's El Casino from Resorts International and had received preliminary approval. The takeover was blocked by the Gaming Board.

• The Pindling finances.

(a) Pindling told AP that he was able to account for \$180,000, the source of which the Commission of Inquiry said was unexplained. He said that his bank was unable to do so because it could not find the cheques; that the sum represented many small cheques over a long period.

Pindling listed his fixed income to the Commission. This did not include the \$180,000. Where, then, did the \$180,000 come from? Why would anyone give money to the Prime Minister?

(b) The Commission found that between January 1, 1977 and December 31, 1983, the Pindlings spent eight times more than they earned.

(c) How do the Pindlings live? During the above period, the Pindlings were spending more, and in some cases much more, than they were earning.

For example, during the latter part of 1982 they were making a \$4,500 mortgage payment each month as well as \$7,000 to \$8,000 on monthly interest payments on their overdraft, while his monthly salary was approximately \$7,300 per month.

This means that Pindling was unable to meet his mortgage payments on his monthly salary. How did he pay for other living expenses, such as food, clothing, electricity and water bills, his children's school fees and travel to and from London, doctors visits, etc?

• **Norman's Cay.** The Commission of Inquiry found that the Lehder organisation conducted a large scale drug smuggling operation through Norman's Cay from at least early 1979 to September, 1982.

"It is clear that the police and senior government officials were aware of the illegal activities but their response was inadequate, the Commission of Inquiry said.

It concluded that there must have been corruption in the Police Force and that corruption "must have reached to a senior level of government."

Pindling, who blocked a 1979 Parliamentary investigation into Norman's Cay at a time when it was receiving local and international publicity, has been unable to explain why nothing was done about Norman's Cay for almost three years.

• **The Code of Ethics.** Promulgated by Pindling in 1967, the Code adopts principles laid down by Sir Winston Churchill in the Commons in 1952 and follows the practice developed in other Commonwealth countries.

First and foremost, it requires Ministers "to so order their affairs that no conflict of interest arises or appears to arise between their private interests and their public duties." It precludes them absolutely from taking an active part in any undertaking which has contractual relations with a Government Department.

Pindling has been mute on the subject.

• The Commission of Inquiry

report.

Pindling told The Guardian that he never accepted the Commission of Inquiry report.

(a) It has taken him almost two-and-a-half years to make the pronouncement. The report was issued in December, 1984.

(b) Two senior Cabinet Ministers, Deputy Prime Minister Clement Maynard and Minister of National Security Loftus Roker during debate on the report in Parliament in 1985 said they accepted the report on behalf of the Government.

(c) Pindling, who was responsible for its appointment, said that it would be "a blue-ribbon Commission of Inquiry." Why has he now changed his mind?

(d) The government has accepted findings against civil servants such as police assistant commissioner Howard Smith and Defence Force commander Amos Rolle, both of whom were forced out of service, but not on politicians.

Sir Lynden personally selected former Chief Justice Sir James Smith, a Welshman, to head the Commission, as well as the other two Commissioners. Sir James, he said, had "graciously consented to serve as president."

The second commissioner was Bahamian Anglican Bishop Drexel Gomez, who was unable to say that payments Pindling received were not drug-related.

In 1983, Pindling described the Bishop as "a distinguished Bahamian clergyman with local and international exposure and experience." After the Commission reported, Pindling elements and Attorney General Paul Adderley have attacked the Bishop's findings.

The third Commissioner was Edward Willis, a lawyer and retired assistant commissioner with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

In the words of Pindling in 1983, chief counsel Robert Ellicott is "an eminent and distinguished lawyer." Ellicott is a former Attorney General Solicitor General and Member of Parliament in Australia.

After the Commission reported, St Agnes MP Kendal Nottage, acting as Pindling's spokesman, launched an attack against Ellicott and sought to discredit Gomez.

FNM COMMENTS ON VANGUARD-PLP LINK, SOVEREIGNTY ISSUE

Nassau THE TRIBUNE In English 27 May 87 p 1

[Text]

NO SOONER had Independent candidate Hubert Ingraham speculated there might be a deal between the PLP and the socialist Vanguard Party, than Comrade Lionel Carey was given time on ZNS "in an obvious promotion of Pindling, the PLP and Weslie Campbell their Cooper's Town candidate," said the FNM today.

"Because the FNM advocates good relations between the Bahamas and America does not mean that we are not totally committed to maintaining the sovereignty of this commonwealth," said FNM spokesman Arthur Foulkes.

The FNM, he said, maintains that an honest, uncompromising prime minister and a government without mafia links is better able to protect the sovereignty of the Bahamas than a compromised prime minister and associates with mafia and "cocaine cowboy links."

"We believe that friendship - not subservience, nor arrogance, nor dishonesty - is the best way to help secure our sovereignty as a small nation.

"In 1980 when the Cuban armed forces attacked and sank a Bahamian Defence Force vessel and brutally murdered four young

Bahamian servicemen, the Vanguard was the only political entity in the Bahamas that did not demonstrate their anger and sorrow over the vicious attack. All we heard from them was that the attack should not be used to stir up hatred against Cuba.

"It seems to me that the Vanguard and its PLP allies are concerned about the protection of the sovereignty in only one direction." He said they seem "more concerned about the infringement of our sovereignty by a friendly power" than they seem to be of infringement by their friends in Cuba.

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CSO: 3298/239

HANNA, PLP BREAKAWAYS DISCUSS POLITICAL ROLES

Hanna Message

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 23 May 87 p 1

[Text]

"THE MESSAGE I sought to give (at the PLP Ann's Town rally Thursday night) was that I will not support corruption in a government, a corrupt government or corrupt leaders," said former Deputy Prime Minister Arthur Hanna as nominations for the Ann's Town constituency closed without him being opposed.

As soon as Mr Hanna's seat was secured in the new House, the veteran politician who had kept Prime Minister Pindling, his once close ally, guessing to the last minute, read a short statement to his supporters.

Said Mr Hanna:

"The message I sought to give last night was that I will not support corruption in a government, a corrupt government or corrupt leaders. The Hon Loftus Roker walked away from the problem. I intend to stand and fight and weed out corruption. We are old enough to know right from wrong. This is what my constituents expect and this is what the Bahamas is entitled to.

"When the PLP refused to nominate me the majority of my constituents and I decided that I would nominate as an Independent. I declared that in Parliament. When I was nominated by the party the same constituents advised me

to run as a PLP. But it was always clearly understood that I will not condone or support wrong doing in any government wherever it appears and particularly whenever it affects the Bahamian interest.

"Although I was treated very badly and one of the last persons to be nominated, I took the advice of my constituents for after all they were prepared to go with me all the way with or without the National General Council nomination.

"And I speak frankly today. I support the brave stand of Mr Perry Christie, Hubert Ingraham and Otis Brown. We are all fighting for the same things and they have been kicked out because they stood against wrong doing in the high place.

"The fact that the FNM did not oppose me I do not regard as a sign of weakness. It shows that we have matured. I had no discussions or no arrangements with the FNM and I have no intention of joining the FNM.

"I go down to Parliament to represent all the people of all the Bahamas and I hope I can do so under a worthy PLP government.

"But above all, I do so as a true son of this nation and I pray that God will give me the wisdom and the strength to

recognize and do the right thing at all times."

Mr Hanna castigated ZNS radio for either deliberately or otherwise misrepresenting what he had said at Thursday night's rally.

"They left out the main theme that the PLP must come to grips with its problems, some of which are greed and corruption within its ranks and that we cannot declare innocent those condemned by the Commission of Inquiry or by other discoveries. I said what I would support."

Ingraham Remarks

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 23 May 87 p 1

[Text]

COOPER'S Town, Abaco: Independent candidate Hubert Ingraham told hundreds of supporters here last night that he, A D Hanna and Perry Christie will not support Sir Lynden Pindling as Prime Minister of the Bahamas.

Addressing a rally in Cooper's Town last night Mr Ingraham, the incumbent, who, accompanied by a large number of his constituents, nominated earlier that day said he wanted to clear up any doubts as to whether he, A D Hanna or Perry Christie were PLP or FNM.

He said the last time the Prime Minister was in Abaco he told them too many confusing stories about their (Ingraham, Christie and Hanna's) intentions.

"If I have a deal (with the FNM), Hanna has a deal. If Hanna has a deal Christie has a deal," he said. "We here in this constituency have been asked a number of questions by Pindling and have been told a number of things by him. One of the things he said was let Hubert tell you whether he has a deal with the FNM or not."

He said Sir Lynden and his supporters need to get their stories straight. First, said Mr Ingraham, they had said he was an independent who could not do anything for them "and then in the same breath from the same podium they now say I have a deal with the FNM."

He said the PLP has questioned the Opposition's decision not to run a candidate in his constituency "but ask him this for me. Why didn't the FNM run against A D Hanna who ran as a PLP candidate and is the only elected member of the Bahamas Parliament.

"If he is on board Pindling's ship as a PLP candidate why wouldn't the FNM run against him? Does he have a deal with the FNM? I believe I can say on behalf of all of them that Hanna, Christie and myself will

continue to refuse to support Lynden Oscar Pindling as Prime Minister of the Bahamas."

He said despite all the things that Sir Lynden has done that was good and they supported him, they have paid him back ten-fold and "we made him Prime Minister four times."

"But", he said, "he has let us down, embarrassed us and made us ashamed."

He said that Kendal Nottage to the PLP is like some member of a family who wants to hide when anyone comes around because the family don't want him to be seen.

"The PLP is not proud of Kendal Nottage. The PLP is dead ashamed of Nottage because how else does a party explain that Kendal Nottage and George Smith can run on a PLP ticket and that Christie and Ingraham cannot, just for speaking up against them.

"How is it that Pindling, the leader of the crew, a man who could not explain where hundreds of thousands of dollars came from which he spent. What are you doing spending money if you don't know where it came from?"

Nobody, said Mr Ingraham, has run as an independent candidate in 20 years. In 1967 the PLP government did not run against three candidates - Sir Randol Fawkes in St Barnabas, Norman Solomon in San Salvador and Mr A R Braynen in North Eleuthera.

"Why didn't the PLP run against them in '67? did they have a deal with them? No, they didn't believe they could win.

"We welcome support from all and anybody because whatever support we can get to ensure that Abaco continues to make the right choice we are grateful for. We are grateful for the FNM support and we are grateful for the former UBP support," said Mr Ingraham.

Referring to the Prime Minister's prediction Friday that the PLP would win no less than 30 seats, Mr Ingraham said, "believe you me I live in Nassau and unfortunately Nassau is gone from the PLP."

"The last time Abaco stuck with a Government when others had changed their minds was in 1967 and we aint stop paying for that yet and that was 20 years ago...we stuck with the UBP in Abaco in 1967 while the rest of the Bahamas was changing," said Mr Ingraham. "Do not make that same mistake again. Don't let history repeat itself.

"Pindling and the PLP cannot stand for Hubert Ingraham to get back in the House of Assembly. Pindling said I had his head turned upside down for two years so can you imagine if you gave me five years to work on that head!"

He said something is wrong with the Prime Minister's head because he told him not to get FNM votes or UBP votes "but everyone seeking to be elected tries to get as many votes as they can. Pindling wants to get them too. It's just that he can't get them so he curses them."

He said the PLP government is going to try every trick in the book to win this election "but we will do what we are supposed to do for our children."

Mr Ingraham said that one thing he has always been proud of in Abaco from Grand Cay to Dundas Town is that there is no one who can say that during the last ten years he has victimised or threatened anyone whether they voted for him or not.

"Now this new commie-head boy come to town and is threatening everybody," said Mr Ingraham, referring to his opponent Wesley Campbell of the PLP. "While we aren't going to be picking any fights during the campaign we aren't going to be ducking any blows either.

"We want a peaceful election campaign and we know the other side has to tell lies about us. The Prime Minister has been telling lies about me but even our Lord and Master has a way of dealing with persons who come out and tell lies. Don't be concerned about that because they cannot fight the truth. They cannot stand it. They have to make up a story.

"What else do you tell the people when you send an un-

employed candidate to run? Why is he running comrade Campbell who isn't working? Who is the Vanguard candidate in this election? Why in 1987 has the Vanguard Nationalist and Socialist Party decided not to run a candidate in this election. I tell you a wolf is a wolf no matter how he is dressed."

There will be a rally in Dundas Town tonight where Mr Ingraham will discuss his campaign platform.

FNM Backing for Hanna

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 23 May 87 pp 1, 7

[Article by Alexis Wallace]

[Excerpts]

HOURS after Arthur Hanna was returned to Parliament unopposed on a PLP ticket "full support" was thrown behind him by FNM Deputy Leader Cecil Wallace-Whitfield.

A policeman estimated that the FNM rally had attracted about 7,500 supporters to the R M Bailey playing field last night. Others estimated the crowd at over 10,000. They cheered loudly when Mr Whitfield told them that by being elected to Parliament Friday Mr Hanna was able to say "like many thousands of Bahamians that he was free at last of the crab and Pindling."

"And I am sure that even though my friend in the Ann's Town constituency, the only member for Parliament who has already been elected, says that he is in the PLP I know that what he reasserts is that he is in the free PLP.

"Because the remainder of his statement said I will not support corruption and I will

not support a corrupt Government.

"And by being elected to Parliament today he was able to say like many other thousands of us free at last of that crab, free at last of Pindling and he obviously is saying that he is supporting Hubert, Perry and anybody else who stands up for honesty and decency in our country."

Mr Whitfield said that "collectively, a long time ago we in the FNM recognised that there are some decent PLPs and we recognised that Hubert Ingraham, Perry Christie and Arthur Hanna were three decent PLPs who were fighting like us against corruption.

"And we consciously decided as a party that we would not oppose them and we would let Pindling oppose them if he wished, but we would like to see the three of them returned to Parliament because they stand up against corruption in Government." Car horns sounded and the crowd roared their ap-

proval.

"Just the other week I was in Inagua and Mayaguana and I hear Pindling talking about what seats he is going to win, but I want to tell you that you don't have to worry about Vernon Symonette. Vernon Symonette is as safe as if he were running in Grand Bahama.

"And all the crap that ZNS comes up with trying to fool people we invited them to go down to Inagua and Mayaguana, we invited them to go down to Acklins and Crooked Island so that they could make an honest and true report to the people of this country.

"But, the only reports that we get are those reports which Pindling wants us to get and they distort the facts and the truth. I listened to the report that was given at 12 noon (Friday) over the radio that we could hear in Grand Bahama and the staff there gave an honest and fair report."

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CS0: 3298/239

TUC STANDS WITH FNM, INCURS ONE UNION LEADER'S CRITICISM

Hotel Workers Union Objection

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 9 May 87 p 8

[Article by Anthony Forbes]

[Text]

LEADERS of the Trade Union Congress who years ago condemned rational and close union/party relations, have now gone back on their criticisms, word and honour by entering an accommodation with the FNM, Hotel Union President Thomas Bastian charged at the PLP convention last Wednesday.

Addressing the PLP's All-New Providence "All Aboard" convention at the Poinciana Arena, Mr Bastian called for the merging of the Industrial Relations Act and the Fair Labour Standards Act along with several amendments to provide more protection for workers.

"As president of the largest, most stable and solid trade union in this country, we must address some specific preoccupation which are more directly related to the day-to-day activities of the working class," said Mr Bastian, whose union broke away from the TUC just before the 1982 general elections.

"We in the labour movement would like to see one coherent and comprehensive legislation encompassing industrial relations and immigration matters which are directly related to labour relations," Mr Bastian said.

Mr Bastian said that the labour movement would like to see the Industrial Relations Act merge with the Fair Labour Standards Act and include amendments which stipulate:

- (1) That trade unionists be authorised to go before arbitration tribunals and not only lawyers;
- (2) That there be more protection for workers to cover:
 - (a) Reinstatement or fine for wrongful dismissal;
 - (b) Legislation for severance pay and proper notice;
 - (c) Protection for women against sexual harassment at the work place;
 - (d) Freedom of association in accordance with the ILO convention which allows international labour federations affiliations;
 - (e) Immigration law to protect interests of Bahamian workers in accordance with Bahamianization policy;
 - (f) An act to protect mothers who go off on maternity leave with guaranteed rights to re-employment or heavy fine after such leave.

Mr Bastian said that his union has no apologies to make for its presence on the PLP platform.

"During the early 1970's, the Trade Union Congress (TUC) entered into a Memorandum of

Understanding which clearly set out union/party relations."

He said that some affiliates of the TUC subsequently reneged on the agreement.

"The Bahamas Hotel Catering and Allied Workers Union has had an historic rendezvous with the PLP and in the interest of the working class and this nation state," Mr Bastian said.

"We have done our best to implement the spirit of that agreement," he said. "We observe with great interest, that same leader of the minority TUC now speak of an accommodation with another political party."

"Those who in yester-years condemned rational and close union/party relations have now gone back on their criticisms, word and honour," Mr Bastian said.

Mr Bastian noted that in a democracy, a union has a right to support any party of its choice.

"However, as a leader of a very important democratic and patriotic institution, we must advise and give historical continuity to the labour movement and do not run like a rat at the first sight of the hurricane which seems to be engulfing this nation state," he said.

He said that union, party, state relations are complex,

especially in an under-developed country like the Bahamas with a fragile economic base.

Mr Bastian said he is confident that the PLP will listen to the anguished voice, dreams and aspirations of the labour movement.

In the area of foreign policy, he said the labour movement would like to state categorically that the PLP must continue its policy of close, amicable and economically beneficial relations with North America, based on respect for our national sovereignty and the right to self determination.

"At the same time, as a Bahamian people, we must not abandon our Caribbean heritage and dimension," he said. "Our embrace of other Caribbean peoples and nations will strengthen our original identity and balance it against the powerful influences from other parts of the world."

He said the labour movement supports wholeheartedly the PLP's leadership in placing the Bahamas in Caricom, our participation in Carifta Games and the desire expressed for the Bahamas to represent the entire Caribbean on the governing body of the International Labour Organisation.

Archer Slap at PLP

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 30 May 87 p 1

[Article by Alexis Wallace]

[Text]

THE Progressive Liberal Party's recent promises to foreshadow changes in labour laws will not change the Trade Union Congress' stand with the Free National Movement.

BCPOU president, Keith Archer, told thousands of FNM supporters last night that the bill for the changes in Labour laws have been with Government since 1977. The union president said that he would have to be a fool to keep on supporting something that was doing "nothing" for him.

He said that his union was looking for an FNM government to change many of the present governments' "screw ups." Workers, he said, must demand their fair share of this nation's wealth.

Speaking at a massive FNM rally held last night at the Queen Elizabeth Sports Centre the union leader was well received by FNMs.

"The majority of you here tonight are working people and the majority of you probably do not belong to a trade union and that is because of the PLP administration," said Mr Archer.

"There is nothing wrong in this

country with being involved in a trade union. Trade unions in this country are like institutions, the church, sports, government.

"But because of the lack of support, the lack of interest, the lack of most important things that the Government has decided that they will not order for the trade unions of this country we in the TUC decided that we would sit down and look at why we should support the FNM and not the PLP," he said.

"This was not taken lightly, we sat down and we looked and we examined the record of the Government in dealing with the trade unions in this country, and I'm talking about real trade unions.

"Each and everyone of us who goes to the polls on the 19th of June, 99% of us would be workers. It's something that the politicians must understand, that the workers make this country right.

"We decided that from 1977 we have been giving the PLP Government changes to be made in the best interest of working people in this country, be it unionised workers or un-unionised, and to date nothing has happened," he said.

"Now I have got to be a fool, if I am going to keep on supporting something that isn't doing anything for me and there are too many workers in this country who pay political patronage ... they are not getting anything for it, and that is not right.

"As a leader of a trade union organisation my first aim and object is to look after the members of that organisation," said Mr Archer.

"The politician is supposed to look after the whole country, but if the politician does not take into consideration what's good for the workers of this country then we need to get rid of those politicians."

"BEC the other day had to tackle the Government, literally tackle them. BaTelCo over the years, when they aren't locking us up, they're just destroying you and God help the teachers.

Mr Archer said that the teachers have been taken the most advantage of in this country "and it's only because the teachers do not put revenue into the Government's pockets, that is no reason for the Government to treat the teachers the way they do.

"You have the Public Service, the largest group of workers in this country." Mr Archer wanted to know why the unions were being treated so badly by Government today when Government had come to power through the unions.

"Because in the early days the only people that were fighting out front for the people of this country were the trade union leaders. We do not want the people to believe that the trade unions of this country are only out to destroy it, that is wrong.

"It would seem so because we have to fight so hard for our dollar, but our position in the TUC is that why fight so hard for our dollar from a government

that has had so much money outside of the government," said the union leader.

"They keep bragging about the economy of this country when the problem of what's wrong in this country is that the money is not being spread around evenly and we in the trade unions and we as workers in this country must insist that all politicians, be it FNM or PLP, that we receive a fair share of this economy.

"I heard the other day that come labour day they have intentions of foreshadowing labour legislations to the Industrial Relations Act," Mr Archer said.

"You know it's really ridiculous, all these years, they had chances upon chances, we sent them two sets of revised labour legislations to put into an act for the betterment of workers in this country and to date nothing has happened.

"Now, I have got to be crazy to follow something like that," he said. "I heard the other day that the Trade Unions should follow the PLP tradition but, when you go to City Meat or Super Value, you don't spend traditions."

"If somebody is doing nothing for you get them out! I was glad to hear that the leader of this organisation say that if they (the FNM) don't produce the people of this country should kick them out."

"And that is what this whole thing is all about," said Mr Archer. "We who are running for national offices of this country have to produce for the people of this country be it FNM or PLP and if your not producing then get out!"

"As I told Mr Isaacs in Freeport, the workers of this country are depending on him to help us up, we are going to help him out," said Mr Archer, "and we are looking for him to help us out."

/9274

CSO: 3298/239

TEACHERS UNION CHIEF, OTHER OFFICERS REELECTED

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 9 May 87 p 7

[Text]

BAHAMAS Union of Teachers President Donald Symonette and his slate of officers were returned to power April 30 in early elections brought about by an Investigating Committee's Report alleging misappropriation of union funds.

Mr Symonette, a mathematics teacher at C C Sweeting, won by a landslide over challenger Charles Moxey, a teacher at Government High School, outpolling him by a margin of 450 to 181.

Vice President Brensil Rolle polled 395 votes to retain his post by a large margin over his two opponents, Cheryl Bowe, 129, and Malachi Lundy, 69.

Secretary general Leslie Dean easily defeated opponents, Hermis Chisholm and Gerry Oldham, who polled 84 and 87 votes respectively.

For the post of Assistant Secretary General, left vacant when Mr Dean moved up to replace former Secretary General Kingsley Black late last year,

Denise Mortimer defeated Jerome Cartwright by a margin of 409 to 215.

Treasurer Johnley Ferguson also retained his post by outdistancing Hartley Smith by a score of 484 to 136.

Five persons were elected to the post of Executive Officer. They are: Paul Burrows, 453; Tyrone Gibson, 318; Philip Dorsett, 515; Cardinal Smith, 400; and Ida Poitier, 434.

The losers for that post were: Averell Mortimer, 228; Tyrone Miller, 221; and Veronica Gomez, 303.

Elected Trustees were: Alvin Smith, 482 votes; Olrice Nixon, 422 and Eulamae Gaitor, 459. Loria Lightbourne, who polled only 238 votes, was defeated.

The elections was supervised by the Ministry of Labour and held in New Providence, Grand Bahama, Abaco, Exuma and

Eleuthera.

The poll was conducted from 9am to 5pm on Thursday, May 30, at Walker's Hall, Bethel Avenue.

All of the defeated candidates, with the exception of Mortimer, Lundy and Chisholm, ran on the slate of Mr Moxey, the presidential challenger.

Former secretary General Kingsley Black, who had announced his intention to run for president, withdrew from the race just over a week before the election.

The election was recommended by the report of the investigating committee which conducted inquiries into allegations of misappropriation of union funds.

Mr Moxey and his slate had charged that the present executive had been compromised by the report.

Meanwhile, Mr Symonette and his slate ran on the record of achievement by the executive during its term in office.

/9274

CSO: 3298/239

CAREER OFFICER HORTON NAMED COMPTROLLER OF CUSTOMS

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 28 May 87 pp 1, 13

[Text]

MR WILFRED A Horton was recently promoted to Comptroller of the Customs Department, the Ministry of Finance announced today.

A career customs officer, Mr Horton joined the public service in 1958 as a clerk attached to the then Colonial Secretary's Office. Within six months he was transferred to the Customs Department where he advanced steadily through the ranks to his present position.

Mr Horton received his early education at Simms All Age School, Long Island, and Government High School, Nassau. Between 1962 and 1963 he was in Trinidad and Tobago on a Customs Training Course. In 1968 Mr Horton completed the United Kingdom Customs and Excise Course. He also holds a certificate in Public Administration from the University of Manchester, U.K.

Taking over from Mr Horton as Senior Deputy Comptroller of Customs is Patrick E A Bailey. Mr Bailey has been with the Customs Department since 1956. He holds a Master of Business Administration Degree

from the University of Miami. In his last position as Deputy Comptroller, which he held from 1982 to 1986, Mr Bailey was responsible for the administration of customs in Grand Bahama.

The Ministry of Finance also released a list of other promotions in the Customs Department. They are: Mrs S V Treco, from Superintendent to Assistant Comptroller; Mr G V Greene, from Superintendent to Assistant Comptroller; Mr M M Dorsette, from Chief Customs Officer to Superintendent; Mr B L Greene, from Chief Customs Officer to Superintendent; Mr A A Adderley from Senior Customs Officer to Chief Customs Officer; Mr A E Cumberbatch from Senior Customs Officer to Chief Customs Officer; Mr B A Bethel from Senior Customs Officer to Chief Customs Officer; Mr N W Francis from Senior Customs Officer to Chief Customs Officer; Mr H Y Forbes from Senior Customs Officer to Chief Customs Officer; Mr W E Poitier from

Senior Customs Officer to Chief Customs Officer; Mr E Kelly from Senior Customs Officer to Chief Customs Officer; Mr G L Gomez from Senior Customs Officer to Chief Customs Officer; Mr F A Armbrister from Senior Customs Officer to Chief Customs Officer; Mr J McSweeney from Customs Officer Grade One to Senior Customs Officer; Mr D Eldon from Customs Officer Grade One to Senior Customs Officer; Mr C R Knowles from Customs Officer Grade One to Senior Customs Officer; Mr E A Moncur from Customs Officer Grade One to Senior Customs Officer; Mr W J Dean from Customs Officer Grade One to Senior Customs Officer; Mr R H Seymour from Customs Officer Grade One to Senior Customs Officer; Mr D Thompson from Customs Officer Grade One to Senior Customs Officer; Mr W Bonaby from Customs Officer Grade One to Senior Customs Officer; and Mr K Adderley, from Customs Officer Grade One to Senior Customs Officer.

/9274

CSO: 3298/239

HIGH U.S. PROFILE SPARKING PUBLIC, OFFICIAL CONCERNS

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 28 May 87 p 8

[Text]

BELIZE CITY, May 27, Cana-Reuter:

An increasingly high profile by the United States in the Central American nation of Belize has led many Belizeans to fear that the long-peaceful former British colony could be sucked into regional conflicts.

A steady increase in the number of U.S. diplomats and recent visits by American soldiers and sailors brought an outcry from local opposition politicians and appeared to add to a small but significant wave of anti-Americanism.

The higher U.S. profile even brought a rare rebuff from Britain, former rulers of Belize and its military protectors.

Sailors from the warship USS Brumby were given a non-violent but sharp anti-American message during shore leave in Belize City this month when they were heckled in the streets by youths and faced a string of obscenities, many of them aimed at President Reagan.

"You tell that ... Reagan we don't want none o' his problems here, man," one local black youth uttered to a passing two-man uniformed shore patrol from the Brumby, one black, the other white.

Diplomatic presence

British military police, experienced in handling encounters between British forces and youths, met officers from the Brumby at Belize City pier and advised them to tell the ship's more than 200 sailors not to respond to anti-American verbal abuse.

The United States has steadily increased its diplomatic presence since Belize gained independence from Britain in 1981, and especially since the pro-U.S. conservative government of Manuel Esquivel took power in 1984. From four U.S. diplomats in 1981, there are now at least 20, according to an embassy spokesman.

The Caribbean nation relies on both U.S. and British aid to finance its balance-of-payments deficit but, until Esquivel took over, had little to do with the Americans outside of projects by the U.S. Agency for International Development.

What first riled the opposition politicians, many Belizean citizens and, apparently, the British, were a two-month visit by U.S. troops and unconfirmed reports that Belize was helping funnel arms to the contra rebels fighting the leftist Sandinista government of Nicaragua.

Britain unhappy

Then came the visit by the Brumby, a fast frigate on its way back from war games off Honduras earlier in the month.

Earlier this month a local newspaper, *The Reporter*, quoted a visiting British conservative member of parliament, David Crouch, as saying, "The British government is not happy about the situation of American troops being in Belize."

The paper also quoted Britain's High Commissioner in Belize (the equivalent of ambassador), John Crosby, as saying, "We do not want a position where the British forces in Belize could be implicated in a situation where the presence of American troops in Belize can draw

us into the Central American conflict."

Crosby said later his remarks had been made at a cocktail party and were not meant to be in any way official.

The U.S. formally has no troops in Belize, other than a handful of army advisers who help the British train a small local army known as the Belize Defence Force.

Earlier this year a two-month visit by 120 U.S. army engineers brought strong criticism from the opposition Peoples United Party (PUP). The U.S. Embassy said the Americans were building a bridge but the PUP and many Belizeans wondered publicly, "Why don't the Brits build the bridge?"

The embassy, and Esquivel, told Reuters the engineers had come unarmed.

Funneling arms

When a transport aircraft of the U.S. charter company Southern Air Transport, which has been linked with gun-running missions to the Nicaraguan contras, was seen at Belize City airport a few weeks ago, local papers and opposition politicians speculated that Belize was allowing its territory to be used for funneling arms to the contras.

Esquivel and the U.S. embassy denied the charge, saying a plane had flown in a spare engine for a stranded American commercial airliner.

After persistent opposition press reports that Belize was looking

more to the U.S. as an ally, Esquivel was asked at a recent press conference if there was any truth in the reports that he would like to see U.S. forces as back-up to the British. "None whatsoever," he replied.

Meanwhile, more and more Americans are seen around Belize -- aid workers, private anti-drug groups, would-be investors and wealthy tourists.

Suspicious aroused

When the Coca Cola Corp. recently bought a huge area of Belizean land -- about one-seventh of the country -- many Belizeans expressed concern it would increase U.S. influence.

Further suspicions were aroused when it was reported that the corporation was not pushing ahead with the project but local advisers for Coca Cola told Reuters they had in fact started planting orchards for eventual fruit juice production.

In the meantime it is hard to tell how far the local concerns and fears are anything more than "just a little paranoia," as one U.S. diplomat put it.

But the opposition PUP is adamant. Its chairman, Said Musa, said in a recent interview, "We are very concerned that a big neighbor like the United States does not understand or relate to us."

"The chance are we could become merely a U.S. satellite, then we would become easy targets in Central America. We don't want to become involved in the quagmire of left-wing and right-wing guerrilla movements," Musa said.

/9274

CSO: 3298/240

'CONCERNED BERMUDIANS' VOICE DISSATISFACTION WITH UBP

Exchange of Charges

Hamilton THE ROYAL GAZETTE in English 8 May 87 p 1

[Article by Don Grearson]

[Text]

A group dissatisfied with "the direction Government is going" is preparing to challenge the leadership of the United Bermuda Party.

Known as Concerned Bermudians, the group is mobilising to win control of key electoral districts, possibly even that of Premier the Hon. John Swan.

UBP officials have denounced Concerned Bermudians as an attempt to overthrow Government and the leadership of Premier Swan. But Mr. Bob Law, spokesman for Concerned Bermudians, last night denied the charge.

"Attacking the Premier is not what this group is for," he said. "We're not aiming to remove the leadership. We just want to make the party more democratic, to make it listen more to the voices of the party. We haven't had much of a say in recent years."

The existence of Concerned Bermudians sparked a heated debate in the UBP caucus yesterday with two backbenchers declaring they had attended its meetings.

For more than two hours, MPs argued about the group's aims and purpose without conclusion.

"Everybody went away to think about it," one insider said. "Not much is known about the group."

Last night the UBP Central Executive — the Party's policy-making body — decided to invite Concerned Bermudians for a talk.

Party chairman Sen. Charles Marshall said the committee "sent an invitation to this group to address us with its concerns".

Yesterday's caucus debate was fueled in part because Concerned Bermudians generally reflect criticisms voiced in recent years by some UBP backbenchers. Some MPs found themselves arguing the group's points even though they did not belong to the group.

Despite denials that it aims to overthrow Premier Swan, Concerned Bermudians' criticisms centre on his leadership and what it considers his increasingly undemocratic style.

A survey of Concerned Bermudians yesterday re-

vealed the group's unhappiness with:

- Attempts last year to guarantee the Premier safe nomination in his constituency by changing the Party's constitution;

- The Premier's "backdoor" promotion of Independence despite a Party survey that said 68 percent of its members did not want it and an election platform that said no to Independence without a referendum;

- Increasing reliance on a coterie of policy advisors or "yes men and rubber stampers" at the expense of broader consultation with the Party's membership;

- The marriage of Party and Government through the appointment of Party Chairman Charles Marshall to the Senate;

- Excessive Government spending; and

- Arrogance. Examples included the Premier's attendance at the National Stadium ground-breaking last year, a move that effectively pre-empted a caucus discussion on the project.

Concerned Bermudians formed between October and

December last year and has involved UBP MPs, the most notable being former Tourism Minister the Hon. C.V. (Jim) Woolridge.

The group decided to become a public force two weeks ago after a meeting at St. Mark's Hall, Smith's Parish, attended by 100 of 140 people invited.

A prepared statement from the group said the meeting focused on the "apparent weakening of the democratic process" and the reduced influence of ordinary citizens on Govern-

ment decisions whether they were "a UBP member or not".

The group will hold its first public meeting on May 19 at St. Mark's Hall.

The steering committee of Concerned Bermudians includes chairman Mr. David Skinner, Mr. Herbert Williams, Mr. Harry Cox, Mr. Francis Stephens, Mr. Law, Mr. Woolridge, Mr. Geoff Moore, Mrs. Noela Haycock and Mr. W.T. (Bil-ly) Wilson.

UBP officials took the offensive yesterday charging

Concerned Bermudians was "mostly white, mostly upper class, mostly Front Street and something that can damage the whole foundation of the Party".

Mr. Law, a long-time UBP official, said: "That's not true.

"I'm certainly not upper class. We're trying to attract as broad a community cross-section as we can. We want people who share our concerns. It is immaterial what race they belong to."

More on Dissidents' Views

Hamilton THE ROYAL GAZETTE in English 22 May 87 p 1

[Text]

A dissident group of United Bermuda Party supporters may meet with the Party's central executive to make it clear it does not want to overthrow Premier the Hon. John Swan.

Mr. Bob Law, spokesman for Concerned Bermudians, said yesterday he planned to ask the group's steering committee to meet UBP officials "to clear the air about our intentions."

Concerned Bermudians this week said UBP officials had reacted hysterically to their existence, using intimidation to scare people off.

The charge was made in the wake of the group's second meeting last Tuesday at which more than 100 people gathered to list reasons for their disaffection with the UBP's leadership.

"Our biggest concern is that there appears to be in the UBP a very serious reaction to what we're trying to do," Mr. Law said. "We are definitely not trying to unseat Government."

Concerned Bermudians' said UBP intimidation included at least one member being called before his branch committee to face charges of split loyalty, misleading reports about the group's intentions and name-taking.

"We don't expect to play hardball with people who have basically the same outlook," Mr. Law said. "Don't call us rebels. We're not rebels. Don't start calling us affluent Front Street people. Stick to the issues."

UBP chairman Sen. Charles Marshall last night denied any use of intimidation against Concerned Bermudians.

"We're not in a position to intimidate anybody," he said.

However, the Senator said his original information about the group — that it sought to oust Premier Swan and overthrow the current leadership — created serious concerns.

"We don't look at it just as a threat to Premier Swan but something that could have serious repercussions for the United Bermuda Party," he said.

"We extended an invitation to them through normal channels to come and talk with us. That invitation has not been accepted as of yet."

Mr. Law said Concerned Bermudians planned to meet with the central executive but not before it had properly researched and prepared its objections.

RECENT MAPUCHE CONGRESS DESCRIBED

Santiago ANALISIS in Spanish 4-10 May 87 p 16

[Text] ADMAPU [a Mapuche Indian political organization] has held its fifth congress and reaffirmed its rejection of laws which divide the Mapuche communities. The most senior leader of ADMAPU pointed out to ANALISIS that "the fundamental struggle is to regain our lands."

Jose Santos Millao, recently reelected president of ADMAPU, the national organization of the Mapuches, pointed out: "Our brothers are regaining their lands, and that is the great strength and hope that we have." About 300 Mapuche delegates coming from various parts of the country met in Temuco between 13 and 16 April to hold their fifth national congress, attended by representatives of other social and political organizations, together with international observers.

During the 4 days of the congress they carried out an extensive evaluation of various aspects of national life and, more particularly, of the difficult situation which the Mapuche people are going through. The president of ADMAPU indicated: "We believe that, by holding this congress, we have made progress in the process of consolidation of our organization and, at the same time, we have learned from our rank and file the principal problems which affect us as a people." He said that regaining their lands--the most important of their claims --nevertheless continues to conflict with legislation in force since 1979, when Decree Law 2568 was enacted, under which their communities were divided and which, according to ADMAPU, threatens to bring about "the definitive extermination of the Mapuche people."

Precisely because of this, one of the first resolutions to stand out in the final report of the congress is that which "declines to recognize the legitimacy of the decree laws which provide for the division of our communities." It also contains a definitive denunciation of such organizations as INDAP [Agriculture and Livestock Development Institute] which "make it possible to apply the decree laws." Furthermore, the delegates evaluated the consequences which the division of the communities has had through the application of Decree Laws 2568 and 2750. The evaluation concluded that poverty had deepened, while the people were stripped of the land which historically belonged to them. The evaluation pointed out that all of that is the "exclusive responsibility of the government."

In addition to claiming their definitive recognition as a people, the Mapuches have prepared what they call an "historical project," in which they have set down their thinking on the autonomy of the Mapuche people. According to ADMAPU, this would reportedly be achieved "without any sense of paternalism" and on the basis of their own strength and levels of organization which they have succeeded in achieving.

Nevertheless, the "historical project" is not just that. It also involves a series of positions and the main lines which a future, democratic constitution should contain and which would recognize them as a people.

Language Is Identity

Jose Santos Millao emphasized: "We think that the Mapuche language or tongue is the framework which unites us and makes it possible for us to maintain our culture." He later pointed out that the congress paid special attention to this point, proposing the preparation of a draft Mapuche alphabet, for discussion within the communities.

The ADMAPU congress--which also reelected part of the board of directors of the organization--called for a massive mobilization "against the construction of hydroelectric dams in the Mapuche communities of the Alto Bio-Bio area," which could mean that at least 2,000 families would have to leave their land. The congress added that, in view of this situation, "all of the Chilean people should be mobilized."

The congress pointed out that the century long struggle to defend and regain their land and, specifically, for the recognition of their identity as a people "is linked to the struggle of the most deprived elements of our country." And on the basis that they will be recognized as a "different people," they have worked out a policy of alliances with other social groups. The president of ADMAPU emphasized: "We will continue in the Assembly of Society and we are going to work to see it reactivated and play its role as a mobilizing agent."

However, the congress did not limit itself only to the search for an agreement on the social level. The Mapuche congress resolved to direct itself to the political leaders of the country, "more specifically the MDP [People's Democratic Movement] and AD [Democratic Action]. We hope to obtain a public commitment from them in support of our claims," Jose Santos Millao concluded.

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3348/323

TEACHER LAYOFFS HALTED BY EDUCATION MINISTER

Santiago LA TERCERA in Spanish 5 May 87 p 8

[Text] Sergio Gaete Rojas, the minister of public education, stated that the budget situation has become manageable and that, for this reason, the president has announced an end to teacher layoffs.

He explained this in the course of a meeting held with reporters accredited to his ministry, during which he touched on various matters related to the national educational process.

The minister commented on the same occasion that "it was a good thing that the president decided" not to continue with teacher layoffs, because the repeated rumor that these layoffs would continue "was in the air."

On this occasion Gaete also said that 3,000 more teachers should be added to the present number of 6,000 teachers laid off in order to reduce the budgetary deficit in the educational field. However, as things have turned out, this small deficit is now manageable and, therefore, the process of laying off teachers has been ended.

Dismissals

Gaete said of the situation: "The administrative rationalization program which was provided for is now coming to an end. This is very important. I attach the greatest importance to it. In this connection there was an error in the estimates, due to which the figures on teachers not having certificates were taken from the census of 1985. However, from then until August 1986, when the period of time given to them to regularize their situation expired, many of them succeeded in obtaining certificates. This meant that the operational budgets in various municipalities were not reduced through the rationalization program undertaken at the beginning of 1987. In many of them the operational budget was exceeded, but in others this has still not happened."

At the same time the minister of education stated that "teachers felt this situation keenly. They were aware of it, because, as they were part of an overqualified service, a higher degree of rationalization would have to be achieved." Therefore, he said: "It was very good that the president decided" not to continue with the program.

Bond of 100,000 Pesos

Minister Gaete stated furthermore that the bond of 100,000 pesos, promised to teachers having a certificate but having no pension rights, is being cancelled in those municipalities which have Municipal Education Corporations, while in the remaining municipalities the bond will be given to them, once special legislation permitting this is approved. The number of teachers holding certificates but having no pension rights amounts to about 3,000.

Regarding the phrase used by President Augusto Pinochet in Valdivia that they should take care to avoid falling into "sin," Minister Gaete said that this was not a threat. He declared that "it is no threat but is a way of saying what I have just said. There is relative labor stability, which professors have to the extent that they meet their obligations and to the extent that they work in a healthy and regular way. Teachers are not being asked to be leaders. However, they are being asked to perform their duties in a healthy and regular way."

5170

CSO: 3348/323

CHILE

URUGUAYAN DELEGATION VISITS SOCIALIST LEADER ALMEYDA

PY152303 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 15 Jun 87

[Excerpt] The delegation of Latin American political leaders that arrived yesterday in Chile, is now visiting Chile Chico, 11th region, to express solidarity with former Chilean Foreign Minister Clodomiro Almeyda, who has been banished to this southern town.

The delegation is headed by Uruguayan Broad Front leader Liber Seregni, who stated that unity of the opposition is the only possible alternative for a peaceful transition to democracy.

[Begin Seregni recording] For us, this is the only valid alternative anywhere in the world. A solution to this type of problem must be peaceful, through negotiations. We must first establish conditions for favorable negotiations in order to have a balance of forces to achieve a solution acceptable by all.

Thus, I want to repeat, the problem of an imbalance of forces will certainly be solved by achieving unity among the opposition. This is what we have experienced in my country. Once we achieved the unity of all political and social forces, and even of the business sector, the whole country was together on one side, and the armed forces were on the other side. And thus we have achieved the necessary conditions for negotiations on an equal basis. [End recording]

/9604

CSO: 3348/362

CHILE

BRIEFS

VICAR OF SOLIDARITY DIES--Msgr Santiago Tapia Carvajal, the vicar of solidarity, has died at Catholic University Hospital, where he was hospitalized for cancer. The official report of the death of Msgr Tapia was released by the vicar general of the Santiago archbishopric, Msgr Sergio Vale, a few minutes after the arrival at the hospital of the top church leader in Chile, Cardinal Juan Francisco Fresno. Msgr Vale said that the vicar of solidarity died at 1545 of generalized cancer which originated in the pancreas. [Excerpt] [Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 16 Jun 87] /9604

CSO: 3348/362

MINISTER FEARS RETURN OF POLITICAL VIOLENCE OF LATE 1970'S

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 23 May 87 p 13

[Text]

St. Ann's Bay, May 17

FEARS of the resurgence of the type of bloody political violence which plagued the island from the late 1970s into 1980 have been expressed by Youth and Community Development Minister the Hon. Ed Bartlett.

Mr. Bartlett said the political violence and political gunmanship in relation to election and electoral activities had began to resurface in some communities and that if a serious fight is not staged against this type of development, "we might again find ourselves being plagued with the nightmare of the late 70s." He said that this type of experience

is one which the country must resolve itself never to go through again.

The Minister made these points while addressing the 14th Annual General Meeting of the National Union of Coop Societies at the Americana Hotel on Friday.

He said "I have seen the resurgence of the ugly monster putting forth its head again in some of the depressed areas of the Corporate Area. In the last 48 hours we have seen the upsurge in about four communities in the Corporate Area and it is all relating itself, it feeds around enumeration activities and so on."

In light of this situation Mr. Bartlett made an appeal to leaders within the Coop Movement to use their influence to spearhead a fight against political violence. He said that by doing so "we will also be preserving the democratic institutions which give each person a right to chose, without fear of intimidation of any sort."

"I want to say to you as leaders in your communities, as leaders of institutions, the fight against political violence cannot be a passive one; and the fight cannot be left to the security forces alone. It is a collective fight that all of us must become involved in and all of us must set the standard against."

/9274

CSO: 3298/242

U.S. SEIZURE OF JAMAICA PLANES WITH DRUGS AROUSES IRE

Criticism of Envoy's Remarks

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 23 May 87 p 8

[Editorial]

[Text]

In face of the protest made by Air Jamaica against the frequent seizure by U.S. Customs officials of the national airline's planes — to the extent that the legality of these seizures has been questioned — the reported remarks of the U.S. Ambassador to Barbados, Mr. Paul Russo, call for strong comment.

How can Mr. Russo, at his distance from the scene and at his diplomatic level, have the authority and audacity to say that the U.S. Customs are 'justified in imposing stiff fines' on Air Jamaica planes landing in the U.S. with drugs?

What gives him the right to say, 'I think we are going to see more fines and we're going to see more airlines

getting involved in this'?

Does he speak with the knowledge and approval of the State Department and can therefore be said to be stating official U.S. policy on this very sensitive subject?

Significantly, no such expression of opinion on this matter has come from the American Ambassador in Jamaica, Mr. Michael Sothiros. Perhaps Mr. Russo, from his listening post in Barbados, knows more than does Mr. Sothiros, his opposite number, who lives in Jamaica.

Somehow, we think that the gentleman's views, so publicly stated, come pretty close to interference in the affairs of this country — and from a position outside it, too!

Blast at U.S., 'Hypocrisy'

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 25 May 87 p 6

[Letter to the Editor]

[Text]

THE EDITOR, Sir:-

THE seizure of yet another Air Jamaica plane last week by the U.S.

Authorities again demonstrates the double standards of the Americans. I wholeheartedly agree with the Chairman of Air Jamaica that the seizure on this occasion was carried out illegally, but in order to obtain the release of a needed aircraft we had to sign a waiver barring us from taking legal action against the U.S.

It never ceases to amaze me that the authorities in the U.S. are apparently able to locate every ounce of ganja on an Air Jamaica plane or passenger, yet seem totally impotent when it comes to catching the growers in their own front yard, and in locating the tons of the stuff

growing in the fields that abound right under their very noses.

The United States possess the latest and most sophisticated equipment. They boast that they can read a newspaper headline in Havana from one of their spy satellites. It seems therefore incomprehensible that they are unable to locate the huge marijuana fields in California and other states that we read and hear so much about. Indeed, a recent report out of Washington stated that, for the first time, rather than being on the decline, marijuana cultivation in the U.S. itself had surpassed the production of wheat and corn, and was in fact now America's main agricul-

tural crop.

Why then this hypocrisy in trying to catch us on every count while ignoring the problem that exists within? I am not an advocate of the use of marijuana, but I am beginning to wonder whether this effort on the part of the U.S. authorities is not merely a smokescreen by large vested interests in the U.S. to protect their home-grown crop from foreign competition, and has very little to do with the eradication of a drug deemed detrimental to the health of its citizens.

I am etc.,

PHILIP A. AZAR

5 Marescaux Road,
Kingston 5.
May 18, 1987

Ex-Minister on 'Bullying'

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 25 May 87 p 7

[Letter to the Editor]

[Text]

THE EDITOR: Sir:-

This morning I read with some regret and amazement a report attributed to the U. S. Ambassador of Barbados in regard to ganja and the fining of aeroplanes.

The Jamaican press shows that hardly a week goes by without action being taken by our government in regard to ganja suppression. Instead of this somewhat threatening and insensitive statement from Ambassador Russo in regard to fining planes, would it not demonstrate real concern for one of the poorer but genuinely friendly nations of the U.S., if that great country with its sophisticated equipment, instead of threatening, offered to examine or join in examining outgoing baggage destined for U.S. airports prior to departure?

My own experience for ten years as a Minister of Tourism made me realise that an increasing number of U.S. tourists were coming to Jamaica primarily to obtain ganja. In many ways these people share responsibility for increasing the growth of ganja.

I would like to feel that our relationship with the U.S. was one of friendliness, not of threatening and bullying.

Surely the U.S. has a vested interest in ganja which goes beyond merely collecting fines from the planes of poverty-stricken countries.

I am etc.,

ROBERT LIGHTBOURNE

Textiles of Jamaica Ltd.,
35 Lady Musgrave Road,
Kingston 5.

Call for Government Action

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 25 May 87 p 7

[Letter to the Editor]

[Text]

THE EDITOR, Sir:-

The time has come for some serious argument with the American

Government and its airport authorities with respect to the seizing of Jamaican planes in that country.

It is also time that we stop kidding ourselves. As long as there is such a great demand for ganja in the USA entrepreneurs will find a way to supply that market. It does not matter who suffers or who does not like it, greedy men will risk anything to make big bucks.

Should I understand that after these years the law makers in that country do not understand why the rest of the region were cheering so much for Castro? He appeared like a David battling the bully of a Goliath.

giant.

They make it hard for people who sympathise with the aims and objectives of the founding fathers of that country to promote their good points.

I think the Jamaican Government should invite the authorities who display such bullying tendencies to set up immigration and custom services at our airports like they do in Canada and let them assume responsibility for the ganja-free plane-load of cargo as it is their citizens who are willing to pay so much for the damn ganja.

I am, etc..

MANLEY E. LUMSDEN

P.O. Box 526

Kingston 8

May 15, 1987

/9274

CSO, 3298/242

PNP YOUTH ARM LINKS TO CUBA ALLEGED BY SEAGA, REFUTED

Seaga's Charges

Kingston THE SUNDAY GLEANER in English 24 May 87 pp 1A, 2A

[Text]

PRIME MINISTER Edward Seaga, on Friday night accused the PNP of "talking out of two sides of their mouths", concerning issues like their relationship with Cuba, the drug situation and tourism.

He told the meeting in Manumart Square in Spanish Town:

"They talk out of two sides of their mouths concerning Cuba. They go to the United States and they tell them over there that they not going to friend up Cuba so much anymore. But, while they are preaching distance from Cuba, I want you to know that they have selected 25 members of the PNP to be trained in electioneering tactics.

"You and I know that Cuba don't have any elections, so you know

what they are gone to train in.

"Six of them left on the seventh of May, three of them left yesterday. I know the names of every one of them and I know what they are gone to do. And, if the PNP is serious about saying that it is distancing itself from Cuba and not talking out of one side of its mouth now and out of another side of its mouth at another time, tell them to bring back the nine that are gone and don't send any more.

'Bring them back'

"In the name of the peace-loving people of Jamaica, in the name of the freedom-loving people of Jamaica, in the name of all the people who love democracy in Jamaica, I call on them to bring back the nine that are gone and don't send any more, because Cuba can't train anybody in elections, they don't

have any elections and we know what they gone there to train for."

Mr. Seaga also said that the PNP was guilty of talking out of the two sides of its mouth about tourism, because while out of one corner of their mouths they claimed to be supporting tourism, out of the other side of their mouth one of the most senior members of the PNP had

made a contact with two international terrorists from Libya to marry two Jamaican girls to gain entry to live in Jamaica in order to set up a terrorist camp here.

In reaction to supporters' shouts of, "no way," Mr Seaga said: "No way, you damn right, because we stop it already."

"I have accused the PNP of starting that project. One person who is a senior member of the PNP did it, and what I accuse the PNP of is that when they found out about it, instead of taking action against the person, what you think they did, they started to quarrel about who should get the money that the Libyans paid for the project; whether it should be the party or the person.

"I call on them to discipline that senior member of the party. I know who he is, my government know who he is, and they know who he is and we want to see if they really talking straight about tourism; if they really talking straight about peace, or if they talking that way out of one side of their mouth and out of the other side of their mouth they are talking 'bout mashing up the country by bringing a terrorist camp into Jamaica.

"They talk out of one side of their mouths concerning dangerous drugs and out of the other side of their mouth they are doing something else.

"At their last conference last September, right in the middle of the conference floor, a man stood up and gave \$100,000, it came from one of the biggest drug barons in Jamaica, and the PNP accepted it.

"That same man today has bought one big property here in St Catherine, near Spanish Town, a huge property that used to be a horse racing place. It is being turned into an armed camp financed by drug money and you and I know that that armed camp financed by drug money is not there to love Labourites, it is not there to love the people of Jamaica, it is there to cause trouble and is being set up to cause trouble and is being set up for a purpose at a proper time."

PNP Denial

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 25 May 87 p 1

[Text]

THE PEOPLE'S NATIONAL PARTY denied yesterday that its Youth Organisation had sent any of its members to Cuba for training in electioneering tactics.

The denial came from Mr. P.J. Patterson, chairman of the party, responding to allegations by Prime Minister and JLP Leader Mr. Edward Seaga speaking at a political meeting in Spanish Town Friday night.

Accusing the PNP of "talking out of two sides of its mouth concerning Cuba," Mr. Seaga said that 25 members of the PNPYO had been selected for training in Cuba in electioneering tactics, but since Cuba did not have elections "you know what they are gone to train in."

A PNP statement released late yesterday, however, said Mr. Patterson had "categorically denied" the allegation.

Mr. Patterson said it was to be expected that Mr. Seaga would need to resort to his usual technique of 'the big lie' as he runs out of time before he faces the people in a general election.

It is well known, Mr. Patterson

said, that there has been an ongoing scholarship programme operating with the full knowledge and support of the Ministry of Education and the Bank of Jamaica.

The statement said: "This programme has afforded several young people the opportunity for training in medicine, dentistry, veterinary science, physical education and computer technology.

Students have qualified for this through academic performance and not by any ideological criteria. Young Jamaicans have availed themselves of training opportunities wherever they exist, and it is despicable that he should try to destroy

this opportunity of young people for educational advancement, having already caused so much hardship by introducing the university cess which has put education out of the reach of so many.

Mr. Patterson said that in trying to secure educational opportunities for the young people of Jamaica, the PNP has educational programmes with a number of countries of which Cuba is one. The purpose is educational training and not electioneering.

It is amazing, Mr. Patterson said, that the Prime Minister should raise such an issue, when he has done so much to destroy the electoral system, by firstly using a voters list that omitted 150,000 young people and by now treating our democratic tradition with scorn, by refusing to call general elections now.

"The country must expect this type of mischievous behaviour to continue as Mr. Seaga exhausts his barrel of promises."

New 'Military-Training' Charge

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 27 May 87 p 1

[Text]

PRIME Minister and Leader of the Jamaica Labour Party (JLP) Edward Seaga yesterday issued information "based on intelligence reports" that the PNP Youth Organization members had gone to Cuba on "military type Brigadista training."

A statement from Jamaica House said that "Government's information is based on intelligence reports from family members of certain of the recruits who are very disturbed at the real purpose of the training to be received in 'electioneering' in Cuba."

The Prime Minister was responding to statements made by Chairman of the People's National Party (PNP) Mr. P.J. Patterson denying a charge by Mr. Seaga that members of the PNP Youth Organization had selected 25 of their members to go to Cuba "to be trained in election-

neering tactics".

Mr. Seaga first made the charge on Friday at a political meeting in Spanish Town.

Mr. Seaga said in a statement yesterday that according to reports "family members have been told that the purpose of the visit is for a kind of military type Brigadista training" to be used in the forthcoming General Elections."

"On this basis, I called on the PNP to bring back their nine activist PNPYO members and send no more...The boys themselves would be well-advised to voluntarily return even if the PNP is caught in an embarrassing cover-up and unable to react.

The release said that Chairman of the PNP Mr. Patterson had said that the young men had gone to study "Medicine, Dentistry, Veteri-

nary Science, Physical Education and Computer Technology." However, the immigration cards of these nine list their occupation as Carpenter, Mason, Electrician, Motor Operator, Mechanic, Welder, Farmer "and one who lists himself as 'farmin'."

Mr. Seaga said the immigration cards list the purpose of travel as "visit" or "vacation".

Mr. Seaga said also that it was revealing that Mr. Patterson had ignored the other charge concerning establishment by Libyan terrorist-sof a camp here.

"The Government does not intend to allow these under-cover activities to go unnoticed and the PNP's role in relation to such activities and its connections with Cuba and Libya in this and other matters will be fully exposed," Mr. Seaga said.

PNPYO Demand for Evidence

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 29 May 87 p 1

[Text]

The debate as to whether or not the People's National Party's Youth Organisation (PNPYO) sent young people to Cuba to be trained in "electioneering" tactics is continuing.

Miss Audrey Budhal, the organisation's Chairman, has challenged Prime Minister Edward Seaga, who made the allegation, to produce "one shred of evidence" to show that her organisation sponsored students or young people to pursue courses or training in Cuba since August last year.

Charging that Mr. Seaga's allegation was another "political fabrication" to smear the PNP, Miss Budhal said the last batch of students left almost one year ago for Cuba to pursue courses in Dentistry, Medicine, Agronomy and "nothing else."

But, the Prime Minister told a political meeting in Spanish Town

last Friday night that six left Jamaica for Cuba on May 7 and three left on Thursday, May 21 to be trained in "electioneering" tactics.

However, according to the PNPYO Chairman, no agreement exists between the organisation for training in "electioneering" tactics in Cuba.

The Prime Minister urged the PNP to "bring back the nine that are gone and don't send any more." But Miss Budhal, in a statement on Wednesday, said "we cannot call back people who we never sent and about whose identity and whereabouts we know nothing."

"If any student or group of persons have left Jamaica for Cuba within the last month as stated by Mr. Seaga, it is for him to tell the country who they are and establish a real connection with the People's National Party," she said.

Miss Budhal said her organisation had no intention of abandoning a "valuable programme of academic training" in Cuba. And she pointed out that students who graduated from Cuban institutions of higher learning under the programme were accredited by the relevant professional bodies in Jamaica and internationally by UNESCO.

The organisation called on the Prime Minister "to stop playing cheap political games with the future of our young people."

Prime Minister Seaga, in a statement issued after the allegation was denied by Mr. P.J. Patterson, Chairman of the PNP, said that "intelligence reports" showed that the PNPYO sent youths to Cuba to be trained in military type "Brigadista training" since the beginning of this month.

PNP; No Links to Prague Visitors

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 5 Jun 87 p 3

[Text]

The People's National Party (PNP) said yesterday that information reaching the Party had confirmed that some Jamaicans left the country for Cuba recently en route to Prague, Czechoslovakia.

In a release, the PNP said the Jamaicans who left here recently were not, as Mr. Seaga had claimed, members of the PNPYO, or any of the Party's affiliates, and had not been sent there by the PNP or its youth arm. The Jamaicans were in Cuba for fifteen hours intransit before leaving for Prague.

PNP Chairman, Mr. P.J. Patter-

son said the information confirmed previous statements by the PNPYO and himself, which denied Mr. Seaga's allegation.

"The PNP now states categorically that the persons referred to by Mr. Seaga were members of a delegation (including a mechanic, carpenter, and a welder) sent by a trade union which has no links, association, or affiliation with the People's National Party," Mr. Patterson said.

According to the release, he also said, "The PNP also insists that Mr. Seaga must display some humility

by acknowledging he did not tell the truth, and apologise publicly to the PNP and its Youth Organization for his deliberate lie."

He added, "What Mr. Seaga said was irresponsible, rash, mischievous and disgraceful."

Mr. Patterson said it was noted that since the PNPYO challenged Mr. Seaga to produce evidence of any PNPYO sponsored persons leaving Jamaica to pursue educational or training courses of any nature in Cuba during the last twelve months, the Prime Minister had remained silent

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CSO: 3298/242

PNP HITS SEAGA OVER CHARGES OF DRUGS-FUNDED ARMED CAMP

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 3 Jun 87 p 24

[Text]

THE People's National Party (PNP) says that unless prosecutions are initiated immediately against persons alleged to be financing an armed camp from drug money, which Prime Minister Edward Seaga asserts to exist in St. Catherine, the PNP would regard the charge to be unfounded and await the prosecution of Mr. Seaga by the police for public mischief.

A release from the PNP said this

view has been conveyed to the Commissioner of Police in a letter from the Chairman of the party, Mr. P. J. Patterson, Q.C.

According to the release, Mr. Patterson told the Commissioner that the PNP felt compelled to bring to his attention the published report of a recent speech by the Prime Minister in which he claimed knowledge of an armed camp financed by drug money, and which he said "is

not there to love Labourites...and is being set-up to cause trouble."

Mr. Patterson said that such information, if available to the Prime Minister, should have already been turned over to the police for prosecution and appropriate action in concert with the Jamaica Defence Force.

Mr. Patterson also reminded the Commissioner of recent allegations which sought to implicate the PNP in a proposed course of violence and which had absolutely no foundation.

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CSO: 3298/242

NEW SOVIET AMBASSADOR ARRIVES; CLOSER TIES STRESSED

Foreign Ministry Welcome

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 26 May 87 p 22

[Text]

NEWLY appointed Soviet Ambassador to Jamaica, Mr Vladimir Alexandrovich Romanchenko was welcomed by Senator the Hon. Jeanette Grant-Woodham at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Industry, May 21, 1987.

In presenting copies of his Credentials to the Senator, Mr. Romanchenko said that it was a pleasure for him to represent his country in Jamaica and gave his firm commitment to work towards the further strengthening of the mutual co-operation between both countries.

Making reference to the Jamaican Ambassador in the Soviet Union, Mr. Romanchenko said "It is a good beginning, working from both ends for the development of our countries." He remarked on the importance of living together in peace and pointing momentarily to his country's policy for a nuclear-free world, said he would work to maintain the mutual friendship between the two countries.

Discussions following, touched on matters concerning the co-operation programmes between Jamaica and the USSR. These matters the

Senator said, were necessary to be reviewed, studied and discussed further.

Senator Grant-Woodham in closing, remarked on the excellent relations that his predecessor had with Jamaica and hoped that the friendly relations would continue. She noted his openness and readiness towards the peace and development of both countries and assured him of the Ministry's co-operation.

Present were the Permanent Secretary Mr. E. Frank Francis, C.D. and the Ambassador's interpreter Mr. Dimitri Chuvilkin.

Remarks to Glasspole

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 1 Jun 87 p 2

[Text]

THE UNION of Soviet Socialist Republic (USSR), through its new Ambassador to Jamaica, His Excellency Vladimir Romanchenko, has re-affirmed its commitment to closer ties with Jamaica.

The Ambassador gave the re-affirmation Thursday, when he presented his credentials to Governor General, Sir Florizel Glasspole at King's House.

"We praise the friendly character of our relations and attach great importance to the fact that Soviet-Jamaican contacts will not be vulnerable to any fluctuations and will develop dynamically to our mutual benefit," Mr. Romanchenko said.

The Soviet Ambassador said that his country had a sincere liking and respect for the peace-loving people of Jamaica, for the country's traditions of struggle, independence and freedom.

Mr. Romanchenko, in describing Jamaica as a "big and influential state of the Caribbean," expressed the desire for further consolidation of friendly co-operation between the two nations in the interest of the people, strengthening peace, international security and co-operation.

Sir Florizel stated Jamaica's commitment to freedom, democracy and peace. He expressed the hope that Soviet/Jamaican relationship would continue to develop.

Mr. Romanchenko, who is a resident Ambassador was accompanied by Mr. N. Sokolov, counsellor in the USSR Embassy; First Secretary, Mr. A. Yakolev; Second Secretary, Mr. T. Aliev; Mr. Peter Black, chief of protocol in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and Mrs. Madge Barrett, assistant director of protocol in the Ministry.

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CSO: 3298/242

SEAGA, PNP IN EXCHANGES ON PARTY POLITICS, ELECTIONS

Seaga Challenge to PNP

Kingston THE SUNDAY GLEANER in English 24 May 87 pp 1A, 2A

[Text] Prime Minister Edward Seaga has challenged the PNP to meet with his ruling JLP and place their policies before the public so as to offer the country a fair choice in the next general elections.

Mr Seaga, addressing several thousand JLP supporters who packed the Manumar Square in Spanish Town Friday night, said that the meeting was not called to announce an election date, but to kick off the JLP's "Get To Know" campaign, which was aimed at making every Jamaican understand what the party's policies and programmes were, as well as its record over the last seven years as government.

"I not ready to call elections yet and I can't tell you whether it will be early or late, but what I can tell you is, get reddy for Eddie.

"This 'Get To Know' campaign is going into every single parish of the country and will be carrying out a

particular type of campaign which we have named 'The Blitz'. When we lick a parish we are going to lick it with eight, 10, 12 meetings one week-end.

"Frontline speakers of the Labour Party will be spreading out into the parishes, and on a Friday night you hear four meetings going on, on a Saturday night you hear four more meetings going on, on a Sunday night you hear four more meetings going on, until we reach everybody throughout this island.

"In addition to those meetings, we will be going to the capital towns and tonight we have started here in Spanish Town. From here we move on to Morant Bay, and then we move to May Pen, and then we come back to the Parade in Kingston.

"In addition to the blitz, in addi-

tion to the parish capital meetings, I call me secretary this morning and a said to her, 'set me diary for the rest of this year and strike out every Thursday and every Friday. Monday is for Cabinet, Tuesdays and Wednesdays are for Government, but from Thursday right through you won't see me again for that is for the Labour Party'."

'Sit with us'

Mr. Seaga, however, warned his supporters that none of this would be of any value unless they were enumerated and were qualified to vote. "If you don't have a vote, you don't have a chance."

"If the PNP is serious about establishing what they support, then I challenge them to meet with the Jamaica Labour Party to sit down with us and to put your policies on

the table, and we will put our policies on the table, and we will see where we agree and where we disagree, so that the people of Jamaica can get to understand what the differences is between the two parties and what they must vote for and not vote for. Then the country will know how to make a choice.

"But the PNP will never accept that challenge, because the result of that comparison will show one of two things: it will either show that they are very much like the JLP, which they are pretending to be nowadays or, on the other hand, that they are like the old PNP, which they are trying to distance themselves from nowadays and, either way, they stand to lose by the comparison.

"They will continue to tell you what they don't stand for, what

they stand against, but they will never tell you what they stand for. Hear what I tell you PNP can't change... no matter how much canary seed John Crow eat him can't sing a tune.

"Whosoever is to lead this country over the period to come when the next elections are called, better be somebody who has got guts of steel because we not out of problems yet.

"The Jamaica Labour Party is seeking a third term, because we had to spend most of the first term repairing PNP damage. We had to spend some five years trying to rebuild, and so we have had no more than little over a year to do the things we really want to do; and

now we are seeking a third term so that we can continue to do the things we have to do and that we would have done had we not had to spend so much time repairing the damage done to the country by the PNP.

'Eddie for three'

"Tradition says nobody ever wins a third term, but I am used to breaking tradition. Traditions said that in West Kingston nobody ever win a second term, a gone six already. If you went by tradition I wouldn't be Prime Minister here tonight. I am accustomed to breaking down the walls of tradition...we out to break the tradition to get the third term.

"Tradition tell you if you work you can get what you want, that is the most important tradition... so tonight I tell you get ready for Eddie for three... when I call on you for the sign again don't bother give me this (V-sign), give me this (three fingers) this time."

Other speakers included the Hon. Parnell Charles, Minister of Public Utilities and Transport, the Hon. Bruce Golding, Minister of Construction and Chairman of the JLP, the Hon. Percival Broderick, Minister of Agriculture, the Hon. Enid Bennet, Minister of State for Social Security and Consumer Affairs, and the Hon. Anthony Johnson, who chaired the meeting.

PNP Reply to Seaga on Debate

Port-of-Spain DAILY EXPRESS in English 2 Jun 87 p 16

[Text]

KINGSTON, Monday (CANA) — The opposition People's National Party (PNP) is prepared to engage Prime Minister Edward Seaga anytime an election date is announced, but not before, according to PNP chairman, P.J. Patterson.

"We have already said that as soon as Seaga realises that he has run out of lies and that he can't find any place to hide anymore, Joshua (Manley — PNP leader) is prepared to debate with him — on radio and television, in the (national) arena, in the stadium or anywhere else in public. But that is when the elections are called," Patterson told a rally last night in the old capital of Spanish Town.

Patterson was clearly responding to Seaga's challenge a week ago for the PNP and his Jamaica Labour Party (JLP) to "get together" and "put their policies on the table" for the people to judge ahead of elections.

Seaga, trailing in public opinion polls, has until the end of 1988 before he constitutionally has to call elections.

But he has raised speculation about an early poll with the start of a campaign, said to be aimed at telling about government achievements and building back support.

The Prime Minister believes the media played a role in diminishing JLP support, and in a weekend speech called for more focus on the policies of the PNP, which he said has "hidden agendas."

"The media has been unsparing in terms of the depth and extent of examination under which it has put the Jamaica Labour Party as Government of Jamaica. And we have no quarrel with the media in that respect," he said.

At last night's rally, Patterson said the PNP was pressing ahead with preparing its election manifesto, having already completed policy documents which had multi-sectoral inputs.

PNP Prediction of New Taxes

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 27 May 87 p 26

[Text] People's National Party (PNP) Chairman, Mr P. J. Patterson, has warned that the Government was "devising a subtle way of introducing new taxation on an already overburdened people."

Commenting on Prime Minister Seaga's promise of no new taxation this year, Mr Patterson wanted to know what was behind the recent announcement of a new title to be issued by the government for motor vehicles. "Although the Prime Minister did not say this new title would cost any money," Mr Patterson said, "yet, from past experience in dealing with him, one can safely assume that there will be a charge for it," he said.

Mr Patterson made these comments as he addressed the Central Manchester PNP Constituency 'All Groups' Meeting recently at the Mandeville All-Age School.

Continuing, he counselled Jamaicans not to be fooled by the Prime Minister's announcement of "no more taxes," as the Government had already raised the finances need during the year from increases in land tax and spirit licences. He also warned the nation not to be fooled by "the glossy budget" with its "huge plans for capital investments which will never materialize."

At the meeting the PNP Chairman introduced the party's new candidate to contest the Central Manchester constituency seat in the next general elections. Mr John Junior, attorney-at-law, replaces Mr Eric Sanderman, businessman and former Mayor of Mandeville who resigned 1st July as the PNP's constituency caretaker.

Mr Junior, given a rousing welcome by the delegates, pledged to serve the constituency with dignity, dedication and humility.

Other speakers were Mr Winston Jones, former MP for Central Manchester; Councillor Ripton Melhado, Councillor Junior Farquharson and Mr Herman Lallo [name indistinct].

Chairman of the meeting, Mr Eric Sanderman, kicked off a fund-raising drive for nine-year-old Cyrene Patterson, of Comfort district in north-western Manchester, who was severely burnt by kerosene oil from a lighted bottle torch at a district fair. The \$500 contributed by party supporters at the meeting will go towards defraying the child's medical expenses.

Seaga Call for Media Focus on PNP

Kingston THE SUNDAY GLEANER in English 31 May 87 p 1

[Text]

PRIME MINISTER Edward Seaga has challenged the media "to turn on the searchlight" and examine the programmes and policies of the People's National Party (PNP) which he indicated has "hidden agendas" and "skeletons in the closet."

"There are a number of suspicious trails that are being left behind in the attempts at covering up the true identity and personality" of the PNP, Mr. Seaga said.

The Prime Minister said he had recently disclosed "one or two of these trails," and added: "There are many more, which in due course, I shall be pointing out too."

Mr. Seaga was speaking at the official launching of the North Clarendon Trust, an institution which

will raise funds to further develop the constituency, at the residence of Senator Hugh Hart, Minister of Mining, Energy and Tourism, in Kingston on Friday night.

Skeletons

The Prime Minister said: "...It is only right and proper that the people of Jamaica should be given the opportunity to judge both parties on an equal footing and on an equal basis since the plans, strategies and the policies of the party which I have the honour to lead and which form the Government are all known.

"It is equally true, if a sense of justice is to prevail, that the searching spotlight of examination be pointed in the direction of the other party so that such hidden agendas,

as may exist within the People's National Party, such skeletons in the closet as may exist within the People's National Party, may be likewise exposed so that we can re-judge on equal terms."

According to Mr. Seaga, since the early 1970s the PNP has made no attempts to remove the "radical elements" from within the party. Also, he said the party should not again be accepted at face-value.

The Prime Minister feels that the media has an important role to play in highlighting the "hidden agendas" of the PNP.

Challenge

"The media has been unsparing in terms of the depth and extent of examination under which it has put the Jamaica Labour Party as a Government of Jamaica. And we have

no quarrel with the media in that respect.

"But the media has been equally failing in the extent to which it has avoided the obvious in not putting the same intensive and searching spotlight on the programmes, plans and policies of the People's National Party", he said to loud applause.

He continued, "And tonight, I issue a challenge to the media that if it is to serve its own true purpose, if it is to serve the purpose of discovering truth, if it is to serve the purpose of analysing, if it is to serve

the purpose of equal examination, then I issue the challenge tonight to the print and broadcasting media, to turn their searchlight upon the People's National Party to examine their plans, their policies and their programmes and let us see what we shall see."

The North Clarendon Trust was initiated by the Hon. J.A.G. Smith, Member of Parliament of that constituency and Minister of Labour and Leader of Government Business in the House of Representatives.

PNP Invitation to Media Scrutiny

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 2 Jun 87 p 3

[Text]

THE media is free "to turn on the searchlight" on the People's National Party because "we can stand up to scrutiny," declared the party's vice-president, Miss Portia Simpson, on Sunday night.

"We have no hidden agenda. We have no problems...the media can turn the searchlight on us any time they are ready," she told hundreds of cheering supporters at a public meeting in Spanish Town.

But, the PNP vice-president said the media must also "turn on the searchlight" equally on the Jamaica Labour Party.

Miss Simpson was responding to a statement made by Prime Minister Edward Seaga last Friday night in which he challenged the media "to turn the searchlight upon the People's National Party to examine their plans, their policies and their programmes, and let us see what we shall see."

"I ask you the people of Jamaica to turn the searchlight on Mr. Seaga and the Jamaica Labour Party at this time," Miss Simpson said.

She called on the Prime Minister to tell the population about the economy and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and "stop telling lies and spreading propaganda".

The PNP vice-president appealed to all eligible Jamaicans to ensure that their names are on the Voters List so that they can "vote out Mr. Seaga when the next General Election is called".

"Seaga is bad for you, Seaga is bad for Jamaica. For the few who think that Seaga is good for Jamaica, think again, man. There are a lot more who feel that he is not good for Jamaica. Seaga will mash up Jamaica," she told the meeting.

Also speaking was Mr. Danny Roberts, of the PNP Youth Organisation, who again denied that the organisation sent young people to Cuba to be trained in electioneering tactics.

He spoke about a "broad national youth policy" which the organisation plans to formulate, and said all young people, regardless of their political persuasions, will be invited to present their views before the policy is compiled.

Seaga on Elections

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 1 Jun 87 p 2

[Text]

THE TIME is "approaching" when the people of Jamaica will once again be "sitting in the bleachers" to participate in a

game to be played between two teams "in the electoral contest," Prime Minister Edward Seaga said on Friday night.

But the Prime Minister gave no more details about when the "electoral contest" was likely to be.

He said the one-party Parliamentary system which now exists in Jamaica "has been the subject of much discourse and controversy throughout the land", but "nobody takes into consideration the fact that we didn't set it wrong."

"We were on the field of play, fully expecting the other team to appear, and when the umpire went out he found they were sitting in the bleachers. Having no other options therefore we have sought to carry on..."

The Prime Minister was speaking at a \$1,000 a plate dinner, officially launching of the North Clarendon Trust at the residence of the Senator Hugh Hart, Minister of Mining, Energy and Tourism in Kingston.

According to Mr. Seaga, the JLP, among other things, created an avenue to make it possible for persons to appear in the House of Parliament and to enter into debate.

"But," Mr. Seaga said, "those who should have been there have not used that particular opportunity to return, instead we are being told that we should hasten the day of judgement in order to accommodate those who sat in the bleachers when they should be on the field of play."

Turning to the new Trust, Mr. Seaga said he encouraged such institutions "as when one has either the honour or the misfortune of leading a government in which we represent all the seats, practically, the money has to spread more thinly."

Mr. Seaga lauded his colleague, J.A.G. Smith, Member of Parliament for North Clarendon, whose brainchild the Trust is.

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Industry, the Hon. Hugh Shearer also spoke. While Senator the Hon. Hugh Hart, Minister of Mining, Trade and Industry, chaired the function.

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CSO: 3298/242

MANLEY LABOR DAY MESSAGE DEFENDS WORKERS' RIGHTS

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 25 May 87 p 3

[Text]

PNP PRESIDENT Mr. Michael Manley has re-stated the Party's commitment to continuing its programme of ensuring that workers' rights are protected and that they enjoy proper working conditions and a just share of the wealth they produce.

He said also that because the PNP recognized that workers had a major responsibility for the production of the country's wealth, opportunities would be provided for their voices to be heard and their views reflected in the national decision-making process.

Mr. Manley's annual Labour Day Message, in his dual capacity as President of the People's National Party and President of the National Workers' Union, was released by party headquarters yesterday. Mr. Manley is in the U.K. on the final phase of his recuperation from illness.

He said that a central task confronting the Jamaican people was the restoration of an economy battered by six and a half years of "monetarist, adventurist and autocratic government". To accomplish this and effectively heal the mistrust and cynicism which hindered the productive process for national development, a new PNP government, he said, would facilitate the development of a broad social consensus about the major contours of policy. To accomplish this objective, efforts would be made to ensure that the various social groups were provided for in the formulation and implementation of policy, and that

these groups would have a continuous input in the formulation of policy.

The heart of this "social contract", he said, would be the National Advisory Council which would include, in addition to the political directorate and bureaucrats, participants from major sectoral interests such as farmers, industrialists, exporters, consumers and the trade unions. These groups, he stated, would function at the apex of the national planning system, providing advice and oversight for government's plans and programmes to the Cabinet.

Mr. Manley said the PNP Government of the 1970s had laid a foundation for a new and better working relationship between employer and employees and had also enacted a number of laws which improved the status of workers. He noted some of these laws as the Holiday with Pay Order, the Employment (Termination and Redundancy Payment) Act of 1974, the National Minimum Wage Order, the Equal Pay for Men and Women Act, the Maternity Leave with Pay Act and the Labour Relations and Industrial Disputes Act. These, he said, had contributed immeasurably to better relationships and understanding between management and workers.

He lauded the thousands of Jamaicans who will be working on voluntary community projects on Labour Day (today) and said: "The spirit we kindled when we introduced the concept of putting work into Labour Day in 1972, still exists in the communities."

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CSO: 3298/242

SEAGA HAILS ECONOMIC GAINS; PNP REFUTES CLAIMS

'Fantastic' First Quarter

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 21 May 87 pp 1, 3

[Text] Jamaica's economy turned in a "fantastic" performance in the first three months of this year, recording greater growth than was achieved in the same period last year.

Prime Minister Edward Seaga told this to a foreign journalist in an interview, carried by the Caribbean News Agency (CANA) yesterday. He said the growth "vindicated the growth-oriented economic policies" he had adopted over the past year.

According to the interview, the Prime Minister said he needed a third term to pursue these successful policies.

Commenting on the 1987 first-quarter performance, Dr Headley Brown, Governor of the Bank of Jamaica, told the GLEANER last night:

"What this indicates is that the strong economic recovery of this fiscal year 1986-87 has been reinforced by an excellent economic out-turn in the first quarter of the calendar year 1987.

"For that quarter, January to March, inflation was significantly lower, industrial production and export, in all categories, were substantially greater than for the first-quarter in 1986.

"Contributing to this gratifying economic performance has been the role of a pragmatic policy approach which aimed at improving economic growth in a context of exchange rate stability and low inflation."

Following is the text of interview

Jamaica's Prime Minister Edward Seaga says he needs an unprecedented third term in office to tackle the country's social problems.

the country's social problems.

"We have virtually completed the phase of structural economic adjustments. A third term is now needed to address social sector problems," he told **Reuters** news agency in a telephone interview.

"We still have important work to finish," he added.

The programme includes expanding Primary Education to cover 80 per cent of eligible children, restructuring secondary education to ensure consistent schooling for all children up to the age of 15, and university expansion.

Echoing a social services theme, he took up at a United Nations economic conference in Mexico City in January, Seaga says he also wants to extend health care by

upgrading clinics.

Seaga's popularity has dropped steadily over the past three years because of harsh economic adjustment programme and his political arch-rival Michael Manley, is way ahead in the opinion polls.

To ease pressure on public finances, he plans to limit foreign borrowing and reduce Jamaica's debt service ratio to 25 per cent by 1992, from 50 per cent now.

The resulting capital shortfalls will be plugged by an aggressive programme of public sector divestment, including the sale of 12 of the Island's 14 Government-owned hotels.

But Seaga acknowledged that,

despite the economic improvement, his Government still faces credibility problems.

"In 1985 we had a massive adjustment year in which thousands of public employees were laid off. It is not surprising that bad feeling should have continued last year," he said.

However, he believes that with a new International Monetary Fund agreement signed in January, which did not oblige devaluation, "The tide turned in terms of public perception."

"Last year we had the highest economic growth in 15 years, the best investment levels since 1972, and inflation is now back to single figures for the first time since the 1960s," he said.

Eight-Percent Growth

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 29 May 87 pp 1, 3

[Text]

JAMAICA achieved a record growth of 8% in the first quarter of this year, Prime Minister Edward Seaga announced yesterday.

At the same time, he disclosed that the International Monetary Fund (IMF) has endorsed the additional expenditure in the 1987/88 Budget, which had been a matter of concern in local financial circles, and has prepared an amendment to the agreement to cover this additional expenditure.

Speaking at a breakfast hosted by his West Kingston constituency for his 57th birthday, Mr. Seaga said that on Wednesday the Bank of Jamaica had informed him of a "record" 8% growth rate in the first quarter of the year.

He considered this development, as well as the tabling of a resolution by New York Representative Charles Rangel, in the U.S. Congress seeking to absolve the Rt. Excellent Marcus Garvey of U.S. criminal charges, among his birthday gifts.

The \$6.9 billion 1987/88 Budget was \$1.2 billion or approximately 21% above the 1986/87 revised estimates of \$5.7 billion. This was an

increase of five times the 4.3% agreed with the IMF, or \$1 billion more than the agreement allowed.

The bulk of the capital projections are being financed by international finance institutions, who tie most release of funds to the IMF Quarterly Tests. This had raised some concern in local financial circles and was expected to affect the country's performance in the Quarterly Tests.

Mr. Seaga, recalling that he had said previously that the economy had achieved growth in the January-March period of this year, told the approximately 300 guests at the function:

"It was only yesterday evening that the Bank of Jamaica advised me that they have now assessed the growth which took place in the first quarter of this year at a record 8%.

"We are not saying that we can keep this up for the whole year. We are not even saying that it is desirable to keep it up, because we might run the risk of overheating the economy. But, this 8% was achieved without the benefit of any of the divestment proceeds... It shows tremendous results, improvements in our exports and in other areas.

"Indeed, the IMF team which came to Jamaica last month, not only fully recognised the performance of the economy over the first quarter, but in the report that they prepared, for the first time, there was nothing in which we found room for arguing with them.

"I said to the team, 'From the time you have been visiting Jamaica, this is the first time in which

there has not been any room for argument'.

"The team leader said to me, 'Prime Minister, remember when you were in Washington arguing for the current agreement, you said to the IMF: Show me a successful IMF programme and I will eat my shirt. Well, I am telling you that this is a successful IMF programme.' And, I said, 'Yes, but I won't eat my shirt, because this is my programme'.

"I am pleased also that they have

endorsed the additional expenditure, which observers have correctly noted had gone beyond what the original agreement called for in the Capital Budget, because we were determined to increase the level of expenditure by the sale of assets and we didn't consider that the IMF had any business in that decision and therefore never initiated it with them.

"Now that they are aware of it, they have endorsed it and have prepared an amendment to the agreement."

IMF Target Completion

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 29 May 87 p 1

[Text]

Jamaica met its International Monetary Fund (IMF) targets for the quarter ending March 31, said Bank of Jamaica Governor Dr. Headley Brown yesterday as he addressed his monthly luncheon at the Pegasus Hotel.

Dr. Brown attributed this performance to an improvement in the net international reserves, a 15% increase in total exports, and an improved balance of payments position due to a reduction in the public sector deficit to 5% of GDP at the end of March.

The Central Bank Governor reported an annualised growth of 8% in the Jamaican economy based on

first quarter figures, but he did not see this growth being maintained for the rest of this year.

Dr. Brown told his guests that given the momentum of economic activity especially in the last quarter of the last fiscal year, economic growth for 1987/88 is expected to be between 3.5 and 4%.

He said that the balance of payments is expected to record an improvement of US\$165.00 at the end of March next year, while the overall public sector deficit will be further reduced to 3.5% of GDP also by March.

Dr. Brown spoke of a strong private sector response in 1986/87. This he said manifested itself in an

increase in the use of credit of some \$545 million (21% increase). He said this appears to have been sustained through the first two months of the new fiscal year.

Turning to the pay guidelines, Dr. Brown says returns made by firms indicated that after five months of operations, there had been a high level of compliance with the guidelines. However he urged caution, saying these were only preliminary figures.

Governor Brown continued "It must be emphasised that the achievement of the 1987/88 economic objectives will require the continuation of prudent economic management in a context of a concerned, national approach and commitment to the macro economic objectives."

PNP Countercharge

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 2 Jun 87 p 1

[Text]

PEOPLE'S National Party Chairman, Mr. P.J. Patterson, has charged that Prime Minister Edward Seaga lied when he said the Jamaican economy grew by eight per cent during the first quarter of this year.

On the strength of this charge, he called on the Prime Minister to withdraw the figure or resign.

The Prime Minister had said that figures released by the Bank of Jamaica showed that the economy grew by eight per cent during the first quarter of this year.

Mr. Seaga also said the eight per cent was achieved without the benefit of any of the divestment proceeds and this showed "tremendous results, improvements in exports and other areas".

Mr. Patterson, speaking at the PNP public meeting in Spanish Town on Sunday night, said:

"We want him to come and debate the facts, not to invent things; like how he is going around now and talking about eight per cent growth of the economy in the first quarter of this year. Nuten nuh go so.

"And the figures come out from the Bank of Jamaica established that nutten nuh go so. So-so lie.

"Seaga lied about the IMF before, he is lying about the economy again. And we are asking him either to withdraw those figures and apologise to the nation. Or if there is a shred of decency left in him, to take the honourable course and resign".

The PNP Chairman said: "We have nothing to hide...we are not afraid of anything. We are going forward in unity, in determination and with a sense of purpose".

"The People's National Party train is ready to roll any time Mr. Seaga gives the signal".

The party, he said, will not disclose any more of its policies and programmes until the election date is announced because the JLP has already adopted some of those which were made public.

"We are pressing ahead with our manifesto. We have already said that as soon as Mr. Seaga realises he has run out of lies and he can't find a place to hide any more, Mr. Manley will be prepared to debate with him...but this is when the elections are called," said Mr. Patterson.

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CSO: 3298/242

GUYANA TRADE MISSION VISITS; EXPORT AGREEMENT SIGNED

Guyana Minister's Remarks

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 27 May 87 p 3

[Text]

TRADE between Guyana and Jamaica currently being discussed by a visiting Guyanese trade mission with the Government and private sector is to be primarily on a "commercial basis", Mr. Winston Murray, Minister of Trade and Tourism and head of the delegation said yesterday.

He told the Jamaica Chamber of Commerce and other private sector interests with whom the mission had talks, that counter trade would be a second option.

The Guyanese trade mission which is here to strengthen trade links with Jamaica, arrived in the island on Monday. They leave for home tomorrow.

Explaining how trade between the two CARICOM countries will work, Mr. Murray said that it will be on a commercial basis in that Guyana and Jamaica would price each other in United States (U.S.) dollars. However no foreign exchange will be transferred between the two countries.

Guyanese exports will be paid for in Jamaican currency and credited to the Bank of Jamaica on their account. Those dollars will be used to buy Jamaican goods. Jamaican transactions in Guyana would be vice versa, Mr. Murray said.

He said that this arrangement would reduce some of the problems inherent in counter trade. The Minister said that Guyana would more readily consider counter trade in the case of non traditional exports as it might be the only means under

which some of the products in this category of exports may have an opportunity to get into a market until they can stand on their own on a stricter commercial basis.

The list of products Guyana hopes to sell Jamaica include prefabricated houses, shingles, men's shirts, cotton sheeting, assorted liquors, plywood, lumber and pharmaceuticals.

When pressed by a C of C member for a list of the items that Guyana will buy from Jamaica, a member of the delegation said that they would buy varnishes, lacqueurs, glues, steel rods, crown corks and tyres and tubes.

Responding to the C of C member's observation about the narrow range of items Guyana would import from Jamaica, Mr. Murray said that the imports would have to be done on a priority basis in keeping with his country's needs. He said that the exports from Jamaica would be subject to monetary constraints, because the transactions were to be done in Guyanese and Jamaican currencies. There would be less flexibility than would be the case if the transactions were done in US dollars, he said.

Asked by Mr. Bruce Rickards a former president of the CofC whether the opening up of the Guyana market meant that Jamaican businesses would be able to export items to that country at a level existing before the Government closed off the market through licensing and other requirements, Mr. Murray said "I am hoping and I sincerely believe that it can."

Trade Cooperation Pact

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 2 Jun 87 p 2

[Text]

THE Jamaica National Export Corporation (JNEC) and the Guyana Export Development Council (GEDC) have signed an agreement for mutual co-operation in the expansion of trade between Jamaica and the People's Cooperative of Guyana.

The Rt. Hon. Hugh Shearer made this announcement yesterday (May 28) during his address at a luncheon which was held at the Terra Nova Hotel in honour of the visiting Guyanese trade mission.

The signing took place a Wednesday during the JNEC's board meeting at the offices of the JNEC. The Hon. Dr. Carlton Alexander, Chairman, and Mr. Peter King, Chief Executive and Trade Commissioner General, signed on behalf of the JNEC, while Mr. Harun Rashid, Chairman of the Export Promotion Council, signed on behalf of the People's Republic of Guyana.

The accord marks a significant step in facilitating closer contact between businessmen of Jamaica and Guyana. The accord will encourage the exchange of trade enquiries for the respective home markets or any other third country, and will improve communication through trade publications.

The agreement also provides for two-way assistance in the area of

market research as well as permit businessmen of Jamaica and Guyana to have access to facilities of each others trade commissions.

The JNEC - GEDC trade co-operation agreement is a significant step towards strengthening trade links between Jamaica and Guyana, the main objective of the Guyanese trade mission who are currently in the island on an official fourday visit.

The Guyanese businessmen, who have staged a mini trade exhibition at the Jamaica Pegasus Hotel which was opened yesterday by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Trade & Industry, Rt. Hon. Hugh Shearer, will also look for possible joint-venture projects between themselves and local businessmen.

The agreement was witnessed by, Mr. Prakash Vaswani, President of the Jamaica Exporters' Association; Mr. J. Paul Thomas, President of the Jamaica Manufacturers' Association; Mr. Errol Dunkley, President of the Small Business Association of Jamaica; and Brigadier David Smith, President of the Jamaica Livestock Association who represents the Jamaica Agricultural Society.

These signatories are also members of the JNEC's Board of Directors.

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MEXICO CITY METROPOLITAN AREA COST OF LIVING DATA

[Editorial Report] The following cost of living data for the Mexico City metropolitan area have been extracted from reports on prices found in stores and markets at various locations in the area published in various issues of the Mexico City Spanish-language dailies EL DIA ('METROPOLI' supplement; abbreviated as MS), LA JORNADA, and EXCELSIOR as indicated. Prices are expressed in pesos and the unit of measure is kilograms, except where noted. The food categories for which prices are monitored comprise a standard list of items widely considered as necessary for meeting a family's minimal nutritional requirements.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Price, Notes</u>	<u>Source</u>
1. Vegetable oil	910-950/liter 900/liter 800/liter	EL DIA (MS) 20 May 87 p 5 same as above same as above
2. Rice	410 438	EL DIA (MS) 20 May 87 p 5 same as above
3. Sugar unrefined refined	231 (official price) 367 (official price)	LA JORNADA 22 May 87 pp 32, 16 same as above
4. Pork	No price available (N/A)	
5. Beef	N/A	
6. Beans	300 455 532	EL DIA (MS) 20 May 87 p 5 same as above same as above
7. Fruits		
Starking apples	1219	EL DIA (MS) 20 May 87 p 6
Starking apples	1469	same as above
Starking apples	1579	same as above
Starking apples	1810	same as above
Starking apples	1990	same as above
Starking apples	2390 (2 locations)	same as above
Starking apples	2507	same as above
Starking apples	2575	same as above
Starking apples	2687	same as above
Starking apples	1312	EL DIA (MS) 27 May 87 p 6
Starking apples	1719	same as above
Starking apples	1810	same as above
Starking apples	2100	same as above
Starking apples	2119	same as above
Starking apples	2490	same as above
Starking apples	2559	same as above

7. continued		
Starking apples	2585	same as above
oranges	149	EL DIA (MS) 20 May 87 p 6
oranges	179	same as above
oranges	211	same as above
oranges	215	same as above
oranges	226	same as above
oranges	232	same as above
oranges	235	same as above
oranges	237	same as above
oranges	243	same as above
oranges	244	same as above
oranges	439	same as above
oranges	189	EL DIA (MS) 27 May 87 p 6
oranges	209	same as above
oranges	247	same as above
oranges	249 (3 locations)	same as above
oranges	257	same as above
oranges	275	same as above
oranges	308	same as above
8. Biscuits	N/A	
9. Wheat flour	N/A	
10. Eggs	N/A	
11. Milk		
CONASUPO 2-liter container	150 (official price)	LA JORNADA 22 May 87 pp 32, 16
CONASUPO 1-liter container	75 (official price)	LA JORNADA 19 May 87 pp 1, 16
12. Lard	N/A	
13. White bread		
bolillo & telera rolls (70 grams ea.)	39 ea. (official price)	EL DIA (MS) 21 May 87 p 4
bolillo & telera rolls	39, 45-50 ea.	EL DIA (MS) 19 May 87 p 2
14. Potatoes		
white potatoes	399	EL DIA (MS) 20 May 87 p 6
white potatoes	550	same as above
white potatoes	580	same as above
white potatoes	607	same as above
white potatoes	617	same as above
white potatoes	633	same as above
white potatoes	644	same as above
white potatoes	645	same as above
white potatoes	646	same as above
white potatoes	709	same as above
white potatoes	519	EL DIA (MS) 27 May 87 p 6

14. continued		
white potatoes	589	same as above
white potatoes	599 (2 locations)	same as above
white potatoes	615	same as above
white potatoes	625	same as above
white potatoes	630	same as above
white potatoes	644 (2 locations)	same as above
white potatoes	654	same as above
white potatoes	659	same as above
15. Pasta	N/A	
16. Fish	N/A	
17. Salt	N/A	
18. Tortillas	130 (official price)	EXCELSIOR 21 Mar 87 STATES section pp 2, 3
19. Vegetables		
green beans	N/A	
tomatoes	269	EL DIA (MS) 20 May 87 p 6
tomatoes	398	same as above
tomatoes	489	same as above
tomatoes	507	same as above
tomatoes	545	same as above
tomatoes	559	same as above
tomatoes	580	same as above
tomatoes	585 (2 locations)	same as above
tomatoes	692	same as above
tomatoes	543	EL DIA (MS) 27 May 87 p 6
tomatoes	584	same as above
tomatoes	615	same as above
tomatoes	620	same as above
tomatoes	645	same as above
tomatoes	649 (2 locations)	same as above
tomatoes	675	same as above
tomatoes	699	same as above
tomatoes	719	same as above
tomatoes	779	same as above

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NATIONAL SECURITY CHIEF REPORTS ON THEFT OF WEAPONS

Port-of-Spain DAILY EXPRESS in English 3 Jun 87 p 1

[Text]

MORE policemen may face disciplinary or other charges following a report on missing police arms by Louis Rodriguez, chief executive officer of the National Security Council.

Rodriguez's report, which contains 22 recommendations to improve security, has been forwarded to the Police Service Commission.

Announcing this in a statement yesterday, Minister of National Security Herbert Atwell said: "It is the Police Service Commission which has the responsibility to determine whether, in respect of the laid down procedures concerning the armoury at the St James Barracks, any officer or officers have committed any dereliction of duty."

A report two weeks ago said there were three firearms missing from the armoury in St James. Since then eight people, including four policemen, have been arrested and charged with firearms offences.

Atwell also said yesterday at the request of the Prime Minister, he was examining five years of records on the issue of firearms licences because of "complaints" that people with criminal records might have licences while other legitimate requests have been "arbitrarily refused."

The Minister added: "There is clear need for a policy to be laid down with respect to the issuance of firearms licences. The public is also entitled to know what this policy is and what are the responsibilities of those who are licensed to carry firearms in this society."

Atwell also revealed that "certain acts of indiscipline have been reported to me" after last week's introduction of joint police and army patrols. "The acting Commissioner of Police and the Commander of the Defence Force,"

Atwell said, "have been requested to deal swiftly and decisively with any proven reported acts of indiscipline by members of the Police Service and Defence Force."

He said the joint patrols "are continuing," and added: "This Ministry is committed to ensuring that the population of this country is free and feels free to move about the country at any hour of night or day and to sleep peacefully in their beds without fear or apprehension."

In his statement Atwell praised Rodriguez for "the extremely high level of competence" which he said Rodriguez displayed in carrying out the assignment. He said Rodriguez submitted a comprehensive report within three days, after being given a week's assignment, on the procedures and arrangements which existed at the armoury for the security and custody of the arms there.

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CSO: 3298/243

MINISTER CALLS FOR END TO 'BOGEY OF RACE' IN NATION

Port-of-Spain DAILY EXPRESS in English 1 Jun 87 p 2

[Text]

ENERGY MINISTER Kelvin Ramnath has said it is unfortunate that there should still exist the "bogy of race" in Trinidad and Tobago and said he feels strongly that it must be put to rest.

Minister Ramnath was speaking at the Indian Arrival Day celebrations at the Maha Sabha headquarters, St Augustine, yesterday.

Said Ramnath: "Some see it regrettably as a presumed counter-point to other national celebrations, and others even suggest that it is counter-productive for our society, at this point in its development, still supposedly insecure, to be focusing on what they regard as divisive observations."

Ramnath said, however, that he saw the occasion as a national event, and part of the "unique multi-cultural society that is ours." Instead of paranoia, Ramnath said, we must have national discussion; instead of panic, we must have understanding; instead of fear and trepidation, we must have intelligent research.

"I make a major plea for this inter-relationship," explained Ramnath, "because I feel strongly that this is critical to the future of Trinidad and Tobago."

Ramnath warned that unless we put our past in perspective and take pride in our history, the richness of our diversity will bear little relevance. He said the Government was "firmly committed" to the concept of equality, and members of the Government must ensure that institutions are modified and put in place to preserve and protect the rights of all elements in the nation.

"We the people of Trinidad and Tobago must therefore labour unremittingly towards the removal of the scourge of discrimination on the basis of ethnic origins wherever it manifests itself in the society," he said.

Indian Arrival Day, said Ramnath, must also be viewed as an opportu-

nity "to educate the wider public about the elements which comprise Indian culture."

The minister suggested that future celebrations have a larger planning base, and urged the Sanatan Dharma Maha Sabha to encourage other appropriate groups to participate.

And in light of the tourism thrust, Minister Ramnath suggested the development of Ram Leela, Hosay, Divali and Phagwa into such major festivals that they are all potential for tourism.

Said Ramnath: "What about the Chinese New Year festival complete with the dancing of the dragon? Appreciation of our own cultural heritage will in itself be a bulwark against domination by packaged foreign culture."

MINISTER OF INDUSTRY DISCUSSES DIVESTMENT, GOVERNMENT STABILITY

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 26 May 87 p 3

[Article by Franklin McKnight]

[Text]

THE Government of Trinidad and Tobago has "no hang-ups" over divesting losing, debt-ridden public-sector enterprises, the Minister of Industry and Enterprise in that country, Senator Ken Gordon, has said.

Senator Gordon said there were 67 public-sector companies in his country which were losing money and this had contributed significantly to the Budget deficit of over TT\$2 billion which the new Government had inherited.

Senator Gordon, who was in Jamaica for the Gleaner Honour Awards function in Kingston last week Thursday, was speaking in an exclusive interview with the **Gleaner** just before his departure for the twin-island state, Friday afternoon.

He said he considered the losses being incurred by these companies one of the major problems that he had to tackle under his portfolio in Trinidad and Tobago. He said he was aware of the controversy in Jamaica over the question of divestment but divesting of the publicly-owned assets was one thing that might have to be faced in Trinidad and Tobago. He said the country also had to restructure the portfolio of some of the companies but a number of the larger ones presented "particular problems".

Asked if the Government would not face criticisms about divesting the companies, Senator Gordon said: "We have no ideological hang-ups whatever about divestment. What we want to do is make the country efficient," whatever the action required, he said.

Senator Gordon said there was already action by the Government

in a number of areas, to clean up the financial affairs of the country which he said had been mismanaged.

As an example, he said, in the area of the public sector companies, new boards had been appointed and had been asked to provide, within three months, an evaluation of the assets of the companies and their viability. An "assessment of the companies and whether they can be turned around" would then be undertaken, he said.

He then said if it meant divesting the companies then that would be undertaken.

Senator Gordon said he could not say specifically whether there was enough money in the Trinidad economy to sell to local investors those companies which might need to be divested, but that stage of thinking about the future had not yet been reached.

He stressed that no decision had been taken on how to handle the companies except that the Government had no intention of carrying them on the books as losses.

The Government of Trinidad and Tobago was also interested in improving the investment climate of the country, he said, and that was being vigorously pursued: with investors being able to get approvals within 45 days where formerly it took up to two years for approvals to come through on investment proposals. This was being done under the "One Stop Shop" concept.

Asked about the devaluation of the Trinidad and Tobago dollar (\$TT) and its effect on the people, he said this had resulted in the wiping out of subsidies in some areas for those goods which were formerly

paid for at TT\$2.60 to US\$1 and which now had to be paid for at TT\$3.60 to US\$1, the higher rate which had existed before the unification of the rates.

He admitted that this had "inevitably meant some adjustment" to the living standards of people including the poor.

Asked whether the TT dollar was now trading at a competitive rate of exchange and whether further devaluations might be likely, Senator Gordon said: "I really think it is (competitive). You will only know after a time."

He said it would also be important whether the economic targets set by the country were realised. "There is a good prospect of holding it (the rate of exchange) if things go right", he said.

The Trinidad and Tobago Minister of Industry and Enterprise said the idea of a common CARICOM currency was utopian. "It is an ideal if you can get to it," he said and added that he had not really studied the idea carefully.

GLEANER: In the last few years it was noted that a lot of Trinidadians shopped in Florida and brought back a lot of consumer items, video sets, micro wave ovens, even fruits...What is to happen there. Are you going to be trying to dampen that demand?"

GORDON: We are not talking about dampening the demand. Those days are over in Trinidad and

Tobago. Rather than dampen the rush we are going to produce the goods which people need and let them buy them at home.

Asked about the ideological position of the Government about who should bear the brunt of the burden of adjustment in the country, he said one of the main planks of the National Alliance for Reconstruction (ANR), which swept to power last year, was that there should be no discrimination of any groups of people. "The reality is that everybody has felt and must continue to feel, for sometime, the pains of this adjustment." Pressed about whether larger private sector companies and wealthier citizens were going to be asked to share a greater part of the burden the Senator said there were several companies which were in a terrible financial state, many of which had closed and several others which were being faced with closures. If there were burdensome new taxes they would also fold, creating a greater level of problems for the country, he said. The Government was making sure that the poor and many government workers did not bear an unfair share of the burdens of the adjustment.

Asked about the predictions of some of its critics that the Alliance would not last long after the elections and that it was too diverse a coalition or alliance to last, Senator Gordon said: "Everybody has recognised and seen that for the propaganda that it was. The Government is stable and doing things in Trinidad."

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CSO: 3298/243

NAR LEADERS AIR WIDE-RANGING VIEWS; UNITY IN QUESTION

Party Executive on Grievances

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 1 Jun 87 p 1

[Article by Gail Alexander]

[Text]

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE of the ruling National Alliance for Reconstruction (NAR) has taken the position that respect must be shown for the party's constitution, and therefore certain forums exist within the party for addressing grievances and resolving differences of opinion.

Executive members, who attended the monthly meeting on Thursday night, agreed that while the party remained committed to democracy and open Government, the above position must still be maintained.

Another development at Thursday's meeting was approval of a party code of ethics, which—under the NAR constitution—will be monitored by a disciplinary committee. That committee will be finalised at the next national executive meeting.

Controversial Statements

Members' decision on problems, such as grievances and differing opinions, followed discussion of last week's controversial statements by NAR deputy leader, Basdeo Panday, (Minister of External Affairs, International Marketing and Tourism) at a Princes Town Constituency meeting.

Mr Panday reportedly told the gathering that "a new phase of struggle had started," and in response to a recent analogy raised by Prime Minister A.N.R. Robinson, he indicated that "vomiting by colleagues may be caused by the stench emanating from the very staterooms of the ship."

But questioned about his comments next day, Mr Panday said his remarks were not intended to criticise the Prime Minister, nor were they meant to suggest any alleged rift in the party.

His comments were the subject of much discussion at Thursday's national executive meeting, when members concluded that while the party remained committed to democracy and open government, forums and institutions existed within the party for addressing grievances and resolving differences of opinion.

This view was reinforced in an editorial in the first NAR newsletter, *Reconstruction*, issued last week. It stated:

"If the NAR is a different kind of party, then clearly we must expect a different character and different characteristics. A party committed to open government and the creation of participatory democracy must be prepared to tolerate different points of view and accommodate dissent and debate."

Part Of Growth Process

But it added:

"All of this notwithstanding, a political party cannot be a free-for-all. It requires discipline, organisation, order and cohesion, and a sense of collective responsibility."

The editorial said the public should view the combustion and minor explosions, which take place from time to time, as part of NAR's growth process—a stage in the party's quest to find its centre:

"Eventually, things will settle down, and excess will give way to moderation. In the end, reason and good sense will prevail. As it is with the country, so it is, too, with the party which must make a transition from an Opposition party to a governing one."

"And it might be worth noting that the road to transformation can be long and often treacherous."

Questioned last week about suspected rifts in the NAR, General secretary, Dr Bhoe Tewarie, described the ruling party as "stable and cohesive." He admitted that there were bound to be some problems, because of the way the party had come together, but added that there were mechanisms within the NAR to resolve them.

Minister on Economic 'Restructuring'

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 2 Jun 87 p 6

[Text]

SAN FERNANDO—MINISTER of Food Production, Marine Exploitation, Forestry and the Environment, Lincoln Myers, feels that there can be little restructuring of the economy unless economic power bases are restructured.

Quoting External Affairs Minister, Basdeo Panday, who said sometime ago: "A new Government has taken office but the same power structure remains," Minister Myers said: "If this is allowed to continue, the rich will get richer and the poor will starve."

"If this is allowed to continue more and more small businesses will be gobbled up and, since the Nation's answer to unemployment lies in the hands of small businesses, unemployment will keep increasing with social unrest the inevitable result."

Value System

Minister Myers was at the time addressing the monthly meeting of the South Trinidad Chamber of Industry and Commerce, at their Conference Room, Cross Crossing, San Fernando, on Thursday evening.

He told the business people that the Government came into power in a movement for change. A desire for change is not only a change from one political party to another.

"It is equally a desire for a change in value system, attitudes and aspirations. It is equally a commitment to change in the economic power structure," he stated.

He said that change is not easy and is very often resisted by the very citizens, including corporate citizens,

who clamoured for change. It is almost as if the cry is: "we want change but I will not change. Change is for the others but not for me."

Minister Myers believed: "In the economic sphere of this selfish attitude is especially damaging in times of economic hardship when the strong cripple the weak."

Regarding restructuring, he said that policies in his Ministry assume there will be a restructuring of the economy and that changes necessary for this restructuring must be accepted if policies are to be implemented to achieve the desired objectives.

He felt that a modern dynamic food production sector in Trinidad and Tobago is possible only if changes are made to the economic power structure as it exists today.

Panday on 'Alienation' in Society

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 2 Jun 87 p 6

[Text]

CHAGUANAS—MINISTER of External Affairs, International Marketing and Tourism, Basdeo Panday, has spoken of his struggle against alienation in the society.

He was at the time giving the welcome address to Prime Minister A.N.R. Robinson at the formal opening of a symposium titled "Crisis of Character" organised by the Trinidad Sevashram Sangha, Felicity, on Saturday morning.

Mr Panday said: "I have had the honour to represent you for ten years in Parliament. The honour as trade union leader for 14 years and the honour to join with you in the struggle for 21 years but

that I have been told of their struggle against alienation, against discrimination, their struggle against inequality, their struggle against inequity and I have only been part of that for 21 years."

Concept of Maya

He told the Prime Minister that the people's perception of alienation and discrimination and their unjust and unfair treatment "you may wonder what have sustained them over those long years."

Mr Panday said: "I think the answer lies in the fact that they have really understood the whole concept of crisis of

character. And this concept of Maya or illusion in Hindu philosophy is the struggle with reality and the unreal, with truth and falsehood. They believe the function and purpose of life is to be happy. And if you suffer from Maya or illusion then you are condemned to unhappiness."

He pointed out to the fact that the source of all unhappiness is unfulfilled desire and if people do not wish to be unhappy then there should be no desire. "But then man cannot live without de-

sire, and the only desire you can have and still be happy is the desire to discover your duty and perform it fearlessly without fear and without favour."

Kindest People

"If today there is a crisis in character it is because of the failure to understand duty and the performance of it," he said.

The Couva North MP continued: "If, therefore, at times I cannot be understood by the public at large it is because I

have understood my duty and performed them."

He told Mr Robinson that he welcomed him in just being there and that he was certain that he enjoyed just being there, because despite the fact of their alienation, despite the fact of their feeling he would find that the people of Felicity are among the warmest, the kindest people he could find.

Minister of Energy, Kelvin Ramnath and Minister of Planning and Reconstruction, Winston Dookeran were also present.

More on Panday Remarks

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 5 Jun 87 p 7

[Text]

THE POPULATION must understand the difference between the Government and a political party, between ruling and reigning, and between office and power, declared Basdeo Panday, Minister of External Affairs, International Marketing and Tourism, in an address to the Couva North Constituency convention Wednesday night at the Rienzi Complex, Couva.

The convention, which was attended by Prime Minister, A.N.R. Robinson, cheered loudly when Mr Panday said, "when you begin to understand that distinction, you will understand what happened on December 15 at the General Elections."

Mr Panday said that during the People's National Movement 30-year rule, the whole country felt that they were second class citizens and to some extent the feeling still existed in the country at this time.

"This alienation was a legacy handed down by colonialism, and at this moment we are striving to put an end to this feeling that you do not belong to this country. We spoke with evangelical zeal before the elections to get you to come together and to make you feel equal. We are continuing to carry the fight to remove prejudices, injustices, inequality and unfair treatment in the society," he

said.

Mr Panday said that 360,000 people voted for the NAR while 180,000 supported the People's National Movement, but to many living in our country the "PNM is still in power. An end must be put to this way of life," he added.

The Minister said that when a new Government is voted into office, large influential groups try to get into their good graces and this was a dangerous trend.

"These groups try to get the Government to make decisions in their favour," he said.

"This has led to the beginning of your frustration as you have been expecting more from this Government during the six months that they have been in office. There is a feeling in the society that as far as power is concerned nothing has changed. There is a perception in the country that the people who were in control before December 15 are still in office and this has led to a feeling of frustration," Mr Panday stressed.

Slow In Coming

Mr Panday said that "at least the country should be seeing signs that at least the mechanism and the institutions for change are in place to deal with the problems of inequality in the society, but this is slow in coming. There is a feeling that people do not know where to go for redress. Those who bring pressure on the society must be investigated and exposed."

Mr Panday called on his constituents to be alert and vigilant and "you must organize yourself to be a very influential factor on the behaviour of Government. As far as I am concerned that struggle continues. This I regard as one of my fundamental duties."

"There must be no discrimination in the society. You must remember that the Government is your servant. They are in office as a result of your vote and they must continue to serve you loyally and faithfully," he said.

Mr Panday then stressed: "You are doing nothing wrong if you criticise the Government from time to time if in your opinion you feel that they are going off course. You must not fail to condemn and criticise me if I am going wrong. This is the essence of good Government. I might be wrong at time because when you are in the forest it is often difficult to tell the wood from the trees."

Mr Panday said that he was committed to the unity that shaped the NAR from the beginning and "if I say anything that appears to be in conflict it is not so. The Party is firmly united and I will do everything in my power to keep it so. Some people are destined to struggle all their lives and I am one of those."

"We must begin to rise above the depression of the past. We must pull ourselves up by the bootstrap. I hope that I have imbued you with a spirit to remove the illusions of the past," Mr Panday ended.

NAR Aim: New Political Culture

Port-of-Spain DAILY EXPRESS in English 2 Jun 87 p 11

[Text]

THE National Alliance for Reconstruction (NAR) Government intends

to create a new political culture in Trinidad and Tobago and expects the Constitution Review Commission will draft a new Constitution suitable to the times.

These opinions were expressed by Attorney-General Selwyn Richardson in a recent interview with the NAR's newspaper *Reconstruction*, the first issue of which was published last

month.

"There is no way this NAR Government would attempt to foist any new form or system of Government on the people," Richardson told *Reconstruction*.

The Attorney-General said it was likely the Commission would hold hearings and meetings throughout the country to encourage maximum participation.

In announcing ap-

pointment of the Commission in Parliament on May 8, Richardson also said it would look at urgent matters and advise the Government on these while it met. The Commission is to determine its own methods and procedures.

"Following this exercise," the report on the interview says, "a final report embodying all the Commission's recommendations will be put

to Government for action."

The present Republican Constitution was enacted in August 1976 and Trinidad and Tobago proclaimed a Republic within the Commonwealth of Nations on September 24 of same year.

Chairman of the new Constitution Review Commission is former Chief Justice Sir Isaac Hyattali.

Party Organ on NAR Growth

Port-of-Spain DAILY EXPRESS in English 3 Jun 87 p 31

[Text]

THE "combustion" and "minor explosions" that have been taking place in the National Alliance for Reconstruction (NAR) are "a stage in the quest by the party as an institution to find its centre" and part of the "process of growth," says the editorial in the first issue of the NAR's party paper, *Reconstruction*.

"What kind of party is the NAR?" the editorial asks, "Will the party survive? Will it cohere? Will it be able to govern?"

These questions, prompted by recent events, deserve an answer, it suggests, "partly

because those who ask such questions do so out of a genuine concern for the NAR, the new Government, and indeed the country itself."

But answers must also be supplied because "the Opposition, desperate as they are, are sure to seize every available opportunity to capitalize on any situation of doubt or uncertainty."

Firstly, as the party grows and moves towards finding its centre, the editorial maintains, "things will settle down and excess will give way to moderation; in the end moderation and good sense will prevail."

Secondly, there is an "urgent need to intensify

the party-building process" to ensure the NAR plays a "vanguard role in the transformation process," while remaining democratic, disciplined and cohesive.

Thirdly, since it is neither desirable nor likely the NAR will ever "remotely resemble" the People's National Movement, because of the way the NAR came together and evolved, it must show its own characteristics.

"A party committed to open government and to the creation of participatory democracy," the editorial suggests, "must be prepared to tolerate different points of view and to accommodate dis-

sent and debate."

But a political party cannot be a "free for all," it cautions, "a political party requires discipline, organisation, order and cohesion and a sense of collective responsibility."

These are prerequisites for institutionalising the party, making structures function, and "purposeful action of a concerted nature."

The small paper deals with a number of other issues including the NAR's new party constitution and Prime Minister A.N.R. Robinson's recent Whitehall press conference.

The first issue of the NAR's paper was published at the end of May.

Robinson on 'New Freedoms'

Port-of-Spain DAILY EXPRESS in English 4 Jun 87 p 2

[Text]

"BEST lives by the word of Best you know," Prime Minister A.N.R. Robinson remarked last night when asked for a response to the Tapia leader's latest attacks.

"There is more to come," he added as he left the National Alliance for Reconstruction (NAR) Port of Spain South constituency conference in St James.

Tapia House Group head Lloyd Best had stated at a news conference yesterday morning that Tapia wished to "repudiate its links with the NAR," and offer the lead to those dissatisfied with the NAR Government in the formation of a new "party of parties." Best, one of the founders of the NAR, described the country as "rudderless" and heading for social upheaval if a new political intervention was not made.

Referring to criticism of the NAR and Best's most recent statements, Robinson told party members in Port of Spain South the NAR was instituting a new political culture which allowed everyone "to speak out or join the reconstruction effort, or to leave as some announced they would do tonight."

He observed that those who had been rejected by the population now had the "loudest mouths" and were "putting pen to paper and writing like scribes."

All this was due, Robinson added, to the new freedoms instituted by the NAR.

He urged party members not to be despondent but to be proud of the important and unique achievements of the NAR.

The Prime Minister, also NAR political leader, stressed that the country's current scarcities, as opposed to the abundance of the 1970s, presented a challenge to Trinidad and Tobago's many human resources.

He said he was confident this country had enough skilled brains and hands, and enough spirit, to overcome these obstacles.

The party member moving the vote of thanks after the Prime Minister's address last night said she had been depressed by media reports about the party and Government but had found new strength and faith listening to Robinson.

The NAR political leader had spoken at the Port of Spain North constituency conference in Belmont earlier in the evening, and said the meeting in St James was the 13th he had attended in the during the course of the current series of NAR conferences.

Ramnath on Party Unity

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 5 Jun 87 p 16

[Text]

THERE IS no disunity among National Alliance for Reconstruction (NAR) leaders.

So said Kelvin Ramnath, Minister of Energy, as he addressed the convention of the NAR's Couva North constituency on Wednesday night at the Rienzi Complex, Couva. He said:

"Despite the many rumblings that you hear, the National Alliance for Reconstruction Government will continue to remain strong and united and will remain as the Government of Trinidad and Tobago for several terms."

Mr Ramnath paid tribute to the leaders of the NAR and said they "had a strong sense of commitment. We are firmly united both inside and outside Cabinet and our supporters need have no fear of areas of conflict that will disintegrate the party."

"We are in a process of democratisation as promised in the manifesto. Do not be disheartened or frustrated at what appears to be difficulties in the party. We are in a party where openness and frank discussions take place. You must feel free at all times to criticise the Government to make sure that the manifesto is implemented," Mr Ramnath said.

Several top party members were present at the convention including Prime Minister A.N.R. Robinson, Anthony Smart, Deputy Speaker; Trevor Sudama, Minister in the Ministry of Finance and the Economy,

Dr Bhoe Tewarie, NAR secretary, Senator Sahadeo Basdeo and Senator Una Charles.

Mr Ramnath called on the newly elected officers of the Couva North constituency to map out an education programme to enlighten the community on important matters in the country.

"You must continue a programme to provide the tools to counter the attack by our detractors," he said, adding:

"We are not part of a pick-up team. We were here since 1976 and we are committed towards good government. Many believe that there are cracks in the NAR and they want to drive the thin edge of the wedge to create confusion. Many people are jealous and some are unhappy at what we are attempting to do."

"For certain the NAR would not tolerate corruption of any sort and we are making an all-out drive to stamp this out of the community but we realise that this would be a difficult job."

Mr Ramnath said the NAR was fighting for equality for all citizens in the country.

"We have to continue to build the NAR for our children, and you need to work hard in that direction. Above all, we are totally committed to a strong and vibrant NAR Government," he said.

Panday on Party vs Government Roles

Port-of-Spain DAILY EXPRESS in English 5 Jun 87 p 5

[Text]

THE GOVERNMENT must be the servant of the party and not its master.

External Affairs Minister Basdeo Panday made this point as he appealed to members of the Couva North constituency of the ruling National Alliance for Reconstruction (NAR) to be certain about distinguishing between the party and the Government. He insisted that the Government must respond to the will of the party. Said he: "The party is not the Government and the Government is not the party."

"And you must not feel," he added, "that you are doing something wrong if, as a party, you criticise the Government when you feel that the Government is going wrong and is not implementing the manifesto, or that it is not setting up the institutions to guarantee fairplay, fair treatment, justice and equality. These are things you must fight for."

He told the constituency's annual conference that the fight for equality must start with the formation of strong party groups. He said the party must become "so organised and so powerful that no government will be able to repeat what the People's National Movement had done."

He said the PNM had provided a lot of platitudes. He said that the late Dr Eric Williams had delivered several platitudes on racial equality and inter-racial equality but "the minute he had finished with the speeches he set up the most vicious racist-style society this country has ever known."

Panday advised that people must be careful not to fall for the plati-

tudes which were being circulated.

He told his audience that 21 years ago he began a struggle against injustice, discrimination and unfairness.

"It was not a struggle for me to be a Minister. That was not the struggle. It was a struggle for justice and equity in treatment. And as far as I am concerned that struggle continues."

"And statements are being made in the press," he continued, "which seem to have rattled some people as again I say, if they fail to understand me it is because I understand my duty."

Panday said that before the general election he was carrying on a struggle which he was leading with his left fist. He said as far as he was concerned all the election had done was to change the position to "southpaw", to that now he was leading with his right fist.

He said the struggle must continue with the party recognising that it must struggle with greater intensity than it did before. He said the party must insist that the manifesto be implemented, particularly with respect to the mobilisation of human resources.

EXPRESS on NAR Disarray

Port-of-Spain DAILY EXPRESS in English 6 Jun 87 p 8

[Editorial]

[Text]

THERE are some interesting sounds emanating from within the hierarchy of the National Alliance for Reconstruction (NAR).

Within recent weeks,

statements made by top echelon members of the party have created the impression that there is some disunity, some disagreement and therefore

some dissension within the NAR. Or are we simply witnessing what "open government" is all about?

Energy Minister Kelvin Ramnath would have us believe the latter, for, referring to newspaper reports suggesting the former, he told a meeting of the Couva North constituency this week that there is "total unity in the Cabinet of Trinidad and Tobago."

More than that, Mr Ramnath said what we are witnessing is nothing less than "the democratisation of the NAR, as promised in our manifesto." Thus, constituency groups and party members must "remain free at all times to criticise the government. That is our duty."

Addressing the same constituency group meeting, External Affairs Minister Basdeo Panday took this line of argument a step further. "You must not feel you are doing something wrong," Mr Panday advised his constituents, "if, as a party you criticise the government when you feel that the government is going wrong."

As we have pointed out

before, this attitude represents a significant departure from our past experience of party politics in Trinidad and Tobago. The former government of the People's National Movement (PNM) was run very tightly from the top for most of its existence in office and party members who dissented never lasted very long.

Now along comes the NAR, some of whose members are saying it is perfectly all right to criticise the government—if not in fact a duty.

This is the same stance adopted by House Speaker Nizam Mohammed when he criticised the government and a junior Minister for leaving his constituency out of the DEWD projects. And by implication, it was also the stance adopted by Labour Minister Dr Albert Richards when he disagreed with the government's decision to remove COLA from TTEC workers and by Senator George Weekes who has proclaimed himself an "independent" on the government's benches.

If what we are indeed witnessing is a demonstra-

tion of democratic behaviour in the ruling party, then it is to be welcomed. In principle, there is no reason whatsoever why party members should not be critical of one another in public; and Mr Panday's view that the party should control the government is also valid, and definitely a reversal of the way in which the PNM ran the country.

We are not entirely convinced, however, that this is a mere exercise in democratic politics. We are a people notorious for our factionalism and divisions and those currents are undoubtedly already rife in the new ruling party. We are not yet overly concerned, but we cannot ignore the danger that strife within the ruling party can have a negative impact on the effectiveness of the government and therefore retard our efforts to get Trinidad and Tobago in healthier shape. Both party and government have a tremendous responsibility in their hands. We trust they will live up to that responsibility and not let down the entire country.

Panday on Party Loyalty

Port-of-Spain DAILY EXPRESS in English 8 Jun 87 p 2

[Text]

EXTERNAL Affairs Minister Basdeo Panday said while it was important that party members support and be loyal to the leadership of the National Alliance for Reconstruction (NAR), it was also necessary that the struggle for freedom and justice be continued with evangelical zeal.

Panday made the statement in an address to the annual conference of the Couva South constituency

of the NAR at the Rienzi Complex, Couva, on Friday night. Energy Minister Kelvin Ramnath, who is the Parliamentary Representative for the area, also addressed the meeting.

Said Panday: "It is important therefore that we organize this party. It is important that we respect the party. It is important that we are loyal to the party. It is important that we support the leadership. It is important that we are loyal to the leadership."

But it is equally important that you struggle and continue the struggle with the same evangelical zeal that you did before December 15 and that you carry that struggle until there is freedom. Until there is genuine freedom. Freedom from discrimination, injustice and inequity."

Panday used to the occasion to reiterate his

loyalty to the party and the NAR leadership as well as his colleagues. But, Panday said that more importantly, he was reiterating his loyalty to justice.

He said hundreds of scholarships offered by foreign governments were never taken up. He said these scholarships were only awarded to party hacks during the

last government.

Said Panday: "Why should we allow this system to continue? To whom should we complain? I know who to complain to. I don't have a problem. I will complain to you. Because you can do something about it. Many people complained to me about discrimination in the selection of the farm pro-

gramme. But I can't send them to anyone.

He said: "Unless we set up these institutions whereby when there is a complaint about serious injustice and discrimination, those complaint must be investigated and if found to be correct, those who perpetrate it must be punished. That is the day when we shall stop this nonsense."

Panday on NAR's Origin

Port-of-Spain DAILY EXPRESS in English 8 Jun 87 p 27

[Text]

EXTERNAL Affairs Minister Basdeo Panday has said the National Alliance for Reconstruction (NAR) won last December's general election on the promise of ending the alienation that existed in the country under the last regime.

Panday spoke at the annual conference of the Couva North constituency of the ruling NAR on Wednesday at the Rienzi Complex in Couva. He said that when the opposition parties were united to fight the election the country had reeked with alienation.

As Panday was about to quote Tapia leader Lloyd Best, the audience shouted "No! No!" but Panday replied, "When a man says something intelligent you must admit it." Panday went on to say: "Lloyd Best at one time had said this was the only country which he knew in which every-

body felt like second class citizens."

He said the statement meant that people in the society felt alienated. He said this alienation had been a product of colonialism.

"When we came together as one party," said Panday, "that was the most fundamental problem which we faced. The question was how could we end this alienation that people felt in this society. It was upon that that we won the election."

"We whipped up our people with evangelical zeal, telling them about the rainbow coalition and the one people and one love and that we would establish the new Utopia whereby everybody would feel wanted and equal and nobody would feel discriminated against."

Panday said that during the election he made several speeches but all

of them dealt with the theme of one love and one people. Said he: "The struggle was for unity and it was on that platform alone that the people responded and voted for the new Government."

He said that some 360,000 people voted for

"change from oppression, change from pettiness, change from inequity, change from unfairness and change from injustice." He said that over 180,000 people voted for no change. He said that the election brought a new Government but the structures remained unchanged.

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CSO: 3298/243

TAPIA GROUP LEADER CUTS TIES TO NAR, TALKS WITH PNM

Best Statement

Port-of-Spain DAILY EXPRESS in English 3 Jun 87 p 3

[For other reports on Lloyd Best's comments on the NAR administration and Prime Minister Robinson's reaction, see the Latin America DAILY REPORT FBIS-LAT-87-108 page B2 and FBIS-LAT-87-112 pages B5-B6]

[Text]

SOCIAL upheaval, as in the 1960s and early 1970s, could come to Trinidad and Tobago if present trends are not headed off by new political awareness and action, members of the Tapia House Group told a news conference at the Hotel Normandie yesterday.

There was now the need to start fresh and "address the question of building a new party of parties," Tapia leader Lloyd Best maintained, warning that Trinidad and Tobago was now "rudderless and drifting."

The Tapia House Group (as opposed to the Movement, which was dissolved before it went into the NAR) now wished to "repudiate its link with the NAR," Best insisted, but those former Tapia people in the NAR had the Group's blessings.

The People's National Movement (PNM), he noted at the same time,

was "floundering."

He had recently met and spoken with Opposition Leader Patrick Manning, he added, and "if they persuade us or we persuade them there could be a coming together."

Others present included Michael and Allan Harris, Lloyd Taylor, Mickey Matthews and Arnold Hood.

Best is to leave Trinidad and Tobago tomorrow, for Geneva, where he will take up a United Nations (U.N.) appointment in Central Africa for seven months.

"The Government has no programme the country can discern," Best told yesterday's news conference, and referred to recent "vacuous" statements made by Prime Minister A.N.R. Robinson.

In a society as unprepared for real change as Trinidad and Tobago, Best maintained, what could result was cor-

ruption, as an "ineluctable necessity to deliver," then intimidation in order to allot scarce resources to the select few, then widespread discontent, open terror and violence.

Besides the political problems, Trinidad and Tobago had crossed an economic watershed, he declared, and the demands of economic reconstruction now existed as never before.

Best explained that the Trinidad and Tobago economy had always been expansionist, attracting immigrants to the country, but now for the first time there was need for "intrinsic development," highlighted by the collapse of oil prices.

He noted the West Indies had a history of intimidation, terror and rule by *caudillos*, not as a result of the presence of bad men but because of the breakdown of order and failure to deliver the population's needs.

Reaction to Best's Defection

Port-of-Spain DAILY EXPRESS in English 5 Jun 87 p 12

[Text]

THE National Alliance for Reconstruction (NAR) was buzzing on Wednesday with the news of Tapia boss Lloyd Best's defection from the party.

Some wondered what the Tapia House Group's "repudiation" of its link with the NAR at a news conference on Tuesday would mean for the ruling party. Others felt Best had already distanced himself and no one took him seriously anyway. But it was learnt yesterday that Best, a founding member of the NAR, has not yet officially resigned from the NAR. He was scheduled to leave Trinidad yesterday on another U.N. assignment.

The Tapia House Movement, a political party that came from the Tapia House Group, was part of the National Alliance of Trinidad and Tobago which, like the Organisation for National Reconstruction (ONR), was dissolved before its constituent elements went into the unitary NAR.

NAR general secretary Dr Beau Tewarie and Food Production Minister Lincoln Myers came to the NAR from the Tapia camp and remain within the folds of the NAR. External Affairs Parliamentary Secretary Gloria Henry is also a former Tapia member. Dr Tewarie was unwilling to say much about Best's departure yesterday, but noted that a political party, "however hard it tries," cannot please everybody.

"The NAR has set itself the task of national reconstruction and, whatever the difficulties or problems, we must proceed with our business and justify the faith of our people," he added.

It was expected that more would be said at last night's NAR Couva North constituency conference, where Prime Minister Robinson and External Affairs Minister Basdeo Panday, who represents that constituency, were to speak.

Best has said his first complaint was that not enough discussion had gone on within party ranks before the election, and since the election he has severely criticised the new Government.

At Tuesday's news conference it became clear discussion had taken place but not in the way Best wished, and a number of Tapia's proposals were rejected.

It has been confirmed that before the 1986 general election, and after his return from a three-year stint in Central Africa, Best was offered the post of party education officer but declined. He also refused any government post after the NAR won the general election.

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CSO: 3298/243

UNION LEADER ACCUSES OTHERS OF THWARTING LABOR UNITY

Port-of-Spain DAILY EXPRESS in English 5 Jun 87 p 11

[Text]

COUNCIL of Progressive Trade Unions (CPTU) general secretary, Cecil Paul, has accused certain trade union leaders of standing in the way of labour unity because of its possible disastrous impact on the People's National Movement (PNM).

Speaking to officers of the Oilfields Workers' Trade Union (OWTU), Communication Workers' Union (CWU) and

the Aviation Communication and Allied Workers' Union (ACA-WU) at a seminar organised by the northern section of the OWTU yesterday, Paul said there were labour leaders who had denied any commitment to a proposal to form a workers' party because of their links with the PNM.

He added that other "undemocratic leaders of the trade union movement" became "dis-

turbed" by the support for the move by workers and made "several attempts to stop the forward march of the labour movement towards unity." According to Paul, the PNM's defeat at the polls last year had created a situation in which the party needed the trade union leaders more than before.

He said the emergence of a powerful labour-based party would create a situation in which the PNM would lose all chance of a political revival and would lead to an end to the party's involvement in the trade union hierarchy.

"However, the workers want trade union unity because trade union unity is a stepping stone towards the unity of the working people and class unity," he said.

Paul appealed to labour leaders to continue their "democratic and mass base moves towards labour unity and increasingly involve the rank and file workers in this new development."

"Leaders must not be allowed to obstruct the course of history," he declared.

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CSO: 3298/243

NEW POLICE SQUAD FORMED TO COMBAT PRAEDIAL LARCENY

Port-of-Spain DAILY EXPRESS in English 2 Jun 87 p 5

[Text]

CABINET has agreed to the establishment of a Praedial Larceny Squad, which will operate from the nine Police Divisions throughout Trinidad and Tobago, using re-deployed personnel from the disbanded Anti-Squatting Squad.

In a news release from the Government's Information Division, it was stated that each larceny unit would consist of one sergeant or corporal and five constables.

It stated further that

six police jeeps which are presently out of service would be repaired to supplement the two jeeps now available for use by the Praedial Larceny Squad.

The group of 15 police officers who now handle praedial larceny duties would be released to undertake regular police duties, the release said.

During debate in the Senate on the Agricultural Small Holdings Tenure (Amendment and Validation) Bill last week, Food production Minister Lincoln Myers harped on the fact that praedial larceny was a "severe problem that affects all farmers throughout the country and is detrimental to the farming community," which loses as much as 50 per cent of its crops annually to theft.

Myers then stated that the "important institutions in the society do not understand how serious a problem praedial larceny is," adding that he had "no fear of

saying that neither the police nor the court, and perhaps even the Parliament are not sufficiently sensitive enough to the gravity of the issue."

It was based on this fact, he said, that he held discussions with Minister of National Security Herbert Atwell on the problem.

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CSO: 3298/243

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

BRIEFS

'MASSIVE' POLICE RAIDS--A 66-year-old pension of Harding Place, Cocorite, is among 70 persons held in another of the massive raids all over the country mounted by acting Police Commissioner Clive Sealey on Saturday. Western Division Police seized almost 2,000 lewd photographs of young women, whose ages range between 12 and 31, in the house where the man lives. Also seized were a movie projector, blue movies surgical scissors, and pornographic literature. Persons picked up included those allegedly in possession of firearms and ammunition, cocaine and marijuana. Persons wanted for armed robberies, possession of illicit spirits and larceny of motorcars were also detained. Members of the Stolen Vehicles Squad even recovered a motor-car with changed number plates at Debe, in South Trinidad, which was stolen sometime last year. Sixty-nine of the arrested persons will appear in various courts throughout the country this morning, while the pensioner, on whom extensive investigations are being conducted, is expected to be charged later today. [Text] [Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 1 Jun 87 p 1] /9274

CSO: 3298/243

COMMUNISTS GAIN GROUND WITH LABOR

PY110327 Montevideo EL DIA in Spanish 31 May 87 p 7

[Article by Nico Valles]

[Text] The first PIT-CNT [Interunion Workers Plenum-National Convention of Workers] special congress that will close its sessions tonight will elect the new leadership of the labor movement. The congress has two different alternatives: The first one is to maintain the general composition of the Board of Representatives and that of the Secretariat, so the balance between the various political tendencies do not change, and the second alternative is to reshuffle the composition of both bodies. The latter will grant supremacy to the communists who have clearly gained ground since the last meeting in November 1985.

Actually both alternatives amount to the same thing because the communists--in case they agree to maintain the difficult balance in the labor organization that allowed it to overcome the marked differences that had cropped up in 1985--will act on the assumption that they will gain control of various labor unions that make up the Board of Representatives. This will allow them to control the labor movement.

Even though the PIT-CNT Congress will elect delegates to the Board without stating their affiliations, it will carefully consider to which labor union they belong and the provisions of Article 51 of the organization's charter: "The withdrawal of support by the organization to which the delegate belongs will automatically mean the dismissal of such a delegate from the CNT. This will be implemented upon receipt of the appropriate notice."

This mechanism allows a labor union to change its delegate in the central organization--as has already happened--if the internal balance of forces changes. The extreme measure was implemented during the present term when Enrique Pintado (communist) replaced Federico Gomensoro (socialist) in the PIT-CNT Executive Secretariat as the representative of the Uruguayan Health Federation (FUS). The entry of Pintado upset the balance: the "8-and-8" composition of the 16-member Secretariat changed to 9 communists against 7 representatives of other political parties.

According to reports released before the congress, the communists had enough support to impose their will, (more than 600 delegates out of a total of 1,184) but their tactic is to support the present balance among representatives to favor labor unity, a principle that all labor leaders believe to have magic powers. The communists will later try to win over some labor unions where conditions are favorable, thus obtaining the effective control of the central labor organization in the long run.

The criteria for the election of delegates to the Board of Representatives take into account the number of union members, their importance in the process of production, and other factors such as militant tradition, rallying power, etc.

The Sole Trade Union of the National Administration for Ports (SUANP), which since it has less than 3,000 members does not even appear on the list of the 20 largest unions, has a delegate in the present 16-member Secretariat. The strategic importance of the ports for any labor mobilization was undoubtedly considered in the election of SUANP delegate Nestor Louise. The same thing applies for Daniel Martinez who represents the Federation ANCAP [National Administration of Fuels, Alcohol and Portland Cement], which has 4,881 workers, which puts the union in 17th place on the list.

The delegates of other unions with a much larger membership have not been appointed to the PIT-CNT executive board. However, it is believed that this omission might be corrected in the case of the Confederation of Public Servants' Organizations (COFE), currently the largest union (27,000 members), which represents a sector (the central administration employees) that has no voice at the PIT-CNT Secretariat. During its last congress 2 weeks ago, COFE itself expressed the hope that this omission will be corrected.

The communists expect that in a not very distant future, the majority of the delegates of several of the unions that are now represented at the secretariat will be PCU members. Among such unions are: the ANCAP [National Administration of Fuels, Alcohol and Portland Cement] Federation, which will elect new leaders in June, the Uruguayan Teachers' Union (FUM), which will hold elections in November, and the SUANP. To take control of these three unions would allow the communists to gain total control over the labor central without altering the composition of the executive bodies, and without altering the carefully preserved balance among unions.

The failure of ANCAP's labor leaders in the last conflict may give some ground to the communist aspirations. In the teachers' sector, the progress made by the communists, and the fact that the single ticket--which some Broad Front sectors joined in the past FUM election--may no longer run as a single ticket, are nurturing the communists' hopes in this sector. As for the SUANP, a traditional communist stronghold, a very heterogeneous anti-communist coalition won the elections in 1985. Since this coalition is no longer feasible, the path is open for the "Bolsheviks" to regain control of the union.

If the delegates of these three unions are replaced in the future and if COFE is included in the Secretariat, the balance will be replaced by a hegemony, without any confrontation that may harm the unity of the labor movement.

It is usually said that by replacing some things everything remains the same. In this case, the situation is the opposite, because for the sake of unity, the communists will try to keep everything as it is, but this will certainly allow for some changes.

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CSO: 3348/368

URUGUAY

BRIEFS

SANGUINETTI ON SUMMIT CONFERENCE--In a note forwarded to his Italian counterpart, President Julio Maria Sanguinetti has stated that the results of the Venice Summit Conference have not fulfilled our aspirations. However, the Uruguayan president stressed the positive fact that for the first time our arguments have been considered publicly and political concern has been expressed over the development of our nations. Sanguinetti also expressed hope that the developed countries will adopt concrete positive actions and dispositions, for a balanced and dynamic development of world economy. [Text] [Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0930 GMT 12 Jun 87] /9604

ARMED FORCES SECRET REPORT--Asked about an Armed Forces document stamped "Secret," part of which the biweekly publication COMPANERO published yesterday, Dr Jose Maria Robaina Anso, National Defense Ministry under secretary, told LA HORA yesterday: "We know nothing about this document, although it is our duty to know about it." According to COMPANERO, the document was prepared by the II Department of Information of the Army Staff, and refers to the period December 1986 - March 1987. The document consists of a 33-page political report, and an enclosure referring to missing documents, and "theft and disappearance of weapons." COMPANERO states in the article that, under the title "Military Factor," the document narrates the Liber Seregni-Wilson Ferreira Aldunate dispute during the program called "Priority," comments on the amnesty law, and the organizations (PGP, Broad Front, MLN-T, Rocha National Movement), which support the Referendum. Dr Robaina added that Minister Juan Vicente Chiarino has not commented on the matter with him. The National Defense under secretary also said that he will investigate the matter, in order to make clear whether the document mentioned by COMPANERO exists or not. Robaina Anso recalled that the Armed Forces Information Service depends on the National Defense Ministry, and that, consequently, Minister Chiarino should have known about the existence of such a document. [Text] [Montevideo LA HORA in Spanish 11 Jun 87 p 7] /9604

AIRLINE CHIEF: 'DECISION UNFAIR'--Acting PLUNA Airlines President Nicanor Comas Arocena has reported that a U.S. airline is pressuring the U.S. State Department not to grant his company permission to fly from Montevideo to U.S. cities. Explaining the reason for that pressure, Comas Arocena said that if PLUNA begins to fly to the United States this year, "that

U.S. airline will have another competitor." He added that this attitude is "unfair" because the U.S. airline has been covering the same route for more than 40 years and no problem is being created for it. Comas Arocena also charged the U.S. airline with selling travel tickets "not authorized by civil aviation authorities in Uruguay, adding that such practice is bothering several airlines operating in the Southern Cone. The PLUNA executive further emphasized that "even European and U.S. airlines are being hurt." He then said that the negotiations Foreign Minister Enrique Iglesias is conducting in the United States with the State Department "will be decisive" for the granting of permission to PLUNA. He expressed optimism that the permission will be granted on the basis of the reciprocity laws that regulate airline companies in different countries. [Excerpt] [Montevideo EL DIA in Spanish 31 May 87 p 15] /9604

INFLATION FIGURES ANNOUNCED--Montevideo, 4 Jun (EFE)--The General Directorate of Statistics and Census on 4 June reported that the inflation rate reached 20.32 percent during the first 5 months of the year, and that the accumulated inflation rate over the past 12 months is 65.70 percent. [Summary] [Madrid EFE in Spanish 1811 GMT 4 Jun 87] /9604

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END