

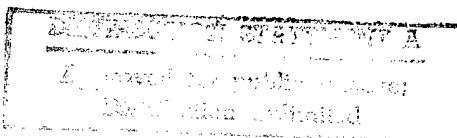
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14 June 1984

# Latin America Report

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14 June 1984

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## MEXICAN CT AID TO NICARAGUA TO INCLUDE DONATED BLOOD

Monterrey EL NORTE in Spanish 1 May 84 p B-1

/Article by Manuel Rivera/

/Text/ Over 10 million Mexican workers affiliated with the Labor Congress /CT/ will donate a liter of their blood to Nicaraguan hospitals and will provide economic aid to this country.

The CT will also apply to the government of Mexico through the Secretariat of National Defense and the Navy to furnish a "minesweeper" team to Nicaragua in order to remove the explosives with which the U.S. Government has blocked Nicaraguan ports.

Antonio Aguilar Lara, secretary of Union Training and Policy of the CROC /Revolutionary Confederation of Workers and Peasants/ in the organization, reported yesterday on the resolutions adopted by the Mexican delegation that participated in the Union Meeting for Peace, an event which concluded on Saturday in Nicaragua.

Among other conclusions reached at the event, he said, was the formation of the "Contadora Union Group," made up of labor delegations from Venezuela, Panama, Colombia and Mexico.

He explained that the Union Coordinating Board of Nicaragua, which groups 13 of the 18 labor organizations in this country and is an important part of the Sandinist movement, convened the International Union Meeting for Peace, an event which took place between the 24th and the 28th of this month.

The Labor Congress was invited to participate by the Coordinating Board, a call answered by all the labor union organizations affiliated with the CT, except the Confederation of Mexican Workers /CTM/.

There were 22 delegates in the Mexican delegation, he indicated, who met with representatives of 85 countries, making a total of 700 delegates, who together agreed to donate a liter of their blood to the hospitals of Nicaragua.

Nonetheless the Labor Congress delegates promised Nicaragua that, in addition, the over 10 million Labor Congress members will donate a liter of their blood to the Nicaraguan people.

"The purpose of the event was to acquaint the workers of the world through their delegates, with the problems Nicaragua is experiencing aside from the blockade, and all the people say this is due to the Reagan administration, and not the American people."

"It was also resolved to ask for support from all the countries attending so that together with the efforts of the Contadora Group, peace will be sought in Central America and the Caribbean," Aguilar Lara stated.

Tentatively, at the end of July all the organizations that make up the Labor Congress will get together to define their strategies and form a Contadora Union Group, together with the labor union organizations of Panama, Venezuela and Colombia.

Later on, he continued, there are plans to invite all labor delegations from the Americas, as well as European delegates to participate as observers.

"It is a process to form not an imperialist or socialist bloc, but a union bloc from the Americas."

The actions which ensue to achieve peace in the region will be those stemming from the call to meet, he indicated, although strong pressures could be exerted to force interests foreign to the region "to get their hands off Central America and the Caribbean."

The U.S. delegation of maritime unions declared that if peace keeps being threatened by Central American conflicts, its workers would refuse to load armaments on ships.

He emphasized that the U.S. delegation had 12 more members than the Mexican. "The workers are those who suffer most in a war."

Mexican workers join in support of the policies implemented by their government to achieve peace in Central America, a peace threatened by the same capitalist interests that affect Mexico, he stated.

Once Aguilar Lara informs the CROC Council, this organization's highest authority, of the understanding with Nicaragua, he will have to proceed to work on the state level to establish the Committee of Support for Peace in Central America and the Caribbean, in which he will invite participation by all interested organizations, both official and independent.

"If the council approves, an invitation will be issued to every labor organization in the state, regardless of ideological affiliation, factions or acronyms."

They Defend Revolution

"The Sandinista Government Junta has said and thought that the people's priority is to be prepared for the defense of its revolution."

"In the north of Nicaragua counterrevolutionary gangs ruthlessly attack peasant towns and settlements, damaging the workers' economy by preventing the cotton crop from being harvested."

He made assurances that the Nicaraguan people repudiates foreign attacks against its revolution and the traitors to its country commanded by Eden Pastora, "Commander Zero."

Regarding Pastora, Aguilar Lara said that he was surprised to learn that Televisa had broadcast a meeting with the person in question "somewhere in Nicaragua" since he was sure the Sandinist Army had managed to drive out "Commander Zero" and that most probably he was "somewhere in Costa Rica."

As a result of the discussions he had without pressures with the Nicaraguans and of what he observed in that country, he noted, it may be concluded that Nicaragua is free and that it is being slandered by the powerful interests of the Reagan administration whose meddling affects all of Latin America.

"At the invitation of the Nicaraguan Government I flew to the port of Corinto, where, according to the international agencies, cruel battles are being waged, but I noted that the people are only prepared. Battles are being waged on the borders, the counterrevolutionary gangs have been drive out."

"Everybody shouts unanimously the rallying cry: 'They will not get past the border. Free fatherland or death.'"

The Sandinistas are rebuilding Nicaragua, he remarked, illiteracy has been almost eradicated.

"I mean that in spite of everything one may find to criticize in Mexico, this trip has given me the chance to increase by nationalist faith and assert my free conviction in the historic process of Mexico."

12448

CSO: 3248/633

## MEXICAN EQUIPMENT TO ARGENTINA

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 26 Apr 84 Financial-Cultural Section p 6

/Text/ /Photo caption/ Oil drilling equipment type 1/HE 3000, /photo not reproduced/ manufactured by Industria del Hierro, SA de CV, in its Queretaro plant. This equipment is of Mexican manufacture and precise technology in its basic components.

Industria del Hierro, SA de CV, a 100-percent Mexican firm which belongs to the ICA Group, shipped to the sister republic of Argentina a complete rig for drilling oil wells at a depth of 3,000 meters. This equipment was sold to a private firm in Argentina and came to Puerto Bahia Blanca, Argentina, on 25 April and will start the drillings in Paragonia.

When it increases and diversifies its exports, Industria del Hierro will consolidate with government efforts, for the purpose of obtaining foreign exchange and selling abroad manufactured products and goods different from traditional exports.

The financial support provided by FOMEX /Fund for Promoting Manufactured Products/ and BANCOMER /Bank of Commerce/ which invariably has stimulated its international sales, have played a vital role in bringing to market the exports so far made by Industria del Hierro.

This export is another of those now carried out by Industria del Hierro to countries in South America, thereby opening new markets for Mexican manufactures with their own technology and high added value.

12448

CSO: 3248/633

## POLITICAL INTRANSIGENCE AIDS ANDREAZZA, MALUF CANDIDACIES

## Polarization Hurting Succession Process

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 12 May 84 p 3

[Article by A. T. C.]

[Text] The federal succession process is giving the impression that President Joao Figueiredo has been backed into a corner, and he does seem to be, but that is not the whole truth. Besides the head of government, the opposition is also cornered because there is no greater threat to the country and the opposition politicians themselves than the possible election of Paulo Maluf or Mario Andreazza to the highest executive office.

At the moment, attempts at political negotiation are underway, the amendment to introduce direct elections in 1988 is working its way through the National Congress, and the subamendment aimed at moving those direct elections up to 1984 has come into existence. But all of that is happening in the gray area inhabited by things that do not prosper.

Political agreement by at least two-thirds of the members of Congress is indispensable for any change in the rules of the election game. But in view of the divisions that have already occurred in the partisan groups, such agreement is proving impossible and serving to make one disturbing circumstance clear: the continuation of the status quo and the consequent indirect election of Paulo Maluf or Mario Andreazza, who are the strongest candidates in the PDS [Social Democratic Party].

In view of that, the situation is disturbing and is distressing the country. It is possible that the PMDB [Brazilian Democratic Movement Party] members who have adopted an intransigent stand in defense of direct elections have not yet considered that failure of the negotiations will inevitably benefit one of those two candidates: either Paulo Maluf or Mario Andreazza.

After all, polarization has the effect of keeping the indirect system for choosing the president of the republic in force by causing a quarrel that favors the government party, which has a majority in the electoral college. It is recognized that the intransigent members of the opposition are dreaming of backing President Joao Figueiredo into a corner and making him accept direct elections now.

But that is out of the question, because it is not Figueiredo who does not want direct elections at this time: those opposed to them, according to reliable informants, are his army comrades, whom the president reportedly does not intend to disappoint.

In the absence of more concessions by Figueiredo, therefore, the possibility that arises is that of a discussion of his amendment, which could be approved insofar as it benefits the country, and that includes direct election of the president, even if not until 1988. That negotiation is the only way in which the government and the opposition parties will be able to agree on a single candidate acceptable to both sides.

The PMDB's moderate wing, which includes Governors Tancredo Neves and Franco Montoro, is aware of the desirability of negotiation, and it is continuing to insist on the idea of direct elections because doing the opposite would mean entering the talks from a position of weakness. The moderates represent two-thirds of the PMDB bench, and when combined with the PDS congressmen favorable to a political agreement, they constitute the contingent capable of finding a way out of the "impasse." The existing difficulty lies in the fact that the talks are proceeding very slowly. If they continue at this rate, those favorable to agreement will not have time to conclude that agreement before the conventions are held (next September). The threat that everything will continue as it is--indirect elections, Paulo Maluf, and Mario Andreazza--cannot be ignored as long as the conciliatory forces have not made some progress.

To muddy the waters even further, a politician very close to Figueiredo said yesterday that while he may not be able to name his successor, Figueiredo will not lack a basis for vetoing candidates. His intention in saying that was to make it clear that the head of the government, who does not approve of Paulo Maluf, will be able to act arbitrarily and fiercely to prevent Maluf from becoming president of the republic.

Although the entire nation rejects Maluf's candidacy, which jurist Sobral Pinto describes as "third rate," the stiffening of positions in the direction of vetoing a candidate is dangerous because of the precedent it sets, since it may affect the system. After all, we are one step away from full democracy, and it would be deplorable if in this last stage, an ill-considered gesture were to nullify so many years of effort to achieve the country's democratization.

The game is a political one, and it must be played on that level.

#### Studies

The constitutional amendment submitted by President Joao Figueiredo, which would establish direct elections in 1988 and introduce a number of changes in the Constitution, has been studied closely in Governor Franco Montoro's office. His secretary for legal matters, Eduardo Muylaert Antunes, has prepared an analysis of the 11 proposed changes and drawn up a document that is being used as a guideline by the PMDB's members.

In his study, Muylaert compiled those parts of the constitutional texts and codes that would be affected by the proposed changes. Thanks to his work, the politicians in his party have been able to compare the planned changes in light of the successive Brazilian constitutions, which have always been patched up. In his study, Muylaert proposed that three social issues of the greatest seriousness also be dealt with in the Constitution: hunger, unemployment, and a few problems related to housing.

The attorney suggested to the PMDB's members: "The amendment can direct the Federal Government, the states, and the municipalities to organize emergency programs against hunger and malnutrition, and it can even determine the minimum percentage of the respective budgets that must be devoted to those purposes."

The congressmen in his party have received a copy of the study and are using the technical data it provides to evaluate the political issue involving approval of the amendment.

#### Competence

Over the past few weeks, Governor Franco Montoro has been making it clear to his advisers and secretaries that evaluation of the performance of each member of his state administration will be more rigorous from now on and that in particular, it will take each one's competence into account. This offensive that he is undertaking against his own administration with a view to making it produce in political and administrative terms is due in large part to the unity achieved as a result of work by Secretary Roberto Gusmao.

Gusmao has become a sort of "manager" of the administration, thus relieving the governor of the excessive workload that was clouding his judgment. With that assistance to shore him up, Montoro is beginning to aim at the projection of a new image and to demand efficiency from his team.

#### Opposition Called Shortsighted

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 8 May 84 p 3

[Editorial: "Opposition's Shortsightedness"]

[Text] Brazil would be lost for good if it relied on the political competence and unselfishness of the opposition leaders for overcoming the politicoinstitutional crisis facing it. That is the only conclusion that an impartial observer can possibly draw from the sad spectacle he is being allowed to watch for free: Deputy Ulysses Guimaraes is declaring that Governor Tancredo Neves is not qualified to negotiate with the government on behalf of the opposition parties; the governors of Sao Paulo and Rio de Janeiro, going their own way despite belonging to different parties, are agreeing on the election of a (PMDB) man chosen by consensus so as to exercise power during a 2-year buffer period; and Senator Fernando Henrique Cardoso is announcing his candidacy, although it is obvious that he would willingly relinquish such high aspirations if he could become vice president of the republic under a PDS candidate--Aureliano Chaves, for example. The ton of amendments that opposition members

of Congress are preparing to pile on top of the big official amendment submitted to deflate the Dante de Oliveira amendment provides unequivocal proof of political shortsightedness: it is bound to create so much confusion around the proposal from Planalto Palace that continuation of the current rules of the succession game will be inevitable.

The only ones who will gain from this are the self-nominated candidates, Salim Maluf and Mario Andreazza, who are interested only in seeing everything remain as it is, since any changes keeping them away from the electoral college will also take away their only chance of becoming president--it means little to them that they are detested by public opinion. One must believe that they reason as follows: the important thing is to move up the ramp to the palace and put the presidential sash around their chests--the rest will be taken care of later by finding a way to accommodate some people or by using stronger arguments to accommodate all the rest--including the opposition. Senators and deputies ought to remember that the greater each one's "contribution" is in making sub-amendments to the main amendment, the more remote will be the possibility of a broad agreement serving the national interest and formulated specifically not only to escape the risks imposed by the Maluf-Andreazza duo but also, once a program of national reconstruction is drawn up, to find a statesman capable of carrying it out satisfactorily.

In the line of reasoning being followed here, justice must be done to the authenticity of the PT [Workers Party]: it refuses to negotiate and is committed solely to defending its preference for "direct elections now." It is making every effort to get direct elections approved when the official amendment is voted on. One may not agree with some points in the PT's program (and in its manifesto announcing its formation), one may disagree with its methods of action, and one may criticize its rancid ideological smell, but the fact is that the party is laying its cards on the table like someone who is playing a clean game: it is showing what it has and wants to see what its partner has in order to find out if they can converse. In politics, truth often comes very close to simplicity. Labored and elaborate formulas designed more to conceal than to reveal intentions and interests serve only to camouflage counterfeit solutions, trickery, skulduggery, and mental reservations. Isn't that the case with this strange "buffer presidential period" or shell game? It is perfectly suited for serving Governor Leonel Brizola's craving for power. On 15 March 1987, the president who serves during that buffer period will be leaving Planalto Palace, and he--Brizola--expects to be the one chosen in the direct elections of 1986 to succeed him. What one cannot understand is how Governor Montoro could be so taken in as to give the PDT [Democratic Workers Party] governor a hand--unless he too has his eye on the Presidency of the Republic and, in his daydreams, sees himself being elected that year and defeating Brizola himself. It leaves one speechless!

All those who reject the idea of having the future president chosen by the electoral college should consider the fact that it will be possible to defeat that procedure only if there is agreement before September--which is when the PDS Convention will be held--to change the election method that is still in effect and that such agreement must have the support of two-thirds of the senators and two-thirds of the deputies. Agreement must be secured to establish--

preferably--a popular vote, but if it is impossible to go that far now, the next best thing would be to move in the direction of a succession in which the principle of people's sovereignty will prevail. This would open the way to closer compliance with the rules of a process more acceptable than that of the electoral college and one making it possible for the best man to become president, his path being made smooth by the assent of public opinion--which, for that matter, is very easy to ascertain honestly. Otherwise, a president will emerge from the PDS's relative majority, and he will have that same public opinion against him. In that case, Brazil will move in a straight line toward a gigantic national impasse, the removal of which may cost a great deal and require painful political surgery. Is that what the opposition--shortsighted and unresponsive--wants?

11798

CSO: 3342/103

## REASONS FOR RECORD APRIL EXPORT PERFORMANCE DISCUSSED

## Record Trade Balance Surplus

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 4 May 84 p 22

[Text] Carlos Viacava, director of CACEX [Foreign Trade Department], announced yesterday in Rio de Janeiro that the surplus in the trade balance for April of this year reached \$1.061 billion, with exports totaling \$2.13 billion--the highest figure for a single month in the history of Brazilian foreign trade--and imports of \$1.073 billion. This brings the accumulated surplus for the 4-month period to \$3.52 billion.

He added that the results of April's exports were due to a number of significant factors, among them the foreign-exchange policy adopted by the government--"a great stimulator of sales"--and the recovery of the U.S. economy.

As another feature of significant importance in the April trade balance, Carlos Viacava also drew attention to the sale of manufactured products, which rose by 33.37 percent to a total of \$1.225 billion, compared to \$892 million for the same period last year. He also recalled that in the first 4 months of this year, exports of manufactured products rose by 40.14 percent to \$4.577 billion, compared to \$3.266 billion for the same period last year.

Carlos Viacava announced that there was a 5.46-percent drop in commodity exports during April, when earnings totaled \$2.372 billion compared to \$2.509 billion in April of last year.

## No Difficulty

The director of CACEX emphasized that in view of the results achieved to date, the country will have no trouble in reaching its goal of a \$9-billion surplus this year. For that to happen, he said, all we need to do is show a surplus of \$684.8 million in each of the 8 remaining months of the year.

Carlos Viacava said that in addition to the performance by sales of manufactured products, we must also consider the good performance by sales of agricultural products that will begin in the middle of this year, when the crops begin to be marketed. Carlos Viacava feels that exports of commodities will be higher in 1984, chiefly because of the price factor.

Gap

Carlos Viacava acknowledged that there is a gap of up to 180 days between shipment and the actual receipt of earnings from Brazilian exports. He said that this is not something new, since the Central Bank has been publishing those statistics.

He added that even less is there any kind of manipulation by CACEX. He said that the Boavista Bank's interpretations of net foreign exchange earnings as reported by the Central Bank and of recorded foreign exchange earnings as reported by CACEX have been a matter of comparing "oranges and apples."

The job of CACEX, he explained, is to record exports and imports as they occur and to show the resulting balance. In his opinion, there is no comparison between those figures and the cash flow, which depends on when payments are made--on how exports and imports are financed.

#### Higher Volume

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 4 May 84 p 22

[Text] According to Jamil Nicolau Aun, director of the Foreign Trade Department (DECEX) at the FIESP [Sao Paulo State Federation of Industries], the record export figure for 1 month that was recorded in April and announced yesterday by CACEX (\$2.1 billion) came as no surprise to Sao Paulo business circles.

According to Aun, the explanation for the record figure is that April marks the start of shipments of such products as soybeans, coffee, orange juice, and footwear, which are high-volume items on the export list.

The higher figure for exports of footwear in April was due, the director of DECEX said, to the reduction in protectionist barriers against those manufactured products. As a result, they should generate earnings of about \$1 billion by the end of the year.

Concerning the trade balance surplus for April (\$1.06 billion), he said that "we must not get too excited by it, because while it is a good short-term indicator, it may become dangerous in the long run because of the continuing lid on imports."

According to Aun, the firms have already substituted everything they could for imports, and judicious liberalization is now necessary so that they can modernize and maintain their competitive position.

He warned in conclusion: "If we merely try to beat one record after another, we will be running the risk of making our industrial plant obsolete."

11798

CSO: 3342/103

## DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH NORTH, SOUTH YEMEN ESTABLISHED

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 9 May 84 p 6

[Text] Brasilia--Brazil completed its process of full rapprochement with the Middle East yesterday by establishing diplomatic relations with South Yemen and North Yemen. The previous step in this process was the opening of a resident embassy in Amman. Those relations had been handled until then by the Brazilian Embassy in Beirut.

Brazil established relations with the two Yemens to ensure an even greater presence in the area and provide political protection for trade and petroleum operations in South Yemen by BRASPETRO [PETROBRAS International, Inc.]. The Figueiredo administration also took into account the strategic importance of the area in which the two Yemens--primarily South Yemen--are located. The port of Aden stands at the entrance to the Red Sea, providing access to the Suez Canal.

The Brazilian Government's assessment is that although South Yemen has a Marxist-Leninist regime, it is not, properly speaking, a "satellite" of the Soviet Union. According to that line of reasoning, the country's current leader, 'Ali Nasir Muhammad al-Hasani, is trying to diversify his country's relations. Although not recognized technically as a "satellite," South Yemen makes facilities available to the Soviet fleet, which uses the port of Aden.

In the 1970's, in an attempt to take advantage of its good strategic location, South Yemen tried to find out which superpower was most interested in its situation. The Soviet Union got ahead of the United States by providing economic aid in exchange. Washington did not show as much eagerness to participate in the operation because at the time, it had other support bases: Ethiopia, Iran, and Saudi Arabia. Ethiopia is now a country with a communist regime, Ayatollah Khomeyni's Iran has become an enemy of the United States, and only Saudi Arabia is still a good American ally.

South Yemen used various signals to promote closer relations with Brazil. To begin with, it sent congratulations on Brazil's national holiday, then made inquiries at the Brazilian Embassy in Saudi Arabia, and finally, in April of this year, sent its minister of industry and commerce. And North Yemen made contact with Brazil in the setting of international organizations. In March of this year, Brazil was one of 15 countries invited to the Conference on

Solidarity for Cooperation in Industrial Development. Our minister of industry and commerce, Camilo Penna, was invited specifically, but he was unable to go and sent a lower-level representative instead. That meeting enabled the Brazilian Government to identify a number of possibilities in the industrial area with financing by Arab capital.

11798

CSO: 3342/103

## CFP CROP FORECASTS INDICATE NO NEED FOR IMPORTS IN 1984

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 28 Apr 84 p 27

[Text] Brasilia--Brazil will probably not need to import foodstuffs this year except for small quantities of specific products. This was announced yesterday by Leonidas Maia Albuquerque, secretary general of the Ministry of Agriculture, as he released the latest crop estimates by the Production Financing Company [CFP]. Those estimates indicate a bigger harvest of practically all products, the only exceptions being cotton and peanuts.

Excluding wheat, the production forecast is for 48.7 million tons, compared to last month's estimate of 48.6 million tons, it being noted that the figures for the main producing area--the Center-South--are practically assured, since the harvest there is in its final stage, and that the rain that has been falling in the Northeast has led to optimistic expectations. Including wheat, the outlook is for a 7-percent increase over the last harvest, which totaled 47.9 million tons.

The harvest of rainy-season beans, according to the CFP, is already completed for a total of 1,059,000 tons, representing a 19-percent increase over last year's harvest, which was 889,500 tons. The dry-season harvest--or second bean harvest--is forecast at 1,326,000 tons, making this the product with the largest increase: up 84 percent over the 721,000 tons produced last year.

In the case of the main export crop--soybeans--the estimate is for 15,150,000 tons, compared to 14,533,000 tons last year (+4 percent). This represents a small drop (of about 2 percent) from last month's estimate because a slight reduction in yield was noted in the course of the harvest. The planted area in April is estimated at 9,086,800 hectares, compared to 8,412,000 hectares in the last harvest. This represents an 8-percent increase in acreage but only a 4-percent increase in production.

The latest forecast by the IBGE [Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics] also indicates an increase in the area planted in Mato Grosso do Sul--from 1,017,300 to 1,178,960 hectares based on surveys of financed areas. As of the date of the latest survey by the CFP, 40 percent of the planted area had already been harvested (92 percent in Parana and 70 percent in Sao Paulo).

Corn will also perform well, according to the CFP. Production will increase by about 8 percent over the last harvest. Including the states in the North and Northeast, the area planted in corn was determined to be 12,190,600 hectares, compared to 11,850,900 hectares in the 1982-1983 crop year. This represents an increase of 3 percent. And expected production, now calculated at 20,986,700 tons, is 8 percent above last year's figure.

Unseasonable weather harmed cotton production in Rio Grande do Sul, Parana, Sao Paulo, Minas Gerais, Goias, and Mato Grosso do Sul, but this was offset by production in Santa Catarina and Mato Grosso. The rainfall in the Northeast--especially in Maranhao, Piaui, Ceara, Pernambuco, and Paraiba--is improving the outlook for a good harvest. If it keeps up, the yield of 1,722 kilograms per hectare will represent a 5-percent increase over the last harvest.

Rice production will also be up by 5 percent, according to the CFP (8,223,000 tons in 1982-1983, with 8,613,000 tons forecast for the current harvest). This is based on the resumption of production in the North and Northeast (up 92 percent over last year's unsuccessful harvest) and higher yields in Rio Grande do Sul (4,400 kilograms per hectare, compared to 3,920 kilograms per hectare in the last harvest).

The estimate for cotton production shows a planted area of 3,119,200 hectares, or 14 percent less than last year, while raw cotton production should be down by 4 percent (561,400 tons). Production was down by 19 percent in the Center-South Region and by 13 percent in the North-Northeast.

11798

CSO: 3342/103

## SPECIFICATIONS OF NEW 'TAMOYO' MEDIUM TANK DISCUSSED

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 8 May 84 p 6

[Article by Roberto Godoy]

[Text] At 1145 hours yesterday, without ceremony, christening with champagne, or speeches, the engine gave a loud roar, the controls were activated, and without further ado, Brazil's first medium tank, the Tamoyo, moved its 30 tons out of the assembly department. Complete with turret and gun, it drove for half an hour through the streets of the Ipiranga neighborhood around the Bernardini, Incorporated plant where it was born. The new national tank will be officially introduced to the Army Staff in Rio de Janeiro tomorrow during the celebrations marking Cavalry Day. The prototype will then return to Sao Paulo and begin tests which will culminate in July with the firing trials. The first preproduction unit for troop trials will be delivered in September to Santa Maria in Rio Grande do Sul.

In the standard version that will be adopted by the army, the MB-3 Tamoyo's main weapon is a 90mm gun, but in its special configuration for export, it will use a 105mm gun. Both artillery pieces can fire modern ammunition such as APDS or kinetic-energy darts, which Bernardini itself has been developing. "The tank will also be able to incorporate all the available electronic and optronic accessories," emphasizes engineer Ricardo Bernardini Cury, recalling that as a consequence, the international price of the tank will vary "between \$1 million and \$1.8 million."

## War Machine

The Tamoyo's unofficial debut managed to turn yesterday morning into "one of the most thrilling moments" in the life of engineer Flavio Bernardini, 34, who has been involved since 1979 in the design and construction of Brazil's first medium battle tank. Watching as the MB-3's insignia (the logotype of the Army Technology Center, the coat of arms of the ground forces, the serial number, and the inscription "Bernardini") were being applied, Flavio recalled that in the initial phase, when the program was only an intention on the part of his firm, he personally, assisted by one technician, spent about 200 days working on the drawing board plans for what was then the X-30. "It was there that we decided to design the tank from the inside out, thus making the inside space larger than average without penalizing the overall mass of the tank." Driving

the Tamoyo, Flavio emphasized that the crew of four (commander, gunner, driver, and loader) will "enjoy exceptional operating conditions and considerable safety." What he meant by that was: NBC (nuclear, biological, and chemical) protection, filtered air conditioning, computer controls, infrared vision equipment, and visibility similar to that of a medium-sized truck.

#### Profile Reminiscent of German Tank

The tank's low profile and the lines of its rear section are reminiscent of the solution adopted for the Leopard 2, the heavy West German tank that is considered one of the three best in the world. Another point of similarity: adoption of the power-pack system for engine and transmission, allowing removal in 22 minutes--the same time required in the case of the Leopard 2. Development of the Tamoyo MB-3 required 150,000 man-hours of work, and the final result is a conventional tank incorporating the latest generation of specialized engineering data. For example, the tension-bar suspension is equipped with hydrokinetic tensors making the vehicle respond proportionately to the stress applied to the 30-ton mass. According to an engineering officer attached to the project, "the MB-3 is the tank compatible with the profile of requirements for Third-World countries." The production rate considered necessary for the economic viability of the undertaking is 50 units per year. The tank has a range of 700 kilometers (or 900 kilometers with an extra fuel tank), and its supporting secondary armament consists of a 12.7mm coaxial machinegun and a 7.62mm antiaircraft machinegun in the commander's cupola. The engine is a 650-hp Scania DSI-14, and the tank can carry 68 90mm projectiles, 18 in the turret and 50 in the hull.

11798

CSO: 3342/103

## EMPLOYMENT COMMISSION ANNOUNCES NEW PRIVATE SECTOR JOBS

Santiago TERCERA DE LA HORA in Spanish 17 Apr 84 p 14-A

[Text] Col Atiliano Jara, chairman of the National Employment Commission, announced yesterday that within 2 months new projects and works in irrigation will be established, thus creating 100,000 new jobs nationwide.

He said that, in order to implement this initiative, a special subsidy law will be needed to assist private companies and that he is confident that this legal corpus will be promulgated shortly. He added that the commission is also studying a forestation project which would create 25,000 jobs and which would be carried out in the 4th and 10th regions.

This information was released by Colonel Jara at the end of a long working session held with the leaders of the Production and Trade Confederation. At the meeting, businessmen presented to him 42 job-generating projects that could be carried out in the short term.

The official stated, moreover, that studies to reactivate bankrupt or paralyzed companies have been accelerated. He indicated that about US\$40 million, to be managed by the Production Development Corporation, CORFO, would be needed for this purpose.

He said that emphasis will be placed on enterprises that have outstanding debts with the government, through CORFO and the State Bank.

Jara explained that a meeting will soon be held with the minister of the economy, Modesto Collados, and of finance, Luis Escobar, to report to them on the work done by the National Employment Commission.

In response to a question, he reaffirmed that the goal of this entity is to reduce the current unemployment rate to at least 12 percent, adding that, if possible, that percentage will be reduced even further.

12351

CSO: 3348/416

## IDB TO HELP FINANCE EXPANDED OPERATIONS AT EL TENIENTE

Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 20 Apr 84 pp A1, A10

[Article by Lilana Astudillo]

[Text] Rancagua--Yesterday the general management of the El Teniente Division of CODELCO [Copper Corporation] and the Parsons-Davy McKee consortium signed a contract for basic engineering and individual works in the Mina Norte Mining project.

In a ceremony held in the division's offices, general manager Hans Feddersen, assistant manager Fernando Porcille and the contracting firms' representatives, Lester F. Engle for Parsons Overseas Co., James H. Halley for Davy McKee Co., and Michael J. Sharpe and Gaston Torres for Parsons-Davy McKee Engineering Corporation, Ltd. officially launched the works in the presence of Hernando Acevedo, IDB representative in Chile.

According to statements by the general manager, the Mina Norte mining project represents for this division the opening of a new level of mining with reserves of 1 billion tons of ore, which will guarantee the mine's production for the next 40 years.

Feddersen said, "It is like the work done years ago by William Braden, but replacing the dangerous elements of that period with the advanced technology of our time."

The entire project represents an investment of US\$200 million, of which the IDB is financing 40 percent, according to Hernando Acevedo. This, he added, is considered together with the tailing disposal projects of this division and another project in Chuquicamata.

According to his statement, the idea is for CODELCO to obtain supplementary loans, equivalent to the other 60 percent of the budget, from international banks.

The basic engineering and individual works established in the contract represent an investment of US\$9 million of the total sum. The former will be completed in February 1985 and the latter in September 1984 [sic].

The entire project will be ready in mid-1988.

A team of 50 engineers will work for 1 year to execute about 3,000 plans and studies. The contractors will provide 600 jobs during the 3 years of the major works.

"We have," said the general manager, "the talent of the company. We only need the will to do what is necessary to maintain the current production capacity of 80,000 tons of ore."

12351

CSO: 3348/416

## BRIEFS

MARKET LIQUIDITY LOWERED--During the first week of April, over 6 billion pesos were withdrawn from the financial system through purchases of dollars from the Central Bank in swap operations, which were not renewed upon expiration. This process continued during the second week and contributed to lowering market liquidity. This was reported by the Chamber of Commerce of Santiago, which bases its reports on official figures. This situation, adds the analysis, influenced the rise in the prime lending rate, which rose from 1.5 percent to 2.2 percent for 30-day loans. [Text] [Santiago TERCERA DE LA HORA in Spanish 21 Apr 84 p 7] 12351

SOUTHEAST ASIAN MARKETS SOUGHT--A trade mission composed of 12 businessmen in the canning industry will travel today at 5:30 pm via PanAm to Southeast Asia. The delegation will attend the Asia '84 Food and Hotel Fair in Singapore, in which 35 Chilean food and household appliance firms are participating for the first time. This is the most important trade fair in the Asian area and is considered the gateway for exports to the ASEAN countries, which together represent an annual market of over US\$200 million. Chile has increased its exports to Southeast Asia significantly thanks to its products' reputation for quality and variety. National shipments have reached very high levels, there having been an increase of 400 percent in exports to Singapore, of 369 percent in shipments to Malaysia and of 1,198 percent in shipments to Indonesia, purchased in 1982-1981. The trade mission, organized by PROCHILE [Institute for Export Promotion], is headed by Guillermo Garrido, an agronomist for that institute, and it is composed of the firms. Malloco, Consorcio Nieto, Silverstein, Bentzke, COCOFRUT, INAASA, JUCOSA and ASFACO [Canners Association], acting as a trade association. After the fair, the mission will visit Malaysia and Indonesia in order to explore those markets and contact importers directly. They will learn about the needs and tastes of the consumers in order to adapt their exports in the future. [Excerpts] [Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 18 Apr 84 p B2] 12351

CSO: 3348/416

## PAPER CRITICIZES REAGAN'S DIRECTIVE

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 21 Apr 84 p 3

[Text] A few days ago President Ronald Reagan institutionalized a cult of violence by signing into law National Security Council Directive 138. This directive specifically authorizes retaliatory actions (domestically and abroad) which, according to him, are aimed at fighting international terrorism.

One of the essential elements of this new law is the switch from the defensive to the offensive in regard to violence, as well as the reaction which strengthens somewhat the capability of the U.S. intelligence services to "prevent terrorist activities." The White House plans to offer rewards of up to US\$500,000 to anyone who provides information on violent actions of this kind.

Specifically, by taking this step, the United States legalized international terrorism as its official policy and confirmed the current administration's tendency to intervene militarily in sovereign countries, as well as to interfere in the internal affairs of other nations.

Washington, however, has carefully tried to camouflage its actions in order to disorient public opinion. It has invoked, as stated by Secretary of State George Shultz, the need to formulate an antiterrorist policy, which was aptly qualified by AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE as the U.S. defense of the use of force in foreign policy.

The new directive demonstrates, essentially, that this is premeditated political subversion directed against the socialist countries, and particularly against the Soviet Union, which is accused of being responsible for fomenting international terrorism.

Now then, where has state-sponsored political terrorism found its inspiration and where is it most acute? Contrary to the bourgeois perspective, which repeatedly asserts that this negative phenomenon originated in the USSR, history and the facts show that the use of extreme violence has its roots in the social structure of capitalism itself. Its greatest exponent, the United States, has always been the classic terrorist state.

It is sufficient to recall the "invisible empire of the gentlemen of the Ku Klux Klan, which assumed the 'social function' of applying, with the explicit backing of the authorities, a policy of racist terror"; not to mention the sinister plans for physical extermination hatched and executed by the U.S. espionage agency (CIA).

Despite their efforts to dissemble, it is an open secret that U.S. imperialism, while claiming to be a victim of terrorism, in fact generates it. Furthermore, it tries to channel terrorism for its own purposes against individuals, groups, organizations and nations that represent a "danger" to its vital interests.

State terrorism, which is antipopular and antidemocratic, is a useful weapon. It can be and has been used, within a country, to undermine the legal order, and at the international level, in acts of violence aimed at provoking a war or at complicating relations between nations.

Numerous researchers, for example, believe that the problem of nuclear blackmail (which Washington has raised to the status of state policy), as a means for frightening peoples and nations, is identical to the problem of international terrorism because both imply social destabilization. The difference is that nuclear blackmail is the threat of violence, while terrorist acts on a worldwide scale are violence itself.

Hence, one finds this option among the main methods of imperialist and neocolonialist expansionism, especially in the United States, whose aggressive ideological and political escalation in an undeclared war against democracy, progress and socialism is increasingly intense both domestically and abroad.

It is understood that this entire campaign is a consequence of the militarization of the United States, which is availing itself of international terrorism, among other things, to adulterate the essence of the liberation movements, the choice of socialism, and to darken the way of the peoples who have chosen the noncapitalist road to development.

Reagan's new directive reflects, fundamentally, the crisis of power at all levels, which is generally expressed in a tendency toward violent actions. These actions sometimes backfire against those who directly or indirectly support or encourage them.

12351

CSO: 3248/628

## U.S. FEDERAL DEFICIT ATTRIBUTED TO MILITARY BUILD-UP

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 14 Apr 84 p 2

[Editorial by Roberto Alvarez Quinones: "The Reagan Administration, the Deficit and...the Story That Goes On and On"]

[Text] As youngsters, at one time or another we became exasperated over the pompous story that went on and on, right? It was the story with no end to it.

It is the same old story with the promises that U.S. presidents have been making since 40 years ago--particularly over the past 15 years--about the U.S. federal budget before they are installed in the White House. Almost all of them have asserted: If I am elected president the nation will have a balanced budget. In other words, they assert that there will be no deficit (more federal expenditures than revenues), or that the deficit will be very low. There is no talk of a surplus (more revenues than expenditures) since no one remembers that any longer.

Ronald Reagan has not been the exception. He made the usual promise prior to becoming president. He then said well, neither one extreme nor the other, let us make do with a little deficit of \$43 billion. And he launched his brand-new Reaganomics to make the rich richer (he cut their taxes) and the poor poorer (he abruptly cut social welfare funds).

Of course, there was a small miscalculation. Far from approaching the promised deficit figure, Reagan became the first U.S. president to break the barrier of \$100 billion in the red (negative balance) in the country's budget. His administration's first complete fiscal year, which ended in September 1982, closed with a deficit of \$110.6 billion, twice that of the previous year. The deficit almost doubled over the following 12 months, reaching \$195.4 billion. The planned figure for September of this year is \$183.7 billion, but everyone says it will exceed \$200 billion, and thus Reagan will have the privilege of breaking another barrier in less than 2 years.

The government projects a deficit of \$180.4 billion for 1984-1985. Therefore, at the end of his first 4 years in the White House, President Reagan will have raised the nation's public debt by an additional \$580 billion, taking it to the fantastic figure of \$1.4 trillion (1,400,000,000,000).

That is why a known U.S. magazine this past February carried a drawing on its cover showing the capitol half-sunk in a sea of red ink, with the caption: Sinking in the debt.

But before outlining how the arms buildup is the key to such an increase, it is fitting to take a brief look at the recent history of U.S. budget deficits.

Over the 1946-55 10-year period, for example, there were favorable balances four times, including a \$12-billion surplus in 1948; and 6 deficit years, the largest of which was \$15.9 billion in 1946. Over the following 10 years, there were 3 years of slight surpluses, and 7 deficit years, the largest of which was \$12.9 billion in 1959. In the following 1966-75 decade, there was a surplus only in 1969, of \$3.2 billion, and by 1975 the deficit already exceeded \$45 billion.

Since then, the final balance of the U.S. federal budget has never ceased to be written in red ink: 14 consecutive deficits since 1969, totaling \$738 billion of which \$306 billion, almost half, have been provided by the Reagan Administration in just 2 years. Should Reagan be reelected, the wave of red ink could cover the capitol.

The fundamental causes of this runaway deficit caused by the Reagan Administration can be found in the latter's militaristic swaggering. Suffice it to know that the Pentagon's budget has been doubled by the current ruling team, and for the next fiscal year it plans to assign \$305 billion to the Pentagon, or almost a third of the total federal budget.

The military budget is almost exclusively responsible for the current red ink in the nation's budget, since not only no other area of expenditures has been increased significantly, but also all areas of expenditures that provide benefits to the great majority of the U.S. population have been substantially cut.

The paradox arises, for example, that while taxpayers in 1984-85 will pay taxes of \$208.5 billion for social security and \$24.4 billion for unemployment insurance, they will receive \$179 billion and \$20.7 billion in such benefits, respectively. The difference of \$31.9 billion [figures as published] that taxpayers do not receive from those two items will go to enlarge the coffers of the military industrial complex, via the Pentagon.

That is why when current U.S. rulers pledge in the Congress that they will fight to cut the budget deficit, everyone immediately remembers the story that goes on and on.

9925

CSO: 3248/630

## MANAGERS' PERFORMANCE ANALYZED

Santiago de Cuba SIERRA MAESTRA in Spanish 28 Mar 84 p 2

[Article by Orlando Guevara Nunez: "The Revolutionary Manager: Product of the Revolution Whom We Trust in the Struggle to Build Socialism"]

[Excerpts] The capitalist manages what is his individually, always seeking a profit. The revolutionary manager manages what is his collectively, and his strongest incentive, when he works well, is recognition by the people who entrusted him with managing their interests.

Today there are many thousands of comrades from within the ranks of the people who have taken upon themselves the task of managing a factory, business, agency or small work center. The great majority of them courageously and zealously devote all their energy to fulfilling the mission for which they were chosen.

There are, however, cases in which the selection mechanisms are violated. The evaluation of attitude and capabilities is inadequate; supervision and control are ineffective; ties with the collective community break down; the workers' judgment is disdained. In some cases, there are some individuals who do not practice the austerity which, owing to conscience rather than force, should govern the actions of a revolutionary manager. These negative cases, of course, are a minority; but we must work toward their total eradication.

We have complete confidence in man and in his capacity--within socialism--to become better every day. And we are on the road to creating a superior man, capable not only of generating wealth but also of enjoying it without sinking into the meanness of personal ambition.

Our administrative cadres must learn this behavior and set an example. No one can lead our working class without a profound, deep-rooted respect for our workers. No one deserves to lead the collectivity, which daily accomplishes feats of labor, unless he is also capable of such feats. No one may speak of austerity unless he practices it, too. No one is worthy of managing the people's assets unless he starts with the precept that rather than using his position to get ahead, he should dedicate all his efforts to the discipline and rigor that will enable him to fulfill his task.

No doubt the road to be traveled will still have its pitfalls; but the way to reach the objective can be clearly seen. We will reach it through the patient work of selecting and training cadres commended for their attitude, for their fidelity to the revolutionary cause and through promotion based on merit.

The sure guidance of the party, the application of correct management methods the actions of our workers and unions, along with the example of our comrades who form the vanguard in managerial posts assigned to them by the people, make our victory certain.

The ideas of the past are yielding to the conscience of the present and the struggle to secure the future. Our administrative cadres will become increasingly better managers, better revolutionaries and more jealous guardians of the goods entrusted to them by the people. This type of management, possible only within socialism, is being wrought daily, and we place our trust in it without hesitation for the daily struggle necessary to build a new society.

12351

CSO: 3248/628

## OFFICE CREATED TO DISSEMINATE SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 14 Apr 84 p 3

[Article by Jose A. de la Osa]

[Text] The creation of a unit with a budget for the introduction of scientific and technical advances into the national economy was announced last night by Dr Wilfredo Torres, president of the Cuban Academy of Sciences and member of the Central Committee of the Party, at a press conference in Havana attended by members of the national press who cover this sector.

The new unit, with headquarters at 352 B Street, corner of 15th, in Vedado, will be responsible for disseminating technical and scientific advances. Fundamentally, it will use its allotted economic resources to promote their introduction into use in society.

The president of the ACC [Cuban Academy of Sciences], emphasizing the scientific advances achieved since the triumph of the revolution, stated that our country currently has a force that, in many fields, has gained international standing.

He also mentioned the areas in which the ACC is working intensively and said that among the most important are the selection and training of the cadres and the requirements of their work. He commented that a periodic performance evaluation has been established for scientific and technical personnel.

He noted that work is being done so that in the coming years the country will receive directly 40 percent of all the information on science and technology published in the world, which will be made available to our researchers. He said that this year alone Cuba will receive about 2,200 new periodicals in the fields of medicine, agriculture and basic sciences, among others that come in to the country.

He devoted a separate paragraph to stressing the interest being paid by economic bodies to protecting the environment and completely preventing pollution.

"Cuban science," he stated, "has gained national recognition, and we must endeavor daily to maintain the rigor necessary to win even greater prestige."

12351

CSO: 3248/628

## THEOLOGICAL CONFERENCE CITED AS PROOF OF RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

Havana CUBA INTERNACIONAL in Spanish Apr 84 pp 32-37

[Article by Jesus Abascal: "In the Light of the Gospel..."]

[Text] The White House's pundits and loud-talking advisers, the very ones who organize campaigns to score "the lack of religious freedom in Castro's Cuba," have a difficult problem now: explaining to the public how and why another International Meeting of Theologians and Social Scientists was held recently at the Evangelical Theological Seminary in Matanzas.

"With the slogan 'Christians and the new society, the liberation processes: option for life,' and called by the Christian Conference for Peace of Latin America and the Caribbean (CCP-LAC), and the Evangelical Theological Seminary (SET) of Matanzas, Cuba, we 140 participants from 27 countries of Latin America, Europe and North America, members of various Christian churches, have been meeting in this city to reflect, in the light of the Gospel, on the situation of Our America, paying particular heed to what is happening in Central America and the Caribbean."

This statement is the beginning of the Final Declaration signed by over 100 delegates, representing millions of members of 10 religious denominations, who attended the Second International Meeting of Theologians and Social Scientists in Matanzas at the end of last year. The document then went on to say:

"Gathered in Marti's solidary land, from 13 to 19 November 1983, and impacted by the testimony regarding the aggression against the small island of Grenada, we Christians attending this event, along with millions and millions of believers and non-believers, indignantly repudiate the cynical, criminal American invasion of that Caribbean nation. For several days, in a mood of grief and hope, we reflected on the attacks and threats from the United States hovering over the Central American region, particularly El Salvador and Nicaragua; an event which, in our opinion, jeopardizes the aspirations of peoples who, under pressure from poverty, hunger, wretchedness and exploitation, are seeking the peace of tomorrow in the liberating struggle of today."

At the SET headquarters itself, in the city of Matanzas, 100 kilometers east of the Cuban capital, the new meeting of Christian theologians and social

scientists took place. The first meeting had been held there as well in 1979 and, although the main topic at that time was "evangelization and politics," this second conclave maintained the very same vanguard spirit in contemporary theological activity, based on "a feeling of unity toward the tasks that the historical present presses upon us," as was commented at the opening by the priest Sergio Arce Martinez, rector of the SET and vice-chairman of the CCP-LAC.

#### Significant Moments

For a week, the large meeting hall, equipped to offer simultaneous translation services, was a platform and scene of candid dialogs, devoid of political self-deprecation. Rather, the reports and testimony daringly and courageously discussed the most peremptory problems facing the peace-loving peoples of Latin America.

Christians from Chile, El Salvador, Guatemala, Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, Nicaragua, Puerto Rico, the United States, the Dominican Republic and Cuba, among others, expressed their views at that international forum. The discussions and analyses regarding the reports and other addresses did not impose limits on the creation of working groups, based on geographical areas, aimed at setting the guidelines to be followed in order to put into practice the meeting's proposals, and to devise the plans of action in the respective Christian communities.

Hence, on the seventh day, instead of resting, those attending the militant theological meeting drew up, discussed and approved the text of a Final Declaration, as an instrument on behalf of the liberation struggles on the various Latin American fronts, and as a response to the imperialist aggression on this continent.

On Tuesday, 15 November, Dr Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice-president of the Council of State and member of the PCC [Communist Party of Cuba] Politburo, received over 100 participants at the meeting. In an atmosphere of cordial, mutual understanding, the Cuban leader talked for nearly 3 hours with theologians and social scientists. The dialog, which made it possible to discuss issues relating to imperialist international relations and their repercussions on Central America, as well as the Reagan administration's economic policy, militarism and ideological offensive, attested to common views regarding the need for a strategic alliance between Marxists and revolutionary Christians.

That same day, the delegates at the Matanzas forum went to Columbus cemetery, in the capital, where they placed a wreath in memory of the Cuban internationalists who died in Grenada during the American military invasion of the small Caribbean island.

#### Tribute to Mendez Arceo

The charismatic personality of the former bishop of Cuernavaca, Mexico, Msgr Sergio Mendez Arceo, fostered a fruitful, interesting conversation between the

"shepherd of the poor and persecuted," as he is usually called, and the participants in the international forum, who paid the monsignor an emotional tribute on the occasion of his 76th birthday.

The presence of the Catholic prelate, honorary chairman of the CCP-LAC, provided one of the most thrilling moments at the Second Meeting. Mendez Arceo's notion of a "popular Church," his upright, unwavering stand on the side of the downtrodden and his proverbial candor in calling things by their names, without euphemisms or circumlocution, have made him one of the most respected Christian dignitaries on the American continent. A man such as he, who has publicly stated that "if it were not for the USSR there would be no liberation movements in the world," and that "anticommunism and capitalism are against Christian principles," enjoys a vast majority of sympathizers and a slight minority of detractors, as was to be expected.

During the course of Mendez Arceo's brilliant but enlightening address, as if he were delivering one of his famous sermons in the diocese of Cuernavaca, the former bishop declared: "The Cuban, Nica, Salvadoran and Guatemalan bishops must search their own national roots in order to put Marxist theories into practice, as Comdr Fidel Castro has done."

#### Leading Theologians Express Views

During the final days of the meeting, we had occasion to converse with some of the participants. It was really a very interesting experience, and we learned perhaps more than we had expected.

The priest Oden Marichal, vice-rector of the SET and coordinator for Cuba of the Caribbean Conference of Churches (comprised of 30 churches, five of them Cuban, which have over 3 million members in the area) and pastor of the Episcopal Church of Matanzas, remarked: "The Christians of Central America and the Caribbean must mobilize to unmask the imperialists who, with lies and slander, have attempted to confuse world public opinion and, essentially, the American people themselves." He added: "We Christians must struggle for peace, which, after all, means struggling for life; because there is no safe refuge against war except peace. That is why the CCP has expressed its frank repudiation for the American invasion of Grenada, has also condemned the eastern Caribbean governments which have lent themselves to back the aggression and has opposed recognition of the new Grenadian 'government.'"

Dr Lubomir Merejevsky, a Czechoslovak theologian and secretary general of the CCP, an entity founded in 1958 by a small group of religious leaders from socialist and capitalist countries, commented in his speech: "The CCP is an ecumenical movement, a non-governmental organization associated with entities of the UN and the World Peace Council, with members in 80 countries. Meetings such as this will help all of us Christians to remain united in the struggle for peace and liberation, in the struggle for a world for life, with the help and grace of God."

Raul Suarez, executive secretary of the Ecumenical Council of Cuba and head of the Cuban Baptist Student-Worker Coordinating Board, cited this Second

Meeting as "an attempt to establish a dialog between the Latin American liberation theologians and the European theologians, and one with representatives of 'black' theology in the United States."

Nacyra Gomez Cruz, chairwoman of the Christian Student Movement [MEC] of Cuba and a member of the Methodist Church, observed: "The goal of the Cuban MEC is to conscientize the youth of our churches and to achieve their full participation in our society, as students and workers. There is no duality of life among our Christian youth, nor divisions of other kinds; because we base ourselves on the Gospel principles contained in the Bible. There are 14 Christian denominations in our movement."

#### Dialog With Catholic Priests

The Spanish Catholic priests, Julio Lois Fernandez and Antonio Duato Gomez-Novella, also agreed to an interview by our publication. Reverend Lois is a professor at the Pontifical University of Salamanca, with headquarters in Madrid. Commenting on the presence of the pair at the Matanzas forum, Lois told us: "We both represent a progressive minority in the Catholic Church on the peninsula, but a minority which has, for some time, followed the Cuban revolution with great interest, and which is now better prepared to interpret events in Central America and the Caribbean." He added: "The formulation of a liberation theology on this continent is nothing but an attempt to reconsider the scope and significance of the Christian faith, based on a commitment to the historical liberation processes, specifically in Latin America. I regard this attempt to reflect a liberating function in present-day society as an important contribution to theology."

Reverend Duato, editor of IGLESIA VIVA [Living Church], a major theoretical journal of Christian thought published in his native Valencia, for his part, asserted: "Relations between Christianity and socialism are what we reflect most in our publication; perhaps because there is an idea there that socialism is more in accord with Christian faith than with any other social system. During our stay in Cuba, we have obtained first-hand information on religious activity in Cuba, provided to us by several Cuban Catholics and priests."

#### Other Important Criteria

Raul Vidales, a Mexican Catholic sociologist and head of the CCP-LAC's Commission on Theology, as well as a researcher at the Center for Third World Economic and Social Studies, chaired the opening ceremony for the Second Meeting. He has visited Cuba on other occasions. His comment was: "This is a society based on the exercise of freedom. From my own experience, I have discovered the freedom of worship that exists in your country. There is no doubt that the revolution has given religions another dimension; because in Cuba there was not really a popular Catholicism, a 'practical' Catholicism, as you call it, but rather an elite Catholicism. That is why the Christian bourgeoisie and their pastors left the country together. On the other hand, I have now met, in Cuba, worker priests who have conveyed to us an excitement and a

promising vocation for transforming the world. They live their ministry in the factories, and have the satisfaction of knowing that they are useful and productive."

Doctor of theology Hugo Assman, a Brazilian sociologist and researcher (exiled from 1968 to 1980), professor at the Pontifical Catholic University of Sao Paulo and pastoral adviser of a diocese, commented on this Second Meeting, saying: "It has more quality and more representative status than the previous one, and it is closely linked to the practical struggle against imperialism, which has always manipulated the religious factor as it has wished." And then he added: "The Reagan administration is now finding its hegemony seriously threatened, and that is why it has decided to implement a strategic ideological organization of an interventionist nature. That is the Institute on Religion and Democracy, founded in Washington by the neo-conservatives in an attempt to neutralize the influence of liberation theology on Latin America; because the United States is also losing the last devices for its legitimization at a very rapid rate. Furthermore, during the pope's visit to Nicaragua, John Paul II virtually gave the green light for the manipulation of the religious symbol by the Nicaraguan counterrevolution." He told us: "I suggest that he read a document that is circulating among us delegates, which clears up some questions about the secret document used by Wojtyla to judge the political and church situation in Sandino's fatherland."

Finally, we would like to reprint here some of the views kindly offered by Dr Samuel Silva Gotay, a sociologist and university professor in Puerto Rico, and author of an essential book: "Revolutionary Christian Thought in Latin America and the Caribbean" (the implications of liberation theology for the sociology of religion). The well-known Puerto Rican researcher is coordinator of the Commission for Church History in Latin America. Silva Gotay told us: "If one undertakes an exhaustive study of the Bible, he can prove that the sacred books contain the foundations and the very essence of the new revolutionary Christian movement. On those grounds, I have formulated my theory regarding the integration of both kinds of thinking. Moreover, I propose the need to develop a Marxist sociology of religion which does not yet exist; and that is why I suggest an application of the concept of mode of production and class analysis to the study of Christianity."

As for the religious situation in Cuba and the rest of the area, 25 years ago and now, Dr Silva Gotay remarked: "The Christian Church in Cuba was not prepared for the revolution at that time, because of a lack of proper theological reflection, the lack of experience and the lack of the necessary understanding to judge its own problems in the Caribbean and continental context. Nevertheless, the Christian Churches of Latin America do have all those elements now and, in a way, revolutionary Christianity is called upon to follow the Socialist mode of production on this continent. That is what I believe."

The Evangelical Theological Seminary in Matanzas opened in October 1946. It covers an extensive area (tens of thousands of square meters) at the end of 2 de Mayo Street, at Ojo del Agua, where many fruit, flamboyanes [red flowering trees], pine, palm and linden trees alternate with the buildings of the religious institution: a chapel, auditorium, classrooms, library, housing, lodging, administration, dining room, etc.

There are three Christian denominations cooperating in the SET from an organizational standpoint: the Methodist Church, the Reformed Presbyterian Church and the Episcopal Church (Anglican Diocese). In addition to the students from those founding churches, the SET in Matanzas trains students from other Cuban and foreign churches (Pentecostal Christian, Baptist, Adventist, Catholic, Salvation Army and others). At the SET regular courses are offered for the study of elementary theology, and to earn the consecutive degrees of bachelor, licentiate and master of theology. But there are also special extension and directed courses for the theological self-improvement of clergy and lay people, in addition to the theological workshops, linguistic seminars and summer courses organized annually.

Since its founding, the SET has graduated more than 200 male and female students. At present, there are 60 seminarians in the various courses, both in Matanzas (where there are 12 resident students) and in other provinces. The seminary has 15 instructors and it is an essential requirement that they perform some pastoral or secular work "as the only suitable means of maintaining an education that is closely related to the social reality being experienced by the Cuban people and the ecclesial reality being experienced by the Christian within the revolution."

During recent years, the SET has served as a site for major meetings and gatherings of a national and international nature.

'A Political Praxis and an Ideological Struggle on Behalf of Justice Require Only the Option for Life'

Dr Sergio Arcé Martínez, rector of the Evangelical Theological Seminary in Matanzas since 1969, is also secretary general of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in Cuba, and vice-chairman of the Christian Conference for Peace in Latin America and the Caribbean. As one of the organizers of this Second Meeting, he commented: "I believe that the goals set for holding this event have been fulfilled, and I also believe that the necessary suggestions have been offered to lend continuity to this Second International Meeting of Theologians and Social Scientists, as well as to heighten the possibilities for a subsequent expression of our unanimous solidarity with the common struggle against imperialism and an improvement in the levels of communication among Christians for this purpose. For this reason, it was planned that the participants in this dialog would be theologians and ideologists associated with the basic Christian communities, so as to achieve a consistent, necessary identification with the Latin American religious order. As Paul said: 'The last enemy to be conquered is death.' That is why this event dealt with one main, specific topic, 'Christians and the new society, the liberation processes: option for life.'"

2909

CSO: 3248/656

## PEACE CORPS CALLED INSTRUMENT OF ESPIONAGE IN GRENADA

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 19 Apr 84 p 6

/Article by Oscar Ferrer/

/Text/ The administration of the U.S. president, Ronald Reagan, not only uses the country's funds to enable the CIA to carry on its secret war against the Sandinist revolution, undertakes the mining of the Nicaraguan ports and ignores the opinion of the International Court of Justice when its verdict might be prejudicial to the interests of the United States, but also tries to increase the world's component of those agents of Yankee espionage and of imperialist penetration that are the members of the Peace Corps.

Created on 1 March 1961, the Peace Corps is made up of "volunteers" who perform espionage and ideologically penetrate countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America under the guise of technicians or experts ready to give "aid" to under-developed countries.

These defenders of capitalism have the mission of creating an idealized image of North American society and instilling rejection and terror at the mere mention of the word communism, thus distorting the reality and the achievements of socialism.

The director of the Peace Corps, Loret M. Ruppe, said recently before a committee of the House of Representatives that the organization she directs and under which several groups for U.S. espionage and diversionism operate, will have its budget and its staff increased in 1985, or what amounts to the same thing, that the Peace Corps will increase its efforts at interference and destabilization.

During fiscal year 1985 the Peace Corps will have at its disposal \$115 million, and its personnel will increase by 2,500 new recruits, who will be sent to carry out their work of subversion in 60 countries.

Reagan, a fanatic standard bearer in an anticommunist and anti-Soviet crusade that he continues to promote and stimulate, does not save the taxpayer's money when it comes to weapons and espionage.

As a result of this, Peace Corps outposts abroad are being supplied with the most modern technical equipment to collect the espionage information gathered by its agents.

Since Central American is one of the fundamental objectives of the Reagan foreign policy, determined to preserve in the region the regimes allied to Washington and to prevent the advance of the revolution, the Peace Corps has the immediate job of standing firm and redoubling its diversionist efforts in the Central American countries.

After last October's U.S. invasion of Grenada, the Peace Corps was notified by the Reagan government that it should give special attention to this territory.

The U.S. press has reported that the Peace Corps has already carried out the first landing of "volunteers," who were scattered around the island to carry out their tasks of espionage and penetration.

Within the framework of the Reagan administration's program for the restructuring of the Grenadan society, for which it is expected that \$3.5 million will be spent, the Peace Corps will direct its main efforts toward the reorganization of Grenada's educational system, with the object of imposing the U.S. lifestyle of this island's population.

As for the true objectives of the Peace Corps, the statement by Thomas Moore, one of the leaders of this organization whose job is the selection of experts to be sent to the so-called Third World countries, speaks for itself.

Moore said to the WASHINGTON TIMES that the Peace Corps does not send persons with leftist ideas abroad. "We choose people," he pointed out, "who have faith in the justice of the free enterprise system. Our objective is to defend U.S. interests abroad."

The meddling function of the Peace Corps is so obvious that before resigning, one of its directors had to admit this publicly, overwhelmed by the weight of reality. We refer to Carolina Paton, who in November 1978 resigned after saying that the Peace Corps was a political organization with the task of interfering in the internal affairs of other countries, very different from the mission of peace and friendship it supposedly had.

The status as an instrument of espionage, interference and subversion that characterizes the Peace Corps is corroborated by the complicity of this organization in the military coup in Brazil in 1964, the invasion of the Dominican Republic in 1965, the Yankee aggression in Indochina and U.S. espionage in Chile before Pinochet's rise to power with the complicity of the CIA.

During its 23 years of existence the Peace Corps has been a constant threat to national sovereignty and independence. Under the Reagan administration that shadowy espionage organization becomes more dangerous and meddlesome.

9907

CSO: 3249/629

## SANDINIST YOUTH UNDERGO INTENSIVE TEACHER TRAINING

Havana JUVENTUD REBELDE in Spanish 11 Apr 84 p 2

/Article by Arleen Rodriguez Derivet/

/Text/ Guantanamo--Around 1,600 Nicaraguan youths are currently taking an intensive 5-month course at 7 teachers' schools in 5 provinces, including the one in the easternmost section of the country, that will prepare them to become elementary school teachers.

In the course of a little over a month that they have spent in our country, with the natural solidarity that unites the people of our America, excellent relationships have been established in a short time, through which each member of our society makes evident his affection and admiration for the struggle of our sister country.

A few days ago we visited one of the six classrooms assigned to them in the Guantanamo school system.

One of the Nicaraguan teachers, Oscar Montes, was teaching a mathematics class, and the nearby 50 students who filled the room welcomed our unexpected visit warmly.

Minutes later we were talking with Salvador Chamorro, second in command in Cuba of the 50th Anniversary Brigade, and with the teacher, Oscar, representative of that group in Guantanamo.

Both of them showed enthusiasm for the results being observed already in such a short period of Cuban collaboration with the brigade. Chamorro pointed out:

"In all the schools where there are members of the 50th Anniversary Brigade (Matanzas, Ciego de Avila, Camaguey, Santiago de Cuba and Guantanamo), there are significant successes that we can attribute to the discipline maintained by the students.

"This surprised us at first, because students in Nicaragua, with the exception of those in teacher training, attend classes only 4 hours per day, and there is no provision for systematically reviewing the material they learned the previous day.

"Here they attend for 8 hours per day, and in each class they are asked to evaluate what they learned the preceding day, and even so they tell us that they would like to have more time for studying.

"We believe this experience is very positive, especially because it shows their awareness of the responsibilities they must assume in our country after finishing the course."

Regarding the extracurricular activities, Oscar says:

"The Nicaraguan students are free every night except for Mondays and Wednesdays, when they have supervised study, but they rarely use any time for recreation, because, as Chamorro says, they want more time for studying. Of course this is an intensive course and more is demanded of them.

"We have cultural groups in theater, in testimonial song, dance, and sports groups. Everyone took part in the youth sports Sunday celebrated in Guantnamo and in the youth Sunday for volunteer work, which was their first experience of this type in Cuba, and they wish to repeat it.

"Also, there is a program of supervised activities, visits to museums, art galleries and other places of historical, cultural and recreational interest. We have already been to the rock garden here, and are planning a trip to Baracoa, to the camping centers."

Chamorro states that despite the fact that the average age is no more than 19 years, all of the members of the 50th Anniversary Brigade have opened for themselves beautiful political paths as fighters in the Sandinist Peoples Army, as volunteer soldiers, as frontier soldiers, or in patriotic military service.

"All of them," he added, "participated in the coffee, cotton and sugar cane harvests before coming to Cuba. More than 50 percent of them took part in the national literacy campaign, and that same percentage are members of the Sandinist 19 July youth movement.

"When they are finished here they will spend 2 years carrying out assignments in the most remote and dangerous regions of Nicaragua.

"They will completely change the image of teachers that prevailed in Nicaragua, because besides bringing education to all parts of the country, they will be bearers of the ideas of Sandino and of all the great undertakings that lie ahead for our revolution."

9907

CSO: 3249/629

## BRIEFS

SOCIALIST LEGALITY COMMISSION ESTABLISHED--Havana (AIN)--The Standing Socialist Legality Commission, assigned to the chief of state and government, yesterday held its constituent meeting in the Justice Ministry. The commission is headed by Dr Juan Escalona Reguera, minister of justice and member of the Central Committee. It is also made up of Francisco Varona Duque de Estrada, vice president of the Supreme People's Tribunal, Brig Gen Pascual Martinez Gil, member of the Central Committee and vice minister of interior; Benito Besada, vice arbiter of the State Arbitration Organ; and Belisa Warman and Jesus Barreiro, vice presidents of the State Committee for Labor and Social Security and of the State Committee for Finance, respectively. The group's creation responds to the program of measures to assure the economic and social objectives of the year. Its functions include receiving and analyzing reports submitted by agencies of the State Central Administration on inspections they have made, as well as receiving and analyzing fiscal verifications. At the meeting, Dr Escalona Reguera noted the importance that the commission will have for the preventive work of socialist legality in this country. [Text] [Havana GRANMA in Spanish 14 Apr 84 p 1] 9925

CSO: 3248/630

## NONPAYMENT SEEN AS SOLUTION TO THIRD WORLD DEBT PROBLEMS

Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 28 Apr 84 p6

/Article by Juan M. Taveras/

/Text/ One does not need to be endowed with extrasensory perception to realize and predict that Latin America cannot pay, and never will be able to pay, its present foreign debt. Moreover, it can be asserted that the capitalist world will have to choose between Latin's America's total ruin or the forced disappearance of the current banking system model.

The cases of Brazil, Mexico, Argentina and Venezuela, countries that despite their great resources and relatively developed economies are in serious straits to meet their substantial external commitments, constitute clear evidence of the insolvency of Third World countries.

Brazil currently owes some \$90 billion and should have paid \$30.8 billion in amortization and interest in 1983, while its exports are only \$27 billion per year. That is, Brazil should have paid 117 percent of its exports. Of course, such a thing was not possible.

During that same year, Mexico, whose external debt is \$80 billion, should have paid \$33 billion in principal and interest when its total exports reach only \$32 billion per year. Argentina, too, with a debt of \$43 billion and annual exports of \$12 billion, should have paid \$18 billion in amortization and interest on its external debt during 1983. That is, 153 percent of its total exports.

The situation is so serious that in 1983, Latin America was forced to allocate 35 percent of its export revenues to pay solely the interest to the international private banking system. Interest payments on a debt of a little over \$350 billion amounted to \$40 billion that year.

In a recent article, TIME magazine points out that never in history have so many nations owed so much money with such scarce probabilities of payment as at this time. The dilemma between servicing the foreign debt and economic growth leaves only one way out: Latin American cannot pay its foreign debt.

Since 1980, the growing intervention of the IMF in what it called the regulation or "sanitation" of the economic processes of the countries in trouble (practically

all of the Third World ones), far from promoting an improvement, has notably exacerbated the difficulties of our countries. The fact is that the IMF demands constitute real contradictions for, on the one hand, they favor a contraction of the economic process, and on the other, they seek miraculous growth in the economies in order that they will produce to pay their debts.

The IMF policy, based on the idea of meeting the payment of the foreign debt by means of the application of the so-called recessive formulas and the resultant safeguarding of the banking system, has not only placed in serious jeopardy the whole productive apparatus of Latin America, burdened by its massive foreign debt, but it is also strikingly inducing our investors to place their money at high interest rates in wealthy countries because at this time it is more profitable and less worrisome than promoting the productive apparatuses of their respective countries. It is estimated that current Latin American deposits in foreign banks constitute at least a sum equal to the overall debt of the region. In spite of that, the IMF more and more promotes a greater liberalization of the monetary system, thus protecting the flows of liquid resources from nations increasingly impoverished and stagnant to those whose shortsightedness leads them to believe that they can continue to exploit the dead.

Bolivia, which fully opened its doors to the IMF, has seen its economy completely destroyed in just a few months. The Bolivian peso that 5 months ago was quoted at 25 to the dollar is currently at 160 to the dollar. The IMF is there, and it considers, as usual, that the recessive formula consisting of the reduction of public expenditure, freezing of wages, indiscriminate rise of prices, and "currency flotation" is the panacea for a country whose growing poverty is becoming intolerable.

Bolivia currently owes \$3.1 billion. Its exports are some \$850 million per year. Interest on its foreign debt exceeds \$400 million annually, and its economy is virtually destroyed. Can Bolivia pay? Is it just and advisable to subject that country to big calamities solely to pay the interest, considering that it will never be able to pay the principal? Does it not seem more rational to sacrifice the stockholders of the big international banks, who are a few, rather than hundreds of millions of human beings who cannot aspire to any kind of improvements while the specter of the terrible foreign debt and its aftermath of unacceptable ills and sacrifices persist?

The foreign debt has sentenced Latin America to death. But the offender has justly nothing to fear. Therefore, our rulers must get used to the idea that Latin America will not pay its foreign debt. Otherwise, in the course of this year or next year at the latest, the whole problem of the oppressive foreign debt will have to be dramatically addressed as it was recently done in Argentina, whose Solomonic way out represents only a stopgap measure.

Some readers could ask themselves: What will happen when all the Third World countries refuse to pay their external debt? Simply nothing.

In 1984 [sic], 20 borrowing countries that owed the United States some \$15 billion refused to pay their debts. President Calvin Coolidge did everything

possible to collect. Roosevelt harshly criticized France, England, Italy, Holland and other nations for their lack of payment. The U.S. Congress passed the Johnson Law which forbade loans or credit to nations that did not meet their obligations with the U.S. Treasury. Everything was ineffectual, and the French Chamber of Deputies was the first to vote against making any more payments to the United States.

The history is there. Nothing happened, and on the contrary, the world economies increased their exchange relations despite the default of the foreign debt at that time.

The world thus has two options. Subject the poor nations to an unprecedented exploitation completely alien to modern social thought in order to collect in maybe 30 or 40 years some funds that have already been returned to the pockets of the creditors, or simply resort to wiping the slate clean and starting anew, a policy that in addition to renewing hope in the future for the abject inhabitants of our lands would help to bolster capitalism, which will not withstand the reaction of an ever hungrier and desperate mankind if it remains heedless of the reality of the present world.

8414

CSO: 3248/636

## STUDENT LEADER ON SUPPORT FOR FDR, STRUGGLE FOR PEACE

Havana JUVENTUD REBELDE in Spanish 15 Apr 84 p 5

/Article by Lillian Lechuga/

/Text/ Sofia, 13 April--Oscar Rodriguez, leader of the General Association of Salvadoran University Students /AGEUS/, prisoner of the regime of that Central American country, was recently set free due to the pressure exerted on the dictatorship by international solidarity.

The Salvadoran leader is representing students from his country at the 14th UIS Congress being held in Sofia, the capital of Bulgaria.

"I was isolated in jail," he explains, "and I was not allowed to communicate in any way. They wanted to frighten me. I was told I would be dumped in a ravine, that I would be shot, and was put through a series of fairly sophisticated interrogations. One of the people who questioned me even identified himself as a professional interrogator. I was asked about the organization, development and operation of the university student movement, which is how an attempt was made to link me to political-military organizations so as to justify handing me over to a military court. They wanted to pin the blame on me for the acts I was accused of, since they had no grounds for doing so."

Concerning student struggles in El Salvador, he says:

"The University students are involved in a struggle to achieve the return of the university campus which is now in the hands of the authorities. They are also struggling to achieve a budget increase because on 28 June 1980, a drastic, systematic cut was made in the university budget."

"We have a constant struggle in reporting the repressive acts against the university community, basically within the student sector and in requiring of the regime that human rights be respected and repression stopped," he explains.

"AGEUS maintains a support position for lines of the Democratic Revolutionary Front. Concretely," he says, "we support a settlement by means of dialogue and negotiation of the conflict which besets us. The position the FMLN-FDR /Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front-Democratic Revolutionary Front/ has supported of extensive participation in government is a positive step towards

the development of our society. AGEUS is also trying to get all students to join because of their concerns, whether cultural, sports, scientific or political. So we have associates who have matured politically and are making their contribution in specialized areas of the struggle."

Oscar Rodriguez gives great importance to international solidarity since he believes it was decisive in having him set free.

"Solidarity exerts a pressure on the regime since it isolates and discredits it on account of its disregard for basic human rights. They are afraid more massive campaigns will be devised to start involving an advance in the popular movement."

"This UIS Congress has great importance of the Salvadoran student body. After 30 July, the date which the UIS declared as Student's Day and Salvadoran People's Day, the students know better what the basic principles of the organization are."

"As youth we long for peace, which is an essential requirement for the development and welfare of our people. We believe this congress will lead to a series of agreements or understandings that will inspire the Salvadorn student body inasmuch as it knows that its efforts and sacrifices have been noticed."

"We hope that the campaigns of AGEUS will keep having an effect on international solidarity. We refer particularly to the campaign we launched for the donation of medical kits for the clinics and brigades of the AGEUS which maintains a clinic in Nicaragua and brigades on the warfronts in the interior of the country."

"Our resolve to continue the struggle is firm. Together with the international student movement we will be present in the struggle for peace and for anti-imperialist unity," Rodriguez concludes.

12448

CSO: 3248/637

## STPRM LOCAL 34 ACCUSES PEMEX DIRECTOR OF HIRING EXCESSES

Monterrey EL NORTE in Spanish 11 Apr 84 p 1-A

[Text] Hundreds of workers today accused Mario Ramon Beteta, director of PEMEX, of hiring excessive staff personnel, paying each of them from 150,000 to 300,000 pesos a month plus high benefits and allowances.

The workers reported that these excess personnel--more than 500 staff members--will probably cause serious imbalances which may have negative repercussions on the company.

New staff members, the accusers assert, lack experience, do not know how things are done in PEMEX and "are in on-the-job training."

In a meeting of more than 60 minutes the dissenters, led by the secretary of local 34 of the STPRM [Petroleum Workers Union of the Republic of Mexico], Juan Pelaez, stated that the alleged specialists hired by the current board of directors have no occupations.

However, and in spite of this, they said, they are placed in vital positions, at very high grades, in jobs which "only line their pockets with money." The dissenters charge that at the same time as the PEMEX director has allowed 500 staff members to be taken on, he has also stood in the way of the reorganization of various branches and administrations, which damages the promotion rights of unionized workers.

They described in detail how the administration headed by Beteta has shown an attitude of hypocrisy and deceit because he always promises to have talks with the personnel affected so as to solve the reorganization problem.

But that has been nothing more than a maneuver to ensure that the staff members attain seniority in the positions in which they were placed, the dissenters affirmed.

With unilateral hiring, the PEMEX board of directors has violated articles 3 and 7 of the joint contract which defines the labor relationship between STPRM and PEMEX, the complainants also reported, those who stood, while the meeting lasted, in the esplanade across from the main offices of the semi-official agency in the streets of Marina Nacional.

And "so that the president of the republic himself might learn how they are running PEMEX since Mr Beteta came in as director 15 months ago," they produced specific examples and provided names of unilateral hirings in the Commerical Branch (see chart).

On this chart, the far right column, the one on personnel grades, stands out. The importance of understanding the grades or classifications assigned to a worker lies in its being a gauge of the specialization which the employee must possess and which also results from promotion.

Thus, in all cases, for a union member to reach, for example, a grade 36, such as the first two staff members in the list provided, who came aboard recently and receive an average salary of 180,000 pesos a month (75,000 pesos biweekly, plus 12,000 for overtime, plus a car), must hold his job for many years and be promoted by showing his capabilities.

But in the case of the staff members, in every instance they have been brought in from the outset at the grades cited (the lowest is 33), although they have no knowledge of how PEMEX operates and therefore earn "while they are learning."

In the case of secretaries, they are hired at grade 20, the average monthly salary of which is from 80,000 to 100,000 pesos a month, the dissenters stated. Working hours for the staff members are from 0930 to 1430, according to the complaint filed today by workers from the technician and professional branch of STPRM local 34.

| NAME                 | POSITION          | OCCUPATION | GRADE |
|----------------------|-------------------|------------|-------|
| Carlos Escalant      | Assistant Manager | None       | 36    |
| Jaime Martinez       | Chief Analyst     | None       | 36    |
| Raymundo Andrade R.  | Senior Analyst    | None       | 33    |
| Kitzia Aleman Kutzon | Senior Analyst    | None       | 33    |
| Gonzalez Blando      | Chief Analyst     | None       | 33    |

9436

CSO: 3248/609

## VOLKSWAGEN SHOWS CONFIDENCE WITH DOUBLING OF INVESTMENT

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 13 Apr 84 p 23-A

[Article by Alejandro C. Manjarrez]

[Text] Puebla, 12 April--With just over \$100 million Volkswagen de Mexico, S.A. de C.V. is nearly doubling its total investment in Mexico as a show of confidence in the government of Miguel de la Madrid, stated Mr Hans Barschkins, chairman of the board of the Pueblan company.

Mr Barschkins added that in June of last year our chairman of the board of Volkswagenwerk, A.G., met with the president of Mexico and during that meeting a commitment was made whereby if the Mexican Government would improve the country's financial situation then Volkswagen would continue to operate its plant in Puebla. Since Mexico accomplished its objectives some days ago, in mid-March Herr Dr. Carl H. Hahn told the president of Mexico in a personal conversation that our company would fulfill its commitment and would contribute \$100 million that will boost the Pueblan automotive industry, noted the German executive.

He added that the new money will facilitate increased production of export parts which will, essentially, capture the foreign currencies that are so important for bolstering the Mexican economy.

Our company has cooperated with the Mexican system, noted Barschkins; besides cars and parts, we exported Mexican coffee when Imme cafe had problems selling its stock on hand. That is why, unlike the other automobile manufacturers, we have never owed the Bank of Mexico. What's more, we have brought in dollars and we are self-sufficient in the area of foreign currency. Nevertheless, we have had to raise the prices of our product because Secofin, for reasons I am unaware of, has not regulated prices in the automotive parts industry, which has fostered a harmful monopoly in the development of that branch of production.

Along other lines, the executive explained how his company has boosted the creation of jobs. He explained that we came to Mexico to grow but not at the people's expense; that's why, despite there being other places where the labor force is cheaper and there are tax incentives, our expansion is developing and will develop in the State of Puebla. Presently, he added, there are more than

250,000 people--between employees, workers, dealers and suppliers--who depend directly or indirectly on this company; our economic impact is greater than all the other automotive manufacturers put together.

When asked about the 1983 losses, which rose to just over 14 billion pesos, Barschkins indicated that before they were registered that year, the company had accumulated a profit of 100 million pesos and days later, when those celebrations ended, the losses totalled 14 billion pesos.

As regards his negotiations with Nigeria and the possibility of recovering the loan that the company granted to that government, the industrialist stated that he was confident that it would be recovered, despite the coup d'etat in that country, because the Mexican Government has interceded in the deal through the National Bank of Foreign Trade, which assumed 50 percent of the credit liability.

During an interview in his office, the German officer declared that as they are no longer an ailing business, the mother company in Germany is not jeopardizing its finances by supporting the Mexican industry; in addition, the German people, who own 60 percent of Volkswagen stock, have complete confidence in Mexico. This investment of "hard" money confirms the confidence of the FRG Government and people in the Mexican Government and people, he professed.

As regards their relationship with the trade union that embraces 13,991 employees and workers, Hans Barschkins said that what is worrisome is the "isolation" of that group. Due to this isolation, he noted, the union is exposed to everything and in a democratic country like Mexico, it is good to take into account these trade union groups which are so important because of their numbers as well as the services they represent.

In conclusion, Mr Barschkins emphasized that the loan received creates a balance in the automotive industry since it is not subject to interest payments in national foreign currency. And he emphasized: The best proof of our resurgence is that we have opened up 1,500 jobs over the last month for a production of 585 units per day.

12610

CSO: 3248/606

## BRIEFS

DEFENSE SECRETARIAT COMPUTER SYSTEM--"At Metropolitan Autonomous University [UAM] we are making efforts to raise the level of national technology," reported science professor Guillermo Levine Gutierrez of Unidad Iztapalapa, who announced that 15 UAM graduate engineers had set up a system of 700 computers for the Ministry of National Defense. "Producing specialized programming, creating methodology in this field and adapting available national technology in data processing is a long-range project which has been developing and will continue at UAM," he said. He explained that implementation of this project is a reflection of experiences acquired in setting up programming systems, well known at national level and which are being crystallized at this time so as to provide an image of UAM abroad and make people aware, at the same time, of its capability to construct large and complex systems as well as develop systems with modern methodologies." Dr. Levine Gutierrez gave a course in modern programming at UAM Unidad Iztapalapa. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 11 Apr 84 p 27-A] 9436

COLOMBIAN, SALVADORAN MIGRANTS ARRESTED--Five Colombians and 2 Salvadorans who had violated Mexican immigration laws by extending their visas to the northern border, visas limited to Mexico City, were arrested by the Office of Immigration Services. Immigration deputy Angel J. Lagarda stated that the South Americans, whose names were not disclosed, were turned over to the Office of Immigration Control of the Interior Ministry, so that they might be deported from the Federal District to their places of origin. Both groups of South Americans denied having been taken to the border by "pateros" or "polleros" [smugglers] and said that they had been moving about for no specific reason and had had no contact with laborer smugglers. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 19 Apr 84 p 21-A] 9436

VALLEY OF MEXICO UNEMPLOYMENT--Naucalpan, Mexico, 11 Apr--The number of unemployed men and women in the Valley of Mexico hit 200,000, stated Ernesto Roa Cortes, General Secretary of the Federation of Workers and Laborers in the area (Naucalpan delegation). He said that unemployment continues to devastate the municipalities of Naucalpan, Atizapan, Villa Nicolas Romero, Tlalnepantla, Coacalco, Ecatepec, Nezahualcoyotl, Chimalhuacan, Los Reyes la Paz, Chalco and other outlying areas. He attested that it is sad to see how, every day, young men and women, the latter pregnant or with children, stand

in long lines outside factories or trade unions looking for jobs "of any kind." Currently, according to CROC statistics, there are 200,000 people unemployed, affirmed leader Ernesto Roa Cortes. He added that the majority of those unemployed are in the eastern part of the Valley of Mexico such as Nezahualcoyotl, Ecatepec, Los Reyes la Paz, Chalco, San Vicente, Chicoloapan, Chimalhuacan, Chiconcuac, etc., because there are several focal points for poor families who have come from other inland areas seeking better fortune and have discovered that there are no jobs. [Text] [Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 12 Apr 84 'Metropoli' supplement p 9] 12610

CSO: 3248/606

## MIR SECRETARY GENERAL CARLOS TAPIA ON IU, SHINING PATH

Lima EQUIS in Spanish 14 May 84 pp 28-30

[Interview with Carlos Tapia, secretary general of MIR, by Roberto Tupia Castro: "'No' to Single Party"; date and place not given]

[Text] Carlos Tapia, secretary general of the MIR [Movement of the Revolutionary Left], is one of the most brilliant and open leaders of Peruvian Marxism. He is also one of Alfonso Barrantes' solidest supports within the IU [United Left]. What he said to EQUIS follows:

[Question] What is your evaluation of the last session of the Executive Committee of the IU?

[Answer] I make a positive evaluation for three reasons. First, because there has been significant progress in the norms for its organization. Second, because there has also been progress in basic democracy for the internal election of IU candidates. Third, from our point of view, from the partisan viewpoint, because it has permitted the Mariategui unity to act uniformly; that is, the MIR, Vanguardia and PCR [expansion unknown] to act together.

[Question] The masses, the voters and the sympathizers who support the IU consider this as a whole, a single party, not an electoral front. What do you think about the idea of a United Left Party?

[Answer] We feel that the IU is a new type of political formation. Therefore, it does not fit within existing reality, what traditionally is called a party. Nor is it a plan for a traditional political front. The IU is a new type of political formation. It consolidates the development of the left in the country. It has a base of programmatic unity, organic norms governed by a democratic majority of 75 percent and welcomes political organizations and militants without a party. All these characteristics define the present reality of the IU and are its basic characteristics. Therefore, we do not feel that the IU is advancing toward becoming a party. Rather, it advances, affirming these characteristics, toward democratizing and constituting a real alternative of the masses, the left, government, socialism, revolution, etc. That is the IU. We are unwilling to pigeonhole this reality in the category of party or political front. However, we are subscribers to the idea that the IU be a political front.

## Fixed Point Agreement

[Question] A type of "fixed point" pact between APRA [American Revolutionary Popular Alliance] and the IU has been proposed. In it each one would be committed to supporting the other in the run-off election based on who won the greatest number of votes in the first. This would democratically close the way to the right. What do you think of this plan?

[Answer] First, it is not true. There is no "fixed point" pact with APRA. The simple reason is that, from our evaluation of the first election, the two main forces will be the IU and APRA. Therefore, it would seem wrong to us to have an understanding on who would support whom in a run-off election. I think that APRA has a problem because if it wants to win the run-off, it must make concessions to parties of the traditional right in the country like Popular Action and the Popular Christian Party. In short, there is no "fixed point" agreement. On the contrary, our evaluation is that the IU and APRA will be in the run-off so it would be wrong to establish a "fixed point" agreement.

## What to Do with Shining Path?

[Question] In your opinion, how would the IU confront the problem of the violence unleashed by the Shining Path guerrillas if you reach power in 1985?

[Answer] Repeatedly the IU has stated its opinion of Shining Path. To the parties in the IU, Shining Path is a different political plan. Therefore, there are no tactical or strategic agreements. It is a different and exclusive and excluding political plan. Therefore, it competes with the IU. We state the solution in political terms; it is a global political solution. We believe that we must not only attack the problem of Shining Path through dialogue as is stated, but we must also have the political and mass strength to defeat that authoritarian, vertical political plan of the Shining Path. It cannot be forgotten, for example, that in the area of Vischongos, Vilcashuaman, Chuschi, Huanta and La Mar Province itself, the IU had and has a major political presence. This major political presence that made it possible to confront the Shining Path comrades on the terrain of mass action was hindered by the violent militarization of the zone and the intervention of the repressive forces, antiterrorist forces and other special forces. The logic of fighting Shining Path on the terrain of war itself is a logic that favors the strategic concepts of Shining Path and hinders the IU from using its political and mass strength in the zone to present a political alternative. It will be different if the IU forms the government in this country because once it is the government and the expression of an alternative of popular power, a political solution in the emergency zone would have the endorsement and guarantee that violence or dirty war would not be used indiscriminately. I want to use this part of the interview to point out that there is no great precision about the number of dead IU comrades. There are many dead comrades, not only killed by Shining Path but mainly, in this case, by the repressive forces.

## The Left and the Armed Forces

[Question] What would be an IU government's position toward and relationship with the armed forces: confrontation, conflict, complementariness or exclusion?

[Answer] The IU fights for new armed forces. That fight is part of its programmatic ideas on which we will construct a new society. Therefore, the revolutionary transformations presented must include the creation, the birth of new armed forces. When we say new armed forces, we are not using the criterion of a Central American revolutionary process, a global military destruction to construct another institution, another uniform. The Peruvian Armed Forces are not the armed forces that supported Somoza; they are not a Praetorian guard. Velasco's reformist experiment is an example of the context of the Peruvian Armed Forces. We believe it is possible for patriotic, nationalist and progressive sectors within the armed forces to adhere to the IU plan if this plan better insures the defense of territorial integrity and the defense of national sovereignty within a vision of democratic and unaligned socialism. Why would the armed forces opt for a coup, a rightist, Pinochet-type alternative? They would no longer be patriotic; they would not longer have popular backing. If that profound historic error were committed, certainly the doors would be opened to global confrontation between the organized people and an elite that monopolizes armaments in defense of the bourgeoisie in the country.

#### Against Single Party

[Question] There are those who maintain that the difference between democratic socialism and totalitarianism lies in the concepts of dictatorship of the proletariat and the single party. Therefore, many socialist and communist parties have expressly renounced both. What can you comment on this?

[Answer] Well, our proposals on this are known to the left. The MIR held a congress, our first congress, last August. This produced the most important ideological and political turn. In relation to what you asked, the following was stated. First, the existence of a single party is not consubstantial to the project of revolutionary change. Further, political pluralism is a condition for revolutionary change but this means political pluralism where the political opposition is legalized. There are comrades who feel there must be political pluralism but only within the forces that support the revolution. We feel that it is necessary to respect political pluralism and that political pluralism means permitting political opposition within the new legal framework, within the new revolutionary institutionality. Second, it would be useless to repeat the negative aspects of a single party. Third, concerning the dictatorship of the proletariat, we believe that if the majority is really represented in the government, there would be no reason to talk about dictatorship. In any case, we do not deny the historic validity of the Leninist concept that the state be an instrument of dictatorship in that general, historic sense that relates to the development of mankind. However, I don't think identifying revolutionary government with political dictatorship and a single party reflects the proper Marxist or Leninist concept. Instead, we support the idea that the revolution means the construction of a new and superior hegemony in society. To construct that, violence, strength and persuasion must be used. I believe this is the direction Mariategui is headed in.

#### Economics and Foreign Relations

[Question] What would be the major features of the economic policy of an IU government to lead us out of the crisis of inflation and recession that we suffer?

[Answer] The IU is developing its democratic and popular government program. This government program must include a plan for national reconstruction. I will answer within this concept of a plan for national reconstruction. Our viewpoint is that it is impossible to resolve the acute economic crisis in the country without using certain production surpluses in the country that are monopolized by certain restricted sectors of the Peruvian society. In other words, public investment cannot be increased; there cannot be greater autonomy of foreign debt. Resources must be used like those from the revision of the oil contracts, the high earnings of financial capital and the large profits of the multinational enterprises in the mining sector. Without using those surpluses, there cannot be a redistributive process because in order to redistribute the wealth in this country, the state must intervene in the economy. We are skeptical about the new cabinet's idea of solving the crisis with a proposal for revitalization without inflation under conditions in which gasoline prices continue to rise and there is no currency exchange control. It is impossible to stop inflation with this economic policy. For example, we suggest selective control of currency exchange.

[Question] How would you summarize Peruvian foreign policy under an IU government, especially toward our neighbors, Chile and Ecuador?

[Answer] An IU government must carry out a Third World, unaligned and militant anti-imperialist foreign policy. There is no reason to simply present a Third World foreign policy of agreements with African and Asian countries. The main Third World countries that interest us are the Latin American countries and within Latin America, Ecuador and Chile. It is known that there is geopolitical agreement between the interests of the Chilean state and the Ecuadorian state. It is also known that there are joint geopolitical interests among Bolivia, Argentina and Peru. We believe it is very important to resolve possible conflicts through political negotiation: with Ecuador, the problem of El Condor; and with Chile, the tense problem of Bolivia's access to the sea through political negotiation and by putting the interests of the peoples first. This means we do not embark on an arms race where we spend billions of dollars on sophisticated armaments to blockade each other and act chauvinistically. We believe the true patriotic meaning of an IU government is not reduced to but includes the problem of defense of national integrity and sovereignty. There are other aspects of the fatherland and national sovereignty that do not require Mirage 2000's. They require political determination and the historic will of the Peruvian people.

#### The MIR

The MIR is the final name adopted by the Rebel APRA, the group headed by Luis de la Puente Uceda that left APRA. It was not a large group but was composed of top quality revolutionary cadres including Hector Cordero Guevara and Javier Valle Riestra who soon returned to APRA.

The characteristics that differentiate the MIR from the rest of the Marxist left can be explained by its origin:

- 1) Its independence from any center of ideological power; that is, its roots in Peru and Peruvian problems rather than doctrinaire inclinations that its leaders might have at some time; and

2) Its openness and capacity for innovation that have permitted it to adopt positions like those formulated on these pages by Carlos Tapia: rejection of totalitarianism and acceptance of free democratic competition among parties-- in short, approaching a radical formula of social democracy. This reveals its origin although, of course, there is no reason to confuse APRA with the MIR.

7717

CSO: 3348/427

## \$40 MILLION WORLD BANK LOAN APPROVED

Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 7 May 84 p A-4

[Text] The government yesterday approved the loan agreement between Peru and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), also known as the World Bank, for an amount of \$40 million that will be used to finance the Chanchamayo-Satipo Rural Development project.

This agreement between the government and the World Bank will be signed at noon today at the Government Palace.

The ceremony, which will be presided over by the chief of state, will be attended by the chairman of the Central Reserve Bank, Richard Webb, and members of the bank's board of governors.

It was learned from official sources yesterday that President Belaunde will make important statements concerning the government's economic policy.

Under the terms of Supreme Decree No 181-84-EFC, the loan in question will be repayable in biannual installments falling due between 15 September 1988 and 15 March 2001. In other words, it is a long-term loan.

Interest will be payable at an annual rate calculated for each interest period at .5 percent above the cost of qualifying loans over the preceding 6 months.

In addition, there will be a commitment charge of .75 percent annually on the unused loan principal, plus a one-time fee of \$99,751.

The supreme decree stipulates that this loan comes under the heading of foreign operations with repayment terms exceeding 1 year and up to a limit of \$1.7 billion as authorized by the Budget Finance Law.

The Ministry of Economy, Finance, and Commerce is also authorized to represent Peru in signing the agreement, which consists of seven articles and eight annexes and which will be administered by the National Development Institute.

11798

CSO: 3348/422

## 1983 EXPORTS TO JAPAN EXCEED IMPORTS

Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 7 May 84 p A-13

[Text] Trade between Peru and Japan during 1983 was more than favorable to our country, resulting in a surplus of \$306 million.

According to information from the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO), Peru has been in a very advantageous position for years in its trade with Japan.

The trade balance was also favorable to Peru in 1982 (\$218 million). In 1981 the surplus totaled \$252 million, and in 1980 it was \$169.1 million.

Peru exported products worth \$487.3 million to Japan in 1983, reflecting a change of less than 9.9 percent in terms of the year before, when the figure was \$541.1 million.

In return, Japan's exports to Peru in 1983 totaled \$181.3 million, or 43.9 percent less than in 1982, when the value was \$323.3 million.

The chief Peruvian products acquired by Japan are such traditional products as metallic and nonmetallic ores, coffee, fishmeal, cotton, and so on, those items as a whole accounting for 94 percent of Peru's exports to that country.

JETRO reports that despite the overall decrease in trade between the two countries in 1983, Japanese purchases of copper, lead, and zinc ores increased by 54.5 percent, 84.8 percent, and 24.8 percent respectively in comparison with 1982.

Purchases of refined copper and refined lead declined. On the other hand, purchases of refined zinc and silver were up by 71.4 percent and 45.4 percent respectively over 1982.

Petroleum exports totaled \$106.9 million, representing a 42.7-percent drop from the 1982 level.

It is emphasized that Peruvian exports of fish and shellfish totaled \$4.3 million and that while that is not a high figure, it nevertheless represents an increase of 367.2 percent over 1982.

Also in the case of manufactured products, textile exports were up by 53.9 per-  
cent for a total of \$4.7 million.

For their part, Japanese sales to Peru consisted mainly of the products of  
heavy industry (\$152 million), with transportation machinery and equipment  
representing the largest item in value (\$132.8 million).

11798

CSO: 3348/422

## PLP LEADER ODLUM REPORTS TO PARTY, LEAVES FOR DENMARK

Castries CRUSADER in English 21 Apr 84 p 1

[Text] At a General Council Meeting of the Progressive Labour Party, Party Leader George Odium gave the Council an update on the international affairs of the Party and inform the council that he would be attending a Meeting of the Socialist International in Copenhagen Denmark next week.

The Progressive Labour Party Leader explained to the Council that a discussion on Central America will feature prominently on the agenda of the meeting and it is important that the crisis in Nicaragua and El Salvador would be aired and a proper perspective be given to the developments in the Region. Apart from internal matters affecting the Socialist International it is expected that there will be a review of the Grenada situation and the militarisation of the Caribbean.

The PLP has also been invited to attend a Congress of the ruling Party in Italy in Mid-May and a meeting of the Caribbean Bureau of the Socialist International on May 6th in Peru. The Council agreed that in the event that the Party Leader could not attend the Peru meeting that the International Secretary of the Party Frances Michel should deputise.

The Chairman of the Party Antonius Gibson at the end of a three-hour discussion on Party strategy and Programme called on the Party members to intensify the education programme for cadres and to tighten up the organisational structure of the Party in order to promote the aspirations of the people of St. Lucia. Party Secretary Sam Augier was directed to circulate a Party Paper on the Current Political Situation in St. Lucia which was prepared by Education Secretary George Goddard. The paper will form the basis of a further discussion at the next General Council Meeting in Mid-May. The discussion is expected to clear the way for the drawing up of a Party Programme for the second half of 1984.

CSO: 3298/805

LABOR LEADER JOSIE ISSUES MAY DAY MESSAGE TO WORKERS

Castries THE WEEKEND VOICE in English 28 Apr 84 p 2

[Text] PRESIDENT of the Seamen Waterfront and General Workers' Union Peter Josie has expressed the hope that workers will take some time off on Tuesday, May Day, to reflect on the condition of the working class 150 years after the abolition of slavery.

Mr. Josie's remarks are contained in a May Day Message in which he also called the beginning of a new road to full economic liberation for all St. Lucians."

The message reads:

"This year, 1984, the celebrations of May Day ought to have special significance for all St. Lucian Workers as well as their colleagues in the wider Caribbean region. This year marks 150 years of emancipation of human slave labour from the sugar cane plantations.

"This May Day ought also to afford us as St. Lucian workers and brothers a convenient watershed to pause and reflect upon recent events both local and external and the way in which workers here have been affected by these events.

"Locally we have seen the abandonment of the tripartite talks between the Unions, Government and the Private sector. The idea was conceived in sin and borne out of political expediency and was therefore doomed to failure. Externally, we witnessed the suppression of workers rights and freedom and the expansion of imperialist exploitation in the region and elsewhere.

"St. Lucian and Caribbean workers continue to experience the division of the working people along flimsy party political and personality lines.

"This May Day coming 150 years after the abolition of slavery and five years after political independence must mark the beginning of a new road to full economic liberation for all St. Lucians. The workers who together form the most vibrant and progressive force in the country must henceforth identify the barriers to unity and progress at the leadership level and do all in their power to remove these barriers.

"May Day 1984 would indeed be of special significance if the events and actions of the Trade Union movement would result in greater solidarity among workers and a new thrust for full economic participation and evolution of the working people of St. Lucia and the Caribbean.

"I wish every worker a peaceful and enjoyable May Day and hope that some time will be spent on this day to reflect upon the condition of the working class 150 years after slavery was abolished."

[Editor's Note: The above Josie message was also carried by CRUSADER on 28 April, page 10.]

CSO: 3298/805

POLITICS IN FOREST DESTRUCTION ISSUE; RANGERS ATTACKED

Closing of Dennery Range

Castries THE WEEKEND VOICE in English 28 Apr 84 p 1

[Text] TWO Forest Rangers were violently attacked by an angry mob last weekend in the Dennery Range, on their way to patrol the forest reserves there.

The Officers, members of the Forest Squad of the Ministry of Agriculture were allegedly forced to stop their vehicle on the way to the reserve when vehicles belonging to the mob blocked their progress in the front and their means of retreat in the back.

The Officers were then forced to vacate their vehicle with threats of violence from the 15-strong mob, who then grabbed one of the Rangers and assaulted him.

Head of the Division, Mr. Gabriel Charles said that he was extremely disgusted with the matter saying that the situation was getting "completely out of hand."

He added that even in the presence of the Police at the La Caye Police Station where the Rangers went to lodge their complaints one of the Officers was "punched in the face by a member of the mob who had followed them there.

"The present attitude of people on Crown lands is deplorable. But our department is dedicated to doing its duty properly and despite unfortunate incidents like this. Nothing will deter us from this task, and we need the support of every St. Lucian."

Mr. Charles added that to counter incidents and for the protection of his men, he had recommended to the authorities that every member of the Forest Squad be armed with a gun while on patrol.

"I have always been opposed to the carrying of firearms by my men. But if events like this are going to happen, for their own protection, since we intend to carry out our duties despite all harrassments, I have suggested to those concerned that my men be armed."

Also, as a result of this incident which occurred on Easter Monday, the Forestry Division has decided to close the Dennery Range which comprises Derniere Riviere, Marc, La Souciere, Louvette, Fondbleu, Forestiere, Des Chassins and Piton Flor, to the public.

Mr. Charles said that from June 1, anyone found within that area where most of the catchment areas for the Castries water reserves are located would be heavily fined.

"This area is critical to the Castries watershed and we are warning the public that all illegal activities there must be immediately stopped. Any person found within that area after June 1, will be charged."

The Forestry Head said that even cultivators operating on the Taungya System, where the division allowed persons to cultivate Crown Lands under their direction, would be evicted from the Dennery Range.

#### Political Motivations

Castries CRUSADER in English 28 Apr 84 p 3

[Text] FORESTRY Supervisor Gabriel Charles has made another appeal to St. Lucians to stop the "Unwanton destruction" of the island's forests.

Mr. Charles revealed that the "uncontrolled burning" of forests had escalated over the past few days.

He pointed out that bush fires were not only an aesthetic problem, but had serious economic, environmental and human consequences as well. Fires could destroy soil, property, agricultural crops and human lives, if they got out of control, he said.

Said Mr. Charles: "Our forests, private and Government-owned, are now being destroyed at a rate undreamt of, and this results in a reduction of water quality and quantity and soil erosion, as is evident in most areas of the island.

"Although it maybe a handful of people carrying out this destruction its effect filters down through the entire society and all communities. The Forestry Division has over the years, tried to educate the people through radio, schools, newspapers, etc."

Charles said that as a new nation St. Lucia cannot afford the mismanagement of such a vital resource. St. Lucians attitudes had changed for the worse and there had become a tendency to have little respect for law and order and property.

"The attitude has become, 'if the forest is gone; so what'; but then the next day these same people can be seen fighting at the standpipe for water and at that time throwing insults at the Government and Water Authority," Charles said, adding:

"One of the most serious problems is that supporters of the Government in power think that it is their God-given right to go into the forest and to do as they please and expect political leniency.

"On the other hand, there are those that are on the opposition side, who think that they can cause destruction to embarrass the Government. On both sides the forest is the loser and the situation is disastrous, for no one political party or individual politician can campaign to put them in power, on the grounds that they will bring the forest back. This cannot happen overnight as it takes hundreds of years for a forest to grow and supply all its goods and services."

CSO: 3298/805

## OPPOSITION PLP ORGAN CRITICIZES COMPTON BUDGET

Castries CRUSADER in English 14 Apr 84 p 1

[Text] When the financial advisers carefully pointed out to Minister of Finance John Compton that there is a persistent imbalance in the country's balance of payments and the balance of current account in in serious deficit and that no Budget could be presented without sizeable tax increases, expenditure cuts and a high boost in production, the Prime Minister was angry. "I cannot take a Budget like that to the House. I would rather resign".

The Prime Minister who is also the Minister of Finance has a long history of deception and bluff in his political life. Any St. Lucian who has followed the politics of the State for the past twenty years can give numerous examples of the Prime Minister's "bluff-ability". Well last Tuesday's Budget presented in the House of Assembly has established the Prime Minister once-and-for-all as the King of Bluff and Deception.

In the 1983-84 Budget which was presented last year the Prime Minister took pains to inform St. Lucians that "The accounts at the Treasury have now been computerised and up-to-the-minute information is now available. What the Computer has discovered is that for years ministries have been submitting Estimates of Expenditure which were "padded" while Estimates of Revenue were grossly "over-estimated". The shifty Finance Minister gave the impression that at last accurate figures would be available to evaluate the national income and expenditure. The Prime Minister also informed the nation then that UNEMPLOYMENT WAS DOWN; INFALTION CUT AND ST LUCIANS WERE HAPPY.

In presenting last Tuesday's 1984-85 Budget the Prime Minister tried his best to conceal the desperate state of the nation's finances by launching into a self-congratulatory monologue of his twenty years of service to the country. The vain-gloriously reviewed the years 1964-84 claiming that every single improvement in the fortunes of the country was due to his work and implied that posterity should make no mistake and give him the credit for it! The speech had the ring of a valedictory address of a schoolboy who was leaving school and was imploring his school to remember him favourably. There was much talk of resignation and St. Lucians knew instinctively that the Prime Minister was tacitly admitting his complete failure to turn the economy around or to make any impact whatever on the economic life of the country. On the contrary the economy has hit an all-time low and all the talk of recovery in the American economy has had absolutely no favourable ripple-effect on the St. Lucian economy to date.

In the previous Budget of 1983-84 the Prime Minister adopted a strategy of \* Lies \* Bluff \* Blaming others and \* Cursing everybody. He blamed Mexico's devaluation for the fact that the expected flow of tourists did not materialise. He blamed our Caricom neighbours for the failure of St. Lucia's industrialisation effort. He blamed Britain for the collapse of our banana industry. He blamed the hotel managers for smuggling away St. Lucia's foreign exchange earnings in suitcases. He blamed the Civil Servants wage claims for denying the State infra-structural development. He blamed the same "speculators" whom he led in protest a couple years ago, for refusing to pay Customs Duties. He blamed the surveyors for not giving a fair day's work. He blamed the City Council for not paying it Electricity bills. In fact he blamed everyone EXCEPT HIMSELF AND HIS FECKLESS BUNCH OF MINISTERS.

This year's 1984-85 Budget was no different. It was the same tale of woes aborously catalogues and the same old threats to Civil Servants, tax avoiders and other so-called parasites in the economy. The only difference was the Twenty-Year Swan Song that he piped continuously, beating his hollow breast in self-applause and not even bothering to admit that the workers of the State made any contribution at all to any development over the twenty-year span.

The Budget for 1984-85 was \$216 million compared with \$186 million in the previous year. Recurrent Expenditure for the 1984-85 was in the vicinity of \$130 million and the Expenditure on Capital Estimates \$86 million. The fundamental weakness in the whole Budget was that it failed to portray honestly to the people the fact that the economy is facing a large deficit and the spending spree is out of hand while the revenue side is not able to sustain the high expenditures. In fact is AN-BALANCED BUDGET. Where will the Revenue come from? The very same grossly over-stated revenues which the Prime Minister claims existed before last year's computer revealed the deficits is precisely what will occur this year. The only difference is that this year there is no statistical error. There is a CONSCIOUS JUGGLING OF REVENUE FIGURES to force the Budget presentation to appear to be in balance.

In a bogus cover-up statement the Prime Minister said that he could not continue to pay wages to 1,500 Civil Servants, he could not continue to pay \$7 million in Travelling Allowances; he could not continue to spend \$6.3 million annually on roads and still find the roads in a deplorable condition; he could not continue to spend \$1 million on watchment to protect our schools from vandalism. Therefore in the next few weeks he will be examining these figures closely to embark on a ruthless pruning of such expenditures. Once again budget-watchers saw the bluff in the threat. The threats were gentler than last year and nothing was done in the past year to cut out wastage and corruption. All bark and no bite. It was the same old threats and not teeth to carry them out. Old warnings with no effect. Old clarion-calls for discipline, production and unity which solicits no response from a dejected and frustrated populace. The spectacle was reminiscent of a tired horse going through its paces mechanically with no hope of getting through the course for less over the winning hurdle. He poured out the usual litany of problems but never offered one single solution to the problems.

The Prime Minister has done this trick many times before but he failed to realise that the objective conditions on the ground make the ordinary man on the street a more serious Budgeter than the Prime Minister himself. So when he shouts that there will be NO ADDITIONAL TAXES in the Budget and quickly adds that there is NO ROOM FOR THE IMF, even the most simple minds will ask the question: WHERE WILL THE MONEY COME FROM?

Has the Politics of "No Taxation outstripped the realities of "Taxation for Revenue"? Is the Prime Minister being honest with the people of St. Lucia in presenting a Budget that claims NO ADDITIONAL TAXATION, ignores the conditionality of IMF loans and at the same time being painfully aware of his inability to exercise any controls on the spending, waste and corruption in all his ministries? The inflated claim that firm financial controls have been established by restructuring the Ministry of Finance in is rubbish! Unless the budget controls can be exercised in all ministries then the much-touted Ministry of Finance and Planning is simply spinning top in mud.

The 1984-85 Budget will be passed easily with the Government's 14-3 majority in the House. The Leader of the Opposition might even appear to make token criticisms and the SUFFERING the HARDSHIP and the HOPELESSNESS will continue .....until the lid blows? The safety-valves of meetings, marches radio coverage for opposition and open protests no longer exists. The iron-hand of heavily-armed policemen and Regional Defence Forces are meant to contain the rising frustration of our people. Prime Minister Compton has laid the ground for his tactical retreat as soon as the lid looks like blowing. St. Lucians must all hope that the eruption is not too costly in terms of human life since State oppression invariably breeds violent reaction.

CSO: 3298/804

## MINISTER ATTACKS BUDGET, EXPOSING DIVISIONS IN UWP

## Proof of Internal Strife

Castries CRUSADER in English 28 Apr 84 p 14

[Article by Nicholas Joseph]

[Text] "O what a tangle web we weave, when first we practice to deceive."

The long internal party wrangling between the Young Turks and the old stubborn heads of the U.W.P. violently erupted into the open on Tuesday, when Minister of State in the Ministry of Health Clarence Rambally, took the opportunity during the budget debate to unleash a stinging attack on the Compton's Budget.

The budget which from all appearances had nothing to do with any of the Ministers in terms of input during its preparation, demonstrated to the public that Compton is running a one man show, and that none of his Ministers know anything about what is going on in the government. So the report which appeared some time ago in a Trinidad Newspaper the "Challenge" indicating that cabinet had openly expressed shock and dissatisfaction with Compton's action over the invasion of Grenada, and the militarisation of St. Lucia must not now be regarded as any falsification.

Minister Rambally, obviously frustrated and annoyed that the government is unable to deliver the Election Goodies which they to stop pretending and call "a spade a spade." Expressing concern for his popularity which has dwindle since joining the ranks of the U.W.P. exclaimed, "if politics will cause me to lose my popularity, I will have to consider it seriously." This takes us right back to the reports earlier this year that Minister Rambally was about to throw in the towel of his Ministerial post and return to his law office, which he has never really abandoned.

Rambally apparently speaking from the pressures within the party exclaimed, "We cannot always make excuses for our bad performances, and there is no sense postponing our problems for another day." He continued, "Politicians must face the facts and face them truthfully. He expressed shockingly to his Prime Minister who was eyeing him annoyingly; "This budget is inadequate to assist farmers." By this time Compton was fuming with rage and bowed his head in total shame and humiliation.

The Minister also took the opportunity to take a sweep at the system, which he is so engulfed in. Hypocritically he exclaimed, "There is need to revolutionise the system." He continued, "We must look at the socio-economic system and see whether it is adequate for our needs." Talking about the high rate of unemployment among the youth, he pointed out that young people who went to school together with him or shortly afterwards are there sitting on the shelf, because the system had not created the opportunities for them. He then called on his government to set their priorities right, stating that people expect much, because they were promised much.

For a long time now Crusader and the P.L.P. have hinted at the internal struggling going on in the bowels of the U.W.P. some may have dismissed it, but the open confession by the Minister has gotten people to accept that Crusader and the P.L.P. are on the right track.

It is the contention within the party that Compton and the old heads should give way to a younger generation, but the old heads have stuck to their guns, with Compton promising to throw them all out, if he has to go before his time. He also hinted at the division in his budget address, when he said that his work was not completed as yet, and that he was not willing to give in at this point. It is this contention coupled with the Government's poor performances, and their inability to deliver the goods, that have given rise to this outrageous burst by Rambally. Immediately after Rambally sat, up popped Minister Lansiquot and released an attack on Rambally for spilling the beans, not realising that he was spilling more of the in-fighting beans than Rambally. What happens next will be interesting to watch. Will the party ask Rambally to go? or would Rambally go on his own? If Rambally is man enough he should put his money where his mouth is and Resign. Over to you Mr. Minister.

#### Praise for 'Break With Tradition'

Castries THE WEEKEND VOICE in English 28 Apr 84 p 2

[Editorial]

[Text] THE House of Assembly debate on the 1984-85 fiscal budget produced something much out of the ordinary, thanks to the contribution of the Minister of State in the Ministry of Health, Mr. Clarence Rambally.

Since adult suffrage, more than 30 years ago, we have grown accustomed to the situation where members of parliament almost without exception tow strict party lines when it comes to parliamentary debates.

There was a departure from this norm in 1981, when, during the now famous leadership struggle within the St. Lucia Labour Party, one faction of the party in fact teamed up with the Opposition in voting against the budget after severely criticising the Government of which they were part. But that position was understandable because of the expediency which was clearly involved.

But this time around, Mr. Rambally has performed in a most unusual fashion, one which can only redound to the benefit of the parliamentary process and the whole idea of government as well.

By questioning certain policies of the government of which he is part, Mr. Rambally has broken away from a tradition which until now had reduced many a parliamentarian to a robot, rigidly supporting his party line on issues regardless even when the best interests of the country was not being properly served.

Mr. Rambally's UWP colleagues should not turn their noses at him for speaking his mind in a frank and indeed constructive manner. What they ought to do is to examine his contribution and determine whether there is merit in any of the suggestions and ideas he left with them on Tuesday.

When the Junior Minister expresses concern about the country's huge recurrent expenditure bill which restricts the availability of government funds for capital projects to benefit the masses he is putting forward a point of view that the Prime Minister himself has often advanced.

When he calls for the establishment of a fund to benefit farmers affected by natural disasters, admittedly by a government which has a more than fair record of coming to the assistance of the farming community in times of need, he is showing concern for a section of the population which traditionally has been one of the main pivots of the country's economic well being.

When Mr. Rambally suggests that the Government explores the possibility of introducing welfare benefits for the unemployed or examine the operations of the free enterprise system to ensure that basic needs of the people are adequately provided he is demonstrating a concern which we should all share for our fellowmen.

It is clear that Mr Rambally has his ears to the ground. It is clear too that he is of the view that the Government should be a little more aggressive in tackling the problems of the country. Of course, how practical his suggestions are is entirely another matter.

Suffice it to say that the Junior Minister has given his UWP colleagues some valuable food for thought. We don't suggest that they digest it immediately, but rather they examine it to determine whether it is at least palatable.

But the main point is that this break with tradition is indeed a very healthy sign and must surely serve to inspire new confidence in the parliamentary process.

CSO: 3298/804

## MAY DAY FINDS EVIDENCE OF CONTINUED ANTIWORKER BIAS

Castries CRUSADER in English 28 Apr 84 pp 2, 14

[Editorial]

[Text] THE Working Class is never down for long. May Day 1984 has found the St. Lucian working class DOWN - BUT NOT OUT. Workers in St. Lucia received a lethal blow in May 1982 when the Progressive Labour Party failed to win the General Election. The post-election mood in St. Lucia was sombre and heavy with foreboding. The newly-elected Government found it necessary to organise weeks of parties, festivities and rallies in an effort to dampen the sense of loss and tragedy that had settled like a wet rag on the spirits of our people. There was much soul-searching because some workers voted against their industrial and economic interest and fell prey to the wiles of the employer-class, while others fell victim to the strategy of dividing the Labour vote. All-in-all it looked as if the Labour Movement was the architect of its own defeat but many people underestimated the careful hand of the American CIA in putting together an electoral package which would stem the prowess of Progressive Forces in the Caribbean.

THE Labour Party victory of 1979 in St. Lucia took the Americans by surprise. They saw a Leftist group taking over power through the ballot-box and this disturbed them. It was no coup a-la-Nicaragua or a-la-Grenada but it was like beating the Establishment at its own game. America quickly set about turning back the hands of the clock. They strengthened and advised the Right Wing faction of the St. Lucia Labour Party and proceeded to pull the carpet from under the Leftists.

WHATEVER the shortcomings of the Labour Government during its short spell of office it chalked up some unmistakeable triumphs. During this period the worker and the ordinary man-on-the-street felt that he counted for something. The individual felt that he or she had a "say" in his or her industrial and economic destiny. When the largest hotel in the island could be bought by Government to protect the jobs of five hundred workers, the message was clear - the focus was on the worker. When the demands of public servants for increased wages could be settled by a mutual accommodation away from the gun-to-my-head intransigence of the former Prime Minister, it was evident that times had changed. Workers of St. Lucia had quietly gained a new respect and their Union were part of the policy-making machinery of Government.

MAY DAY 1984 marks a complete reversal of these achievements. The return of the Compton Administration in 1982 brought with it an undertaking to "handle the unions". Today the signs of ANTI-WORKER CONSOLIDATION are evident:

--The proposed Tri-Partite Package.

--Attempts to divide the Trade Union Movement.

--Continuing threats of Anti-Worker Legislation

--A barrage of Anti-Union sentiment from Government Benches in Budget Debates and official statements.

--Record levels of Unemployment

--Massive Lay-Offs.

--Intransigence of Management

--Military build-up as a threat to the mobilisation of workers.

--Pursuit of sterile Capitalist policies

--Violations of Workers Rights and Human Rights.

THE leadership of the Unions has not lived up to the challenge posed by these new developments. The individual Union Leaders have not given the firm direction and guidance to the workers during this crucial period of flagging confidence and destructive attacks. The workers themselves have felt a kind of reticence and a seeming confusion arising out of the insecurity of the economic situation. The bombast and rhetoric of the Government's anti-worker position might have instilled some caution into them. But this vacuum itself is instructive and must have caused many workers and unionists alike to reflect on the events of the Seventies when the Unions were strident and effective in shaping the political landscape. The obvious lesson is that the Unions alone have never risen to great heights of mobilisation and challenge. They achieved this in harness with the Labour Parties. They have been supportive on issues of Injustice and Human Rights but they have rarely initiated the action. They have been strong on particular issues whenever they could depend on the mobilisational thrust of a sympathetic Labour Movement, but they would not bear the brunt alone. The majority of Union Leaders have been conservative and cautious to a fault in the mobilisation of their workers and in using Union clout to achieve their industrial objective.

IT is obvious that the ruling regime has tempered its fear of Union action in the past year. The hysteria which marked the Prime Minister's assault on the Unions in his 1983 Budget was not present in 1984. This year he contented himself with mild threats of anti-Union legislation. No doubt the Prime Minister feels that the concourse of events has taken care of the Unions and his recent Far East trip when he was accompanied by two prominent Unionists was a coup-de-grace to demonstrate a new-found understanding with the workers

Representatives. But this might well be a mis-reading of the industrial situation and a failure to appreciate the nexus between the political thrust of the Labour Movement and the industrial activity of the Unions.

Having said so the Union Leadership must still accept it's share of the blame for the current plight of the workers in St. Lucia. It may sound contradictory but the period of depression involving lay-offs is the time when Unions must be most vigilant and assertive. The work-of organising the Labour Force must be continuous and steady and the workers must not be abandoned to the whims of exploiting Management for long periods when it might be inconvenient to the leadership. The Union leadership must also be vigourously independent and not allow financial assistance from interested Governments to dictate the tenor of their industrial policy or their political orientation.

IN the past two years the Compton Regime has excelled itself with a rash of repressive acts such as the violation of workers right to freedom of speech. He has curtailed the workers right to march and protest. He has violated the right to assembly and even deported the England Family when the hardest bit of evidence against them was that they had held a meeting of a quasi-political nature at their private residence! The Unions in St. Lucia have not reacted to these infringements of basic rights. They have stood by while persons in the Civil Service and outside have been victimised for political reasons. They have allowed Management to get away with murder in the sacking and laying-off of workers. The rank-and-file of the Unions have become distrustful of their representatives ability and willingness to stand up on their behalf. Gone are the days when Radio Caribe could be closed down because of the sacking of Hilaire Alexander!

AS May Day 1984 unfolds both the Government and the Unions are faced with a calendar of failures.

We have failed to mobilise the people for economic and political action.

We have failed to tackle the vicious contradictions of Capitalist Society.

We have failed to pursue a realistic and principled Foreign Policy which would promote the interest of St. Lucians as a viable Third World People.

We have failed to move away from the politics of PROMISE and PATRONAGE with its accompanying DECEIT and VICTIMISATION.

Our May-Day Muses would be fruitful if we could make the following May Day Resolutions:

- 1) To consolidate the Workers Movement in St. Lucia in the face of the divisive tactics of Imperialism and Capitalism.
- 2) To work towards a Programme for the liberation of the Working Class in St. Lucia and to work assiduously towards the implementation of such a programme.

- 3) To see the development of St. Lucia in terms of providing better FOOD, HOUSING, HEALTH and EDUCATION for the dispossessed workers in St. Lucia.
- 4) To support the struggle against Imperialist Agression in Nicaragua, El Salvador and Southern Africa.
- 5) To consolidate the bond between the Union Movement and the Labour Movement in St. Lucia.

CSO: 3298/804

## BRIEFS

MONEY FOR NEW PRISONS--A new prisons complex is soon to be constructed here. So said Minister for Social Affairs, Romanus Lansiquot, in his contribution to the budget in Parliament on Tuesday. To this end, Mr. Lansiquot said that Government has already purchased 30 acres of land at a cost of \$30,000 in the vicinity of Odsan, quarter of Bexon. "And we are now holding talks with a British firm to help us identify the financing for a brand new prisons which would be more rehabilitative in outlook," he said. He said: "We believe that the present prisons has outlived its usefulness and we hope that with the new prisons complex the inmates will be more involved in classroom situations, workshops and would be able to grow a lot more of the food they now consume." [Text] [Castries THE WEEKEND VOICE in English 28 Apr 84 p 2]

CSO: 3298/805

COMMENTARIES CRITICIZE 'INSENSITIVITY' OF GOVERNMENT

Catalogue of Shortcomings

Kingstown THE VINCENTIAN in English 27 Apr 84 p 4

[Editorial]

[Text] ..One of the hardest things to bear in our present hard times in St. Vincent and the Grenadines is the insensitivity of the powers that be.

Life is growing harder and harder. Utilities seem to keep failing in their functions.

Working people and school children are seen trudging up and down hills with buckets of water before they start their normal working day. Middle class workers are forced either to forego their accustomed morning baths or report to work extremely late.

Electricity is switched off in a manner that can keep workers on a job up to 3 a.m. that should have concluded at 10 p.m. All this happens in the face of increased rates.

The position with Vinlec seems to be deteriorating towards the low point it reached last year. Bills have gone up by over 100 per cent in some cases since the beginning of last year. But what happens if you are to have your meter checked? Pay the fee of \$2.50 or they won't oblige. Also just remember that the Company has no intention of sending someone to check your meter specifically. You just have to wait until your area is being handled. Weeks, in fact months, later the area hasn't been handled because no report has been made to you on the matter, and you still don't know if your meter is defective or if you have been overcharged.

The Central Water Authority stands ready to cut off the water of delinquent ratepayers contracts with whom they themselves have failed to honour and with who legal protests have been lodged.

For the utilities, just like for the Government, Might is Right

Talking about Government, the present regime has perfected the technique of producing frustration and killing initiative in citizens--both organizations

and individuals--by ignoring their communications. Whether it be the Chamber of Industry and Commerce inviting the cooperation of the Ruling Party in a bid to promote an understanding between political and commercial elements in the society; the national newspaper asking about the refusal to place government notices, etc. in its columns; or the individual requesting attention to various injustices in his community a strong silence is the reply.

Only a fool, because of justified dissatisfaction, would try to pretend that government charged with piloting the welfare of a small poor state like St. Vincent and the Grenadines has an easy task. Far from it. However the people are entitled to sympathy, understanding and courtesy. They are entitled to integrity in the handling of their affairs.

They are entitled to have their opinions listened to, weighed and either acted upon or refuted.

There is too much disregard for the feelings of people, the potential of people and the rights of people by the present Government.

Little or no attention is paid to the sick who are poor; the old who are homeless; the children who are motherless.

Take the attitude towards women. In deference to the United Nations efforts to bring women into the mainstream of world affairs, the governments of most member countries have established specific centres (Woman's desk or Woman's Bureau), to make sure that firm link is maintained between women and government. St. Vincent and the Grenadines is one of the few nations which have failed to conform. Ironically, in this country the Minister responsible for Women's Affairs is the Foreign Affairs Minister.

..Neglect of the right of road users to protection from over loaded or inadequately secured contents has just been demonstrated again. Last week galvanize fell from a truck and maimed a woman for life. A few years ago a man was killed by an improperly secured role of paper that was being transported to Campden Park. The right of citizens to adequate fire protection services is not upheld.

..These are mere examples.

..A government that looks with sensitivity on its nationals would east considerably the hard unchangeable things in our society and help correct some of the correctable things that are now ignored.

#### Police Violations

Kingstown THE VINCENTIAN in English 27 Apr 84 p 10

[Text] Contrary to the immature thinking of many top-ranking police who see their role in society only as tyrants and watchdogs forever aiming at their fellowmen and looking for ways and means to apprehend those whom they hate, protect those whom they love and drag before the court as many as their nets

could haul, the police have a definite and meaningful role to play in the building of this young nation of St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

Like the British Bobby the police should be of a polite disposition, knowledgeable in current and local affairs and always willing and ready to assist motorists and pedestrians who seek their help. In all aspects of life the police should be involved as friends and guardians of the people. It should therefore be drilled into their heads that they are servants of the public and not bull-dogs to hound them down for trivialities. They must always be made aware that their work, which involves detection of offences, can be made easy only if the public is on their side.

hate nor malice for anyone but pondering the words of the great Commander "Speak to the people that they go forward"

Unfortunately, in this country, the public, collectively, is not on their side and the many unsolved crimes, which will never be solved, are due to the accumulation of mistrust the Vincentian Public have developed for the police. Because of the uncouthness, insolence and un-psychological mannerism of certain bombastic and swollen-headed top members of our Force, the public is unable to co-operate with and to establish a congenial relationship with this institution. It seems impossible to reach them and forego a balance which will benefit the entire State.

Thirty years ago, when the St. Vincent population was about seventy or eighty thousand, our police force was comprised of a man-power of ninety men.

In those days, under Superintendant Crozier, police were respected, were neatly clad, loved their jobs, and performed their duties with diligence. Today with an increased population of one hundred and ten thousand and a force of nearly six hundred men, the country is yearning for a revolution in the police force. If it were possible to re-incarnate Sergeant Bramble, Laria, Bailey and Mandeville, within six months, there would be no less than twenty arrests made within the police force for breaches ranging in dimension too wide to be chronicled.

It is felt by the public that it should be done and the time is long overdue for an enquiry to be held in the St. Vincent and the Grenadines Police Force to determine whether the many silent or hush-hush charges levied at certain members of the force by the public are fictitious, and should be nullified, or real, and offenders brought to justice.

Recently large stocks of stolen articles kept as exhibits at the Criminal Investigations Department in Kingstown disappeared. It shows that our police force has become so dead that thieves can raid the C.I.D. and remove car loads of cigarettes and other items and nobody sees. Is it not logical to conclude that guns could be stolen and unaccounted for? There is no question about it, our police force must be purged quickly or otherwise the type of discipline which now exists will degenerate into a sub-standard level which will be unbecoming of a good force.

## RULING LABOR PARTY OPENS NATIONAL CONVENTION

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 30 Apr 84 p 15

[Text] KINGSTOWN, April 29, (CANAL)--"The ruling St Vincent Labour Party (SVLP) of Prime Minister Milton Cato opens its national convention in the town of Calliaqua just south of the capital Kingstown today with an open air rally at which thousands of supporters are expected to attend.

Prime Minister Milton Cato, his nine other elected parliamentarians as well as the four government-appointed Senators will address the rally on matters of national interest, a party statement said.

Party chairman, Rene Baptiste, a lawyer, said the business session of the convention will take place on Tuesday, also at Calliaqua, in the heart of Prime Minister Cato's east St. George constituency.

The 1985 delegates will receive the report of the General Secretary, consider reports and resolutions from the constituency branches, and review the party's constitution with a view to making amendments which would upgrade the party's infrastructure.

The 29-year-old SVLP serving its second consecutive term in office, its third altogether winning elections in 1966, 1974 and 1979, is favoured to win the next general elections due by March next year.

Political analysts here believe that the final outcome of the poll could hinge on the number of opposition parties that eventually contest the election.

There are six small opposition parties in the state. The latest attempts to forge a united front suffered a setback with the breakdown of talks between James Mitchell's New Democratic Party (NDP) and Dr Gideon Cordice's St. Vincent and the Grenadines National Movement (SNM).

All the parties have announced their intention of fielding candidates in most of the country's 13 constituencies--12 on St. Vincent and one in the Grenadines.

CSO: 3298/807

## NUMBER OF VOTERS DROPS DESPITE LOWER VOTING AGE

Kingstown THE VINCENTIAN in English 20 Apr 84 p 1

[Text] Some interesting figures regarding the voters' enumerated in preparation for the next General Election have reached The Vincentian. They are appended.

Although the voting age was dropped from 21 to 18 for inclusion in the new list, 5,412 more electors were on the voters' roll in 1979 than in 1984! To make matters worse 4,669 people who were enumerated in 1984 were not photographed. Unless this is corrected some 10 thousand people less than those who were entitled to vote in 1979 will be entitled to vote in 1984.

Only three of the 13 constituencies showed an increase in 1984 over 1979-- Marriaqua (Ken Browne) went up, by 113; East St. George by (Milton Cato) by 280; and West St. George (Arthur Williams) by 3.

It would appear from the figures given below that the voting population has decreased by over 10 per cent in the last five years in spite of the lowering of the voting age.

| CONSTITUENCY           | 1979   | 1984   | Not<br>Photographed |        |
|------------------------|--------|--------|---------------------|--------|
| NORTH WINDWARD         | 2943   | 2880   | 317                 | --     |
| NORTH CENTRAL WINDWARD | 4582   | 3877   | 413                 | --     |
| SOUTH CENTRAL WINDWARD | 3569   | 2942   | 390                 | --     |
| SOUTH WINDWARD         | 3475   | 3067   | 511                 | --     |
| MARRIAQUA              | 3527   | 3640   | 351                 | --     |
| EAST ST. GEORGE        | 4350   | 4630   | 433                 | --     |
| WEST ST. GEORGE        | 4815   | 4818   | 539                 | --     |
| EAST KINGSTOWN         | 4425   | 3190   | 419                 | --     |
| WEST KINGSTOWN         | 4404   | 3817   | 106                 | --     |
| SOUTH LEEWARD          | 4740   | 4385   | 494                 | --     |
| NORTH LEEWARD          | 4253   | 3320   | 207                 | --     |
| GRENADINES             | 3830   | 3533   | 489                 | --     |
| TOTAL                  | 48,913 | 44,699 | 4,669               |        |
| CENTRAL LEEWARD        | 3,160  | 2,962  |                     |        |
|                        | 52,073 | 47,661 |                     | -5,412 |

CSO: 3298/807

TOURISM 'AWARENESS' CAMPAIGN INITIATED BY GOVERNMENT

Kingstown THE VINCENTIAN in English 27 Apr 84 p 3

[Text] The Department of Tourism is on a drive to reduce or eradicate the poor attitudes displayed by Vincentians to visitors to our shores. To solve this, a Public Awareness Campaign is being set up.

According to the Director of Tourism, Ms Vera-Ann Brereton, the objectives of the campaign is--to create a greater awareness and understanding amongst the general public of the importance of tourism to the national economy to encourage a wider acceptance of tourism; to improve the attitudes towards visitors on the part of the general public; to strive for improvements in the quality of service generally; and to reduce or remove entirely the problems of robbery and other harassment of visitors.

The Department has identified--the lack of awareness of the importance of tourism to the economy, the harassment of visitors; violent attacks on visitors; poor quality service and the dirty conditions in kingstown and its environs as setbacks to the industry.

It is the intention of the Department to focus its attention on school; children, teachers, taxi-drivers, service industry personnel, policemen, customs and port authority staff, youth groups and trade unions.

To get the message across to Vincentians the Department of Tourism will be using the press, radio and television; through activities involving educational institutions, exhibitions, lecture panels and information services.

The official launching of the campaign will be in May.

CSO: 3298/808

## POSITIONS OF PLAYERS IN OPPOSITION MANEUVERS NOTED

## SNM Statement

Kingstown THE VINCENTIAN in English 13 Apr 84 p 1

[Text]

Last Week The Vincentian carried on its Front Page a statement from the NDP on Opposition Co-operation. This week we present the SNM's point of view.

"Over the past five months talks were held between the New Democratic Party and the St. Vincent and the Grenadines National Movement with a view to forging an alliance to contest the next general elections due to be held some time before March 1985.

The talks proceeded up to the point of mutual support generally; but differences emerged in agreement on this support in respect of two constituencies. Both

Party Leaders agreed to continue discussions with a view to resolving these differences.

It is no secret that the general public of St. Vincent was hoping for accord between the SNM and NDP. The failure of our attempts to bring about this accord must be a matter of grave disappointment to those of us in St. Vincent who yearn for progress — a disappointment that is acutely felt by the SNM. Having said this, we now proceed to give our supporters and the public at large our assurance that we will continue our efforts to bring about some meaningful change in the political life of St. Vincent."

## Criticism of Williams

Kingstown THE VINCENTIAN in English 13 Apr 84 p 4

[Editorial]

[Text]

The New Democratic Party statement on "Opposition Co-operation" has of course produced an immediate reaction from Son Mitchell's opponents.

One statement, signed J. Jack was handed to us on Thursday afternoon, too late for inclusion on reference in the paper. It reads: "Mitchell has once again shown himself in his true colours. After calling for Opposition Unity now that we are approaching elections he has come out and openly stated in his New Times paper of 5th. April

that he does not support Randolph Russell or Calder Williams. Ironically he is Opposition Leader only because of their support. Can he now expect their support when he has shown such base ingratitude? It would appear that another Opposition crisis is imminent.

It is not our intention to champion Mitchell's cause here. But we feel bound to publish once more our point of view on the support of Calder Williams' candidacy for representation of Vincentians. It is a matter of morality.

We believe that to support Williams is to support a person who has carried opportunism to the point where principle is flagrantly violated. A man who deserts his party leader (no matter who) to ensure the retention a few more dollars in his pay cheque; and trifles with the parliamentary system to the point of making a laughing stock of his country, and removing all dignity from a constitutional element of the governmental process, is not the sort of individual who should be promoted in his attempt to capture the confidence of an unsophisticated electorate. The fact that Williams currently supports Mitchell for Leader of the Opposition is hardly a feather in Mitchell's cap. Calder has always made it quite clear that his support for the post has nothing to do with either loyalty or even his own conviction of suitability. What is at stake is Williams' personal benefit, as he sees it, and to hell with the well-being of the people whom he represents.

Is not any party who allows Calder Williams to get into Parliament on the basis of people's trust in and respect for it guilty of betrayal of fellow Vincentians? And on the other side of the coin if a party supports Williams as a candidate, because it feels that his personal popularity among a group of deluded citizens will assure his victory is it not violating its own party integrity?

Anyone who dares to offer himself as a candidate for acceptance by the people as their representative owes the people respect and honesty. Any political party that aspires to chart the course of a nation — no matter how small — must base its actions on integrity; or regardless of what happens at the beginning of a regime, when the going gets rough a harvest of bitterness and frustration will be reaped by the people and dislike and distrust by the party.

Calder Williams has demonstrated neither respect for the people of St. Vincent nor honesty in his political dealings. No party that attempts to foist him on its supporters, or seek an extra seat through the folly of misguided loyalty can claim a policy of integrity.

Let us look now specifically at the NDP's refusal to keep its candidates out of more than three constituencies. If that has been decided on the hard facts of whom each party, Cordice's SNM and Mitchell's NDP, has to offer there should be no quarrel with it.

However we feel that the SNM candidates should be allowed to use their own symbol at the polls. If the Key and the Clock never appear together on the same voting sheet there should be no confusion. After all both parties have made it clear that the unity being mooted is only an election alliance. A party merger has never even been under consideration as far as we know.

## Williams' Explanation

Kingstown THE VINCENTIAN in English 20 Apr 84 p 1

[Text]

Because of the criticisms made regarding the effect of Calder Williams switching his support to Randolph Russell and making him Opposition Leader, in place of James Mitchell, Williams made a statement to The Vincentian in justification of his "refusal to trust Mitchell".

Williams noted that when he entered politics he was a young and inexperienced man. Mitchell he said had brought in the now Senator of the Opposition St. Clair Robinson to contest the North Leeward constituency against the Labour Party. The people of that constituency objected and chose him instead (Williams).

Williams said that Mitchell did not encourage him to trust him because —

(1) He (Williams) was asked to take an oath to abide by the NDP's constitution, "A constitution which he knows nothing about."

(2) Now an executive member in the NDP and the people's choice for the North Leeward constituency he was asked to leave in the process of a meeting which allowed Robinson to vote for himself.

(3) Mitchell pulled away the mike from him during the presentation of candidates at the market square in 1979. "Because he was the people's choice and not NDP's choice."

(4) Mitchell never held a public meeting with him during the 1979 campaigning.

(5) Williams considers the undated letter of

resignation that Mitchell made him sign in the presence of Lawyer Sylvester, before he knew he was going to be Leader of Opposition or before he (Williams) took the oath in the House without the knowledge of the executive, to be the main reason that caused him to switch support from Mitchell.

(6) To choose Senators after the elections Mitchell took him to Shake Kean's House to do so without the knowledge of the executive.

Mr Williams noted that the best of men make mistakes but his mistakes are "no justification for Mitchell's condemnation." He (Williams) is the only one who has never been in any government — whether the Labour Party, junta PPP or otherwise. Mitchell, said Calder, has "intruded on (his) truthfulness and (his) experience."

Two factors said Calder convinced him that Mitchell is unconcerned about the people of the mainland.

(a) Secession (b) the refusal to unite with the Opposition at a time when the masses of Vincentian people are calling for unity.

Williams noted that the idea of having Russell as Opposition Leader is an SNM, PDP decision. Also, the position of Opposition Leader, of which Mitchell had been deprived for the past nine years by the Labour Party, was given to him only when Williams supported him.

## RUSSELL HEADS OPPOSITION, CHARGES POLITICS IN SHOOTING

## Details Behind Change

Kingstown THE VINCENTIAN in English 13 Apr 84 p 1

[Text]

There has been another shift in the Opposition leadership. It is the direct result of last week's New Democratic Party statement that the NDP would not support the candidacy of either Calder Williams or Randolph Russell in the forthcoming general elections. Williams and Russell have both written to the Governor General withdrawing support of Mitchell as Leader of the Opposition, since both have given Russell their support as Leader, under the Constitution the Governor-General has no choice but to revoke Mitchell's appointment, and name to the post the opposition member with the greatest parliamentary support. In this case Randolph Russell MP for East Kingstown.

The Senate membership will of course be affected as

well. The two Opposition Senators are named by the Leader of the Opposition. This almost certainly means that NDP's Bucky Boyea and St. Clair Robinson are out. The new Senators will bring to twelve the number of people who have so far occupied the two opposition Senate seats, during the 4½ year life of the present Parliament.

This is the second time that Russell has been Leader of the Opposition. He became Leader soon after he resigned from the Ruling Labour Party through a "Parliamentary arrangement" with Calder Williams. Then he lost the post to Mitchell when Calder switched his allegiance. Williams has just re-demonstrated the power over the post of Leader of the Opposition which one individual can exercise.

## Shooting Incident

Kingstown THE VINCENTIAN in English 13 Apr 84 p 1

[Text]

A gun shot was fired at Opposition Leader Randolph Russell last Tuesday night while he was sitting in his porch with one of his employees, Israel Thomas.

According to Mr. Russell, as a common practice he sits with Tall-Boy (Israel Thomas) at night in his porch discussing matters of in-

terest. At about 8.50 p.m. he heard a loud explosion and the "whoshing" sound of a bullet as it went through the coconut branches (on the Russell premises) and then the echo of the bullet as it hit a piece of metal.

"In a quick action" Mr Russell jumped from his chair and hid behind his car which was parked in the porch. He shouted to his wife who also heard the explosion to turn off the lights on the porch so that he would not be seen as he entered the house. The Russells then called the police. An officer came and investigate but were unable to locate where the bullet struck.

Mr Russell viewed the incident as "purely political". The person who fired the shot he declared as politically motivated.

"Regardless," he said

"One as to die some day. Be it by drowning, by a shot or anything else!" He seemed quite unperturbed as he voiced this philosophy. He went on to say "However, one must not encourage others to shoot, because shooting back can probably cause a revolution."

CSO: 3298/806

## BRIEFS

UPM CANDIDATES--The United People's Movement held its special Election Conference at the Memorial Hall last Sunday, the 8th April. Over 100 delegates from all 12 mainland constituencies attended. Party Leader Oscar Allen gave the feature address. He reported on the present political situation and the fruitless attempts by the UPM to promote opposition co-operation. It was decided that the party should proceed independently in its election campaign, and that the UPM should engage in a full electoral contest, with the three objections of (a) Securing a Parliamentary presence. (b) Using the elections to mobilise broad popular support for the Party; (c) Giving maximum publicity to the UPM programme. Candidates were selected for seven constituencies but their names have not been disclosed to the public. Two others were chosen pending further deliberations. [Text] [Kingstown THE VINCENTIAN in English 13 Apr 84 p 3]

CSO: 3298/808

## HOARDING BLAMED FOR SHORTAGES OF BASIC FOODSTUFFS

## Salt, Garlic Seized

Paramaribo DE WARE TIJD in Dutch 27 Apr 84 p 12

[Text] Personnel of the Price Determination and Price Control Service Thursday seized large amounts of salt and garlic at a wholesale dealer and at a retailer in Paramaribo and in the district of Suriname.

What is concerned here is an amount of salt of 3,000 kg, packed in bags of 50 kg each, and 600 bags of garlic.

With this seizing, it again appears that there is widespread hoarding of foodstuffs belonging to the category of basic needs.

That is why the leadership of the Ministry of Transport, Trade and Industry is calling upon the public to get in touch immediately with the Price Determination and Price Control Service at number 5, Mirandastraat, or telephone numbers 72121 and 73968, if it is confronted with similar cases.

In order to be abundantly clear, it is pointed out on behalf of the leadership of the Ministry of THI [Transport, Trade and Industry] that sellers of such articles who commit the acts mentioned above will be dealt with with all severity.

The seized lots will be resold by the service to the public. Finally, it is pointed out that there are sufficient amounts of these products in stock, and that, therefore, there need be no reason for alarm.

NVD [National Information Service]

## Guarantee from Minister

Paramaribo DE WARE TIJD in Dutch 2 May 84 p 7

[Text] Minister Erik Tjon Kie Sim, in his capacity of minister of Transport, Trade and Industry ad interim, gave an impression of the political situation of Suriname, Monday night in the Lalla Rookh building.

On behalf of the government, the minister gave the guarantee that it will never occur anymore that there will be shortages of the basic needs.

The minister referred briefly to the role of the laborers in the development process, and gave an impression of the Suriname production companies that are to be established.

#### Never Shortages Anymore of Basic Needs

The government, said Minister Tjon Kie Sim, will see to it that, in spite of all the difficulties, there should never be shortages anymore of bread, rice, salt and Bakkeljauw [fish].

The people should not be in uncertainty that the basic needs are not to be had.

Despite the severe budget cuts, the government each year has a deficit of 100 million [Suriname guilders], the minister said, and the pressure from abroad has increased sharply.

#### Foreign Currency Position

The Suriname foreign currency position is weak, the minister said, and that is due to several factors. Because of the stopping of development aid, we annually receive 150 million guilders less from the Netherlands.

Because of the world recession in the bauxite sector, less bauxite is being exported, so that the government is receiving less value-added tax.

Because of limited imports, the government is also receiving less import duties, and from our underdeveloped production process we are getting no compensation. There is not much international support to be expected, we therefore have to do everything by ourselves to build up our country.

#### Laborers in the Development Process

The Suriname laborers have shown that they can do it, the minister continued.

Housing construction is at the moment being done with 100 percent Suriname materials.

In the near future, some Suriname industrial companies will be established, the so-called Paraindustries.

These companies will manufacture products from raw material from Suriname itself, so that foreign currency will be saved.

It will be looked into how we can make optimum use of our agriculture, husbandry, fisheries and forestry. By means of recovery production in the bauxite sector, we can improve our foreign currency position, the minister said.

## Budget Cuts and Reconstruction of Government

The government apparatus will have to economize, and there will have to be reconstructions in government.

Prudent foreign loans will be made in order to guarantee the development of the country and the people.

The challenges have become larger than smaller [as printed] for Suriname. The present government had been charged with two tasks, to wit:

The development of lasting democratic structures, and to find solutions to the financial and economic situation in which Suriname finds itself.

All true patriots are needed to give the government that support which is needed in order to realize these two tasks.

The present problems should not discourage you, but should rather encourage you to give the help which we need in order to build up our country, said Minister Tjon Kie Sim Monday night at Lalla Rookh.

## Existence of Shortages Denied

Paramaribo DE WARE TIJD in Dutch 3 May 84 p 1

[Text] Paramaribo, 2 May (SNA) [Suriname News Agency]--"I do not believe that we can speak of shortages of foodstuffs. I have rather the impression that some shopkeepers intentionally hold back certain goods and in doing so, stimulate shortages."

This is what Mr Dompig, deputy head of the Price Control Service of the Ministry of THI [Transport, Trade and Industry] said, referring to the fact that at several places hoarded goods were seized last week.

All in all, the Price Control last week seized 2,250 kg of salt; 6,000 kg of garlic; 2,200 kg of red herring; 1,000 kg of flour; 150 kg of potatoes and onions; 10 crates of whiskey; 6,850 kg of rice, and 5,000 kg of rice flour.

## Intention

At the point in time when Price Control came into action, the red herring and the garlic, among other things, had for the better part spoiled already. The amounts which are being seized indicate, said Dompig, that people are busy intentionally creating shortages. Mr Wiebers, price controller, is of the opinion that the hoarders want to achieve political effects with their actions.

"We find every day nowadays," said Wiebers, "that some shopkeepers now stock considerably more than normal. What do you think of a shopkeeper with a monthly turnover of one bag of salt, and who now buys eight of them at the CIS [Central Import Company of Suriname] in order to subsequently store them in the back of his yard in a shed. To the customers he then tells that there is no salt, and that that is the fault of Lanti [the government]."

## Investigation Team

Another matter that Weibers points at are the recent cases of illegal price increases. In this respect, cases are known to the Price Control Service, in which a bag of salt, which is bought at the CIS for 18.50 guilders per 50 kg, is resold to market hawkers and shopkeepers for 80.00 guilders. In order to adequately cope with these kinds of practices, on Wednesday of last week an investigation team of price controllers has been created, which especially charges itself with tracking down hoarders.

Moreover, the Price Control Service now also has an afternoon shift available, which continues to work after 2 o'clock.

"What we do is no more than our duty," said Mr Dompig, who attributes the successes, which his service recently achieved, to the good collaboration and the close consultation both within the Price Control Service and with the customers who equally have a stake in a correct handling of affairs.

## Statement by Officials

Paramaribo DE WARE TIJD in Dutch 3 May 84 p 4

[Text] Photo above: Seized goods at Magentapolder, Photo below: At dealers at the Kwatta [Road], bags of rice flour and wheat flour were seized.

Last Saturday, the Price Determination and Price Control Service again seized a large amount of rice, rice flour, wheat flour, salt and other articles of which there is a shortage from a number of dealers. According to Mr Wiebers of this service, a shortage is being created by the dealers, while this is not necessary at all. He said that because of this, the Price Determination and Price Control Service will continue with similar actions, until the dealers will leave off these dealers [as printed] which are harmful to our people.

A part of the goods had already spoiled, which indicates, according to personnel of the service, that the dealers rather let the goods rot away than sell them to the public at a normal price.

The personnel said furthermore, that the participation of the population in combating these evil acts can be termed good.

The service regularly received telephone calls from people who have come across hoarding dealers.

12568

CSO: 3214/45

## BRIEFS

VISITS TO CUBA, USSR--Union leader Celest Baarn Thursday departed for Cuba for the 1 May celebration. He there will be guest of the Confederation [of Cuban workers]. Yesterday afternoon, the union leaders John Goeders of C-47; Willem Belfor of C-47; Ramon Cruden, JD, of PWO [Progressive Employee's Organization]; Leo Mook of the "Mother Union"; and Sabier Ketwaru of the CLO [Public Servants Organization Central Council] departed for Moscow by way of Amsterdam. In Moscow, the gentlemen will attend the 1 May festivities. They will be the guests of the Russian Trade Union Movement (C-47). [Text] [Paramaribo DE WARE TIJD in Dutch 28 Apr 84 p 16] 12568

VISIT BY BRAZILIAN NAVY--Paramaribo (SNA) [Suriname News Agency]--Two vessels of the Brazilian Navy will arrive on Thursday at the harbor of Paramaribo for a routine visit which will last until 8 May. What is concerned here is the corvette "Iguatemi" and the patrol boat "Paratini," the crew of which consists of 10 officers, 17 petty officers and 59 other crew members. At 10 o'clock tomorrow morning, this company will be welcomed with military ceremony at the Navy Stairs, after which, later during the day, the captains will pay their respects to the chief of staff of the National Army, while the vessels are being moored at the new Harbor. The program furthermore mentions, among other things, a visit to the Parbo beer brewery, cultural manifestations at Colakreek, and a soccer match. [Text] [Paramaribo DE WARE TIJD in Dutch 3 May 84 p 1] 12568

CSO: 3214/45

END