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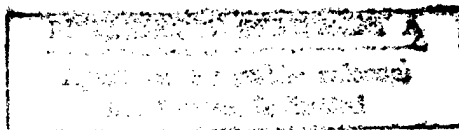
JPRS 81851

27 September 1982

Latin America Report

No. 2578

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27 September 1982

LATIN AMERICA REPORT

No. 2578

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POWER COMPANY OUTLINES PLANNING STEPS NEEDING ATTENTION

Bridgetown SUNDAY ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 22 Aug 82 p 2

[Text]

Mr. Frank McConney, Managing Director of the Barbados Light and Power Company expects that energy producers and large energy users will soon be working together on a co-operative energy plan which will save Barbados millions of dollars in fuel costs.

Mr. McConney said that fuel and energy prices will not stop rising because the world's conventional energy resources are non renewable and because the cost of energy producing equipment is affected by inflation and high interest costs associated with investment in such plant.

The present oil glut and price stability may be only a minor temporary aberration in the long term. Therefore large energy users and producers should come together and work on a co-operative plan which would be of mutual benefit to them all. Mr. McConney said that the Barbados Light and Power Company, Mobil Oil, the Sugar Producers, the Cement Plant and the Natural Gas Corporation should be able to make substantial productive contributions to the plan and "we will initiate discussions with them as soon as the company can get some relief from its present cash crisis." Mr. McConney said that there are five major aspects of energy planning that must be addressed.

1. CO-GENERATION. — From a national energy planning view point the island now has 65 Megawatts of

steam turbine and low speed diesel electricity generating plant which is ideally suited for continuous 24 hour a day operation over many months between overhauls and are sufficient to supplying present consumer demand of 57 Megawatts. There are also a number of small diesel generators in the island which are ideally suited for standby and peak load purposes located at two power plants and on the premises of certain large consumers. Similar diesel engines will soon be installed on the premises of the new Cement Plant in St. Lucy.

It is necessary to rationalise the use of all of the generating units in the island so that those with the lowest fuel cost would be used for base load operation and those with the highest fuel costs would be used only when necessary for standby purposes, or during those periods when consumer demand peaks above normal. This would involve the establishment of a national system control and data acquisition system which would be operated by the Power Company.

2. EXHAUST HEAT RECOVERY. — The Light and Power Company is presently investigating the possibility of utilising energy from the exhaust of the Low Speed Diesel Station. This will involve the installation of the necessary recovery and other equipment and the Company

is presently seeking finance for the purchase of this equipment.

3. CONVENTIONAL FUELS. — The use of high capital cost low speed diesel engines which burn low grade residual fuel was not economic until the price of fuel increased dramatically in recent years. Previously, an investment decision in generating plant used to be based primarily on its capital costs. However in recent years the cost of fuel has become the most dominant economic consideration. Residual fuel is already being used in steam generating plant at Spring Garden Power Station and the two new low speed diesel engines at the same location will also burn this fuel at even greater efficiency.

The Natural Gas Corporation should be encouraged to speed up its plans for increased natural gas production so that more use can be made of this fuel for electricity generation. Natural Gas burners have been installed in the steam plant at Spring Garden to use the maximum amount of natural gas that is likely to be available.

4. ENERGY FROM BAGASSE. — Successful

trials have been carried out which confirm the ease with which electricity produced from bagasse burning units in the sugar factories can be fed into the national energy grid. Plans need to be finalised for the best use of the excess bagasse taking into consideration poultry producer requirements.

5. CONSERVATION. — The Barbados Manufacturers Association has taken the initiative to create interest in the efficient use of energy. However, it is a difficult task to achieve substantial energy conservation - among industrial users of electricity, mainly because many industrialists may have different priorities. Usually when the industrialist looks at his cost figures he sees that the cost of electricity is only 1 per cent less of his gross expenditure. Therefore he may conclude that it is more productive to devote his attention to other higher cost elements of his operation.

The Barbados light and Power Company is prepared to work with the Manufacturers Association, large energy users and producers in Barbados who have all expressed a strong interest in participating in this co-operative energy plan.

NEW CEPE OIL FIELD GOES INTO PRODUCTION

Quito EL COMERCIO in Spanish 29 Aug 82 p A1

[Text] Next week another field in northeastern Ecuador will begin to produce oil, and in 2 weeks the drilling of the Nuevo Amazonas 1 well will be concluded, according to CEPE [Ecuadorean State Petroleum Corporation] sources. Nuevo Amazonas is located in southeastern Ecuador.

The field which will begin production in the northeast is the Shushuqui, which is expected to produce 3,000 barrels of crude a day. On 17 August, the Shuara field began production; the rate there is to be 5,000 barrels per day.

According to these sources, the two fields are part of a group of four fields which are to produce approximately 20,000 barrels per day this year. This amount will be exported starting in October.

In order to produce this amount, after Shuara and Shushuqui, the next fields to be brought into production will be Secoya and Charapa. In the meantime, the first barrels are being stored in tanks with a capacity of 600,000 barrels, which have been built in the area.

It was also reported that the Nuevo Amazonas 1 exploratory well has now reached a depth of 8,000 feet. According to initial calculations by the technical staff, the depth of the well will be 11,000 feet.

They explained that this well is being drilled to determine if crude exists, and if so, the volume present. They added that prospects for oil production are good because near this border area, Peru is extracting large amounts of petroleum.

The drilling of Nuevo Amazonas 1 began on 28 July and is expected to be completed in 2 weeks. Production testing will last for the same amount of time, and will provide either positive or negative results.

In any event, the CEPE plans to conduct two more exploratory drillings in this Conambo-Bobonaza area this year. The following wells will be Maranon 1 and el Huito 1.

The CEPE's goal is to determine the hydrocarbon potential existing in this area. According to the prospecting studies done, petroleum does exist here.

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CSO: 3010/2282

GOVERNMENT FIXES NEW PRICES FOR COOKING GAS

Georgetown SUNDAY CHRONICLE in English 22 Aug 82 p 16

[Text]

AN order published in yesterday's Official Gazette fixing new prices for cooking gas seems to have solved a problem which caused about two thousand 20-pound gas cylinders to remain in a Water street bond for several weeks.

The Trade (Control of Prices) (Cooking Gas) (Amendment) (No 19) Order 1982 has resulted in increased prices for the commodity.

It also fixes for the first time the maximum wholesale price which distributors are required to pay the oil companies for the 20-pound cylinders of gas.

Reliable sources said the increase in the retail price should pave the way for the uplifting of the cylinders imported some time ago by the Guyana National Trading Corporation.

GNTC's Executive Chairman Noel Gonsalves explained recently that the release of the cylinders to the companies depended on the outcome of negotiations then going on between the oil companies and the Competent Authority.

It is understood that the oil companies had been seeking an adjustment in the \$40 deposit for the 20-pound cylinder. The Competent Authority, however, was not persuaded to grant this

request.

But General Manager Joseph Small of the Demerara Oxygen Company Limited (DOCOL), whose company distributes "Tex" gas, said the increase in the retail price of the gas "will perhaps allow us to break even or at least remove some of the loss."

Cde Small told the Chronicle that his gas supplying Company had been operating at a loss.

Consumers in Georgetown will now have to pay \$19.76 for a 20-pound cylinder which, up to yesterday, had cost \$16.01 since 1979.

In other parts of the County of Demerara outside Georgetown, the cost of the 20-pound cylinder would be \$21.58; in New Amsterdam it would be \$20.98, other parts of Berbice \$21.66; North West District \$23.53 and in other parts of Essequibo \$22.63.

The new price for the 100-pound cylinder is \$93.35. It used to be \$79.32.

Distributors through whom the gas is retailed to consumers will pay the oil companies — Texaco and Shell — \$17.91 for a 20-pound cylinder of gas.

This arrangement between the distributors of Texaco and Shell had never been the subject of price control regulations before, an authoritative source told the Chronicle.

BRIEFS

KEROSENE PRICE CUT--(GNA)--Users of kerosene are to benefit from a second reduction in four months in the price of the commodity in keeping with a recent Cabinet decision. On the last occasion, the price was slashed by 22 cents per gallon. In keeping with the recent Cabinet decision the price would be further reduced by about 10 centers per gallon--from \$4,40 per gallon to about \$4,30 per gallon. It is understood that the details are likely to be published in this weekend's issue of the official gazette. [Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 27 Aug 82 p 1]

CSO: 3025/452

TRINTOC, TEXACO AFFECTED BY SLOW MARKET SITUATION

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 19 Aug 82 p 1

[Text]

THINGS have slowed down on the international market for Trintoc.

The company sells about 90 per cent of its fuel oil to the eastern seaboard of America and the lighter fuel such as gasoline and aviation fuel firstly to Trinidad and Tobago then to Caricom and North America.

About ten per cent of Trintoc's fuel oil is sold on the spot markets. A source close to the company said yesterday that although things have slowed down a little in the rate of lifting the fuel oil, one shipment is expected to leave from the Point Fortin refinery next week.

The fuel oil is contracted to international buyers, therefore there is no problem with the export market in this area, the spokesman said.

The Trintoc refinery, which has a throughput capacity of 100,000 barrels at peak, closed down last Saturday for maintenance. The refinery is expected to be back on stream this weekend.

AT TEXACO

Meanwhile, Texaco Trinidad Inc has closed down its Power Station "A" and plans not to re-open its hostel which is now closed for the summer holiday.

A spokesman for the monthly paid branch of the Oilfields Workers' Trade Union (OWTU) said yesterday that the company has informed the union of its action.

He said the company claimed that Power Station "A" was now obsolete and if and when the throughput of the Pointe-a-Pierre refinery should increase there would be no need for the power station.

This plant supplies steam and generates electricity. The hostel is at the moment closed for the summer holidays.

Mr. George Weekes, president general of the OWTU, said he heard of the plan to shut down the hostel and was told that arrangements would be made to transport the students who use the hostel.

CSO: 3025/452

BRIEFS

NEW TEXACO PRODUCTION CUT--TEXACO Trinidad Inc. has reduced its refinery throughput to 50,000 barrels per day from 80,000 barrels as from Monday as planned. The company said Monday that in accordance with its programme, refinery throughput has been reduced to 50,000 barrels per day and will remain at this level until completion of scheduled maintenance of the flare and steam systems--a period estimated about 12 days. George Weekes, president general of Oilfields Workers Trade Union said that he was informed by the company that reduction of the throughput was only a temporary measure. A few weeks ago, residents of Battoo Avenue, Marabella complained bitterly about the heat and "rumbling noise" from the flare system which is situated near the banks of the Guaracara River, south of the refinery. The complaints were made to Texaco following which the company said it was studying the matter. [Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 26 Aug 82 p 7]

CSO: 3025/452

VENEZUELAN AID TO GRENADA, OTHER ISLANDS DISCUSSED

St Georges FREE WEST INDIAN in English 21 Jul 82 p 2

[Text] POSSIBILITIES for construction of an agro-industrial food plant, and a plant for producing electrical cables, seem very high for Grenada now, said Regulo Martinez, president of the Mixed Commission of private sector representatives from Venezuela, and the lesser developed countries (LDC) of the Caribbean.

He was speaking at the commission's third meeting since it started one year ago, with 11 Windward and Leeward islands and Venezuela, signing membership articles.

Also president of the Venezuelan Association of Exporters (AVEX), Dr. Regulo Campo Martinez said all projects brought up at the meeting, which began at Spice Island Hotel last Thursday, will be taken back to Caracas for immediate attention.

Speaking to members of the different Chambers of Industry and Commerce that represented the LDCs, Dr. Martinez said "although there are structures for

regional integration, it is imperative to develop a policy of intensified commercial exchange between LDCs."

In its efforts primarily to establish and strengthen investment and trading links between the Venezuelan and LDC private sectors, Dr. Martinez said Venezuela will start importing Grenadian spices soon, while other possible imports would be looked at. A Venezuelan cultural centre to promote the study of Spanish, among other things, would also be set up here, he said.

Expressing his pleasure at being in Grenada, Dr. Martinez told the participants that "the solutions to the economic problems" in the region lie in their hands. "The best way to promote development in the region is through greater utilisation of natural resources."

Grenada Chamber of Industry and Commerce president, Richard Menezes, also said LDCs have to

rely on human resource potential, and on those who are prepared to go beyond the call of duty, to solve the burning problems facing them.

The meeting divided into different work sessions to achieve better the Commission's objectives in promoting friendly relations and co-operation between member countries, and seeking ways and means to stimulate economic activity.

Participants looked at progress made since its last two meetings, plans for holding a seminar for training in industrial management and administration, and an exposition to be held later this year in Venezuela.

Projects such as the setting up of a textile plant in Dominica, an aluminium plant in Montserrat, and an Eastern Caribbean shipping line were also looked at,

with some carded to begin soon.

Meanwhile, St. Lucia has benefitted from a number of Venezuelan projects undertaken there since the Commission's beginning. Discussions are well ahead for settling up some in Grenada.

Upcoming seminars and meetings on Latin American and Caribbean economic relations would also provide a greater avenue for more ideas about projects, Dr. Martinez indicated.

Grenada was also represented by businessmen: Charles McIntyre and David Minors, at the meeting, addressed by Prime Minister Maurice Bishop.

Greater co-operation with the peoples of the region is needed, the PM said, expressing appreciation for some positive developments brought out by the meeting.

CSO: 3025/453

ECUADOREANS CITE NONCOMPLIANCE BY OTHER ANDEAN PACT COUNTRIES

Quito EL COMERCIO in Spanish 1 Sep 82 p A-6

[Text] Guayaquil, 31 Aug. Noncompliance on the part of Andean Pact members has paralyzed Ecuadorean participation in the Pact's petrochemical program, while Ecuador has had to open its market to exports from other countries in the region. From this single category alone, other Pact members have benefited from increases of 310 million sucres in their petrochemical sales to Ecuador.

This issue was studied during a round table sponsored by the geological, mining, and petroleum engineering department of the ESPOL [Advanced Polytechnical School of the Coastal Area] to discuss "Petrochemical Programming and its Projections for the Andean Pact."

The undersecretary for integration said that the Andean Pact's petrochemical program is an attempt to establish industrial complexes to produce basic and intermediate goods in the five member countries.

He commented that the common external tariff agreed upon by the five member countries is designed to protect their industrial growth. Under this tariff are included the 161 products scheduled by the petrochemical program. Of these, 56 have exclusive allocations, and the rest have shared allocations.

Salazar said that for countries such as Venezuela, Colombia, and Peru, the programming provided the possibility of expanding already existing plants. But for Ecuador and Bolivia, the allocations were presented as new projects which created great expectations, for which they had to start from zero. The other three nations had already developed their production of a number of products and they were able to expand their plants, explained Mr Salazar.

Nonetheless, he pointed out that problems have arisen because of the members' noncompliance in lowering duties to the levels agreed upon, or because of their refusal to apply the common external tariff. The official complained that some of the Pact members have allowed allocations designed for other members to be encouraged and used by them.

"The keystone of the crisis within the Andean Group is this noncompliance," he said.

He remarked that another factor causing problems is the difference in the level of development among the Andean Pact members. As an example of these "very great" differences, Salazar said Venezuela was at the top of the scale, and Bolivia was at the lower end. He said that for this reason, the Venezuelans feel they would be the big losers because allocations to other countries would supposedly slow down their own development.

"That is the reason why Venezuela has not complied with a series of commitments contained in the petrochemical program," he said.

He said that for both Ecuador and Bolivia it is a difficult and quite complex matter to conduct this program. Bolivia does not have sufficient petroleum resources and would have to make too large an investment, at a time when it is in the midst of a serious economic crisis. He explained that in addition, the amount of the investment in dollars per job created is so high that there is no comparison with the requirements of other activities which generate more jobs, such as agriculture and services.

Bolivia's priorities have changed, he said, stating that the same thing is happening in Ecuador.

Is it wise to stimulate the petrochemical program when these resources could be put into agriculture, which provides more jobs? This is the question which he said many officials are now asking.

He remarked that for Peru, Colombia, and Venezuela, the petrochemical program is a fairly restrictive one, because the Andean Pact agreements prevent them from stimulating their own markets, which are much larger than those in Ecuador or Bolivia.

In the case of Ecuador, Salazar said that Venezuela is not complying with the schedule programmed for the establishment of an Ecuadorean polypropylene plant, "because Venezuela wants this plant itself, and has the capability to have it on its own."

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CSO: 3010/2282

CUBAN AGENCY PRENSA LATINA OPENS OFFICE IN GRENADA

St Georges FREE WEST INDIAN in English 17 Jul 82 p 11

[Text]

WORKERS from the various media houses attended a "house-warming" this week, when Prensa Latina (PL) news agency opened its office here.

The PL office, in the FREE WEST INDIAN building on Hillsborough Street, St. George's, is headed by Cuban Arnaldo Hutchinson, with assistance from his wife Leonor Casamichana, also a journalist.

Hutchinson was first here in November 1980, when he helped with a six-month course in basic journalism for media workers. He returned in September 1981 as the PL correspondent, and has been working towards establishing his office.

Working with PL for 12 years and as correspondent at the United Nations and in Algeria, among other countries, are part of Hutchinson's wealth of experience. He was also editor for PL's Latin America Desk.

Besides Grenada, PL

has offices in Jamaica and Guyana, both established since 1974.

Hutchinson explained that the purpose of the PL office here is to cover information in the whole of the Eastern Caribbean. He has already been sending stories on Grenada and some of the other islands. Voluntary contributors to PL are found in Barbados, St. Lucia and Trinidad.

PL specialises in information on Latin America, and within the last two to three years the Caribbean. It has a network of offices in all continents, and correspondents and stringers (people writing on a free lance basis) in countries all over the world. It has 33 officers all together and communication lines with quite a number of countries including Western Europe.

PL was founded on June 16, 1959, at a mass rally of Latin American journalists and intellectuals

called "Operation Truth". These journalists were responding to the hostile propaganda against Cuba's young Revolution by the imperialist media. Through this, they conceived the idea of developing a news agency to represent the people of Latin America. It was headed by Argentinian Jorge Ricardo Marsetti.

PL publishes and transmits news and feature articles in English, French, Spanish and Portuguese.

A number of magazines, the most well-known of which are "Prisma", an international news magazine, and "International Cuba", are published in both Spanish and Russian,

It also puts out comics for newspapers and features on the economy, culture and sports.

PL has over 150 subscribers and is a distribution centre for the pool of news agencies of the non-aligned countries.

CSO: 3025/453

BARBADOS GROUP QUESTIONS MILITARY'S ROLE IN CARIBBEAN

St Georges FREE WEST INDIAN in English 17 Jul 82 p 13

[Text] REPORTS of Barbadian military presence in two Caribbean islands is causing concern.

The Barbados Peace Committee (BPC) has asked the Barbados government of Tom Adams to "come clean" regarding the training of Barbadian troops with the National Guard of Puerto Rico. Adams is also Barbados's Minister of Defence and Security.

This follows a report in the Puerto Rican newspaper "El Mundo".

The BPC, which is affiliated to the World Peace Council, told Adams the training exercise was "a serious matter" and said the Barbadian public had a right to this information seeing it was already public knowledge in Puerto Rico.

It told Adams it "deplored his government's silence on the matter. This attitude, the BPC said, is "contrary to your claims of an "open government" and "goes

against the noble traditions of anti-colonialism among Barbadians."

"At a time when the Puerto Rican people are deprived of genuine independence by United States colonialism, this military exercise is not in keeping with the efforts of the region's democratic-minded people for peace," it added.

The BPC also referred to the US military involvement in the matter. "The Barbadian people have no wish to be part of a regional police force for the Ronald Reagan Government, which openly backs the undemocratic and illegal regime in South Africa and other repressive governments like that in El Salvador," it pointed out.

"The Reagan administration would clearly like to use the Caribbean, as it intends to use Western Europe, as a war zone so as to protect US territory from any damage from the

outbreak of a war."

The BPC repeated its call that the Caribbean region be made "a zone of peace, free from military conflict," it added.

Last month, US immigration authorities in Puerto Rico arrested and deported a Grenadian national, Suzanne Berkeley, a young social worker who went to take part in a religious conference.

Meanwhile, the Opposition Democratic Labour Party (DLP) has accused the Adams regime of placing the Barbadian armed forces on a state of alert and sending a gunboat to cruise in St. Lucia's territorial waters during May's general elections there.

The charge that the Barbados Defence Force was placed on a state of alert the day before voting, came in an editorial of the June edition of the DLP's monthly bulletin "Horizons".

The DLP also said that while St. Lucians voted, an armed gunboat of the Barbados Coast Guard, the "Trident", was cruising in St. Lucian territorial waters.

According to "Horizons", some 60 members of the Defence Force were ready at Barbados's Grantley Adams International Airport to be sent to St. Lucia.

The DLP, which is led by Errol Barrow and has 10 of the 27 seats in Barbados' House of Assembly, wondered if the Barbados government will ignore Barbadian laws and the Barbadian people's opposition to such military adventures.

On December 13, 1979, a detachment of Barbadian troops was sent to St. Vincent to work with Vincentian authorities to put down an uprising by residents of the Vincentian dependency of Union Island. The presence of Barbadian troops on Vincentian territory was condemned in both countries, including by former Vincentian Premier James Mitchell.

The DLP, in its editorial, urged Barbadians to be vigilant about the sending of troops overseas.

"The very lives of our young men may be at stake," it said.

FIVE CARIBBEAN LDC'S TO BENEFIT FROM CDB LOANS

Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 21 Aug 82 p 5

[Text]

FIVE Less Developed Countries (LDCs) of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) are to receive new loans totalling US \$4433 500 from the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) to accelerate tourism expansion and agricultural and industrial development in their public and private sectors.

The beneficiary countries are the Cayman Islands, Saint Lucia, Grenada, Dominica and St. Vincent.

A US \$300 000 Line of Credit is being extended to the Cayman Islands to enable that government's Agricultural and Industrial Development Board to continue its programme of on-lending to small business enterprises, so as to bring about more balanced economic growth in the country.

This comes closely on the heels of two previous Lines of Credit totalling US \$533 100, which the CDB recently extended to the Cayman Islands to stimulate development of agriculture and small industry manufacturing.

Saint Lucia is receiving US \$1 333,500 in loans for three private sector projects geared to provide increased accommodation and better

facilities to boost the island nation's tourism industry.

Saint Lucia is also in line for a US \$945 000 share of some US \$2 800 000 in loans approved by the Bank to improve the banana industry in four Windward Island-states, the others being Dominica, St. Vincent and Grenada.

Much of the funding for the four countries is to be channelled towards the supply of fertilisers and other inputs for their banana industries, under the Windward Islands Input Supply Scheme, with the remainder going to existing banana warehouses in Dominica, Saint Lucia and Grenada.

The LDCs are believed to be the main recipients of capital development financing from the Caribbean Development Bank since its establishment 12 years ago.

With the loans recently extended to the five LDCs the Bank's total financing approved so far has increased to US \$387 449 339, according to figures just released by the Barbados-based CARICOM institution.

Earlier this year, Guyana and 17 other Caribbean states were named to receive US \$92 million from the United

Nations Development Programme (UNDP) between 1982 and 1985, to enable them to provide technical expertise and other inputs to grapple with serious social and economic problems affecting their general development.

The UNDP aid will be used to boost general development planning, industrial development, natural resources exploration and housing development.

Saint Lucia and St. Vincent and the Grenadines, meanwhile, are to benefit from another CDB loan to finance expenses incurred in the realisation of a programme for promoting the development of export industries in the Caribbean region.

That loan, totalling US \$600 000 was approved for the two countries shortly before the CDB's 74th Board of Directors Meeting on July 29.

CSO: 3052/453

GUYANA FREES SURINAME TRAWLERS; OPTS FOR DIPLOMACY

Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 27 Aug 82 p 1

[Text]

FIVE Surinamese trawlers found fishing illegally in Guyanese waters have been allowed to return home without any legal action being taken against them as could have been done in accordance with the relevant norms of international law.

The Guyana Government has decided, instead, to deal with the matter through the diplomatic channel and has sent a diplomatic note to the Surinamese Government, requesting it to ensure that the incident does not occur again.

The trawlers, none of them licensed to fish in Guyana's waters, were located approximately 32 miles off the mouth of the Berbice River last week Tuesday.

A Foreign Affairs Ministry statement said the trawlers were understood to be partially owned by the Govern-

ment of Suriname and "in view of this the relevant agencies of the Government of Guyana refrained from seizing them as they were entitled to do under the laws of Guyana and in accordance with the relevant norms of international law."

The decision not to take any legal action against the trawlers, the Foreign Affairs Ministry said, "should be seen as a manifestation of the goodwill of the Government of Guyana and was taken in the interest of promoting good neighbourliness."

The Guyana Government's diplomatic note to the Government of Suriname, however, strongly protests the trawlers' violation of the maritime boundaries of Guyana and requests that "the Government of the Republic of Suriname be good enough to ensure that there is no repetition."

CSO: 3025/453

BRIEFS

PLANNED PARENTHOOD PROJECT--SEVEN Caribbean countries are to benefit in a (US) \$2.5 million (TT \$6 million) population and development project. Dr. Everold Hosein of the Western Hemisphere Region of the International Planned Parenthood Federation, (PPF) said that an agreement to this effect was recently signed in Barbados between the IPPF/WHR and the USAID. Islands in the scheme are Antigua, Barbados, Dominica, Montserrat, St. Kitts-Nevis, St. Lucia and St. Vincent. The four-year exercise takes in projects such as training of physicians and nurses, training of teachers in family life education, contraceptives for Government programmes, community-based distribution programmes, improvement of Government clinic services, adolescent clinics, youth outreach programmes, male attitude surveys, contraceptive prevalence surveys and technical assistance. In a joint letter to the presidents of the respective family planning associations Dr. Hosein, a national of Trinidad and Tobago stated in part: "While I will have overall responsibility at the regional office for implementing the project, we do intend to establish a project in Barbados which will have the day-to-day operational responsibility. "We plan to appoint a project manager in Barbados and necessary support staff. We will keep you informed of progress in this matter. "As you will note, the grant will enable IPPF/WHR to work with Governments in improving their services and, at the same time, provide financial assistance to our FPAs, particularly in CBD and youth projects. "This is an exciting opportunity to pull together the resources of both the public and private sector in providing even better services." [Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 19 Aug 82 p 16]

CSO: 3025/453

INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF ARMED FORCES NECESSARY, SAYS WRITER

Buenos Aires CONVICCION in Spanish 19 Aug 82 p 8

[Article by Jorge Castro: "The Armed Forces Should Participate in the Government"]

[Text] In its recent document, entitled "Path of Reconciliation," the Argentine Bishops' Standing Committee has decided that the process of institutionalization and return to a constitutional civilian government is irreversible. Or, what is the same thing, it is an essential trend which, transcending vicissitudes and incidental shocks, will end up by become established, making way, for better or for worse, for an order governed by the Constitution and resulting from elections.

The Church is not always wise in its concrete options, but it almost always is when it is a matter of discerning the underlying movements of the historical process, those wherein the only wisdom lies in accepting their force, which is the offspring of necessity, attempting to guide them, but not by any means opposing them, because it would be suicidal and, primarily, useless, which in politics is something worse.

The wisdom of the Church that dates back for centuries resumes in this instance the great traditional of Western political thought, which has always known that every true politics always begins by proclaiming the reality of things, their truth, which transcends what is contingent and perishing in them. On this irreversible need that is pressing toward the country's constitutional organization, which the Church has confined itself to discerning amid the jumble of everyday events, General Bignone's government is established, completely lacking in ambition and with a government plan that is strictly "temporary," but the strength of which is derived from a dissociated power, which it confines itself to respecting, and which is none other than the necessity. Hence, it is progressing and, as it progresses, the days are spent and there approaches the date of the transfer of powers to the new constitutional regime, in the midst of a critical situation, the seriousness of which, however, is not dimmed by the essential lines forcing the military government in effect since 1976 to die by its own hand, meeting the demand of the nature of things.

And what about the Armed Forces? The Armed Forces are, in fact, increasingly dissociated from the political power of the nation, engrossed in dealing with a twofold problem with all-important features. On the one hand, finding that their direct exercise of political power for 7 years has ended in disappointment, and

that, furthermore, this is not attributable to the failure of a line or a direction taken, but rather to the fact that the military regime, as such, as a political power, is too simple to effectively lead a complex, developed society such as ours. And this experience has been incorporated into their awareness and into the political awareness of the Argentines, as well, as an irreversible event. But not only that: The defeat in the Malvinas has struck the Armed Forces in their most sensitive and painful front: their institutional integrity and prestige, which is what is most valued by the authentic Armed Forces here and in any part of the world. Hence it is a twofold crisis which, upon being combined, has been heightened and has removed the Armed Forces from the political power in the nation. And so, this almost unconscious tendency of the Armed Forces to become dissociated from the political power and to become self-absorbed, is the real danger to the essential movement that is leading the country toward institutionalization. Political wisdom consists of not leaving any major power alone, much less isolated. And this holds true particularly for the Armed Forces. A power structure which does not have among its members the military power risks its disappearance at the first major crisis that cannot be solved. If the Armed Forces have acted in the government and later become dissociated from it, the rule is that they return to overthrow the weak civilian government that has remained in their place. There is just one way of preventing the sporadic intervention of the Armed Forces in political power, also known as coupism; and it is to make that intervention permanent and institutionalized. The dispersion of power is the principal enemy of the consolidation of the state's power; because any dispersed power turns against it in the end, in the pursuit of its sectorial goals, suitably clothed in the always attractive garb of the general interest. In short: we must avoid the dissociation from political power of the Armed Forces of the nation.

2909

CSO: 3010/2280

PAPER VIEWS POLITICAL ROLE OF ARMED FORCES

Buenos Aires CONVICCION in Spanish 15 Aug 82 p 6

[Editorial: "The Armed Forces and the Political Power of the Nation"]

[Text] The president of the nation, Gen Reynaldo Bignone, has just stated, upon visiting the Rural Association of Palermo Exposition, that "no doubts should remain that this process will not extend beyond 1983." These are unequivocal words, lacking in ambiguity, stipulating quite precisely that the so-called "National Reorganization Process" will terminate on the date set at the desire and decision of its own leaders and authorities. And, nevertheless, the problem posed by the president of the nation is by no means defined in the terms expressed.

The reason is simple: The "National Reorganization Process" is not, and never was the expression of a political party, but rather the organic manifestation of the Armed Forces exercising the political power of the nation. As such, as a political experiment, it was a disappointment, because there is no doubt that, as a political system, it was the direct expression of the institutionally represented Argentine Armed Forces. Therefore, the problem is this: What alternative is there to the disappointment of the military regime in Argentina? Could it perchance be the definitive removal of the military institutions to their barracks, bases and airfields? The answer would be a complete and definite affirmative if Argentina had at its head a consolidated state, leading it with firmness and energy. But it does not have this, and it is trying to obtain it. This is the country's entire problem, precisely because it is the main one.

Therefore, since the country lacks a consolidated state that would enable the Armed Forces to return to their specific functions without further ado, in a direct manner, the response concerning the role of the military institutions must necessarily be more marked by nuance. And this means that it is necessary to stress the irrevocable political role that the Armed Forces must play, even when the primary, central responsibility is in the hands of the constitutional, civilian government resulting from elections. Without the Armed Forces participating in the political power of the nation, in an organic, institutional fashion, the latter would simply lack the strength and prestige for leading the country. But, of course, that participation must be subordinated to the civilian authority; and, in this connection, President Bignone is quite right when he maintains that, "this process will not extend beyond 1983"; because it is clear that what has ended in Argentina forever is a military power in an unadulterated state such

as the one that has exercised the political power of the nation since 1976; and, therefore, the so-called "National Reorganization Process" has terminated.

But their crisis and dissociation do not mean (and cannot mean) the dissociation of the Argentine Armed Forces from the institutional political responsibilities; because, if that were to occur, they would also be failing in their institutional obligation as an essential mechanism of the state, thereby creating the conditions for another painful national disappointment.

2909

CSO: 3010/2280

COMMENTATOR ANALYZES CURRENT POLITICAL SCENARIO

Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 15 Aug 82 pp 12-13

[Article by Joaquin Morales Sola: "On a Sheer Cliff Road"]

[Text] The prognosticator is a common character in the political arena; on the other hand, it is not common for the country's two leading generals (Nicolaidis and Bignone) to have come out denying a coup d'etat in 2 consecutive weeks.

So, it must be agreed that something is going on between the two extremes: between the supposedly well-informed individual going about burdened with coupist designs, and the calm environment described by the government's most bombastic microphones.

The readily detectable atmosphere smacking of omen has the changing, unpredictable qualities of politics, but it is supported by the uncomfortable final results of the regime, and the military misfortune of the war experience.

It is impossible to separate the problems that are interconnected like the infinite play of opposite mirrors: the military crisis, the economic tragedy, the aftermath of the battle against ideological intolerance, the guilt and innocence in the southern war and the ideal and real context of the civilian restoration process.

The "orderly transition" toward a "stable democracy" which Videla tired of promising over a 5-year period ended in the current widespread instability, wherein both civilians and military are taking their time to breathe deeply before making a prediction on the course of political events.

For this or another reason, no one knows, the Army chief has just announced (to a crowded, upset audience of retired officers) that a committee of generals, on active duty and retired, is striving to resolve the intricate combination of Argentine conflicts.

The agenda in the hands of those generals, whose names are not even known to their own comrades-in-arms, is made up more or less as follows: 1. Courses of action relating to the recovery of the Malvinas Islands; 2. possible means of resolving the issue of those who disappeared during the antisubversive battle; various ways of dealing with the mediation concerning the Beagle; and the "process to the process," according to the specific phrase that the story attributes to Nicolaidis.

At that same conclave, this general reportedly said that the evidence of acts of corruption among military chiefs must be sent to the common courts without any concealment. The chief of the branch stressed: "The Army is not protecting them, believe me."

None of this is incidental, particularly when one considers the fact that Nicolai-des met during the past few days with certain generals whom the popular account describes as especially sensitive and disturbed.

He also realizes that those are the issues which have most influenced the anxiety of a goodly number of officers; just as he cannot be unaware that the need for an agreement on the action taken against the insurgents is an undeferrable priority to the military.

There are high-level members of the military who think that an internal purging of the regime in the economic area and concerning what occurred politically in the conflict with Great Britain would afford a broad margin for agreement with the politicians on the human rights question. It is they who are seeking a cloak of definitive oblivion, and an impenetrable silence forever.

Perhaps they feel that any negotiation starts with extreme positions, but it is fitting to note that even the most moderate politicians claim that some kind of clarification should be made concerning the missing persons, so that the rest of the agreement can progress. An old gladiator in Argentine politics pontificated yesterday: "We are staking the rest, although we may leave some shreds of political capital."

The Army chief appears to have subtly put himself on the crest of the military wave, pledging that "there will be integrity from top to bottom"; because he believes that, in this way, he will avoid new trauma, and will consolidate the internal discipline that has been broken several times since the surrender at Puerto Argentino.

Owing to the latter contingency and all the possible cases of revision, Nicolaides reportedly announced that he does not want the Army to appear as the only actor, claiming that the "purge" and "integrity" must occur in the total context of the Armed Forces.

The retirement of a dozen brigadiers from the Air Force, wherein the most orthodox branch of that force's traditional nationalism was left with the means for command, forebodes that the task has already begun there.

Brigadier Hughes has, on constant occasions, expatiated on his conviction that politics is a cause of fatal deterioration for the Armed Forces, which has led him to infer that it is an exercise germane to the parties.

In any event, no one knows what his idea of the appropriate transition between the government of the military and the civilian administration is.

Admiral Anaya, for his part, is still "immovable for the present," according to his closest associates. At the end of the month, he will travel to Brazil, and

he intends to be present at an inter-American conference of naval commanders that will take place at Cartagena between 17 and 23 October.

The last commander of the three who decided on the war with Great Britain wants to go off distributing medals and penalties for the performance during the conflagration, but he has reportedly already named his heir: It is believed that his successor will be Admiral Franco, surrounded by Admiral Remoti as chief of staff, and Admiral Montemayor as commander of naval operations.

An individual who claims to know its inner recesses ventured the comment: "Everything will happen in the Navy but, as usual, calmly."

With pacifism or without it, the fact is that there are some (on the military and on the civilian front) who want to carry the knife to the bone, in the change among the top-ranking military. In the coordinating council that surrounds former President Ongania, the comment was heard: "The top-ranking military should retire, and all the military should return to the discipline of the barracks."

Ongania is not talking, because every time that he does so they put him in jail, and "he cannot appear unkempt every day," as one of his leading advisers argued.

But the former president thinks that he might have a new period of government, so as to revamp the latter and turn it over entirely to the civilian leaders, according to the announcements being made by those associated with him to various trade union and political representatives.

According to the man who governed between 1966 and 1969, the current crisis is preeminently military, and that is why he thinks that he could be useful: "If it were an exclusively political or economic crisis, the candidate would have to be a different one," it is claimed in his close circle.

How can the government be revamped? They reply: By investigating everything that needs to be investigated; by removing the military from politics with a hard hand; by delving into the political leadership of the Malvinas conflict; by opening up all the available information on the missing persons; and by creating courts that will acquit and convict the political, economic and military leadership of the past 6 years.

After all, it is claimed in those corridors close to Ongania, the Armed Forces (as overall institutions) will be acquitted, even though several of their former chiefs may be penalized.

But there are many members of the military who think that this crisis will not be capitalized on by any retired general, whether he be of one ideological stripe or another, whether he carries prestige or not, and whether he has gone to his residence a long time ago or a short time ago.

It is said that at Galtieri's residence, not only has he inhabited it since they dethroned him, but also an extensive file with "signed letters, documents and even magnetic tapes, which could disclose many secrets and compromise more than one person."

This vague statement was reportedly made by Galtieri himself, when faced with the certainly reasonable impression that his name and his performance "are implicated."

"It would be better for you not to be involved with me," is said to have been the warning given by the former strong man of Argentina to the current military chiefs, through third persons.

Some of these military chiefs themselves think that Galtieri should turn over all that documentation which he boasts of having, because "it belongs to the state and its national interest."

But his associates insist: "He will not turn over a single one of the papers that he keeps in his apartment on Sucre Street."

Amid so much uncertainty and so many plans, no one knows whether anyone has taken account of the clearcut messages that have arrived from abroad during the past few days.

They are worth mentioning, because a country which owes \$40 billion does not have much leeway for disregarding what is being said about it beyond its borders.

The American ambassador conveyed to the political country the fact that Washington backs the democratizing process, and, therefore, announced in advance a condemnation of any retrogression.

The lifting of the arms embargo by France has been a new, concrete incident in the post-war relations between Europe and Argentina.

But anyone familiar with the thinking of President Mitterrand could agree that a step backward in the restoration of democracy will put France several kilometers distant. In the last book by the French president, "Here and Now," written during the campaign which seated him in the Elysees palace, he makes reference several times to his critical judgment of the military governments in Latin America.

The recent action taken by the Italian foreign minister, Emilio Colombo, considered one of the finest politicians in Rome, was not confined to the exclusive bilateral relations.

He reportedly sent cables on behalf of the European Community, and was also the bearer of messages between the governments of Buenos Aires and London. It was not by chance that, when he arrived in Italy, he met immediately with the British ambassador.

But Colombo told the Argentine politicians that the European attitude would be different if there were a distortion of the process which will terminate in the polls.

"Do you back the present government?" an Argentine politician asked the Italian foreign minister pointblank.

He reacted swiftly. "We do not back any government in particular, but rather the general line laid down toward democratization," he responded, with an affirmation that could be shared by much of the world.

Those external opinions have made themselves heard in another direction as well: They would be pleased to see Argentina ending the military conflict with Great Britain and directing its battle for the unredeemed territories in the realm of diplomacy.

This was reportedly the assumption of a position (whether "yes" or "no") required by the American banks of an Argentine envoy who had traveled to "sound out" the possibilities of refinancing the foreign debt.

Hence, perhaps, the shock caused in different areas by the recent incident in the Malvinas, between an Argentine fishing boat and the British military forces stationed on the islands.

Some felt that the gray winds heralding the storm were blowing, but they were dramatizing as a result of the lack of a policy decision on the matter.

Is the conflict diplomatic or military? Is it feasible to restore the relations with the leading countries of the Western world, or is it feasible for Argentina to limit itself to the South American and Third World countries?

Sooner or later, the government will have to choose a course for responding to these questions, although it is limited by the ideological debate itself within the military intrigue, wherein these questions (perhaps for the first time) are a matter of different and opposing views.

With political affairs in such disorder, the Argentine bishops undertook to give the country a surprise when they let it be known that they might perhaps sponsor a minimal, fundamental agreement to restore the balance of political matters.

On Friday, a well-known political leader stated enthusiastically: "The Church is the only institution which still has the capacity for doing something of that kind."

But there is no need to move so quickly. Cardinal Primatesta warned recently: "By running, we could run off the road."

It so happens that the bishops do not all share the same line, and to many of them this type of initiative is too closely associated with the "temporal realm," that tangible thing that some pastors of the Church want to avoid insofar as possible.

But those statements by Primatesta signify the reality: The bishops are going along that path, but they are not running, much less before achieving a common internal trend of opinion.

As usually happens in such instances, the leaders of both positions are displaying weighty arguments, although those inclined toward the plan for an agreement immediately bring up the image, encyclicals and speeches of Pope John Paul II, in his interminable desire to reconcile human beings.

This embryonic possibility of an agreement began to emerge when another settlement was collapsing, the one between the business owners and the government, in a gesture that was interpreted as if the powerful industrial association had removed its support for the economic leadership.

Hence, this fact could have unforeseeable political repercussions, which it is too early to mention.

Another surprise may perhaps be brewing for Argentine politics, in the Radical Party, wherein no one now denies that the Balbinists and Alfonsinists may finally converge in a single ticket.

There have been considerable statements by both sectors, which are inwardly rejoicing at the prospect of avoiding the bitter internal struggle.

But there are also some public, albeit subtle, explicit statements.

It is known that former Minister Juan Carlos Pugliese, one of the main leaders of the Balbinists, has returned from an exhausting tour of the interior, where he repeated to the point of satiety the need for the "Radical unity."

Raul Alfonsin, chief of the opposing movement, has just given warm praise to the historical Radical leaders (Alem, Yrigoyen, Lebhenson and Larralde), including among the party's heroes Balbin, the deceased caudillo with whom he fought at other times.

Peronists or Radicals, Conservatives or Developmentists, Federalists or Socialists: no one fails to feel a long shudder when the rumors come and go, rise up and die out, with incredible ease.

They put their hands into the parties' insides while they turn their heads to see how the crisis at the summit of power is moving.

They do not believe, or they refuse to believe, that democracy will end up relegated to the room for useless junk or be lost in the hollow of a wave.

2909

CSO: 3010/2280

COARSE GRAIN PRODUCERS FEAR ECONOMIC INSTABILITY

Discussion With Experts

Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 21 Aug 82 pp 1-2 sec 3

[Text] Pergamino--On a trip we made through the towns of Pergamino, Rojas, Colon and Salto in Buenos Aires Province, and General Gelly in Santa Fe Province, we gathered opinions from producers on the situation, the current grain prices and prospects for the next coarse grain harvest.

The opinions are many and varied, but the most significant are set forth briefly as follows.

As for him, Mr Reynaldo Ferrari, a producer from the same region, agreed with the concern for the increase in output costs, "If you keep in mind--he said--from now on we must face bigger expenditures: seed and sowing of corn, agricultural chemicals, harvesting of wheat, seed and sowing of soybeans, herbicides for wheat, etc." and, he added, "an agricultural chemical which, for instance, last year cost 300,000 pesos a litre is now over a million, and even if you wanted to buy it, you can't get it because lately they are being used in January and February and salesmen keep them in order to get higher prices at that time." Immediately, Mr Ferrari asked the following question: If at the present time an agricultural chemical is worth a million pesos, how much will it cost next year when the use of these products will be indispensable?

This problem was also foreseen by Mr Raymond H. Roulet, a producer and president of the Rural Society of Colon in Buenos Aires Province, who maintained that in the next planting season a collapse can come about due to the disproportionate increase in production costs. "The present time is uncertain--he emphasized--and because of it, we advise the producer to capitalize on it. If possible, that he do so with cattle which are a check for the holder and allows him to 'ride out' the situation at any difficult moment. We likewise suggest to him that he be very careful because serious, unexpected things can happen."

Similar opinions were expressed in General Gelly where Mr Roberto Raul Gimenez, director of the Cattlemen's Cooperative, warned that "the months of October and November can become critical ones."

Messrs Alejandro Gill and Juan Carlos Mintegui, producers from General Gelly, expressed themselves in equal terms saying, moreover, that good prospects in the region offer a wheat-soybean double crop which permits greater economic benefits in lieu of corn which gives only one income per year.

The need for a policy on price stability in correctly planning crops and a line of accessible credits which fulfill their purpose of aiding the producer without financial restrictions was urged by Mr Nicolas German Calderone, a producer from Rojas. Mr Roberto Evangelista, a producer and president of the Association of Producers from Salto in Buenos Aires Province, admitted that a reactivation is seen in the fields and expressed the need, among other things, to free fertilizers and agricultural chemicals from VAT, so they can be within the reach of the producer.

Withholding of exports was also discussed and in that regard Mr Angel Anselmo Mena, a producer from Rojas, said: "To the field worker they mean subsidizing the rest of the country, but given the situation," he added, "we understand they cannot be avoided and we accept the official decision." Anyway, he said, if deductions and the dual exchange market represented a considerable loss for the sector in the profitability of their commercial use, the government also loses important tax sources with these measures through the legal operations they generate.

As can be seen, there are many and varied expressions, but from them all one can gather that the biggest worry comes from one aspect: economic instability. Without doubt, the profit gained through grains and cereals from the end of last year have allowed a reactivation in the sector, but this situation does not keep the next planting year from being fraught with doubts and fears wherein no one can imagine how high costs will rise and what the relation to crop prices will be.

In conclusion, it is proper to end these lines with a last look. All the producers recognized and stressed the work which INTA (National Institute of Agricultural and Livestock Technology) does on behalf of production, and in summarizing what has been said, we will quote Mr Calderone's words: "INTA is an institution which needs the agricultural and livestock producer most for developing new technologies that lead to greater efficiency in cultivation. For this reason," he emphasized, "the state ought to give him all the help he needs to carry out his activities to the fullest and to be able later to bring those research efforts and experiences into our fields. Only in that way will we be able to achieve the increase in production the country needs."

Agronomists Give Opinions

Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 21 Aug 82 p 2 sec 3

[Text] For their part, agronomists Daniel Lavezzari, Alberto Alesso and Ricardo Pontoni, extension workers from the National Institute of Agricultural and Livestock Technology (INTA) in the Pergamino, Rojas and Salto areas, respectively, said a 10 to 14 percent increase in the region in the planting of wheat was noted which will allow an equivalent increase in second rate soybeans during the next planting season.

They said immediately thereafter that the harvest of soybeans last year had recently ended, rendering less returns than expected. Estimates prior to the harvest, they said, indicated averages of 20 to 25 quintals per hectare and in reality the zone has been in the 18-19 quintals per hectare.

They thought this drop off in returns--not significant to be sure--was not due to a malfunction in the harvesting machine, but to adverse climatic conditions, principally rains, which held off an adequate harvest.

Speaking of the next sowing season, they said the soil is being prepared now for sowing corn and they hope the land area remains the same or is lessened a bit as regards the previous planting season.

The zone is traditionally one for corn and corn takes up more space.

The reason the producer is of late turning a bit more towards soybeans versus corn, they said, is due mainly to two things: One is that in the area many fields have been under continuous cultivation, a fact that has diminished significantly the natural fertility of the land. Therefore, soybeans are beginning to play an important role in crop rotation.

The other thing is that it helps control Alepo sorghum on unquestioned increase in the region. Soybeans for the moment offer more technical alternatives, and some of them are more economical in controlling Alepo sorghum than if corn were cultivated. Whichever way, in fields of good fertility and without weeds, corn, undoubtedly, will be the most economical crop.

9908

CSO: 3010/2190

BRIEFS

SOWN ACREAGE--The area sown in wheat in the 1982-1983 season could reach around 7 million hectares, an area 3.8 percent larger than for the 1981-1982 period, reliable sources told Noticias Argentinas. On confirmation of this first evaluation, the figure would be 1 million hectares less than the 8 million requested by the government for achieving a really significant harvest in cereal. In order to complete the calculation, there remains only about 5 percent of the wheat-raising area to evaluate. That estimate could be modified up or down, even though in that quantity it is hardly significant. [Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 21 Aug 82 p 8 sec 3] 9908

CSO: 3010/2190

ADAMS ASSERTS COUNTRY NEEDS \$30 MILLION FROM IMF

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 26 Aug 82 p 5

[Text]

BRIDGETOWN,
WED., (Cana):
BARBADOS is looking to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to provide at least \$30 million in compensatory financing by yearend, Prime Minister Tom Adams has announced here.

He said the money was needed to make up for the severe revenue shortfalls the island experienced last year, when most sectors of the economy performed well below standard.

Mr Adams said Barbados would also be seeking an undisclosed sum from the IMF under its standby credit facility.

The Prime Minister spoke in a radio interview as he sought to justify his \$25 a week across-the-board final offer to trade unions negotiating a new two-year pay contract with government for public service workers.

This offer, already rejected by all the unions, would cost the government \$25 million Mr Adams said, and anything significantly more would trigger economic disaster.

"To exceed that by an significant amount will be extremely demanding to the country, leading to very serious results next year, leading undoubtedly to a devaluation (of the Barbados dollar), to very serious layoffs in the public service — perhaps four of five times as many people

as have been laid off already — closing down whole sectors of the public service," Mr Adams declared.

While revenue from virtually all sources was falling, he said, government's expenditure was not and any cut in capital works programmes would deal a serious blow to unemployment, which rose from ten to 15 per cent in the months between mid-1981 and last June.

TOURISM

Mr Adams noted that the decline in key economic sectors like sugar, which last year produced about half of its 1980 earnings of \$109 million and tourism, which showed a five per cent fall in arrivals had contributed to Barbados current problems, and to the need for recourse to the IMF.

"The first instalment we would like to put our hands on would be of the order of \$30 million, the first lump sum, and then depending on how we negotiate, is suppose we will be trying to get quarterly payment of some millions of dollars," the Prime Minister and Minister of Finance said.

As to conditions for the loan, Mr Adams said he expected he would have to sign an IMF document agreeing not to impose import controls in the interest of controlling the balance of payments.

Mr Adams said he foresaw no problems in securing the standby credit from the IMF.

"The only condition that

the government is contemplating, if we pursue this course, would be... to enter into the standard undertakings not to attempt to correct the balance of payment by restricting imports and...not to print money to meet temporary governments deficits," he said.

Barbados, Mr Adams said, should have no difficulties with such requirements, since they were "standard conditions of good economic management."

"The government is certainly not contemplating entering into any of the specific conditions that have given so much torment to countries around the world," the Barbados leader said.

He recalled that the United States, considered the best off country in the world, has had assistance from the IMF on several occasions.

After five successive years of real economic growth, Barbados last year registered 2.6 per cent decline.

CSO: 3025/454

PUBLIC WORKERS OFFICIALLY REJECT GOVERNMENT WAGE OFFER

Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 21 Aug 82 p 1

[Text] The National Council of the National Union of Public Workers last Thursday night formally rejected Government's latest wage offer to public workers of \$25 per week across-the-board.

After three hours of deliberations at union headquarters, at Dalkeith Road, St. Michael, the Council passed the following resolution:

"Be it resolved that the National Union of Public Workers rejects Government's counter-proposal of \$25 per week or \$108 per month to all public workers; and

Be it further resolved that this union submits revised proposals requesting Government to respond by August 31, 1982; and

Be it further resolved that should the Government not respond or should the response be unfavourable this union will proceed to take whatever steps it deems necessary to vindicate the cause of its workers."

The union also condemned Government's proposal to legislate salaries next month and stated that it could not condone such blatant attacks on the collective bargaining process in the public service.

CSO: 3025/454

SUGAR LAYOFFS DRAW UNION IRE; ADAMS SEEKS AID IN LOANS

Walcott Threat

Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 20 Aug 82 p 1

[Text]

General Secretary of the Barbados Workers' Union, Mr. Frank Walcott, has promised serious industrial action if the 500 sugar workers sent home by the Barbados Sugar Factories Limited last Tuesday are not paid their full weekly wages today.

Mr. Walcott told a Press conference yesterday that the BWU had sent off a letter to the SPF registering its disgust with the incident and making its ultimatum clear.

The trade unionist said that the BWU which represents all the sugar workers, was worried and angry about the action. He deplored the fact that the unilateral action was taken without any consultation with the Union.

The BWU leader said that the only redeeming factor in the incident was Tuesday's directive by the Prime Minister Mr. Tom Adams that the workers be reinstated... "this action by the Prime Minister saved a greater catastrophe," he said.

When the Barbados Sugar Factories Limited laid off the 500 factory and plantation workers last Tuesday, it claimed that the action had to be taken because there was no money to pay the week's wages.

But Mr. Walcott accused the Federation yesterday of taking the action in an effort to

force Government's hand in releasing the \$20 million promised the industry about four weeks ago.

Said Mr. Walcott: "The union is opposed to the idea of the sugar industry taking unilateral action against 500 or five workers as a means of either forcing Government's hand to release money or doing something that is both illegal and immoral."

He warned the sugar producers that if they were looking forward to the co-operation and understanding of the trade union movement, it was time that they "got sense in their heads" and understood that the workers were not chattel that could be dispensed with at will.

Said Mr. Walcott: "There must be intelligent dialogue in these cases, especially when one has the medium for such dialogue."

"No one can rationalise this dastardly act of terminating the employment of large numbers of people without consulting the union unless they are looking for an open dispute with the union. We do not know if the employers believe that they have reaped their final crop in 1982," he said.

He said that this incident would do nothing for good industrial relations but would create strong feelings of resentment by the workers

and trade unions against the employers.

Mr. Walcott said that he was in favour of greater State involvement in the sugar industry but this would call for expert handling at the top — good quality managers who were not afraid to take decisions and people who Ministers of Government would permit to take decisions.

Proposed Financial Arrangements

Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 21 Aug 82 p 1

[Text]

Prime Minister Mr. Tom Adams said lastnight that the Barbados National Bank (BNB) will be making advances to the sugar industry to pay the wages of employees until the current impasse has been regularised.

Mr. Adams made the announcement in a radio interview yesterday following the abrupt laying-off of more than 500 employees at the island's six sugar factories.

The Barbados Sugar Factories in laying-off the workers said the action had to be taken because there was no money to pay the employees.

The action brought an angry response from the workers bargaining body the Barbados Workers' Union (BWU) which warned of serious industrial action if the workers were not paid by yesterday.

"The Barbados National Bank will make the necessary advances to pay the wages until the entire situation can be regularised," Mr. Adams said.

He said that the solution which his Ministry had been pursuing is that "We should

raise a loan of about US\$7.5 million."

The Prime Minister said the loan should be raised overseas, and pointed out that most of the loan money used to modernise Andrews Sugar Factory, St. Joseph, and to install equipment at Portvale, St. James, came from abroad.

Mr. Adams said there were two accounts at the BNB available to the sugar industry — one used to make payments for canes, (the sugar account); and the other for paying staff, (the operations account).

He said the sugar account had been under pressure because Sugar Factories Limited had utilised some of the money to carry out work at Andrews and Portvale.

The Prime Minister said that long term problems within the industry were complex.

The question of mechanisation was very important and Government believed that the sector was moving rapidly in this direction.

Mr. Adams said the Government might soon have to put sugar harvesting and cultivation equipment on import licence.

He noted that morale within the industry was low.

BRIEFS

YOUTH GROUP ACTIVITIES--The League of Young Socialists, youth arm of the ruling Barbados Labour Party, is making a renewed attempt to gain involvement in the programmes and activities of the Barbados Youth Council which has recently elected a new Executive Council to manage its affairs. In a letter to the B.Y.C.'s Secretariat the Secretary of the Young Socialists, Mr. Carlyle Harry, pointed out that, the pressing social, economic and cultural challenges now facing Barbados' youths, called for a strong and vibrant B.Y.C. which could give adequate attention to those problems, and provide institutional direction for youths and adolescents. The letter observed that individual youth groups though pursuing programmes and schemes to meet the desires of their members, must become involved in combined activities in order to obtain greater impact and serve a wide cross-section of interests. Meanwhile, the League of Young Socialists has established direct links with a number of regional and international Youth Organisations whose goals and pursuits are similar to the League. Those groupings include the Youth Arm of Socialists International, the United States Youth Council, and the Youth Arms of the Dominica Freedom Party, the United Workers Party of St. Lucia, and the People's National Movement of Trinidad and Tobago. [Excerpts] [Bridgetown SUNDAY ADVOCATE in English 22 Aug 82 p 2]

CSO: 3025/454

'UNION' INTERVIEWS PORTUONDO ON CULTURE, REVOLUTION

Havana UNION in Spanish Jan-Mar 82 pp 65-76

[Interview with Jose Antonio Portuondo by Mercedes Santos Moray: "The Revolution Has Made Cuba Learned"; date and place not given; passages enclosed in slantlines printed in italics]

[Text] Over 20 years of culture and socialism take shape in this interview with Jose Antonio Portuondo, a witness to and participant in this transformation of Cuban society and a lucid exponent of its most significant achievements. Therefore, the dialogue grows and the ideas enriched by the proverbial amenity of our interviewee flow.

[Question] What elements have you seen flourishing during these past few years; what development have you been able to discover in Cuban culture; what are the most positive elements as well as the difficulties that have had to be faced up to; and, in short, how do you assess the role of the youngest generations in this world?

[Answer] Well, I think your question is a huge one, inasmuch as it covers all areas of the culture, areas that are diverse and in some of which I have actively participated, and it will be about that that I will have to expatiate in a specific manner. You will have to excuse me for abusing the first person singular, since I have to of necessity refer to my personal experiences.

Meanwhile, as I have already said elsewhere, with the revolutionary victory we came across a group of intellectuals, writers, artists, scientists, men of culture in general, who had participated in the struggle, chiefly in preparation for the revolution. Men who belonged to a generation once or twice removed from /the one that fought the revolution/. If we start with the so-called Centennial Generation, that is, Fidel and his comrades', as /the generation that fought the revolution/, we find that there are a couple of generations many of whose members are still alive and have performed a labor of ideological preparation, in a manner of speaking. These were the people who clustered about the old communist party in the shape of the People's Socialist Party, etc. and in their satellite organizations, the Communist Youth, and a number of cultural organizations that had developed an effort that we might call softening-up in military terms or ideological preparation. So, at the time of

the revolutionary victory there were already some Cuban intellectuals ready to initiate a change of course within the country's ideological process.

But in addition, there were a large number of them who were not so politically determined, although they were not associated with nor had they committed themselves to the Batista dictatorship. Naturally, the moment of the revolutionary victory was a somewhat confusing time, a time when all these cultural forces opposed one another on many occasions and coexisted on others, that is, there was a moment of ebullition, of integration that was to end in the famous meetings of writers and artists at the National Library in 1961 and which Fidel closed with his well-known "Words to the Intellectuals." This was the first moment of the revolution. It was the moment in the cultural domain, a bit of indecision in terms of cultural policy, but with Fidel's "Words to the Intellectuals" the revolutionary government's cultural policy is now defined, perfectly defined.

That is when they began to organize the revolutionary cultural forces. An immediate consequence of this was precisely the First Congress of the National Union of Cuban Writers and Artists (UNEAC), which produced that organization whose second congress was to be held 16 years later. That was it with respect to that organization. But also right from the start, cultural activities began to be centered in a group of organizations which Fidel mentioned in his speech. First of all, at the pinnacle of this whole cultural effort we have the founding of the Cuban Academy of Sciences. This was very important because the academy endowed research efforts with a new meaning, not only where they already existed in more or less incipient form, which was the case with the natural sciences, physics, mathematics, etc., but this was also extended to the humanities and this is how the different institutes specifically dedicated to historic, literary, etc. research came into being. On the other hand, breaking with the old routine of the academies, which were really a sort of pantheon of illustrious men, with any pretensions that their members were "academicians" as an eminent intellectual category, but simply cultural workers, the institutes of the new academy devoted themselves to individual and collective research with an eye to the use the fruit of such research might be to the revolutionary process.

All this meant a profound change of direction in the country's cultural development. Culture is no longer a luxury, culture is no longer something that is left over after the economy and politics have organized the country, but, on the contrary, /it is an element of the struggle/, an integrating element, an element that helps the revolutionary process.

As we said above, the writers and artists organized themselves and have tried to provide ever greater help in realizing the potential latent in the people through /a vast movement of amateurs/. Of course, all this was nourished by a factor of enormous importance, /literacy/. We need not remind the reader what has been brought to his attention a countless number of times, namely that it was somehow pointless for there to be a Cuban literature, a Cuban culture, when most of the people had no access to them, simply because their eyes and ears were closed to them. They did not know how to read or write. They were illiterate. Who read Cuban writers? Who learned about scientific

research when the reports of Cuban scientists were published? Exclusively a very limited group of people. /Culture was absolutely elitist./ Having culture serve the revolution and all the people directly makes it incumbent on everyone to be informed, to be familiar with, to try to find out about and discuss all discoveries and new things. This is a very important factor. That is, this is not — let's say — popularization of culture because that might be taken to be an oversimplification or debasement of cultural quality to place it within reach of everyone. No, this is something else and quite different. /This is a raising of the masses of the people's ability to comprehend, to be capable of understanding and making use of the cultural achievements that have been made with the aid of the most rigorous procedures and in the full awareness of the fact that in creating culture we are serving the revolution./

This has taken place in all fields of culture, in literature as well as in the fine arts, and this has also enabled us to develop them to heretofore unattained heights. This is how our national poet, Nicolas Guillen, put it at the Second UNEAC Congress. I don't believe we have to repeat the fact, because you can come across [examples of] it everywhere.

Based on my experience as a university professor, I want to say to you the following: My true vocation is research and teaching. I am a diplomat because I have to be one and a researcher and professor out of dedication. These are two entirely different things. And even before the revolutionary victory, I always tried to see to it that my courses fell within the framework of the real situation we were living in, that is, I didn't use them to enable me and to help my students to escape from a highly disagreeable reality which we had to change, but by critically confronting that reality, and, furthermore, I always did this, insofar as I could, by following an essentially Marxist-Leninist line.

I could see how the students, who in general always responded positively to this form of teaching whereas in an earlier period they had with the exception of a minority for the most part been receptive, but without demonstrations, were then too cooperative, imbued with a fighting spirit and joined the struggle. Naturally, once the revolution was victorious, their reaction was much more positive, much more animated. And, moreover, then more than before, it was an important factor in the very development of the courses. That is, you'll agree that in my courses I did not resort to the conventional system of reporting on given aspects of the program which were then examined in the aforesaid way. I always avoided this method. In my courses, when in connection with some topic contemporary problems were raised, I above all based myself on issues involving Cuban literature or esthetics, on burning issues, on issues that were under discussion. And, furthermore, you didn't have to take exams; instead you had to write papers in which each student would strive to express his individuality.

Well, while I had already done this before, it has been since the revolution that there has been much more spontaneity among students, much more audacity, in the raising of problem issues as well. And I have used most of my classes as a stimulus for myself. In class I raised problems that were as yet unsolved, having to do with various aspects of esthetics or literary theory or Cuban literature, to see how people would react, and that served to guide me, to see how all these matters were fermenting. This must have happened in the

same way in all the classes, at all the universities. That is, the ferment produced by the revolution created a new type of student who was no longer a passive student, but an actor, an active element in the class and at the same time through the class an element in the culture. He too acted, he too influenced the professor, who was capable of accepting that influence, who did not believe that it was impudence on the part of students to express an opinion which he at best did not share, but who realized that it was his duty to stimulate such responses.

The revolution has promoted all this and created new types of students, and all these students not only study, but participate in the life of the revolution, mobilize themselves to go into rural areas, the trenches, participate in all the general activities of the revolution. And all this is reflected in education.

After that, I had my first experience as a diplomat, from 1960 to 1962. As a diplomat, my first post was in Mexico at a time when, as far as the Cuban Revolution was concerned, the situation was somewhat tense, because there were groups of active, influential counterrevolutionaries in Mexico, very often in official organizations. But at the same time I could sense the real popular sympathy and support for the Cuban Revolution, the attitude of most of the intellectuals, especially the young Mexican intellectuals, on the side of the Cuban Revolution. They were an extraordinarily big help for me. I had made their acquaintance before, during my first stay in Mexico, and met them again and met other, for me new ones under extraordinary circumstances. So, I was able to realize that /the revolution was no longer only a Cuban affair, but that it was really a matter for the continent, a reality that had reached everywhere, that everyone was touched by it and saw in Cuba an example and a guide for action/. This was an unforgettable experience.

After that, I was rector of Oriente University from 1962 to 1965. I returned to my classes. And later, in 1965, I founded the Institute of Literature and Linguistics at the Academy of Sciences. That too was a new experience. You know that previously academies generally were and still are pantheons of illustrious men in many Spanish-speaking countries and even in other, industrialized countries. A great artistic or literary personage was rewarded by putting him in one of them and "immortalizing him." The academicians were the "immortals." This was the kind of academy that made Ruben Dario exclaim: "Deliver us, O Lord, from the academies."

However, this new academy, founded in Cuba after the revolution, a bit on the model of the socialist academies but with its own characteristics, is not the pantheon of the immortals, but an aggregate of scientific workers who realize that science progresses much faster through collective effort than merely through the isolated, individual effort of each scientist. And so we went ahead and created this new concept of /collectivization of science/, of — we might say — a collective kind of research. This is what I tried to do with the academy's Institute of Literature and Linguistics. This was what led our institute to achieve a number of collective works like the "Dictionary of Cuban Literature."

There is another important factor, namely that our work at the institute was not limited to research at the institute alone, but that we collaborated with other state agencies. And so the institute has constantly collaborated with all the state agencies that have to do with culture. More closely, for example, with the Book Institute, the universities, the House of the Americas and right now with the Ministry of Culture, formerly with the Directorate of Culture. It was always working with them. And another basic thing about our institute is the fact that it concerns itself with the total training of its members. None of us has ever considered himself to be an accomplished, consummate scientist. We knew only too well that there was still much for us to learn. And then we tried to see to it that especially our youngest people, in the full swing of development, would be able to complete their education by going to study at foreign institutions where they would have the opportunity to fully develop themselves. This explains why, for example, several of them are now candidates for higher degrees in the Soviet Union. And, furthermore, there are comrades who have already brilliantly completed the requirements for higher degrees in the GDR, Czechoslovakia and other socialist countries. We have, moreover, maintained very close relations with other, nonsocialist countries, above all with their progressive associations which are more advanced in the domain of science. This has first of all convinced us that we must perfect our scientific education, making use of the knowledge and experience of other peoples, and, secondly, that the sciences can and must constitute an important factor in the rapprochement of international relations, in the struggle for peace, in the struggle for the socialist revolution.

My new experience as a diplomat has taken me to a post that is completely different from Mexico and also during a different period. I have been, as you know, at the Vatican since 1976. Therefore, this has brought me to Rome, in short to Europe, capitalist Europe. And there I have also been able to see how /the Cuban Revolution is no longer a simple national phenomenon, nor an American phenomenon; it is a worldwide phenomenon/. People everywhere know about the Cuban Revolution, regard it with respect and often imitate us. They try to use the methods of our revolution. We are no longer merely the country of sugar, rum and the cha-cha-cha. We go on enjoying our sugar and rum and go on dancing the cha-cha-cha, but, first of all today, there is a revolution. And people everywhere realize this. We are respected everywhere. Particularly following the determined internationalist planning of our revolution, one should see how the entire European press, from the Vatican press to the secular newspapers, whether reactionary or progressive, has from day to day and almost always with admiration and respect been taking note of Cuba's presence among those peoples who are fighting for their ultimate independence. This is an extraordinary thing, one that moves us, encourages us to continue the struggle, maintains in us the same attitude we have had in Cuba.

I can tell you that no Cuban who is working outside of Cuba feels himself uprooted, dissociated from Cuba. He cannot feel himself dissociated because, if anyone thinks that, living in another climate and in the atmosphere of a consumer society, one can forget our country, he is completely mistaken, because the press summons him back to reality every day. In it there is constant reference to what is being done in Cuba, to Cuban aid to Angola and other African countries, the world reaction to the cowardly, counterrevolutionary

shooting down of a Cuban airplane over Barbados, Fidel's latest speech, all the national and international events our country participates in. Cuba's active and influential presence in the international organizations is of current interest. Everything contributes toward keeping respect and admiration for a revolutionary Cuba alive, among friends as well as among enemies. We have many more friends than one can imagine. Cuba is constantly a potential, lively force abroad. /That is to say that the revolution has, among other things, put Cuba on the map of the world./ It is no longer just a little island lost between the two Americas. It is a real leavening agent. It is an issue that no one who wishes to familiarize himself with and live a full life during our present historical era can completely escape from. I don't know whether I've told you too little or too much. You tell me.

[Question] Do you believe that there is a new generation of intellectuals among Cuban youths that will pick up the banners of former ones and continue to carry them? Have you among your disciples, that is, among your students and colleagues in the different disciplines, found disciples who will carry on your work? What are your relations with these young people?

[Answer] My relations with them are determined by my presence in or absence from the country for reasons which it is no longer in my hands to decide on. But every time I come back, I meet with people who, like yourself, have continued to work along these lines which I have tried to disseminate, to follow, and for me seeing the things this whole group of people is doing is something to be proud of. Some of them, for example, are at the Institute of Literature and Linguistics, others are professors at the university. What's more, at a writers' conference held in Sofia, Bulgaria, I was enormously proud to see that most of the translators and guides for the visitors and foreign guests at this conference and especially most of and the most important of the translators from the Government Publishing House for Foreign Literature had been our students at the University of Havana. This was stupendous. For me it was something to be proud of and I said so. When they extended the floor to me at the translators' meeting, I expressed my satisfaction and pride over the fact that these students had attended the University of Havana and that many of them had been students of mine and had worked on their dissertations under my direction. This was the case with a student who had done a study of Garcia Marquez's "A Hundred Years of Loneliness" as his dissertation. This young Bulgarian, who had learned Spanish here, whom we educated, then did an excellent translation of Garcia Marquez's book into Bulgarian. In Sofia he figures as one of their top translators and he was one of those who actively participated in that meeting of translators. That is, it is no longer only young Cubans who are involved and who naturally have access to this, obviously first of all because of their nationality, ties to the country and participation in the revolution, but also young foreigners who come to study with us and who are not just transients, partly tourists and partly students, but who live through our revolution and then go back to their own revolutions with the spirit of ours and with a love and a loyalty for our country and our learning that truly make us feel very happy and very proud.

Moreover, I can certainly say that there is a new florescence of writers, artists and scientists which I see in the academy and at the university when I

talk with people. Then too, in Rome, every time Cuban publications arrive, which I devour with tremendous eagerness, I learn that there is a whole new florescence of young intellectuals who are blazing trails, unpublished ones too, in many fields. In the motion picture industry as well as in the plastic arts, the dance, music and literature. All this is really exciting. At any rate, I believe that we must take great care to avoid something that inevitably exists in these processes of revolutionary development, but which we have to reduce to a minimum or eliminate, namely cases of "overgrown babyism" that may be found among many young people, in youths who stop to lean back and rest, to whom everything is handed on a platter and who then end up losing their fighting, creative spirit, begin to depend more on the revolutionary government which guarantees them a livelihood and an education, and this can make them a bit soft. Fortunately, aside from these, /those people prevail who are really creating a new Cuba, in whom one feels oneself extended and surpassed, which is of most importance/. I am not interested in seeing my ex-students, hopefully disciples, merely repeat what I have said. I want them to say other things and to attack me if necessary. This is the most important thing. What they have to inherit is the method and the drive. Then they have to progress under their own power and this is more important than anything else.

[Question] Over these past 20 years, what figures in our culture, in our revolution, have been most significant for you, not only because of their individual achievements, but because of their influence on other generations?

[Answer] Now that is a somewhat risky question because there are many names and there is the danger of forgetting some of them in these extemporaneous statements. That is to say, in Fidel and "Che" we have the two great theoreticians of our revolution. And so, in my statements on the esthetics of the revolution and on cultural policy, I have always used Fidel's "Words to the Intellectuals" and "Che's" "Socialism and Mankind in Cuba." These are fundamental documents. But there are also important contributions by other figures in different fields, not only cultural domains, as is the case with Carlos Rafael Rodriguez and Blas Roca. The contributions Osvaldo Dorticos, Armando Hart and many other figures of the revolution in the specific field of culture have made. Listen, with reference to the most recent of these, since the creation of the Ministry of Culture Armando Hart has delivered a number of lectures of extraordinarily high quality and value on the orientation of the country's cultural policy. One of these lectures was specifically aimed at writers and in it questions of a theoretical or general nature were raised, but also concrete matters.

That is to say, as far as cultural orientation is concerned, there has been a number of important figures among us. I'm afraid I will leave many of them unmentioned: Marinello, Roa, Mirta Aguirre,.... But it is also the institutions, the cultural institutions, like the universities, the Academy of Sciences and other research centers that have today made Cuba a nation that can from the standpoint of science trade places with the most advanced nations in the world. The cooperative efforts that are being engaged in with the most advanced academies in the world, and not only the socialist academies, by the Cuban Academy of Sciences are immense, and within the academy itself there is a large number of scientists who have been working quietly, people whose names are not as

prominent as those of writers and artists because their fields are more specialized. In the academy, in each of its institutes, you have to see, comb through them to find the people who represent them through their work. We would be astonished at the large number of Cuban scientists who enjoy international renown. I am filled with great pride when officials abroad talk to me respectfully about a Cuban scientist, ask me about him, about what he is working on at the present time. All this seems to me to be admirable because I see that they are familiar with our scientists and our literary and artistic creators, hold them in esteem and their opinions are valued throughout the world. And this is something that has been achieved solely through the revolution. Because before the revolution Juan Tomas Roig lived his life practically unknown and even Don Carlos de la Torre, who managed to become the patriarch of Cuban science, had no great influence in the country nor did Fernando Ortiz either, who for most people was a cranky old man who liked to talk about nothing else but the blacks. I have heard members of the old Cuban intellectual class say things about Fernando Ortiz that you can't imagine.

Listen, on one occasion, when Ortiz for the first time presented a program on stage for the "little devils" to demonstrate what the Yoruba liturgy was like, there was a veteran intellectual who said to me: "Come here, boy. What is Ortiz carrying on like that with the blacks for? Is he trying to be an actor again?" That is, that intellectual did not realize that what Ortiz was trying to do might have had essentially cultural, scientific value. No, if he was doing that, it was because he was looking for the black vote. Inconceivable, but that's what they thought. And that is what an intellectual thought. He wasn't an ignorant man who could see no farther than the tip of his nose. So you can just imagine how things were. Today things like that don't happen. Today it would occur to no one that any scientist, whether his name is Jose Angel Bustamante, Wilfredo Torres, Zoilo Marinello or Antonio Nunez Jimenez, might carry out his scientific work simply because he wanted to be a member of the National Assembly. This would be something that is absolutely absurd. Nicolas Guillen is a member of the National Assembly not because he is the chairman of the UNEAC but because he is a man whom the entire nation knows and who represents and expresses the thinking of the entire nation. After all, he was spontaneously dubbed national poet; there was no decree conferring that title on him, yet everyone refers to him that way because he truly represents the new awareness that has come into being with the revolution and is announced by him in his poems.

[Question] How do you view the development of Cuban literature at the present time? Its lines of development, its degree of maturity? And how does it impress people; you who have experienced this abroad, how is it rated? Do you believe that our literature represents the revolution, its values?

[Answer] Well, we have in our literature items that indeed represent them and then there are others that still constitute approximations, approaches, but these same approximations are often very successful. That is, there are groups of very new writers, including those who have not yet had any books published and whose stories, poems and essays appear in EL CAIMAN BARBUDO, for example, in magazines of the same sort, for young people, and on reading them I get the impression that there is something new in them, a new writer, a new creator who is marking the birth of a new awareness.

There are other figures who have already achieved very great prestige, world-wide recognition, and who have, nevertheless, been influenced by and display the influence of the revolution. Without more ado, this was the case with Alejo Carpentier, who was already an accomplished author at the time of the revolutionary victory but who, nonetheless, has in his latest works undoubtedly revealed the presence of the revolution. It had to affect it, naturally, because a man of his sensitivity and talent could not remain alien to the new reality. And the same thing is happening in other fields. The same in the dance with Alicia Alonso as in painting with Portocarrero or Mariano. That is, these are artists who inevitably feel the presence, the stimulus of the revolution. And when we move on to the field of science, just imagine. Cuba today occupies leading positions in important international scientific organizations, such as, for example, in the field of psychiatry with the figure of Jose Angel Bustamante who is one of the explorers of a new field, transcultural psychiatry, which right from the moment it was given a name has exhibited the presence of Cuba. The concept of /transculturation/ is a concept worked out by Fernando Ortiz, extended to anthropology by other investigators and to psychiatry especially by Bustamante.

That is to say, all of us can see for ourselves how the revolution has opened an immense field to the cultural development of the country, which is exploiting it particularly, especially and as is only natural through the young people who are already promoting our culture through new paths. I want to tell you that the internationalist efforts Cuba is making by sending not only soldiers, but also researchers, professors, doctors, teachers, technicians and workers to sister nations, all this is going to have notable consequences in our own cultural development.

/Just as Cuban youths, teenagers, discovered this island through their literacy campaign, our young manual laborers and intellectuals are discovering the world through their internationalist service./ And Cuba will no longer be simply an island lost in the Caribbean, but a center from which culture irradiates which will at the same time be influenced by all of the world's culture.

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CSO: 3010/2220

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES WITH VENEZUELAN WRITERS NOTED

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 30 Jul 82 p 4

[Article by Oscar Perdomo Marin: "Homage to Haydee Santamaria Paid at Cuban Venezuelan Writers Meeting"]

[Text] A group of intellectuals who are participating here in a meeting of Cuban and Venezuelan writers paid homage to the memory of Haydee Santamaria, who was a past president of the House of the Americas.

Haydee continues to live since her silence, said Cuban poet Eliseo Diego, after describing the most important facets of the Cuban fighter's life.

The Colombian, Manuel Mejia Vallejo, also referred to Haydee as a living example of service to the highest causes and emphasized among her principal virtues her special love for children.

The Chilean essayist Nelson Osorio and the Venezuelan poet Belia Bosch also referred to the life of Haydee.

The Cuban poet Victor Casaús read one of his poems dedicated to Haydee. The remembrance ceremony was the prelude to the second day's evening session of the writers' meeting, that the Venezuelan Foreign Ministry is hosting.

During this last session a seminar took place on poetry in Cuba and Venezuela, and poems of writers from the two countries were read.

Yesterday a debate took place on the principal literary currents which influence creativity in Cuba and Venezuela.

In fact, the analysis of the currents with a common cultural environment has provided a constant to this meeting which began Tuesday in the "Romulo Gallegos" center in this Capital.

After the participation of the Cuban writers Lisandro Otero, Miguel Barnet, Omar Gonzalez and Onelio Jorge Cardoso, a round table discussion took place on the novel of the seventies: Review of the Critics. Participating in this round table were the French literary critic Claude Fell from the daily

LE MONDE, writer Antonio Cornejo Polar from Peru, Jose Antonio Portuondo from Cuba, and Venezuelan literary critic Luis Navarrete Orta.

The latter critic found the novel of the seventies to be interlaced with a fundamental political focal point: the Cuban Revolution and other events that shook the world.

Minister of State for Intelligence Luis Alberto Machado presided today over the third session of the Cuban and Venezuelan writers meeting that is taking place here.

Machado praised the development of this cultural exchange between Venezuelan and Cuban artists and was pleased that the meeting hosted by the Venezuelan Foreign Ministry is taking place in this capital, a few days after his return from Havana.

The minister spoke of his meetings with President Fidel Castro and with Vice President Carlos Rafael Rodriguez and said that in the future other Venezuelan missions will go to Cuba as a demonstration of rapprochement among peoples, countries and governments.

Following the minister's speech, a work session began with the participation of Cuban writer Jose Antonio Portuondo, who referred to the creation and development of the essay in Cuba from Jose Marti up to the triumph of the Revolution.

9989

CSO: 3010/2198

REPORTAGE ON FOREIGN MINISTER'S TRIP TO GREECE, FRANCE

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 29 Jul 82 p 6

[Text] Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca ended a 3-day official visit to Greece today.

The Cuban foreign minister traveled to Paris where he will meet with his cypriot colleague Nikos Rolandis and will report to the French authorities of the recently concluded special ministers meeting of the Nonaligned Movement Coordination Bureau on the Palestinian question.

Malmierca was seen off at the Athens airport by the first Vice Minister of Foreign Relations of Greece, K. Papoulias, among other officials.

During his stay here, the chief of Cuban diplomacy was received by Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu and held talks with Foreign Minister Ioannis Haralambopoulos; National Economy Minister Guerasimos Arsenis, Parliament President Ionannis Alevras; and the secretary general of the Greek Communist Party, Harilaos Florakis, among others.

He also placed a wreath at the Monument to the Unknown Soldier, located opposite the national Parliament in central Athens where the Cuban flag has waved during this 3-day visit.

The minister and his retinue attended a mass ceremony on the occasion of the 29th anniversary of the attack on the Moncada Barracks at which Greek Communist Deputy Mikis Teodorakis spoke.

The newspapers, radio and television of the country have analyzed daily the visit of the Cuban foreign minister, the first made to Greece by a minister of this Caribbean nation.

The press and Greek and Cuban officials who have commented on the visit of Malmierca concur in stressing its significance for widening and deepening the links between the two countries, a possibility that is reflected in the very composition of the Cuban delegation.

The delegation included Roberto Mulet, ambassador to Greece; Alberto Boza, director of the Western European section of the Foreign Ministry; Guillermo Zurbito, charge d'affaires here; the directors Lazaro Chao of the National Bank, and Francisco Soberon of the Ministry of Transportation, and Juan Gonzalez, adviser to the Ministry of Foreign Trade.

Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca arrived here today on a mission of the Coordination Bureau of the Nonaligned Movement. Malmierca arrived from Greece where he made an official 3-day visit.

The chief of Cuban diplomacy together with Foreign Minister of Cyprus Nikos Rolandis, and other representatives of nonaligned countries will meet here with French Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson, it has been reported.

The objective of this meeting will be to inform the French Government of the agreements of the recently concluded special ministers meeting of the Coordination Bureau of nonaligned countries on the Lebanon question, which took place in Nicosia.

In addition to the foreign ministers of Cuba and Cyprus, diplomatic representatives from Nicaragua, India, Yugoslavia, Sri Lanka and Senegal will participate in the meeting with Cheysson.

9989

CSO: 3010/2198

NEW STEEL INDUSTRY PRODUCT GETS QUALITY AWARD

Havana TRIBUNA DE LA HABANA in Spanish 23 Jul 82 p 1

[Article by Ana Rosa Cruz Machado]

[Text] A new product of the Jose Marti Steel Enterprise (Antillean Steel) received the State Quality Award. This time, it was granted to the A-40-degree corrugated bars in a simple ceremony held at that important industrial center of Cotorro.

This is the second product of the aforementioned entity that receives the certificate in question. On 21 July of last year, it was granted to the A-30-degree corrugated bars.

In order to win this second award, the workers and technicians of the enterprise undertook an extensive investigative task which culminated in the production of a new kind of steel that significantly improves the mechanical properties of the bars.

In the ceremony, Minister Ramon Darias, chairman of the State Committee for Standardization, Metrology and Quality Control (CEN), presented the new certificate to Francisco Perez Oliva, director of Antillean Steel. The center also received a joint diploma from the CTC [Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions] and the CEN in recognition of the achievement, and the best workers were rewarded.

The closing remarks were delivered by Eduardo Quesada, first vice minister of the CEN, who emphasized the effort of the workers and technicians of Antillean Steel in improving the production of many items whose quality is recognized all over the world.

8414

CSO: 3010/2221

REPORTAGE ON HAVANA PORT HANDLING ACTIVITIES

Havana TRIBUNA DE LA HABANA in Spanish 28 Jul 82 p 1

[Article by Nieves Alvarez Sisto]

[Text] In keeping with a call from the party provincial organization in the city of Havana intended to accomplish the removal of 18,896 tons of merchandise from the port of the capital during the holidays, 1,200 to 1,300 tons of pig iron shipped directly to Antillean Steel were unloaded daily at the Haiphong port unit, where the largest amount of merchandise has been storing since the early hours of the 24th.

About 1,400 containers were also placed on board the Soviet roll-on/roll-off freighter "Coneck," an operation which cleared up an extensive area of the unit.

Party, labor union and administrative leaders involved in the activity being carried out by the chain [sic] went over the port facilities, where they were able to verify the operation and the progress of the removal schedules.

On that score, Aldo Alvarez, member of the Party Provincial Bureau in the capital, and Luis Cantillo, chief of the Transportation and Communication Department of that organization, visited Unit 04 and were interested in the situation of numerous pieces of equipment belong to special contracts which are deposited at the unit and should be picked up by the enterprises to which they are consigned, but which sometimes remain at the port for indefinite periods of time.

The domestic economy, a determining factor in accomplishing the proposed removal, also adopted emergency measures in order to receive the merchandise sent out from the port.

The results obtained in the dynamic and difficult task involving the factors that conform to the port-transport-domestic economy chain will be reported in future editions of TRIBUNA DE LA HABANA, in which we will highlight the accomplishment of the best workers.

8414

CSO: 3010/2221

HUMAN RIGHTS APPROVAL FOR EL SALVADOR SCORED

Havana TRABAJADORES in Spanish 23 Jul 82 p 6

[Commentary by Hedelberto Lopez Blanch]

[Text] U.S. President Ronald Reagan, will have to draw on and polish up all the things he learned when he was an actor in order to convince the U.S. Congress that the present regime in El Salvador respects human rights and that guerrilla activity in that country has lessened.

In order to get authorization for an exorbitant economic and military credit for that Central American nation, Reagan will have to defend before the Congress next 28 July one of the most discredited, genocidal and depraved regimes in the world.

A congressional resolution obliges the chief executive every 6 months to make a statement on the human rights situation in those nations receiving military aid as a prior condition to their continuing to get it.

Christian Legal Aid of El Salvador said a few days ago that in the first 6 months of 1982 the army and paramilitary groups in that country killed 3,059 civilians.

Col Adolfo Majano, former member of the Junta in El Salvador, said in Mexico: "There is no improvement in human rights in my country and assassinations, disappearances and arbitrary violence by groups connected with the leading elements within the government continue."

Recently, several U.S. organizations, defenders of human rights, accused the Salvadoran regime of "continuing systematic political assassinations with the backing of the United States."

For example, the Civil Liberties Union and the U.S. Vigilance Committee pointed out in a 272-page report that the Central American nation is carrying on "an undeclared war against the people."

Added to the electoral farce held in El Salvador in which ultrarightists elements (headed by the leader of the Death Squad, retired major Roberto D'Aubuisson) took power is now another farce under the auspices of the Yankee president.

In order to try "to convince congressmen," the upcoming arrival in Washington of a mission of Salvadoran politicians from the governing coalition to inform them on the current situation, is foreseen.

Logically, they will avoid giving information on bombarding by their air force against undefended towns; machinegunning of men, women and children accused of aiding insurgents; the terror that their soldiers impose on the countryside and cities, and even less the victorious guerrilla activities of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front.

It could be that Ronald Reagan, using schemes, pressures and threats, obtains the Congress's approval of the military aid budget to El Salvador of almost \$100 million which will be used to continue the slaughter in that country.

But, however much he tries to use theatrics, he will not be able to convince any progressive government, and not even the most naive U.S. citizen.

9908

CSO: 3010/2196

BRIEFS

ICAP AGREEMENT WITH ANGOLA COUNTERPART--Luanda, 28 Jul--The Cuban Institute for Friendship with Peoples (ICAP) and the Angolan League for the Friendship and Solidarity with Peoples (LAASP) agreed today to a bilateral protocol of collaboration. The Cuban side was headed by Rene Rodriguez Cruz, president of ICAP and a member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, while Coelho da Cruz, president of LAASP, represented the Angolan side. The Caribbean island delegation, in Angola since 25 August, accompanied by Rafael Francis Mestre, the Cuban ambassador, visited the tombs of the deceased Angolan president, Agostinho Neto, and of Rafael Diaz Arguello, the Cuban internationalist fighter. The visitors also went to see the museum of the Peoples Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola (FAPLA) and the monument to the martyrs of the battle of Kifangondo, 20 kilometers to the north of this capital. [Text] [Havana TRABAJADORES in Spanish 29 Jul 82 p 7] 9908

CSO: 3010/2196

CONCERN EXPRESSED OVER CORPORATIONS' INDEBTEDNESS

Quito EL COMERCIO in Spanish 31 Aug 82 pp A-1, A-9

[Text] The financial status of Ecuador's corporations is disturbing, because of the high level of indebtedness. Close to 80 percent of the available capital belongs to third parties.

According to data furnished by the office of the superintendent of corporations, the level of indebtedness of Ecuador's companies, determined by the relation of total liabilities to total assets, has been increasing in recent years. In 1975 the debt level was 64 percent; in 1978 it was 68 percent; and in 1981, it was over 72 percent.

According to information from other sources, during the first 6 months of this year this indebtedness was approximately 80 percent. This means that of each sucre now available to Ecuador's businesses, 80 centavos belong to third parties, and only the remaining 20 centavos belong to the company's owners. The problem is actually worse when we consider that a good part of the debt is in dollars.

The office of the superintendent stated that the exchange differential, caused by the rise in the U.S. dollar, has increased the level of indebtedness of Ecuador's companies, thus creating serious difficulties, especially affecting the short-term obligations and the level of liquidity of these companies.

This level of dependency caused by this indebtedness to third parties has made Ecuadorean businesses highly vulnerable, according to financial experts.

However, despite this negative phenomenon, business capital has increased from 12.48 billion sucres in 1975 to 42 billion in 1981. The average per company, according to the same source, increased from 2.9 million sucres to 6.9 million during this period.

At the same time the equity of these firms, consisting of their capital, reserves, and profits from previous years, and from the latest fiscal year, increased 2.4 times. In 1975 it was 27.8 billion sucres, and in 1981 it had increased to 67 billion.

But earnings of these companies have declined in recent years. The liquid profit of the companies dropped from 11.3 billion in 1977 to 8.636 billion in 1980. This means that the profit per company declined from an average of 2.1 million sucres in 1975 to 1.2 million.

While in 1975 the average return on sales was 13 percent, on capital, 73 percent, and on assets, 12 percent, in 1980 the average return on sales dropped to 5 percent, on capital to 23 percent, and on assets to 4 percent. In all cases, there has been a persistent negative trend, according to the office of the superintendent.

7679

CSO: 3010/2282

FARM WORKERS IN ACTION AGAINST ESTATES, STATE FARMS

St Georges FREE WEST INDIAN in English 21 Jul 82 pp 1, 7

[Text] WORKERS on Hope Estate in St. David's are at present on a go-slow, because the estate did not send an audited statement of its financial accounts to the Agricultural and General Workers' Union (AGWU), which represents them.

This move is part of the "full-scale industrial action" AGWU decided on against 10 such estates, in a meeting last Thursday.

The estates are Pieche, Bells, Sincerity and River Antoine in St. Andrew's, Hope, Bailee's Bacolet and La Pastora in St. David's; and Joachim St. John's in St. Patrick's, and Douglaston and Shadow in St. John's.

All 52 estates, which AGWU represents, were sent letters in May requesting them to submit audited financial statements by June 18, but up to July 15, 10 had not even replied.

After Thursday's meeting, AGWU again sent letters to these 10 estates informing them that action would be taken early this week, and all replied. Hope, however, promised to submit its statement yesterday, but did not. The go-slow will continue until it does.

Bells estate promised its statement today, and if AGWU does not receive it, industrial action will also be taken there.

AGWU's president Fitzroy Bain said the union is unhappy with statements from four estates, because these weren't audited, and will write them about it.

Others have asked for more time to submit theirs and AGWU is considering these requests.

AGWU has also decided to write the 26 state-owned farms for individual statements, and not one statement covering all, as was previously given. If they don't comply with this request, then AGWU may take some action.

Some nine farms did not receive requests for statements, and AGWU is looking into this, trying to ensure that they get letters, and

AGWU is now examining some of the financial statments it received, to see that the figures are accurate.

AGWU needs the estates' financial statements to determine whether they are making a profit or not, and if not, is prepared to assist them to make a profit, part of which will then be shared by the workers,

CSO: 3025/455

BRIEFS

ITALIAN EMULSION PLANT--A NEW emulsion plant, costing some \$175,000 has been bought by the People's Revolutionary Government from Italy to assist in road construction. The plant arrived on board the ship "Nedlloyd Korea" last Thursday. A Government party, led by Prime Minister Maurice Bishop and including Minister of Construction Hudson Austin, Minister of Education Jacqueline Creft, permanent secretary in the Ministry of Construction Michael Prime and chief engineer Ezzat Ma Ghammi, inspected the plant on the docks while on a tour of several construction projects last Thursday. Bro. Ma Ghammi said the plant will allow the country to save a tremendous amount of money. At the moment, Grenada imports emulsion, a mixture of bitumen and water, from Trinidad, United States and Puerto Rico at a cost of \$250 per drum. He said that one drum of bitumen, costing \$135 when mixed locally, can make two drums of emulsion. The plant, which has a capacity of 7,000 kg. per hour, will be located in Grand Mal near to the Texaco bulk storage plant, which should be in operation in the next two months. Bro. Ma Ghammi said that the plant should be able to cover its cost after the first six months of operation. Grenada's yearly requirement is between three and four thousand drums and this can be fulfilled in 20 days, he said. The Ministry was also looking at the possibility of exporting excess emulsion to other Caribbean islands. [Kevin Williams] [Text] [St Georges FREE WEST INDIAN in English 17 Jul 82 p 1]

CANADIAN FLOATING JETTY--ANOTHER problem in Carriacou was solved when a plastic floating jetty was officially handed over to the people of Harvey Vale by Canadian High Commissioner Allan Roger, on Wednesday. The previous wooden jetty was destroyed several years ago making it difficult for boats to land. The jetty, made up of some 600 plastic cubes, was supplied by a Canadian company, Canedex, with funds from the Government of Canada. Canedex president Venessa Hammond, who was in Harvey Vale for the launching, explained that the jetty can support a small vehicle. Each cube, she said, can hold 207 lbs. Total cost of the project is \$150,000, with \$50,000 coming from the PRG. Secretary for Carriacou and Petit Martinique Affairs, George Prime, speaking of the advantages of having the jetty said that Harvey Vale boats will no longer have to dock in Hillsborough. Harvey Vale is a natural tourist harbour and yachts from throughout the region will now be able to land there again. Bro. Prime said the developments now taking place in Carriacou have to be seen in the context of the Revolution and the benefits which have so far come to the people; Harvey Vale received electricity a few weeks ago. Within the next few months, a power station and medical station will be opened in Petit Martinique. [Excerpts] [St Georges FREE WEST INDIAN in English 17 Jul 82 p 3]

UNION LEADER'S DEATH--THE late Septimus Forsyth, 48, president of the Public Workers' Union (PWU) and principal of the Grenada Technical and Vocational Institute (GTVI), will be buried tomorrow in St. David's. The funeral will be held at the St. Dominic's Roman Catholic Church at 4 p.m. Forsyth, who was sick for some time, went to Trinidad recently for further medical treatment. He died there on Sunday night, after a brain operation. [Excerpt]
[St Georges FREE WEST INDIAN in English 21 Jul 82 p 3]

CSO: 3025/455

21ST PPP CONGRESS-RELATED MATERIAL, SPEECHES PUBLISHED

Clarification on Private Sector

Georgetown MIRROR in English 15 Aug 82 p 1

[Text] THE People's Progressive Party, in a week-end press statement, cleared the air as regards to its position on the role of the private sector in a tri-sectoral economy, blowing away the confusion created by rightist-reactionary forces in Guyana. The full statement follows:--

At its historic 21st Congress, the PPP took the opportunity to clarify its position about the role of the private sector in a tri-sectoral economy, to which it is committed in its democratic, anti-imperialist and socialist-oriented programme under a National Patriotic Front Government.

In 1979, its Programme entitled "Guyana's Road to Socialism" says that the PPP will "recognise the existence of a private (free enterprise) sector, which is complementary to the main state and co-operative sector, and is beneficial to national construction and the people's welfare; and give due consideration to the interests of small traders, small manufacturers, and handicraftsmen."

Despite this, rightist-reactionary forces in Guyana, including the PNC, have maliciously charged that the PPP is against the private sector. The Central Committee Report to the 21st Congress explicitly stated:

"Small businessmen and capitalists are also terribly frustrated. They are plagued with innumerable difficulties. Even their lives are in danger, with the increase in violent crimes. We must not leave them to the rightist political parties which claim to represent their interests, but do not want to take an anti-imperialist position. We must reach out to them, and patiently explain our position to erase from their minds some misconceptions which have been deliberately implanted by our enemies."

The Report further declared:

"Ensure a meaningful role to the private sector with preferential treatment to progressive small businessmen and patriotic capitalists. If in certain circumstances private foreign capital is deemed necessary for development of the economy, strict control must be placed on it to protect the interest of the nation and the local entrepreneurs."

The PPP is, however, vehemently opposed to denationalisation which the virulent rightwing axis is pressing for in Guyana, with the blessings of the imperialist IMF-World Bank arm-twisters. Denationalisation at this juncture, in any form, is the road backwards to unbridled capitalism, monopoly super profits, accelerated impoverishment of the masses and increased layoffs and redundancies. Neither the Guyana economy nor the suffering Guyanese people have anything to gain from denationalisation.

On this topic, the Report was emphatic:

"Resist denationalisation in any form. While encouraging the private sector, care must be exercised that it does not become (under PNC betrayal) the dominant sector, especially under foreign control, for in that way lies rapacious 'tooth and claw' capitalism, dependency and under-development."

"The state and co-operative sectors must be expanded and democratised simultaneously with the growth of the private sector. This must be the emphasis and mix in the Tri-Sectoral Economy if we are to proceed on a non-capitalist or socialist-oriented road on our way to Socialism.

In order to lay the basis for a socialist society, the state sector must not only dominate, but set the pace and ethic for development, expand continuously in a vertical and horizontal fashion and provide the bulk of the surpluses for the State Treasury. To reverse this order, is to nurture capitalism, and strangle socialism. The 3 sectors (state, private and co-op) by judicious planning and consultation must complement each other and not be allowed to unleash anarchistic and disastrous competitive forces wasteful of national energies and resources.

The Party makes no quibble over its assertion that foreign trade ought to be under state control. Local domestic trade must be tri-sectoral, free of corruption, spite, favouritism and incompetence. The PPP also advocates diversification of Guyana's foreign trade into the Socialist Community and the "Third World" countries.

Realising that a vibrant and dynamic private sector is needed at this juncture, without dismantling the state sector in any way, the PPP recommends its programmatic formula and mix as a vital ingredient in the solution to the raging crisis in the economy. This formula also gives a firm rebuff to imperialism! Guyana for Guyanese is the Party's motto, so clearly reflected in its scientific definition: Democracy, Anti-Imperialism and Socialist Orientation

Cuban Delegate's Remarks

Georgetown MIRROR in English 15 Aug 82 p 2

[Text] The Communist Party of Cuba was represented at the Congress by Osrinio Rojas, member of the Central Committee, along with Rogelio Oliva Ramirez and Daniel Suarez. A prolonged standing ovation was given to the Cuban delegates by the Congress participants. In his message, Osrinio Rojas said:--

"On behalf of the Communist Party of Cuba, we wish to extend to you our greetings of fraternity and solidarity on the occasion of the 21st., Congress of the People's Progressive Party and to wish you all fruitful results in your discussions.

The PPP comes today to the holding of this Congress with a history of more than 30 years in revolutionary struggle for the defense of the interests of the workers and the people of Guyana.

We hope that this Congress adopts new goals and objectives for the sake of a better future and that it will consolidate even further the ties between our peoples and parties, united in the common struggle against imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism.

On the occasion of this event we reiterate to you our solidarity and friendship."

Photo shows Rogelio Oliva Ramirez holding up the Cuban flag which he presented to PPP General Secretary Cheddi Jagan on behalf of his delegation.

Remarks by Grenadian

Georgetown MIRROR in English 15 Aug 82 p 3

[Text] THE fraternal delegate from Grenada, John Ventour, member of the Central Committee of the ruling New Jewel Movement hailed the PPP which has been 'championing the struggles of the Guyanese people for over 30 years now.' He pointed out that the 21st, Congress was taking place at a crucial period in international relations, compounded by the war danger, and the worsening crisis in the capitalist states. He denounced US militarism and aggression.

On the question of attacks in the Regional media against the Grenada Revolution, he condemned those "choir boys and choir girls of imperialism," rejected the Westminster Model as "hypocrisy" and hailed the "grass roots democracy" being built up in Grenada. He remarked further:

"They say that our people do not support our Revolution. But one has to ask: How can a government which does not enjoy the support of the masses arm its workers, farmers, women, youth and students--its entire people? We have to ask: Which one of these choir boys or choir girls can arm their people? Which one of them can do this, and expect to be in power the next day? None of them! But we in Grenada can, for we have a popular revolution, so there is even democracy in defence too."

Giving some facts on the Grenada situation, he mentioned worker participation in state enterprises; workers elected to Boards of Directors; workers electing production, grievance and emulation committees; 80 per cent of the workers are now unionised; TUC recommendations to the government are enacted into law; trade unions, mass organisations etc., were all involved in formulating the 1982 Budget and Development Plan.

Referring to more benefits which the Revolution gave the people John Ventour mentioned: Free medical and dental care; free secondary education; a National Transport Service; free milk on a regular community basis; low cost housing; a rent control law to ensure that landlords do not fleece tenants; gradual abolition of illiteracy; weekly community work on a voluntary basis; and the International Airport Project "on schedule to be completed next year."

He summed up as follows: "Comrades, what our experiences over the past 3 years have taught us, is that a small and poor people can defeat a mightly imperialist enemy. That an organised people, a united, conscious, vigilant and armed people led by a Vanguard Party are sure of victory."

Canadian CP Official

Georgetown MIRROR in English 15 Aug 82 p 4

[Text] THE fraternal delegate from the Canadian Communist Party saluted the pioneer role played by the PPP and its leader Dr. Jagan in "building the Marxist-Leninist presence in the English speaking Caribbean Community." He further said that "not only do we share a common hemisphere and a common enemy, but also a common ideology...Marxism-Leninism".

Geoff DaSilva member of the Central Committee of the C.P. of Canada and chairman of the Metro City Committee in his address to Congress hailed the PPP's fight on behalf of the Guyanese masses. He remarked:

"We have followed closely your efforts within Guyana in defence of the people's living standards, to end unemployment, economic backwardness, food shortages, patronage and corruption. We support your Party's fight to break out of the neo-colonialist stranglehold of dependence on the International Monetary Fund, while noting that our country too is moving towards the same deep structural crisis in the economy.

We greet the fine example of your Party in working to overcome racial and political discrimination. Lines of demarcation in the people's mind must be drawn along class lines. To do so along racial lines, is to stand divided against a powerful enemy."

Geoff DaSilva called for a strong peace movement to avert nuclear war, and denounced the Reagan regime in Washington as being at the root of the war danger. On the Canadian crisis he said:

"Unemployment and inflation run rampant in Canada. Wage controls have been imposed. Decisive sections of our economy are under US control and direction. Nuclear involvement threatens Canada, as Reagan tries to involve our people in his confrontationist and first-strike capability strategy. Resist we must, and resist we do. The labour movement is increasingly looking to militant responses--general strikes, and work stoppages are part of the possible arsenal of organised labour--concepts that a few years back were remote."

'MIRROR' EDITORIAL RIPS PNC FOR 'CALAMITOUS SITUATION'

Georgetown MIRROR in English 15 Aug 82 p 2

[Editorial]

[Text] THE New Nation, official organ of the ruling PNC came out with a vitriolic attack on the PPP and its leader Cneddi Jagan in its recent issue of August 8. The editor apparently was offended by the profound statement by Dr. Jagan that "Guyana has never in living memory found itself in such a calamitous situation." Few Guyanese who are old enough to compare present-day Guyana with conditions during the sixties would find anything offensive or untrue in that statement. In fact, most Guyanese would agree that Guyana has never in living memory sunk so low!

WHERE before has the difference between the very rich and the many poor been so striking? When ever has there been such corruption, such widespread crime of every type such lengthy blackouts of electricity, such continuous shortages of water? And on the subject of shortages, when in living memory have people had it so hard--being unable to get flour, peas, margarine, milk, matches, cigarettes, soap, biscuits and just about every conceivable item required for basic living? When has the difference between wages and rising cost of living been so out of proportion, so much so that malnutrition and poverty are rampant? And, perhaps one of the greatest crimes of the PNC government--when has unemployment been so high? Can even the oldest living Guyanese recall any time before when 6000 government employees were thrown out of work, when factories closed down and threw workers out of jobs because there was no materials for production, no electricity and water, etc., etc.?

WHAT greater calamities could take place in Guyana than those the nation and its people are now undergoing? Thus, to dispute the statement of the leader of Guyana's largest political party, the majority party under any free and fair elections, is just plain silly! Where the New Nation's editor made his biggest mistake was to refer to the sixties, when, according to his description, burning and looting took place. This is quite correct and history and documents confirm that the burning and looting were the results of the unholy alliance between certain political parties and trade unions with the notorious Central Intelligence Agency of the USA. One of the parties involved was the People's National Congress. Its well known guilt was spelt out in the infamous document known as "X-13", the PNC plan for arson and murder. Among its

many crimes were the frequent bombings which led to many deaths, including Michael Forde who was murdered when a time-bomb was placed at Freedom House.

WHAT is even more interesting is that despite the widescale criminal acts perpetuated by the CIA and its minions, supplies of food and fuel and other needed goods were available, and at cheap prices, during those trying years. And in the elections that followed, when the USA and the UK governments changed the whole electoral system to oust the PPP, that Party still won more votes than any other Party, thereby demonstrating the fact that it maintained the confidence of the Guyanese people. This was the last unriggerd elections in Guyana.

NO! The falsifiers of history can try to fool the people, but they have fooled the Guyanese people just once too often! However, no amount of filth and calumny, thrown into the face of others, would help white-wash the fact that the PNC has brought our dear country to ruins and nearer to collapse. Oh, it's such a calamitous situation!

CSO: 3025/457

GOVERNMENT HIRES FOREIGN ADVISERS TO IMPROVE PUBLIC SECTOR

Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 25 Aug 82 p 1

[Text] THE Guyana Government has retained the services of a group of financial advisers "to review and evaluate the operations of the state enterprises" and to "propose policy options for a strategy to strengthen their financial performance."

The government's decision, the Ministry of Economic Planning and Finance explained yesterday, is in keeping with government's continuing efforts to improve the overall efficiency of the public sector.

The group comprises the following "internationally-known and respected investment and merchant banking firm": Kuhn Loeb Heman Brothers of New York, S. G. Warburg and Co. of London and Lazard Freres of Paris-New York.

While the group will be conducting a survey of the total public sector operations, it will give major emphasis to the financial performance and problems of the following eight corporations: Bidco-Guymine, Guyana Sugar Corporation, Guyana Rice Board, Guyana National Engineering Corporation, Guyana Airways Corporation, Guyana Telecommunication Corporation, Guyana Transport Services Limited, and Guyana Pharmaceutical Corporation.

The group will also examine the financial and organisational structure of the Guyana State Corporation and advise on alternative models to ensure greater effectiveness in its management functions as the co-ordinating and control agency for the state enterprises.

"The objective of the assignment being undertaken by the group is to enable the government to adopt a clear and comprehensive policy approach to the state enterprise sector and institute appropriate mechanisms to ensure its efficiency and viability", the ministry explained.

The group it added, will begin its work immediately.

The group and its members the Ministry said have worked in various financial capacities for governments in Europe, Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Caribbean. Such governments have included those of Hungary, Jamaica, Sweden, China, Peru, France, the United Kingdom and the U.S.S.R.

BURNHAM SEES INDICATIONS OF ECONOMIC RECOVERY

Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 27 Aug 82 p 1

[Text]

There is some evidence of an economic recovery in Guyana, according to President Forbes Burnham.

In a recent exclusive interview, the President told the Chronicle, "The situation is a little better than it was two or three months ago."

One of the reasons, he pointed out, was the start of the sugar crop and the consequent levelling off of the "trough" in foreign exchange receipt usually recorded during the non-grinding period.

However, he stressed the need for continued austerity. In his words: "There is so much to catch up with. And in addition to the normal things, we have to spend

on defence. So although the situation is a little better, it does not mean that we are floating around on foreign exchange".

Asked about the prospects of a complete and more permanent economic turn-around, the Head of State declared: "It is difficult to speak of the complete turn around of any economy in the world today. Look at Mexico. Look at Libya. Look at the Soviet Union."

However, in the case of a small economy such as Guyana's even though the shocks may be severe "it has the potential as a small economy for improving rapidly".

Despite the depressed state of the world rice market, Guyana can sell all the rice it can produce.

CSO: 3025/456

PLANNING OFFICIAL URGES LDO BRASS TO MIX WITH PUBLIC

Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 27 Aug 82 pp 1, 5

[Text]

Chairman of the State Planning Commission Clarence Ellis yesterday called on the top brass of the Local Democratic Organs to come out of their offices regularly and join with the people to transform the rural communities into thriving economies.

He said the rural economies are worse off today despite physical improvements "because what we do not have are better people or better social relationships."

"Whereas we had social relationships in the past that threw us into working together and respecting the authority of those in the village,

About gold he said: "Guyana is not a big producer but if our gold production continues to rise as it is doing at the moment it can make an impact on our economy.

He pointed out that as a small producer Guyana could market its gold production without "cheapening the price" as in the case of the Soviet Union which is at present releasing its gold bullions in order to help pay for its imports and those of other communist countries.

Then the President turned his attention to timber: "Some countries are working out their reserves. We are now coming in."

He admitted that this advantage and the ex-

pense of our timber resources could be negated by our inefficient production and our high prices. "But we have to become more efficient," he said emphatically.

today we are more concerned with how we relate to Georgetown and how we relate to North America and how we relate to England," Cde Ellis observed.

He spoke of outstanding rates and taxes and pointed out that "what has happened is that we have been dragged into the world economy in such a way that we neglected our own rural economies."

Cde Ellis was addressing an extraordinary joint meeting of the National Congress of Local Democratic Organs and the Regional Democratic Councils in Parliament Chamber at Public Buildings.

He stressed that people had destroyed the rural economies and put all their faith in sugar and rice.

"We threw aside our village and rural relationships and put our faith on political links to

Georgetown. But the faster that we realise that Georgetown is not Guyana, the better for the whole country," Cde Ellis said.

The SPC head was deputising for Vice-President Desmond Hoyte at the meeting called to clarify the role of the local democratic organs and their functionaries in the development of Guyana.

Cde Ellis who outlined the scheme for a lot of agriculture-based industries, said if the Chairmen and Regional Executive Officers visited the areas regularly and planned programmes with the people, the people would not complain about lack of attention by the "regional people."

Earlier NCLDO Chairman Hulbert McGowan said if "power to the people" were to be meaningful, there should not be the "District Commissioner type" of relationship where only the Chairmen and the REOs knew what was going on in the regions.

Cde McGowan said all the Councillors, Parliamentarians and Party officials should be involved in every facet of development.

During the four-hour session, Permanent

Secretary Stanley Hamilton explained that regulations were being updated to make for consistency in the new role of the local organs.

During two presentations by representatives of the Solicitor-General and the Auditor-General, much discussion took place on the accountability and responsibility of the REOs.

Permanent Secretaries from all the Ministries were also in attendance while the three guest speakers made their presentations.

After the lunch adjournment, however, the meeting continued in a "closed session" to discuss "matters generally affecting Chairmen of RDCs in the effective performance of their duties and their welfare."

Cde Ellis spoke on "the role of the Regional Development Councils" while Cde S. Mohamed spoke of "the Municipal and District Councils Act as it applies to the Regional Democratic Councils" and Cde Deodat Singh from the Auditor-General's Office addressed his remarks to "financial control and accountability within the Regional Democratic Councils."

BRIEFS

THREAT TO CROP PRODUCTION--KINGSTON, Thurs., (Cana)--AN ACUTE shortage of funds stemming from national cash flow difficulties, is slowing down the activities of the Agriculture Ministry here and could result in a decline in domestic food production this year, Agriculture Minister Percival Broderick has said. In a speech to officers of 13 land authorities here, Dr. Broderick said that plans for the expansion of their programmes have had to be curtailed, because of the money problem. A land authority operates in each parish providing support services to farmers with the aim of stimulating agricultural output. The minister has an overall budget for the present financial year of over \$178 million of which nearly \$41 million is to be spent by the land authorities. But said Dr. Broderick: "We are having difficulty with funds in the Ministry of Agriculture. We have not been able to get from the Ministry of Finance the level of cash-flow support that was indicated in respect of the estimates." As an example of how the financial difficulties had affected his ministry, Dr. Broderick disclosed that spending on the land authorities was 35 per cent behind projections. "The truth is that, as I have been told, the expenditure as a nation is far ahead of revenue," the minister said. He added: "This has a serious consequential effect on our programme. If we are not careful we are going to end up with a situation ... where our performance this year is going to be behind that of last year in a number of areas." [Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 20 Aug 82 p 5]

CSO: 3025/458

PSUM SEEKS MEETING WITH PRESIDENT ON ECONOMY

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 19 Aug 82 pp 1-A, 16-A, 19-A

[Article by Nidia Marin]

[Text] Abel Vicente Tovar, leader of the National Agrarian Party, PAN, said that his party agrees with the economic measures that have been announced but not with the additional \$US 7.5 billion foreign debt. PSUM [Unified Socialist Party of Mexico] leader Pablo Gomez has sent a letter to President Lopez Portillo requesting a meeting for "talks and discussion" so that all the political forces of Mexico and the government could solve the crisis together. He said that a first step would be a council of leaders of all the parties and government representatives.

The Mexican Democratic Party, PDM, supports favoring private investment but they said that by the government measures the internal causes are not attacked, only the foreign ones. The PST [Socialist Workers Party] said that there has finally been some straight talk, and this is a healthy step in the direction of a possible dialogue and one more step toward political reform.

Abel Vicente Tovar repeated the proposal that he made some days ago regarding the need for all sectors and political forces in the country to meet democratically "and not in some stealthy rendezvous" to find better formulas for solving the difficult problems the nation faces.

The PAN leader said that the renegotiation of the foreign debt announced by Secretary of the Treasury Jesus Silva Herzog was indispensable, but he stood firm on his party's position censuring the increase in the foreign debt since the \$US 7.5 billion loan "is understood to be a loan with strings since Mexico would be committed to setting low prices in the sale of petroleum while buying foods at high prices and with the IMF imposing restrictions on public expenditures."

Vicencio Tovar also said, "However sincere the secretary of the treasury's words may have been, we did not notice any decision to apply corrective measures to the shortcomings of the structure."

He added, "We are in agreement with the measures announced and once more express the hope that they will not be manipulated either by the corrupt

bureaucracy or by political factions because in the first case they would be ineffective and in the second they would be unjust as well as ineffective.

Anticonstitutional Matters

The PAN press committee described as "serious" the fact that the loans agreed upon will not be used to pay our debts. "One must conclude that our foreign loans have not been used for self-financing investments or to produce revenue."

The committee, headed by Gonzaleo Altamirano Dimas, says that the doctor's prescriptions are not evolving as the illness of the patient progresses because in the case of the Mexican economy "the causes which produced the illness are not one week old but have existed for many years."

As to the other causes of Mexico's economic plight pointed out by Silva Herzog, PAN believes that lately interest rates have had a tendency to go down and also that the earlier increase was not new, nor was the drop in the volume and price of raw materials which we sold abroad.

The committee said, "The causes of the economic problems are now being used as the cure," and it decried the "mere cash problems" as well as the fact that the drop in employment, unemployment and the zero economic growth are matters that can be ignored.

The committee pointed out, "One should ask if the unfavorable change showing up in the clinical picture of the national economy is due primarily to errors in diagnosis and mistaken prescriptions by the government which have led to complications in the illness, the main causes of which are not new but are of long standing."

In conclusion the committee said, "The secretary of the treasury omitted mentioning the steps which the government is taking against corruption which is one of the main causes of the economic crisis."

Letters from the PSUM to JLP and to the Parties

After a meeting yesterday of the Political Commission of the Central Committee of the PSUM, its leader, Pablo Gomez, sent a message to President Lopez Portillo and to the leftist parties and groups.

The message to the president states:

"The economic crisis has been worsening during recent months. The plundering, which has been denounced by few persons, has been carried on openly and has reached the point where the state lacks the necessary foreign exchange to meet the foreign currency obligations of the banking system. The Mexican foreign debt, public as well as private, has become an obstacle in the country's development.

"But this crisis does not affect just the financial world and the state expenditures but primarily the standard of living of Mexicans--city and rural workers--employment, public expenditures to meet social needs, the economic growth prospects and Mexican international relations. The steps undertaken by the government lately appear as isolated answers which do not constitute a program of changes to meet the crisis in its various aspects and implications.

"To the degree that there is a true national crisis, the possible solutions and even the partial measures taken with regard to it have an undeniable political nature. No one can say that either the economic crisis or the replies by the government, by the horders of money and by the workers lack political content.

"Therefore, it is necessary to attempt a series of political actions to face the consequences of the crisis and to carry out measures for the guidance of the nation and the people. The time has come for a change in the nature of the relations between the government and the parties and among the parties themselves. The role of the parties must be raised to a higher plane and the old exclusivist forms of action by the official party and the president of Mexico must be changed."

Talks and Discussion

The letter continues: "No one today, including the government and its party, has the capacity to face by itself the crisis which the nation is experiencing. For this reason we propose talks and discussions between the Mexican political forces and the government of the republic.

In making this proposal, we are not uninformed regarding the enormous differences between the parties. On the contrary, we know about them and experience them more and more in the political struggle. But these differences, which are of substance and really deep, cannot be an excuse for the government to adopt the practice of ignoring or shunting aside the representatives of the political tendencies which exist in the nation and which express different class interests.

"Initiatives and proposals on how to face the economic crisis could come out of the discussion between the party leaders and the government. We would also be taking a step toward democracy.

"The talks we propose would provide guidance in these times when rumors crop up everywhere and attempts are being made to manipulate certain sectors of society, especially the small proprietors and the highly paid employees. They would be especially useful in curbing the persistent pressures by the large capitalists who, besides the systematic plundering to which they have subjected the country, are now demanding even greater benefits. Such talks would help find solutions for protecting the standard of living of the salaried worker, the peasant and all Mexicans who live by their own work. They could be a factor in counteracting the unconcealable pressures which international capital and the American government are exerting on our country."

Danger of Aggravating the Class Struggle

The letter also states, "We are well aware of the fact that political talks are not enough to solve Mexico's serious crisis. But it would be dangerous if the class struggle which appears as an inevitable reflection of the crisis were to be aggravated in the absence of talks and discussion between the political bodies and the rulers of the country.

"Last Monday, 9 August, a meeting was held between government representatives headed by the secretary of the treasury and political party leaders. This meeting was a departure from the government's usual political habits. However, the necessary preliminary preparation was lacking and at the request of the government no conclusions were reached.

"Following the recent steps taken by the government of paying with pesos the foreign currency deposits in the Mexican banking system and of prohibiting the transfer of these deposits abroad, it seems to us even more necessary that such talks be held since it has become clear that the country's situation calls for an entirely new policy. It would be regrettable if in the formulation of that policy only the government were to participate, ignoring the existence of a complex national political structure.

"The first step for the talks we propose could be another meeting of political party leaders and high level government representatives to discuss and decide on the agenda and scope of subsequent meetings."

The letter dated yesterday, the 18th, and signed by Gomez concluded by saying, "We hope that the government and the political parties accept our proposal."

The Other PSUM Letter

In another letter to several leftist parties and political groups, the PSUM called for meetings to examine proposals and joint action against the high prices and in support of a democratic economic policy since it believes that in view of conditions, "the responsibility of the left is very great."

Beside the PTM (Mexican Workers Party) this message was sent to the Revolutionary Workers Party, the United Communist Left, the Socialist Workers Party, the Socialist Current, the Isthmus Worker-Peasant-Student Coalition, the Peoples Revolutionary Movement, the Union of the Revolutionary Struggle and others.

Nothing Said About Internal Causes

The National Press Secretariat of the PDM headed by Jesus Zamora Flores, pointed out that up to now nothing has been said about how the internal causes of the economic crisis in Mexico will be faced. It felt that the government should eliminate excessive and wasteful public expenditures, reduce the currency in circulation to a reasonable amount and strictly enforce the Law of Responsibilities.

He said that the PDM favors the stimulation of private investment by fiscal inducements, a course of action which should be reinforced by the reduction of interest rates. Besides, it should reduce unemployment by providing incentives to enterprises for each job created.

In order for Mexicans to move away from the dollar, the PDM proposed the increase of hard currency "of silver and gold" so that "the people can save and the country not be stripped of capital."

In regard to the negotiations with the IMF, the PDM pointed out that they should have been preceded by a national consultation and it described as "delicate and dangerous" loans from people who did not ascertain what use will be made of the money, since if they are to pay the present foreign debt "it will be another step backward."

The PDM opposes advance payments for petroleum since this compromises the future of our resources. In conclusion it said that the setting of a preferential price of the dollar is a violation of Article 73, Section XVIII of the Constitution which gives Congress the authority to determine the value of foreign currency.

Breaking with Former Practice

The Socialist Workers Party, through its Press Secretary Jorge Diez pointed out that the statements by the secretary of the treasury are a healthy starting point for the talks.

"The time has come to break with the old evil practice of making obscure statements clarifying nothing. Under such circumstances it is not possible to call on public opinion to take a patriotic attitude because heretofore it has seemed to be jingoism. This is another step in Political Reform which the people will understand in their struggle in defense of sovereignty and not on the basis of blind support."

However, he said the report reveals the failure of "an economic policy made without taking into account the workers, favoring a few who speculated with our foreign exchange and our debt and have made fortunes in American banks and properties."

As to the agreement with the IMF, he said that is another example of the fact that as long as the nation's economy is not based primarily on the workers, "we will be the victims of imperialist plundering."

9204

CSO: 3010/2210

BRIEFS

COMPLAINT AGAINST PSUM 'PSEUDO-LEADERS'--Chalchihuitan, Chis--"Pseudo leaders" of the Unified Socialist Party of Mexico, PSUM, have set up shop in this town and have gone so far as to cause dangerous polarization, primarily among the peasants. Enrique Lopez, president of the public lands commissariat here, made this accusation directed against Socialist militants and gave as examples the communities of Saclun, Joltenal and Chiquinsalum where the peasants no longer attend agrarian meetings which are normally held to discuss problems of each subdivision of public land. Enrique Lopez said this attitude of some of the comrades is due to the fact that PSUM members constantly give them bad advice in order to undermine the local authorities. Our informant closed by saying that these actions by persons, mostly socialist who are outsiders, has been brought to the attention of the local agrarian delegation authorities, but evidently its head does not solve anything and so it is better to have an interview with the governor because in the end he is responsible for what happens in the state. [Text] [Tuxtla Gutierrez LA VOZ DEL SURESTE in Spanish 6 Aug 82 p 6] 9204

CSO: 3010/2210

PARLIAMENT APPROVES TAX MEASURES TO SPUR ECONOMY

Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 20 Aug 82 p 3

[Text]

CASTRIES, St. Lucia, Thursday, (CANA) — The St. Lucia Parliament has sanctioned a number of tax measures aimed at stimulating economic recovery and encouraging St. Lucians to become more thrifty.

Ten Bills were approved, and among them were the foreign currency export tax, the travel tax, income tax ordinance amendment, and the airport service charge.

In piloting the foreign currency export tax Bill, Prime Minister John Compton said that about EC\$560 million (one EC dollar equal 37 cents U.S.) were exported from the country annually for payment of goods and services and added that in several cases, no goods or services had been received.

Mr. Compton said that the legislation is aimed at ensuring that people involved in the export of currency make a contribution to the economic development of the islands.

He pointed out, however, that this was only a temporary fiscal measure aimed at boosting the island's fragile economy.

The Prime Minister said that eventually, government planned to remove the bank

deposit tax, as this was having an effect on the liquidity of banks.

He said that as a further move to give some tax relief to St. Lucians, a measure will be introduced at the next sitting of Parliament to reduce the stamp duty from seven to five per cent.

These and other relief sources will be introduced as soon as the economy showed some signs of recovery, Mr. Compton said.

But to bring about this recovery in the quickest possible time, he said, government sought passage for the Travel Tax Bill, from which EC\$14.5 million in revenues is expected.

He said that the funds will channelled to Government's school-building programme.

People travelling outside of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) area will be requested to pay five per cent of the cost of the ticket, while those travelling within will pay two-and-a-half per cent.

The income tax amendment ordinance offers relief by exempting all interest on savings earned from deposits

at commercial banks in the state.

Mr. Compton said that this was in keeping with Government's policy to free pensioners from income tax and remove interests on savings so that the liquidity of commercial banks can be restored to give them a more buoyant financial structure.

The House of Assembly also passed the National Savings and Development Bonds Bill which will enable Government to obtain revenue through the sale of bonds.

Mr. Compton said that he was motivated into taking the Bill before Parliament after several St. Lucians at home and abroad had offered to invest in St. Lucia and help boost the economy, following the May 3 general elections.

He said that the Bill which was aimed at ordinary citizen, is expected to yield about EC\$10 million.

The airport service charge, taken through all its stages, is another temporary revenue measure which will bring about an increase charge of five to EC\$6 for persons travelling to Commonwealth territories, and EC\$10 to 12 for people travelling outside the region, he said.

COMPTON: CARIBBEAN NEEDS MORE U.S. AID WITHIN CBI

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 23 Aug 82 p 5

[Text]

CASTRIES, Sun: (AP)

PRIME MINISTER John Compton has welcomed passage of President Reagan's Caribbean Basin Initiative in the U.S. House of Representatives but maintains regional Governments should continue to press for more U.S. aid under the plan.

Compton, since coming to power here three months ago, has repeatedly called for an increase in the funds allocated to the Eastern Caribbean in the package.

Compton said he was enthusiastic over the House of Representatives 281-129 vote in favour of the plan this week. The proposals have already been endorsed by the U.S. Senate.

However, Compton called on Heads of Caribbean Governments to continue their lobby to see that the allocation to the region is increased, although he acknowledged that it had already been doubled over the (US) \$10 million (TT \$24 million) that had originally been earmarked for the English-speaking islands.

"I still feel the allocation for the Eastern Caribbean is inadequate and I think we have to continue our lobby to see that this is supplemented to at least (US) \$100 million (TT \$240 million) EC \$213.6 million.

Compton said he felt this was the sum that could make a dent on the needs of the Eastern Caribbean islands and put them in a position where they could take advantage of the trade and investment parts of the initiative.

Compton said that during the recent lobby by regional Governments and officials in Washington, he and other Caribbean leaders were convinced that the U.S. was sympathetic to the plight of the small Caribbean states.

"All the reports I have seen since indicate that they are accepting our position that the package would not mean much to us unless we can put our infrastructure in order so that it can be a good platform for our industrial development," Compton said.

CSO: 3025/458

BRIEFS

OBJECTION TO INDUSTRIES ALLOCATION--CASTRIES, St. Lucia, Friday (CANA)--St. Lucia's Trade Minister, George Mallet, has said that the island will not support a Caribbean Community (CARICOM) allocation of industries programme under which it has been given exclusive rights to engage in food processing. Mr. Mallet, said St. Lucia had made it clear that it was unhappy about its allocation. "We took a position that we were not party to the agreement when it was made, that we are dissatisfied with the allocation that we have, and will not support the programme as it is," Mr. Mallet said. According to Mr. Mallet, Trinidad and Tobago also objected to the manner in which industries would be allocated among CARICOM member countries under the programme. He said: "Trinidad and Tobago took the position that they did not think that the ministers had taken the right criteria into account in arriving at proposals for the programme and in allocating industries." [Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 21 Aug 82 p 3]

CSO: 3025/458

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