

TAB F  
30 October 1983

CHRONOLOGY OF CUBAN STATEMENTS AND ACTIONS IN GRENADA  
(7 to 30 October 1983)

- 7-8 October 1983 Prime Minister Bishop visits Cuba on his way home from East Europe. Castro hosts a reception for Bishop the evening of 7 October. According to Castro, Bishop did not mention internal frictions in his party in Grenada.
- 12 October Bishop is placed under house arrest late that evening.
- 14 October Radio Free Grenada announces that Bishop was under house arrest and that Coard has resigned.
- Havana instructs its Ambassador in Grenada to take no action before consulting with Havana, and not comment on ongoing situation.
- 15 October Castro sends a message to the Grenadian Central Committee explaining Cuba's position -- "totally abstaining from becoming involved in internal affairs of the party and country."
- 19 October In a demonstration by over 3,000 people led by Whiteman, Bishop is freed. Bishop, Whiteman, Creft, Bain, and two labor leaders are executed. Radio Free Grenada announces that a 16-member Revolutionary Military Council, headed by Army Commander General Hudson Austin has assumed control of the country.
- A Western diplomat in Havana receives the impression from high-level Cuban party and government officials that Havana is somewhat confused and chagrined over developments in Grenada
- 20 October Havana releases a declaration, under Castro's signature, condemning the killing of Bishop and his cabinet ministers, announcing three days of mourning in Cuba, warning that "our political relations with the new rulers of Grenada will have to be subjected to serious and profound analysis," and promising "whatever possible" in the way of assistance "if the Grenadian revolutionary process should survive."
- USSR statements released by Moscow were confined to reporting the facts, and lacked the emotional reaction of Cuba.

20 October  
(Continued)

Work stops on Point Salines Airport.

Cuban government states that Bishop did not request Cuban support during crisis, and leaves door open to cooperation with new government.

21 October

Havana queries its Embassy in Grenada about Coard's whereabouts.

22 October

The Revolutionary Military Council releases its first major policy statement and says that a civilian cabinet would be appointed within 10 to 14 days.

Cuban Foreign Ministry requests that contacts be established between Cuba and the United States so that measures to ensure the safety of Americans or Cubans in Grenada can be handled without violence or intervention.

Cuban media warns that the threat of US military intervention is dangerously taking shape.

23 October

Cuban documents indicate that soon after coup got underway Havana instructed its personnel to keep a low profile.

Cuban construction workers are notified they will return to work on Monday, 24 October.

24 October

Preliminary information on the new leadership shows that the top four -- Austin, James, Layne, and Cornwall -- are all strong leftists. James, Layne, and Cornwall, Grenada's Ambassador to Cuba, are described as extreme radicals.

Colonel Tortola arrives in Grenada to assume command of all Cuban personnel. Cuban documents show that four Lieutenant Colonels were also dispatched to Grenada.

Cuban construction workers are observed paving the western end of runway.

26 October

Castro announces there are over 700 Cubans in Grenada, including some 550 construction workers.

The Cuban Foreign Ministry informs its missions overseas that there are about 1,000 Cubans in Grenada including 650 construction workers, 62 technical personnel, and 20 people working in the mission.

Cuban Ministry of Interior informs Cubans in Grenada not to surrender until told to do so by Havana.

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29 October

US tactical aircraft reports citing a Cuban patrol craft near Prune Island north of Carriacou.

Cuban merchant training ship Jose Marti departs Cuba en route to Grenada with medical supplies.

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