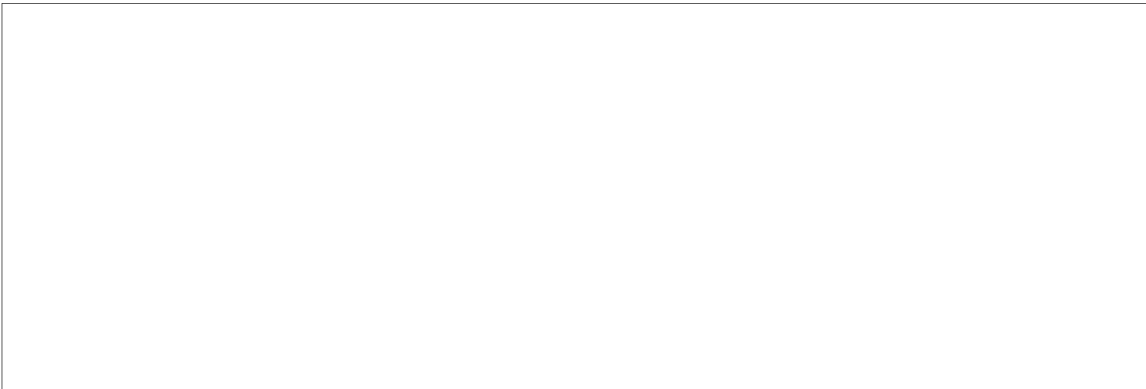


UNCLASSIFIED

OCA
INCOMINSTAT



PP RUEAIIB
ZNR UUUUU ZOC STATE ZZH
UTSO366
PP RUEHC
DE RUEHKG #3671 1031603
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
P 121603Z APR 88
FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2642
BT
UNCLAS KINGSTON 03671

OSC

E.O.: N/A
TAGS: PGOV PREL SNAR US JM
SUBJECT: DEP. PM SHEARER'S APRIL 8 STATEMENT
ON VOGEL TESTIMONY

THE TEXT OF DEP. PRIME MINISTER/FOREIGN MINISTER
SHEARER'S APR 8 STATEMENT ON THE APR 5
CONGRESSIONAL TESTIMONY BY CONVICTED NARCOTICS
TRAFFICKER MICHAEL VOGEL FOLLOWS BELOW. BEGIN TEXT:

A. A FEW DAYS AGO THE JAMAICAN AMBASSADOR TO THE
UNITED STATES BROUGHT TO OUR ATTENTION THE FACT
THAT, ON TUESDAY, 5TH APRIL, DURING THE COURSE OF
HEARINGS BEING CONDUCTED BY THE SENATE FOREIGN
RELATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON TERRORISM, NARCOTICS AND
INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS, A CONVICTED DRUG
TRAFFICKER INFORMED THE SUBCOMMITTEE OF HIS OWN
CONNECTIONS WITH DRUG DEALINGS IN JAMAICA AND WENT
ON TO MAKE STATEMENTS CLEARLY INTENDED TO IMPLICATE
THE PRIME MINISTER OF JAMAICA AND THE COMMISSIONER
OF POLICE AND TO TARNISH THE INTERNATIONAL IMAGE OF
JAMAICA. ALL OF THESE GRAVE ALLEGATIONS ARE
TOTALLY FALSE, AND THE GOVERNMENT OF JAMAICA IS
ALARMED AND DEEPLY CONCERNED THAT THE PANEL OF
SENATORS DID NOT SEEK TO PROBE FURTHER INTO THESE
ALLEGATIONS.

B. THE AMERICAN AMBASSADOR IN KINGSTON WAS CALLED
IN AND INFORMED THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF JAMAICA
TAKES THE STRONGEST POSSIBLE OBJECTION IN THIS
MATTER BECAUSE:

--THE TESTIMONY OF THIS CONVICTED FELON, WHICH WAS
PUBLICLY GIVEN, WAS ALLOWED TO STAND WITHOUT ANY
ATTEMPT TO PROBE FURTHER INTO THE ALLEGATIONS TO
ESTABLISH IF THESE STATEMENTS WERE ACCURATE OR
WHETHER THE INFORMANT WAS COMMITTING PERJURY.
--THE USIA ADVISORY ON THE MATTER, WHICH WAS
CLEARLY DESIGNATED FOR FOREIGN SERVICE CIRCULATION,
CONTAINED INACCURACIES BUT WAS NEVERTHELESS
DELIBERATELY RELEASED TO THE MEDIA IN KINGSTON.

C. IN VIEW OF THE GRAVE IMPLICATIONS FOR THE
ENTIRE COUNTRY AND FOR THE INDIVIDUALS MENTIONED IN
THE TESTIMONY, THE JAMAICAN AMBASSADOR IN
WASHINGTON YESTERDAY LODGED A FORMAL PROTEST IN

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

88 8544952 SUP

PAGE 002
TOR: 121733Z APR 88

NC 8544952
KINGST 03671

WASHINGTON WITH THE STATE DEPARTMENT.

D. THIS MORNING, MR. JOHN C. WHITEHEAD, ACTING SECRETARY OF STATE, IN A TELEPHONE CONVERSATION, INFORMED ME THAT THE STATE DEPARTMENT HAD ISSUED A STATEMENT IN WASHINGTON, IN WHICH HE SAID THAT THE TESTIMONY OF MICHAEL VOGEL, THE CONVICTED DRUG DEALER, ABOUT THE PRIME MINISTER AND UNNAMED JAMAICAN OFFICIALS, IS COMPLETELY UNSUBSTANTIATED AND THAT THESE ALLEGATIONS AGAINST THE PRIME MINISTER WERE BASED ON AN UNIDENTIFIED SOURCE IN THE CAYMAN ISLANDS AND ARE AT BEST COMPLETE HEARSAY.

E. ACTION IS PROCEEDING THROUGH THE APPROPRIATE CHANNELS WITH A VIEW TO TAKING STILL FURTHER STEPS, AS SPEEDILY AS POSSIBLE, TO THE FULL SATISFACTION OF JAMAICA AND OFFICIALS MENTIONED IN THE BLATANTLY FALSE TESTIMONY.

F. PRIME MINISTER SEAGA WILL BE ADDRESSING THE NATION ON THIS MATTER TONIGHT.

END TEXT OF DEP. PM SHEARER'S APR 8 STATEMENT.
SOTIRHOS
END OF MESSAGE

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED