



Intelligence Information Report

This material contains information affecting the National Defense of the United States within the meaning of the Espionage Laws, Title 18, U.S.C. Secs. 793 and 794, the transmission or revelation of which in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and declassification

NO FOREIGN DISSEM/CONTROLLED DISSEM/NO DISSEM ABROAD/
BACKGROUND USE ONLY

PAGE 1 OF 3 PAGES

THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE

S E C R E T

REPORT NO. CS DB-312/00496-71

DATE DISTR. 19 February 1971

COUNTRY West Indies

DOI October - December 1970

SUBJECT Black Power Activities in the
British Virgin Islands, Dominica,
Grenada, St. Kitts and St. Lucia

*J D Post
CF file*

ACQ England, London (11 January 1971)

FIELD NO. OEL-58,017

SOURCE

[Redacted Source]

The following information is for your background use only. It should not be discussed with any foreign nationals, including the British and Canadians.

British Virgin Islands

1. Although information received in October 1970 alleged that a new Black Power group known as "New World" existed in the U.S. Virgin Islands, and that one chapter had been formed in the British Virgin Islands, there has been no confirmation of the existence of the group in either territory. Black Power sympathizers undoubtedly exist in the British Virgin Islands, but there is no reliable evidence so far that they have organized themselves into a cohesive group to challenge the present administration.

Dominica

2. The Black Power movement of Dominica published the second issue of its magazine "Flambeau" on 21 November. It stressed the importance of moving out of the social, economic and cultural norm to achieve Black identity.

Comment: The popularity of "Flambeau" may be accounted for not so much by acceptance of its Black Power ideology, as by the fact that it offers a different approach to reporting

5
4
3
2
1
**S E C R E T/NO FOREIGN DISSEM/CONTROLLED DISSEM/NO DISSEM ABROAD/
BACKGROUND USE ONLY**
5
4
3
2
1

West Indies) Prime

(classification)		(dissem controls)					(For Field Distribution see final paragraph)	
STATE	DIA	ARMY	NAVY	AIR	NSA	CRS		
FBI								

CI/IC	1	E/R	1	WH/JMUNION				OEL-58,017	
CI/OP/WH	1	E/BC/R	3					NP	
CI/SO	3	E/	1					(JAGUAR)	
CA/INT	1	WH/R	1					CSDB-312/00496-71	
CA/PROP	1	WH/7/C/R	3					COORDINATING RELEASING	
TOTALS	IE 2, CI 7, FI 3, CA 2, EUR 4 (1), WH 4 (1), DO 1.						LIAISON	E/BC/R RR	in draft JB:SJM ne
						11			

10317

S E C R E T/NO FOREIGN DISSEM/CONTROLLED DISSEM/NO DISSEM ABROAD/
BACKGROUND USE ONLY

from the other Dominica newspapers.) Black Power and Cuban literature was received during November. (Headquarters Comment: CSDB-312/00410-71 reported on the types of Black Power literature received in Dominica.)

Grenada

3. Twenty-two nurses at the General Hospital in St. George's staged a protest demonstration on 7 November against conditions and the shortage of medical supplies. The Premier and the government reacted strongly to the allegations and suspended those who had protested. The opposition Grenada National Party and the Black Power organization, National Action Front (NAF), held meetings in support of the nurses. The nurses' dispute continued to escalate during December. [redacted] Comment: According to newspaper reports, on 15 December the police used tear gas to eject a number of nurses and supporters who had occupied the Ministry of Health, and 24 persons, including Morris B i s h o p of the NAF, were arrested and charged with assembling to commit riot.) A number of nurses were charged on 16 December with assaulting the matron and assistant matron of the hospital by imprisoning them in the matron's office. (Headquarters Comment: Morris Bishop may be identical with Maurice B i s h o p, reported in CSDB-312/00419-71 and/or Michael B i s h o p, reported in CSDB-312/02061-70.)

4. George W e e k e s, president-general of the Trinidad Oilfield Workers' Trade Union and recently released detainee, visited Grenada from 29 November to 3 December, and had discussions with Ian F r a n c i s and Bishop of the NAF, with the nurses involved in the dispute, and with Michael S y l v e s t e r. (Headquarters Comment: Sylvester is probably identical with the Michael Sylvester, a lawyer who is opposed to the government, reported in CSDB-312/01656-70.) Patrick E m m a n u e l, Grenadian lecturer at the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine campus, and detainee during the spring 1970 state of emergency in Trinidad, visited Grenada during November and had discussions with Francis and other Black Power advocates.

St. Kitts

5. Fitzroy B r y a n t, Minister of Education, Health, and Welfare, and Lee M o o r e, Public Relations Officer to the Premier, held an "Educational Forum" on "Youth and Its Aspirations" during October. Both are advocates of Black Power.

St. Lucia

6. The St. Lucia government introduced two unpopular bills into the House of Assembly during November; one was a proposed Retirement Allowance and Pensions Bill for government ministers and other legislators, and the other was a Teachers Service Commission Bill. The St. Lucia Forum vehemently attacked the provisions of the Retirement Allowance and Pensions Bill and organized two demonstrations against it. The bill was not given a second reading. The Teachers Service Commission Bill was the cause of strong protest by the Catholic Church authorities who staged a demonstration against it on 26 November. The opposition

5
4
3
2
1

S E C R E T/NO FOREIGN DISSEM/CONTROLLED DISSEM/NO DISSEM ABROAD/
BACKGROUND USE ONLY

SECRET

PAGE 3 OF 3 PAGES

CS DB-312/CG496-71

S E C R E T/NO FOREIGN DISSEM/CONTROLLED DISSEM/NO DISSEM ABROAD/
BACKGROUND USE ONLY

St. Lucia Labor Party jumped at the chance of criticizing the government and joined in the religious demonstration. On 27 November, 280 primary school teachers stated a counter-demonstration in favor of the bill. Forum managed to persuade both sides to have further discussions, and as a result, an amendment acceptable to both was made and the bill was passed on 27 November.

7. Field Dissem: None.

5
4
3
2

S E C R E T/NO FOREIGN DISSEM/CONTROLLED DISSEM/NO DISSEM ABROAD/
BACKGROUND USE ONLY

5
4
3
2