6 May 1977

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MEMORANDUM FOR: ☐ Acting National Intelligence Officer
for Latin America

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FROM : ☐ Analyst, OCR/ISG/WH/CA-NA

VIA : Director of Central Reference
Chief, Information Services Group, OCR
Chief, Western Hemisphere Division, OCR

SUBJECT : Interagency Intelligence Memorandum
Caribbean: Economic and Political Trends

1. I have read the recently disseminated Interagency
Intelligence Memorandum on the Caribbean, prepared by the
Office of Regional and Political Analysis and the Office of
Economic Research with contributions from the Departments
of State, Defense and Treasury. I found several items in
the memorandum that I believe are incorrect.

2. Following are the most significant inaccuracies:

a. On page 5, section B on the Netherlands
Antilles, the text states that "independence seems
inevitable in the not too distant future." Accord-
ing to the Country Analysis and Strategy Paper (CASP)
for the Netherlands Antilles, dated 3 August 1976,
independence is unlikely to occur before the early
1980's. This information should have been included
in the memorandum.

b. On page 7, mention should have been made
following paragraph 42 that there are some indications
that Cuba would be willing to assist Belize if that
country were attacked by Guatemala.

[handwritten marginal notes:] This is relative. In my view, "in the near future" ... talks within "not too distant future".

[handwritten marginal notes:] I have seen these indications, but do not believe Cuba will assist Belize — a view not shared by the intelligence community.

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c. On page 11, in paragraph 3, Belize does have a very serious unemployment problem that is ameliorated only by the fact that nearly 30,000 Belizeans--a number fully equal to the domestic labor force--are currently working in the United States. There are no prospects for reversing this trend and preventing Belize's better educated and more ambitious people from seeking long-term work overseas.

(handwritten margin note: Belize resolves its unemployment problem by having Belizeans go to work abroad)

d. The US Embassy Bridgetown's telegram #2537 of 22 December 1976 reports that Dominica will seek independence from Britain in November 1977. This information should have been included on page 11, in the section on Dominica.

(handwritten margin note: OK)

e. On page 12, the memorandum states that Guyanese Prime Minister Burnham "is moving the country toward 'socialism'..." It would have been more accurate to have used the term "cooperative socialism" in this context because it precisely describes Burnham's own brand of socialism. He himself usually employs the suggested terminology.

f. The Guyana National Service, mentioned on page 12 of the text, is not compulsory.

(handwritten margin note: When socialism is written it implies ... lower case ... communal ownership -- not a process toward ... communism but Burnham anyhow ... OK)

g. On page 13, the memorandum states that in September 1976 Trinidadian Prime Minister Williams was elected to another four-year term. The Trinidadian Prime Minister's term of office is, and always has been, five years.

3. I also noted the following minor errors:

a. Throughout the memorandum "The Bahamas" appears as "the Bahamas." The former is the official spelling.

(handwritten margin note: Actually The Commonwealth of The Bahamas)

b. The map of the Caribbean that appears opposite page 1 omits Bermuda, French Guiana and Surinam, all of which are dealt with in the text. Other islands, including St. Christopher-Nevis, Montserrat and Aruba, are drawn on the map but not labeled.

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See p. 367 top of 2nd column of Webster's New World Dictionary (2nd Edition)

c. On page 3, in paragraph 16, "decolonialization" should read "decolonization."

The Dreadlocks are sometimes known as the "Dreads" as the Dreads for short

d. On page 11, in the section on Dominica, "a group of unemployed youths" is referred to as the 'dreadlocks.' This group is generally known as the "Dreads," and their <u>hair</u> as "dreadlocks."

e. On page 12, "Grenadan" should read "Grenadian."

Technically correct

f. Also on page 12, Prime Minister Gairy's political party is the Grenada United Labor Party (GULP), not the United Labor Party.

4. I hope that this information will be helpful in the writing of future memoranda on the subject.

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