

[REDACTED]

august 02, 1990

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO: Hostage Situation Resolved

The hostage situation ended yesterday without further bloodshed as Abu Bakr and his rebel forces released the remaining hostages and surrendered. A security official has said the rebels would remain in custody and would be charged with rebellion. Although rebel leaders claimed some of their demands had been met, security officials insist the surrender was unconditional. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Deputy Prime Minister Dookeran will continue to run the government while Prime Minister Robinson convalesces. (S NF NC) [REDACTED]

Comment: Terms of the rebels' capitulation are unclear, but the government may have offered to charge the hostage takers with rebellion rather than treason, which carries the death penalty. Government leaders will be preoccupied over the near term in coping with pressing shortages of food and medical supplies and the need to rebuild the capital—estimates of the damage there range between \$40-50 million. Over the longer term, they will have to address the underlying causes of the popular resentment that sparked the widespread looting and lawlessness last weekend. (S NF) -CIA, [REDACTED]

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