

GRENADA: New Government

The new socialist regime in Grenada has effectively consolidated its control and is concentrating on gaining international recognition. Aside from general pronouncements meant to reassure to its neighbors, however, the evolving government of Maurice Bishop has yet to detail convincingly its future policies.

Other Caribbean states have delayed recognizing the New Jewel Movement's regime because the smaller islands fear the precedent for coups. Last week's meeting of the Caribbean Common Market was inconclusive; representatives of the smaller West Indies Associated States will meet today in another attempt to determine a common position. The left-leaning administrations of Jamaica and Guyana will probably extend recognition soon in any case.

Cuba has limited itself to cautious press treatment to avoid making the new regime appear too radical.

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Bishop and his Ambassador to the US have referred to elections within perhaps six months, continued adherence to Caribbean institutions such as the Common Market, and retention of the British-appointed governor general--who symbolizes Grenada's continued acceptance of the Queen as head of state. Otherwise, ill-defined New Jewel policy pronouncements from past years suggest a vague amalgam of plans grafted from the Tanzanian model.

[REDACTED] Bishop has made several statements that seem purposely misleading--for instance, that his movement was given arms by disaffected Grenadian security personnel.

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