

the Hon. Member for Waterloo (Mr. McLean). I think all Hon. Members of the House would want to endorse his suggestions that there should be a world security system, that we should look at political solutions to problems rather than at invasion, and certainly at the idea that Canada should take the lead in middle power initiatives to introduce some of these political solutions.

Basically the debate this evening must focus on the deplorable act of blatant aggression which is seen in the American invasion of Grenada. It is naked aggression and it has to be condemned as such. We are talking about a small nation, about 144 square miles. It is about the size of Salt Spring Island in my constituency; it is a little larger. It has approximately 110,000 people. It is about the size of many of our constituencies. It is up against one of the most powerful nations in the world. There is absolutely no justification whatsoever for the invasion, as speaker after speaker from our Party has said.

We have to emphasize that this invasion was not a spur of the moment event. It did not begin with the overthrow of Maurice Bishop earlier this month. It is something which was predetermined and falls in line with the whole tragic history of American involvement in Central America and the Caribbean basin. For example, we could go back to the 1954 invasion of Guatemala. The present genocidal practices, which are being perpetuated against the Indian people of Guatemala, can be laid directly at the feet of the United States Government when in 1954 it went in and deposed the proper Government of Guatemala at that time. That invasion has been succeeded by one dictatorship after another, brutal genocidal dictatorships. As Hon. Members of my Party have pointed out, none of these invasions have been followed by any kind of restoration of democracy.

Earlier we heard from the Hon. Member for New Westminster-Coquitlam (Miss Jewett) about, "War Games—Ocean Venture '81", an uncanny preview of the invasion of Grenada, a frightening preview of what in fact happened. An account of this was published last March. Some Members of the Conservative Party have raised the fact that the Grenadians and Cubans were well dug in. Is it any wonder, when this kind of war game had been played on their doorsteps, that they saw themselves targeted for an invasion? We can ask why. The reason is that some people in the United States were determined to keep the Caribbean as an American lake. Grenada disturbed that tranquil dream, that pastoral scene that the Caribbean was an American lake, in March 1979 when Maurice Bishop, in a bloodless coup, took power.

● (2400)

On April 10, 1979, the American Ambassador to the eastern Caribbean warned the new government of Grenada not to develop closer ties with Cuba. This has a disturbing echo of the words of a couple of weeks ago of Ambassador Robinson telling Canada not to let Russian jets land in Gander, Newfoundland. I thought the job of an Ambassador was to try and

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facilitate better communication rather than to dictate from one nation to another.

When the American ambassador told Grenada not to develop closer ties with Cuba, Maurice Bishop replied as follows:

From day one of the revolution we have always striven to have and develop the closest and friendliest relations with the United States, as well as Canada, Britain, and all our Caribbean neighbours . . . But no one must misunderstand our friendliness as an excuse for rudeness and meddling in our affairs . . . We are not in anybody's back yard and we are definitely not for sale. Anybody who thinks they can bully us or threaten us, clearly has no understanding, idea, or clue as to what material we are made of.

Obviously Mr. Bishop's statement was not acceptable to the United States.

In a speech that Mr. Bishop made in July 1981 welcoming members of the Socialist Internationals to Grenada, he detailed some of the American attempts to destabilize the Grenadian Government. First, he talked about propaganda destabilization. He pointed to an initiative that was taken to invite Caribbean journalists from all over the Caribbean, excluding Grenada, of course, to Washington for a conference. Shortly after the conference ended, there was another vicious round of anti-Grenadian editorials in Caribbean newspapers. Bishop then detailed the economic aggression that the United States has consistently used to try and isolate Grenada from its neighbours. For example, when the Windward Islands Banana Association, which had banana farmers from Dominica, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and Grenada, requested help after a hurricane, that help was promised on the condition that no Grenadian farmers would get any help. So-called humanitarian aid was being used for economic and political blackmail.

Bishop pointed to successful United States attempts to stop the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund from funding projects even after they had been approved by technical experts. He pointed to the offer from the United States of \$4 million as a grant to the Caribbean Development Bank for lesser developed countries on the condition that Grenada be excluded from any of that money. These kinds of economic pressures led Bishop to say in that speech, and I quote:

We certainly believe very strongly that the time has now come when we must move to elevate the question of propaganda destabilization, of economic aggression, of mercenary invasion or the threat of mercenary invasion, to the same level that world public opinion has already elevated the question of the direct landing of marines. The time has now come, in our view, when international public opinion must be so mobilized that not only when marines land in somebody else's territory, but also when there is evidence of a systematic and concerted plan of propaganda destabilization, of economic aggression or of political and industrial destabilization, or of mercenary threat, there must also be a great outcry.

I believe we have to learn to listen to what the late Maurice Bishop was trying to teach. There had to be a great outcry against all attempts to destabilize nations in the Caribbean and in Central America with which the United States does not agree. We should not have to wait until the marines land before we protest the American attempts to destabilize Nicaragua.

Yesterday our colleague from Saskatoon East (Mr. Ogle) spoke of the fears of the Nicaraguan people that CIA directed Contras could destroy crops which are now entering their most crucial phase in Nicaragua. Some of us heard Zabier Goros-