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THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

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Authority: EO 13526
Chief, Records & Declass Div, WHS
Date: SEP 28 2018

SECRETARY
JCSM-209-84
19 June 1984

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

Subject: US Military Presence in Grenada (U)

1. The US military is committed to support the Caribbean Peacekeeping Force (CPF) until Grenada develops a capability to maintain law and order. Though the UK and the eastern Caribbean island nations are contributing funds, facilities, and personnel to train a Grenadan police force, training is slow, and several years will be required to achieve the desired goal of 400 trained police at the current rate.

2. The Commander, US Forces Caribbean, has proposed a plan to expedite the police training process, a plan that is supported in the interagency arena. This plan is designed to provide Grenada with 300 trained police personnel (in addition to those already in training) by January 1985. A phased withdrawal of US forces could then commence, with completion by mid-1985. Grenadans already on police rolls and new recruits would be trained following an initial screening. The training would be in two 17-week cycles, with approximately 160 candidates per cycle. Of the total, about one-third would be selected for duty and training for the paramilitary Special Services Unit (SSU). The 17-week course would have three phases: 3 weeks of screening and physical training with background training; 6 weeks of basic police training; 8 weeks of SSU security force training for up to 100 candidates selected during the first two phases. US military personnel would conduct phases one and three; British and West Indian instructors would conduct phase two. We believe this would produce a basic cadre of well-trained, qualified personnel with which the Grenadan Government could assume responsibility for the maintenance of law and order with minimal outside support.

330-86-0047, b/c 445, Grenada

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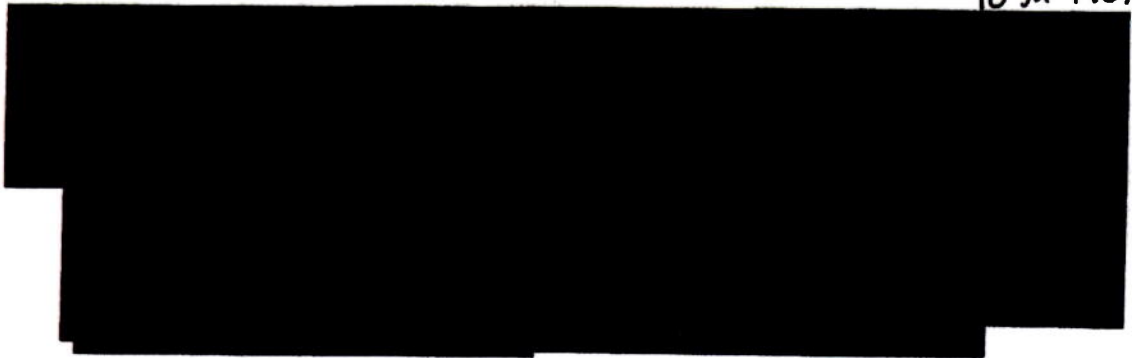
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3. Because of limitations imposed by Section 660 of the Foreign Assistance Act prohibiting US military assistance for foreign police forces, the Department of State plans to consult with appropriate congressional committees. Assuming congressional concurrence, consultations with the British, who have informally agreed to participate, would be conducted. Such a coordination process is time consuming, and we are concerned that the approaching congressional recess could delay the execution of what appears to be a viable approach for expediting the withdrawal of US forces from Grenada.

4. USCINCLANT has expressed alarm over reports by the Department of State and the US Embassy, Bridgetown, that severe financial constraints may force some of the national contingents of the CPF to withdraw from Grenada within the next few months unless additional support for their subsistence requirements can be found. We believe that any such drawdown could threaten the collective ability of the CPF and current US forces to maintain satisfactory security through the Grenadan elections currently scheduled for November 1984. Adequate US funding is urgently required to defray costs absorbed by the countries supporting the CPF so that they can continue to participate until common objectives are achieved.

5. We recommend that, in order to expedite the execution of the police training concept and the disbursement of support funds for the CPF, you discuss these matters with the Secretary of State at the earliest opportunity. Such actions will allow continued military planning for the phased withdrawal of US forces from Grenada.

For the Joint Chiefs of Staff:



JOHN W. VESSEY, JR.
Chairman
Joint Chiefs of Staff

Office of the Secretary of Defense 5 U.S.C. 552
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