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MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

80951

19

November 2, 1983

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ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR ROBERT C. MCFARLANE

RCM HAS SEEN

FROM: OLIVER L. NORTH  
CONSTANTINE MENGESE  
ROGER W. FONTAINE

SUBJECT: Call from Ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick

As indicated in this morning's Grenada SitRep, Jeane Kirkpatrick called early this morning to express her grave concern re the Commonwealth Office involvement in the process of establishing a new government in Grenada. Jeane has been in conversation with other OECS leaders (particularly Dominican PM Charles) who share her concerns. The cable at Tab A amplifies.

As events appear to be developing, HMG is asserting that Governor General Scoon has the sole authority for establishing an interim government. Through the Commonwealth Organization, the Brits want to dispatch Commonwealth Secretary General "Sonny" Ramphal to St. George's to "advise" Scoon on the process. The Commonwealth Organization is also stringently opposing a "hasty move" toward free elections, preferring instead that the interim body govern for the duration of the "crisis."

We share Jeane's concern. As indicated in her cable (Tab A), Ramphal is not to be trusted. He has known ties to Michael Manley of Jamaica, and Forbes Burnham of Guyana, and can be expected to lead Scoon astray.

Despite the affection Scoon has shown for his U.S. rescuers, he does not have a reputation for strong support of our goals/interests. He tends to accommodate those who are in a position of power/influence at the moment. His ability to "get along with" Bishop was noteworthy.

In short, if a new democratic government is not solidly established following an interim arrangement, we stand to lose what we have shed blood for and the people of Grenada could shortly find themselves with another Bishop at the helm.

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BY RW NARA DATE 11/15/10

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It should be noted that Jeane is very close to Thatcher's conservative "kitchen cabinet" and has re-established rapport with the Prime Minister. During Thatcher's recent trip to Washington, Jeane dined at her table and they were seen to get along warmly. Thatcher at one point is alleged to have said, "Ambassador Kirkpatrick and I have put the Falkland's behind us, that is as it should be since we are cut from the same cloth" (or words to that effect).

Given Jeane's close contact with Thatcher's conservative backers and Jeane's renewed relationship with Thatcher, we should urgently dispatch Jeane to London. She should be directed to meet very privately with the PM and carry a personal note from the President to Thatcher. We believe that the situation requires a very high-level personal and private messenger, who Thatcher will realize is the President's personal emissary.

Time is critical. By week's end, we could jeopardize politically what we have done so well militarily.

RECOMMENDATION

That you urge the President to dispatch Ambassador Kirkpatrick to London with a personal note from the President. (If he agrees, we will coordinate with State on the Presidential letter.)

Approve \_\_\_\_\_

Disapprove \_\_\_\_\_

*11/2 See Spultz is sending Dan to Europe for the safe purpose. Before receiving this memo I mentioned Ken's trip*

Attachment

Tab A - USMISSION USUN NEW YORK Cable 2033 of Nov 2, 1982

*to Jeane and she thought it a good idea. Perhaps we can ask Jeane to go later.*

*RCM*

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