

CONFIDENTIAL

1403

10 DOWNING STREET

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FILE TITLE:

Relations

SERIES

ST CHRISTOPHER
AND NEVIS

PART:

1

PART BEGINS:

April 1983

PART ENDS:

March 1984

CAB ONE:

PREM 19/2834

CONFIDENTIAL

PART

CLOSED

See 'Eastern Caribbean
States' series

PRIME MINISTER'S

PERSONAL MESSAGE

SERIAL No. 63/89

RESTRICTED

SUBJECT
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MDHOAN 8137

RESTRICTED

FM FCO

TO IMMEDIATE ST JOHN'S

TELNO 21

OF 300925Z MARCH 89

INFO PRIORITY BRIDGETOWN

1. PLEASE PASS THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER TO
DR KENNEDY SIMMONDS.
BEGINS. I SEND YOU MY CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR RE-ELECTION AND
RE-APPOINTMENT AS PRIME MINISTER OF ST CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS. I
LOOK FORWARD TO THE CONTINUING GOOD RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR
GOVERNMENTS, AND SEND YOU MY BEST WISHES FOR YOUR NEXT TERM OF
OFFICE. ENDS.

HOWE

YYYY

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PS/MRS CHALKER

PS/MR EGGAR

PS/PUS

MR FEARN

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PAGE 1
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10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

File
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PC

From the Private Secretary

23 March 1989

ST. CHRISTOPHER & NEVIS GENERAL ELECTION

Thank you for your letter of 23 March proposing that the Prime Minister should send a message of congratulations to Dr. Kennedy Simmonds following the General Election in St. Christopher & Nevis on 21 March. I am sure that the Prime Minister would be content for the message enclosed with your letter to be despatched.

BF/1

(C.D. POWELL)

R.N. Peirce, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

KK

02313



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

23 March 1989

Dear Charles

St Christopher & Nevis General Election

The People's Action Movement (PAM), the governing party since independence, won the general election held in St Christopher & Nevis on 21 March by holding all six of its seats in the eleven seat House of Representatives. The Government is likely to continue pursuing moderate pro-Western policies.

/ I enclose a draft message from the Prime Minister to Prime Minister Dr Kennedy Simmonds, who continues in office.

Yours ever
R N Peirce

(R N Peirce)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
PS/10 Downing Street

PH4ADC

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IMMEDIATE

ZCZC

RESTRICTED

FM FCO

TO IMMEDIATE ST JOHN'S

TELNO

OF MARCH 89

INFO PRIORITY BRIDGETOWN

1. Please pass the following message from the Prime Minister to Dr Kennedy Simmonds.

Begins. I send you my congratulations on your re-election and re-appointment as Prime Minister of St Christopher and Nevis. I look forward to the continuing good relations between our Governments, and send you my best wishes for your next term of office. Ends.

HOWE

YYYY

MAIN

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News Dept

Mr Fearn

PS/PUS

PS/

WIAD

P R HAGART

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IMMEDIATE

PS/Mr Eggar

PS

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GA
cc PC

10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

From the Private Secretary

21 August 1987

**NEW HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR EASTERN
CARIBBEAN STATES**

The Prime Minister has seen your letter of 17 August to Charles Powell. She is content with the proposal therein.

I am copying this letter to Sir William Heseltine.

(P. A. BEARPARK)

Miss Fiona Paterson,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

GA



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

17 August 1987

C D Powell Esq
PS/No 10 Downing Street

Prime Minister

Content?

*PS
18/8*

Dear Charles;

NEW HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR EASTERN CARIBBEAN STATES

We have been informed that the Government of St Christopher and Nevis, St Lucia and St Vincent and the Grenadines propose to appoint Mr Richard Gunn to be High Commissioner in the United Kingdom in succession to / Dr Claudius Thomas CMG, who died on 6 April. I enclose a curriculum vitae.

The Minister of State welcomes the appointment. Though Mr Gunn has no past diplomatic experience, he has considerable business experience.

As you are aware, it is not the practice between Commonwealth countries, of which Her Majesty is Queen to seek formal agrément to the appointment of a new High Commissioner. The Minister of State would be grateful, however, if the Prime Minister would agree to our informing the Government of St Christopher and Nevis, St Lucia and St Vincent and the Grenadines that the British Government will be glad to welcome Mr Gunn in London and look forward to working with him to foster the very warm and close ties existing between the United Kingdom and St Christopher and Nevis, St Lucia and St Vincent and the Grenadines.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Sir William Heseltine at Buckingham Palace.

Yours sincerely,

Fiona Paterson

Fiona Paterson (Miss)
Assistant Private Secretary
to Mrs Lynda Chalker

CURRICULUM VITAE OF HIGH COMMISSIONER DESIGNATE

NAME: Richard GUNN
AGE: 51 years
PLACE OF BIRTH: St Vincent and the Grenadines

1987	Secretary General	- European/Caribbean Contacts II
1986	Chairman	- National Shipping Company St Vincent and the Grenadines
1986	Chairman	- National Broadcasting Corporation St Vincent and the Grenadines
1985	Director	- Caribbean Association of Industry and Commerce
1985 - 1986	President	- St Vincent Chamber of Industry and Commerce
1974	Chairman and Managing Director of Property Investments Ltd	
1969 - 1974	Marketing Director	- Hazells Ltd
1960 - 1969	Various Departmental Head	- Hazells Ltd St Vincent and the Grenadines
1968	Appointed Senator	- Jaycees International
1966 - 1967	Vice President	- West Indies Jaycees
1961 - 1962	President	- St Vincent Jaycees
1959 - 1960	Diploma Course	- Business Administration Regent Street Polytechnic - London
1958 - 1959	Attached to Town Planning Department London County Council	
1955 - 1958	Diploma Course in Architecture Southern College of Architecture, Portsmouth, England.	





VSC

SUBJECT CC MASTER
OPS

cc: FCO

10 DOWNING STREET

LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

18 May 1987

Dear Prime Minister,

PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE

Thank you for your letter of 24 April about reallocating to St. Kitts and Nevis some of Kenya's 5,000 tonne shortfall in sugar deliveries to the European Community.

SERIAL No. T95/87

As I am sure you know, under the terms of the Sugar Protocol of the Lomé Convention it is the Commission which is responsible for deciding whether (and if so, how) to reallocate shortfalls, in consultation with the ACP states concerned. I understand that the Commission have already initiated this consultation process.

I fully understand the importance of the issue for you, and I shall ensure that the Commission are fully aware of it. But I think it would be wise for you also to be in direct touch with the Commission, as well as with the other ACP states.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely

Rang and Shalita

The Rt. Hon. Dr. Kennedy A. Simmonds, M.P.

skw



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

15 May 1987

Dear Charles,

St Kitts and Nevis: Sugar Allocation Under the
Lomé Convention

/ I enclose a letter to the Prime Minister from the Prime Minister of St Kitts and Nevis, Dr Kennedy Simmonds. The letter, though dated 24 April, was delivered to the High Commission in Bridgetown only on 5 May, and reached the FCO on 8 May.

The purpose of Dr Simmonds' letter is to lobby for the UK's support in reallocating to St Kitts and Nevis 3,500 tonnes of Kenya's shortfall of 5,000 tonnes of sugar supplied to the EC under the terms of the Sugar Protocol (No 7) to the third Lomé Convention. Kenya failed to deliver any of her quota of 5,000 tonnes in 1985/86.

Under the terms of the Sugar Protocol, if an ACP state fails to deliver any part of its quota, this shortfall is deducted from that state's quota and becomes available for permanent reallocation to other signatories of the Protocol. The European Commission has discretion in deciding whether and how to reallocate shortfalls, although it has to consult the ACP states concerned.

The ACP are likely to propose a reallocation in accordance with their own previously agreed formula whereby half the quantity is shared equally among the ACP states concerned and half shared pro rata to present quotas. St Kitts present quota is 15,394 tonnes, so they would expect to receive only about 225 tonnes if the Commission accept the ACP proposal, far short of the 3,500 tonnes which Dr Simmonds is seeking.

/The

RESTRICTED



The difficulties being experienced by the St Kitts sugar industry which Dr Simmonds describes are real enough. Sugar represents 50% of St Kitts and Nevis' export earnings, 15% of their GDP, and, in the case of the island of St Christopher, takes up 90% of available arable land. However other sugar producers also have difficulties. Several of them are also members of the Commonwealth, including Barbados, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, Guyana and Belize in the Caribbean region. Any reallocation along the lines proposed by Dr Simmonds would only be at their expense. Support for St Kitts' bid would therefore run the risk of antagonising these other states.

MAFF have already suggested to the Commission that priority should be given to those ACP states committed to sell raw sugar for refining as the diversion of ACP sugar to direct consumption markets has meant that refiners, notably Tate and Lyle, have had some difficulty in obtaining a sufficient supply. The request made by St. Kitts is in line with such a policy, but the Commission will need to have ACP support if they are to decide in St Kitts' favour.

We therefore recommend that the Prime Minister should assure Dr Simmonds that we shall point out to the Commission the importance of this issue for St Kitts, but should not undertake to argue for any particular level of quota increase.

/ I enclose a draft reply to Dr Simmonds.

Yours ever,
L. Parker

(L Parker)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
10 Downing Street

RESTRICTED

DSR 11 (Revised Sept 85)	DRAFT: minute/letter/teleletter/despatch/note		TYPE: Draft/Final 1 +
	FROM:		Reference
	DEPARTMENT Prime Minister	TEL. NO:	Your Reference
	BUILDING:	ROOM NO:	
SECURITY CLASSIFICATION	TO:		Copies to:
Top Secret	<i>Dr Kennedy A Simmonds, MP</i> Prime Minister, <i>Christopher</i> St Kitts and Nevis SUBJECT:		<i>SECRET</i>
Secret			
Confidential			
Restricted			
Unclassified			
PRIVACY MARKING			
..... In Confidence			
CAVEAT	Thank you for your letter of 24 April about reallocating to St Kitts and Nevis some of Kenya's 5,000 tonne shortfall in sugar deliveries to the European Community. As I am sure you know, under the terms of the Sugar Protocol of the Lomé Convention it is the Commission which is responsible for deciding whether (and if so, how) to reallocate shortfalls, in consultation with the ACP states concerned. I understand that the Commission have already initiated this consultation process. I fully understand the importance of the issue for you, and I shall ensure that the Commission are fully aware of it. But I think it would be wise for you also to be in direct touch with the Commission, as well as with the other ACP states. <i>With best wishes</i> SW1AAR(1)		
Enclosures flag(s)			



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SUBJECT
CC MASTER
OPS

PRIME MINISTER
ST. KITTS AND NEVIS

Ref. No. PM/S21/2.....

GOVERNMENT HEADQUARTERS,

P. O. BOX 186,

ST. KITTS, W. I.

24th April, 1987.

VERY URGENT

The Right Honourable
Mrs. Margaret Thatcher,
Prime Minister,
No. 10 Downing Street,
London,
ENGLAND.

PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL NO. T73B/87

Dear Prime Minister,

I write to you on a matter of great urgency and importance to the Government and people of St. Kitts and Nevis.

As is very well known the sugar industry worldwide is experiencing its worst downturn in recent history. My own country, St. Kitts and Nevis, which is a sugar producing nation and which still depends to a large extent on revenues accruing from this industry, is facing grave difficulties as a result of the low world market price.

We are of course in the process of restructuring our economy, but this takes time for the full effects of our measures to be felt.

Prior to 1984 our annual sugar quota to the United States of America was 16,000 tons. However, two successive quota reductions have significantly reduced our quota to a mere 7,500 tons, thus leaving us with a production excess over quota of some 9,000 tons.

It has been brought to my attention that Kenya, one of the ACP countries supplying sugar to the EEC has not delivered sugar to the EEC since 1984, and furthermore has neither attempted counterpart deliveries nor declared force majeure. Realizing that consideration is now been given to removing Kenya's quota which presently stands at 5,000 tons, I am seeking

/2.....



**PRIME MINISTER
ST. KITTS AND NEVIS**

GOVERNMENT HEADQUARTERS,

P. O. BOX 186,

ST. KITTS, W. I.

Ref. NoPM/S21/2....

The Right Honourable
Mrs. Margaret Thatcher,
Prime Minister,
London, England.

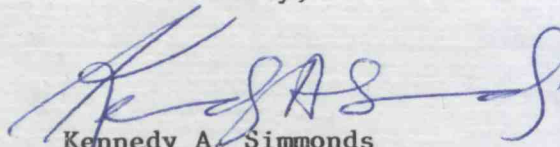
- 2 -

24th April, 1987.

to have 3,500 tons of Kenya's shortfall allocated to St. Kitts and Nevis. I am therefore asking for your support and assistance in helping us in St. Kitts and Nevis to be awarded this reallocation of a part of Kenya's quota.

Your kind assistance in helping the Government of St. Kitts and Nevis to acquire this quota would be deeply appreciated.

Yours truly,



Kennedy A. Simmonds
Prime Minister.



Subject
cc OPS
MASTER.



File RM
ccs Foo

10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

11 September, 1984

PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T158/84

Dear Prime Minister,

Many congratulations on the occasion of the first anniversary of the independence of Saint Christopher and Nevis. I send you my sincere greetings and warm wishes for the continued prosperity and happiness of your country and its people, and look forward to continuing the close and friendly relations which exist between our two countries.

Yours sincerely
Rajiv Gandhi

The Honourable Dr. K.A. Simmonds, M.P.

SA



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

10 September, 1984

Dear Charles,

Saint Christopher and Nevis: First Anniversary of Independence

It is customary for the Prime Minister to send on the first anniversary of a Commonwealth country's independence a message to that country's Prime Minister.

Saint Christopher and Nevis (also known as St Kitts and Nevis) will be celebrating its first anniversary of independence on 19 September and we therefore recommend that the Prime Minister should send a message of congratulations to Dr Kennedy Simmonds, Prime Minister of St Christopher and Nevis.

Mr Donald Thompson MP, Assistant Government Whip, will be visiting Saint Christopher and Nevis to attend the anniversary celebrations, and our High Commissioner in Bridgetown has suggested that he be asked to deliver a letter of congratulations from the Prime Minister. This seems a good idea. I enclose a draft. Mr Thompson is also visiting St Vincent, British Virgin Islands and Honduras and leaves for the Caribbean on Saturday 15 September.

Yours,
Peter Ricketts

(P F Ricketts)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
10 Downing Street

DRAFT: minute/letter/teleletter/despach/note

TYPE: Draft/Final 1+

FROM

Reference

The Prime Minister

DEPARTMENT:

TEL. NO:

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

TO:

Your Reference

Top Secret
Secret
Confidential
Restricted
Unclassified

The Honourable Dr K A Simmonds MP
Prime Minister of Saint Christopher and
Nevis

Copies to:

PRIVACY MARKING

SUBJECT:

.....In Confidence

CAVEAT.....

Many congratulations on the occasion of the first anniversary of the independence of Saint Christopher and Nevis. I send you my sincere greetings and warm wishes for the continued prosperity and happiness of your country and its people, ^{and} ~~we~~ look forward to continuing the close and friendly relations which exist between our two countries.

C.D.P.

Enclosures—flag(s).....



PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. 136 AA/84.

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

26 July 1984

Prime Minister

C D P
26/7

Dear Charles,

St Christopher and Nevis General Election

Dr Kennedy Simmonds, the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of St Christopher and Nevis has asked us to pass the following message to the Prime Minister:

'I wish to express our appreciation of your kind wishes extended on the occasion of the re-election of my Government. We share with you the firm conviction that the spirit of co-operation which has characterised relations with our countries will grow even stronger in the coming years.'

Dr Simmonds' message is in reply to a message of congratulations from the Prime Minister to him on his return to office following the general election in June. Your letter of 28 June refers.

Yours ever,

Colin Budd

(C R Budd)
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq
10 Downing Street

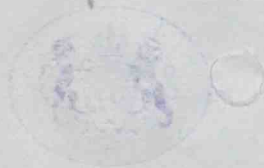
ST Christopher & Nevis

APR 23

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

ST. CHRISTOPHER & NEVIS

Relating



20 JUL 1984



Cameron,



With the compliments of

THE PRIVATE SECRETARY

as requested (B.F. of 9/7)

10/7 Harvey

FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE
SW1A 2AH

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See 16

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FM FCO 291130Z JUN 84

TO IMMEDIATE ANTIGUA

TELEGRAM NUMBER 20 OF 29 JUNE 1984

AND TO IMMEDIATE BRIDGETOWN

PLEASE PASS THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO DR SIMMONDS FROM
THE PRIME MINISTER.

BEGINS:

WARM CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR RE-APPOINTMENT AS PRIME
MINISTER OF ST KITTS AND NEVIS. I LOOK FORWARD TO THE
CONTINUATION OF THE CLOSE AND FRIENDLY RELATIONS WHICH
HAVE EXISTED BETWEEN OUR GOVERNMENTS. I SEND YOU MY
BEST WISHES AS YOU ENTER ANOTHER TERM OF OFFICE.
ENDS.

HOWE

NNNN

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PS/LADY YOUNG

SIR W HARDING

MR DAVID THOMAS

HWP 030/1	
RECEIVED BY MINISTRY	
02 JUL 1984	
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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

28 June 1984

St Christopher and Nevis General Election

The Prime Minister has approved the message of congratulations to the Prime Minister of St Christopher and Nevis on his return to office following the recent general election.

I shall be grateful if you would arrange for its despatch.

(C.D. POWELL)

P.F. Ricketts, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

N/R



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

26 June 1984

Prime Minister

Agree message?

Yes

CDP

27/6.

Dear David,

St Christopher and Nevis General Election

The coalition government which led St Christopher and Nevis to independence last September has been returned to office in a general election held on 21 June. It is normal Commonwealth practice for the Prime Minister to send a message of congratulations. I accordingly enclose, for the Prime Minister's consideration, a draft message cast in the form of a telegram to the British High Commission Representative in Antigua for onward transmission to Dr Kennedy Simmonds, Prime Minister of St Christopher and Nevis.

Yr ever,

Peter Ricketts

(P F Ricketts)
Private Secretary

David Barclay Esq
10 Downing Street

File No.

OUTWARD

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Drafted by

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Security Classification

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(Restrictive Prefix).....

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(Caveat/
Privacy marking).....

(Codeword).....

(Deskby).....Z

TO IMMEDIATE ANTIGUA
(precedence) (post) Tel. No.of.....

AND TO (precedence/post) IMMEDIATE BRIDGETOWN

AND TO SAVING.....

INFO.....

INFO SAVING.....

Distribution:—

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PS

Sir W Harding

Mr David Thomas

PS/Lady Young

Copies to:—

[TEXT]

Please pass the following message from the Prime
Minister to Dr Simmonds.

BEGINS

Warm congratulations on your re-appointment as
Prime Minister of St Kitts and Nevis. I look
forward to the continuation of the close and
friendly relations which have existed between our
Governments. I send you my best wishes as you
enter another term of office.

ENDS

C.D. 28/6.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

31 January 1984

Dear John,

A.J.C. 2/1

h-a.

High Commissioner for St Christopher and Nevis

Your letter of 11 January records the points raised by Dr Thomas with the Prime Minister when he presented his letter of introduction as High Commissioner for St Christopher and Nevis. You asked to be kept informed about the reply sent to his enquiry whether Britain could do anything to compensate St Kitts-Nevis for reduction in earnings from sugar caused by the fall in the pound. I have replied on Sir Geoffrey's behalf explaining the situation under the Lome sugar protocol, and confirming that British aid funds cannot be used for this purpose; I enclose a copy.

Yours ever,

Peter Ricketts

(P F Ricketts)
Private Secretary

A J Coles Esq
10 Downing Street



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

31 January 1984

Dear High Commissioner,

When you called on the Prime Minister on 11 January to present your letter of introduction as High Commission for St Christopher and Nevis, you raised the problem of the fall in the value of the pound relative to the United States dollar and the consequent reduction in earnings by St Kitts from sugar exports. You passed on Dr Simmonds' enquiry whether Britain could do anything to compensate St Kitts for the loss. The Prime Minister asked the Foreign and Commonwealth Office to look into the problem; Sir Geoffrey Howe has asked me to let you have this reply.

The problem clearly arises primarily from the strength of the dollar. As you will know, the guaranteed price for sugar applied under the sugar protocol to the Lome Convention is expressed in European Currency Units (ECUs). Changes in the value of sterling relative to the ECU are offset by the system of Monetary Compensatory Amounts (MCAs) which apply to all the main commodities covered by the Common Agricultural Policy.

MCAs do not, however, offset fluctuations in the value of the ECU relative to the dollar, and I take it that it is the effect of the recent appreciation of the dollar against the ECU which has given rise to your concern. I am afraid, however, that there is no mechanism in the sugar protocol which could offset this. Nor, indeed, is there any certainty that such a mechanism would work to your advantage overall, because periods when the dollar has appreciated relative to the ECU will have been balanced by periods when it has weakened.

You also raised the question of using British bilateral aid to help with the problem. As you know, British aid to St Kitts and Nevis is based on the independence settlement which is for development projects to be agreed between us. It would be inappropriate for us to consider meeting losses caused by fluctuations in exchange rates from these funds.

/Sir Geoffrey



Sir Geoffrey was interested to hear of your discussions with the Prime Minister, and looks forward to keeping in touch with you on these and other matters in the future.

*Yours sincerely,
Peter Ricketts*

(P F Ricketts)
Private Secretary

HE Dr Claudius Thomas CMG
High Commissioner for St Christopher
and Nevis

ST. CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS : Relations ; April 83



31 JAN 1984

SUBJECT
C. MASTERSET.

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

11 January 1984

See log.

High Commissioner of St. Christopher and Nevis

The High Commissioner for St. Christopher and Nevis called on the Prime Minister this morning to present a letter of introduction. A copy of the letter is enclosed.

Following a general discussion of the situation in the Caribbean post Grenada, Dr. Thomas said that the Prime Minister of St. Christopher and Nevis had asked him to raise with the Prime Minister the problem of the fall in value of the pound and the consequent reduction in St. Kitts' earnings from sugar exports. Dr. Thomas talked of a loss of \$13 million but did not specify the period over which this loss had been or would be incurred. His Prime Minister hoped that Britain would do something to compensate St. Kitts for its loss of earnings. The Prime Minister said that the problem arose from the strength of the dollar. She herself would prefer the pound to rise in value. In response to Dr. Thomas' request that we should investigate the possibility of aid to St. Kitts to alleviate this problem, the Prime Minister undertook to look into not the possibility of aid but the problem itself. She had to be very circumspect because if we helped one state, all the other sugar producing states would seek assistance as well. Her impression was that the Lomé sugar protocol provided scope for European Community assistance in these cases. Dr. Thomas then raised the possibility of the normal aid programme for St. Kitts being speeded up and perhaps "decorated" so as to help with the problem he had described.

BF | It will be necessary to let Dr. Thomas have a response to his enquiry in due course. I suggest that the Foreign and Commonwealth Office arrange for this to be done - but it would be helpful if you could keep me informed.

Dr. Thomas then raised what he described as a "personal thought". How would the Prime Minister react if some Caribbean states made it plain at the United Nations that, so far as East/West questions were concerned, they were neutral? He had in mind something like the status of Finland. Of course, the Caribbean states concerned would be with the West in spirit but they would decline to be drawn into matters of East/West debate. For example, a Soviet official had

/ recently

recently called on him to discuss certain peace moves. Neutrality would mean that involvement in such issues was avoided.

The Prime Minister said that her first reaction to this idea was that the United States would be very hostile to it. The Americans had very serious problems in Central America and, having helped to restore democracy in Grenada, would be very upset if the Caribbean now moved in the direction of neutrality. She advised Dr. Thomas not to pursue the idea. Doubtless, the Soviet Union would support it if it were ever promoted by the United Nations. (I asked Dr. Thomas, after his discussion with the Prime Minister, whether the suggestion he had put forward was genuinely personal. He said that it was and that it followed some long discussions which he had had with the French who rather favoured the idea; he intended to put it to his own political masters).

Finally, Dr. Thomas drew attention to the Cuban tactic of cultivating opposition parties in the Caribbean. Libya had recently followed suit. Qadhafi put aside \$1 million for the Caribbean last year. He had given \$40,000 to the opposition in St. Lucia and St. Lucians had been sent to Libya for training. When Mr. Compton had discovered this he had withdrawn their passports and engineered their return to St. Lucia. The moral of all this was that the West should pay more attention to the area and not lose sight of the need to cultivate opposition parties.

John Doe

John Doe.

Roger Bone, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

6 January, 1984

For mailing folder.

Dear John,

*A.J.C. 2
/1.*

/ I enclose a biographical note on Dr Claudius Thomas
CMG, the newly accredited High Commissioner for Saint Christopher
and Nevis, who will be calling on the Prime Minister on Wednesday
/ 11 January to present to her a letter of Introduction from the
Prime Minister of Saint Christopher and Nevis. Also enclosed
is a short background brief on Saint Christopher and Nevis which
covers our bilateral relations.

Yours ever

R B Bone

RB (R B Bone)
Private Secretary

A J Coles Esq
10 Downing Street



PERSONALITY NOTE

DR CLAUDIUS THOMAS CMG, HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR ST CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS

Dr Thomas was born in St Lucia in 1926. He is unmarried.

He was educated as a lawyer, gaining his first degree from London University in 1956. He was called to the Bar (Gray's Inn) one year later. In 1960 he gained a Doctor of Laws Degree from Strasbourg University, where he undertook research in French Administrative Law, French Colonial Law and International Law.

All his working experience has been in Europe. From 1961 to 1962 he served in London in the West Indies Commission, which was dissolved in 1962 following the failure of the West Indies Federation. He then joined the EC in Brussels as a legal translator and while there he was also briefly attached to the International Institute of Administrative Sciences. In 1963 he went to the Free University of West Berlin, where he rose to become Associate Professor of International and Comparative Law in 1972. Since 1975 he has held the office of Commissioner for the Eastern Caribbean, representing the West Indies Associated States and, as an historical anomaly, Montserrat in London. When St Lucia and St Vincent and the Grenadines became independent in 1979 and Antigua and Barbados in 1981, he was appointed the first High Commissioner in London for those three countries. He will continue to hold these offices in addition to his appointment as High Commissioner for Saint Christopher and Nevis and where he represents more than one of these States at a time he will describe himself as High Commissioner for Eastern Caribbean States.

/Dr Thomas



Dr Thomas is accredited also to the EC and other international organisations, and is non-resident Ambassador to a number of European countries. Dr Thomas is currently looking after the interests of Grenada in the United Kingdom, pending the appointment of a new High Commissioner, Mr Oswald Gibbs, arrangements for which are in hand.

Dr Thomas is a member of the Royal Institute of International Affairs (London) and the British Institute of International and Comparative Law. He has published a number of works on legal matters and on West Indian affairs. He speaks French and German fluently.

He was awarded the CMG in the 1979 Birthday Honours.

SAINT CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS : GENERAL BRIEF

Introduction

1. Saint Christopher and Nevis, also known as Saint Kitts and Nevis, is situated in the Leeward Islands of the Eastern Caribbean. Saint Christopher and Nevis became an independent State of the Realm on 19 September 1983, the last of the six former West Indies Associated States to do so. At the independence celebrations The Queen was represented by HRH Princess Margaret, and the Rt Hon Timothy Raison MP represented the British Government. The new state has a population of about 45,000. The capital is Basseterre on Saint Christopher with a population of some 15,000. The only township on Nevis is Charlestown with about 1,200 people.

Political Internal

2. The major political parties are the Peoples Action Movement (PAM) led by the Prime Minister Dr Kennedy Simmonds, the Nevis Reformation Party (NRP) and the Labour Party. Following an election in 1980 the PAM and the NRP formed a coalition, ousting the Labour Party which had held power for nearly 30 years.

3. The constitution is unusual in that it contains provision for the separation of Nevis. Such action would however require the support of two thirds of the members of the Nevis Assembly, and approval in a referendum by a two thirds majority.



4. Saint Christopher, Nevis and Anguilla became an Associated State in 1967. Anguilla separated and returned to Dependency status in 1976. Formal separation was effected in 1980.

Political External

5. Saint Christopher and Nevis has joined the Commonwealth, as a full member, and the United Nations. It is also a member of CARICOM, the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States and the Caribbean Development Bank. The present Government is expected to continue its generally pro-Western non-aligned policies.

Relations with the United Kingdom

6. There are no significant problems; British aid disbursements have averaged about £800,000 per annum over the past two years and are expected to continue at the same level. There is a capital aid commitment (the Independence Settlement) of £10 million, half of which will be grant and half soft loan.

Economy

7. Sugar cane is grown on about 90 per cent of the arable land on Saint Christopher. The main crop on Nevis is sea-island cotton. Priority is being given to agricultural diversification but the economy remains largely dependent on the sugar industry (20 per cent of Gross Domestic Product

/and



and over 60 per cent of exports). The sugar industry also remains a major source of employment although light manufacturing industries and tourism have increased in recent years.

Grenada

8. Saint Christopher and Nevis supported, with other members of the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States, the United States led intervention in Grenada. A contingent of 14 officers and men from the Royal Saint Christopher and Nevis Police Force was assigned to the Caribbean Peacekeeping Force.

St. Christopher
+ Nevis.
UK Regd. Mail 83



Tuesday 20 December 1983

(Answered by the Prime Minister on Wednesday 21 December 1983)

UNSTARRED Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark:

NO. 179 To ask the Prime Minister, whether it is proposed that a gift should be presented to the Government of St Christopher and Nevis to mark the attainment of independence on 19 September 1983.

The House will, I feel sure, wish to send congratulations to St Christopher and Nevis on their independence, along with best wishes for the happiness and prosperity of the people of that country. Her Majesty's Government propose to offer a suitable gift to mark the occasion.

MRS. PLATMAN

Please see the attached correspondence with the Foreign Office about an independence gift for St. Christopher and Nevis, and an associated Written Answer by the Prime Minister. I should be very grateful if you could coordinate the tabling of the PQ, which the Prime Minister has approved, with Mr. John Sweetman of the Overseas Office at the House of Commons. As I understand it, we do not have to wait for the gifts to be selected before the Questions can be answered, but no doubt Mr. Sweetman will be aware of the precedents.

Dmb

30 November, 1983.

Bill McKay
219.3270



cc HMT
DOE
PCO
CO
W Beaumont, H/C
Clerk to the House

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

30 November 1983

Independence Gift to St. Christopher and Nevis

Thank you for your letter of 25 November to John Coles, which the Prime Minister saw on her return from India.

The Prime Minister agrees that a gift should be presented from the British Government to mark the independence of St. Christopher and Nevis. She has approved the draft Question and Answer attached to your letter, and we will arrange for the Question to be tabled in due course in consultation with Mr. Sweetman.

The Prime Minister would be grateful if Sir Robert Cook could be associated with the choice of gift - she has commented that the proposed provision of £7,000 may be too little for a good one.

I am sending copies of this letter to the recipients of yours.

MR. D. BARCLAY

P.F. Ricketts, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

Prime Minister

25 November 1983

Agree to a gift costing up
to £7000, and to the attached
draft answer in due course?

Dear

John,

Dms
25/11

I hope Robin Cook
or Mr. H. will
oversee what to do
I remember having
to present a grant
speaking later
to the house

Independence Gift to St Christopher and Nevis

As you know, St Christopher and Nevis attained independence on 19 September with full membership of the Commonwealth. It is customary for these occasions to be marked by the presentation of a gift from the British Government.

The Treasury has approved expenditure of up to £7,000 for a gift. The choice of gift will be made in consultation with the St Christopher and Nevis Government.

We should be grateful if you would seek the Prime Minister's approval for the proposed presentation. Once this has been given, it is customary for an announcement to be made by means of an arranged Parliamentary Question for written reply by the Prime Minister. It is sometimes tabled by the Leader of the Opposition personally. I enclose a suggested draft question and answer, together with a background note. Assuming the proposal is approved, we should be grateful if you could arrange for the PQ to be tabled as soon as possible.

As is customary, the House of Commons will, separately, present a gift of a Parliamentary nature to the House of Representatives of St Christopher and Nevis. The House will itself make the necessary arrangements, but would like to announce the gift by means of an arranged Parliamentary Question at a similar time.

I should be grateful if you would co-ordinate the tabling of the PQs with John Sweetman of the Overseas Office, House of Commons.

/...

A J Coles Esq
10 Downing Street

Donna (Under)
£10,000 in
too little for
a good
gift
ms.



I am sending copies of this letter without enclosures to Miss M O'Mara (Treasury), David Edmonds (Department of the Environment), David Hayhoe (Privy Council Office), Richard Hatfield (Cabinet Office) and to Sir Charles Gordon and W A Beaumont, House of Commons.

Yours ever,

Peter Ricketts

(P F Ricketts)
Private Secretary

WRITTEN PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION AND ANSWER

1. To ask the Prime Minister whether it is proposed that a gift should be presented to the Government of St Christopher and Nevis to mark the attainment of independence on 19 September 1983.

THE PRIME MINISTER

The House will, I feel sure, wish to send congratulations to St Christopher and Nevis on their independence, along with best wishes for the happiness and prosperity of the people of that country. Her Majesty's Government propose to offer a suitable gift to mark the occasion.

ms

BACKGROUND NOTE

INDEPENDENCE GIFT TO ST CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS

1. It is the practice of the British Government and of the House of Commons to present gifts to Governments and Legislatures respectively on independence, provided the countries concerned are becoming members of the Commonwealth.
2. It is to be hoped that the Prime Minister will approve the presentation of such gifts to St Christopher and Nevis. If approval is given the St Christopher and Nevis authorities will be consulted about the form that the Government gift might take.
3. The Treasury have sanctioned expenditure of up to £7,000 on the Government gift for St Christopher and Nevis. The House of Commons will make the arrangements for their gift.
4. The announcement about the Government gift, in the form of a written Answer to a Parliamentary Question, should be made as soon as possible.



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

21 November 1983

His Excellency
Dr Claudius C Thomas CMG
High Commissioner for
St Christopher and Nevis
10 Kensington Court
London W8 5DL

My dear Claudius,

I am writing, in confirmation of our telephone conversation, to say that the Prime Minister will be happy to receive you at 9.30 am on Wednesday 11 January 1984 at No 10 Downing Street in order that you can present to her the letter of introduction from your Prime Minister, the Hon Kennedy A Simmonds.

Yours ever
Stanley

S W F Martin
Assistant Marshal of the
Diplomatic Corps

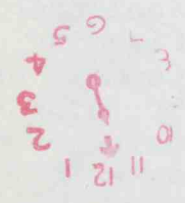
Blind copies: Mr Edwards (WIAD) - Could briefing please reach No 10 by 10 January
Mrs Walters (Private Office?)
Mr Barclay (10 Downing Street)

Garthine
OK
This is in the diary.
DUB

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Handwritten text, possibly a date or address, located below the signature.

Handwritten text, possibly a name or address, located below the date.



2 NOV 1983

SUBJECT

u. Master
Ops.



PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T169B/83

PRIME MINISTER

FEDERATION OF ST. CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS

GOVERNMENT HEADQUARTERS,

P. O. Box 186,

ST. KITTS, W. I.

Ref. No.

My dear Prime Minister,

29th October, 1983.

This letter will be presented to you by Dr. Claudius Thomas who has been appointed by the Government of St. Christopher and Nevis to be their High Commissioner in the United Kingdom. As you are aware, Dr. Thomas will reside at London.

I regard this appointment as of particular importance in view of the special relationship which exists between our two countries. I am confident that Dr. Thomas is eminently fitted, both by his personal qualities and by his experience of affairs of State, for the duties with which he has been entrusted, and I am sure that, for his part, he will work to maintain the close and warm friendship existing between us.

On behalf of the Government of St. Christopher and Nevis I ask you to afford him all possible help in the fulfilment of his important mission.

(Kennedy A. Simmonds)
Prime Minister.

The Right Honourable
Margaret Thatcher
No. 10 Downing Street
London, England.

SUBJECT



cc FLO

R7

cc master
ops

10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No.

19 September, 1983

Dear Prime Minister,

This letter will be presented to you by Mr. Giles Lionel Bullard, C.M.G., who has been appointed by Her Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom to be their first High Commissioner to St. Christopher and Nevis.

I regard this appointment as of particular importance in view of the special relationship which now exists between our two countries. I am confident that Mr. Bullard is eminently fitted, both by his personal qualities and by his experience of affairs of State, for the duties with which he has been entrusted and I am sure that, for his part, he will work to maintain the close and warm friendship existing between us.

On behalf of the British Government I ask you to afford him all possible help in the fulfilment of his important mission.

Yours sincerely
Raymond Stiller

The Honourable Dr. K.A. Simmonds, M.P.

44

SUBJECT

cc Ops
Master

cc FCO

R7



T

cc Master
Ops.

10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

12 September, 1983

PRIME MINISTER'S
PERSONAL MESSAGE
SERIAL No. T129/83.

Dear Prime Minister,

On behalf of the British Government, it gives me great pleasure to send to you, your Government and all the people of St. Christopher and Nevis, congratulations and best wishes as your country becomes an independent sovereign nation and Commonwealth member.

Our two countries have long had a close and friendly relationship and I look forward, with my colleagues, to the continuing development of these links.

Yours sincerely
Raymond Richards

The Honourable Dr. K.A. Simmonds, M.P.

HU



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

7 September 1983

GOVERNOR GENERAL OF ST. CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS

Thank you for your letter of 5 September.

The Prime Minister agrees with the recommendation of the Premier of St. Christopher and Nevis that Sir Clement Arrindell should become the country's first Governor General.

A. J. COLES

John Holmes, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

Hu



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

7 September 1983

ST. CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS

Thank you for your letter of 5 September.

The Prime Minister agrees that you may tell the Government of St. Christopher and Nevis that the British Government will be glad to welcome Dr. Claudius Thomas as High Commissioner for St. Christopher and Nevis in London.

A. J. COLES

John Holmes, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

tu

①

Abstract

A. J. C.

Yes



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

5 September, 1983

Dear John,

Governor-General of St Christopher and Nevis

The Associated State of St Christopher and Nevis will attain full independence on 19 September. The Premier, Dr Kennedy Simmonds, has nominated Sir Clement Arrindell KB, the present Governor, to become the country's first Governor-General.

Sir Clement Arrindell, who was born in 1931 in St Christopher, has been Governor since 1981, following the dismissal of Sir Probyn Inniss at the request of Premier Simmonds. He has been a quiet, scholarly Governor who has enjoyed general respect. Before taking up his present appointment, Sir Clement had followed a legal career in the region including appointments as a Magistrate in St Christopher and a Puisne Judge of Montserrat and the British Virgin Islands. He was created a Knight Bachelor in 1982.

Sir Geoffrey Howe endorses the recommendation of the Premier of St Christopher and Nevis and I should be grateful to know whether the Prime Minister agrees, in which case The Queen's informal approval will be sought.

Yours ever
J E Holmes
(J E Holmes)
Private Secretary

A J Coles Esq
10 Downing Street

PRIME MINISTER

ST. CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS

Purely formal - agree that we tell the Government
of the above that HMG will be glad to welcome Dr. Thomas
as High Commissioner in London?

A.S.C.

Yes not

5 September 1983



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

5 September 1983

Dear John,

St Christopher and Nevis

St Christopher and Nevis becomes an independent state on 19 September 1983 and has applied for membership of the Commonwealth. The Queen will continue to be Head of State.

We have been informed that the St Christopher and Nevis Government has decided to appoint Dr Claudius Thomas, at present High Commissioner for Antigua and Barbuda, St Lucia and St Vincent and the Grenadines, to be the first High Commissioner in the United Kingdom for the new state. Dr Thomas also represents Montserrat, and for simplicity is known as the High Commissioner for Eastern Caribbean States. I enclose a brief biographical note.

We welcome this appointment. As you will be aware, it is not the practice between Commonwealth countries of which Her Majesty is Queen to seek formal agreement to the appointment of a High Commissioner. I would be grateful, however, if the Prime Minister would agree to our telling the St Christopher and Nevis Government that the British Government will be glad to welcome Dr Thomas as High Commissioner in London.

Yours ever
John Holmes
(J E Holmes)
Private Secretary

A J Coles Esq
10 Downing Street

DR CLAUDIUS THOMAS

Dr Thomas was born in St Lucia in 1926. He is unmarried.

He was educated as a lawyer, gaining his first degree from London University in 1956. He was called to the Bar (Gray's Inn) one year later. In 1960 he gained a Doctor of Laws Degree from Strasbourg University, where he undertook research in French Administrative Law, French Colonial Law and International Law.

All his working experience has been in Europe. From 1961 to 1962 he served in London in the West Indies Commission, which was dissolved in 1962 following the failure of the West Indies Federation. He then joined the EEC in Brussels as a legal translator and while there he was also briefly attached to the International Institute of Administrative Sciences. In 1963 he went to the Free University of West Berlin, where he rose to become Associate Professor of International and Comparative Law in 1972. From 1975 he held the office of Commissioner for the Eastern Caribbean, representing the West Indies Associated States and, as an historical anomaly, Montserrat in London. When St Lucia and St Vincent and the Grenadines became independent in 1979 and Antigua and Barbuda in 1981, he was appointed the first High Commissioner in London for those three countries. He will continue to hold these offices in addition to his appointment as High Commissioner for St Christopher and Nevis. Where he represents more than one of these States at a time he will describe himself as High Commissioner for Eastern Caribbean States.

Dr Thomas is a member of the Royal Institute of International Affairs (London) and the British Institute of International and Comparative Law. He has published a number of works on legal matters and on West Indian affairs. He speaks French and German fluently.

He was awarded the CMG in the 1979 Birthday Honours.

SEP 1987





Gr
pre type
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH + note X
below
1 September, 1983
2/9

Dear Tim,

As you know, it is the practice for British High Commissioners, on first taking up their appointment, to bear a letter of introduction from the Prime Minister to the Prime Minister of the country to which they are appointed.

/
X / I enclose the draft of a letter for Mr Giles Lionel Bullard CMG to take with him on his appointment as High Commissioner to St Christopher and Nevis when the State achieves full independence on 19 September this year. It follows the normal lines. If you agree with its terms, would you please arrange for it to be signed by the Prime Minister and returned addressed to me (rather than marked 'for onward transmission').

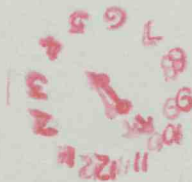
It would be helpful if the letter could be signed as soon as possible, but dated 19 September 1983.

Yours ever
J E Holmes
(J E Holmes)
Private Secretary

T Flesher Esq
10 Downing Street

George and Catherine

London, W.C. 2



SFP 1883

DRAFT: ~~memo~~/letter/~~teletype~~/~~despatch~~/~~note~~

TYPE: Draft/Final 1+

FROM: Prime Minister

Reference

DEPARTMENT:

TEL. NO:

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

TO:

Your Reference

~~Top Secret~~
~~Secret~~
~~Confidential~~
~~Restricted~~
Unclassified

The Honourable Dr Kennedy A Simmonds, MP
Prime Minister of ~~the~~
~~Federation of~~ St Christopher and Nevis

Copies to:

PRIVACY MARKING

SUBJECT:

.....In Confidence

Dear Prime Minister,

CAVEAT.....

This letter will be presented to you by Mr Giles Lionel Bullard, CMG, who has been appointed by Her Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom to be their first High Commissioner to St Christopher and Nevis.

I regard this appointment as of particular importance in view of the special relationship which now exists between our two countries. I am confident that Mr Bullard is eminently fitted, both by his personal qualities and by his experience of affairs of State, for the duties with which he has been entrusted and I am sure that, for his part, he will work to maintain the close and warm friendship existing between us.

On behalf of the British Government I ask you to afford him all possible help in the fulfilment of his important mission.

Yours sincerely [handwritten]

Enclosures—flag(s).....

The Honourable Dr Kennedy A Simmonds, MP



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

31 August, 1983

Dear Tim,

St Christopher and Nevis

As you know, St Christopher and Nevis becomes independent on 19 September. It is customary on such an occasion for the Prime Minister to send a congratulatory message to the Prime Minister of the territory.

/ I accordingly enclose a draft message for the Prime Minister's approval which, together with a message from the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary to Dr Simmonds, who also holds the External Affairs portfolio, will be delivered by Mr Raison when he attends the independence celebrations. I suggest that the letter be dated 12 September, one week prior to independence.

Yours ever
John Holmes

(J E Holmes)
Private Secretary

T Flesher Esq
10 Downing Street

LIBRARY OF THE
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20315



31 AUG 1963

12123
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DRAFT: minute/letter/teleletter/despatch/note

TYPE: Draft/Final 1+

FROM:
The Prime Minister

Reference

DEPARTMENT:

TEL. NO:

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

TO:
The Hon Dr K A Simmonds

Your Reference

Top Secret
Secret
Confidential
Restricted
Unclassified

Copies to:

PRIVACY MARKING

SUBJECT:

.....In Confidence

CAVEAT.....

On behalf of the British Government, it gives me great pleasure to send to you, your Government and all the people of St Christopher and Nevis, congratulations and best wishes as your country becomes an independent sovereign nation and Commonwealth member.

Our two countries have long had a close and friendly relationship and I look forward, with my colleagues, to the continuing development of these links.

Enclosures—flag(s).....



2
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

24 August 1983

Phil Munroe

Dear Tim,

St Christopher and Nevis:
Commonwealth Membership

AF
24/8

/ I enclose a message from the Commonwealth Secretary-General informing Heads of Government that Commonwealth governments have agreed to St Christopher and Nevis becoming a member of the Commonwealth on independence on 19 September. The Secretariat intend to issue an announcement to this effect on 31 August. (Mr Ramphal will inform Dr Simmonds on

| St Christopher and Nevis will become the 48th member of the Commonwealth.

Yours ever
J E Holmes
(J E Holmes)
Private Secretary

Tim Flesher Esq
10 Downing Street

COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT

CABLES: COMSECGEN LONDON SW1
TELEX: 27678
TELEPHONE: 01-839 3411 Ext:

MARLBOROUGH HOUSE,
PALL MALL,
LONDON, SW1Y 5HX

Your ref:
Our ref:

CONFIDENTIAL

Circular Letter No 59/83

19 August 1983

I should be grateful if you would kindly transmit the following message about St Christopher and Nevis' membership of the Commonwealth to your Head of Government.

BEGINS

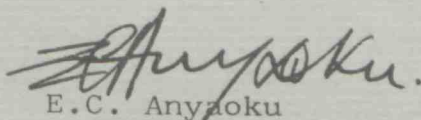
"I am pleased to inform you that following consultations with Commonwealth Heads of Government on the question of St Christopher and Nevis' application for membership of the Commonwealth which began with my message of 7 June 1983, I will be announcing on 31 August that St Christopher and Nevis will become the forty-eighth member of the Commonwealth on achieving independence on 19 September 1983.

I shall be informing Dr Kennedy Simmons of this on Friday, 26 August.

With deep respect,

Shridath S. Ramphal
Commonwealth Secretary-General

ENDS



E.C. Anyaoku
Deputy Secretary-General

24 AUG 1983

1957年10月



From the Secretary of State

CONFIDENTIAL

The Rt Hon Francis Pym MC MP
Secretary of State for
Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs
Foreign and Commonwealth Office
Downing Street
London
SW1A 2AL

A.J.C. $\frac{15}{4}$

k-a.

14 April 1983

INDEPENDENCE FOR SAINT CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS

I have seen your Memorandum of 11 April about the proposed Order giving independence to the islands of St Christopher and Nevis. Subject to the views of other OD members, I am content with what is proposed.

I am copying this to other members of OD and to Sir Robert Armstrong.

LORD COCKFIELD

CONFIDENTIAL

St Christopher
news
Apr 83, Independence

11-2 APR 1983



CONFIDENTIAL

Lee



OD
Ho
LCO
HMT
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mod
LPSO

OT Trade
CDHO
+CO

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10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

12 April 1983

INDEPENDENCE FOR SAINT CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS

The Prime Minister has seen the Memorandum of 11 April by the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary on this subject. She agrees, subject to the views of OD colleagues, that the order to terminate the association of Saint Christopher and Nevis with the United Kingdom should be introduced before the Whitsun Recess.

I am sending copies of this letter to the Private Secretaries to the other members of OD and to Richard Hatfield (Cabinet Office).

A. J. COLES

R. B. Bone, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

CONFIDENTIAL

1

ACTION

Prime Minister

①

CONFIDENTIAL Agree, subject to OD, that the Order to terminate the Association of St. Christopher and Nevis with the U.K. should be introduced before the Whitson recess?

A.S.C. 11/4

THIS DOCUMENT IS THE PROPERTY OF HER BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT

OD(83)4

COPY NO **2**

11 April 1983

CABINET

DEFENCE AND OVERSEA POLICY COMMITTEE

INDEPENDENCE FOR SAINT CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS

Memorandum by the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs

1. The Government of St Christopher and Nevis have requested that the status of Association with the United Kingdom should be terminated on 19 September 1983 and that this should be effected by Order in Council under Section 10(2) of the West Indies Act, 1967. The Termination Order would be for affirmative resolution in both Houses of Parliament. A decision is needed on whether or not to proceed soon with the Termination Order. This would enable independence to be achieved on the date proposed. Her Majesty The Queen would be Head of the independent State.
2. Under the West Indies Act, 1967, six former British Colonies gained a status of Association which gave them full internal self-government while Britain retained responsibility for external affairs and defence. The Act made provision for association to be terminated at any time, by any of the States acting unilaterally, or by the United Kingdom. Each of the five states that have become independent so far (Grenada, Dominica, St Lucia, St Vincent and Antigua and Barbuda) has requested that this be effected by Order in Council under Section 10(2) of the Act.

CONFIDENTIAL

3. Our criteria in deciding whether or not to accede to requests for independence remain, broadly, to ensure that independence is the wish of the majority of the people of the State in question, and that a constitution has been drawn up which adequately guarantees fundamental rights and freedoms. Both criteria have been satisfied in St Christopher and Nevis. A Constitutional Conference was held at Lancaster House in December under the chairmanship of Mr Onslow. The coalition Government of St Christopher and Nevis (Peoples Action Movement and Nevis Reformation Party) led by the Premier, Dr Simmonds, and an opposition delegation led by Mr Moore (St Kitts Labour Party) participated. The draft before the Conference had been prepared by the State Government and embodied proposals which were published in July 1982, subsequently discussed fully in the Associated State and approved by the State's House of Assembly in October. Mr Onslow visited the islands later in October to meet the political leaders and to familiarise himself with the issues. He was entirely satisfied that all the political parties there were agreed on the principle of independence and that this was the wish of the majority of the people.

4. The Constitutional Conference produced a report which was a thoroughly considered base for a Constitution (Cmnd 8796). Regrettably the Opposition delegation felt that the proposals they put before the Conference were not adequately discussed and they participated intermittently, not taking part in the signing ceremony. Their criticisms of the manner in which the Conference was being conducted were unjustified. When the St Christopher and Nevis Government delegation were presented with reasoned, careful and constructive criticisms of their draft Constitution they showed that they were prepared to go a considerable way towards meeting the Opposition's point of view. The Opposition had full opportunity to present their own proposals as well as to comment in detail on the draft Constitution before the Conference. The final version of the Constitution which incorporates amendments made in the light of the Conference decisions

has now been approved in the St Christopher and Nevis House of Assembly. It was debated constructively in mid March, and the Government agreed to a number of amendments proposed by the Opposition. The final Constitution will provide a good basis for free and democratic government in an independent Saint Christopher and Nevis. The islands remain peaceful.

5. A novel feature of the draft Constitution is that it provides for a federation of the two islands with entrenched provisions for Nevis, in certain and clearly defined circumstances, to secede to become a separate sovereign state. For many years Nevisian secessionism, which remains strong, has been the stumbling block for progress on independence. Present relations between St Christopher and Nevis are better than for many years and there is now a singular opportunity to bring St Christopher and Nevis to independence as a unitary state. The provisions in the final Constitution offer the best available arrangement to avoid further fragmentation in the Eastern Caribbean but the Nevisians may still wish to break away. The St Kitts Labour Party proposed separate constitutional arrangements for St Christopher and for Nevis.

6. Whilst some Members of Parliament may be lobbied in the cause of the St Kitts Labour Party, we can expect the Opposition in Parliament not to oppose the constitutional proposals. I invite you therefore to agree to the proposal that the Saint Christopher and Nevis Termination of Association Order should be introduced into Parliament at a date before the Whitsun recess. I would hope approval could be given out of Committee. I shall assume this to be the case unless I hear to the contrary by 18 April.

7. A timetable for the main constitutional procedures is appended.

FP

Foreign and Commonwealth Office
11 April 1983

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

OD(83)4 Annex

11 April 1983

INDEPENDENCE FOR ST CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS: BRITISH PARLIAMENTARY
AND OTHER PROCEDURES REQUIRED

TIMETABLE

1. A formal request for termination of the status of association between Britain and St Christopher and Nevis has been received from the Government of St Christopher and Nevis. It proposes independence on 19 September 1983 by Order in Council under Section 10(2) of the West Indies Act 1967.
2. Various parliamentary procedures are now required to give effect to this proposal. Three Orders in Council are needed:
 - (a) The Termination of Association Order, which is for affirmative resolution in both Houses of Parliament and must therefore be laid before Parliament in draft;
 - (b) The Modification of Enactments Order, which adapts existing UK legislation to take account of St Christopher and Nevis independence, is for annulment and must therefore also be laid (so that Members of the House have an opportunity to raise any objections) but is not debated unless a motion for annulment is moved.
 - (c) The Constitution Order, which does not involve parliamentary procedure.
3. The preferred timetable is as follows:

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

ACTION

DATE

- | | |
|---|----------------------|
| (i) Secretary of State circulates OD paper to OD Committee, proposing that St Christopher and Nevis should become independent | Early April |
| (ii) Approval given by OD Committee by | 18 April |
| (iii) Proof copies of three Orders sent to Clerk of the Privy Council to check drafting | 22 April |
| (iv) Approval given | 25 April |
| (v) Termination of Association Order laid in both Houses | 27 April |
| (vi) Termination of Association Order submitted to Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments | 27 April |
| (vii) Report made by Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments | 4 May |
| (viii) Debates in both Houses | Week beginning 9 May |
| (ix) Termination of Association Order and the Constitution Order made in Privy Council meeting | 22 June |
| (x) Modification of Enactments Order made in Privy Council meeting | 22 June |
| (xi) Constitution Order submitted to Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments | End of June |
| (xii) Modification of Enactments Order laid before Parliament and submitted to Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments | End of June |

CONFIDENTIAL

ACTION

DATE

(xiii) All three Orders come into operation

19 September

11 April 1983

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

FIVE

SW



St Kitts

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

2 November, 1982

St. Kitts Nevis: Independence

The Prime Minister has seen the minute of 1 November by the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary on this subject and agrees with Mr. Pym's proposal to convene a constitutional conference as the next step towards independence of St. Kitts Nevis.

A. J. COLES

John Holmes, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

CONFIDENTIAL



PM/82/91

PRIME MINISTER

Agreed

CONFIDENTIAL

Prime Minister

(1)

The proposal is to convene a constitutional conference leading to independence for St. Kitts Nevis in 1983. The long-standing problem about Nevis secessionism would be taken care of by a federal system with special rights for Nevis including the right to secede. Contact that invitation should be issued?

St Kitts Nevis: Independence

A.S.C.

1. I attach a copy of Cranley Onslow's report on his recent visit to St Kitts Nevis. St Kitts Nevis is the last of the West Indies Associated States, the others having achieved independence in the 1970s. I agree with the recommendation that we should now convene a Constitutional Conference as the next step towards independence, and would propose to issues invitations not later than 5 November.
2. I am copying this minute to other members of OD and to Sir Robert Armstrong.

FP

(FRANCIS PYM)

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

1 November 1982

CONFIDENTIAL

Secretary of State

VISIT TO THE CARIBBEAN, 15-23 OCTOBER: INDEPENDENCE
FOR ST KITTS-NEVIS

1. The centre-piece of this tour was my visit to St Kitts-Nevis, 20-21 October, for discussions with political leaders about the St Kitts-Nevis Government's (SKNG) proposals for independence. As explained below, I believe we should now move on to the next stage, a Constitutional Conference.
2. Although the independence issue is highly controversial in the state, my talks with government and opposition alike were cordial. An attempt by the opposition to mount a major demonstration against the proposals during my day in St Kitts met with a smaller response than the Government's less organised rally. Both events passed off peaceably, if noisily.
3. Attempts since 1975 to move forward to independence have always foundered on the issue of secession for Nevis. In the 30 years until 1980 secessionist sentiment in Nevis (population 9,000 against 36,000 in St Kitts) fed on growing distrust of the Labour Government. Nevisians contend that it oppressed them and neglected economic development and essential services in their island. I do not doubt that they are right.
4. The elections of February 1980 produced a major political change, resulting in the present coalition government led by the Premier, Dr Kennedy Simmonds. His essentially Kittitian People's Action Movement won 3 seats, which combined with 2 of the Nevis Reformation Party made a majority of one over the 4 St Kitts seats of the Labour Party led by Mr Lee Moore, the former Premier. Relations between the two islands are now better than for many years, and Nevis is at last getting its share of economic development.
5. The central elements in the SKNG proposals are, first, that within a federal type arrangement, Nevis (but not St Kitts) would have its own Premier, administration and legislature with substantial exclusive powers. And second, that Nevis would have in perpetuity the right to secede, according to prescribed procedures. In short, Nevis, holding the balance, has driven a very hard bargain.
6. The Labour Party for some time advocated independence on the basis of a unitary state. Their new plan in response to that of the SKNG provides for the two islands separately to become autonomous but linked by a treaty of friendship and cooperation. The Labour Party's rallying cry is independence but with elections first. For their part, the Nevisians, deeply distrusting Labour, much prefer to work with Dr Simmonds

/provided

provided that he sticks to his sympathetic policies.

7. The SKNG are anxious to press ahead with a Constitutional Conference by the end of the year leading to independence by mid-1983. (The timing, which seems unrealistically early, appears to be dictated by a desire to get the ceremonies over in the slack of the tourist season and before the hurricane season opens). I am satisfied that we should allow the independence process to move forward, and believe that unless something unforeseen occurs, there should be no need for another election in the interval. The publication of the White Paper, on 26 July, with ample opportunity for public discussion before its passage with some modifications, by the Assembly on 8 October, meet our conditions for the next step forward. As I explained to the Labour party leaders we would have to have very good reasons for turning down this request from a responsible, democratically elected government and we should certainly not be deterred by the fact that the opposition staged a walk-out on the Assembly debate.

8. We now have a singular opportunity to bring St Kitts-Nevis to independence as a unitary state and to facilitate the further cementing of the bonds between the two islands. And although other governments in the Eastern Caribbean have expressed concern about the implications for fragmentation of the SKNG proposals, I believe that, in the short term at least, they provide the only means of avoiding that undesirable consequence in this case.

9. Politically, and economically, we should support Dr Simmonds' Government wherever we can. His outlook is moderate and pro-Western. If we were now to thwart progress towards independence, I believe we should be instrumental in bringing him down. The alternative of an administration led by Mr Moore is a dismal prospect. With or without his approval, there would be a strong probability that Nevis would try to break away. It may or may not be true that Labour aims to institute a one-party state, but I have no doubt that Mr Moore's real immediate objective is to be the incumbent at independence.

10. I should add that when I met the NRP leaders on Nevis, their leader, Mr Daniel, told me the Nevisians would like the UK to guarantee (with an implication about the use of force if necessary) the referendum and secession clause in any final independence document. To agree to this would be contrary to our established policy that once a territory achieves independence we are no longer responsible for its constitutional affairs. Because of the risk that an immediate refusal might have provoked a crisis within the SKNG coalition, I took note of the request and indicated that it presented difficulties. As I did not have time to return to St Kitts to discuss the matter with Dr Simmonds, I asked our High Commissioner, Viscount Dunrossil, to do so. His attached telegram is reassuring. It reports that Dr Simmonds would be against the UK retaining residual power and does not fear adverse consequences for his coalition from a British refusal of the Nevis request. Before the

/Conference

Conference we will review the possibilities of entrenching the secession clause and of international supervision of any eventual referendum, but short of any guarantee by the UK.

11. All this leads me to recommend that we should now propose a Constitutional Conference to be held in London in December. A draft telegram about this is attached. Mr Moore's present intention is not to attend but we should try to keep his Party in play, and my invitation to him is phrased accordingly.

12. As it is possible that I may be preoccupied with other matters when the Parliamentary stages are reached early next year, it would be very useful if Malcolm Rifkind could accompany me at the opening and closing sessions of the Conference. The working sessions will be chaired by the former High Commissioner in Barbados.

13. The rest of my visit also went well. Amongst other things, I attended the opening of the CPA Conference in Nassau. I met the Prime Ministers of Antigua and the Bahamas and the Foreign Minister of the latter. In Jamaica I had useful talks with Mr Seaga and Mr Shearer and was able to offer the Prime Minister a further aid loan of £3 million, bringing the total in this financial year to £5¹/₂ million. This was well received and I am sure will be helpful in the Government's tough struggle to repair the damage of the Manley years.

②.

26 October 1982

CRANLEY ONSLOW

cc

Mr Rifkind

21 NOV 1982

10 11 12 1
9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2



10 DOWNING STREET

Note to remain at top of file

Before any meeting with
visitors from this Caribbean
Island BF FCO to WR 25 November
1981 - filed on Guyana
January 1980: call by
President Burnham of Guyana -
to WR.

26 November 1981



10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

19 March 1981

The Prime Minister is grateful to you for your letter of 4 March, which she has just received, informing her of the Conference which you are organising in St. Kitts in May to discuss the co-ordination of activities to commemorate the Quincentenary in 1992 of the Columbus voyages of discovery.

As you will appreciate, the Prime Minister will not be able herself to take up your kind invitation to go to Bassterre in May. I understand, however, that you have already advised the Foreign and Commonwealth Office of your plans. I understand that the West Indian and Atlantic Department there have organised a programme for your present visit to London when you will be discussing the details of the May Conference with them and with the embassies of countries likely to be involved in commemorative events.

The Prime Minister very much hopes that your discussions here and in Bassterre will be successful in identifying the appropriate role of St. Christopher in the 1992 Quincentenary.

The Honourable Dr. Kennedy A. Simmonds.



Type for my signature

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

Dear Michael,

Phil
19 March 1981

Thank you for your letter of 11 March about an invitation to the Prime Minister, from the Premier of St Kitts-Nevis, to attend a Conference there in May. I enclose a draft reply which we do not consider that you need trouble the Prime Minister to sign personally. Dr Simmonds will be in London at the end of this week and it might be convenient if I arranged for the reply to be delivered to him when he calls on West Indian and Atlantic Department here on 20 March.

Dr Simmonds's visit to London is solely for the purpose of stimulating interest in the project which he has described to the Prime Minister. Appointments have been arranged for him with the Cultural Attaches at the US, Spanish, Portuguese and Italian Embassies, with the Apostolic Delegate and with the National Maritime Museum at Greenwich. The view of all those whom WIAD have approached on the subject of the Columbus Quincentenary is that the Premier's visit and planned Conference in May are somewhat premature since none of the Governments concerned has yet begun seriously to address the question of commemorative events in 1992 (understandably!). Nevertheless, Dr Simmonds has a full programme in London, is briefly visiting Rome and Madrid after leaving here and already claims to have had an encouraging response to visits made this month to the US, Mexico, Costa Rica and Panama for the same purpose.

We have been informed that the initiative for Dr Simmonds's trip has come from a firm of US public relations consultants employed by his Government and that they have also been responsible for the various messages which have been issued in the Premier's name, including not only the letter to the Prime Minister but a personal telegram to the King of Spain.

Yours ever

Roderic Lyne

(R M J Lyne)
Private Secretary

M O'D B Alexander Esq
10 Downing Street
LONDON
SW1

DRAFT: minute/letter/teleletter/despatch/note**TYPE:** Draft/Final 1+**FROM:**

M O'D B Alexander

Reference**DEPARTMENT:****TEL. NO:****SECURITY CLASSIFICATION****TO:****Your Reference**

Top Secret

Secret

Confidential

Restricted

Unclassified

The Honourable
Doctor Kennedy A Simmonds[For transmission by West Indian and Atlantic Dept,
FCO]**Copies to:****PRIVACY MARKING****SUBJECT:**

.....In Confidence

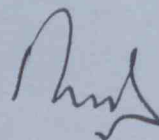
CAVEAT.....

The Prime Minister is grateful to you for your letter of 4 March, which she has just received, informing her of the Conference which you are organising in St Kitts in May to discuss the co-ordination of activities to commemorate the Quincentenary in 1992 of the Columbus voyages of discovery.

As you will appreciate, the Prime Minister will not be able herself to take up your kind invitation to go to Bassterre in May. I understand, however, that you have already advised the Foreign and Commonwealth Office of your plans. I understand that the West Indian and Atlantic Department there have organised a programme for your present visit to London when you will be discussing the details of the May Conference with them and with the Embassies of countries likely to be involved in commemorative events.

The Prime Minister very much hopes that your discussions here and in Bassterre will be successful in identifying the appropriate role of St Christopher in the 1992 Quincentenary.

Enclosures—flag(s).....



14 MAR 1981





490

St Kitts

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

11 March 1981

B F

I enclose a copy of a letter which the Prime Minister has received from the Premier of St. Christopher Nevis. I should be grateful if you could let me have the text of a draft reply which the Prime Minister might send to Mr. Simmonds. There is, of course, no question of the Prime Minister making the journey.

MB

R. M. J. Lyne, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

5



R113

PREMIER

STATE OF ST. CHRISTOPHER NEVIS

GOVERNMENT HEADQUARTERS,

P. O. BOX 186,

ST. KITTS, W. I.

Ref. No.....PM/H9/1.....

March 4, 1981

The Honourable Margaret Thatcher
Prime Minister
United Kingdom
Office of the Prime Minister
London, England

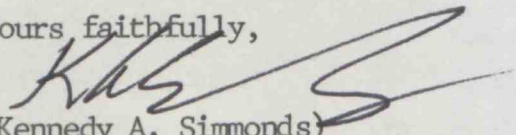
Dear Prime Minister Thatcher,

It is with great pleasure that I have enclosed an invitation for you to come to St. Kitts in May to participate in discussions on how the memory of Christopher Columbus can be honoured during the forthcoming 500th anniversary commemorations of the founding of the New World. We hope our Conference will develop novel ideas and expert insights on the benefit that can be derived from these historic occasions as well as establish a useful mechanism for coordinating Columbus-related activities between now and 1992.

All of us appreciate how much the history of your country has been touched by the deeds and thoughts of Christopher Columbus. You and your colleagues, however, may want to use the 500th anniversary to reexpose the world to the important details of his impact or to create something new for your people and visitors in continuation of the spirit that sparked his original voyages. Either way, having the ability to act now for the future seems to me to be one of the deepest satisfactions of political leadership.

If it should prove difficult for you to arrange your own schedule to come to the Conference, we would be delighted to welcome your personal representative. Please contact my office or any of our U.S. advisors if you or your staff have any questions. One last point: Our accommodations are almost as limited as the time is brief before we convene. As a result, we would look forward to having your response before April 30, 1981.

Yours faithfully,


(Kennedy A. Simmonds)
Premier



State of St. Christopher Nevis

*The Government of St. Christopher Nevis
(St. Kitts-Nevis)*

*cordially invites
your organisation
to participate in a*

*Conference to Coordinate
The 500th Anniversary*

Commemorations

of the

Founding of the New World

by

Christopher Columbus

to be held at

Basseterre, St. Kitts

May 14, 15, 16, 1981

*The favour of
a reply
is cordially
invited.*

*Please find
additional
details
within.*





PREMIER

March, 1981

*A Message from Dr. Kennedy Simmonds
on behalf of the
Government of St. Kitts-Nevis*

Because of the singular importance of the discoveries of Christopher Columbus nearly 500 years ago, all of us can benefit from a review of what this remarkable man, and the cultures which fostered his activities, actually accomplished.

In the past, major opportunities to honour an important person or historic event—and to use such occasions as the rationale for completing public projects that had previously proven politically difficult to achieve—have been lost through lack of planning, lack of imagination, and lack of co-operation. The memory of Christopher Columbus deserves more.

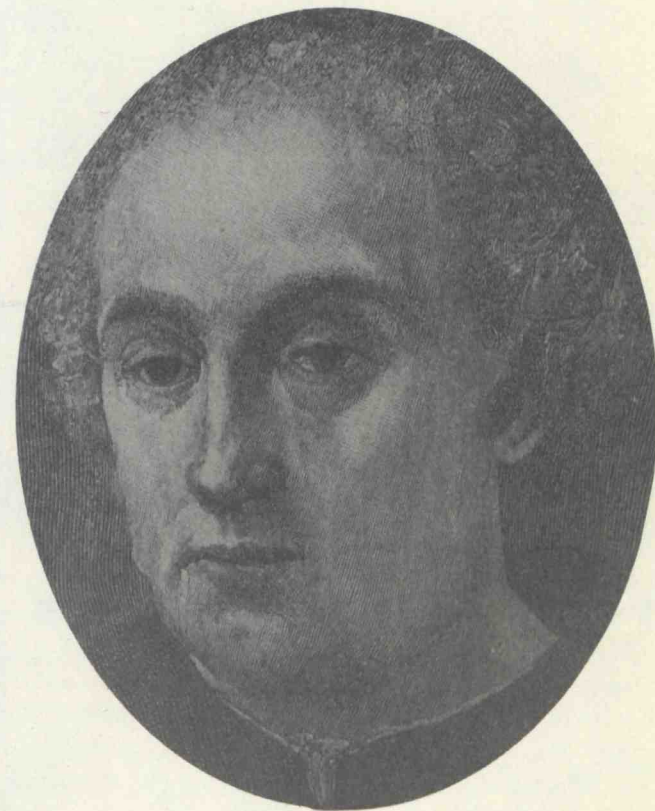
It is for this reason that we have asked representatives of some 1500 political jurisdictions, non-profit institutions, and commercial organisations with a direct interest in participating in one or more of the anniversary commemorations of the founding of the New World to come to St. Kitts to begin the process of discussing the magnitude and coordinating the dates of the projects and events which will give appropriate honour to the Columbus heritage and legacy.

My Government sees its role as one of providing a forum for these discussions and a basis for further coordination. Its hope, however, is that whatever may be initiated individually or collectively in the years to come—whether new works of art, new intellectual research, new visitor facilities, new public monuments, or something even more—that it be done in recognition of the fact that the accomplishments of Christopher Columbus, nearly a half a millenium ago, deserve the very best that all people of good will can produce.

Some may well wonder whether it is too early to begin the process of multi-organisational discussion and coordination. History, however, tells us that Columbus himself began developing his dream around 1481; *experience indicates that other major commemorative events—such as the U. S. Bicentenary—*have taken at least 10 years to plan. Work of lasting value simply takes significant amounts of time to develop, commission, finance, research, and complete.

We firmly believe that those organisations which meet with us this year in Basseterre should be entitled to *first priority on the world's tourists and attention* as we approach the 500th Anniversary, in 1992 itself, as well as in the years beyond.

May the friendship engendered by the Columbus Commemorations permit us to renew our dedication to the future of the Americas in the same spirit of discovery and adventure which so characterised the life and career of Christopher Columbus.



Christopher Columbus

Highlights of the Life and Career of Christopher Columbus

Summer/Fall, 1451 Born Cristoforo Columbo in Genoa, Italy, he was the son of Domenico Columbo, a woolen weaver. As a young boy, he is known to have sailed local coastal waters as well as the Mediterranean.

August 13, 1476 Columbus survived a Franco-Portuguese battle at sea, recovering from his wounds in Lisbon where he studied languages, mathematics, and astronomy for the first time. Later he sailed to Iceland.

Summer, 1479 At age 28, one year after being appointed captain of a merchant vessel, Columbus married, moved to Madeira, and welcomed his first son to the world.

1482-1483 Now known as Christovão Colom, he sailed all along the West Coast of Africa as an officer of a trading expedition from Portugal.

Mid-1485 His wife having died and the Portuguese King having refused to back his "Enterprise of the Indies"—a proposal to find a shorter westward route to Japan, China, India, and the lands in between—Columbus traveled to Spain to seek support for his concept.

January, 1489 With Queen Isabella's Special Commission still considering the Columbus proposal, his brother approached England's Henry VII and France's Charles VIII for backing.

Late, 1490 The Spanish Commission finally recommended against the Enterprise, but the Queen told the man she knew as Cristobal Colón to apply to her again.

January, 1492 He did. But now the Royal Council rejected his petition because he had asked too much: the titles of Admiral and Viceroy; the titles to be made hereditary; and a 10% participation in any trade that might develop.

April, 1492 But Isabella determined that the price set by Columbus would be payable upon success and that the cost of the voyage would be about equal to the expenses incurred in a week's entertainment of a royal visitor.

August 2, 1492 The *Santa Maria*, the *Pinta*, and the *Nina*, with a total crew of only 90, departed Palos, Spain.

October 12, 1492 After land was first sighted in what is now a part of the Bahamas, Columbus went on to Cuba and sailed around Haiti. On Christmas Day, 1492, the Admiral's Flagship went aground and had to be abandoned; a Spanish colony, however, was formed on the spot in Hispaniola.

November, 1493–June, 1494 The Second Voyage involved 17 ships and resulted in the establishment of another European colony as well as the discoveries and exploration of Dominica, Guadaloupe, Montserrat, Nevis, St. Kitts, St. Eustatius, Saba, the Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, and Jamaica.

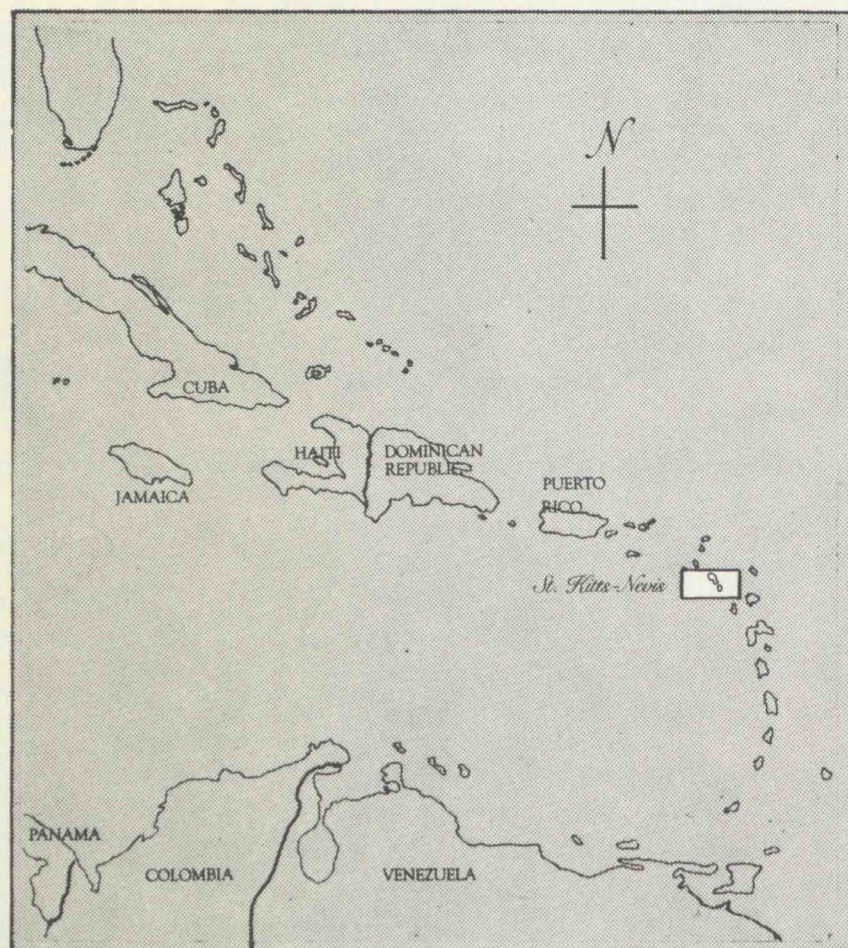
May, 1498–October, 1500 On his Third Voyage, Columbus found Trinidad, touched at Venezuela and Margarita Island, and sighted Grenada. But, because of colonist discontent at Santo Domingo, he was imprisoned by an independent Royal Commissioner and sent home in chains.

April, 1502–November, 1504 Although he had lost his Governmental offices, he kept his titles and his unflagging interest in reaching China. The King and Queen offered him a Fourth Voyage. First landfall this time was at Martinique before he went on to Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, and Colombia. Severe leaks, however, forced him to beach his ships in Jamaica where he remained for a year until he could arrange to charter other craft to return to Spain.

May 20, 1506 The Admiral died in Valladolid, Spain, still pressing his legal claims at Court. Although he died ignorant of the magnitude of his accomplishments, it is now recognised that he was the greatest navigator the world has yet known. His achievements are at the beginning of the history of all the Nations of the Americas.



About St. Kitts-Nevis



The two islands of St. Christopher and Nevis form a nation in the Eastern Caribbean to the southeast of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. Together, they are popularly known as St. Kitts-Nevis. If St. Kitts has become famous for being the only place named by Columbus for himself and his patron saint, so Nevis has achieved its own fame as the birthplace of the American Revolutionary War hero Alexander Hamilton.

Over the years, the two islands have been colonies of both the English and the French and at one time were ruled by both simultaneously. Since the 1960s, however, the two have governed themselves democratically as one state within the framework of the Commonwealth of Nations.

About 40,000 people live on the island of St. Kitts and another some 15,000 on Nevis. The capital of the nation is at Basseterre. Sugar cane and sea island cotton are the staples of the local economy with tourism and light industrial assembly plants growing significantly. St. Kitts has a warm and comfortable year-round tropical climate.

It is fitting that by virtue of its geographic position, its cultural heritage, and its historic status, that St. Kitts-Nevis should convene a conference to help coordinate the world-wide observances planned to commemorate the 500th anniversary of the founding of the New World by Christopher Columbus.

Partial Conference Agenda

THURSDAY, MAY 14

Keynote Address: The Unifying Spirit of Columbus and the Importance of Commemorations to Societies.

Panel Discussion: Technical, organisational, financial, and media issues involved in planning and conducting a major commemorative occasion.

Secretariat Organisation: The possible role and function of a permanent coordinating organisation. Should a draft declaration be adopted recommending that similar coordinating conferences be held in the future?

Evening on Nevis: A visit to the Hamilton birthplace, a tour of the island, and dinner at Zetland Plantation.

FRIDAY, MAY 15

Joint Projects: A presentation and group discussion of potential individual and joint commemorative projects and events for future consideration by the organisations attending the Conference.

Vendor Presentations: An opportunity to learn at first hand about licensing options, marketing arrangements and other commercial details concerning the wide variety of memorabilia that form an important cultural as well as financial part of every major commemoration.

Governor General's Reception: An evening to honour all delegates and guests attending the Conference.

SATURDAY, MAY 16

Workshops: How to generate the interest and support of the general public and such groups as governmental institutions, the media, tourist facilities, and commercial enterprises in commemorative undertakings.

Film Presentations: A continuous showing of currently circulating short and feature length film portrayals of Christopher Columbus and his voyages.

Chairman's Final Report: A summation of the discussions and decisions of the conference and adoption of a joint statement for release.



Conference Registration Form

Name of Organisation _____

Name(s) of Delegate(s) _____

Mailing Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Cable Telex: _____

Type of Accommodations Requested:

☐ Single rooms for each of the following delegates:

☐ Double rooms (Please indicate names of delegates and/or guests sharing accommodations):

If known, please indicate the carrier, date, and time of arrival in St. Kitts for your delegation or each delegate:

(The hotels and airlines serving St. Kitts-Nevis as well as current prices and schedules may be found on the back. Valid passports only are required for entry for the Conference).

The Registration Fee for the Delegation Chairman is US\$850. Other delegates may register for US\$150 each. Please tick here ☐ if fees made out to the Columbus Commemoration Secretariat accompany this form or will be mailed ☐ prior to April 30, 1981.

Columbus Commemoration Conference Secretariat

State of St. Christopher-Nevis

Government Headquarters

PO Box 186

St. Kitts, West Indies

TELEX: 361-6820 EXTRNL SKB KC

Accommodations

CONFERENCE HOTELS	ROOMS	MAJOR FEATURES	PRICE RANGE
ROYAL ST. KITTS HOTEL	138	POOL, GOLF, TENNIS, REST. BAR, CASINO	US \$45-US \$60
FORT THOMAS HOTEL	63	POOL, TENNIS, RESTAURANT, BAR	US \$40-US \$55
OCEAN TERRACE INN	30	POOL, TENNIS, RESTAURANT, BAR	US \$40-US \$55
FAIRVIEW INN	30	POOL, RESTAURANT, BAR	US \$38-US \$38
REST HAVEN INN (NEVIS)	31	BEACH, POOL, RESTAURANT, BAR	US \$40-US \$65

All Conference bookings will be done through the Conference Secretariat. Casual attire is recommended for daytime activities. Coat and tie are appropriate for gentlemen for the Governor General's Reception.

*Direct Airline Flights To St. Kitts**

FROM	DAY/TIME OF DEPARTURE	AIRLINE	FLT. #
NEW YORK	Th 1100	BWIA	423
MIAMI	F 1755	ALM	980
SAN JUAN	DAILY 0755	PRINAIR	610
	DAILY 0800	PRINAIR	810
	DAILY 1320	PRINAIR	650
	DAILY 1340	PRINAIR	840
ST. THOMAS	DAILY 0855	PRINAIR	810
	DAILY 1035	PRINAIR	70/840
	M, W, Sa, Su 1240	LIAT	555
	Tu, Th, F 1930	LIAT	505
ST. CROIX	DAILY 0905	PRINAIR	610
	DAILY 1315	CORALAIR	301
	DAILY 1430	PRINAIR	650
	Tu, Th, F 1240	LIAT	555
	W, Sa 1340	LIAT	555
ST. MAARTEN	DAILY 0815	WINDWARD IS	631
	DAILY 1005	PRINAIR	810
	DAILY 1430	WINDWARD IS	635
	DAILY 1535	PRINAIR	840
	M, Tu, Th, F, Su 1345	LIAT	555
	Tu, Th, F 2030	LIAT	505
ANTIGUA	DAILY 1000	LIAT	550
	M, Tu, W, Th, F 1645	LIAT	500

*American, Delta, Eastern, and Pan American connect with flights to St. Kitts in San Juan; American and Eastern connect in both St. Croix and St. Maarten; BWIA and Eastern connect in Antigua. (Please note that all schedules are subject to change prior to May, 1981.)

SHOULD YOU WISH TO DISCUSS THIS INVITATION
OR THE PUBLIC POLICY BENEFITS OF COMMEMO-
RATIVE EVENTS IN MORE DETAIL, WE INVITE YOU
TO CONTACT:

Mr. Godfrey Harris

Harris/Ragan Management Corporation
Los Angeles, California

(213) 278-8038

Mr. Modesto Guerra

Guerra & Associates
New Orleans, Louisiana

(504) 949-4436

Senator Edward Brooke

O'Connor & Hannan
Washington, D. C.

(202) 887-1400



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