

PRIME MINISTER

MS

Situation in Grenada as at 1730 hours

The Foreign Office have received Montserrat tel. 196 which indicates that OECS Heads of Government have agreed to send a united military force to Grenada. Miss Charles and Adams have been instructed to seek assistance from the US and UK.

There has been speculation in the media that as many as ten US ships are en route for Grenada. I understand from the Foreign Office that Washington earlier this afternoon confirmed that a "carrier group" was on its way, but as yet we do not know how many ships are involved. The ships are expected to arrive in the vicinity tomorrow.

I have asked the Foreign Office to keep me closely informed of any developments.

DUTY CLERK
22 October 1983

From Montserrat to FCO tel. No. 196

OECS Meeting in Barbados

Chief Minister just telephoned from Barbados to say OECS Heads of Government resolved unanimously that they combine to form and send united military forces to Grenada. Each State agreed to contribute troops including Montserrat.

Chief Minister told me that Miss Charles and Adams were mandated to contact US and British authorities in Barbados for assistance to mount operation. So far Chief Minister heard nothing of this aspect, but there will probably be further OECS meetings in Barbados on 22 October.

I told Chief Minister and Weekes, his Permanent Secretary, that he does not have authority to commit Montserrat to such military venture and that I have advised HM Government of this but he was upset.

Understand there will be CARICOM Heads of Government meeting in Trinidad on 22 October at which OECS will propose military intervention. Chief Minister is scheduled to leave Barbados at 1300 hours for Trinidad.

22 October 1983