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INFORMATION FROM NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES: SUMMARIES OF
INFORMATION TRANSMITTED UNDER ARTICLE 73 e OF THE CHARTER OF
THE UNITED NATIONS

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

CARIBBEAN AND WESTERN ATLANTIC TERRITORIES

Dominica, Grenada, St. Lucia and St. Vincent
(Windward Islands)

In accordance with the statement of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on 27 September 1961, the Government of the United Kingdom has transmitted to the Secretary-General the following political and constitutional information on the Territories of Dominica, Grenada, St. Lucia and St. Vincent (Windward Islands).

This information, which was received on 26 April 1962, is herewith submitted to the General Assembly at its seventeenth session.^{1/}

^{1/} In accordance with General Assembly resolution 1700 (XVI) of 19 December 1961, this information is also submitted to the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories.

DOMINICA, GRENADA, ST. LUCIA AND ST. VINCENT
(WINDWARD ISLANDS)

POPULATION

The population of the four Territories at the last census in 1960 was:

Dominica	59,862
Grenada	88,500
St. Lucia	86,194
St. Vincent	80,042

These populations are predominantly of African descent.

CONSTITUTIONS

Until 1960, the head of the administration of the Territories was the Governor of the Windward Islands. New constitutions incorporating a ministerial system came into force for the first time in all these Territories in 1956. The main features were as follows:

- (a) The executive councils were recognized as the principal instrument of policy and the Governor and administrators were required normally to accept its advice.
- (b) The number of elected members in the executive councils was increased from 3 to 4. There were in addition 3 ex-officio members, one nominated member, one member being a person holding a public office in the Territory styled the "official member", and the Administrator. It was left to the discretion of the Council whether to include the official member; if included he was to have no vote. The Administrator or the Governor presided. When the Governor presided, the Administrator had no vote. Elected members thus had a voting majority on the Executive Council for the first time.
- (c) Provision was made for three ministers: for trade and production, communications and works, and social services.
- (d) The Legislative councils were composed of 8 elected members, 2 ex-officio members, 3 nominated members and the Administrator. Election of members was based on universal adult suffrage.

The accession of these Territories to the West Indies in 1958 led to a desire for further constitutional advance, and conferences were held in March and June 1959 in Trinidad and London respectively. As a result, the present constitutions came into effect on 1 January 1960.

The main features of the present constitutions are as follows:

Administrator

The post of Governor of the Windward Islands has been abolished, and the Administrators of the four Territories are the heads of the administration. The present Administrator of Dominica is Col. A. Lovelace, the Administrator of Grenada is Mr. J.M. Lloyd, the Acting Administrator of St. Lucia is Mr. G.J. Bryan, and the Acting Administrator of St. Vincent is Mr. H. Burrowes. The administrators are constitutionally required to act on their minister's advice, except when they are required to act on the advice of some other authority or in certain limited cases requiring special procedures.

Executive Council

The executive council in each Territory is responsible for the general control and direction of government. In each Territory, there are 5 ministers - the Chief Minister, 3 other ministers appointed on his advice and a minister without portfolio. There are in addition one ex-officio member (the principal law officer) and the Administrator. All ministers except the minister without portfolio are appointed from the elected members of the Legislative Council; the minister without portfolio may be selected from either the elected or the nominated members of the Council. The present members of the Executive Councils (in addition to the Administrator) are:

Dominica

Mr. E.O. Le Blanc (Chief Minister)
Mr. N.A.N. Ducreay (Minister of Trade and Production)
Mr. L.C. Didier (Minister of Communications and Works)
Mr. W.S. Stevens (Minister of Labour and Social Services)
Mr. R.P. St. Luce (Minister without Portfolio)
Mr. N.A. Berridge (Crown Attorney)

Grenada

Mr. E.M. Gairy (Chief Minister)
Mr. H.J. Preudhomme (Minister of Commerce, Industry and Tourism)
Mrs. C. Gairy (Minister of Social Affairs)
Mr. D.T. Sylvester (Minister of Communications and Works)
Mr. R.O. Williams (Minister without Portfolio)
There is no Attorney General at present.

St. Lucia

Mr. G. Charles (Chief Minister)
Mr. H. Collymore (Minister of Trade and Industry)
Mr. M. Baptiste (Minister of Communications and Works)
Mr. J.A. Bousquet (Minister of Labour and Social Affairs)
Mr. G. Mason (Minister without Portfolio)
Mr. W. MacIntyre (Crown Attorney)

St. Vincent

Mr. E.T. Joshua (Chief Minister and Minister for Local Government)
Mr. A.C.G. Allen (Minister of Trade and Production)
Mr. C.L. Tannis (Minister of Communication, Works and Labour)
Mr. S.C. Slater (Minister of Social Services)
Mrs. J.J. Joshua (Minister without Portfolio)
Mr. D.F. Dias (Attorney General)

Legislative Council

The Legislative Councils consist of 10 elected members in Dominica, Grenada and St. Lucia and 9 elected members in St. Vincent. There are in addition one ex-officio member (the principal law officer) and 2 nominated members appointed by the Administrator. The Legislative Council is presided over by a speaker elected by the Council either from within or without its own membership and having only a casting vote.

The maximum life of the Legislative Council is five years. Elections are in single member constituencies and by universal adult suffrage. The last elections were held in Dominica in January 1961; the Dominica Labour Party won 7 seats and 4 seats were won by the Dominica United People's Party. The last

elections in Grenada were held in March 1961, when the Grenada United Labour Party won 8 elected seats and the Grenada National Party won 2 seats. The last elections in St. Lucia were held in April 1961, the St. Lucia Labour Party winning 9 seats, and the People's Progressive Party one seat. The last elections in St. Vincent were held in April 1961, the People's Progressive Party winning 6 seats and the St. Vincent Labour Party 3 seats.

A Supreme Court and a Court of Appeal for the Leeward and Windward Islands (and for the Virgin Islands) were established by an Order in Council in 1939. Fresh provision regarding these courts was made by an Order in Council of 1959, which also provided for the establishment of a Judicial and Legal Service Commission composed of the Chief Justice of the Joint Supreme Court of the Leeward and Windward Islands, a federal justice, a judge or ex-judge of a supreme court of any part of Her Majesty's Dominions, and the chairman of two of the advisory public service commissions in the Territories served. Judges of the Supreme Court (other than the Chief Justice) are appointed by the Governor-General of The West Indies on the recommendation of the Commission. The Chief Justice is appointed by the Governor-General after consultation with the Federal Chief Justice. Judges are removed from office only if the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council advises removal for inability or misbehaviour. The Judicial and Legal Service Commission advises the administrators on the appointment, dismissal, etc., of magistrates, registrars and law officers. The expenses of the Joint Court (including the emoluments of judges) and of the Commission are borne by the eight Territories in proportions specified in the relevant Order in Council of 1959, and the sums required to meet these expenses are charged on the revenue of each Territory by the Order in Council. The Judiciary is entirely West Indian.

PARTICIPATION OF LOCAL INHABITANTS IN GOVERNMENT

The Chief Ministers and other Ministers, and all elected members of the legislative councils, are local inhabitants. In addition, the Administrator of Grenada and the Acting Administrator of St. Vincent are West Indians.