

ST. KITTS-NEVIS-ANGUILLA LABOUR PARTY
(WORKERS LEAGUE)
MASSES HOUSE, CHURCH STREET
BASSETERRE, ST. KITTS, W.I.

23rd November, 1982

Hon Simeon Dahlip, N.P.,
Leader of The Nevis Reformation Party
Charlestown,
Nevis.

Dear Sir,

On Thursday 11 November 1982 I received a letter bearing same date from the Viscount Dunrossil, British Government Representative to St. Kitts-Nevis, informing me of an invitation by the British Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, Hon. Cranky Onslow, M.P., to a constitutional conference at Lancaster House, London, commencing on 7 December 1982.

I thought I would take the opportunity of that invitation to write to you to record the position of the Labour Party on the matter of the constitutional relationship between the islands of St. Kitts and Nevis in the future.

I am also affected by the recent announcement of the formation of a new political party in Nevis.

On 26 July 1982 the Government of the State published a White Paper containing Constitutional Proposals for St. Christopher and Nevis. The Labour Party and the people of St. Kitts totally reject these proposals as a basis for the Independence of the State.

On 2 August 1982 the Labour Party published a Green Paper entitled "IN PLACE OF STRIFE - The Constitutional Development of St. Kitts and Nevis". That document records the history of the Labour Party's attitude towards the proposals of your Party that St. Kitts and Nevis should be separate political units. A copy of the Green Paper was sent to your Party in early August 1982.

In sum, the Labour Party interprets the results of the General Elections in 1971 and 1975 in Nevis, together with the proposals in the White Paper, as a clear expression that the people of Nevis and their leaders will accept nothing short of full and complete responsibility for their own affairs.

The Labour Party accepts that position. We have therefore proposed in the Green Paper that St. Kitts and Nevis should each possess equally the right of self-determination, each island being fully autonomous and each island being at liberty to pursue its own independent development.

Specifically, the Labour Party proposes that, in place of strife, distrust and acrimony-

(a) The island of St. Kitts and the island of Nevis should each have its own separate Constitution, legislature, government and political system;

(b) To strengthen the bonds of family and friendship between the people of St. Kitts and the people of Nevis, and to give effect to the longstanding relationships and associations between the people of St. Kitts and the people of Nevis, there should be a Treaty of Friendship and Co-operation between the two islands, which will make provision, among other things for -

(i) free movement of persons between the two islands without the need for travel documents;

(ii) free trade between the islands;

(iii) free access mutually to all family records and property records;

(iv) goods intended for one island landed in the other not to be subject to duty or other impost;

(v) establishment of a Joint Commission consisting of representatives of both islands to review the relations between the two islands on an on-going and permanent basis.

The Labour Party would expect the particulars of the relationship between St. Kitts and Nevis to be worked out in full detail on the basis of the above proposals.

These proposals will form the basis of the Labour Party's position at any constitutional conference dealing with the political development of the islands of St. Kitts and Nevis.

In the circumstances, I am copying this letter to the President of the Peoples Democratic Party.

Yours faithfully
Lee L. Moore, M.P.
Leader of the Labour Party

c.c. Mr. T. Hobson
President of the Peoples Democratic Party