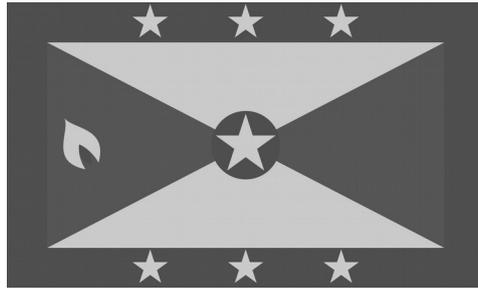


GRENADA



History, lives and liberty matter



**WHAT WE KNOW HAPPENED TO THE BODIES OF OUR LEADERS
&
A DEMAND FOR AN EXPLANATION FROM THE U.S. GOVERNMENT AS TO
WHAT THEY DID WITH THEIR REMAINS**

A call for international action to obtain historical truth, reconciliation and closure, to enable people of Grenada to progress, unite and come to terms with the tragedy that occurred in 1983

For further information contact the Committee for Human Rights in Grenada, UK, (CHRG)
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Introduction

In March-April 2018 Bernard Coard held a number of public meetings in England to promote his first book, *The Grenada Revolution What Really Happened*. A frequent question from the audiences was what had happened to the remains of Maurice Bishop and the other individuals executed on Fort George in October 1983. That Bernard could not state the final resting place of the remains because neither he nor any other member of the PRG knew this information was at times a matter of frustration for the audience. The purpose of this pamphlet is to seek to address this frustration, and to reveal that the independent evidence shows that the US forces took possession of the remains and that the Grenadian Government has been aware of this fact for a considerable time.

The evidence contained in this pamphlet comes from three main sources: -

1. An affidavit sworn for a Privy Council hearing in 2006 by the soldier initially responsible for taking the bodies to the camp in Calivigny.
2. The research carried out by the Young Leaders Groups of Presentation Brothers College in 2000 and 2002. The purpose of their research had no connection with the ongoing campaign to free the Grenada 17; it was to seek to bring closure and peace to the families of those who had been executed on the Fort. The students were shocked by the conclusion of their investigation, believing that they had uncovered a plot to hide the remains of Maurice Bishop.
3. Extracts from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission set up by Prime Minister Mitchell which clearly finds that the bodies were in the possession of the US forces and were taken to St George's University on 10th November, 1983.

Affidavit of Callistus Bernard

On the night of 19th October 1983 Callistus was informed by a senior army officer that in the circumstances, the bodies of Bishop and the others could not be handed over for immediate burial because that could lead to further unrest in the country. He was therefore informed that the army had to temporarily take control of the bodies. He was instructed to undertake the task of securing the bodies; he did not like the assignment but had to comply with it. After receiving the instructions, we went to Fort Rupert (George) and discussed the mission with a number of soldiers including Fabian Gabriel. They discussed a number of options for preserving the bodies; one option was placing the bodies in deep freezers, but they did not possess the appropriate freezers. Another option was placing the bodies in barrels of spirit or rum, but none were available. Finally, it was decided that the only practical option was to bury the bodies on the military base in Calivigny.

The bodies were taken to Calivigny where there were trenches which formed part of the defence of the camp and a trench was selected for the temporary burial of the bodies. Fabian Gabriel argued that the bodies would rot quickly if they were just buried like that, and stated that he knew a technique for the primitive embalming of bodies, which he had learnt when he worked in Honduras. He claimed that this was achieved by applying moderate heat, which would slow down the rotting process. Callistus indicated that he left Gabriel and others to complete the task and returned to the Fort to report to the officer what had been done to the bodies. The officer was angry and instructed him to return to Calivigny immediately and ensure that any fire was put out and that the bodies were buried, which he did immediately.

Callistus recalls Cpl. Earl Brown of the Jamaican Defence Force giving evidence at the Preliminary Inquiry in 1984; he did not give evidence at the subsequent trial as the prosecution claimed he had travelled and was unavailable, but his Preliminary Inquiry deposition was entered into evidence. Brown claimed that in November 1983 he was present when some gravediggers went into a hole in Camp Fedon in Calivigny and he saw them take out things like wallets, billfolds and some scorched foreign currency among other items. He gave no testimony about seeing the removal of bodies (a copy of the deposition was attached to the affidavit but we do not have access to it).

At the trial the prosecution introduced no evidence about the recovery of the bodies. However, the prosecution introduced evidence from a person who allegedly witnessed the disposal of the bodies and that they were fried like eggs, the implication being that they were burned into oblivion; this I

knew to be a lie. That the bodies were total destroyed was a main theme of the Chief prosecutor in his address to the jury.

Callistus became aware of the research done by the Presentation Brothers College and that they have concluded in their report that the bodies of Maurice Bishop and others were recovered in November 1983. He had been shown an e mail from Earl Brown to the PBC Young Leaders, dated 27th January 2000 and he is stunned by the contents of his e mail given the manner in which the prosecution conducted the case. However, he was relieved because the content of the e mail confirms what he knew to be true regarding the application of heat to the bodies and the prompt termination of that process. (The text of the E mail from Earl Brown is contained in the next chapter).

Callistus indicated that he remained silent on the disposal of the bodies at his trial due to the sensitivity and emotionally wrenching nature of the issue and because of the character of the trial. In the two and a half years leading up to the trial the overwhelming propaganda sold to Grenadian public was that no bodies existed because after executing the Prime Minister the bodies were destroyed by burning them out of existence. His silence was heavily influenced by the devastating impact of this overwhelming propaganda. There was no way of disproving it without presenting the bodies, which he could not do, so he chose silence.

.....

Pages 5 to 19, below, are extracts taken from a book titled: Under the Cover of Darkness, researched and published by the Young Leaders of the Presentation Brothers College (PBC), from 1999 to 2002, which reveals valuable information:-

We are convinced that all nine bodies were placed in one grave at Camp Fedon, Calivigny.

On June 11, 1986, (at the trial of the Grenada 17) a Barbadian Police Inspector, Jasper Watson, gave a description of the grave from which the bodies of Maurice Bishop and his colleagues had been taken a few days earlier (at the beginning of November 1983) by the US grave registration team.

The grave was reported to be large hole near the training school toilets. It was 20 feet long, eight feet wide and some five feet at its deepest point.

The hole stank. There were particles, burnt matter and cloth inside and outside the hole. Andre Andall, a gravedigger, was one of those who accompanied Inspector Watson to the grave site in 1983.

Testimony by Barbadian Sgt. Colin Braithwaite on May 14, 1986, and Barbadian PC Courtney Holder on May 15-16, 1986, showed that jewelry was also discovered at the grave site.

This jewelry comprising rings and pendants was positively identified as belonging to Evelyn “Brat” Bullen and Norris Bain. The mandibles, due to the unusual bridgework, were identified as belonging to Unison Whiteman. The US admitted in their report that female clothing was discovered in the hole. These items of clothing could only have belonged to Jacqueline Creft, since she was the only female taken to Calivigny for burial.

We would like to lay to rest all the rumors that some bodies were buried at sea or others are still buried at Camp Calivigny somewhere in an unmarked grave. All the bodies were removed from the one hole by the US grave registration team. We have two pieces of evidence to support our claim.

In a statement given at 7:30 p.m. to Inspector Jasper Watson and witnessed by Sgt. Colin Braithwaite **on Wednesday, November 2, 1983**, Gabriel, a soldier who formed part of Bishop’s execution squad, stated that the bodies were put “on a yellow dump truck and went to Camp Fedon where the bodies were burnt and buried in one hole.”

During the period of research carried out by the Young Leaders Groups of Presentation Brothers College in 2000 and 2002:

A member of the G 17 at the Richmond Hill prison gave us answers to the direct questions given below.

Interviewer: How many trips were made from Fort Rupert to Camp Fedon with bodies on the night of October 19, 1983?

Ex-soldier: One

Interviewer: As far as you can recall, were the bodies of Evelyn Bullen, Evelyn Maitland, Keith Hayling and the Vincent Noel present?

Ex-soldier: Yes

Interviewer: How many sites were the bodies taken to Camp Fedon buried in?

Ex-soldier: One

Interviewer: Is there any possibility that there could have been a separate burial site without your knowledge?

Ex-soldier: No

Interviewer: Any more comments?

Ex-soldier: All nine bodies- Maurice Bishop, Jacqueline Creft, Unison Whiteman, Norris Bain, Fitzroy Bain, Evelyn Bullen, Evelyn Maitland, Keith Hayling and Vincent Noel were buried at one site. No other bodies were buried with these.

Even though we have good reason to doubt the testimony of the deceased Christopher Bowen and to some extent, Fabian Gabriel, never once did any of them mention more than one grave site at Camp Fedon.

Based on a description of the bodies by eye witnesses at the St. George's University, we assume that the five bodies that were recovered as will be described in Chapter 5 represented all that remained of the nine who were buried in that pit. The Young Leaders interviewed the doctor who was called

to examine the remains, along with a worker at the University who was present when the remains arrived and also when they were being examined over a two-day period.

Discovery of Bodies

From the early hours of the morning of October 20, 1983 until Wednesday, November 9, 1983, the bodies of Maurice Bishop and his eight colleagues lay in their muddy and shallow grave in Camp Fedon. Twenty days elapsed before they were to be discovered by US armed forces.

In early November, the US army received information that there was a mass grave containing the remains of the late Prime Minister Maurice Bishop. A group calling itself the grave registration team, went to the site along with only one soldier from the peacekeeping force, a Jamaican named Earl Brown. They dug up the shallow grave finishing late in the afternoon. The date was Wednesday, November 9, 1983.



US Registration Team unearthing burial site at Camp Fedon, Calivigny, Grenada.

We now know that the tip-off about the grave's location came from the camp cook at the time. His name was Christopher Bowen who lived in Darbeau, St. George's. Unfortunately, he died in 2000 after falling from a tree. Shortly before he died though, he was able to speak to the students on two occasions. It was evident that he was a drug addict and that his stories often confused dates.

However, the information he gave corroborated that of the Jamaican soldier, even though they had not been in contact since 1983. Mr. Bowen spoke of the slow and meticulous recovery process.

We do know that the conditions in 1983 were extremely wet. On Wednesday, May 14, 1986, Sergeant Fabian Gabriel testified in court that at about 1:30 a.m. he went to camp Fedon with (Callistus) Bernard where he saw a truck with the bodies of Bishop and his colleagues stuck in the mud.

This corroborates a (*torture) statement made by Callistus Bernard and published on May 27, 1986 in the Trinidad Express where he said, "... I went back to Fort Rupert on the night of 19 October, around 11: 00 p.m. and the bodies were on a truck. I drove my van there and then the truck driven by a man whom I don't know and about seven soldiers on it, left for Camp Fedon, Calivigny. The truck stuck so I had to transport the bodies in my van."

Bowen described the recovery process, giving a graphic description of the bodies, some of whom he recognised since parts of the bodies that were stuck in the mud had not burned. This is highly likely since the team that discovered the bodies found clothing, jewellery, paper, currency and receipts.

On January 27, 2000, after a very long search and phone calls to Jamaica and the United States, the elusive Jamaican soldier, Earl Brown, was contacted by the Young Leaders. He was willing to share with the students a description of what he saw at the grave site in Calivigny. It is important to note that when interviewed, Brown had no idea that we were attempting to compare his 'on the spot' account with the official report produced by the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology in Washington D.C, which we will henceforth call the Consultation Report.

We now give the contents of Brown's e-mail message to us verbatim.

Date sent: Thursday, January 27, 2000.

- I WAS AT CAMP CALIVIGNY BECAUSE WHILE INTERROGATING, INFORMATION CAME TO LIGHT THAT BODIES WERE BURIED IN A PIT
- THESE BODIES WERE SAID TO BE THAT OF MAURICE BISHOP, JACKIE CREFT AND THREE OTHER MEMBERS OF HIS GOVERNMENT.
- WE GOT TO CALIVIGNY SOMETIME IN THE AFTERNOON MAYBE AFTER TWO OR THREE O'CLOCK.
- THE REMAINS WERE PARTIALLY BURNT AND PARTIALLY DECOMPOSED.
- IT WAS QUITE OBVIOUS THAT ONE OF THE BODIES WAS A FEMALE.
- THERE WAS NO MISTAKE THAT THERE WAS DEFINITELY A FEMALE IN THAT PIT.
- SKULLS ALONG WITH OTHER BODY PARTS WERE FOUND.
- BASED ON THE INFORMATION THAT WE HAD RECEIVED ABOUT WHO WERE SHOT AND DISPOSED OF AT THAT LOCATION AND BASED ON THE DESCRIPTION OF THE CLOTHING THAT THE VICTIMS WERE WEARING WHEN THE REMAINS WERE RECOVERED, IT WAS VERY CLEAR THAT MR. BISHOP AND MS. CREFT'S BODIES WERE AMONG THE FIVE THAT WERE RECOVERED AT CALIVIGNY. AT THAT TIME BACK IN 1983 BASED ON INFORMATION ALONE, IT WAS QUITE OBVIOUS THAT THOSE PEOPLE WERE IN FACT IN THE PIT.
- TODAY WE WOULD DEFINITELY HAVE TO USE DNA OR OTHER FORMS OF TECHNOLOGY TO DETERMINE WHOSE BODIES WERE THERE. BUT AT THE TIME OF RECOVERY, ALTHOUGH WE COULD NOT IDENTIFY EACH BODY BY HIS FEATURES, ONE COULD MAKE NEAR IF NOT A POSITIVE IDENTIFICATION BASED ON INFORMATION ABOUT THE CLOTHING THAT EACH PERSON WAS WEARING AT THE TIME OF DEATH AND THAT WAS ALREADY ESTABLISHED BY PEOPLE WHO WERE AT THE FORT THAT DAY.
- THE REPORT WOULD HAVE BEEN WRONG IF IT STATED THAT THERE WAS FEMALE CLOTHING BUT NO FEMALE BODY PARTS. THERE WERE FEMALE BODY PARTS FOUND THAT DAY AND THAT IS THE TRUTH.
- ONE OF THOSE BODIES WAS DEFINITELY THAT OF PRIME MINISTER MAURICE BISHOP. BASED ON THE INFORMATION ABOUT THE CLOTHING HE WAS WEARING AT THE FORT AT THE TIME HE WAS KILLED, ONE OF THOSE BODIES WAS HIS.
- UNFORTUNATELY, I WAS THE ONLY JAMAICAN AND CARIBBEAN PEACE KEEPING FORCE MEMBER TO BE PRESENT AT THE GRAVESITE. THAT WAS DUE TO THE FACT THAT I WAS ONE OF THE PEOPLE WHO GOT INFORMATION ABOUT THE LOCATION OF THE BODIES.

We were also able to speak to Brown by telephone. He explained to us what he meant by female body parts. He quite specifically remembered seeing breast and genitals; hence his insistence that there was a female among the remains. We compared his accounts with those newspaper reports from the period. The Trinidad Express reported on Thursday, November 10, 1983, two days after the discovery:

A US official said today that the remains of three males and one female appear to be in a grave on Grenada where officials have said former Prime Minister Maurice Bishop may have been buried.

On Wednesday, November 9, the day after the discovery, the Trinidad Guardian reported: U.S. soldiers today found burnt and decomposed bodies of three people, including what may be the skeleton remains of slain Prime Minister, Maurice Bishop.... Army Captain Henry Fore said one of the scorched skeletal remains was that of a woman. He also said that the remains were burnt beyond recognition.

Captain Henry Fore stated that one of the scorched skeletal remains was that of a woman, without mentioning to the reporter anything about female clothing. Fore's statement to the press substantiates Earl Brown's account that there was definitely a woman in the remains.

This emphasis on the discovery of a woman is important to this project since, as we shall see in the next chapter, the U.S. Consultation Report emphatically denies the presence of any women in the remains. This could be interpreted as a denial of the discovery of Jacqueline Creft which we believe is a deliberate attempt to cast doubt about the identities of the remains.

Since Jacqueline Creft, Maurice Bishop, and their seven colleagues were buried in the same hole, discovery of her body would confirm the discovery of Maurice Bishop and the others.

We know that the only female unaccounted for among those killed at Fort Rupert was Jacqueline Creft. Her body was the only one among the eight males taken to Calivigny by Callistus Bernard and Fabian Gabriel in the early morning hours of October 20.



Captain Henry Fore reported to be examining a wrist watch found in the burial site at Camp Fedon, early in November 1983.

The U.S. Consultation Report confirms the presence of female clothing in these remains, and also that they belonged to Jacqueline Creft. We shall now look at this report, produced after a thorough examination of the remains which were taken from the grave site in Calivigny to the St. George's University laboratory for examination.

Chapter 5 - The Consultation Report contained in the PBC report

On Wednesday, November 9, 1983, at least five bodies and body parts were sent to the St. George's University Anatomy lab for analysis. Dr. Robert Jordan was approached in 1983 to assist in the cleaning and examining of the remains. He is still attached to the St. George's University. He kindly granted us the interviews- the first being Monday, August 30, 1999 and the second on Thursday, March 1, 2001. Dr. Jordan was very co-operative and had kept a diary, so that the sequence of the events we now describe is very accurate. It is definite that the body parts discovered in Calivigny, and which we believe contained the remains of Maurice Bishop, arrived at the St. George's University on Wednesday, November 9, 1983, since this was recorded in Dr. Jordan's diary. The sequence of events are described below.

Wednesday, November 9, 1983. Six black body bags were brought to the St. George's School of Medicine. We were told that each bag was full of dirt and maggots. It looked like cooked roast beef, pink on the inside and black on the outside. The ends of the bones were charred and splintered

which is consistent with being dynamited or run over by a vehicle. No metal fragments were found in the remains.

Three and a half pelvises were found. Also found were Bain's wallet with receipts, two silver bracelets and mandibles with a gold bridge which were identified as belonging to Unison Whiteman.

Thursday, November 10, 1983. The remains were taken to the hospital in St. George's to be X-rayed (through the body bags) and bullets were discovered in the bones.

Friday, November 12, 1983, the bags were sent back to the medical school to be examined thoroughly all day long.

Saturday, November 12, 1983, the remains were picked up by Otway's funeral Home. Dr. Robert was not sure who authorized this.

We cannot put a date to the burial of those body bags. Leslie Bailey, now deceased, would have been the only one who could have told us certainly where the bags are located, but he took the secret with him when he departed this life. It appears that he was given strict instructions to bury the bags quietly in the St. George's Cemetery.

On December 12, 1983, the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology (AFIP), **based in** Washington D.C. produced a report on the examination of the remains of the bodies found in Calivigny, which we now know are those of Maurice Bishop and his colleagues. On examining the report, the Young Leaders felt that it was put together very hastily, with major inaccuracies and inconsistencies when compared with actual eyewitness accounts.

The addendum of this report, says that the officer in charge of the recovery was satisfied that the grave registration team "did a thorough job and recovered as many remains and personal effects as possible under the circumstances."

The first inconsistency in the report is that the grave registration team reported putting the remains in four body bags, yet two eyewitnesses; Dr. Robert Jordan and Mr. Christopher Belgraves, a worker, remembered seeing six black body bags which were spread out on six tables for

examination. This inaccuracy needs to be clarified, especially for such an important find. The report did state that remains represented at least five people. We believe that since there was only one grave site at Calivigny, this revelation supports our theory that the bodies of Maurice Bishop and his eight colleagues, were in those bags taken from Calivigny.

The bones which were discovered were measured and matched to a scale to determine the height of the individuals. In layman's language, the taller you are, the longer are your bones and, using a scale, one can calculate the height of an individual. The Consultation Report, which is the official report by the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology, said that their bone measurements proved that the men in those body bags could not be over 75 inches tall, and therefore the body of Maurice Bishop, a tall man, could not be among the remains. There is a conflict of scientific opinion here, since Dr. Hughvon DeVignes, a forensic pathologist from Trinidad, told us that the scale he uses for Caribbean men does not preclude the distinct possibility that one of the remains represented a man over six feet tall. In short, it is very likely that some of those bones belonged to Maurice Bishop.

The Consultation Report also made this statement:

Personal effects contained items of female attire, including some reportedly belonging to Jacqueline Creft, but we found no identifiable anatomic evidence of female remains.

This is surprising, especially when all eyewitnesses remembered seeing a female in the grave site at Calivigny. Below is a synopsis of an interview with Dr. Jordan and the Young Leaders. We were happy, for the sake of our project, to have had the good fortune of speaking with a doctor who actually examined the remains of what we now believed to be those of Maurice Bishop, Jacqueline Creft and the seven others who were taken to Calivigny hours after being executed at Fort Rupert.

Interview with Dr. Jordan on Thursday, March 1, 2001

Venue Anatomy Lab, St George's University

Young Leader: I have a report from a soldier who was there at the time (reading from Earl Brown's e-mail message). It states: "We got there about 2:00 or 3:00 in the afternoon. I was part of the US recovery team. The remains were partially burnt and decomposed. It was quite obvious that one was a woman. Skulls along with other body parts were found." I spoke with him on the telephone and he

said that he saw breasts and genitals. This is in direct contradiction to the US report, which stated that there was no anatomic evidence of female bones in the remains.

Doctor: I know. I was quite surprised myself. We found at least three pieces of hemi-sected (cut in half) pelvises, the innominate bones besides the pelvis and they had what looked like the birthing marks on the pubic symphysis, which showed that the woman had given birth. There were at least three. They would be part of two female hemi-pelvises. And we found Jackie's dress which as far I remember, her mother identified. We also found some female jewelry.

Young Leader: Do you know what happened to the dress?

Doctor: No

Young Leader: Look at this report. A US official said that the remains of three males and one female were found in a pit. Isn't it strange that he was so definite that one female was found, and yet the US Consultation Report said there was no anatomic evidence of any female in the remains?

Doctor: Well, that is not my recollection. I remember looking at the pelvis, the innominate bones, putting a couple together and saying, "That looks like a female pelvis. Plus a third innominate bone had notches on it that were indicative of childbirth.

Young Leader: The what, notches?

Doctor: Little groves in the pubic symphysis that indicate that the pelvises were pulled slightly apart during childbirth and then came back together. These are distinctive grooves in the cartilage.

Young Leaders: With what kind of certainty can you say that those bones were female?

Doctor: Very good percent. In my mind I saw some female pelvises. I was surprised when I read in the report later there were no female bones.

Why would those forensic experts from the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology say that no female bones were present in the remains? It is doubtful that experts could make such a mistake, so we have to conclude that there was an attempt to hide the truth about the discovery of Jacqueline Creft's body. Could it be that someone knew that if it were revealed that Ms. Creft's body had been discovered, then Maurice Bishop's body would have also been in those remains? As teenagers, we cannot demand that the truth be revealed, but we are insulted that the intelligence of Grenadians could be mocked in this way in 1983 and now in 2001.

The US report went on to say that personal effects belonging to Fitzroy Bain and Evelyn Maitland were also found. Why, then, were their remains secretly buried? Surely, the families of these men would want to give them a dignified funeral! A jaw with some teeth was also discovered, and later identified to be that of Unison Whiteman. **Who authorized Leslie Bailey to bury these remains, and what right had he to do so?**

Another mystery is that Earl Brown in his email to us confirmed the presence of complete human skulls in the remains. Yet the Consultation Report states that only "small fragments of skull bones" were found. We have communicated by e-mail with a number of experts and not one could explain how clothing, paper receipts and bills could be found and no skulls. How could one find flesh, skin from a chin, paper receipts and currency bills, bones from other parts of the body, but no skulls? Earl Brown's email below confirms the presence of skulls in the remains. We asked him specifically about skulls without letting him know our intention of matching his description with the US Consultation Report.

Earl Brown, January 6, 2000 - Email message to Young Leaders:

I must first say that after 16 years I thought that the people of Grenada had already given their dead from that incident, a proper burial.

I am very saddened by the fact that these people were not given a proper burial.

I personally was very hurt by the fact that Maurice Bishop got killed. I was happy that I was involved in the finding of his body, I say finding his body because based on the information that we received at the time regarding the number of bodies and the specific description regarding clothing that they were wearing at the time of death, the bodies were put in body bags and tagged as to who was in what.

I must also say that although the bodies were partially burnt, we recovered more than just bones.

It was very positive that one female body was inside that grave along with four males.

There were skulls, bones and flesh parts that were recovered, although we could not make out specific features that we could match with pictures.

A total of five bags were removed as far as I can remember and we finished the entire operation late that evening.

I hope I have helped to resolve this issue.

Thanks

Earl Brown

The evidence suggests that someone removed complete skulls between the time the remains were recovered in Calivigny and their arrival at the lab in Grand Anse. Why would someone do this? In 1983, DNA testing was not yet developed so the only way to identify human remains was by examination of the skull, and in particular, dentition. It seems that a hasty job was done to remove complete skulls, and then the remains were sent to the lab for examination. Dr. Jordan thinks that the remains he saw on the examination tables on November 9, 1983 were either blown apart or rolled over by a heavy vehicle.

In May 2010, three families who lived at Calivigny in October 1983 were asked whether they heard any explosions in the early hours of the morning on October 20. They all saw smoke but heard no explosions. The dynamite that Dr. Jordan believes was used on the remains could not have been done by the RMC at the time of burning and burial. If dynamite were used, it was done **AFTER** the discovery on Tuesday, November 8, 1983. Explosions would have been heard and remembered. In any event, someone seems to have gone to great pains to ensure that the identity of those remains would be shrouded in uncertainty. One theory which seems plausible is that Maurice Bishop would have been made a martyr had his remains been discovered, and this was undesirable at the time in Grenada. We, the Young Leaders, are convinced that once those body bags buried by Leslie Bailey are discovered, then Maurice Bishop's remains, or at least some of them, would be found.

There is a great discrepancy between the observations made by the Jamaican soldier who accompanied the US Grave Registration team and the forensic team that took at least three days to record their observation and conclusions.

The Jamaican soldier, Earl Brown was adamant that he saw skulls and female body parts. In our telephone conversation with him, he explained what he meant by female anatomic parts. He described in no uncertain terms the decomposing breasts and female genitalia which were then placed in a body bag. He also saw skulls – not just fragments, but entire ones. The US forensic team claimed that there were no female body parts.

In fact, when one juxtaposes the Consultation Report, which summarized the examination process of the remains, and the description of the Jamaican soldier who helped recover the remains, it seems obvious that some body parts were removed. More specifically, there was some form of sorting where the skulls were deliberately removed from the recovered remains.

The sorting process would have taken a few hours at least. We always thought that the remains from Calivigny were taken directly to the medical school, but this is proving to be a false belief.

Two pieces of evidence can attest to the fact that the body bags were not taken directly to the gross lab at St. George's University for examination. The first is a report which appeared in the Trinidad Guardian on Thursday, November 10, 1983:



U.S. army soldiers carried a body from a mass burial grave in Calivigny Grenada on Tuesday, November 8th 1983. Four badly burned bodies were removed from a former PRA military camp. Officials suspect that the remains of former Prime Minister Maurice Bishop may be in the mass grave, stemming from the October 19th massacre. (UPI photo)

It is definite that the bags arrived at the lab on Wednesday, November 9, 1983. Dr. Robert Jordan, who still works in the anatomy lab at the True Blue University Campus recorded in his diary the date when the body bags were brought to the lab. It was November 9, 1983. For our investigation, we were able to interview Christopher Belgrave, a worker whose responsibility was to clean the gross lab. He remembers five or six garbage bags arriving at the lab around 10:00 or 11:00 a.m. that day with human remains.

It could not have been the same day of their discovery since Earl Brown remembers finishing the recovery process at Calivigny “late that evening”. Assuming that the remains of Maurice Bishop and his colleagues were recovered at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 8, it was close to 16 hours later that they arrived at the lab for examination. This was more than enough time to sort through the remains and remove all complete human skulls or female anatomic parts.

Mr. Belgrave said that the human remains which gave off an awful stench, arrived at the lab in plastic bags that looked like large garbage bags. Since he was responsible for keeping the lab clean, he suggests that they spread six large body bags on the examination tables. He did not want the contents to be spilled out onto the bare tables. He described to us how he unzipped six bags and then helped the US forensic team spill out the contents onto the examination tables. The photo of the recovery process makes plain that the human remains were placed directly into about four to six body bags. How does one explain, then, that the bodies arrived in large plastic bags that looked like garbage bags?

Why couldn't the remains be taken directly to the St. George's University lab? Why were the remains taken out of the original body bags and placed into other plastic bags?

We (The Young Leaders) conclude that the remains were tampered with, and that during a 16-hour period, skulls as well as other body parts, were removed to confuse the identification of the human remains discovered at Calivigny. Evidence also suggests that the remains were dynamited or run over by a heavy vehicle.

CHRG's Conclusion

Having carried out a considerable amount of research ourselves and also read the extensive reports by PBC and the TRC, we have concluded that the evidence shows that the remains of Maurice Bishop and the others were buried in a trench in Camp Fedon, Calivigny early on October 20th and that the remains were discovered by the invading forces on sometime between 2nd and 8th November. The e mail from Earl Brown confirms the affidavit given by Callistus Bernard that the bodies were partially burnt but skulls and other body parts were intact and it would have been possible to make near if not a positive identification based on the information about the clothing that each person was wearing at the time of death. The bodies must have been identifiable at this point, as Captain Henry Fore is able to tell the press that the remains of Maurice Bishop and others have been found. Yet by the time that the remains were brought by the US army to the laboratory at St George's University they are described as being unidentifiable, and Dr Jordan expresses the view that they appear to have been dynamited. He also claims that the remains of Maurice Bishop were not present, even though the US Army had already confirmed their discovery.

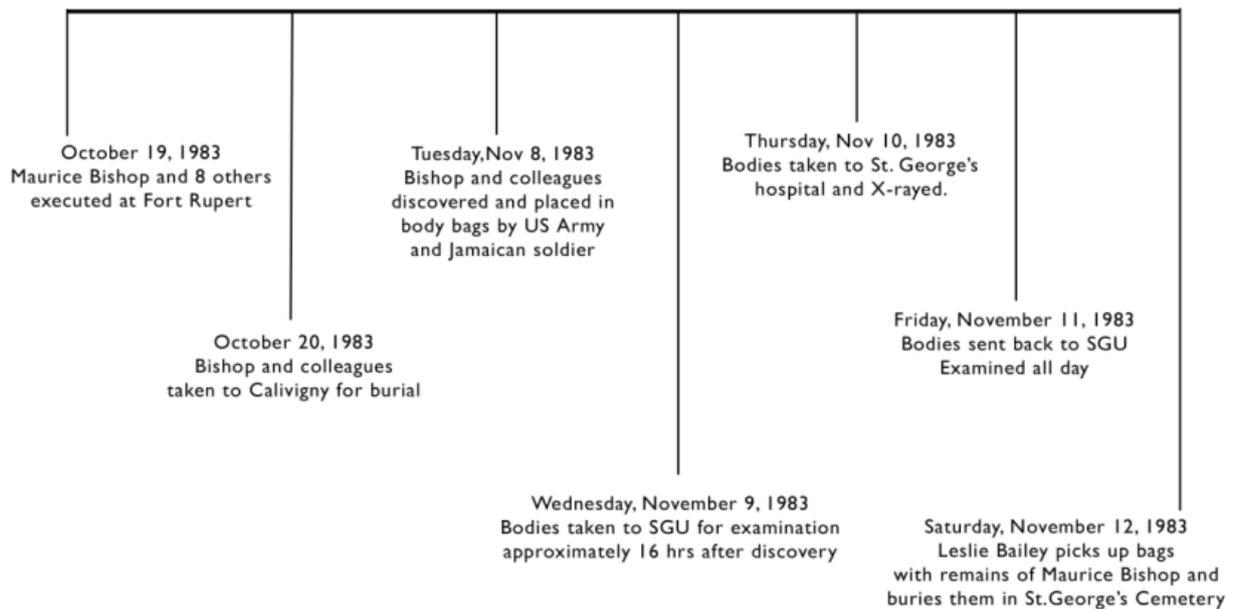
A number of important questions flow from the evidence:-

1. As the bodies were identifiable at the time of their discovery, who desecrated the remains so badly that they were unidentifiable and simply meat and bones by the time they reach the University Laboratory?
2. If, according to Captain Fore of the US Forces the remains of Maurice Bishop had been found, what happened to them between the time they were found at Camp Fedon in Calivigny and the examination at the University?
3. If the bodies were unidentifiable by the time that they reached the University, how could anyone be sure that they did not include the remains of Maurice Bishop?
4. Why have some witnesses sought to deny the presence of the remains of Jacqueline Creft? Could it be that it is not plausible that the remains of Maurice Bishop would not have been in the same location?
5. Did the prosecution mislead the jury in the Grenada 17 / Maurice Bishop Murder trial?

6. What did the US forces do with the remains after they had been examined at the University?
Were they disposed of in Grenada or taken to the US?

7. Why have successive Governments in Grenada not acted on the recommendation of the TRC to make serious efforts to ascertain the location of the remains?

Timeline from execution to burial of Maurice Bishop and colleagues



The above Timeline was produced by the Young Leaders of PCB

