

MONDAY 17TH OCTOBER 2022 | VOLUME 3 ISSUE 198 | WWW.POINTVILLE.AG

“CRACKHEAD” LEADERSHIP: UPP THREATENS TO SELL OFF NAMCO

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Parliamentary Representative for St. John's City West, Prime Minister Gaston Browne, second right, took to the streets on Saturday during his customary constituency walk through. PM Browne stopped at multiple small businesses in the community to show his support financially.

Local News



PM Browne: UK's Kwarteng is Lovell's "better educated" parallel

The son of Ghanaian immigrants to the UK, Conservative Kwasi Kwarteng took only 12 years to rise from being a little-known politician to Chancellor in his close friend, Liz Truss' new government.

In doing so, Kwarteng became the first black man in the United Kingdom's history to hold the prestigious position, which despite his background as an economist, many think he was ill prepared for in respect of his experience.

Kwarteng has also, unenviably, become the second shortest serving Chancellor in UK history serving only 38 days before his "mini budget" involving sweeping

tax cuts created panic in the country's economic circles and a crisis of leadership in the new Truss administration.

He barely missed becoming the shortest serving Chancellor by a mere 8 days, a record held by another Conservative, Iain Macleod, who died 30 days after assuming the position in 1970.

On Saturday morning, Prime Minister Gaston Browne said Kwarteng is former finance minister under the Baldwin Spencer administration, Harold Lovell's younger and "better educated" parallel here in Antigua and Barbuda.

"PM Baldwin Spencer promoted the financial neophyte Lovell, who had no



Prime Minister Gaston Browne prior experience, or qualifications in finance and he collapsed the economy.

"A weak Baldwin Spencer bought into Harold's slick lies and excuses instead of firing him, after several years of contracting [the] economy.

"This is [a] classic case where ambition and competence were misaligned."

The prime minister's comments on Saturday followed an announcement on Thursday by the UPP's leader that, if elected, his administration intends to dissolve the National Asset Management Company (NAMCO) and make other sweeping changes to the National Housing Development and Urban Renewal Company.

"The UPP will suspend, audit, then dissolve NAMCO and pursue a more relevant private sector-led development strategy.

"Any funds in NAMCO will be transferred to the consolidated fund," said Lovell.

He also accused the Gas-

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<p>Mon 17 Day</p> <p>84° </p> <p>22% SE 5 mph</p> <p>Generally sunny despite a few afternoon clouds. High 84F. Winds light and variable.</p> <p>Humidity 74% UV Index Extreme</p> <p>Sunrise 6:00 am Sunset 5:44 pm</p>	<p>Mon 17 Night</p> <p>78° </p> <p>21% E 5 mph</p> <p>Mostly clear skies. Low 78F. Winds light and variable.</p> <p>Humidity 79% UV Index 0 of 10</p> <p>Moonrise 11:59 pm Moonset 12:44 pm</p> <p> Last Quarter</p>
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ton Browne administration of engaging in “waste and inefficiency” in the management of public resources by providing subsidised housing for nationals at a cost of EC\$100,000 to \$150,000 through National Housing.

While he did not explain the details of his plan or how it will all work differently than the programme now in place that he heavily criticised, he broadly stated that a UPP administration would merge National Housing and Central Housing and Planning Authority (CHAPA) to create a “transparent and accountable new housing entity”.

Earlier this year, Lovell said a UPP government will move to introduce a rent-to-own housing initiative which would offer homes for \$900 a month, \$100 more than the base payments for the ABLP government’s no-frills low income homes which are being sold outright to the public.

This is a recycled vision, however. During the UPP’s two terms in office, a similar rent-to-own programme, which never materialised, was also dangled before the electorate. In its ten years in government, the UPP, in fact, only constructed ten homes.

Prime Minister Browne also refuted the claim that NAMCO is poorly managed or that there is a lack of transparency.

A thorough analysis of NAMCO’s financial statements up to 31st December, 2018 was prepared and signed off on by the country’s Director of Audit, Dean Evanson, in a report dated 9th May, 2022.

In the report, as of 31st December, 2018, the company’s total liabilities were listed at EC\$9,718,020 against its total shareholder’s equity of EC\$47,891,618.

Browne went on that any attempt to sell off a successful national asset in NAMCO was a “crack-head” leader-

ship move.

“Lovell promises to sell off Namco’s assets, like a crack-head leader,” said Browne. “[The] implications of this amputation: WIOC, State Insurance, Halcyon Hotel, Jolly Beach Hotel, Car Park, and shares in ECAB, CUB, Blue Ocean Marine, and even APUA PCS when the corporatisation is completed, will [be] sold at a heavy discount.”

Browne continued that the UPP leader was erroneously condemning his ABLP government for “spending too much money on the people”.

“Just imagine the job losses and pauperisation that will be repeated by Lovell,” Browne said. “These are the enlightened political ideas of a political dinosauric.”

Links to the NAMCO audit and a summary of The Rise and Fall of Kwasi Kwarteng can be found on both www.pointville.ag and Pointe FM’s Facebook page.



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Local News



Barbuda land survey begins this week

The team who will perform the survey of Barbuda's land is now in the country and will travel to Codrington this week to begin their work.

Information and Technology minister, Melford Nicholas,

has reported that the team arrived on Sunday and will travel to Barbuda today where they will plant geo-stationary equipment that will enable superior communication and future surveys by

government agencies in Antigua and Barbuda.

"They will plant two pieces of equipment on Barbuda and two on Antigua to establish points that will serve as markers for the mapping of the island that will form part of the comprehensive surveying of the lands on the sister island," he revealed.

In Barbuda, one of the points will be established in Codrington and the other at the PLH Tower. On Antigua, the areas selected are Wilkies and Friar's Hill in St John's.

Nicholas was in Codrington earlier this month to negotiate arrangements to host the equipment. He said satellite imagery provides visual coverage of 98 percent of the island. The hope now is to use drones to complete mapping in areas that have not been covered.

Aircraft will also fly over

Barbuda to assist with the project.

According to Nicholas, representatives from the Survey Division are working alongside the overseas team.

As they collaborate, Barbuda will be divided into nine districts for the cadastral survey. While the overseas team will be in the country over the next two weeks, Minister Nicholas says the project will take up to eight months to complete.

As part of the process, he explained, hearings will be held after the survey is completed to resolve disputes that may arise regarding boundary markers and answer questions related to ownership as well as other issues.

Minister Nicholas is expected to meet with Barbuda's parliamentary representative Trevor Walker, as well as members of the Barbuda

cont'd on pg 5

Weekend Puzzle Solution

SCARE TACTICS

By Timothy E. Parker

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Equipment upgrades underway at VCBIA ahead of winter tourist season

The Antigua and Barbuda Airport Authority (ABAA) has reported that it is ready for what tourism experts predict will be an exceptionally successful winter season.

Chief Executive Officer of the ABAA, Euletta Francis, said recently that the authority has been working behind the scenes to ensure that all its equipment is in working condition ahead of the commencement of the season.

The X-ray system used in baggage handling, especially on outgoing flights from V. C. Bird International Airport (VCBIA) is one item that has received attention.

“The baggage handling system has been giving us a lot of challenges for a number of years actually,” said Euletta Francis. “I think realistically, what we can say is that it was a bad purchase. No blame really; sometimes a company brings out a new vehicle and it just has its challenges.

“So, from 2016 since we opened, we have been experiencing challenges with the systems. They are very expensive machines, so this is a \$US5 million project.”

Francis also commended the team who successfully in-



V. C. Bird International Airport stalled the first machine last week as part of the upgrade of equipment at the country’s lone international airport.

“I have to say kudos to my operations and maintenance teams. It was a major challenge. I think some errors were made and so there was nothing set in place that if you’re going to change out these machines what would be the course.”

Francis explained that the installation of the new fourteen thousand pound machine, which required breaking through walls and the use of heavy duty equipment, was completed with no disruption to operations at the airport.

Another challenge the ABAA has experienced with baggage handling concerns its faulty conveyor belt system. This is most noticeable during check-in as for some time, passengers have been required to carry their lug-

gage from the check-in desk to an airport security checkpoint where staff then accept them for screening.

Francis anticipates, however, that all system upgrades will be completed by December.

Looking ahead to 2023, resurfacing the runway and

parking apron at VCBIA are among the ABAA’s top priorities.

“The runway is key to all of this activity that we’re talking about. We haven’t had a runway overlay in quite some years. We had to push a lot of things back for COVID, but we’re happy to say we are full-fledged into making that possible,” Francis said.

To cover the cost of all the work being done, Francis revealed that the Antigua and Barbuda Airport Authority is in the process of floating bonds to acquire the financing required to complete the planned upgrades.

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Council, to discuss the survey and other related matters.

Nicholas said he does not anticipate serious issues to arise at this stage of the project.

The government has said it is committed to establishing a complete registry of the land on Barbuda that will form part of the national registry of lands in Antigua and Barbuda.

UTILITIES ACCOUNT MANAGEMENT

DISCONNECTION NOTICE

APUA would like to remind both residential and commercial customers to stay connected by Managing Your Account. Customers are reminded to settle Electricity and Water accounts that are overdue by 30 days or in arrears. Disconnections will be carried out during the period **October 17th to October 31st, 2022.**

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Antigua and Barbuda on track to set cruise, overnight tourism record

Antigua and Barbuda is on course to break tourist arrival records in 2023 and confirm the recovery of the country’s economic mainstay in the aftermath of the pandemic.

According to Prime Minister Gaston Browne, reports suggest that 2023 will be a bumper year for the tourism industry with positive benefits overall for Antigua and Barbuda’s economy.

“I am told that for 2023, the cruise sector will be so strong that we will exceed the record breaking year 2019.

“The same is true for overnight visitors; those numbers are set to eclipse those of 2018. In fact, the port itself is on a trajectory to break

the record year of business activity it achieved back in 2018,” PM Browne said over the weekend.

The prime minister continued that these projections augur well for Antigua and Barbuda’s economic outlook in 2023.

“I am pretty sure that, barring Guyana, Antigua and Barbuda will have the strongest growing economy in the Caribbean next year in this the post-COVID era,” he stated.

Already, cruise arrivals for 2022 have surpassed 2021 when the world was still in the grips of the COVID-19 pandemic.

So far this year, a total of 184,108 cruise visitors have been welcomed to Antigua and Barbuda, a significant

increase over 2021’s 86,215.

Stayover visits have also improved with an increase in the month-to-month arrivals reported by the Ministry of Tourism.

Bolstering optimism in the industry, according to Prime Minister Browne, is the fact that the country’s room stock will soon receive a boost with the reopening of Jolly Beach this December and the Royalton Chic, formerly Halcyon Cove, by the last quarter of 2023.

He said the demand for Antigua and Barbuda as a tourist destination remains high in the global marketplace, however, this has at times been negatively affected by an inadequate supply of hotel rooms.



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CALVINAIR HELICOPTERS

Top cop calls on persons with information on illegal firearms to speak up

Police Commissioner Atlee Rodney is encouraging residents who know people who are in possession of illegal firearms to say something.

Rodney said the time has come for people to step forward and do the right thing as silence promotes increased criminal activity,

This silence, he continued, could backfire and create situations in which the people withholding information become victims of crime themselves.

“It helps when you remove that firearm from communities. Especially those illegal firearms that are causing havoc.

“Also, we would want to appeal to persons in the community who know of those persons who have the firearms to speak up. The time has come where you cannot shield people



Commissioner of Police, Atlee Rodney

like that because you don’t know whose life it is going to take.

“We have seen too many persons lose their lives because of illegal firearms and it is not only in Antigua - we are seeing it across the region, across the world - but I think in our little neck of the woods we can make a difference.

“This notion of hiding the information from law enforcement does not help the individual because you

have allowed that individual to go down a path of criminal activity.

“You are not helping your own self because the next bullet from that gun might be in your body,” Rodney said.

The top cop’s comments stem from a recent interview in which he addressed the Cabinet’s recently introduced gun amnesty.

While many details concerning the amnesty are unclear, according to the

post-Cabinet report, it will last until the end of the year.

Chief of Staff in the Office of the Prime Minister, Lionel Hurst, told media during a post-Cabinet media briefing last month while no pronouncements have yet been made on the specifics, the process – including the amount and payment for the guns, as well as the logistics involved in the handover of the weapons – will likely be similar to that of previous gun amnesties.

The last gun amnesty took place in 2017 to address a spate of gun-related crimes in the country.

Then, the government offered thousands of dollars to anyone who could provide credible information leading to the confiscation of illegal firearms and ammunition, and the successful prosecution of persons possessing the contraband.



APUA ELECTRICITY MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE

These planned outages are necessary for our continuous upgrade and maintenance programme to provide reliable and consistent service to our customers.

Tuesday, 18th October 2022	Wednesday, 19th October 2022	Thursday, 20th October 2022	Friday, 21st October 2022
Section of Fitches Creek near the Pond	Section of English Harbour near the Football Field	Section of Side Hill north of Bruce’s	Section of Liberta near the Primary School
8:30 AM - 11:30 AM	8:30 AM - 11:30 AM	8:30 AM - 11:30 AM	8:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Kindly note that this schedule is subject to slight variation. Changes will be communicated on the APUA Facebook page. Any service disruptions outside of this schedule were not anticipated. For further information and updates please call 311.

Tropical Shipping delegation holds meetings with A&B Port Authority

A high-level delegation from the marine freight transportation shipping company Tropical Shipping, today commences a four-day visit to Antigua and Barbuda in which they will engage in discussions aimed at making the Antigua and Barbuda Port Authority its business hub within the OECS.

While here, the Tropical Shipping representatives will tour the Antigua and Barbuda Port Authority and meet with its chairperson, Senator Mary-Claire Hurst and chief executive officer, Darwin Telemaque.

They will also meet with Prime Minister Gaston Browne and his Cabinet.

Ahead of this week's engagements, Telemaque said he was excited about the prospects that lie ahead.

"We're going to be speaking about shipping to the islands around us. Tropical is considering moving the bulk of their business to Antigua; we're excit-



Darwin Telemaque

ed about that and we're going to be sitting, speaking to them to have discussions into whether that's possible and how we can facilitate that," Telemaque said in a recent media appearance.

While at the Caribbean Maritime University 2022 Industry/Academic Conference in Kingston, Jamaica last month, the port's CEO suggested it would be economically practical and more strategic to develop a maximum of two, major ports to serve the needs of the sub-region.

Telemaque said it would be economically viable to centralise cargo


operations to fewer ports in the OECS and noted that Antigua and Barbuda's new St. John's Harbour, with its improved facilities and expanded capacity, is well positioned to serve this need.

The US\$90 million redevelopment of the Antigua and Barbuda Port Authority was completed with no cost overrun, and despite the delays experienced due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the port's boss says he is satisfied with the result.

"Now that we're done, we have a beautiful space way more enhanced than what it was and we're grateful for the coordinated effort from all who supported this and we have a product that is now ready to be operationalised," Telemaque said.

With the St. John's Harbour now complete, attention will now be directed to promoting the re-developed Antigua and Barbuda Port Authority within the region.

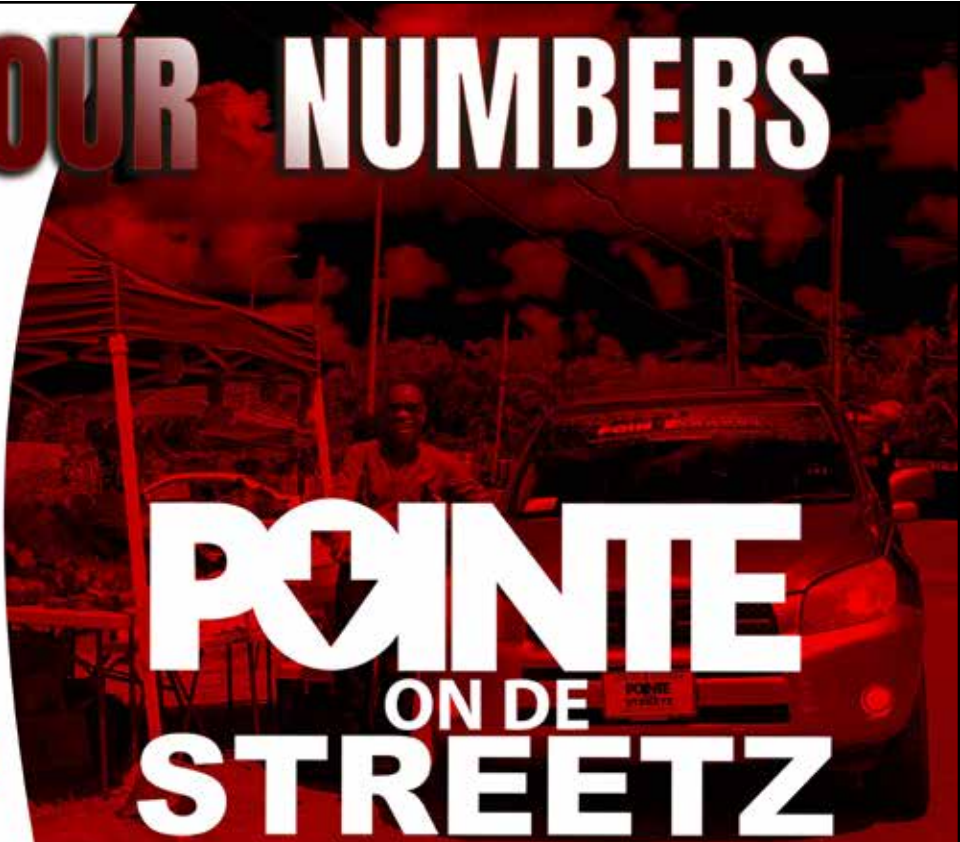
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Curry goat and fishy chips

By Tony Deyal

There is the story about the male mountain goat named “Cliff” which committed suicide when the farmer played Frank Sinatra’s “There will never be another Ewe.” In those days a goat was a “horned animal” and when men and women were forced by their loved ones to join that group, it became “a person who is blamed for causing a failure or defeat, especially in sports” or a “bad or inferior member of any group.”

Increasingly, because it is so easy to separate the sheep from the goats, we quickly learn that Caribbean cricket has a lot of these and most of them are Board officials, selectors or players who don’t know the difference between “plain” talk and “plane” talk.

Now, perhaps tired of being considered a total failure, someone has given the four-letter word “GOAT” a new meaning. It is increasingly “Greatest of All Time.” Like other goats, they must be kidding.

However, in Jamaica, it is not the animals but, as one of the goats told another as they waited in the Kingston abattoir, “We meat again.” Although Trinis, Guyanese, Barbadians and, in fact, all other Caribbean people when they meet boast about their curried goat, Jamaican Curry Goat is the only one featured globally by CNN television.

While Trinis might think

that CCN was trying to “curry favour” with Jamaica, the curry flavour was what carried the day for that country. CCN noted, “In Jamaica, a mix of British and Indian influence gave rise to a localized variety of curry goat -- the island’s most popular curry dish.

Prepared on special occasions, curry goat is tender and aromatic, thanks to ingredients like coconut milk, garlic, onion, allspice, thyme, Scotch bonnet chilli peppers, tomatoes and lots of turmeric for a sunny yellow hue.”

What CNN did not cover and may have to do really soon is find out what is now happening to choices and tastes in food, especially snacks. We in the Caribbean may quickly have to face what the Trinidad calypsonian described as “Curry Tabanca” or what Wiktionary calls, “melancholy, or a painful feeling of unrequited love.”

CNN might not send a reporter to interview Haagen Dazs with the instruction to look for a scoop, but it is food for thought. One thing is that it’s not like the old days when the French started eating snails because they didn’t like fast food. Or when ham and eggs were a day work for the chicken but a lifetime commitment for the pig.

Even though goats might have a similar issue with the curry, there is nothing like



Tony Deyal

a doughnut when you try to make a bagel and get a hole in one.

This is the case of CHAZZ, a Lithuania-based crisp company, which has launched the “first in the world” limited edition “Pussy flavour chips” which, it claims, were created based on research from around the world which suggests that millennials, persons reaching young adulthood in the early 21st century, are having three times less sex than their parents at the same age. CHAZZ boasts that its team is young, bold and “Socially Responsible” and that is why it took the disastrous trend very personally.

Not only does the company claim that its crips have a unique flavour for brave and free individuals but after tasting it you will

remember your wildest love adventures and your first real love. It also suggests that it can be a gift for “friends” or for a loved one to “initiate a romantic evening” or merely “a delight for your taste buds.”

Clearly, as far as they’re concerned, nothing beats a bud (or two). For those interested, the crips are only distributed in Europe at the moment and are available for €9.99. Readers of this column in Antigua, Barbados and Jamaica especially, can fly British Airways directly from your countries.

Fortunately, as I learnt for your benefit (and definitely not mine) Chazz is not the only supplier of snacks with women in mind. Three years ago, in 2019, the British “MIRROR”, claiming

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that Tyrrells, the British potato crisps manufacturer, had launched a product which was able to have a “provocative” effect on the body, asked, “Aphrodisiac crisps are now on sale for Valentine’s Day- but do they really work?” Tyrrells claimed that its combination of honey “tinkering with hormone levels” and chilli “triggering nerve endings on the tongue” could get pulses racing.

Again, for the benefit of my regional readers, Britain is not the only place where “sexy snacks” are in, especially when watching Netflix or other TV channels. One company boasts that “Nature’s candy can be a cherry bomb for your sex life and also recommends maple pumpkin seeds or dark chocolate mint as well as Kale and Chia Chips Chili Lime.

The India Times offers an article on the “15 Best Foods to Eat Before & After Having Sex.” Oatmeal, the appropriately named Raisin, Coconut and Chia seeds are included. Ginger is strongly in and red meat is also listed. I was surprised to see bananas as but I understand why.

They go back to the dawn of time. It is said that Eve bit the forbidden apple because it tasted better than Adam’s banana. Imagine the Indian paper recommended oysters and that made me think about the lady who was encouraged to give her husband oysters on their honeymoon and when asked the next day how things went, she was not totally pleased

and complained, “I gave him a dozen but only three worked.” What is incredible is that even oatmeal was suggested but not curry. Imagine, an Indian paper in the home of curry, did that. In other words, we Caribbean people have to take our Turban and stuff it.

Fortunately, sex “concoctions” (regardless of spelling) are not entirely in. A Scot company is selling Gin-flavoured crisps and maybe one of these days Appleton, Demerara Distillers, Mount Gay and Angostura might follow suit but with some harder stuff. What I would stay far from are crisps that are squirrel- or hedgehog- flavoured. I have even stopped eating hot dogs. But I do like my occasional bit of potato chip. Maybe because of the jokes like “Did you hear about the fight outside the local fish and chips shop?” The fish got battered. My favourite is, “What’s a nuclear engineer’s favourite meal?” Fission chips. Actually, British people and I are like chips that pass in the night.

They go looking for more and more things to put into their mouths and I, as a rough, tough Caribbean man, am forever thinking of going back to Port Royal and looking for Captain Kidd and his pirate chip and maybe, like every member of that dastardly crew, look for land ho.

**Tony Deyal was last seen recommending that the best way to stay off chips or aphrodisiacs is to change your name to Captain Cook.*



Antigua Cruise Port

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School Security



More security officers in our schools



Minister Dr. Michael S. Browne

By Minister Dr. Michael S. Browne

The government is getting tough on school security to protect our students and protect school property. The Royal Police Force of Antigua & Barbuda and the Antigua & Barbuda Defence Force are being mobilized to keep our schools safe.

Day time security contracts are in place and the government has requested proposals for how to provide security off hours, including the possibility of PWD increasing the number of officers to take on the silent hour shifts (11 p.m. to 6 a.m.) where possible.

However, while that negotiation is happening - negotiation that will get the best possible financial deal for our country - the Antigua & Barbuda Defence Force and the Royal Police Force of Antigua & Barbuda are being

mobilized to provide roving security during these silent hours in an attempt to avert break-ins at schools.

An assessment on lighting is also occurring so we can replace and expand lighting on campuses. Early next year, alarms and electronic surveillance will begin being installed in our schools. We are also looking at other security measures such as security bars and installing strong rooms as a place where we can store valuable items during off hours.

Some people talk a good talk, but do not have a detailed step by step plan to address the situation. We are a government that not only can chat, but we also do. We hear your concerns about security at our schools. We are not laying back. We are taking action to keep our school facilities safe.

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Exploding the myth of African responsibility for slavery (Part 1)

By David A. Comissiong
 Barbados' Ambassador to
 CARICOM

Now that our Caribbean governments have launched a serious effort to secure the payment of Reparations for the tremendous damage inflicted on the people of Africa and the African Diaspora during the centuries of European orchestrated slave trade and enslavement, a number of "fifth columnists" have crept out of the proverbial woodwork and are seeking to confuse the issue with allegations that our African ancestors not only collaborated with the European enslavers, but were so accepting of the slave trade that they refused or neglected to resist it.

The only way to respond to this type of mischievous propaganda is to subject it to the cold hard undisputed facts of history! So, before we even consider the issue of Africans who collaborated with the European enslavers, let us begin with a consideration of the methods by which the various European powers commenced their trade in African human beings on the west coast of Africa.

Let us look briefly at the cases of Portugal - the first European nation to establish a trans-Atlantic slave trade - and Britain, the European nation that developed the largest slave trade.

Portugal commenced the trans-Atlantic slave trade in 1444 with a raid on the western coast of the African territory that is today known as Mauritania. This is how Gomes Eannes de Zurara, a courtier of the Portuguese Royal Family, described the event in his "Chronicle of the Discovery of Guinea":-

"Most of the captives... had been taken in a village where they (the Portuguese), shouting out, "St. James, St George, and Portugal," at once attacked them, killing and taking all they



David A. Comissiong

could. Then might you see mothers forsaking their children, and husbands their wives, each striving to escape as best they could. Some drowned themselves in the water, others thought to escape by hiding under their huts, others stowed their children among the seaweed, where our men found them afterwards....."

The British "trade", on the other hand, started with the two voyages of Captain John Hawkins in 1562 and 1564. This is how these voyages were described in several publications, including the 1878 publication of the Hakluyt Society entitled "The Hawkins Voyages":-

"Hawkins sailed with three ships from England in 1562 in the River Sierra Leone, he captured at least 300 blacks, partly as he said, "By the sword, and partly by other means"..... In 1564 Hawkins set out on a second voyage The new expedition again made for the River Sierra Leone and every day, went on shore: "to take the Inhabitants burning and spoiling their townes".

So, we can see from these two examples that this so-called "trade" be-

gan with European criminals inflicting murder, mayhem and terror on defenseless towns and villages along the west coast of Africa. There was no talk of collaborators in these beginning phases of the trans-Atlantic Slave Trade!

From these beginnings of attack, de-spoilation and mass kidnapping, the Europe enslavers went on to devise several other means of procuring so-called slaves:- befriending Africans and inviting them onto the European ships where they were then kidnapped; constructing castles or fortresses along the West African coast for the purpose of collecting and storing enslaved Africans; purchasing enslaved Africans from African collaborators; putting in place European or mulatto "middlemen" who were stationed in Africa to raid for and collect "slaves"; and engaging in the opportunistic kidnapping of individual Africans whenever the opportunity presented itself.

The fifth columnists wish to focus on the role played by African collaborators - as if every system of oppression does not feature some members of the victimized group who collaborate with the oppressors! However, it should be noted that even as Euro-centric a historian of the trans-Atlantic Slave Trade as Hugh Thomas, the English author of "The History of the Atlantic Slave Trade", confirms the longevity of the practice of the direct European "stealing" or kidnapping of Africans:-

"In 1702, the Africans near Cape Mesurando complained to Willem Bosman of the Dutch West India Company that the English had been there, with two large vessels and had ravaged the country, destroyed all their canoes, plundered their houses, and carried off some of their people as slaves In 1716 the monarch of Fooni received

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Guest Opinion



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five men from the Royal African Company's chief agent on the River Gambia whose mission was to "panyar" (Kidnap) the people and make them slaves.....".

But if the fifth columnists insist that they wish to focus on the issue of African collaborators, perhaps we could pay some attention to how some of these collaborators got involved in the process of collaboration in the first place. Let us take, for example, the case of Bandi, a 1620's King of a state in the territory known today as Angola. Hugh Thomas tells

the story in his "History of the Atlantic Slave Trade" as follows:-

"A new Portuguese governor of Luanda, Luis Mendes de Vasconelos, embarked on a campaign designed to finish with the threats of the continuously hostile Ndongo, for good or evil. He captured that monarchy's capital at Kabasa, and the Ngola (or King) fled He (then) defeated a native chief named Bandi, on whom he imposed an annual tribute of one hundred slaves."

And so, while there might have been some Af-

ricans who collaborated because they adjudged, in their own self-interest, that there was a profit to be made, there were several who had collaboration imposed on them via European conquerors demanding a tribute of slaves, or because they found themselves in a dangerous and unstable environment in which a choice had to be made between collaborating with the enslaver and saving one's own skin, or remaining apart from the enslaver and becoming a victim of the process of enslavement that was fast engulfing the African continent.

It should also be noted that some of those who collaborated came to regret it after the full consequences of the slave trade became apparent, and ultimately attempted to resist and to extricate themselves from the tentacles of collaboration.

Two examples of this phenomenon are King Afonso of the Congo and Queen Nzinga of Angola.

King Afonso had initially collaborated with the Portuguese enslavers, but by 1526 he was writing to the King of Portugal complaining that the slave dealers were depopulating his kingdom - "There are many traders in all parts of the country ... They bring ruin..... Every day people are kidnapped and enslaved, even members of the King's family" - and went on, unsuccessfully, to appeal to the Portuguese monarch to replace the slave trade with a more constructive type of trade relationship.

Queen Nzinga, for her part, went to war against the Portuguese and their slave trade regime in Angola, and in the words of Hugh Thomas - "She eventually established herself as the strongest military power in southern Angola, and the Portuguese failed to deal effectively with her.... She never became the reliable purveyor of slaves for whom successive governors of Luanda hoped."

But the issue of African collaborators is completely routed and dismissed by the

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recognition that ultimately, in the long scheme of history, not even the most willing and “successful” of African collaborators benefitted materially from the trans-Atlantic slave trade or the associated system of racialised chattel slavery!

Eventually, all of them were set upon, conquered and exploited by the said European enslavers who followed 400 years of slave trading with 100 years of the physical colonisation and domination of the entire African continent!

A good example of this is the Ashanti of West Africa. The Ashanti are an Akan-speaking people of central Ghana and neighbouring regions of Togo and Ivory Coast, and their traditional capital is the town of Kumasi in Ghana. During the 18th century, the rulers of the Ashanti Kingdom participated in the European orchestrated slave trade, collaborating with the Dutch in particular, and extending their empire.

But what was the ultimate fate of the Ashanti? By the mid-19th century, the British colonialists had decided that the Ashanti “empire” had to be dismantled and the Ashanti brought under British control. Thus, in 1874 the British Government launched a ferocious military campaign against the Ashanti, using the latest in European weaponry. The end result was the defeat of the Ashanti army and the sacking of Kumasi. This

military defeat led to the disintegration of the Ashanti “empire” and the temporary deposing of the Asantehene or King of the Ashanti!

The final phase of the destruction of the Ashanti kingdom took place in 1896, when the British demanded of the restored Asantahene (Prempeh1) that Asante be placed under so-called British “protection” and Prempeh refused.

Once again the British army marched on Kumasi, deposed the Royal Family, and sent them and their generals into exile. Thenceforth, the Ashanti territories were incorporated into the British colony of the Gold

Coast and subjected to colonial exploitation.

Clearly, no serious 21st century Reparations activist would be looking towards the Ashanti in modern-day Ghana as a target for Reparations payments. Indeed, one would not be surprised if the remnants of the Royal Family of the Ashanti are not preparing themselves to launch a claim against the British Government for the damage inflicted on the Ashanti people during and after the Ashanti wars!

No! If we are serious about Reparations we must focus our attention on the Governments and institutions that launched, or-

chestrated, maintained and profited immensely from the twin enterprises known as the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade and the system of racialised chattel slavery. I refer to the national governments of Western Europe, the various Royal Families of Europe, major European multi-national corporations such as Barclays Bank and Lloyd’s of London, and elite European families such as the Drax, Leyland and Cameron families! This is where the real wealth extracted with devilish cruelty from the sons and daughters of Africa over 400 years is to be found!

(To be continued)

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Cuban authorities review recovery in hurricane Ian-affected provinces

CMC - Authorities in Cuba continue to assess the recovery progress following the passage of Hurricane Ian.

Headed by Prime Minister Manuel Marrero Cruz, the officials on Friday took a close look at the progress in the province of Artemisa.

In an exchange at the provincial government headquarters, it was reported that electricity service in Artemisa is at 98.39 percent of the recovery, with the town of Bahia Honda being the most complex municipality in this area, still at 85.37 percent.

A total of 11,597 houses have been affected, with

a predominance of damage and destruction to roofs, amounting to 6,538 and 2040, respectively.

In the case of agriculture, around 9,480 hectares were affected, mainly banana, cassava, and coffee; just over 6,770 hectares have already been recovered, and priority has been given to planting short-cycle crops.

At the same time, in another of the provinces affected by the hurricane, the president of the National Assembly, Esteban Lazo, on Friday, visited the province of Mayabeque, to check the recovery process after the passage of Hurricane Ian.



Late last month, Hurricane Ian swept through the Atlantic and southeast U.S. coast, leaving a path of catastrophic damage in Cuba, Florida, and the Carolinas.

In Cuba – Hurricane Ian battered the western end of

the island as a Category 3 storm triggered a collapse of the entire country's already-fragile power grid, life-threatening flooding, and high winds also damaged houses and toppled trees. Three people died.

Trinidad Police probe death of nine-year-old in drive-by shooting

CMC – The Trinidad police say they will leave no stone unturned as they investigate the murder of nine-year-old Jamal Modeste in Chaguanas, Central Trinidad, on Saturday night.

“Over the years the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service has invested resources in the Enterprise area and will continue to work and partner with members of the community,” said Acting Commissioner of Police Erla Christopher.

“Additionally, the TTPS will render assistance to the distraught family during this traumatic time through our Victim and Witness Support Unit,” she said, appealing to “anyone who has information that could assist, please come forward.

Help us, so justice can be served, to give some semblance of closure and re-



lief to a grieving family,” she said.

Police said that several shots were fired from a white panel van in the vicinity of the basketball court at the African Grounds and that the nine-year-old was struck by the gunfire and taken to the Chaguanas Health Facility where he succumbed to his injuries.

Police said that the white panel van was reportedly stolen at gunpoint earlier on Saturday. They have not disclosed any motive for the killing.

So far this year, Trinidad and Tobago has recorded 463 murders as compared

with 320 for the same period last year.

Last year the country recorded 448 murders.

Meanwhile, police said they had seized 16 high-powered rifles, five pistols, several thousand rounds of ammunition as well as TT\$ 2.6 million (One TT dollar=US\$01.6 cents) worth of marijuana in the Customs Central Bond.

The police said that last Friday officers of the Central Division, in collaboration with officers of the Customs and Excise Division, acting on intelligence information, conducted searches at a bond in the Central Division.

They said they seized the drugs, ammunition and guns as well as several component firearm parts hidden in two barrels.

The police said no one was arrested and investigations are continuing.

Haiti gang makes demands in test of power with government

AP – A standoff between a powerful gang federation and Haiti’s government is testing how much power both sides wield and threatens to further derail a paralyzed country where millions of people are struggling to find fuel and water.

A former police officer who leads a gang alliance known as “G9 and Family” has proposed his own plan for Haiti’s future — even seeking seats in the Cabinet — while demanding that the administration of Prime Minister Ariel Henry grant amnesty and void arrest warrants against the group’s members, a demand that so far has gone unanswered.

In mid-September, the gang surrounded a key fuel terminal to demand Henry’s resignation and to protest a spike in petroleum prices after the prime minister announced that his administration could no longer afford to subsidise fuel.

That move, coupled with thousands of protesters who have blocked streets in the capital of Port-au-Prince and other major cities, has caused major shortages, forcing hospitals to cut back on services, gas stations to close and banks and grocery stores to restrict hours.

In a recent video posted on Facebook, G9 and Family leader Jimmy Cherizier, who goes by the nickname “Barbecue,” read a proposed plan



Barbecue, the leader of the “G9 and Family” gang, stands next to garbage to call attention to the conditions people live in as he leads a march against kidnapping through La Saline neighbourhood in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Friday, Oct. 22, 2021. (AP Photo/Odelyn Joseph, File)

to stabilise Haiti that includes the creation of a “Council of Sages” with one representative from each of Haiti’s 10 departments.

The gang also is demanding positions in Henry’s Cabinet, according to the director of Haiti’s National Disarmament, Dismantling and Reintegration Commission, speaking to radio station Magik 9 on Thursday.

“It’s a symptom of their power, but also a symptom that they may fear what is coming,” Robert Fatton, a Haitian politics expert at the University of Virginia, said of the gang’s demands.

Henry and 18 members of his Cabinet appealed nearly a week ago for the deployment of foreign troops to quell violence and end the fuel blockade, a proposal that has yet to be formally discussed by the United Nations Security Council, which meets on

Monday.

The gang, which has overpowered an understaffed and under-resourced police department, is likely wary of the potential deployment of specialised armed troops, Fatton said.

“They are trying to get the best deal they can get while to some extent they have the upper hand,” he said.

Gang demands are nothing new in Haiti, and they have grown more powerful since the July 2021 assassination of President Jovenel Moïse.

But such threats were quickly quelled in the past with the help of U.N. peacekeeping forces, Fatton said.

In the aftermath of a rebellion that ousted former Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide, then-President René Préval ordered gangs to lay down their weapons. He did it peacefully at first, but

upon receiving no results, he threatened them.

“They were told, ‘You either disarm, or you’re going to be dead,’” Fatton said. “Some gangs accepted the solution, and others were destroyed.”

He said special forces used drones and invaded slums, which gangs have long controlled.

But gangs have played major political roles before: The leader of one gang helped launch the revolt that removed Aristide, who refused to resign before the end of his term in 2006. That leader, Butteur Metayer, had been an Aristide supporter, but turned against him after his brother, also a gang leader, was killed in 2003.

Fatton said that while the demand to give Cherizier’s gang federation Cabinet positions is “a crazy proposition,” he added that an amnesty involving giving up weapons might be a solution.

“The government saves face, the gangs say, ‘We’ve achieved what we’ve wanted,’ and there’s a compromise,” he said.

But the demand to void arrest warrants would likely be rejected by the government, which has long sought to arrest Cherizier on charges including orchestrating one of the country’s worst massacres, in which dozens of men, women and children were

cont’d on pg 18

Grandson of late Haile Selassie addresses sitting of upper house

CMC – The grandson of the late Emperor of Ethiopia, Haile Selassie, Prince Ermias Sahle Selassie, was welcomed into Jamaica's Senate's chambers during its sitting on Friday.

The prince who is currently in the island as a special guest for National Heritage week has expressed gratitude to the government of Jamaica for the invitation.

The prince said it was a special privilege to be in the House, noting that it is a room he only witnessed on video during his grandfather's address to the nation in 1966.

"I feel so a part of that history, and I'm especially delighted that I have been invited to Jamaica by the Government. I want to thank Minister Grange and all who worked hard to make my visit possible."

"Jamaica is a vibrant democracy. Democracies evolve, and the Jamaican experiment of different people, one nation is something that will resonate in any nation



His Imperial Highness, Prince Ermias Sahle-Selassie, (centre) is in Jamaica for a nine-day visit.

— and this is a challenge that Africa can learn from," he said.

The prince, who is president of the Crown Council of Ethiopia, arrived on the island Thursday night and was accompanied to the Upper House by Minister of Culture, Olivia Grange; Speaker of the House of Representatives Marisa Dalrymple-Philibert; and members of his delegation.

Deputy President of the Senate Aubyn Hill in making a statement said he was also pleased to be in the Senate "to see our visiting guest, the prince, addressing us in Par-

liament as his grandfather did so amazingly historically well... We welcome you and your delegation. We are pleased to have you in Jamaica. We have a very long and strong tie with Ethiopia, and we wish your country well as you wished ours well," he said.

The Leader of Opposition Business in the Senate Peter Bunting said the People's National Party also welcomed the Ethiopian prince to Jamaica.

"We recognize the powerful historical and cultural ties that we have with your country and indeed, of

course, more broadly with the continent of Africa. We hope that you will... continue to have good relations with the Government and people of Jamaica," he said.

The prince's other official engagements include Monday's National Honours and Awards Ceremony at King's House – the official residence of the Governor General and the interfaith National Heritage Day Church Service.

He is also scheduled to visit the National Gallery, the African Caribbean Institute of Jamaica, and Liberty Hall and is due to attend a reception hosted by the Honorary Consul of Ethiopia in Jamaica Yodit Hylton. In addition, he will receive the Keys to the City of Montego Bay during a civic ceremony.

Prince Selassie's previous visit to Jamaica was in 2016.

This year's Heritage Week is being observed under the theme 'Re-igniting Greatness through our Heritage.'

cont'd from pg 17
slain.

Haitian officials have warned the international community that the situation is dire, noting that a recent cholera outbreak could also worsen due to the limited availability of water and other basic supplies.

On Friday, UNICEF warned that nearly 100,000 children younger than 5 are already suffering from severe acute malnutrition and are vulnerable to cholera: "The crisis in Haiti is increasingly a

children's crisis."

Later in the day, a report from U.N. agencies and international aid groups said a record 4.7 million people in Haiti are facing acute hunger, including 19,000 in catastrophic famine conditions for the first time, all in the gang-controlled Cite Soleil slum of Port-au-Prince.

It is also becoming a crisis for women. The United Nations Population Fund said Friday that 30,000 pregnant women are at risk because roughly three-fourths of Haiti's hospitals are unable to provide

services due to a lack of fuel.

In addition, gangs are increasingly raping women and girls, as well as boys and to some extent men, to exert and retain control over territory, according to a U.N. Human Rights report released Friday.

Helen La Lime, the top U.N. official in Haiti, told reporters that human rights abuses including rape and sexual assault have reached alarming levels.

"The testimonies of victims are truly horrible," she said. "This must stop."

Mozambique jihadi violence spreads despite military effort

AP - Fleeing beheadings, shootings, rapes and kidnappings, nearly 1 million people are displaced by the Islamic extremist insurgency in northern Mozambique.

The 5-year wave of jihadi violence in Cabo Delgado province has killed more than 4,000 people and scuppered international investments worth billions of dollars.

In a sprawl of dilapidated tents and thatched huts around Nanjua, a small town in the southern part of Cabo Delgado province, several hundred families are seeking safety from the violence.

They say their conditions are bleak and food assistance is meagre but they're afraid to return home because of continuing violence by the rebels who are now going by the name Islamic State Mozambique Province.

More than 1,000 miles south, however, government officials in the capital Maputo are saying the insurgency is under control and are encouraging the displaced to return to their homes and energy companies to resume their projects.

"The terrorists are on the run permanently," Mozambican President Filipe Nyusi assured investors at the Mozambique Energy and Gas Summit in Maputo in September. He urged the gathering of international energy executives to resume work on their stalled liquefied natural gas projects.

Mozambique's army and police forces, backed up by troops from Rwanda and support from a regional force from the Southern African Development Community, have succeeded in containing the extremist rebellion, officials say.



This undated photo provided on Thursday, Oct. 13, 2022 by Doctors Without Borders (MSF) shows people displaced by the conflict in Cabo Delgado Province Mozambique, next to a truck on the outskirts of Mueda, Mozambique, waiting to be transported to reach Palma, a coastal town that was attacked earlier this year and where some people have already gradually returned. (Igor Barbero/Doctors Without Borders (MSF) via AP)

"These places have now normalised and civilians are coming back," Rwandan Brig. Gen. Ronald Rwivanga, told the Rwandan newspaper The New Times this month, saying normal life is returning to the Palma district.

Energy companies say they want to see displaced people return to the area. The \$60 billion liquefied natural gas projects led by the France-based TotalEnergies and ExxonMobil were suspended last year after insurgents briefly captured the adjacent town of Palma in March.

Speaking at the summit in Maputo, Stéphane Le Galles, the head of TotalEnergies' Mozambique gas project, said "the direction is very good" but the company still wants to see "a sustainable economic situation, not just in Palma but ... all over

Cabo Delgado."

Despite the heavy presence of Mozambican and Rwandan soldiers, the extremists' attacks continue. Earlier this month the rebels spread their violence for the first time to neighbouring Nampula province, where a Catholic mission was among the targets and an elderly Italian nun was among those killed.

The United Nations High Commission for Refugees said it "considers security conditions to be too volatile in Cabo Delgado to facilitate or promote returns to the province," in a statement released earlier this month.

"People who have lost everything are returning to areas where services and humanitarian assistance are largely unavailable," said the UNHCR.

Raisi blames Biden for inciting "chaos and terror" in Iran

Reuters – President Ebrahim Raisi on Sunday blamed his U.S. counterpart for inciting "chaos, terror, and destruction" in Iran, the official IRNA news agency reported, amid protests that have rocked the country for the past four weeks.

"The American president, who allows himself through his comments to

incite chaos, terror and destruction in another country, should be reminded of the eternal words of the founder of the Islamic Republic, who called America the great satan," Raisi said.

"Iran has to end the violence against its own citizens simply exercising their fundamental rights," U.S. President Joe Biden said on Saturday.



Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi meets with Emir of Qatar Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani (not pictured) on the sidelines of the Cica Summit in Astana, Kazakhstan, October 13, 2022. Iran's President Website/WANA (West Asia News Agency)/Handout via REUTERS

Thousands take to the streets of Paris to protest soaring prices

Reuters – Thousands of people took to the streets of Paris on Sunday to protest against soaring prices as weeks of strikes for higher wages at oil refineries spurred demands for a general strike.

The leader of hard-left party La France Insoumise (France Unbowed), Jean-Luc Melenchon, marched alongside this year's Nobel Prize winner for Literature, Annie Ernaux. He called a general strike for Tuesday.

"You're going to live a week like no other, we are the ones who started it with this march," he told the crowd.

Melenchon followed the footsteps of four unions - but not France's biggest, the moderate CFDT - which have called for strikes and protests on Tuesday for wage increases.

The four unions also called the protests to help protect the right to strike, after the government ordered the requisitioning of some oil refinery workers, a move seen by unions as a violation of their constitutional rights.

The march followed a call by



Jean-Luc Melenchon, leader of French far-left opposition party La France Insoumise (France Unbowed), and leader of the New Ecologic and Social People's Union (NUPES), takes part in a protest against soaring inflation and what they call a lack of government action to fight climate change, in Paris, France October 16, 2022. REUTERS/Stephane Mahe

the NUPES parliamentary coalition, which hopes to turn the page on domestic violence accusations that have recently dogged senior members.

Budget Minister Gabriel Attal said the left-wing coalition was attempting to exploit the current situ-

ation, marked by ongoing strikes at French utility EDF's nuclear plants and at French oil refineries.

"Today's march is a march of supporters who want to block the country," he said on French radio station Europe 1.

Biden knocks Truss economic plan, says he is not concerned about dollar strength

Reuters – U.S. President Joe Biden on Saturday criticised British Prime Minister Liz Truss's original economic plan as a mistake and said he was not concerned about the strength of the soaring U.S. dollar.

Truss on Friday fired her finance minister Kwasi Kwarteng and scrapped parts of their economic package after it sparked financial market turmoil, including a steep dive in the value of the pound.

Biden, a Democrat, frequently criticises conservative "trickle down" economic policies, associated in the United States with former President Ronald Reagan and Republicans.

His White House, though, had previously declined to comment on the Truss plan, which initially foresaw scrapping Britain's 45% top income tax rate.

"I wasn't the only one that thought it was a mistake," Biden told reporters during a stop at an ice cream shop in Oregon, referring to the Truss proposal.

"I think that the idea of cutting taxes on the super wealthy at a time when - anyway, I just think - I disagreed with the policy, but that's up to Great Britain to make that judgement, not me."

Earlier on Saturday Britain's new finance min-



British Prime Minister Liz Truss walks outside Number 10 Downing Street, in London, Britain, October 12, 2022. REUTERS/Hannah McKay

ister Jeremy Hunt said some of the country's taxes would go up and tough spending decisions were needed, saying Truss had made mistakes as she battles to keep her job just over a month into her term.

High inflation is afflicting the United States and countries worldwide, creating a political headache for Biden ahead of the November midterm elections in which control of the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate are at stake.

The dollar has soared against other currencies.

"I'm not concerned about the strength of the dollar. I'm concerned about the rest of the world," Biden said.

The president said the U.S. economy was robust.

"Our economy is strong as hell - the internals of it. Inflation is worldwide.

It's worse off everywhere else than it is in the United States," he said.

"So the problem is the lack of economic growth and sound policy in other countries, not so much ours."

A Labor Department report on Thursday showed U.S. consumer prices increased more than expected in September as rents surge and the cost of food rose.

The president made his comments at the end of a multi-day western swing that concluded in Oregon, where he sought to give a political boost to Democrat Tina Kotek, who is running for governor.



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Bradley wins first PGA Tour title since 2018

Keegan Bradley won his first PGA Tour title in more than four years with a one-shot victory at the ZOZO Championship in Japan.

He carded a two-under 68 to finish one stroke ahead of American compatriots Andrew Putnam and Rickie Fowler, the overnight leader.

It was the 36-year-old's fifth Tour win, and his first since victory at the BMW Championship in 2018.

"I've really put a lot of work in this off-season," he said.

"This is what I want to do - I want to win tourna-



Keegan Bradley now has five PGA Tour titles to his name [Getty Images]

ments, I want to play in Ryder Cups and I want to be in the conversation. This is a good start."

Bradley, whose only major win came at the PGA Championship in 2011, had

started the day one shot behind Fowler but took the lead with back-to-back birdies on the sixth and seventh holes.

After Putnam and Fowler both recorded bogeys on

the back nine, another birdie on the 17th gave Bradley a two-shot lead going into the final hole.

He closed out with a par, finishing on 15-under par on 265 at Narashino Country Club in Chiba.

"It's why I practise so hard. It was not going to be easy and that two-putt on 16 was major," said Bradley.

"Things aren't easy for me normally, so the birdie on the 17th was one of the best holes of my life. This is so special. I played in the final group here when Tiger Woods won. I'm so proud to win this tournament."

Injured Brazil forward Richarlison faces World Cup race

AP – Richarlison faces a race to be fit for the World Cup after suffering a calf injury in Tottenham's win against Everton on Saturday.

The Brazil international was tearful as he admitted his "dream" of playing in Qatar was now in serious jeopardy.

The forward was forced off in the 52nd minute of Tottenham's 2-0 win in the Premier League and was later seen on crutches.

"It's kind of hard to say because it's close to the realisation of my dream,"

Richarlison told ESPN Brazil. "I've already suffered a similar injury to this but I hope it can heal as soon as possible.

"The last time when I was at Everton, I was out of action for about two months."

Richarlison was expected to be part of Brazil head coach Tite's squad for the World Cup, which will be named at the beginning of November.

"For sure against Manchester United he's out (on Wednesday)," Tottenham manager Antonio Conte



Tottenham's Richarlison sits down on the pitch during the English Premier League soccer match between Tottenham Hotspur and Everton at the Tottenham Hotspur Stadium in London, England, Saturday, Oct. 15, 2022. (AP Photo/Kin Cheung)

said.

"I think he needs a bit of time to recover. It's a pity because we are talking

about a player who gives us a lot of quality, but is also strong and improves our intensity."

Sports News



“If we stay together, it'll be fine” - Nicholas Pooran backs West Indies despite lack of big names

CricInfo - This will be the first Men's T20 World Cup without both Chris Gayle, whose West Indies future is uncertain, and Dwayne Bravo, who has retired from international cricket.

West Indies will also be without Andre Russell, Sunil Narine and Shimron Hetmyer, who was recently dropped from the squad after missing a "rescheduled" flight to Australia. West Indies' side appears light on experience, but their captain Nicholas Pooran is confident his players can fire in unison to get the job done.

"I think it should be a balance with experience and younger players," Pooran said on the eve of West Indies' opening game against Scotland in Hobart.

"If you look at it, there were a lot of big names when we won those two World Cups [2012 and 2016], but we also had a lot of big names in the last year's World Cup, as well, and we didn't qualify [for the semis]."

"Obviously, Australia won last year, and they didn't have too many big names, but they obviously had a team that was proven, and that was enough for them to win the World Cup.

"So, coming back to us, we don't have the big names, but we have formed a team here, and that's been really important. Once the guys



Nicholas Pooran

play for each other and stay together, it'll be fine."

In the absence of several senior players, West Indies are counting on their CPL stars Brandon King, Kyle Mayers, Rovman Powell, Obed McCoy, Akeal Hosein and Shamarh Brooks, who was a late addition to the squad in place of Hetmyer, to do the job for them.

The odds are stacked against West Indies - they first need to compete with Scotland, Ireland and Zimbabwe in the first round to progress to the main tournament - and beating them all to win their third T20 world title would "mean the world" to them, according to Pooran.

"Yeah, it [winning the title] would definitely be something special," Pooran said. "Obviously for this group here, it's a new group, new faces, a lot of younger players in the team. For us to obviously win this World Cup, it would be our biggest

achievement as individuals.

"We are underdogs in this tournament [even though] we have won the tournament twice, and a lot of people, a lot of media you see, a lot of people don't think we can even qualify, as well. So, it will mean a lot for us.

"We spoke about sticking this time together. Whether we win or lose we're going to stick together as a group, so winning this tournament, yeah, obviously we need to work really hard, but it would mean the world to us."

West Indies haven't played Scotland before in a T20I before and, though their players have had a steady diet of T20 cricket, including the CPL, in the lead-up to the World Cup, Pooran was wary of Scotland.

"Yeah, it [Scotland] will be a challenge," Pooran said. "But our guys are confident. We've been here for over two weeks now. I think the guys are ready to go and acclima-

tising to these conditions. A lot of these guys haven't played in Australia.

"This will be the first time, but the guys are confident, they're happy. The preparation has been really good, and we just can't wait for tomorrow to start our game."

West Indies' wildcard pick Yannic Cariah, the 30-year-old leg spin-bowling allrounder, suffered a minor bruising after being struck on his bowling hand while batting against UAE in the warm-up fixture at the MCG on October 10. It remains to be seen whether he has recovered sufficiently to play for the West Indies on Monday.

During the two-match T20I series against Australia, West Indies had opted against pairing Mayers up with King at the top, promoting Johnson Charles instead. Pooran kept his cards close to his chest when he was asked about West Indies' potential combination for their opening fixture.

"Yeah, we obviously have to select the team still," Pooran said. "It's quite early here in Australia. We haven't sat down and discussed who's playing tomorrow. The makeup of the team obviously varies due to the conditions here obviously, here in Hobart which has been cold for a while now, we have to go back and look at it."

Guardiola says Liverpool fans threw coins at him

AP – Pep Guardiola says coins were thrown at him during Manchester City's 1-0 defeat at Liverpool in the Premier League on Sunday.

The City manager remonstrated angrily with a section of the Anfield crowd after Phil Foden saw a goal ruled out when VAR invited referee Anthony Taylor to review the pitchside monitor.

Guardiola repeatedly gesticulated at fans in the immediate aftermath and later said coins were thrown in his direction.

"Next time they will do it better," he said in the post-match news conference.

"They didn't get me. They will try it again next year.

"All these coins, they tried, but didn't get it. They got the coach years ago."

Guardiola was referring to an incident when Liverpool fans attacked City's team bus ahead of a Champions League match in 2018.

Asked if he had enticed a reaction



Manchester City's head coach Pep Guardiola reacts during the English Premier League soccer match between Liverpool and Manchester City at Anfield stadium in Liverpool, Sunday, Oct. 16, 2022. (AP Photo/Jon Super)

from the home supporters, Guardiola said: "They shout, we shout more."

And he was clearly still angered by Foden's goal being disallowed after Taylor spotted a foul on Fabinho in the build-up.

"This is Anfield," he said.

Mo Salah's 76th-minute goal

proved the decisive moment on a dramatic day when Jurgen Klopp was shown a red card for angrily charging out of his technical area.

Defeat for City leaves Guardiola's team four points behind leader Arsenal, which won 1-0 at Leeds earlier Sunday.

Antigua & Barbuda loses opening game at Americas World Cup Netball Qualifiers

Antigua and Barbuda made a losing start to their campaign in the Americas World Cup Netball Qualifiers in Kingston, Jamaica, yesterday (Sunday) morning.

The Antiguan and Barbudans were beaten 55-24 by Trinidad and Tobago in their opening encounter at the National Indoor Sports Centre in Kingston.

The Trinidadians led from start to finish, holding

a 17-8 advantage at the end of the first quarter.

The Trinidadians were leading 30-11 at halftime and were ahead 46-21 at the end of the third quarter.

As expected, Barbados had a convincing 67-27 win over the Cayman Islands to start the Americas World Cup Netball Qualifiers in Kingston.

The Bajan recovered after a slow start in which they scored 13 goals to

their opponent's nine after the first period.

By halftime, the lead had grown to 34-13 and 48-21 at the end of the third.

Barbados, 14th in the world, won the battle in the statistical categories against a team ranked 18 places below them, including 12 interceptions, but the number of unforced errors must be cause for concern.

Barbados threw away

the ball 19 times, but were able to make up for it because their opponents had 31 turnovers.

There were opening game victories as well for St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Grenada.

The Vincentians beat the United States of America 51-24, while Grenada prevailed 53-45 against St. Lucia in the most keenly contested affair of the opening morning.

Anjo rebounds from loss to secure win in Business League

Anjo Wholesale rebounded from a disappointing loss to Graphic Impact Shooters on Thursday to record a 66-50 victory over defending champions Antigua and Barbuda Transport Board in the Antigua and Barbuda Basketball Association's (ABBA) Cool and Smooth Business League at the JSC Sports Complex on Saturday night.

Cohen Desouza, who missed Thursday's loss to Graphic Impact Shooters, returned to lead Anjo Wholesale to their ninth win in 11 outings by scoring 16 points and Xavier "X-Man" Meade chipped in with 13 points.

Ishan Peets also scored 16 points and Marlon "Buju" Charles contributed 10 points for Antigua and Barbuda Transport Board, who tumbled to their third loss in 10 encounters.

Anjo Wholesale suffered their second loss of the competition when they were beaten 60-34 by Graphic Impact Shooters in last Thursday's feature game.

Yannick Samuel scored 16 points and Jaheem James sank 11 points to propel Graphic Impact Shooters to their eighth win in 10 games. Xavier "X-Man" Meade led Anjo Wholesale with 12 points.

Graphic Impact Shooters then succumbed to their third loss in the league, narrowly losing 46-48 to Sandals Antigua on Saturday.

Tavarus Benta had 17 points for Graphic Impact Shooters, while Kenya Achom shot a game-high 19 points and Selassie Braithwaite scored 12 points for Sandals to record their 10th win in 12 appearances.

Sandals Antigua had trounced the Board of Education 81-45 on Thursday night and now holds the league's



The Anjo's Wholesale team in a huddle just before tip-off of their game against Graphic Impact Shooters in the Business League at the JSC Sports Complex on Thursday, 13th October, 2022. (Photo by Elwin Francis)

second best record behind unbeaten leaders Eye Mobile Antigua Vision Care.

Selassie Braithwaite scored 14 points, Keroi Lee converted 12 points, Mario Samuel sank 11 points and John Rolland contributed 10 points for Sandals Antigua.

Kirwan Peterson netted 12 points, while Bruce Whyte and Errol Henry each contributed 10 points for the Board of Education who slumped to their sixth loss in 11 appearances.

Leaders Eye Mobile Antigua Vision Care crushed Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre 88-40 on Thursday to maintain their perfect record at the top of the league.

Adonis Henry converted 14 points, Najee George and Javonte Daley each scored 12 points and Dominick Anthony contributed 11 points to lead

Antigua Vision Care to their 12th win in as many encounters.

Point guard Nigel Joseph had 17 points and Damion Floyd sank 11 points for Sir Lester Bird Medical Centre who suffered their seventh defeat in 12 outings.

Pointe FM ended their preliminary round league campaign by romping to an emphatic 83-36 victory over Sledge O'Ballers on Saturday night to finish with nine wins and four losses.

Irvin Fernandez shot a game high 20 points, Josue Hernandez sank 15 points, Jesus Emanuel produced 13 points, Rolando Hamilton scored 12 points and Khalid Shabazz chipped in with 10 points for Pointe FM.

Steadroy Graham converted 11 points and Dion Harry Jules scored 10 points for Sledge O'Ballers who suffered their seventh loss in 11 outings.

OCS claims second win in senior boys' competition

Defending champions Ottos Comprehensive School (OCS) continued their strong defense of their title by notching up their second win in as many matches in Under-20 Boys' Division of the Ministry of Sports Schools' Football league on Friday, 14th October.

Playing in the West Zone of the senior boys' competition, a conversion by Demario Moore and an own goal scored by Deante Anthony, gave Ottos Comprehensive a 2-0 win against St. Mary's Secondary School at Radio Range in Ottos.

Princess Margaret School (PMS) also recorded their second win in as many matches as they secured a 3-1 victory over Jennings Secondary School at the PMS playing field.

Tyrik Hughes scored twice and Jahlanie Barzey converted once for Princess Margaret, while Malique Whyte scored a consolation goal for Jennings Secondary.

Antigua State College, who lost 1-0 to Ottos Comprehensive in their opening game, claimed their first win of the competition by snatching a 3-2 victory against the Antigua Grammar School at the Golden Grove playing field.

Joshua Ferdinand scored one of the goals for ASC, while Sedique Adams and Javere Joseph each converted once for AGS, who had prevailed 2-1 against Jennings Secondary in their opening game the previous week.

The Antigua and Barbuda Institute of Continuing Education (ABICE) also maintained their perfect start in the East Zone of the Under-20 Boys' Division by coasting to a 3-0 win over Pares Secondary at the Police Recreation Grounds.

Kadem Campbell scored twice and Denyah Looby netted once for ABICE who had trounced Glanvilles Secondary 8-1 in their opening affair the previous week.

All Saints Secondary kicked off their campaign in the East Zone with a 3-0 victory over Sir Novelle Richards Academy at the Mack Pond playing field.

Conversions by Daquan Samuel and Wilden Cornwall Jr. along with an own-goal propelled All Saints to their first win of the contest, following the postponement of their opening encounter against Irene B. Williams Secondary due to an unprepared field at Swetes the previous week.

Irene B. Williams were unable to open their campaign with a win as they were held to a 1-1 draw by Clare Hall Secondary in their opening encounter at Swetes.

Railique Brown scored for Irene B. Williams, while Joseph Jacobs scored for Clare Hall Secondary.

The Secondary Schools' Football League will continue with the second-round of matches in the Under-14 Boys' Division today, Mon-

day, 17th October.

Clare Hall Secondary will take on Sir Novelle Richards Academy in the first game of a double-header at the Radio Range playing field in Ottos at 2:30 pm, while defending champions Ottos Comprehensive will face St. Mary's Secondary Schools in the second game at 3:30 pm.

All Saints Secondary will meet St. Joseph's Academy in the first game of a double-header at Princess Margaret School's playing field at 2:30 pm and Antigua Grammar School will clash with Princess Margaret in the second game at 3:30 pm.

The Under-16 Boys' Division will resume with the second round of matches tomorrow, Tuesday, 18th October.

Defending champions All Saints Secondary will take on Ottos Comprehensive at the Mack Pond playing field in All Saints at 2:30 pm.

Clare Hall Secondary will entertain Sir Novelle Richards Academy at Clare Hall at 2:30 pm, while Irene B. Williams will host Glanvilles Secondary at the Swetes playing field at 2:30 pm.

The other two matches will be played at the Princess Margaret School's playing field in St John's. St. Joseph's Academy will challenge Antigua Grammar School at 2:30 pm and Princess Margaret will clash with Jennings Secondary at 3:40 pm.

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points came from errors made by the Antiguans and Barbudans. However, Antigua Barbuda came out on top in every scoring category. They prevailed 32 to 23 in Kills, won the Blocks 6 to 3 and were 11 to 5 winners in Service Points.

Middle Blocker Kwansia Carr of Antigua and Barbuda led all scorers with 18 points, made up of 13 Spikes and 5 blocks.

Antigua and Barbuda's Outside Hitter Yuderka Martinez also had a sterling service game, clocking eight Aces.

Outside Hitters, Captain Rikiesha Leveret and Janai Gumbs, posted 10 points each for Anguilla.

After beating St. Eustatius 3-0 in their opening match, Antigua and Barbuda lost their other two matches in Group B, which included four teams.

Antigua and Barbuda were beaten 3-2 by the British Virgin Islands, who prevailed 23-25, 28-26, 16-25, 25-19, 15-12 in two hours and 26 minutes. St. Lucia then defeated Antigua Barbuda, winning in straight sets, 25-18, 25-19, 25-15.

Antigua & Barbuda fails to reach the final at ECVA Women's Tournament

Antigua and Barbuda's hopes of winning the Eastern Caribbean Volleyball Association's (ECVA) Senior Women's Championship ended at the LB Scott Sports Auditorium in Phillipsburg, St. Maarten, on Saturday night.

The best Antigua and Barbuda can finish at the tournament is in third place after they were beaten 3-1 by undefeated St. Lucia in one of Saturday's semi-finals.

St. Lucia booked their passage to the finals of the competition with an 18-25, 25-13, 25-15, 27-25 victory over the Antiguan and Barbudans in the semi-finals.

A well-rounded attack was the main feature that propelled the St. Lucians to victory with four of their players scoring at least 10 points. Kerin Neptune had 14, Chenoa Evans 13, Tyna William 13 and Amalia Louis 10. Sharon Payne and Tyke Hawkins each had 10 points for the Antiguan and Barbudans.

St. Lucia showed their dominance in attack with a score of 33 to 20 and also dominated the Antiguan and Barbudans in service points 17 to four. Antigua and Barbuda, however, were the more dominant in blocks, which they won 10 to 5.

Despite the win, St. Lucia's Coach Kendall Challery was not totally pleased with his team's performance.

"I noticed that Antigua came out on a mission. They wanted to get to final, but we could not allow that. It took us a while to get going, pick up momentum and came out on top,"



Antigua and Barbuda (Yellow jersey) competes against St. Lucia (Blue jersey) at the Eastern Caribbean Volleyball Association's Senior Women's Championship at the LB Scott Sports Auditorium in Phillipsburg, St. Maarten, on Friday, 14th October, 2022. (Photo courtesy ABAVA)

Challery stated.

Antigua and Barbuda's head coach Fitzroy Benjamin said lapses in concentration contributed significantly to his team's demise.

"The ladies played well and they put up a fight. However, there were still lapses in concentration, some transitional problems and we need to work more on fitness," Benjamin stated.

The British Virgin Islands (BVI) coasted to a 3-1 win over hosts St. Maarten in the other semi-finals to book their spot in the final to face the St. Lucians.

It was heart break for the home fans when they witnessed their home

team (St. Maarten) beaten by the BVI, 25-15, 25-19, 17-25 and 25-23 on Saturday night.

Middle Blocker Shoranda Pickering led the BVI with a game high 19 points, including 12 Kills, five Aces along with two blocks. She got some help from Captain Henrietta Alexander with nine points.

St. Maarten's charge was led by Captain Akila Meulens, who grabbed 10 points.

Antigua and Barbuda had booked their place in the semi-finals by pulling off a 25-20, 20-25, 25-23, 25-15 win over Anguilla in the quarter-finals.

More than 61 percent of Anguilla's

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