

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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OPPOSITION SPOKESMAN ON THE PUBLIC SERVICE

Minister of National Security O.A. T. Turnquest must either put up or shut up with regard to his most recent statements on radio that there is an attempt to destabilize the government of The Bahamas. The Minister cannot be a party to conspiracy theories in so high a place that he has. He must come clean particularly when what he says may impugn the integrity of public servants. Indeed, he cannot be the author of a conspiracy theory. The National Security Minister must not be party to partisan propaganda efforts.

The report in the Nassau Guardian 6th August goes further with the Minister suggesting that senior police officers may have been involved in this conspiracy to destabilise the government of The Bahamas. This is going from the sublime to the ridiculous. He has cast a pall of uncertainty and mistrust over the senior echelons of the Force and he ought to on that one as well put up or shut.

When a Minister of the government, and one so senior as the Minister of National Security says that there is a plot to overthrow the government, the clear import of what he is saying, he must not say these words lightly. These are serious times and they are fighting words. He must tell the country what he knows about the plot to destabilize the government, and how he draws that conclusion from what appears on the surface to be either robberies successful due to slack security or in the case of the Supreme Court break in, an act of vandalism from persons unknown who may have been disgruntled some reason with a judicial decision.

On behalf of my constituents I say that what he has said is patently offensive and irresponsible.

The whole country waits with bated breath for a full and frank explanation of what the Minister has said. Up to now what he says without evidence is utter foolishness. Rot! It is simply unbecoming of a Minister of National Security to appear to be so flippant and irresponsible. We wait for further word.

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