

PLP Today & Tomorrow

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Christie

...A proven and tested leader

There are not many politicians who continue to distinguish themselves in public life. Perry Gladstone Christie has outdone all odds. He continues to stand tall as a pillar of integrity and honesty in public life. His record of accountability is unmatched. His witness of service in public life has been one of humility. He continues to put others before himself. His vision for the Bahamian people centers on their improvement and their elevation. There has been no other modern day leader like him. He is a compassionate democrat. He is committed to the Bahamian people and in his time, we would have seen the first signs of a fully participatory democracy.

Since coming to the office of Prime Minister, Perry Christie has been working hard day and night to undo many of the serious blunders left behind by the FNM. He had to immediately wrestle the millions of dollars left behind by the FNM in outstanding bills. The cruise ship and airline industries were crying and threatening to boycott The Bahamas because of the sub-standard conditions of the Prince George Dock and the Nassau International Airport. The Family Island economies were suffering. Our culture was under attack and there was no apparent effort to rid this nation of crime and the scourge of illegal migration.

Christie's decisive and democratic style of governance has allowed for The Bahamas to be the envy of the region once again. He has been able in a short period in office and amidst of the financial challenges to fix all of the infrastructural demands of this nation and simultaneously be firm in refusing to raise taxes. The courting of more than **\$12 Billion dollars** in foreign direct investment is a telling sign of a Prime Minister that has been hard at work and making critical and timely decisions to ensure that the future of The Bahamas is a bright and prosperous one.

For sure, there is no comparison between Perry Christie and Hubert Ingraham. The entire country can now see that for themselves. Ingraham is a tyrant and a dictator; he has no respect for the views and opinions of others. Ingraham has a self-indulging personality and believes that only he has the answers to this



"FORWARD FOREVER" continued on page 2...

Christie...A Proven And Tested Leader

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nation's challenges. Christie is a proven leader that listens and welcomes dialogue on any given issue Ingraham is a one-man band and will show disrespect to civic leaders.

The Bahamas needs a leader for all times. A leader that has respect for others, that listens to trade Union leaders and leaders of the Church. One who is not afraid to be seen in Church and at the pulpit. One is a family man and who holds family values close to his heart. There is no doubt that Perry Christie remains the best man for the job of running the affairs of this nation and the electorate will vote for him once again in the next general elections.



Prime Minister Christie welcomes the Press and Former US President Bill Clinton at the Churchill Building.

The Chairman's DIARY

BY PLP CHAIRMAN - RAYNARD RIGBY



A Glorious, Transforming And Caring PLP Government

There is no doubt that in 2006 The Bahamas is a very exciting place to live.

This is true in large measure by virtue of the fact that the PLP government has truly had a transforming effect on the way in which we live and in how the world now perceives us. It has also been refreshing to watch our Leader, the Rt. Hon. Perry Christie, embrace his modern style of leadership, which transcends the norm and has allowed for a multitude of views and opinions to be shared in the mainstay of our politics. The simple truth of the matter is that The Bahamas has changed and with that change have been brought progress, prosperity and the beginning of a participatory democracy.

Since May 2002, a lot of work has been exerted in the changing face of The Bahamas. There are a record number of major touristic focused investments that will go to transform Family Island communities. This transformation will allow for Bahamians to stay in their communities and to enjoy a similar standard of living that is now being enjoyed in Nassau and Freeport.

In Our Plan, the PLP promised to attract and to ensure that anchor resorts are featured on all of the Islands. We also promised to create a new economic zone in the south-east Islands. It is with a deep sense of pride to note that we have kept these promises.

The transforming work of the PLP government has extended to health care, education and our communities. The now celebrated work of Urban Renewal is a glowing testament of what can be achieved when there is a meaningful partnership between the Church, the government and the community. The transformed youth that is now featured in the Marching Bands are reasons for jubilation.

Politically, the PLP is stronger than ever before. There is no party and no leader that can stand up to this PLP. We are committed to the Bahamian people and in our work as the Government over these past four years we have clearly demonstrated that we have the vision and the ability to ensure that our country and her people progress.

As PLPs we must be proud of the work of the Government. We must continually be proud of the great leadership brought by our esteemed Party Leader and Prime Minister, Perry Christie. We must proudly wear our breast plate to show that our Party's record in government is unmatched. We have delivered on the majority of the promises that we made in the last general elections. And in many respects, The Bahamas of today is by far better off than it was in May 2002.

This PLP will defeat Hubert Ingraham and the FNM. Even though they will attempt to spread mistruths, we will meet them step by step. Ingraham's return raises some dead skeletons and it is hoped that this time he will be man and will answer the charges when they come his way. This is a different PLP than that of 1992. We will not be deterred in our obligation to the Bahamian people.

This issue of 'The PLP Today & Tomorrow' is about our Party's glorious record in government. We have been a transforming government. Our record is unmatched. Our record can withstand objective analysis. And we invite you to review our record and to see for yourself why so many people remain committed to the PLP and our beloved Leader, Perry Gladstone Christie.

I invite you to read and enjoy this Special Supplement. And as we move our political machinery in full gear, we trust that you will again be with us All the Way! Into the next General Elections.

RUNNING ON OUR RECORD

*We have kept our
promises...so said, so done!*

Many Bahamians who have read a copy of Our Plan, would now be fully aware that the PLP has kept and has delivered on 65 to 70% of the promises made in Our Plan. In terms of the economy, housing, education, the armed services, transport and all of the other areas, this Government has been focused on bring about a remarkable transformation in our country.

Below is just a glimpse of the promises that have been kept by the PLP.

- More than 900 new homes have been constructed leading to more than 900 Bahamian families owning their own homes.
- More than \$12 Billion dollars of foreign direct investment have been attracted to The Bahamas over the past 4 years.
- The external reserves is at the highest in our history; now standing at almost \$850 Million.
- The construction industry is exploding and expanding at a record pace.
- The Venture Capital Fund and the Domestic Investment Board have been established to provide Bahamian entrepreneurs with the needed capital to fund their ideas.
- Major anchor touristic resorts have been courted to Mayaguana, Abaco, Rum Cay, Exuma, Cat Island, Crooked Island, Eleuthera and Grand Bahama.
- Steps have been taken to modernize and transform the Nassau International Airport with the appointment of an international experienced airport management firm.
- A record number of clinics and Police Stations have been opened in the Family Islands.
- The stamp duty on the purchase of a home at the ceiling of \$250,000 by first time home buyers was reduced and has led to more Bahamians owning their own homes that ever before.
- The Tourism sector has expanded with more low cost carriers coming to The Bahamas and the hotel room rate has increased in face of the high demands for our jurisdiction as a vacation Mecca which saw 5 million tourists visit our shores in 2004 and 2005.
- We have created in excess of 10,000 new jobs.

This Government is the fastest starting government in the history of The Bahamas. Its record of performance is unmatched by any previous administration.

This is why we are moving **FORWARD**...and never backwards.

Ready to be Implemented in December

The goals of NHI are to:-

- assist all residents in accessing high quality health services in a timely and dignified manner and without the fear of financial distress in paying the health bills;
- provide additional funds to improve the availability and quality of services.

To achieve these goals, the Cabinet-appointed Steering Committee on NHI presented a preliminary Report on the Components, Cost and Financing of NHI in January 2005. The Report used the recommendations of the Blue Ribbon Commission as the basis for deriving its estimates. Highlights of the Report include:-

- Membership--all legal residents of The Bahamas will be enrolled in the Plan;
- Benefit Packages--NHI will cover 2 packages of benefits:

INDIVIDUAL BENEFITS PACKAGE

This package will cover:

- visits to GPs, health centres, specialists and casualty departments of hospitals;
- prescription drugs and medical supplies;
- laboratory tests and diagnostic imaging services;
- inpatient hospital services for surgery, medical care and room and board;
- overseas care for medical services which are not available locally;

- emergency transportation for residents in the Family Islands to get to the main health facilities in Freeport and Nassau.

GROUP BENEFITS PACKAGE

This package will cover grant funds:-

- to churches, community organizations and other groups to support their 'projects' in promoting good health;
- to health providers to invest in technology and improvements in the quality of care.

COST

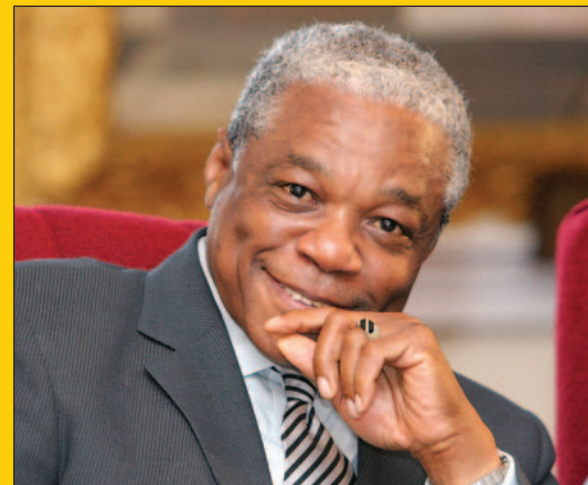
Estimated cost of the NHI benefits and administration is about \$235m per year;

CONTRIBUTIONS

To cover the cost of the Plan, contributions will be required from:

- government—to pay for children, the poor and its share as an employer;
- workers—to contribute 5.3% of earnings with employers paying 2.65% and employees paying 2.65%
- pensioners

Cabinet accepted the Report in principle and asked the Minister of Health and the NHI Team to share the findings and consult with stakeholder groups and the public. Cabinet also asked for an independent evaluation and 'second opinion' of the estimates. Since January, more than 20 meetings and consul-



Hon. Bernard J. Knottage
Health & National Insurance

tations have been held with several groups including:-

- Medical Association;
- Private insurers
- Christian Council and the clergy
- Civil Society Bahamas
- Trade Unions
- Chamber of Commerce
- Hotel Association
- Port Authority

Consultations are continuing and the NHI team is planning meetings in the Family Islands as well as with other community groups throughout the country.

The Minister of Health is due to report back to Cabinet on the results of the consultations with the public and the independent evaluation by the end of June. Cabinet will then decide on further activities for developing and implementing the NHI.

Billion dollar transformation for Southwest New Providence

NASSAU, The Bahamas – The estimated \$1.3 billion projected touted for the south-western end of New Providence is also set to enhance the lives of Bahamians through job opportunities and affordable housing.

These are some of the aspects included in The Heads of Agreement between the Government of The Bahamas and Park Ridge Securities Corporation signed Thursday, November 9 at Cabinet Office.

“This project will constitute one of the glittering jewels in this transformation of southwest New Providence now underway,” said Prime Minister the Rt Hon Perry Christie during the signing ceremony. “This agreement represents a great benefit to the Bahamian people and to the development of The Bahamas.”

The project brings together three top names in golf, Tiger Woods, Ernie Els and Tavistock Group to create Albany Golf & Beach Club, seven minutes from the Lynden Pindling International

Airport. Construction is scheduled to begin immediately with plans for the community to open in the fall of 2008.

The project calls for an 18-hole championship golf course; an exotic family swimming complex, a state-of-the-art marina for boats and megayachts, a beach club, a tennis and racquet centre, a variety of water sports, spa and fitness centre, children programmes and adult activities.

This is part of a master plan for the southwest, which also included a new sea port, a national park inspired by the Clifton Heritage site, a newly develop upscale South Ocean hotel casino and mixed resort, a large affordable housing sub-division and an expanded public beach access, new recreational public parks and wildlife sanctuaries.

“Taken together, this list represents the planning and future of the Bahamian economy well into this 21st Century,” the Prime Minister.

He noted that his Government is



Prime Minister the Rt. Hon. Perry Christie (right) shakes hands with Christopher Anand, managing partner of Albany, during the signing of Heads of Agreement for the redevelopment of south-western New Providence on Thursday, Nov. 9, 2006 at the Cabinet Office. (Photo by: Tim Aylen)

Unemployment Rate DOWN! - 7.6%

Job Opportunities Blossom Under The Caring PLP Gov't.

The PLP has taken note of the Preliminary Results of the 2006 Labour Force Survey. We are particularly proud to note that the overall unemployment rate has drastically fallen to 7.6% in 2006 from 10.2%. We are also proud of the fact that the average household income has increased to \$43,420 from \$38,894 in 2005; an increase of \$4,526.

These results give credence to and further support for the fact that economic transformation has taken root in The Bahamas. In just 4 short years in office, the PLP government has been able to bring about an economic renaissance unparalleled in our modern history. Many Bahamians are now at work and those who

wish to be employed can find work in The Bahamas. A true testament of the success of the economic policies and fiscal management of this government is the fact that of the new entrants to the Labour Force, totaling 3,185 Bahamians in 2006, all of them have been absorbed in the economy. The survey confirms that 7,530 Bahamians were "new" employees in 2006.

The PLP is very proud of the work of this government. Our efforts to bring real economic opportunities to the Bahamian people will not stop. Our mandate is to ensure that all Bahamians enjoy a high standard of living that is compared to none in this region. The anchor project policy of this government has been a tremendous



The Progressive Christie Cabinet

Investors Confident In The Bahamas

The Economic Boom Under The PLP

*"10,000 NEW JOBS!!
millions paid to Bahamians"*

When the PLP came to office on the 2nd May, 2002 the Bahamian economy was in doldrums. There was no projected growth expected in 2002 and 2003. The unemployment rate was increasing and there was a deep sense of despair and hopelessness amongst Bahamian businessmen. The FNM had squandered the surplus and had poorly managed the economic affairs of The Bahamas. Coupled with the FNM and Hubert Ingraham's foolish push to create a new regulatory environment for the financial services sector, all appeared lost.

Perry Christie has proven to be the fix-the economy- man. With a decisive policy of courting foreign investment to the Family Islands, the PLP has been able to turn the economy around and has put us all back on a strong economic foot. The

communities and people of Eleuthera, Exuma, Mayaguana, Abaco, West End Grand Bahama and Rum Cay can boast of the fact that there are sizable investments attracted to these Islands that will go a long way in creating sustainable jobs for many years to come.

Already the PLP Government has attracted the total sum of **\$12 BILLION DOLLARS** to The Bahamas. **\$3 BILLION DOLLARS** have already been spent in the economy by these projects. And many Bahamian contractors are being hired and already they have been paid a whopping sum of **\$500 MILLION DOLLARS**.

So when we said that we would put Bahamians first we meant just that. The evidence speaks so loudly.



PM Christie Meets with Sol Kerzner on Development Plans.

success and we are ever proud of the leadership that has been brought by the Prime Minister, Perry Christie.

We are also proud of the fact that the present All Bahamas unemployment rate of 7.6% is on comparison the lowest achieved since the early 1990s; save for the rate in 2001.

It is also important to appreciate that even during the so-called years of boom, and even when the FNM suggested that it had balanced the Budget, the unemployment rate never reached this unprecedented rate of 7.6 % and certainly it never reached the new rate of 6.6% for New Providence under the FNM.

This government deserves even more praise when a comparison is made of the unemployment rate for New Providence. The 2006 unemployment rate for New Providence is 6.6%. This is the lowest that the unemployment rate has ever been for the last 11 years. This is added proof that the economy of New Providence is at its most robust in our history and is but another stellar affirmation of the fact that the Bahamian economy is growing at an exponential rate. The fantastic developments at Atlantis Phase III, the Baha Mar and the Albany development will all lead to the

further reduction of the unemployment rate for New Providence. We join with the Honourable Prime Minister in predicting that there will be full employment in New Providence in the coming months.

Too, the new Labour Force statistics confirms that under this PLP government the new entrants to the labour force are now able to be fully absorbed into the work pool. All Bahamians who are actively searching for employment are able to find employment. These are the undisputable facts.

The truth is that the FNM, and their want-a-be economist Zhivargo Laing, may attempt to spread their usual lies and distortions. The facts and figures that are included in the recent release were prepared by the same Department of Statistics which they used when it was to their political advantage. The FNM will not know be allowed to criticize the Department. The FNM should simply face the unchallengeable fact that the Bahamian people are better off today under this PLP than ever before. And this is why we are so confident that the Bahamian people will return us to the government to continue the great work that we have done over these past 4 years.

Transformation for Southwest

(Continued from page 3)

pleased to welcome this "important investment" by Joe Lewis and his Park Ridge Securities Group, developers of the Albany Golf and Beach Club on a 565 acre-site.

"This development is destined to become one of the world's finest golf resort communities," the Prime Minister said. "I am confident that Albany will add significantly to the attractiveness and appeal of The Bahamas to residents and visitors alike."

An independent economic study has concluded that this resort will generate about 1,600 jobs during peak construction period and support over 1,100 permanent jobs when completed. The study also forecasts major increases for Government revenues with \$1 billion in incremental Gross Domestic Product (GDP) to be derived by the economy.

The Prime Minister noted that as a luxury resort, Albany would conform to the "highest" environmental standards and preservation guidelines, particularly with respect to historical or cultural artefacts, which might be found at the site.

Minister of Financial Services and Investments the Hon Vincent Peet also acknowledged the significance of the project, the potential employment and business opportunities for Bahamians and growth of the economy.

Christopher Anand, managing partner of Albany touted the project as the first luxury resort the world has ever seen". He said that it was a pleasure working with the government over the past 18 months in negotiations and added that Bahamians would be proud of such a development.

PLP Built Over 1,000 Homes In Just 4 Years

The Government has built nearly 1,400 homes in four years. We have fulfilled the promise made to provide affordable homes for Bahamians.

An estimated \$5.6 million was spent on the new development called Excellence Estates. Of the 85 homes in Phase I, 50 are assigned to single mothers, 20 to couples and 15 to others.

On September 4, the Government opened 185 homes in Dignity Gardens; 45 are occupied. Plans are underway to build 100 more homes in Phase II of that development.

On September 11, the Government opened Pride Estates with 104 homes; 100 more homes will be built in Phase II.

And on September 18, the Government opened 112 homes in Sunset Subdivision in Grand Bahama. Fifty-one are already occupied.

Plans are underway to build a similar subdivision in Exuma.

“When it comes to providing these houses for people, we must ensure that the Government uses its resources whether its advisory or whether its through some long term creative funding, to ensure that the homeowners have the best opportunity to establish a community through your providing assistance in landscaping,” the Prime Minister said.

Plans are also underway to build a new school to accommodate children in that fast developing area of the island.



“Let Us Wipe Away Every Tear From Every Eye”

Prime Minister Perry G. Christie

The Christie Administration has delivered Keys to hundreds of New Bahamian families.

There Is NO CONSTITUTIONAL CRISIS

“Judges Are Independent”

The Rulings of the Hon. Justice John Lyons have caused some to jump to the erroneous conclusion that there exists a constitutional crisis in The Bahamas. This is not only over-exaggerated but asinine and is a feeble attempt by some to engage in the most brazen of political jockeying. All of the Courts have been functioning and no Bahamian has been denied access to the Courts. Even Justice Lyons has been hearing Court matters in Grand Bahama.

The Attorney General, the Hon. Allyson Maynard-Gibson, informed the country that she intends to appeal the Ruling. The AG also announced the appointment of the Commission chaired by retired Justice Joseph Strachan.

In fact all of us should know that the mere fact that Justice Lyons said what he said and in the manner in which it was said, is a great testament that judicial independence is alive and well in The Bahamas and under this PLP. It was the FNM and Hubert Ingraham who showed no respect for



Judges. Do you remember the incident involving Justice of Appeal Rowe? And do you remember that in 2000 the FNM refused to follow the recommendations of the Commission which was chaired by former Attorney-General Sean McWeeney? Mr. Ingraham in his usual autocratic style simply implemented his own views of what Judges should be paid. In fact, it was left to this PLP government to implement a portion of the new salaries that were promised by the former administration when we assumed office in May 2002.

It was the PLP that led the charge to the creation of an independent Bahamas. We will always jealousy guard and protect all of our Constitutional institutions. And this is why Hubert Ingraham and his dictatorial style will NEVER see the reins of power again.

Hon. Allyson Maynard-Gibson
Attorney General

FNM IMPLODES as Party Officers run to a Caring Christie PLP Government



Ashley Cargill - Former FNM



Algernon Allen - Former FNM

“Ingraham has killed all what we have fought for to bring good to the Bahamas, now us FNMs are feeling the wrath of an evil man dictating our direction of our FNM Party...”

A disgruntled FNM...

Christie's Policy of Inclusion - The Right Approach For 21st Century...

When Prime Minister the Rt. Hon. Perry Christie and the Progressive Liberal Party shocked the Free National Movement Government with a crushing defeat in May 2002, it ushered in a new era of government of the people, for the people and by the people. It also allowed Mr. Christie to showcase to the Bahamian people, his policy of inclusion and second chances, a policy that has garnered wide appeal and support in the community.

The Prime Minister did not have to go far to show the potential results of second chances. Considered a slow learner, he eventually earned a law degree, entered politics nearly 30 years ago and reached the pinnacle of power in the country.

In addition, the Minister of Education, Science and Technology, the Hon. Alfred Sears, was considered incorrigible and sent to the reform school. He eventually earned a doctorate and a law degree. Before becoming Attorney General and Minister of Education in 2002, he was a tenured law professor in the New York State school system.

If there are questions about the potential for second chances the above two examples should suffice quite nicely and Mr. Christie misses no opportunity to remind us.

As for the politics of inclusion, the prime minister has also taken great pains to point out that a small country like the

Bahamas can ill afford to marginalize or refuse to exploit the talents of any of its citizens. In this regard he immediately appointed commissions to study among other things, the cultural, health and financial sectors to help determine the way forward.

That several former members of the opposition

have now joined the chorus of believers is not surprising. It should be instructive to the voting public that those members include former Minister of Agriculture and Attorney General, Tennyson Wells; former Minister of Consumer Affairs and Agriculture, Pierre Dupuch; former Minister of Housing Algernon Allen; former Minister of Works and Ambassador to the United States, Sir Arlington Butler; Lester Turnquest; Floyd Watkins; Anthony

Miller; Elliot Lockhart and Ronald Bosfield. The Bahama Journal also recently reported that others who may be

involved include former party officers Derek Simms and Roston Miller.

As for the appointments, both the Cultural Commission and the Blue Ribbon Commission on National Health Insurance have met and made recommendations, some of which, in the case of the Cultural Commission have already been implemented.

That commission is comprised of a diverse group of persons such as Winston and Gail Saunders, Charles Carter, Stan and

Jackson Burnside, Brent Malone, Ronnie Butler, K.B., Antonius Roberts, Dr. Nicolette Bethel, Arlene Nash and Fr. Sebastian Campbell. It recommended among other things, the naming of the

Lynden Pindling Airport, Rusty Bethel Drive, and Amos Ferguson Way.

As a result of their recommendations a National Heroes Bill, National Honour's Bill and a Bill addressing Arts and Culture is before or being considered by the House of Assembly. In fact the remit of that group has been expanded to include a sub-committee which is studying the issues surrounding the abolition of the slave trade in 1807 and activities to commemorate that bi-centennial in 2007.

The Blue Ribbon Commission on National Health Insurance has also reported with Minister of Health and National Insurance, Senator, the Hon. Bernard Nottage has announced the intention of government to look seriously at implementing the plan by the end of the year. That group includes, Drs. Perry Gomez, Cliff Bacchus, Baldwin Carey, Madeline Sawyer and Cyprian Strachan, Mr. Paul McQueeney, Sister Claire Rolle, Mr. Quebell Rolle, Rev. Timothy Stewart, Nurse Cleola Hamilton, Messrs. Lennox McCartney, Carey Leonard, Anthony Kikivirakis and Gerald Pennerman.

For those who say to Mr. Christie that second chances and inclusion is not the way to go, he would probably answer, "But look at the evidence."

The Bahamas is Better Today than ever before in our history.



Rt. Hon. Perry G. Christie
Prime Minister of The Bahamas



Lester Turnquest



Floyd Watkins



Elliot Lockhart



Anthony Miller



Sir Arlington Butler toast Prime Minister Christie

The Heavy Baggage of Hubert Ingraham

Why So Many FNMs And Bahamians Cannot Trust Ingraham?

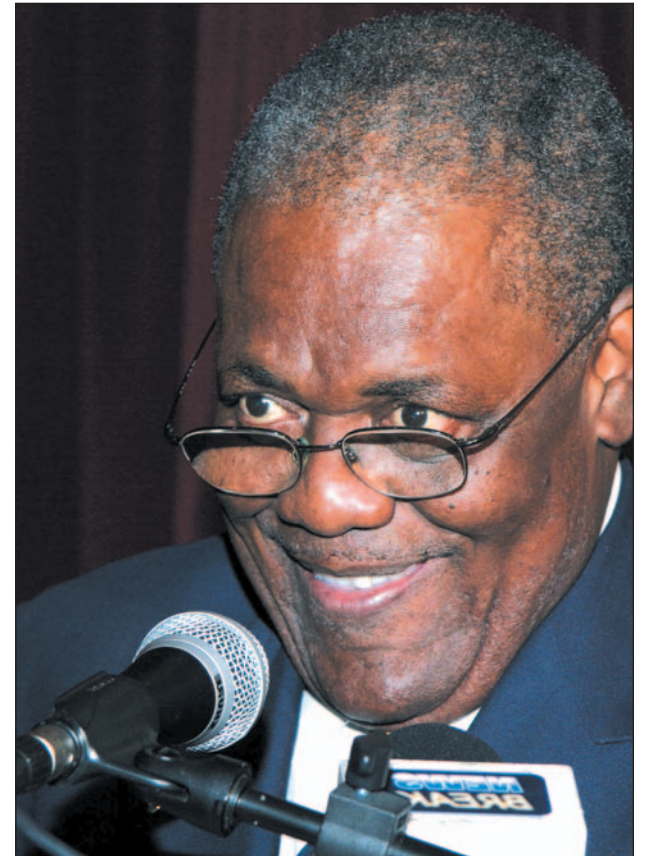
“ My Fellow Bahamians,

I have now completed my legislative agenda for this, my second consecutive and final term in office as the Prime Minister of The Bahamas.

For me, it has been an honour and a privilege to have served as Head of Government for nine and one half years.

I SHALL NOT AGAIN SEEK THE OFFICE OF PRIME MINISTER. THIS IS IN KEEPING WITH THE POSITION I COMMUNICATED TO THE BAHAMIAN PEOPLE IN 1992. MY VIEW WAS THEN, AS IT IS NOW, THAT TWO TERMS WOULD PROVIDE THE TIME I NEEDED TO ACCOMPLISH THE GOALS ENUNCIATED IN MANIFESTO '92 AND MANIFESTO II.”

Address to the Nation By: The Rt. Hon. Hubert A. Ingraham, Prime Minister
On the Prorogation and Dissolution of Parliament Sunday, March 10, 2002



Hubert Alexander Ingraham

We then say this: “A double minded man is UNSTABLE in all his ways....”

COMMENTARY

Ingraham and his acts of betrayal

The despicable show of political butchery that led to the return of Hubert Ingraham as the leader of the fledging FNM will forever be remembered. It was a scene of peculiar ending, with Tommy Turnquest looking sheepish as he believed that Ingraham would be a man of his word and not enter the race for leader. Dion Foulkes spent all of his life's savings and came out worst off due to his grueling defeat. The real show of cowardice in the FNM was when all of the losers were summoned by Ingraham to dawn the podium on the closing night and to suffer the humiliation of his lecture about their unsuitability to lead the FNM.

What has been most startling is the behaviour of Ingraham after his orchestrated victory. He returned to the House of Assembly hoping to be given a hero's welcome. But he faced the stark opposition from a strong PLP bench that will not allow him to forget that he is no leader and that The Bahamas has changed.

Mr. Ingraham suggests that his return was due to the crescendo of support which beckoned his return as leader of the FNM. Well, to examine the only

What has been most startling is the behaviour of Ingraham after his orchestrated victory. He returned to the House of Assembly hoping to be given a hero's welcome.

measly 400 votes cast, Ingraham got a slight 200 votes with Tommy gaining over 100 and Dion gaining under 50. Now you tell me, is that a crescendo? Or, better is it a buy-out? You be the judge.

By sabotaging Tommy and Dion, Ingraham showed the FNM that although they got rid off him in 2002, he was and is still in charge of the FNM and that there are few men in that party who can stand up to him and be man. Whether Tommy and Dion recognize it or not, Ingraham's return has sent the



Ingraham ...Former Prime Minister

FNM back into time; back some 20 years and back to an era where men were not men in this country.

Frankly, the FNM has shown that there are no leaders in that Party but an old, tired rejected PLP called Hubert Ingraham who was roundly defeated in the 2002 Referendum and the general election and who said in clear terms that he was ashamed of the people of The Bahamas. This Hubert Ingraham will never see the seat of Government ever again in this Bahamas. You can count on that.

“DID YA KNOW?”

When the FNM assumed office in August, 1992, during its first two years in office they engaged in a devious witch hunt to assassinate the credibility of long-standing statesmen who had given much of their time to the development of The Bahamas. Men such as Sir Lynden Pindling were dragged before a Commission of Inquiry, which proved fruitless and a waste of taxpayer's money, as no wrongdoing was uncovered. Otherwise, the FNM merely complained and made allegations that the Treasury was broke and that it had to pay \$70 million dollars worth of bills left behind by the former PLP administration. The public would be well aware that this PLP government was saddled with bills totaling well over \$325 million dollars which had to be paid within our first 22 months of governance. Hubert Ingraham is an incompetent leader who lacks the moral integrity to run this country and he will never lead this country again!

The Tribune is at their **LIES AGAIN!**

The PLP is satisfied that the scurrilous reports of the Tribune spin doctors that there exists a 'meltdown' in the government is not only utterly ridiculous and amateurish, but here again is a sign where the FNM uses the now rag-sheet to vent its publisher's hate for the 'People's Choice' Progressive Liberal Party. It remains a fact that the Tribune will stoop to any low level, to showcase the bastardization of any journalistic integrity that they have left, all to seek to discredit this Government and our leadership.



Eileen Carron
Ragsheet Publisher

Every day there are clear signs for all those who wish to see that this PLP Government is hard at work fixing the problems left by Hubert Ingraham and ensuring that the lives of Bahamians are improved. There has been no other government that has done so much in such a short time in office. These are the facts and no matter what the Tribune reports the PLP will not be deterred in its mandate to serve the interests of the The majority of the Bahamian people.

Have not everyone seen the turmoil in the FNM concerning Mr. Ingraham's dictatorial approach to the selection of candidates?

We are fully satisfied that the Tribune's usual bias reporting against the PLP will not discourage this government nor will it prevent us from carrying out our mission to serve the interests of the Bahamian people. In fact, we are happy to report that a number of former leaders of the FNM have voluntarily joined the ranks of the PLP and have committed themselves to ensuring the PLP victory.

Shane Gibson Is Innocent UNLIKE TOMMY AND DION

The Progressive Liberal Party publicly goes on record to refute and deny the vicious and mean spirited attempts by the FNM and its agents to suggest that Minister Shane Gibson and this PLP Government have done something wrong in the issuance of permanent residency to Anna Nicole Smith.

The FNM's record on immigration is a blundering one, full of examples where they have acted in the interests of themselves and their cronies. The FNM should also remember Derek Turner, Vicktor Krozney, and Hubert Ingraham's son-in-law, that they are examples where they granted permanent residency to individuals in a period of less than two weeks.

There is no evidence as none exists, that has reached the level of any wrong doing in respect of the grant of the permanent residency to Ms. Smith. The facts are that the cheque



Tommy & Dion
'The Dreaming Gone Sleep TEAM'



Hon Shane Gibson
Minister of Immigration

was made payable to the Public Treasury and the Department of Immigration has a record of receiving the cheque. As far as we are aware, there is no allegation that the cheque was made payable to Minister Gibson. There is no evidence and no allegation has been made that the Minister received any monetary benefit for the issuance of the permanent residency permit to Ms. Smith. So what is the Problem?

The PLP is not surprised that the

Tribune and the FNM have been seeking to make this a public issue. The FNM should be the last to lecture any political party on credibility and honesty in public life. In fact, the public is still waiting on a report from Hubert Ingraham after his investigations into the ministerial misconduct of Tommy Turnquest and Dion Foulkes. The allegations against the two gentlemen involved were serious.

The FNM and one of its confused spokesman and contributor to the Tribune ragsheet pages, Zhivargo Laing should remember these facts and it will also be wise for him to remember that charity begins at home and that his call for an enquiry into the grant of the permanent residency to Ms. Smith does not mirror his stance on the serious allegations made against his colleagues, Tommy Turnquest and Dion Foulkes. Zhivargo Laing should be more concerned about his own integrity, Along with his fellow FNMs.



Zhivargo Laing
'Confused suffering memory lapses'

PLP DELIVERS CLEAN WATER TO ISLANDS

After 9 1/2 years of neglect and incompetence, the PLP in coming to office in May 2002, has demonstrated its commitment to the implementation of a Long-Term Strategic Plan to ensure that each and every citizen of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas has access to a high quality, reliable potable water supply system and a modern sewerage collection, treatment and disposal network in compliance with local and international standards.

The PLP through a Public-Private Partnership philosophy has delivered high quality, reliable potable water by desalination or Reverse-Osmosis to many residents of our Commonwealth who previously either had no water supply, an unreliable water supply or water which was of a poor quality. The PLP has commissioned some eight (8) desalination plants throughout the Family Islands. These islands include: -

- Bimini;
- Waterford, Eleuthera;
- Staniel Cay, Exuma;
- Georgetown, Exuma;
- Matthew Town, Inagua;



Hon. Bradley Roberts
Minister of Works & Utilities

- Deadman's Cay, Long Island;
- Duncan Town, Ragged Island; and
- Cockburn Town, San Salvador.

The PLP has also finalized contractual arrangements with the Emerald Bay Resort for the supply of

additional desalinated water for Exuma as well as upgraded the desalination plants in Moores Island, Abaco and Black Point and Farmer's Cay, Exuma.

The desalination plant for Central Eleuthera is under construction and the PLP Government is finalizing plans for a number of additional desalination plants in the following areas: -

- Green Turtle Cay, Abaco
- Salina Point, Ackins
- Snug Corner, Acklins
- Rock Sound/Tarpum Bay, Eleuthera

With respect to New Providence, the PLP has awarded a contract for a five (5) million imperial gallons a day desalination plant at Blue Hills. This plant is presently under construction and is scheduled for completion this summer. Further, negotiations for another plant to service the northern portion of New Providence are being finalized; and a plan for a further plant for Winton, New Providence is in the preliminary stage of negotiation.