

The Selection of the Jamaican Cabinet

It was vital for his prospects, that Prime Minister Holness cut his cabinet to exclude Shower Posse Witch Doctors and Shower Posse Missionaries. United States interests will be watching these executive developments closely as the Shower Posse will not be permitted to poison United States children for the foreseeable future.

The anticipated political change in West Kingston means the beleaguered people of Western Kingston do not have to vote for somebody who ordered the Jamaica Defense Force to shoot down many of their friends and relatives in cold blood. Desmond McKenzie is not a saint but he has served many years as a local politician. Hopefully he will quickly disclose to parliament the sources of his recently acquired wealth. For Tivolites the Golding nightmare is over.

Arthur Williams is a very good lawyer and will serve creditably as Minister of Information. He would have been better suited as Minister of National Security as Dwight Nelson has not excelled in that position and Jamaica continues to be one of the murder capitals of the world. The independent Jamaica media will breathe more easily with the combative Darryl Vaz in another portfolio.

The Jamaican population is already becoming restive and if a U.S. political indictment arrives before November as many expect it to, the Holness administration may find itself in very deep trouble. There are still too many gangsters in government in Jamaica and there will be no serious foreign investment or economic recovery until this problem is solved. Manipulation of the corrupt media will not change the grim realities.

The Prime Minister has great potential but seems somewhat like a Sunlight Cup schoolboy cricket player selected to play Test cricket. His lack of experience will show in particularly important matters such as IMF negotiations and local labor disputes. His incapability in resolving the labor disputes with his teachers while serving as Minister of Education does not encourage confidence.

The key to abandoning Garrison politics is to remove from the political parties those individuals who are involved in Garrison tactics. This message has not reached all corners of the JLP political machine.

The old faces that have dominated the Golding administration still continue to dominate and it appears that none of the old stagers will give up political powers voluntarily. For many of us in the Diaspora the composition of the Cabinet has not achieved the promised changes of the Inaugural Speech.

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