

(69a)

MEMORANDUM TO THE UNITED NATIONS

by

DR. CHEDDI JAGAN

THE INDEPENDENCE ISSUE IN BRITISH GUIANA

INTRODUCTION

1. This Memorandum is to be read in conjunction with the Memorandum submitted on the 20th November, 1961, by the People's Progressive Party. A copy of this Party Memorandum is attached hereto as Appendix 'A' for reference.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

2. Subsequent to the distribution of the first Memorandum in December 1961 the Premier of British Guiana, Dr. C.B. Jagan, called upon Mr. R. Maudling, Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies in London on the 13th December and requested that the demand of the 83.6% of the electorate in British Guiana who had voted for immediate independence be granted. Mr. Maudling refused to fix any date certain for British Guiana's independence. Further, he refused to fix any date certain for a Conference to decide on such a date, but promised to raise the matter in the Cabinet and inform Dr. Jagan of their decision.

3. Implied in this answer was the possibility of the British Cabinet refusing to agree to the demand for immediate independence. As the Premier of British Guiana took the stand that independence is the right of the people of British Guiana and not something within the grant of Her Majesty's Government, he immediately appealed to the United Nations for help.

4. At the 1251st Meeting of the Fourth Committee of the United Nations it was decided to invite Dr. Jagan to address the Committee and Dr. Jagan did in fact address

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