

*File*  
*Articles & Speeches*

STATEMENT BY THE PREMIER FOR WEST GERMAN  
TELEVISION DOCUMENTARY  
- - - - -

The situation in my country dramatizes the issues which confront Latin America and many other parts of the underdeveloped world. It is to put it very briefly whether leaders like myself will be permitted to develop their countries along Socialist lines by means of Parliamentary Democracy and persuasion or whether they will <sup>be</sup> forcibly removed from office with the inevitable result that their supporters will be forced into the use of revolutionary means. Confronted by widespread poverty and the rising expectations of the people leaders in Latin America must increasingly resort to state action in the economic field. The state must take a part in creating a balanced economy and in bringing to an end the present situation in which all Latin American territories and nearly all emerging nations depend upon one or two export crops or minerals. Time is against us and we can no longer look to the haphazard and wasteful methods of the capitalist system. We have to plan our economies and to take action over a broad field.

So the true choice in Latin America is not between socialism and capitalism but between a socialist society created by revolutionary or parliamentary means.

I wish to make it plain that I am committed to Parliamentary democracy and by this I acknowledge the rights of the opposition, freedom of the press and Judiciary and so on. I wish to point out however, that while my Government is in office by value of elections conducted by the British administration, efforts are being made with the connivance of local and overseas business interests and American agencies to overthrow my Government or render it ineffective. The austerity Budget introduced in 1962 was used as the occasion for widespread rioting, looting and arson in which the Opposition Parties and business took a hand. On this occasion another method has been tried. The Labour Relations Bill modelled after the U.S. Wagner Act and which seeks to secure by means of a secret ballot of workers the recognition of Unions which command the support of a majority

p.t.o.

workers has been used as an excuse for a so called General Strike. The strike is in fact only fully effective in Georgetown, the main centre of opposition support. It is ~~certain~~ that the forces behind the strike is the Political Opposition and certain Trade Unionists who have been trained in subversive techniques by an American Agency, the Institute for Free Labour Development. There is no doubt whatever that American funds are being used to train figures in the Labour Movement all over Latin America so that the Labour Movement may be used to maintain the capitalist system.

For my part, I want to assure you that I am confident that my Government will survive this crisis because it commands the support of the majority of the people and in the end the will of the people <sup>must</sup> ~~will~~ prevail.