

Tourism Affected As Extradition Crisis Continues

The US Department of Commerce and US travel agents are generally watching the Coke Extradition Crisis as it unfolds dramatically. As US analysts hastily reassess their evaluation of the viability of the Golding regime, some travel wholesalers are quietly getting the word from the US Department of Commerce to cross Jamaica off the priority list for cruise ship and individual travel. "Gangsters are now running the show in Jamaica" was the way one travel wholesaler put it. The Jamaica Tourist Board has a very difficult task as a result.

The State Department Bureau of Diplomatic Security has been mandated to assess the message inherent in the recently appearing popular Jamaican song about the extradition crisis promising to fill the funeral homes with bodies. It would not escape their attention that the informal pre-arrest spokesperson for Coke, the alleged large scale exporter of guns and cocaine, is a Member of the Senate of Jamaica. The Bureau would digest this data and make its recommendations accordingly.

Jamaica's winter season is in grave peril. The US may decide to advise its citizens not to come to a gunman's paradise. Jamaica still has time to comply with its treaty obligations, but this time is now running short. The United States considers treaty obligations to be significant and will take unilateral action to protect and enforce treaty obligations - See *United States v Wigan* 358 US 331. The US may not sue Jamaica in its domestic courts because of the doctrine of Foreign Sovereign Immunities. The commercial law exception does not apply in this situation.

Other options for resolution of the crisis have to be considered by the United States.

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