

Tourism and Deceit

US-Jamaica Tourism is declining rapidly and will become worse as the extraordinary Dudus Coke crisis continues.

The Associated Press has expressed the United States attitude to Jamaica's breach of international law, as "impatient". This is a diplomatic word. Senator Tom Tavares Finson has described the laborious multi-million dollar, hi-tech Grand Jury investigation as "hype." He may have reason to regret the use of this informal adjective in the future.

Professor Dicey of Oxford has described the Rule of Law as the very fabric of a civilized society. This fabric can be torn asunder by the deliberate and conspiratorial harboring of naked criminality by the parliamentary majority and the political directorate.

The Jamaica Parliament which should be at the pinnacle of our system of justice finds itself in international disrepute and scandal. The procedures set up in an Extradition Treaty must be scrupulously adhered to. How sad was it to hear a Minister of Justice comparing the Morrison case to the Coke case, particularly as Jamaica has never issued a warrant for Coke. The comparison was illogical and inaccurate and could only have been calculated to mislead the public.

The Profumo crisis established that a Minister in a Westminster democracy should never deliberately deceive Parliament or the public. How dangerously close has our current Minister come to violating the Profumo principle? Profumo was in love when he destroyed his political career. What will the modern Jamaican senatorial excuses be?

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