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SECOND INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR THE ERADICATION OF COLONIALISM

Caribbean regional seminar on the implementation of the Second International Decade

SECOND INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR THE ERADICATION OF COLONIALISM

Frigate Bay, Saint Kitts and Nevis

12 to 14 May 2009

STATEMENT
BY THE REPRESENTATIVE
OF
ANGUILLA

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extermination. As was stated to the United Nations during a visiting mission to Anguilla in 1984 the question of the political Independence of Anguilla was early one of timing. This position of Anguilla was reiterated by

have been removed from the House of Assembly and placed in the
Governor or the Governor in Council; there is a shadow figure called a

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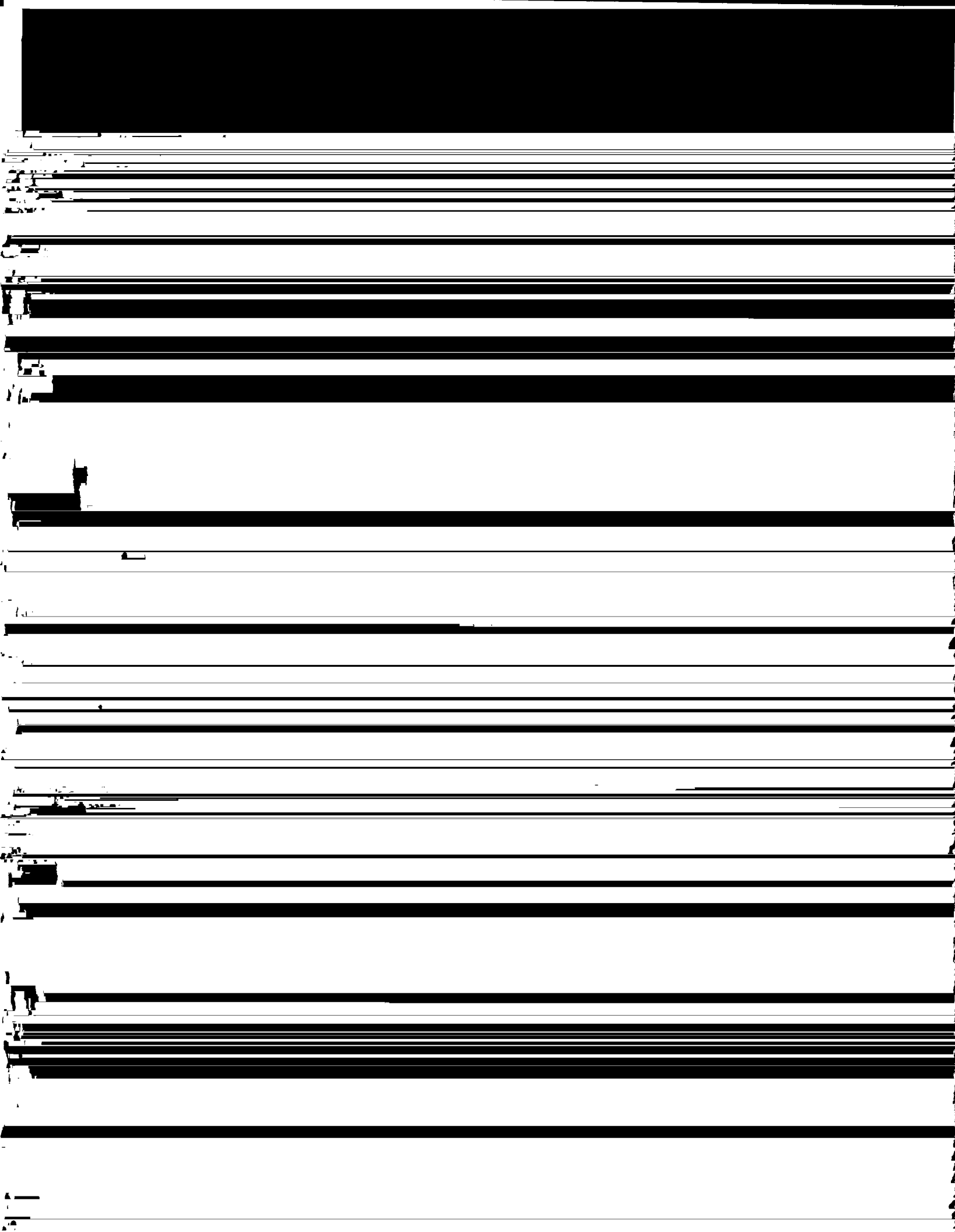
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constitution, can be over-ridden in the twinkling of an eye by the passing of an Order in Council or instruction given by the Secretary of state in England to the Governor in Anguilla to do what the British Government wished to have done.

We believe that we have the right to a written constitution which is



OUR UNDERSTANDING OF FULL INTERNAL SELF-GOVERNMENT

In Anguilla we understand that “Full Internal Self-Government” imports a vesting in the people of Anguilla the right to exercise full executive authority over all of its domestic affairs such as was vested in the Associated States under the West Indies Act of 1967 and the Constitutions enacted there under and in the 2006 Constitution of Gibraltar. Such an arrangement leaves the matters of defence, security and the treaty-making powers in external affairs in the hand of the United Kingdom government.

This Status envisages a constitutional arrangement which will secure the centrality of our fundamental rights and freedoms as reasonably limited by compelling demands of a democratic society which will

(3) Her Majesty may by Order in Council make provision—

responsible status;

(b) for and in connection with the establishment of Anguilla as an independent republic;

We have got to stand up for our rights,

To lead the lives we choose;

to change, to answer, to refuse.

If you think the battle's done, you are wrong –

it's an illusion, all illusion.

Talk of progress, love and justice , peace unity and “partnership”

- an illusion, all illusion.

We have no hold on these our native islands.

Our hands are tied, we don't control our actions.

(To my brothers and sisters in the remaining non-self Governing Territories I say)

Come, let us forward together in a social endeavour -

our goal: social control.

Only then shall we be colonized no more.

The conflict of interest between metropolitan country and the colonies played an important role in the eighteenth-century history of the Caribbean, and it would seem that it is playing a similar role in the 21st Century.

Today the commodity is not sugar and slaves. It is tourism and financial services, but the issue is still the same, one of a conflict of interest of the metropolitan administering territory and the colony. We need to understand the struggle which we are up against. And we need to take steps to prevent our people from being emasculated and dispossessed yet again in this new age of colonialism.

Mr. Chairman, I thank you.