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The police also recovered two blood stained knives inside the car which they suspect could be weapons used in the death of this taxi driver.

The body was removed from the vehicle and taken to the San Ignacio Hospital where it was officially pronounced dead.

The body was subsequently confirmed to be that of Jose Alfredo Howe Jr., 41, Belizean taxi driver of a Benque Viejo Town address.

Upon arrival, the police came upon a red Toyota COrolla, 4-door car with taxi license plates CY-D-2521.

The car appeared to have collided into an electricity pole on the right side of the highway when traveling from Benque Viejo to San Ignacio.

Upon checking the vehicle, police encountered the motionless body of a male person of Hispanic decent lying in the back section of the car with what appeared to be stab wounds to the throat, chin, chest and arms.

The relative could not say if there were other persons in the back seat of the car as the tinted rear glasses were raised at the time when it was spotted.

San Ignacio police manning a vehicle check point (VCP) on the Western Highway and crashing into an electricity pole.

The relative could not say if there were other persons in the back seat of the car as the tinted rear glasses were raised at the time when it was spotted.

Police did not suspect robbery, at this time as the victim was found still in possession of his cellular telephone, jewelry and 300 dollars cash inside his pants pocket.

Our investigation reveal that the Toyota Corolla is insured in the name of Lionell Howe, the decease’s brother who is reportedly residing in Mexico.

Another Cayo taxi driver is dead, this one from the nation’s western most town of Benque Viejo Del Carmen. 

A preliminary report issued by the Police Press Office informed that shortly after 8:00 p.m on Thursday September 20, 2007, San Ignacio Police were actually responding to a reported traffic accident between miles 68 and 69 on the Western Highway between the western municipalities of San Ignacio and Benque Viejo Del Carmen.

Upon arrival, the police came upon a red Toyota Corolla, 4-door car with taxi license plates CY-D-2521. The car appeared to have collided into an electricity pole on the right side of the highway when traveling from Benque Viejo to San Ignacio.

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Today, eight days later, San Ignacio Police are actively detaining, interviewing and releasing, mostly young boys from Santa Elena Town as they continue to search for a motive and those responsible for this latest gruesome murder.

Reports reaching us indicate that a relative reported to police seeing the deceased driving the car in the new area of Benque Viejo Town earlier that evening with a maleperson in the front passenger seat.

The relative could not say if there were other persons in the back seat of the car as the tinted rear glasses were raised at the time when it was spotted.

Benque Viejo police manning a vehicle check point (VCP) on the outskirts of the neighboring village of San Jose Succotz reported seeing the Toyota car speeding across the VCP as another vehicle was being searched.

Since they were not mobile, all the police did was to watch helplessly as the Corolla car sped away.

Probably unaware that the police were not mobile, the escaped car began racing away from the set of vehicle lights behind it until the driver lost control between miles 68 and 69 running off the right side of the Western Highway and crashing into an electricity pole.

Police do not suspect robbery, at this time as the victim was found still in possession of his cellular telephone, jewelry and 300 dollars cash inside his pants pocket.

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Continued From Front Page

The car was also being operated without a license as it had expired at the end of August 2007.

Funeral services were held last Wednesday evening, September 26, 2007 in Benque Viejo Town.

Jose Alfonso Howe, 41, is predeceased by his father Jose Maria Howe who passed away 9 years ago.

His surviving relatives include his mother Pasquala Howe; wife, Rosa; one son, Daniel; four daughters, Maritza, Beatrice, Laura and Dalila as well as a step-son Ismael. He is also survived by three brothers, Vildo and Juan Carlos both residing in Benque Viejo Town and Lionel Howe residing in Mexico as well as five sisters, Ofelia, Wilma Wilfreda, and Maria all residing in Benque Viejo Town and Emelda residing in Belize City.

Jose is also survived by a host of other relatives and countless friends.

With the August 31, brutal murder of San Ignacio taxi driver, Leopoldo “Polo” Waight, this latest incident is the second death of a western taxi driver in the last three weeks.

Today, the Belize Ministry of Health is giving patients, and at no cost, Risperdal, Zyprexa and many other of the novel drugs. Four years ago, a one milligram tablet of Risperdal would cost, at Brodies, about $10.00 per tablet or about four thousand dollars a year. Today, patients like Didi can be placed on these medications, and in a few weeks go back to work as teachers, bankers, engineers; without the presence of any symptoms of their mental disorders.

By getting Didi to the Hospital, a life was saved and he will be able to go back to work as a mechanic, a trade that he is dexterous beyond compare.

Didi can dismantle a vehicle and put it back with an almost laser guided and robotic precision. Has anyone seen the movie, “A Beautiful Mind?” The only challenge to the Cayo Community remains that we must all work together to convince Didi--along with others like him--to take their medications, without failure, and as prescribed, for the rest of their highly extended and quality based lives. A final thanks to Ms. Dina Hobbs from the Belize Social Security for providing Didi with a monthly assistance.

Also, to the Star Newspaper, for raising a thunderous battle cry, in the barren wilderness. Didi's mother was very happy today and that makes an entire galaxy of difference!

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Letters to the Editor

Belizeans, The Time To Speak Up Is NOW!!!

This week’s report from Transparency International should be cause for much concern among Belizeans everywhere. Transparency International’s Corruption Perception Index (CPI) 2007 indicates that “Countries with a significant worsening in perceived levels of corruption in 2007 include Austria, Bahrain, Belize, China, and Laos, Maccao, Malta, Mauritius, Oman, Papua New Guinea and Thailand.”

At the bottom of the list, along with the African nation of Somalia, is the South Eastern Asian nation of Myanmar with a 1.4 rating. Myanmar, with a 2005 estimated population of 42,909,000 living on 261,789 square miles, is bounded on the west by Bangladesh, India, and the Bay of Bengal; on the north and northeast by China, to the east by Laos and Thailand; and on the south by the Andaman Sea.

The Associated Press, as recent as this Thursday is reporting continuing unrest and violent demonstrations in the capital city of Yangon in which the security forces fired automatic weapons into thousands of pro-democracy protesters resulting in the death of nine persons (including a Japanese journalist) and the wounding of eleven others.

The situation in Myanmar is so volatile that the United States is responding by imposing economic sanctions against the nation’s military government. The International Committee of the Red Cross, which usually raise issues of concern confidentially with national governments, publicly criticized Myanmar, the regime of major human rights abuses in June, 2007.

Transparency International’s Corruption Perception Index (CPI) 2007 places Belize in position #99 with a rating of 60th with a rating of 3.8. In 2003, Belize ranked 46th with a rating of 1.4 rating.

The CPI scores ranges from “0”, denoting “Highly Corrupt” to “10” denoting “Highly Clean”. It was the late Philip S.W. Goldson who told us that “The time to save our country is before we lose it.”

With absolutely no kind of axe to grind, it is Transparency International, a global civil society organization leading the fight against corruption, that is alerting us to the fact that our nation is sliding down that dangerous slippery slope. We must therefore take heed, for it is not the opposition United Democratic Party or any of the other opposition political parties that is opening our eyes to this reality.

It goes without saying therefore that the time to save our country is indeed NOW. We must each do our part to reverse this trend, maybe not for ourselves, but for our children and their children’s children.

This situation appropriately reminds of the inspirational words of Nazi victim, Pastor Martin Niemoller, as portrayed on a poster we came upon this week hanging inside Mr. Godsmam Ellis’ San Ignacio Town Office:

“They first came for the Communists and I didn’t speak up because I was not a communist. Then they came for the Jews and I didn’t speak up because I wasn’t a Jew. Then they came for the Trade Unions and I didn’t speak up because I wasn’t a Trade Unionist. Then they came for the Catholics and I didn’t speak up because I was a Protestant. Then they came for me and by that time no one was left to speak up.”

Belize first came to the attention of Transparency International in 2003, precisely at the beginning of the Musa/Fonseca Administration’s second term in office. In 2003, Belize ranked 46th with a rating of 3.5. In 2004 our position went down to 60th with a rating of 3.8. It slid further down in 2005 to 62nd at 3.7. In 2006 Belize’s position went even further down to the 60th spot with a rating of 3.5.

The 2007 report places us in the 99th position with a rating of 3.0. Let us not wait until we slide any further down Transparency International’s Corruption Perception Index to the point from which we may never be able to return.

Belizeans, the time to save our country is before we lose it.

The time to speak up is NOW before there is no one left to speak.

Myanmar, One Of The Two Most Corrupt Nations, says Transparency International

Security forces fired automatic weapons into thousands of pro-democracy protesters whose country holds Myanmar “strictly accountable for Nágabi’s death.” He said US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice told him in a private meeting that the international community cannot allow peaceful protesters to be killed and injured.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Nobutaka Machimura said Tokyo will lodge a protest with Myanmar’s military junta. “We strongly protest the Myanmar government and demand an investigation (into the death). We demand (Myanmar) take appropriate steps to ensure the safety of the Japanese citizens in that country,” Machimura was quoted by the Kyodo News Agency as saying.

Witneses said an estimated 70,000 people gathered in the streets, but there were only a handful of monks in the crowd, compared with previous days when thousands of protesters fired into crowds. Bloody sandals were left lying in the road.

“Give us freedom, give us freedom!” some shouted at the soldiers.

Ye Htut, a government spokesman, said riot police clashed with anti-government protesters in Yangon on Thursday, killing 9 people and injuring 11. Thirty-one government troops were also injured, he said.

The government said one person was killed Wednesday, although media and dissident reports said up to 8 died in the first day of the crackdown.

Among those killed Thursday was Kenji Nagai, a journalist for Japanese video news agency APF News. Nagai, 50, had been covering protests over a fuel price hike, then expanded dramatically when monks started leading the marches. The crackdown has drawn increasing international pressure on the isolated regime.

Thousands of protesters ran through the streets of Yangon on Thursday after warning shots were fired into the crowds. Bloody sandals were left lying in the road.

“The time to save our country is before we lose it.” -Pastor Martin Niemoeller

“Give us freedom, give us freedom!” -some shouted at the soldiers.
transparency international is the global civil society organization leading the global movement against corruption. the 2007 corruption perceptions index (cpi) looks at perceptions of public sector corruption in 180 countries and territories - the greatest country coverage of any cpi to date - and presents a composite index that draws on 14 expert opinion surveys. it scores countries on a scale from zero to ten, with zero indicating high levels of perceived corruption and ten indicating low levels of perceived corruption. a strong correlation between corruption and poverty continues to be evident. forty percent of those scoring below 4.0 on the cpi are low income countries. beijing warned china can lower perceived levels of corruption if genuine political will and reform can lower perceived levels of corruption. other countries with a significant improvement include costa rica, croatia, cuba, czech republic, dominica, italy, fyrom, madagascar, macao, malta and suriname. countries with a significant worsening in perceived levels of corruption in 2007 include austria, bahrain, belize, bhutan, jordan, latvia, macao, malta, mauritius, oman, papua new guinea and thailand. new zealand 9.4 - denmark 9.4 - finland 9.4 - singapore 9.3 - sweden 9.3 - iceland 9.2 - netherlands 9.2 - switzerland 9.0 - norway 8.7 - canada 8.7 - australia 8.6 - luxembourg 8.4 - united kingdom 8.4 - hong kong 8.3 - austria 8.1 - germany 7.8 - japan 7.5 - ireland 7.5 - france 7.3 - usa 7.2 - belgium 7.2 - chile 7.0 - barbados 6.9 - saint lucia 6.8 - uruguay 6.7 - spain 6.7 - slovenia - estonia 6.5 - portugal 6.5 - israel 6.1 - st. vincent and the grenadines 6.1 - qatar 6.0 - saudi arabia 5.7 - taiwan 5.7 - united arab emirates 5.7 - dominica 5.6 - botswana 5.4 - hungary 5.3 - cyprus 5.3 - czech republic 5.2 - italy 5.2 - malaysia 5.1 - south korea 5.1 - south africa 5.1 - costa rica 5.0 - bhutan 5.0 - bangladesh 5.0 - slovakia 4.9 - cape verde 4.9 - latvia 4.8 - lithuania 4.8 - oman 4.7 - jordan 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accession process on the fight against corruption. although some small, debt-ridden states such as afghanistan, iraq, myanmar, somalia, and sudan remain at the very bottom of the index, “countries torn apart by conflict pay a huge toll in lives and livelihoods. we must ensure that public institutions mattered and are non-existent, mercenary individuals help themselves to public resources and corruption thrives,” said labelle. “despite some gains, corruption remains an enormous drain on resources sorely needed for education, health and infrastructure,” said huguette labelle, chair of transparency international. “low-scoring countries need to take these results seriously and act now to strengthen accountability in public institutions. but action from top scoring countries is just as important, particularly in creating a truly effective anti-corruption drive in the private sector.” ed note: closer to home, with haiti scraping the bottom of the bar, how can we ever forget recent reports of mass murders in this poverty stricken caribbean country? myanmar, one of the two most corrupt nations, says transparency international continued from page 3 considered horrids of the pro-democracy movement in myanmar, formerly known as burma. a monk at ngwe kyar yan monastery pointed to bloodstains on the concrete floor and said a number of monks were beaten and at least 100 were taken away in vehicles. shots were fired in the air and tear gas was used to disperse a crowd of 1,500 supporters during the chaotic raid, he said. “soldiers slammed the monastery gate with the car, breaking the lock and forcing it into the monastery,” said the monk, who did not give his name for fear of reprisal. “they smashed the doors down, broke windows and furniture. when monks resisted, they shot at the monks and used tear gas. then they beat up the monks and dragged them into trucks.” empty bullet shells, broken doors, furniture and glass were strewn on the ground. a female lay disciple said a number of monks also were arrested at the moe gaung monastery, which was being guarded by soldiers. both monasteries are located in yangon’s northern suburbs. in myanmar, the country’s second-largest city, about 430 miles north of yangon, five army trucks with soldiers and three fire trucks were seen driving into the mahamuni pagoda, where monks believe they are locked inside by security forces. another 60 soldiers blocked the road to the pagoda from the center of the city. also thursday, security forces arrested myint thein, spokesman for opposition leader aung san suu kyi’s political party, family members said. an american diplomat who spoke on condition of anonymity citing protocol told ap that sau kyi, a nobel peace prize laureate, remained at her yangon residence, where she has been under house arrest for much of the past 18 years. the diplomat said the junta had a dialogue with the protesters and urged them to “show restraint in dealing with the protests. on wednesday, china refused to condemn myanmar and ruled out imposing sanctions against the country, but for the first time agreed to a security council resolution expressing concern at the violent crackdown and urging the country’s military rulers to allow u.n. envoys to visit. chinese foreign ministry spokeswoman jiang yu said in beijing on thursday that “china hopes that all parties in myanmar exercise restraint and properly handle the current issue so as to ensure the situation there does not escalate and get complicated.” the united states called on myanmar’s military leaders to open a dialogue with the protesters and urged china to consider what it can to prevent further bloodshed. “we all need to agree on the fact that the burmese government has got to stop thinking that this can be solved by the police and military, got to stop thinking that this can be solved by police and military, and start thinking about the need for genuine reconciliation with the broad spectrum of political activity in the country,” said u.s. assistant secretary of state christopher hill in beijing. hill was expected to discuss the violence in myanmar with chinese officials on the sidelines of north korean nuclear disarmament talks this week in beijing. myanmar’s foreign diplomats agreed to consider imposing more economic sanctions on myanmar. sanctions were first imposed in 1996 and include a ban on travel to europe for top scoring governments, an assets freeze, and a ban on arms sales to myanmar. associated press writers mari yamaguchi in tokyo, foster klg in washington, jan silva in bangladesh and m. lederer at the united nations contributed to this story.
Machaca Hill Lodge at Laughing Falcon Reserve is the premier fishing, jungle and adventure Lodge in Southern Belize. Due to the anticipated high season, Management is seeking to recruit several full time Front Desk Personnel to work at Machaca Hill Lodge. The duties of the hired persons will be to accommodate resort patrons, transmitting and receiving messages, keeping records of occupied rooms and guests’ accounts, making and confirming reservations, presenting statements to and collecting payments from departing guests, properly maintaining reservation system, payable accounts ledger, receivable accounts ledgers and all systems associated with the front desk. The persons will also be expected to maintain all front desk records and information in such a way as to facilitate the smooth operation of the Lodge.

Required Knowledge of our Front Desk Person

- **Customer and Personal Service** — Knowledge of principles and processes for providing customer and personal services. This includes customer needs assessment, meeting quality standards for services, telephone etiquette and evaluation of customer satisfaction
- **Administration and Management** — Knowledge of business and management principles involved in strategic planning, resource allocation, human resources, leadership technique, production methods, and coordination of people and resources.
- **Clerical** — Knowledge of administrative and clerical procedures and systems such as word processing, managing files and records, designing forms, reservations systems, maintaining log books and other office procedures and terminology.
- **English Language** — Knowledge of the structure and content of the English language including the meaning and spelling of words, rules of composition, and grammar.
- **Mathematics** — Knowledge of arithmetic and its applications.
- **Sales and Marketing** — Knowledge of principles and methods for showing, promoting, and selling products or services. This includes marketing strategy and tactics, product demonstration, sales techniques, and sales control systems.

Please forward your letter of application, two reference letters from past employers, one passport size photograph and a copy of your Police record to the below listed address before October 1, 2007. Those persons who are short listed will be contacted for an interview at a date, time and place to be later conveyed to them.

**General Manager**
Re.: Front Desk Vacancy
P.O. Box 135
Punta Gorda Town, Toledo
Belize
DANGRIGA TOWN, Stann Creek District, Wednesday, September 26, 2007:

Dangriga Police reports that at about 4:20 p.m. on Saturday, September 22, a mobile patrol in Pomona Village was alerted to two individuals acting suspiciously.

They fled the area before the police could make contact with them but in the process of fleeing they left behind a black bag which, when searched, was found to contain a sawed off 16 gauge shotgun and one live cartridge for the shotgun.

The two persons were positively identified as Arlon Casley and Sergio Wagner.

Four days later, on Wednesday, 26 September, both individuals were located, detained, arrested and formally charged for keeping prohibited firearm and for keeping unlicensed ammunition.

Sergio Wagner, 25
Sergio Wagner, 25 and Arlon Casley, 26 appeared before Dangriga’s Magistrate Clive Lino where Wagner took the wrap by pleading guilty to both charges. He was instantly sentenced to 3 years imprisonment for the shotgun and 1 year for the cartridge.

The sentences are to run consecutively for a total of 4 years. Charges were consequently withdrawn against the co-defendant, Arlon Casley.

MONTERO’S LUMBER YARD

#85 Benque Viejo Road, San Ignacio, Cayo

Tel.: 824-2959
Cell#: 610-4391
Jose Marin, Manager

If it’s lumber you are looking for then there is no need to go out of town. Visit us today for all your lumber needs.

We also supply:
- Plywood, Celotex
- Maya & Cessa Cement
- Cement Blocks in all sizes
- Roofing, Doors and other construction materials.

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- Roofing, Doors and other construction materials.

The sawed off 16 gauge shotgun and the cartridge

VACANCY NOTICE
Company in San Ignacio/Benque is seeking the services of an AGRICULTURAL MECHANIC/TRACTOR DRIVER

Required Qualifications:
- Experience with Diesel and Petrol Engines
- Experience with all types of farm machinery
- Have a valid Driver’s Permit
- Bilingual

Provide:
- Two letters of reference
- Clean Police Record

Call 670-4032 to arrange for an interview on or before Friday, October 5, 2007 during normal working hours.

JUAN CHUC’S STORE
#31 Bullet Tree Road, San Ignacio, Cayo
Tel.: 824-2160:

We encourage you to come on over and visit us today to get real value for your money.

Offering Best Prices
In General Merchandise,
Grocery and Hardware.

HODE’S PLACE
Savanna Area, San Ignacio Town, Cayo
Our Food is absolutely Fantastic!!
And We Deliver
Just call us at 804-2522
You are also invited to ask for our daily special.

Bring out your Family & Friends to HODE’S PLACE.
Where the atmosphere is clean, comfortable, friendly and secure.

Bring the kids and let them check out our game room, playground and ice-cream shop. There is something for everyone, bring out the entire family.

WESTERN HARDWARE
- BERGER PAINTS
- POWER & HAND TOOLS
- ELECTRICAL & PLUMBING SUPPLIES
- IMPORTED & LOCAL DOORS & WINDOWS

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PHONE: 824 - 2572 or 824 - 3494
FAX: 824 - 3240
54 Burns Avenue, San Ignacio, Cayo

AMS
#54 George Price Avenue, Santa Elena, Cayo
Tel: 804-2659 & 675-6179
*Welding
*Repair
*Fabrication
*Guaranteed Services
We AMS To Please
The next morning, the parrot did the exact same thing again, and true to his word, the Commandant put him in the chicken pen and he went back to bed.

Old Habits Die Hard
A few minutes later the Commandant was awakened by one heck of a ruckus in the chicken pen. He went out to see what was the matter. This was when he saw that the parrot had about 40 white chickens doing push ups. The parrot was saying, “Hey, this is an old paper, where’s the story about the big swindle?” The parrot squawked loudly and said, “What so funny? Can’t you see the label on bottle said ‘POLISH REMOVER’?”

Reducing Stigma & Discriminating Relating To HIV/AIDS
"The Women’s Issues Network of Belize (WIN-Belize), this week announced that it will be holding a three-day training workshop on ‘The Role Of The Media In Reducing Stigma and Discrimination Relating to HIV & AIDS,’ to which the media is specifically invited.

WIN-Belize has selected this particular topic because it is of the opinion that it is one area that has been neglected. WIN-Belize is a network of organizations with a special interest in women’s issues. It is committed to improving the social and economic opportunities for women and their families in Belize.

WIN-Belize is especially of the belief that the media is able to reach large segments of the population, and that the media is often times welcomed into areas where both governmental and non-governmental organizations are not; and such media has the potential of becoming an important medium to impart knowledge while guiding public opinion and action.

I am NOT HIV Positive’ says Seidy Rivera
My name is Seidy Rivera. I am a Belizean bartender by profession, presently residing in San Ignacio Town, Cayo.

Over the past several weeks a malicious rumor, about me being HIV Positive, has been spreading around the community. This malicious rumor has had SERIOUS effects on my private and professional life.

In an effort to set the record straight, I submitted to an HIV test, on August 8, 2007, at the Cayo Clinical Laboratory Ltd., located at 96 Moshia Street in San Ignacio Town. The test was performed by Medical Technician, Reuben Yacob, (CASMET/MT-1).

The results, signed and certified by MT Yacob, clearly indicate a “Non-Reactive” finding as it pertains to my “HIV 1&2” status.

The certificate further informs that the “results are true to the companies outstanding procedures and following the International Standard Operations (ISO).”

I sincerely hope and trust that publishing this result will clear the air and set the record straight once and for all.

I am grateful to the people from the STAR Newspaper for agreeing to publish this result. They told me that this is the very first time, in their seven years of publishing the newspaper, that they had received such a request. The request, I was told, was sent to the National AIDS Coordinator, Mr. Rodel Beltran Perreria for his advice but no response was received up to the time of publication on Thursday night.

I want the public to note that this is a paid advertisement and that I did it of my own free will and with the sole intention to put to final rest that malicious rumor that is making the rounds within the community. This experience makes me seriously wonder about the level of discrimination faced by those persons who are actually infected with the virus. My heart goes out to all those individuals. Thank You Very Much.

Seidy Rivera, San Ignacio Town.
FREE Text Books...

BUT - spelled with a "B"

- the child cannot take the FREE TEXT BOOKS home.
- if the child damages the FREE TEXT BOOK, the child will have to pay for the FREE TEXT BOOK.
- if the child loses the FREE TEXT BOOK, the child will have to pay for the FREE TEXT BOOK.
- the child, at the end of the school year has to hand over the FREE TEXT BOOK back to the school.

Signed: Hon. Francis

Mr. Musa, weh FREE 'bout dat?

VOTE PUP AGAIN?

NEVA!
Dear Editor,

Please allow me space in your newspaper to share my frustration and disappointment in the present PUP government.

With the September celebrations now behind us, it is time for us to return to reality.

When I heard the news that our children would be getting free text books for the new school year, I was kind of happy but I still had my doubts because I know that whatever this government says and promises, almost always turns out to be a big lie.

Anyway, after attending the parents meeting at my child’s school, we were made to understand that the books are to last 3 years. Can you imagine Madam Editor how frustrating it will be for parents, teachers and children alike to have to guard these books because any damage or loss will be charged to parents?

To make matters worse, our children are not allowed to write in the workbooks. As far as I know it is our tax money that is paying for these books and so it leaves me wondering: What the hell is wrong with this Ministry of Education and the Government of Belize?

Belizens, these books are not FREE. It is our tax money that is paying for them. So why do we have to go through all this when the books should be FREE.

It’s been three weeks since school started and actual teaching is yet to begin in many primary schools because school managers, teachers and Ministry of Education personnel are still struggling to work out just how the bloody hell this text book thing will be administered.

We can recall that during the 2005 period of civil unrest, the Prime Ministers and all his ministers as well were much more intelligent than we were and therefore instant knowledge. We were living in the era of instant knowledge. Price days are long gone. We are fool-fool anymore. Neither are we making these major blunders which the prime minister has a habit of passing off as “mistakes”.

The question is, how many more of these “mistakes” will these people make before they begin to simply get it right?

In the final analysis we want all of them to know that we are not foot-fool anymore. Neither are we sucking our fingers. The George Price days are long gone. We are living in the era of instant messaging, instant communication and therefore instant knowledge. We are much more intelligent than we were in years gone by.

We want these people to understand that the nation is now holding its collective breath as it awaits the impending general election so that it may rid itself of this evil crowd that is in Government. We want these people to understand that they must make the right decision for their children.

In a Parents/Teachers meeting at my child’s school, we were told that the poor principal had a group of very angry parents on hand many of whom walked out of his meeting while he pointed to the workbooks. As far as I know it is our tax money that is paying for our children’s books.

Ms. Pat Writes From Uxbridge, Canada

Dear Editor;

When I finished this latest edition I was about ready to cry - how such terrible things can be happening. And this is not even taking into account what might be happening in Belize City! I have not had the time to read the big newspapers and maybe it is just as well.

That is not to say that such things don’t happen here, especially in the city of Toronto, which seems to be in the midst of a run of violence, some of it even within schools.

Out here in my small town of Uxbridge things are not so bad but it happens every now and again too and we are not unaffected by what happens in the city since my nieces live there and so many of the townspeople work there.

It is very sad, to say the least.

S/Patricia Asling, Uxbridge, Canada

From Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua to Chile, Bolivia and Venezuela, America has been prepared to do whatever it takes to secure its economic interests throughout Latin America. The result has been wars of terror - death squads, torture, state sponsored rape to silent dissent.

This is not the CNN, Fox News or the Miami Herald viewpoint of the rich, but about the struggle and gains of the poor and working people.

Brought to you by WeBAD
"He who oppresses the poor shows contempt for their Maker, but whoever is kind to the needy honors God." Proverbs 14:31
FOR SALE

* 12.64 Acre estate with 4-bedroom home...newly constructed home, 3300 sq. ft. with outdoor patios and picnic pavilion, private yet close to San Ignacio Town, property is kept in a park like appearance....must see! Located on Bullet Tree Road 1.5 miles away from town. This one is IDEAL for a Vacation/Retirement Home.

* 1/2 Acre on Macal River in Santa Elena Town, Cayo, water and electricity on site, with phone and DSL in the area! Many Improvements....ready to build on!

* 1/2 Acre, (4-lots) side by side in the Carlos Habet New Area. Landscaped and well maintained....ready to build on!!!

* 1 Acre on Bullet Tree Road, 1.5 miles from town and 100 yards from main road, electricity, cleared and semi-landscaped. A location that's ready to build your dream home.

For more information call: 824-3751 or 605-4495 Email: rallen@btl.net
Thank you, thank you, thank you!

The Management of BISMILLAH STORES take this opportunity to extend a Heartfelt THANK YOU first to the hundreds of Belizeans who, despite the threat of rain, lined the streets of San Ignacio and Santa Elena to view our Annual Independence Parade as it made its way through the principal streets of the twin towns of San Ignacio and Santa Elena.

We also want to thank our customers for making Bismillah Stores their #1 choice for shopping.

We must also thank All those Governmental and Non-Governmental Organizations, Businessplaces as well as those private individuals who assisted in making our parade this year even bigger and brighter than in previous years.

We would especially like to thank the Staff of Bismillah Stores for all the hardwork they placed into making the event a success.

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!!!