

ALL-NEGRO REGIME RULES IN BAHAMAS

Pindling's Cabinet Installed After Constitutional Crisis

NASSAU, Bahamas, Jan. 16 (Reuters)—The first all-Negro Cabinet in the 300-year history of the Bahamas as a British colony took office today.

The shift of power from the whites, who had until now controlled the political life and most of the economy of the string of tropical islands off the Florida coast, came quietly after six days of constitutional crisis resulting from the deadlock in last week's general election.

Lynden O. Pindling, 36-year-old leader of the Progressive Liberal party, which largely represents the dominant Negro population, was sworn in as the Bahamas' second Prime Minister by the British Governor, Sir Ralph Grey.

Within an hour, Mr. Pindling announced an 11-man Cabinet to take over the reins of Government from the white administration of Sir Roland Symonette, which has been in power for the last nine years.

Cabinet Sworn In

Members of the Cabinet, which is much smaller than the previous one, took the oath of office in the first-floor ballroom at Government House.

Mr. Pindling, determined to maintain tight personal control of the Bahamas' booming economy, which has become one of the sterling area's biggest dollar-earners in the last five years, took over the major Government portfolio of tourism and development.

The new Prime Minister said

at a news conference that the colony would remain "a good neighbor and a good partner" of the United States but warned it would not be a haven for gangsters.

He said an investigation would probably be made of the gambling casino at Freeport, on Grand Bahama Island, 120 miles north of here.

Charges by Mr. Pindling's party that United States gangsters controlled the casino and bribed members of the United Bahamas party Government were the dominating issue in last week's election.

The new Cabinet is as follows:

Prime Minister and Minister for Tourism and Development—Lynden O. Pindling.

Minister of Works—Cecil V. Wallace—Whitfield.

Minister for Education—Arthur D. Hanna.

Minister for Health Welfare—Milo B. Butler.

Minister for Communications—Curtis C. McMillan.

Minister for Internal Affairs—Jeffrey M. Thompson.

Minister for Outer Island Affairs—Warren J. Levarity.

Minister for Labor and Commerce—Randol F. Fawkes.

Minister Without Portfolio—Clarence A. Bain.

Minister Without Portfolio Serving in the Senate—Clement T. Maynard.