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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/20/92 BY 1046 D/K/m/nda

Attorneys for Plaintiff

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

11 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, **LC 79 0126**

KHB

Plaintiff,

v.

CIVIL ACTION NO.

16 PEOPLES TEMPLE OF THE DISCIPLES OF CHRIST,
17 a California corporation, a/k/a PEOPLES
18 TEMPLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH, THE PEOPLES TEM-
19 PLE OF THE DISCIPLES OF CHRIST CHURCH IN
20 GUYANA, a Guyanese corporation; PEOPLES
21 TEMPLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH COMPANY LIMITED,
22 a Guyanese corporation; ASOCIACION RELI-
23 GIOSA PRO SAN PEDRO, S.A., a Panamanian
24 organization,

COMPLAINT

GOVERNMENT COLLECTION

Defendants.

25 1. Jurisdiction. Jurisdiction is based on 28 U.S.C. §1345
26 because this action is commenced by the United States of America,
27 plaintiff.

28 2. Defendant, Peoples Temple of the Disciples of Christ,
29 a/k/a/ Peoples Temple Christian Church, is a California corpora-
30 tion formed under Section 9000-9802 of the California Corpora-
31 tion Code, with its principal place of business in San Francisco,
32 California.

3. Defendant, the Peoples Temple Christian Church Company
Limited, is a corporation organized pursuant to the laws of the
nation of Guyana. On information and belief, at all relevant

ENCLOSURE 89-4286-1780

1 times the Peoples Temple Christian Church Company Limited was
2 doing business in this District in its own name or and through
3 its alter ego, the People Temple of the Disciples of Christ.

4 4. Defendant, Peoples Temple of the Disciples of Christ
5 Church in Guyana, is a corporation organized pursuant to the
6 laws of the nation of Guyana. On information and belief, the
7 Peoples Temple of the Disciples of Christ Church in Guyana at
8 all relevant times was doing business in this District in its
9 own name or through its alter ego, the Peoples Temple of the
10 Disciples of Christ.

11 5. Defendant, Asociacion Religiosa Pro San Pedro, S.A.,
12 is an association or corporation organized pursuant to the laws
13 of the Republic of Panama. On information and belief, this
14 association or corporation was organized for the purpose of
15 holding the assets of the Peoples Temple of the Disciples of
16 Christ or its alter egos and it is an alter ego of the Peoples
17 Temple of the Disciples of Christ doing business in this District.

18 6. On or about November 18, 1978, the defendant, Peoples
19 Temple of the Disciples of Christ, acting for itself or through
20 its agents or its alter egos, did negligently or through willful
21 and wanton conduct fail to take steps to protect from wrongful
22 injury or death over 900 persons in Jonestown, Guyana, leading
23 to an emergency situation which was a threat to health, safety
24 and decency. On information and belief, James Jones as the al-
25 ter ego, chief officer and agent of the Peoples Temple of the
26 Disciples of Christ and its alter egos did intentionally, neg-
27 ligently or through willful and wanton conduct abet or cause
28 the deaths.

29 7. The more than 900 persons referred to in paragraph 8
30 above were members of the Peoples Temple of the Disciples of
31 Christ community in Jonestown who expressly or impliedly con-
32 tracted with the Peoples Temple Disciples of Christ or its

(u)

1 alter egos for the necessities of life and the incidents thereto
2 including proper burial.

3 8. The defendant Peoples Temple of the Disciples of Christ
4 or its alter egos failed to tend to the needs of its members in
5 the emergency situation resulting from the deaths referred to
6 above.

7 9. Among other things, the defendant Peoples Temple of the
8 Disciples of Christ or its alter egos failed to protect or provide
9 for the survivors of the events of November 18, 1978; it failed to
10 search for and secure from harm the lives and property of its mem-
11 bers; it failed to take reasonable steps to transport the bodies
12 of its deceased members to a suitable place for burial or to the
13 relatives of the deceased; it failed to provide for the burial of
14 its members or to protect the deceased from indignities. (u)

15 10. The United States requested the government of Guyana to
16 permit burial on its soil which request was denied. The Govern-
17 ment of Guyana then requested the United States to remove the bod-
18 ies from Guyana.

19 11. Because of the failure of the defendant Peoples Temple
20 of the Disciples of Christ or its alter egos to perform its du-
21 ties, including those described in paragraph 9 above, the United
22 States of America, for reasons including public health, safety
23 and decency, did perform such acts with the intent to be paid
24 therefor.

25 12. The United States continues to perform such acts and
26 is entitled to compensation therefor.

27 13. Thus far, the United States has incurred damages of
28 \$4,298,000. The United States expects to accrue further damages.

29 14. On information and belief, each of the defendants in
30 this action and James Jones disregarded the separate forms and
31 corporate status of the defendants and each defendant and James
32 Jones are the alter egos of each other.

1 WHEREFORE, the United States demands:

2 (1) Judgment against the defendants for the total amount
3 of damages incurred by the United States in this matter; and

4 (2) Such other relief as is just and equitable.

5 Respectfully submitted,

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