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AMEMBASSY PANAMA IMMEDIATE AMEMBASSY CARACAS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO IMMEDIATE AMEMBASSY KUWAIT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI IMMEDIATE AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IMMEDIATE AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE

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LONDON FOR MICHAEL FINLEY, TOKYO FOR SENATOR HAYAKAWA

58 NOV 28 1978 TAGS: CASC, OREP (RYAN, LEO), GY Assoc. Dir. Dep. AD Adm. Dep. AD lav. Asst. Dir.: Acm. Serv. Crim, Inv. 6 Wast. intell. Lehoratory Legal Coun. Plan, & Insp. Rec. Ment. Tech, Servs. Training Public Affs. Off. Telephone Rm. Director's Sec'y

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SUBJECT: ETUATION REPORT NO. IX

REF: STATE 294495 AND PREVIOUS

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- 1. VICTON DIXEOS, DCM PANAMA, DETAILED TO GEORGETOWN AT THE BEGINNING OF THE CRISIS. HAS REPORTED ON HIS VISIT TODAY TO JONESTOWN. ON ARRIVAL THEY FOUND 405 BODIES:

 THREE OR FOUR HAD DIED OF GUNSHOT WOUNDS, THE REST FROM POISONING. EIGHTY-TWO CHILDREN WERE AMONG THE DEAD. DURING THE COURSE OF THE DAY 14 SURVIVORS, INCLUDING FOUR CHILDREN, RETURNED TO JONESTOWN. TWO OF THE CHILDREN HAD MINOR FLESH WOUNDS AND WERE EVACUATED TO GEORGETOWN. THE SURVIVORS GAVE AN ACCOUNT OF THE LAST MOMENTS. IT WAS MASS SUICIDE.
- 2. ALMOST ALL THE BODIES, AFTER SOME 50 HOURS OUTDOORS, ARE IN AN ADVANCED STAGE OF DECOMPOSITION. MEDICAL AUTHORITIES FROM GOG WHO WERE ON THE SCENE WERE VERY CONCERNED ABOUT HEALTH HAZARDS. THEY DO NOT HAVE FACILITIES OR THE CAPABILITY, EVEN IN GEORGETOWN, FOR DEALING WITH A PROBLEM OF THIS MAGNITUDE AND ARE RELYING ON OUR ASSISTANCE.

T

- THE GOG POLL INVESTIGATION, HAS PROCEEDED RAPIDLY.

 THEY HAVE IDENTIFIED OUT HALF OF THE BODIES AND HAVE RECOVERED SOME 800 TO 900 PASSPORTS WHICH SHOULD ASSIST IN IDENTIFICATION. EXAMINATION OF THE PASSPORTS (STILL IN HANDS OF GOG POLICE INVESTIGATORS) SHOULD ALSO GIVE SOME OLUES AS TO THE NUMBER OF SURVIVORS WHO FLED TO THE JUNGLE AND WHO THEY MAY BE. THE EMBASSY HAD PREVIOUSLY ESTIMATED THIS AT ABOUT 1100. DENTIFICATION OF THE REMAINING BODIES WILL BE DIFFICULT AND PROBABLY BEYOND THE CAPABILITY OF THE GUYANESE AUTHORITIES.
- 4. IN THE CONVERSATION BETWEEN DIKEOS AND DEPUTY
 ASSISTANT SECRETARY BUSHNELL, IT WAS AGREED THAT AVAILABLE
 AIR TRANSPORT WOULD BE CRITICAL TOMORROW. IN USING
 AIR TRANSPORT CAPACITY, FIRST PRIORITY WOULD BE GIVEN TO



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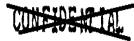
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THE SEARCH FOR THOSE WHO MAY STILL BE ALIVE IN THE SURROUNDING VERY HEAVY JUNGLE. MR. DIKEOS POINTED OUT THAT THE SURVIVORS ARE QUITE TERRIFIED AND MAY BE RELUCTANT HE SAME TIME, THE QUESTION OF IDENTIFICATION AND TRANSPORTATION OF THE BODIES WILL BECOME CRITICAL BY WEDNESDAY.

- DEATH CERTIFICATES, BUT THE EMBASSY WILL URGE THEM TO DO SO. MR. DIKEOS OBSER DI THAT BOTH GOG AUTHORITIES AND THE EMBASSY HAD HEARD OF A GRAVEYARD IN JONESTOWN WHERE THE DEAD MIGHT BE BURIED BUT NO ONE HAD SEEN IT. THE SUGGESTED THAT PER HAPS THE SURVIVORS COULD EDUCATE THE GRAVEYARD IF THE DECISION WERE MADE TO BURY THE REMAINS IN GUYANA.
 - AMERICANS IN JONESTOWN, DIFFICULTIES OF IDENTIFYING THE REMAINS, THE TROPICAL OF IMATE AND PROBLEMS IN TRANSPORTING THE LARGE NUMBER OF BODIES FROM THE REMOTE SITE, THE DEPARTMENT IS INSTRUCTING THE EMBASSY TO SEEK GOG ASSISTANCE IN LOCAL BURIAL IN MARKED GRAVES AFTER IDENTIFICATION.
 - 7. DOD CONTINUES WITH ITS PREPARATIONS TO DISPATCH SUPPORT UNITS, HELICOPTERS AND A GRAVES IDENTIFICATION TEAM TO GEORGETOWN. AT THIS TIME. TWO C-141'S WITH THE GRAVES IDENTIFICATION TEAM ARE SCHEDULED TO DEPART FORT BRAGG AT APPROXIMATELY Ø800 (EST). TWO C-130'S CARRYING SUPPLIES AND SUPPORT PERSONNEL WILL DEPART HOWARD AFB AT Ø300 AND Ø600 (EST) AND ARRIVE IN GEORGETOWN AT Ø800 AND 1100. THE C-141'S WITH THE HELICOPTERS WILL DEPART

LATER. TRANSPORTATION WILL ALSO BE PROVIDED TO A TEAM OF SIX FBI AGENTS (ONE FROM WASHINGTON, D.C., AND FIVE

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FROM MIAMI), JIM WARD FROM SCA AND FRED SHAVER FROM ICA.

- 8. THE AIR CRAFT CARRYING THE BODIES OF CONGRESSMAN RYAN AND THREE NEWSMEN IS SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE AT CHARLESTOWN S.C. AT 0040 ON NOVEMBER 21 AND TO ARRIVE IN SAN FRANCISCO AT 0830 (CALIFORNIA TIME).
- 9. AT THE REQUEST OF PRESIDENT CARTER, VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE HAS EXPRESSED CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILIES OF CONGRESSMAN RYAN AND THE NEWSMEN KILLED AT JONESTOWN. VANCE