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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
COMMUNICATION MESSAGE FORM

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DATE 1/11/79 CLASSIFICATION UNCLAS E F T O PRECEDENCE PRIORITY

FM DIRECTOR FBI TO FBI SAN FRANCISCO PRIORITY

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 11/10/92 BY 1048 DKA/rch

UNCLAS E F T O (SECTION 1 OF 2)

RYMUR.

BY TELETYPE JANUARY 11, 1979, STATE DEPARTMENT FURNISHED  
THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

RE: PEOPLES TEMPLE FUNDS IN SWITZERLAND.

Wes

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE HAS FURNISHED DEPARTMENT WITH TEXT  
OF FORMAL REQUEST TO SWISS GOVERNMENT FOR BLOCKING OF PEOPLES  
TEMPLE ACCOUNT IN SWISS BANK UNDER JUDICIAL ASSISTANCE  
AGREEMENT. TEXT FOLLOWS HERWITH. EMBASSY REQUESTED TO  
PASS TEXT ASAP TO DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND POLICE AND  
INDICATE THAT ORIGINAL AND COVERING EX-113 FROM ASSISTANT  
ATTORNEY GENERAL PHILIP B. HEYMAN SENT BY AIRMAIL JANUARY  
11, 1979, ADDRESSED TO DR. LIONEL FREI. BEGIN TEXT.

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DR. LIONEL FREI, INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE SECTION, DIVISION

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APPROVED BY [Signature] DRAFTED BY KMR:BVM DATE 1/11/79 ROOM 5027 TELE EXT. 2805 22 JAN 15 1979

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~~AGERTWØ DE HQ 0049 UNCLAS E F T O~~

OF POLICE, FEDERAL DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND POLICE,

20 BUNDERSRAIN 20, BERN, SWITZERLAND.

18 RE: ASSISTANCE UNDER THE TREATY OF MUTUAL ASSISTANCE IN  
 CRIMINAL MATTERS IN THE INVESTIGATION OF THE PEOPLES TEMPLE.

16 DEAR DR. FREI: ENCLOSED IS A REQUEST FOR THE ASSISTANCE  
 OF THE APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES IN SWITZERLAND UNDER THE TREATY  
 14 ON MUTUAL ASSISTANCE IN CRIMINAL MATTERS. WE WILL FORWARD  
 A GERMAN TRANSLATION OF THIS REQUEST AS SOON AS IT IS  
 12 PREPARED. SINCERELY, PHILIP B. HEYMAN, ASSISTANT ATTORNEY  
 GENERAL, CRIMINAL DIVISION, ENCLOSURE FOLLOWS:

10 TO: THE CENTRAL AUTHORITY OF SWITZERLAND

SUBJECT: ASSISTANCE UNDER THE TREATY ON MUTUAL LIMITED  
 8 OFFICIAL USE. ASSISTANCE IN CRIMINAL MATTERS IN INVESTIGATION  
 OF THE PEOPLES TEMPLE.

6 THE UNITED STATES REQUESTS THE ASSISTANCE OF THE  
 APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES IN SWITZERLAND UNDER THE TREATY ON  
 4 MUTUAL ASSISTANCE IN CRIMINAL MATTERS IN THE INVESTIGATION  
 OF THE PEOPLES TEMPLE. THE FEDERAL GRAND JURY OPERATING  
 2 UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
 FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA IS INVESTIGATING

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PAGER THREE DE HQ 0049 UNCLAS E F T O

POSSIBLE FRAUD IN OBTAINING FUNDS BY THE PEOPLES TEMPLE AND  
20 POSSIBLE EMBEZZLEMENT AND FRAUD IN THE DISPOSITION OF THESE  
18 FUNDS, IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE DEATH OF CONGRESSMAN RYAN  
AND HUNDREDS OF UNITED STATES CITIZENS IN JONESTOWN, GUYANA.  
16 IN ORDER TO PREVENT THE POSSIBLE EMBEZZLEMENT OF FUNDS  
BELONGING TO THE PEOPLES TEMPLE, AND TO ENABLE THE GRAND  
14 JURY TO INVESTIGATE FULLY THE ALLEGATIONS THAT THESE FUNDS  
WERE OBTAINED FRAUDULENTLY, WE REQUEST THAT THE PEOPLES  
12 TEMPLE ACCOUNT IN THE UNION BANK OF SWITZERLAND BE TEMPORARILY  
BLOCKED, AND WE REQUEST THE RECORDS OF THAT ACCOUNT TO  
10 SHOW THE DISPOSITION OF THOSE FUNDS.

SUBJECT MATTER OF THE REQUEST FACTS: AS A RESULT OF  
8 THE GREAT PUBLIC ATTENTION TO THE PEOPLES TEMPLE SECT  
RESULTING FROM THE KILLING OF CONGRESSMAN LEO RYAN AND THE  
6 MASS SUICIDE OF PEOPLES TEMPLE MEMBERS AT JONESTOWN, GUYANA,  
ON NOVEMBER 19, 1978, IT BECAME KNOWN THAT THE PEOPLES TEMPLE  
4 HAD LARGE SUMS OF MONEY IN BANK ACCOUNTS BOTH IN THE UNITED  
STATES AND ABROAD. AT ABOUT THE SAME TIME, WE DISCOVERED  
2 THAT PEOPLES TEMPLE HAD AN ACCOUNT IN THE ZURICH BRANCH OF  
THE UNION BANK OF SWITZERLAND. WE HAVE ALSO LEARNED THAT

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~~PAGE FOUR DE HQ 0049 UNCLAS E F T O~~

MARK LANE, FORMERLY AN ATTORNEY FOR THE PEOPLES TEMPLE, AND  
20 THERESA BUFORD, AN OFFICIAL OF THE PEOPLES TEMPLE AND AN  
18 AUTHORIZED SIGNATORY ON A NUMBER OF THE PEOPLES TEMPLE'S  
BANK ACCOUNTS, WERE RECENTLY IN EUROPE TOGETHER. WE  
16 RECEIVED INFORMATION THAT THEY WERE TO TRAVEL TO SWITZERLAND  
FOR THE PURPOSE OF WITHDRAWING FUNDS FROM PEOPLES TEMPLE  
14 ACCOUNTS -- FUNDS TO WHICH THEY WERE NOT LAWFULLY ENTITLED.  
THEY HAVE DENIED THAT THEY EVER TRAVELED TO SWITZERLAND,  
12 AND WE HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO CONFIRM WHETHER THEY DID OR  
NOT.

10 INFORMATION ALSO CAME TO OUR ATTENTION THAT THE FUNDS OF  
THE PEOPLES TEMPLE ACCOUNTS IN SWITZERLAND AND ELSEWHERE  
8 MAY BE COMPRISED IN WHOLE, OR IN PART, OF MONIES OBTAINED  
FRAUDULENTLY FROM MEMBERS OF THE SECT AND OTHERS. INDEED,  
6 SEVERAL CIVIL ACTIONS HAVE BEEN FILED IN THE STATE OF  
CALIFORNIA BY FORMER MEMBERS OF THE SECT AND THEIR FAMILIES  
4 IN WHICH THE COMPLAINANTS ALLEGE SUCH FRAUD.

OUR INFORMATION ON THE PEOPLES TEMPLE BANK ACCOUNT IN  
2 SWITZERLAND INDICATES THAT IT HAS ACCOUNT NUMBER 220-117-60J  
IN THE ZURICH BRANDBRANCH OF THE UNION BANK OF SWITZERLAND.

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WE ARE INFORMED THAT THE PEOPLES TEMPLE ALSO HOLDS A  
SAFETY DEPOSIT BOX IN THAT BANK AS WELL.

OFFENSES: THE OFFENSE OF INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF  
STOLEN PROPERTY, TITLE 18, U.S.C. SS2314 IS VIOLATED WHEN  
A PERSON TRANSPORTS PROPERTY WHICH STOLEN OR TAKEN BY FRAUD  
ACROSS STATE BOUNDARIES OR ACROSS THE BORDERS OF THE UNITED  
STATES. THIS STATUTE MAY HAVE BEEN VIOLATED BY THE MOVEMENT  
OF THE PEOPLES TEMPLE FUNDS TO SWITZERLAND IF THEY HAD BEEN  
FRADULENTLY OBTAINED. IT ALSO WOULD BE VIOLATED IF PERSONS  
EMBEZZLE OR FRADULENTLY OBTAIN THESE FUNDS FROM A SWISS  
BANK ACCOUNT OR SAFE DEPOSIT BOX, AND TRANSPORT THEM INTO  
THE UNITED STATES.

THE OFFENSE OF FRAUD, IN VIOLATION OF 18 U.S.C. 1341, IS  
COMMITTED WHEN THE OFFENDER INDUCES ANOTHER PERSON TO GIVE  
UP SOMETHING OF VALUE IN RELIANCE ON STATEMENTS WHICH THE  
OFFENDER MAKES, KNOWING THEM TO BE UNTRUE. THE CRIME OF  
FRAUD MAY HAVE TAKEN PLACE IF THE PERSONS SEEKING TO EXERCISE  
CONTROL OVER THE PEOPLES TEMPLE ACCOUNTS OBTAINED THAT  
CONTROL BY MAKING FALSE STATEMENTS OR IF THEY EXERCISED THAT  
POWER CONTRARY TO PROMISES THEY MADE LIMITING THEIR EXERCISE

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PAGERTSIXE DE HQ 0049 UNCLAS E F T O

OF THAT POWER.

20 NEED FOR ASSISTANCE: THE RECORDS OF THE PEOPLES  
 18 TEMPLE ACCOUNT IN THE UNION BANK OF SWITZERLAND ARE NEEDED  
 TO PROVIDE HIGHLY RELEVANT INFORMATION ON THE ALLEGED  
 16 MOVEMENT OF FRAUDULENTLY OBTAINED FUNDS FROM THE UNITED  
 STATES TO SWITZERLAND, OR THROUGH SWITZERLAND TO THIRD  
 14 COUNTRIES.

THESE RECORDS ALSO ARE NEEDED TO SHOW WHETHER FRUNDS OF  
 12 THE PEOPLES TEMPLE HAVE BEEN DISBURSED IN SUCH A WAY AS TO  
 CONSTITUTE THEFT OR FRAUD. THE RECORDS COULD SHOW, FOR  
 10 EXAMPLE, DISBURSEMENT IN WAYS, OR TO PERSONS, CONTRARY TO  
 THE WISHES OF THE PEOPLES TEMPLE, OR CONTRARY TO REPRESENT-  
 8 ATIONS MADE BY THE PERSONS OBTAINING THE FUNDS.

IN ORDER TO PREVENT ANY FURTHER DISTRIBUTION OF THE  
 6 FUNDS AND TO INSURE THAT THE RIGHTFUL OWNERS OF THE FUNDS  
 HAVE A FAIR OPPORTUNITY TO ASSERT THEIR CLAIMS, IT IS  
 4 NECESSARY TO BLOCK THIS ACCOUNT FROM ANY FURTHER WITHDRAWALS.

FOR THE SAME REASONS, WE BELIEVE IT IS NECESSARY TO

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UNCLAS E F T O {SECTION 2 OF 2}

RYMUR.

PREVENT THE REMOVAL OF ANY ARTICLES FROM THE SAFETY DEPOSIT BOX HELD BY PEOPLES TEMPLE IN THE UNION BANK OF SWITZERLAND.

WE REQUEST THAT THE SAFETY DEPOSIT BOX BE OPENED AND

INVENTORIED, AND THAT WE BE INFORMED OF THE CONTENTS. THE

CONTENTS OF THIS SAFE DEPOSIT BOX ALSO MAY PROVIDE INFORMATION RELEVANT TO THE ABOVE CITED VIOLATIONS AND OTHER SERIOUS

VIOLATIONS ENCOMPASSED BY THE TREATY.

PERSONS INVOLVED: THE PERSONS WHO ARE PRESENTLY THE SUBJECT OF THIS INVESTIGATION ARE:

MARK LANE, AN AMERICAN CITIZEN BORN FEBRUARY 24, 1927, IN NEW YORK CITY. HIS PRESENT ADDRESS IS 1177 CENTRAL

AVENUE, MEMPHIS TENNESSEE. LANE IS A FORMER ATTORNEY FOR

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20 THE PEOPLES TEMPLE SECT, AND WAS PRESENT IN GUYANA ON  
18 NOVEMBER 18, 1978, WHEN CONGRESSMAN RYAN WAS KILLED AND  
16 THE MASS SUICIDE TOOK PLACE. LANE WAS REPORTED TO BE IN  
14 EUROPE IN MID-DECEMBER, 1978, IN THE COMPANY OF THERESA  
12 BUFORD. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT LANE AND BUFORD WERE ATTEMPTING  
10 TO UNLAWFULLY OBTAIN THE ASSETS OF THE PEOPLES TEMPLE. IF  
8 THE EVIDENCE ESTABLISHES THIS, LANE WILL BE CHARGED WITH  
6 CRIMINAL OFFENSES.

12 THERESA DEAN BUFORD, AN AMERICAN CITIZEN BORN FEBRUARY  
10 4, 1952. HER PRESENT ADDRESS IS THE SAME AS LANE'S 1177  
8 CENTRAL AVENUE, MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE. BUFORD WAS A CLOSE  
6 ASSOCIATE OF REV. JIM JONES, AND HAS BEEN DESCRIBED AS  
4 HIS "PUBLIC RELATIONS ADVISOR" BY A FORMER MEMBER OF  
2 THE SECT. BUFORD HAS ADMITTED HAVING OPENED ACCOUNT NUMBER  
121.00 AT THE UNION BANK OF SWITZERLAND IN PANAMA PARTLY  
THROUGH A TRANSFER OF \$1,623.00.00 FROM ACCOUNT NUMBER  
220.117.60J IN THE UNION BANK OF SWITZERLAND, WHICH IS THE  
ACCOUNT WHICH IS THE SUBJECT OF THIS REQUEST. BUFORD IS  
ALSO A SIGNATORY TO ACCOUNT NUMBER 121.00.13TA IN UNION BANK  
OF SWITZERLAND IN PANAMA, WHICH IS HELD IN THE NAME OF

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PAGERTNON\*\*NINE DE HQ 0050 UNCLAS E F T O

ASASOCIACION RELIGIOSA PRO SAN PEDRO. BUFORD IS REPORTED  
 20 TO HAVE BEEN IN EUROPE WITH MARK LANE IN MID-DECEMBER,  
 18 1978.

OTHER PRESENT AND FORMER HIGH-RANKING MEMBERS OF THE  
 16 PEOPLES TEMPLE WHO ARE STILL LIVING AND WHO MAY HAVE BEEN  
 INVOLVED IN THE FRAUDULENT OBTAINING OF FUNDS IN, AND WHICH  
 14 HAVE PASSED THROUGH, THE UNION BANK OF SWITZERLAND ACCOUNT.

PERSONS AFFECTED: ALTHOUGH WE OF NO OTHER PARTIES TO  
 12 THE UNION BANK OF SWITZERLAND ACCOUNT IN ZURICH, WE DO NOT  
 KNOW THAT THERE ARE NONE. WE HAVE INFORMATION THAT THE  
 10 FOLLOWING PERSONS ARE SIGNATORIES TO OTHER PEOPLES TEMPLE  
 ACCOUNTS, BUT WE DO NOT HAVE BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION ON  
 8 THESE PERSONS:

TOM STOEN. STOEN IS A FORMER ATTORNEY FOR THE PEOPLES  
 6 TEMPLE WHO HAS STATED TO THE PRESS THAT HE OPENED TWO  
 ACCOUNTS FOR THE SECT IN PANAMA BRANCHES OF SWISS BANKS IN  
 4 1975 AND 1976.

ANNIE MC GOWAN {DECEASED}.

2 CAROLYN MOORE LAYTON {DECEASED}.

MARIA KATSARIS {DECEASED}.

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~~IPAGETEM DE HQ 0050 UNCLAS E F T O~~

ESTHER MUELLER {DECEASED}.

20 THERESA BUFORD.

18 DOCUMENTS NEEDED: THE DOCUMENTS NEEDED AR THE RECORDS  
 OF THE ACCOUNT NUMBER 220.117.60J IN THE UNION BANK OF  
 16 SWITZERLAND, ZURICH BRANCH. THE DOCUMENTS SHOULD INCLUDE  
 BUT SHOULD NOT BE LIMITED TO ALL LEDGER SHEETS, SIGNATURE  
 14 CARDS, POWERS OF ATTORNEY, RECORDS OF DEPOSITS, CURRENCY  
 EXCHANGES, DISBURSEMENTS, OR WITHDRAWALS AND CORRESPONDENCE  
 12 AND MEMORANDA RELATING TO THAT ACCOUNT. THESE DOCUMENTS  
 ARE BELIEVED IN THE POSSESSION OF THE UNION BANK OF  
 10 SWITZERLAND, ZURICH BRANCH.

WE REQUEST THAT PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES BE TAKEN TO  
 8 MAINTAIN THE EXISINT STATUS OF THIS ACCOUNT SO THAT NO  
 ASSETS MAY BE REMOVED ILLEGALLY. WE REQUEST THAT THE BANK  
 6 BE COMPELLED, IF NECESSARY, TO PRODUCE THE RECORDS OF  
 THIS ACCOUNT AND THAT A PERSON SERVING IN THE CAPACITY OF  
 4 CUSTODIAN OF THE RECORDS OF THE BANK COMPLETE THE ATTACHED  
 CERTIFICATE OF CENTRAL AUTHORITY. WE REQUEST THAT THE BANK  
 2 BE ASKED WHETHER ITS CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS WILL TRAVEL TO  
 THE UNITED STATES AT TEH EXPENSE OF THE UNITED STATES

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~~IPAGERTEEVEN DE HQ 0050 UNCLAS E F T O~~

20 GOVERNMENT AT SOME FUTURE TIME TO GIVE THE TESTIMONY NECESSARY  
18 TO AUTHENTICATE THE DOCUMENTS. IF NO OFFICIAL IS WILLING,  
16 WE MAY LATER REQUEST AUTHENTICATION UNDER ARTICLE 18 OR  
14 ARTICLE 20 OF THE TREATY.

16 WE REQUEST THAT THE SAFETY DEPOSIT BOX KEPT IN  
14 CONNECTION WITH THIS ACCOUNT BE OPENED AND INVENTORY OF THE  
12 CONTENTS MADE AND SUPPLIED TO US. SINCERELY, PHILIP B.  
10 HEYMAN, ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL, CRIMINAL DIVISION

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