

PAGE 01 PANAMA 09219 182307Z

ACTION L-03

18 DEC 78 23 21z

Assoc. Dir.	
Dep. AD Adm.	
Dep. AD Inv.	
Asst. Dir.:	
Adm. Serv.	
Crim. Inv.	
Ident.	
Intell.	
Laboratory	
Legal Coun.	
Plan. & Insp.	
Rec. Mgnt.	
Tech. Servs.	
Training	
Public Affs. Off.	
Telephone Rm.	
Director's Sec'y	

INFO OCT-01 ARA-11 ISO-00 H-01 FBZE-00 CIAE-00 INR-

NSAE-00 TRSE-00 JUSE-00 SPTA-02 SCS-06 CA-01

EUR-12 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 /047 W

-----044226 182312Z /73

0 182155Z DEC 78

FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0260

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/28/92 BY 1049 DCM/udj/eds

b6 Per FBI
b7c

Leo Ryan

89-4286-1253
89-4286

9 DEC 20 1978

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PANAMA 09219

REC-111

EO 12065: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, PEOPLES TEMPLE, PN

SUBJECT: PEOPLES TEMPLE BANK ACCOUNTS

0-73 to SF
12/19/78 DES/SRF

58 DEC 26 1978

REF: (A) STATE 316647, (B) GEORGETOWN 4326

11. AS GOP OFFICES AND PANAMANIAN BANKS CLOSED ON SATURDAY, E/C COUNSELOR AND CONSUL MADE CALLS PER REFTEL

(A) MORNING OF DECEMBER 18. FIRST SAW [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] AND LEGAL ADVISORS TO MINISTRY AND COMMISSION. GOP OFFICIALS EXPRESSED AWARENESS OF IMPLICATIONS OF CASE BUT PLEAD THAT PANAMANIAN BANKING SECRECY LEGISLATION PREVENTS THE GOVERNMENT FROM FORCING BANKS' COOPERATION. [REDACTED] EXPRESSED KEEN AWARENESS OF IMPLICATIONS OF CASE AND SAID THAT GOP WOULD LEND ITS "GOOD OFFICES" TO EMBASSY'S EFFORTS TO BLOCK ACCOUNTS.

b6 Per FBI
b7C

2. [REDACTED] ALSO SAW OFFICERS OF PANAMA SUBSIDIARIES OF UNION BANK OF SWITZERLAND AND SWISS BANK CORPORATION (SBC). BOTH BANKS' OFFICERS SAY THAT THEY BLOCKED ACCOUNTS WHEN THEY LEARNED OF DEVELOPMENTS IN GUYANA.

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SBC OFFICER ALSO VOLUNTEERED THAT HIS BANK (A) HAS BLOCKED ALL GUYANESE ACCOUNTS AND (B) HAS RECEIVED SEVERAL REQUESTS, INCLUDING FROM CALIFORNIA SOURCES, TO MAKE PAYMENTS ON ACCOUNTS. HE CONFIRMED RECEIPT OF COMMUNICATION FROM GUYANA (REF B), BUT REPEATED THAT NO REQUESTS FOR DISBURSEMENT OF ASSETS HAVE BEEN HONORED.

3. WE UNDERSTAND THAT HEAD OFFICES OF BOTH BANKS MAY BE IN CONTACT ON NEXT STEPS. RESPONSIBLE SBC OFFICER IS LEGAL ADVISOR DE GRAFFENRIED, AT BASEL.

4. ACTION REQUESTED:

A. SUGGESTED THAT EMBASSY HIRE LOCAL COUNSEL AND REQUEST THAT ACCOUNTS BE BLOCKED. DOES DEPARTMENT WISH FORMALLY TO TAKE THIS STEP?

b6 Per FBI
b7C

B. SWISS BANK CORPORATION SAID IT WOULD REINFORCE THEIR BLOCKING OF ACCOUNT IF THEY COULD BE PROVIDED EVIDENCE OF DEATH. CAN DEPARTMENT PROVIDE DOCUMENTATION THAT WILL SUPPORT SWISS BANKS? ³ MOSS