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ACTION SCS-03

INFO OCT-31 ARA-10 ISO-03 L-23 /R17 W
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R 061920Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5260
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FOR: TUMMINIA ARA/CAR
E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CASC, CGEN, (PEOPLE'S TEMPLE)
SUBJECT: PEOPLE'S TEMPLE IMMIGRANTS

REF: (A) GEORGETOWN 1991, (B) GEORGETOWN 2087
1. POST CONTINUES TO RECEIVE PRESS REPORTS AND LETTERS FROM THE US ABOUT ALLEGED MISCONDUCT OF PEOPLE'S TEMPLE ORGANIZATION IN CALIFORNIA. CONSUL RECEIVED ON SEPTEMBER 1 LENGTHY LETTER WITH ATTACHMENTS AND A TELEPHONE CALL FROM PRIVATE INVESTIGATOR JOSEPH MAZOR REQUESTING EMBASSY CONDUCT WELFARE/ WHEREABOUTS INVESTIGATION ON TWELVE MEMBERS OF THE PEOPLE'S TEMPLE. MAZOR ALSO STATED THAT HE HAD BEEN RETAINED BY PARENTS OF SEVEN CHILDREN PRESENTLY IN GUYANA TO ARRANGE FOR THEIR RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES.

2. CONSUL INFORMED MAZOR THAT WHILE EMBASSY WISHS TO BE RESPONSIVE TO REQUESTS FROM AMERICAN CITIZENS FOR ASSISTANCE WE COULD NOT CONDUCT SUCH INVESTIGATIONS WITHOUT AUTHORIZATION FROM THE DEPARTMENT. TO BE HELPFUL CONSUL AGREED TO CONFIRM ENTRY OF AMERICANS INTO GUYANA. ON THE QUESTION OF THE RETURN OF THE CHILDREN TO THEIR PARENTS, SINCE A CUSTODY DISPUTE IS NOT AT ISSUE CONSUL SUGGESTED THAT IF PARENTS CAN AFFORD TRIP THEY SHOULD

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CONSIDER COMING TO GUYANA AND WITH THE HELP OF MAZOR'S LOCAL ATTORNEY PICK UP CHILDREN AND RETURN WITH THEM TO THE US. UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES EMBASSY WOULD BE PREPARED TO OFFER APPROPRIATE ASSISTANCE IF REQUESTED.

3. WHILE WE ARE AWARE OF SERIOUS ALLEGATIONS AGAINST JIM JONES AND PEOPLE'S TEMPLE CONCERNING WRONGFUL APPROPRIATION OF PROPERTY, FORGEY, AND BODILY ASSAULTS AGAINST MEMBERS THAT ARE EMANATING FROM THE PRESS IN CALIFORNIA, THE EMBASSY HAS BEEN VERY CAREFUL IN ITS CONTACTS WITH PEOPLE'S TEMPLE TO MAINTAIN OBJECTIVE FRIENDLY ATTITUDE. WE ARE CONCERNED THOUGH, THAT THESE PRESS REPORTS WILL CAUSE NUMEROUS REQUESTS FOR PERSONAL CONTACT WITH MEMBERS OF THE ORGANIZATION RESIDING AT JONESTOWN IN THE INTERIOR. WE WILL DO OUR BEST TO RESPOND TO THESE REQUESTS, HOWEVER, DEPARTMENT SHOULD BE AWARE THAT IT TAKES A MINIMUM OF TWO TO THREE DAYS TO COMPLETE SUCH A TRIP AS INDICATED REF B, AND FREQUENT VISITS TO THE AREA WILL STRAIN THE MEAGER RESOURCES OF GOV

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