

WILLIAMS JESSIE M  
77 GEORGETOWN 2425

39

EXCISE

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ACTION SCSE-00  
INFO OCT-31 APA-14 ISO-00 SSO-00

1515 W DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR  
025522  
REVIEWED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
PORTIONS DENIED AS INDICATED

P 031202Z OCT 77  
FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5415  
UNCLAS GEORGETOWN 2425  
PASS APA/CAR - TUMMINIA  
P.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: CASC (GURVICH, JANN ELIZABETE AND KATSARIS MARIA)  
SUBJECT: W/W JANN GURVICH AND MARIA KATSARIS  
REF: STATE 234713

1. ON BASIS OF ITS RECORDS GUYANESE IMMIGRATION SERVICE HAS CONFIRMED TO CONSULATE ENTRY OF JANN GURVICH INTO GUYANA ON AUGUST 22, 1977. MS. GURVICH IS BEARER OF U.S. PASSPORT NO. W2417986 ISSUED IN SAN FRANCISCO, ON OCTOBER 23, 1976.

2. CONSUL CONVEYED ABOVE INFORMATION TO FATHER [REDACTED] WHO HAD TELEPHONED CONSUL TO EXPRESS HIS CONCERN ABOUT [REDACTED] WHEREABOUTS AND ALSO TO HAVE MESSAGE PASSED TO HER THAT [REDACTED] IS ILL AND MAY HAVE TO HAVE SURGERY.

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3. CONSUL PASSED MESSAGE TO PEOPLE'S TEMPLE REPRESENTATIVE IN GEORGETOWN WHO CONFIRMED THAT JANN GURVICH IS PRESENTLY AT THE AGRICULTURAL COMMUNITY IN THE NORTHWEST DISTRICT. TEMPLE REPRESENTATIVE PROMISED TO PASS ON THE ABOVE INFORMATION TO MS GURVICH TO CONTACT [REDACTED] ASAP.

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4. [REDACTED] DURING HIS TELEPHONE CONVERSATION WITH CONSUL IN EXPRESSING HIS CONCERN ABOUT [REDACTED] WELL BEING, MENTIONED ALLEGATIONS MADE IN THE PRESS ABOUT PEOPLE'S TEMPLE INCLUDING RITUAL BEATINGS, ENFORCED LABOR, AND BRAIN-WASHING. CONSUL INFORMED HIM THAT HE HAD HEARD OF SUCH ALLEGATIONS BUT HAS NOT RECEIVED ANY EVIDENCE THAT SUCH ACTIVITIES WERE TAKING PLACE IN THE PEOPLE'S TEMPLE AGRICULTURAL COMMUNITY IN PORT KAITUMA. CONSUL TOLD [REDACTED] OF HIS VISIT TO THE FARM ONE MONTH AGO AND OF HIS IMPRESSIONS OF THE COMMUNITY. HE EMPHASIZED, HOWEVER, THAT HE IS NOT IN A POSITION TO CONFIRM OR DENY ANY ALLEGATIONS OF WRONGDOING BY THE PEOPLE'S TEMPLE.

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5. CONSUL HAS SIMILAR CASE TO GURVICH INVOLVING MARIA KATSARIS AND [REDACTED] IN THIS INSTANCE [REDACTED] CAME TO GUYANA TO SEE [REDACTED] BUT WAS UNABLE TO ARRANGE CONTACT WITH [REDACTED] WHO REFUSED TO SEE HIM [REDACTED] CLAIMS [REDACTED] HAS BEEN PSYCHOLOGICALLY DAMAGED

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AGAINST HIM. HE INTENDS TO COME TO WASHINGTON TO  
SEEK ADVICE FROM FRIENDS IN THE USG AND WILL  
PROBABLY BE VISITING THE DEPARTMENT. CONSUL HAD  
INFORMED HIM THAT EMBASSY WAS INHIBITED IN THE WAYS  
IT MIGHT BE HELD, PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF THE  
FACT THAT [REDACTED] IS NOT A MINOR.  
E. EMBASSY IS FUZZED BY THE DEPARTMENT'S REFERENCE  
TO THE PRIVACY ACT IN THESE CASES. THE FEDERAL  
REGISTER PUBLISHED OCTOBER 2, 1975, OUTLINING THE  
GUIDELINES FOR RESPONDING TO WELFARE/WHEREABOUTS  
INQUIRIES AUTHORIZES INFORMATION TO BE GIVEN TO  
IMMEDIATE FAMILIES WHEN THE INFORMATION IS REQUIRED

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BY THE INDIVIDUAL'S IMMEDIATE FAMILY. THE DEPARTMENT  
SHOULD UNDERSTAND THAT IT IS VERY UNLIKELY THAT A  
CONSULAR OFFICER WILL EVER HAVE DIRECT CONTACT WITH  
AN INDIVIDUAL UNLESS HE TRAVELS TO THE PEOPLE'S TEMPLE  
AGRICULTURAL COMMUNITY. COMMUNITY IS TWO HUNDRED MILES  
FROM GEORGETOWN AND TRAVEL IS A COSTLY, TIME-CONSUMING  
COMBINATION OF AIR AND ROAD TRAVEL. AS WE INDICATED  
IN PARAGRAPH SEVEN GEORGETOWN 2097 ROUND TRIP  
TAKES THREE DAYS VIA SCHEDULED AIR TRANSPORTATION OR  
ONE DAY VIA CHARTERED PLANE WHICH COST APPROXIMATELY  
US\$1500 THE CHARTER. UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES  
OUR CONSULAR OFFICERS BELIEVE THAT THEY SHOULD BE  
ABLE TO CONFIRM ENTRY OF INDIVIDUALS INTO THE  
COUNTRY AND GIVE GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE GROUP  
AND ITS FARM WITHOUT CONTRAVENING THE PROVISIONS OF  
THE PRIVACY ACT. IN THE CASE OF MARIA KATSARIS,  
OUR CONSUL WAS ABLE TO MENTION TO [REDACTED] THAT  
HE HAD PERSONALLY MET [REDACTED] HE HAS FOUND  
THAT SUCH INFORMATION WHILE NOT THE SAME AS DIRECT  
CONTACT BETWEEN THE PARENT AND CHILD STILL HELPS  
TO ASSUAGE THE WORRY AND ANXIETY THAT RELATIVES HAVE  
ABOUT THEIR OFFSPRING ESPECIALLY AFTER HEARING  
ABOUT SERIOUS ALLEGATIONS AGAINST THE PEOPLE'S  
TEMPLE IN THE U.S.

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