

WILLIAMS JESSIE M
77 GEORGETOWN 3223

UNCLASSIFIED

51

EXCISE

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PAGE 1 GEORGE 23223 151237Z

ACTION 808-26

INFO 007-41 ISO-02 1-03 E-02 HA-05 ARA-14 /031 Y

R 151115Z DEC 77
FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
TO SECRETARY WASHDC PRIORITY 8858
UNCLAS GEORGETOWN 3223
S.O. 11002: M
INFO: CASE (EDWARDS, JAMES)
SUBJECT: W/W; JAMES EDWARDS
REF: STATE 304154

65461 1512317 /13
DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY _____ DATE _____
PORTIONS DENIED AS INDICATED

1. POST HAS NO RECORD OF ANY PREVIOUS CORRESPONDENCE WITH EDWARDS' FAMILY ALTHOUGH POSSIBLY EDWARDS WAS THE SUBJECT OF A TELEPHONE CONVERSATION WITH A MEMBER OF THE CONSULAR STAFF. UNLESS DEPARTMENT RECEIVES EMERGENCY NEWS WE STILL PLAN TO HAVE A CONSULAR OFFICER VISIT THE AGRICULTURAL COMMUNITY NEXT MONTH. HOWEVER, DEPARTMENT MAY ADVISE [REDACTED] THAT CONSUL RECENTLY MET IN GEORGETOWN WITH THE SOG DISTRICT OFFICER FROM PORT KAITUMA. THIS OFFICIAL VISITS JONESTOWN FAIRLY REGULARLY AND DOES NOT BELIEVE ANY MEMBER OF THE COMMUNITY IS BEING HELD AGAINST HIS WILL. FURTHERMORE CONSUL HAS DISCUSSED THIS MATTER BY PHONE WITH LOCAL POLICE OFFICIALS WHO HAVE VISITED TOWNSITE AND THEY REPORTED THAT ALL APPEARS TO BE NORMAL.

2. IT IS OBVIOUSLY IMPOSSIBLE FOR US TO DETERMINE WHETHER ANYONE IS BEING COERCED TO REMAIN AT JONESTOWN IN ABSENCE OF DIRECT CONTACT BETWEEN CONSULAR OFFICER AND INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS OF PEOPLE'S TEMPLE. ACCORDINGLY AN OFFICER WILL TRAVEL TO THE AREA EARLY NEXT MONTH FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH SEVERAL INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE BEEN THE SUBJECTS OF W/W INQUIRIES.

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