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ORIGIN SCS-26  
INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 ISO-00 F-02 HA-05 L-03 /031 R  
DRAFTED BY CA/SCS/FLHENNEKE/MRFR  
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P 202304Z JAN 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN PRIORITY  
UNCLAS STATE 016766  
E.O. 11652: V/A  
TAGS: CASC

SUBJECT: W/W PEOPLE'S TEMPLE MISSION  
REF: GEORGETOWN 0252 AND PREVIOUS

1. DEPARTMENT WISHES COMMEND POST FOR EXCELLENT REPORTING CONTAINED REFTEL AND IN TELEGRAMS CONCERNING INDIVIDUAL CASES. INFORMATION PROVIDED WILL BE MOST USEFUL IN RESPONDING TO CONTINUED CONGRESSIONAL AND PUBLIC INQUIRIES.
2. RE PARA NO.5, REFTEL, DEPARTMENT CONCURS IN QUARTERLY VISITS TO PEOPLE'S TEMPLE PROVIDED THERE IS LEGITIMATE CONSULAR NEED FOR TRIP. DEPARTMENT DOES NOT WANT TO CREATE THE IMPRESSION THAT USG IS "CHECKING UP ON JONES OR THE PEOPLE'S TEMPLE" AND VISITS FOR NO APPARENT PURPOSE WOULD ONLY SERVE TO REINFORCE SUSPICIONS JONES ALREADY HARBORS. CHRISTOPHER

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