

141

PRUE EMMA L
78 STATE 241892

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE / EXDIS OR ONLY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
PAGE 01 STATE 241892
ORIGIN SS-25
INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R
DRAFTED BY ARA/CAR:R MCCOY:KC
APPROVED BY ARA:S A SHELTON
ARA/CAR: A HEWITT
S/S-ORCASTRODALE

-----008905 230903Z /10

P 222302Z SEP 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN PRIORITY
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 241892
EXDIS, FROM HEWITT TO AMBASSADOR BURKE
E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, OREP, (RYAN, LEO)
SUBJECT: CONGRESSMAN LEO RYAN'S PLANNED VISIT TO
PEOPLE'S TEMPLE IN GUYANA

1. CONGRESSMAN LEO RYAN (D-CALIFORNIA) ACCOMPANIED BY
STAFFER MET AT HIS REQUEST ON SEPT. 15 WITH ASSISTANT
SECRETARY VAKY, SALLY SHELTON, DICK MCCOY AND MYSELF
TO DISCUSS PEOPLE'S TEMPLE ACTIVITIES IN GUYANA. RYAN
IS CONCERNED ABOUT ALLEGATIONS THAT PEOPLE'S TEMPLE
MEMBERS ARE BEING HELD AGAINST THEIR WILL IN GUYANA.
HE COMMENTED THAT HE HAD RECENTLY HAD MEETINGS WITH
MRS. DEBBIE BLAKEY AND OTHER FORMER MEMBERS OF THE
TEMPLE AND THAT THEIR STATEMENTS ABOUT CONDITIONS
AT JONESTOWN HAS DEEPENED HIS CONCERN. RYAN STATED
THAT HE PLANNED TO TRAVEL TO GUYANA SOMETIME AFTER
NOVEMBER 10 WITH A PARTY OF ABOUT 8 PERSONS INCLUDING

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
PAGE 02 STATE 241892

A CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST, MEDICAL DOCTOR, A MEMBER
OF THE PRESS AND POSSIBLY SOME RELATIVES OF TEMPLE
MEMBERS. RYAN WANTED THE SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE OF
THE DEPARTMENT AND THE EMBASSY, SINCE HE NOW BELIEVES
IT IS NECESSARY TO GET A FIRST-HAND VIEW OF THE CONDI-
TIONS AT THE AGRICULTURAL COMMUNITY.

2. MCCOY COMPREHENSIVELY OUTLINED EMBASSY'S PAST
EFFORTS IN COPING WITH THE PROBLEMS CAUSED BY THE
TEMPLE'S MOVE TO GUYANA, AS WELL AS HIS PERSONAL
IMPRESSIONS AND CONCERN BASED ON HIS THREE VISITS
TO THE COMMUNITY. RYAN FOUND NO FAULT WITH THE
EMBASSY'S HANDLING OF THE MATTER, BUT INDICATED THAT
STRONGER MEASURES ARE NOW REQUIRED.

3. AMBASSADOR VAKY ASSURED RYAN THE DEPARTMENT AND
EMBASSY WOULD PROVIDE ALL POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE. HE
ALSO DISCOURAGED RYAN FROM INCLUDING FRIENDS AND
RELATIVES OF JONESTOWN RESIDENTS IN THE GROUP, AT
LEAST ON THE FIRST VISIT. IT IS CLEAR RYAN INTENDS
TO ATTEMPT TO VISIT JONESTOWN WITH OR WITHOUT OUR

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE / EXDIS OR ONLY

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1967

PRUE EMMA I
78 STATE 241892

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE / EXDIS OR ONLY
ASSISTANCE, BUT I WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR ASSESSMENT
OF POTENTIAL PROBLEMS THAT COULD ARISE FROM THIS VISIT.
I BELIEVE MCCOY'S PRESENTATION WAS USEFUL IN ACQUAINTING
RYAN WITH SOME OF THE PRACTICAL PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED
WITH A VISIT TO THE TOWNSITE. WE WILL KEEP YOU POSTED
OF FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS. CHRISTOPHER
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1967