

ARA

UNCLASSIFIED
Department of State

INCOMING
TELEGRAM
8254

1240

PAGE 01
ACTION NEA-11 241318Z

INFO OCT-01 INR-10 10-15 ARA-15

P R 241138Z NOV 78
FM USICA/NEW DELHI
TO USINFO WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC
SECDEF
CINCPAC
AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS

PASS MEDIA REACTION STAFF PGM/RC,
PGM/FN, PGM/PP, PGM/PM, NEA, VOA/P

STATE FOR NEA/INS PASS NSC FOR THORNTON AND SOBERG

PARIS ATTN UNESCO/DEL

MEDIA REACTION REPORT NO. 495

BEGIN SUMMARY: UNESCO DECLARATION ON THE MASS MEDIA
RECEIVED INSIDE COVERAGE AND LIMITED COMMENT.

GUYANA -- EDITORIAL COMMENT CONDEMNED THE MURDERS. END SUMMARY.

UNESCO

MAJOR NEWSPAPERS NOV. 24 INSIDED WIRE SERVICE
REPORTS HIGHLIGHTING STATE HAS SAID THE APPROVED
DECLARATION ON THE MASS MEDIA "CAN MAKE A SIGNIFICANT
CONTRIBUTION TO THE FREE FLOW OF INFORMATION AND
LIBERTY OF EXPRESSION IN THE WORLD."

AP ALSO QUOTED FROM STATE STATEMENT THAT THE TEXT
"IS STRIPPED OF ALL LANGUAGE IMPLYING STATE AUTHORITY
OVER THE MASS MEDIA..."

INDIAN EXPRESS EDITORIALY DECLARED THE DECLARATION
HAS A MORAL SANCTION WHICH CANNOT BE TREATED
LIGHTLY. IT IS THEREFORE A MATTER FOR REJOICING THAT
ONE OF THE CHERISHED PRINCIPLES OF DEMOCRACY -- FREEDOM
OF INFORMATION UNTRAMMELLED BY GOVERNMENTAL INTERFERENCE--
HAS WON A SIGNIFICANT VICTORY."

THE TASK FOR UNESCO "NOW IS TO SEE WHAT CORRECTIVES
ARE NEEDED AND HOW THEY CAN BE APPLIED." THE EDIT
CONCLUDED.

GUYANA

STATESMAN SAID THE MURDERS AND MASS SUICIDES IN
GUYANA "ARE QUITE THE MOST SHOCKING OF THEIR KIND
SINCE THE ACTIVITIES OF THE MANSON CULT, AND NUMERICALLY
FAR WORSE."

TIMES OF INDIA SAID "THE BIZARRE HORRORS... SAY
MUCH BUT EXPLAIN LITTLE ABOUT THE MYSTERIES OF THE
HUMAN PSYCHE."
GILDNER

EQT

HA-05 / BBT 241322Z / 48
DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY _____ DATE _____

RDS or KDS EXT. DATE _____

TS AUTH. _____

ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS

DECLASSIFIED RELEASABLE

RELEASE DENIED

REASON(S) _____

EXEMPTIONS _____

UNCLASSIFIED