

1327

WILLIAMS JESSIE M
79 STATE 305308

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 305308

ORIGIN ARA-15

INFO CCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 HEW-04 CIAE-00
DODE-00 NSAF-00 NSCE-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 SCS-06
USSS-00 PA-01 CA-01 L-03 AID-05 INR-10 SY-05 H-01
SS-15 /079 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/GWG - SMYLES:LEE
APPROVED BY ARA/GWG - RLERUCE
S/S-O - TMARTIN

-----002730 032248Z /14

O 020552Z DEC 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PANAMA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CARACAS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO IMMEDIATE
FBI WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0060
DEPT OF JUSTICE WASHDC IMMEDIATE
CINCSOUTHCOM QUARRY ETS CZ IMMEDIATE
CINCMAC SCOTT AFB ILL IMMEDIATE
USREDCOM/RCJ2 MACDILL AFS FL IMMEDIATE
USCINCPAC FT MCPHERSON GA IMMEDIATE
CDR 18TH AIRBORNE CORPS FT BRAGG NC IMMEDIATE
USCINCEUR VAHINGEN GE/J2 IMMEDIATE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR	
REVIEWED BY _____	DATE _____
RDS <input type="checkbox"/> or KDS <input type="checkbox"/> EXT. DATE _____	REASON(S) _____
TS AUTH. _____	ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS <input type="checkbox"/>
DECLASSIFIED <input type="checkbox"/> RELEASABLE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	RELEASE DENIED <input type="checkbox"/>
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS _____	

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 305308
LONDON FOR MICHAEL FINLEY
E.O. 116525: 12/1/74 (ERUCE, R.L.)
TAGS: CASC, JREP (RYAN, LEO), GY
SUBJECT: SITUATION REPORT NO. 27, 12/1/78, 2100 (EST)

CONFIDENTIAL
CONFIDENTIAL
PAGE 02 STATE 305308

- SIX MORE SURVIVORS WERE RELEASED BY THE COG TODAY AND WILL BE RETURNING ON SATURDAY'S PAN AM FLIGHT TO NEW YORK. THE EMBASSY ANTICIPATES THAT 36 ADDITIONAL SURVIVORS WILL BE RELEASED DECEMBER 2 AND HAS MADE RESERVATIONS FOR THEM ON SUNDAY'S PAN AM FLIGHT.
- AS THEY HAVE BEEN GRANTED PERMISSION TO DEPART BY THE GUYANESE GOVERNMENT, SURVIVORS HAVE INFORMED THE EMBASSY THAT THEY PREFER TO LEAVE GUYANA ON COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT. THEREFORE, STATE HAS NOTIFIED DOD, HEW, FBI, THE SECRET SERVICE AND OTHER INTERESTED AGENCIES THAT PLANS TO FLY SURVIVORS TO CHARLESTON BY MILITARY AIRCRAFT HAVE BEEN CANCELLED. THE REMAINING PRESS CONTINGENT IN THE CHARLESTON AREA HAS BEEN INFORMED.
- THE NEW YORK TIMES TODAY REPORTED THAT LAWYERS REPRESENTING DEFECTORS FROM THE PEOPLES TEMPLE HAVE CHARGED THE DEPARTMENT WITH LAXNESS IN ACTING ON WARNINGS OF THREATS TO THE LIVES OF JONESTOWN RESIDENTS. ALLEGATIONS

CONFIDENTIAL

WILLIAMS JESSIE M
79 STATE 305308

CONFIDENTIAL

OF IMPROPER CONDUCT AGAINST A US FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER
WERE RENEWED IN FRIDAY'S PRESS BRIEFING. WE ARE PROVIDING
MORE FACTS TO THE PRESS IN AN EFFORT TO PUT THE STORY
TO REST.

4. US CONSULAR OFFICERS HAVE ATTACHED CONSULAR SEALS TO
THE PEOPLES TEMPLE PROPERTY IN JONESTOWN. SEALS WERE
ALSO ATTACHED TO 103 CRATES OF GOODS IN GEORGETOWN CON-
SIGNED TO THE PEOPLES TEMPLE. MINISTER GREEN EXPRESSED
MODERATE DISPLEASURE OVER THE ACTION BUT AMBASSADOR
BURKE REMINDED THE MINISTER HE HAD UNSUCCESSFULLY AT-
TEMPTED TO REACH HIM TO INFORM HIM OF THE NECESSITY TO

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03

STATE 305308

TAKE THE STEP.

5. DISCUSSIONS ARE UNDERWAY BOTH HERE AND IN GEORGETOWN
TO EXPLORE WAYS THE USG MIGHT RECOUP SOME OF ITS COSTS
FROM THE PROPERTY OF THE PEOPLES TEMPLE. REPRESENTATIVES
OF THE TASK FORCE, THE LEGAL ADVISOR'S OFFICE AND THE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE DISCUSSED POSSIBILITIES FOR MOVING
AGAINST PROPERTY IN THE UNITED STATES; MOST OPTIONS
HAVE MAJOR LEGAL PROBLEMS. OUR LEGAL ADVISOR IN GEORGE-
TOWN IS ALSO GIVING THIS ISSUE HIGH PRIORITY. THE LEGAL
SITUATION WITH RESPECT TO THE PROPERTY IN GUYANA IS
COMPLICATED BY THE FACT THAT THE PEOPLES TEMPLE MAY HAVE
BEEN INCORPORATED IN GUYANA AND THE ENSUING DIFFICULTY
OF DEMONSTRATING THAT ANY OF THE PROPERTY WAS PRIVATELY
OWNED BY DECEASED AMERICAN CITIZENS. THE EMBASSY SPECU-
LATES THAT THE MOST EFFICIENT WAY TO RESOLVE THE SITUATION
MAY BE A RECEIVERSHIP PROCEEDING IN WHICH ALL INTERESTED
PARTIES, INCLUDING THE USG, CAN ASSERT CLAIMS.

6. THE FOUR DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE TECHNICAL EXPERTS HAVE
ARRIVED IN GEORGETOWN AND HAVE ESTABLISHED WORKING RELA-
TIONSHIPS WITH THEIR GOC COUNTERPARTS. THEY WILL NOT,
HOWEVER, BE PERMITTED TO INTERVIEW THE SURVIVORS OR
ANYONE ELSE. THE EMBASSY IS CONSIDERING THE POSSIBILITY
OF INVITING INDIVIDUAL SURVIVORS TO COME TO THE EMBASSY,
POSSIBLY WITH ASSURANCES THEY WOULD NOT BE INTERVIEWED
BY THE FBI ON THEIR RETURN TO THE US. JUSTICE HAS NOT
YET MOVED ON PROVIDING A PATHOLOGIST AS REQUESTED BY THE
GOC.

7. DOVER REPORTS THAT 776 BODIES HAVE BEEN EMBALMED AND
A TOTAL OF 255 HAVE BEEN POSITIVELY IDENTIFIED. OF THE
FIRST 99 POSITIVE IDENTIFICATIONS RECEIVED BY THE DEPART-
MENT, NEXT OF KIN IN 81 CASES HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED AND
NOTIFIED. THE PROCESS IS CONTINUING. NO BODIES HAVE YET
LEFT DOVER AFB. THE RELEASE AND SHIPMENT OF BODIES AWAITS

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04

STATE 305308

AGREEMENT BETWEEN DELAWARE STATE OFFICIALS, THE USG AND
GUYANESE AUTHORITIES CONCERNING THE ISSUANCE OF DEATH

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 2

WILLIAMS JESSIE M
79 STATE 325309

CONFIDENTIAL

CERTIFICATES. WE ARE EXPLORING THE ACCEPTABILITY OF
ISSUING INTERIM, GENERAL CERTIFICATES TO BE FOLLOWED LATER
BY THE OFFICIAL CERTIFICATES ISSUED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF
GUYANA.

S. AID IS STUDYING THE USE OF CONTINGENCY FUNDS TO LEASE
AN AIRCRAFT TO REPLACE THE DAMAGED GUYANA AIRWAYS OTTER.
WE HAVE MAJOR PROBLEMS WITH FUNDING THE PURCHASE OF
SPACE PARTS TO REPAIR GUYANESE DEFENSE FORCE HELICOPTERS,
THE HIGHEST PRIORITY OF THE GOG. VANCE

CONFIDENTIAL