

UNCLASSIFIED  
Department of State

OUTGOING  
TELEGRAM

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ORIGIN SCS-08

STATE 387151

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INFO OCT-01 ARA-15 ISO-00 L-03 IUSE-00 /025 R

DRAFTED BY CA; SCS; RDRY; JCC  
APPROVED BY CA; SCS; LMOAY

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P 052340Z DEC 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 387151

E. O. 112885 N/A

TAGS: CGEN

SUBJECT: JUDICIAL ASSISTANCE: OBTAINING BANK RECORDS

1. DEPT JUSTICE HAS ASKED DEPT FOR ASSISTANCE IN ASCERTAINING PROCEDURES FOR OBTAINING BANK RECORDS FROM TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO.
2. ARE BANK RECORDS PUBLIC RECORDS IN TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO?
3. CAN BANK RECORDS BE OBTAINED IN ANY MANNER OTHER THAN BY A COURT ORDER, E. G. BY DIPLOMATIC NOTE?
4. IF BANK RECORDS CAN ONLY BE OBTAINED BY LETTERS ROGATORY, WHAT ARE THE EXACT REQUIREMENTS OF GOTT FOR EXECUTION OF LETTERS ROGATORY? E. G. TO WHOM SHOULD LETTERS ROGATORY BE ADDRESSED, IS AUTHENTICATION OF JUDGE'S SIGNATURE BY GOTT EMBASSY OFFICIALS HERE REQUIRED (THERE IS NO SUCH REQUIREMENT IN US LAW)? HOW MUCH TIME IS GENERALLY REQUIRED FOR THE EXECUTION OF LETTERS ROGATORY IN GOTT?
5. IT MAY BE HELPFUL TO EMBASSY TO REVIEW US PROCEDURES WITH REGARD TO ASSISTANCE WE PROVIDE TO FOREIGN TRIBUNALS. OUR PROCEDURES ARE CONTAINED IN SECRETARY'S CIRCULAR DIPLOMATIC NOTE OF 2/3/78 SENT TO ALL POSTS AS ATTACHMENT TO DEPARTMENT'S CA-1357 OF 3/9/78. IT IS ALSO FOUND AT PAGE 308 OF DEPT'S DIGEST OF UNITED STATES PRACTICE IN INT'L LAW (1978).
6. PLEASE PLACE CRIMINAL DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE ATTN: JOHN HARRIS, AS INFO ADDRESSEE ON RESPONSE. EMBASSY'S EXPEDITIOUS RESPONSE REQUESTED. VANCE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/SCD/IR

DATE

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