

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY _____ DATE _____

RDS by DATE _____
 TS AUTH. _____ REASONS: _____
 EXEMPTED FROM DECLASSIFICATION
 DECLASSIFIED FROM UNCLASSIFIED
 INCREASE DOWNGRADING _____
 PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS _____

1378

SHEAFFER JEANNE M
 75 GEORGETOWN #138

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED
 PAGE 21
 ACTION L-23

GEORGE #4138 271421Z

INFO OCT-21 ARA-15 ISO-20 SCS-26 CA-01 F-22 SSO-20
 FBIE-46 /225 W

-----250036 271409Z /47

O 271201Z DEC 76
 FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6358
 UNCLAS GEORGETOWN #138
 E.O. 12065: NA
 TAGS: CASC, OREP (RYAN, LEO), GY
 SUBJ: EMBASSY STAFFING
 REF: STATE 327012

1. EMBASSY WAS VERY PLEASED THAT DEPARTMENT WAS ABLE TO DETAIL A MEMBER OF THE STAFF OF THE LEGAL ADVISER TO GEORGETOWN ON TEMPORARY ASSIGNMENT. HE HAS ALREADY BEEN OF INESTIMABLE HELP IN ADDRESSING THE MANY LEGAL PROBLEMS CREATED BY THE ASSASSINATION OF CONGRESSMAN RYAN AND THE RELATED INCIDENT OF MASS MURDERS/SUICIDES AT JONESTOWN, MANY OF WHICH ARE UNIQUE IN AMERICAN CONSULAR EXPERIENCE.

2. AS DEPARTMENT IS AWARE WE HAVE JUST NOW BEEN ABLE TO IDENTIFY AND ENGAGE LOCAL LEGAL COUNSEL TO ASSIST IN THE DISCHARGE OF OUR CONSULAR RESPONSIBILITIES VIS-A-VIS PEOPLES TEMPLE AND INDIVIDUALS' ESTATES. THE FBI TECHNICAL TEAM IS STILL PROCEEDING IN ITS EXAMINATION OF EVIDENCE, INCLUDING THAT WHICH HAS BEEN GATHERED BY THE GOG POLICE, AS WELL AS THE MATERIAL REMOVED FROM GEORGETOWN BY OUR CONSULS. SO FAR THIS COOPERATION BETWEEN THE TWO GOVERNMENTS IS PROCEEDING WELL. HOWEVER, WE HAVE YET TO REACH EVEN A PRELIMINARY UNDERSTANDING WITH THE GOG REGARDING THE DISPOSITION OF PEOPLES TEMPLE PROPERTY IN GUYANA.
 (FYI: AMBASSADOR IS TAKING MR. FORTUNE TO PAY

UNCLASSIFIED
 UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 22 GEORGE #4138 271421Z

COURTESY CALL ON MINISTER JUSTICE MORNING DEC. 7.)
 3. OBVIOUSLY, IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THE DEPARTMENT'S LAWYER WHO HAS BEEN DETAILED HERE IS ABLE TO BRING AND DIRECT THE WORK, AT LEAST IN ITS PRELIMINARY STAGES, OF THE LOCAL LAWYER WHO HAS BEEN RETAINED. IT IS ALSO VERY USEFUL TO HAVE HIS ADVICE ON THE EMBASSY'S LEGAL RELATIONSHIP WITH THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION AND OTHER U.S. LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES AS IT PERTAINS TO EXAMINATION OF EVIDENCE WHICH MAY AT THE SAME TIME BE PART OF THE COLLECTIVE ESTATE OR INDIVIDUAL ESTATES CREATED BY THE JONESTOWN DISASTER.

4. I BELIEVE IT IS IMPORTANT THEREFORE THAT MR. FORTUNE BE AVAILABLE TO US FOR AT LEAST ANOTHER TEN DAYS. SUCH TIME TO INCLUDE A BRIEF TRIP TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSULTING WITH THE REST OF THE LEGAL STAFF AS WELL AS ARA AND SCA.

UNCLASSIFIED

SHEAFFER JEANNE M
79 GEORGETOWN 4132

UNCLASSIFIED

5. IT SEEMS ESSENTIAL THAT AS MUCH CARE AS POSSIBLE BE
TAKEN AT THIS EARLY CRITICAL STAGE IN ORDER TO PROTECT
THE DEPARTMENT AND THE EMBASSY FROM POSSIBLE CRITICISM
IN THE FUTURE OF THE WAY IN WHICH OUR CONSULAR AND
RELATED OBLIGATIONS HAVE BEEN DISCHARGED.

BURKE

UNCLASSIFIED