

1454

FRUE EMMA L
78 GEORGETOWN 4258

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 GEORGE 04258 131647Z

ACTION SCS-46

INFO OCT-01 ARA-15 ISO-00 E-22 CA-01 L-03 SS-15 SSO-07
/443

-----123444 131655Z /43

O 131615Z DEC 75
FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8444
UNCLAS GEORGETOWN 4258

E.O. 12858: NA
RALS: CARF, BY (PEOPLE'S TEMPLE), (LAYTON, LARRY)
SUBJ: W/W ARRESTS: LARRY LAYTON
REF: GEORGETOWN 4172

1. THIS MORNING THE PRELIMINARY INQUIRY INTO THE MURDERS OF
CONGRESSMAN LEO J. RYAN AND FOUR OTHER PERSONS (PETTEL) WAS
POSTPONED UNTIL TOMORROW (12/13/75) BY PRINCIPAL MAGISTRATE,
OVEN FUNG-KEE-FUNG. FUNG-KEE-FUNG SAID HE DID NOT WANT TO
START THE INQUIRY AT THIS TIME BECAUSE HE THOUGH THE HEARING
COULD NOT BE COMPLETED BY DECEMBER 22. WHEN HE WAS SCHEDULED TO
GO ON LEAVE. PRELIMINARY INQUIRY WILL DETERMINE IF ENOUGH
EVIDENCE EXISTS TO COMMIT LAYTON TO TRIAL BEFORE THE HIGH COURT.

2. BOTH PROSECUTING ATTORNEY, NANDRAM KISSOON AND SENIOR DEFENSE
COUNSEL, BEN MCKAY STATED IN COURT THAT THEY WANTED THE INQUIRY
TO BEGIN IMMEDIATELY AND THAT THEY BELIEVED THE HEARING COULD BE
FINISHED BY DECEMBER 22. FUNG-KEE-FUNG WILL PRESUMABLY GIVE HIS
FINAL DECISION ON THE MATTER AT TOMORROW'S SESSION.

2. AFTER COURT WAS ADJOURNED, KISSOON HELD AN INFORMAL PRESS
CONFERENCE IN THE COURT ROOM FOR GUYANESE AND OVERSEAS
JOURNALISTS. CHARLES KRAUSE OF THE WASHINGTON POST TOLD
KISSOON THAT HE (KRAUSE) WAS PRESENT AT PORT KAITUMA AIRSTRIP
DURING THE SHOOTING, BUT THAT HE COULD NOT IDENTIFY ANY OF THE
UNCLASSIFIED
UNCLASSIFIED
PAGE 02 GEORGE 04258 131647Z
ASSAILANTS; KISSOON EXPRESSED INTEREST IN TALKING TO KRAUSE
FURTHER ON THE SUBJECT AT ANOTHER TIME. IN RESPONSE TO A
QUESTION, KISSOON SAID THAT AS FAR AS HE WAS CONCERNED, ANY
PERSON NOT BEING DETAINED WOULD BE FREE TO LEAVE GUYANA AS SOON
AS HE GAVE TESTIMONY AT THE PRELIMINARY INQUIRY. SUCH PERSONS
WOULD, HOWEVER, BE EXPECTED TO RETURN TO GUYANA TO GIVE TESTI-
MONY BEFORE THE CRIMINAL TRIAL IF NEEDED. IN RESPONSE TO
ANOTHER QUESTION, KISSOON ADDED THAT HE DID NOT KNOW UNDER WHICH
SECTION OF GUYANESE LAW THE GOVERNMENT OF GUYANA WAS DETAINING
PERSONS FOR THE GIVING OF TESTIMONY BEFORE THE INQUIRY.

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 1