

1546

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY John Smith DATE 2-27-84

RDS or XDC INT. DATE _____
TS AUTH. _____ INTON(S) _____
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS
DECLASSIFIED RELEASABLE
RELEASE DENIED
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS _____
DM-05 E-02 INE-14

GROSS MARGARET A
79 CARACAS 12160

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

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ACTION ARA-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 DM-05 E-02 INE-14
L-03 NSAI-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-20
AID-05 /085 W

045914 3015042 /43

R 292721Z DEC 79
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5193
INFO AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
UNCLAS CARACAS 12160

P.O. 12065: N/A

TAGS: PEPR PEPR GY VE

SUBJECT: FOREIGN MINISTER CONSALVI TO REQUEST INFORMATION FROM
USG ON PEOPLE'S TEMPLE

REF: GEORGETOWN 4236

1. SCOTING FROM AN INTERVIEW IN MAGAZINE "RESUMEN,"
CARACAS ENGLISH-LANGUAGE "DAILY JOURNAL" OF DECEMBER 29
REPORTED THAT FONMIN CONSALVI WILL ASK THE USG FOR
INFORMATION ON THE PEOPLE'S TEMPLE AND ITS FINANCING.
CONSALVI EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT SETTLEMENT AND THE
SUICIDES TOOK PLACE IN THE HEART OF TERRITORY CLAIMED
BY VENEZUELA IN ITS DISPUTE WITH GUYANA. HE NOTED
THAT, EXCEPT FOR CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH TERMINATED THE
SETTLEMENT, JONESTOWN SETTLERS "QUITE POSSIBLY MIGHT
HAVE CREATED GRAVE PROBLEMS FOR VENEZUELA HAD THEY
NOT DECIDED TO PASS ON TO THE OTHER WORLD.

2. CONSALVI ALSO EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER PUBLISHED
REPORTS THAT JIM JONES AND THE PEOPLE'S TEMPLE HAD
7 MILLION DOLLARS ON DEPOSIT IN THE BANCO UNION OF
CARACAS, SAYING SUCH LARGE DEPOSITS SHOULD BE SUSPECT AND
INVESTIGATED WHEN THEY APPEAR IN LATIN AMERICAN

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COUNTRIES.

3. FINALLY, HE NOTED HIS DISCOMFORT WITH SECTS,
"PRESUMABLY RELIGIOUS, BUT THAT WERE NOT AT ALL
RELIGIOUS IN REALITY," WHICH HAVE APPEARED IN OTHER
PARTS OF LATIN AMERICA. HE EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT
SUCH GROUPS, MOSTLY ORIGINATING IN CALIFORNIA, MIGHT
CONSTITUTE A THREAT TO THE "POLITICAL AND MENTAL
SECURITY OF LATIN AMERICA." HE ADDED THEY SHOULD BE
STRICTLY CONTROLLED, ESPECIALLY WHEN THEY SEEK TO FORM
SETTLEMENTS IN REMOTE AREAS.

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