

ROBERT B. DUNCAN  
Member of Congress

COMMITTEE ON  
APPROPRIATIONS

CONSTRUCTION  
INTERIOR  
TRANSPORTATION

✓ SCS CC 2072

P773175-2349

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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515  
(202) 555-4811

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1616 FEDERAL BUILDING  
1220 S.W. THIRD  
MIAMI, FLORIDA 33134  
(305) 221-2123

# Congress of the United States

## House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

November 23, 1977

29 NOV 1977

The Honorable Cyrus  
Secretary of State  
Department of State  
2201 C Street  
Washington, D. C. 20520

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

APPROVED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

INDEXED  EXT. DATE \_\_\_\_\_

TS AUTH. \_\_\_\_\_ REASON(S) \_\_\_\_\_

ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS

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RELEASE DENIED

PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS \_\_\_\_\_

SCS  
EP

Dear Mr. Secretary:

A young San Francisco attorney, Margaret Ryan, has brought the case described in the attached clipping to my attention. Ms. Ryan and attorney Jeff Haas represent Timothy and Grace Stoen in their effort to recover custody of their 5 year old son. The son is being held by the Rev. Jim Jones in Guyana.

*John Stoen*

The Stoens have been awarded custody of the child by a California court. The problem now is convincing the Courts and government of Guyana to enforce the U.S. court order.

The background of the case is exceedingly complex and involves the operation of a religious sect called the "Peoples Temple," operated by Rev. Jones. My interest in the case stems from my long acquaintance with Jeff Haas' father in Coos Bay, Oregon, and I don't pretend to any knowledge of the "Peoples Temple" but I can sympathize with the anguish the Stoens must be feeling as they entrust the fate of their child to the uncertainties of a Guyanese court. I would hope that the U.S. Embassy in Guyana would do all that it can to help. At least I hope you can call this matter to the attention of the proper authorities so that it can be heard and decided, hopefully, on its merits without untoward delay.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely yours,

ROBERT B. DUNCAN  
Member of Congress

RBD:smj  
Enclosure

cc: Ms. Margaret Ryan

5

PHILLIP BURTON  
San Diego, California

2204 Towering House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510  
Phone 202-455-4222

Office Office  
400 Golden Gate Avenue  
San Francisco, California 94102  
Phone 415-774-4222

P770 182-8983

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Custody Case SCS 2/2

408

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
REGISTRATION AND LABOR  
INTERIOR AND INSULAR  
AFFAIRS  
CHAIRMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON  
NATIONAL PARKS AND WILDLIFE AFFAIRS

SCS

November 29, 1977

Mr. Douglas J. Bennett  
Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs  
U.S. Department of State  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Bennett:

I draw your attention to the attached letter which I received today, November 29, from Joseph Freitas, District Attorney for the City and County of San Francisco.

Pursuant to this letter, and in light of the fact that a court hearing will be held in early December to determine whether the Government of Guyana will comply with the California court order, I strongly urge that the State Department take all necessary and proper steps to ensure that the court proceedings in Guyana are conducted in a fair and proper manner.

ENC.

Sincerely,

PHILLIP BURTON  
Member of Congress

PB:nc

RE: WELFARE OF JOHN VICTOR STOEN, ILLEGALLY  
TAKEN BY REV. JIM JAMES TO GUYANA

FROM: JOSEPH FREITAS

62 7 53 1 070 US

NOV 30 1977

DON EDWARDS  
U.S. Senator, California

1000 THE PACIFIC  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF. 94108  
(415) 398-4000

2000 PINE STREET  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF. 94115  
(415) 778-0000

WASHINGTON OFFICE  
1000 14TH ST. N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005

P770187-2100

409

COMMITTEE ON  
LEGISLATION

COMMITTEE ON  
CIVIL AND  
CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS

COMMITTEE ON  
VETERANS AFFAIRS

# Congress of the United States

## House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

December 2, 1977

Congressional Liaison  
Department of State  
2201 C Street  
Washington, D.C. 20520

50  
11/23/77

Dear Sir or Madam:

Enclosed is a letter from the District Attorney of San Francisco County regarding an order of the Superior Court in that County relative to a child being held, contrary to the order, by a Rev. Jim Jones in the country of Guyana.

The District Attorney has been ordered by the Court to take all steps to secure enforcement of the order and contacted us for assistance.

Any information, advice or assistance that you may be able to provide the District Attorney would be appreciated.

With kindest regards.

Sincerely,

*Don Edwards*  
Member of Congress

DE:sl  
enclosure

Re: request for return of John Victor Steen L. G. 12 + 10  
LUCY STEEN

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDO/HR	
REVIEWED BY	DATE
DATE	DATE
TO: MR. NELSON(S)	
SUBJECT: MEXICO	
POLITICAL	
PA 08 000 000000	

Custody Case SCS 2072 (413)

GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS  
SCIENTIFIC, RESEARCH AND  
TECHNICAL SERVICES  
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE AND  
ANALYTICAL DIVISION  
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS  
INVESTIGATIVE, OPERATIONAL  
TECHNICAL SERVICES  
POST OFFICE AND  
CIVIL SERVICE  
PUBLIC OPERATIONS AND SERVICE  
CUSTOMS AND PROTECTION

PTO 190-0996

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

LED J. RYAN, M.C.  
15 DEC 1977  
PLEASE REPLY TO:  
WASHINGTON OFFICE  
107 CONGRESS BUILDING OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20540  
(202) 555-5500  
MARKET OFFICE  
1000 BUREAU AVENUE S.W.  
SUITE 510  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF. 94102  
(415) 398-1970

December 8, 1977

SCS

The Hon. Cyrus Vance  
Secretary  
Department of State  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

For some time now, I have been aware of the activities of a man in San Francisco who is a natural born United States citizen and refers to himself as the Reverend Jim Jones. In recent years, he has established what he refers to as "People's Temple" under the laws of the State of California. In the last year, Mr. Jones and many of those who consider themselves members of his church left with apparent haste and are now in apparent residence in the nation of Guyana.

In connection with that exodus, he took with him several minors. One of those minors is the subject of the enclosed court action.

You will note the concern of the San Francisco District Attorney with regard to this case. Please consider this letter to be a request to investigate what action might be taken in connection with Mr. Jones in regard to his passport or other means to obtain his presence here in this country before courts which may wish to question him.

Sincerely yours,

LED J. RYAN  
Member of Congress

LJR:ms  
Venc.

RECORDS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
REVIEWED BY \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
REASON FOR REVIEW \_\_\_\_\_  
DECLASSIFIED BY \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE OF FBI REVISION \_\_\_\_\_

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