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ORIGIN JUSE-00

INFO OCT-01 ARA-11 EUR-12 ISO-00 L-03 SPTA-02 H-01

TRSE-00 FBIE-00 SCS-06 CA-01 SS-15 SSO-00 /052 R

b6 Per FBI
b7C

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JUSTICE - J. HERGIN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PANAMA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 12065 12065: N/A

TAGS: CASC, OREP (RYAN, LEO), GY

SUBJECT: PEOPLES TEMPLE BANK ACCOUNTS

REF: PANAMA 09219

1. DEPARTMENT GRATEFUL TO EMBASSY FOR INFORMATION PROVIDED
REFTEL.

2. CONSIDERING STRONG USG INTEREST IN OBTAINING RESTITU-
TION FROM PEOPLES TEMPLE FOR COSTS INCURRED IN BY THE
US GOVERNMENT, EMBASSY THROUGH AIDE MEMOIRE SHOULD NOTE
CONTACTS WITH GOP TO DATE ON THIS SUBJECT, AND FORMALLY
THANK GOP FOR AGREEING TO LEND ITS "GOOD OFFICES" TO USG

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EFFORTS TO BLOCK BANK ACCOUNTS. (FYI. PRESUMABLY, SUCH "GOOD OFFICES" WOULD EXTEND TO INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS WITH UBS AND SBC LOCAL OFFICIALS CONCERNING PARTICULARS OF THE VARIOUS ACCOUNTS. PLEASE ADVISE. END FYI).

3. EMBASSY SHOULD ALSO TRANSMIT FORTHWITH TO RESPONSIBLE OFFICERS FOR UBS AND SBC LETTERS, THE TEXT OF WHICH FOLLOWS:

BEGIN TEXT: THE EMBASSY APPRECIATES THE ACTIONS WHICH YOU HAVE TAKEN TO DATE TO CONSERVE AND PREVENT POSSIBLE IMPROPER DISPERSAL OF VARIOUS ACCOUNTS WHICH ARE SAID TO BE MAINTAINED AT YOUR BANK BY THE PEOPLES TEMPLE OR ITS OFFI-

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CERS, DIRECTORS, MEMBERS OR RELATED ENTITIES.

THE GOVERNMENT OF UNITED STATES HAS A SUBSTANTIAL
MONETARY CLAIM AGAINST THE PEOPLES TEMPLE FOR COSTS IN-
CURRED IN CONNECTION WITH THE TRAGEDY AT JONESTOWN, GUYANA.
TO THAT END, THE UNITED STATES INTENDS TO PURSUE ALL AVAIL-
ABLE LEGAL REMEDIES WHICH IT MAY HAVE AGAINST THE PEOPLES
TEMPLE, EITHER IN PANAMA OR ELSEWHERE.

CONSIDERING THE UNPRECEDENTED CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING
THE JONESTOWN TRAGEDY, TOGETHER WITH THE CONFUSED FINANCES
OF THE PEOPLES TEMPLE, WE ARE OF THE VIEW THAT WE SHARE
WITH YOUR BANK A MUTUAL INTEREST IN COOPERATING IN THIS
MATTER TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE. IN CONSEQUENCE, IF YOUR
BANK COULD FURNISH US WITH THE NECESSARY PARTICULARS RE-
GARDING THE ACCOUNTS, WE, IN TURN, WOULD UNDERTAKE TO PRO-
VIDE YOU WITH WHATEVER INFORMATION YOU MIGHT REQUIRE TO
CONFIRM THE STATUS OF THE DESIGNATED ACCOUNT HOLDERS,
SIGNATORIES, BENEFICIAL OWNERS, ETC. (E.G., EVIDENCE OF
DEATH OR DISSOLUTION).

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IN VIEW OF THE CONFUSION SURROUNDING THE STATUS OF THE
ACCOUNTS, THE EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT THEY SHOULD CONTINUE
TO BE MAINTAINED IN A BLOCKED STATUS.

WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING YOUR VIEWS AND POSITION
ON THE FOREGOING PROPOSALS AT YOUR EARLIEST CONVENIENCE.

(COMPLIMENTARY CLOSE) END TEXT.

4. RE PARA 3, REFTEL, DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE HAS BEEN AD-
VISED BY SWISS BANKING OFFICIALS THAT THEY HAVE NO CONTROL
OVER THEIR PANAMANIAN BRANCHES, WHICH OPERATE INDEPENDENTLY.
PLEASE CONFIRM.

5. RE PARA. 4A REFTEL, DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE IS CONSIDER-
ING [REDACTED] SUGGESTION THAT USG RETAIN LOCAL COUNSEL.
DEPARTMENT WOULD WELCOME EMBASSY'S RECOMMENDATIONS CON-
CERNING WHO USG SHOULD RETAIN.

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6. RE PARA. 4B, REFTEL, DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE IS EAGER
TO DO WHATEVER WOULD BE NECESSARY TO "REINFORCE" ACCOUNT
BLOCKINGS BY UBS AND SBC. PLEASE SPECIFY PRECISELY WHAT
DOCUMENTATION WILL BE NECESSARY TO "SUPPORT" SWISS BANKS.

7. ACTION AND INFO ADDRESSEES: PLEASE ADD DEPARTMENT OF
JUSTICE, [REDACTED] FOR DISTRIBUTION ON RESPONSES CON-
CERNING PEOPLES TEMPLE. VANCE

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