

UNCLASSIFIED  
Department of State

INCOMING  
TELEGRAM

1667

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ACTION 021-06

GEORGE 00498 012251Z

7994

INFO OCT-81 AFA-15 ISO-38 L-83 H-82 JUNE-88 FBIE-88  
/027 W

-----027431 020526Z /11

R 011251Z FEB 78  
FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8884

UNCLAS GEORGETOWN 0486

E. O. 12869: NA  
TAGS: CARR (BEIKMAN, CHARLES), JONES, STEPHANI, PEOPLE'S  
TEMPLE

SUBJ: W/W ARRESTS; STEPHAN JONES AND CHARLES BEIKMAN

REF: GEORGETOWN 497

1. DURING PRELIMINARY INQUIRY ON JANUARY 30 INTO DEATHS OF LINDA SHARON HARRIS (AKA SHARON AMOS) ET AL, MAGISTRATE PERSAUD RULED THAT UNDER RELEVANT CASE LAW AND GUYANESE STATUTORY LAW NINE-YEAR OLD STEPHANIE JONES WAS NOT COMPETENT TO GIVE SWORN TESTIMONY, EITHER UNDER OATH OR AFFIRMATION. PERSAUD SAID SHE COULD NOT BE INSTRUCTED IN GOD PRIOR TO TAKING AN OATH BECAUSE SHE DOES NOT BELIEVE IN GOD. PERSAUD CONCLUDED THAT STEPHANIE COULD GIVE EVIDENCE IN COURT, BUT THAT HER TESTIMONY WOULD HAVE TO BE UNSWORN.

2. TWO PERSONS GAVE TESTIMONY AT THE JANUARY 30 SESSION. A POLICE CORPORAL TESTIFIED THAT HE SEARCHED JIM JONES' JONESTOWN RESIDENCE ON DECEMBER 5, 1978 AND FOUND A NOTE SIGNED BY BEIKMAN PLEDGING LOYALTY TO THE PEOPLE'S TEMPLE LEADER. DETECTIVE ASSISTANT SUPT. LAM WAS RECALLED BY THE PROSECUTION TO GIVE ADDITIONAL TESTIMONY. LAM WAS CROSS-EXAMINED BY SENIOR COUNSEL REX MCKAY.

3. INQUIRY IS SCHEDULED TO RESUME FEBRUARY 1, ON WHICH DATE MAGISTRATE PERSAUD IS EXPECTED TO GIVE HIS RULING ON THE ADMISSIBILITY OF BEIKMAN'S STATEMENT TO THE POLICE. WEATHERS SAID IN COURT THAT HE EXPECTS TO CONCLUDE THE STATE'S CASE ON FEBRUARY 1.

BURKE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE L/CDC/WR

*John H. ...* DATE 2/1/78

SEARCHED  INDEXED

SERIALIZED  FILED

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