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ACTION CCS-06

INFO OCT-01 ARA-15 ISO-00 CA-01 L-03 H-02 FBIE-00
JUSE-00 PA-02 ICAE-00 SS-15 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /245 W

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R1 AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 9926

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/8/92 BY 1049 DCM/alm

b6 Per FBI
b7C

UNCLAS GEORGETOWN 0756

Leo Ryan

E. O. 12958:NA

TAGS: CARR (LAYTON, LARRY)

SUBJ: W/W ARRESTS: LARRY LAYTON; JURY TRIAL BEGINS

1. HIGH COURT TRIAL OF AMCIT LARRY LAYTON BEGAN TODAY (FEB 19)
BEFORE CHIEF JUSTICE
HAROLD BOLLERS IN THE CASE OF THE MURDERS OF CONGRESSMAN LEO
RYAN AND FOUR OTHER AMERICANS KILLED AT PORT KAITUMA LAST
NOV. 13. LAYTON WAS READ TWO INDICTMENTS. THE FIRST ACCUSED
HIM OF FIVE COUNTS OF MURDER; THE SECOND ACCUSED HIM OF THREE
COUNTS OF ATTEMPTED MURDER, AND ONE COUNT EACH OF UNLAWFUL
POSSESSION OF A FIREARM, UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF AMMUNITION,
AND WOUNDING BY THE DISCHARGE OF A FIREARM. LAYTON PLEADED

NOT GUILTY TO ALL ELEVEN CHARGES.

58 MAR 6 1979

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FEB 22 1979

...ORE JURORS, COULD BE SELECTED, SENIOR DEFENSE COUNSEL REX
MCKAY APPLIED FOR ADJOURNMENT FOR NINE DAYS TO ALLOW
A "PSYCHIATRIST OR PSYCHOLOGIST" FROM THE U.S. TO ATTEND THE
TRIAL. MCKAY ASSERTED THAT BECAUSE OF THE CURRENT
CARNIVAL CELEBRATIONS IN TRINIDAD, IT WAS VERY
DIFFICULT TO ARRANGE FOR AIR TRAVEL NEW YORK/GEORGETOWN.

PROSECUTING COUNSEL NANDRAM KISSIOON STATED THAT THE STATE
WAS READY TO BEGIN ITS CASE, BUT LEFT IT TO THE DISCRETION OF
THE CHIEF JUSTICE AS TO HOW TO RULE ON THE APPLICATION BY THE
DEFENSE. CHIEF JUSTICE BOLLERS, NOTING THAT THE PROSECUTION
COULD NOT DEFINITELY STATE THAT IT HAD ENOUGH WITNESSES

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AT THE PRESENT TIME TO CALL FOR NINE DAYS, SAID THAT HE DID NOT WANT ANY INTERRUPTIONS IN THE TRIAL ONCE IT STARTED. HE THEN FIXED FEB. 28 FOR RESUMPTION OF THE TRIAL.

3. COMMENT: COURTROOM SPECULATION BEFORE THE TRIAL WAS RIFE CONCERNING RUMORS OF PLEA BARGAINING, WHEREIN LAYTON WOULD PLEAD GUILTY TO A CHARGE OF ATTEMPTED MURDER, AND IN RETURN THE STATE WOULD DROP THE OTHER CHARGES. LOCAL JOURNALISTS SPECULATE THAT A BARGAIN WAS NOT REACHED BECAUSE THE CHIEF JUSTICE REFUSES TO COMMIT HIMSELF TO THE DEFENSE OVER HOW LONG A SENTENCE HE WOULD IMPOSE ON LAYTON IF THE ACCUSED PLEAD GUILTY. END COMMENT

BURKE

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