

UNCLAS GEORGETOWN 1028

E.O. 12065: NA

TAGS: CARR, (LAYTON, LARRY), (PEOPLE'S TEMPLE)

SUBJ: ARRESTS - LARRY LAYTON

58 MAR 211979

REF: GEORGETOWN Ø918 AND PREVIOUS

i/O

13/3/96/96

- DEFENSE CONTENTION THAT ORDER OF CHAGE OF VENUE FROM MAGISTRATE OF THE NORTH WEST MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT WAS TO THE CHIEF MAGISTRATE OF THE GEORGETOWN MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT AND THAT THE CHIEF MAGISTRATE DID NOT REPEAT NOT HAVE LEGAL AUTHORITY TO DELEGATE THE ORDER TO ANOTHER MAGISTRATE. THUS ENTIRE PRELIMINARY INQUIRY WAS IMPROPERLY CONDUCTED AND THEREFORE RESULTING INDICTMENT WAS IMPROPER.
  - 2. CHIEF JUSTICE BOLLERS FURTHER POINTER OUT THAT IF
    CHANGE OF VENUE ORDER HAD BEEN DRAWN TO ALLOW ANOTHER
    MAGISTRATE OF THE GEORGETOWN MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT TO
    CONDUCT PRELIMINARY INQUIRY, MAGISTRATE CHINTA COULD NOT REPEAT NOT
    HAVE DONE SO SINCE HER APPOINTMENT AS A MAGISTRATE IS
    SPECIFIC AS TO THE TYPES OF CASES WHICH SHE IS EMPOWERED TO
    HEAR, I.E., DOMESTIC AND PRIVATE CRIMINAL MATTERS AND DOES NOT
    REPEAT NOT INCLUDE INDICATBLE OFFENSES.
  - 3. BOLLERS ACKNOWLEDGED THAT HIS DECISON, IN EFFECT ORDERING
    A NEW PRELIMINARY INQUIRY, WOULD CREATE A GREAT DELAY IN THE
    CASE BUT MAINTAINED THAT PROPER PROCEDURES ARE ESSENTIAL TO
    JUSTICE. BOLLERS WAS HIGHLY CRITICAL OF DEFENSE ATTORNEY MCKAY,
    SUGGESTING THAT MCKAY'S AIM IN RAISING TECHNICAL OBJECTIONS WAS
    TO DELAY THE JUDICAL PROCESS AND TO OBTAIN APPOINTMENT OF
    ANOTHER JUSTICE TO TRY THE CASE WHO WUULD BE MORE AMENABLE
    THAN THE CHIEF JUSTICE TO PLEA BARGAINING.

WHEN IT WILL GO AHEAD WITH A NEW PRELIMINARY INQUERY, WHICH MAY
REQUIRE THE RETURN OF WITNESSES TO GUYANA FROM THE UNITED STATES.

5. COMMENT: PROMINENT MEMBERS OF THE JUDICARY AND THE BAR
HAVE REMARKED TO EMBOFF THAT THEY BELIEVE THAT THE DEFENSE HAS
TRIED UNSUCCESSFULLY TO REACH AN AGREEMENT WITH THE COURT ON AN
ACCEPTABLE SENTENCE SHOULD THE DEFENSE PLEAD GUILTY TO
ATTEMPTED MURDER. THEY SHARE THE CHIEF JUSTICE' VIEW THAT THE
DEFENSE DELAYINB TACTICS ARE DESIGNED TO WIN THE APPOINTMENT OF
A MORE AMENABLE TRIAL JUDGE.

BURKE

BT

1099