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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GEORGETOWN 2663

ATTN: L/ARA - MR. TERRY FORTUNE

DEPT PASS JUSTICE, ATTN: MICHAEL ABBELL

(DE)

E.O. 12065: NA

TAGS: CARR, GY(LAURENCE JOHN LAYTON) (PEOPLES TEMPLE)

SUBJ: WELFARE/WHEREABOUTS (LARRY LAYTON) DE-5 89-4286-323

6 JUN 22 1979

REF: GEORGETOWN 2023.

1. DURING REGULAR CONSULAR VISITATION ON JUNE 12, VICE

CONSUL WAS INFORMED BY PRISON OFFICIAL THAT AMCIT LARRY

LAYTON, BEING HELD IN CONNECTION WITH THE SHOOTING OF

CONGRESSMAN RYAN AT PORT KAITUMA NOVEMBER 18, "WOULD BE

RELEASED IN A FEW DAYS." PRESSED FOR FURTHER DETAILS

OFFICIAL SAID THAT HE HAD NONE AND HAD MERELY HEARD FROM

HIS SUPERIORS THAT LAYTON'S RELEASE WAS IMMINENT.

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2. SUBSEQUENTLY CONSUL CALLED DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC PROSECUTION EMMANUEL RAMAO AND ASKED HIM ABOUT THE STATUS OF THE LAYTON CASE. RAMAO SAID THAT HE HAD RECEIVED A TELEPHONE CALL SOME DAYS AGO FROM "THE U.S. ATTORNEY IN SAN FRANCISO" WHO HAD DISCUSSED WITH HIM THE POSSIBILITY THAT CHARGES AGAINST LAYTON IN GUYANA MIGHT BE DROPPED. ON THE UNDERSTANDING THAT LAYTON.

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AFTER HIS RELEASE, WOULD BE PLACED ABOARD AN AIRCRAFT BOUND FOR THE U.S. WHERE. PRESUMABLY. LAYTON WOULD THEN BE TAKEN INTO CUSTODY BY U.S. OFFICIALS, RAMAO INFORMED THE CONSUL THAT HE HAD INFORMED THE U.S. ATTORNEY THAT THIS MATTER HAD POLITICAL CONNOTATIONS WITH WHICH HE WAS UNQUALIFIED TO DEAL. HE SUGGESTED THAT THE U.S. ATTORNEY CALL THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE TO DISCUSS THE MATTER. RAMAO CLAIMS THAT HE HAS HEARD NOTHING SINCE THAT CONVERSATION. SEPARATELY, A MEMBER OF THE TEAM OF GIYALESE LAMYERS DEFENTIC LAYTON HAS EXFREASED THE

VIEW TO A MISSION OFFICER THAT THE CASE IN GUYANA ACAINST LAYTON WOULD PROBABLY BE DROPPED.

EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE IF DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE WOULD LOOK INTO THIS MATTER AND SEE WHERE IT STANDS. AS OF NOW THE EMBASSY HAS NOT BEEN OFFICIALLY INFORMED OF ANY CONTACTS BETWEEN THE U.S. ATTORNEY IN SAN FRANCISCO AND GUYANESE OFFICIALS EXCEPT BY DPP RAMAO. AS EMBASSY HAS POINTED OUT IN REF CAELE. THE GOG WOULD IN ALL LIKELIHOOD PREFER TO PASS THE PROSECU-TION OF THE LAYTON CASE OVER TO SOME AMERICAN AUTHORITY. TRIAL HERE WILL BE COSTLY AND TIME-CONSUMING FOR THE GOG INCLUDING AS IT DOES THE NECESSITY OF ERINGING BACK FROM THE U.S. PEOPLES TEMPLE SURVIVORS TO TESTIFY BEFORE GUYANESE COURTS. THUS, IF GOG WERE TO BE PRE-SENTED WITH THE POSSIBILITY THAT A U.S. COURT IS PREPARED TO ACCEPT JURISDICTION. THERE IS A REAL LIKE-LIHOOD THAT THE GUYANESE JUDICIAL SYSTEM WOULD PE TEMPTED TO DROP CHARGES AGAINST LAYTON AND RELEASE IT SHOULD BE POINTED OUT, HOWEVER, THAT ANY "INFORMAL" ARRANGEMENT TRANSFERRING JURISDICATION IN THIS MATTER FROM GUYANA TO A U.S. COURT IN THE ABSENCE OF FORMAL EXTRADITION CARRIES WITH IT NO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ABSOLUTE GUARANTEE THAT LAYTON WOULD TRAVEL DIRECTLY BACK TO THE U.S. THERE ARE NO NON-STOP FLIGHTS EETWEEN GEORGETOWN AND AN AMERICAN PORT-OF-ENTRY. BURKE