



**ENCLOSURE**

Department of State

2237

**TELETYPE**

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PAGE 01                      GEORGE 01404    0300272    POSS DUPE  
ACTION ARA-15

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INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 FBI-03 H-01 JUS-01 CIAE-00 INR-10  
NSAE-00 PA-01 OCS-06 CA-01 SS-15 MSC-05 SP-02  
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R 281844Z MAR 80  
FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2067  
INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

C O N F I D E N T I A L GEORGETOWN 1404

BOGOTA FOR LEGATT

E.O. 12065: GDS 3/27/86 (Dwyer, Richard A.) OR-M  
TAGS: PINT, CGEN GY  
SUBJ: JONESTOWN ENQUIRY COMMISSION

1. (U) JUST A YEAR AGO, THE GOVERNMENT OF GUYANA (GOG) ANNOUNCED THAT COURT OF APPEALS JUSTICE VICTOR CRANE WOULD HEAD A COMMISSION OF ENQUIRY TO LOOK INTO THE ACTIVITIES OF THE PEOPLES TEMPLE IN GUYANA WHICH CULMINATED WITH THE SUICIDES/MURDERS OF MORE THAN 900 AMERICAN CITIZENS AT JONESTOWN IN NOVEMBER OF 1978. SINCE CRANE'S APPOINTMENT THERE HAS BEEN VIRTUALLY NO FURTHER WORD ABOUT THE ENQUIRY IN THE GOVERNMENT-OWNED MEDIA, ALTHOUGH THE OPPOSITION WEEKLIES HAVE COMPLAINED PERIODICALLY ABOUT THE INACTION OF THE GOVERNMENT. IN THE INTERIM, CRANE HAS FIRST BEEN APPOINTED CHIEF JUSTICE AND MEN CHANCELLOR OF THE JUDICIARY, THE MOST SENIOR JUDICIAL POSITION IN GUYANA.

2. (U) APPARENTLY IN RESPONSE TO CRITICISMS IN PARLIAMENT THAT THE GOG HAD PROCEEDED IN ITS  
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PAGE 02                      GEORGE 01404    0300272    POSS DUPE

JONESTOWN INVESTIGATION NO FURTHER THAN THE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY *[Signature]* DATE 2/26/81

PORTIONS DENIED AS INDICATED

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APPOINTMENT OF GRANCE, THE GOVERNMENT-OWNED "CHRONICLE" OF MARCH 27 ENQUIRY COMMISSION. DISCUSSING THE JONESTOWN ENQUIRY COMMISSION, CHANCELLOR CRANE IS REPORTED TO HAVE STATED THAT HE WOULD INDEED CARRY OUT THE INQUIRY "ONCE HE IS CALLED UPON BY THE GOVERNMENT" TO TO OOS. THE NEWSPAPER ARTICLE REITERATED THE STATEMENT OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION ISSUED PREVIOUSLY THAT THE ENQUIRY SHOULD NOT PREJUDICE THE LEGAL RIGHTS TO FAIR TRIALS OF INDIVIDUALS BEFORE THE COURSE, I.E., LAWRENCE LA AND CHARLES BEYKMAN.

3. (C) COMMENT: THAT TRIAL IS SCHEDULED TO BEGIN APRIL 1, 1980. THE TRIAL OF BEYKMAN IS ALSO SET FOR THIS SESSION OF THE ASSIZES, ALTHOUGH NO SPECIFIC DATE FOR THE LATTER HAS YET BEEN DETERMINED. ACCORDING TO OFFICIALS IN THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS' OFFICE, IT IS LIKELY LAYTON WILL BE FIRST TRIED FOR ATTEMPTED MURDER. BECAUSE THE GCG HAS BEEN UNABLE TO OBTAIN THE REQUISITED WITNESSES FROM THE UNITED STATES, THE CHARGE AGAINST LAYTON OF THE MURDER OF CONGRESSMAN RYAN AND FOUR OTHERS PROBABLY WILL NOT BE PROSECUTED, IF AT ALL, UNTIL A LATER DATE.

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