

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GEORGE 04106 051433Z
ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W
-----018363 051437Z /46
O 051239Z DEC 78
FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 8330

C O N F I D E N T I A L GEORGETOWN 4106

NODIS

E.O. 12065: 12/4/83 (FORTUNE, T.) OR-M
TAGS: CGEN, CASC, OREP (RYAN, LEO), GY
SUBJ: JONESTOWN TAPE

1. EMBASSY OFFICIALS, FBI PERSONNEL AND L REPRESENTATIVE LISTENED TO TAPE TAKEN FROM RECORDER NEAR THE SITE WHERE BODY OF JONES WAS FOUND. PRELIMINARY EVALUATION IS THAT TAPE MAY HAVE SIGNIFICANT EVIDENTIARY VALUE IN CONNECTION WITH PENDING PROSECUTIONS IN GUYANA. STEPS WERE TAKEN TO AUTHENTICATE CHAIN OF CUSTODY, AND COPY OF TAPE WAS MADE.

2. GOG IS AWARE OF EXISTENCE OF TAPE AND HAS REQUESTED ACCESS TO IT. EMBASSY INTENDS TO MAKE EITHER COPY OR ORIGINAL AVAILABLE TO GOG. QUESTION OF ULTIMATE CUSTODY OF ORIGINAL HAS NOT BEEN RAISED WITH GOG, BUT SHOULD BE ANTICIPATED. EMBASSY INTENDS TO PROPOSE THAT GOG BE SUPPLIED WITH A COPY, AND THAT BOTH PARTIES HAVE ACCESS TO ORIGINAL AS NEEDED.

3. EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT THE EXISTENCE (ALTHOUGH NOT NECESSARILY THE CONTENTS) OF THE TAPE SHOULD BE DISCLOSED PROMPTLY AS ITS EXISTENCE IS LIKELY TO BECOME KNOWN AS MORE GOG AND OTHER OFFICIALS BECOME AWARE OF IT. PRIOR TO ANY SUCH DISCLOSURE, HOWEVER, EMBASSY STRONGLY RECOMMENDS THAT HOUSE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE BE INFORMED THAT SUCH A TAPE EXISTS. EMBASSY WILL AWAIT INSTRUCTIONS ON THE
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QUESTION OF DISCLOSURE.

4. THERE IS ALSO THE ADDITIONAL QUESTION AS TO ULTIMATE OWNERSHIP OF THE TAPE, PARTICULARLY IF IT IS MADE PUBLIC AT SOME STAGE. BECAUSE OF ITS CONTENT AND THE HORRENDOUS EVENT WITH WHICH IT DEALS, THE TAPE COULD HAVE AN IMPORTANT COMMERCIAL VALUE IF IT WERE REPRODUCED AND SOLD. THE DECISION AS TO

WHETHER IT FALLS WITHIN THE PUBLIC DOMAIN IF IT WERE TO BE MADE
PUBLIC BECOMES VERY IMPORTANT, PARTICULARLY IF THE HEIRS
OF JIM JONES OR THE OTHER IDENTIFIABLE VOICES ON THE
TAPE LAY CLAIM TO IT.
BURKE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: RECORDINGS, RELIGIOUS GROUPS, DEATHS, CAT-B
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 dec 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978GEORGE04106
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: P840166-1795
Format: TEL
From: GEORGETOWN OR-M
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19781292/aaaacxsf.tel
Line Count: 67
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
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Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: f9825211-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NODS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
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Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
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Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 jul 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 442518
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: JONESTOWN TAPE
TAGS: PINS, CGEN, CASC, OREP, US, GY, PEOPLES TEMPLE, (RYAN, LEO J)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/f9825211-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
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