



ON NOVEMBER 7, 1978 CONSUL ELLICE AND VICE CONSUL REECE VISITED THE PEOPLE'S TEMPLE AGRICULTURAL PROJECT AT JONESTOWN. THEY FLEW TO PORT KAITUMA AIRSTRIP EARLY TUESDAY MORNING ON A PLANE THAT THE EMBASSY HAD CHARTERED FROM THE GUYANA SUGAR CORPORATION (GUYSUCO). IN ACCORDANCE WITH PAST PRACTICE, PASSAGE WAS OFFERED ON A SPACE AVAILABLE BASIS TO PEOPLE'S TEMPLE MEMBERS WHO MIGHT WISH TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE TRIP.

THE EMBASSY OFFICERS MET THE PLANE AT OGLE AIRFIELD OUTSIDE OF GEORGETOWN AT ABOUT 8:00 A.M. IN THE MORNING. THERE THEY MET A VEHICLE FROM THE PEOPLE'S TEMPLE THAT HAD BROUGHT JAMES JONES, JR. AND MARIA KATSARIS TO FLY WITH THEM. UPON THEIR ARRIVAL AT PORT KAITUMA AIRSTRIP THEY WERE MET BY TWO VEHICLES: A LAND ROVER, WHICH HAD BEEN SUPPLIED BY PRE-ARRANGEMENT FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF GUYANA, AND A DUMP TRUCK BELONGING TO THE PEOPLE'S TEMPLE. THE EMBASSY OFFICERS AND THE PILOT OF THE GUYSUCO PLANE BOARDED THE LAND ROVER AND PAID A CURTESY CALL ON MR. HERBERT THOMAS, THE PORT KAITUMA REGIONAL OFFICER. THE PEOPLE'S TEMPLE DUMP TRUCK TOOK MR. JONES AND MISS KATSARIS TO THE FRONT GATE OF THE PROJECT AND

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02

GEORGE 04109 01 OF 03 051457Z

WAITED THERE. AFTER THE COURTESY CALL, WHICH LASTED LESS THAN 10 MINUTES, THE LAND ROVER BROUGHT THE EMBASSY OFFICERS AND THE PILOT TO THE FRONT GATE, WHERE THEY ALSO BOARDED THE DUMP TRUCK. BECAUSE OF THE CONDITION OF THE ROAD LEADING INTO THE PROJECT FROM THE FRONT GATE, ONLY THIS LARGE TRUCK COULD GET IN.

CONSUL ELLICE AND VICE CONSUL REECE WERE GIVEN A GUIDED TOUR OF

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State E0 Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State E0 Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014

JONESTOWN BY SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE PEOPLE'S TEMPLE. THE GUIDES INCLUDED, AT ONE TIME OR ANOTHER, MARCELINE (THE WIFE OF REV.

JAMES JONES), EUGENE CHAIKIN, HARRIET TROPP, DEBBIE TOUCHETTE, SHARON

AMOS, MICHAEL PROKES AND MARIA KATSARIS. ONE GUIDE, WHOSE NAME THE

OFFICERS DO NOT RECALL, WAS INTRODUCED TO THEM AS THE PROJECT'S

AGRICULTURAL EXPERT. THE TOUR AT JONESTOWN INCLUDED VISITS TO THE

NURSERY, THE COMMUNICATIONS SHACK (CONTAINING THE SHORT WAVE RADIOS

JONESTOWN USED TO COMMUNICATED WITH SAN FRANCISCO AND GEORGETOWN),

THE CAGE CONTAINING THEIR PET MONKEY, THE MEDICAL CLINIC, THE COMMISSARY, THE

METAL-WORKING SHOP, THE COOKING AREA, THE HERBAL KITCHEN, AND THE PHARMACY.

JONESTOWN, IT WAS EXPLAINED, WAS A CASHLESS

COMMUNITY, AND THE COMMISSARY DISPENSED GOOD TO THE RESIDENTS ON

THEIR SIGNATURES. AT ABOUT 11:00 A.M., AFTER ALMOST TWO HOURS OF

TOURING, MR. ELLICE BEGGED OFF ANY FURTHER SIGHTSEEING UNTIL THE

OFFICERS COULD COMPLETED THEIR WORK. THE EMBASSY OFFICERS RETURNED TO THE PAVILLION WHERE THEY WERE TO HAVE LUNCH AND BEGAN

INTERVIEWING SOME OF THEIR CASES. A FEW MEMBERS CAME TO SEE THEM

IN ORDER TO HAVE STATEMENTS NOTARIZED. A DESCRIPTION OF WHO INTERVIEWED WHOM AND



THE RESULTS OF THESE INTERVIEWS WILL BE APPENDED TO THE END OF THIS SUMMARY.
MR. ELLICE AND MR. REECE INTERVIEWED THE PEOPLE'S TEMPLE MEMBERS
AT THE SOUTH-EAST CORNER OF THE PAVILLION, WELL AWAY FORM ANY
THIRD PERSONS, IN ORDER TO ASSURE PRIVACY. APPROXIMATELY 3/4 OF
THE WAY THROUGH THE INTERVIEWS THEY BROKE OFF FOR LUNCH, WHICH
WAS SERVED AT A LARGE SQUARE TABLE UNDER THE PAVILLION; MR. REECE
UNCLASSIFIED
UNCLASSIFIED
PAGE 03

GEORGE 04109 01 OF 03 051457Z

AND MR. ELLICE WERE SEATED AT OPPOSITE CORNERS OF THIS TABLE. MR.
ELLICE'S IMMEDIATE NEIGHBOURSDURING LUNCHWERE; REV. JAME S JONES,
HIS WIFE MARCELINE JONES, SHARON AMOS, HARRIET TROPP AND MARIA
KATSARIS. SOME OF THE MEMBERS NEAR MR. REECE WERE: MICHAEL PROKES,
DEBBIE TOUCHETTE, JOHNNY JONES AKA JOHNNY BROWN, AND THE GUYSUCO
PILOT. AS LUNCH WAS SERVED, "JONESTOWN EXPRESS", A MUSICAL GROUP,
PLAYED "AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL" AND ALL THE PEOPLE'S TEMPLE MEMBERS PRESENT STOOD,
PALCED THEIR HAND OVER THEIR HEARTS, AND SANG
ALONG. REV. JONES APPEARED FOR THE FIRST TIME JUST AS LUNCH WAS
BEING SERVED WITH PEOPLE ON EACH ARM WHO APPEARED TO BE STEADYING
HIM. THE CONSULAR OFFICERS WERE TOLD THAT JAMES JONES HAD RECENTLY
SUFFERED A HEARTATTACK AND HAD A FEVER OF 105 DEGREES. HE WAS WEARING
A
WHITE GAUZE MASK OVER HIS FACE. BOTH OF THE OFFICERS NOTED DURING
THEIR VARIOUS CONVERSATIONS WITH HIM BEFORE, DURING, AND AFTER
LUNCH THAT REV. JONES' SPEECH WAS MARKEDLY SLURRED. DURING HIS
LUNCHEON CONVERSATION WITH MR. ELLICE, REV. JONES TRIED AT ONE POINT
TO SPELL A WORD THAT HE DID NOT WANT A NEARBY CHILD TO HEAR. HE WAS
UNABLE TO SPELL THE WORD CORRECTLY AND GAVE UP IN APPARENT CONFUSION. BOTH
OFFICERS NOTED THAT NEITHER MR. JONES' FOREHEAD NOR PALM
WAS PERSPIRING AND MENTIONED TO EACH OTHER LATER THAT HE NOT
APPEAR TO HAVE THE CLAIMED FEVER. AFTER LUNCH REV. JONES WAS HELPED

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State E0 Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State E0 Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014

AWAY FROM THE AREA BY TWO ATTENDANTS AND THE CONSULAR OFFICERS CONTINUED THEIR
INTERVIEWS. DURING LUNCH, THE OFFICERS MET JOHN VICTOR
STOEN, WHO WAS BROUGHT TO THE TABLE ESPECIALLY FOR THIS PURPOSE.
BY THE TIME THE INTERVIEWS WERE FINISHED
IT WAS MID-AFTERNOON, AND, AS THE PILOT WAS ANXIOUS TO TAKE OFF SOON
DUE TO AN APPROACHING THUNDERSTORM, THE OFFICERS WENT BY DUMP TRUCH
FROM JONESTOWN BACK TO THE PORT KAITUMA AIRSTRIP. THEY THEREFORE
DID NOT HAVE TIME TO VISIT THE AREA OF THE COMPOUND HOUSING THE
RESIDENTIAL COTTAGES, OR THE PIGGERY/LIVESTOCK AREA; THEY DID, HOWEVER, FLY OVER
THESE AREAS IMMEDIATELY AFTER THEIR DEPARTURE FROM
PORT KAITUMA. SHARON AMOS AND JIM JONES, JR. RETURNED WITH THE
OFFICER FROM PORT KAITUMA TO OGLE AIRPORT. AT NO TIME DID THE
OFFICERS ON NOVEMBER 7 SEE ANY BARBED WIRE, ANY GUARDS, ARMED OR
OTHERWISE, OR ANY OTHER PHYSICAL SIGN THAT PEOPLE WERE BEING HELD
UNCLASSIFIED



UNCLASSIFIED
PAGE 04

GEORGE 04109 01 OF 03 051457Z

AT JONESTOWN AGAINST THEIR WILL, NOR DID ANY OF THE CONVERSATIONS BY THE CONSULAR OFFICERS WITH PEOPLE'S TEMPLE MEMBERS AT JONESTOWN REVEAL ANY INDICATION THAT THE INHABITANTS OF JONESTOWN WERE RECEIVING ANYTHING LESS THAN NORMAL GUYANESE STANDARDS OF FOOD, CLOTHING, SHELTER, AND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE.

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN
UNCLASSIFIED
PAGE 01
GEORGE 04109 02 OF 03 051553Z
ACTION ARA-15
INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-06 CA-01 SS-15 SSO-00 L-03 H-02
HA-05 /048 W

-----018785 051703Z /42

O 051345Z DEC 78

FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 8334

UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 3 GEORGETOWN 4109

MR. ELLICE AND MR. REECE SHARED THE SAME GENERAL IMPRESSIONS AS FOLLOWS: THE MEMBERS THEY MET APPEARED TO BE IN GOOD HEALTH, MENTALLY ALERT (CONSIDERING THE ADVANCED AGE OF SOME OF THEM), AND GENERALLY HAPPY TO BE AT JONESTOWN. THEY ALL SEEMED TO BE ABSORBED IN THEIR VARIOUS DUTIES SUCH AS SHOP WORK, TEACHING OR GARDENING. NO ONE INDICATED ANY DESIRE TO RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES. SUMMAR-

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State E0 Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State E0 Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014

IES FOLLOW ON THE WELFARE AND WHEREABOUTS INTERVIEWS CONDUCTED BY THE CONSULAR OFFICERS:

CASE NO. 1 - (MR. REECE)

LORETTA CHAVIS: MS. CHAVIS SAID SHE HAD WRITTEN HER MOTHER SEVERAL MONTHS AGO AND HAD NOT RECENTLY RECEIVED A REPLY. SHE THEREFORE DISCOUNTED THE ASSERTION OF HER MOTHER (IN THE LATTER'S LETTER TO THE EMBASSY OF 5/30/78) SAYING THAT SHE WAS SICK. MR. REECE ADVISED MS. CHAVIS OF HER MOTHER'S INTEREST IN HER AND ASKED LORETTA TO WRITE HER AGAIN SOON.

CASE NO. 2 ((MR. REECE)

MARSHALL FARRIS: MR. REECE ADVISED MR. FARRIS THAT HIS SISTER WOULD LIKE TO HAVE A RECENT PICTURE OF HIM. HE SAID THAT HE HAD RECENTLY SENT A PHOTOGRAPH OF HIMSELF TO HIS MOTHER. SEEING THAT MR. FARRIS WAS BORN IN 1907, MR. REECE ASKED HIM IF HIS MOTHER WAS STILL LIVING AND HE REPLIED YES. HE SAID HE THOUGHT HIS MOTHER MAY HAVE SHOWN THE PICTURE TO HIS SISTER. MR. REECE ADVISED HIM TO SEND A PICTURE OF HIMSELF TO HIS SISTER ANYWAY. IN VIEW OF GEORGETOWN TELEGRAM 2219 OF 1978 NO COMMUNICATION WAS SENT BY THE EMBASSY TO MR. FARRIS'



UNCLASSIFIED
UNCLASSIFIED
PAGE 02

GEORGE 04109 02 OF 03 051553Z

SISTER AFTER THE NOVEMBER 7 MEETING.

CASE NO. 3 - (MR. REECE)

RHONDA HUE AKA RHONDA FORTSON: WE HAD RECEIVED A LETTER FROM MS. FORTSON'S MOTHER-IN-LAW INDICATING CONCERN FOR THE WELFARE OF MS. FORTSON AND HER HUSBAND, HUE FORTSON. THE RESULTS OF MR. REECE'S CONVERSATION WITH MS. FORTSON ARE CONTAINED IN A MEMO IN THE FORTSON'S FILE IN THE EMBASSY DATED NOVEMBER 8, 1978. IN SUMMARY, THE MEMO SAYS THAT RHONDA FORTSON DID NOT HAVE HER PASSPORT WITH HER SO

THAT POSITIVE IDENTIFICATION COULD NOT BE MADE. MS. FORTSON SAID THAT HER HUSBAND WAS IN THE UNITED STATES, AND THAT SHE HAD RECEIVED A LETTER DIRECTLY FROM HER MOTHER-IN-LAW SINCE HER MOTHER-IN-LAW'S WELFARE INQUIRY WAS SENT TO US. MS. FORTSON PROMISED TO WRITE HER MOTHER-IN-LAW SOON. MS. FORTSON REFUSED TO SIGN THE PRIVACY ACT RELEASE; THEREFORE, THE EMBASSY DID NOT SEND A COMMUNICATION TO ANY OF MS. FORTSON'S RELATIVES AFTER THE NOVEMBER 7 INTERVIEW.

CASE NO. 4 - (MR. REECE)

MR. & MRS. CLAUDE GOODSPEED: THE RESULT OF MR. REECE'S INTERVIEW WITH THE GOODSPEEDS ARE CONTAINED IN A LETTER TO MR. & MRS. MELVIN HARRIS DATED NOVEMBER 8, 1978 A COPY OF WHICH WE WILL POUCH IF THE DEPARTMENT SO DESIRED. THE GOODSPEEDS INFORMED MR. REECE THAT THEY ENJOYED THEIR RETIREMENT IN JONESTOWN. THEY WENT FISHING AND WERE INVOLVED IN OTHER ACTIVITIES. THE GOODSPEEDS ALSO REMARKED THAT THE HARRIS' WERE NEVER PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN THEIR WELFARE BEFORE

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State E0 Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State E0 Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014

THE GOODSPEEDS WENT TO JONESTOWN.

CASE NO. 5 - (MR. REECE)

ARTEE HARPER: MS. HARPER WAS THE SUBJECT OF AN INQUIRY DURING JUNE 1978 BY HER SON, MR. CHARLES WHITE. MS. HARPER SAID SHE

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03

GEORGE 04109 02 OF 03 051553Z

RECEIVED A LETTER FROM MR. WHITE DATED MARCH 23, 1978 IN EITHER MAY OR JUNE OF THIS YEAR. MS. HARPER SAID SHE ANSWERED THE LETTER IN JUNE AND WROTE AGAIN TO HER SON DURING THE WEEK PRIOR TO NOVEMBER 7, 1978. THE EMBASSY SENT A DIRECT RELAY TELEGRAM TO MR. WHITE ON NOVEMBER 9, 1978 INFORMING HIM THAT HIS MOTHER APPEARED TO BE FINE.

CASE NO. 6 - (MR. ELLICE)

LIANE HARRIS: EMBASSY OFFICERS WHILE AT JONESTOWN ON NOVEMBER 7,



1978 WERE INFORMED BY HARRIS' MOTHER, SHARON AMOS AKA SHARON HARRIS, THAT LIANE WAS NOT IN JONESTOWN AT THAT TIME. HOWEVER, SHARON AMOS SAID THAT LIANE WOULD COME TO GEORGETOWN DURING THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 12, 1978 AND WOULD THEN SEE A CONSULAR OFFICER REGARDING THE WELFARE AND WHEREABOUTS INQUIRY FROM SHERWIN HARRIS, LIANE'S FATHER.

CASE NO. 7 - (MR. ELLICE)

BRIAN BOUQUET: BRIAN'S MOTHER HAD TRANSMITTED A LETTER FOR BRIAN TO US THROUGH CONGRESSMAN MCLOSKEY'S OFFICE. MR. ELLICE GAVE BRIAN THIS LETTER AND HAD BRIAN OPEN AND READ IT IN HIS PRESENCE. BRIAN HAD NO PARTICULAR REACTION TO THE LETTER BUT INDICATED THAT HE WAS WELL AND HAPPY AT JONESTOWN AND WOULD SOON CORRESPOND WITH HIS MOTHER. BRIAN WAS A MEMBER OF THE JONESTOWN EXPRESS, PLAYING THE SAXOPHONE.

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01

GEORGE 04109 03 OF 03 051545Z

ACTION ARA-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-06 CA-01 SS-15 SSO-00 H-02 L-03

HA-05 /048 W

-----018712 051704Z /42

O 051345Z DEC 78

FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State E0 Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State E0 Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 8335

UNCLAS SECTION 3 OF 3 GEORGETOWN 4109

CASE NO. 8 - (MR. ELLICE)

DONALD FIELDS: DONALD'S MOTHER, MS. MAE FIELDS, HAD ASKED THE DEPARTMENT TO ASCERTAIN THE CONDITION OF HER SON. MR. ELLICE SPOKE TO MR. FIELDS, WHO ASKED HIM TO ASSURE HIS MOTHER THAT HE WAS WELL AND HAPPY. THIS WAS DONE BY DIRECT RELAY TELEGRAM TWO DAYS LATER. MR. FIELDS WORKED IN THE PROJECT'S PHARMACY.

CASE NO. 9 - MR. ELLICE)

BETTY GILL: MS. GILL HAD AN OUTSTANDING SOCIAL SECURITY CLAIM. THE JONESTOWN COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL HAD FAILED TO COMPLETE THE SOCIAL SECURITY FORMS PROPERLY AND MR. ELLICE GAVE MS. GILL ANOTHER COPY OF THE FORM WITH MORE DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS.

CASE NO. 10 - MR. ELLICE)

TINA GRIMM: THE EMBASSY HAS BEEN CONTACTED BY THE OFFICE OF CONGRESSMAN JOHN BURTON AND REQUESTED TO RELAY A LETTER TO MS. GRIMM FROM HER FIANCE IN CALIFORNIA. AT MR. ELLICE'S REQUEST, MS. GRIMM OPENED AND READ THE LETTER IN HIS PRESENCE. SHE INDICATED THAT SHE HAD NO PLANS TO RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES, THAT SHE NO LONGER CONSIDERED HERSELF ENGAGED TO HER FORMER FIANCE, AND THAT SHE HAD MARRIED A FELLOW JONESTOWN RESIDENT AND WAS EXPECTING A CHILD. THE CONSUL OFFERED TO AMEND HER PASSPORT AND ASKED TO SEE HER MARRIAGE LICENSE. MS. GRIMM THEN INDICATED



THAT SHE WAS NOT, IN FACT, MARRIED, AND WOULD AMEND HER PASSPORT
IF THE FUTURE IF SHE DID MARRY THE FATHER OF THE EXPECTED CHILD.
THE CONSUL SENT A LETTER TO THE OFFICE OF THE CONGRESSMAN REPORTUNCLASSIFIED
UNCLASSIFIED
PAGE 02

GEORGE 04109 03 OF 03 051545Z

ING DELIVERY OF THE LETTER.

CASE NO. 11 - (MR. ELLICE)

LARRY LAYTON: MR. LAYTON (AND HIS WIFE) ASKED TO SPEAK TO THE
CONSUL ABOUT THE RECENT DEATH OF LARRY'S MOTHER, LISA LAYTON. IT
WAS AGREED THAT MR. LAYTON WOULD INFORM ALL OF HIS RELATIVES ABOUT THE
DEATH AND WOULD CONTACT THE EMBASSY SHORTLY TO ASSIST IN COMPLETING
THE FS-192.

CASE NO. 12 - (MR. ELLICE)

MARY ROGERS: THE CONSUL SPOKE TO MS. ROGERS AS THE RESULT OF A
LETTER WE HAD RECEIVED FROM HER DAUGHTER, SAMANTHA TUCKER. MS.
ROGERS INDICATED THAT SHE WAS WELL AND ENJOYED HER LIFE AT JONESTOWN. A LETTER TOT
THAT EFFECT WAS SENT TO MR. TUCKER THAT FOLLOWING
DAY.

CASE NO. 13. - (MR. ELLICE)

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State E0 Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State E0 Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014

BONNIE SIMON: THE CONSUL SPOKEK TO MS. SIMON AS THE RESULT OF A
WELFARE INQUIRY FROM HER STEP-MOTHER, MRS. WAYNE STUDY. THE CONSUL
SENT A LETTER THE NEXT DAY TO MRS. WAYNE STUDY REVIEWING THE SUBSTANCE OF THE
INTERVIEW.

CASE NO. 14 - (MR. ELLICE)

KENNARD WILHITE: THE CONSUL SPOKE TOTHE PARENTS OF THE INFANT
KENNARD WILHITE IN CONNECTION WITH AN OUTSTANDING PASSPORT APPLICATION. HE
ASSISTED THEM BY MAKING CLEAR THE PHOTOGRAPH REQUIREMENT,
AND THEY INDICATED THAT AS SOON AS PROPER PHOTOGRAPHS WERE AVAILABLE THEY WOULD
PROCEED WITH THE APPLICATION.

CASE NO. 15 - (MR. ELLICE)

EARL MCKNIGHT: MR. MCKNIGHT WAS THE SUBJECT OF A REQUEST FOR
ASSISTANCE FROM THE SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION. BOTH

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03

GEORGE 04109 03 OF 03 051545Z

CONSULAR OFFICERS VISITED MR. MCKNIGHT AT HIS QUARTERS BECAUSE
OF HIS ADVANCE AGE (83). HE IDENTIFIED HIMSELF, WHICH IN AND OF
ITSELF CLEARED UP THE PROBLEM. SINCE THIS WAS THE LAST OUTSSTANDING CASE. THE
OFFICERS DEPARTED JONESTOWN.

BURKE

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State E0 Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State E0 Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014

