

**Classification: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~**  
**Message #: 1983VICTOR01240 (Film #: D830427-0084)**  
**Systematic Review Decision: RELEASED, APPROVED**

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

<b>RELEASE AUTHORITY: P.HARE, SENIOR REVIEWER</b> <b>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE</b> <b>RELEASE DECISION: RELEASE IN FULL</b> <b>DATE: NOVEMBER 26, 2019</b>
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 ACTION AF-10

INFO    OCT-00    COPY-01    ADS-00    INR-10    SS-10    CIAE-00    DODE-00  
           H-01        NSC-01    NSAE-00    SY-06    HA-08    L-03       PM-08  
           PA-01       MCT-02    OMB-01    USIE-00    SP-02    SNP-01    PRS-01  
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-----031235    271408Z /44

R 270934Z JUL 83  
 FM AMEMBASSY VICTORIA  
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6434

~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~ VICTORIA 01240

E. O. 12356: DECL: OADR  
 TAGS: PINT, PINS, SE  
 SUBJ: GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES INVESTIGATION OF MURDERS

1. ~~(c)~~ - ENTIRE TEXT.
2. IF THE RECENT MURDER OF TWO SEYCHELLOIS (REPORTS VARY WHETHER THE THIRD VICTIM HAS DIED YET) WAS DESIGNED TO INTIMIDATE THE MAN IN THE STREET, IT SUCCEEDED BEYOND ANYONE'S WILDEST DREAMS. THE STREETS OF DOWNTOWN VICTORIA ARE COMPLETELY DESERTED AT NIGHT; PEOPLE STAY OFF THE ROADS, ESPECIALLY SAN SOUCI WHERE THE ATTACK TOOK PLACE.
3. BELATEDLY, THE GOVERNMENT JULY 27 ANNOUNCED THAT A POLICE INVESTIGATION WAS UNDERWAY TO LOOK INTO THE "ACCIDENT IN WHICH TWO MEN SUFFERED SKULL FRACTURES." ACCORDING TO ONE OF THE VICTIM'S FAMILIES, AFTER CONSIDERABLE SHOUTING THEY WERE ALLOWED TO SEE THE BODY WHICH WAS UNDAMAGED EXCEPT FOR TWO MASSIVE KNIFE CUTS ON EACH SIDE OF THE THROAT. SO MUCH FOR THE FRACTURED SKULL THEORY.
4. DAVID THOMAS, THE PRESIDENT'S PA, TOLD AMBASSADOR TODAY THAT PRESIDENT WAS "DEEPLY DISTURBED TO LEARN THAT ONE OF THE VICTIMS WAS THE MAN WHO CAME INTO THE AMERICAN EMBASSY."  
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THOMAS ALSO SAID THAT PRESIDENT WAS "FURIOUS" THAT INTERNATIONAL PRESS NOW IN SEYCHELLES WAS ASKING TOUGH QUESTIONS. THOMAS SAID HE HAD NO OTHER INSIDE INFORMATION, EXCEPT THAT POLICE WERE LOOKING INTO THE POSSIBILITY THAT ROBBERY WAS A MOTIVE.

5. COMMENT: IT IS SOMETHING OF A PRECEDENT THAT GOS HAS ISSUED PRESS STATEMENT AND THAT INVESTIGATION IS TAKING PLACE. WE FIND IT HARD TO IMAGINE THAT INVESTIGATION WILL BE ANYTHING MORE THAN A COVER-UP, BUT TEMPERS OVER THIS BLATANT MURDER ARE RUNNING HIGH. WHEREAS PREVIOUS INCIDENTS WERE USUALLY DISCUSSED IN THE MUTED WHISPERS RESERVED FOR TALKING ABOUT BLACK MAGIC, FEW PEOPLE ARE MAKING ANY BONES ABOUT THEIR REVULSION OVER THE RECENT HISTORY OF MURDER, ATTACK AND IN SOME CASES, "MYSTERIOUS DISAPPEARANCE" OF OPPONENTS OF THE GOVERNMENT.  
 FISCHER

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