FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

RYMUR

(JONESTOWN)

BUFILE NUMBER : 89-4286-881 (BULKY)

NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS

VOLUME 9

Volume 9

GENERAL INFO.

GENERAL INFORMATION

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FBI PROBE

0-19 (Rev. 1-27-78)

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Director's Sec'y ____

FBI OBTAINS WARRANTS FOR SUSPECTS IN REP. RYAN'S DEATH

New York Times News Service

SAN FRANCISCO — The FBI has obtained sealed arrest warrants for a number of persons that it believes were involved in the murder of Rep. Leo J. Ryan, according to federal law enforcement sources.

One source said that the warrants issued thus far numbered fewer than a dozen, all naming members of the Peoples Temple cult.

Ryan, a California Democrat, had been investigating the cult when he and three American newsmen were shot and killed Nov. 18 at an airstrip near the cult's settlement at Jonestown, Guyana.

All of those named in the warrants are understood to have been in Guyana at the time of the killings, and to have been singled out to the FBI by returning members of the cult who claim to have seen the murders.

Guyanese authorities already are holding one cult member, Larry Layton, on charges of first-degree murder in the shooting of Ryan.

The FBI, sources said, has not yet determined the whereabouts of the suspects it is seeking. One source said that at least some of the suspects were "presumed to be dead."

THE WARRANTS were issued in New York rather than San Francisco, the site of the cult's offices, because those members of the cult who survived the killings and suicides that followed the airstrip murders have been returning to the United States through Kennedy Airport in New York.

See WARRANTS A-7

The Washington Post ____
Washington Star-News 4-1
Daily News (New York) ____
The New York Times ____
The Wall Street Journal ____
The Atlanta Constitution ____
The Los Angeles Times ____

Date 12/5/78

FBI/DOJ

Federal sources said that no evidence had been developed of a conspiracy involving any of the cult's members, among them several top officials, who were in the United States at the time of the murders.

The FBI investigation is being conducted under a federal statute that makes conspiracy to assassinate a member of Congress a crime punishable by death, whether or not the assassination takes place in the United States.

Lee Laster, a bureau official in New York, said that FBI agents meeting the returning survivors were carrying arrest warrants, but he declined to say who was being sought or why.

Asked yesterday about Laster's comments, the FBI would say publicly only that it was seeking four fugitives who had fled to Guyana from this country some time ago and who were not known to have had any direct connection to the Peoples Temple or Jones.

THE FOUR fugitives were identified by federal sources as David Hill, wanted on a fraud charge in Cleveland; Albert Louis Bradford, sought on a six-year-old rape charge in St. Louis; Herman Benjamin Ferguson, charged in 1970 in New York with conspiracy to commit murder; and Claude Herbert, also wanted on a charge of murder.

Longstanding federal warrants for the four men specify that they are wanted on charges of flight to avoid prosecution.

Hill, who now calls himself Rabbi Edward Washington, is the leader of a group of blacks who, like Jones' followers, have established a community in Guyana. Hill says his group practices a brand of Judaism.

In addition to the FBI's wide-ranging investigation of a possible conspiracy in the Guyana murders, the U.S. attorney here has been summoning cult members and others before a federal grand jury in an effort to determine whether such a conspiracy, if it existed, had roots in the United States.

Justice Department officials have declined to comment on all aspects of the investigations. They have specifically refused to disclose the names of grand jury witnesses and to say whether any of them have been granted immunity from prosecution.

ONE FEDERAL source said, however, that Terri Buford, a former top aide to Jones who defected from the cult a few months ago, was believed to be seeking immunity preparatory to telling her story in public.

Buford's attorney is Mark Lane, the lawyer who represented Jones and his cult.

Surviving members of the Peoples Temple decided yesterday to ask a court to determine what should be done with its assets, including any secret accounts found overseas.

"We are filing a lawsuit telling the court to tell us what do with the assets," said cult lawyer Charles Garry. "We are ready to turn over anything found anywhere in the world."

Garry said he was uncertain what court will be approached. "We are researching that right now," he said.

The State Department said yesterday that more than half of the 911 victims of the mass murder-suicide have been identified, but that further identification will be more difficult because of the lack of fingerprint records.

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Director's Sec'y ____

F.B.I. Reportedly Has Warrants For Suspects in Murder of Ryan

By JOHN M. CREWDSON
Special to The New York Times

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 4 — The Federal Bureau of Investigation has obtained sealed arrest warrants for a number of persons it believes were involved in the murder of Representative Leo J. Ryan, according to Federal law enforcement sources.

One source said the warrants issued thus far numbered fewer than a dozen, all naming members of the People's Temple cult.

Mr. Ryan, Democrat of California, had been investigating the cult when he and three American newsmen were shot and killed Nov. 18 at an airstrip near the cult's settlement at Jonestown, Guyana.

[In Guyana, a preliminary hearing began for a member of the cult who is charged in the slaying of a cult official and her three children in Georgetown, the Guyanese capital. Page B11.

[Meanwhile, personal papers of the Rev. Jim Jones indicate that his senior aides maintained closer ties with American embassy officials than have so far admitted. Page B11.

[And in Washington, Mr. Ryan's mother called for a Congressional investigation into the killings and suicides in Guyana. Page B13.]

All of those named in the warrants are

The Washington Post ____
Washington Star-News ____
Daily News (New York) ____
The New York Times PAGE-1
The Wall Street Journal ____
The Atlanta Constitution ____
The Los Angeles Times ____

Date 12/5/78

17

FBI/DOJ

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Guyanese authorities are already holding one cult member, Larry Layton, on charges of first-degree murder in the shooting of Mr. Ryan.

The F.B.I., sources said, has not yet determined the whereabouts of the suspects it is seeking. One source said that at least some of the suspects were "presumed to be dead."

The warrants were issued in New York rather than San Francisco, the site of the cult's offices, because those members of the cult who survived the killings and suicides that followed the airstrip murders have been returning to the United States through Kennedy International Airport in New York.

Legal Basis for Inquiry

Federal sources said that no evidence had yet been developed of a conspiracy involving any of the cult's members, among them several top officials, who were in the United States at the time of the murders.

The F.B.I. investigation is being conducted under a Federal statute that makes conspiracy to assassinate a member of Congress a crime punishable by death, whether or not the assassination takes place in the United States.

Lee Laster, a bureau official in New York, said yesterday that bureau agents meeting the returning survivors were carrying arrest warrants, but he declined to say who was being sought or why.

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The four fugitives were identified by Federal sources as David Hill, wanted on a fraud charge in Cleveland; Albert Louis Bradford, sought on a six-year-old rape charge in St. Louis; Herman Benjamin Ferguson, charged in 1970 in New York with conspiracy to commit murder, and Claude Herbert, also wanted on a charge of murder.

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Officials Decline to Comment

Justice Department officials have declined to comment on all aspects of the investigations. They have specifically refused to disclose the names of grand jury witnesses and to say whether any of them have been granted immunity from prosecution.

One Federal source said, however, that Terri Buford, a former top aide to Mr. Jones who defected from the cult a few months ago, was believed to be seeking immunity preparatory to telling her story in public.

Miss Buford's attorney is Mark Lane, the lawyer who represented Mr. Jones and his cult. Mr. Lane also has represented James Earl Ray, the convicted killer of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and has conducted personal research into the assassinations of Dr. King and President Kennedy.

0-19 (Rev. 1-27-78)

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SLAIN AT AIRSTRIP
Rep. Leo J. Ryan

FBI Obtains Arrest Warrants For Suspects In Ryan Slaying

By The New York Times

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The Washington Post ____
Washington Star-News ____
Daily News (New York) ____
The New York Times ____
The Wall Street Journal ____
The Atlanta Constitution 14
The Los Angeles Times ____

Date DEC 5 1978

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FBI/DOJ

FD-350 (Rev. 10-19-77)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Jones cult probed by FBI

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The FBI Thursday questioned present and former members of the Peoples Temple religious cult, including eyewitness survivors of the deaths of more than 400 Americans in Guyana.

Nine FBI agents, meanwhile, awaited permission to fly to Guyana and join a single agent acting as adviser and liaison in that country's investigation of the ritual suicides and murders at a religious commune near Georgetown.

"We are interviewing survivors who have returned to this country as well as members and ex-members of the group," said FBI spokesman Tom Harrington. He would not elaborate.

An FBI source emphasized that if Guyana permits the additional agents to enter the South American country, they will simply go in an advisory capacity.

"We are not taking the investigation away from them," the source said. "But if they need technical and other help in their investigation we want to give it to them."

Guyanese police have arrested and charged Larry Layton, 32, a member of the Peoples Temple sect, with the slayings of Rep. Leo Ryan, D-Calif., and four other persons at an airstrip near the commune just before the mass deaths.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

I-12 THE VALLEY NEW
VAN NUYS, CA

Date: 11/24/78
Edition: Friday Final

Title: RYMUR

Character:
or AFO
Classification:
Submitting Office: 89-
Los Angeles

FBI/DOJ

FD-350 (Rev. 10-19-77)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Guyana Rejection Has Not Stymied Inquiry, FBI Says

WASHINGTON—Associate FBI Director James B. Adams said Wednesday that Guyana's refusal to let additional FBI agents into that country had hampered but not stymied the U.S. investigation of the slaying of Rep. Leo J. Ryan (D-Calif.).

"We have eyewitness testimony as to the perpetrators of the crime," Adams said in an interview. The eyewitnesses are "people who have returned here who observed the killing," Adams, the FBI's second in command, said after Guyana's decision not to allow eight agents to join Robert Ogilsby, the one FBI agent now working in Guyana

"We're not stymied in our investigation," Adams said. "We're conducting a widespread investigation here in the United States."

But he conceded that "our efforts would be enhanced if we had (additional agents) on the scene to facilitate the exchange of information."

Meanwhile, Robert J. Havel, a Justice Department spokesman, discounted reports that the United States planned soon to seek the extradition of Larry Layton, an American charged by Guyanese authorities with five counts of murder in the slaying of Ryan and four other Americans.

"The question is premature," Havel said. "We cannot (move to) extradite him if there are no (U.S.) charges."

Havel explained that, if Guyana authorities bring Layton to trial, "we will not be able to extradite him under the terms of the (extradition) treaty" with Guyana.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

I-9 LOS ANGELES TIMES
LOS ANGELES, CA

Date: 11/23/78
Edition: Thursday Final

Title:

Character:
or
Classification:
Submitting Office: Los Angeles

FBI/DOJ

FD-350 (Rev. 10-19-77)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Ryan asked U.S. for probe in '77

United Press

Washington—A year and a half ago, Rep. Leo Ryan asked the FBI to investigate charges of brainwashing by religious cults.

But the Justice Department turned him down, saying it routinely refuses to prosecute such charges to avoid infringing on constitutional freedoms.

Robert Keuch, deputy assistant attorney general for the criminal division, said yesterday the department has shied away from mind-control prosecutions "for many, many years" because of the "basic issues of religious freedoms."

"Brainwashing in one church could be enthusiasm for a church's creed in another," Keuch said in an interview with United Press International.

He said the FBI is investigating the death of Ryan in last weekend's murder-suicide tragedy in Guyana, but is not conducting an overall probe of the Peoples Temple cult.

Citing lack of jurisdiction, Keuch also said U.S. authorities probably would not look into charges that some Peoples Temple members were punished for trying to escape before the sect's mass suicide in Guyana.

In 1977, Ryan joined a group of congressmen in asking the FBI to investigate complaints of brainwashing by religious cults.

But the Justice Department responded with a letter saying "allegations of 'brainwashing,' 'mind control,' 'thought reform' or 'coercive persuasion' would not support a prosecution under the federal kidnapping statute."

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

3 The Tribune

Oakland, Ca.

Date: 11-25-78
Edition: Sunrise

Title:
RYMURS

Character:
or SF 89-250
Classification: 89
Submitting Office: SF

FBI/DOJ

The department said it could only investigate complaints of cults preventing members from exercising free will, such as by physical restraint. It said such restraint might constitute kidnapping, slavery or involuntary servitude.

But the department cited a court ruling that brainwashing of "an adult of normal intelligence" would not qualify as kidnapping.

And it said the FBI has investigated dozens of reports of cults physically restraining members, but has yet to find evidence proving any of the charges.

The department's letter also expressed doubts about the danger of a religious sect imposing "long hours of work, training, and indoctrination" on members.

FD-350 (Rev. 10-19-77)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

LEGAL SHIELD SEEN IN SECT 'BRAINWASHING'

WASHINGTON—Stung by criticism in the wake of the Guyana tragedy, the Justice Department said Friday that it is powerless to crack down on religious cults suspected of "brainwashing" because of the Constitution's guarantee of religious freedom.

Moreover, department officials called it difficult, if not impossible, to determine whether a member of such a group is being manipulated by a sect leader or is acting purely out of religious belief.

The department issued a statement and released copies of letters it sent to members of Congress who in recent years had urged more aggressive government action against such groups.

Since the Guyana tragedy involving the Peoples Temple cult, there have been charges by aides of Rep. Leo J. Ryan (D-Calif.) and others that the government should have investigated the sect more thoroughly.

On May 18, 1977, a group headed by Ryan and Rep. Robert N. Giaimo (D-Conn.) met with Dep. Robert L. Keuch, a deputy assistant attorney general, to discuss "brainwashing" as allegedly practiced by some religious sects.

In a statement issued Friday, Dep. Atty. Gen. Benjamin R. Civiletti said that "the People's Temple was never mentioned" at that meeting.

Civiletti also said that the Justice Department's Criminal Division was aware of the "brainwashing" allegations and had given them "serious study and review."

"It was emphasized, however, that the Department of Justice must operate within the constraints of the federal criminal law and the First Amendment and that the courts had traditionally afforded a high degree of protection to religious activities," Civiletti said.

The Justice Department summed up its position in a letter it sent to Rep. Giaimo on July 29, 1977, and made public late Friday. The letter said:

"Even if a sect requires its members to undergo long hours of work, training and indoctrination with limited amounts of food and sleep, it is questionable that these activities present a grave and immediate danger either to society or the member so as to warrant the imposition of federal criminal sanctions.

"This problem is further complicated by the difficulty, if not impossibility, of determining whether a member conforms his actions to the dictates of a sect leader because of a sincere religious belief that the leader speaks the will of God, or because the member is merely a victim of 'brainwashing.'"

As for suggestions that the Administration propose legislation to deal with the problem, the department said this would seem to require a finding that a sect's religious beliefs are false.

"Judicial determination of the truth or falsity of religious beliefs has been rejected by the Supreme Court," it said.

Civiletti said in his statement that allegations of brainwashing alone would not justify criminal investigations or prosecutions under the federal kidnapping statute or other laws against peonage.

After the meeting with Ryan and Giaimo, Civiletti said, the FBI was asked to interview 18 persons said to have been restrained against their will by religious sects or who had witnessed such restraints.

"However, no information was developed which furnished a basis for federal criminal jurisdiction or warranted further investigation," Civiletti said.

"In all cases," he said, "we have made clear that the department was not and could not lawfully conduct a general inquiry into the activities or practices of any religious sects."

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

I-1 LOS ANGELES TIMES LOS ANGELES, C

Date: 11/27/78

Edition: Monday Final

Title: RYMUR

Character: or AFO

Classification: 89-436

Submitting Office: Los Angeles

FBI/DOJ

FD-350 (Rev. 10-19-77)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

FBI refused Ryan plea to probe cults

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Although Rep. Leo Ryan, D-San Mateo, asked the FBI 1½ years ago to investigate charges of brainwashing by religious cults, the the Justice Department turned him down, saying it routinely refuses to prosecute such charges to avoid infringing on constitutional freedoms.

Robert Keuch, deputy assistant attorney general for the criminal division, said today the department has shied away from mind-control prosecutions "for many, many years" because of the "basic issues of religious freedoms."

"Brainwashing in one church could be enthusiasm for a church's creed in another," Keuch said.

He said the FBI is investigating the death of Ryan in last weekend's murder-suicide tragedy in Guyana, but is not conducting an overall probe of the Peoples Temple cult.

Citing lack of jurisdiction, Keuch also said U.S. authorities probably would not look into charges that some Peoples Temple members were punished for trying to escape before the sect's mass suicide in Guyana.

In 1977, Ryan joined a group of congressmen in asking the FBI to investigate complaints of brainwashing by religious cults.

But the Justice Department responded with a letter saying "allegations of 'brainwashing,' 'mind control,' 'thought reform' or 'coercive persuasion' would not support a prosecution under the federal kidnapping statute."

The department said it could only investigate complaints of cults preventing members from exercising free will, such as by physical restraint. It said such restraint might constitute kidnapping, slav-

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

48 S.F.Examiner

San Francisco,Ca.

Date: 11-24-78
Edition: Final

Title:
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Character:
or SF 89-250
Classification: 89
Submitting Office: SF

FBI/DOJ

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But the department cited a court ruling that brainwashing of "an adult of normal intelligence" would not qualify as kidnapping.

And it said the FBI has investigated dozens of reports of cults physically restraining members, but has yet to find evidence proving any of the charges.

The department's letter also expressed doubts about the danger of a religious sect imposing "long hours of work, training, and indoctrination" on members.

FD-350 (Rev. 10-19-77)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

U.S. says it investigates cults as far as it dares

WASHINGTON (AP) — Two federal agencies under fire for the way they handle complaints about religious cults say they'd draw even more criticism for taking stronger steps against them.

Procedures of the State Department and Justice Department have been questioned since the mass murder-suicide last weekend that claimed at least 900 lives at Jonestown, Guyana.

Justice Department officials said the constitutional guarantee of freedom of religion is the main factor prompting them to tread lightly when dealing with offbeat religious groups.

And the State Department said it must take into account that the people it deals with normally are guests of a foreign country.

Civil libertarians in the United States would have erupted angrily at any attempt to break up the Jonestown commune, officials said.

They also noted that two lawyers looking out for the interests of the Jonestown commune accompanied the late Rep. Leo Ryan on the inspection tour that ended in the mass murder-suicide.

Ryan's chief aide, Joe Holsinger, told CBS News last night that the State Department failed to follow up on the congressman's inquiries about Jonestown.

"Somewhere along the line, between Secretary (of State) Vance, whom Leo had the highest regard for, and down at these low-level officials in Guyana, which is a God-forsaken post, somebody should have listened," said Holsinger. "If our government is so ineffectual, that somehow we are trapped by these rules that we cannot do anything, my God, we're through as a country."

The Justice Department said

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

4 S.F.Examiner

San Francisco,Ca.

Date: 11-25-78
Edition: Home

Title:
RYMURS

Character:
or SF 89-250
Classification: 89
Submitting Office: SF

FBI/DOJ

yesterday that it "recognizes the anguish that parents suffer when their adult children give up their former way of life to join a different religious sect. However, in enforcing the federal criminal law we must act within our jurisdiction and scrupulously observe constitutional restraints."

Meanwhile, two former top lieutenants of the Guru Maharaj Ji's Divine Light Mission have warned the estimated 15,000 American followers of the 19-year-old spiritual leader that they risk a plight similar to that of devotees of the Rev. Jim Jones in Guyana.

Robert Mishler, who was Maharaj Ji's secretary and president of the mission for six years, and John Hand Jr., former vice president of the organization, yesterday said the guru has displayed behavior patterns similar to those of Jones.

"After seeing the similarities of behavior of Jones are so strikingly like Maharaj Ji's, it's possible something like what happened in Guyana could come about as a result of him being threatened," Hand said.

A spokesman for the mission, with headquarters in Denver, wasn't available for comment.

In Boston yesterday, a spokesman for Korean evangelist Sun Myung Moon said that identifying Moon as a "cult leader" could be libelous and inflamatory. Ted Agres strongly objected to news stories calling Moon a cult leader because "it has pejorative connotations, especially in light of the recent happenings in South America, much like the word 'nigger.' It is inflammatory, libelous, and possibly malicious."

Moon, founder of the Unification Church, was in Boston to speak before the International Conference for the Unity of the Scientists.

FD-350 (Rev. 10-19-77)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Law and cults: a helplessness

By Tom Eastham
Examiner Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — What if there had been no ambush and no suicides at Jonestown, and U.S. Rep. Leo Ryan had successfully returned to the United States with the defectors?

Chances are he would have found the United States government all but powerless to stop the Rev. Jim Jones from doing anything he wanted.

This week's events have kept Washington acutely aware of its helplessness in dealing with what most of us call religious "cults."

Religion is a sacrosanct American right, and the First Amendment protects all forms of religious belief — though not necessarily the acts which may result.

And when the Peoples Temple took off for Guyana, those who went left our laws even further behind.

"The mere restraint of those people in Guyana would not have been a violation of U.S. laws," said Deputy Assistant Attorney General Robert Keuch.

Professor Sherman Cohn, a constitutional expert at Georgetown Law School in Washington, D.C., adds:

"If those people went down there of their own free will, and then were held against their will, I don't see any basis for a U.S. crime — either federal or state — unless a conspiracy could be proved."

Only a few laws are internationally accepted as extra-territorial — for the protection of the governments — like visa and immigration laws.

Ironically, one of the few such U.S. laws is 18 USC 351 — which makes it illegal to kill, attempt or conspire to kill a United States congressman.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

S.F. Sunday Examiner and Chronicle

pg1 S.F. Examiner

Section A

San Francisco, Ca.

Date: 11-26-78
Edition: Final

Title:
RYMURS

Character:
or SF 89-250
Classification: 89
Submitting Office: SF

FBI/DOJ

FD-350 (Rev. 10-19-77)

(Mount Clipping In Space Below)

Ryan Asked FBI For Probe of Cults

Washington

A year and a half ago, Congressman Leo Ryan, (Dem.-San Mateo) asked the FBI to investigate charges of brainwashing by religious cults.

But the Justice Department turned him down, on grounds it routinely refuses to prosecute such charges to avoid infringing on constitutional freedoms.

Robert Keuch, deputy assistant attorney general for the criminal division, said yesterday the department has shied away from such prosecutions "for many, many years" because of the "basic issues of religious freedoms."

"Brainwashing in one church could be enthusiasm for a church's creed in another," Keuch said in an interview.

When Ryan and other congressmen made their request in 1977, the Justice Department responded with a letter saying "allegations of 'brainwashing,' 'mind control,' 'thought reform' or 'coercive persuasion' would not support a prosecution under the federal kidnaping statue."

The department said it could only investigate complaints of cults preventing members from exercising free will, such as by physical restraint. It said such restraint might constitute kidnaping, slavery or involuntary servitude.

But the department cited a court ruling that brainwashing of "an adult of normal intelligence" would not qualify as kidnaping.

And it said the FBI has investigated dozens of reports of cults physically restraining members, but has yet to find evidence proving any of the charges.

United Press

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4 S.F.Chronicle

San Francisco,Ca.

Date: 11-25-78
Edition: Home

Title:
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Character:
or SF 89-250
Classification: 89
Submitting Office: SF

FBI/DOJ

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By JOHN M. CREWDSON

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understood to have been in Guyana at the time of the killings, and to have been singled out to the F.B.I. by returning members of the cult who claim to have seen the murders.

Guyanese authorities are already holding one cult member, Larry Layton, on charges of first-degree murder in the shooting of Mr. Ryan.

The F.B.I., sources said, has not yet determined the whereabouts of the suspects it is seeking. One source said that at least some of the suspects were "presumed to be dead."

The warrants were issued in New York rather than San Francisco, the site of the cult's offices, because those members of the cult who survived the killings and suicides that followed the airstrip murders have been returning to the United States through Kennedy International Airport in New York.

Legal Basis for Inquiry

Federal sources said that no evidence had yet been developed of a conspiracy involving any of the cult's members, among them several top officials, who were in the United States at the time of the murders.

The F.B.I. investigation is being conducted under a Federal statute that makes conspiracy to assassinate a member of Congress a crime punishable by death, whether or not the assassination takes place in the United States.

Lee Laster, a bureau official in New York, said yesterday that bureau agents meeting the returning survivors were carrying arrest warrants, but he declined to say who was being sought or why.

Asked about Mr. Laster's comments today, the F.B.I. would say publicly only that it was seeking four fugitives who had fled to Guyana from this country some time ago and who were not known to have had any direct connection to the People's Temple or Mr. Jones.

The four fugitives were identified by Federal sources as David Hill, wanted on a fraud charge in Cleveland; Albert Louis Bradford, sought on a six-year-old rape charge in St. Louis; Herman Benjamin Ferguson, charged in 1970 in New York with conspiracy to commit murder, and Claude Herbert, also wanted on a charge of murder.

Longstanding Federal warrants for the four men specify that they are wanted on charges of flight to avoid prosecution.

Mr. Hill, who now calls himself Rabbi Edward Washington, is the leader of a group of black converts to Judaism who, like Mr. Jones's followers, have established a community in Guyana.

In addition to the FBI's wide-ranging investigation of a possible conspiracy in the Guyana murders, the United States Attorney here has been summoning cult members and others before a Federal grand jury in an effort to determine whether such a conspiracy, if it existed, had roots in the United States.

Officials Decline to Comment

Justice Department officials have declined to comment on all aspects of the investigations. They have specifically refused to disclose the names of grand jury witnesses and to say whether any of them have been granted immunity from prosecution.

One Federal source said, however, that Terri Buford, a former top aide to Mr. Jones who defected from the cult a few months ago, was believed to be seeking immunity preparatory to telling her story in public.

Miss Buford's attorney is Mark Lane, the lawyer who represented Mr. Jones and his cult. Mr. Lane also has represented James Earl Ray, the convicted killer of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and has conducted personal research into the assassinations of Dr. King and President Kennedy.

0-19 (Rev. 1-27-78)

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Officials Believe U.S. Is Powerless to Move on Cult

Agencies Held Powerless

By WARREN WEAVER Jr.
Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1 — Faced with one of the most shocking and extensive losses of American lives outside wartime, top Federal officials consider themselves almost powerless to cope with the aftermath of the Guyanese tragedy, in terms of criminal responsibility for the past or domestic security for the future.

News Analysis

The bizarre and frightening circumstances that took the lives of more than 900 United States citizens, combined with restraints imposed by the Constitution and statutes on all branches of government, appear to have left Federal investigating agencies, the State Department and Congress largely frustrated and impotent.

The Department of Justice has conceded that it has little prospect of prosecuting anyone for the killing of Representative Leo J. Ryan, Democrat of California, and four companions because the Guyanese Government has primary jurisdiction over the crimes and the likelihood of successfully extraditing untried suspects seems dim.

As for the deaths of more than 900 members of the People's Temple cult, there was no violation of Federal law and probably would not have been even if the events had taken place in this country. In fact, there is serious legal question whether voluntary acceptance of poison would support murder charges under many state laws.

Limited to Inspections

State Department officials, while far more sensitive now about protecting American citizens abroad, maintain that this country's consular staff still cannot venture beyond the kind of inspections they conducted at Jonestown without violating the constitutionally guaranteed religious freedom of American citizens.

When Congress returns in January, many members are sure to press for legislation to meet the potential threat posed to their members by cults like the People's Temple. But the Justice Department has sounded powerful warning signals in this area, predicting that such statutes are very likely to prove unconstitutional.

For, in the final analysis, both Federal and state courts have been very reluctant to impose criminal sanctions for kidnapping or false imprisonment on members of self-styled religious sects. The courts maintain that religious freedom protects voluntary acts by their members, even when "brainwashing" and strict codes of obedience are involved.

Outlining the manifold problems at a briefing this week, a Justice Department official held out little hope that any of the 72 surviving members of the cult being held in Guyana would ever become witnesses or suspects in a criminal prosecution in the United States.

Laws Affecting Officials

The Federal authorities have jurisdiction in that case under statutes that make assassination of a member of Congress and murder or attempted murder of State Department representatives abroad crimes punishable by death in the first instance and life imprisonment in the second.

The second statute applies here because Richard Dwyer, deputy chief of mission at the United States Embassy in Georgetown, the capital of Guyana, was a member of the Ryan party during the airport attack. He escaped uninjured.

Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation have been assigned to assist the Guyanese authorities in their local inquiry and are attempting to identify witnesses to the airport shooting among cult members returning to this country

The Washington Post ____
Washington Star-News ____
Daily News (New York) ____
The New York Times A-1
The Wall Street Journal ____
The Atlanta Constitution ____
The Los Angeles Times ____

Date 12/02/78

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FBI/DOJ

But a large part of the F.B.I. activity is confined to identifying the dead in the suicides and killings as their bodies arrive in the United States, a form of narrowing the field of suspects by eliminating those no longer indictable.

Jurisdiction With Guyana

As for the deaths themselves, Assistant Attorney General Philip B. Heymann said that the Justice Department had great interest in who led and planned them and how they came about, but that "sole criminal jurisdiction lies with Guyana."

The department has enlisted both the F.B.I. and the Secret Service in an attempt to prevent any outbreaks of violence here involving surviving members of the People's Temple, defectors from the cult and possible targets of cult hostility among government leaders and other prominent Americans.

The department's civil division is also studying the possibility of a financial investigation of the People's Temple, based on the legal theory that the Federal Government has the right to recover from the organization enough of its remaining assets to cover the cost of bringing the bodies of the victims home.

But, beyond that, there is little that Federal law enforcement officials can do. They have no authority to prevent suicide pacts here by surviving members of the cult; all they can do is notify state and local officials who may or may not have the power to move in.

Legality Indeterminate

Federal agents are nearly powerless to initiate surveillance of other quasi-religious cults, in an attempt to head off a recurrence here of the kind of violence events that took place in Guyana. The legal line between brainwashing and religious conversion is so hard to determine that the Justice Department avoids such investigations unless other overt illegal acts are involved.

The State Department, which has been on the defensive ever since the airport attack, said in a statement today that the record was "absolutely clear" that its members "have discharged their responsibilities fully and conscientiously, within the limits placed upon the department and the embassy by law and basic constitutional guarantees of the right to privacy."

A department spokesman said it was "safe to say that more attention has been devoted by the United States Government to this particular group of Americans living overseas over the past 18 months than to any other group of Americans living abroad."

Warned on Infringement

Any attempt by Congress to deal with the cult situation next year faces serious obstacles. Benjamin R. Civiletti, then head of the Justice Department's criminal division and now Deputy Attorney General, warned in 1977, "Any legislation which would intervene in the practices of a religious sect would be an infringement of the sect's free exercise of religion."

Mr. Civiletti declared in a letter to Representative Robert N. Giaimo, Democrat of Connecticut, "Judicial determination of the truth or falsity of religious beliefs has been rejected by the Supreme Court."

The fact that one of their colleagues lost his life in pursuit of what he saw as his constituents' interest is certain, however, to place strong emotional and political pressure on members of Congress to draft some sort of legislation in the area that may pass constitutional muster.

Court decisions support the Justice Department position. In 1946, the Supreme Court reversed a kidnapping conviction imposed on members of a Mormon cult who had persuaded a 15-year-old mentally retarded girl to travel to another state to participate in a "celestial" or bigamous marriage.

The High Court said there was no evidence that the victim had been confined against her will or lacked the mental capacity to understand the "religious" concept involved and exercise her own free will

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FBI Confirms It's Probing Deaths

By Robert Pear
Washington Star Staff Writer

FBI Director William H. Webster has confirmed that the bureau is investigating events surrounding the death of Rep. Leo J. Ryan, D-Calif., for possible violations of the Congressional Assassinations Statute, including conspiracy provisions of the act.

Under some sections of this law, he said, persons responsible for the killing of Ryan Saturday in Guyana might be prosecuted for a federal offense if they are found in or returned to the United States.

FBI agents are interviewing Jonestown survivors upon their return to this country. A number of FBI agents have been dispatched to Guyana to work with local authorities who, according to the State Department, requested assistance in their investigation.

On Monday, the government of Guyana, trying to show why it approved the Peoples Temple colony, said the cult leader, the Rev. Jim Jones, had received favorable character references from a number of prominent Americans.

BUT YESTERDAY some of those Americans denied having endorsed Jones or his activities.

Albert Eisele, press secretary to Vice President Walter Mondale, said he was "mystified" because Mondale's staff had searched his correspondence files and found no letter to or about Jones.

"Nobody in our office remembers it," he said.

Likewise, a spokesman for the secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, Joseph Califano, said that a "very extensive search" turned up no letter relating to Jones.

The Guyanese government had quoted a letter from Califano as saying that Jones' work was "a great inspiration to me."

There was more mail on the Peoples Temple than on almost any other topic in that period, said a State Department employee, who added that mail on the church even exceeded correspondence on the Middle East.

The Washington Post ____
Washington Star-News A6
Daily News (New York) ____
The New York Times ____
The Wall Street Journal ____
The Atlanta Constitution ____
The Los Angeles Times ____

Date NOV 22 1978

FD-350 (Rev. 10-19-77)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

FBI queries members of Temple cult

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The FBI Thursday questioned present and former members of the Peoples Temple religious cult, including eyewitness survivors of the deaths of more than 400 Americans in Guyana.

Nine FBI agents, meanwhile, awaited permission to fly to Guyana and join a single agent acting as adviser and liaison in that country's investigation of the ritual suicides and murders at a religious commune near Georgetown.

"We are interviewing survivors who have returned to this country as well as members and ex-members of the group," said FBI spokesman Tom Harrington. He would not elaborate.

"We are not taking the investigation away from them," the source said. "But if they need technical and other help in their investigation we want to give it to them."

Guyanese police have arrested and charged Larry Layton, 32, a member of the Peoples Temple sect, with the slayings of Rep. Leo Ryan, D-Calif., and four other persons at an airstrip near the commune just before the mass deaths.

Ryan had gone to South America to investigate the cult, which moved its headquarters there from California.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Page 14

San Juan Star

San Juan,

Puerto Rico

Date: 11/24/78

Edition: AM

Title: FBI Queries Members of Temple Cult

Character:

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Classification: 89-123

Submitting Office: San Juan

FBI/DOJ

FD-350 (Rev. 10-19-77)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Guyana Bars Additional FBI Agents

Washington

Guyana has blocked U.S. efforts to send up to ten more FBI agents into the tiny South American country for a broad investigation into the ambush slaying of Representative Leo J. Ryan (Dem-San Mateo), it was learned yesterday.

Guyana officials rebuffed American plans to dispatch the agents apparently because they were angered by a published report that the Socialist government lacked the expertise to conduct a proper investigation into the murder of Ryan and four other Americans.

As a result, the U.S. investigative effort there is in the hands of a single agent, Robert Ogilsby, who was sent there earlier from his post as the FBI's legal attache in Caracas, Venezuela.

The State Department said officially that the U.S. Embassy in Georgetown had advised Washington that the Guyanans no longer required the FBI agents they had earlier requested.

But administration officals said a published report of scant U.S. confidence in the Guyanans' ability to bring to justice those responsible for the atrocities underlies the unexpected government move by the Guyanan government.

It is believed that the report fueled fears by the Socialist government of Prime Minister Forbes Burnham that the arrival of additional FBI agents could subject him to severe criticism.

There also was speculation that the Guyanans feared a thorough FBI investigation could lead to embarrassing disclosures a possible ties between the Rev. Jim Jones, leader of the People's Temple cult, and Guyanan officials.

An FBI spokesman refused to comment on the Guyanan refusal to allow more agents into the country.

Los Angeles Times

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

2 S.F.Chronicle

San Francisco,Ca.

Date: 11-22-78

Edition: Home

Title: RYMURS

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Classification: 89

Submitting Office: SF

FBI/DOJ

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Guyana Rejection Has Not Stymied Inquiry, FBI Says

From a Times Staff Writer

WASHINGTON—Associate FBI Director James B. Adams said Wednesday that Guyana's refusal to let additional FBI agents into that country had hampered but not stymied the U.S. investigation of the slaying of Rep. Leo J. Ryan (D-Calif.).

"We have eyewitness testimony as to the perpetrators of the crime," Adams said in an interview. The eyewitnesses are "people who have returned here who observed the killing." Adams, the FBI's second in command, said after Guyana's decision not to allow eight agents to join Robert Ogilsby, the one FBI agent now working in Guyana.

"We're not stymied in our investigation," Adams said. "We're conducting a widespread investigation here in the United States."

But he conceded that "our efforts would be enhanced if we had (additional agents) on the scene to facilitate the exchange of information."

Meanwhile, Robert J. Havel, a Justice Department spokesman, discounted reports that the United States planned soon to seek the extradition of Larry Layton, an American charged by Guyanese authorities with five counts of murder in the slaying of Ryan and four other Americans.

"The question is premature," Havel said. "We cannot (move to) extradite him if there are no (U.S.) charges."

Havel explained that, if Guyana authorities bring Layton to trial, "we will not be able to extradite him under the terms of the (extradition) treaty" with Guyana.

The Washington Post ____
Washington Star-News ____
Daily News (New York) ____
The New York Times ____
The Wall Street Journal ____
The Atlanta Constitution ____
The Los Angeles Times ____

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FBI/DOJ

FD-350 (Rev. 10-19-77)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Guyana Blocking U.S. Efforts to Widen Probe

WASHINGTON—Guyana has blocked U.S. efforts to send as many as 10 more FBI agents into the tiny South American country for a broad investigation into the ambush slaying of Rep. Leo J. Ryan (D-Calif.), it was learned Tuesday.

Guyanese officials rebuffed American plans to dispatch the agents apparently because they were angered by a published report that the socialist government lacked the expertise to conduct a proper investigation into the murder of Ryan and four other Americans.

As a result, the U.S. investigative effort there is in the hands of a single agent, Robert Ogilsby, who was sent there earlier from his post as the FBI's legal attache in Caracas, Venezuela.

The State Department said officially that the U.S. Embassy in Georgetown had advised Washington that the Guyanese no longer needed the FBI agents they earlier had requested.

But Administration officials said that the published report of scant U.S. confidence in the Guyanese authorities' ability to complete an investigation of the murders underlie the unexpected move by the Guyanan government.

(It was learned the U.S. Embassy in Guyana said that the report had been carried in a Southern U.S. newspaper, but it did not identify the paper.)

It is believed the report fueled fears by the socialist government of Prime Minister Forbes Burnham that the arrival of additional FBI agents could subject him to severe criticism from former Prime Minister Cheddi Jagan, an avowed Marxist.

There also was speculation that the Guyananese feared a thorough FBI investigation could lead to embarrassing disclosures about possible ties between the Rev. Jim Jones, leader of the Peoples Temple cult, and Guyana officials.

An FBI spokesman declined comment when asked about Guyana's refusal to allow more agents into the country.

FBI Director William H. Webster made no mention of the development in a statement Tuesday night confirming that the FBI is investigating Ryan's murder and the events surrounding his death in Guyana.

Webster said that Ryan's murder is being investigated under the 1971 Congressional Assassinations statute, including, he added, the act's conspiracy provisions. (However, sources said that investigators had turned up no evidence of a conspiracy.)

Those responsible for Ryan's death can be prosecuted if they are found in the United States or are returned to its jurisdiction, Webster said.

The 1971 assassinations statute made it a federal crime to kill a member of Congress. The law provides for a possible death sentence.

Webster's statement came after Philip B. Heymann, assistant attorney general in charge of the Justice Department's criminal division, said that the law has "full extraterritorial application."

A Justice Department official said that an extradition treaty between the United States and Guyana (the U.S.-United Kingdom Treaty of 1931) covers murder. But if FBI agents are barred from investigating the crime, chances of producing sufficient evidence for extradition would appear slim.

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Date: 11/22/78
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Submitting Office: Los Angeles

FBI/DOJ

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Guyana Blocking U.S. Effort to Send In FBI Agents to Investigate Ryan Slaying

BY RONALD J. OSTROW
and OSWALD JOHNSTON
Times Staff Writers

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The New York Times ____
The Wall Street Journal ____
The Atlanta Constitution ____
The Los Angeles Times (1 Page)

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FBI/DOJ

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A Justice Department official said that an extradition treaty between the United States and Guyana (the U.S.-United Kingdom Treaty of 1931) covers murder. But if FBI agents are barred from investigating the crime, chances of producing sufficient evidence for extradition would appear slim.

"I don't know what we can do if Guyana insists that it is going to do its investigation and that's it," one official said.

Webster said in his statement that American survivors of the Guyana shooting are being interviewed by FBI agents as they return to the United States.

Guyana's refusal further complicates an investigation that has caused concern inside the FBI. Officials there are known to believe that the public does not understand that they were unable to collect intelligence on the Peoples Temple group under the Justice Department's domestic security guidelines.

These guidelines, issued by former Atty. Gen. Edward H. Levi in response to revelations of FBI intelligence excesses, require a clear indication of a violation—or imminent violation—of federal law before a group can be monitored. They also require information that the group is involved in violence or is considering violent actions.

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FBI Quiz, 'Repatriation' Aid Await Jonestown Survivors

By Phil Galley
Washington Star Staff Writer

CHARLESTON, S.C. — About 79 survivors of the mass murder-suicide in Guyana will be greeted with federal assistance and by FBI agents when they arrive here this week, perhaps as early as tomorrow.

Before they're turned over to the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare for "repatriation assistance," the FBI plans to question each Jonestown survivor to determine, among other things, if California Congressman Leo Ryan may have been the victim of a murder conspiracy involving members of the Peoples Temple cult in both Guyana and the United States.

Charles Devic, special agent in charge of the Columbia, S.C., FBI office, told reporters yesterday that there are no suspects among the survivors who are scheduled to arrive at Charleston Air Force Base this week.

"I DON'T EVEN know who the survivors are at this point," said Devic, who is commanding the more than two dozen FBI agents waiting here.

"We'll just have to wait and see what develops. Our job is to identify the murderers and conspirators involved in Congressman Ryan's murder."

Devic would not rule out the possibility that some of the surviving cultists, many of whom escaped the mass death ritual in Jonestown by fleeing into the jungle, would be placed under arrest as a result of the FBI investigation.

Federal authorities pointed out, however, that the Guyanese government is screening the survivors and is not likely to let suspects or material witnesses in the Ryan murder leave the country.

Devic said the FBI's only jurisdiction in the case is to investigate the murder of Ryan, who, along with three American newsmen and a Jonestown defector, were slain Nov. 18 by followers of the Rev. Jim Jones at a remote airstrip in Guyana after a fact-finding mission to Jonestown.

"I WANT TO emphasize that the FBI is not investivating the Peoples Temple," Devic said at a briefing for reporters. "We do not intend to infringe in any way on anyone's religious freedom."

Asked about reports that some of the survivors fear they will be hunted down by "death squads" loyal to Jones, whose body was among the more than 900 removed from Jonestown, federal authorities here said there are no plans at this point to offer protection to anyone.

"I think that question is premature," said Thomas E. Lydon, the U.S. attorney in South Carolina. "If it turns out that some of the survivors are worried about that, we can take further precautions."

After processing, the survivors will be offered accommodations at an undisclosed Charleston hotel, or they will be free to leave on their own unless there is some reason to detain them, according to Lydon.

The FBI officially enters the case when the survivors, who are to be escorted from Guyana by U.S. marshals, step off the airplane bringing them here.

Upon arrival, they will be processed by immigrations and customs officials, then turned over to the FBI for questioning.

The State Department has declared the survivors "repatriates" to qualify them for assistance under the Federal Repatriation Act. Each survivor will be entitled to $55 in cash, hotel accommodations and a plane ticket home, according to HEW officials.

OTHER ASSISTANCE can be provided under the act for up to 90 days, the officials explained, but the recipients must repay the federal goverment when they can afford it.

The Washington Post ____
Washington Star-News A-9
Daily News (New York) ____
The New York Times ____
The Wall Street Journal ____
The National Observer ____
The Los Angeles Times ____

Date 11-27-78

FBI/DOJ

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Director's Sec'y ____

Survivors Face FBI Questioning in S.C.

By Phil Galley
Washington Star Staff Writer

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The Washington Post ____
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Daily News (New York) ____
The New York Times ____
The Wall Street Journal ____
The Atlanta Constitution ____
The Los Angeles Times ____

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The state of South Carolina is showing considerably less sympathy than Washington toward the Jonestown survivors.

Because the repatriation assistance must be rechanneled through state agencies, which are reimbursed by the federal government, Gov. James Edwards rushed out a news release over the weekend to explain why the state was sending case workers and $25,000 in cash to Charleston to aid the Jonestown survivors.

The governor assured South Carolinians that "this program was initiated by the federal government" and "I insisted and received word in writing that all South Carolina funds involved would be fully reimbursed."

Edwards said he is "sure that a lot of South Carolinians feel no tax money should be used at all" to aid the cultists.

That seemed to be the sentiment of The Charleston News-Courier, which, in a Sunday editorial, questioned the federal government's decision to spend $8 million to return the bodies.

The editorial complained that other Americans living abroad cannot get such assistance in case of death or other emergencies. "As things now stand," the newspaper said, "millions of Americans will be left wondering why special treatment was accorded to so many religious zealots."

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Feds prepare a cold welcome for survivors

By MICHAEL McGOVERN
Staff Correspondent of The News

Charleston, S.C. — The dapper man in the three-piece suit lifted the shotgun from the trunk of his car in the Airport Holiday Inn parking lot.

He pointed it at the night sky and sighted on one of the thousands of stars.

The man pumped the shiny wooden action of the shotgun. Click. Pull. Click. Pull.

"What art you doing?" a passerby inquired.

"FBI," the man said without looking around.

"Coming in or going out?"

Pull. Click. "Just arriving."

Slow as a clock ticking the man moved off.

"Nice to make your acquantance," he said, unconvincingly.

The man in the three-piece suit was one of 30 FBI agents awaiting the arrival of the survivors of Jontstown.

Because only two Jonestown cultists have been arrested — of the reported six to eight men who formed the assassination squad that killed Rep. Leo J. Ryan (D-Calif.) and four others in Guyana on Nov. 18 — there is an icy tension awaiting the survivors.

The fear is that some of the fanatical followers of Jim Jones might be among them.

Seven of the 72 survivors have been releastd by the Guyana government and are expected to arrive here in a day or so.

After the survivors arrive at the Charleston Air Force Base, they will be intervitwed by officials of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, then by representatives of the Customs Bureau, the FBI and the Health, Education And Welfare Department and Social Security.

Acting under the Congressional Assassination Act, the federal authorities will attempt to determine whether any of the returnees are cult members determined to carry out Jones order that all members of his agricultural community die.

The Washington Post ____
Washington Star-News ____
Daily News (New York) pg. 32
The New York Times ____
The Wall Street Journal ____
The Atlanta Constitution ____
The Los Angeles Times ____

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Jurisdiction, Witness Problems Cited

U.S. Stymied in Jonestown Probe

By Charles R. Babcock
Washington Post Staff Writer

CHARLESTON, S.C., Nov. 29—It is becoming increasingly unlikely that the FBI investigation of the Peoples Temple murders and mass suicides in Guyana will result in federal prosecutions on any charges, including the murder of Rep. Leo J. Ryan (D-Calif.).

Nor will officials be able to detain survivors of the cult, despite fears of former members that they might be targets of further violence.

Justice Department officials said today that their efforts have been hampered by a narrow legal jurisdiction, the inability to carry the investigation into a foreign country, and the deaths of many—if not all—of the suspects and some witnesses.

Michael Abbell, the Justice Department attorney coordinating the inquiry into Ryan's death, said that, for instance, two of the five men named by eyewitnesses as firing at Ryan's party were identified among the dead at the scene of the subsequent mass suicide led by the Rev. Jim Jones, the cult's leader.

More than 900 cult members died in the South American jungle commune of Jonestown. But since U.S. law usually does not apply in foreign countries, the investigation is restricted to seeking Ryan's murderers under a recent congressional assassinations act.

Abbell said "it is likely" that all the suspects in Ryan's death are dead. But he said investigators still are checking

See CHARLESTON, A22, Col. 1

The Washington Post A-1; A-22
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Daily News (New York) ____
The New York Times ____
The Wall Street Journal ____
The National Observer ____
The Los Angeles Times ____

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CHARLESTON, From

fingerprints of the bodies flown back to the United States for positive identification.

A third suspect in the shooting of Ryan and four others, Larry Layton, has been charged and is being held in Guyana. The government there so far has refused an FBI request to send in a team of investigators. So agents have been standing by here to question the returning survivors who witnessed the murders.

Officials said today though that it is probable the Guyanese government will detain some of these witnesses for possible trials there. Seven elderly survivors from Jonestown were scheduled to arrive in New York City tonight, but officials said these survivors apparently know little about the murders at the airstrip in Port Kaituma, Guyana.

As a result of the delay, Charles Devic, the FBI special agent in charge here, said today that he has released about 20 of the 30 agents called in to help question the survivors. "We're in a holding pattern," he said. "It looks like it might be several days before anyone shows up here."

An FBI spokesman in Washington said agents across the country are checking reports that the Peoples Temple had compiled a "hit list" of prominent politicians and journalists to be kidnapped or assassinated if anything happened to Jones or the cult.

Mark Lane, an attorney for Jones who escaped the massacre at Jonestown, has said he has been questioned about such a list, but Abbell said that a list mentioned by other persons interviewed by the FBI included the name of "President Nixon."

The investigation has uncovered no evidence that this early list was credible or that there is a more current one, Abbell added.

While some of the survivors in Guyana have expressed fear and suspicion about violent behavior by others from the camp, authorities would have no basis for detaining them when they return to the United States, officials agreed.

And an FBI spokesman denied reports that new guidelines limiting investigations of domestic groups prevented the bureau from being forewarned about the violence at Jonestown. FBI Director William H. Webster believes that imposition of the guidelines had no bearing on the outcome of the tragedy in Guyana, the spokesman said.

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The Los Angeles Times ____

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FD-350 (Rev. 10-19-77)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

FBI trying to question eyewitnesses

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Blocked at least temporarily from sending agents to Guyana to probe the deaths of hundreds of Americans, the FBI is giving "high priority" to questioning eyewitnesses who have returned home, officials say.

A spokesman for Guyana's embassy in Washington said yesterday the United States has formally requested permission to send an FBI team to the South American country to investigate the slayings, particularly the death of Rep. Leo Ryan, D-San Mateo.

The embassy spokesman said before considering the FBI's request, Guyanese police are trying to determine what other laws have been violated. He noted that it is against the law to commit suicide in Guyana, and gun and currency violations also may be involved.

Guyana has permitted a single FBI agent from Venezuela to fly to Georgetown to observe and advise.

FBI agents in this country now are concentrating on "interviewing returning survivors as well as various members of the cult or ex-members throughout the country," trying to come up with evidence to warrant indictments so the United States could formally request extradition of suspects in the slayings.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

34 S.F.Examiner

San Francisco,Ca.

Date: 11-23-78
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Submitting Office: SF

FBI/DOJ

0-19 (Rev. 1-27-78)

Jim Jones
Temple not probe target

FBI to comb the survivors for hit-men

By MICHAEL McGOVERN
Staff Correspondent of The News

Charleston, S.C. — Thirty FBI agents have assembled here to weed out "any death teams that might be lurking" among the Jonestown survivors returning from the Guyana jungles, authorities said yesterday.

A State Department spokesman in Washington said that the first on at least 72 known survivors from the jungle commune are expected later today at Charleston Air Force Base.

"We are concerned about the death teams that might be lurking about, but we have no factual basis on that angle," said U.S. Attorney Thomas E. Lyndon, who is coordinating preparations for the survivors' arrival.

'The FBI investigation is proceeding under the Congressional Assassination Act, and this also includes conspiracy," said Charles A. Devic, arent in charge of the south Carolina FBI bureau.

The survivors will be interviewed by scores of federal officials, including representatives of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, the Customs Bureau and the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, as well as the FBI.

"Our investigation is to identify the murderers of and the conspirators in the murder" of Rep. Leo J. Ryan (D-Calif.), who was killed with four others Nov. 18 while investigating the Peoples Temple cult in Guyana," Devic said.

'We-ll attempt to ascertain whether there was a conspiracy in Guyana and the United States in the murder of Congressman Ryan," he said.

Devic said that none of the survivors has been singled out for arrest.

"No factual knowledge"

"We have no idea who the survivors are or who is coming back," he said.

But Devic indicated that the FBI inquiry might consider other matters, such as reports that survivors might include hit men pledged to murder other survivors and defectors from the cult led by Jim Jones, who died in the mass suicide ritual that followed Ryan's assassination.

Devic said the FBI could not force the survivors to answer questions and that if they do not, he will refertheir office.

"I have no factual knowledge of them (assassination squads)," Devic said. "But based on what has happened and what we've read, there must be something to it.

'I would want some proof they were involved in a conspiracy' before bringing charges against anyone, said Lydon, U.S. attorney for South Carolina. "They may have heard many things at many times, but they have the right not to talk."

Devic said that the FBI would not investigate Jones' Peoples Temple itself.

"We're not going to infringe on a person's right to exercise a religious belief, he said.

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FBI probing report of cultist plot to murder Ryan

By THEO WILSON
Special Correspondent to The News

San Francisco—The FBI and other law enforcement agencies were investigating reports yesterday that the assassination of Rep. Leo Ryan (D-Calif.) was planned here before the congressman and his fact-finding party left last week on their fatal trip to the Guyana jungle.

The conspiracy to kill Ryan reportedly was organized by fanatical followers of cult leader Jim Jones.

FBI special agent-in-charge Roy [illegible] said that more than 50 agents were investigating the possible [illegible] "the biggest case since Patty Hearst".

Also under investigation by the [illegible] district attorney's office and the Police Department are reports from former defectors that a band of Peoples Temple assassins, armed with a "hit list" are loose in this Bay Area and intent to murder all those who have turned on the dead cult leader.

San Francisco Police Chief Charles [illegible] said: "We have knowledge of it and we are doing all we can reasonably to determine if such a list exists."

Those who left the temple and became outspoken critics of Jones have used a building in Berkeley as their headquarters for two years. The defectors formed the Human Freedom Center in Berkeley, and it was there that they met with concerned relatives and others in efforts to release remple members reportedly being held against their will.

Until yesterday, members of this group were speaking freely with the press and holding conferences in which they described the horrors of the cult.

Among them were James Cobb, former member who escaped death at the airport ambush last Saturday in which Ryan and four other Americans were killed. Nera Sly wife of Don Sly, reportedly tried to slash Ryan's throat at the scene. Grace Stoen, who unsuccessfully had tried to gain custody of her son after Jones contended that he was the father.

Before the group went into seclusion yesterday at the headquarters, refusing to open the door or speak with reporters, members said that the hit squad of assassins is known to them and that its mastermind is a woman who is living at the Peoples Temple here.

Stoen described the alleged mastermind as a 20-year-old "masochist" who has "files on all of the defectors. She was also the one who Jim would contact for the guns" when we escaped to Guyana.

Mrs. Sly said: "My husband is the one that put the knife to Congressman Ryan's throat. We have been married 21 years and I love him, but now he has become a monster.

"I know he it totally dedicated to killing the defectors, including me.

"Please, please give up," was Mrs. Sly's plea to her husband, who disappeared in Guyana after the shootings and poisonings that wiped out more than 400 Peoples Temple members, including Jones.

The defectors reportedly have told lawmen here that one of Jones' "chief enforcers" was in this area two weeks ago gathering information about Ryan's proposed trip, while posing as a defector.

They identified him as Tim Carter, 30, who was picked up by authorities in Georgetown on Wednesday and was being held.

The defectors said Carter came here from Jonestown and went to the Human Freedom Center on Nov. 8, telling the people there that he had defected from Jones.

Jennie Mills, one of the founders of the center, said Carter told her he was "lonesome and needed a job, that he was drinking and smoking again, something that's against temple rules."

According to Mills, Carter asked many questions about Ryan's planned trip to Jonestown, and received information about when the congressman was leaving and which relatives and defectors would accompany him.

According to the reports, Carter visited the center Nov. 8-10, and then disappeared. The defectors said they believed he took a plane to Guyana to give all of his information to Jones.

The still-dedicated followers of Jones, who are living at the Peoples Temple here, have denied that there are assassins or a hit list.

The freedom center is open to former members of all cults and offers temporary housing for the disenchanted after they leave a religious group.

The FBI investigation into an alleged conspiracy to murder Ryan was meant to determine if there has been a violation of a rederal congressional assasination law.

The alleged assassination squads reportedly vary in number from 15 to 200 persons.

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The Atlanta Constitution ____
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GUYANA GENERAL INFORMATION

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A Reporter's Notebook: Death's Somber Setting

By JON NORDHEIMER
Special to The New York Times

GEORGETOWN, Guyana, Dec. 4 — The rainy season has brought lowering, stone-colored skies to this corner of the Caribbean, and the sea is not the magic blue of the tourist islands but is stained brown like a damp and muddy autumn doormat.

The cause of the discoloration is not the Demerara River, which empties into the sea at Georgetown. Though it is coffee-colored and wide, the Demerara alone could not paint the sea with such a broad, melancholy brush.

The true source is the mouth of the Amazon, nearly 1,000 miles to the east and south where billions of tons of silt washed from the interior of the continent are picked up by the ocean's current and swept around the shoulder of the continent to be deposited in an infinite shower of particles along these shallow, muddy shores.

Setting Is Somber

It is a somber setting for the events of the last two weeks with world attention turning to Guyana, its capital and the lonely jungle outpost of death at Jonestown.

However history treats the madness that snuffed out more than 900 lives at the People's Temple commune, and claimed nine other lives in related violence, it now seems a remarkable juxtaposition that a problem with roots in America's urban and technological society was played out in this wild and remote setting.

Guyana is a Socialist—Marxist state, the only one on the South American continent. "Comrade" is the most frequently used honorific among bureaucrats. It is also a country whose Prime Minister, Forbes Burnham, has several limousines at his disposal, including a Rolls-Royce and a Cadillac.

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Shortages abound in Guyana's bereft economy. A sign in a combined bakery and pharmacy in Georgetown: "Kindly Bring Along Your Empty Bottles for Medicines." Guyanese have great difficulty getting cigarettes, soap, tomato paste, canned juice, toilet paper, flour, onions, potatoes, garlic, cocoa, sardines and salmon. Imports of chocolate, prunes, raisins and walnuts are banned, presumably to promote local equivalents.

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Heard on a local radio station one morning: "Well, it's wet and cold in Georgetown." The announcer was right. It had just rained, and the thermometer read 76 degrees Fahrenheit.

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Georgetown is a wood museum. The early Dutch and British colonialists built their houses and public buildings out of the greenheart wood that is found in abundance in Guyana, a particularly sturdy wood that is highly resistant to rot and insects. Paint is expensive and apparently not needed, so most of the housing has a washed-out look.

Government ministries and departments are scattered around the capital with no particular rationale, housed in elaborate gingerbread mansions with filigreed lattice work or in dreadful neo-Socialist boxes. The Ministry of Engineering occupies an old Dutch gingerbread building painted a robin's egg blue, standing next to a cavernous pile of ochre-painted wood with a rusting tin roof, within which resides the Guyana Supreme Court.

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Seawalls and other flat vertical surfaces still hold graffiti for the constitutional referendum held last July amid allegations of election fraud. Some of the slogans, put up by supporters of Prime Minister Burnham's ruling People's National Congress Party, had references to destroying "The Mouse."

Inquiries led to the explanation that, because of high illiteracy in Guyana, the Government had selected symbols to represent the two major parties on the ballot. For its own party, which supported the constitutional change that would allow the Prime Minister to remain in power indefinitely, the symbol of a house was chosen, since the Government has promised to provide housing for all Guyanese. For the opposition People's Progressive Party, strongly against the change, the Government selected the symbol of a slinking, long-tailed rodent.

Trick Is Turned Around

The opposition, with the help of a deft cartoonist, turned the trick into an advantage. Posters soon began appearing showing a cute little round-eared character not unlike Mickey Mouse, packing a powerful wallop and talking in the patois of the average Guyanese.

When the charges grew that the Government was rigging the vote, the People's Progressive Party called for a boycott of the referendum, and the cute mouse in the cartoon started carrying a cricket bat marked "Boycott," which also happens to be the name of the popular black West Indian, Geoff Boycott, who is captain of the English cricket team. The Government-controlled newspapers retaliated by devoting big stories in the sports section every time Mr. Boycott had a low score, under headlines like "Boycott Fails Again."

The referendum boycott was successful. The Government claimed a smashing popular victory anyway, and the Prime Minister can now presumably stay in power until the National Parliament, which he controls, gets around to writing a new constitution.

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STIFF PRESS CENSORSHIP

Guyana Left Without Any Jonestown News

From the Washington Post

GEORGETOWN, Guyana—One day last week, the banner headline in Guyana's government-owned morning paper suddenly shifted from the Jonestown tragedy to the shortage of chickens throughout the nation.

In the view of many Guyanese, that was the official signal that as far as they were concerned, the Jonestown story was over.

The shopkeepers, the taxi drivers, the hotel clerks and the ordinary people on the streets of Georgetown, who begged foreign journalists for more information, still remain bewildered by all that has happened, from the horror of Jonestown itself to the descent of hundreds of foreign journalists on their small country.

And although few groups are more entitled to a full explanation, the people of Guyana are the least likely ever to get one.

As in many countries, the two major daily papers—the Chronicle and the Citizen—are government-owned. Journalists screen their stories through a "comrade," stationed in their newsroom by the Ministry of Information. The censorship has been heavy in the government papers, although several opposition newspapers seem able to print what they want.

When Rep. Leo Ryan (D-Calif.) first came to the country, the government dailies reported only that he was there for discussions with Guyanese officials. There was no mention of Jonestown.

A week later, after Ryan and more than 900 others were dead, the papers made no mention of the questions raised in the Guyanese parliament about how it all happened, about how the weapons used to enforce the suicide order entered the country, or about how Jonestown managed to escape the country's strict currency controls and accumulate a stash of hundreds of thousands and perhaps millions of U.S. dollars.

At the height of the activity in Guyana, U.S. Embassy officials also began longing for an end to it all. They would reminisce about the way things used to be.

Every new foreign service officer sent to Guyana, they said, had one important lesson to learn right away. "If you sent a letter to the State Department that said 'Guyana, S.A.' on it, it would wind up at the South Africa desk in Washington.

"You had to learn to write 'SOUTH AMERICA' all over it in big letters in order to make sure it got to the right place," one official said. "They never hear of us up there."

The Washington Post ____
Washington Star-News ____
Daily News (New York) ____
The New York Times ____
The Wall Street Journal ____
The Atlanta Constitution ____
The Los Angeles Times part 1

Date 12/5/78

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FD-350 (Rev. 10-19-77)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

The Strange Deal Between Guyana and Peoples Temple

Favors Exchanged For Dollars

By Keith Power
Chronicle Correspondent

Georgetown, Guyana

The Guyanese government's unusually favorable treatment of the Peoples Temple — remarkable in a dirt poor country whose official policy verges on the xenophobic — was bought by the Temple's U.S. dollars, a source close to the government said.

And more dollars, estimated as high as $2 million, remain deposited in a Georgetown bank to become a prize for surviving members of the temple's leadership here, or for rival claimaints among former temple followers.

Politically aware residents in this ramshackle, gossipy capital were mystified four years ago when the socialist government led by the ruling People's National Congress announced that an obscure American religious sect was taking over 4000 acres in the northern interior, a sensitive border area just south of the Venezuelan frontier.

The official line since has been that the Peoples Temple was responding to a Guyanese government appeal to overseas groups to take part in a "land utilization program." No other major groups have been identified.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

1 S.F.Chronicle

San Francisco,Ca.

Date: 11-27-78
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But the Peoples Temple, dedicated to radical causes in the U.S., was marked for official favors here.

In the aftermath of the ghastly events of nine days ago, when at least 921 persons died by suicide and murder, the government had no satisfactory answer to its political opposition about why so many automatic weapons were allowed the Peoples Temple settlers in a place where gun licenses are difficult to obtain even for local inhabitants.

The temple settlement at Jonestown was unusually free of government inspection, developing into a "state within a state," according to one critical questioner at a government press conference.

The temple operated a fleet of two fast trawlers, the Cudjoe and the Albatross, and a speedboat. The two larger vessels freely plied coastal waters and made frequent trips to Caribbean islands from their home port six miles from Jonestown on the Kaituma river.

The temple's marine arm operated unfettered by customs inspection. Georgetown has customs facilities and inspectors, but the vessels never made an official landing in the capital.

The precise activity of the little fleet is unknown. But the word around Georgetown is that the boats were able to avoid all customs checks when they took goods to Caribbean markets — handcrafted goods produced at its own "socialist paradise" settlement, or more exotic shipments of gold and diamonds purchased with U.S. currency from Guyanese prospectors in this country's mineral-rich hinterland.

In exchange for this freedom of movement and its large tract of Guyanese soil, the temple made payments to the government of sums amounting to "six or seven figures," according to the source close to officials in Georgetown.

The money came from temple coffers enriched over the years by a flow of funds from followers in Northern California and elsewhere, according to investigators drawn here by the bloody events.

One official in Georgetown said a "very large sum of money" is now on deposit in a Peoples Temple account in the Barclays Bank branch in Georgetown. The total could be as much as $2 million, sources say.

The Peoples Temple was engaged in a soliciting campaign in Georgetown in the months before the tragedy, a move that changed its profile from a peculiar little noticed commune in the bush 150 miles north of the capital.

Pairs of bright young people — one black, one white—went door to door in the best residential area — with the tacit approval of the government. They carried lists of contributors to show, and many donors were influential citizens. This helped increase the size of gifts in a country aware of the importance of political connections.

The temple was going public in Georgetown in other ways. There was the temple basketball team playing in local contests, and performing members of the temple appearing at the government cultural center — the pride of the regime with its modern architectural flourishes.

The relationship between Jim Jones' sect and the ruling party has become an issue for the thin newspaper of the political opposition, the People's Progressive party.

With the world press looking on during the first and only government press conference on the Jonestown suicides, Minister of Information Shirley Field-Ridley was asked whether the Peoples Temple had made political contributions to the ruling party.

"Not that I know of," was her only answer.

It was Field-Ridley who disclosed through her press spokesman the speed with which the government wanted the remains of the temple members removed from the country.

Last Monday, two days after the mass deaths the Guyanese government had demanded that the hundreds of bodies at Jonestown be removed by the following morning at 10:30—at a time when American authorities were still considering local burial for health reasons. The Guyanese impatiently repeated the demand when the deadline passed. The last American planeload of caskets left Guyana yesterday.

Now it remains to be seen—once the U.S. military presence has departed and the last foreign journalist has been denied a visa extension—whether the government can close the book on the incident.

Yesterday's edition of the Catholic Standard, a critic of the "cooperative socialist" regime, took a hard look at the government's handling of the Peoples Temple.

"Many questions still remained unanswered," said the newspaper, "of how the Peoples Temple came to have such a large, secluded settlement in an area of Guyana where entry by coastal Guyanese is so restricted and controlled by the Guyana government."

The opposition in Parliament is clamoring to know why the government looked the other way as the settlement expanded and its wealth grew. Government statements in the matter have been unenlightening.

0-19 (Rev. 1-27-78)

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Director's Sec'y ____

Guyana used Jonestown as 'model,' says native

By Curtis Austin

For many Washingtonians, the word Guyana three weeks ago was as distant to their working vocabulary as the miles that separate that small South American country from the District. For the District resident, however, Guyana is synonymous with home.

Mohammed Yusuff, a Guyanese native working in the District, says his own people may never know the whole truth about the tragedy of Jonestown.

"The government controls the media," he states, "and before the mass suicides, the government was using Jonestown as a model. You see, Jones' philosophy was in tune with the government."

"The way the cultists lived in Guyana and the way they were restricted, reflects the entire Guyanese society which has been strangled economically and socially. Jonestown was a microcosm of Guyana."

Although reticent to put blame on the Guyanese government, Yusuff contends that the government turned a "blind eye" to many infractions that occurred in Jonestown."

In an opinion substantiated by news reports, Yusuff asserts, "The government doesn't allow private citizens to own guns and everything that comes from the outside goes through customs. Yet, boats came in and out of Jonestown unchecked and the area had many guns."

"Before the mass suicides," continues Yusuff, "I liked the idea that they were over there. They really were pioneers. Jonestown was indeed carved out of the jungle. It could only be reached by boat or plane."

"The closest city, Port Kaituma, is five miles away. And the jungle which surrounds Jonestown is full of swamps, insects, jaguars and anacondas. There are many isolated villages which are lived in by a variety of bush people called Amerindians."

When asked if some lesson could be learned from Jonestown, Yusuff again draws on his analogy between Guyana and the cult village.

"As I stated," he explains, "the government saw Jonestown as a model. That society didn't work for Jonestown and it will not work for Guyana."

The Washington Post ____
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The New York Times ____
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The Atlanta Constitution ____
The Los Angeles Times ____
Washington Afro-American

Date ____

FBI/DOJ

FD-350 (Rev. -77)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

The Tropical Nation Where Rev. Jones Took His Flock

Guyana, scene of Saturday's massacre, is a sticky, tropical former British colony, of sugar plantations and bauxite mines on the northeast edge of South America, just north of the Equator.

Its 850,000 residents, mostly descendants of former slaves and laborers from Africa and India, live in a narrow coastal belt concentrated near the capital of Georgetown.

Colonized first by the Dutch and then by the British, Guyana was known as British Guiana untill gaining independence in 1966. Prime Minister Forbes Burnham has referred to his People's National Congress Party as a socialist party bent on purging "the beliefs and ideologies of our former imperialist masters."

Guyana, with its 83,000 square miles, is about the size of Idaho. It is bordered on the west by Venezuela, which still has territorial claims along the frontier.

About half the population are East Indian descendants, a third are blacks and the remainer are largely native Amerindians, some of whom live in remote forests much as their ancestors did.

Besides sugar, farmers raise rice, citrus fruits, cocoa and coffee. The country is the world's fifth largest producer of the aluminum ore, bauxite.

But most of the land is covered by thick, impenetrable jungle. Ninty inches of rain fall each year and the average temperature at the capital is 80 degrees.

A parliamentary republic, Guyana is governed by a National Assembly of 53 members, who serve a max~~imum of~~ five years. Its two main political parties are sup-

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

8 S.F.Chronicle

San Francisco,Ca.

Date: 11-20-78
Edition: Home

Title:
RYMURS

Character:
or SF 89-250
Classification:
Submitting Office: SF

FBI/DOJ

ported, respectively, by the Indian and African populations, and elections tend to exacerbate racial differences.

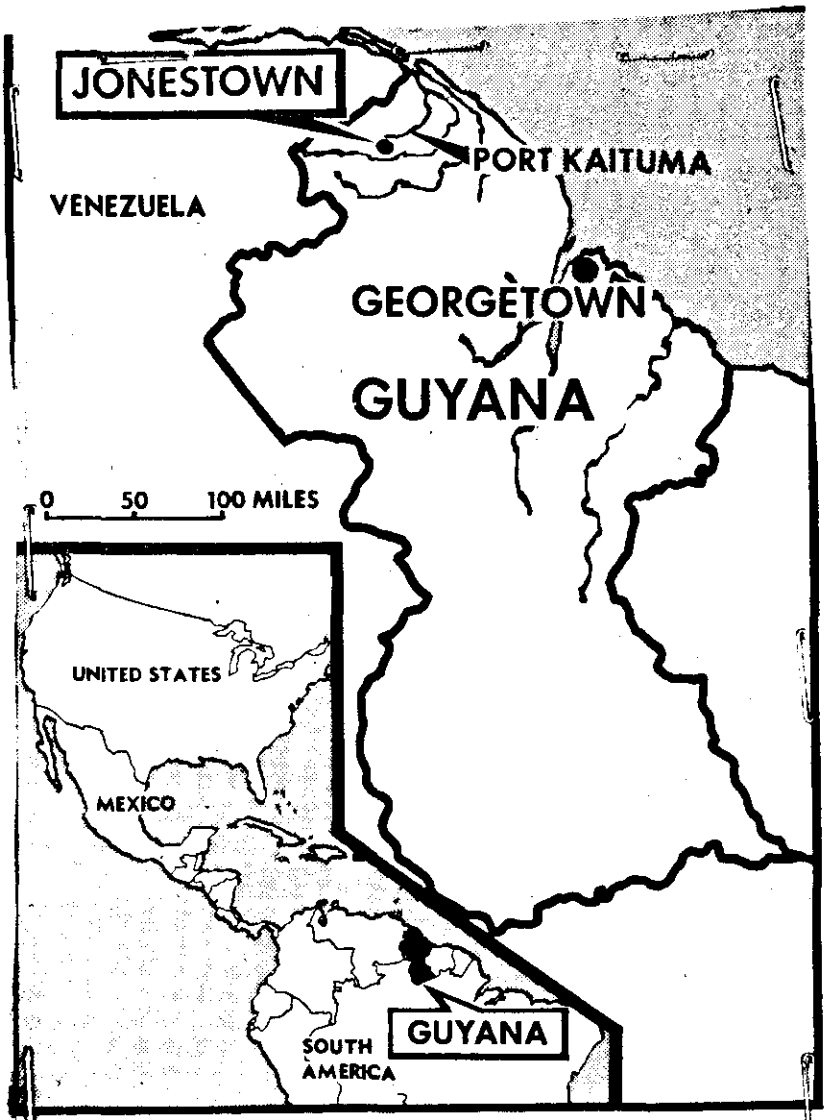
The present government, headed by Prime Minister Burnham, has said in the past it welcomed Rev. Jim Jones' efforts to cultivate the country's rugged northwestern corner.

Burnham is seeking foreign assistance to finance development of the potentially rich interior, with its minerals, forests and hydroelectric resources in rivers that crisscross the jungles.

Andrew Young, the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, told Burnham during a visit in August, 1977, that the United States was willing to increase aid from $11 million to $12.3 million through 1980 as part of the Carter administration's efforts to improve relations with Caribbean nations.

Relations were cool during the Nixon and Ford administrations because of Burnham's nationalization of foreign holdings, including substantial American property, and his recognition of Cuba in 1972, when the United States was still trying to isolate the Castro government.

It was American support, however, that helped put Burnham in power during his pre-independence struggle with Cheddi Jagan, a Marxist and still the leading opposition figure as head of the People's Progressive ~~party.~~



The scene of the ambush, Port Kaituma and Jonestown in Guyana

FD-350 (Rev. 10-19-77)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Simple trip to Jonestown entails hacking through red tape

GEORGETOWN, Guyana — Securing permission to charter a plane to reach the Peoples Temple outpost deep in the jungle provides an interesting excursion through the bureaucracy of the Guyanese government.

On the second floor of the Ministry of Information, it is ascertained that, one, a plane has been chartered, two, it is a Guyanese plane and not registered to the hated Venezuelans, three, that its pilot is Guyanese and, four, that the reporters are not to be dissuaded from the trip by the presence of bullet holes in the side of the plane. For it is this single-engine Cessna piloted by one Tommy Fernandez, that made the escape from Jim Jones' thugs last Saturday night.

Although the information minister thinks the trip is OK, it must now be approved by the director of civil aviation, who is located across the city in the post office building. A letter is written from the minister to the director and carried to the latter by the hopeful travelers.

At the aviation office the letter is scrutinized and finally pronounced acceptable by an aide to the director, who places it in a file.

The travelers point out they may need a copy of the letter to present in the jungle. The director's assistant, leaning on a Xerox machine, considers this for a few moments. He then hands the letter to his secretary, who dutifully retypes the entire document.

Time of process: one and a half hours.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

32 S.F. Examiner

San Francisco, Ca.

Date: 11-22-78
Edition: Final

Title: RYMURS

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Classification: 89
Submitting Office: SF

FBI/DOJ

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Despite the news of Peoples Temple, life in Georgetown proceeds apace and the pace of traffic is barely short of murderous.

Small cars, large cars, buses, scooters, motorcycles, bicycles, and an occasional horse-drawn wagon compete for precious blacktop with seeming disregard for the welfare of each other. And yet, few accidents seem to materialize out of this mad dance.

Vehicles travel on the left side of the road in this former British colony and the best drivers are those with the best nerves. On a tight curve outside of town a cab driver swings wide, forcing an oncoming car to the shoulder, where it barely misses a tree. The cab driver, a veteran of such encounters, allows only the faintest smile to play on his lips before resuming an air of studied nonchalance that would do credit to a wheelman for Al Capone.

★ ★ ★

Now that the enormity of the story is becoming clear, the media blitz is beginning in earnest. Major magazines and networks all are sending reinforcements and hotel space and phone lines are at a premium.

At the Pegasus Hotel, a group of British journalists is advised that the only remaining hotel space is at an establishment in a seamier section of the city.

"What are the accommodations like?" asks the Englishman.

"They are fine, so long as you lock your door inside and walk down the hall in twos," says the desk clerk.

"Oh," says the Englishman, resignedly picking up his bags.

★ ★ ★

The favorite form of enforced savings for the Guyanese is striking surreptitious deals to obtain American currency. The government, it seems, encourages exclusive use of the local product in an effort to prevent its citizens from accumulating enough foreign capital to depart the country.

Offers to exchange Guyanese dollars for American at a rate of 3½-to-one (the official rate is 2½-to-1) are made by bartenders, waitresses, cab drivers and perfect strangers on the street.

An informal census of visiting journalists shows that most such offers are refused for two reasons: one is that no one can figure out what to do with a wad of Guyanese dollars back in Chicago. The other is that few reporters minds are facile enough to figure out whether it's a good deal.

— Jim Willse

0-19 (Rev. 1-27-78)

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Deaths Distract Guyana From Its Economic Woes

By THOMAS A. JOHNSON

Christopher Nascimento's main concern two weeks ago, like that of many of Guyana's leaders, was to justify to the World Bank the need for a $1 billion loan to build a hydroelectric plant that could help solve his nation's economic crisis.

The murders and suicides at the People's Temple commune have changed all that. Now Mr. Nascimento, the Minister of State in the office of the Prime Minister, is one of several Government officials reacting full time to the deaths and trying to make certain the outside world "looks at Guyana as a 12-year-old nation and not just the place where this tragic thing happened."

"Suddenly we have been totally distracted," he said in an interview in New York yesterday. "Our very limited leadership resources have been stretched very thin and it is costing us a tremendous amount of money we can hardly afford. It has put us on the map in very tragic circumstances and the danger is that a place can suffer, no matter that the place itself is not at fault."

Asked on "The CBS Morning News" whether Guyana or the United States State Department might have been at fault, Mr. Nascimento replied: "It is such a complicated and tragic issue, I wonder if one can place the blame anywhere."

Commenting during a later interview on the causes of the economic crisis facing his nation's 800,000 people, Mr. Nascimento said Guyana now pays more than $100 million a year for oil, compared to $20 million a few years ago. The price of sugar, the commodity that earns 30 percent of Guyana's foreign exchange, has dropped in recent years from 64 cents to 6.6 cents a pound, he said.

He also said that while Guyana's production of bauxite had remained steady, a number of long-term contracts were "shaky" because of economic problems in more developed nations.

The proposed World Bank loan would finance a hydroelectric project that would give Guyana the potential for exporting electrical power and building a smelter that would convert bauxite to aluminum. This would greatly increase Guyana's foreign-exchange earnings and make it one of the few developing countries to move from a producer of raw materials to a manufacturer.

He said projections showed that the hydroelectric facility "could be amortized in 12 years and provide the alternative energy needed in the entire region."

Most of Interior Is Undeveloped

Four-fifths of the people of Guyana — which is bordered by Venezuela, Brazil, Surinam and the Atlantic Ocean — live in the urban and farming regions along the coast. Most of the 83,000 square miles of rain forest and savanna in the interior is undeveloped. A major Government priority is the development of the interior through farming and ranching communities.

Mr. Nascimento said there were more than 20 such settlements in Guyana's interior, populated by foreigners and by Guyanese citizens who had been unemployed. Most of the foreign settlers are nonwhites from Caribbean islands and the United States, or emigrants from British Commonwealth countries. Guyana was formerly the colony of British Guiana.

The People's Temple settlement had been the largest and the most successful in agricultural output, Mr. Nascimento said, adding that it was too early to tell what would happen to the facilities.

Mr. Nascimento complained that some of the foreign reporting on Guyana had said that "gangs of choking robbers were roaming our streets." This, he said, is "simply not true." High unemployment has resulted some muggings and other crimes in Guyana, he said, but "it is not a phenomenon that is any more unusual — actually is probably less prevalent than in large cities in the U.S." He added that "it is unfair and unbalanced to focus on this as though it is representative of the norm of the country."

The Washington Post ____
Washington Star-News ____
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The Wall Street Journal ____
The Atlanta Constitution ____
The Los Angeles Times ____

Date NOV 24 1978

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A Novel of the Absurd Against a Tropical Backdrop

Rec. Mgnt. ____
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Public Affs. Off. ____
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Director's Sec'y ____

By Leonard Downie Jr.
Washington Post Foreign Service

GEORGETOWN, Guyana, Nov. 23—If only the horror of the bodies rotting under the hot sun in Jonestown could be blotted out, the other events of this extraordinary week here could be stitched together in the style of Evelyn Waugh or Graham Greene to form a novel of the absurd in the tropics.

A remote, Kansas-sized nation of less than a million inhabitants and only a dozen years of independence, whose name was seldom spelled right even by the few outsiders who knew it existed, suddenly becomes front-page news around the world.

Its languid capital, populated by less than 200,000 and run by exceedingly polite if somewhat deliberate civil servants, is inundated by an unending flood of foreign journalists, each of whom demands exclusive access to everything and everyone without delay.

Its government, which retains the parliamentary trappings and tropic colonial buildings of its former British rulers but is run now by socialist leaders who want to be addressed as "comrade," is not quite certain how to handle all this because, in the words of one foreign diplomat here, "They are still trying to decide whether to have an open or closed society."

Its small sector of private enterprise—most industry and large stores are nationalized—is being infused with American and Guyanese dollars by the correspondents and U.S. military and civilian personnel crowding the hotels and restaurants, buying out its clothing stores and monopolizing most of its taxis.

The result has been a mixture of confusion and occasional remarkable cooperation, frustration and good humor, tragedy and economic windfall, and the distant stench of death mingled with the warm love of life of the Guyanese people.

Guyana has been opened to the world this week as never before.

"Americans would never come here otherwise," one cab driver said, perhaps forgetting the hundreds of Americans who had come and become part of the settlement in Jonestown.

This tropical country is nearly 90 percent covered by dense rain forest. Most of its people are here along the Atlantic coast, where ocean breezes moderate the heat with frequent showers. It has no highway or rail link with its neighbors on three sides: Venezuela, Brazil and Suriname.

Guyana, located on the northern rim of South America, considers itself a Caribbean nation. Its best connections by air are with Trinidad. Its papers are filled with news from the Caribbean islands. Its music is West Indian. Its socialist model, in rhetoric, is Cuba.

Only a little more than 40 percent of its population is black, descendants of Africans brought here by the Dutch and British, but it is their political party that has controlled the government since independence.

Half of Guyana's citizens are East Indians, who make up the bulk of its merchant class but have largely been shut out of the top positions of power in the government of Prime Minister Forbes Burnham. The mix also includes Chinese, indigenous Amerindians and some British-descended "white Guyanese" who remained behind after independence in 1966.

The people and the government are proud of their country, which is underdeveloped (sugar, rice and bauxite are its basic crops and industry) but not desperately impoverished. Its relatively few roads are filled with cars and bicycles. City dwellers are well dressed and healthy.

Except for a recent epidemic of street muggings here, called "choke-and-robs," there is relatively little violence. The Guyanese were deeply shocked by the events at Jonestown last weekend.

At first they explained it to themselves as something Americans did to Americans, but now questions are being asked by opposition politicians and newspapers and others about whether the Guyanese government

The Washington Post B A3
Washington Star-News ____
Daily News (New York) ____
The New York Times ____
The Wall Street Journal ____
The Atlanta Constitution ____
The Los Angeles Times ____

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FBI/DOJ

should not have done something about Jonestown long before this.

They are asking how dozens of guns, including automatic weapons, got into Jonestown; whether it is true that Jonestown was taking in and sending out goods by water via a nearby river to the sea without going through customs, or whether top officials of the government were too friendly with Jonestown leader Jim Jones and looked the other way when stories of strange activities there reached diplomatic and political circles here.

The toughest questions, however, are now being asked by an increasingly insistent foreign press corps here.

Restrictions on access to Jonestown, which can now be reached only by air, and on information coming from anyone but a few Guyanese government and U.S. Embassy spokesmen, the difficulties of using a limited telephone system that has been overwhelmed by the media, and the polite British-style brushoff that Guyanese officials give reporters who push too far have begun to frustrate the press and produce some conflict.

A reporter for one major U.S. newspaper angrily lectured an official of the Ministry of Information about how wrong and foolish it was that he had not been given the same access to the Jonestown scene and elsewhere that a reporter for a competing U.S. newspaper had.

Some reporters became particularly strident at a press conference last night by U.S. military, U.S. embassy and Guyanese officials to report on the removal of bodies from Jonestown and the search for survivors.

Reporters who apparently believed that more should be done to hunt for survivors in the remote rain forest peppered the officials with combative questions that sometimes became lectures.

"How can the United States send a fortune to recover dead bodies," one reporter asked, "and very little to go after survivors in the jungle?"

Sometimes, the reporters' frustrations are carried to noisy luncheon tables in hotel restaurants here, where they are the most numerous patrons—except for three days at the Tower Hotel in the heart of this city. On those days, the Chinese soccer team, in Georgetown to play Guyana's national team, occupied many of the Tower's rooms and half the dining room for three meals a day.

But unlike the foreign journalists, the Chinese soccer players were barely noticed as they filed in noiselessly, ate at two long tables and disappeared again, never to be seen in the lobby or corridors of the hotel until they boarded their buses to leave.

On the night they left, a small crowd gathered outside the hotel.

With the squad of big, rugged-looking Chinese athletes boarding their buses amid the foreign reporters dashing back and forth from the hotel to their taxis, there was much to watch in a city that has not known such excitement since independence day.

FD-350 (Rev. 10-19-77)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Some Facts And Figures On Guyana

Guyana, scene of Saturday's ambush murder of Rep. Leo Ryan, D-Calif., and three American newsmen, is a tropical, Kansas-size, former British colony on the northeast shoulder of South America.

Most of its 850,000 residents are English-speaking and live in a narrow coastal belt that supports the nation's dominant industry, agriculture.

The Dutch settled the area in 1620, but the English captured it in 1796. Guyana became independent in 1966.

Most foreign industrial and financial interests have been nationalized, and last July voters authorized Parliament to draw up a socialist constitution.

Guyana is bordered by Venezuela on the west, Surinam on the east, Brazil on the south and southwest and the Atlantic Ocean on the north.

Most Guyanans' ancestors arrived as African slaves before 1800 or as East Indian sugar plantation workers in the 19th century. Today about half are of East Indian origin, 31 percent African, and the rest European or of mixed blood. The dominant religions are Christianity, about 50 percent, followed by Hinduism and Islam.

Besides agriculture, resources of gold, aluminum ore, diamonds, and manganese are being developed.

In 1970 Guyana redesignated itself a "cooperative republic," marking its increased commitment to socialism. Prime Minister Forbes Burnham in 1974 referred to his People's National Congress Party as a socialist party that would work for a cooperative-dominated economy and purge the nation of "the beliefs and ideologies of our former imperialist masters."

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

A-1 HERALD EXAMINE
LOS ANGELES, C.

Date: 11/20/78
Edition: Monday Latest

Title:

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Classification:
Submitting Office:
Los Angeles

FBI/DOJ

FD-350 (Rev. 10-19-77)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Guyana: Socialist Colony in Tropics

Guyana, scene of Saturday's ambush-murder of Rep. Leo J. Ryan (D-Calif.) and four others, is a tropical Kansas-sized former British colony on the northeast shoulder of South America.

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(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

I-25 LOS ANGELES TIMES LOS ANGELES,

Date: 11/20/78

Edition: Monday Final

Title: GUYANA

Character:

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Classification:

Submitting Office: Los Angeles

FBI/DOJ

FD-350 (Rev. 10-19-77)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Cult Neither Friend, Stranger in Guyana

GEORGETOWN, Guyana—While news of nearly 400 deaths, including a U.S. congressman, in a faraway religious community was the first many Americans had ever heard of the Peoples Temple, the Rev. Jim Jones and his flock were not strangers to the people of this isolated, sparsely populated country.

Neither were they friends.

Guyanese questioned here Monday said they knew of the Peoples Temple settlement and of the foreigners who lived there but had little idea who they were or why they were in Guyana.

Still reeling from the shock of the massacre, they repeatedly referred to it as "trouble between Americans" that had happened to take place on their soil but had little to do with their country.

"We had no problems with them before this," Guyana Information Minister Shirley Field-Ridley said Monday. "They obeyed all the laws."

Leading opponents of Prime Minister Forbes Burnham's government said the Peoples Temple seemed exempt from many of Guyana's laws, particularly those governing the payment of import and export duties and, as became clear last weekend, the regulation of firearms.

But, as an editor of the leading opposition newspaper said: "We never really investigated them. There were lots of charges and suspicions, but at the same time I received numerous letters from friends in the United States telling me what a wonderful group it was."

Clearly, Jones and the temple were in favor with the Burnham government. When important visitors came to the community, such as California Lt. Gov. Mervyn Dymally, they and Jones often were greeted by Dep. Prime Minister Ptolemy Reid and received by Burnham.

Temple adherents, who maintain a large residence in Georgetown and operated a second-hand clothing and junk store here, often attended government functions en masse, local residents said. During a hotly contested political campaign last summer, when Burnham won a referendum allowing him to postpone this year's elections, local residents said temple people did door-to-door canvassing.

Aside from any direct political connections, however, the Peoples Temple Agricultural and Medical Project was the largest and best example of a government land-use project designed to allow groups of outsiders to develop the largely unpopulated jungle that covers most of Guyana.

At Jonestown, the community that the temple people named after their leader at its founding in late 1973, they cleared and plowed some of the densest jungle in South America. Located about 150 miles northwest of Georgetown, the area is reachable only by riverboat or aircraft.

The introduction to a locally printed temple "Progress Report 1977" notes that the agricultural project "was initiated by Rev. Jim Jones in December of 1973. He conceived of the project in order to assist the Guyanese government in a small measure to feed, clothe and house its people, and at the same time to further the human service goals that have characterized Peoples Temple for many years."

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

I-20 LOS ANGELES TIMES LOS ANGELES, CA

Date: 11/21/78

Edition: Tuesday Final

Title: CULT

Character: or RYMUR

Classification:

Submitting Office: Los Angeles

FBI/DOJ

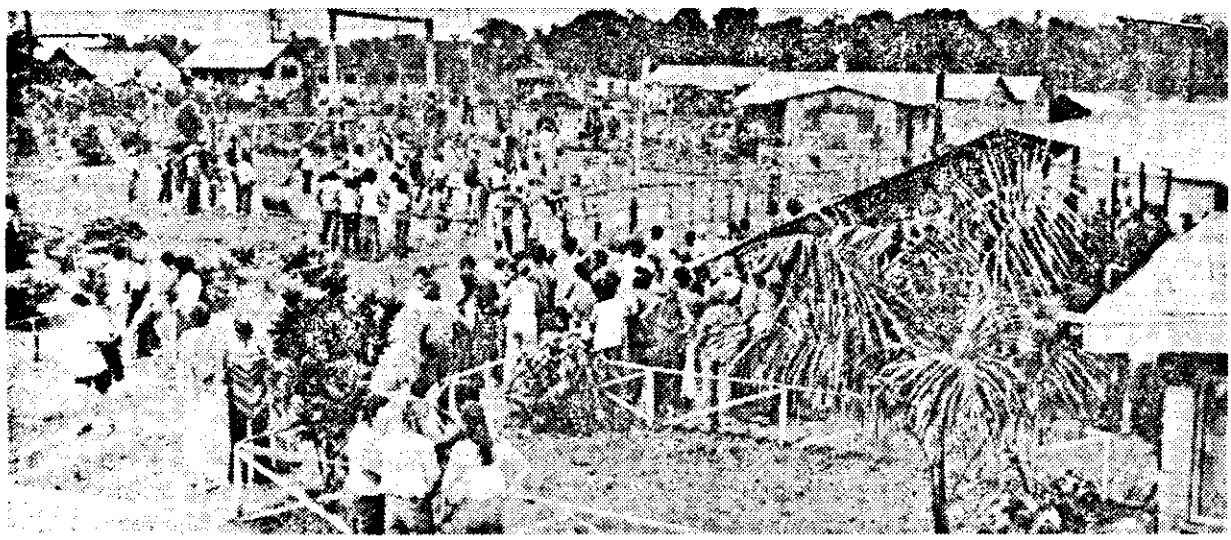
According to temple attorney Charles Garry, Jones leased 4,989 acres from the government, with an option for 27,000 more.

Temple literature describes Jonestown founders as a small group of pioneers who used sweat and determination to carve out of the jungle an agricultural project they expected in 1977 to "become self-sufficient in three to five years."

Meantime, with funds supplied from the United States, they built houses, workshops, a sawmill, communal halls and schools at Jonestown. Most time was spent cultivating the crops, which, according to the literature, were mainly cassava, a potato-like root that is a South American staple. The literature says they grew "170 crops."

While recent visitors estimated the number of Jonestown residents at 800 to 900, at least one temple publication last year put the number at 1,500.

There was little visible community activity in the small, sleepy capital of Georgetown, residents said. "Sometimes they came in soliciting funds," one office worker said. "They were always very quiet and nice. We thought they must be something like Quakers."



A VIEW OF JONESTOWN—Members of religious cult watching a game that was in progress at top left. Picture was made by photographer Gregory Robinson shortly before he was killed.

Cultists Neither Stranger, Friend to Guyana People

BY KAREN DeYOUNG
The Washington Post

GEORGETOWN, Guyana—While news of nearly 400 deaths, including a U.S. congressman, in a faraway religious community was the first many Americans had ever heard of the Peoples Temple, the Rev. Jim Jones and his flock were not strangers to the people of this isolated, sparsely populated country.

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"We had no problems with them before this," Guyana Information Minister Shirley Field-Ridley said Monday. "They obeyed all the laws."

Leading opponents of Prime Minister Forbes Burnham's government said the Peoples Temple seemed exempt from many of Guyana's laws, particularly those governing the payment of import and export duties and, as became clear last weekend, the regulation of firearms.

But, as an editor of the leading opposition newspaper said: "We never really investigated them. There were lots of charges and suspicions, but at the same time I received numerous letters from friends in the United States telling me what a wonderful group it was."

Clearly, Jones and the temple were in favor with the Burnham government. When important visitors came to the community, such as California Lt. Gov. Mervyn Dymally, they and Jones often were greeted by Dep. Prime Minister Ptolemy Reid and received by Burnham.

Temple adherents, who maintain a large residence in Georgetown and operated a second-hand clothing and junk store here, often attended government functions en masse, local residents said. During a hotly contested political campaign last summer, when Burnham won a referendum allowing him to postpone this year's elections, local residents said temple people did door-to-door canvassing.

Aside from any direct political connections, however, the Peoples Temple Agricultural and Medical Project was the largest and best example of a government land-use project designed to allow groups of outsiders to develop the largely unpopulated jungle that covers most of Guyana.

At Jonestown, the community that the temple people named after their leader at its founding in late 1973, they cleared and plowed some of the densest jungle in South America. Located about 150 miles northwest of Georgetown, the area is reachable only by riverboat or aircraft.

The introduction to a locally printed temple "Progress Report 1977" notes that the agricultural project "was initiated by Rev. Jim Jones in December of 1973. He conceived of the project in order to assist the Guyanese government in a small measure to feed, clothe and house its people, and at the same time to further the human service goals that have characterized Peoples Temple for many years."

According to temple attorney Charles Garry, Jones leased 4,999 acres from the government, with an option for 27,000 more.

Temple literature describes Jonestown founders as a small group of pioneers who used sweat and determination to carve out of the jungle an agricultural project they expected in 1977 to "become self-sufficient in three to five years."

Meantime, with funds supplied from the United States, they built houses, workshops, a sawmill, communal halls and schools at Jonestown. Most time was spent cultivating the crops, which, according to the literature, were mainly cassava, a potato-like root that is a South American staple. The literature says they grew "170 crops."

While recent visitors estimated the number of Jonestown residents at 800 to 900, at least one temple publication last year put the number at 1,500. In an interview Monday, Garry, who had described the community as "paradise" following visits in the past year, said "several

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Date NOV 21 1978

hundred" new arrivals had come to Jonestown in recent months.

There was little visible community activity in the small, sleepy capital of Georgetown, residents said. "Sometimes they came in soliciting funds," one office worker said. "They were always very quiet and nice. We thought they must be something like Quakers."

Another resident said the temple people rarely spoke about religion to strangers.

It was in the summer of 1977, not long after Jones' arrival here, that unfavorable publicity alleging extortion of California temple members and corporal punishment began to spread in the United States and make its way to Guyana.

Local rumors—none of them confirmed, but all widely circulated here—talked of downriver trips by a converted fishing trawler owned by the community and ostensibly used to transport produce to Georgetown markets. The boat, it was said here, often traveled several miles into the sea to meet a freighter and pick up goods that were transported back to Jonestown without government inspection or payment.

A VIEW OF JONESTOWN—Members of religious cult watching a game that was in progress at top left. Picture was made by photographer Gregory Robinson shortly before he was killed.

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via AP Wirephoto

0-19 (Rev. 1-27-78)

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Jonestown: Once a Model, Now a Liability in Guyana

By DAVID VIDAL
Special to The New York Times

GEORGETOWN, Guyana, Nov. 25 — Until the murders and suicides of last weekend in the northwestern hinterland of Guyana, the Jonestown communal settlement of the People's Temple had been considered by officials here to be a promising model project because of the many ways in which it seemed to fit so well into this complex country.

Almost every major ideological, racial, economic and even diplomatic concern of this underpopulated and underdeveloped former British colony was somehow addressed by Jonestown, the most successful of several settlements of mostly black American and Caribbean expatriates set up in recent years in the tropical interior.

There was a clear effort to settle a huge area in the western two-thirds of this country of 800,000 inhabitants that has an area more than half again the size of New York State. Neighboring Venezuela has a long-standing claim on this area that is the principal diplomatic issue between the two countries.

The mixture of many blacks and some whites, including the sect's leader, the Rev. Jim Jones, also suggested the type of racial harmony that has historically eluded the Guyanese. There are strong political, economic and social divisions in the public life of this 12-year-old independent nation because the descendants of East Indian and Dutch laborers are in the majority but descendants of African slaves, who are in the minority, control the civil service and Government.

Other Common Views and Goals

The sect's socialist doctrine and its notions of cooperative living based on self-reliance also correspond to the main ideals proposed by the avowedly Marxist Government of the Prime Minister, Forbes Burnham.

Similarly, the attempt in Jonestown to open a new area to farming fit into an official agricultural effort to eliminate food shortages.

And religious feeling runs high in Guyana, where there are many churches and denominations and much radio time is devoted to religious broadcasts.

These common beliefs and purposes gave Jonestown entrée to this country. But with the tragic crash of the Jonestown dream, these links have also raised questions about the Government. The Prime Minister has made no personal public declaration on the case, and this has caused gossip that appears to be turning the Jonestown affair into a major internal issue affecting Guyana's political future.

Cult and Ruling Party Linked

Opposition groups have charged that the group at Jonestown could have been one of the religious organizations and cults with political ties to Prime Minister Burnham's ruling party, which is called the People's National Congress

The best known of these groups is the House of Israel, a group of black Jews lead by a Cleveland man known who preaches that he is the Prophet Elijah.

Dressed in the green, black and red that are also the colors of the ruling party, House of Israel members have held pro-Government rallies and last year volunteered to cut cane when sugar workers went on the longest strike in their history.

The opposition People's Progressive Party of Dr. Cheddi Bharat Jagan, a Marxist-Leninist group that has its roots among the East Indian agrarian workers, frequently accuses the Government of election-rigging. In July, during a constitutional referendum, the party said House of Israel members were mobilized to vote despite a general boycott of the referendum by many non-Government groups.

Support for Burnham Is Eroded

On other occasions, Mr. Burnham, an occasional Methodist preacher, has also received statements of support on important issues from other religious groups associated with his Government. These include St. Peter's A.M.E. Church, the Methodist Church and the Mystic Apostolic Council. People who have been associated with the Government say members of the People's Temple were politically active.

The participation of religious groups in Guyanese politics is not new, but it has come into greater focus in the face of what appears to be the erosion of support for Mr. Burnham because of harsh economic circumstances and his increasingly personal style of governing.

"The situation in Guyana is very fluid," said Gordon Todd, a labor leader with the Guyana Trade Union Congress whose own Clerical and Commercial

The Washington Post ____
Washington Star-News ____
Daily News (New York) ____
The New York Times Pt. I, P22
The Wall Street Journal ____
The Atlanta Constitution ____
The Los Angeles Times ____

Date NOV 26 1978

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Workers Union has some 4,000 members.

"We have always had strong political bases as reflected by the People's Progressive Party and the People's National Congress. But although basic politics has developed, the political economics has not kept abreast and people are a bit dismayed that the economic girth has not been delivered," he added.

Economic Measures Are Unpopular

To get help in its current economic crisis from the International Monetary Fund, Guyana has had to impose unpopular measures, such as increasing prices and reducing the number of jobs in the public sector. Dissatisfaction with the Government has increased as revelations about Jonestown have pointed to widespread violation of Guyanese gun-control and other laws. The Government says it was unaware of such violations, but the opposition groups say there was offical complicity.

Corruption is also a persistent issue and perennial charges of election fraud recurred after the July referendum. Its purpose was to approve a plan to write a constitution to replace one worked out by the British before independence in 1956 that the Government views as unsuitable for a developing socialist country.

The practical effect of the referendum, however, was also to extend the life of Parliament 15 months beyond the five-year term that expired in July, which the Government considered an inopportune time for parliamentary elections.

The Government reported a 71 percent turnout and 97 percent approval of writing a new constitution. However, the opposition charged that there were widespread irregularities and that the turnout was faked.

Prices Had Begun to Rise

The vote came after the country had begun to feel the effects of the new economic measures. These included an end to subsidies for such items as milk and flour, higher prices for electricity and transportation and higher indirect taxes.

The measures formed part of a package negotiated with the I.M.F. to help Guyana emerge from a balance-of-payments problem brought about by lower prices for sugar, rice and bauxite that account for 80 percent of Guyana's earnings from exports.

Since the Government employs half the labor force and controls most of the economy, revenue shortages have a profound ripple affect on the population. Many Government workers have not been paid for a month now. Meat is expensive and not always available. Cheese, butter and tea are scarce.

At the Guyana Stores supermarket last week, Mrs. Elaine Bishop waited for quarter-pound boxes of tea to be delivered. When the cartons appeared at the back of the store, a crowd of about 20 customers scrambled and pushed each other to get their share.

Jonestown's Status Is Criticized

"This is terrible," said Mrs. Bishop, a cook in a convent that feeds 60 children. "This is getting on my nerves. I can't take it any more. I don't know what is happening. Everything is just gone."

So unpopular have the measures resulting from the I.M.F. negotiations become, that the government has taken spokesmen into schools to brief students and teachers on the benefits of the program for the country.

Because of the shortages, there has been much comment about the apparently privileged status Jonestown seems to have enjoyed.

Gun control legislation is strict in Guyana but large amounts of arms and ammunition were discovered at the site, for example.

So large, in fact, do some of the transactions at Jonestown now appear, that the question of how it all could have taken place without the knowledge or acquiescence of government officials is the most discussed by the Guyanese public.

The general feeling that many things are not right has been compounded by the unwillingness of high Government officials to be questioned on the matter. And last week, the Government used a procedural technicality to scuttle an opposition call for a Parliamentary investigation.

GUYANA ACTION ON SUSPECTS

FD-350 (Rev. 10-19-77)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Guyana to Decide Which of 80 Temple Survivors Will Be Held

GEORGETOWN, Guyana—Police here say a decision will be made by Wednesday on which of the 80 survivors of the Peoples Temple suicide-murders here can return to the United States and which will be held as suspects or material witnesses.

Three members of the sect were questioned by police Monday and later released. Asst. Crime Commissioner Cecil (Skip) Roberts said no charges were filed. He would not say what the questioning covered.

"We just want to question them more and go back over their story," Roberts said.

The three were identified as Tim Carter, 28, his brother Michael, 20, both of Boise, Ida., and Michael Prokes, 32, a former Modesto television newsman.

Prokes and the Carters had been jailed but were released Saturday, taken to the run-down Park Hotel and told to stay available for questioning.

Police have filed murder charges against two other cult members in connection with the Nov. 18 deaths of Rep. Leo J. Ryan (D-Calif.), and four others at the airstrip at Port Kaituma near Jonestown and the murders of a mother and her three children in the sect's headquarters in Georgetown the same day.

Roberts said Guyanese officials were making a complete inventory of Jonestown but that no decision had been reached on what to do with the settlement, 150 miles northwest of the capital.

In Washington, State Department spokesman Hodding Carter III, when asked when flights from Guyana would arrive at Charleston Air Force Base in South Carolina, said, "It's doubtful such a trip would take place before Tuesday."

U.S. Attorney Thomas E. Lydon in Charleston, quoting a State Department statement, said, "It is still our plan if a substantial number of survivors of the Jonestown tragedy want to leave Guyana together, they will be flown to Charleston by military aircraft sometime this week.

"It is also impossible at this point for us to speculate as to how many of the survivors would be aboard such a flight."

Lydon said he was told by the State Department that some of the survivors might decide to return by other means and some might not wish to return at all.

Lydon also said investigators have found no trace of the "death teams" that some cult members have reported. Survivors have told investigators they feared retribution by Peoples Temple members who remained in the United States.

"We are concerned about the death teams . . . but we have no factual basis of that angle," he said. "We have no factual basis at this time to assume any of it."

Meanwhile, at Ft. Bragg, North Carolina, shaken soldiers returning from Guyana expressed shock and horror Monday at the grisly scene at the peoples Temple Jonestown settlement.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

I-14 LOS ANGELES TIMES LOS ANGELES, C

Date: 11/28/78
Edition: Tuesday Final

Title: GUYANA TO DECIDE

Character: RYMUR/AFO
or
Classification: 89-436
Submitting Office: Los Angeles

FBI/DOJ

"I guess I'll be all right, others may not. I know I'll never forget it as long as I live," Lt. Col. Alfred Keyes, who led the 100-member body identification and recovery unit, said. "Although I'm in the military, I'm not immune to feelings. My feelings were shock and disbelief."

"It was a gory experience," Sgt. Bobbie D. Armstrong said. "In all the 1,500 bodies I have processed, these were the worst."

The men said other experiences in mass-death situations did not prepare them for the scene at Jonestown, where more than 900 followers of the Rev. Jim Jones killed themselves by drinking cyanide-poisoned punch.

"it was mind-boggling . . . It's amazing that any one individual would have the power over another group so much so that they would commit suicide for him. Just mind-boggling," Keyes said.

The soldiers, who arrived in Guyana last Tuesday, said they had to take frequent breaks from the scene to compose themselves.

"We'd work about 10 minutes, until we couldn't stand it anymore, and then work again," Sgt. Steve Jackson said.

It was a gruesome and overwhelming task that confronted the men when they arrived, recovering the hundreds of bodies strewn around a field in the Jonestown camp, and placing them in rubber "body bags." the bodies were then lifted by helicopter to Georgetown, 135 miles from Jonestown.

Keyes said the soldiers had to work almost nonstop, starting at daybreak, and ending about 5 p.m. each day.

"We had to push people to the point of operating like zombies. We worked continuously," Keyes said.

He said the soldiers soon discovered there more than twice as many bodies as had previously been estimated.

"At first we thought there were only about 406, and then as we began to uncover them, there were other bodies under there," Keyes said.

Guyana Orders Custody Case Inquiry

The following dispatch was written by Nicholas M. Horrock and is based on reporting by him and David Vidal.

Special to The New York Times

GEORGETOWN, Guyana, Dec. 6 — The Guyana Government has ordered its Attorney General to investigate charges that a justice of the Supreme Court here yielded to pressure from the People's Temple while handling a child-custody case involving the Rev. Jim Jones, the Deputy Prime Minister said today.

In an interview with The New York Times, that official, Dr. Ptolemy Reid, for the first time made public details of the lease that his Government issued to the People's Temple for the agricultural community at Jonestown and the efforts it made to establish the group's credentials.

The decision to open an investigation of the handling of the John Victor Stoen child custody case appeared to be part of a major Government effort to counter criticism in opposition newspapers here and in foreign publications that it had been negligent in not taking steps to prevent the mass deaths at Jonestown.

Court Documents Quoted

One of the questions that most troubled some members of the Government was why Justice Aubrey Bishop, a member of the nation's second highest court, chose to step down from the custody case last Aug. 12. When he disqualified himself, the justice said in court documents that "there have been persistent efforts of an extralegal or approbrious nature, in the form of letters and other documents as well as telephone calls, intended to influence the outcome of proceedings, in favor of one side or the other."

Justice Bishop also said that he considered those acts "mean and despicable, and I feel obligated to decline adjudicating in the case."

The case has additional significance, since Mr. Jones reportedly believed that it was at the very center of the forces he felt were out to destroy the People's Temple.

A review of court records by Times reporters and interviews in Government and legal circles here raised several questions about the case.

In September 1977, Jeffrey A. Haas, a San Francisco lawyer, arrived here with a California state court order awarding the custody of John Stoen, then five years old, to his mother, Grace Stoen, who had been one of Mr. Jones's chief lieutenants.

Mrs. Stoen and her husband, Timothy Oliver Stoen, left the movement several months before.

The order could not be enforced here without a similar finding of a Guyanese court. Clarence Hughes, a Georgetown lawyer retained by Mr. Haas, filed suit on Sept. 6, 1977, and the next day Mr. Haas and a marshal from the court tried to serve court papers on Mr. Jones at the agricultural community.

Jones Could Not Be Found

Court records indicate that they were unable to find Mr. Jones, and Justice Bishop later permitted "indirect service," that is, the posting of the notice on property in Jonestown. The cult leader still did not attempt to comply with the court order, and Mr. Hughes opened contempt-of-court proceedings against him.

On Sept. 10, Justice Bishop issued a bench warrant that ordered that the child be removed from Jonestown and delivered to the custody of the court here. A similar order in the United States can immediately be enforced by any police authority, as it can be here. However, it was not enforced.

Kenneth Wyndham Barnwell, a British-trained lawyer and the chief registrar of the Supreme Court, said in an interview that he chose not to enforce the order because "we haven't got the facilities for a young child," adding, "I cannot take him to my home, you know."

Delay Was Crucial

He acknowledged, however, that the delay in enforcing this order was crucial in the case.

It was in this interval that Joyce Touchette, a member of the Temple's board of directors here and a lieutenant of Mr. Jones's, retained Sir Lionel Luckhoo, Guyana's best-known trial lawyer, and asked the court to enter her as a party to the case. Sir Lionel's firm then challenged the legality of Justice Bishop's

ing pressure. Through an aide, he declined this week to be interviewed.

But several sources in the Guyanese legal community said that the justice had been subjected to threats of violence and blackmail in unsigned letters and in telephone calls from persons with American

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The Washington Post ____
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The New York Times B-12
The Wall Street Journal ____
The Atlanta Constitution ____
The Los Angeles Times ____

FD-350 (Rev. 10-19-77)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Guyana launches its own probe on suicides

GEORGETOWN, Guyana (UPI) — The government of Guyana began its own investigation into the Jonestown mass suicide Monday, ordering troops into the jungle commune to seek documents and any other clues to the deaths of more than 900 members of a California religious cult.

There was growing evidence that the Rev. Jim Jones had ordered the ritual suicide in a fit of despondency over fears that a U.S. congressman's investigation could mean the end of the cult before he could make arrangements to transfer it to Cuba or the Soviet Union.

Jones, who turned increasingly Marxist in recent months, spoke frequently in his sermons of taking his believers to one of the Communist countries, and one of his legacies was a suitcase containing $500,000 in cash and instructions to take it to the Soviet Embassy to further his plans.

But the mass suicide began before the money could be delivered by three members of the cult — Tim Carter, 28, of Boise, Idaho, his brother Mike, 20, and Michael Prokes, 32, of Modesto, Calif. They stashed the suitcase in a chicken coop and were picked up by Guyanese authorities. Guyana later confiscated the money.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

___ Page 10

San Juan Star

___ San Juan,

___ Puerto Rico

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Date: 11/28/78

Edition: AM

Title: Guyana Launches Its Own Probe on Suicides

Character:

or 89-123

Classification:

Submitting Office:

San Juan

FBI/DOJ

The 32 survivors of the suicide sat around their seedy hotel rooms Monday or napped while waiting transportation to the United States. Another 46 at the cult's headquarters in Georgetown remained under heavy guard. One of the 46 has been charged with murder in the deaths of Rep. Leo J. Ryan, D-Calif., and four other Americans; another was charged with the murder of a mother and her three children at the headquarters.

More answers to the mystery of Jones' last hours of decision were pieced together from statements from the few survivors including Tim Carter, who carried the suitcase of money which contained a letter to the Soviet Embassy in Georgetown.

Another possible clue came from a note apparently written by Jones in a fit of despondency following the Ryan airport massacre and his reported fear that Ryan's investigation of reports that temple members were being held in near slavery would mean the end of the cult.

The FBI in Washington was studying what it called a twoparagraph note of despair found on Jones' body. Its full contents were not disclosed and hand writing experts were checking to see whether Jones actually wrote the note but the FBI emphasized its tone of despair.

In Washington, the State Department Monday declined to comment on any aspects of the investigations surrounding the Jonestown massacre, including a reported suicide note, alleged plans for the cult to go to the Soviet Union and other issues regarding this matter.

"I am not going to be able to comment on that while all those matters are under investigation," said spokesman Hodding Carter in answer to questions, including one on whether the department is looking into alleged political ties beween Jones and the Guyana government.

"While the entire set of circumstances involving crime in Guyana is under investigation, our ability to comment on various documents — that have surfaced and which may figure in that investigation —is going to be severely curtailed."

Carter said as they walked away from the commune with the money and arms that the lethal doses of cyanide and Kool-Aid were already taking effect on the communicants of the suicide rite. After four to five minutes, convulsions racked bodies, foam filled mouths and flowed down chins.

Although he dispatched troops to Jonestown to make an inventory of cult belongings and search for clues, Prime Minister Forbes Burnham has remained silent on the case. He is expected to announce further arrests later.

The last of the U.S. troops on the mission dismantled their last HH153 helicopter Monday, placed it aboard a C141 transport and left the country. Before leaving Jonestown they burned their uniforms because of the danger of disease from the rotting bodies they had sent back to the United States.

According to the Pentagon, the body retrieval operation cost U.S. taxpayers approximately $9 million, which figured out to about $10,000 per body.

Military technicians wheel away a helicopter with its rotors removed as task forces sent to recover more than 900 bodies of the mass suicide in Jonestown prepare to leave. All of the equipment and men came from bases in the United States and Panama. (UPI photo)

FD-350 (Rev. 10-19-77)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Guyana cabinet mulls future of Jones' commune

GEORGETOWN, Guyana (UPI) — Marxist Prime Minister Forbes Burnham called a cabinet meeting Tuesday night to decided the future of the 3,000-acre commune of Jonestown where more than 900 Americans died in mass suicide-murder 11 days ago.

Government sources said the cabinet was expected to commission the military to exploit the commune as an agricultural station and to harvest the crops of beans, tapioca, bananas, pineapples, oranges and other tropical fruits hanging ripe on the trees.

The sources said it was not likely that Guyanese settlers or National Service volunteers could be persuaded to move into the commune where the Rev. Jim Jones led his disciples to their death in a ritual mass suicide. Guyanese peasants are notoriously superstitious and fearful of ghosts.

Guyanese soldiers already were in Jonestown to seal off the buildings against possible looting and to search for documents or other evidence that would solve the mysteries still hanging over the jungle clearing 150 miles northwest of Georgetown.

The future of Jonestown and its boarded up Peoples Temple sect dwellings "will feature prominently at the cabinet meeting," the government newspaper The Chronicle, said.

Burnham has not yet made any public statement on the mass suicide except to say that he will hang Larry Layton if the Peoples Temple follower is found guilty of the murder of Rep. Leo J. Ryan D-Calif., and four other Americans.

Layton, 32, of San Francisco, has been charged with five counts of murder here in the shooting of the Ryan investigative mission.

Burnham also has said that there will be no extradition of any Americans charged here.

The U.S. Consulate Service in Georgetown, almost certain to face fire from congress and relatives of the victims for possible negligence in the bizarre case, prepared to fly some of the 38 survivors back to Charlestown AFB, S.C.

The FBI wants to question the survivors about the Ryan ambush slaying.

A U.S. source said some of the survivors have been contradictory on whether they wanted to return to the United States. Some survivors from the commune have said they want to go to Cuba.

Jones ordered his followers to take cyanide after members of the sect, apparently at Jones' order, shot and killed Ryan, three American newsmen and a woman who tried to defect. Ryan had investigated the commune following reports that Americans were being held there against their will.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Page 9

San Juan Star

San Juan,

Puerto Rico

Date: 11/29/78

Edition: AM

Title: Guyana Cabinet Mulls Future of JONES' Commune

Character:

or

Classification: 89-123

Submitting Office: San Juan

FBI/DOJ

In a last glimpse of Jonestown Monday, reporters saw the quarters where Jones lived his paranoid life — a hut with two bedrooms and an office in the middle, the only commune building with running water.

A refrigerator was crammed with pills including stimulants to keep him awake and books extolling the Marxist way of life — there had been reports Jones wanted to take his flock to Cuba or to the Soviet Union.

(In Moscow the Communist party newspaper Pravda Tuesday painted the cultists as idealists seeking justice and equality in a new land but unable to escape the "punishing hand of American authorities.")

The only other American charged in the case has been ex-Marine Stevan Beikel of Indianapolis, Ind., on four counts of murder in the throat-cut slayings of Sharon Amos and her three small children. These slayings occurred at the sect's Georgetown headquarters shortly after the mass suicide at Jonestown.

Forty-five members of the cult who had been living in the headquarters at the time of the Amos killings were still under army guard in the building Tuesday as possible material witnesses.

JIM JONES' PAPERS REVEAL TACTICS

Cultists Averted Inquiry by Guyana

JONESTOWN, Guyana (AP)—Suicide cult leader Jim Jones and his senior aides had Guyana's top law enforcement official stop an impending police investigation of the Jonestown settlement earlier this year, according to Jones' personal papers.

Jones helped repay this and other favors from the Guyanese government by having his Peoples Temple followers become deeply involved in local party politics. He even agreed to have his more than 1,000 followers vote illegally on the side of the ruling People's National Congress Party in an important referendum in July, according to the papers.

The wheeling and dealing by Jones' aides among senior government ministers and officials in socialist, tightly controlled Guyana was an echo of his activities in San Francisco where for a time the cult leader was able to bring disciplined forces to vote as a bloc in political campaigns.

But the documents discovered in Jones' jungle settlement after the mass suicide-murder that took more than 900 lives indicate Jones ultimately attempted to manipulate national policy in Guyana.

One memo to Jones dated March 7 this year said that at the request of the Peoples Temple the Cuban Embassy asked Prime Minister Forbes Burnham to reinstate fired Foreign Minister Frederick R. Wills, who was a cult confidant. Burnham didn't do it, but an official told Jones' aides that he was not upset by their gesture.

The Associated Press tried for one week without success to get comment from the Guyanese officials mentioned in the Jonestown papers.

The documents show that the major recurring concern of Jones' people was the possibility of a police investigation prompted by newspaper investigations in the United States.

The demand for an investigation was first taken up in Guyana by former cabinet minister Brindley Benn last Christmas. Jones' top aide in Georgetown, Sharon Amos, personally demanded he retract the request. When Benn stubbornly persevered in his probe demands in the pages of his party newspaper, Mrs. Amos started spreading the word that Benn had asked the U.S. Embassy "for CIA aid to overthrow the government of Guyana."

The officials spearheading the investigation drive was Police Commissioner Lloyd Barker. In April of this year Barker told Mrs. Amos and other aides that he intended to travel to the Jonestown settlement to investigate it.

Unable to dissuade Barker, the Peoples Temple aides sought help from former Foreign Minister Wills, whose name frequently crops up in the documents as an adviser on political, legal and social matters. He was removed from office in January of this year.

Jones' aide Deborah Touchette wrote in a memo that Wills "told us of a situation where Barker . . . and some others were trying to get this guy to make a statement, confess. They put an explosive up next to his scrotum and the explosive went off and blew his scrotum to hell. There was a bet that it wouldn't reach the courts."

The Jones aides took this information to another apparent confidant, Barker's superior, Home Affairs Minister Claude V. Mingo, responsible for police and national security. They told him of the explosive incident and also, according to Miss Touchette, "We told him what Barker had said about coming up to investigate us. We were tired of investigations, could he do something about this?"

Mingo discounted the explosive incident, but promised to "talk with Barker and explain to him the official government position towards us."

The memo, dated Feb. 27, said "the next time we saw Mingo (9-3-78) Barker came out of his office as we were waiting to go in. He was extremely nice, making a very pointed effort to say hello and smile . . . a much different attitude than I have seen before, so I think that Mingo did talk to him."

In the same memo the Jones aides wrote about Mingo, "He said the PM (prime minister) has never expressed anything adverse against the Peoples Temple. He said it was not true that the opposition asked for an investigation of Peoples Temple."

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The Peoples Temple followers frequently marched around Georgetown during the referendum campaign with banners calling for the public to support the referendum. It was declared approved by a large majority.

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FBI/DOJ

0-19 (Rev. 1-27-78)

Cult Blocked Guyana Probe

JONESTOWN, Guyana (AP) — Suicide cult leader Jim Jones and his senior aides had Guyana's top law enforcement official stop an impending police investigation of the Jonestown settlement earlier this year, according to material in Jones' personal papers.

Jones helped repay this and other favors from the Guyanese government by having his Peoples Temple followers become deeply involved in local party politics. He even agreed to have his more than 1,000 followers vote illegally on the side of the ruling People's National Congress party in an important referendum in July, according to the papers.

The wheeling and dealing by Jones' aides amongst senior government ministers and officials in socialist, tightly controlled Guyana was an echo of his activities in San Francisco, where for a time the cult leader was a valued ally, able to bring disciplined forces to vote as a bloc in political campaigns.

BUT THE DOCUMENTS discovered by one of the first to reach Jones' jungle settlement after the mass suicide-murder that took more than 900 lives indicate his ambitions grew to where he attempted to manipulate national policy in Guyana.

One memo to Jones dated March 7 this year said that at the request of the Peoples Temple the Cuban Embassy asked Prime Minister Forbes Burnham to reinstate fired Foreign Minister Fred Wills, who was a cult confidant. Burnham didn't do it, but an official told Jones' aides that he was not upset by their gesture.

The Associated Press tried for one week without success to get comment from Guyanese officials mentioned in 120 pages of Jonestown papers it acquired.

The documents show that the major recurring concern of Jones' people was the possibility of a police investigation prompted by newspaper investigations in the United States.

When the demand for an investigation was first taken up in Guyana by former Cabinet minister Brindley Benn last Christmas, Jones' top aide in Georgetown, Sharon Amos, personally demanded he retract the request.

WHEN BENN STUBBORNLY persevered in his probe demands in the pages of his party newspaper, Amos started spreading the Word that Benn had asked the U.S. Embassy "for CIA aid to overthrow the government of Guyana."

The official spearheading the investigation drive was Police Commissioner Lloyd Barker. In April this year, Barker told Amos and other aides that he intended traveling to the Jonestown settlement to investigate it.

Unable to dissuade Barker, the Peoples Temple aides sought help from former Foreign Minister Frederick R. Wills, whose name frequently crops up in the documents as an adviser on political, legal and social matters. He was removed from office in January this year.

Jones' aide Deborah Touchette wrote in a memo that Wills "told us of a situation where Barker . . . and some others were trying to get this guy to make a statement, confess. They put an explosive up next to his scrotum and the explosive went off and blew his scrotum to hell. There was a bet that it wouldn't reach the courts."

THE JONES' AIDES took this information to another apparent confidant, Barker's superior Home Affairs Minister Claude V. Mingo, responsible for police and national security. They told him of the explosive incident and also, according to Touchette, "we told him what Barker had said about coming up to investigate us. We were tired of investigations, could he do something about this?"

Mingo discounted the explosive incident, but promised to "talk with Barker and explain to him the official government position towards us."

The memo, dated Feb. 27, said that "the next time we saw Mingo 9-3-78 Barker came out of his office as we were waiting to go in. He was extremely nice, making a very pointed effort to say hello and smile . . . a much different attitude than I have seen before, so I think that Mingo did talk to him."

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Date DEC 3 1978

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Prime Minister Says Guyana Will Execute Jonestown Criminals

By Jeremiah O'Leary
Washington Star Staff Writer

GEORGETOWN, Guyana — Prime Minister Forbes Burnham said last night that any members of the Peoples Temple convicted of killing Rep. Leo J. Ryan or other Jonestown victims will be hanged.

Burnham said in an interview there will be no extradition to the United States for followers of the Rev. Jim Jones convicted of crimes at the remote commune where 910 persons died in a mass suicide-murder rite.

Guyana does not have an extradition treaty with the United States, Burnham said. "We are not likely to extradite anyone convicted of crimes in this case because we have the right to try them ourselves. Those who are charged under our laws will be dealt with here and people not charged will be sent out of the country," the prime minister said.

BURNHAM ALSO disclosed that the Jonestown commune, 150 miles northwest of Guyana's capital, had been visited by representatives of the Soviet and Cuban embassies, during the four years of its existence.

"My intelligence service also has informed me that a doctor from the Russian Embassy once visited the commune," he said. But the prime minister said he had no explanation for the Cuban and Russian interest in Jones' agricultural community. He said that Jonestown was the one successful commune in Guyana and that it had worldwide connections, specifically with the two Marxist countries and the United States.

Burnham said he had received many letters from around the world concerning the Peoples Temple activities. He said he had paid no attentiion to the mail, passing it to a secretary for routine filing.

Those files, he said, have now been turned over to Guyanese investigators.

He said his security force is now under orders to check out the other communes in Guyana. One is the Uhuru Sasa group, a small number of black Americans who live in the same general area as Jonestown. The other is called the House of Israel and is located inland along the Demerara River. Burnham said the latter group is made up mostly of Guyanese, with a sprinkling of Americans who believe that Jesus was black.

EARLIER, POLICE Commissioner Lloyd Parker said the Peoples Temple members still in Georgetown are under various forms of police detention or protection and may not leave the country until investigations are complete.

An atmosphere of fear pervades the 77 members of Jones' group who remain in Georgetown. Some 40 cultists are under police guard at the group's city headquarters in Lamaha Gardens. Another 27 are lodged in a downtown hotel under police protection but not detention.

Two cult members have been charged with murder and are now in jail. Six survivors remain in Georgetown hospital for treatment of wounds received in the attacks at Port Kaituma airport — where Ryan, a California Democrat, and four others were killed a week ago Saturday — and the cult's Georgetown headquarters.

There are also two elderly survivors who did not take the cyanide

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The Los Angeles Times ____

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poison at the colony soon after the airport incident.

The only member of the Peoples Temple to leave Guyana yesterday was Claire Janaro, 39, who arrived here from the United States en route to the jungle commune just a few hours before the ritual suicide took place. She went to Trinidad where her husband, Richard, and three other members of the cult had gone on Jones' seagoing freighter, the Albatross, before the horror at Jonestown. Her two teen-age children are believed to have died in the mass suicide.

Richard Janaro

JANARO SAID members of the family of survivors Gerald and Dale Parks told her they were in fear for their lives. Tim Carter, 28, of Boise Idaho, also said he was fearful of returning to the United States because he was afraid he would be harmed by other members of the cult or grieving relatives of those who died at Jonestown.

Carter said he heard there is a Mafia contract out on some of the survivors but refused to elaborate and then broke off the interview. Carter was Jones' public relations and customs man in Georgetown.

Tim Carter

The mystery continued to deepen about the four killings that took place at the cult's Georgetown headquarters about two hours after Jones issued his death order Nov. 18.

Charles Edward Beikman, 43, who was at the Georgetown house on the night of the 18th, yesterday was formally charged before magistrate Fung Kee Fung with four counts of murder and one count of attempted murder. Beikman, according to Guyanese police, cut the throats of a trusted Jones aide, Sharon Amos, and her three children. He used the same long kife to try to kill Stephanie Jones, 12, one of Jones' children. The girl is hospitalized and is expected to recover.

AMOS, ONE OF Jones' inner circle, was originally believed to have killed her children and herself. But Deputy Commissioner Anthony Roberts said that police did not believe the woman could have cut her own throat.

It had been speculated that the killings at the Georgetown house may have been triggered by a radio message from Jonestown about either the shooting of Ryan or of his group by cult members or by word that Jones had issued his mass suicide order.

But police said yesterday the radio at the Georgetown house was not working on the night of the deaths. Roberts refused to give any details of why Beikman killed Amos and her three children, Lee Ann, Martin and Christa at a time when the news of the Jonestown tragedy was not yet publicly known here.

One government official said he believed the killing of the Amos family had been pre-arranged, but refused to elaborate. Police are expected to charge at least five other members of the cult who are now in Georgetown. Larry Layton, 32 of San Francisco already has been jailed with eight counts against him.

"NONE OF THEM are out of the woods yet," said Barker. "Those in the hotels under police protection and those in the guarded Georgetown house are considered to be material witnesses." No one has been permitted to get near the Georgetown house by a heavy guard of troops and police since Nov. 18. Among those inside the house is Steven Jones, 19, son of the cult leader.

FD-350 (Rev. 7-16-63)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Cult Arrests Promised

GEORGETOWN, Guyana (UPI) — The government of Guyana, in its first official statement Sunday about the attack on Rep. Leo J. Ryan, pledged it would make "every possible effort" to arrest those involved.

A statement issued by the ministry of information said:

"The government of Guyana deeply regrets the death yesterday afternoon, Saturday Nov. 18, of Congressman Leo J. Ryan and four other U.S. citizens. The Guyana government is now in a position to confirm that the U.S. congressman and his party were victims of an attack by Americans resident in the Port Kaituma area of Guyana where the Congressman was visiting. There were no Gyanese involved. The government of Guyana with the full cooperation and assistance of U.S. authorities in Guyana is rendering all available medical assistance to the injured persons.

"A detachment of police and Guyana Defense Force personnel have been dispatched to the area where the attack took place and every possible effort is being made to apprehend the persons responsible and involved in the crime

"Congressman Ryan was visiting Guyana on official business resulting from a request by the State Department. Mr. Ryan had indicated that he wished to visit the American citizens who were living in a religious farming community established by Bishop Jim Jones of the Peoples Temple some four years ago in a remote area of the country. The congressman had said that he wished to investigate complaints by U.S.-based relatives against some members of the Jonestown community. The congressman had just completed a visit to Jonestown and was returning to Georgetown, the capital, when his party was attacked. The government of Guyana wishes to convey its sympathy to the relatives and colleagues of those who have been killed and injured in this most unfortunate incident."

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 3A

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FD-350 (Rev. 10-19-77)

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GUYANA PLEDGES SEARCH FOR SLAYERS

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Date: 11/20/78

Edition: Monday Final

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Guyana to Decide Which of 80 Temple Survivors Will Be Held

From Times Wire Services

GEORGETOWN, Guyana—Police here say a decision will be made by Wednesday on which of the 80 survivors of the Peoples Temple suicide-murders here can return to the United States and which will be held as suspects or material witnesses.

Three members of the sect were questioned by police Monday and later released. Asst. Crime Commissioner Cecil (Skip) Roberts said no charges were filed. He would not say what the questioning covered.

"We just want to question them more and go back over their story," Roberts said.

The three were identified as Tim Carter, 28, his brother Michael, 20, both of Boise, Ida., and Michael Prokes, 32, a former Modesto television newsman.

Prokes and the Carters had been jailed but were released Saturday, taken to the run-down Park Hotel and told to stay available for questioning.

Police have filed murder charges against two other cult members in connection with the Nov. 18 deaths of Rep. Leo J. Ryan (D-Calif.), and four others at the airstrip at Port Kaituma near Jonestown and the murders of a mother and her three children in the sect's headquarters in Georgetown the same day.

Roberts said Guyanese officials were making a complete inventory of Jonestown but that no decision had been reached on what to do with the settlement, 150 miles northwest of the capital.

In Washington, State Department spokesman Hodding Carter III, when asked when flights from Guyana would arrive at Charleston Air Force Base in South Carolina, said, "It's doubtful such a trip would take place before Tuesday."

U.S. Attorney Thomas E. Lydon in Charleston, quoting a State Department statement, said, "It is still our plan if a substantial number of survivors of the Jonestown tragedy want to leave Guyana together, they will be flown to Charleston by military aircraft sometime this week.

"It is also impossible at this point for us to speculate as to how many of the survivors would be aboard such a flight."

Lydon said he was told by the State Department that some of the survivors might decide to return by other means and some might not wish to return at all.

Lydon also said investigators have found no trace of the "death teams" that some cult members have reported. Survivors have told investigators they feared retribution by Peoples Temple members who remained in the United States.

"We are concerned about the death teams . . . but we have no factual basis of that angle," he said. "We have no factual basis at this time to assume any of it."

Meanwhile, at Ft. Bragg, North Carolina, shaken soldiers returning from Guyana expressed shock and horror Monday at the grisly scene at the peoples Temple Jonestown settlement.

"I guess I'll be all right, others may not. I know I'll never forget it as long as I live," Lt. Col. Alfred Keyes, who led the 100-member body identification and recovery unit, said. "Although I'm in the military, I'm not immune to feelings. My feelings were shock and disbelief."

"It was a gory experience," Sgt. Bobbie D. Armstrong said. "In all the 1,500 bodies I have processed, these were the worst."

The men said other experiences in mass-death situations did not prepare them for the scene at Jonestown, where more than 900 followers of the Rev. Jim Jones killed themselves by drinking cyanide-poisoned punch.

"it was mind-boggling . . . It's amazing that any one individual would have the power over another group so much so that they would commit suicide for him. Just mind-boggling," Keyes said.

The soldiers, who arrived in Guyana last Tuesday, said they had to take frequent breaks from the scene to compose themselves.

"We'd work about 10 minutes, until we couldn't stand it anymore, and then work again," Sgt. Steve Jackson said.

It was a gruesome and overwhelming task that confronted the men when they arrived, recovering the hundreds of bodies strewn around a field in the Jonestown camp, and placing them in rubber "body bags." the bodies were then lifted by helicopter to Georgetown, 135 miles from Jonestown.

Keyes said the soldiers had to work almost nonstop, starting at daybreak, and ending about 5 p.m. each day.

"We had to push people to the point of operating like zombies. We worked continuously," Keyes said.

He said the soldiers soon discovered there more than twice as many bodies as had previously been estimated.

"At first we thought there were only about 406, and then as we began to uncover them, there were other bodies under there," Keyes said.

The Washington Post ____
Washington Star-News ____
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The Los Angeles Times I 7/14

Date NOV 28 1978

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Guyana Police Release First Cultists, but U.S. Expects Many to Be Held

By JOSEPH B. TREASTER
Special to The New York Times

GEORGETOWN, Guyana, Nov. 27 — The police here have begun releasing some of the approximately 80 cultists taken into custody in the investigation of the Jonestown murders and suicides, but United States authorities say they expect "a large number" of persons to be detained further.

"This is a large murder investigation and they undoubtedly will want to keep a large number of these people," said Douglas Ellice, the senior American consular officer here.

The first to be freed, Mr. Ellice said, were Miguel De Pina, 84 years old, and Marion Campbell, 61. Mr. De Pina had fallen ill and been taken to a local hospital. He was permitted to board a plane to New Francisco yesterday after asking the embassy not to announce his departure, Mr. Ellice said.

This afternoon, the consul said, the Guyana police said that Mrs. Campbell was not regarded as a suspect, was no longer needed as a witness and was expected to leave for the United States by Wednesday.

Departures in Small Groups

Mr. Ellice said that he expected the police to "dribble out" many of the others in "threes and fours" over the next week or so.

Since it now appears that the cultists will not be leaving the country in a large group as had earlier been expected, Mr. Ellice said, plans to take them to Charleston, S.C., by an Air Force jet have been canceled. Instead, he said, the men and women who are released will travel by commercial airliners and be free to go wherever they like.

He said that they would "probably" be questioned by American authorities when they reached the United States. But he said that they might not necessarily be met by authorities as they landed.

"There's no particular feeling on our part that these people are fugitives from justice and have to be watched, have to be slapped into cuffs," Mr. Ellice said.

"But," he continued, "they just may have information that would be of interest to the people investigating the death of the Congressman."

Guyana Police Heeded

The Guyana police, Mr. Ellice said, are "playing this very straight. They're going down the list of names on a case-by-case basis. As soon as they tell us they don't need these people any longer, we can start helping them do what they want to do. When they're released from custody, they don't necessarily have to leave the country."

Another embassy official said that the cultists would have to pay their own air fare when they left Guyana but he said that government loans would be made available because many had lost everything in the Jonestown tragedy.

This morning, the Government announced that the police were going to cordon the Jonestown area tomorrow and begin taking an inventory of property and documents.

At midday, with all of the 909 bodies found in Jonestown removed, the Government flew more than 40 foreign correspondents to visit the devastated commune.

Views on Health Peril

While American soldiers were removing the bodies, only a handful of correspondents managed to visit the site before the Government put it off limits for "health reasons." American military doctors who left the country this morning with the last elements of the force that recovered the bodies said that the bodies had never been a hazard to health. Their gravest concern, they said, had been that some of the soldiers would come down with malaria, an eventuality that will only be known after an incubation period of some days.

This afternoon three top aides of the Rev. Jim Jones, who say they were ordered to leave Jonestown with a suitcase packed with several hundred thousand dollars and a letter to the Soviet Embassy as the other cultists were drinking a brew of Kool-Aid and cyanide, were escorted to the police headquarters apparently for further questioning.

The three men — Michael Prokes, 30, Tim Carter, 30, and his brother Michael Carter, 20 — were held in a small cement cell and questioned for several days last week, then taken to the stately Park Hotel to join other cultists in protective custody last Saturday.

So far, two cultists have been charged with murder. One is charged with shooting to death Representative Leo J. Ryan, three American reporters and an American woman, and the other is accused of fatally slashing the throat of the woman in charge of public relations for the cult and her three children. Those deaths put the total death toll in the over-all Jonestown affair at 918.

Fears of Two Groups

On Saturday, the Park Hotel was thrown into turmoil when the police took Mr. Prokes and the two Carter brothers to stay there with more than 20 other cultists, most of whom were dissidents who had been attempting to escape from the commune with Representative Ryan when he was shot. Both groups said they were afraid the others would attack them when no official would help them move to separate quarters. Mr. Prokes and the Carters decided to sleep on the terrace.

By this morning, several hours before a detective in a white tunic and slacks escorted the three away from the hotel, the tension had subsided considerably. Both factions were keeping an eye on each other but they lounged on the terrace in wicker chairs a few yards apart and sometimes even exchanged a few words as they drank soft drinks and read local newspapers hoping for word to come that they were free to go.

At one corner table, Jerry Parks, 45, was talking about Larry Layton, the 32-year-old aide to the Rev. Jim Jones. Mr. Layton has been accused of killing Mr. Parks's wife, Patricia, Representative Ryan and the three reporters at the Port Kaituma airstrip.

Mr. Parks, who had asked the Congressman to help him and his family get away from the commune, said that he had known Mr. Layton since the middle 1960's when they both became members of the People's Temple in Redwood, Calif.

The Washington Post ____
Washington Star-News ____
Daily News (New York) ____
The New York Times A-12
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The Atlanta Constitution ____
The Los Angeles Times ____

Date NOV 28 1978

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FD-350 (Rev. 10-19-77)

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S.F. cultist held for murders

Associated Press

Georgetown, Guyana—A barefoot and handcuffed cultist arrested after the jungle slayings of Rep. Leo J. Ryan of San Mateo and four other Americans was charged with their murder yesterday in Magistrate's Court here. Bail was refused and no pleas were taken.

Larry Layton of San Francisco, 32, one of three Americans under arrest, was escorted through a throng of about 1,000 into the crowded courtroom to hear the charges against him. His blue eyes darted nervously from side to side. A large fan rotated lazily overhead, pushing the hot, humid air around the faded red and yellow courtroom.

The killings on the jungle airstrip at Port Kaituma, 150 miles northwest of here, triggered a suicidal frenzy at the cultists' community of Jonestown, leaving 408 dead, U.S. embassy and military officials said.

U.S. officials said hundreds reported to have fled the mass poisoning into the surrounding jungle may be afraid to come out, fearing reprisals from other members of Peoples Temple.

The first bodies of American cult members from the Jonestown settlement were airlifted here late yesterday and were to be flown to the United States starting today.

Two U.S. Air Force HH-53 helicopters brought the first 40 bodies from Jonestown. Sixty bodies had been processed, but darkness prevented transfer of

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

2 The Tribune

Oakland, Ca.

Date: 11-23-78
Edition: Sunrise

Title: RYMURS

Character:
or SF 89-250
Classification: 89
Submitting Office: SF

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the remaining 20, officials said. The operation to bring out the rest of the bodies will continue today, an Air Force officer said.

The helicopters landed after dark in an isolated area of the international airport here, and forklift trucks trundled forward, their lights illuminating the scene. The officer said the bags containing the bodies would eventually be put into aluminium caskets and placed aboard a C-141 transport plane for the trip to Dover Air Force Base in Delaware.

U.S. Embassy spokesman James Ward said 32 cultists found in the jungle are being kept in Georgetown. He declined to say where because of possible reprisals by other cult members here and in the United States.

"Law enforcement officials (in America) have been made aware of the special circumstances, and it will be our policy not to divulge specific information on their whereabouts...." Ward said.

In addition to killing Ryan, Layton is charged with killing Gregory Robinson, a photographer from the San Francisco Examiner; Robert Brown, a cameraman for NBC News; Don Harris, an NBC correspondent, and Patricia Parks, a Jonestown occupant who was trying to leave with Ryan.

The newsmen and others had accompanied Ryan to the settlement. Ryan was investigating alleged abuses of cult members by their leader, Jim Jones.

In California, the S.F. Examiner reported a witness named seven temple members as being in the ambush team that performed the killings. The newspaper said its information about the witness came from investigators. The newspaper did not name the witness, who it said is now in San Francisco.

The account said that those who fired their guns, according to the San Francisco district attorney's office, were Bob Kice, Tom Kice and Joe Wilson. The four others seen carrying weapons were Albert Touchette, Ronnie James, Eddie Crenshaw and Ron Talley.

The next hearing will be Jan. 15 at Mathews Ridge, the court nearest to where the killings took place. Police said yesterday's hearing was in Georgetown for security reasons.

Layton will learn then if he is charged with first-degree murder or a lesser degree of homicide. First-degree murder in Guyana is punishable by hanging.

Military officials here said Layton was arrested near the airstrip shortly after the Saturday killings were reported. Two other Americans arrested after the murders and suicides — Michael Prokes, 31, Stockton, and Tim Carter, 30, Garden City, Idaho — did not appear yesterday. Court officials did not say why.

Layton was also charged with attempted murder of Dale Park, Monica Bagby and Verne Gosney, all apparently members of the Peoples Temple cult.

Judge William Alexander asked Layton if he had a lawyer. "I would like to," Layton said, his only official utterance of the brief hearing. "One will be provided, I suppose," Alexander answered.

The FBI and Guyanese government investigators probed deeper into the killings and suicides. The FBI, acting under a law making the assassination of a congressman a crime, sent one agent to Guyana and has five or six more waiting in Miami for permission from Guyana to enter. The FBI said the government originally asked that several agents be sent but changed its mind and asked that no others be sent.

A copyright story in the S.F.Examiner by City Editor Jim Willse, filed from Jonestown, said the followers of Jones may have been drugged when they followed his order to line up for cups of a cyanide-laced fruit drink.

He said empty bottles that had contained "massive amounts" of narcotics and hallucinogenic drugs were found near where Jones led his flock to their deaths.

Dr. Lynn Crook, a South Carolina pathologist with the grim job of overseeing the caring for the dead, was quoted as saying, "They had stores of narcotics and hallucinogenic drugs. It was a total and complete pharmacy, much more than was needed to supply a community of that size, or even the city of Georgetown (population 66,000)."

The population of the settlement is uncertain, but most estimates put it at near 1,100. Hundreds are thought to have fled into the jungle rather than commit suicide. So far 72 have been found alive, the State Department said yesterday in Washington.

Guyanese Police Commissioner Lloyd A. Barker said search teams were checking with friendly Indian villages near Jonestown to see if survivors had gone there.

The first of the bodies of the suicide victims, which are decaying quickly in the tropical heat, are expected to arrive today at Dover, Del., where the Air Force has its mortuary.

Helicopters will ferry the bodies to Air Force cargo planes in Georgetown for the trip. Earlier, the plan was to fly the bodies to the U.S. from Mathews Ridge.

"There is little we can do to preserve the bodies. We will be placing the bodies in body bags, but it will not be a pleasant operation no matter how you look at it," said Air Force spokesman Capt. John Moscatelli.

He said a medical team will be flown to the area to monitor the health of the graves registration team.

Moscatelli explained the U.S. government's move to first remove the bodies, then mount a search operation for the missing, by saying the bodies were decomposing rapidly and had to be moved as soon as possible.

Ward said, "The deteriorating bodies demand a certain amount of action. This does not mean there is no concern for the survivors." Claire Janaro of Redwood Valley, Calif., who came here Saturday to seek information about her two teen-age children, members of the cult, asked:

"What's taking them so long to get them (the missing cultists) out of the jungle? Every day in there is a mortal danger. There's snakes and dangerous cats.

"I don't understand why we don't get in a force of people who were in Vietnam, who know how to handle jungles and get in there and get our people out," she said.

Defectors from the Peoples Temple say Jones' "hit squads" are scattered around the U.S. with instructions to murder those who left the cult.

In San Francisco, the headquarters of the cult, the FBI confirmed it was investigating rumors that Peoples Temple members in California were planning to kidnap or kill high-ranking American officials to avenge Jones, who died with his followers. Investigators said all but three of the victims died of poison. Jones and two other unidentified persons died of gunshot wounds.

Associated Press

RYAN'S ACCUSED SLAYER—Larry Layton, 32, accused slayer of Rep. Leo Ryan, arrived at Georgetown, Guyana, Magistrate Court yesterday in handcuffs. He was arraigned, refused bail, and set for a further hearing in January. He faces hanging if convicted of first-degree murder.

BOOKS

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A Head Start on Cult Book

BY HARRIET STIX

SAN FRANCISCO—Two weeks ago, San Francisco Chronicle reporter Marshall Kilduff sat down at his typewriter to turn out an "instant" book on the Peoples Temple cult. He found the job easier than he had expected it would be after having written several stories about the group. "The phrases were already there for me. Besides, there was not a lot of time to be cute—which was a blessing in its own way."

The 205-page paperback that resulted was on the bookstands last Friday, less than two weeks after the first, sketchy report of ambush on a remote jungle air strip reached this country. Called "The Suicide Cults: The Untold Story of the Peoples Temple Sect and the Massacre in Guyana," the book was written in four days by Kilduff and Ron Javers, the Chronicle reporter who had accompanied Rep. Leo Ryan to Jonestown. Kilduff, who was one of the earliest reporters to write critically of Jim Jones, provided most of the background material, while Javers described the events in Guyana.

The book was the brainchild of Judy Hilsinger, who works for Bantam Books in San Franciso. Late Nov. 18 (early Sunday morning on the East Coast), while the ambush story was still in its early stages, Hilsinger telephoned an editor in New York with the idea that this might be a subject for what Bantam calls "extras." On Monday, there were discussions with Chronicle officials and by Tuesday, the project was under way.

'The phrases were already there for me. Besides, there was not a lot of time to be cute.'

Javers, recuperating from his injuries in a Washington, D.C., hospital, tape-recorded his descriptions of the events in Guyana. The tapes were then flown to San Francisco, where they were transcribed and edited. Meanwhile, Kilduff wrote in 18-to 20-hour periods. With help from several other Chronicle reporters and editors and an editor from Bantam, he put together an account of the background of Jim Jones and his followers.

The manuscript was put on a 10 p.m. flight to New York on Saturday night, Nov. 25, and by the following Thursday night the finished copies came off presses in Chicago.

Twenty-nine year old Kilduff has worked as a reporter at the Chronicle since 1971 following his graduation from Stanford. The San Francisco native has covered education, urban affairs and the mayor's office. Kilduff once received an award from the Associated Press for a housing story—an idea that had been suggested to him by Jim Jones.

Kilduff first got involved with the Peoples Temple story in October, 1976, when Jim Jones was appointed to the San Francisco Housing Authority Commission. Kilduff, who was reporting on the Housing Authority meetings, says that Jones routinely brought along as many as a hundred followers.

"Jones would show up with bodyguards, his lawyer and PR people and 50 or 60 old women," he recalls. "Not many people do that.

"They sat behind me, read my notes over my shoulder, followed me out into the hall."

Although no one ever said anything particularly unpleasant or threatening to him, Kilduff says, "It gave me the creeps."

He decided to visit the temple, but when he asked to attend he was told he would be contacted and asked for his home telephone number. That seemed to him rather strange, but after all, he was listed in the telephone book, so he complied. In January, he finally got a call telling him to come.

At the Geary Blvd. Temple, he had to pass through two sets of locked doors opened by guards. Once inside, though, he was courteously welcomed. "They said I was a 'great guy,' that 'Jim thinks highly of you,'" he recalls.

"I could see a couple of thousand people sitting on folded chairs in the main hall, but first I was toured through the temple. They took me past a

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Continued from First Page
sort of whirlpool and showed me a kiu rec ing from some heroin jag."

Kilduff got answers to his questions and other information was volunteered. "I was led through by a group that got their story over to me," he says.

Finally, he was taken into the hall. First there was a show with soul singers and dancers. Then Jones introduced an FBI agent who described how to protect oneself against crime at home. That was followed by what Kilduff describes as "some mild faith healing" and then a Jones sermon, in question and answer form. There were questions from the audience to which Jones gave answers like "Crime is due to the environment."

At that point he was led out of the audience and taken to have cake and coffee. Once again, Kilduff found the Peoples Temple "unnerving," a performance.

Kilduff decided Jones' activities were worth investigating further but he had some difficulty selling the idea. Jones had many admirers. Eventually, New West magazine took up the idea, but in June, 1977, when word got out that Kilduff and New West contributing editor Phil Tracy were writing an article on Jones, some strange things started to happen, he says. The magazine and its advertisers were flooded with protests. The magazine got as many as 70 letters and 50 phone calls in a single day from temple members and supporters. "There were some big names—Assembly members, (Lt. Gov. Mervyn) Dymally," Kilduff recalls. "They didn't say 'Kill it,' they said, 'Jim Jones is known to us as a good man. Please be fair.' "

Ironically, at that point the article was, in fact, simply a profile of Jones, Kilduff says. But when San Francisco Examiner reporter Bill Barnes wrote about the letter-writing campaign, former members began telephoning Kilduff with dramatic charges against Jones and the temple. They came to Kilduff with stories about children being beaten, and fraudulent faith healings, and money being turned over to the temple. Some of them agreed to be interviewed for the magazine article and what had started out as a profile turned into the article Jones' supporters feared.

A Questionable Option

Kilduff and Tracy concluded Jones should be investigated further and wrote: "The ex-members we interviewed had the ability to walk away from the temple once they found the courage to do it. Whether the church will permit those who move to Guyana the option of ever leaving is questionable."

Nevertheless, Kilduff had no premonition of the ultimate tragedy. He says that in the past, when things got uncomfortable for Jones in one place, he had always simply "picked up and left. I thought he would do that again."

In the months that followed, Kilduff continued talking with ex-members who would phone with "bits and pieces." He says: "I talked to them one by one. Their stories were all the same. They had the same experiences, and remembered things alike."

Still, he says, until . actual massacre in Guyana. "Everyone thought it was just som t group I was caught up with."

And for all the talk of suicide rehearsals and guns and money, Kilduff believed "Jones was a paper tiger. He threatened us with lawsuits but we never got sued. I thought it would collapse. I was wrong."

He adds that when ex-members telephoned him about hit men, about a plan to go to Russia, he thought "it all so far-fetched."

Jones left San Francisco for Guyana the week before the New West article came out. "That was the main push," Kilduff says. "He left because New West kind of chopped him up. I was surprised he didn't shrug it off, but that was the last San Francisco saw of Jim Jones."

All Downhill

Once in Guyana, it was all downhill, Kilduff says. "In San Francisco, he still cared about people. But in Jonestown there was no one to talk to but his own followers. He was isolated—there was nothing to hold him in check. He was sinking faster and faster in public esteem here."

Kilduff traced the decline of Jim Jones: "In Indiana it was faith healings. In Ukiah it was taking money, roughing up little kids. In San Francisco, there were beatings, making fun of politicians behind their backs, a lot more money. The pattern becomes more and more crazy. And then he leaves again."

When Jones and his followers came to California from the Middle West, Kilduff points out, the trip was planned, and there were moving vans. But Jones departed San Francisco suddenly, in the middle of the night, and his followers took nothing with them.

"Bodyguards became security guards. There was a whole force, not just one assassin," says Kilduff. And in Guyana, "families were split up, people got no sleep, the food was lousy, they had no outside contact, no money."

The temple had money, of course, variously estimated at from $8 million to $15 million. It was, Kilduff says, "just a way of getting a hook on people. It keeps you busy. But it was like playing for marbles and jelly beans.

"You have to dazzle your followers all the time . . . Maybe. I don't go in for much psychology."

Kilduff has already started on the round of appearances that are a part of promoting a book. (Another instant paperback on the tragedy, written by Washington Post correspondent Charles Krause, also wounded in the ambush, was published by Berkley Books on Sunday.) To the inevitable question, "What happened?," he answers simply, "I don't know. I have heard it explained so many ways, and they all have plausibility." He is leery of psychological explanations.

"There were so many different people in the church," he says. "There were old blacks, younger whites, families. For the families there was total care. The kids grew up in the church; they were taken care of. And there was the interracial setting. The young people liked the interracial setting. The young people liked the politics. Many of them were bright, well-organized, strong types.

"Except somewhere they went crazy. That last year in Guyana is a mystery to everybody."

But there were road signs, he points out . . . The suicide drills, attorney Mark Lane and his theories of a conspiracy against the church.

Kilduff will continue to watch the temple, he says: "For what, I don't know. It would be difficult to imagine any wilder ending. But you cannot exclude anything that might happen."

FD-350 (Rev. 10-19-77)

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Firm Planning 'Instant Book' on Cult Killings

NEW YORK—A race may be shaping up within the book publishing industry to print the first instant paperback about the Peoples Temple and massacre in Guyana.

Editors at Bantam Books, Inc., were already hard at work Tuesday on a paperback which will go on sale the week of Dec. 3, while a spokesman for the Washington Post said the newspaper's writers group was considering a similar effort.

Bantam's special will be the company's 64th "instant book." It will be written by Marshall Kilduff and Ron Javers, correspondents for the San Francisco Chronicle. It carries the tentative title "The Suicide Cult: The Untold Story of the Peoples Temple Sect and the Massacre in Guyana."

The more than 300-page book will include pictures.

A spokesman for Bantam said that Kilduff and Javers were chosen because they had been covering the Peoples Temple story for the last two years.

Of all paperback publishers in New York, Bantam Books has the broadest experience in producing instant specials, a process requiring close coordination as well as speed. The company's first entry in the quick book field was the report of the Warren Commission in September, 1964, which appeared for public consumption 80 hours after the commission released its findings.

In 1965, Bantam published a book about the pope's visit to the United States four days after the visit ended. Past successes for the company include a paperback about Israel's rescue at Entebbe plus reprints of the Pentagon Papers and the Watergate tapes.

A dozen Bantam executives gathered Tuesday in the company's conference room on the 25th floor of its headquarters on 5th Ave. in Manhattan.

They discussed the Guyana book's cover and an art director was assigned the task of designing and laying out a picture section to be ready by the end of today. The editor of the project was sent to California to work closely with Kilduff and Javers. Paper and press time were reserved.

"We expect to get copy back here Saturday or Sunday," explained Marc Jaffe, Bantam's president and editor-in-chief. "It goes to a copy editor, and 12 hours later is on its way to a typesetter. The cover will be designed and go into production."

Jaffe said the cover and inside text should meet at the bindery in Chicago by the end of next week, and the finished product would be on sale soon after for $2.50.

"It takes a lot of people working together overtime, concentrating on a job of journalism in book form," he said.

Bantam's plans appeared more advanced than those of the Washington Post, which sent the head of its Writers Group to New York Tuesday to contact potential publishers.

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Firm Planning 'Instant Book' on Cult Killings

Bantam Doing One, Washington Post May Publish Own Volume

BY JOHN J. GOLDMAN
Times Staff Writer

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The Los Angeles Times B3, C1

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Jonestown Massacre: Two Books Due

NEW YORK (AP)—Two so-called "instant" paperback books based on the Peoples Temple group and events this week in Guyana are scheduled for distribution the week of Dec. 3, two publishing companies announced yesterday.

Stuart Applebaum, a Bantam Books spokesman, said their 160-page book, "Suicide Cult: The Untold Story of the Peoples Temple Sect and the Massacre in Guyana," was being written by San Francisco Chronicle reporters Marshall Kilduff and Ron Javers. Applebaum said the two reporters, "have been investigating the Peoples Temple story for more than two years."

The Washington Post is also entering the market. Its book, tentatively titled "The Jonestown Massacre: An Eyewitness Account," will be published by Berkley Books of New York and is being written by Post National editor Laurence Stern and reporter Charles A. Krause, who was in Guyana during the events of the past week and, with Javers, was a witness to the shooting deaths Sunday of Rep. Leo Ryan and four other persons.

Javers was wounded in the attack.

The Post said completion of its 225 page book—including 16 pages of photographs—is due next Tuesday and it should be released on Dec. 3.

Applebaum said the Bantam manuscript is due in New York on Monday, with production to begin immediately and the finished books also to be in distribution Dec. 3.

The books are called "instant" because of the speeding up of the normal publishing process.

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The Wall Street Journal ____
The Atlanta Constitution ____
The Los Angeles Times ____

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Author calls Jones pervert

Sacramento, Calif. (AP) — Jom Jones, the leader of the Peoples Temple, was a man obsessed with sex and cruelty who used verbal harangues, whippings and beatings to control members of his cult, according to an unpublished book written by a former follower of the sect.

The manuscript, written by Jeannie Mills, depicts Jones as a man paranoically concerned about his sexual prowess and the number of men and women he slept with. She said that he viewed sex as lacking any aspect of love.

The 215-page manuscript was filed with the California secretary of sate to register authorship two months before more than 900 of Jones' followers died in Guyana. So far no publishing house has bid on the manuscript, which also described Jones' thoughts about mass suicide.

In the book titled "Six Years with God: One Family's Story of Life Inside a Cult Group." Mills writes that she tried for months to tell federal authorities that "a suicide pact existed down there"—in Jonestown, Jones' religious farm commune in northwestern Guyana.

For former members

Mills, 39, her husband and five children left the sect in 1975. She tne helped found the Human Freedom Center in Berkeley for former members of the Peoples Temple.

Mills' book offers these accounts of Jones:

- He would brag about the size of his penis but feared someone would try to take his picture when he urinated, so he had nurses hold a blanket in front of him. Once the blanket fell and everyone saw it was "far from being the giant organ he had bragged about."
- Jones laughed during beatings and whippings of Temple members, including once when a small child was hit five times with a board for not sharing candy.
- Guards "learned the only way to immobilize these screaming andhysterical people" being beaten was to "stretch them in midair, one holding their arms and the other their legs and let Ruby (a 250-pound woman) beat them as many times as Jim decided."
- Jones eventually tried to impose a sex ban for most members, although he and aides continued to have sexual relations.
- He told followers: "Sex is just a game that couples play to get what they want from each other. There is no love in sex."
- He publicly questioned female members how sexually satisfied they were and forced them to admit in front of their husband that they often faked satisfaction.
- Jones talked openly of bisexuality and once asked everyone in a room who had sex with him to stand up. When 20 men and women rose, Jones said that one person had not been honest, and another man stood up.

The manuscript frequently cites Jones' thoughts on suicide. Mills said that he told followers they would go to a "distant planet to live with him in eternity" if they committed mass suicide.

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The New York Times ____
The Wall Street Journal ____
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The Los Angeles Times ____

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FD-350 (Rev. 10-19-77)

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The Investigation No One Heeded

For nearly six months, investigator Stephen Ramirez listened to get others to pay attention.

But Ramirez, who works for the district attorney's major frauds division, said other law enforcement agencies were powerless to act — even when told about reports of mass suicide rehearsals and torture at the religious sect's settlement in Guyana.

"The problem was that nobody could take investigative jurisdicition in this case," said Ramirez.

Ramirez' involvement began in May, when an elderly couple complained they had been forced to sell their real estate and turn over $135,000 in proceeds to cult leader Jim Jones and his associate, Jim McElvane.

The husband, Wade Medlock, told the investigator that he had agreed to selling his property only when Jones threatened: "You sign these papers or you will die."

The Medlocks led Ramirez to other former members of the Peoples Temple who reported that at least six other persons had been coerced into selling their holdings. All are believed to be among the 912 cult members who perished in Guyana.

In June, the Medlocks filed an $18 million suit against Jones.

The investigator also went to journalists — among them, freelancer Gordon Lindsay and New West writer Phil Tracy — for more leads and insights into how the cult operated.

Lindsay referred Ramirez to Deborah Layton Blakey, a former cult official whose brother has been charged in the Nov. 18 massacre of U.S. Rep. Leo Ryan and four others in Guyana.

Mrs. Blakey, who escaped from the settlement in May, described how Jones had once ordered his followers to drink a brownish-red liquid they believed was poisonous as a test of their loyalty to him. She also told him about beatings and an underground box in which disobedient members were placed.

Ramirez relayed her story to the State Department in September, but he received no response. He also asked the department's help in contacting other alleged extortion victims in Guyana. Again, nothing happened.

In addition, the investigator went to the FBI, the agency first contacted by the Medlocks. "We discussed (the case) with them, but there was no jurisdiction for them to act," said Ramirez.

In all, the investigator estimated he interviewed "between 50 and 100" people in Los Angeles, San Francisco, Ukiah and Redwood Valley.

"I believed everybody when I talked to them," he said. "But the only thing we could do was initiate further investigations. It was a cult, and nobody was really listening."

Meanwhile, Ramirez was inundated with 5,000 letters in praise of the Peoples Temple. At first, the mail arrived in a trickle, but by July, the rate had accelerated to about 100 a day. Among them was one 10-page double-spaced typewritten letter signed by 653 cult members.

Ramirez said about 1,000 letters also were received by the Los Angeles Police Department — a figure department spokesman Lt. Dan Cooke declined to confirm.

At the same time, Ramirez was besieged by telephone calls from individuals — such as Peoples Temple attorneys Charles Garry and Mark Lane — trying to head off the investigation.

"Lane said he thought the charges were based on innuendoes and misstatements from defectors — that was his word," Ramirez recalled. Both Garry and Lane traveled to Guyana with the Ryan mission but escaped injury.

Ramirez also contemplated accompanying them, but "personal reasons" kept him at home.

A few days before the trip, he spoke with Ryan aide Joe Holsinger. "I expressed to him that he should be concerned about the danger," Ramirez said, "but mostly, we talked about Jim

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Writer Had Been Sounding Warning on Jonestown for Months

When Rep. Leo Ryan and his entourage arrived at Jonestown, Guyana, 10 days ago only one person—a freelance journalist—was forbidden to enter by cult leader Jim Jones.

That journalist, Gordon Lindsay of Los Angeles, already knew about the horror of Jonestown, the Peoples Temple and Jim Jones, and had been trying to tell the world for months.

In June, Lindsay wrote a 62-page, hauntingly prophetic account of slave labor conditions at Jonestown, the madness of Jones, mass suicide drills, armed guards and the alleged sexual blackmail of a high-ranking Guyanan official by a temple member.

His account charged that U.S. consular officials in Guyana had intimate knowledge of the accusations made against Jonestown, and even were involved in the escape of one temple member.

But nobody would publish the story. Not even the National Enquirer, which Lindsay said paid $10,000 to himself and photographer Cyril Maitland to investigate Jonestown.

Now Lindsay, his wife and 8-year-old daughter are in hiding in Los Angeles.

Lindsay said he was warned in Guyana by attorney Mark Lane, who represented the Peoples Temple, that he was "No. 2" on the "enemies hit list."

When Lindsay arrived in Los Angeles from Guyana last Thursday he was met by five Los Angeles policemen and whisked away.

Authorities have advised him to leave California, and probably the United States.

Lindsay said he is taking seriously a threatening call his wife received over their unlisted phone in June when he first started his investigation.

"First there was heavy breathing. Then a man said, 'You'll never get out of this alive,'" recalled Cynthia Lindsay.

At the time, her husband and photographer Maitland were in Guyana trying to gain access to Jonestown and Jim Jones.

"To stay in Guyana, if you were a reporter investigating Jonestown, was impossible," Lindsay said.

After being badgered and frisked at the airport, Linday said, he was given the brushoff by U.S. and local officials and was told to get on the next plane "or be taken under armed guard to catch a flight."

"We headed for Trinidad hoping to find a pilot to take us into Jonestown through the back door—from Trinidad over Venezuela into Port Kaituma, about five miles from the jungle encampment," he said.

Lindsay said it took five days to find a pilot who would circle Jonestown so that he could take some aerial photographs.

Back in the states, Lindsay wrapped up his story and sent it in to the National Enquirer by the end of June.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

I-3 LOS ANGELES TIMES
LOS ANGELES, CA

Date: 11/28/78
Edition: Tuesday Final

Title: WARNING ON JONESTOWN

Character:
or RYMUR/AFO

Classification: 89-436
Submitting Office: Los Angeles

FBI-DOJ

"They (editors) asked for more and more backup. I sent them 14 hours of interviews on tape," Lindsay said.

Lindsay and the Enquirer also were being threatened with massive lawsuits.

One telegram from a Peoples Temple attorney accused Lindsay and the Enquirer of causing a heart attack at Jonestown when Lindsay buzzed the commune.

As the summer wore on, Lindsay said, he realized that the Enquirer was backing off the story. An Enquirer spokesman declined comment.

But Lindsay said he refused to give up. "For the first time in 25 years of journalism I allowed myself to become personally involved in a story," he said.

Lindsay said he began contacting California politicians to stir up interest in a federal probe into Jonestown. Then in August he got a sympathetic response from Rep. Ryan.

Lindsay said he dashed off a letter to an editor at the Enquirer. It read in part:

"As I told you on the telephone today Congressman Leo Ryan has agreed to go to Jonestown and find out exactly what is going on down there. He has asked me . . . to coordinate the trip for him."

Lindsay told his editors that Ryan had told him in a taped interview:

"I think this is one of the big stories of the century. It really is. It is essentially a hijacking of more than 1,000 people put into slavery in a foreign country."

As Ryan prepared for the trip, Lindsay worked behind the scenes.

Joe Holsinger, Ryan's administrative assistant in Washington, told The Times that Lindsay "was one of the most valuable people in this whole thing. He was crucial."

When the Ryan party arrived at Port Kaituma, a few miles from Jonestown, Lindsay was along as a special consultant to NBC newsman Don Harris, who was later killed with Ryan and three others in an ambush by members of the Peoples Temple.

A tractor pulling a cart drove up to take the newsmen to Jonestown, but Lindsay recalled that the woman driving the tractor announced, "Everyone is invited to Jonestown except Gordon Lindsay." She would give no further explanation.

"I was seething inside. I had worked this story for five months," Lindsay recalled. "At long last I was at the doorstep."

But Lindsay said he had no choice but to hop into the plane that was leaving for Georgetown.

The unpublished story he had written five months earlier made it clear that Jonestown was ready to explode.

On the second page Lindsay told of:

—"Jones involving his 1,100 followers in a threat of mass suicide.

—"People being beaten until blood flowed from their faces and other parts of their bodies.

—"A guard pressing on people's temples until they collapsed in pain.

—"People being placed in a small, underground box from one to seven days.

—"Children at night being thrown into a well for misbehaving.

—"A child informing Jim Jones that his father was planning to escape.

—"People being placed on a learning crew and forced to work through the night."

In his story Lindsay described a mass suicide drill through the eyes of a Jonestown woman who escaped.

"All the guns were gotten out and everyone met in the pavilion for hours . . . Finally Jim told us there was no hope, that we were going to have to die . . . they brought in this big jug and everyone got into this long, long line. Everyone drank except Jim who sat in his elevated chair and watched.

"Various people cried out in happiness that they were all going to die. Hell, I was happy, I said, 'Wow, man, it's all over.' . . . Death was better than life in Jonestown."

Gordon Lindsay

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Ex-Consul in Guyana Cleared of Sect Charge

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12 (Reuters) — The State Department said today that its former consul at the United States Embassy in Guyana had been cleared of charges that he had been sexually compromised by members of the People's Temple cult.

Some survivors of the mass suicide and murder at the cult's commune in Jonestown, Guyana, had alleged that the former consul, Richard McCoy, had overlooked problems at the settlement in return for sexual favors by women cult members.

Mr. McCoy returned to the United States before the mass deaths last month in Jonestown. He is now head of the Guyana desk at the State Department.

Hodding Carter 3d, the department spokesman, said that Mr. McCoy had signed an affidavit denying all the charges and had also been cleared by an investigation by the department's security office.

"The allegations were found to be totally groundless," Mr. Carter told reporters.

The Washington Post ____
Washington Star-News ____
Daily News (New York) ____
The New York Times A-19
The Wall Street Journal ____
The Atlanta Constitution ____
The Los Angeles Times ____

Date DEC 13 1978

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Constitutional Doubts Inhibited Cult Probes

Associated Press

Concern for violating constitutional guarantees kept the Justice Department from investigating some complaints by members of Congress against religious cults, a department spokesman said.

Robert Havel, deputy information director at Justice, confirmed that several requests for investigations had been made in previous years.

Rep. Leo Ryan, who was killed Saturday while leading a fact-finding mission to the Peoples Temple settlement in Guyana, made one of the most recent major appeals along with Rep. Robert Giaimo, D-Conn.

Ryan, D-Calif., and Giaimo in May 1977 asked the Justice Department to investigate charges that several religious cults controlled members through brainwashing.

The Washington Post ____
Washington Star-News A-5
Daily News (New York) ____
The New York Times ____
The Wall Street Journal ____
The National Observer ____
The Los Angeles Times ____

Date 11-24-78

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THE WASHINGTON POST *Saturday, November 25, 1978* A5

U.S., Fearing Rights Violations, Ruled Out Investigating Cults

Associated Press

The Justice Department ruled out investigations into alleged brainwashing and physical abuse in religious cults because of fears such inquiries would violate constitutional guarantees of freedom of religion, a department spokesman said.

Spokesman Robert Havel said Thursday night that Rep. Leo Ryan (D-Calif.), who was killed while leading a fact-finding mission to the Peoples Temple settlement in Guyana, had asked the department to investigate the religious group.

Ryan and Rep. Robert Giaimo (D-Conn.) in May 1977 told the department that several religious cults controlled their members through brainwashing and physical abuse.

The two congressmen said they had also received allegations that some religious organizations were illegally converting members' veterans benefits, welfare payments and food stamps for their own use.

Benjamin Civiletti, then chief of the department's criminal division told the congressmen that brainwashing and other thought-control tactics "would not support a prosecution under the federal kidnapping statute" and that an investigation could infringe on the freedom-of-religion guarantees in the Constitution.

Havel said, "Certainly there are constitutional problems involved. If the person is an adult and not being held against his will, there is not much we can do."

The Washington Post A-5
Washington Star-News ____
Daily News (New York) ____
The New York Times ____
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The Los Angeles Times ____

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Cult Aides Had Close Ties to U.S. Officials, Jones' Papers Show

JONESTOWN, Guyana (AP)—Senior aides of cult leader the Rev. Jim Jones maintained much closer relationships with U.S. Embassy officials in Georgetown than has so far been officially admitted, Jones' personal papers reveal.

One U.S. official promised to discreetly find out who within the embassy was spreading rumors questioning Jones' religious beliefs.

The cult aides also vehemently demanded advance lists of Jonestown residents relatives had asked the embassy to investigate. The embassy complied.

The Jonestown papers, acquired by the Associated Press, make it clear that the intention of getting the names in advance was to fully brief those Jonestown residents before the U.S. officials arrived.

The State Department has said that in 75 interviews by consular officials with Peoples Temple members in Jonestown, no evidence was uncovered of repression or of people wanting to leave.

The papers suggest a close relationship between Richard McCoy, consul at the U.S. Embassy until this May, and several top Jones' aides in Georgetown, including Sharon Amos, his public relations chief, and Terri Jones and Tim Carter. McCoy, now on the Guyanese desk at the State Department in Washington, has not been available for comment. Mrs. Amos was found murdered in Georgetown the same night as the mass suicide-murder at Jonestown.

In a memo to Jones dated April 4, 1978, Mrs. Amos said she telephoned McCoy to complain that the embassy was spreading rumors that Jones was an atheist. According to the memo, McCoy said that deputy chief of mission John Blacken had mentioned that Jones was starting to doubt the existence of God.

McCoy expressed doubt that Blacken was the rumormonger because "John was very sophisticated in knowing what to say and what not to." He promised Mrs. Amos that "he would discreetly find out who was the one in the embassy that was talking."

McCoy was quoted as fully informing cult aides on pressures on Congress and the State Department over the custody battle between Jones and Grace and Timothy Stoen involving 6-year-old John Victor Stoen. The Amos memo said, "The assistant secretary of consular affairs told Dick (McCoy) when Dick was visiting recently in Washington that in no certain terms would they consider embassy involvement at all in this case."

Other personal Jones' documents showed that during this same period senior Guyanese officials were attempting to influence the local judge handling the custody case in Guyana.

Regarding McCoy's views on Jonestown, a March 8 document refers to him as saying that "when he is asked about us, he tells people what we are doing here. He says he tells people that no allegations have been proven against us, that we are decent, law abiding citizens who are trying to help develop Guyana. He tells people that none of the charges against us have any substantiation."

Closer links between McCoy and the cult are revealed in memos detailing the first meetings between Jones' aides

The Washington Post ____
Washington Star-News ____
Daily News (New York) ____
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The Wall Street Journal ____
The Atlanta Constitution ____
The Los Angeles Times part 1

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and his replacement, Douglas Ellis. The updated document quoted Ellis as mentioning that "there were a few people he had to see by request of some letters he had received."

The memo writer continued, "I said Dick always told us who he had to see because we could make sure they were there . . . I felt he (Ellis) was reluctant about this though, it was like he would tell us when he got there so we couldn't brief them."

An undated, unsigned memo addressed to Ellis expresses the increasing frustration of Jones' aides over the consul's unwillingess to give an advance list.

"We are sick of this and do not appreciate being interrogated again. We are upset about it," the document said, referring to an upcoming Jonestown visit by the consul. "We were told by McCoy that we would never have to go through this again," the memo said.

The memo said, "We can't take this kind of continued harassment. Your office has always a very close warm relationship so when Dick said there would be no more of this, and we told people what he said to relieve their minds —but now we don't know what to tell them."

It concluded, "At some point this ought to stop. McCoy would tell us who he would want to see, but if you don't want to, we don't give a damn."

The cult won that battle. The U.S. Embassy's deputy chief of mission, Richard Dwyer, who replaced John Blacken earlier this year, said the embassy had resumed telling Jonestown in advance whom the consul wished to interview.

But Jones lost a second battle. A May 24 memo dealing with two meetings between cult aides and Dwyer said the official "cannot inform us if one of our people came to him as they are leaving because the 'secrecy act' prevents him from doing so. We made it clear we felt we were getting the shaft and unequal treatment."

The reference to the "secrecy act" apparently refers to U.S. privacy laws that prevent government officials from releasing information about citizens.

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U.S. AIDE OFFERED TO FIND RUMOR SOURCE, NOTE SAYS

JONESTOWN, Guyana (AP) — Senior aides of cult leader Jim Jones maintained much closer relationships with U.S. Embassy officials in Georgetown, Guyana, than has been officially admitted, according to Jones' personal papers.

One U.S. official promised to find out "discreetly" who within the embassy was spreading rumors questioning Jones' religious beliefs, the papers say.

The cult aides also vehemently demanded advance lists of Jonestown residents whom relatives had asked the embassy to investigate. The embassy complied.

The personal papers from Jonestown, acquired by The Associated Press, also revealed that the young aides of Jones smuggled weapons into Guyana by romancing customs officers, distracting attention with old people in wheelchairs and lying with practiced expertise.

Police searching Jonestown after the mass murder-suicide of more than 900 people discovered 45 weapons, only four of which had been licensed. These findings led to speculation about local government complicity in allowing them into Guyana.

THE MEMOS make it clear that the intention of getting advance word on the names of cult members the embassy wanted to interview was to fully brief the subjects before the American officials arrived at Jonestown.

The U.S. State Department has said that in 75 interviews by consular officials with Peoples Temple members in Jonestown, no evidence was

See EMBASSY, A-7

The Washington Post ____
Washington Star-News A-1
Daily News (New York) ____
The New York Times ____
The Wall Street Journal ____
The Atlanta Constitution ____
The Los Angeles Times ____

Date 12/5/78

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uncovered of repression or of people wanting to leave the community.

The Jones papers suggest a close relationship between Richard McCoy, consul at the U.S. Embassy up to May of this year, and several top Jones aides in Georgetown, including his public relations chief, Sharon Amos, Terri Jones and Tim Carter. McCoy, now on the Guyanese desk at the State Department in Washington, has not been available for comment.

In a memo to Jones dated April 4, 1978, Amos said she telephoned McCoy to complain that the U.S. Embassy was spreading rumors that Jones was an atheist. According to the memo, McCoy said that deputy chief of mission John Blacken had mentioned that Jones was starting to doubt the existence of God.

McCOY EXPRESSED doubt that Blacken was the rumormonger because "John was very sophisticated in knowing what to say and what not to," the memo says, adding that he promised Amos that "he would discreetly find out who was the one in the embassy that was talking."

McCoy was quoted as fully informing cult aides about pressures on Congress and the State Department over the custody battle between Jones and Grace and Timothy Stoen involving 6-year-old John Victor Stoen. The Amos memo said, "The assistant secretary of consular affairs told Dick (McCoy) when Dick was visiting recently in Washington that in no certain terms would they consider embassy involvement at all in this case."

Other personal Jones documents showed that during this same period senior Guyanese officials were attempting to influence the local judge handling the custody case in Guyana.

Regarding McCoy's views on Jonestown, a March 8 document refers to him as saying that "when he is asked about us, he tells people what we are doing here. He says he tells people that no allegations have been proven against us, that we are decent, law-abiding citizens who are trying to help develop Guyana. He tells people that none of the charges against us have any substantiation."

CLOSER LINKS between McCoy and the cult are suggested in memos on the first meetings between Jones aides and McCoy's replacement, Douglas Ellis.

An undated, unsigned memo addressed to Ellis expresses the increasing frustration of the Jones aides over the consul's unwillingness to give an advance list.

"We are sick of this and do not appreciate being interrogated again. We are upset about it," the document said, referring to an upcoming visit to the Jonestown settlement by the consul. "We were told by McCoy that we would never have to go through this again."

It concluded, "At some point this ought to stop. McCoy would tell us who he would want to see, but if you don't want to, we don't give a damn."

The cult won that battle. The U.S. Embassy's deputy chief of mission, Richard Dwyer, who replaced John Blacken earlier this year, said in Guyana that the embassy had resumed the practice of informing Jonestown in advance whom the consul wished to interview.

THE ARMS SMUGGLING by Jones aides was done with the kind of amateur enthusiasm that might characterize efforts by returning vacationers to hide a few extra bottles of whiskey.

In an undated memo to Jones, Sharon Amos gave an account of one gun shipment's arrival. The previous evening cult members in the Guyanese capital of Georgetown had thrown a party.

"Two men from customs came and danced with Karen and me (they dance very close) and were absolutely obnoxious. But we were friendly to them and one of them was there when the stuff came through from customs," Amos wrote.

Amos was slain along with her three children at the cult's building in Georgetown the night of the mass murder-suicides at Jonestown. An American, Charles Beikman, is charged with the murders.

Weapons, according to Amos' memos, were hidden in crates containing the personal effects of newly arriving cult members to Guyana. She wrote of a close call when a woman named Edith arrived with a crate secretly marked to indicate six weapons were in it.

"I told Edith to say personal items but when it came her turn she said, 'All I have in my crate is arms and other things,' " Amos wrote.

"I was there and Verne Gosney and we both covered up for it. I said she's very ill and looks like she's going to have a heart attack. I had told her to act ill anyway. . . . I told them she's just got crochet stuff and clothes in there and they let it go by," she wrote.

That same time, "We had Joe Helly Beam fall out of his wheelchair, and pushed him up near the front (it's good to have someone occasionally in a wheelchair)," she wrote.

Always ready for a challenge, Amos noticed one customs man "was more friendly to men and ignored women pretty much, so I had a couple of attractive men go up to him and say hello and thank him for being so courteous to us. He warmed up toward the end of the evening."

According to police reports, the Peoples Temple successfully smuggled into Jonestown at least 35 handguns, five M-16 semi-automatic rifles and a communist AK-47 automatic rifle. The four licensed weapons were shotguns.

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U.S. Admits Jones Aides Discussed Suicide

Associated Press

The State Department has for the first time since the mass murder-suicide in Guyana acknowledged that aides to the Rev. Jim Jones discussed the possibility of collective suicide with U.S. officials.

But a U.S. official last summer discounted a threat by Peoples Temple cult members that they would commit mass suicide if Jones should lose a child custody suit, calling it a "psychological ploy," federal officials say.

The custody case involved attempts by Peoples Temple members Grace and Timothy Stoen to remove 6-year-old John Victor Stoen from Jones' custody at Jonestown. Jones had claimed to have fathered the child at the request of Mrs. Stoen, papers show.

The department said in a written statement last night that Peoples Temple representatives had told two U.S. embassy officials in Georgetown that if the Stoen child was taken away from them "we will all just give up and die . . . we will all commit suicide."

ONE OF THE embassy representatives, consular officer Richard McCoy, is said to have believed at the time that the remark "was a psychological ploy designed to influence the outcome of the trial," the department statement said.

"He frankly did not take the threat seriously. Neither did anyone else at the embassy," said a spokesman who asked not to be identified.

In August, a Guyanese judge removed himself from the case, citing "mean and dispicable" attempts by Peoples Temple members to influence the outcome of the custody proceeding. The case was pending in Guyanese courts when the Peoples Temple deaths occurred Nov. 18. The Stoen boy was thought to have died in the mass murder-suicides.

Earlier yesterday, the department issued a statement strongly defending the way in which McCoy performed his duties as the principal liaison between the embassy and the cult.

It said McCoy conducted himself "in a manner completely consonant with the highest standards of professional competence and ethical behavior."

According to Jones' personal papers, aides to the cult leader maintained close relationships with embassy officials in Georgetown.

IN RESPONSE, the department said McCoy had a "working relationship" with the Peoples Temple, which, it said, became difficult to maintain, partially because of McCoy's frequent contact with Guyanese police officials concerning the temple.

The department said McCoy relayed to police officials allegations of beatings, the holding of individuals against their will, firearms smuggling, the presence of armed guards and rumors concerning plans for mass suicide.

It also disputed an allegation in Jones' papers that McCoy promised to find out "discreetly" who within the embassy was spreading rumors questioning Jones' religious beliefs.

The Washington Post ____
Washington Star-News A-10
Daily News (New York) ____
The New York Times ____
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The Atlanta Constitution ____
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Human Rights Message

Carter Blasts 'Self-Appointed Messiahs'

By Fred Barnes
Washington Star Staff Writer

President Carter articulated a new human right today, that of freedom from violence that comes "from self-appointed messiahs operating under cover of politics or religion."

He did not single out by name the Rev. Jim Jones, most of whose followers died in a mass murder-suicide in the jungle of Guyana last month on Jones' orders.

But it seemed clear that Carter was referring to Jones in his speech on human rights delivered at the White House to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

In remarks prepared for the address, the president asserted that "of all human rights, the most basic is to be free of arbitrary violence — whether that violence comes from government, from terrorists, from criminals or from self-appointed messiahs operating under cover of politics or religion."

"BUT GOVERNMENTS, because their power is so much greater than that of any individual, have a special responsibility," Carter said in the speech.

The president's address was to be the centerpiece of a series of activities at the White House honoring the anniversary of the signing of the human rights document. Carter was to host a reception and briefing for human rights leaders, members of Congress and administration officials.

Not unexpectedly, Carter asserted that "the effectiveness of our human rights policy is now an established fact." He vowed to maintain that policy.

"As long as I am president, the government of the United States will struggle for the enhancement of human rights," he said. "No force on earth can separate us from that commitment . . . human rights is the soul of our foreign policy because human rights is the very soul of our sense of nationhood."

The president said American emissaries are carrying the message that "human rights count in the character of our relations with other countries."

THE ADMINISTRATION'S human rights policy, which has generated some criticism from American foes and allies, "has contributed to an atmosphere of change that has encouraged progress in many places," he said.

"In some countries, political prisoners have been released," Carter said. "In others, the brutality of repression has been lessened. In still others, there is movement toward democratic institutions or the rule of law."

In the address, the president urged Congress to ratify the genocide convention adopted in 1948 by the United Nations. It achieved U.N. passage one day before the human rights convention was enacted.

When other nations question why the United States has failed to endorse the genocide convention, "we do not have an acceptable answer," Carter said. He made no reference to heated opposition in this country that the convention has provoked from time to time.

The Washington Post ____
Washington Star-News A-10
Daily News (New York) ____
The New York Times ____
The Wall Street Journal ____
The Atlanta Constitution ____
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FD-350 (Rev. 10-19-77)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Embassy: 'Did everything we could

By Jim Willse
Examiner City Editor

GEORGETOWN, Guyana — The United States Embassy did everything it could to check out reports that residents of Jonestown were being mistreated and held against their will, an embassy aide said today.

Douglas Ellice, chief of the embassy's consular services section, said in an interview that the efforts were limited to occasional visits to the jungle settlement, where followers of Jim Jones were asked if they wished to leave. None did, he said.

"We did everything we could do under the law to assure the well-being of American citizens up there," Ellice said.

Peoples Temple members who escaped the cyanide death pact have told of an agricultural community run by terror, many of its citizens beaten physically and held in place by fear.

Ellice said embassy officials would visit the settlement every two or three months, often seeking out persons about whom relatives had expressed concern.

"I would ask people if they wanted to come out with me," Ellice said. "They'd say, 'To what? To Watts? To rats?' We went to the end of the road with Peoples Temple."

Ellice dismissed suggestions by concerned relatives of temple members that the embassy should have pursued more actively reports of trouble at the commune. He said the embassy was prohibited by law from initiating an investigation in a host country.

"The embassy's view of the mission was that it was a group of American citizens residing in Guyana, legally insisting on the right to be left alone," he said.

Ellice described a visit he made to Jonestown on Nov. 7,

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

8 S.F.Examiner

San Francisco,Ca.

Date: 11-27-78
Edition: Extra

Title:
RYMURS

Character:
or SF 89-250
Classification: 89
Submitting Office: SF

FBI/DOJ

during which Jones and the temple seemed to make a special effort to create a favorable impression.

Lunch was served in the open-air meeting hall that less than two weeks later would become a dispensary for poison. Jones' oft-stated hatred of the U.S. government was absent as a band played "America the Beautiful" underneath a map of the United States hand-painted by children on a bedsheet.

Ellice said the temple resisted suggestions that its residents be registered with the embassy, a situation that has contributed to the administrative stall created by the tragedy.

He said the embassy must wrestle with such questions as who should receive the temple assets, what should be done with personal effects when most of the victims are unidentified, and how the next of kin can be notified.

FD-350 (Rev. 10-19-77)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

When Envoy To Guyana Got the News

Washington

At 6:20 p.m. last Saturday, Ashley Hewitt, the director of the State Department's Office of Caribbean Affairs, received an urgent phone call at home from the United States ambassador in Guyana, John R. Burke.

"Ashley, there's a flash cable on the wire," Burke said tersely. "Please get to the office immediately."

The wire to the State Department said there were indications that Representative Leo Ryan and members of his party had been shot by cultists at a commune 140 miles west of Georgetown, Guyana. It was the start of a macabre drama of murder and mass suicides by the cultists — a still unfolding drama that left officials in the small American embassy in Georgetown stunned and exhausted.

"Yes. John Burke was undoubtedly stunned by what took place, but he was absolutely calm," said a State Department official who is in touch with Burke. "John is really the quintessential foreign service officer in the sense of being absolutely unflappable."

A career diplomat who has focused on Southeast Asia as well as the Caribbean, Burke was appointed ambassador to Guyana last year after serving as deputy chief of mission in the American embassy in Bangkok, Thailand.

Although the United States maintains somewhat delicate relations with Guyana — a socialist nation and a member of the nonaligned movement — the diplomatic post in Georgetown is a relatively

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

4 S.F.Chronicle

San Francisco,Ca.

Date: 11-27-78
Edition: Home

Title:
RYMURS

Character:
or SF 89-250
Classification: 89
Submitting Office: SF

FBI/DOJ

quiet one, in normal times, and Burke and his staff were plainly unprepared for the influx of reporters, the worldwide attention and the United States government involvement that followed the mass suicide and killings of Peoples Temple members that took place last weekend.

"Guyana can be a tricky and difficult assignment," said one American diplomat here. "Burke didn't expect things to be easy. But he didn't expect anything like this."

At first glance, the 53-year-old diplomat seems a fairly unusual choice to serve as the United States representative in the small, remote, republic on the northeast coast of South America.

Burke is a dapper bachelor — he wears button-down white shirts and suits even in the steamiest weather — whose major hobby is cooking French food and listening to Brahms and Schubert. A burly man, about 5 foot, 10 inches tall, Burke has a reputation for being a bit humorless, although friends say that the diplomat has a "puckish" sense of humor.

"John, with his cherubic round face and sparkling blue eyes, reminds me of a senior cleric," said one aide. "He likes a good joke. He likes cigars. He likes good food. He's not without a light side."

Beyond this, however, Burke has earned a reputation within the State Department as being, in the words of various officials, "very determined . . . Cool under fire . . . A hard driver . . . A firm commander."

"I've never seen him get excited about anything," said one State Department aide.

Although the embassy has come under some criticism for failing to take warnings about the cult seriously — and responding inadequately to complaints from relatives of Peoples Temple members about torture and forced labor at the commune — officials said United States Embassy officers in Guyana had made several trips to Jonestown this year to prove charges of abuse, but found no evidence to support the allegations.

"Burke and the embassy did everything they could, and it's unfair and wrong to imply they didn't do their jobs," said one State Department official.

New York Times

0-19 (Rev. 1-27-78)

Assoc. Dir. ____
Dep. AD Adm. ____
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Cult Leader's Papers Indicate Links to U.S. Embassy

JONESTOWN, Guyana, Dec. 4 (AP) — Senior aides of the cult leader, Jim Jones, maintained much closer relationships with United States Embassy consular officials in Georgetown, Guyana, than has so far been officially acknowledged, Mr. Jones's personal papers indicate.

The papers, acquired by The Associated Press, indicate that one United States official promised to "discreetly" find out who within the embassy was spreading rumors questioning Mr. Jones'sreligious beliefs. They also show that the embassy complied with the vehement requests of Mr. Jones's aides for advance lists of Jonestown residents whose relatives had asked the embassy to investigate the commune.

The personal papers from Jonestown make it clear that the intention of getting the names in advance was to fully brief the subjects before the American officials arrived at Jonestown.

The United States State Department has said that in 75 interviews by consular officials with People's Temple members in Jonestown, no evidence was uncovered of repression or of people wanting to leave the community.

Link to U.S. Consul Indicated

The Jones papers suggest that there was a close relationship between Richard McCoy, the consul at the United States Embassy until last May, and several top Jones aides in Georgetown, including his public relations chief, Sharon Amos, Terri Jones and Tim Carter. Mr. McCoy, who now serves on the Guyana desk at the State Department in Washington, has not been available for comment.

In a memo to Mr. Jones dated last April 4 this year, Miss Amos said she telephoned Mr. McCoy to complain that the American Embassy was spreading rumors that Mr. Jones was an atheist. According to the memo, Mr. McCoy said that deputy chief of mission, John Blacken, had mentioned that Mr. Jones was starting to doubt the existence of God.

Mr. McCoy expressed doubt that Mr. Blacken was the source of rumors because "John was very sophisticated in knowing what to say and what not to." He promised Miss Amos that "he would discreetly find out who was the one in the embassy that was talking."

Sought to Influence Judge

Mr. McCoy was quoted as fully informing cult aides on pressures on Congress and the State Department over the custody battle between Mr. Jones and Grace and Timothy Stoen involving 6-year-old John Victor Stoen. The Amos memo said, "the assistant secretary of consular affairs told Dick when Dick was visiting recently in Washington that in no certain terms would they consider embassy involvement at all in this case."

Other personal Jones' documents showed that during this same period senior Guyanese officials were attempting to influence the local judge handling the custody case in Guyana.

Regarding Mr. McCoy's views on Jonestown, a March 8 document refers to him as saying "when he is asked about us, he tells people what we are doing here. He says he tells people that no allegations have been proven against us, that we are decent, law abiding citizens who are trying to help develop Guyana. He tells people that none of the charges against us have any substantiation."

Closer links between Mr. McCoy and the cult are revealed in memos detailing the first meetings between Jones aides and his replacement Douglas Ellis. The updated document signed by Terri Jones and countersigned by Mr. Jones's wife, Marcelline, quoted Mr. Ellis as mentioning that "there were a few people he had to see by request of some letters he had received."

The memo writer continued, "I said Dick always told us who he had to see because we could make sure they were there...I felt he [Ellis] was reluctant about this though, it was like he would tell us when he got there so we couldn't brief them."

An undated unsigned memo addressed to Mr. Ellis expresses the increasing frustration of the Jones aides over the consul's unwillingness to give an advance list.

"We are sick of this and do not appreciate being interrogated again. We are upset about it," the document said, referring to an upcoming visit to the Jonestown settlement by the consul. "We were told by McCoy that we would never have to go through this again," the memo said.

It later added, "everyone thinks it might be them" who would be interviewed. "It is upsetting people because in the past Dick McCoy has always told us who."

DO NOT FORGET THE NEEDIEST!

The Washington Post ____
Washington Star-News ____
Daily News (New York) ____
The New York Times B-11
The Wall Street Journal ____
The Atlanta Constitution ____
The Los Angeles Times ____

Date 12/5/78

FBI/DOJ

FD-350 (Rev. 10-19-77)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Layton's sister says feds shelved her Guyana report

by Norm Hannon
Staff Writer

Berkeley—The sister of the man accused of slaying Rep. Leo Ryan last week escaped from the Jonestown commune early last summer and gave the U.S. State Department a detailed account of the commune's regime — including weekly "suicide drills."

"Nobody believed me," Debbie Layton of Berkeley told The Tribune last night.

Her brother, Larry, 32, stands accused in Guyana of first-degree murder in the slaying of Ryan and four others at an airstrip near Jonestown one day before more than 400 Jonestown residents, followers of the Rev. Jim Jones, committed suicide or were killed.

"He (Jones) made us line up and drink the unsweetened Kool-Aid as much as once a week," Debbie Layton said.

"There would be men with guns standing around and he would say, 'I had to see if you would follow me . . . If you don't you will be shot'."

Layton said she escaped by accompanying other Jonestown residents to Georgetown, the capital of Guyana, and running away to the American embassy there.

Consul Richard McCoy got her back to the United States, she said.

She said the State Department apparently did nothing about the sworn statement she gave it after her return detailing life in Jonestown.

"I guess it was just too incredible for anybody to believe," she said.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

16 The Tribune

Oakland, Ca.

Date: 11-24-78
Edition: Sunrise

Title:
RYMURS

Character:
or SF 89-250
Classification: 89
Submitting Office: SF

FBI/DOJ

Said another member of the Layton family, who refused to identify himself:

"I wish the press had been as interested in Debbie's story last summer as it is now in inquiring about Larry."

The family made a brief statement about Larry Layton and would answer no more questions about him.

He was in the People's Temple for 11 years, they said.

"He was brainwashed, programmed and totally dedicated to Jim Jones and his philosophy."

FD-350 (Rev. 10-19-77)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

State Dept. Criticized On Guyana

Called Blind To Complaints

© New York Times News Service

WASHINGTON — The State Department found itself hard-pressed Tuesday to explain why United States consular officials were never able to find members of the People's Temple community in Guyana who complained of abuses or said they wished to leave.

For the third straight day, department officials found themselves on the defensive, accused in some quarters with bearing heavy responsibility for the bizarre incidents that resulted in the murder of an American congressman and four others and mass suicides by more than 400 members of the religious sect in the jungle outpost.

Department's Stand

In response to complaints that the department had neither alerted Rep. Leo J. Ryan adequately to the dangers involved in his mission nor taken seriously enough the evidence of widespread abuse and brutality in the People's Temple, officials made these points:

—The role of the consular service is to assist Americans who are in trouble with foreign governments, not to try to protect Americans from one another.

—The consular establishment is not an investigative body and in this case was constrained from interfering with what was supposedly an American religious organization, protected by American tradition and the First Amendment to the Constitution.

Letter to Vance

But Rep. Clement J. Zablocki, D-Wis., said that the House International Relations Committee which he heads would pursue the question of government responsibility for the Guyana events, initially with a letter asking questions of Secretary of State Cyrus R. Vance.

Zablocki emphasized to a reporter, however, that he had not scheduled hearings on the Guyana tragedy and said that for the present he would "shy away from the word 'investigation.'"

At the State Department, reporters bombarded a high-ranking official for nearly an hour with questions that centered mostly on why consular officials, in 75 interviews with individual members of the Peoples Temple, could never uncover the abuse, terror and repression in the Jonestown settlement.

Progress Noted

The official, John A. Bushnell, deputy assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs, said that one of the American officials who conducted interviews in Jonestown had noted that "the colony had made a lot of progress, that they had built buildings, they had expanded, they seemed to be going ahead. There seemed to be a lot of spirit in the colony."

This consular officer, Richard A. McCoy, had also indicated, Bushnell said, that "there was a lot of menial work, hard work, to be done in that tropical climate," but "he did not sense that what they were doing was beyond the abilities of the people."

Defends Aides

But during his contentious session with reporters, Bushnell strongly defended McCoy and other consular officers who had visited Jonestown, saying in effect that they had done everything that could have been reasonably expected to discover the truth about the condition and attitudes of the persons they interviewed.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

16

COURIER EXPRESS
Buffalo, N. Y.

Date: 11/22/78

Edition: Four Star

Title: RYMUR

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or 89-96

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Submitting Office: Buffalo

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FBI — BUFFALO

FBI/DOJ

FD-350 (Rev. 10-19-77)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

U.S. try to recoup Jonestown costs

WASHINGTON (UPI) — White House press secretary Jody Powell said Wednesday the government used tax money to pay for transporting Jonestown's suicide-murder victims to the United States because it was "the proper and decent thing to do."

See Related Story On Page 24

The State Department, however, said it may try to recoup some of the costs by taking a share of the Jonestown treasure — estimated to be millions of dollars.

Powell was asked at his news briefing whether he thought it was right for the public to pay for transporting victims to the United States at a cost estimated variously between $2 million and $9 million.

"The action of the government seemed like the proper and decent thing to do," Powell said.

But State Department spokesman Hodding Carter said the government sent a legal expert to Guyana Tuesday in an effort to recover some of Jonestown's multimillion dollar treasure trove.

"As part of the process of addressing a whole range of legal issues that have arisen relating to this tragedy, the State Department is considering the possibility of trying to claim some of the funds or property found in Guyana," he said.

On another matter, Carter said it appears unlikely that any Jonestown survivors will be flown to the United States on Air Force planes this week.

A group of elderly survivors was to fly to New York on a commercial flight Wednesday, but Carter said there are no plans set for the government to transport others.

"There will be a military flight of survivors from Guyana to the United States if and when there is a large enough group of people eligible to leave Guyana who wish to travel in such a group," Carter said.

"It is impossible for us at this time to predict the timing of that flight. It now appears unlikely that it will happen before the end of this week."

The scheduled destination for any government flights is Charleston, S.C., but Carter said that could change.

He said survivors traveling on government aircraft would have to pay their own way.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Page 18

San Juan Star

San Juan,

Puerto Rico

Date: 11/30/78

Edition: AM

Title: U. S. Try to Recoup Jonestown Costs

Character:

or

Classification: 89-123

Submitting Office: San Juan

FBI/DOJ

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State Dept. Defends Itself In Guyana Investigations

The State Department, confronted by mounting charges that it failed to properly investigate complaints against the Peoples Temple commune in Guyana, has issued a defense of its actions prior to the mass suicides and murders there.

In a statement Friday, the department said the record made clear that its officials had "discharged their responsibilities fully and conscientiously" within the limits imposed by law and constitutional bars against intruding on guarantees of privacy and religious freedom.

"We believe it is safe to say that more attention has been devoted to this particular group of Americans living overseas over the past 18 months than to any other group of Americans living abroad," the statement asserted.

The statement was made after a new round of charges by Peoples Temple defectors that department officials had ignored warnings about people being held against their will in the commune and that commune leaders had made plans for mass suicide by their followers.

Many of the charges have been directed at Richard A. McCoy, formerly a consular officer at the U.S. embassy in Guyana and since August the Guyana desk officer in the department. Complaints against McCoy include allegations that he failed to investigate charges of coercion and that he was sexually compromised and given money by commune members.

In response, department officials, both on the record and privately, have vigorously defended McCoy's conduct. They say charges that he was bribed or compromised by sexual relations with one or two women from the commune are believed within the department to be false.

McCoy, they said, has denied the charges both orally and in a sworn affidavit. In addition, the officials said, he was questioned extensively by department security officers who concluded he was telling the truth.

During his service in Guyana, McCoy conducted most of the more than 50 interviews with commune residents who were reported by friends or relatives as being held against their will. In each case, the department has said, the individuals denied that they wanted to leave.

In the bulk of the interviews, McCoy is known to have told his superiors, he tried to guard against coercion of the individual by talking to the person in an open field where the conversation could not be overheard by other commune members.

McCoy also said that on each occasion he had a Guyanese government official waiting in his car nearby. He added that he had told the persons being interviewed that if they wanted to leave the commune, he was prepared to put his arm around them, escort them to the car and drive them to immediate safety.

On Thursday, a defector from the commune, Deborah Layton Blakey, said in San Francisco that McCoy had advised her not to go to the press with her allegations of abuse and a suicide plan within the commune.

In response, Tom Reston, a department spokesman, said that McCoy, in two conversations with Blakey, had told her she would have to make her own decision about talking to the press. However, Reston added, McCoy did say that, in his opinion, he didn't think press reports would help and that the best recourse would be for her to tell her story to federal law enforcement agencies.

Earlier, department spokesmen had said that allegations of abuse, made by Blakey in an affidavit after her return to the United States last spring, had not been expressed by her in her dealings with McCoy. In the affidavit, she praised McCoy for getting her a new passport and other assistance in her departure from Guyana.

The Washington Post A-13
Washington Star-News ____
Daily News (New York) ____
The New York Times ____
The Wall Street Journal ____
The Atlanta Constitution ____
The Los Angeles Times ____

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FBI/DOJ

0-19 (Rev. 1-27-78)

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State Department Insists It Met Responsibility on Cult in Guyana

Embassy Also Defended

By GRAHAM HOVEY
Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1 — The State Department, stung by persistent charges that it had ignored advance warnings of a plan for mass deaths at the People's Temple commune in Guyana, issued today a strongly worded defense of its actions and those of the United States Embassy in Georgetown.

Thomas Reston, a department spokesman, said it was "absolutely clear from the record" that the State Department and the Embassy had "discharged their responsibilities fully and conscientiously" within the limits imposed by law and constitutional guarantees of the right of privacy.

Statement Volunteered

"In fact," he said, "we believe it is safe to say that more attention has been devoted by the United States Government to this particular group of Americans living overseas over the past 18 months than to any other group of Americans living abroad."

Since the mass deaths in Guyana on Nov. 18, criticism of the State Department's handling of earlier complaints about the cult has mounted. The New

The Washington Post ____
Washington Star-News ____
Daily News (New York) ____
The New York Times A-1
The Wall Street Journal ____
The Atlanta Constitution ____
The Los Angeles Times ____

Date 12/4/78

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FBI/DOJ

State Department Declares It Met Responsibility on Cult in Guyana

Continued From Page 1

York Times reported this morning that two lawyers representing defectors from the People's Temple had given the State Department explicit warnings about the dangers that their clients perceived.

It was in this context that Mr. Reston issued his statement as he opened the daily State Department news briefing.

In five visits to Jonestown, he said, American consular officers checked specific allegations of mistreatment involving more than 50 individuals in the People's Temple settlement.

"To my knowledge, every specific allegation attached to a specific individual, which was received by the department or the Embassy, was checked by interviewing the supposed victims," Mr. Reston said. "In no case did the supposed victims confirm the allegations."

He said that the consular officers had also done what they could to confirm or refute "the general charges that had appeared in the press and elsewhere about conditions in Jonestown." But neither by their own observations nor in consultations with officials in Guyanese law-enforcement agencies had they been able to confirm the charges, he said.

After he had read his statement, Mr. Reston was questioned by newsmen for nearly 40 minutes. Many of the queries arose from charges made in California by two lawyers and a defector from the People's Temple that the State Department had been lax in investigating warnings that the lives of Americans were in danger in Guyana.

He confirmed that in two conversations a consular officer, Richard A. McCoy, had advised Deborah Layton Blakey, a defector from Jonestown, not to "go to the press" with her allegations of abuse and of a suicide plan at the People's Temple.

The first conversation took place in an airliner in which Mrs. Blakey and Mr. McCoy were flying from Guyana to the United States on May 13 of this year, and the second exchange was by telephone a few days later, Mr. Reston said.

When Mrs. Blakey, in the first talk, "wondered whether she could go to the press," Mr. McCoy's response, said Mr. Reston, was "that he wasn't sure it would help, but it was for her to decide."

When she raised the question again in the telephone conversation, according to Mr. Reston, "Mr. McCoy responded that she should make her own decision, but he felt that, at that point, it wasn't going to solve anything, really, since the press reports up to that date had not helped to resolve the issue."

"He strongly recommended that she contact appropriate Federal law-enforcement agencies to report what she knew," Mr. Reston said, "in hopes that they would be able to uncover corroborative evidence that could be forwarded to our Embassy in Guyana and turned over to the Government of Guyana with an official request to investigate People's Temple activities in that country."

When asked what would have prevented Mr. McCoy from getting in touch with law-enforcement authorities on his own, Mr. Reston answered, "Nothing." When asked further if this had been "a lapse" on Mr. McCoy's part, Mr. Reston said that he had "not heard that question discussed" at the State Department.

Mr. McCoy, a 44-year-old career diplomat, returned from his consular post in Guyana in August to become the State Department's country director for Guyana. He has been serving on the Government panel that was set up to deal with the Guyana tragedy after the killing of Representative Leo J. Ryan and four other Americans at an airstrip near Jonestown on Nov. 18.

State Department officials said that Mr. McCoy was also the consular officer accused by People's Temple defectors of having been compromised by a sexual relationship with a woman in Jonestown arranged by the Rev. Jim Jones, the founder of the settlement.

0-19 (Rev. 1-27-78)

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STATE DEPT. CALLED LAX ON MASS DEATHS

Lawyers Say They Sent Warnings on Cult for More Than a Year

By ROBERT LINDSEY
Special to The New York Times

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 30 — The State Department received explicit warnings for more than a year that the lives of American citizens were in jeopardy at the People's Temple commune in Guyana and that the Guyanese Government had been corrupted by the Rev. Jim Jones, according to two lawyers.

The lawyers, who represented defectors from the sect who were concerned about relatives and friends still loyal to Mr. Jones, said that they had made three visits to the State Department starting in August 1977 and had written numerous letters warning of the situation in Guyana. They said that they had also sought help from United States officials in Guyana but received little response.

Last June 15, the lawyers said, they sent an affidavit to the State Department signed by a defector from the cult, Deborah Layton Blakey, asserting that Mr. Jones was "sick" and was plotting "mass suicide for socialism." She said that she was convinced that "Reverend Jones had sufficient control over the minds of the residents that it would be possible for him to effect a mass suicide."

The lawyers said that they had received no reply to the warning from the State Department.

"We were shouting into a tunnel," Jeffrey Haas, one of the lawyers, said. "We hold the State Department responsible for the deaths of these people," his colleague, Margaret Ryan, said, referring to the more than 900 members of the commune who committed suicide or were murdered Nov. 18.

In September 1977, they conceded, the State Department, at their request, filed a formal protest to the Guyanese Government complaining of apparent "intervention" by that Government in the country's judicial process in a dispute involving the custody of a child that Mr. Jones contended was his.

But, they asserted, the United States Government did not follow up the matter even after Joseph Freitas, the San Francisco District Attorney, wrote to President Carter and other senior American officials asserting that the rights of American citizens were being suppressed in Guyana in the custody fight.

Seduction and Blackmail

The child, who died in Guyana last week, was the son of a former church member, Grace Stoen, and her husband, Timothy, although Mr. Jones asserted that he had fathered the child.

In an interview, Mrs. Blakey, a former member of Mr. Jones's inner leadership circle, asserted that high officials of the Guyana Government had been compromised by Mr. Jones, who sent female members of the commune to seduce and then blackmail them. She said that one of the highest ranking officials of the Guyanese diplomatic corps had a mistress assigned to him by Mr. Jones.

Mrs. Blakey is the sister of Larry Layton, who is being held in connection with the slaying of Representative Leo J. Ryan, the California Democrat who went to Guyana to investigate the commune.

Mrs. Blakey said that before she left the commune last May 13, she was part of a delegation that made daily visits to the Russian Embassy in Georgetown, Guyana, to negotiate the transfer of the commune to the Soviet Union. She said that the negotiations had proceeded slowly but had been scheduled to accelerate after her departure. She said that the Soviet intelligence agency, the K.G.B., had sent at least one agent to investigate the commune.

Told Not to Go to Press

She asserted that United States officials at the American Embassy in Georgetown were "extremely close" to Mr. Jones, and she said that one of them, Richard McCoy, had told her not to take her assertions of oppression and possible mass suicide to the press.

The warning, she said, came in a telephone conversation with Mr. McCoy after she left the country and he was in Washington.

A few days after the call, she said, she received a letter, apparently from Mr. Jones, that referred to her conversation with Mr. McCoy and threatened her life if she took her complaints to the press.

Mr. McCoy, in a brief telephone interview from Washington, where he is now stationed, acknowledged that he had advised Mrs. Blakey not to go to the press but said that he had done so because going to the press would not be effective in dealing with the problems in Guyana.

He also said that he had told her instead to go to a law enforcement agency. He denied that he had ever told Mr. Jones about his conversation with Mrs. Blakey.

Mr. McCoy said that he could not discuss other charges made by Miss Blakey unless the interview was approved by Hodding Carter, the senior State Department spokesman. Subsequently, Mr. Carter approved a longer interview, but a few minutes later the State Department rescinded the approval and said that Mr. McCoy would not be available to answer questions.

Mrs. Blakey's June 15 affidavit forecasting the possibility of mass suicide was sent to Stephen A. Dobrenchuk, chief of the State Department's emergency and protection services division; Elizabeth A. Powers of the department's special counselor services, and Douglas J. Bennett Jr., Assistant Secretary of State for Congressional relations.

The covering letters asserted, "While the State Department has made some contact with American citizens living in Jonestown, its investigation to uncover the actual conditions is inadequate."

The Washington Post ____
Washington Star-News ____
Daily News (New York) ____
The New York Times ___1___
The Wall Street Journal ____
The Atlanta Constitution ____
The Los Angeles Times ____

Date DEC 1 1978

FBI/DOJ

Ryan Aide Cites Lack of Warning on Guyana Danger

By GRAHAM HOVEY

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Dec. 3 — Representative Leo J. Ryan's legislative counsel, who was critically wounded in the Guyana shooting that cost the Congressman his life, said today that the State Department had never warned the Ryan party of any danger of violence in its mission to Guyana.

Jacqueline Speier, a 28-year-old lawyer and an aide to the Democratic Congressman from California for nine years, spoke by telephone from her bed in a Washington area hospital, where she is recovering from wounds inflicted by the People's Temple gunmen who allegedly killed Mr. Ryan and four others in Guyana on Nov. 18.

Miss Speier accused the State Department and the United States Embassy in Georgetown of indifference and hostility toward Mr. Ryan's ill-fated trip to investigate allegations by San Francisco constituents that their relatives were being abused and forcibly detained in the People's Temple settlement of Jonestown.

'A Lot of Inaccuracies'

She said she had decided to speak to a reporter because she had become aware during her hospitalization of "a lot of inaccuracies" in some press accounts of the Ryan mission and of the role of the State Department and the Embassy in the mass deaths in Guyana.

"The State Department at no time made it even remotely clear to the Congressman or to myself that there would be danger encountered of the nature that we found," Miss Speier said.

"There was reluctance by State to have the trip come off for a lot of reasons," she said, adding that in her opinion, one of the reasons was that "they just hadn't done enough investigating" into the People's Temple community.

She also believed, she said, that the State Department and the Embassy were afraid Mr. Ryan's investigation and his determination to bring out People's Temple members who wished to leave would damage United States relations with Guyana.

When the Congressman and his party arrived in Guyana on Nov. 14, they encountered "a blasé attitude" and deep resentment among some Embassy officers about the Ryan mission, she said.

Miss Speier recalled that she and other members of the party had hardly seated themselves in an auto for the ride from the airport into Georgetown when Richard Dwyer, the deputy chief of the Embassy, "started reading us the riot act."

"He said we hadn't done half enough staff work for this CODEL," said Miss Speier, using the acronym for a Congressional delegation carrying out an investigation abroad.

"He was also very upset that the press had come down with us," she said, "although the State Department was well aware that we would have press representatives along."

'Attitude Party Had Encountered'

Miss Speier said she was reluctant to speak of Mr. Dwyer's evident resentment of the Ryan mission because he had later played a commendable role — though slightly wounded himself — in caring for the wounded and in getting them evacuated from the airstrip near Jonestown.

She said, however, that Mr. Dwyer's remarks in the automobile "symbolized an attitude that Mr. Ryan's party had encountered at the State Department."

She made it clear that she resented Mr. Dwyer's allegation that the Ryan mission was ill prepared. She said she and Mr. Ryan had had "extensive conversations with many people at the State Department" when the trip was being planned.

Miss Speier said Ambassador John Burke changed his attitude toward the Ryan mission and the People's Temple after he met on Nov. 16 with the Congressman's party, including about 14 relatives of Jonestown residents.

'Had a Blasé Attitude'

"I think that until he met with us, the Ambassador also had a blasé attitude toward Jonestown," she said. But at the meeting, she said, Mr. Burke said he had no recollection of having seen affidavits sent to the State Department or to the Embassy by some of those present, including People's Temple defectors.

One of those affidavits, Miss Speier recalled, carried the warning that the Rev. Jim Jones had not only planned but had held rehearsals for a mass suicide by members of the People's Temple.

In another case that came up at the meeting, Miss Speier said, the Ambassador had been sent "a notarized affidavit from San Francisco asking that he inquire into some allegations about abuses in Jonestown."

"The Ambassador's reply was that he had never seen it," Miss Speier said, and no acknowledgement of the document had ever been received by the sender. Emphasizing that she spoke as a lawyer, Miss Speier said: "On the face of it, that is in violation of the treaty the United States has with Guyana concerning consular services. On the basis of that treaty alone, it was incumbent on the Ambassador to investigate."

Brushoff at Georgetown Office

She said that one factor in changing the Ambassador's attitude to one of concern was the report furnished by some of the relatives at the meeting. In the report, she said, they cited the brushoff they had received at the Georgetown office of the People's Community, where they had gone to inquire about some children.

"The relatives had been told only to 'go to the U.S. Embassy,'" Miss Speier said. "When he heard that, I believe that for the first time the Ambassador realized the gravity of the situation and, to his credit, he got on the phone to the People's Temple office and began to demand answers to some of our questions.

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"But all that came hours, days, months too late," Miss Speier said.

Miss Speier called inadequate the periodic visits to Jonestown by consular officers from the Embassy in Georgetown in part to investigate allegations of relatives that members of the People's Temple were being held against their will.

'It Was Show Time'

"Whenever the U.S. consular officer went to Jonestown, it was show time," she said. She noted that the Jonestown community was always notified in advance of a consular officer's visit and was given at least a partial list of people whom he wished to interview.

The State Department has said that names of some of the people to be interviewed were always left off the list sent to Jonestown and that consular officers often conducted their conversations with individuals in an open field, far from other community members.

Miss Speier said she had been told, however, that the consular officer usually conducted his interviews in the Jonestown radio room that "could be bugged and probably was bugged."

She was especially bitter about what she regarded as the failure of the United States authorities to investigate adequately the allegations by People's Temple defectors that guns and ammunition were shipped in falsely marked crates from the United States to Guyana.

Miss Speier has been warned by Federal security officers not to disclose the hospital in which she is a patient for fear of reprisals by surviving members of the People's Temple in this country.

The two long telephone conversations with Miss Speier were arranged by a close friend of Miss Speier, who transmitted the reporter's request that Miss Speier telephone him.

Miss Speier said she had a foreboding about the trip to Guyana and had made out her will "hours before we left" and filed it in her office along with the will that Representative Ryan had drawn two years ago.

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U.S. Explains Policy Toward Sect

By GRAHAM HOVEY
Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Nov. 26 — The State Department knew very little about the People's Temple community in Guyana before the mass suicides and killings of last week, and virtually nothing about Jonestown's relations with the Guyanese Government, officials here said today.

While aware of the existence of the colony, the department knew little of its practices or what relationship the Rev. Jim Jones had with Prime Minister Forbes Burnham, they said.

The officials were questioned today about charges by opposition leaders in Georgetown, the capital of Guyana, that Mr. Burnham's Government was trying to conceal its links to Jonestown, where at least 900 people died last weekend.

After the deaths, the shortage of such knowledge compounded the State Department's problem of determining how many people were in the colony and who might have survived.

The United States consular officials in Guyana were always acutely aware that they had no authority to interfere with an American religious establishment, however unorthodox its behavior might be, if it were ostensibly breaking no Guyanese laws, the officials said.

"A consular officer might come away from a Jonestown visit somewhat uneasy at the fervor of the People's Temple members," one official said, "but fervor of itself was not his responsibility and certainly not contrary to the laws of Guyana."

Asked again why consular officers had been unable, during 75 interviews with People's Temple members in Jonestown,

Continued on Page A13, Column 1

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Why State Department Knew Little About Colony

Continued From Page A1

to uncover evidence of repression or to find anyone willing to leave the community, another official said, with feeling:

"Look, the fact that 900 people would kill themselves or allow themselves to be killed on the orders of their leader suggests a degree of conviction or commitment hard to penetrate."

State Department officials pointed out that many American religious organizations have established settlements in various Latin American countries and elsewhere, one of them being the House of Israel in Guyana, a group of blacks adhering to the Jewish faith and led by a man from Cleveland who professes to be the Prophet Elijah.

"I have seen nothing in any embassy reporting about any personal relationship between Jim Jones and Prime Minister Burnham," said a high-ranking official. He added that he doubted that Ambassador John R. Burke had ever met Mr. Jones.

The officials emphasized that Guyana had been a logical place for Mr. Jones to establish his community in two respects: Both Guyana and the People's Temple are multiracial in character and both are committed to a socialist, cooperative society.

American officials were still pointing out today that, because the largest American helicopters were needed in Georgetown to shuttle bodies from Jonestown, the United States Army's graves registration squads were only able to begin their work on Wednesday afternoon.

The officials said again that the highest priority for the squads was to identify bodies and place them in bags for removal, and not to count them systematically.

The squads started their task with the bodies lying at the perimeter outside the People's Temple assembly hall, officials said; only as the soldiers worked their way into the hall itself, and found layers and clusters of bodies, did they realized how low the original estimate of Guyanese authorities had been.

Many of the bodies were those of infants and small children, lying under the bodies of their parents, and thus not visible until the top layers were removed, officials said.

Officials denied that American authorities had collaborated with the Guyanese Government in keeping Jonestown off-limits to the press. They said priority had to be given to body removal and to exhaustive searches for survivors because it was then thought that hundreds of people might have fled from Jonestown into the jungle.

A Defense Department official said he understood that Guyanese authorities had restricted press coverage in Jonestown because they feared health contamination problems and believed that scores of reporters at the site would hamper the army's task of identifying and bagging bodies for evacuation.

Until Tuesday at the earliest, Guyanese authorities will be completing their questioning of the survivors and clearing for repatriation those whose testimony will not be required for any legal actions that may arise, according to a State Department spokesman, Mary Ann Bader.

Among the 80 survivors are 45 members of the sect who had been in Georgetown at the time of the deaths; 14 members who escaped from Jonestown into the jungle and were rescued, and 19 members who survived the assault on Representative Leo J. Ryan's investigative party, in which Mr. Ryan and four others were slain at the Port Kaituma airstrip on Nov. 18. The latter 19 members had decided to leave Jonestown and accompany Mr. Ryan back to the United States.

FD-350 (Rev. 10-19-77)

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State Department answers some tough questions on Guyana

By John P. Wallach
Examiner Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — There are some awfully hard questions about the Guyana murders that confront the State Department today despite its energetic efforts to appear totally cooperative and guiltless. These are some of them, and the incomplete answers as provided yesterday by State Department spokesman Tom Reston and other officials:

Was Rep. Leo Ryan in touch with the State Department before he left?

Yes. In fact, Ryan received a high-level briefing in which the difficulties of carrying out such a mission were vividly portrayed. But according to Joe Holsinger, Ryan's legislative assistant, the State Department called it "a benign situation, and there was no reason to believe there was any danger in Jonestown. The Guyana government concurred."

Yet did the embassy try to dissuade Ryan's group from going?

It did. "We warned him about the remoteness and isolation of the region, and to show general prudence for his visit," Reston said. " But we understood he had a duty to his constituents. The decision was the congressman's to make."

What did the State Department know about the Peoples Temple community in Guyana?

Quite a bit. "Consular officers regularly visited Jonestown to distribute Social Security payments, to record or register births and to provide medical attention," Reston said. The department had received complaints from relatives of Jonestown residents for more than a year, Reston said. He explained that on on his visits the embassy official would check "to see if any of them were being held against their will."

Why did the State Department not act on the complaints?

Because the group was not breaking any Guyanese laws, Reston said.

Was the State Department able to determine whether coercion was being used?

"They always told us they were not there against their will," Reston said. Privately, other department officials said that despite suspicions of abuses, U.S. officials had been hampered by restrictive Guyanese laws and by lack of success in finding Jonestown residents who would substantiate the allegations.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

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Was the U.S. Embassy in Georgetown aware of the risks Ryan's delegation was taking?

Embassy officials regularly visited the Peoples Temple plantation at Jonestown about once a month since 1973. "The embassy was aware from these visits of the suicidal tendencies" of leaders of the community, said a senior State Department official who requested anonymity. "It was a matter of interest to the embassy," Reston said. But he said that a U.S. consular officer who visited Jonestown in February recalled that "we were treated to a line about how non-violent they were and how they would immolate themselves before doing violence to others."

Did the U.S. Embassy offer to provide Ryan with security?

It appears that the State Department was not anxious to provide any armed escort. According to Reston, it is not clear whether the U.S. government had the authority to provide such help, or whether its authority extends beyond protection of the embassy. "There certainly is no duty to do so," he said. "It was never requested."

Are any U.S. military personnel stationed in Guyana?

There is a "small contingent" of Marine guards at the embassy, Reston said. But their duties are strictly limited to protection of U.S. officials in the embassy.

Did the United States consider at any time sending troops?

Never. "We have every indication that the government of Guyana is cooperating splendidly," Reston said. He said U.S. troops could not have been sent without Guyanese permission.

What was the attitude of the Guyanese government to the Jones group?

"The Guyanese government tolerated them," according to Brandon Grove, deputy assistant secretary for Latin America. But Guyana officials may have actually supported the existence of such a socialist experiment. Prime Minister Linden Forbes Sampson Burnham has been proud of his status as a Third World leader who frequently snubbed the United States.

How quickly did the Guyanese government react?

The Guyana government informed the United States it was immediately sending a company of troops during the night as well as two helicopters to the scene. They apparently never arrived. The first Guyanese troops arrived at dawn.

What did the State Department do when it learned of the murders?

A crisis management team was immediately set up under Grove's direction. The White House Situation Room and the National Military Command Center were also informed.

What is the purpose of the management team?

It is routinely set up to monitor any crisis involving U.S. citizens abroad. It is a round-the-clock operation and in this case maintains a hotline to President Carter, Prime Minister Burnham and U.S. Ambassador John Burke in Georgetown.

What will happen now to the murderers?

The United States has an extradition treaty with Guyana but has not asked "at this time" for any action under the treaty. "That is a decision for the Justice Department.

Why were the bodies of Ryan and the other murdered Americans not immediately returned to the United States?

"Because the crime was committed within the jurisdiction of Guyana, therefore the Guyanese authorities have the duty to perform autopsies for their own investigative purposes," Reston said.

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Constitutional Doubts Inhibited Cult Probes

Associated Press

Concern for violating constitutional guarantees kept the Justice Department from investigating some complaints by members of Congress against religious cults, a department spokesman said.

Robert Havel, deputy information director at Justice, confirmed that several requests for investigations had been made in previous years. Rep. Leo Ryan, who was killed Saturday while leading a fact-finding mission to the Peoples Temple settlement in Guyana, made one of the most recent major appeals along with Rep. Robert Giaimo, D-Conn.

Ryan, D-Calif., and Giaimo in May 1977 asked the Justice Department to investigate charges that several religious cults controlled members through brainwashing.

In answering the congressmen, Benjamin Civiletti, then chief of the department's criminal division, said the agency believed that brainwashing and other thought-control tactics "would not support a prosecution under the federal kidnapping statute."

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Calls about Guyana

The U.S. State Department has designated a special phone number for inquiries from relatives and friends about Americans in Guyana. The number is (202) 632-6610.

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State Dept. Defends Its Handling Of Complaints About Commune

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Nov. 21 — The State Department found itself hard pressed today to explain why United States consular officials had never been able to find members of the People's Temple community in Guyana who complained of abuses or said they wished to leave.

For the third straight day, department officials found themselves on the defensive, accused in some quarters of bearing heavy responsibility in connection with the bizarre incidents that resulted in the killing of a Congressman and four other Americans Saturday and the mass suicide by more than 400 members of the religious sect in the jungle outpost.

In response to complaints that the department had neither adequately alerted Representative Leo J. Ryan to the dangers involved in his going to investigate the Guyana community, nor taken seriously enough the evidence of widespread abuse and brutality in the sect, officials made these points:

¶The role of the consular service is to assist Americans who are in trouble with foreign governments, not to try to protect Americans from one another.

¶The consular establishment is not an investigative body and in this case was constrained from interfering with what was considered an American religious organization, protected by American tradition and the First Amendment.

But Representative Clement J. Zablocki, Democrat of Wisconsin, said the House International Relations Committee, which he heads, would pursue the question of Government responsibility for the Guyana events, initially with a letter asking questions of Secretary of State Cyrus R. Vance.

No Hearings Scheduled

Mr. Zablocki emphasized to a reporter, however, that he had not scheduled hearings on the Guyana tragedy and that, for the present, he would "shy away from the word 'investigation.'"

At the State Department, reporters questioned a high-ranking official for nearly an hour, mostly about why consular officials, in 75 interviews with members of the sect, never found evidence of the abuse, terror and repression said to exist in the Jonestown settlement.

The official, John A. Bushnell, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-American Affairs, said one of the American officials who had conducted interviews in Jonestown noted that "the colony had made a lot of progress, that they had built buildings, they had expanded, they seemed to be going ahead. There seemed to be a lot of spirit in the colony."

This consular officer, Richard A. McCoy, had also indicated that "there was a lot of menial work, hard work, to be done in that tropical climate," but "he did not sense that what they were doing was beyond the abilities of the people," Mr. Bushnell said.

Among the complaints that persuaded Representative Ryan, a California Democrat, to make his personal investigation in Guyana were charges by friends and relatives of People's Temple members that the sect's leader, the Rev. Jim Jones, worked his followers for incredibly long hours at hard labor and abused them physically, mentally and sexually.

But during his session with reporters, Mr. Bushnell said, in effect, that Mr. McCoy and other consular officers who visited Jonestown had done everything that could have been reasonably expected to discover the truth about the conditions and attitudes of the interviewees.

In order to insure privacy, Mr. McCoy had conducted between 40 and 50 individual interviews over the last year in an open field "at a distance from any buildings and with unimpeded vision in all directions," Mr. Bushnell said.

Complaints Prompted Interviews

In each case, Mr. Bushnell said, the interview was carried out at the consular officer's request as a result of complaints sent to the State Department or to the United States Embassy in Georgetown by friends and relatives.

Mr. McCoy reported that the people interviewed did not complain of abuse, did not indicate that they were being held against their will, and refused offers to leave with the consular official and a Guyanese police official, Mr. Bushnell said.

He said the consular officers had adopted the practice of interviewing in open fields precisely because the letters from friends and relatives of those to be interviewed had been apprehensive that fear and pressure would prevent them from speaking frankly.

Hodding Carter 3d, the State Department press spokesman, said today that the department had received about 1,200 letters on the subject of the People's Temple from January through August of this year and that 60 to 70 percent had been favorable to the religious sect.

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State Explains Response to Cult Letters

By Robert Pear
Washington Star Staff Writer

The State Department received about 1,200 letters on the Peoples Temple this year — more mail than on any other issue including the Middle East — but never was able to substantiate allegations about the strange sect before at least 780 cultists died in the mass suicide and killings in Guyana.

State Department officials reacted angrily yesterday to the large number of critics contending that the U.S. government might have prevented the deaths at Jonestown, the agrarian-socialist commune led by the Rev. Jim Jones in Guyana.

The officials said that U.S. consular officers had interviewed about 75 members of the Peoples Temple at the site of the settlement near Port Kaituma, Guyana.

"Not one confirmed the allegations of mistreatment," said John A. Bushnell, deputy assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs.

HOWEVER, ex-members of the cult say they were intimidated by Jones and forced to conceal their true feelings from visiting consular officers.

"Members are afraid of retaliation if they speak their true feelings in public," Deborah Blakey, a onetime aide to Jones, said in an affidavit given to her lawyer. "Jones had instructed us that he had a spy working in the U.S. Embassy and that he would know if anyone went to the embassy for help."

Parents of youthful cultists contend that the department was negligent in not aggressively pursuing their complaints about "mind programming," "brainwashing," coercive techniques and human-rights violations at Jones' commune in the South American jungle.

Rep. Leo J. Ryan was shot to death Saturday while investigating such complaints, many of which originated with his California constituents. The Peoples Temple has its headquarters in San Francisco, where the sect retains an undetermined number of followers.

RICHARD McCOY, the U.S. consular officer most familiar with the Jonestown cult, expressed surprise at the mass suicide that followed Ryan's death.

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Now based in Washington, D.C., McCoy said he conducted 75 interviews of cult members, based on letters from friends and relatives who made allegations of mental, physical or sexual abuse at Jonestown.

He said he never was able to corroborate the allegations. To ensure privacy, McCoy conducted 40 to 50 of the interviews in an open field. He gave cult members a chance to escape in a car waiting at the edge of the field, but they did not take the opportunity.

After interviewing cult members in Guyana, McCoy and other consular officers concluded that Jonestown was little more than an off-beat religious retreat.

U.S. Embassy personnel also delivered Social Security checks to members of the sect.

"ALL THE pensioners that I saw appeared to be adequately housed, fed and in relatively good health," McCoy reported.

The Social Security Administration was perhaps more alert to possible danger than the State Department.

On Oct. 18 a Social Security official, citing stories carried in the California news media, wrote to the State Department to say:

"We cannot assume that everything there is satisfactory. The specific allegations of discipline enforced by psychological and physical abuse and putting a false face forward when visitors come require us to look further in the matter."

When asked yesterday whether preventive action could have been taken, one State Department official declared, "We're not baby sitters."

A spokesman for the department said that 60 to 65 percent of letters about the Peoples Temple extolled its virtues, but many appeared to come from an organized letter-writing campaign.

THE BODY COUNT nearly doubled yesterday, from 400 to almost 800, as U.S. officials in Washington and in Guyana reported the discovery of hundreds of additional bodies, many under those previously counted.

Bushnell said the U.S. Army graves registration unit in Guyana had given priority not to counting the bodies but to identifying and packaging them in coffins for shipment to the United States.

U.S. and Guyanese officials had speculated that hundreds of cult members had fled into the jungle when Jones led his followers to their deaths Saturday. But that hope faded as additional bodies were found.

IN MOST CASES, "members of these religious sects are apparently competent, consenting adults," Keuch said, adding:

"Even if a sect requires its members to undergo long hours of work, training and indoctrination with limited amounts of food and sleep, it is questionable that these activities present a grave and immediate danger either to society or to the member so as to warrant the imposition of federal criminal sanctions."

Justice Department lawyers said that a few parents of sect members had successfully pursued civil remedies by getting a court to appoint a guaradian or conservator for their adult children.

They cited a 1976 case in which a Milwaukee couple obtained an order from a D.C. Superior Court judge awarding them custody of their son, who was a member of the Rev. Sun Myung Moon's Unification Church.

The son, then age 22, was seized by Park Police officers during a rally here on the Mall. In the following month he underwent treatment by professional "deprogrammers," gave up his allegiance to the Moonie cult and concluded that "psychological imprisonment is worse than physical imprisonment . . . I could not think for myself."

State Department officials said a few Jonestown residents were also involved in controversies over guardianship.

The Justice Department, like th State Department, found itself on th defensive yesterday, trying to e plain why it had not intervened afte some parents complained that thei children had been "kidnapped."

Deputy Attorney General Benja min R. Civiletti confirmed that atto neys in the department's Crimina Division had met with Ryan and Re Robert N. Giaimo, D-Conn., on Ma 18, 1977, to discuss brainwashing a allegedly practiced by some religiou sects.

"THE PEOPLES Temple was never mentioned" by name, Civiletti said.

In a subsequent letter to Giaimo, a Justice Department lawyer, Robert L. Keuch, said that allegations of brainwashing and mind control "would not support a prosecution under the federal kidnapping statute."

The purpose of the statute, he said, is "to outlaw interstate kidnappings rather than general transgressions of morality."

Keuch said that the government must be careful not to violate First Amendment rights to the free exercise of religion.

The right, he said, embraces two concepts, "the freedom to believe and the freedom to act." While "the freedom to believe is absolute . . . the freedom to act may be subject to regulation for the protection of society."

While government can regulate secular activities for any number of reasons, Keuch said, it can restrict religious activities "only to prevent grave and immediate dangers to interests which government may lawfully protect."

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U.S., Fearing Rights Violations, Ruled Out Investigating Cults

Associated Press

The Justice Department ruled out investigations into alleged brainwashing and physical abuse in religious cults because of fears such inquiries would violate constitutional guarantees of freedom of religion, a department spokesman said.

Spokesman Robert Havel said Thursday night that Rep. Leo Ryan (D-Calif.), who was killed while leading a fact-finding mission to the Peoples Temple settlement in Guyana, had asked the department to investigate the religious group.

Ryan and Rep. Robert Giaimo (D-Conn.) in May 1977 told the department that several religious cults controlled their members through brainwashing and physical abuse.

The two congressmen said they had also received allegations that some religious organizations were illegally converting members' veterans benefits, welfare payments and food stamps for their own use.

Benjamin Civiletti, then chief of the department's criminal division told the congressmen that brainwashing and other thought-control tactics "would not support a prosecution under the federal kidnaping statute" and that an investigation could infringe on the freedom-of-religion guarantees in the Constitution.

Havel said, "Certainly there are constitutional problems involved. If the person is an adult and not being held against his will, there is not much we can do."

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FD-350 (Rev. 10-19-77)

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U.S. Quizzed Jonestown Settlers

By John Fogarty
Chronicle Washington Bureau

Washington

A State Department official said yesterday that U.S. consular officials had interviewed 75 residents of the People's Temple settlement in Guyana this year, but found no hint that Jonestown would erupt in murder and suicide that has claimed more than 400 lives.

John Bushnell, head of the department's task force that is dealing with the massacre at Jonestown, said the interviews, which took place during four visits to the religious commune, produced no evidence of "physical, mental or sexual abuse."

Bushnell said that consular officials had visited Jonestown in January, February, May, and on November 7 — only ten days before Congressman Leo Ryan's visit to the jungle settlement.

Bushnell said the interviews were conducted as a result of a substantial number of letters received by the State Department. The letters alleged that there were widespread repressive activities inside the community.

One letter, signed by 57 "grief-stricken relatives and parents," charged that Jonestown had been turned into a "concentration camp." The letter alleged that residents were not allowed to leave the camp and faced "the threat of death" if they tried to leave.

Bushnell said that 40 to 50 of the interviews were conducted in Jonestown "in an open field at a distance from any building and with unimpeded vision in all directions."

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4 S.F.Chronicle

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He said that in all of the cases U.S. consular officer Richard McCoy, who conducted the interviews, was told by the residents that they were not being abused and did not want to leave Jonestown.

McCoy, Bushnell added, offered "to put his arm around" a number of residents and walk them to his car so they could go to Georgetown with him.

"No one indicated any interest in taking him up on the offer," Bushnell said. He said consular officials had also interviewed at least two individuals after they left Jonestown for good, but neither complained about conditions or their treatment at the temple's camp.

Bushnell gave detailed information about the consular operation in Guyana in response to charges from relatives of some victims of the massacre and staff members of Representative Leo Ryan who claim the state department did not adequately warn the congressman of the danger in visiting Jonestown.

Bushnell said the department's "basic conclusion" was that the charges lodged against the commune were not founded in fact. "The officers never saw any evidence to substantiate the charges. They were impressed with the progress the community had made in a short time."

But he added: "I wouled have to say that in view of subsequent events, they did not know everything that was going on in that community."

While Bushnell maintined a calm demeanor in the face of the charges that the department failed to adequately inform or protect Ryan and the rest of his party, other state department officials let reporters know that they resented the charges.

"We're being made theu scapegoat," said one official who asked not to be identified. "Ryan had been told by his staff, his family and former members of the commune that Jones did not want him to visit Jonestown and that it would be dangerous to try."

The official and others also complained that Ryan had told his staff that he planned to lead defectors out of Jonestown but did not tell the State Department and did not have enough space on the two planes to accommodate those who walked out with him.

"The truth is that Leo was determined to make this trip even though he knew it was risky," said an official who knew Ryan. "He never asked for security. He thought the press would protect him and the press thought he would protect them. Nothing we said would have stopped him from going."

Mail on Jones cult kept State Dept. hopping

By JEFFREY ANTEVIL

Washington (News Bureau)—The State Department was inundated this year with mail on the People's Temple settlement in Guyana—even more than it received on the Middle East. Writers supporting the Rev. Jim Jones and his group outnumbered opponents by 2-to-1, a spokesman said yesterday.

They also include the American Black Hebrews, who have settled in Israel over the opposition of the government there, and drug-related communes and groups in countries such as Mexico and Nepal.

Mail from parents

State Department spokesman Hodding Carter said that about 1,200 letters on the temple were received in the first eight months of the year, and 60% to 70% of them were favorable to the community of Jonestown where more than 900 Americans died through murder and suicide last weekend.

Many of the letters of support clearly were organized "campaign mail," but this was true of some of the opposition mail as well, Carter said.

State Department officials said that much of the unfavorable mail about Jones and his followers came from parents who charged that their children were being held in the jungle settlement against their will, forced to work beyond endurance and subjected to other abuses.

These officials also said the department regularly received similar letters involving communes and religious groups in other countries ranging from Nepal to France. Among the sects involved in such complaints are those of the Rev. Sun Myung Moon, Hare Krishna and the Church of Scientology, the officials said.

Interviewed by U.S. aides

The sources hastened to add that they were aware of no communities of Americans abroad in any way comparable to Jonestown in Guyana either in size (Jonestown included an estimated 1,100 settlers) or in the presence of weapons and the potential for violence.

As was the case in Jonestown, the officials said, U.S. consular officials investigate these complaints by requesting interviews with the individuals named and asking them if they are being prevented from leaving or otherwise abused. One consular official said the French government requires that groups such as the Rev. Moon's Unification Church permit parents to meet with members of the community.

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The Los Angeles Times ____

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0-19 (Rev. 1-27-78)

Jonestown Mail Flooded State Dept.

By T.R. Reid
Washington Post Staff Writer

Of all the topics of international affairs that might prompt people to write to the U.S. State Department, the one that brought in the most mail this year was an obscure religious community in the jungle of northern Guyana.

That community, which emerged from its obscurity with brutal suddenness last weekend, was the American settlement known as "Jonestown," founded four years ago by the Rev. Jim Jones and members of his Peoples Temple church.

Between January and August this year, the department said, it received more than 1,200 letters about the Guyana colony. More than 60 percent, mostly form letters suggestive of a mass-mail campaign, praised the settlement and Jones; the remainder, which also ran heavily to form letters, charged that Jonestown's residents were being held against their will and tortured by armed guards.

The flood of mail to the secretary of state, supplemented by scores of inquiries from members of Congress and other officials who had received mail about Jonestown, almost surely will be cited in the months to come as public and private organizations look into one of the mysteries of the mass murder-suicide at Jonestown last weekend: why the U.S. Embassy in Georgetown, Guyana, was unaware of the bizarre practices that were reportedly common at the settlement.

State Department officials, under lengthy questioning from reporters, have defended the embassy's action, reviewing in detail its efforts to learn the truth about the colony.

For the moment, however, the department is concentrating on the aftermath of the tragedy. A special operations center, staffed by consular officers round the clock, has been established to deal with public inquiries and coordinate the work of military personnel at the site of the massacre.

The military is employing techniques developed during the war in Vietnam for handling jungle massacres. An Army graves identification unit is at Jonestown to try to identify the bodies. The dead will be ferried on four specially equipped Air Force transports to a huge mortuary at Dover Air Force Base in Delaware that was built to accommodate Vietnam casualties.

The first plane was scheduled to leave Georgetown, Guyana, at 10 p.m. EST yesterday and to arrive in Dover at 6 a.m. today.

State Department officials reported great difficulty locating next-of-kin of the victims of the Jonestown carnage, since most of the dead had none of the standard identification documents that might lead to relatives. They said the federal Privacy Act prohibits a general release of the names of the dead, which might prompt relatives to contact the department.

A California television station Tuesday night read an "unofficial" list of the names of the dead, causing an explosion of calls to the State Department early yesterday. The department would not verify any of the names on the list.

A smaller mystery about Jonestown cropped up Monday when the Guyanese Embassy released a list of 39 Americans who it said had written character references for Jones when he asked permission to start his colony. Most of those on the list said they had no record or recollection of such correspondence.

The embassy said yesterday that Jones had provided letters from five of the 39. The remaining "references" were cited on a list Jones gave the Guyanese government.

In reviewing its reaction to complaints about the Peoples Temple settlement, the State Department said that officers from the embassy in Guyana had interviewed about 75 Jonestown residents to ask about charges of abuse.

Many were questioned privately in an open field with no other members of the cult present, the department said. But none of those questioned provided any evidence of abuses, the department's spokesmen said.

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FBI/DOJ

FD-350 (Rev. 10-19-77)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Probe of Cult Lacked Depth, Ryan Aide Says

WASHINGTON—Rep. Leo J. Ryan's top aide charged Monday that State Department officials had conducted only a superficial investigation into a Guyanan cultist settlement whose members killed the congressman and four other Americans Saturday.

American consular officials in Guyana insisted that the commune "was benign and reasonable despite (contrary) information we had" from relatives of commune members and those who had defected, according to Joe Holsinger, the slain congressman's administrative assistant.

"The U.S. Embassy reported: 'From what we could see, everything was fine,'" Holsinger told reporters.

But as it turned out, he said, "Everything that people in the (San Francisco) Bay Area told us—all the horror stories—turned out to be true.

"Richard McCory from the embassy thought everything was very nice, okay. But they made superficial inquiries."

The State Department countered that consular officials had interviewed more than 75 members of the Peoples Temple encampment at Jonestown, Guyana, during the past year and were unable to confirm any case in which commune members had been mistreated by the camp's leaders.

John A. Bushnell, deputy assistant secretary of state for Latin American affairs, said the interviews were conducted, with the permission of cult leaders, during four visits to the camp his year by consular officials.

The visits were made primarily to renew passports and to prepare children's birth certificates, he said. The most recent such visit was on Nov. 7, less than two weeks before Saturday's explosive violence.

The dispute over the thoroughness of the State Department's inquiry erupted as an Air Force C-141 transport plane was on its way to the United States from Georgetown, Guyana, with the bodies of the five slain Americans.

A Defense Department spokesman said that the plane's first stop would be at an Air Force base in Macon, Ga., where the body of NBC correspondent Don Harris, 42, of Vidalia, Ga., would be left.

The bodies of the other four victims —Ryan, 53, Robert Brown, 36, of Los Angeles, an NBC cameraman; photographer Gregory Robinson, 27, of the San Francisco Examiner, and Patricia Parks, 18, of the Peoples Temple settlement in Guyana—were to be flown to Los Angeles and San Francisco.

There were these other developments Monday as the capital reacted with shock and horror to one of the most repugnant incidents since the assassination days of the 1960s:

—Copies of an exchange of letters between Ryan and Mark Lane, the cult's attorney, were made public by Ryan's aides. In his letter, Lane said that the cultists thought themselves "persecuted" by U.S. authorities, and he warned that they might "create a most embarrassing situation for the U.S. government," apparently by moving to such Communist countries as Cuba or the Soviet Union.

Ryan replied that he was not impressed. "If the comment is intended as a threat, I believe it reveals more than may have been intended," he told Lane.

—President Carter and his wife, Rosalynn, publicly expressed their "shock and grief" at the death of the three American journalists who accompanied Ryan. The President and his wife had previously sent their condolences to Ryan's family. Speaking for the President, White House Press Secretary Jody Powell said that the newsmen "were all hard-driving professionals who lost their lives while pursuing the highest tradition of journalists."

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

I-1 LOS ANGELES TIMES LOS ANGELES, C

Date: 11/21/78
Edition: Tuesday Final

Title: PROBE OF CULT

Character: or RYMUR

Classification:

Submitting Office: Los Angeles, 6

FBI/DOJ

—Carter was briefed during a cabinet meeting by Secretary of State Cyrus R. Vance and Defense Secretary Harold Brown on steps that the government is taking in the wake of tragedy. The White House said that Guyana had sought unspecified assistance in dealing with the situation. Among other things, poison experts are being sent to the tiny country where hundreds of cultists are said to have committed suicide by taking poison or to have been slain by cult leaders.

—The Air Force said that three more transport planes would be sent to Guyana from Panama to return the dead and wounded. Three planes had been dispatched previously.

The United States moved to provide Guyana with military helicopters and other equipment needed to deal with the aftermath of the slayings. A State Department official stressed that although American military personnel will be involved in support operations at Jonestown, "at this point, the primary responsibility of bringing those who are guilty to justice remains with the Guyanese government, which is cooperating fully with us."

In addition, the White House made public an exchange of letters between Mrs. Carter and Jim Jones, head of the Peoples Temple cult.

Mrs. Carter met Jones briefly when she took part in the opening of a Carter-Mondale headquarters in San Francisco during the 1976 presidential campaign. She spoke at a rally that also was attended by Jones.

On March 17, 1977, Jones wrote Mrs. Carter expressing his regret at having been out of town when her sister-in-law, Ruth Carter Stapleton, was in San Francisco. He followed up that brief introductory note by saying:

"A short time ago, I traveled to Cuba with a group of prominent doctors and businessmen from the United States. We met with Cuban officials in the medical field who say their country is badly in need of hospital equipment. The friends who I was with are prepared to make arrangements right away to get the supplies shipped to Cuba that are needed. The Cubans requested they do so, and say it would be a tremendous start in breaking down barriers between them and the U.S.

". . . Anything that you could do regarding this matter, of course, would be deeply appreciated."

Mrs. Carter replied in a "Dear Jim" note on April 12. Her letter read:

"Thank you for your letter. I enjoyed being with you during the campaign—and do hope you can meet Ruth soon.

"Your comments about Cuba are helpful. I hope your suggestion can be acted on in the near future. Sincerely, Rosalynn Carter."

EMPTY CHAIR—The place once occupied by the Rev. Jim Jones is vacant, surrounded by sprawled bodies of some of his followers after mass murder and suicide in Jonestown, Guyana, compound.

THE LEADER—The Rev. Jones, right, speaking at a faith healing service in Guyana in 1974.

FEELING BETTER—Jacqueline Speier, legislative aide to Rep. Leo J. Ryan, smiles as she is wheeled on a stretcher from Andrews Air Force Base hospital for transfer to Baltimore shock trauma unit. Miss Speier had surgery Sunday night for bullet wounds in the thigh and elbow.

THREE WHO DIED—Rep. Leo J. Ryan, left, minutes before his death. Shirt is stained with blood of a man who earlier tried to stab Ryan and was subdued. Right, Rev. Jim Jones being photographed by NBC-TV cameraman Robert Brown during interview at Jonestown. Brown later was killed in the ambush at Port Kaitumg airport; Jones joined his followers in mass death.

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U.S. Probe of Cult Lacked Depth, Ryan Aide Charges

BY ROBERT BARKDOLL
Times Staff Writer

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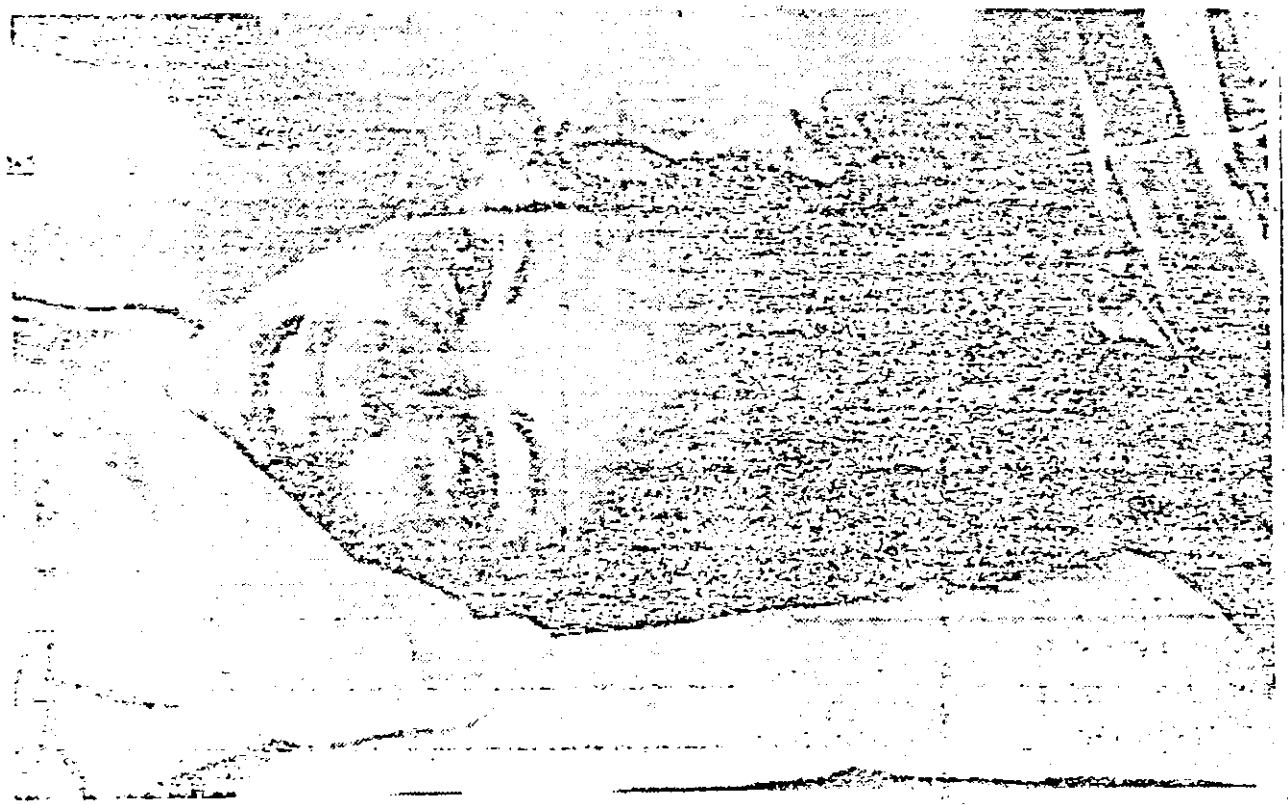

FEELING BETTER—Miss Speier, after undergoing surgery at Andrews Air Force Base hospital, smiles as she is wheeled on stretcher for transfer to a Baltimore shock trauma unit.

AP Wirephoto

0-19 (Rev. 1-27-78)

CONSULAR OFFICERS: BABY SITTERS, ETC.

And Confessors, Psychiatrists and Social Workers, Official Says After Guyana Criticism

By GRAHAM HOVEY
Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Nov. 29 — After the State Department was badgered for days because its consular officers had failed in periodic visits to discover the repression in the People's Temple settlement in Guyana, one official said in exasperation, "We're not baby sitters."

However, in a private conversation later, a high-ranking department official involved in consular affairs took issue. "That's exactly what we are — baby sitters," he said, referring to the 750 consular officers spread thinly over 250 United States diplomatic missions in 118 countries around the world.

"We also have to try to be father confessors, psychiatrists, social workers and what have you," he added.

A Fact of Life

It seems to be a fact of life that consular officers can rarely perform promptly or extensively enough to satisfy either the steadily increasing numbers of Americans who get into serious trouble abroad or their families and relatives back home.

In addition to these frustrations, there has been a steady increase in the consular officer's routine chores, such as issuing visas and passports, serving as notary public and acting as "provisional conservator" of the property of Americans who die abroad. In addition, he also often suffers from morale problems.

"It is unfortunate but true that a number of our consular officers feel that they are treated as 'second-class citizens' by their counterparts in the foreign Service and by top management in the department," Barbara M. Watson, Assistant Secretary of State for Consular Affairs, told a House subcommittee last year.

Quarters Unattractive

"Abroad, they often find themselves in cramped, unattractive and ill-suited quarters, sometimes located blocks from the embassy. When the 'country team' meets to discuss the overall policies and goals of the mission, the senior consular officer may be conspicuous by his or her absence.

"Promotional opportunities within the consular cone are not in step with other areas of the Foreign Service because of a lower rank structure assigned to consular work. Many of our better officers find they must transfer to political, administrative and other cones to attain senior grades or to qualify for the choice assignments."

One result is that there are more consular positions in United States missions overseas than there are consular officers to fill them. However, a senior official said, "there is always a surplus of political officers."

Not Everyone Agrees

Miss Watson was in a familiar role, testifying at hearings called to investigate charges by bitter parents and relatives about the failure, as they viewed it, of United States consular officers to perform adequately with regard to Americans killed, imprisoned or missing in foreign countries.

Not all consular officers agree with Miss Watson that their service has unique morale problems. "It may sound like a gruesome job, but most consular officers enjoy their work because they are doing something, helping someone to solve his problems," an official said.

But Foreign Service professionals, reached in a week in which the State Department found itself on the defensive every day about the tragedy in Guyana, felt strongly that most Americans had no understanding of the limits of diplomatic and consular authority.

"They are not F.B.I. agents," said John A. Bushnell, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-American Affairs. He was referring to the consular officers who had carried out 75 interviews with members of the People's Temple without finding one who would admit to being held against his will or who wished to leave.

Not Police, Not Judges

"We are not police officers, and we are not judges," another high-ranking State Department official said. He referred to the fact that the first involvement of embassy and consular personnel with the People's Temple in Jonestown had been in connection with a legal fight over custody of a child between two factions of an American family.

Some officials admit privately that the State Department ought to have acted more vigorously on the warning it received last summer about the mass suicide pact of the People's Temple, but they say the warning was delivered to the Guyanese Government and they ask, in effect, what else would you have had us do?

"I don't know how we could have prevented this, short of going in with troops and police," a senior official said, "and, of course, in a foreign country, you have to rely on that country's troops and police."

Laws Must Be Obeyed

Running through all comments by officials on public complaints about services furnished by embassy or consular officers is the belief that a great many among the 10 million Americans who now travel abroad each year simply do not realize that they must obey the laws and adhere to the customs of the countries they visit.

In a recent year, more than 7,500 Americans were arrested in other countries, and more than 1,600 are now in foreign jails, most of them young people.

Older Americans are also traveling abroad in ever increasing numbers and this, too, adds to the work of the consuls. In 1976, more than half a million passports were issued to Americans over 60 years old. On the average, 10,000 Americans die abroad each year and 10,000 others are reported missing.

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FBI/DOJ

FD-350 (Rev. 10-19-77)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

U.S. blamed in Ryan death

by Scott Winokur
Staff Writer

South San Francisco — Elected officials attending Congressman Leo Ryan's funeral yesterday charged that the State Department indirectly caused their colleague's death in Guyana.

In exclusive interviews with The Tribune, Rep. George Miller of Contra Costa County and state Assembly Speaker Leo McCarthy of San Francisco said the State Department hasn't provided enough information about alleged improprieties — and possible dangers — involving U.S. citizens abroad and U.S. foreign policy.

Miller, who once journeyed to South America to investigate CIA involvement in Chilean domestic affairs, bitterly complained:

"The State Department assumes you're a meddler."

He said U.S. officials "should have been more candid" about the situation in Guyana.

"You're not briefed on the facts because the facts aren't always what they want them to be.

"To them, everything is okay."

Ryan and four others were slain in a hail of gunfire Saturday while attempting to leave Guyana from a remote jungle airstrip after investigating reports of brutality at the People's Temple camp in Jonestown.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

1 The Tribune

Oakland, Ca.

Date: 11-23-78
Edition:

Title:
RYMURS

Character:
or SF 89-250
Classification: 89
Submitting Office: SF

FBI/DOJ

The massacre was a grisly prelude to the apparent mass suicide of 404 followers of temple leader Jim Jones and Jones himself.

Subsequently, a large cache of arms was discovered at the temple camp by Guyanese soldiers.

Miller also said he expected action by a panel on which Ryan had served.

"I think the House International Relations Committee has got to take a look at it because it goes to the heart of its ability to make decisions on foreign policy."

The congressman denied Ryan had been imprudent in launching his own investigation.

"It was clearly a case where official channels would take him no further. A lot of people would have quit at that point, but that wasn't his style.

"It's a tribute to him that he wouldn't accept the pat answers."

Assembly Speaker McCarthy said, "Ryan had some sense of the risks of the journey."

But he added that legislators "need more thorough intelligence" from the State Department about problem situations.

Sen. S.I. Hayakawa told The Tribune he was not eager to fault the State Department.

"I believe it isn't legal to investigate the behavior of American citizens abroad," he said.

Hayakawa added, however, that he found it "shocking" that officials charged with administering U.S. foreign policy had made "20 to 30 expeditions down there (Guyana) without finding anything."

The senator indicated he was more concerned with religious cults flourishing in the United States.

He singled out the Hare Krishnas, Rev. Moon's Unification Church, Scientologists and Jews for Jesus.

Senator Hayakawa

"It's not that they have a certain body of beliefs that bothers me," said Hayakawa.

"What keeps me constantly puzzled is when people captured by a religious cult give up their families, their homes, their entire previous backgrounds, even their moral standards — to follow a new messiah of dubious credentials.

"I keep wondering if this can be controlled by legislation."

Another congressman said Ryan's misfortune was unlikely to dampen the spirit of other elected officials inclined to do their own investigating.

"Leo represented an independent spirit," said Rep. Leon Panetta of Monterey County.

"It's congressmen like him who give us encouragement."

FD-350 (Rev. 10-19-77)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

State Dept. Phone Lines

Washington

The State Department announced yesterday it is putting more people to work on its Guyana task force in Washington, and encouraged relatives and friends of the Jonestown victims call the state department if they have questions. These are the phone numbers:

202-632-6610.

202-632-3172.

United Press

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

6 S.F.Chronicle

San Francisco,Ca.

Date: 11-23-78
Edition: Home

Title: RYMURS

Character:
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Submitting Office: SF

FBI/DOJ

SOCIAL SECURITY PROBE

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

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Bank Data Subpoenaed by U.S. In Search for Guyana Cult Fund:

By JOHN M. CREWDSON
Special to The New York Times

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 6 — The Justice Department has begun issuing subpoenas for the records of banks in this country and abroad in which the People's Temple and its founder, the Rev. Jim Jones, had deposited more than $10 million.

The subpoenas, issued by the United States Attorney's office here, call on the banks to produce all records for accounts in the names of the cult and of Mr. Jones, who died with more than 900 of his followers last month at the cult's commune in Guyana.

The department is investigating the slaying in Guyana of Representative Leo J. Ryan, the California Democrat who was shot on a fact-finding trip there on Nov. 18. The department has jurisdiction in that case because of a Federal law that provides penalties for the assassination of a member of Congress.

But the department's interest in the cult's finances adds a new demension to the inquiry and raises the possibility that the Internal Revenue Service is trying to learn whether the People's Temple, which declared itself a tax-exempt religious organization, might have garnered assets on which tax was owed.

Ex-Cult Official Arrives

In a related development, Terri Buford, until September of this year the cult official who, in her words, "signed off" on the organization's financial matters, arrived in the San Francisco area late yesterday with Mark Lane, her attorney.

Miss Buford, who withdrew from tl cult about three weeks before Mr. Rya was slain, was said by Federal sources be seeking immunity from prosecution return for her testimony.

The New York Times reported th week that, according to former assoc ates of Mr. Jones, the cult leader had e tablished at least six and possibly a doz bank accounts in Switzerland, Panar and other countries, using anonymo numbered accounts and dummy corpor tions to conceal their ownership.

The Federal subpoenas issued by tl Justice Department call for records the name of the Apostolic Corporation well as other entities. They demand th signature cards, monthly bank accou statements, transcriptions of all entri on savings accounts and records pertai ing to transfers of funds between t banks be produced.

One of the subpoenas, issued on No 29, asks that the materials be produc At the Federal Building in San Francis a week from today.

Officials of the Bureau of Customs a investigating various aspects of the cul operations, and among the areas of the jurisdiction is the movement of lar sums of money out of the United States.

Under Federal law, anyone carryi more than $5,000 into or out of the count must file a written declaration of t transfer.

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FBI/DOJ

0-19 (Rev. 1-27-78)

House Unit Plans A Detailed Probe Of Temple, Assets

By T. R. Reid and Fred Barbash
Washington Post Staff Writers

The congressional committee that inherited Rep. Leo J. Ryan's investigation of the Peoples Temple has plans for a far-reaching inquiry covering the past, present and future of the cult, including its members, its money and its relations with U.S. and Guyanese officials.

The House International Relations Committee also plans to focus on whether and how the U.S. government can use the church's assets to reimburse the Treasury for costs incurred in bringing home survivors and bodies from the church's Jonestown colony in Guyana.

Some committee members also hope to compile a roster of U.S. cults operating abroad, although constitutional protections may limit this phase of the inquiry.

Preliminary planning by the four staff members working full time on the inquiry indicates that the committee will convene public hearings next year to create a detailed record, based on eyewitness testimony, of life and the mass death of more than 900 persons at Jonestown.

This plan still has to be approved by Chairman Clement J. Zablocki (D-Wis.), who has pledged to complete the investigation begun by Ryan, who was murdered by followers of the cult after touring Jonestown two weeks ago. But Zablocki has put off a decision on whether to hold public hearings.

The Justice Department is conducting a multifaceted investigation of the Jonestown tragedy and the Peoples Temple.

At the request of the State Department, Justice's civil division is investigating the financial structure of the church.

Justice's criminal division and the FBI are pursuing the Ryan killing, armed with eight sealed arrest warrants obtained a few days after the Nov. 18 murder just in case any of the suspects were still alive. All of the eight are thought to be dead (five have been confirmed dead), according to department sources.

See INVESTIGATE, A8, Col. 1

Many former Peoples Temple members are still living in fear. Page A8.

The FBI is also investigating charges that a Peoples Temple "hit list" existed of public officials and dissident temple members to be murdered in the event of a crisis. One bureau source said yesterday that there is "every indication that there was a very loose" assassination plan.

George Berdes, the committee staff member directing the initial phase of the House investigation, says the staff has had difficulty narrowing its inquiry because "all these things about the members of the church, its money, its dealings with the governments, are tangled in a knotted sort of way."

However, the committee plans to concentrate on a few specific issues: relations between the U.S. embassy in Georgetown, Guyana, and the cult, the embassy's handling of complaints about Jonestown, and the adequacy of the information the embassy gave Ryan (D-Calif.) before his fatal trip.

The committee also will look into the colony's relationship with the Guyanese government to determine whether the Guyanese withheld information that might have warned the embassy or Ryan about the danger to his expedition.

At the urging of several members of Congress, the committee staff is also investigating the possibility of reimbursement for federal expenses resulting from the massacre. Several members of Congress said yesterday that the most emphatic point in constituent mail on the tragedy is a demand that the government get its costs back from the church.

"That one takes you into tougher qustions," Berdes said. "Like who the church is now, and there the money is, and how much, and can you legally seize a church's assets?"

Rep. Dante B. Fascell (Fla.), the committee's third-ranking Democrat, has expressed interest in a probe of other U.S. religious colonies overseas. Some sociologists have theorized that there may be hundreds of religious sects with settlements in foreign countries.

Berdes said the committee will try to compile a list of such colonies, but he noted that constitutional protections of privacy and religious freedom might prevent investigations of the groups' activities.

Meanwhile, the State Department yesterday strenuously defended the conduct of Richard McCoy, the career diplomat now posted in Washington who served as chief consular officer in Guyana during most of Jonestown's existence.

According to internal Peoples Temple documents obtained by the Associated Press, temple leaders thought

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FBI/DOJ

they had a special relationship with McCoy. During his tenure, the documents indicated, temple head Jim Jones would get advance lists of the Jonestown residents the consulate wished to interview regarding complaints of abuse at the camp, allowing Jones to coach them in their responses.

McCoy's boss at the time, John Blacken, former deputy chief of the U.S. embassy in Guyana, explained in an interview yesterday that the names were provided to Jones in order to guarantee the availability of those to be interviewed by U.S. officials.

Blacken said that on officials' first visits to Jonestown for interviews, Jones would often say that the subjects were unavailable or on boat trips to Georgetown.

"We provided the names so he wouldn't have an excuse" for not producing the people, Blacken said.

A State Department spokesman said yesterday that the department had "carefully investigated the personal conduct and professional performance of Mr. McCoy" and that so far the results showed that he "performed his duties in a manner completely consonant with the highest standards of professional competence and ethical behavior."

2'

Rev. Jones stashed $10M secret bank accounts

SAN FRANCISCO (UPI) — The Rev. Jim Jones stashed at least $10 million in secret bank accounts around the world during his reign as leader of the People's Temple.

The details of Jones' financial wheeling and dealing began to unfold Sunday in newspaper reports on both the West and East coasts.

The New York Times reported that Jones had established at least six, and perhaps more than a dozen, bank accounts in Switzerland, Panama, Guyana and other countries, using anonymous numbered accounts and dummy corporations.

And a mysterious international battle has begun for the fortune which some former church members estimate to be as high as $15 million, the newspaper said.

In California, real estate was a million-dollar business for the People's Temple from its arrival in the north state community of Ukiah, the San Francisco Examiner said in a copyright story.

Even though most People's Temple holdings were sold by the time of the death tragedy at the church's Guyana mission, the cult still gets income from other properties acquired by purchase or gift, the newspaper said.

Real estate records in Los Angeles, San Francisco and Mendocino counties showed the total value of property held by the cult over a period of just a few years exceeded $2 million, much of it donated by members who gave all their worldly possessions to Jones' church to show themselves as true Christians.

By contrast, the report said, Jones did not give up to the church property belonging to him personally.

Most of the People's Temple property was sold off by September, 1977, apparently the culmination of a mass migration of the church to South America.

Former Jones aides have disclosed he often spoke of channeling the church's millions to the Palestinian Liberation Organization and that he mentioned giving money to the Soviet Union — that he, in fact, toyed with the notion of moving his church membership en masse to Russia.

Now the vast fortune is apparently up for grabs. The FBI is trying to identify the accounts and remaining members at the People's Temple headquarters in San Francisco say they intend to keep operating and the funds are theirs.

But families of people who gave up property to the cult have begun to file claims and people who lost family members in Guyana are expected to begin filing for financial assistance.

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FBI/DOJ

FD-350 (Rev. 10-19-77)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Guyana Obtains Custody Of Jones' Hideaway

The Guyanese government apparently has obtained custody of the reported millions the Rev. Jim Jones had stashed at his Jonestown hideaway and can keep the money until Guyana courts rule on its disposition, The Herald Examiner has learned.

"Any property found not on the bodies remains under local custody of the government there and will remain so until Guyanese courts make their decision," Jeff Dieterich of the State Department's Bureau of Inter-American Affairs said.

The official added that although efforts now were concentrated on finding the hundreds of devotees believed still hiding in the jungle, the United States "feels confident the Guyana courts can handle the touchy financial situation."

Dieterich is working with the special task force the U.S. set up in Washington, D.C., to handle the Peoples Temple disaster in the aftermath of the mass suicide of Jones and hundreds of his followers at Jonestown over the weekend.

Because a reported $3 million in gold and currency was found at the sight of the mass suicide in the tiny country, the property falls under community provisions in international law and is at the disposal of the Guyanese courts.

"Personal property found on the bodies will be turned over to the American Consulate in Guyana," Dieterich said, "but anything else is to be decided by the government (of Guyana)."

Although no official estimates of Jones' treasury have been released by the State Department, the leader's son, Stephen, said he heard his father had stored up to $10 million in Jonestown.

In question, however, are the hundreds of Social Security checks belonging to Peoples Temple cultists which were found with the rest of Jones' money.

"I'm afraid that because of the way the checks were found, they might be

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A-3 HERALD EXAMINE
LOS ANGELES, (

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Edition: Thursday Lates

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FBI/DOJ

construed to be part of the community's property," Dieterich said.

Although the number of checks discovered at the camp is not known, Social Security officials said 200 — or $40,000 worth — had been sent to beneficiaries in Jonestown last month. The rate had been escalating for a year.

Generally, if Social Security checks are not signed, the funds are returned to the deceased's heirs. If they are signed, the circumstances surrounding the situation determines the eventual disbursement.

Although Dieterich expressed confidence that questions over the funds found at the Peoples Temple village would not be a source of tension between Guyana and the United States, officials of the South American country already have blocked efforts by the United States to send additional FBI agents to the scene.

Only one agent, Robert Ogilsby, was able to enter the country and FBI Director William Webster Jr. was awaiting permission to send "five or six" more to investigate the slaughter.

Dieterich said 70 survivors have now either trickled out of the jungle or been found in the brush by rescue teams in Guyana.

The State Department was taking calls from relatives and releasing names of those accounted for.

FD-350 (Rev. 10-19-77)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Members of Temple gave Jones millions

A former Peoples Temple member said the Rev. Jim Jones amassed much of the church's millions of dollars when he would bus in his followers to Los Angeles from the cult's San Francisco headquarters.

Joyce Shaw, of Los Angeles, who left the sect in 1976 after more than six years, said Jones collected upwards of $25,000 every other week in Los Angeles, even though there were only about 1,000 full-time Peoples Temple members in the city.

"He would bus down the whole (San Francisco) congregation to Los Angeles every other weekend," Ms. Shaw said in an interview. "He would make $25,000 in offerings."

Jones led 408 of his followers in a mass suicide rite at the church's 27,000-acre farm in the small South American country of Guyana. He is believed to have ordered the death ritual — where people drank cyanide-laced Kool-Aid — following an ambush where five persons, including U.S. Rep. Leo Ryan, D-San Mateo, were murdered.

By 1973, she said, Jones had already collected millions of dollars by convincing people to turn over all their property to the church, from donations and from letters mailed to some 20,000 persons across the country.

These letters encouraged people to write to Jones, telling him of their problems, she said. If a donation was included, the letters continued, a prayer would be said for the person, she added.

Guyana authorities recovered an estimated $1 million in cash and gold from the settlement known as Jonestown. There have been some estimates that Jones had collected up to $3 million during the years the Peoples Temple flourished.

Ms. Shaw, who served on the church's planning committee for nearly 18 months, said she feels partly responsible for Ryan's involvement in investigating the Peoples Temple and the allegations members were being beaten and imprisoned.

She said Ryan was asked to aid her and the family of her husband, who refused to leave the church, after she defected in 1976.

Four months after she left the church, she said, her husband, Robert Houston, apparently committed suicide by stepping in front of a speeding train.

She never believed it was a suicide, she said, and went to Ryan with her father-in-law, Sam Houston, for help.

Houston and Ms. Shaw felt Ryan would listen to them since the slain congressman had been the younger Houston's teacher at Capuchino High School in San Bruno.

Ms. Shaw, who first joined the church in 1970 because she believed Jones could provide her with the outlet she felt she needed, said she began noticing changes in Jones as early as 1973.

Before that, she said, she and a commune of 25 persons were happy to be part of the Peoples Temple.

"We had 25 people, living in a nice area of San Francisco," she said. "All the adults were working and we were making about $45,000 a year.

"I was in charge of the commune and we managed to turn over $20,000 of that to the church."

However, Jones ordered the members of the commune to move to a poorer section of San Francisco.

"By 1975, at a planning committee meeting, Jim asked how many of us still had jobs," she recalled. "There were only about 10 of us out of the 120 committee members."

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She said 1973 represented a significant year for the Peoples Temple.

"He had just started the farm in Guyana," she said. "Groups of people would go down there and all we would hear is glowing reports about it. It was at that point that Jim really started to make a push about the whole church moving to Guyana."

Other changes also became evident, she said.

When she first joined the church, the membership was nearly equally divided among whites and blacks.

However, whites began dropping out as members and, within a space of two years, the congregation was 80 percent black.

"We began hearing that many of the people thought Jim was racist since most of the planning committee members were white," she said. "Also, I became upset at the fact it was becoming so elite."

Those serving in higher positions of the church were rarely punished, she said, and many of the members began complaining about the severity of the beatings they received.

"I got hit once with a very big board," she said. "They used someone big and powerful to hit the people with it. They called it the board of education.

"I volunteered for it.

"The way it would work is, periodically, he (Jones) would say come forward and admit your crimes and be punished. It was kind of like confession. You would go up and tell everyone what you had done wrong and then Jim would set the punishment."

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Peoples Temple Leader Reportedly Hid At Least $10 Million in Banks Abroad

From News Services

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 4—The Rev. Jim Jones reportedly stashed at least $10 million in secret bank accounts around the world during his reign over the Peoples Temple.

The details of Jones' financial wheeling and dealing began to unfold Sunday in newspaper reports on both the West and East coasts.

The New York Times reported that Jones had established at least six, and perhaps more than a dozen, bank accounts in Switzerland, Panama, Guyana and other countries, using anonymous numbered accounts and dummy corporations.

And a mysterious international battle has begun for the fortune which some former church members estimate to be as high as $15 million, the newspaper said.

In California, real estate was a million-dollar business for the Peoples Temple from its arrival in the community of Ukiah, the San Francisco Examiner said in a copyrighted story.

Even though most Peoples Temple holdings were sold by the time of the tragedy at the church's Guyana mission, the cult still gets income from other properties acquired by purchase or gift, the newspaper said.

Real estate records in Los Angeles, San Francisco and Mendocino counties showed the total value of property held by the cult over a period of just a few years exceeded $2 million, much of it donated by members who gave all their worldly possessions to Jones' church to show themselves to be true Christians.

Former Jones aides have disclosed that he often spoke of channeling the church's millions to the Palestine Liberation Organization and that he mentioned giving money to the Soviet Union.

Now the fortune is apparently up for grabs. The FBI is trying to identify the accounts, and remaining members at the Peoples Temple headquarters in San Francisco say they intend to keep operating and the funds are theirs.

But families of people who gave up property to the cult have begun to file claims and people who lost family members in Guyana are expected to begin filing for financial assistance.

Meanwhile, the Los Angeles Times reported that attorney Mark Lane received more than $10,000 in fees and expenses from the Peoples Temple this fall to launch a "counteroffensive" program against the groups' purported enemies.

The report was based on documents the newspaper said were presented by temple members who worked with Lane. The documents indicate that Lane was hired by temple leader Jones because of his conviction that a vast governmental conspiracy was out to destroy him and his church.

The documents include a legal strategy memorandum written by Lane detailing plans to fight the alleged conspiracy. There is also a photostat of a $10,000 check from the temple to Lane, contradicting Lane's public statements that he wasn't being paid by the temple.

This weekend Lane conceded he had received the $10,000 check and said the temple owed him an additional $2,800. He would neither confirm nor deny receiving another $7,500 in cash that temple member Jean Brown said in a sworn affidavit that she gave Lane on Nov. 9.

Brown said she gave Lane the money at Los Angeles International

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Airport for an advance look at an unfavorable article prepared for the National Enquirer. The article was never printed.

"I never received any money to purchase an article, that's as far as I can go," Lane said. But he added that: "I don't see anything wrong" with such an act, and he admitted meeting with Peoples Temple members in Los Angeles at that time "about refuting or investigating statements that were made in various articles," including the National Enquirer article.

Lane claimed the questions about his role as an adviser to Peoples Temple were minor compared to what he said was the government's failure to prevent the deaths at Jonestown and the fact that $7 million in temple money is still in numbered bank accounts abroad.

Lane said he had learned the numbers of those bank accounts from Terry Buford, a former high-ranking official of the temple, and that he had cabled those banks on Saturday, directing them to freeze the accounts until further notice.

In New York, the FBI said that four fugitives, now apparently living in Guyana, may try to reenter the United States with a group of Peoples Temple survivors.

Agent Terry Knowles of the FBI office in Queens said the four fugitives "might try to take advantage of the confusion, they might try to take advantage of the event and use it as a vehicle to get back into the country."

An FBI spokesman in Manhattan who asked not to be identified said, "The best information we have now is that they were not members of the Peoples Temple, that they were just residing down there."

Knowles identified the four as David Hill, Albert Louis Brandford, Herman Benjamin Ferguson and Claude Elvin Hubert. All face federal charges of unlawful flight to avoid prosecution.

Hill, who has called himself Rabbi Edward Emmanuel Washington, fled Cleveland seven years ago while appealing convictions on nine counts of corporate blackmail. His appeal was denied. Hill is the leader of the House of Israel, which he says has 8,000 members and which is not connected with organized Judaism. (Related Hill story on this page.)

Branford is charged with leaving St. Louis in 1972 to avoid a rape charge, Ferguson is charged with fleeing New York State where he is charged with conspiracy to commit murder, and Hubert is charged with murder in Los Angeles.

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Rev. Jones st shed $10M secret bank accounts

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FBI/DOJ

0-19 (Rev. 1-27-78)

Former Cult Aides Say Jim Jones Secretly Banked Over $10 Million

By ROBERT LINDSEY

Special to The New York Times

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 2 — The Rev. Jim Jones, who died with more than 900 followers in Guyana on Nov. 18, left a network of secret bank accounts around the world totaling more than $10 million, according to former aides. With his death, a mysterious international battle has begun for the fortune amassed by the People's Temple.

According to his former associates, Mr. Jones had established at least six and possibly a dozen or more accounts in Switzerland, Panama and other countries, using anonymous numbered accounts and dummy corporations to conceal their ownership. One former official of the cult said the total amount of the fortune might be as much as $15 million.

Timothy Stoen, a San Francisco lawyer who was once a Jones aide and legal adviser, developed the plan for the international network of secret bank accounts before he defected from the People's Temple.

A Possible Gift to P.L.O.

Mr. Stoen said that Mr. Jones had spoken of channeling the money to the Palestine Liberation Organization, the umbrella grouping of Palestinian guerrilla movements. Mr. Stoen suggested that the cult leader might have ordered this in the final hours of his life.

Another former aide said that the charismatic leader, a Marxist and once a San Francisco city official, had mentioned giving the money as a gift to the Soviet Union if he should die.

Members of a group of survivors of the Guyana killings said that after the deaths they were on their way to the Soviet Embassy in Georgetown, the Guyanese capital, with $500,000 in cash, but abandoned the money in the jungle. It was too heavy to carry, they said.

Two women — one of whom may be dead — appear to have the answers regarding the Jones bank accounts. The women, Carolyn Layton and Terri Buford, both in their late 20's, were graduates of the University of California and close financial advisers to Mr. Jones.

Miss Layton was one of Mr. Jones's mistresses and his chief administrator on money matters immediately before his death. Witneses reported that they saw her shortly before the killings and sucides at Jonestown, the Guyanese jungle commune of the People's Temple, but her death has not been confirmed.

Reliable sources in the cult said that she had been assigned by Mr. Jones to shoot him if the anticipated suicides were ever carried out.

Mrs. Buford managed the People's Temple accounts until she defected from the cult last month. Although Mrs. Buford's exact whereabouts is not known, there are indications that she was residing recently in so-called safe-houses selected by Mark Lane, the cult's attorney.

Says Lane Mentioned $3 Million

Mr. Lane and Charles Garry, a San Francisco lawyer for the People's Temple, were in Guyana when Representative Leo J. Ryan, Democrat of California, led a delegation to Guyana, in northern South America, to investigate the Jones commune. It was that visit that precipitated the killings and suicides.

After Mr. Garry and Mr. Lane, fearing for their lives, fled into the jungle, Mr. Garry said in an interview, Mr. Lane told him that there was $3 million in People's Temple money in Guyana. Mr. Garry quoted Mr. Lane as saying that he had access to a woman who once controlled that money and other People's Temple assets. The San Franciscan said the woman had decided to defect and had turned to him for help.

Mr. Garry would not identify the woman, but other sources close to the case identified her as Miss Buford.

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FBI/DOJ

F.B.I. Looking Into Acccounts

The Federal Bureau of Investigatio. as part of its inquiry into the death of Representative Ryan, is seeking to identify the cult's bank accounts and determine if any Federal laws were broken in the transactions. Once the accounts are located and catalogued, the ownership of the money — if, by that time, the money is still in the accounts — must be established.

According to other former Jones aides, young female members of the cult played the principal role in the complex scheme of international banking. They were assigned to open dummy overseas bank accounts in several countries; they would then be sent on hastily arranged trips to deposit or transfer money from the accounts. Several accounts were established in Switzerland and Panama, and one account was opened in Rumania.

A woman who had taken such a trip had this to say:

"We'd walk into these banks in Switzerland, three kids, all girls about 25, and sit down and start talking about all these millions of dollars, and the men wouldn't know what to do.

"I remember one man in Zurich looked at us funny, and asked if we were part of a women's liberation group. He thought we were saving money for some liberation group."

For 'Bridget,' $1.5 Million

She said that one account was established in Switzerland last year, exclusively for Mr. Jones's personal use, and under the name of a dummy corporation, "Bridget." The initial deposit, she said, was $1.5 million.

Another account was said to have been opened in Panama by a corporation that included the word "Angelique" in its name.

The cult got all that money through collection-plate offerings, the sale of members' homes and other properties, members' Social Security checks totaling more than $60,000 a month, and a variety of money-raising activities assigned by Mr. Jones to his followers.

A woman involved with the accounting records of the People's Temple said that the organization's income averaged at least $250,000 a month last year, while she had access to the records. Millions of dollars of the assets were from the sale of homes and properties of members who moved to Guyana or remained in People's Temples in San Francisco, Los Angeles or in Mendocino County, north of San Francisco.

Contenders for the Prize

There are already several contenders for the cult's fortune.

Members of the People's Temple in San Francisco who did not go with others to Guyana have said they intend to keep their temple in operation, and have argued that any assets belong to the congregations.

But since the accounts are not in the name of the cult itself, legal sources here have pointed out that their claim might encounter problems. Other claims are expected from the families of people whose homes and other property was extorted from them by the cult, and several lawsuits, seeking the money, are being prepared.

Mr. Stoen, the former Jones legal adviser, said that he developed the concept of concealment of the organization's mounting revenues after Mr. Jones told him: "Tim, set up a scheme whereby we can get our assets protected, and do it in a legitimate way."

Mr. Stoen said that he studied banking laws in a number of countries and developed a plan that Mr. Jones adopted: A branch temple would be established as a corporation in a foreign country — "say Luxembourg," Mr. Stoen said — and the money would then be sent on the bank's wire to the corporations in an "aboveboard operation."

Mr. Stoen said that he had advised the cult leader to be sure that he apointed only trustworthy and loyal directors. He also suggested,the lawyer said, that he establish "bearer stock corporations" and keep the stock himself in Nassau, the Bahamas, to keep ultimate control of the money.

He said he had told Mr. Jones that it was necessary that all the signatories of the accounts be individuals "who would really follow Jones's direction."

In the Jones cult, Mr. Stoen said, finding obedient people was not difficult: "He was really very good at keeping females in line."

Mr. Stoen added that the accounts were set up so that there would be no direct link to Mr. Jones, among other reasons to avoid possible prosecution for evasion of income taxes. The young women selected as his emissaries, he said, had no income of their own and therefore did not need to file any tax returns.

Moves to Soviet or Cuba Hinted

A former aide said that Mr. Jones had hoped to move his commune Guyana to the Soviet Union or Cuba if he was ever forced out of Guyana. "He wanted to open an orthodox church in Russia so he could keep the money," that aide said.

Only three young women in Jones's inner circle were assigned to do the banking. In an interview, one of the three explained how the system worked:

"We never knew where we were going; Terri would say that we would be making a trip next week, and be ready to go, and then we'd just go to the airport and leave. Usually, it was Panama or Switzerland. Before we'd leave, each of us would get $5,000."

Once, before Mrs. Buford left San Francisco for to Guyana, the young woman said, "Terri told us we'd have to pack for a month, and we were supposed to pack for hot and cold weather," and she and another young woman did so.

"We flew to Panama and stayed in the best hotel," the woman went on. "Terri was gone all day and said she had to turn over some money to a Swiss bank. We were there about a week. Then we flew to England for two days, then to France. And then we went into Zurich.

"We were sitting at the bank and the man said something about a $2 million deposit, and Terri got very annoyed, saying he shouldn't have said anything. He mentioned two account numbers; I wasn't supposed to hear them, but I did — they were 747 and 748."

Had to Sign Blank Forms

After that, she said that she and her friend returned to San Francisco while Miss Buford went to Rumania to do more banking.

The woman, who discussed the banking operation only under an agreement that her name not be made public, said that she had been required to sign dozens of blank pieces of paper and banking forms. It was assumed that these would be used later to withdraw or transfer money.

She also admitted that she had once forged the name of one of the other women cleared for the bank transaction.

This young woman said that Mrs. Layton, the former wife of Laurence Layton, who is being held in Guyana in connection with the attack on Representative Ryan and his party, appeared to be the most important figure in the banking operations.

Spending in Event of Suicides

"The rule was," the young woman said, "that if Carol Layton came forth with the signatures of two of the three people approved for the account, she could take the money out."

From time to time, she continued, there were discussions of how the money would be spent if a mass suicide was ever carried out. Among other things, she said that Mr. Jones had once discussed giving some of the money to Angela Davis, the black militant leader, or Dennis Banks, the American Indian Movement leader. Mr. Jones had expressed support for both of them from his pulpit.

On another occasion, the young woman said, a fellow assistant to Mr. Jones emerged from a meeting with him with a puzzled expression on her face. Mr. Jones, she was told, had proposed giving the money to the Soviet Union by flying over the country and dropping it from a plane.

"She wondered how we would get a plane to do it," the interviewee said.

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0-19 (Rev. 1-27-78)

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L.A. Office of Peoples Temple Searched Again

BY BILL FARR
Times Staff Writer

District attorney's investigators again raided a South Los Angeles real estate office Friday seeking evidence on up to $2 million worth of property they feel may have been obtained by the Rev. Jim Jones through extortion.

It was the second time in eight days that a search warrant had been served on the Enola M. Nelson Realty offices at 3840 Crenshaw Blvd.

Investigators expressed amazement when they found taped on the office wall the current address of two Peoples Temple defectors who are in protective custody in connection with the investigation.

"We were amazed to find that address there," said Dep. Dist. Atty. Lee Cogan, "because we thought it was known only to law enforcement."

Cogan said the second search of the realty office and an Inglewood escrow firm was prompted by information found at those locations in searches Nov. 24.

The first search focused on files of real estate transactions involving property that former temple members Wade and Mable Medlock complained they had been coerced into selling.

The investigation was triggered last May when the elderly couple told district attorney's investigators that they had been forced to turn over $135,500 in proceeds on the sale of their Baldwin Hills home and rental property in Los Angeles.

The Medlocks told investigators that Jones threatened to kill them if they did not go through with the deal

Cogan said that despite Jones death in Guyana the investigation is continuing with two of Jones' top aides remaining as suspects.

Mrs. Nelson, the operator of the realty office, is the sister of James McElvane, one of the aides being investigated.

In the first search, investigators were looking for files on the Medlock transactions and property of six other persons who may have been forced into selling their homes.

Cogan explained that the initial search turned up a list of Los Angeles County properties with an estimated value of $744,000 that were sold on behalf of temple members in the final months before the group moved to Guyana.

A tabulation showing another $606,700 worth of property in the Redwood Valley-Ukiah area was found along with a list of San Francisco Bay area holdings with a worth of $115,000.

Cogan conceded that investigators do not have evidence at this time that all of that property was obtained by Jones or his aides through extortive methods.

"However, we have strong indications that in his final months here Jones had become desperate to liquidate all of this property and was resorting to unholy pressure to bring that about," the prosecutor said.

The Washington Post ____
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Daily News (New York) ____
The New York Times ____
The Wall Street Journal ____
The Atlanta Constitution ____
The Los Angeles Times I 68
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Date ____

FBI/DOJ

0-19 (Rev. 1-27-78)

Cult Leader Reportedly Kept $10 Million in Secret Accounts

New York Times News Service

SAN FRANCISCO — The Rev. Jim Jones, who died with more than 900 followers in Guyana on Nov. 18, left a network of secret bank accounts around the world totaling more than $10 million, according to former aides.

With his death, an international battle has begun for the fortune amassed by the Peoples Temple.

According to his former associates, Jones had established at least six and possibly a dozen or more accounts in Switzerland, Panama and other countries, using anonymous numbered accounts and dummy corporations to conceal their ownership. One former official of the cult said the total amount of the fortune might be as much as $15 million.

Timothy Stoen, a San Francisco lawyer who was once a Jones aide and legal adviser, developed the plan for the international network of secret bank accounts before he defected from the Peoples Temple.

Stoen said that Jones had spoken of channeling the money to the Palestine Liberation Organization, the umbrella grouping of Palestinian guerrilla movements. Stoen suggested that the cult leader might have ordered this in the final hours of his life.

ANOTHER FORMER aide said that the charismatic leader, a Marxist and once a San Francisco city official, had mentioned giving the money as a gift to the Soviet Union if he should die.

Members of a group of survivors of the Guyana killings said that after the deaths they were on their way to the Soviet Embassy in Georgetown, the Guyanese capital, with $500,000 in cash, but abandoned the money in the jungle. It was too heavy to carry, they said.

Two women — one of whom may be dead — appear to have the answers regarding the Jones bank accounts. The women, Carolyn Layton and Terri Buford, both in their late 20s, were graduates of the University of California and close financial advisers to Jones.

Layton was one of Jones' mistresses and his chief administrator on money matters immediately before his death. Witneses reported that they saw her shortly before the killings and suicides at Jonestown, the Guyanese jungle commune of the Peoples Temple, but her death has not been confirmed.

RELIABLE SOURCES in the cult said that she had been assigned by Jones to shoot him if the anticipated suicides were ever carried out.

Buford managed the Peoples Temple accounts until she defected from the cult last month. Although Buford's exact whereabouts is not known, there are indications that she was residing recently in so-called safe-houses selected by Mark Lane, the cult's attorney.

Lane and Charles Garry, a San Francisco lawyer for the Peoples Temple, were in Guyana when Rep. Leo J. Ryan, D-Calif., led a delegation to Guyana, in northern South America, to investigate the Jones commune. It was that visit that precipitated the killings and suicides.

The FBI, as part of its inquiry into the death of Ryan, is seeking to identify the cult's bank accounts and determine whether any federal laws were broken in the transactions. Once the accounts are located and catalogued, the ownership of the money — if, by that time, the money is still in the accounts — must be established.

ACCORDING TO other former Jones aides, young female members of the cult played the principal role in the complex scheme of international banking. They were assigned to open dummy overseas bank accounts in several countries; they would then be sent on hastily arranged trips to deposit or transfer money from the accounts. Several accounts were established in Switzerland and Panama, and one account was opened in Romania.

A woman who had taken such a trip had this to say:

"We'd walk into these banks in Switzerland, three kids, all girls about 25, and sit down and start talking about all these millions of dollars, and the men wouldn't know what to do.

"I remember one man in Zurich looked at us funny, and asked if we were part of a women's

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The Washington Post ____
Washington Star-News 11-13
Daily News (New York) ____
The New York Times ____
The Wall Street Journal ____
The Atlanta Constitution ____
The Los Angeles Times ____

Date DEC 3 1978

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FBI/DOJ

FD-350 (Rev. 10-19-77)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

$40,000 a Month

The Social Security Checks in Guyana

Washington

Twice within the past 12 months the Social Security Administration asked the State Department to determine whether Americans at Jonestown were being forced to turn their Social Security benefits over to the People's Temple. Social Security officials disclosed last night.

The officials said that by October of this year some 200 Americans at the commune were drawing regular Social Security checks that totaled $40,000 a month. Howard Roland, an assistant director of international operations at the agency, said that "there is no reason to believe any of these beneficiaries" was receiving benefit payments fraudulently.

Responding to the requests to the State Department, a United States consular official from Georgetown, the capital of Guyana, visited the commune on Jan. 11, 1978, Roland reported.

The consul, Richard McCoy, said in a report dated January 18, that the 13 persons he interviewed "denied they had to turn over the proceeds" from their checks to the temple.

"I believe their answers were essentially genuine," McCoy's report continued, "although probably all the Social Security recipients are influenced to turn over their monthly benefits after their checks are cashed."

Roland explained that the 13 were interviewed because they had asked the Social Security agency to send their checks "care of Mission Village, Box 893, Georgetown, Guyana." That address — and press reports that some people at Jonestown were being forced to give their benefits to the temple — prompted the request to the State Department, Roland said.

Checks to 60 other persons living at the settlement were addressed to them directly. In Guyana as in other foreign countries, Social Security checks are put into the local mail by the U.S. embassy.

Roland said that McCoy, the consul, had said in his report, "I am convinced that the People's Temple has not actually forced Social Security annuitants to sign away their benefits."

New York Times

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

3 S.F.Chronicle

San Francisco,Ca.

Date: 11-22-78
Edition: Home

Title: RYMURS

Character: SF 89-250
or
Classification: 89
Submitting Office: SF

FBI/DOJ

Assoc. Dir. ____
Dep. AD Adm. ____
Dep. AD Inv. ____

$40,000 in Monthly Benefits

Social Security Probed Jones' Temple

By Cristine Russell
Washington Star Staff Writer

An estimated 200 members of the Peoples Temple colony in Guyana — most of them elderly — were receiving about $40,000 a month in Social Security checks, according to officials responsible for the program.

Although Social Security officials had no evidence of fraud by the group of the funds to which Jonestown residents were entitled, last month the Social Security Administration requested special measures to verify that each beneficiary was "alive, free of physical restraint" and able to determine the "use of his Social Security benefits."

The new survey, which was to have been completed by January, asked the State Department to have its embassy staff complete face-to-face interviews with the colony residents "in a place where privacy is ensured" instead of the usual survey by mail.

THE GOVERNMENT request from Ted Girdner, director of Social Security Administration's Division of International Operations, might have given colony members an opportunity to tell the government if they were being coerced in any way to turn over their funds to the Peoples Temple.

But now, after last weekend's mass suicide-homicide, the government's job is to determine who's dead and alive, Girdner's assistant director said yesterday.

Howard Roland said the agency earlier had been alerted by its San Francisco office that a growing number of Social Security recipients affiliated with the cult led by the Rev. Jim Jones were moving to the South American country. From an average of about 50 recipients in the whole country in September 1977, the number had grown to nearly 250 in October of this year, with more than 200 of them thought to be Jones' followers.

"WE KEPT A very close eye on it," Roland said, although no evidence of fraud was obtained. Of particular concern to the government was whether those receiving the payments — roughly two-thirds were over 60 — were free to use the money as they wished.

It is a violation of federal law for such funds to be automatically transferred or assigned to a group like the Peoples Temple, although the money could be given "as a matter of choice," said Roland.

In January, 13 recipients whose funds were being directly mailed to the colony's post office box were interviewed by U.S. Consul Richard McCoy, but he reported that they all "denied that they had to turn over the proceeds of their checks to the temple, but rather could donate whatever they wanted."

McCoy added that he believed "their answers were essentially genuine, although probably all Social Security recipients are influenced to turn over their monthly benefits after their checks are cashed. However, all the pensioners that I saw appeared to be adequately housed, fed and in relatively good health."

HOWEVER, on Oct. 18, the Social Security Administration wrote to the State Department that in "light of recent allegations" in California news accounts, "we cannot assume that everything there is satisfactory. The specific allegations of discipline enforced by psychological and physical abuse and putting a false face forward when visitors come require us to look further into the matter."

The Washington Post ____
Washington Star-News ____
Daily News (New York) ____
The New York Times ____
The Wall Street Journal ____
The Atlanta Constitution ____
The Los Angeles Times ____

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FBI/DOJ

FD-350 (Rev. 10-19-77)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Details of the 'money machine'

Temple riches found at Guyana death site

By Nancy Dooley

When Guyanese soldiers raided the death scene at Jonestown yesterday, they found an estimated half-million dollars in cash and bunches of envelopes filled with Social Security checks.

The checks had been sent to cult members and then turned over to the Peoples Temple.

In addition, there was a report that another half-million dollars in gold was found at the camp.

Ex-temple members put the church's assets much higher, however, with some estimates ranging as high as $10 million.

A former aide to the Rev. Jim Jones, Deborah Layton Blakey, who escaped the Guyana compound in May, placed the temple's worth at $10 million and said the temple leader controlled bank accounts in Europe, California and Guyana.

While Jones and the church grew wealthy, the members of his congregation were virtually poverty-stricken, ex-cultists have reported.

Casual visitors to temple services were asked to contribute what they could to the church's humanitarian works, full-fledged members living outside the church were required to pledge 25 percent of their earnings to the temple and church commune members were pressured into giving all their income and often property to the church.

Pleas for money never stopped.

On the church's weekly bus trips, when members were forced to eat and sleep aboard the overcrowded vehicles, they repeatedly were hit up for money.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

1 S.F.Examiner

San Francisco,Ca.

Date: 11-21-78
Edition: Final

Title: RYMURS

Character: SF 89-250
or
Classification: 89
Submitting Office: SF

FBI/DOJ

Ex-member Laura Cornelious reported. "Every time you'd get to sleeping good, they're coming around taking offerings. If you said you didn't have any, they'd make you empty your purse and see if you could find any money."

Weekend services produced thousands of dollars.

Micki Touchette, one of the money counters during the early 1970s, said weekend trips to Los Angeles sometimes produced from $15,000 to $25,000, and services in San Francisco yielded between $8,000 and $12,000. Three or four collections were taken during the long services.

The money was deposited in several banks to avoid raising suspicions about large sums of money, temple members said.

Those who lived in church communes were expected to turn all their earnings over to the church and then were given an allowance of $2 a week for living expenses.

They had to shop in second-hand stores and provide receipts for their purchases. Requisitions were to be submitted in advance, according to ex-member Neva Sly, who turned over hed $1,000-a-month salary to the temple.

Even the poor were dunned for contributions. Cornelious said she was on welfare, yet she gave her $200 watch and some clothing to the church, and also made quilts and bedspreads that the church sold.

Indeed, Jones was quite an entrepreneur.

To his faithful, he sold "holy oil," prayer cloths, candles and photographs of himself. The pictures were designed to protect the bearers from fire, assault and cancer. Each picture warded off only one catastrophe, so members had to buy a full set for full protection.

The photograph concession generated from $2,000 to $3,000 each weekend, said Al Mills, who acted as the church photographer.

In addition to cash contributions, the temple acquired, through purchase or gifts, properties estimated to be worth more than $1.5 million, acording to documents on file in San Francisco and Mendocino counties.

Where all the money went is uncertain, although temple ex-members say Jones lived in relative splendor, compared with his followers.

Blakey, who managed Jones' financial affairs in Guyana and said more than $65,000 in Social Security checks came to the jungle mission each month, gave a hint of the money's purpose in a recent affidavit submitted to the U.S. State Department.

She said that, in an effort to bribe ex-member Timothy Stoen, who was embroiled in a custody case with Jones, she was authorized to offer him up to $10,000 for his silence.

FD-350 (Rev. 10-19-77)

(Mount Clipping In Space Below)

Temple assets are tangled

by Don Demain
Staff Writer

Who's in charge of the People's Temple and its millions of dollars in assets in the wake of the deaths at its colony in Guyana?

The president of the temple's board of directors died in Jonestown along with founder Jim Jones and more than 400 others. So did the church secretary. The vice-president is reported missing, leaving the control of the temple and its assets a tangled question.

Carol A. Stahl, 55, board president, was identified yesterday as one of the victims along with her husband, Richard.

Mrs. Stahl is listed as president in incorporation papers last April with the Secretary of State. The church incorporated as a nonprofit, tax-exempt church under the name the People's Temple of Disciples of Christ.

Stahl met Jones in Mendocino County during the formative years of Jones' movement in 1969. She was an officer of the Golden Rule Church of Willits at the time.

When Jones tried to take over that church — and failed — Mrs. Stahl went with him to set up People's Temple in San Francisco. She was appointed president by Jones, who made all temple appointments.

Another member of the church directors listed in the incorporation papers was Lee Ingram, vice-president, of San Francisco, who also went to Jonestown.

What has happened to him is uncertain. His could be among the still-unidentified bodies in the

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

1 The Tribune

Oakland,Ca.

Date: 11-23-78
Edition: Sunrise

Title:
RYMURS

Character:
or SF 89-250
Classification: 89
Submitting Office: SF

FBI/DOJ

mass carnage there, or he could have escaped into the jungle around the Jonestown compound.

Secretary Linda S. Amos, with her three children, was found dead in a Georgetown hotel room shortly after the killing of Congressman Leo Ryan on an airstrip near Jonestown. She apparently killed her children and then herself.

That leaves treasurer June B. Crym, a legal secretary in San Francisco, and the fourth church officer listed in the articles of incorporation. Crym is believed to still be working out of the temple in San Francisco, but attempts to contact her have failed.

The question now is who is in charge of the church's wealth — estimated at $10 million in Guyana, plus more in California and in bank vaults in Switzerland.

The Guyanese government has confiscated the Jonestown assets, including $500,000 in cash, reportedly another $500,000 in gold and jewelry, and monthly social security checks totalling nearly $40,000.

U.S. State Department spokesmen said Guyana, a former British colony operating under British common law, will probably keep the assets until asked by either the U.S. government or California courts to turn them over to someone else.

The state Attorney General's office has begun an investigation into the temple's holdings in California, including the temple itself on Geary Street in San Francisco, with a market value of almost $250,000. The temple was sold by the Henry Marshal Foundation to Jones' church in 1972.

But Jones is believed to have amassed a much greater fortune through donations, assessments and virtual confiscation of all the property of his followers, estimated to have numbered more than 1,200.

Records in the San Francisco County Clerk's office show many church members signed over their homes to People's Temple with no strings attached. One, Ruby Lee Johnson, gave her home up in July 1973, and the church sold it four years later for $42,000.

Last June the church made $27,500 on the sale of property which had belonged to Vernell Henderson. The property had been deeded to the church four months earlier.

Former followers of Jones said members were ordered to sign blank powers-of-attorney and blank deeds of trust. Cars and bank accounts were also turned over, as well as payroll checks. Nadyne Houston said her son, Robert, worked at two jobs to keep up his monthly $2,000 contribution, and at times had to beg on the street corner for money

SOVIET CONTACTS

FD-350 (Rev. 10-19-77)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Cultist Talked With Russ, Document Says

GEORGETOWN, Guyana (AP)—Top aides of the Peoples Temple cult leader, the Rev. Jim Jones, conferred at least twice in Georgetown with an official of the Soviet Embassy who discussed their problems sympathetically and held out the promise of approval for the exodus of the whole Jonestown colony to Russia, according to a document made available Monday.

Jones' aides also discussed the "quick transference of money" from Jonestown to the Soviet Embassy to aid such a move, according to the document. A few months after the meetings, Jones instituted compulsory study of Russian for the nearly 1,000 members of his temple in Guyana, demanding that each speak a Russian phrase before each meal.

Jones was known to be fearful of attacks by mercenaries hired by relatives of some of his followers to return them to the United States. He was known to be seeking a safer haven and spoke of Cuba and the Soviet Union in his speeches.

A five-page typewritten memo found in the house where Jones lived and maintained his office revealed that his aides met in Georgetown with the Soviet Embassy's press attache, Feodor Timofeyev, in December, 1977, and again last March 20.

The memo—signed with the names Marcie, Sharon, Lew, Jimmie, Johnnie and Debbie—said the cultists discussed the possibility of exodus to Russia at the December meeting, and Timofeyev referred the matter to Moscow. At the meeting in March, he said he still had not received a reply.

"He said it was a very difficult thing to arrange (exodus)," the memo continued. "But when I cried and said 'it would be very painful for the door to be shut against the children,' (we adults don't matter so much but we need safety for our children), he said that the U.S.S.R had taken in 5,000 Spanish children, taken care of them and returned them later to Spain, so he felt it was worth pursuing."

(In the early '30s, approximately 5,000 children of Spanish Communists, Socialists and sympathizers were sent to Russia for refuge from the Spanish Civil War. After the war, many of Communists themselves fled to Russia, and there was a large Spanish community in Moscow.)

The memo said Timofeyev cautioned Jones about visiting Georgetown, where an emotional hearing over the custody of a child in the Jonestown settlement was in progress.

The memo said Timofeyev cautioned Jones about visiting Georgetown, where an emotinal hearing over the custody of a child in the Jonestown settlement was in progress.

"He feels that the risks for Jim's life if he came to town might only be 10% but it is not worth taking," the memo said.

Timofeyev declined to talk with Jones over the radiotelephone link the cult operated between Georgetown and Jonestown, the memo continued, "but said he'd rather talk to J.J. in person when he comes to Jonestown—he still is planning to come to Jonestown."

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

I-17 LOS ANGELES TIMES LOS ANGELES, C

Date: 11/28/78
Edition: Tuesday Final

Title: SOVIET COLONY

Character: RYMUR/AFO
or
Classification: 89-436
Submitting Office: Los Angeles

FBI/DOJ

It was after Timofeyev and other Soviet officials visited Jonestown that the Russian-language classes were instituted on a large scale.

Three survivors of the mass suicide-murder told reporters that the settlement's treasurer, Maria Katsaris, ordered them during the death ritual to take a heavy suitcase "to the embassy."

One of the three, Tim Carter, said they thought Miss Katsaris meant the U.S. Embassy. But he said after they got out of the settlement, they opened the suitcase and found about $500,000 in cash and a letter addressed to the Soviet Embassy. Carter said they abandoned the suitcase and fled into the jungle. Guyana police have recovered the suitcase and money but have not said if they found the letter.

Miss Katsaris was found dead of gunshot wounds in Jonestown. One of the signers of the memo, Sharon Amos, was the public relations director for the cult in Georgetown. She and her three children were murdered in Georgetown while the suicide ritual was taking place in Jonestown.

FD-350 (Rev. 10-19-77)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Ex-Helenan tells of cult money going to Soviets

BOISE, Idaho (AP) — Two brothers who fled Jonestown, Guyana, when mass suicides began said Saturday they were assigned by a key aide to cult leader Jim Jones to carry a suitcase full of money to the Soviet Embassy in Georgetown, Guyana.

In an interview with a Gannett News Service reporter, Tim Carter, 30, and his brother, Michael, 20, of Garden City, Idaho, said Jones had told his followers in recent months that emigration of the entire jungle commune to Russia might be a "panacea" to their problems.

"There were plans to move the entire organization to the Soviet Union," said Tim Carter. "It was always said that if you want to go back to the U.S. it was OK, but when that subject came up, Jones would talk about a 'promised land.'

"He had always hoped that when he got to Guyana that the pressure on him — the harassment by racists groups — would stop. But instead, the pressure increased," said Carter, who lived in Helena as a boy. "He got more and more worried that people were out to get him. He started talking more and more about Russia."

CARTER SAID, "we had talks with the Soviet Union about emigrating there. In the last couple of months there were several private talks and frankly, given the stress we were under, the prospect of emigrating again was what I was surviving on."

The two brothers were detained by Guyana authorities for three days of questioning in the fatal shooting of U.S. Congressman Leo Ryan, D-Calif., and four others. No charges were filed.

Carter said two consular officers from the Russian embassy flew from Georgetown to the cult's jungle commune several times and that Jones visited the embassy. Carter said he was not part of the conversations and did not know what was being discussed.

Carter said after Ryan left Jonestown last weekend, Jones told the 900 people to go back to their cottages. Carter said they were on the way to the cottages when Maria Katsaris, a chief aide in the charge of the treasury, drew them aside and told them to help Mike Prokes, the camp's purchasing agent, carry a suitcase to Georgetown.

THE CARTERS SAID they did not know what was in the suitcase but went back to their cottages to pack. Tim said after packing he heard "screaming, sobbing and crying" from the pavilion area.

"I found my wife. I wanted to say goodbye to her," Carter said and he started crying. "My wife was on her knees on the ground and our child was in her arms. He was dead. My baby. I leaned over to put my arms around my wife and I said, 'I love you, I love you, I love you.' But all she was doing was crying. Her body felt chilly — cold. She was shaking. I guess she had already drunk the poison."

Carter said Mrs. Katsaris handed the suitcase to the three men and told them, "Get the hell out of here. Your lives are in danger. Get out. Take this to the embassy."

"We were scared," Carter said. "I didn't want to commit suicide. We carried the suitcase but it was too heavy. So we put it down and opened it. Inside were stacks of dollar bills and a letter addressed to the Russian embassy."

Tim said they left the suitcase at the camp's chicken farm "because it was too heavy to carry and because we didn't want to carry it to the Russians.

Tim said they turned their weapons over to Guyana police 8 miles down the trial to the Port Kaituma Airport where Ryan had been shot and killed by Peoples Temple followers.

Both Carters said this is all they know about the cash, supposedly the $1 to $2 million in gold, diamonds and security notes found later by Guyanan troops.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

1-Independent Record
Helena, Montana

Date: 11/26/78
Edition: Daily

Title: UNSUB; Congressman Leo J. Ryan (Deceased) - VICTIM
Character: CONGRESSIONAL ASSASSINATION or STATUTE
Classification: Bufile 89-4
Submitting Office: Butte 89-166

FBI/DOJ

Tim Carter, center, who formerly lived in Helena, describes how his wife and child were killed at Jonestown and how he was ordered to take money to the Russian Embassy in Georgetown, Guyana. At Tim's right is his brother, Mike, and at left, Mike Prokes, both also commune members. (AP Laserphoto)

0-19 (Rev. 4-29-77)

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Tech. Servs. ____
Training ____
Public Affs. Off. ____
Telephone Rm. ____
Director's Sec'y ____

Jones Aides Talked to Soviets About Moving Cult to Russia

GEORGETOWN, Guyana (AP) — Top aides of cult leader Jim Jones conferred at least twice in Georgetown with an official of the Soviet Embassy who discussed their problems sympathetically and held out the possibility of approval for the exodus of the whole Jonestown colony to Russia, according to a document made available to The Associated Press.

Jones' aide also discussed the "quick transference of money" from Jonestown to the embassy to aid such a move, according to the document. A few months after the meetings, Jones instituted compulsory study of Russian for the approximately 1,000 members of his Peoples Temple in Guyana, demanding that each speak a Russian phrase before each meal.

Jones was known to be fearful of attacks from across the Brazilian border by mercenaries hired by relatives of some of his followers to return them to the United States. He was known to be seeking a safer haven and spoke of Cuba and the Soviet Union in his speeches.

A FIVE-PAGE typewritten memo found in the house where Jones lived and maintained his office revealed that aides of the cult leader met in Georgetown with the press attache of the Soviet Embassy, Feodor Timofeyev, in December 1977 and again last March 20.

The memo — signed with the names Marcie, Sharon, Lew, Jimmie, Johnnie and Debbie — said the cultists discussed the possibility of exodus to Russia at the December meeting, and Timofeyev referred the matter to Moscow. At the meeting in March he said he still had not received a reply.

"He said it was a very difficult thing to arrange exodus," the memo continued. "But when I cried and said it would be very painful for the door to be shut against the children (we adults don't matter so much but we need safety for our children) he said that the U.S.S.R. had taken in 5,000 Spanish children, taken care of them and returned them later to Spain, so he felt it was worth pursuing."

See SOVIET, A-9

The Washington Post ____
Washington Star-News A-1
Daily News (New York) ____
The New York Times ____
The Wall Street Journal ____
The National Observer ____
The Los Angeles Times ____

Date 11-27-78

FBI/DOJ

SOVIET

Continued From A-1

The memo added that Timofeyev told them there would be "no problem of getting visas at any time" for a delegation to visit the Soviet Union to discuss the matter.

THE DOCUMENT said at one point "regarding the need for exodus, a quick transference of money, he doesn't see the need for such a situation developing right away, not within a year."

The memo said Timofeyev cautioned Jones about visiting Georgetown, where an emotional hearing over the custody of a child in the Jonestown settlement was in progress.

"He feels that the risks for Jim's life if he came to town might only be 10 percent but it is not worth taking," the memo said.

Timofeyev declined to talk with Jones over the radio-telephone link the cult operated between Georgetown and Jonestown, the memo continued, "but said he'd rather talk to J.J. in person when he comes to Jonestown — he still is planning to come to Jonestown."

It was after the later visits of Timofeyev and other Soviet officials to Jonestown that the Russian-language classes were instituted on a large scale.

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ONE OF THE THREE, Tim Carter, said they thought Katsaris meant the U.S. Embassy. But he said after they got out of the settlement, they opened the suitcase and found $500,000 in cash and a letter addressed to the Soviet Embassy. Carter said they abandoned the suitcase and fled into the jungle.

Katsaris was found dead of gunshot wounds in Jonestown. One of the signers of the memo, Sharon Amos, was the public relations director for the cult in Georgetown. She and her three children were murdered in Georgetown while the suicide ritual was taking place in Jonestown.

Charles Edward Beikman, a former U.S. Marine and a member of the cult, has been arrested and charged with the murders.

Timofeyev was not available for comment last night.

Assoc. Dir. ____
Dep. AD Adm. ____
Dep. AD Inv. ____

Jones Cult Asked Soviets for Home

Training ____
Public Affs. Off. ____
Telephone Rm. ____
Director's Sec'y ____

COMMUNE MEMBERS ORDERED TO LEARN RUSSIAN

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Jones' aide also discussed the "quick transference of money" from Jonestown to the embassy to aid such a move, according to the document. A few months after the meetings, Jones instituted compulsory study of Russian for the approximately 1,000 members of his Peoples Temple in Guyana, demanding that each speak a Russian phrase before each meal.

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See SOVIET, A-9

The Washington Post ____
Washington Star-News A-1
Daily News (New York) ____
The New York Times ____
The Wall Street Journal ____
The Atlanta Constitution ____
The Los Angeles Times ____

Date NOV 27 1978

SOVIET

Continued From A-1

"He said it was a very difficult thing to arrange exodus," the memo continued. "But when I cried and said it would be very painful for the door to be shut against the children (we adults don't matter so much but we need safety for our children) he said that the U.S.S.R. had taken in 5,000 Spanish children, taken care of them and returned them later to Spain, so he felt it was worth pursuing."

The memo added that Timofeyev told them there would be "no problem of getting visas at any time" for a delegation to visit the Soviet Union to discuss the matter.

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"He feels that the risks for Jim's life if he came to town might only be 10 percent but it is not worth taking," the memo said.

Timofeyev declined to talk with Jones over the radio-telephone link the cult operated between Georgetown and Jonestown, the memo continued, "but said he'd rather talk to J.J. in person when he comes to Jonestown — he still is planning to come to Jonestown."

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Katsaris was found dead of gunshot wounds in Jonestown. One of the signers of the memo, Sharon Amos, was the public relations director for the cult in Georgetown. She and her three children were murdered in Georgetown while the suicide ritual was taking place in Jonestown.

Charles Edward Beikman, a former U.S. Marine and a member of the cult, has been arrested and charged with the murders.

Timofeyev was not available for comment last night.

0-19 (Rev. 1-27-78)

Assoc. Dir. ____
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Tech. Servs. ____
Training ____
Public Affs. Off. ____
Telephone Rm. ____
Director's Sec'y ____

Soviet Official Is Said to Have Met In Guyana With Cult Chief's Aides

GEORGETOWN, Guyana, Nov. 27 (AP) — Top aides of the Rev. Jim Jones conferred at least twice in Georgetown with an official of the Soviet Embassy who discussed their problems sympathetically and held out the promise of approval for the exodus of the whole Jonestown colony to Russia, according to a document made available to The Associated Press.

Mr. Jones's aide also discussed the "quick transference of money" from Jonestown to the embassy to aid such a move, according to the document. A few months after the meetings, Mr. Jones instituted compulsory study of Russian for the 1,000 or so members of his People's Temple in Guyana, demanding that each speak a Russian phrase before each meal.

Mr. Jones was known to fear attacks from across the Brazilian border by mercenaries hired by relatives of some of his followers seeking to return the followers to the United States. Mr. Jones was also known to be seeking a safer haven and to have spoken of Cuba and the Soviet Union in his speeches.

A five-page typewritten memo found in the house where Mr. Jones lived and maintained his office disclosed that aides of the cult leader had met in Georgetown with the press attaché of the Soviet Embassy, Feodor Timofeyev, in December 1977 and again last March 20.

Discussion of Exodus

The memo — signed with the names Marcie, Sharon, Lew, Jimmie, Johnnie and Debbie — said that the cultists had discussed the possibility of an exodus to Russia at the December meeting and that Mr. Timofeyev had referred the matter to Moscow. At the meeting in March he reportedly said he still had not received a reply.

"He said it was a very difficult thing to arrange exodus," the memo continued. "But when I cried and said it would be very painful for the door to be shut against the children — we adults don't matter so much but we need safety for our children — he said that the U.S.S.R. had taken in 5,000 Spanish children, taken care of them and returned them later to Spain, so he felt it was worth pursuing."

The memo added that Mr. Timofeyev had told them that there would be "no problem of getting v'as at any time" for a delegation to visit the Soviet Union to discuss the matter.

The document said, "Regarding the need for exodus, a quick transference of money, he doesn't see the need for such a situation developing right away, not within a year."

Custody Hearing for Child

The memo said that Mr. Timofeyev had cautioned Mr. Jones about visiting Georgetown, where an emotional hearing over the custody of a child in the Jonestown settlement was in progress.

"He feels that the risks for Jim's life if he came to town might only be 10 percent but it is not worth taking," the memo said.

Mr. Timofeyev declined to talk with Mr. Jones over the radio-telephone link the cult operated between Georgetown and Jonestown, the memo continued, "but said he'd rather talk to J.J. in person when he comes to Jonestown — he still is planning to come to Jonestown."

It was after the later visits of Mr. Timofeyev and other Soviet officials to Jonestown that the Russian-language classes were instituted on a large scale.

Suitcase for Embassy

Three survivors of the mass murder-suicide told reporters that the settlement's treasurer, Maria Katsaris, had ordered them at the height of the death ritual to take a heavy suitcase "to the embassy."

One of the three, Tim Carter, said they thought Miss Katsaris meant the United States Embassy. But he said that after they got out of the settlement, they opened the suitcase and found $500,000 in cash and a letter addressed to the Soviet Embassy. Mr. Carter said that they had abandoned the suitcase and fled into the jungle.

Miss Katsaris was found dead of gunshot wounds in Jonestown. One of the signers of the memo, Sharon Amos, was the public relations director for the cult in Georgetown. She and her three children were murdered in Georgetown while the suicide ritual was taking place in Jonestown. Charles Edward Beikman, a former United States Marine and a member of the cult, has been arrested and charged with the murders.

Mr. Timofeyev was not available for comment.

The Washington Post ____
Washington Star-News ____
Daily News (New York) ____
The New York Times A-13
The Wall Street Journal ____
The Atlanta Constitution ____
The Los Angeles Times ____

Date NOV 28 1978

FBI/DOJ

0-16 (Rev. 1-27-78)

Assoc. Dir. ____
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Survivor Claims Jones Sent Cash To Red Embassy

By Robert Geline
Time-Life News Service

GEORGETOWN, Guyana — Shortly before the mass suicide-murder rites at Jonestown, its leader, the Rev. Jim Jones, dispatched three trusted aides to the Soviet Embassy with a suitcase containing $500,000 and a letter to Soviet officials.

Tim Carter, a 30-year-old ex-Marine, told of the final mission yesterday in explaining how he and several others escaped the mass death in the jungle. It was one of a number of bizarre stories now being told reporters by survivors from Jonestown.

Carter said he was told by Jones' secretary as the grisly death rites began to take the suitcase "to the embassy." Asked which embassy he meant, he said, "Yes. It was the Soviet Embassy." It was not clear how the secretary got the reported order from Jones.

Before Carter, his brother Michael CARTER and a third man named Michael Prokes left the camp together, Carter said he watched his wife and young child die from the poison.

AS THEY TRAVELED from Jonestown, Carter said the three men found the suitcase, which was loaded with U.S. currency in small bills, too heavy and stopped to bury it. Carter said they then went to turn themselves in to Guyanese authorities.

The money and letter are said to be in the custody of Skip Roberts, the Guyanese police official who is spearheading the investigation of the suicide-murder deaths. It was not immediately clear if the money in the suitcase was the same cash that Guyanese officials said earlier last week had been recovered.

Carter said he saw nothing of the letters' contents.

The suitcase episode was not the only disclosure of a Soviet presence in Jonestown.

Guyanan Prime Minister Forbes Burnham confirmed that at least once recently a Soviet physician had visited the community. The purpose of the visit, it was learned, was to treat a community member for a heart ailment.

The Soviet physician was called in despite the fact that the commune

See CASH, A-8

The Washington Post ____
Washington Star-News A-1
Daily News (New York) ____
The New York Times ____
The Wall Street Journal ____
The Atlanta Constitution ____
The Los Angeles Times ____

Date NOV 26 1978

FBI/DOJ

CASH

Continued From A-1

had its own doctor and modern medical equipment.

"MY INTELLIGENCE has informed me that there was a visit by a Russian doctor," Burnham said, but he would not elaborate on what else, if anything, he knew: "That I cannot discuss," he said.

The prime minister disclaimed any knowledge of details concerning the suitcase containing the money and the letter. "I know of no such event," he said.

The disclosure by Carter came as many of the survivors — some of whom had been enemies at Jonestown — came face to face for the first time since the deaths.

The Carter brothers and Prokes were brought to the Park Hotel, where they joined other survivors who are living under 'round-the-clock police guard.

Their arrival was greeted with fear and disbelief by others who had escaped the massacre. They made it clear they could not believe that persons whom they remembered as high-ranking members of Jones' inner circle were being placed in their midst.

"We are afraid that they are hit men for Jones," said Robert Paul, who escaped from the death camp leaving behind a dead wife and three children. Carter and his fellow survivors claimed to be equally afraid of Paul and others at the hotel.

Photographer Matthew Naythons also contributed to this story.

0-19 (Rev. 1-27-78)

Cultist Conferred With Soviets, Document Says

GEORGETOWN, Guyana (AP)—Top aides of the Peoples Temple cult leader, the Rev. Jim Jones, conferred at least twice in Georgetown with an official of the Soviet Embassy who discussed their problems sympathetically and held out the promise of approval for the exodus of the whole Jonestown colony to Russia, according to a document made available Monday.

Jones' aides also discussed the "quick transference of money" from Jonestown to the Soviet Embassy to aid such a move, according to the document. A few months after the meetings, Jones instituted compulsory study of Russian for then early 1,000 members of his temple in Guyana, demanding that each speak a Russian phrase before each meal.

Jones was known to be fearful of attacks by mercenaries hired by relatives of some of his followers to return them to the United States. He was known to be seeking a safer haven and spoke of Cuba and the Soviet Union in his speeches.

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"He said it was a very difficult thing to arrange (exodus)," the memo continued. "But when I cried and said 'it would be very painful for the door to be shut against the children,' (we adults don't matter so much but we need safety for our children), he said that the U.S.S.R had taken in 5,000 Spanish children, taken care of them and returned them later to Spain, so he felt it was worth pursuing."

(In the early '30s, approximately 5,000 children of Spanish Communists, socialists and sympathizers were sent to Russia for refuge from the Spanish Civil War. After the war, many of Communists themselves fled to Russia, and there was a large Spanish community in Moscow.)

The memo added that Timofeyev told them there would be "no problem of getting visas at any time" for a delegation to visit the Soviet Union to discuss the matter.

The document said at one point "regarding the need for exodus, a quick transference of money—he doesn't see the need for such a situation developing right away, not within a year."

The memo said Timofeyev cautioned Jones about visiting Georgetown, where an emotinal hearing over the custody of a child in the Jonestown settlement was in progress.

"He feels that the risks for Jim's life if he came to town might only be 10% but it is not worth taking," the memo said.

Timofeyev declined to talk with Jones over the radiotelephone link the cult operated between Georgetown and Jonestown, the memo continued, "but said he'd rather talk to J.J. in person when he comes to Jonestown—he still is planning to come to Jonestown."

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One of the three, Tim Carter, said they thought Miss Katsaris meant the U.S. Embassy. But he said after they got out of the settlement, they opened the suitcase and found about $500,000 in cash and a letter addressed to the Soviet Embassy. Carter said they abandoned the suitcase and fled into the jungle. Guyana police have recovered the suitcase and money but have not said if they found the letter.

Miss Katsaris was found dead of gunshot wounds in Jonestown. One of the signers of the memo, Sharon Amos, was the public relations director for the cult in Georgetown. She and her three children were murdered in Georgetown while the suicide ritual was taking place in Jonestown.

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Director's Sec'y ____

The Washington Post ____
Washington Star-News ____
Daily News (New York) ____
The New York Times ____
The Wall Street Journal ____
The Atlanta Constitution ____
The Los Angeles Times I 8/17

Date NOV 28 1978

FBI/DOJ

HIT SQUAD

FD-350 (Rev. 10-19-77)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

U.S. ready for 'hit squads'

Associated Press

Charleston, S.C.—Federal officials yesterday said they are prepared to cope with "death teams that may be lurking around" the American survivors of Jim Jones' poisoned cult when they return to their homeland.

"Certainly we are prepared," said U.S. Attorney Thomas E. Lydon, whose task it will be to file charges against any of the survivors suspected in the murder of Rep. Leo J. Ryan. The deaths of the California congressman and four other persons at a jungle airfield preceded the mass suicides in Jones' Guyana camp.

Lydon said he had received no indication that the returnees might include any cult members determined to carry out Jones' wish that all members of his agricultural community should die.

"If we get a factual basis or if any of these survivors come to Charleston and are concerned about their safety, we are, of course, prepared to take whatever steps will be necessary," the U.S. attorney said.

Also yesterday, a statement read to reporters by Jeff Dietrich, a spokesman for the State Department's Bureau of Inter-American Affairs, said it was impossible to speculate how many survivors would be returning to the United States.

"It is still our plan that if a substantial number of survivors of the Jonestown tragedy wants to leave Guyana together, they will be flown to Charleston by military aircraft sometime this week," the statement said.

The department said the earliest date for the return of the survivors was late today and those who spurned the military aircraft may return on commercial flights.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

2 The Tribune

Oakland, Ca.

Date: 11-28-78
Edition: Sunrise

Title:
RYMURS

Character:
or SF 89-250
Classification: 89
Submitting Office: SF

FBI/DOJ

FD-350 (Rev. 10-19-77)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Peoples Temple 'Hit Squad' Denied

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Members of the Peoples' Temple, in mourning over the deaths of more than 400 comrades in Guyana, vehemently denied yesterday the existence of "hit squads" intent on killing temple defectors and U.S. officials.

"Don't get the idea there was a hit squad. That's ridiculous," said June Crym, a temple member for seven years, who along with other members took reporters on a tour of the sect's San Francisco headquarters.

It was the second time in two days that Temple members had spoken out on the tragedy at Jonestown, the agrarian religious settlement founded in Guyana by the Rev. Jim Jones.

Since the slayings of Rep. Leo Ryan of California, three newsmen and a temple defector Saturday in Guyana and the subsequent mass suicide of hundreds of cultists, many former temple members have said that Jones had formed "hit squads" that would hunt down temple defectors and assassinate U.S. officials.

"This (accusations of vengeful assasinations) is an alarmist type of thing. I think this is a set-up to have us killed by outside lunatics," said Leona Collier.

The work of the Peoples Temple will continue, the members said.

"I'm not embarrassed about being called the Peoples Temple," said Archie Ijames, who said a daughter, grandchildren and other relatives died at Jonestown.

"The way we act and behave, I'm convinced, will make all the difference in how people view us," he said.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

A-8 HERALD EXAMI
LOS ANGELES,

Date: 11/24/78
Edition: Friday Latest

Title: RYMUR

Character:
or AFO
Classification: 89-436
Submitting Office: Los Angeles

FBI/DOJ

FD-350 (Rev. 10-19-77)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Officials Prepared For 'Death Teams'

CHARLESTON (AP) — Federal officials said Monday they are prepared to cope with "death teams that may be lurking around" the American survivors of Jim Jones' poisoned cult when they return to their homeland.

"Certainly we are prepared," said U.S. Attorney Thomas E. Lydon, whose task it will be to file charges against any of the survivors suspected in the murder of Rep. Leo J. Ryan. The deaths of the California congressman and four other persons at a jungle airfield preceded the mass suicides in Jones' Guyana camp.

Lydon said he had received no indication that the returnees might include any cult members determined to carry out Jones' wish that all members of his agricultural community should die.

"If we get a factual basis or if any of these survivors come to Charleston and are concerned about their safety, we are, of course, prepared to take whatever steps will be necessary," the U.S. attorney said.

Federal marshals from across the South were gathered at Charleston ready to fly aboard the 96-passenger C-141 jets standing by to retrieve the Americans from Georgetown as soon as they are cleared by Guyanese authorties.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

The State

Page 7A

Date: 11-28-78

Edition: Morning

Title: JONESTOWN, GUYANA

Character:

or

Classification: 89-68

Submitting Office: Columbia

FBI/DOJ

FD-350 (Rev. 10-19-77)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

S.F. cultists deny hit squad exists

San Francisco—Members of People's Temple, insisting that no "hit squads" survived the Guyana massacre and suicide a week ago, led reporters through the temple yesterday for the first time since the deaths.

"Don't get the idea there was a hit squad," said June Crym, a temple member for seven years and, as temple treasurer, the highest ranking temple official still alive.

"That's ridiculous."

Former temple members have asserted that the Rev. Jim Jones, founder of People's Temple and leader of Jonestown, the Guyana agricultural mission where more than 400 people died last weekend, formed squads of temple members to hunt down and kill temple defectors and government officials in the event of a serious threat to the temple.

Among the hundreds of mission residents who apparently survived the ritualistic mass suicide may be some who are preparing to carry out these plans, according to these former temple members.

Many of the former temple members have told police they fear for their lives. Some are now under police protection in the Bay Area and elsewhere.

Insisting that the stories are untrue, Crym and about 15 other temple members took reporters through the old synagogue that Jones and a handful of followers turned into People's Temple headquarters in 1972.

There were no photographs of Jones on the white, brick-trimmed walls inside the temple, and no religious symbols of any kind.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

1 The Tribune

Oakland, Ca.

Date: 11-24-78
Edition: Sunrise

Title:
RYMURS

Character:
or SF 89-250
Classification: 89
Submitting Office: SF

FBI/DOJ

"We are practical Christians," said one member. "Symbols will not take care of the immediate needs of people."

Said Archie Ijames, another temple member:

"I'm not embarrassed about being called (a member of) the People's Temple.

"The way we act and behave, I'm convinced, will make all the difference in how people view us."

Ijames lost a daughter, several grandchildren, and several other relatives in the Guyana holocaust.

The hit squad rumors, said Leona Collier, are alarmist.

"I think this is a set-up to have us killed by outside lunatics," she said.

If there were any hit squads, said another temple member, Joyce Parks, she didn't know of them.

"Why would I want to bring pain to someone else?" she asked.

Parks was living in Jonestown but had gone to Venezuela in an attempt to arrange for medical treatment for some temple members in Jonestown.

She returned here from Venezuela Wednesday, having lost her mother and father in Jonestown and perhaps her son, who remains unaccounted for.

She also lost her mother in law, Patricia Parks, in gunfire which erupted at an airstrip near Jonestown last Saturday. Five people in all died in the shooting, among them U.S. Rep. Leo Ryan of San Mateo, who had led a group of Americans to Jonestown to investigate reports that temple members were being held as though prisoners at the settlement.

FD-350 (Rev. 10-19-77)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Agents Sift Reports

Cults 'Hitmen' Load Carter Death Bullet?

WASHINGTON (Reuter) — The Secret Service said Tuesday that it was probing unconfirmed reports that members of the People's Temple cult plan to assassinate high-ranking U.S. officials, possibly including the president.

The Service, charged with protecting the president and the vice president, said it was, "trying to clear up unsubstantiated rumors that People's Temple members plan to try and assassinate someone it is our job to protect."

900 Dead

More than 900 members of the sect died in a bizarre murder-suicide on Nov. 18 at a commune in Guyana established by their leader, Jim Jones.

Secret Service sources said the agency had received reports of several rumors that sect members might try to assassinate President Carter or Vice President Walter Mondale, both of whom are expected to attend a Democratic Party convention in Memphis, Tenn., early next month.

One such rumor surfaced Monday night when attorney Mark Lane, who occasionally represented the sect, said in a televised interview that de was told of the formation of a "hit squad" of cultists by a woman who was Jones' second-in-command.

$11 Million Total

Lane said in the interview that the cult's assassination plans were financed by $3 million in cash and an additional 8 million in Swiss bank accounts.

He added that both the Secret Service and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) were "very concerned" about the plans, which he said also included the assassination of members of the cult who escaped from the Guyana commune and reporters critical of the sect.

An FBI official told Reuters, however, that its agents had interviewed Lane in depth, "and furnished absolutely no information of that nature."

Agents Mum

The Secret Service spokesmen similarly refused to link its investigation to anything said by the controversial lawyer, who was at the commune and escaped as the mass suicide-murder was taking place.

Lane, who has represented James Earl Ray, the convicted assassin of Dr. Martin Luther King, is noted for his firm belief in assassination theories in both the Dr. King tragedy and the murder of President John F. Kennedy.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

17

COURIER EXPRESS
Buffalo, N. Y.

Date: 11/29/78
Edition: Four Star

Title: RYMUR

Character:
or 89-96
Classification:
Submitting Office: Buffalo

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#2 NOV 29 1978

FBI — BUFFALO
FBI/DOJ

FD-350 (Rev. 10-19-77)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Sect Plot to Kidnap U.S. Leaders Told

SAN FRANCISCO—An alleged plot to kidnap high American political figures in the event that Peoples Temple founder Jim Jones was ever arrested or harmed was reported here Monday by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The alleged plot, revealed to FBI agents Sunday by a number of current and former Temple members, was apparently a contingency plan that was never implemented.

"The allegations are not garbage," Charles R. McKinnon, special agent in charge of the FBI office here, said when asked what credibility he gave the reports.

"I think the information we have is reliable. Whether we'll be able to prove it in court is another matter," McKinnon added.

FBI agent Bob Fuller said members of Congress were among the loosely defined powerful figures whom Peoples Temple had evidently marked for kidnaping in the event Jones were ever seized by authorities from either the U.S. or Guyana, where Jones and about 1,000 followers operated an agricultural commune.

Fuller said the plan, details of which are still sketchy, was evidently to hold the kidnaped officials hostage until Jones was freed.

The plot was uncovered, McKinnon said, after FBI headquarters in Washington called Saturday evening asking for a background report on Peoples Temple and Jones. The request followed the massacre Saturday that took the lives of U.S. Rep. Leo J. Ryan (D-Calif.) and four others in Guyana.

More than a dozen agents have been assigned to the case, McKinnon said. Fuller said that the FBI has sent an agent to Guyana and that "the Guyanese government is being most cooperative."

Fuller said the investigation is being conducted under authority of the Congressional Assassination Act, which makes it a federal crime to kill or plot to kill a U.S. representative or senator.

The killing of Ryan on Saturday as he left the Peoples Temple commune apparently was not a part of the plot to kidnap high political figures. The plot was to kidnap such officials only if Jones was arrested or harmed as a means of freeing the charismatic leader.

"We are not looking for a hook to get into this case," McKinnon said. "We regard this as serious."

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

I-3 LOS ANGELES TIMES LOS ANGELES,

Date: 11/21/78

Edition: Tuesday Final

Title: SECT PLOT

Character: or RYMUR

Classification:

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FBI/DOJ

-19 (Rev. 1-27-78)

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Director's Sec'y ____

Sect Plot to Kidnap U.S. Leaders Told

FBI Reports Scheme to Hold Hostages if Jones Were Arrested

BY DAVID JOHNSTON
Times Staff Writer

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The Washington Post ____
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The New York Times ____
The Wall Street Journal ____
The Atlanta Constitution ____
The Los Angeles Times Pg 1, part

Date Nov 21

FBI/DOJ

7

FD-350 (Rev. 7-16-63)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

FBI discloses kidnapping plan

Los Angeles Times Service

SAN FRANCISCO — An alleged plot to kidnap high American political figures in the event Peoples Temple founder Jim Jones was ever arrested or harmed was reported here Monday by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The alleged plot, revealed to FBI agents Sunday by a number of current and former Temple members, was apparently a contingency plan that was never implemented.

"The allegations are not garbage," Charles R. McKinnon, special agent in charge of the FBI office here, said when asked what credibility he gave the reports.

Reliable

"I think the information we have is reliable. Whether we'll be able to prove it in court is another matter."

FBI agent Bob Fuller said members of Congress were among the loosely defined powerful figures whom People's Temple evidently had marked for kidnapping if Jones were ever seized by authorities from either the United States or Guyana, where Jones and about 1,000 followers operated an agricultural mission.

Fuller said the plan, details of which are still sketchy, was evidently to hold the kidnapped officials for ransom until Jones was freed.

The plot was uncovered, McKinnon said, after FBI headquarters in Washington called Saturday evening asking for a background report on People's Temple and Jones. The request followed the massacre Saturday which took the lives of U.S. Rep. Leo J. Ryan, D-Calif., and four others in Guyana.

Ryan had gone to Guyana to investigate reports that Americans were being detained by Jones against their will.

After the massacre several hundred Jones followers committed mass suicide, according to Guyanese police.

Upwards of a dozen agents have been assigned to the case, McKinnon said. Fuller said the FBI has sent an agent to Guyana and that "the Guyanese government is being most cooperative."

Fuller said that the investigation is being conducted under authority of the Congressional Assassination Act, which makes it a federal crime to kill or plot to kill a U.S. representative or senator.

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(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE 1

SAN ANTONIO EXPRESS
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

Date: 11-21-78
Edition: HOME
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Classification: 7-
Submitting Office: SAN ANTONI

☐ Being Investigated

JIMMY JONES is photographed by NBC-TV cameraman Bob Brown during interview shortly before Brown was killed at Port Kaituma airport.

FD-350 (Rev. 10-19-77)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Police seek out cult 'hit squads'

Several law enforcement agencies are investigating reports that former members of the Peoples Temple may be in danger from those still loyal to the Rev. Jim Jones.

The FBI and the San Francisco Police Department and District Attorney's office have been told of assassination teams that, if their existence was confirmed, would pose a threat to temple "defectors."

"We have knowledge of a purported 'hit squad' and 'hit list,'" Police Chief Charles Gain said yesterday. "We have knowledge of it, and we are doing all we can reasonably do to determine if such a list exists."

Though domestic authorities are precluded from prosecuting those who committed the airstrip murders in Guyana, they are looking for people here who may have helped plan those killings.

Anyone in the United States who agreed to help the murderers in Guyana and took any act to help them can be prosecuted for conspiracy — to commit murder or assassination or assault — according to FBI and district attorney's investigators.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

5 S.F.Examiner

San Francisco,Ca.

Date: 11-22-78
Edition: Final

Title: RYMURS

Character:
or SF 89-250
Classification: 89
Submitting Office: SF

FBI/DOJ

Fearful former temple members are reporting the existence of assassination squads of from 15 to 200 persons. Officials are checking the names of between 15 and 25 persons said to live in California and Guyana.

The information came from interviews with former temple members, including several who arrived back in San Francisco Monday night from the ill-fated trip to Guyana. Authorities also have been told that the hit squads were scattered across the country, that the assassinations were to occur even if Jones had died, and that Jones might not be dead after all.

Jones has been reported killed by gunshot at Jonestown, Guyana, but some former temple members remain skeptical.

"I'd say that was a possibility," said James Cobb at a Berkeley news conference yesterday. "I'd like to see the body to confirm it."

Former temple member Wanda Johnson said her son Wayne was used by Jones as a stand-in for the temple leader in 1973. Wayne Johnson disguised himself to resemble Jones, who at the time believed he was in danger.

Many former temple members have gone into hiding, and the Human Freedom Center, a deprogramming and halfway house for former cult members, was under observation by Berkeley police.

Former temple member Neva Sly said her husband, Don Sly, 40, was the leader of the assassination teams.

"Don will carry it out," she said. "He studied assassination attempts for years." Sly was said to have been the man who put a knife to the throat of Rep. Leo Ryan before being subdued in Jonestown Saturday.

The fears of the former temple members are based on reports that not all Jonestown residents are accounted for following the death of more than 400 Saturday. And they say they are scared about reprisals from temple members who live in California.

One who has been outspoken in his criticism of the temple, Al Mills, said he, former Jones confidant Tim Stoen and Stoen's estranged wife, Grace, would be "first on the list" of those to be attacked.

F.B.I. Is Investigating Jones Plot, Using Statute on Assassinations

By NICHOLAS M. HORROCK

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Nov. 21 — The Justice Department has opened an investigation of whether there was a conspiracy to murder Representative Leo Ryan of California, a department spokesman said today.

The investigation was started under a 1971 law that gives the department jurisdiction to investigate Congressional assassinations, according to Robert Havel, the spokesman. He said the Federal Bureau of Investigation has already placed one agent "on the ground" in Guyana, where Mr. Ryan was murdered and where more than 400 Americans in the People's Temple sect committed suicide.

The agent, who will probably be joined by others, will be working with Guyanese authorities, Mr. Havel said. But under the authority of the Congressional Assassination Act, he said, the department can pursue investigations outside United States territory.

The bureau has also begun interviews in this country, both in San Francisco, where the People's Temple had a headquarters, and in Washington, he said.

Conspirators Could Be Tried

If there was a conspiracy to kill the Congressman, individuals in the United States could be brought to trial under Federal law. The United States has a treaty with Guyana that provides for extradition in murder cases, Mr. Havel said.

In San Francisco, Robert Fuller, an F.B.I. agent, was quoted by reporters as having said that the bureau was also probing rumors that the cult's members had plans to kidnap or assassinate high-ranking United States officials to avenge any harm that might have come to the Rev. Jim Jones, the cult's leader. "There are the rumors, and some death threats have been made, but we don't know whether the threats are from cranks or not," said Mr. Fuller.

Meanwhile, bureau sources acknowledged that it had "almost nothing" on file in regard either to the People's Temple or to its charismatic leader, Mr. Jones. One source said that there may have been several isolated complaints that people were being held against their will, but there was no indication that a case had been opened.

The question of why the bureau had no forewarning of a murder and suicide plan as involved as the one that was acted out on Saturday in Guyana is a complex one.

One problem is that the bureau's role and jurisdiction is blurred in cases where family members report that relatives are being held against their will. If the person is an adult and joined the group voluntarily, there are few grounds for opening an investigation of kidnapping or other Federal violations.

Cases Under Local Jurisdiction

In other cases, several bureau officials said, the complaints of maltreatment or assault come under local jurisdictions; thus, if reported to the bureau, they are turned over to local police agencies.

Under guidelines adopted by the Department of Justice after disclosures of excessive spying by the bureau in 1975, the F.B.I. cannot conduct surveillance on private political or religious groups unless it has found probable cause to believe that Federal crimes of violence are contemplated.

One bureau source suggested today that the F.B.I. might have had more knowledge about the People's Temple if its power to use informants had not been curtailed. "I think this is going to stir up a controversy" he said, noting that although civil liberties groups have opposed such infiltration, other elements of society may want potentially violent groups watched.

The bureau's investigation can take several tacks. In addition to questions about Mr. Ryan's death there are questions of deprivation of civil liberties of United States citizens and the theft or fraudulent use of Social Security payments. Grace Stoen, a former member of the People's Temple, has said that $65,000 a month in Social Security payments to members was turned over to the cult. Several accounts of the Jonestown death scene said that many thousands of dollars in United States Treasury checks were found.

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New Violence Is Feared Despite Beefed-Up Security

By Bill Wallace
Special to The Washington Post

BERKELEY, Calif.—Although the Peoples Temple cult seems to have been obliterated in the deaths of hundreds of members in Guyana over the weekend, former members and some Bay Area law enforcement agencies are not convinced that the possibility of violence no longer exists.

Only hours after the mass suicide-murder of temple members in Jonestown, Guyana, on Saturday, an anonymous caller threatened to kill Will Holsinger, one of the late Rep. Leo J. Ryan's (D-Calif.) staff members who participated in investigating the temple and whose father, Joseph, was Ryan's administrative assistant. FBI agents investigating the possibility of a U.S.-based conspiracy behind Ryan's murder also are investigating the threat against Will Holsinger.

Bay Area residents with family members in the cult as well as some former temple members have been assigned police to protect against possible new violence.

Berkeley police have been guarding former members of the temple who run a halfway house, the Human Freedom Center, on a round-the-clock basis for former cultists. Although the number of guards has been reduced, officer Dave Berger said "we still have people on duty there, and will for as long as is necessary."

San Francisco police have been assigned to protect former temple members and their families in the wake of reports that a "hit list" was kept by the temple's leader, the Rev. Jim Jones. According to former members, those on the list were to be killed in the event that something happened to Jones or the Peoples Temple.

"There have been requests for protection from many people following the situation in Guyana, although you understand we're not at liberty to talk about who from," said Sgt. [illegible], a spokesman for the San Francisco police. "We are [illegible] each request as they come and providing police protection where it seems really necessary."

Despite the heavy security, some former cult members remain fearful. Jim and Teresa Cobb and Wanda Johnson called a press conference at the Human Freedom Center yesterday to say they believe Jones may still be alive—that the body found in Guyana may be a double for him.

"Nobody here is going to believe that Jim Jones is dead until we see fingerprints, X-rays or some other physical evidence that the man found dead in Guyana is, in fact, Jim Jones," center spokeswoman Polly Morton said.

"I can tell you that we know of one former temple member who has in the past been forced to dye his hair and wear makeup in public in order to pass as Jim Jones. To us the possibility of a double is very real."

FBI sources said no physical evidence has been released confirming that the body in question is that of Jones.

Despite the atmosphere of fear and suspicion, things remained quiet yesterday at the Peoples Temple building in San Francisco. Onlookers continued to hold an uneventful vigil in front of the building, while police watched, but no members appeared to make statements.

Meanwhile, Ryan's body was flown to the Bay Area. Family and staff members are to attend his funeral this morning.

In Los Angeles the Associated Press reported that Dr. Carlton Goodlet, Jones' doctor, said earlier this week that he had flown to South America to examine Jones in August and insisted that his patient enter a hospital, but Jones was reluctant to.

Goodlet refused to discuss the specifics of Jones' case, but writer Donald Freed, who spent a week at the Guyana compound in August, said Jones told him he was dying of a "cancer or cancer-like" disease.

Freed said Jones may have subconsciously linked his fate with that of his settlement, projecting pessimism throughout the enclave and contributing to a siege mentality.

Goodlet agreed that Jones was "distressed" about the illness. "He knew so much depended on his good health," the physician said. "The whole idea [of the settlement] was built around his availability."

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FBI probes cultists' hit list of officials

By JOSEPH VOLZ

Washington (News Bureau)—FBI officials are worried that an alleged "hit list" of federal officials drawn up by members of the Peoples Temple in the months before the mass killings in Guyana was much more than an idle threat.

The News has learned that a number of defectors from the religious cult have described the "hit list" to federal authorities. Because the descriptions came from more than one cult member, authorities are anxious to pin down who was responsible for drawing up the list.

When Jim Jones led 900 followers from San Francisco to Guyana several years ago, he left a few hundred followers behind. They continued to communicate by code with the new settlement, Jonestown, in Guyana.

But the FBI, which says it had no informants inside the Peoples Temple in San Francisco, did not learn the details of the hit list, or a companion plan to kidnap city, federal and state leaders, until after Jones and his followers died a week ago.

The FBI is gingerly avoiding investigating the Temple as an organization after being heavily criticized for past illegal surveillance of prominent religious leaders such as Dr. Martin Luther King.

But FBI agents are worried about whether a small core of cult members on the West Coast on returning from Guyana might attempt to carry out the "hit" plans. The FBI has found no piece of paper describing the plans, however.

Right now, the FBI's main area of interest is to determine if any part of the plan to kill Rep. Leo J. Ryan (D-Calif.) was hatched in the United States. The murder of Ryan and four others in Guyana is being investigated by Guyanese police and some arrests have been made.

Won't detail reports

FBI agents also are awaiting Jonestown survivors who are expected to fly into Charleston, S.C. FBI officials say that they do not consider any of the survivors suspects in the Ryan murder or any other plot.

Secret Service agents also will interview cult members. A Secret Service spokesman said the agency has received some "unconfirmed reports" which he refused to detail.

As a result, the agency charged with protecting President Carter, Vice President Mondale and their families will question some members.

There were no indications that the Secret Service had considered the Peoples Temple as a threat to the Presiden in the past.

Meanwhile, the FBI confirmed yesterday that Dr. Lawrence Schacht, 30, of Houston, the young physician believed to have administered the deadly mixture of cyanide and Kool-Aid to most of the Jones followers, died himself. Schacht apparently swallowed his own lethal brew. His body was identified at Dover (Del.) Air Force Base through fingerprint files supplied by California authorities.

The Washington Post ____
Washington Star-News ____
Daily News (New York) pg. 32
The New York Times ____
The Wall Street Journal ____
The Atlanta Constitution ____
The Los Angeles Times ____

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Cult's Ukiah Community in Fear of Vengeful 'Death Squads'

By Duncan Spencer
Washington Star Staff Writer

REDWOOD VALLEY, Calif. — Here in the narrow valley between cloudy mountain tops, decked with vineyards, the "Messiah from Ukiah," the Rev. Jim Jones has spread a fear that is difficult to imagine.

The local best knowledge does not hold that Jones is dead. "He had a dozen doubles," one woman said. "That's why he always wore dark sunglasses."

Seventeen Ukiah Valley residents' names are on a preliminary list of Guyana dead.

There are dozens of defectors from Jones' movement and an equal number of "true believers" still here, all of them facing the disintegration of a phenomenon that left few people in the 12,500-member community of Ukiah and the hamlet of Redwood Valley, where Jones built his first California temple, untouched.

Fear grips Birdie Marable, 53, who left Jones in 1976, disgusted at the way an old woman was treated during one of Jones' recruiting tours, and now remembering how she used to circulate during mass temple meetings here selling trinkets picturing a smiling Jones. Yesterday she compared herself to a cigarette girl at a theater.

THOUGH SHE WORKED for Jones for 10 years, she now says she was "used."

She still carries with her the plywood box which she used for the trinkets, and a few souvenirs. Pictures of Jones the size of a paperback would cost $14. A tiny plastic key fob went for $4.50.

Birdie Marable said she was called yesterday morning, and a man's voice told her: "Well, Birdie, you know you are dead. Birdie, you better quit talking." Others here say that Ukiah will be the center of activities for the alleged "death squads" who are supposed to be bent on revenging Jones' death — or at least, seeking revenge on those who did not commit suicide.

It's not necessary that these things be true. But in Ukiah, they are believed.

At least one group of Ukiah residents is still staunchly defending the Peoples Temple and its leader. They are the nine staff members at a rural outpost of a school for mental defectives here. Yesterday a spokesman for that group said, "This place isn't going to change — we are going to keep going, to keep going as it was."

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The Washington Post ____
Washington Star-News A6
Daily News (New York) ____
The New York Times ____
The Wall Street Journal ____
The Atlanta Constitution ____
The Los Angeles Times ____

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51
FBI/DOJ

Monday removed the 13 severely retarded men, ranging in age from 18 to 42, from the school, formally named "Happy Acres." It is set on a 37-acre ranch at the end of a dirt road beneath the towering vaalley wall, shrouded by 100-foot redwood trees; a place as pretty as a postcard.

The staff there put up no resistance when the men were quietly taken away and relocated on orders from Albert Brown, deputy director of California's Department of Social Services. "Happy Valley" is the only such facility operated by the Peoples Temple in the state, and officials gave it high marks for the care it provided during a history of more than seven years.

In the opinion of Ukiah Valley, there is a complete discrepancy between activities that went on at the Temple, and at the school, though they are only two miles apart. The school, which received $84,000 a year from the state under a program that paid $536 per month for the care of the young men, was licensed and accredited.

The two program directors, Bonnie and Don Beck (he is a school teacher at a local elementary school) said yesterday they were sure the men they were caring for would be returned to their home.

But the stories that circulate about the Temple are a different thing. Jones and 40 followers came to Ukiah because of a vision he had of nuclear holocaust, a vision that told him the local northwest winds would prevent nuclear fallout from poisoning the air. Services were first held in a local garage, but in 1965, he started construction of a large, shed-like building containing a vast baptismal pool on donated land estimated to be worth $1 million.

Two of the Ukiah people who deeded Jones property for the Temple are now listed among the Guyana dead.

Ray Blank, a Redwood Valley resident who lives about an eighth of a mile from the Temple, said yesterday Jones "had to get out of here or he'd been killed. He was too big for his britches."

ALMOST IMMEDIATELY after Jones' group got established, Blank said, strange things started happening. Jack Barrow, 57, the manager of the local Masonite plant, the valley's biggest employer, left his wife and "went overboard" for the Temple, signing over home, car and bank account to Jones, Blank recounted.

"He (Barrow) just went completely crazy," Blank said yesterday. "It was the most asinine thing I ever saw in my life." Barrow is among the missing in Guyana.

Another thing which angered valley residents was the fact that Jones brought hundreds of blacks here. "How he addicted those poor people is hard to understand," said Blank. But Ukiah is almost all lily white, according to the publisher of the local paper, the Ukiah Daily Journal; one prominent resident, Walter Heady, travels Mendicino County in a van lecturing for the John Birch Society. At the outskirts of Ukiah, Heady has erected a large sign that reads: "Get US out of the UN."

Jones held his head high in the local community, whatever residents said of his activities. He took an interest in local affairs and became foreman of the county grand jury. But more residents joined the antis when Jones appointed black armed guards at the Temple property in 1975.

Even before unfavorable publicity in 1977, Jones stated dumping more than $1 million worth of Medicino County property on the market, according to records in the County Recorder's office. The records show most of the property was owned by Temple members and then deeded to Jones.

During the real estate transactions, all deeds were notarized by three Temple members, Grace Stone, James Randolph and Harold Cordell, whom Jones had placed in local positions, according to officials here.

In late 1976, Jones' activities at the Temple slowed down. The focus switched to San Francisco, and then to Guyana.

But no scandal ever touched the rehabilitation home. When state officials took the 13 retarded men away Monday, they were told it was "just for a long Thanksgiving vacation." The state has promised to consider returning them to the home after "this whole thing has settled down," according to a staff member at the home.

The staff of the home claims no connection with what went on in Guyana. "You know more about it then we do," one staffer told a visitor. "It has been the biggest shock of my life, and I think it will remain the biggest shock of my life."

The man said he had known personally most of the 173 then listed as dead in the Guyana suicides. "Do you imagine how we feel here?" he said. "Maybe people will start to understand that a lot of us in the church are just people running a basic social service program."

FD-350 (Rev. 10-19-77)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Former temple members report a 'hit squad'

Former Peoples Temple members in the Bay Area believe the Rev. Jim Jones, leader of the temple, left behind a 200-member "hit squad" whoes job it is to ferret out traitors and assassinate them.

The former members, including some just returned from a visit to Jones' jungle outpost, saidd in a press conference at the Human Freedom Center in Berkeley today that the temple had a "hit list" of defectors, a fund for assassination "contracts" and a cache of weapons.

A representative of the San Francisco district attorney's office, also at the press conference, said, however, that he has no specific knowledge of the existence of the hit squad and has not seen any of the persons mentioned as members of the squad.

Neva Sly, a foormer temple member, said her ex-husband, Don Sly, 42, was the head of another 10-man assassination squad. She also said he was the person who attacked Rep. Leo Ryan with a knife before Ryan was shot and killed in ambush in Guyana.

A spokesman for San Francisco Police Chief Charles Gain said, "The problem has been addressed. Protection has been offred to those inside and out. We are aware of these problems.

"We have had other people commenting on them. We've heard these rumors for the last few days."

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

2 S.F.Examiner

San Francisco,Ca.

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(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Carter, Brown on Top 'Death List'

Birdie Marable shook with fright the first time she saw an assistant of the Rev. Jim Jones produce a gun at one of the Peoples Temple's high-level planning sessions.

Followers had been jumping up and down, waving their arms, and screaming that if Jones ever died they would carry out his wishes and kill anyone, any government official any defector — that Jones had on his death list. The president of the United States and the governor of California were at the top of the list, Ms. Marable told The Herald Examiner yesterday.

Jones wanted to test his followers, she recalled, so he asked the assistant to load the gun and give it to one of the 60 to 80 persons gathered near him.

Then Jones demanded that the man with the gun prove he would fulfill his assassination threat by shooting one of his friends then and there. Jones pointed to the victim. The disciple pointed the gun at his friend and pulled the trigger. Only then was it learned that the gun was loaded with blanks.

Mrs. Marable said she witnessed such ritualistic tests of faith several times between 1974 and 1976, when she quit what she perceived to be an increasingly violent church.

Now, however, with Jones dead in Guyana along with an estimated 400 followers who repeatedly committed suicide at his command, authorities fear some of Jones' remaining followers may carry out his assassination plans.

The FBI confirmed yesterday that its agents are investigating rumors that Peoples Temple members had plans to kidnap or assassinate high-ranking U.S. officials to avenge any harm that might come to Jones.

Agents are checking into tips by church defectors that hit squads scattered around the country, well-armed and well-financed, are prepared to kill anyone who spoke out against the cult, including former members of the religious group and politicians.

One death threat was reported against the son of an aide to Rep. Leo Ryan, D-Calif. Ryan and four others were killed in an ambush Saturday in Guyana near the San Francisco-based cult's jungle settlement of Jonestown.

Agents questioned cult members who returned to San Francisco from Jonestown yesterday and are monitoring their actions closely on the suspicion that some may be so-called "special Angels" who are returning to carry out Jones', death plans.

FBI officials also searched an apartment in San Francisco where Peoples Temple members have lived, looking for a hit list and contingency plans that they said they knew existed for some time.

FBI spokesman Bob Fuller in San Francisco said new information about the plans has been obtained in the past few days from current and former members of the cult and that the plans called for retaliation in the event ~~Jones~~ was arrested or harmed.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

A-6 HERALD EXAMINE
LOS ANGELES,

Date: 11/22/78
Edition: Wednesday Late

Title: RYMUR

Character:
or
Classification:
Submitting Office:
Los Angeles

FBI/DOJ

But Vicki Moore, a former high official of Peoples Temple who deserted the church in 1975, said no list or plans will ever be found because Jones urged followers to memorize the plans and burn them.

Officials in Guyana may have gotten a break in the situation yesterday when they arrested Tim Carter and Mike Prokes, two high-officials in the church. Mrs. Marable said she knew that Jones had discussed assassination plans with those two men.

Meanwhile Wanda Johnson, also a former member of the church, said from her Berkeley home that she believes there are death squads, perhaps 200 persons strong, scattered around the country. She declined to give additional details.

Ms. Moore said she expected cultists to return from Guyana using money hidden on islands around the globe. She said she knows the money is available because her sister, a high official in the church, deposited the money in "island banks."

One death threat was reported to have been against Will Holsinger, son of Ryan's administrative aide, Joe Holsinger. The younger Holsinger had been employed by Ryan the past two months to investigate the Peoples Temple in San Francisco.

A few hours after the first radio reports of the shootings at the Guyana landing strip, the wife of the younger Holsinger received a telephone call saying that her husband's head would be "blown off." Police were notified and the family moved to another San Mateo residence which is being guarded by police.

Margaret Singer, a professor of psychology and cult expert at the University of California at Berkeley, said she finds the rumored assassination plans "very plausible."

It does not matter that Jones is dead, she said. "Some people may have been very close to him, and they believe they are carrying on his tradition with the killings," she said. 'From our point of view it seems irrational, but from their point of view it is very logical."

She said that murder is easier to carry out than suicide and Jones already had shown successfully that he had the ability to compel people to kill themselves.

FD-350 (Rev. 10-19-77)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

FBI Probing Temple After Death Threats

By George Draper

The FBI reported yesterday it is checking out "some very heavy rumors" concerning the People's Temple crisis, including several purported death threats.

One of the death threats, it was learned, was directed against the son of Joe Holsinger, administrative assistant to Congressman Leo Ryan, who was gunned down in Guyana on Saturday.

Will Holsinger, 27, the son, has been on the congressman's payroll for the past two months investigating People's Temple in the Bay Area.

His telephone rang Saturday night, a few hours after the first radio report of the Guyana shootings. Young Holsinger's wife answered the phone and heard a man's voice saying:

"Your husband's meal ticket had his head blown off and he (your husband) might be next."

The Holsingers notified authorities and moved to another San Mateo residence, which is being guarded around the clock. Additional police protection was also assigned to the congressman's San Mateo office where young Holsinger had been working.

Young Holsinger, a recent graduate of Hastings College of the Law, said he had been working for Ryan on a part-time basis for about two months, investigating People's Temple before Ryan's departure for Guyana.

FBI spokesman Bob Fuller said agents are checking an alleged plot to kidnap high U.S. officials, should People's Temple leader Jim Jones ever be arrested or harmed.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

1 S.F.Chronicle

San Francisco,Ca.

Date: 11-21-78
Edition: Home

Title: RYMURS

Character: SF 89-250
or
Classification: 89
Submitting Office: SF

FBI/DOJ

Information concerning the plot, Fuller said, was conveyed to the FBI on Sunday after Ryan and four others were killed at the airport near the People's Temple plantation at Jonestown, Guyana.

"The allegations are not garbage," said Charles R. McKinnon, FBI special agent in charge.

He said the information came from current and former temple members, who said the object of the kidnapings would be to hold the officials hostage until Jones, had he been arrested, was released. This was before it was known that Jones was dead.

The FBI said it was investigating a number of other death threats that have been reported in the past two days to determine whether they are actually related to the People's Temple situation.

District Attorney Joseph Freitas Jr., released information showing his office had interviewed 70 persons concerning People's Temple during a six-week investigation last year.

Supervisor Quentin Kopp had chided Freitas for not investigating the temple.

Robert Graham, chief of the district attorney's special prosecuting unit, said no evidence of criminal activity had been uncovered.

"We put thousands of hours into the damn thing and came up with nothing," Graham said.

In Sacramento, meanwhile, the secretary of state's chief counsel, Tony Miller, said an investigation of possible fraudulent activity by eight notary publics, who are temple members is "still open."

He said the investigation "has been in a holding action for several months" because several key witnesses either left the state or declined to be interviwed by investigators.

The investigation centers on possible false certification by notaries of documents relating to real estate transactions by the temple.

Meanwhile, the U.S. Customs Service announced yesterday that it has opened an investigation into whether weapons used in Saturday's massacre at Jonestown, Guyana, were illegally smuggled into that country.

Ronald Klink, special agent in charge of investigations in San Francisco, said his office is also "looking into" possible violation of currency regulations on the part of American citizens who emigrated from here to Jonestown.

Earlier this year, a Customs investigation of reports that 176 weapons had been smuggled to People's Temple ended inconclusively. But Klink said yesterday that "In view of what happened at the Port Kaituma airstrip (where California Congressman Leo Ryan and four others were murdered), we're re-opening our investigation."

Representative Clement J. Zablocki (Dem-Wis.) chairman of the House International Relations Committee, said yesterday that his committee would investigate how U.S. officials handled complaints about the camp. He said the inquiry is to be convened in January.

FD-350 (Rev. 10-19-77)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

FBI Report on Temple's Plan

The FBI in San Francisco confirmed last night that the agency was aware of and investigating reports that the People's Temple had formulated a plan years ago to kidnap high government officials in the event that the Rev. Jim Jones was ever arrested.

An FBI spokesman said the temple's kidnap plan had been known for some time, but that early yesterday two defectors from the church gave them new information to the same effect.

"We're looking into every possible violation of federal law in this case," the FBI spokesman said, noting that the FBI had jurisdiction over such crimes as kidnaping, conspiracy to commit murder and assassination of government officials.

An agent was dispatched to Guyana yesterday to investigate the Jonestown killings, a spokesman said.

Another Bay Area law unforcement officer, who demanded anonymity, said officials have the names of 18 temple members believed to have been trained as assassination squads to go after "the temple's enemies" in case any "disaster befalls the church."

The killer teams would commit suicide after carrying out their assignments of murder, the officer said.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

8 S.F.Chronicle

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FBI/DOJ

0-19 (Rev. 1-27-78)

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POSSIBILITY JONES LEFT HIT LIST IS INVESTIGATED

By Phil Gailey
Washington Star Staff Writer

Federal authorities are investigating reports that some surviving members of the Peoples Temple may be committed to another round of murder and suicide.

Phillip Heymann, head of the Justice Department's Criminal Division, said yesterday that the Secret Service is looking into allegations that cult leader Jim Jones may have left behind a "hit list" of public officials and other individuals who were to be killed if anything happened to Jones and his followers in Jonestown, Guyana.

If such a conspiracy should be uncovered, Heymann said, "we will warn anyone whose name is picked up, whether he is a federal official or not," and arrange for their protection.

Asked if anyone has been warned so far, the assistant attorney general declined to say.

"It's highly inflammatory to even talk about it," Heymann said. "There are such reports, and we will take the matter seriously. I don't want to suggest that we have a valid hit list, but when there's that kind of talk, you've got to take it seriously."

MARK LANE, an attorney for the Temple who escaped the carnage at Jonestown that took the lives of more than 900 persons, including Rep. Leo Ryan, has said he has been questioned about a possible "hit list."

Lane says he is worried that his name may be on the list. He says his house has been broken into twice since the Jonestown tragedy and that he found several packs of Kool-Aid outside his front door.

The Washington Post ____
Washington Star-News H-2
Daily News (New York) ____
The New York Times ____
The Wall Street Journal ____
The Atlanta Constitution ____
The Los Angeles Times ____

Date 12/1/78

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FBI/DOJ

Most of those who died at Jonestown had swallowed Kool-Aid laced with cyanide.

In addition, some of the Jonestown survivors have expressed concern that the fanatical Jones left behind "death squads" to carry on the killing.

Heymann, at a briefing for reporters, also said the FBI is investigating reports of possible suicide pacts among some of the cult's survivors in Guyana and in the United States.

HEYMANN NOTED that it is not a federal crime to commit suicide. But if the reports should prove valid, he said, "we'll try to figure out the decent thing to do" to stop further suicides by Jones' followers.

Meanwhile, it appears unlikely that there will be any U.S. prosecutions of the murders and mass suicide in Guyana.

For one thing, Heymann said, the FBI jurisdiction in the case is limited to the murder of Ryan and the wounding of Richard Dwyer, an American Embassy official who accompanied Ryan to Jonestown, at a remote airstrip in Guyana.

Further hampering FBI efforts is the fact that key witnesses and two of the five persons eyewitnesses saw fire on Ryan's party were among those who subsequently died at Jonestown.

The Guyanese government, which has barred FBI agents from joining the investigation on its soil, has charged three persons in connection with the murders and is detaining any material witnesses.

ONCE ANY suspects are charged and tried in Guyana, they cannot be extradited to the United States, according to Heymann.

"The prosecution in this case is properly the business of the Guyanese," he said. "It's not my business to speculate on the adequacy of that prosecution."

Heymann said the U.S. government has been providing technical assistance to the Guyanese in its investigation of the Jonestown tragedy and expects Guyana to share its findings and evidence with the FBI.

"Most countries, including Guyana and the United States, are properly jealous about their investigative jurisdiction," Heymann said. "I hope they will call on us for any assistance they may need in this matter."

0-19 (Rev. 1-27-78)

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Secret Service, FBI Probe Cultist 'Hit List' Reports

From a Times Staff Writer

WASHINGTON—FBI and Secret Service agents are investigating reports that Peoples Temple leaders may have developed a "hit list" of murder victims that included some public officials, the Justice Department said Thursday.

Philip B. Heymann, chief of the department's criminal division, said that the inquiry is based on statements by some of the cult's survivors—and by its attorney, Mark Lane—that systematic slayings had been discussed.

Lane told The Times last week that he had learned belatedly about temple meetings at which the murders of defectors and public officials had been advocated.

Heymann indicated the department had no evidence that a written list of targets existed. But if any evidence is developed that a U.S. citizen's life is in danger steps will be taken to protect that person, including consultation with state and local authorities, he said.

Heymann told reporters that, while the FBI is gathering documentary material and conducting interviews in the United States, the principal duty to prosecute the murderers of Rep. Leo J. Ryan (D-Calif.) and others rests with the Guyanese government.

At the direction of Jim Jones, the cult's leader, Jones and more than 900 of his followers then died in what Heymann termed a ritualistic "suicide-homicide."

In prosecuting any surviving cult members responsible for the deaths, Heymann said, the Guyanese would be exercising their sovereignty but would call on the U.S. government for technical assistance.

Despite complaints from some parents that their children had been brainwashed by religious cults, he said, the Justice Department has no legal way to investigate such groups unless there have been actual law violations.

Because religious groups are protected by the Constitution, law enforcement agencies "are slow to step in" unless there is evidence that U.S. citizens have been kidnaped or are being physically detained, Heymann said.

The Washington Post ____
Washington Star-News ____
Daily News (New York) ____
The New York Times ____
The Wall Street Journal ____
The Atlanta Constitution ____
The Los Angeles Times PT I, pg 2

Date DEC 1 1978

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FBI/DOJ