

JONESTOWN IS FALSELY PORTRAYED AS "AN ARMED CAMP"

Tracing the Jonestown guns

December 10, 1978

By Tim Reiterman and James A. Finefrock
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Federal investigators have traced 38 of 40 guns recovered at the Peoples Temple mission in Guyana and found that most apparently were bought over the counter and made part of a temple weapons cache here.

One source said, most of the guns traced were shotguns and .22-caliber weapons of various types — the sort commonly used for hunting — and that most appeared to have been sold by retail firearms outlets. It is believed that some of the recovered guns were used in the killings of U.S. Rep. Leo Ryan, Examiner photographer Greg Robinson and three others at the Port Kaituma airstrip near the temple's mission in Guyana; since all eight alleged attackers were found dead at Jonestown.

However, federal sources say no bullets

tics tests have been performed because Guyanese authorities have refused to turn over the recovered weapons to U.S. authorities.

"There was a variety of weapons," he said. "They were not military ordnance."

Debbie Layton Blakey — who was with the Guyana colony from Dec. 7, 1977, to May 12, 1978, when she fled — said she never saw an "automatic weapon" at Jonestown. But she did say she saw 200 to 300 rifles, some with scopes, and about 25 handguns and many rounds of ammunition.

Spokane, Washington
Spokesman-Review
NOV 21 1978
Also found in the fields, huts and dormitories were 17 shotguns, 14 rifles, seven pistols, a flare gun and large amounts of ammunition, sov-
ernment officials said.

Spokane Spokesman-Review, November 21, 1978: "Also found in the fields, huts and dormitories were 17 shotguns, 14 rifles, seven pistols [and] a flare gun..." (= 39 guns)

San Francisco Examiner, December 19, 1978: "Federal investigators have traced 38 of 40 guns recovered at the Peoples Temple mission. . . . One source said most of the guns traced were shotguns and .22 caliber weapons of various types. . . ."

"Debbie Layton Blakey. . . said she never saw an automatic weapon at Jonestown. but she did say she saw 200 to 300 rifles, some with scopes, and about 25 handguns..."

How could Ms. Layton-Blakey have seen between 225 and 325 guns when the authorities found no more than 40?? That was approximately seven times as many guns as were actually in the community!

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NEW TIMES

A SOVIET WEEKLY OF WORLD AFFAIRS

No. 41, October 1977
Founded 1943

TORONTO STAR
September 4, 1977

A prophet heads south with profit

REUTERS (L.A.)
Special to the Star

SAN FRANCISCO — A prophet of high mystic powers, newly 1000 people at his headquarters on a 60-acre tract in the hills of the city, for a jungle sanctuary in Guyana.

They acted under secret orders, the prophet, Jones, 45, a now white "prophet" of a Pacific Islander of the United States followed by a nuclear holocaust.

Last week, when Jones was found to have pulled the magazine himself, thousands of his followers fled from Los Angeles to Vancouver, mourning the loss of their leader, not to mention millions of dollars in church funds.

Shock waves are also running through the California establishment. Politicians, bankers and businessmen who courted Jones' favor, praised his good work and benefited from his formidable political clout, have gone to ground.

The handsome Jim Jones, who arrived from an obscure midwest mission 12 years ago, is an ex-woodsy preacher, but a prominent local figure — former of a San Francisco grand jury, chairman of the housing commission, with allies who have also been asked to lead local public works.

"A prophet heads south with profit," and "Profits of a Prophet": Identically-worded smears in the press of two foreign countries thousands of miles apart: Toronto, Canada (where there is a large concentration of Guyanese immigrants) and the former Soviet Union, which Jim Jones was trying to befriend. These appeared within weeks of the beginning of the smear campaign in San Francisco.

Profits of a Prophet
Self-styled Californian "messiah," Jim Jones proclaimed that he was resurrected from the dead, and could do the same for others, and also cure every disease. Recruiting a large following, he "purified" them by pitilessly trouncing them with tongue and stick. Claiming a "revelation," the "prophet" has now vanished into a Latin American jungle, with some thousand "disciples" and the millions he had stabbed away.

A Prophet with Profits versus Profits of a Prophet