

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

- Teletype
- Facsimile
- Airtel

PRECEDENCE:

- Immediate
- Priority
- Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

- TOP SECRET
- SECRET
- CONFIDENTIAL
- UNCLAS E F T O
- UNCLAS

Date 1/19/79

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (89-4286)

FROM: SAC, BROOKLYN QUEENS (89-495) (P)

SUBJECT: RYMUR

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/2/92 BY 1041 SKH/udh

Enclosed for San Francisco are original and two copies and for the Bureau two copies of FD-302's pertaining to JOAN PURSLEY and typewriter samples of RUBY N. JOHNSON. (u)

ARMED AND DANGEROUS; SUICIDAL TENDENCIES. (u)

WRS

EX-113

REC-60

89-4286-1723

22 JAN 22 1979

WRS
ENCLOSURE

- ② - Bureau (Encls. 6)
- 2 - San Francisco (89-250) (Encls. 9)
- 1 - New York (BQ89-495)

CJR:crf
(6)

SLX

3 enclosures retained in 5096 as T5
1/24/79 DES/GRF

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Approved: *2/g*
58 JAN 30 1979

Transmitted _____
(Number) (Time)

Per _____
FBI/DOJ

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/17/92 BY 1018 DKM/ndn

UNCLASSIFIED INFORMATION ENCLOSED

89 - 4286 - 1723

ENCLOSURE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

12/14/78

Date of transcription _____

On December 3, 1978, Special Agent [redacted] Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), New York, (NY), took two samples from a Hermes Rocket typewriter serial number 5592962. Typewriter which was in the possession of RUBY N. JOHNSON who arrived at John F. Kennedy International Airport (JFKIA), NY, on December 3, 1978 from Georgetown, Guyana [u]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 11/17/92 BY 1098 DKM/rdm

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12/3/78

New York, New York

NY 89-485

Investigation on _____ at _____ File # _____

SA [redacted] daf

12/14/78

by _____ Date dictated _____

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 1/18/79

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/17/92 BY 1046DKM/dam

JOAN PURSLEY was contacted immediately after her arrival aboard Pan American Airlines Flight 228, from Georgetown, Guyana at John F. Kennedy International Airport (JFKIA) by SA [redacted] PURSLEY was advised of the identity of SA [redacted] as an Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and of the identity of [redacted] as a Special Agent of the United States (US) Secret Service (u)

SA [redacted] advised PURSLEY that the FBI and the Secret Service were conducting an investigation concerning the murder of Congressman LEO RYAN in Guyana on November 18, 1978. PURSLEY was advised by SA [redacted] that the purpose of the interview was to ascertain any information that she may possess that would assist the FBI and the Secret Service in the investigation concerning RYAN's murder. PURSLEY advised that she was willing to be interviewed and furnished the following information:

PURSLEY advised that she joined the Peoples Temple (PT) in 1977, when she dropped out of the 12th Grade, while attending Drew College Preparatory School in San Francisco, California. She advised that she departed the US in 1977, with a group of PT members in late 1977 for Georgetown, Guyana. After arriving in Georgetown, Guyana, she departed for Jonestown several days later aboard the PT vessel, Cudjole (u)

At Jonestown, she stated that she worked in the fields, farming, and assisted in the Jonestown School, which was run by THOMAS GURBBS. PURSLEY stated that during this time, she was instructed by the PT hierarchy to marry [redacted] a PT member in Jonestown, which she did over her personal objections. (u)

PURSLEY stated that shortly before the arrival of Congressman RYAN and his party in November, 1978, she was ordered to leave Jonestown to escort a group of elderly PT members going to Georgetown for medical and dental treatment. PURSLEY said that at the time of RYAN's death on November 18 (u)

Investigation on 1/16/79 at Queens, New York File # BQ 89-495

by SA [redacted] dam Date dictated 1/18/79

BQ 89-495

1978, she was on a vessel operated by the Guyanese Government en route to Georgetown with the older PT members. (u)

PURSLEY stated that sometime after she initially arrived in Georgetown, she and [redacted] traveled to Georgetown for the purpose of being married. PURSLEY advised that she and [redacted] traveled to Georgetown aboard the vessel Cudjole and that after she arrived in Georgetown, she remained for a period of several months. PURSLEY claimed that she could not even estimate the date that she left for Georgetown when she was married and believed she stayed in Georgetown for a period of three or four months. (u)

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She advised that while she was in Georgetown, her job was to beg for money in the streets of Georgetown as ordered by the PT hierarchy. She stated that she did this with another PT member, whose name she declined to furnish. (u)

PURSLEY advised that she knew PAULA ADAMS, but could not furnish any specific information as to her duties with the PT in Georgetown. (u)

PURSLEY advised that she was friendly with SHARON AMOS. She stated that AMOS was the top aide to JIM JONES and ran the PT operation out of Georgetown for JONES. (u)

At this point in the interview, when asked specifically for more details concerning SHARON AMOS and her relationship with AMOS, PURSLEY became emotional and began to cry. She advised that she had lost two sisters in the Jonestown suicides and that recalling the events in Guyana were very painful to her. It was noted at this point, that she also began to fall asleep, when asked about her activities for the PT in Georgetown. PURSLEY advised that to recall any further details of her activities in Guyana were an emotional strain to her. (u)

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SA [redacted] advised PURSLEY that the interview would be discontinued at this time and requested that she be cooperative with the FBI or the Secret Service should she be contacted by either agency at a later date. PURSLEY advised that she would be willing to be interviewed at a future date and would offer her full cooperation at that time. The following descriptive and background data concerning PURSLEY was obtained by observation and interview:

(u)

Name	JOAN PURSLEY
Also Known As	Joan Pursley Geig
Race	Black
Sex	Female
Date of Birth	August 28, 1957
Place of Birth	Oakland, California
Height	5'4"
Weight	130 pounds
Hair	Brown
Eyes	Brown
Scars or Marks	None
Residence	Berkeley, California
Contact Point	Residence of [redacted] [redacted] Berkeley, California
Telephone Number	[redacted]
Employment	Previously employed doing secretarial work with a shipping agency (name unrecalled), San Francisco, California
Education	Drew College Preparatory School, San Francisco, California, 11th Grade completed.

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Marital Status	Married
Husband	[redacted] (Separated); married in Georgetown, Guyana
Mother	[redacted]
Residence	Berkeley California
Address	[redacted]
Mother's Employment	Unknown Real Estate, (agency unknown) Berkeley, California
Father	[redacted]
Address	Unknown
Family Members	
Brother	[redacted] attorney, San Francisco, California, address unknown
Sisters	CYNTHIA PURSLEY, deceased, Jonestown, November, 1978 DIANE LUNDQUIST, deceased, Jonestown, 1978
Passport Number	F020911

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/17/92 BY 1042 DCM/ndm

Date of transcription 1/18/79

[redacted] was interviewed in the presence of Special Agent (SA) [redacted] United States Secret Service (USSS), at the Pan American Terminal, John F. Kennedy International Airport (JFKIA), Queens, New York (NY), upon her arrival on Flight 228 from Guyana. [redacted] furnished the following information: (u)

[redacted] advised that she has been a member of the People's Temple (PT) Church since birth. Her family moved from Indiana to Redwood Valley, California, with Reverend JIM JONES. From Redwood Valley, they followed Reverend (Rev.) JONES to San Francisco. (u)

[redacted] stated that while in San Francisco, she attended Planning Commission meetings. [redacted] originally stated she was not a member of the Planning Commission, but later admitted that she could be considered a member of the Planning Commission. She stated that the Planning Commission meetings could be described as a series of confrontations or tearing down people's egos. [redacted] stated that public spankings were used as a form of punishment in San Francisco, and denied knowledge of any beatings. (u)

[redacted] advised that she went to Guyana in May of 1978. Her family had already relocated there. At Jonestown, Guyana, she originally worked in the fields growing crops for their consumption. [redacted] had no knowledge of any narcotics being grown at Jonestown, and stated she did not know what Ganja was or its use. [redacted] stated that she was later transferred to work in the laundry. (u)

[redacted] advised that the Planning Commission concept was not continued at Jonestown. She stated that Rev. JONES was removed from the regular workers at Jonestown, and that he had a staff that was close to him. The staff administered Jonestown and activities of the PT Church in Guyana and San Francisco. The members of the staff would include TERRY BUFFORD, PAULA ADAMS, SHARON AMOS, JEAN BROWN, and SANDY BRADSHAW. (u)

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by SA [redacted] mlh Date dictated 1/16/79

[redacted] advised that at Jonestown, following the long work day, they usually had nightly meetings. At these meetings, members would accuse other members of misconduct. The accused was called up before the entire congregation to explain their actions. Misconduct could include talking about other members, sexual misconduct, or talking about wanting to leave Jonestown. The punishment for these activities was assignment to the Public Service Unit, which was a work detail. [redacted] denied knowledge of any beatings at these meetings. [redacted] admitted hearing that GERALD PARKS had been beaten, but stated that this happened before she got to Jonestown. (u)

[redacted] advised that she did not recall hearing Rev. JONES talking about "revolutionary suicide". She stated that she missed a lot of meetings because she was working in [redacted] or because she didn't want to attend. [redacted] stated that she would have been punished if she had been caught missing the meetings. (u)

[redacted] advised that she heard about the "White Night", but stated it happened before she got to Jonestown. She heard that the people drank Kool-Aid, which they were told was poisoned. [redacted] stated that Rev. JONES was testing their commitment to him. (u)

[redacted] stated that she heard about people being placed in a dark box as punishment, but stated that she never saw this. She stated that one night, she heard a man describe being put in this box as punishment, and telling how this man felt this experience helped him. (u)

[redacted] advised that the security force at Jonestown was made up of young men, and that most of these men were dead. [redacted] stated that TIM TUPPER JONES, JIMMY JONES, BRUCE OLIVER, EMMETT GRIFFITH, JOHN COBB, JOE WILSON, and CALVIN DOUGLAS were members of the security force. She stated that she believed that EMMETT GRIFFITH was in charge of security. [redacted] stated that the security force was (u)

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armed with knives. She stated that she never saw the security force members carry shotguns or rifles while she was at Jonestown. [redacted] stated that she heard that there were armed patrols before she arrived at Jonestown. She stated that the security force was not armed at the nightly meetings, and that they merely walked around to make sure no one was sleeping. [redacted] later admitted that she did see some guns at Jonestown, but was not specific about what she saw. (u)

[redacted] advised that she had spoken with her sister about leaving Jonestown. She stated that she considered leaving because of the long work hours and the lack of an adequate food supply. She stated that she also wanted to further her education and become [redacted] stated that you had to be careful who you talked to about leaving or you might be confronted at a night meeting. (u)

[redacted] advised that there really was no way to get out of Jonestown, because they were surrounded by jungle. [redacted] stated that Rev. JONES had this thing about defectors. He often told them that they had better not leave or something might happen to them. [redacted] stated that anyone caught trying to run away were taken to the Special Care Unit (SCU) where they were drugged until subdued. [redacted] stated that one time, she tried to go to the SCU to visit her mother, who was being treated for a heart ailment. [redacted] stated that she was turned away, and shortly after this, Rev. JONES broadcast over the loudspeakers that everyone was to stay away from the SCU. (u)

[redacted] advised that she knew very little about Doctor LAWRENCE SCHACHT, but stated that he seemed weird. She stated that she did not know if Doctor SCHACHT was using drugs.

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[redacted] stated that Russian language classes were being given at Jonestown. She stated that Rev. JONES talked of wanting to go to Russia. She stated that she wouldn't have gone to Russia, but she thinks her stepfather would have gone with Rev. JONES. (u)

[redacted] advised that two Russians from the Embassy visited Jonestown. One was a doctor and he examined Rev. JONES. She stated that one of the Russians addressed the PT members, but that she was in the laundry and missed the meeting. (u)

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[redacted] advised that there was no "hit team" to the best of her knowledge. [redacted] stated that she never heard the term "angels". She stated that the security were called "Apostolic Guardians" by Rev. JONES. (u)

[redacted] advised that the "Albatross" was the PT vessel used to bring supplies to Guyana. [redacted] stated that she knew nothing about its operation or purpose. (u)

[redacted] advised that approximately three weeks before November 18, 1978, she was sent to Georgetown, Guyana to work on a cultural show that the PT was going to present. [redacted] stated that her sister told her that this would be a good opportunity to leave, however, she felt she couldn't leave because her whole family was back at Jonestown. [redacted] stated that they never let anyone go into Georgetown unless their family remained at Jonestown. (u)

[redacted] advised that PAULA ADAMS arrived in Georgetown, Guyana a week before November 18, 1978. [redacted] stated that ADAMS had returned from San Francisco, California, but stated that she did not know the reason for her trip. [redacted] stated that PAULA ADAMS spent a lot of time in Georgetown, and stated that she did not know what ADAMS' duties were for the PT. [redacted] denied any knowledge of ADAMS' sexual activities with Guyanese government officials. (u)

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[redacted] advised that the basketball team was in Georgetown practicing for some competition. She stated that they were upset because the week before November 18, 1978, they were ordered back to Jonestown at least three times by Rev. JONES. [redacted] stated that she did not know why the basketball team did not return to Jonestown. (u)

[redacted] advised that five days before Congressman RYAN arrived, she heard SHARON AMOS talking about his arrival on the PT radio. [redacted] did not hear the context of the conversation, and she was told by AMOS to leave the area of the radio. [redacted] stated that she knows codes were used on the radio, but she was not familiar with the codes. [redacted] stated that when she heard a radio conversation, she could not understand what they were talking about. (u)

[redacted] advised that on the evening of November 18, 1978, she was sitting downstairs at the PT house in Georgetown with some other PT members. She stated that some plainclothes Guyanese police arrived and told them that the police had received a call that there was shooting at the house. [redacted] stated that the police entered the house and went upstairs to check out the situation. The police then departed, apparently convinced that the call was unfounded. [redacted] stated that shortly after this, the bodies of SHARON AMOS and her children were found. [redacted] stated that AMOS was a fanatical follower of JONES and would have committed suicide for him. [redacted] admitted that the wounds on SHARON AMOS and her children did not look like they could have been self-inflicted. [redacted] stated that they called the police and an ambulance. (u)

[redacted] advised that she could not understand what happened at Jonestown, and that she thinks Rev. JONES must have been insane at the end. (u)

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[redacted] furnished the information below on the following individuals: (u)

STEVE JONES, had a bad temper, but he was worse in the States. Not considered dangerous.

BONNIE BECK, lived on ranch in Redwood Valley, California.

TIM CARTER, operated radio.

LEE INGRAM, head of agricultural department, coach of basketball team.

RICHARD JANERO, not sure what his job was, rarely saw him. (u)

CHARLIE TOUCHETTE, worked on the ship "Albatross".

LARRY LAYTON, worked at sawmill.

MIKE CARTER, operated radio.

SANDY BRADSHAW, operated radio in San Francisco, scheduled flights for PT members going to Guyana.

CHUCK BEIKMAN, worked in shoe repair shop at Jonestown.

MARIE KATSARIS, operated radio, handled finances, Rev. JONES' mistress..

[redacted] advised that the following individuals remain in Georgetown: (u)

CARL BURNETTE
DEBBIE TOUCHETTE
MICHAEL TOUCHETTE
CALVIN DOUGLAS
PAULA ADAMS

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LEE INGRAM
STEPHANIE JONES
LARRY LAYTON
STEVEN JONES
CHUCK BEIKMAN

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(u)
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[redacted] advised that she was aware of MICHAEL TOUCHETTE's attempt to go to Trinidad. She stated that he had wanted to spend Christmas with his father, and he was trying to get to see his father. (u)

The following description of TSCHETTER was obtained through observation and interview: (u)

Name	[redacted]
Alias	[redacted]
Race	Caucasian
Sex	Female
Date of Birth	[redacted]
Place of Birth	[redacted]
Height	[redacted]
Weight	[redacted]
Hair	Brown
Eyes	Brown
Previous occupation	[redacted]
Previous employer	[redacted]
Education	San Francisco, California
Marital status	Completed 11th year high school
United States Passport	Single
Destination	[redacted]
	JOAN PURSLEY's [redacted]
	Berkley, California
	[redacted]
Father	ALFRED STAHL (deceased)
Stepfather	ALFRED TSCHETTER (deceased)
Brother	[redacted]
	Vallejo, California

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Sisters

JUDY IJAMES, 27, deceased
CATHY BARRETT, 24, deceased
BETTY TSCHETTER, 35, deceased
BONNIE STAHL, 9, deceased
MAYA IJAMES, 9, deceased
BECKY BARRETT, deceased

Nieces

[redacted] advised that she did not know a family
named DENNIS, or any white male named (First Name Unknown)
DENNIS. (u)

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