

002

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATION MESSAGE FORM

PAGE 1 OF 5

DATE 11/20/78 CLASSIFICATION UNCLAS E F T O PRECEDENCE IMMEDIATE

START HERE

FM DIRECTOR FBI

TO FBI SAN FRANCISCO {IMMEDIATE}

FBI MIAMI {IMMEDIATE}

FBI NEW YORK {IMMEDIATE}

FBI LOS ANGELES {IMMEDIATE}

FBI WASHINGTON FIELD {IMMEDIATE}

LEGAL ATTACHE CARACAS {IMMEDIATE}

BT

UNCLAS E F T O

CHANGED: RYMUR.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/21/92 BY 1016 DCM/ndm

DO NOT TYPE PAST THIS LINE

TITLE CHANGED TO BUREAU ASSIGNED CODE WORD. RECEIVING

OFFICES INSURE CODE WORD USED IN ALL INTRA-BUREAU

COMMUNICATIONS. DO NOT USE CODE WORD ON COMMUNICATIONS THAT

ARE TO BE DISSEMINATED TO OUTSIDE AGENCIES. TITLE PREVIOUSLY

CARRIED AS "UNSUBS; CONGRESSMAN LEO J. RYAN - VICTIM, CAS, FPC (u)

REBUCALS TO RECEIVING OFFICES NOVEMBER 20, 1978 (u)

CAPTIONED INVESTIGATION REFERS TO THE MURDER OF (u)

DO NOT TYPE MESSAGE BELOW THIS LINE

APPROVED BY WM [Signature] DRAFTED BY LFS?PDH {6} DATE 11/20/78 ROOM 5027/6 TELE EXT. 2805

REC-102

89-4286-193

- 1 - MR. ADAMS
- 1 - MR. MOORE
- 1 - MR. INGRAM
- 1 - MR. GOW
- 1 - MR. [Redacted]
- 1 - MR. [Redacted]

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b7C

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

NOV 21 1978

2 NOV 22 1978

TELETYPE

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58 NOV 21 1978

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CONGRESSMAN LEO J. RYAN OF CALIFORNIA IN JONESTOWN, GUYANA,
ON SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 1978, BY UNKNOWN PERSONS. THE BUREAU
HAS DESIGNATED THIS CASE A BUREAU SPECIAL. INVESTIGATION
TO RECEIVE TOP PRIORITY AND THE BUREAU IS TO BE ADVISED OF
ALL PERTINENT DEVELOPMENTS. (U)

OUR EFFORT IN THIS INVESTIGATION IS DIRECTED TOWARDS
DEVELOPING EVIDENCE OF A CONSPIRACY TO MURDER CONGRESSMAN RYAN
BY UNKNOWN PERSONS WHO CONSPIRED EITHER IN GUYANA OR THE
UNITED STATES. (U)

DEPUTY SECRETARY OF STATE JOHN BUSHNELL HAS ADVISED THIS
DATE THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF GUYANA DESIRES THE ASSISTANCE OF
THE FBI IN THAT COUNTRY. U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND
STATE DEPARTMENT CONCUR. ACCORDINGLY, AS PER RETELCALS, SAC
MIAMI AND THREE SAS OF THE MIAMI OFFICE, WITH APPROPRIATE
SUPPORT PERSONNEL, ARE DIRECTED TO TRAVEL TO
GEORGETOWN, GUYANA, BY MILITARY AIRCRAFT. SAC MIAMI BY RETURN
IMMEDIATE TELETYPE ADVISE IDENTITY OF AGENTS AND SUPPORT
PERSONNEL TRAVELING TO GUYANA TO INCLUDE DATE OF BIRTH, SOCIAL
SECURITY NUMBER, MAKE, MODEL, CALIBER AND SERIAL NUMBER OF
WEAPONS TO BE CARRIED BY AGENT PERSONNEL.

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LEGAT CARACAS IS ALSO DIRECTED TO GEORGETOWN. DETAILS OF AIR TRAVEL TO FOLLOW. (u)

UPON ARRIVAL, SAC MIAMI IS TO ASSUME SUPERVISION OF FBI AGENTS AT SCENE AND COORDINATE DIRECTLY WITH U. S. AMBASSADOR BURKE AT THE SCENE AND GUYANESE LAW ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITIES. (u)

SAC MIAMI WILL CONDUCT INTERVIEWS OF ANY AND ALL WITNESSES IN GUYANA WHO WITNESSED THE SHOOTING INCIDENT RESULTING IN CONGRESSMAN RYAN'S DEATH. IN ADDITION, THE BUREAU HAS BEEN ADVISED THAT AT PRESENT THERE ARE APPROXIMATELY SEVENTEEN PEOPLE WHO RESIDED IN THE COMPOUND OPERATED BY THE PEOPLES TEMPLE OF CHRISTIAN DISCIPLES OF GOD WHO HAVE INDICATED TO THE U. S. EMBASSY THEIR DESIRE TO RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES. THESE PEOPLE, IF AVAILABLE, ARE TO BE INTERVIEWED AT THE U. S. EMBASSY AND APPROPRIATE INDICES CHECKS MADE TO DETERMINE IDENTITIES. COORDINATE WITH THE U. S. EMBASSY TO DETERMINE WHAT ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE MADE TO FLY THESE PEOPLE TO THE UNITED STATES AND ADVISE FBIHQ AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. ADDITIONALLY, COORDINATE ANY INVESTIGATION REQUESTED BY THE GUYANESE GOVERNMENT IN THE UNITED STATES. (u)

SAC MIAMI WILL BE REQUIRED TO ESTABLISH COMMUNICATION (u)

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LINKS WITH FBIHQ INITIALLY BY TELEPHONE AND AS POSSIBLE,
 THROUGH U. S. EMBASSY AND/OR MILITARY COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS
 WHICH HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED. (U)

AGENTS IN GUYANA SHOULD COORDINATE WITH LOCAL AUTHORITIES
 TO DEVELOP PHYSICAL EVIDENCE OF THE SHOOTING, OBTAIN
 PATHOLOGICAL REPORTS, PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE SCENE AND CURRENT
 KNOWN WHEREABOUTS OF SECT LEADER JIM JONES. (U)

SAN FRANCISCO SHOULD IMMEDIATELY CONDUCT INTERVIEWS OF
 THE CONGRESSIONAL STAFF OF MR. RYAN TO DEVELOP FOR THE RECORD
 WHY CONGRESSMAN RYAN WENT TO GUYANA, HIS EXACT ARRIVAL TIME,
 WHO ACCOMPANIED HIM, ETC. (U)

WASHINGTON FIELD SHOULD CONDUCT THE SAME INVESTIGATION
 REQUESTED OF SAN FRANCISCO, WITH THE CONGRESSMAN'S WASHINGTON
 STAFF. (U)

SAN FRANCISCO SHOULD ALSO DEVELOP INFORMATION ON THE
 ORIGIN OF THE PEOPLES TEMPLE OF CHRISTIAN DISCIPLES OF GOD.
 THIS BACKGROUND SHOULD INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING: {1} BACKGROUND
 ON GROUP; {2} WHY MEMBERS OF THE GROUP LEFT THE UNITED STATES
 FOR GUYANA; {3} WHEN THEY LEFT; {4} HOW MANY LEFT; {5} HOW
 MANY, IF ANY, RETURNED TO THE UNITED STATES AND THEIR IDENTITY;

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{b} ALSO DEVELOP ANY INFORMATION THAT SHIPMENTS OF WEAPONS WERE SENT FROM THE SAN FRANCISCO CHURCH TO GUYANA. ADVISE OF STATUS OF CONTACT WITH USA RE SEARCH OF CHURCH PROPERTY. (u)

SAC MIAMI TAKE NOTE OF ABOVE SAN FRANCISCO LEAD AND CONDUCT SAME INQUIRY RE CHURCH AT GUYANA. (u)

NEW YORK SHOULD CONTINUE CONTACT WITH MR. [REDACTED] VICE PRESIDENT, NBC NEWS, TO OBTAIN ANY FILM FOOTAGE IN JONESTOWN, GUYANA, AND NBC REQUIREMENTS RE SUBPOENA FOR SAME, EMPHASIZING THAT FILM MAY BE OF EVIDENTIARY NATURE. (u)

IN VIEW OF THE SHOOTING OF CONGRESSMAN RYAN AND THE REPORTED RESULTING MASS SUICIDES AS WELL AS THREATS WHICH HAVE BEEN MADE AGAINST GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, CHURCH MEMBERS CONTACTED IN THIS CASE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND EXTREMELY DANGEROUS WITH SUICIDAL TENDANCIES. (u)

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