united states government Memorandum

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Mr. W. Shoore, Jr.

FROM

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SUBJECT RYMUR

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

l Hr. D.W. Hoofe, Jr.

DATE: 11/29/78

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PURPOSE:

To set forth a lead to have Odell Rhodes, member of the Peoples Temple who escaped the mass suicide, interviewed upon his return from Guyana concerning his knowledge of Dr. Lawrence Eugene Schacht's involvement in the preparation and serving of poison during the mass suicide. In addition, to determine if he possesses any knowledge of Schacht's involvement in a conspiracy to kill Congressman Ryan\W

DETAILS W

On 11/22/78, a New York Times article dated 11/21/78 written by John M. Crewdson, reported: (u/

"Odell Rhodes, a 26-year-old teacher and member of the Jones cult who did not take part in the mass suicide in Guyana, was quoted as saying that Dr. Schacht had prepared the poisoned punch and helped serve it to some of the men, women, and children who were being exhorted by Mr. Jones to join him in suicide."

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Rhodes, who is among the survivors of the mass suicide, is presently in Guyana and will not be available for interview until transported to the United States. He has not been interviewed concerning his alleged statement about Schacht 4/

RECOMMENDATION: U

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It is recommended that a lead card be prepared to insure that Odell Rhodes is interviewed upon his return from Guyana.

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