

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1-Mr. Adams

1-Mr. Herndon

1-Mr. [redacted]

DATE: 1/29/79

1-Mr. [redacted]

Assoc. Dir. _____
Dep. AD Adm. _____
Dep. AD Inv. _____
Asst. Dir.: _____
Adm. Servs. _____
Crim. Inv. _____
Ident. _____
Intell. _____
Laboratory _____
Legal Coun. _____
Plan. & Insp. _____
Rec. Mgnt. _____
Tech. Servs. _____
Training _____
Public Affs. Off. _____
Telephone Rm. _____
Director's Sec'y _____

TO : Mr. Herndon

FROM :

SUBJECT: RYMUR

LEAD ARTICLE IN WASHINGTON POST
JANUARY 29, 1979

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/20/92 BY 1048 DCM/ndm

PURPOSE: To provide information regarding the Washington Post article,
January 29, 1979, captioned FBI Has Copy of Cult's Radio Order to Kill,
by Charles A. Krause, Washington Post Foreign Service. (u)

DETAILS: The lead article in the January 29, 1979, Washington Post, dateline
Georgetown, Guyana, January 28, by Charles A. Krause, reports that the
FBI has transcripts of coded radio messages between Jonestown and the
Peoples Temple headquarters in Georgetown during the hours immediately
preceding the mass suicide-murder. The transcripts were reportedly
turned over to the FBI by an unknown American who "copied down the
messages." The article also states that the FBI has been able to decode the
messages by use of a Peoples Temple code book in possession of the FBI
(a copy of the article is attached).

The Laboratory Division is unaware of any transcripts of coded messages
in possession of the FBI meeting the description of those discussed in the
article. The Laboratory's Technical Evaluation Unit (TEU), which includes
the Cryptanalysis Subunit, is in possession of photocopies of four "code books"
which were recovered from Jonestown. Our staff is currently analyzing these
code books, along with other materials involved in the investigation, and will
be preparing a Laboratory Report regarding the results of the examination.
TEU also has two sets of tape recordings (a total of 68 tapes) of intercepted
messages which have been made available to the Bureau by amateur radio
operators (Hams). These recordings were apparently made prior to the
visit of Congressman Ryan to Guyana and have not, to date, disclosed
information of the type disclosed in the article. The recordings in our possession
cover a period of from about February 13 to November 13, 1978, five days
before the murder of Ryan. As of this time, no transcripts have been made.

Enclosure

1-Mr. Moore

RMF/cp (5)

(CONTINUED - OVER)



58 FEB 8 1979 Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

FBI/DOJ

Memorandum to Mr. Herndon
RYMUR
LEAD ARTICLE IN WASHINGTON POST
JANUARY 29, 1979

from these recordings and the recordings reviewed to date have failed to disclose any information regarding the killing of Congressman Ryan or Peoples Temple members. (u)

The four "code books" in our possession contain a fairly sophisticated system for secret communication. It would have been extremely difficult to decrypt coded portions of Peoples Temple messages without access to the codes. The code system is a type of "double-meaning" code wherein innocuous-sounding words and phrases are transmitted in lieu of the intended message. Without access to the key, i. e., the code book, or without being able to correlate code words with observed events it would be virtually impossible to break this type of code through analysis. The code books employ an extensive "vocabulary" including code words for many prominent people, organizations, agencies, places, things, events, et cetera (u)

The Criminal Investigative Division has advised that they have been informed by a Legat, Robert Oglesby, who is in Guyana, that Guyanese Officials state they have no knowledge regarding the source of the article (u)

You will be kept advised of any pertinent information revealed by our continuing analysis of code material in this investigation. (u)

RECOMMENDATION: For information. (u)

ADMINISTRATIVE	2. In. Corp.	Exec. Comm.
WLB	Organ. Div.	Plan. & Insp.
gma	Rec. Mgmt.	Ext. Affs.
	Ident.	Intell.
	Legal Coun.	Off. of Cong. & Public Affairs
	Off. of Int. Affairs	Off. of Int. Security
	Off. of Int. Relations	Off. of Int. Trade
	Off. of Int. Development	Off. of Int. Education
	Off. of Int. Health	Off. of Int. Culture
	Off. of Int. Sports	Off. of Int. Art
	Off. of Int. Science	Off. of Int. Technology
	Off. of Int. Environment	Off. of Int. Energy
	Off. of Int. Transportation	Off. of Int. Communication
	Off. of Int. Information	Off. of Int. Media
	Off. of Int. Public Relations	Off. of Int. Press
	Off. of Int. Radio	Off. of Int. Television
	Off. of Int. Film	Off. of Int. Music
	Off. of Int. Theater	Off. of Int. Dance
	Off. of Int. Circus	Off. of Int. Games
	Off. of Int. Sports	Off. of Int. Recreation
	Off. of Int. Travel	Off. of Int. Tourism
	Off. of Int. Hospitality	Off. of Int. Food & Beverage
	Off. of Int. Retail	Off. of Int. Wholesale
	Off. of Int. Finance	Off. of Int. Insurance
	Off. of Int. Banking	Off. of Int. Investment
	Off. of Int. Real Estate	Off. of Int. Construction
	Off. of Int. Manufacturing	Off. of Int. Commerce
	Off. of Int. Industry	Off. of Int. Agriculture
	Off. of Int. Forestry	Off. of Int. Fisheries
	Off. of Int. Mining	Off. of Int. Energy
	Off. of Int. Transportation	Off. of Int. Communication
	Off. of Int. Information	Off. of Int. Media
	Off. of Int. Public Relations	Off. of Int. Press
	Off. of Int. Radio	Off. of Int. Television
	Off. of Int. Film	Off. of Int. Music
	Off. of Int. Theater	Off. of Int. Dance
	Off. of Int. Circus	Off. of Int. Games
	Off. of Int. Sports	Off. of Int. Recreation
	Off. of Int. Travel	Off. of Int. Tourism
	Off. of Int. Hospitality	Off. of Int. Food & Beverage
	Off. of Int. Retail	Off. of Int. Wholesale
	Off. of Int. Finance	Off. of Int. Insurance
	Off. of Int. Banking	Off. of Int. Investment
	Off. of Int. Real Estate	Off. of Int. Construction
	Off. of Int. Manufacturing	Off. of Int. Commerce
	Off. of Int. Industry	Off. of Int. Agriculture
	Off. of Int. Forestry	Off. of Int. Fisheries
	Off. of Int. Mining	Off. of Int. Energy

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/29/92 BY 1648 DCM/MLN

89-1310-1807

ENCLOSURE

Best copy
Available

1807

The Weather

Today—Partly cloudy, windy, high 10. Low in the 20s. Chance of precipitation 10 percent. Tuesday—Increasing cloudiness, high 40 to 5. Yesterday—8 a.m. AQI: 11. Temp. range: 41-55. Details, C2.

The Washington Post

FINAL

68 Pages—4 Sections
Amusements B8 Financial D1
Classified C6 Micro C1
Comics C21 Obituaries C4
Crossword C23 Sports D1
Editorials A22 Style B1
Fol. Diary C2 TVRadio H6

2nd Year ... No. 55

© 1975, Washington Post Co.

MONDAY, JANUARY 29, 1979

Subscription Rates
See Box A3

FBI Has Copy of Cult's Radio Order to Kill

By Charles A. Krause

Washington Post Staff Writer

GEORGETOWN, Guyana, Jan. 28 (AP)—The FBI has transcripts of at least 10 of the radio messages sent between the Peoples Temple and the Peoples Temple headquarters in Georgetown, Guyana, immediately preceding the mass suicide-murder that killed more than 900 of the late Rev. Jim Jones' followers last Nov. 18.

The transcripts have provided the FBI with evidence that Jones or one of his top lieutenants at Jonestown ordered loyalists in Georgetown to kill members of a group of concerned citizens who had stayed behind while the rest of the group fled Jonestown.

With Rep. Leo J. Ryan (D-Calif.) on his ill-fated trip to Jonestown, the Peoples Temple radio link from the remote agricultural community to the Georgetown headquarters was monitored during those final hours by an American, who said he copied down the coded messages, but could not understand them at the time. He agreed to discuss his activities on the condition that he not be identified.

Now the messages have been decoded, based on a Peoples Temple codebook obtained by the FBI, and are being used in the U.S. investigation of events surrounding the death of Ryan at Port Kaituma and the suicide-murder at Jonestown.

The 10 relatively ordered killed were saying at the Pegasus Hotel here and had not yet learned of the congressman's death.

Why the 10 members of the concerned relatives' group were not killed is still a mystery. It is known that Stephen Jones, the Rev. Jones' only natural son, and a group of other cult members did go to the

Pegasus to meet with some of the concerned relatives after the message was received. What their intentions were is still a matter of speculation, although it is known from the radio messages that the temple headquarters here was not stocked with guns or ammunition.

This is now known because members of the temple group in Georgetown, who were ordered to kill themselves after killing the concerned relatives, radioed back to Jonestown saying that they had nothing to kill themselves with.

Charles Dickman, a temple member, and Stephen Jones have been charged by Guyanese police with the murders of Amos and her three children. Sources who have knowledge of the radio message transcripts said that, even if Harris indicated she was pre-

pared to die, that would not necessarily mean she and the others were in aid in killing themselves by some one else. Almost everyone familiar with the manner in which Amos and her children died agrees that they could not all have slashed their own throats without assistance.

According to those familiar with the transcripts now in the FBI's possession, the decision to monitor the Peoples Temple radio link was made more by accident than design. The shortwave radio operator in Georgetown said he had inadvertently learned the frequency used by the Peoples Temple and decided to listen in on the communications being sent.

See GUYANA, A10, Col. 1



Larry Layton, left, and Stephen Jones have been charged with murder in Guyana.

FBI Has Copy of Cult's Radioed Order to Kill 10

GUYANA, From A1

back and forth because the operator knew that Rep. Ryan was at Jonestown.

When the operator sensed that there might be trouble, largely because of the urgency with which the messages were being sent, he began copying down what he was hearing even though he could not break the code. The operator said he did not copy down all of the messages.

However, Mike Carter, who served as Jonestown's chief radio operator, is still alive and is now in the United States. Carter escaped from Jonestown when he was chosen to be one of three cult members to carry more than a million dollars in cash and various letters to the Soviet Embassy in Georgetown.

Although Jonestown is a ghost town occupied only by a detachment of Guyanese police, the headquarters in Georgetown still serves as a residence for about seven cult members who have either chosen not to return to the United States or are being held as material witnesses in the Amos deaths.

Observers here have wondered how remaining members of the Peoples Temple still in Guyana have been supporting themselves. They dine regularly at this city's best restaurants.

One of the Georgetown survivors, Paula Adams, still has contacts with prominent Guyanese, including an ambassador and a well-known attorney. She has said she had an affair with the ambassador.

In another development, it was learned here that Rex McKay, the attorney representing Beikman, Jones and Larry Layton, traveled recently to the United States. Layton has been charged with killing Ryan and four others at Port Kaituma and attempt-

ing to kill three other persons in the same attack Nov. 18. McKay reportedly went, in part, to arrange for payment of his legal fees.

Sources said McKay asked one of the defendant's families for \$20,000, to be paid to a bank deposit outside Guyana. Whether he received the money or whether he met with anyone else connected to the Peoples Temple while in the United States is not known, the sources said.

Reports of Jones Fortune Denied by Mother-in-Law

RICHMOND, Ind., Jan. 28 (AP)—The mother-in-law of Peoples Temple leader Jim Jones, the man who led more than 900 followers to their deaths in a mass suicide-murder ritual last year, has denied reports that the cult founder left a multimillion-dollar estate.

"What has been publicized about Jim and his millions just isn't true," said Charlotte Baldwin, mother of Jones' wife, Marceline, who died along with Jones and two of their children at the temple settlement in the steaming jungles of Guyana last November.

Baldwin, who lives in this western Indiana community where Jones and his wife were raised, said Jones' adopted daughter, Suzanne, 26, told her a \$17,000 account in Nassau and some property were Jones' only remaining assets.

However, at a hearing held Tuesday in San Francisco to dissolve the church and establish a receivership, it was determined that Peoples Temple had known assets of \$12 million.

Superior Court Judge Ira Brown named Robert Fabian, an attorney and banker, to wind up the temple's financial affairs as its receiver.

Guitar, Wi For Victim Of Skyjack

SKYJACK, From

Shortly after United 1 Los Angeles with 119 passengers and a crew of 12 at about 2 p.m. the hijacker passed a written message to a flight attendant given to the captain, claiming nitroglycerine in her bag, prepared to use it. Capt. T immediately radioed the Federal Aviation Administration officials, who monitored the flight.

Once on the ground the plane sat for 6½ hours as agents negotiated with who was described as a nervous and distraught woman in custody of her two children.

Singer Bikel gave a concert to ease the tension. Saying later that singing for him, Bikel picked up and opened with "Time while another passenger crate of wine."

Jaffe, also a passenger, singing was very helpful. a lollipop as a pacifier sang, the gaunt, gray-haired woman said with a smile.

"They opened a case what's his name sang so everyone enjoyed them. Francis Oakley of South "I mean, anyone who would have a good time."

"Nobody was petrified," Brenin of Great Neck, N.Y. applauded Bikel, though we didn't want the hijacker we were having too good.

Early in the drama, said she wanted actors, ston or Jack Lemmon or say Wagner to read over vision her demands, spokesmen described as herent and extremely polite.

The demands are in a page document which thought to have been left in the Los Angeles airport. In fact, the woman had

LEARN BA

"The
INTERNATIONAL
BARTENDING
INSTITUTE
• Full or P
• Va. & M
• Home E
• Job Pla
• 40 Hour

931-0116

HOMEOWN

Residential and commercial
Any worthwhile purpose based

**DON'T
CON
STATE-REG**

NO AN

**Fact: a cold window
cannot keep you warm.**