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FBI

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☐ Facsimile
☒ AIRTEL

PRECEDENCE:

☐ Immediate
☐ Priority
☐ Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

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

Date 2/21/79

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (89-4286)

DECLASSIFIED BY 9803RDD/mdl
ON 4/9/93

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

SUBJECT: RYMUR
(OO:SF)

Enclosed for the Bureau are five copies and for San Francisco two copies of an LHM classified "Secret" captioned "PEOPLE'S TEMPLE CHRISTIAN DISCIPLES OF GOD". (u)

The LHM contains information provided by [] referred to as the "Confidential Source" in the LHM as furnished to the Brooklyn-Queens Metropolitan Resident Agency. (u)

For information of Bureau [] was afforded repolygraph examination at NYO on 2/12/79. Results of polygraph concerning information furnished by him as set forth in attached LHM indicated no deception. (u)

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Classified and Extended by 8520
Reason for Extension FCIM, II,
1-2.4.2 2a3

Date of Review for
Declassification February 21,
1999

- 1-5 2-26-79
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2 - Bureau (Encls. 5) (RM)
2 - San Francisco (89-250) (Encls. 2) (RM)
1 - Brooklyn-Queens (89-495)

RJI:pm
(6)

Jonestown-324

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Approved: _____

Transmitted _____ (Number) (Time)

FEB 23 1979

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Queens, New York
February 21, 1979

Classified by 9803 EOP/mch
Declassify on: OADR

People's Temple Christian Disciples of God

During the period December 27, 1978 through January 23, 1979, a confidential source, in a position to furnish reliable information concerning the People's Temple Christian Disciples of God (PT) and the Government of Guyana was interviewed at the Brooklyn-Queens Metropolitan Resident Agency (BQMRA) of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). (U)

The People's Temple Christian Disciples of God is publically known as a religious encampment in Jonestown, Guyana, South America. In November, 1978, PT leader, the Reverend Jim Jones and 914 people were killed after the assassination of Leo Ryan, a United States (US) Congressman and others in Guyana by members of the PT. (U)

The source, [redacted]

(U) [redacted] in the Guyanese Government, left Guyana in [redacted] (S)

The source stated that he believed if he remained in Guyana, he and his family would be killed on orders of Prime Minister Linden Forbes Burnham of Guyana. Source stated that he feels this development occurred because he [redacted]

(U) [redacted] with Paula Adams, an administrator of the PT party at [redacted] (S)

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Classified and Extended by 8520
Reason for Extension FCIM, II,
1-2.4.2. 2&3
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PT Christian Disciples of God

(U) ~~Georgetown in Guyana. (S)~~

Source advised that Prime Minister Burnham came into power in Guyana in 1953 under a coalition Government still under British control. Burnham, a communist, heads the People's National Congress (PNC), the party currently in control in Guyana. Burnham's primary opposition, Cheddie Bharatjajan, leader of the People's Progressive Party (PPP), was overthrown when Burnham came into power. The only viable opposition party in Guyana today is the Liberation Party headed by Dr. Conrad Ganrhakumar. Source stated that Burnham has maintained power by "rigging" elections. ~~(S)~~

Source advised that East Indian Hindus represent 52 percent of the population of Guyana. He stated that

~~however,~~

~~Because of his position on~~

~~the source~~

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Source advised that he

to Paula Adams. met Adams

According to the source, maintained relationship with Adams. Source stated is a close associate of Prime Minister Burnham. He advised that Adams

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Source stated that Adams

PT Christian Disciples of God

[redacted] Source stated that when [redacted] Adams refused to discuss it with him. Source advised that at one time, Burnham had a farm for growing Ganja, a drug resembling Marijuana, near the airport in Georgetown. The Ganja was being grown and exported for profit by Burnham. Some Ganja subsequently found its way into local markets and the farm became public knowledge causing embarrassment to Burnham. The farming was done by an elite number of soldiers in the Guyanese Defense Force (GDF). When the farming became public knowledge, four officials of the GDF disappeared. Source stated that he had heard Jonestown had taken the place of this farm and was the largest producer of Ganja in Guyana. (S)

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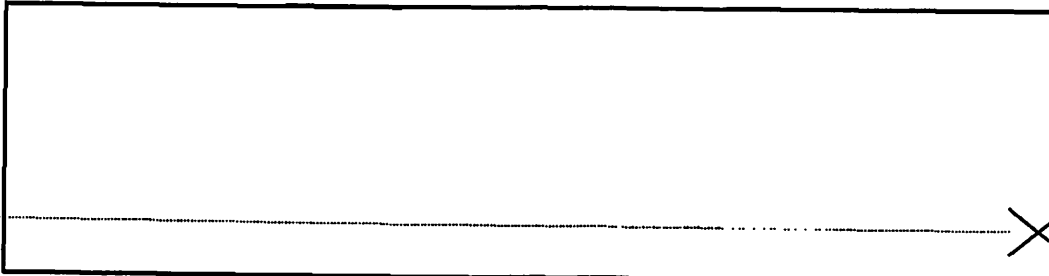
(U) Source advised that Guyanese Indians called "Buck People", told him that political enemies of Burnham were killed openly at Jonestown. These political enemies were brought to Jonestown by the GDF. Source said that the "Buck People" told him there were acres of Ganja being grown at Jonestown. Source advised that Burnham owned two seagoing trawlers and that with two ships owned by the PT, frequent trips to Miami, Florida were made smuggling Ganja into the US. (S)

(U) Source advised that [redacted] a close associate of Burnham formerly employed as an [redacted] According to source, [redacted] currently operates a [redacted] which he owns. (S)

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PT Christian Disciples of God

(U)



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(U)

Source feels that Adams has used her relationship to get preferred and special treatment from Burnham's government for the PT. (S)

(U)

Source advised that he was not in Guyana at the time of the assassination of Congressman Ryan, however, from his knowledge of how Burnham operates, he feels the Jonestown "suicide" is more complex than has been portrayed in the news media. (S)

(U)

Source stated that he feels the initial body count of the dead was correct. He stated that he feels a great many Jonestown occupants fled into the surrounding bush after Jones announced his plan of mass suicide. They were then tracked down by an elite force of the GDF, which was permanently stationed around Jonestown to keep the occupants inside of the settlement. Those PT members who escaped were killed by the GDF and their bodies subsequently positioned in the area of the main pavillion at Jonestown. (S)

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(U) The source stated that Burnham's delay in letting US officials into Jonestown, was to allow the bodies to decompose so that a discrepancy in the times of death of up to twelve hours between the first group of 400 and the final count of over 900, could not be detected. Source said that he felt the aircraft being guarded by GDF leaders at the end of the runway at Port Katuma, when Congressman Ryan and his party were gunned down, contained narcotics ready to be flown to Miami. Source stated that had Ryan or his party gone near the airplane, they would have been killed by the GDF. (S) X

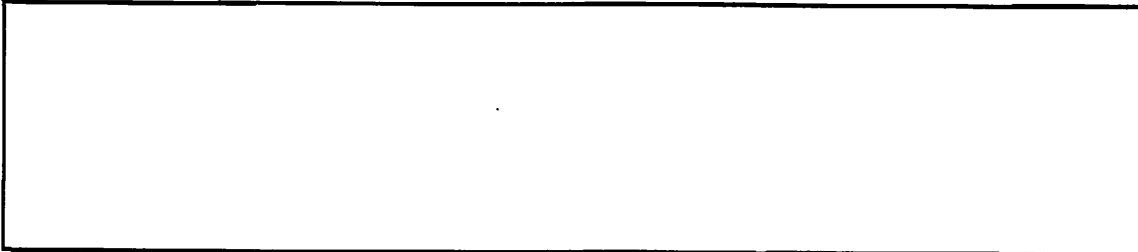
(U) Source advised that Burnham is supposed to be very friendly with Russians and Cubans, yet he is also bringing in Chinese. The Chinese are building a glass factory, a clay brick factory, and a palace for Burnham. Source stated that he cannot understand why the US Embassy just sits there doing nothing. (S) X

Source advised that in February, 1977

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(U) X

PT Christian Disciples of God



(U) stated that he heard that from July, 1977, until [redacted]
[redacted] August, 1978, unloading of Cuban ships took place
on the Essequibo River, the western border of Guyana. (S)

(U) Source advised he ascertained that the above
material was being purchased for the GDF from funds outside
of normal established defense accounts. This in effect
would conceal these purchases as being military related and
are outside the scope of normal auditing controls. (S)

(U) A drawing of these [redacted] which the
source has characterized as "accurate and reasonable" is
heretofor attached. (S)

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PT Christian Disciples of God

Source advised that [REDACTED]

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(U) and that they seem to have entered into Georgetown and vanished. (S)

Source said that he has heard that three large ammunition dumps exist in Guyana [REDACTED]

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b7D -1

(U) [REDACTED] (S)

Source said that when passing this area by automobile, he observed black GDF soldiers in jeeps. On some occasions, he observed white males travelling by jeep in groups of twos and threes. Source stated that these white males were definitely not Cubans. Source said that he has heard rumors that Russians were being flown into the interior of Guyana. Source related that when he resided in Guyana, a [REDACTED] told him that [REDACTED] (S)

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b7D -1

The source advised that an associate of his told him that he had observed two trucks explode with terrific force while transporting material to the above mentioned dump. Source stated that [REDACTED]

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(U) [REDACTED] (S)

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(U)

[REDACTED] (S)

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Source stated he [REDACTED]

(U)

advised that the Cuban presence is very low-key in Guyana, with the exception of the Cuban Embassy. (S)

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[REDACTED]

b6 -2, 7
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Source advised that Adams told him she held the position of Administrative Assistant within the PT. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] she slept and lived in her office at the PT Georgetown facility at all times indicating that she had little to do with the other PT members who according to source lived in very cramped quarters with 50-75 people occupying a standard sized dwelling. (U)

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[REDACTED] Adams

b6 -2, 7
b7C -2, 7
b7D -1

left Lamaha Gardens for Jonestown for approximately a four month period between February and June, 1978. When she returned to Georgetown, source stated she had lost a lot of weight. It appeared she had been working very hard and had gone through some type of ordeal. (U)

PT Christian Disciples of God

During Adams' absence, Debbie Touchette performed her duties in Georgetown. (U)

[REDACTED]

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(U)

[REDACTED]

b6 -2
b7C -2
b7D -1

He stated that PT members [REDACTED]
Adams, Touchette, Tim Jones, and Pat Cartmell. They
explained [REDACTED]

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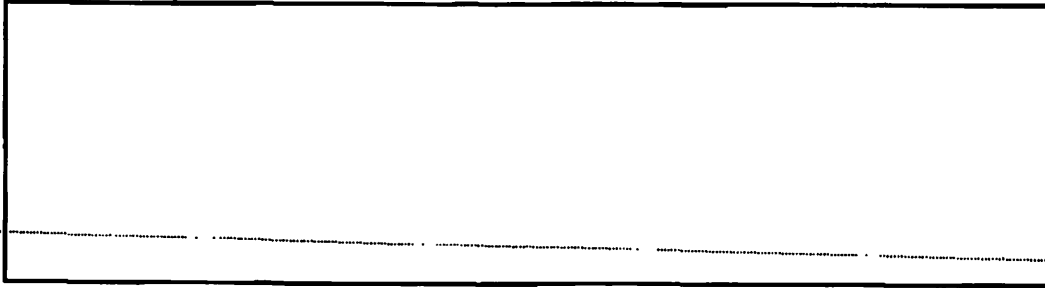
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Guyanese citizens
(U) could not have possibly been given the same privileges. (S) (S)

According to source, all out of country calls are monitored and recorded by Burnham's government and therefore all PT business conducted by telephone must have come to the
(U) attention of the Guyanese Government. (S)

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PT Christian Disciples of God

killings Source advised that the day following the Jonestown



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(U)

~~(S)~~

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