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:Mr. Revell

Date 12/10/80

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Legal Coun

Subject: INQUIRY FROM THE HOUSE PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE REGARDING

JONESTOWN, GUYANA

PURPOSE:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINEL HEREIM IS UNCLASSIFIED BY 9803 140D YMUR

#248,125

The purpose of this memorandum is to advise you of a request by the staff of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence (HPSCI) for a briefing and to recommend that this briefing be conducted.

DETAILS (W)

On 12/3/80, Mr. Herbert Romerstein. Professional b6 , of the Staff Member, HPSCI, advised SA b7C Congressional Affairs Unit that the Committee is aware that certain FBI documents were found in Jonestown during the investigation of the events which took place there on 11/18/78. Pursuant to the investigation which the Committee is conducting regarding these events, several Committee members have expressed an interest in the fact that FBI documents were found in Jonestown. Therefore, Mr. Romerstein advised that he is requesting that the FBI brief the staff of the HPSCI regarding these documents. Specifically, the Committee would like to know how the documents got to Jonestown and whether any FBI informants were identified as a result of these documents. Mr. Romerstein further advised that the Committee would not need the identities of any current Bureau employees who might have been involved in an illegal release of FBI documents if such is the case. W

Mr. Romerstein advised that he was making NOTESTECORDED request pursuant to an ongoing request of the HPSCIA formay 5 1981 assistance from the FBI in their review of the events which took place at Jonestown in November, 1978. request was most recently set forth in \cdot a letter from Chairman Boland to the Attorney General dated 10/6/80 (copy attached for CID) . (M

Enclosure ENCLOSURE

- Mr. Steel

- Mr.

Moschella Mr.

b6 b7C SEE CID ADDENDUM PAGE

OVER)

Memorandum from R. S. Young to Mr. Revell
Re: INQUIRY FROM THE HOUSE PERMANENT SELECT
COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE REGARDING
JONESTOWN, GUYANA

On 12/4/80, SA Bassett discussed this request with Mr. Michael J. O'Neil, Chief Counsel, HPSCI. Mr. O'Neil advised that this request is a matter of interest to several members of the Committee. He further advised that this request is being made pursuant to Chairman Boland's previous request for assistance from the FBI in the Committee's investigation of the events which took place in Jonestown in November, 1978.

RECOMMENDATION: (4)

It is recommended that the Criminal Investigative Division approve the briefing which has been requested by the HPSCI. It is further recommended that the Criminal Investigative Division advise the Congressional Affairs Unit as to who will conduct the briefing inasmuch as it will be the responsibility of the Congressional Affairs Unit to schedule and coordinate the briefing if approved.

ER

| APPROVED: | Adm. Serv. Crim. Inv. | Plan. & Insp Rec. Mgnt |
|---|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Director Exec. AD-Inv. Exec. AD-Adm. Exec. AD-LES | Ident Intell Laboratory | Training Public Alfs. Off. |

ADDENDUM: CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION (CID) JD:wss 1/15/81 /w

In view of the sensitive nature concerning the FBI documents found in Jonestown, the CID recommends that the Congressional Affairs Unit request that the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence (HPSCI) submit their verbal request in writing. CID will prepare an appropriate response which is normally reviewed by the Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, prior to forwarding to the HPSCI.

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ROOM H-405, U.S. CAPITOL. (202) 225-4121

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WARD P. LOLAND, MASS., CHAIRMAN CEMENT J. ZABLOCKI, WIS., DILL D. BURLISON, MO., MORGAN F. MURPHY, ILL., LES ASPIN, WIS., CHACLES ROSE, N.C., ROMANO L. MAZZOLI, KY., NORMAN Y., MINETA, CALIF., WYCHE FOWLER, JR., GA.

J. Kenneth Robinson, Va. John M. Ashbrook, Ohio Robert McClory, Ill. G. William Whitehurst, Va. C. W. Bill Young, Fla.

THOMAS K. LATIMER, STAFF DIRECTOR MICHAEL J. O'NEIL, CHIEF COUNSEL

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE
ON INTELLIGENCE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

October 6, 1980

Honorable Benjamin R. Civiletti The Attorney General Department of Justice Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Mr. Attorney General:

I write you in an effort to clarify the interest of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence into the activities of Jim Jones, the People's Temple, Jonestown and the tragic mass suicide in Jonestown, Guyana on November 18, 1978.

The Committee's attention to these matters was specifically drawn on April 3, 1980, when the Committee on Foreign Affairs urged that this Committee review allegations of possible CIA involvement therein. The Committee subsequently met on May 7, 1980 and instructed its staff to conduct a preliminary investigation of such allegations and report back to the Committee its findings and recommendations. A small staff investigatory group was formed and has been involved since in carrying out its inquiries to that end.

In the course of these inquiries, this staff group has made a number of requests for information in the possession of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Difficulties have arisen in securing access to this information for two reasons — an apparent lack of communication concerning these requests between the Department and the Bureau and the pendancy of ongoing criminal proceedings stemming from the murder of Congressman Leo Ryan.

I wish to make clear that the Committee's interest in the information within the possession of the Department goes only to the question of CIA involvement in or with Jim Jones, the People's Temple, Jonestown and the Jonestown mass suicide.

The Committee wishes to acknowledge receipt from the Department of materials previously released pursuant to a request made under the Freedom of Information Act. The Committee understands further that information previously made available to the Committee on Foreign Affairs will also be made available to this Committee.

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enclosure

On behalf of the Committee, I wish to repeat an earlier '. request that it be furnished with all information in the possession of the Department (and therfore the Bureau) bearing on the interests of the Committee in this matter. I request that a search be conducted to this end in consultation with this Committee's staff and, should the Department find material which it does not wish to provide to the Committee, that such material be identified to the Committee along with an explanation of why it has been withheld.

It is not the purpose of the Committee to burden the Department by this request nor to interfere with any criminal proceedings. Accordingly, I request that, should difficulties arise in meeting the request of the Committee, that appropriate officials work closely with the Committee's staff to resolve them expeditiously. It is the hope and expectation of the Committee to conclude the preliminary investigation before the adjournment sine die of the 96th Congress.

With every good wish, I am

Sincerely yours

EDWARD P. BOLAND

Chairman