

USSR Embassy Cde. Timofeyev 23/3/78.

-Debbie and I (Sharon) went in to find out if he had read the letters to him (the ones addressed to the Ambassador from Jonestown) and if he had an answer on the letter I showed him about donating money to the Russian Orthodox church and if he had arranged for us to meet the Ambassador

RE RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

-he said that maybe we could write the Russian Orthodox church directly (write to Moscow as they are completely separate from the govt. and even keep their money separate. I told him that is too bad as we were hoping that if anything happened to us, the money could go to the USSR Govt. (perhaps that could be a stipulation that would be addressed to the church but I am not sure they would deal with us on that basis???) - the only time the govt gets involved with the church with money, is if the church is a monument and they have a govt. fund to restore and preserve monuments which has people on its board from the govt. and working people and a variety of type of people to work on this.

-in regard to the questions tho in general that we asked him in the letters, he said even his Ambassador hadn't been able to answer them and they had to write Moscow to get answers

AMBASSADOR MEETING WITH US

-he plans to meet with us/ he's been busy but when he has more time he will meet with us
-he is busy right now

IMF AND DEVALUATION

-Debbie asked him if he thought there would be a devaluation

-he said that with the IMF there is traditionally a devaluation

-he said do you have an external account (Debbie said yes we do), he said well then you could transfer your money out to another country and wait until the money situation is OK here and then bring it back (he didn't mention USSR in that context offering that we could transfer it there)

-he said however that they (Russians) are not transferring their funds out (the thing we didn't talk to him about is that the US money is no problem to transfer out and that's what's in the external account as it is not legal to put Guyanese money in an external account, it is the Guyanese money that would be a problem) (he saw us in the bank today Bank of Guyana when we went in there to talk to the man about securing our money)

-he said the reason that IMF requires a devaluation is that the US wants to be sure that the money is devalued before and not after the loan is made so that they can secure their investment and not lose money on the loan when the money is paid back (I showed him an article that Fred Wills loaned us which said that the IMF had already decided on the loan and that devaluation was a possibility - a copy of the article is included with these notes) - he said that he'd like to borrow the article/ I said I had borrowed it from Fred Wills and had promised to get it back to him. He said he'd check if he had a copy of it and said he found it had already been translated into Russian)

-~~xxx~~ when he wanted a copy I told him he'd have to ask Fred for it himself as I had to get it back. He said "it's rather difficult to see Fred Wills these days." I said "why is that, he's always home." He repeated, "It's just rather difficult", I said "That's funny, I thought he was at your place just recently." ~~xx~~ I said "Is it because he's persona non-grata right now with the government." He got very embarrassed for about 5-10 minutes and then mumbled something about the problems of diplomacy but he said "When someone is a friend of the Soviet Union we still manage to keep in touch no matter what." I said, "I like to be direct so I'll ask you, is that what the problem is with us." He was standing up and so were we to go but he sat down again and started to explain that this isn't a problem with us, that they had planned to go but each time something came up.

-I asked again about Jackson and is that what they are waiting for, to check with him. He said yes he was and also Jackson's secretary, (I can't remember her name for ~~xxxx~~ sure, we'd have to check but it might have been Miss Harry???? and he said she had asked several questions also about them coming. I said that we had a young woman

We do not intend herewith to cause you any concern. Bishop Jones and the Temple-members, now numbering nearly 1,000, who have taken up residence in Guyana, are doing splendidly and have the fullest and strongest support of the Guyanese government and its leaders. Nor do we mean to imply that the current administration in Washington, D.C. has anything but the highest regard for Bishop Jones and his work. As a matter of fact, the Bishop has received a hand-written letter from Mrs. Rosalyn Carter, the First Lady of the White House, highly commending him for his efforts toward good will in Cuba and throughout the Caribbean.

We only hope that in sharing this information with you, you will be better informed about a situation which, though at the moment it focuses on Peoples Temple, has continued for decades in this country and will undoubtedly continue in the future, and stems from reactionary and ultra-conservative forces within the States which all freedom-loving peoples would do well to be aware of.

On behalf of Bishop Jones and all the members of Peoples Temple, both stateside and in Guyana, I send you best greetings and hopes that your work will continue to prosper and unfold blessings for the benefit of all mankind.

Very sincerely yours,

John F. Brown

Administrative Assistant

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who was a good friend of Cde Collins in the Foreign Affairs Ministry and if it would help we could ask him about the situation. (I tried to do a lot of namedropping since he was making the point about our relationship with the govt.) When I was looking for ~~xxxxxx~~ the letter to show him from Angela Davis, I said "I just showed this to Min. Ningo, wonder where it ~~xxxxxx~~ is," and when we talked about Ambassador McDavid, I said, "Oh he's a very sharp young man, we just had lunch with him last week. Is this mean a closer relationship with Guyana and the USSR that he's going to be the permanent Ambassador in residence." Timofeyev said that the relationship of USSR was very good and he thought it was a good sign about the permanent residence.

Re the filming of our cultural show
-he said that they didn't have a film crew here/ they had a film crew here to film for TV in USSR but they weren't here now

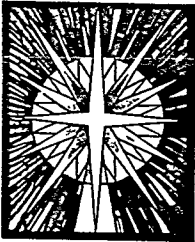
RE VISITING

~~xxxxxx~~ I told him again that we ~~xxxxxx~~ would be very hurt if they couldn't visit because some people had asked a few questions (in foreign affairs) and if we had to stand alone with no friends it would be painful for us/ he went thru his usual reassurances on this

(oh another thing I noticed, I asked if he wanted to xerox the article that Willis had loaned me - for one thing I wanted to know if they had a xerox and had possibly xeroxed the letter I showed them the other day, I think he realized ~~xxxxxx~~ what I was asking because he said their xerox machine was out of paper right now)

we talked about progressives in the US supporting us and I showed him the letter from Angela Davis/ he said he wanted a copy of it because in the USSR Angela Davis is highly thought of and they used to wear buttons (free Angela Davis) - I mentioned how she said we had supported her when it was not popular to support her. He said, "it was always popular to support her", Bebbie and I said that it was not true that Angela had openly said she was a communist and a lot of people, in fact most people, had been afraid to openly support her. I mentioned how Angela had often consulted with JJ and asked him his advice. that she was very humble and had realized that to some extent she was a figurehead of the party and was a drawing card but that it wasn't easy to keep a movement together and she had asked J's advice because she knew he had this capacity and was very good at strategy. He agreed that in the US it is very difficult to keep a movement together. I told him that when I was in socialist organizations in College they were very divided ~~xx~~, one would be pro-Soviet, one anti-soviet, one anti-soviet and pro-Chinese and they had trouble getting anything done. He agreed. I said that Angela had come several times to PT and we had helped her on things such as go across country on our busses to support her fight for political prisoners. I mentioned that she had been in PT And I had talked to her there and she was very impressed with JJ. He seemed quite impressed with this.

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-I told him that we had the support of progressives in US and even Pres. and Mrs. Carter had been supportive. I showed him the picture of JJ and Mrs. Carter and the letter which Mrs. Carter wrote saying she had been interested in J's remarks about Cuba. ~~xx~~ I told him that when Marcie had talked to Pres. Carter, he said ~~xx~~ that since Mrs. Carter had dined with JJ, all he heard was Jim Jones, Jim Jones, Jim Jones, and I said JJ spoke quite openly with Mrs. Carter about what we stood for. He seemed impressed (????) with this. I also told him Mrs. Carter had intervened in the SS situation so that was rectified (I had the feeling that if he feels we are persona non-grata, he should ~~xx~~ be given some feeling that progressives and liberals are supportive of us). I said that it was reactionaries that were fighting us, and reactionaries that Tim Stoen was appealing to and I showed him the letters from the state dept and Congressman Burton, Assemblyman Willie Brown, Supervisor Harvey Milk to show ~~xx~~ that some people who are progressive were willing to put themselves out for us or at least show they won't interfere. I gave him the copy of the letters from Willie Brown and Milk to Carter.
-he mentioned after seeing us in the bank that he saw some new people with us that he hadn't seen before. Richard and Karen ~~xxxxxx~~ were with us and I had the feeling that he was impressed with Richard because Richard looks more like the Russians do, kind of.



PEOPLES TEMPLE

OF THE
DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

Jim Jones,
Pastor

P1-4-1-9

"For I was an hungered
and ye gave me meat;
I was thirsty
and ye gave me drink;
I was a stranger
and ye took me in;
Naked, and ye clothed me;
I was sick, and ye visited me;
I was in prison,
and ye came unto me.
Then shall the righteous
Answer him, saying,
When saw we thee an hungered
And fed thee?
Or thirsty,
And gave thee drink?
When saw we thee a stranger
And took thee in?
Or naked, and clothed thee
Or when saw we thee sick?
Or in prison,
And came unto thee?
"Verily I say unto you,
Inasmuch as ye have done it
Unto one of the least of these...
...Ye have done it unto me"

Matthew 25:35-40

Dear Friend,

In the past several months, Peoples Temple and Bishop Jim Jones have been the target of a concerted, well-coordinated effort to discredit and destroy the effectiveness and reputation of our organization. The enclosed material will detail what kind of activity is behind the barrage of negative publicity which is full of distortions and outrageous lies. The sources of these 'allegations' are racists, law violators and common terrorists who were upset with the church when we did not follow their advocated course of violence. We are certain that these people are being paid for their scurrilous actions in recent months.

We have anticipated for some time that anti-progressive forces would attempt to use whatever means they could to paralyze the dynamic ministry of social and economic equality that Jim Jones has led for some twenty-five years. We also believe that the current campaign to discredit us is just the latest episode in a kind of neo-McCarthyism that has been resurgent of late in various quarters, and which has targeted black elected officials, progressive causes, and experimental communities in the United States. We know that just recently Rep. Clay of Missouri was exonerated of a series of totally baseless charges leveled at him by a hostile press, as was Lt. Governor Dymally of California (who has been strongly supportive of Bishop Jim Jones and the Peoples Temple). A book recently put together by Mary Warner of the Lt. Governor's office very aptly cites numerous examples of this type of planned harassment that black and minority elected officials in the United States have been subjected to.

On a national level, the same thing is being done to Andrew Young, United States Ambassador to the United Nations. One wonders if he will be able to maintain his position with the type of unwarranted criticism that he is getting, even from members of the black community. This singling out of an official who may be categorized as having a progressive viewpoint is not uncommon. We witnessed it with the sensationalistic, slanted press that both Martin Luther King and John F. Kennedy received, even years after their deaths.

Three who are a part of a conspiracy against Peoples Temple have reached Guyana. Obviously an attempt to discredit the church and pastor in the eyes of the public, their efforts have had little effect, using the same old trash, lies and smears—a whole library of it. People in the States know and esteem the character and commitment of Bishop

C Distinguished and conservative (funny but Russians seem so conservative in some ways) ~~xxxxxx~~ and I told how Richard had been a very successful businessman for many ~~xxxx~~ years and he had given that up because he wanted some meaning to his life other than financial and had managed the ~~xxxx~~ ranch in RV. I told how the church ran this ranch for Retarded young man and it was considered ~~x~~ one of the best by the State of California who paid for the care for ~~xx~~ the retarded young man. I mentioned that ~~ix~~ it was cooperatively run and gave employment to our members so that none were out of work but all could be productive. ~~xxxxxx~~

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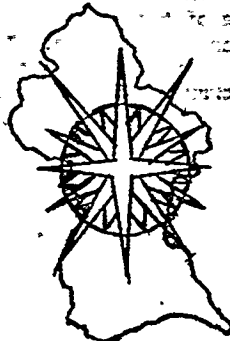
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"For I was an hungered and ye gave me meat;
I was thirsty and ye gave me drink;"

"I was a stranger and ye took me in;
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"I was sick and ye visited me;
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Matthew 25:35-40

Best wishes to you and your loved ones from Pastor Jim Jones and the members of Peoples Temple Christian Church of the two million Disciples of Christ denomination in the United States and from the Peoples Temple Agricultural Mission in the North West Region of Guyana.

On this sacred occasion it should be remembered that various parts of the world are suffering from massive starvation and at this very moment two out of three of the world's babies are going to bed hungry. Peoples Temple has reached out to help those in need and has aided in relieving every type of human suffering through the many extensive programs designed to meet those needs.

Support has been given to various worthy programs in many ways: Only a few days ago a senior citizen's escort service in California which provided protection, assistance, and companionship to the elderly was being threatened with termination due to a budget cut. Pastor Jones heard of the plight of these senior citizens and acted immediately, contributing funds which will carry them for several months. A health clinic serving critical needs was endangered with closure because of a large financial deficit and a lack of funds to carry on. Upon being informed of the circumstances, Pastor Jones pledged the entire amount of the deficit and a substantial monthly donation will be given from Peoples Temple.

It is not surprising that Pastor Jones has again been recognized as one of the most "outstanding clergymen" by an interfaith organization, Religion in American Life. One of the largest Black-owned newspapers in the United States also hailed him as "This Nation's Greatest Humanitarian". His dedication to serving Jesus Christ in tangible ways follows the teachings in Matthew 25.

It was through this scripture that the agricultural mission was seen as a necessary means for combatting the growing food shortage affecting so many parts of the world. The beautiful hinterland of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana has provided an ideal setting for the agricultural mission. Rich fertile soils, a friendly cooperative atmosphere, and a dedicated workforce of persons from the United States and Guyana have served to help make this program a success. Hundreds

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