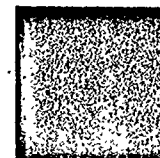
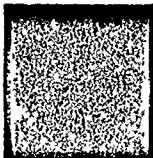


M

P.O. Box 893
Kangeloren Surana
V.A.

Francis E. Carter
206 W. 42nd St.
Base Bd. 83704
U.S.A.

m-1-a-1



Dear Dad, ...

I just received your long letter, and we was happy to get it. Well I'm not sure where Jim is right now he has decided to do some teaching around a bit. I don't think he plans to be gone long as I know he misses Malcolm & I love.

Well you can finally start showing the pictures around, but they ~~are~~ are growing so fast they don't even look like that anymore. I'll try to send more pictures quick. Our cameraman here has the kind of camera that develops ^{pictures} instantly. If you could buy the film I could send you a bunch fast. I'll have to get the right name for you. Of course all the kids are doing fine Chae OK is a phenomena to all as he is the fast Asian child anyone has ever seen w/ black hair. Something else, Kazuma looks like the brown sugar bear and Malcolm is the knock out w/ his long eyelashes. Thanks so much for letting Jim get some stuff for them especially the shoes (I'm sure I'll send them).

By the way has Claire told you she is coming down for a trip? I have heard that she is & I will be so excited to see her. I know she will be so happy to see Richard and her kids.

Why don't you start looking into flight arrangements for the end of January. Tell me what you are able to come up with. Anytime around the end of January seems like it will be ok right now.

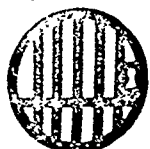
I'm really glad to hear that Uncle Ben is doing
better that relieves me very much. I do miss him.
I have a pretty tight schedule so I hope he understands
why I just write both of you together.

I am still studying Pharmacy but also
taking a Practical Medical Examining Course where I am
learning to do physicals. Very interesting. We have
the greatest opportunity to learn here. I'm really learning
a lot.

Well I better close, I love you very much.

Much Love

Jerry



PRISONERS UNION

August 2, 1977

Reply To:

☐ MAIN OFFICE
1315 18th Street
S.F., CA 94107
(415) 648-2880

☒ LAW OFFICE
539 Clayton St.
S.F., CA 94117
(415) 626-9730

Honorable Forbes Burnham
Prime Minister
Government Building
Brickdam
Georgetown, Guyana

Dear Sir:

I have been asked by the People's Temple to convey my impression of them and their work to you. I am happy to do so.

I believe their church is one of the most important organizations in California. It combines strongly progressive social policies with a spirituality that makes our common humanity felt rather than simply known as an abstraction. The shortcomings of pure politics is precisely that it does not have content. The limits of pure spirituality are that it removes people from the world rather than connecting them with it. It seems to me that their efforts to combine the material and the spiritual into real existence, to effectively recognize the humanity of all races and ages, to realize the capabilities of everybody, to take care of each other and to take responsibility for the world in which they live, follows the grain of what must be done to build a fully human world.

I have attended three of their services, the first over ten years ago in a remote rural section of California where I worked as a researcher and therapist in a large mental hospital. Their services are a unique blend of joyous music, intensely focused concern for suffering individuals, and attacks on the injustice that is part and parcel of our social order. I have known members of the church and one who left the church; he was a former drug addict who felt that he had gained immeasurably by his association with the People's Temple. I have also followed their work on behalf of people who were being unjustly treated and seen their efforts to unify the poor and dispossessed of this country into an effective force. They are a warm, energetic, and progressive group of people.

In my judgement, the Agricultural Mission in your country established by the People's Temple is a fortunate blend of healthy development and a frontier for many people who were locked into destructive lives of passivity and despair in the land of their birth. You have my respect and best wishes.

Very truly yours,

Michael R. Snedeker
Attorney at Law

cc: Deputy Prime Minister
cc: Parliament

1315 EIGHTEENTH STREET • SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94107 • PHONE (415) 648-2880

M-1-a-4

LETTER TO ALL U.S. CONGRESSMEN - from a private individual (member)

Dear _____:

You may have heard of my minister, Rev. Jim Jones, and our church, Peoples Temple of the Disciples of Christ. For nearly 30 years, Rev. Jones has worked tirelessly for the cause of racial harmony, equality of opportunity, and justice, with many successes. Many thousands of people have been helped through his ministry. He has been widely regarded as an outstanding humanitarian and progressive religious leader.

Several years ago he began an agricultural mission in the Caribbean nation of Guyana, a newly-independent country. Several thousand acres were allotted to the church, and today, the project is a model of what can be done by ordinary people working together for a constructive purpose. The project has grown into a community of nearly 1000 people, and is producing a variety of foodstuffs. ~~xxxxxxx~~ A thriving livestock division, outstanding medical services to the region, and complete educational programs have also been developed. Though the primary aim of the mission has been (and still is) to help this new nation in reaching its goals of feeding, clothing, and housing its population, and developing its rich hinterland, the project established by Rev. Jones has proven a tremendous success in providing a wholesome, natural environment for many young people who have ~~gone~~ gone to live there with their families and who, in the inner cities of the United States, were facing serious difficulties, as you can well understand, in the slums. Many were already involved in various forms of crime and drug abuse, and other types of anti-social and self-destructive behavior.

The youth crime and unemployment problems of the urban areas of the nation have admittedly reached crisis proportions. Labor ~~xxxxxxx~~ leader George Meany recently remarked on the ~~incalculable~~ incalculable amount of social disruption that will accrue ~~from~~ from millions of people being unable to find jobs, especially in areas where they have received some training. Solutions are desperately needed. We are encouraged by the fact that many young people who have come to reside in our community in Guyana have undergone remarkable, fundamental changes in character and outlook, and have developed maturity, responsibility, a sense of self-worth, and valuable skills. What's more, they feel that they are living a meaningful life. They have a future; they don't need to preoccupy themselves with escaping from an intolerable present. They are identifying with the aspirations of much of humanity for a decent life, and are able to accomplish something in that direction -- something concrete, practical. This is, of course, of great value to anyone. The extremely successful program ~~xxxx~~ has not only had a most beneficial and positive effect on the young people involved, as well as on the host country; it has not only been a most positive sign that we can find ways to attack the youth/crime/unemployment crisis (remember, too, that we have no government funds or grants), but it has saved the cities ~~xx~~ untold amounts of money. Even the 200 or so young people we have ~~xxxx~~ at the mission community, had they remained "on the streets," would have cost the taxpayers money in the form of stolen goods, vandalized property, welfare, money needed for law enforcement, criminal court and detention costs, drug rehabilitation programs, and the like. The problems, incidently, were compounded by some troublemakers within our church who were actually, as we have found, endeavoring to frustrate our work, and even encouraged and provoked young people in our church community to antisocial, irresponsible, and 'militant' behavior that they wouldn't have otherwise undertaken. ~~xxxxxxx~~ The Guyana mission community has experienced no crime or antisocial behavior, which is quite remarkable, given the

M-1-a-5a

fact that disciplinary measures ~~xxxx~~ are confined to talking out problems with counselors, in a rational context.

In addition to the youth, some 250 senior citizens, many from poverty-stricken backgrounds, have gone to the project's lovely retirement center where they are well-cared for. They are receiving the best of medical care and nutrition. They do not have to feel lonely, neglected, fearful of harm. Interestingly, they are not receiving SSI, welfare, Medicare or other money (except for retirement pensions) ~~xxxxxxx~~ ~~xxxxxxx~~; this represents a substantial saving for the taxpayers.

Rev. Jim Jones was one of the first to come to the community to reside, and most everyone else went there afterwards. The people who went did so out of their own free will, and at the encouraging of a religious leader whose character they obviously esteemed -- otherwise they would not have made the journey of many thousands of miles. I say this because of the attacks that have been made on Rev. Jones, mostly confined to the San Francisco area. The press portrayals have been part of a deliberate campaign, and have wholly misrepresented him and his work. Many of us feel that they have been engendered and sponsored by persons who felt that Rev. Jones and his church constitute some kind of 'threat' or 'menace' to society. This we see as particularly tragic, since we have assuredly been a (as many civic, religious, and business leaders have recognized) a force for positive solutions to social problems that we are all concerned with, no matter what our particular political philosophy: crime, drugs, poverty, unemployment, welfaristic solutions that don't seem to work, Federal programs that are wasteful, erosion of morals, breakdown of family structures. These have touched all of our lives in one way or another. It has always been a policy of Rev. Jones to "light candles" rather than to "curse the darkness." We have been able, through his leadership and hard work, to open up some avenues that can help overcome some of these problem areas, in the context of a church group that works as a kind of large family, stressing constructive behavior, clean living, family loyalty, self-reliance, a wholesome moral structure, and concern for the individual. For years we have tried to preserve America's institutions, its idealism, championing its practical spirit of volunteerism against those who have urged irresponsible courses of action. We are sorry that some who have had the wrong idea have been able to use their influence to cause us to be harassed by several government agencies. Even so, we have kept our perspective, and remain loyal to our democratic process as the most effective and fair means devised to govern people -- contrary to what some have alleged about us.

Proof of this is in the literally thousands of amateur radio contacts that our mission in Guyana has made with operators all over the United States in recent days alone, building good will and fostering a spirit of harmony and co-operation. The work of Peoples Temple in Guyana has had the effect of counteracting the hated 'yankee' stereotype that has been an impediment for so long to progress in U.S.-Caribbean relations. Hopefully, by showing the constructive, helpful qualities of the American spirit here in a foreign nation, we will be ~~xxxx~~ doing our country and Hemispheric relations a service, easing tensions and helping to heal old wounds, overcoming misunderstandings. I couldn't begin to assess the tremendous amount of good will that has been engendered by the presence and the practical accomplishments of Rev. Jones and his community of Americans in Guyana. We are providing you with a list of Amateur Radio operators in the United States who can verify our efforts at building good will -- every night the mission team is on the band for several hours in what they regard as a duty and a pleasure. Already, the medical amateur radio "net" (MARCO) has helped out our medical clinic

and staff with specialist advice.

I wanted to set the record straight about a couple of matters that have been terribly misportrayed about Rev. Jones and his church. First of all, the custody matter involving Rev. Jones' son is being handled in the Guyana courts. Since the issue is between American citizens, the State Department has rightfully and appropriately taken a position of neutrality, despite efforts to use them to prejudice the outcome of the case. Rev. Jones did not "have to" leave the U.S. because of the situation with his child: he had ~~2~~ full custody long before he left for Guyana last year.

Also, though many members of his congregation (and others not in his church) have decided ~~to~~ (freely) to follow him to reside in the church community in Guyana, many more have chosen to remain in the States (here), and none has been made to feel the slightest bit uncomfortable about their choice.

Thirdly, though Rev. Jones has served on occasion in local governmental posts, out of humanitarian and moral concerns, and a sense of responsibility and public service that I am sure you both understand and share, he has no "political" ambitions whatsoever. He has been ~~here~~ in Guyana working on the farm project for over eight months, and very happily so. As far as his politics go, he has little faith or respect for mere "labels" -- Jim Jones is somewhat of an independent and has found people who talk 'radical' to be often the least supportive or understanding of his work, while finding some of his strongest support among people who are supposed to ~~be~~ be 'moderates,' or 'conservatives.' Beyond the labels is some basic humanitarian concern that can be found in many areas of the so-called political 'spectrum.' He even remarked about a position he took on ~~at~~ the San Francisco Housing Commission, that it was "the worst decision I made in my life." He is content to do the kind of humanitarian work he is engaged in now, and which has formed the ~~the~~ great part of his work as a minister. He is no political opportunist or status-seeker, as anyone who has worked with him or around him knows full well.

Finally, though the Guyana project has been enormously successful in the areas outlined above, none of us see such success as indicating any kind of ready-made solution or formula or panacea. ~~Not~~ should it be. We ~~are~~ happy to have been able to relieve the pain and suffering of a number of people whose lives ~~have been~~ were being wasted, and who, today, have something meaningful to do, to live for. That's a great reward.

Any comments or suggestions you may have about what we are doing would be welcome. I hope that this letter might provide some encouragement for you in your work. The power of ordinary people working together, sharing ideas and talents in a co-operative, community way...that's a great part of the American experience that, unfortunately, is being lost in the impersonality of mass-society. This old-fashioned spirit of helpfulness and neighborliness may be that untapped resource in the American people which, if we can only somehow foster and encourage it, will do more than all ~~the~~ of the programs and schemes that have still God's he not gotten to the heart of what's ailing our great nation. It is in this spirit of concern for finding constructive solutions that our church and our pastor carry on the work, and we trust it will be in such a spirit that it will be understood.

Ine, what Baker did that Lilly
told us about. Idea that these
people are being dignified.

1150 Filbert Ave.
Chico, CA 95924
Dec. 2, 1977

Dear Mr. Owen,

Larry and I have lived with this frightening and upsetting thing for years wondering what the right thing is to do about his children.

Jim Jones has terrified the members of his group by telling them of his supernatural powers and threatening them with "some thing bad will happen to you if you question my powers."

I heard him say this myself the one time. I attended a service at the Temple in 1969 or 1970.

He also told them all that
 The nuclear holocaust was ^(1971?)
 due to happen on Nov. 17
 and the only ones that
 would be saved were
 his group who would
 go into a cave in Utah.

He made them drink
 a drink with vinegar &
 honey every day to protect
 them from radiation.

David Letter + little Larry
 were terribly afraid of him.
 Little Larry was afraid to
 eat and became so
 malnourished his head
 looked like a skull.

Jim Jones also had
 some older people who
 pretended to die during

the Sunday service and he would raise them from the dead (supposedly.) This is a terribly frightening thing for children.

The worst thing he did was take two ~~loads~~ loads of children to Oregon and march them into the river there when they arrived in the middle of the night.

Little Larry told me many times the adults who went with them hit the children ~~it~~ with belts (he said, "The end with the buckle.") to force them into the

cold water. He was 4 yrs. old at the time. It was supposed to be a nuclear survival test. Then Jim Jones led them ~~to~~ through the woods telling them there were poisonous snakes and they would be protected by his divine power. Then he pretended to be bitten & rolled on the ground and healed himself. To impress them that he is God.

I think the man is a crazy maniac.

Sincerely,
Virginia Tupper



PEOPLES TEMPLE

OF THE
DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

**Jim Jones,
Pastor**

President Jimmy Carter
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

I am writing in urgent haste, on issues critical to the Peoples Temple Agricultural Project, "Jonestown," in Guyana, South America, founded by the Rev. Jim Jones and some 1500 vanguard members of his church. The Project recently gave a warm welcome to leading officials in our State Department, including American Ambassador Richard McCoy, who came to see the work firsthand and have been most helpful. Officials from the Guyanese government, the U.S. and all over the world come to the Project constantly, and have penned glowing entries into the guest book. The most recent visitor, Chairman of the Board of the Guyana Livestock Corporation and a world traveller, called it the best model community he's ever seen, purest in its fellowship and remarkable in productivity—no crime, excellent sanitation, superb medical care, educational and recreational facilities. As the enclosed information details for you, Jonestown is an exceptional community in every respect, cast into a setting of great natural beauty and peace.

Yet for the past year, we have been subject to disruption so persistent and extreme it would try the patience of Job: A Black mayor speaking in our church was subjected to electronic surveillance by members of the armed services, whose proof-positive identities and powerful origin we obtained. Our crates were broken into by U.S. Customs, who refused to explain why. Our Social Security checks for disabled and elderly members in Guyana were withheld, and we have documentation of how this purposeful obstruction came about. An Indian leader was threatened with blackmail if he refused to join those lying on Jim Jones, which he exposed to the press and made a sworn affidavit. The media was whipped into a frenzy against Peoples Temple by hostile "ex-members", which attack we later proved was coordinated by a man with a 75-page criminal record, and also connected with Interpol. The "ex-members" themselves have a long verified history of advocating terrorism and every kind of immoral, devious act. These are only highlights. Agencies and departments large and small, from D.A.s' offices to federal probes have been activated in mad-dog efforts to destroy us.

The instigator of this most recent wave of harrassments is Timothy O. Stoen. He is trying to wrest Rev. Jones' six-year-old son, John, away from him through his own false claim to paternity, and has vowed publicly that he will stop at nothing to achieve that end. The custody matter is under the jurisdiction of the Guyanese courts, where his estranged wife, the child's mother, authorized the child to be taken, and where Stoen himself abandoned the child several months back. Yet Stoen has pressured numerous State Department officials to breach international protocol and intervene in the case on his behalf. He has been soliciting endorsements from members of Congress also, and has embarked on a massive campaign to discredit the entire Project. We are

M-1-a-7a

Post Office Box 15023, San Francisco, Ca 94115 - Telephone (415) 922-6418

appalled to see a small child used as a pawn in these efforts, and the custody issue grotesquely manipulated to damage not only the individuals involved, but the Project, ours and Guyana's national policies, the integrity of members of Congress, and your own Administration's efforts to improve our relations in that area of the hemisphere.

We have already been pushed far enough, not to mention the unethical pressures exerted on those in official capacity. Now, as Tim Stoen threatened he would instigate, the IRS has notified us that they are looking into the church's fiscal affairs. This is the last straw. I believe you will understand through the course of this letter why we felt we were left no option but to bring our distress to the immediate attention of our President, members of Congress, and the State Department, and why it will be of concern to our nation's leaders.

Before we presume any further on your time, Mr. President, we wish to also state adamantly that we can prove all that is about to be said. We have documents, affidavits, letters, articles, every type of proof; and our members stand ready and willing to verify their personal testimonies with lie detector tests. Ours is not an appetite for vengeance, but for justice. We are sure to lodge no claims without proof; and our most urgent desire at this time is simply to be allowed to build in peace.

THE BACKGROUND OF THE CUSTODY CASE

Tim Stoen is not the father of John Victor, as his own attached affidavit reveals. He personally witnessed the child's abandonment by his natural mother, Grace Stoen, and the child's subsequent trauma, some two years back, when she ran off with another man and thousands of dollars Jim Jones had set aside for his son's future education. When she returned months later, and demanded to see John, she flung the child back into Jim's arms saying "Take him -- he's yours!", in the presence of numerous witnesses. Jim suffered days of physical symptoms so severe in the wake of that incident, many around him feared he could die of heart failure from the shock of witnessing such gross cruelty against his son; Tim Stoen also was fully aware of this. Yet even in recent months, after she had openly made her hostility known, Rev. Jones provided her with a round-trip airlines ticket to visit John at her convenience, in deference to her maternal interest, knowing her long history of threats to destroy the group as a whole. She cashed the ticket in for her own use.

Tim Stoen left John in Guyana in the Spring of '77, insisting to everyone there that the child should remain there with his natural dad, who had reared him from an early age. He was in no way there for the sake of John in any case, as this couple has portrayed, since they had both given their absolute word, as well as signed papers, and showed no personal interest in John whatsoever. Jim and Marceline Jones are devoted to John; he is deeply attached to them. He is happy and healthy where he is, which your Office should feel free to come and assess personally, but he is traumatized at the thought of Grace and Tim Stoen. Grace inflicted cruel and inhuman conditions on him, which he remembers vividly and can be asked about.

Tim Stoen was always very open about the true paternity of John, and adamant that he be reared by his dad, Jim Jones. Yet he and Grace Stoen are presently suing for joint custody of the child in a Guyanese court.

The Peoples Temple large and vocal membership, both here and in Guyana, are incensed and sickened by this turn of events, and determined that no conscientious effort shall be spared to keep this dearly-loved and excellently cared for child exactly where he is: with his father and his very loving mother figure in Marceline Jones. It was because of Tim Stoen's personal need that Rev. Jones consented to his request, which is described in Mr. Stoen's own affidavit (attached). It was not his proudest achievement by any means, but Jim is deeply devoted to his son John now that the child is here. Needless to say, of paramount importance now is simply the protection of the child, which is a moral issue with the many thousands of Peoples Temple members. They know the backgrounds of both Tim and Grace Stoen; and they see that it would be cruel, inhuman, intolerable for this happy, well-adjusted child to be removed.

Indeed, Jim Jones, although he has many thousands of loyal members in the United States, is unable to return at this time; as court orders have been issued here, although even on purely legal grounds the case is in Guyana since the child was abandoned in Guyana. Yet such are the connections of the Stoens, that no sooner had a leading columnist broken the news that John Victor is really Jim Jones' child, the Stoens WITHIN 24 HOURS had "reunited" (Grace had been pursuing a divorce) and had been AWARDED "joint custody"! How the wheels of justice appear to turn for some.

Yet one of the most recent lies to reach our ears, direct from a Guyanese Inspector, was that Tim Stoen told him that John was not even living with Jim Jones in Guyana; that Jim was using this just as an "excuse"; that the custody of John was not the real reason Jim Jones wouldn't return to the United States. Two of our members, Mr. Beam and Ms. Wilkerson, can personally verify that these lies were being spread. The truth is: John lives right in the Jones' household; his custody IS the real reason Jim Jones has not returned. Yet, the implication that there were other underlying reasons for Jim's decision to stay in Guyana was given to instigate the present probe by the IRS!

TIM STOEN

Mr. President, this would seem to make no rational sense; there are other undisclosed pressures being brought to bear on this situation. Tim Stoen wasn't just a passing member of Peoples Temple: he was its legal counsel, and prided himself on being a "model member" for ten years. As recently as August 23, 1977 (Ukiah Daily Journal article attached), he was quoted as saying, "I have always made known my esteem for Jim Jones." His sudden unaccountable 180° turn now, with no further contact with Jim Jones, Peoples Temple or its members, from the August 23rd statement to present, is absolutely suspect. Yet we do know that during that time he was threatened by certain individuals with prosecution which was already underway for some law he allegedly violated; since his sudden turn, that prosecution has been withheld.

Another fact is evident: Mr. and Mrs. Stoen are being paid by unethical means. Neither is employed yet they travel all over, stay at the most expensive hotels, and retain highly-paid attorneys. Tim Stoen hasn't worked in a whole year, yet somehow has resources to set up residence in Manhattan (he claims); plus law offices in San Francisco and Washington, D.C. He just told a local paper in this area that he and Grace are funded by working and "loans". He does not reveal the source of said "loans", if this is the case at all. It hardly seems likely, considering rent costs alone in cities thousands of miles apart.

It is a hard experience for us to see Mr. Stoen acting this way. Life has brought us many painful discoveries. We do not hesitate to say we came from a posture that was far more utopian than the one we now take. We have never made any requirement of anyone for their political leanings, much the same way we have always been willing to assist people in need regardless of their political or ideological belief. We were perhaps too accepting of where people were coming from, because obviously we were deceived. But we have always believed that human potential can be oriented for good, and have achieved remarkable results, as you can see from the enclosed materials. Where we have erred has been on the side of utopian idealism.

Now we have found our way: we believe in lighting candles rather than cursing the darkness. But our hardest lessons have come from ones like Tim Stoen, for whose recent complete turnabout we have only one possible explanation: the disruption he and other "ex-members" are causing was either "bought" or was intended all along.

Tim Stoen always claimed to be "further to the left than Huey Newton". But many things about him, such as his deviant personal patterns, we only learned of at a later time, through the direct testimony of his wife (see attached). We now also know of the graphic diagrams drawn up by Stoen himself, of how he intended to step over individuals to become President. Members have come forward who were

approached by Stoen, who have brought to light the horrendous recommendations he would make, such as suggesting that we do away with a troublesome reporter. This man was a conservative, who had publicly embarrassed Stoen, and Stoen had a personal grudge against him. Tim Stoen had stated in near hysteria that he could not stand to be so embarrassed and he had to "get the guy". At that time, Tim Stoen advocated the use of poison being administered to this man through the use of a poison dart and researched this methodology. This all came out later. The person who brought this to light will gladly take a lie detector test on the matter. We challenge Mr. Stoen to do the same.

Such ideas were invariably rejected, but unfortunately not thought meant to be taken seriously at the time (that was never our way), so not brought to the forefront of scrutiny. But now we have learned about other aspects of Mr. Stoen's background, detailed in the attached article on his trip to East Berlin, showing him to be staunchly against every political idea he tried to inculcate in us. We are not objecting to the stance made by Tim Stoen, but he told us he had never been to such a place. And when he came to us, he presented himself as of the left, not of the right. He was always pushing for violence. The puzzle can now be put together, and it seems clear that he was deceptive and provoking from the start. And strange though it must seem, been able to win support and friendship over the years from people of even very conservative orientation, as our foremost focus has consistently been human service, not political propagandizing of any type. We have found decent people in every camp -- liberal, moderate, conservative -- and in fact when we faced attacks, some of the most conservative people rose to our defense, seeing what was really behind all this. It is the sheer unscrupulousness, the inhumanity, the destructive purposes -- in someone of ANY political orientation -- that appalls us in Tim Stoen.

It is horrendous to now see Trotskyites and their lies being dignified! Ironically, we had just succeeded in ridding our fellowship of the last of them, but they were obviously not content to just leave. Tim Stoen's disappointment on departure was that we were not violent enough! Life teaches us many difficult things.

CHALLENGE TO THE TERRORISTS

We challenge Tim Stoen and other would-be detractors to take lie detector tests about their recommendations of violence which were intended to lead people astray! We challenge him to do this about diagrams he drew up to step over others to reach the Presidency! It is destructive ones like Stoen who have brought pain to us and who will ultimately -- if they are allowed to continue with their present destructive activities -- bring pain to our country.

Our people in turn will take lie detector tests or truth serum to prove who is right and who is wrong. Thousands upon thousands of people are willing to do this, to verify what we stand for in terms of peace, non-partisanship and nonviolence. The 1500 people at the Project, not to mention the thousands in the U.S., who are devoted along with Rev. Jones to a path of peace and human service, would be upset beyond measure if ruthless individuals who tried to detour us on a violent course in previous days were to now harm the brightest hope of our lives.

The vast majority of our members come from deprived circumstances and the bitterness of inner city life; and countless young people who have been rehabilitated from lives of crime, violence, and militant views have found in Peoples Temple for the first time an accommodation to the system and a desire to work through it for change. Encouraging constructive direction out of their disillusionment in life has not always been easy. Tim Stoen and these others would have made our people the "pawns" of their terrorist schemes, but their orientation was simply unacceptable to us. They were always wanting to do grandiose things, to tear things down rather than work for constructive development and peaceful social change. We would never go along with them, even when we were less aware. Now they seem bent on provoking a continuing "war" -- one we absolutely do not want.

Others have approached us too, Mr. President, even since Tim Stoen left, "underground" groups

from all areas of the world. They claimed they would help us if only we would give the United States a bad name in the Third World by claiming bad treatment of Blacks. We have consistently and resolutely refused such approaches, Mr. President, and shall continue to do so. This is entirely contrary to our purposes.

Indeed, we welcome you to verify every aspect of our relating to the Guyanese and all the many Third World visitors we have had through the Project on that point. Countless witnesses over our amateur ham radio network, can verify that we have been called "sell out socialists" because we have adamantly taken our stand to build relations rather than destroy them, and remain pacifist throughout. And we are afraid of no one in this regard: we are simply determined to do what is right. We openly praise the United States here. We had gone through harassments and persecutions in the U.S., so intense that at times death had seemed preferable—bombs planted, assassination attempts, arson, children harassed, animals mutilated—yet not once have we mentioned it to the Guyanese. We praise the U.S. in thousands of ham radio contacts and shall continue to do so. You can check the sincerity of our Pastor's voice over the waves. Our course is certain; it is peaceful; we affirm our good intentions by honest, constructive work every single day.

We have confidence in our country, for you in government to stand by Americans who are a credit to the nation. And if indeed our trusts and expectations were to be shattered, if our Pastor had misjudged the fairness of the U.S., then we could readily stand with the earlier patriot, Patrick Henry, and say, "Give us liberty or give us death." We've come through too much not to stand! Our children have a future; our young people have happy, constructive lives; our seniors will spend their last years in peace. Whatever lies have been told, Mr. President, there would be no justice in hurting us. All we want is for these monstrous provocations and harassments and persecutions to cease, and for you and our government to aid in stopping these destructive elements from bringing pain to us all—the U.S., Guyana, defenseless children, or anything else that appears to be getting in their way.

CONSPIRACY

For this is hardly just a couple of individuals involved in these attempts, nor are their efforts solely directed at us. We have mountains of evidence to prove that this is a conspiracy: planned, coordinated, orchestrated and designed to implicate the media, governmental agencies, and numerous individuals who have had no involvement with Peoples Temple at all, but are simply designated to destroy it. Nor has it been confined to just hurting us. You can easily see the damage that would be wrought on the credibility of members of Congress who have been enlisted to support Mr. Stoen's "paternity claim"; the compromise intended of the State Department, were they to intervene. Tim Stoen has also admitted lying to Guyanese officials, and stated he would hurt U.S. - Guyana relations. He has just broadcast in the press the ludicrous lie that Jim Jones has the Guyanese government "very much in his hands" -- the reason offered being that he, Tim Stoen, was not granted an instant audience with the Deputy Prime Minister of Guyana! No one, not Jim Jones, no one has the right to barge into Dr. Reid's office and demand to be seen! It is the equivalent of demanding an instant audience with Vice President Mondale here in the United States. It's insulting to the Guyanese. It's the "Ugly American" all over again. Yet ploys like this are being manipulated to turn public and governmental sentiment against Jim Jones and Guyana simultaneously. The damage intended, Mr. President, is widespread and reckless, violating legal, Constitutional, human rights, and international protocol.

When we discovered proof-positive evidence that Interpol had been responsible for planning and orchestrating the attacks against Peoples Temple in the media, we found that this "bad press" was also circulated internationally. Rev. Jim Jones was said to have instigated a certain riot in Guyana, years back. Anyone can check Rev. Jones' passport—he wasn't even there!! We have proof that large sums of money are being given to Tim Stoen

and numerous others -- even the most radical elements in Guyana -- to harrass us. Offers have even been made to harrass us through means other than the legal system.

Therefore, we shall present to you, members of Congress and the State Department, an outline of the personalities, tactics, and methods involved in the conspiracy against Peoples Temple. We have nothing to hide, and everything to gain by the exposure. Our people are at the end of their rope with tolerance. We never asked for "international incidents", such as have been whipped up in the custody case; and we implore governmental assistance to put a halt to terrorists and blackmailers, liars, thieves and paid agents who are out to destroy people whose accomplishments we feel confident you will want to protect and promote, Mr. President, when you have the full range of facts.

ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE

When a Black Mayor came to speak at the Temple a year back, we discovered two men spying outside the building with electronic devices. They fled when approached by one of our members, but she got their license number. Their identity was traced through their rented car to proof-positive identification of two electronics communications experts in the employ of the armed services. A public relations firm was hired for a year and a half to manipulate the press to malign us. Much has come out of the fact that we made our protests of the surveillance known to several Congressmen and that we have absolutely documented evidence in the matter! Several sympathetic persons in government, and our law enforcement officials aided us in this protest. We wrote directly to the powerful legislator, from many states away, thousands of miles away, under whose jurisdiction these men fell, and got no more than the cover-up that he would never check on what these men do on their own time, off hours, or weekends! No one travels thousands of miles away on a specific, verified spying mission on their off hours! We feel it is our duty to bring this to your attention, and let you know how it relates to our situation.

BLACKMAIL ATTEMPT

Just a few months after that—but just prior to when Tim Stoen left Guyana, and subsequently "quit" the church—an Indian leader was approached by one Standard Oil employee, claiming to be working with agents from the Treasury Department, and also with several "ex-members", specifically giving the name of Grace Stoen. He said if the leader would only join those trying to discredit Jim Jones, he would be rewarded by having his legal difficulties resolved, which in his case is a life-and-death matter. He was also told that if he did not cooperate, it would go badly for him.

This courageous Native American refused the blackmail and bribery attempt, and later exposed the man publicly who had approached him. His sworn affidavit specifically implicates Grace Stoen. In fact, the man who made this attempt told him outright that John Victor is the son of Jim Jones! It is obvious that the people working in the conspiracy all know this. At that time, it was not publicized, the Indian leader never even suspecting, yet this was thrown up to him as "proof" that Jim Jones would be discredited, which in turn would reflect badly on the leader's legal troubles, his having been associated with Jim Jones by accepting money from our church to meet a family crisis. (The entire amount was later repaid.) Of course later, when Tim Stoen was "secured" for the conspiracy, this all changed.

It was also revealed later, in the local press, that the man who made the blackmail attempt is a long-time close friend of the "ex-members" Mertles (aka Jeanne and Al Mills), who had been investigating the Peoples Temple for seven years, dating from when the Mertles first became members, as he himself admitted!

MEDIA ATTACKS

It was no surprise, then, to see Elmer and Deanna Mertle, Grace Stoen and the man she ran off with, plus several individuals known to openly promote terrorist activities, all appearing together as "indignant ex-members of Peoples Temple" with a "corroborated story" in the wave of media attacks in the summer of 1977. Their lies were subsequently picked up and dignified in the major dailies here,

with no proof of their statements, no statement of the Temple included, a host of faceless accusations, innuendoes, and lurid scenarios we could not even begin to recognize. The original magazine to run the story praised the following "ex-members" for having the "courage to step forth": Grace Stoen who, as well as her husband Tim, had stolen money from the church, not to mention John's college trust fund; the Mertles, who from every indication joined the Temple in the first place with the express intent of "doing us in", who also stole money from the church; numerous young people who had tried to advocate a course of violence.

It takes no researcher to see where the truth lies, only common sense. In fact, every group will have liars. That this group has so few, when there is so much inducement—money, publicity—can give every thinking person reason to stand back and take notice. People must be receiving far more that they really value, than even a high-finance conspiracy can provide for them.

CRIMINALS AT THE HELM

Last fall, a story broke in the local press which shed a good deal of light on these media attacks. Joseph A. Mazor, a man with a 75-page criminal record for various bogus checks and fraud charges in several states, was discovered to be the coordinator of the attacks. Somehow Mr. Mazor managed to obtain a state investigator's license after being released from prison in 1976. Yet a confidential 16-page report of the California Adult Authority on this individual, written in 1970 states of Mazor: "He is a smooth 'con man' with an insatiable desire to get ahead. He is bright, well-educated, and so well-versed in the law that he had five attorneys in the Pomona area convinced that he had a law degree. It is felt that the subject is a menace to the community."

Mazor admits to being employed to investigate Peoples Temple from November 1976 on, but refuses to say who pays him. He also says he is currently employed by "several ex-members, including Elmer and Deanna Mertle." His function is not only to investigate, this paper learned, but he has also been responsible for coordinating the press campaign through the use of one of the largest, most expensive public relations firms in San Francisco: Lowry, Russom and Leeper. An executive from the firm confirmed working with Mazor "on the Peoples Temple project, showing him how to handle the media." Other sources from the firm stated that the executive was specifically sending out letters to selected journalists, offering them—through Mazor—"exclusive material of an incriminating nature against Peoples Temple." The campaign is known to have resulted in at least one article in a major news daily charging fraud, complete with a lawsuit!

We know that these conspirators decided on using the media to try and convict the Temple only when legal legitimate channels were determined to be ineffective, due to lack of evidence! It is equally remarkable that people bringing these kinds of "suits"—like the Mertles, and the Williams—knowing we are honest and law-abiding people, threw up threats of this kind of suit to us earlier; they vowed to trump this up for PR purposes!!

Now we see this also coordinated with other false accusations brought to IRS to whip up an investigation against Peoples Temple. **THIS IS EXACTLY WHAT TIM STOEN THREATENED HE WOULD HAVE DONE.**

Our government is being used, Mr. President. We have never believed or said that this is a conspiracy of people in politics, but rather that agencies in government are being used. We have no option but to appeal to your Office to put a stop to this. When criminals are calling the shots, against some 1,500 citizens who are steadily at work to build good-will between nations, this is horrendous and intolerable.

Ask the IRS to have them produce their lying witnesses! They have simply filed the harassment suits for publicity value which Stoen bragged he would have done!

We ourselves took the initiative of checking with IRS, under the Freedom of Information Act, when we learned of Stoen's threats. We asked if they had issue with us, which of course they did not—we have always been very careful, and meticulously honest. Now we have suddenly received a notice of investigation. We can provide further convincing documentation on the use of agencies;

we also know of, aside from Joseph Mazon's long criminal record, his connection with Interpol. And indeed, some of the attacks coordinated internationally look remarkably similar to what we have seen here in San Francisco. Even with no further documentation at all, the parallels would be blatant.

U.S. CUSTOMS SEIZES TEMPLE CARGO

In August, 1977, seven agents of the U.S. Customs Dept. broke into crates of supplies being shipped by the Temple to our Agricultural Mission in Guyana, South America. The Customs agents refused to give any explanation or probable cause for this sudden search and interruption of our shipment. When our attorney, Charles Garry, demanded an explanation of the U.S. Customs Dept., they replied they were "exempt from disclosure" and refused to give any answers.

The freight forwarders in the city where this occurred also stated that these were not local Customs agents—they were definitely from another part of the country.

Only later we learned that the real reason the crates were broken open was that lies had been fed to some people in Guyana from Interpol; one lie had to do with guns, the other with drugs. Even when we were not as moderate as we are now, Mr. President, they knew we were opposed to those things in all forms. See for yourself the many pages of commendations accorded our group for extensive drug rehabilitation and for model cooperation with law enforcement agencies over many, many years.

Again we reiterate our contention that our government is being used. We never blamed the Customs Dept. for instigating this, nor do we object to having every large box gone through: that should be proof of our integrity.

SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS WITHHELD

Moreover, we were disinclined to raise any kind of issue over the extreme distress of having our senior and disabled members in Guyana cut off from their Social Security—for months! We had the evidence right in our hands—a Postal Service memo instructing this be done. One prominent Black journalist printed in his paper that what rightfully belonged to people was being held back; this was only one of many papers friendly to us, but we did not press this to any open forum. We quietly and appropriately protested, through letters, telegrams, and our Congressional representative, and the situation was duly remedied.

YET THIS CONTINUES. EVERY DEPARTMENT, BIG AND SMALL, HAS COME DOWN ON US. MANY TIMES THEY APOLOGIZED AFTER WE WERE CLEARED OF ALL THE ALLEGATIONS, IN FACT SOME APOLOGIZED FOR HAVING TO DO IT AT ALL.

WHY HAS THE PEOPLES TEMPLE BEEN ATTACKED AT ALL?

We feel frank words of explanation are in order. We are not, and never have been guilty of the horrendous accusations launched against us. But we are fully aware of the vulnerability of our position over the years. We were always controversial but highly principled. We knew that with the decision to stand for often unpopular causes, came the enormous responsibility of being honest, of being hard-working, humanitarian and good. We were always concerned that our children didn't cut classes and were high achievers (as a local High School principal would be glad to affirm); we've absolutely not tolerated drugs or violence; we've gone the extra mile again and again to prove that at heart we are, and always were humanitarians. Jim Jones saw massive urban deterioration and decay, violence, drugs, and crime with no easy solutions. We felt in great need of concepts around which people could rally and unify. But we never found any substitute for massive practical reformation of thousands of individual lives—meeting specific needs, recognizing and fostering individual talents, providing a community where people could live productive and fulfilling lives. We've worked at being humanitarian, Mr. President—as an organization, as individuals, as our highest priority. We've been written into the Congressional Record twice, and our Pastor honored as one of the 100 most outstanding clergymen in America by Religion in American Life. The facts speak for

themselves.

No one ever affirming to the left could possibly achieve such a wide-ranging base of support as we have—it's a contradiction in terms! People seem to want to victimize us over what we called ourselves—but the evidence is staggering (especially in Guyana) of what we are. Maybe the San Francisco Bay Guardian article sums it up best: "Jim Jones has made his share of enemies for his political stands, but no one accuses him of being a hypocrite." You can assess for yourself that no one but a person of the highest integrity and dedication to human concerns could possibly take thousands of people who would have lashed out violently at the system and given them a reason to be constructive. Our detractors, with their terrorist, and also atheistic backgrounds (atheism being their privilege, but leaving little room to piously downgrade people who have lived Christian principles), would try to promote the very kinds of social disruption we have had enormous effectiveness in stopping. What we are doing is to the advantage of the system! And perhaps the crux of our urgent appeal to you and our Congressional and diplomatic representatives lies in the fact that you now have the evidence to determine this all for yourselves and to not allow us to be hounded forever for our philosophical errors of the past. We have gone through great philosophical transitions; we have reached a healthy balance that is creating healthy, happy, well-adjusted and productive lives. Communities like Jonestown help America. And it is Jim Jones' faith, imparted to his people, that America will come to see this. Then this harassment would have no platform and it would cease. The most enormous fulfillment of our lives is simply to build in peace.

In fact, "labels" have lost their importance to us now, we have the reality of what we seek. We have certainly seen enough people ruthlessly manipulate "labels" to suit their own devious ends rather than to serve legitimate human needs and concerns. And we have found a phenomenally fulfilling cooperative lifestyle in Guyana—we couldn't begin to "label" it if we tried!

We've also learned a lot of realism in the process, too, and frankly see America and her great strengths more clearly now from afar. We believe in working for American solutions to American problems, just as Guyana must work for solutions to Guyanese problems, or the Soviet Union for solutions for her own people. We have come to see the realities of life, and we are non-partisan and non-aligned in our outlook. Now our only interest is to help the United States and Guyana move forward peacefully in our grassroots democratic setting, where not only our own people's needs are abundantly met, but we can reach out to others in very absorbing and fulfilling ways.

WHAT WE ARE ACCOMPLISHING

This environment is pristine: no violence, no crime, no anti-social behavior, none. Not one family uses corporal punishment at all, we don't believe in it—that's as factual as can be. Leadership is through example, without any coercion at all. We have found a way to motivate people through rewards, a most attractive situation which more and more people are having the opportunity to see first-hand. Our perspective is self-evident; we live it in our everyday lives.

Jim Jones himself has been doing agricultural work for nine months, not even going to the port nearest the Project, that's how tired he is of politics. But the United States should appreciate Guyana as it is, a struggling nation still very young, in a third world situation where it is not always easy to show goodwill to the U.S. But there is a positive feeling throughout Guyana now towards the U.S., to such a degree that some stupidly refer to us being with CIA because of our helping to enhance goodwill between two peoples, by our very successful humanitarian service!! (Stoen has even threatened to intentionally destroy this positive feeling in Guyana towards the U.S. and to provoke a rift in U.S.-Guyanese relations.) Fortunately though, we have had sufficient peace in Guyana to date to concentrate on building, and that we have done at a remarkable pace. We have found peace, and our community is thoroughly happy.

We have every reason to assert that the Jonestown Project is a model achievement of which America and her leaders, you, our President, our Congress and our State Department can be justly proud. It can be easily verified with both U.S. and Guyana officials and other government leaders as to what kind of program it is and how we are enhancing relations between the

U.S. and Guyana, our only purpose now. Ours is an exemplary American project which the Guyanese government wants and supports! This is no "remote jungle outpost", but rather a heavily-trafficked model community, through which the Guyanese government brings visiting foreign dignitaries with distinct pride.

We are a people with much faith in you and in our government, a fact we make widely known. But we also need to make known to you and all our nation's leaders, that it is a faith that was not easily won, and the strain we have to endure in seeing it jeopardized is great. Singlehandedly, the Peoples Temple under the guidance of Jim Jones, has taken hundreds of disaffected youth off the streets—drug addicts, criminal types, the hard-core unemployed—and made clean, decent, productive lives possible for them. The Project itself was begun as an alternative lifestyle for those who couldn't "make it", to give the disadvantaged a new start—with no government funding or grants, only grass-roots efforts, with a lot of good American know-how and technology—pioneers in a new world. And it is good we did find this solution, because now the "moderates" of our group, some 20,000 of them, dispersed throughout the United States, are working for peace, whereas 1500 who might not have been able to are now doing very well in this accepting, nurturing environment, instead of draining literally millions of the taxpayer's money to support them. No SSI, no Medi-Cal, no Medicare (we have our own insurance), no welfare goes out to any of those who benefit from our overseas program. Nor do the U.S. taxpayers have to compensate for the crime, destruction of property, and institutionalization of many of these young dissidents. From what we have seen in the cultural transition, from what the youth now in Guyana have told us they were involved in or would have gotten forced into in their home environments, untold millions have been saved. Here the youth do not feel the contrast reflected on T.V. which they, faced with unemployment and no opportunity to learn the work ethic, whether black or white, see as unobtainable. Their feelings about the U.S. have changed now that they have the opportunity to be out in nature in an ideal climate, moderated by trade winds, where there is abundant wild life, fishing, swimming, soccer, basketball courts and teams and all kinds of musical opportunities in singing and dancing. With a constructive life to lead, alienation has been overcome.

Of course, we've always been interested in specifically Black concerns as well, with a large interracial congregation, and the completely interracial character of Guyana itself has fostered a good reorientation of self-image for so many there. Our young people in Jonestown, even those who previously had some of the worst anti-social patterns, now report being happier and more productive than they ever dreamed possible. Now the Project has burgeoned out into a remarkable cooperative, where poverty and chronic ill-health, slums and unemployment—all the earmarks of urban deterioration—are fading memories for people who were largely veterans of the inner cities here.

How wrong it would be for America to allow this dream-come-true to be destroyed! Where would these people go, what would they do if their faith, now remarkably restored, were again to be dashed to the ground? People who cannot make adjustments to the grueling conditions of city life have the right to launch out and be pioneers in a new world—and beyond any doubt, to the credit of America! This could be a model for other troubled and alienated people. Every person on the Project plus the many, many visitors who have been through it, will attest to what is happening there. We could provide hundreds, thousands of letters. You yourself, Mr. President, or any member of Congress, are welcome to go through the Project personally. We would be glad to be scrutinized. We had not solicited the press when we were under attack; we had been warned by people of every orientation—liberal, moderate, conservative—not to trust the press. But now, we even expect a delegation of major news media to be coming through, and we look forward to introducing them to this beautiful way of life—the peaceful path of humanitarian service which is what, at the heart of it, we always wanted to achieve. For we have been able to bring great benefits to this whole area—food, medical assistance, and even training in all kinds of academic subjects. We are teaching the mathematics of crop difficulties, what an acre can produce and what it will cost, how to use chemistry to break down the soil, physics, biology. Many of our young people once left to wander the streets, are now becoming avid agronomists.

Now we want to, and are able to compensate for the times we did not know our way. We have gone through a great transition. We appreciate the U.S. much better from abroad—one can see its great strengths. We have found, in the peace and happiness of Jonestown, the honest work, the decent human relations and shared concerns, the capacity to use democratic participatory government to build entire industries (we have several in the making), that there is no "label" on human dignity and the wealth of human potential that can be motivated for good. We will always be humanitarian pacifists, working within society. Rev. Jones has been at the Project for nine months now, and does not envy those of you who are in the realm of politics; you have such a tremendous responsibility to bear! And we have the good and wholesome feeling there that we have had great success in saving and transforming lost lives; that people who felt they could not participate before or make a difference now have the pride of being a credit to their country! It means more than any of us can say, and the thought of its being destroyed is too devastating to contemplate.

We are at work building ties that can be depended on for the United States, which anyone can bear out. We have broadcasts twice a week in Georgetown, where we praise the United States. In just the last few weeks, we have made well over 2,000 contacts through our ham radio system operating in Guyana, promoting goodwill and understanding to many wonderful Americans in every part of the country, as well as other areas of the world. All kinds of medical consultations have taken place (see attached flyer with news articles) between our doctor and medical staff in Jonestown and doctors in the U.S. via amateur radio. The lives of several people brought to us from neighboring communities have been saved. We have also discovered a marked understanding—almost universally so—of the need for non-intervention, mutual co-existence, and aid to our neighbors to the South, which has been most encouraging; and we are proud to strengthen the efforts of your own Administration towards this area of the world, and facilitate them. Rev. Jim Jones has personally spearheaded this new project, with great energy and persistence. He and the people on the Project have been gratified to find that a humanitarian role is genuinely appreciated in this world where there is a great need to transcend national, political, racial and religious barriers, which can sometimes obfuscate the greater goals of meeting massive, practical needs and promoting peace.

OUR APPEAL TO OUR GOVERNMENT

In recent weeks, Tim Stoen has embarked on a pilgrimage through the Congressional offices of Washington, enlisting support on the custody case based on fallacious claims of paternity, and lies about our leader and the Project. Several members of Congress—many of them good, conscientious men we don't doubt—have been persuaded to sign a recommendation for Mr. Stoen, advocating his interest. We doubt they would have ever signed their name to such a document if they had been aware of the facts. And we entreat every one of these individuals to renege the "endorsement" that was unscrupulously gleaned from them at the risk of compromising themselves, for now they have reason to know that neither their own interests, their country's, nor the interests of impartial justice will be served by their name being lent to such ill-motivated efforts. In fact, we urge these, and all our other Congresspersons, to support non-intervention in Guyanese affairs—the stated policy of the U.S. State Department.

As for the IRS, perhaps they thought of Peoples Temple as some kind of threat. But you can see for yourself their sources, and determine where the truth lies. Please—in the name of decency—ask this agency to change its course! All that has been done is to get people to believe in society and that will be undone if this continues. Our people had been so alienated. All they can see in this is a set-up, a "classic scenario": first muddy our name, then try and force one minority leader to sell another out, whip up attacks in the press, and then: by the time you reach "the classic ending", the frame-ups, the "kill", no one even cares. And they think that the press has already done its job, so on-one will care about the frame-ups. It is up to responsible aware government to prove differently, and we are looking to the integrity we have seen in you to bear this out. For our own part, we stand prepared to back up all our contentions under any objective and fair scrutiny.

We are tired of this mindless and groundless harassment! Jim Jones has done all he can do—he has

remarkably restored the faith of people who were absolutely broken, many of whom would have been bent on destruction. He has rid our movement thoroughly of terrorist elements who, because they could not use us as a frontline to tear up this nation have now turned around to destroy us. He assures our people constantly, this is not our government doing this. He has said himself that he felt there was a wave of change, that agencies such as IRS were no longer used to harass groups or individuals in spite of Jack Anderson's recent column to the contrary. He continues to believe that this is NOT a conspiracy of persons in politics, but of people *instigating* action by political agencies. He reiterates again and again on thousands of radio contacts the great strides being made by your Administration, loyally upholding you in the highest fashion.

We could go on and on. We have spent no money except to build—a program which is the most significant kind of grassroots like between two people. Tim Stoen has spent thousands and solely to tear down—our work, Guyanese—American relations, hope for little children. We are peace-loving people, made so by decent, productive work and the enormous inspiration of our humanitarian leader. Now they would even threaten his health—he cannot endure much more of this, it is too much for one to bear alone. He feels too deeply for the safety and security of everyone; and it could literally kill him to see his child dragged away to be “raised” by terrorists and sadists; or to see his people thrown back into the counter-productive and destructive modes of life it took years to rehabilitate them from. Where in heaven's name would this organization be without the constant moderation and direction of Jim Jones? Yet many believe by this point that this is exactly what Tim Stoen and the others are out to do—destroy and kill the person who has given many the only hope they have ever known! We need to keep our people's faith alive and the program going. These threats, harassment—when we are doing so much good—are getting to be more than they can endure.

We implore you to investigate these sources yourself and determine the conspiracy behind it. Investigate the Project. We are a credit to both America and Guyana. We are in a unique position to cement relations between two peoples, and we are avid and positive towards that end. We are a practical model and can make THE significant difference.

The impending IRS investigation, deliberately provoked by false charges and lies as Tim Stoen had threatened, will totally alienate our membership. How much can people be expected to take?
WE URGENTLY REQUEST YOUR HELP.

Thank you, Mr. President, for your patience and your time. We feel confident that these concerns are being delivered into the most competent hands.

Respectfully yours,

L. J. Johnston

L. J. Johnston

cc: All Members of Congress
Members of the U.S. State Dept.

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4-015804E105002 04/15/78 ICS IPMBNGZ CSP SFOB
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PEOPLES TEMPLE ATTN LEE INGRAM
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THIS MAILGRAM IS A CONFIRMATION COPY OF THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE:

4159229597 MGM TDBN SAN FRANCISCO CA 589 04-15 0614A EST
ZIP

PRESIDENT CARTER

WHITE HOUSE DC 20500

DEAR PRESIDENT CARTER AN ALARMING ARTICLE APPEARED IN YESTERDAYS APRIL
13 UKIAH DAILY JOURNAL. WE WANT TO QUOTE THE SALIENT POINTS FOR YOU:

"A POTENTIALLY EXPLOSIVE SITUATION IS BREWING IN JONESTOWN GUYANA. ON
TUESDAY OF THIS WEEK, SOME 25 RELATIVES OF JONES FOLLOWERS WHO ARE
RESIDING IN JONESTOWN, WERE LED BY STEVE KATSARIS TO THE PEOPLE'S
TEMPLE HEADQUARTERS IN SAN FRANCISCO. KATSARIS, WHOSE 24 YEAR OLD
DAUGHTER, MARIA, HAS RESIDED IN JONESTOWN SINCE LAST SUMMER, HAS
INDICATED THROUGH LETTERS TO HER PARENTS, THAT SHE IS SATISFIED TO STAY
IN GUYANA. KATSARIS ACCUSES JONES OF VIOLATING HUMAN RIGHTS BY HOLDING
RELATIVES AS VIRTUAL CAPTIVES.
ONE FATHER HAS EVEN THREATENED TO HIRE MERCENARIES TO RAID JONESTOWN
AND LIBERATE HIS SON BY FORCE. TROUBLE THAT COULD LEAD TO AN
INTERNATIONAL INCIDENT MAY LIE AHEAD."

THESE PEOPLE ARE TALKING ABOUT HIRING MERCENARIES TO KILL, AND YET THEY
DARE TALK ABOUT REV JONES AND THE TEMPLE AS TRYING TO CONTROL LIVES.
THE LIVES OF PEOPLE IN JONESTOWN ARE NOT CONTROLLED. JUST TWO WEEKS
AGO, THERE WAS A NATIONAL CULTURAL SHOW TO WHICH OVER 100 TEMPLE
MEMBERS TRAVELLED BY BOAT AND TRAIN TO ATTEND. THERE WAS EVEN A
BLACKOUT, ONE LIKE IN NEW YORK, WHERE THE WHOLE CAPITOL CITY WAS DARK.
THE TEMPLE YOUNG PEOPLE BEHAVED SO WELL, THEY WERE SO MILD, WHICH SHOWS
HOW THESE YOUNG PEOPLE ARE REHABILITATED. SURELY IF PEOPLE WANTED TO
LEAVE PEOPLE'S TEMPLE IN GUYANA THEY COULD HAVE GONE TO THE US EMBASSY
DURING THIS TIME. THE CULTURAL PROGRAM ITSELF WAS WRITTEN UP IN THE
COUNTRYS LARGEST NEWSPAPER AS THE MOST EXCITING GUYANA HAS EVER SEEN.
PARTICIPATION IN THIS PROGRAM DEMONSTRATED THE FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT,
CREATIVITY, AND PRACTICAL CONCEPTS THE RESIDENTS OF JONESTOWN ENJOY.

EACH WEEK ABOUT 50 PEOPLE TRAVEL BACK AND FORTH TO THE PROJECT. SOME

TO GET TO THE PROJECT AND TO GET TO THE PROJECT FOR THE PROJECT. THE PROJECT IS THE PROJECT.

M-1-a-8a

PEOPLE WITH VARIOUS SKILLS, SOME IN EDUCATION, SPECIALIZED AREAS IN MEDICINE, ORTHODONTISTS AND SOME COME JUST FOR ENTERTAINMENT. MARIE KATSARIS' FATHER CLAIMS SHE IS "CAPTIVE" OR "PROGRAMMED". BUT SHE FLEW ALONE WITH THE US CONSULATE FROM THE INTERIOR TO GEORGETOWN. SURELY, IF SHE HAD WANTED TO LEAVE SHE WOULD HAVE HAD EVERY OPPORTUNITY.

IN OUR PROJECT, OUR CULTURAL PRESENTATION, OUR ENTIRE RELATIONSHIP TO GUYANNA, WE ARE BUILDING UNITY BETWEEN THE TWO NATIONS. IN OUR PROGRAM, WE PRAISED ON NATIONWIDE MEDIA COVERAGE THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION AND THE U S EMBASSY FOR ALLOWING US LIVE IN THIS COOPERATIVE WITH OUR FREE MEDICAL CLINIC, AN AGRICULTURAL PROJECT THAT HAS DONE SO MUCH TO HELP BUILD GOOD WILL BETWEEN THE U S AND GUYANA.

THE THREAT OF MERCENARIES TO DESTROY SUCH A BEAUTIFUL PEOPLE AND WORK IS UNTHINKABLE. YET THOSE WHO WOULD DESTROY FOR THE SAKE OF PERSONAL VENDETTAS ARE PLANNING TO DO JUST THAT.

PLEASE SEE THE CHARACTER THAT IT HAS TAKEN TO BUILD JONESTOWN. HOW CAN ANYONE MISS SEEING THE PERSONAL SACRIFICES REVEREND JONES HAS MADE TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE WELFARE OF SO MANY PEOPLE. (THERE ARE OVER 1,000 PEOPLE CURRENTLY LIVING IN THE PROJECT). WHY WOULD HE RISK REPUTATION AND STANDING AS A MINISTER TO PROTECT A CHILD THAT WERE NOT HIS? WHAT KIND OF LOVE IS IT THAT MAKES HIM WILLING TO SACRIFICE AT SUCH GREAT PERSONAL COST, TO SEE A CHILD SAVED FROM BEING USED AS A PAWN BY PEOPLE WHO HAVE NO INTEREST IN HIM? WHY ARE CYNICS AND TROTSKYITES SO LOATHE TO BELIEVE A MODEL HUMAN COMMUNITY COULD ACTUALLY EXIST -- WHERE PEOPLE ARE FULFILLED, EQUAL AND VERY HAPPY

FOR GODS SAKE, PLEASE DON'T LET THESE PEOPLE CARRY OUT THEIR TERRORISTS PLANS...

MEMBERS OF PEOPLE'S TEMPLE

06:15 EST

HGMCOMP MGM

May 11, 1978

Lt. Governor Mervyn Dymally
Office of the Lt. Governor
Capitol Mall
Sacramento, California

Dear Merv:

Thank you for taking the time to talk on the phone. I know how busy you are. Your concern, as always, is deeply appreciated. Jim sends you his very best regards and (barring the passage of Prop. 13), is looking forward tremendously to seeing you and your distinguished friends in July. You are an honored guest in our midst.

I am sure you will scarcely recognize Jonestown, it has grown so much since you were last there. As many as 35 people a day visit the project, from Guyana and around the world, and acclaim the progress and beauty of the lifestyle there. Mr. McCoy of the U.S. Embassy has visited again recently; a superintendent of the Methodist Church in Nevada, a British High Commissioner and delegations from all the Guyanese Ministries (including the Ministry of Education, which gave accreditation to all of our schools); they are unanimously impressed.

I have included a few new articles for you. One, from the Guyana Chronicle, describes our participation in the National Cultural Holiday, to which 100 or more of our members traveled from the interior and stayed several days with various friends and acquaintances in Georgetown. Especially our youth participated, presenting cultural displays, films, demonstrated our project's development, and provided three hours of entertainment which drew thousands of people. Some reputation our band and dancers have gained! Our band as of that event was pronounced the most popular in the Caribbean! In any case, this kind of enthusiastic participation and freedom of movement back and forth from the interior should be evidence enough to dispell doubts in any detractor's mind that the people who are there are there because they love it. For us, it is home -- and in many cases the first home we have had.

I want to clarify a few things I said to you about Tim Stoen. Maybe we could be thought of as overreacting -- but I think we have suffered enough violence and harassment and slander that we have come to regard any threat as an imminent possibility. Mr. Stoen is meeting regularly with the same group of detractors who made the false allegations in New West, and he is attempting

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to gather more support by calling relatives of people who are overseas and seriously alarming them with lies about Jonestown. Just last week he contacted the mother and mother-in-law of a woman whose children and husband are at the project. He told them, among other things, that people there are "shot on the spot", are not allowed to leave, and made a series of slanderous comments about Jim. They have written affidavits to this effect to the District Attorney for protection from further harassment.

From these calls and from reports we have about the content of the meetings, he is holding in L.A. and in San Francisco, Tim and a few other ringleaders are talking about mercenary force to go into Jonestown to take relatives by force. In one recent phone patch conversation via radio, an elementary school principal at Jonestown asked her relatives what Tim had told them. They replied he bragged about having mercenaries, about hiring a helicopter to "drop bombs" and that he had guns and other weapons. It sounds like a wild story, but many people have called the Temple with the same report. The principal incredulously asked her relatives over the radio to repeat what they had heard about guns. They responded, "Well, it's his business. They (the Temple congregation) ought to all be killed anyway."

Tim is in fact working with an agency called the Eureka Resource Associates, an exploration company specializing in aerial photography and geographic research. This can be fully substantiated. It is also a fact that he is using your name and Prime Minister Burnham's name. In the same phone conversation with Mrs. Janaro's mother and in a second call to her mother-in-law, Tim said that you were once supportive of the Temple's work, but were now weakening under pressure. He also told a number of people that Mr. Burnham had asked him personally to get as many names on petitions as he could so "he could do what he (Burnham) had to do," implying that we are not on good terms with the Guyanese government. Nothing could be further from the truth. Our standing in the eyes of the leaders there is soaring as our contributions and participation in the life of the country keep developing. The fact is, when Tim Stoen was in Guyana, Dr. Reid refused to see him at all. In any case, these elderly relatives were so alarmed, they had immediate phone patches with their loved ones in Guyana for reassurance that they are well and happy and that what Stoen has said was lies.

Yesterday, in front of the Federal Building here in San Francisco, the so-called "Concerned Relatives" -- ~~some of the relatives~~ ^{some of the relatives} put on a demonstration. They carried signs saying Jonestown is a concentration camp, and held up a picture of Mr. Burnham inside a large cyclone-type fence they had set up with barbed wire across the top. They made the same ridiculous allegations

that they have made before, that their relatives are being held in Guyana against their will. The carried posters saying that Mr. Burnham and Secretary Vance are accomplices. The fact is that Mr. McCoy has checked out every one of the alleged "captive" relatives personally at the project and has found them to be very independent, intelligent people who are of age and fully capable of deciding what to do with their lives. He agreed that the actions of Mr. Stoen are harassment. Tim was the promoter of the event.

Since they had published the event in the Ukiah Daily Journal two days before, we were able to join them for the rally, too. Many, many friends and supporters of the Temple and of Jim were there -- a thousand or more. There were among them several hundred with relatives overseas who are enormously grateful that their sons, daughters, mothers and dads are living in a place where there is a chance for peace, fulfillment, and development of their full potential.

With regard, finally, to the mercenary threat, Mr. Mann has advised us that the proper offices have been notified -- and he and others have advised us to be very cautious. Our complaint against Tim Stoen is not unfounded.

Again, best regards from Jim and the entire Temple membership. We wish you all the best in the coming days, and look forward with great anticipation to the pleasure of seeing you -- both in San Francisco on the 28th and in Jonestown, Guyana.

Very sincerely,

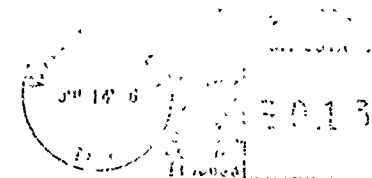

Jean F. Brown

enclosures

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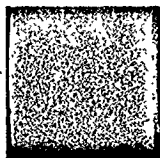
EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF GUYANA

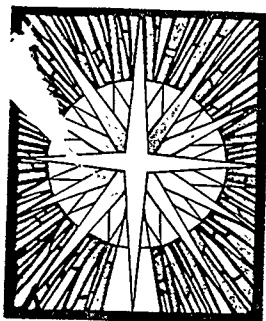
2490 TRACY PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20008



Ms. Jean F. Brown,
Peoples Temple of the Disciples of Christ,
7600 East Road,
Redwood Valley, California 95470.

M-1-a-10





PEOPLES TEMPLE

OF THE
DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

Jim Jones,
Pastor

May 24, 1976

OK
Jesse

"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

Hon. Mr. Claude Worrell
Embassy of the Republic of Guyana
2490 Tracy Place, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20008

Dear Mr. Worrell:

I am writing to follow-up on the conversation of last week when our associate minister Michael Prokes called you from California. I believe he addressed himself to two points: one, the trouble we are having in regards to radio licenses in Guyana and two, the expediting of procedures we must comply with in order to import our agricultural equipment.

The first issue is particularly troublesome to us since our link with Jonestown is dependent entirely upon our radios. I have enclosed for you a copy of Paula Adam's radio license as issued in the U.S. ~~I don not have a copy of~~ Albert Touchette's, ~~however he~~ call sign is WB6-MID/8R3. Mrs. Adams operates the radio based in Georgetown and Mr. Touchette the radio based in Jonestown. The fact that their U.S. licenses have not been officially recognized by the government in Georgetown not only puts us in some legal jeopardy, but also causes us a great deal of uneasiness, (as I imagine you can understand.) We have proven ourselves sincere in our intentions. Our desire is to work in complete co-operation with and on behalf of the Guyanese government. We are concerned that our own commitment of time and money is not reciprocated in this small matter ~~by the~~ ~~government~~ of approving the radio licenses so vital to the continuation of our project.

Further, we have requested that items related to the development of the project, in particular agricultural equipment, be allowed into Guyana without the extensive importation procedures that we must deal with. We can certainly understand the need to declare what we are in fact importing into the country, but since the goods are not for resale and have specified use in our non-profit project, we had hoped for some concessions on the ~~documentation~~ ~~required~~ ~~of~~ ~~our~~ ~~Georgetown~~ ~~co-workers~~. I have referred to you a copy of the letter from the Ministry of Agriculture which was forwarded to us by Mrs. Adams. Another matter of concern

Another matter of concern in regards to importation of goods is the difficulty we have in sending such items as typewriters, tape-recorders, personal hygiene needs, and small gifts from family members

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to loved ones there. Items such as these are "contraband," however is it possible that an agreement could be reached whereby our co-workers travelling to Guyana can bring a necessary amount of such items into the country without putting themselves in jeopardy doing so?

As I have stated, we wish to comply with the government regulation, since our intentions are completely and fully to serve the ~~Co-operative~~ ^{Republic} ~~socialist~~ nation and government. I believe we have been able to provide jobs for a great many Guyanese, ~~many~~ and that our current payroll list numbers 75 citizens of the Port Kaituma area. Whatever you can do to facilitate both the radio licenses and the importation of goods, we would appreciate most sincerely.

Mr. Prokes informed our office that you would be travelling to Guyana during the month of July. May I prevail upon you for assistance in one more area. If at all possible, can you see to the needs of our ^{Phillip} co-worker of English citizenship, Mr. Phillip Blakey? ~~Phillip~~, ^{Phillip} when first ~~volunteered~~ ^{volunteered} for the agricultural project, had not intended to stay as long as he has. But he has literally fallen in love with the country and the work there. His standing in the U.S. was as a Permanent Resident, ^{and he} ~~and~~ ^{and he} carried said visa. (He is married to a citizen of the U.S., Mrs. Deborah Blakey, who is also a member of our church.) He failed to apply for a re-entry card before his departure, and since he has been in Guyana for more than one year, he has technically abandoned his visa. We understand that he must re-apply for said visa as though he had never entered the U.S. However, since his Permanent Residence was once investigated and approved, we had hoped that it would be merely an administrative matter to reinstate his standing. The results of Phillips visits to Georgetown and the U.S. Embassy have been quite the opposite. He is having now to solicit statements of marriage, birth, police records and employment confirmation in the U.S. In regards to his case, I have written our own U.S. Congressman, Mr. Donald Clausen. He in turn referred the matter to ^{Secretary of State} ~~Mr. Robert McCloskey~~ and Mr. Krebs, then Ambassador in Georgetown. At that time, Phillip had been unable to travel out of the interior to Georgetown, but since then has made the proper contacts and his file is on record with the U.S. Embassy in Georgetown. I have followed-up with another letter to Mr. Clausen. ~~He~~ ^{we} wondered, then, whether a call from you, in your official capacity with the Guyana government, might not also help expedite the matter for Phillip. If you would be so kind, would you please call Congressman Clausen on behalf of Phillip Blakey. ~~Enclosed~~ ^{Enclosed} ~~are the letters that have been exchanged in regards~~ ^{are the letters that have been exchanged in regards} ~~I cannot express how relieved and grateful we are to have a man of your~~ ^{position so} ~~position so~~ ^{to Phillip's situation.}

For all you have done and continue to do on our behalf
~~we thank you~~ our deepest thanks go out to you.
Mr. Pastor Jones sends his most kindest regards

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