

BB-27

Chris Lewis

Kathy Hunter (more): Her relation to Radio Antilles person; pretexts for writing story

→ Jim Wood: wanted to come to do story -- was refused permission by Hearst himself.

National Enquirer: background; their contact with us; desire to do story; the surveillance flight (illegal) we put them on notice; their response. The 'threatening' calls they received.

Debby Blakey

Chris Lewis background:

- reputation in San Francisco; 'street' background
- Dennis Banks says Conn calls him 'Jim's killer' - that he had killed "11 men" for Jim Jones
- Chris pictured as Jim's 'bodyguard' by Kilduff
- Chris did threaten and rough up Mertles
- Mertles' FEAR of Chris Lewis
- Jim Cobb said he got threat from Lewis (lie)
- On Wednesday after he was shot, he had important hearing coming up, in which he would have beat the rap against him. The witnesses against him never got their stories right.
- Early in 1977, Chris came back from Guyana to go to court to turn himself in. Hodge was his attorney. Then Hodge drops Chris Lewis -- Hodge turns out to be very tight with Tim Stoen. Hodge dropped Chris shortly before he was killed.
- Chris gets another attorney and ~~xxxxxxx~~ is assured that his case is won, and for him to turn himself in. He does, and is put in jail. (Note: Chris is a notorious figure in San Francisco -- a year earlier, the police had circulated his picture to everyone on the force). Dennis Banks mentions that Conn told him that two SF cops were working with him (Conn) and the government agents.
- Chris' wife goes to visit him in jail. She is told that he is 'not there.' She brings his attorney over and he turns out to be there. She is fearful that they will kill him in jail. Attorney bails him out. He comes to the Temple, and things are looking up.
- Then he gets very nervous. He says "someone is trying to kill me." Won't say who it is. He keeps going from motel to motel. Highly paranoid.

-Friday before he is shot he says police are following him. He is accused of stealing fish by cops when he exits a little grocery store -- wild, ridiculous charge. Chris 'blows up,' starts taking

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clothes off right on the spot to show he is innocent. Goes to the police station and files a complaint against the police for harassment. They say they cannot do anything about the complaint until Monday. Next day, another cop makes a crack about the complaint to Chris -- strange, since communications doesn't go that fast in the department.

-Friday night: Chris wants a gun -- bad. He comes to PT for a gun, but we don't give him any -- we don't have any, anyway. Saturday night, he is especially paranoid. He goes out to get some food, but is out a long time. At this point he will not move without a gun. One of his wife's friends sees Chris' car on a street.

-Nobody is around: doors are open, trunk is open, blood on the ground. Wife drives by, and car surrounded by police. She calls next morning to find Chris (called to Temple). Teri Buford calls Chris' attorney and a member who works at the morgue. Chris is in the morgue. Why were doors and trunk open? Only people who have a right to do this are the police: looks like a police job. Chris would not have stopped except for police. He had been shot in the navel and twice in the back. He dragged himself some distance before expiring.

-Story in press: "Jim Jones' bodyguard killed." Portrayed as Temple 'tough guy.'

STRANGE HOMICIDE

NEEDS CLEARANCE FOR
CONSULAR BOOK

On _____ (when), a _____-year old San Francisco man named Christopher Lewis was killed _____ (where). (Include photo of area where he was killed, taken at night). The facts surrounding the murder are peculiar. (Here detail strange events surrounding the murder to indicate it was not some ordinary gangland killing, no robbery motive, etc., but write it to indicate it was done by the cops.)

Chris Lewis was a member of Peoples Temple. But, more than that, Chris was typical of the many youths living in the black ghetto who strongly related and respected the commitment of Jim Jones and what he was doing for people trapped in a street-culture of despair and alienation, where 'crime' was often little more than a way to eat when there was no food, or a way to maintain a 'habit' you couldn't seem to get along without, ^{which contrasted some nameless hell and} ~~humiliation, you'll see it~~.

Full of fury and outrage, Chris couldn't always control his temper in the face of injustice. He didn't always listen to good advice. He was unpredictable, and had ~~ix~~ his own ways. He wanted to think that he knew what was best for himself, and that got him into trouble. Chris was helped, along with many of his friends and family, by the Temple. He was one of the many people that Jim ^{loved} enough about ^{to} would risk his reputation to help, ~~that he could~~ ~~about enough to do something for~~ ~~the~~, even though everybody would counsel him against it. Chris knew this well, and, despite his often outlandish behavior, ^{had} ~~had~~ a deep sense of loyalty to Jim Jones. ^{maintained}

~~It~~ When the attacks came down heavily against ^{Peoples Temple} ~~Jim Jones~~, the attackers knew that there was a Chris Lewis out there, a big man who knew no fear, an impulsive 'crazy nigger' who ~~might~~ might not just get angry at ~~what~~ what they were doing...they knew that Chris would quite possibly take matters into his own hands. ^{So} they feared him. ~~to take a man's name~~

Chris was like a living representative of their guilt -- he symbolized the youths who were up to their eyes in crime and violence, addicts, hustlers, gang-members...a host of urban casualties of racism and injustice. ~~Chris~~ They knew -- but didn't want to ~~face~~ ^{face} accept -- symbolized the youths who only had a chance to get out of it because of the man they were trying to destroy, a man who ^{had} ~~meant~~ meant the difference for hundreds of kids who ^{were condemned} ~~could only~~ look to a shiftless future failure, maybe even jail. ^{probably}

as a representative

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Chris was the man who, perhaps more than anyone else, gave the lie to their liberalish illusions. ^{It is only possible to} You could believe that things weren't so bad in America without people like Chris to remind you of what you have to exclude to harbor such an illusion. So they feared Chris, and their fear was not only a physical fear, but a psychological one. He was a threat in several ways ^{to} their cowardly imaginations, ^{their refusal, reluctance, and fear to face reality}

"aren't"

box up

And, today, we know that ^{Chris'} his murder -- his 'strange homicide' -- was what some of the false witnesses ^{were} demanded before they would go further in their lies and schemes. They wanted Chris 'out of the way,' and they made that plain.

Chris Lewis was barely cold in his grave when the attacks ^{(as J.J.} (which had died down for some time) were renewed.

The case of the murder of Chris Lewis is not closed.

It is only possible to believe that things 'aren't so bad' in America when you can exclude people like Chris, and the environment which spawned him and millions of others people who are nagging reminders, and irrefutable evidence that ~~it is only possible to~~ such a belief is really only a wish, a delusion.

need to be said better

When something stands between a person and his illusion, in order to preserve the illusion he will become a murderer. Such is the story of racism in America, and the key to a hundred thousand murders.

The murder of Chris Lewis crystallized what the attacks on Jim Jones and Peoples Temple are all about. Suburbanite dreamers ~~want~~ want the Chris Lewises of America (who they helped to create) out of the way. ~~Likewise,~~ Likewise, they don't want any institutions around that bring the realities that they want to exclude into focus, ~~and~~ ^{and} don't just give the victims of oppression a handout, but point the finger of guilt at the oppressors. Ghettos and poverty are fine if they remain confined to television sets, where they can be glamorized into police serials. ~~and~~ ^{and}

which that

and hope they'll go away

situation comedies. (need to?)
and this, too, is a form of murder.

General your plane flew over approximately 11 times. We had had mercenary threat because one of the conspirators had stood up and you can talk to him when the time comes, the court action comes. He said they ~~xxxxx~~ had been lying over here to get a surveillance picture and that they had bazookas and high powered rifles and that they were out there trying to kill us. They miss JJ's head by ~~xxx~~ 2 inches. He is right smack in the middle of it. They think that ~~he~~ ^{the person} is their friend but he is not. [Change the gender of the person ~~it~~ to "it" we don't want to reveal the gender of the person.] We don't want any harm to come to them. You should look elsewhere for violence. We know Chris Lewis was no angel but when he was sobered ~~xx~~ he would come and give money for clothes and food out of probably his ill-gotten gains. ~~I~~ ^I don't know. We never took anything ^{Nothing} but money ^{was accepted} and he would always tell us that it was on the up and up. But ~~we~~ ^I know that he was a drinker, But ~~I~~ ^I also know by what this conspiracy has shown that 4 people have said that they would not want to work against peoples temple unless he was taken care of. We know that. It is not a matter of guess work--we ~~x~~ know it.

27-BB-C

CHRIS LEWIS

call to Bertha:

- KNIGHTON and SANTONE JOHNSON- he wants J to check them out. He thinks they are the ones that are responsible for C.'s death. They have a connection with Dorothy's ex-husb. (who is a big drug dealer- been arrested several times but never been busted seriously- the police want him bad- but Bertha thinks he is connected with the CIA- has all kinds of money). Dorothy uses "coke" and thinks that she got C. involved in drugs to make some fast money. C. was going to deal drugs with these ~~xxxxxxx~~ two guys Knighton and Johnson the night he was killed. It was supposed to be a big- thousands of dollars deal. Those guys told Bertha- they had not met C.

- Dorothy knew about the death before the police told her. After an hour she went looking for him to where he was shot. She knew where to go looking for him- doesn't believe the porkchop thing because it was 6 when she sent him out and everything closes at 5.

-he thought there was some connection with TOS- said C. had property in Trinidad- downtown or somethin- supposedly worth money. Said he didn't know where TOS came in- but when told that CIA was involved- he said yea- that would explain why Dorothy's ex-husb. never got busted if the CIA was really that involved.

-Dorothy was cut off by her ex-husb. when she was with Chris- now it looks like she may be getting back with her old man- to support her coke habit- cause before C. she was getting couple thousand a month alimony etc.

- police didn't even question anyone. Not even Bertha- and they were best friends. ~~xxxxxxx~~ Lane Jenkins was the house where C. was shot at- kids there said they were going to let C. in cause they had seen him- but they started shooting the windows out etc. and they slammed the door. C. was shot after that.

- Chris felt for the gun that he carried- and Dorothy had taken it out. that's ~~xxxxxx~~ what Bertha thinks- otherwise C. would'nt have run if he had had his gun. Dorothy said she had took the gun out and not told C.- she told Bertha that she was going to give C. the shotgun and she wanted the hand gun for herself.

-Forrest Brown- old friend- and Bertha agree that Dorothy sold out C. and she was in on his murder.

- tell J he has his own personal reasons for not going to FL. now- told C. he was a fool for coming back. Bertha wants to beat up Dorothy-but decided against it.

- he said the funeral was supposed to be on Fri.- and he was planning on it then and so was everybody else that C. knew- and Dorothy called him 4 am. thurs. morning- and said the funeral was on thrus.- and nobody knew it had been changed- they all showed up on Fri. and no funeral. She refused to let Bertha see they body

- glad J taking care of Dana- said he was thereason C. let Dana go over-

- that Thurs. Bertha was going to kill Dorothy- but her husb. locked the door and wouldn't let her go out. She had loaded her gun and was going to do it.

Knighton and Johnson act funny when Bertha comes around- they always leave- even tho they knew him etc. alsopfunny- the police were going to list C. as address unknown- when he had definite addresses- and didn't

even pick anyone up for questioning- very strange.

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2/ Bertha cont.

-nobody could understand C. not having a gun- he always had one and let everybody know it.

- the people ~~xxxxx~~ chasing C. holered at the kids in the house if they let him in- they would kill them too-

- Bertha said C. would lie to her about the drug deals because he knew she didn't go for that.

- Dorothy denied having any knowledge about who lived in that area that C. would have been running towards. And Bertha knows for sure that Dorothy and C. knew drug dealers in that area- yet she said she didn't know anyone there.

-he doesn't know how all the lawyers are connected- first Hallinan, Hodge, McGinnis..

- something about the property in Trinidad- C. grandfather, and fabeñ owned it- and now C. only found out recently that he did- and something about the American govt. hassling him about it.

- Bertha said she never approved of Dorothy and she knew the kind of person Dorothy was- just a game...

- Dorothy is now either with her ex-husb. or another drug dealer- last week he knocked her off the barstool and said he was not a punk like C. and she said "no' you are a man...etc.

- Bertha hears everything Dorothy does- cause people that didn't like C. and Bertha- always tell her things that will make her feel bad about C.

- she said Dorothy's ex-husb. must be worth 20 million, rolls royces, jaguars, porche etc. he called him the biggest dope dealer in America.

Radio
Harassment [Welfare Recipients
you should be back here & ~~xxxx~~
You don't pay your taxes
Praise the Lord, Go to Heaven! Hell
Big Smatched, Take a douche - religious
douche