

EFFORTS FOR JONESTOWN FUNDS

Continued from 27th Page

chief who revealed the documents at the inquest held in this remote village in the northwest territory of Guyana.

The letters were discovered by the Guyanese police late on the night of Nov. 18—the evening of the deaths in Jonestown—in the possession of Michael Prokes and Timothy and Michael Carter.

Prokes and the Carters had left Jonestown early in the evening as the Jonestown deaths were beginning, according to testimony at the inquest. They were carrying a suitcase containing \$550,000 in U.S. currency and about \$130,000 in Guyanese currency.

Prokes and the Carter brothers, longtime followers of Jones, were arrested when they were discovered by a night watchman in the village of Port Kaituma, where they said they had headed after leaving Jonestown.

Prokes and the two Carters, each of whom testified at the inquest, said they had been given the suitcase, along with their passports and two pistols, by Maria Katsaris, said to be one of Jonestown's chief financial officers.

All three testified that Miss Katsaris told them to take the suitcase to the "embassy," not specifying which one she meant.

She also told them to "shoot your-

selves if you are caught."

The three men testified that they opened the suitcase after they left Jonestown, buried part of the money to lighten their load and left the rest of it, along with the suitcase, in a chicken coop. They stuffed about \$48,000 into their pockets, and continued on with the letters, the weapons and two extra passports until they were arrested.

They claimed they had attempted to read the letters, but were not able to in the dark, moonless night. The police who arrested them took the letters, and their contents were not publicly revealed until Sunday's session of the inquest.

The two passports accompanying the letters belonged, Roberts said, to Miss McGowan and Miss Katsaris, whose body was later found in Jones' cabin in the Jonestown settlement. She apparently had died of poisoning.

The packet of letters carried by Prokes and the Carters also contained a note from Miss Katsaris which read:

"I, Maria Katsaris, leave all the money in the Banco Union de Venezuela in Caracas to the Communist Party Soviet Union. The person to contact is Mr. Hedderich in main branch. This is my final wish before I die."

The note was signed by Miss Katsaris and witnessed by Jim McElvane