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Jones Relatives Allow Autopsy in Delaware On Ex-Leader of Cult

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DOVER AIR FORCE BASE, Del., Dec. 7 — Permission has been received from the next of kin of the Rev. Jim Jones, founder of the Peoples's Temple, to do an autopsy on his body here, according to Robert J. Havel, a spokesman for the Justice Department.

However, Maj. Robert W. Groom, a spokesman for the Air Force base, said that the autopsy was not done today.

Mr. Havel said that the autopsy would be done here at an unspecified date by specialists from the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology in Washington.

Justice Department officials said earlier that Guyanese officials had requested that American specialists do an autopsy on Mr. Jones's body in the United States. The reason was to assist the Government of Guyana in its criminal investigation of the death of Representative Leo J. Ryan, Democrat of California, in case information is needed at a later date.

However, the request has puzzled some observers in this country because an autopsy was said to have been done in Guyana.

Cicely Gouvia, a spokesman for the Guyanese Embassy in Washington, said today that an autopsy on Mr. Jones's body was done in Guyana in the presence of two Army pathologists. She said a report was not available.

Mr. Havel said "a partial autopsy" was done in Guyana by Guyanese officials before Mr. Jones's body was flown here. Mr. Havel said he did not know whether the phrase "partial autopsy" meant a superficial examination or a detailed study of some parts of Mr. Jones's body.

It is also unknown whether a complete autopsy can be done here because some organs might have been removed in Guyana.