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Jones's Son, in a Mocking Tone, Tells Court He Slew 4 in Family

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GEORGETOWN, Guyana, Dec. 18 — Stephan Jones, 19-year-old son of the late People's Temple leader, Jim Jones, startled a courtroom today with an angry and apparently mocking confession to the murder of a mother and her three children, a crime for which another man has been charged.

Mr. Jones, who appeared as a witness for the prosecution, replied to a prosecution question that he said was "ridiculous" by stating:

"All right, I did it. I killed those people and I'm trying to put it off on Chuck."

Although stated in anger and disbelieved by many present in the courtroom, his "confession" may radically alter the proceedings of the inquiry, which the prosecution asked be adjourned so it could study whether charges against Mr. Jones should be lodged. This decision is expected tomorrow.

The inquiry concerns Charles E. Beikman, a 43-year-old temple member and former Marine, who has been charged with the murder of Sharon Amos, the public relations head of the temple in Georgetown, as well as three of her children. All four were found with their throats slashed in the Lamaha Gardens house belonging to the temple on the evening of Nov. 18, the day of the mass suicides and murders at Jonestown.

Calm at Statement

Asked after the inquiry why he had made the statement, Mr. Jones replied:

"I was aggravated and I was mad. I have been accused of killing my family, two beautiful children, I am tired and I

haven't said the half of what the police did to us. I'm tired of being pushed.

His surprise response was issued after the prosecutor, Carlton Weithers, asked, "Did you conspire to kill Sharon Amos?"

"It was a most amazing statement. It is a most absurd statement," Magistrate Desmond Christian said later as he and a defense lawyer, Rex McKay, debated whether prior testimony by Mr. Jones should be believed in the light of the statement, which the magistrate said bordered on contempt of court.

Another Reported Confession

Before the Jones statement, the inquiry had centered on a confession that Mr. Beikman is supposed to have made to Mr. Jones. Mr. Jones testified that he had urged Mr. Beikman to make a confession at the instigation of the police.

A police inspector called to testify earlier contradicted the Jones version. As a result of this discrepancy and what the magistrate said was evidence that the statement had not been freely given, the supposed Beikman confession was ruled to be inadmissible as evidence.

In another development, the police today notified United States officials that 18 more cult survivors in Georgetown had been cleared to leave the country contingent on the outcome of a coroner's inquest this week.