

# Grand Jury Hears Aide to Jim Jones; Lawyer Says 'Crimes' Are Outlined

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SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 20 — Terri Buford, a former top aide and adviser to the Rev. Jim Jones, testified today before a Federal grand jury here that is looking into the murder of Representative Leo J. Ryan and the financial affairs of the People's Temple, which Mr. Jones founded and led.

Miss Buford, who left the cult last Oct. 27, was the second witness known to have appeared before the grand jury, and the first former Temple insider to agree to testify.

The 26-year-old Miss Buford testified for one hour and 40 minutes in the sealed grand jury chamber. Her lawyer, Mark Lane, meanwhile told reporters that she was "telling the grand jury everything she knows about crimes committed by the People's Temple over the last few years."

Mr. Lane, a conspiracy researcher and assassinations theorist who did legal work for the cult in the months before Mr. Ryan was killed in Guyana on Nov. 18, has been representing Miss Buford for the past three weeks.

Mr. Lane did not specify the "crimes."

his client was prepared to discuss, but he said she had been present during a meeting in the United States at which high-ranking officials of the cult discussed in detail a "vast stand plan."

The plan, Mr. Lane said, included not only the suicides that took place at the cult's commune in Jonestown, Guyana, after Mr. Ryan's murder, but also the murders of those who had "defected" from the cult and of public officials.

Mr. Lane said that Miss Buford had given the Federal authorities the name of one person previously assigned to help carry out the plan, a woman living in the San Francisco area.

It was her concern over the planned murders of former cultists and public officials, Mr. Lane said, that led Miss Buford to give to Justice Department lawyers on Dec. 6 three pages of documents relating to \$7.5 million in cult funds on deposit in Zurich and Panama.

### Freeze on Funds

Miss Buford, he said, asked the Justice Department to freeze the funds so that they could not be used to finance the murders of herself and other defectors. The department said today in Washington that such a freeze had been obtained.

Mr. Lane said today that the sole signature for the accounts of which Miss Buford had knowledge was Annie McGowan, a 70-year-old woman who died with more than 900 others at Jonestown.

He said that the sole legal heir to the funds was now Mrs. McGowan's son, whom he would not identify except to say that the man was working as a janitor somewhere in the Middle West.

Mr. Lane also denied a report in yesterday's San Francisco Examiner that Miss Buford had tape-recorded telephone conversations between Mr. Jones and political figures in this country in hopes that the politicians might make statements that could be used for blackmail.

### Immunity Foregone

Justice Department officials said two weeks ago that Miss Buford had been seeking immunity from prosecution in return for her testimony, but Mr. Lane said today that she had decided to testify without immunity after being assured that she was not a "target" of the inquiry.

While Miss Buford is not believed to have any direct information about any conspiracy to assassinate Mr. Ryan, she is understood to have played a major role in the movements of millions of dollars in cash, gold and gemstones that the cult is said to have secreted in banks and other caches around the world.

Mr. Lane said he also expected Miss

Buford to tell the jurors what she knew about the activities of Timothy O. Stoen, a San Francisco lawyer who has said he defected from the cult.

Mr. Stoen has said that he set up two of the Panamanian bank accounts. Mr. Lane said today that Mr. Stoen's role in the cult's activities over the last few years had been an "incredibly important" one and that Miss Buford was prepared to testify to a number of otherwise unspecified "acts committed by Stoen in her presence."

### Another Inquiry Reported

Mr. Stoen's activities as a prosecutor in San Francisco and in Mendocino County to the north are under investigation by the California Attorney General's office, and Mr. Lane said today that Mr. Stoen had become a target of the Federal inquiry as well.

After her appearance before the grand jury today, Miss Buford met for about two hours with members of the Attorney General's staff.

Mr. Lane, who was in Jonestown at the time of Mr. Ryan's murder and the subsequent mass deaths at the commune, said today that Mr. Jones had told him shortly beforehand that Mr. Stoen had sent a message warning that if even one dissatisfied cult member were to leave Guyana with Mr. Ryan's party, the future of the organization would be in great jeopardy.