

Goldwater, Stennis On Cult's Hit List, Ex-Member Says

Post 12-22-78

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 21 (AP) — Terri Buford, one time financial manager of the ill-fated Peoples Temple, said today that Sens. Barry Goldwater (R-AKRIZ.) and John Stennis (D-Miss.) were on a temple "hit list."

She also said state Attorney General Evelle Younger and U.S. Attorney William Hunter were on a list of people to be killed in case anything happened to the cult's leader, the Rev. Jim Jones.

Buford said the person assigned to carry out the assassinations was Sandra L. Bradshaw, 32, a temple member in San Francisco.

Buford, a former confidante of Jones, left the cult's Guyana agricultural community three weeks before Jones and more than 900 cult members died in a mass suicide-murder on Nov. 18, her attorney, Mark Lane, says.

Speaking at a news conference, Buford offered few details on why Goldwater, Stennis and the other officials were on the "hit list." She said the temple also planned to kill all defectors.

Referring to the "hit list," she said Jones discussed the assassinations before about 1,000 people in Jonestown. "His instructions were to never let anyone forget Jim Jones' death," she said.

Buford and Lane told reporters that she made the same allegations in her appearance Wednesday before a federal grand jury investigating the temple and the assassination of Rep. Leo J. Ryan (D-Calif.), which occurred just before the mass deaths. She was questioned later Wednesday by investigators for Younger's office, she said.

Bradshaw and temple officials here were not immediately available for comment.

Just before the news conference, Buford was subpoenaed to appear Jan. 17 before a county grand jury investigating the temple in connection with the murder-suicide last month.

Lane, who left the jungle camp just before the murder-suicides last month, also was subpoenaed. His appearance was set for Jan. 24.

Asked how she thought more than 900 people had died in Guyana, Buford replied: "I think they were murdered."

On Wednesday, Lane said Buford had turned over temple bank account records showing that the cult had more than \$7.5 million in Swiss banks in Panama.

Cost of Airlifting Cult Dead Placed at Over \$3.5 Million

Associated Press

It has cost the Defense Department between \$3.5 million and \$4 million so far to conduct airlift and other operations in connection with the Guyana Peoples Temple tragedy, a report said yesterday.

The Pentagon report leaves open the likelihood of some additional costs being added to the total because military personnel are still working at the Dover Air Force Base mortuary in Delaware on processing of the remains and because two Army helicopters are still flying for the U.S. embassy in Guyana.

The Army and Air Force operations were ordered after more than 900 Peoples Temple adherents in Guyana died in a mass suicide-slaying on Nov. 18.

Meanwhile, the State Department assured Delaware officials that a decision will be made by Feb. 1 on what to do with 676 bodies of Peoples Temple followers at Dover Air Force Base.

Rep. Thomas B. Evans Jr. (R-Del.) said after a meeting with State Department representatives that he would like to see the bodies transported at Peoples Temple expense to California and other states where the cult originated.

The dead were transported by military planes last month from Guyana to the Dover base.