

Peoples Temple Leader Reported to Hide At Least \$10 Million in Banks Abroad

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From News Services

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 4.—The Rev. Jones stashed at least \$10 million in secret bank accounts around the world during his reign over the Peoples Temple.

The details of Jones' financial wheeling and dealing began to unfold Sunday in newspaper reports on both the West and East coasts.

The New York Times reported that Jones had established at least six, and perhaps more than a dozen, bank accounts in Switzerland, Panama, Guyana and other countries, using anonymous numbered accounts and dummy corporations.

And a mysterious international battle has begun for the fortune which some former church members estimate to be as high as \$15 million, the newspaper said.

In California, real estate was a million-dollar business for the Peoples Temple from its arrival in the community of Ukiah, the San Francisco Examiner said in a copyrighted story.

Even though most Peoples Temple holdings were sold by the time of the tragedy at the church's Guyana mission, the cult still gets income from other properties acquired by purchase or gift, the newspaper said.

Real estate records in Los Angeles, San Francisco and Mendocino counties showed the total value of property held by the cult over a period of just a few years exceeded \$2 million, much of it donated by members who gave all their worldly possessions to Jones' church to show themselves to be true Christians.

Former Jones aides have disclosed that he often spoke of channeling the church's millions to the Palestine Liberation Organization and that he men-

tioned giving money to the Soviet Union.

Now the fortune is apparently up for grabs. The FBI is trying to identify the accounts, and remaining members at the Peoples Temple headquarters in San Francisco say they intend to keep operating and the funds are theirs.

But families of people who gave up property to the cult have begun to file claims and people who lost family members in Guyana are expected to begin filing for financial assistance.

Meanwhile, the Los Angeles Times reported that attorney Mark Lane received more than \$10,000 in fees and expenses from the Peoples Temple this fall to launch a "counterintelligence" program against the groups' purported enemies.

The report was based on documents the newspaper said were presented by temple members who worked with Lane. The documents indicate that Lane was hired by temple leader Jones because of his conviction that a vast governmental conspiracy was out to destroy him and his church.

The documents include a legal strategy memorandum written by Lane detailing plans to fight the alleged conspiracy, there is also a photostat of a \$10,000 check from the temple to Lane, contradicting Lane's public statements that he wasn't being paid by the temple.

This weekend Lane conceded he had received the \$10,000 check and said the temple owed him an additional \$2,800. He would neither confirm nor deny receiving another \$7,500 in cash that temple member Jean Brown said in a sworn affidavit that she gave Lane on Nov. 9.

Brown said she gave Lane the

money at Los Angeles International Airport for an advance look at an unfavorable article prepared for the National Enquirer. The article was never printed.

"I never received any money to purchase an article, that's as far as I can go," Lane said. But he added that: "I don't see anything wrong" with such an act, and he admitted meeting with Peoples Temple members in Los Angeles at that time "about renting or investigating statements that were made in various articles" including the National Enquirer article.

Lane claimed the questions about his role as an adviser to Peoples Temple were minor compared to what he said was the government's failure to prevent the deaths at Jonestown and the fact that \$7 million in temple money is still in numbered bank accounts abroad.

Lane said he had learned the numbers of those bank accounts from Terry Buford, a former high-ranking official of the temple, and that he had cabled those banks on Saturday, directing them to freeze the accounts until further notice.

In New York, the FBI said it has arrest warrants for four U.S. fugitives who are believed to have fled to Guyana and who may have been Peoples Temple commune members.

The existence of the warrants was revealed Sunday at a Kennedy Airport news conference by FBI Special Agent Lee Laster while awaiting the arrival of a group of cult survivors.

Terry Knowles Laster's assistant at the FBI's Queens office, said today that Laster had been referring to outstanding fugitive warrants for criminal activities predating and not related

Guyana Suspect Mute in Court

GEORGETOWN, Guyana, Dec. 4 (UPI)—A haggard member of the Peoples Temple cult sat silently through two court hearings today on charges he killed a temple official and her three children by slitting their throats.

U.S. Embassy officials said they did not know when they would send home 19 cult survivors who were refused a flight home Sunday when three knives were found on them. One of them changed her mind and decided to stay in Georgetown.

The suspect, Charles E. Belkman, 42, a former U.S. marine who joined the Rev. Jim Jones' cult when they both lived in Indianapolis, was not heard to utter a word through the morning and afternoon court sessions.

to the slaying of Rep. Leo J. Ryan (D-Calif.).

Knowles said it has not been established whether the men sought were members of the temple commune, but added: "It could well turn out to be that way."

Knowles said today that the federal warrants were for flight from prosecution. They named Albert Louis Bradford, charged with rape, site undisclosed; Herman Benjamin Ferguson, conspiracy to commit murder in New York State; Claude Elyva Hubbard, charged with murder in Los Angeles; and David Hill, charged with fraud, site undisclosed.