

Jonestown Post

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 1978

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Officials Think Most Accounted For Missing Cultists in Doubt

By Leonard Downie Jr.
Washington Post Foreign Service

GEORGETOWN, Guyana, Nov. 23.—U.S. officials supervising the airlift of the bodies of the 400 Americans who died in Jonestown have raised doubts here about whether there really were 300 to 400 more Jonestown residents who disappeared into the surrounding rain forest.

Under pressure from reporters, who asked why U.S. military aircraft and personnel were not being used to help the Guyana Defense Force search the dense forest for missing Americans, a spokesman said the U.S. military personnel here doubted there were many missing people to find.

"The evaluation that we have made," U.S. Army Maj. Richard T. Helming told reporters, "is simply that there were not many more people in Jonestown at the time of the suicide."

"We cannot find hard evidence that peo-

ple did go off into the jungle, more than what have already returned. This is not to say that there aren't more out there somewhere, but if there are, they are a long way from Jonestown."

Four hundred and nine bodies have been found in the Jonestown agricultural community in remote northwestern Guyana, the victims of the mass suicide-murder led by Peoples Temple cult leader the Rev. Jim Jones last Saturday. Three, including Jones, died of gunshot wounds, and the rest took poison.

By late this afternoon, 177 of the bodies, including one tentatively identified as Jim Jones, had been brought by helicopter from Jonestown to Tineh International airport here, and many had been transferred to military cargo planes for transportation to the U.S. Air Force base at Dover, Del.

In addition to 409 known dead, which includes about eight Guyanese children

living in Jonestown, 32 other Jonestown residents who escaped on Saturday are here in Georgetown. Some of them slipped out of the commune early Saturday and others fled into the surrounding forest late that afternoon when Jonestown security guards began rounding people up for the ritual suicide that they had rehearsed many times.

Others of the 32 survivors had left Jonestown with the fact-finding mission of Rep. Leo J. Ryan (D-Calif.) on Saturday afternoon and survived the ambush by Jonestown gunmen who killed Ryan, three newsmen and one of the Jonestown defectors on a nearby airstrip.

There are also 46 more Peoples Temple members under house arrest inside the cult's headquarters house here in Georgetown.

One cult member, Sharon Amos, and her three children were found in the

See GUYANA, A2, Col. 1

GUYANA, From A1

Georgetown house with their throats slashed after the Jonestown mass suicide Saturday night.

That makes a total of just under 500 Peoples Temple Church members in Guyana who have been accounted for. The mystery that Guyanese and U.S. officials are now trying to solve is how many more there were and where they are now.

Correspondents and lawyers who went into Jonestown with Ryan and toured its housing and attended a mass meeting of its residents said they saw about 800 people there, although they did not count them.

Guyana and U.S. military personnel found 789 passports in a trunk in Jonestown. Residents had been told they did not need to carry passports there and should turn them over to Jonestown leaders. This apparently was one of many measures taken to keep residents from leaving Jonestown.

Those passports were turned over today to U.S. Embassy officials here, who are counting them again and comparing them to the lists of known Jonestown dead and survivors.

Questions have been raised about whether there was a live person in Jonestown for each passport, especially since so many older people had been brought there by Jones and their Social Security checks confiscated. But military spokesmen said they had no information on whether any graves have yet been found in Jonestown.

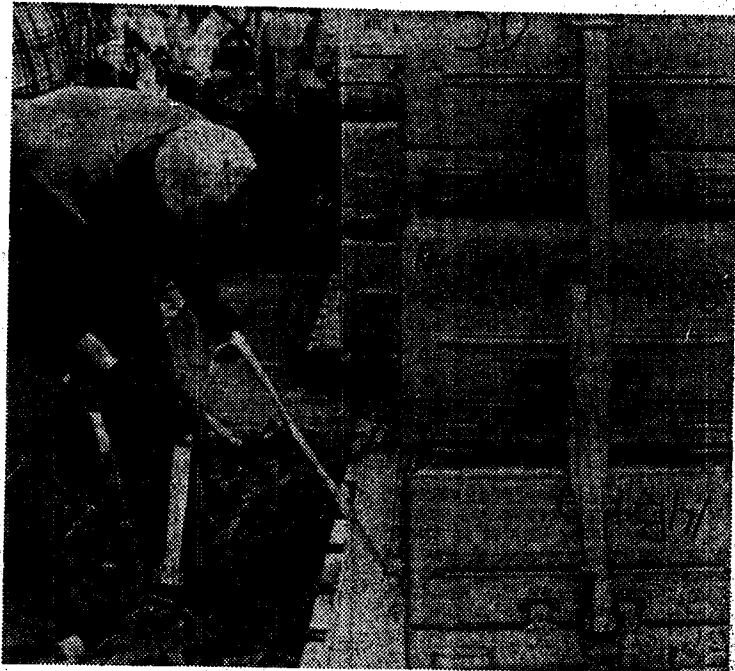
Whether there are hundreds of survivors of Jonestown somewhere in the rain forest "remains the big mystery," said James Ward from the State Department's Office of Emergency Services.

All 32 survivors came out of the forest within a day or two of the mass suicide. No more have appeared during the last two days, according to U.S. and Guyanese officials.

Embassy officials said they were going to see that the survivors are housed and fed and receive assistance in returning to the United States. Although a few of the survivors are in hotels, nearly 20 are staying, at their request, in a large second-floor room in the central jail under police protection.

They are still afraid they will be killed by cult gunmen.

One theory about the people who may be missing from Jonestown is



United Press International

A worker prepares a stack of coffins for shipment to the United States. One container, apparently contains remains of cult leader Jim Jones.

that they were led into the forest to be killed by Jonestown guards or were shot while fleeing through the forest. Lawyer Mark Lane, who went to Jonestown with Ryan and escaped into the forest when the mass suicide roundup began, told reporters later that he heard screaming and shooting in the forest.

Another theory, one offered by some Guyanese authorities, is that a number of Jonestown residents who lived in buildings on its periphery scattered into the forest when Jones summoned them for the mass suicide.

In the rain forest they may not have survived exposure, dampness, poisonous snakes or numerous jaguars.

One Guyana Defense Force soldier asked by a reporter touring Jonestown if he and the other soldiers were making a wide search of the forest answered that the reporter must be joking.

"If you went 15 feet in there," the soldier said, "you would be so lost we might never find you."

What the Guyanese troops appar-

ently have done is travel down the paths through the forest to the farm and camps of people who live in the forest, looking for signs of people traveling recently along the paths and asking if the Indians have seen anyone.

Maj. Helmling told reporters, "If people go off in the jungle they leave trails, they leave evidence. These have not been found. There are some existing trails in the area and these trails to the best of my knowledge and belief have been covered, and people have not been found."

Meanwhile, the military spokesman

here made clear that their first priority is to use the aircraft and personnel brought here to move the decomposing bodies out of Jonestown as quickly as possible.

"I don't think the priorities are necessarily backward," James Ward said. "The fact remains that 400 deceased people in this situation demands a certain immediate action. This does not mean that there is no concern for survivors. The fact remains we have to try in addition to searching for survivors to try identify which people are potential survivors."

U.S. Air Force Capt. John J. Moscatelli said today that after all the bodies have been transported to the United States the aircraft and 200 U.S. military personnel here might be used for a wider search of the rain forest.

The airlift of bodies, begun late yesterday, continued with dispatch today. Corps technicians spent the night under field lights putting the dead into plastic body bags in Jonestown, where HH-130 "Super Jolly Green Giant" U.S. military helicopters carried them from Jonestown to Georgetown.

At the rate the airlift was moving yesterday, barring bad weather, the task could be finished Friday or Saturday.

More than 100 bodies that still had not been moved were among the first being transported back to the United States.

"We have to get them out first," said Moscatelli, "to arrest decomposition as soon as possible [by refrigeration in the U.S.] and make identification."

About 175 of the bodies were tentatively identified as they lay on the ground in Jonestown by a team of assistants by about a dozen of the survivors, including, as it turned out, two of Jones' lieutenants who were then arrested by the Guyanese police. Japanese and U.S. Embassy officials assisted by about a dozen of the survivors, including, as it turned out, two

of Jones' lieutenants who were then arrested by the Guyanese police.

The two men, Mike Prokes, 32, from Modesto, Calif., and Tim Carter, 28, of Boise, Idaho, have been held by police under suspicion of having some connection with violence in Jonestown because of the guns and large sums of money they were reportedly carrying when arrested.

A third surviving Jones lieutenant, Larry Layton, 32, from San Francisco, has been formally charged in court here with five counts of murder, three counts of attempted murder and one count of discharging a loaded firearm in connection with the ambush of Ryan's party at the airstrip near Jonestown last Saturday.



U.S. troops at the airport in Georgetown, left, unload bags containing corpses of mass suicide victims from a U.S.



Associated Press

helicopter and transfer them, right to metal shipping containers for yesterday's flight to the United States.

A Novel of the Absurd

THE WASHINGTON POST

Friday, November 24, 1978

A3

Against a Tropical Backdrop

By Leonard Downie Jr.

Washington Post Foreign Service

GEORGETOWN, Guyana, Nov. 23—

If only the horror of the bodies rotting under the hot sun in Jonestown could be blotted out, the other events of this extraordinary week here could be stitched together in the style of Evelyn Waugh or Graham Greene to form a novel of the absurd in the tropics.

A remote, Kansas-sized nation of less than a million inhabitants and only a dozen years of independence, whose name was seldom spelled right even by the few outsiders who knew it existed, suddenly becomes front-page news around the world.

Its languid capital, populated by less than 200,000 and run by exceedingly polite if somewhat deliberate civil servants, is inundated by an unending flood of foreign journalists, each of whom demands exclusive access to everything and everyone without delay.

Its government, which retains the parliamentary trappings and tropic colonial buildings of its former British rulers but is run now by socialist leaders who want to be addressed as "comrade," is not quite certain how to handle all this because, in the words of one foreign diplomat here, "They are still trying to decide whether to have an open or closed society."

Its small sector of private enterprise—most industry and large stores are nationalized—is being infused with American and Guyanese dollars by the correspondents and U.S. military and civilian personnel crowding the hotels and restaurants, buying out its clothing stores and monopolizing most of its taxis.

The result has been a mixture of confusion and occasional remarkable cooperation, frustration and good humor, tragedy and economic windfall, and the distant stench of death mingled with the warm love of life of the Guyanese people.

Guyana has been open to the world this week as never before.

"Americans would never come here

otherwise," one cab driver said, perhaps forgetting the hundreds of Americans who had come and become part of the settlement in Jonestown.

This tropical country is nearly 90 percent covered by dense rain forest. Most of its people are here along the Atlantic coast, where ocean breezes moderate the heat with frequent showers. It has no highway or rail link with its neighbors on three sides: Venezuela, Brazil and Suriname.

Guyana, located on the northern rim of South America, considers itself a Caribbean nation. Its best connections by air are with Trinidad. Its papers are filled with news from the Caribbean islands. Its music is West Indian. Its socialist model, in rhetoric, is Cuba.

Only a little more than 40 percent of its population is black, descendants of Africans brought here by the Dutch and British, but it is their political party that has controlled the government since independence.

Half of Guyana's citizens are East Indians, who make up the bulk of its merchant class but have largely been shut out of the top positions of power in the government of Prime Minister Forbes Burnham. The mix also includes Chinese, indigenous Amerindians and some British-descended "white Guyanese" who remained behind after independence in 1966.

The people and the government are proud of their country, which is un-are its basic crops and industry) but derdeveloped (sugar, rice and bauxite not desperately impoverished. Its relatively few roads are filled with cars and bicycles. City dwellers are well dressed and healthy.

Except for a recent epidemic of street muggings here, called "choke-and-robbs," there is relatively little violence. The Guyanese were deeply shocked by the events at Jonestown last weekend.

At first they explained it to themselves as something Americans did to Americans, but now questions are being asked by opposition politicians and newspapers and others about whether the Guyanese government

should not have done something about Jonestown long before this.

They are asking how dozens of guns, including automatic weapons, got into Jonestown; whether it is true that Jonestown was taking in and sending out goods by water via a nearby river to the sea without going through customs, or whether top officials of the government were too friendly with Jonestown leader Jim Jones and looked the other way when stories of strange activities there reached diplomatic and political circles here.

The toughest questions, however, are now being asked by an increasingly insistent foreign press corps here.

Restrictions on access to Jonestown, which can now be reached only by air, and on information coming from anyone but a few Guyanese government and U.S. Embassy spokesmen, the difficulties of using a limited telephone system that has been overwhelmed by the media, and the polite British-style brushoff that Guyanese officials give reporters who push too far have begun to frustrate the press and produce some conflict.

A reporter for one major U.S. newspaper angrily lectured an official of the Ministry of Information about how wrong and foolish it was that he had not been given the same access to the Jonestown scene and elsewhere that a reporter for a competing U.S. newspaper had.

Some reporters became particularly strident at a press conference last night by U.S. military, U.S. embassy and Guyanese officials to report on the removal of bodies from Jonestown and the search for survivors.

Reporters who apparently believed that more should be done to hunt for survivors in the remote rain forest peppered the officials with combative questions that sometimes became lectures.

"How can the United States send a fortune to recover dead bodies," one reporter asked, "and very little to go after survivors in the jungle?"

Sometimes, the reporters' frustrations are carried to noisy luncheon tables in hotel restaurants here, where they are the most numerous patrons—except for three days at the Tower Hotel in the heart of this city. On

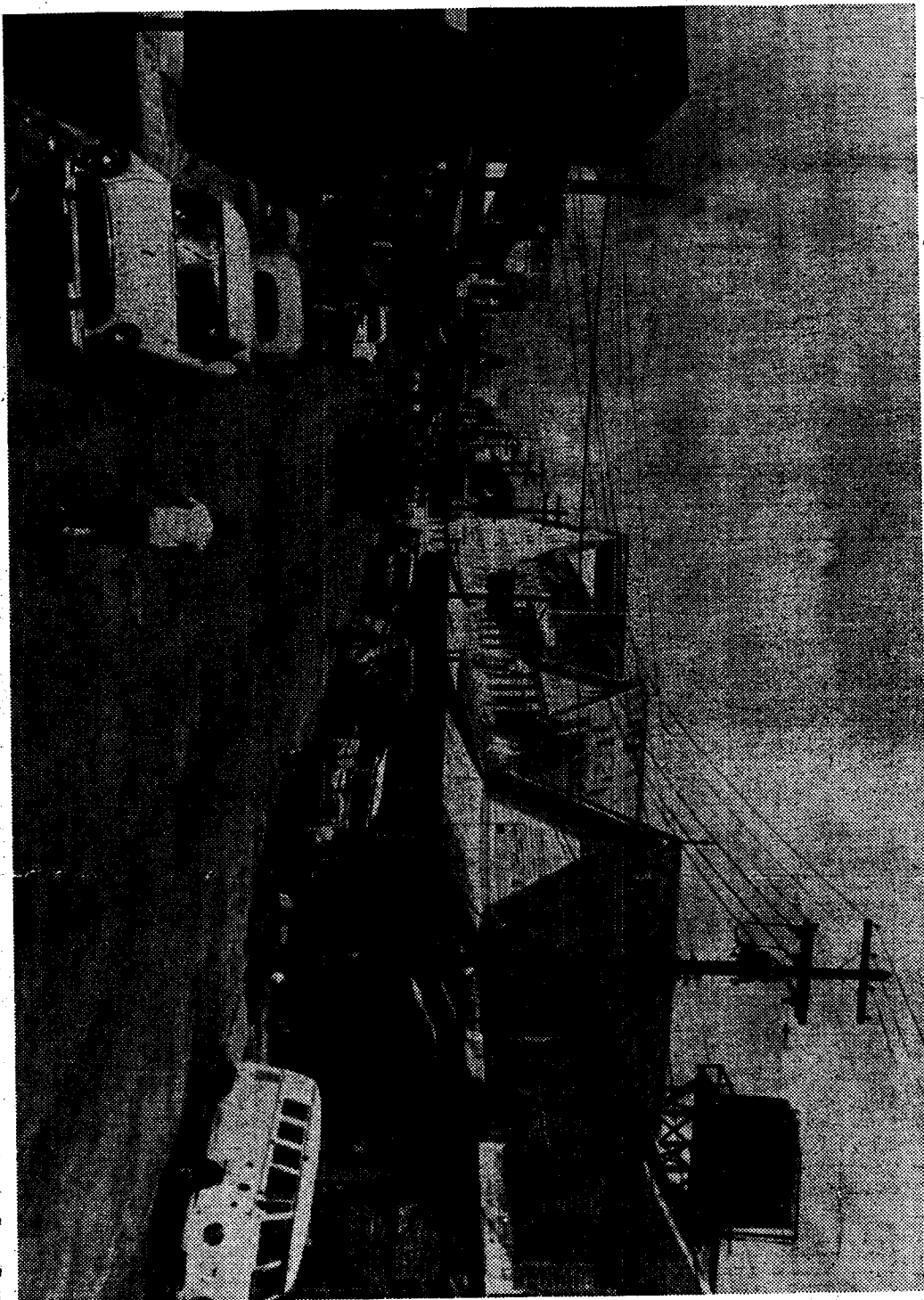
those days, the Chinese soccer team, in Georgetown to play Guyana's national team, occupied many of the Tower's rooms and half the dining room for three meals a day.

But unlike the foreign journalists, the Chinese soccer players were

barely noticed as they filed in noiselessly, ate at two long tables and disappeared again, never to be seen in the lobby or corridors of the hotel until they boarded their buses to leave.

On the night they left, a small crowd gathered outside the hotel.

With the squad of big, rugged-looking Chinese athletes boarding their buses amid the foreign reporters dashing back and forth from the hotel to their taxis, there was much to watch in a city that has not known such excitement since independence day.



Water Street, a main thoroughfare in Georgetown, reflects the leisurely pace of life before Guyana's capital was jarred by Jonestown killings.

Camera Press

A remote, Kansas-sized nation of less than a million inhabitants and only a dozen years of independence, whose name was seldom spelled right, even by the few outsiders who knew it existed, suddenly becomes front-page news around the world.

By Judith Valente

Washington Post Staff Writer

For the past three days, the lives of Jack and Kathleen Griffin have been consumed by an endless series of phone calls.

Twice daily, the Herndon couple calls the State Department, asking each time if anyone there knows whether the Griffin's nine cousins are alive or dead.

The nine cousins, ranging in age from 6 to 33, were all members of the People's Temple cult, and had all followed cult leader Jim Jones to Jonestown, Guyana to build a utopian socialist farm commune in the jungle. On Sunday, 400 people in Jonestown perished in a mass murder-suicide.

Yesterday, the Griffins tried again, and heard another polite, sympathetic voice giving them the same, frustrating message.

"They ask for the names (of the relatives) and who's calling. They say 'we don't know anything,' or else, they say 'we'll contact you.' And I'll say, 'Well, who has the names (of the dead)?' And they'll say, 'We don't know, we don't have them.'" Jack Griffin said.

Then, in frustration, they called a newspaper yesterday to see if there had been any published reports of survivors. They had already sent their young daughter out to look for a California newspaper, because an aunt from California had said one of the Griffins' cousins, a 33-year-old, had been mentioned in an article as one of the church members seen carrying a gun.

The Griffins, as the Washington-area branch of their family, have become the focal point of the family's efforts to obtain information about the relatives. And while the one big question remains unanswered—are their relatives dead or alive?—their waiting has become filled with other troubling questions.

The family is Catholic and would like a Catholic burial for their relatives if they are dead. But Kathy Griffin says she is worried that the Catholic Church will refuse to bury her cousins because they are member of another church, and may have taken their own lives.

"I'll have to talk to a priest about it," said Kathy Griffin, who used to baby-sit for some of her cousins who are now unaccounted for in Guyana. Five of the missing are her first cousins and four are second cousins, she said.

And, she says, although the family is hoping against hope that their relatives are alive, they are uncertain about how they will be able to pay the burial costs of nine family members all at once, if they are indeed among the dead.

Meanwhile, the waiting goes on. "It's terrible. One minute I think to myself they're all dead. The next, I say maybe they escaped in the jungle."

Mrs. Griffin said her aunt in California read in a paper there that the husband of one of her (cousins) was listed among the dead. Still the Griffins can get no information from the State Department.

"They're very polite when we call. They take the information (the names of the Griffins' cousins). But they're not disseminating any information . . . If 200 people were identified, like the newspapers said, then certainly they have some information by now," said Jack Griffin, a Navy captain stationed at the Bureau of Naval Personnel.

Mrs. Griffin's cousin, Marlene Taley Wheeler, who is about 30 years old now, was the first to join the People's Temple church in San Francisco. Wheeler had moved to San Francisco from the Long Beach, Calif., area in the mid-1960s after she and her three sisters and brothers lost both their parents.

The People's Temple was just around the corner from where Wheeler lived. Griffin said members of the church probably struck her cousin as friendly and out-going. All five members of the orphaned family eventually joined the church in the late 1960s Griffin said. "They had lost their parents and wanted to hold the family together," Mrs. Griffin said.

"They were looking for a church," she added.

When many members of the San Francisco branch of the People's Temple moved to Guyana, Mrs. Griffins' cousins moved, too.

An aunt living in California counseled her young relatives not to join the People's Temple because she found the members "too pushy," Mrs. Griffin said.

The youths joined anyway, and donated \$57,000 they had received from their dead father's fireman's fund to the church, the Griffins said yesterday.

A spokeswoman at the State Department's special operations center set up to take inquiries from relatives of People's Temple members, yesterday said, "If we don't have the names on our known survivors' list, we take the names and cable them to Guyana for possible identification."

Asked if they thought their relatives would return to the People's Temple headquarters in San Francisco, Jack Griffin said, "My God, no."

"We want them to know that there are relatives who care enough about them who will, until they get back on their feet, shelter them, and feed them," he added.

QE2 Cruise Canceled

Reuter.

LONDON, Nov. 23—A planned Caribbean cruise by the luxury liner Queen Elizabeth II next month has been canceled because the ship is being repaired, the owners, Cunard, said today. The two-week cruise was due to leave Boston Dec. 3.

Griffins Await Word About 9 in Guyana

40 Bodies Arrive At Dover Air Base

By Alice Bonner

Washington Post Staff Writer

DOVER, Del., Nov. 23—Forty victims of the Guyana mass suicide were flown here today, the first shipment of bodies to be returned to the United States from Jonestown since last Saturday's hours of horror.

An Air Force C141 cargo plane, carrying remains in plastic bags inside aluminum containers stacked three deep on a loading pallet, landed at Dover Air Force Base shortly before 6 a.m. It was the first of a series expected to bring the 408 dead followers of Peoples Temple leader the Rev. Jim Jones the 2,000 miles here from Georgetown, the capital of Guyana.

The big gray-and-white aircraft taxied to a stop near the base operations center. Air Force chaplain Paul Wragg prayed briefly into a microphone. Dozens of reporters and cameras recorded the event behind a rope 50 yards away.

"We ask thy blessing on the crew and those whose work it is to handle these remains . . . give us strength and understanding that all things might be done with dignity and tenderness and care," Wragg said.

The bodies of four children were among the 27 females and 13 males in the first delivery, according to a State Department spokesman. Only one of the 40 had been tentatively identified in Guyana.

Because of the facilities, Dover was chosen for the return of the victims. They took their lives Saturday in a communal swallowing of cyanide-laced drink after members of the Peoples Temple

See ARRIVAL, A6, Col. 1

ARRIVAL, From A1

shot and killed Rep. Leo S. Ryan and four others who were on a fact-finding mission at the group's jungle settlement and had departed with several defector members.

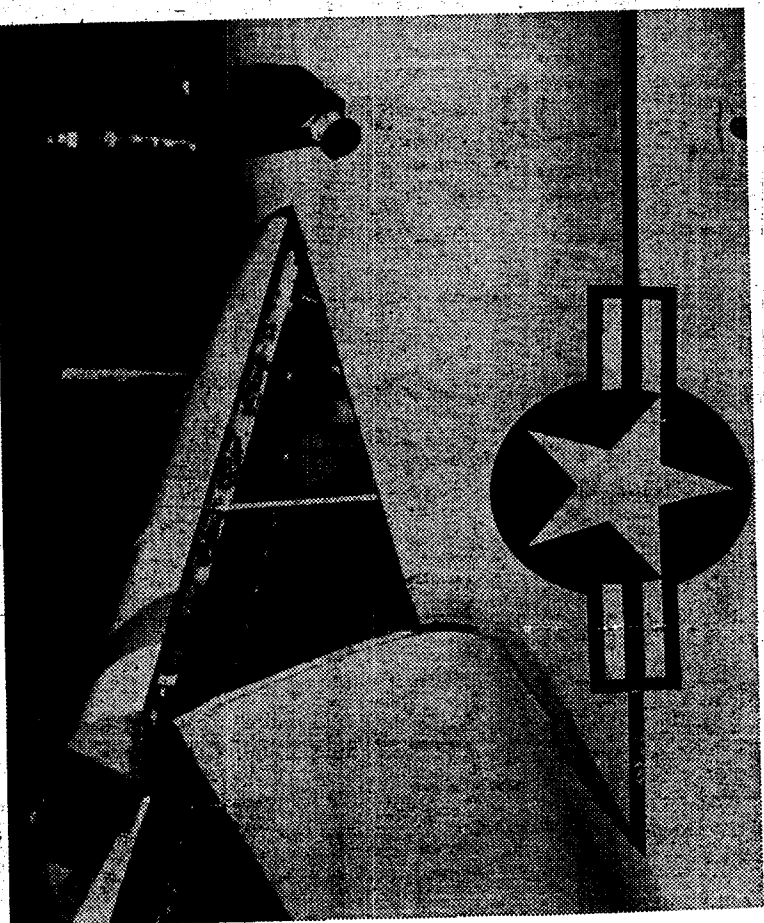
"In our judgment this was the best facility. The people here have had the experience in dealing with this kind of situation, this many casualties," explained Maj. Brigham Shuler, a spokesman for the Pentagon. Most of the Guyana victims were from California. Shuler said that although Oakland Air Force Base has a similar facility the Dover mortuary is the largest of its kind on the East Coast.

Today's was the beginning of the largest delivery to Dover since March 1971, when 327 of the victims of a collision between two 747 jetties at the Tenerife airport in the Canary Islands were brought here.

Built in 1969 to handle remains of American military personnel and their family members from Europe, the facility also processed a number of Vietnam war casualties.

A team of experts in radiology and dentistry from the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology at Walter Reed Army Medical Center will assist the nine-member base mortuary staff in processing and identifying the remains, according to Maj. Robert Groom, information officer at Dover.

The bodies will be cleaned and embalmed, then wrapped in white sheets, plastic bags and a third human-readable container before being released to next of kin for burial, Groom said. Identification of the bodies, badly decomposed after lying for days in the tropical sun, will be based on photographs, physical descriptions, medical records and dental charts, and as a last resort,



After predawn flight from Guyana to Dover Air Force Base with bodies of 40 victims, brief prayer

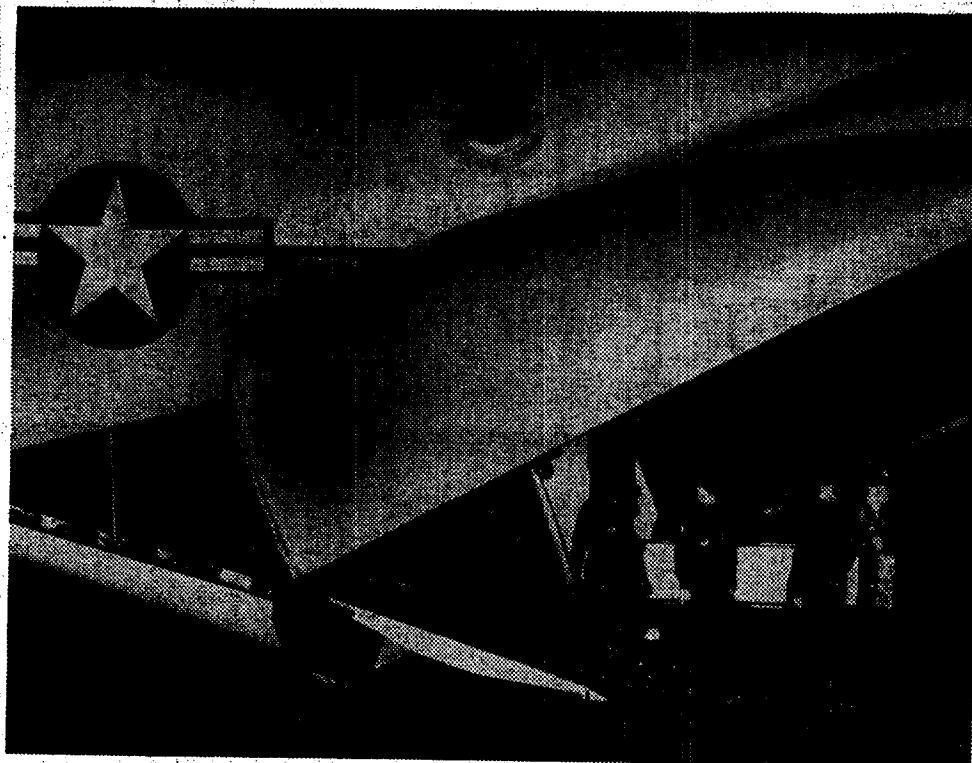
sight recognition by relatives, Shuler said.

However, the bodies are already "unrecognizable," according to a spokesman for the State Department's Guyana task force. "At this point getting them into bags is the main priority," spokesman Jett Dietrich said today.

After Wragg's prayer this morning, volunteer Air Force pall bearers in green fatigues carried 13 containers from the plane to five waiting vans. The grim procession, led by an Air Force car, then drove slowly the half-mile to the single-story cement mortuary which was closed to reporters. Twenty-seven other containers, identi-

fied on the outside by "shipping numbers," were hauled in two large trailers to save time, Shuler said.

A plan to transport the bodies in five flights, 81 to a plane, went awry when the heat and humidity of Guyana's tropical forest hampered the work of military crews removing them from the Jonestown settlement.



By John McDonnell—The Washington Post

is said, left, before C141 is unloaded. Then, crewmen carry off containers for transport to mortuary.

"This is a very strange kind of situation. It's a great human tragedy and yet they (the victims) don't fit into any usual categories," James Potter of the Dover chapter of the American Red Cross said.

The Red Cross and Air Force chaplains and legal representatives today staffed an information center for rela-

tives of the victims, who are not allowed on the base.

The center had received only six telephone inquiries from relatives by late this afternoon, Sgt. Julio Carlo said.

The calls came from Los Angeles, Boston, Louisiana and downtown Dover, among other places, Carlo said.

Lane Sensed Trouble At Cultists' Camp

By Charles A. Krause
Washington Post Foreign Service

GEORGETOWN, Guyana—Mark Lane, the well-known conspiracy lawyer who represented the Peoples Temple and the Rev. Jim Jones, knew a great deal more than he was willing to let on about the explosive situation at Jonestown and felt something was very wrong there long before Rep. Leo J. Ryan (D-Calif.) arrived Nov. 17.

During an airborne interview as he flew with the congressman and his party toward the remote agricultural commune last week, Lane said that "maybe 10 percent of the people at Jonestown want to leave."

Lane, however, insisted that nothing more than "peer pressure" was being used to keep people there against their will. Lane generally portrayed Jones and his followers as the victims of unfair publicity and a possible conspiracy on the part of various U.S. government agencies, such as the

Internal Revenue Service and the Social Security Administration, to destroy the socialist Peoples Temple commune in Guyana's rain forest.

Last week, Lane was intent upon demonstrating to Ryan and nine journalists who accompanied the congressman to Jonestown that it was, for the most part, exactly what its supporters claimed: an unusual, interracial socialist community where more than 800 of Jones' followers were living peacefully, receiving all the food, medical attention and liberty they needed.

But this week, after Ryan and four others were killed in a hail of bullets fired by Jonestown gunmen and after Jones led 408 of his followers in a mass suicide-murder that stunned much of the world, Lane admitted he knew far more about the real conditions at Jonestown than he was ready or willing to acknowledge before

See LANE, A4, Col. 1

LANE, From A1

the violent tragedy occurred last week.

For example, Lane says now that he knew strong depressants and tranquilizers were used to keep the people at Jonestown against their will. He also knew that alleged practice suicide drills had in fact taken place.

Lane also says he was warned beforehand that the grilled cheese sandwiches served on Saturday by the Peoples Temple to Ryan and others in his party may have been laced with tranquilizers or other drugs.

But instead of warning anyone of that possibility, Lane said later that he simply did not eat the sandwiches.

"I brought along some cough drops, which have a lot of sugar in them," Lane said. "I sure as hell wasn't going to eat the cheese sandwiches."

Lane claims now that he warned Ryan, before the congressman and his party left here for Jonestown, that Jones was sick and that the visit could have explosive consequences. But given the adversary relationship between Lane and the congressman, who thought Lane was trying to stall or prevent the trip, the warning, if it was made, was apparently dismissed.

Lane did not tell anyone else who traveled with Ryan that Jones was unstable and that Jonestown was in many ways a pris-

on camp possibly on the verge of being destroyed by its leader.

Lane says he knew Jones was serious about taking his followers to their deaths. He says he now believes Jones sketched out a plot that included having trained marksmen kill "enemies" of the Peoples Temple once the mass suicide-murder occurred.

Lane's knowledge beforehand of much of the reality of Jonestown and his willingness to talk about it only now—after at least 414 people are dead—has infuriated at least one of the "concerned relatives" who was on the fateful fact-finding mission.

This relative, who asked that his name not be revealed because he, too, believes that some of Jones' followers will attempt to kill those they see as enemies of the Peoples Temple, said Lane's failure to disclose what he knew beforehand constitutes "complicity in the crime."

"I find it incredible," this relative said, "that what happened at Jonestown is being called a mass suicide. Babies and children whose mothers give them cyanide have not committed suicide. They have been murdered." He said Lane possibly could have prevented the tragedy had he spoken out.

Lane countered this accusation by saying that the concerned relatives knew far more about the real conditions at Jonestown than he did. When it was pointed out that it was the concerned relatives who tried to bring their fears and beliefs to public attention—while Jones and his attorneys tried to discredit them—Lane said that "if they [the concerned relatives] weren't crazy, they wouldn't have been

discredited."

Lane also said it was his belief that the FBI and the CIA had agents in the Jonestown complex and that the U.S. government was as much aware of the

situation there as he was. Asked for his evidence, Lane said: "I don't have proof but I have strong beliefs."

In justifying his silence about much of what he knew beforehand, Lane has also said he believes that exposing the real situation would have done little good. It might, he now argues, have precipitated earlier a mass suicide-murder such as the one that occurred after the Ryan visit.

"What could have been done?" Lane asked. "I believe that if the Marines had been called in, 90 percent of the people at Jonestown would have fought to their deaths. It was a hard life, he [Jones] was a dictator but the people there didn't want to go back to the United States. They wanted to go to the Soviet Union."

Lane said he hoped before Ryan's visit that the congressman would have learned enough to publicize deficiencies at Jonestown and that Jones might have instituted "reforms."

Instead, the visit apparently triggered Jones to order trained marksmen to kill as many of those traveling with Ryan as the gunmen could before Jones ordered a real "white night," his code name for

the suicide-murder plan he had talked about—and faked—so many times before.

For his part, Charles E. Garry, who

served as general counsel to the Peoples Temple, has continued to maintain that he thinks, even after last weekend's tragedy, that Jonestown was "a beautiful thing" and that Jones did not stop people who wanted to leave the remote commune.

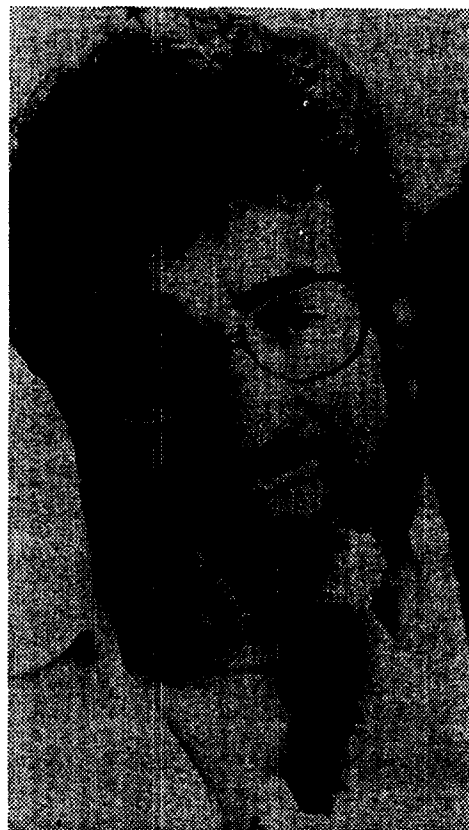
Lane was brought in only recently to investigate the possibility of filing a conspiracy suit against U.S. government agencies that Jones believed were, along with a number of California publications and former Temple members, trying to destroy both Jones and Jonestown.

Lane, who along with Garry was at Jonestown when Jones began ordering his people to take the mixture of Kool-Aid and cyanide that killed them, managed to talk an armed guard to allow himself and Garry to escape.

They walked the five miles into nearby Port Kaituma and were brought out of the area on Sunday. Lane is now back at his area on Sunday. Lane is now back at his Memphis, Tenn., home, where he has said he may write a book about his experience.

It is not entirely clear whether Lane and Garry are still lawyers for the Peoples Temple, which, despite the events of last weekend, still has thousands of adherents

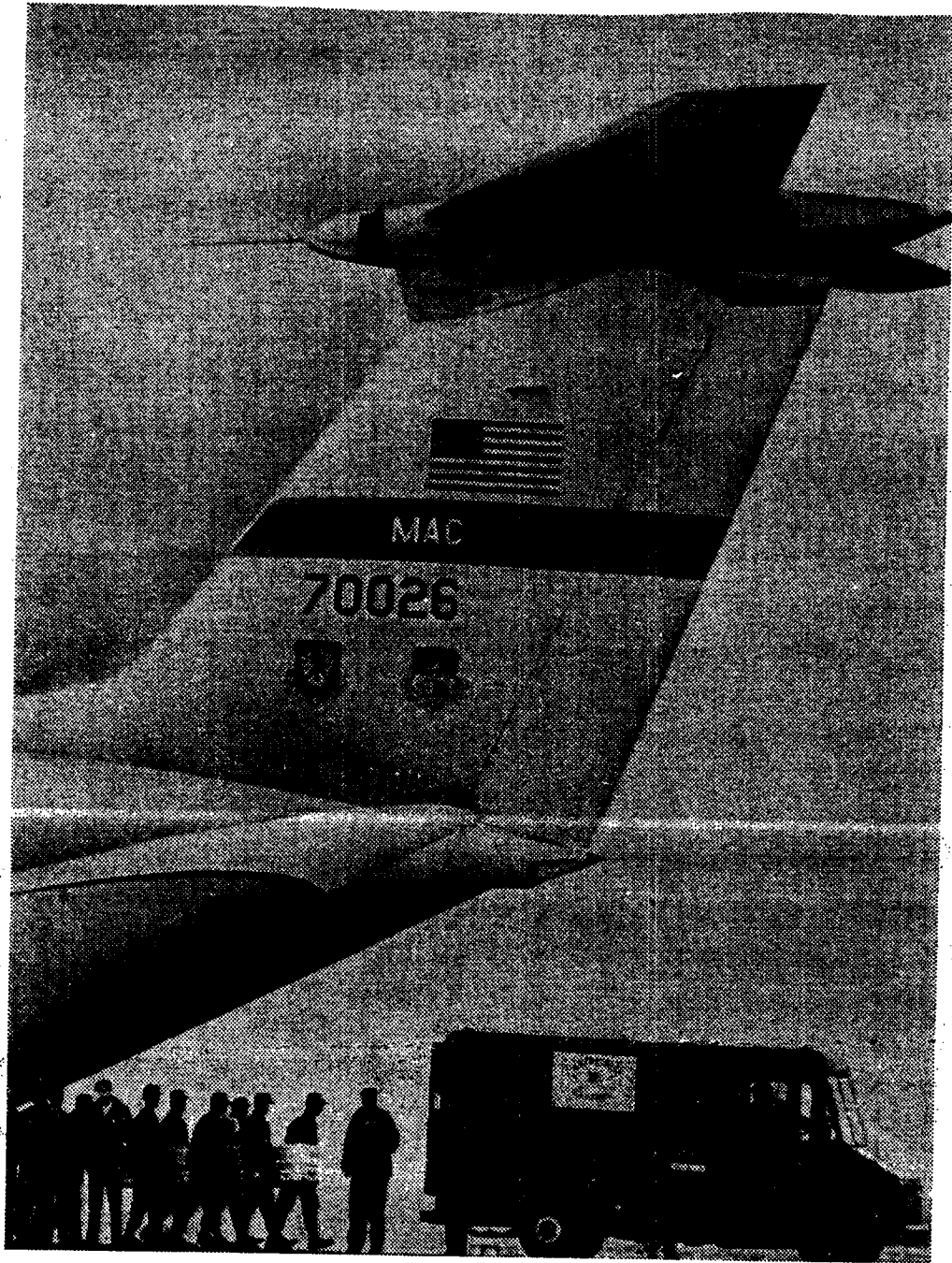
weekend, still has thousands in the San Francisco area as least 25 members now under here in Guyana.



Associated Press

Mark Lane: refused to eat cheese sandwiches.

**Lane did not tell
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By John McDonnell—The Washington Post
Overshadowed by the C141 that airlifted them, bodies are carried to truck at Dover base in Delaware.

Cultist, 84, Ready to Die for Jones

GEORGETOWN, Guyana, Nov. 23—An 84-year-old member of the Peoples Temple who narrowly avoided becoming part of last weekend's mass suicide, said today he remained ready to die for the group's leader, Jim Jones.

"I was always willing to die for him in his defense," said Miguel de Paiva from his hospital bed

here. Pointing to his heart, he added: "They can come and shoot me now."

De Paiva, a Portuguese who moved to the United States 64 years ago, was brought out of Jonestown before last Saturday's macabre events to be treated for rheumatism. He said he thought his wife Lovey, 78, was probably among the dead.