

# Cult politics take over: the California case

*Dionysus is loose in California. I'm proud to be here. The state's not putting anybody to sleep. . . . This must put the SLA to shame, they could never accomplish what Jimmy Jones did . . . I didn't know Jimmy Jones personally, but many of my crowd are saying good things about him, and about many of the things he was doing. . . . Charlie Manson, of course, was using our tools and techniques from the Merry Prankster days.*

These are not the ramblings of some spaced-out zombie in the backwoods of California. They are the comments of Stewart Brand, a top advisor to California Governor Jerry Brown, on the Guyana massacre and the Moscone-Milk murders, in an interview immediately following these events.

Stewart Brand is not only the founder of *The Whole Earth Catalogue*, the Sears catalogue of the counterculture, which members of Jim Jones's Peoples Temple carried in their luggage when they left for Guyana; he is an official advisor to California's Governor Jerry Brown. As Brand's comment illustrates, the mass suicide of the California-based cult and the brutal murders on Nov. 27 of San Francisco Mayor George Moscone and City Supervisor Harvey Milk are no coincidence. They are the conscious result of a 40-year operation to turn California into a state run on the social-control principles laid out in Aldous Huxley's *Brave New World*. That operation was directed primarily through the MK-Ultra experiment in the use of hallucinogenic drugs in mind-control and brainwashing. The final phase of that operation was the creation of a mass countercultural movement of LSD cults of rock music and ritualistic death, described in recent FOIA documents as the "testing of MK-Ultra materials . . . on unwitting subjects in normal life settings." By the late 1960s, spread by the

infamous "Merry Pranksters" operations of Ken Kesey and others, it had destroyed thousands and thousands of America's youth.

With the establishment of cultist Jerry Brown as the governor of California, MK-Ultra became the government of California. Brown's leading advisors are the leaders of the Kennedy-linked support operations for the development of the counterculture, and his government and personal friends include top operatives of MK-Ultra and associated networks. They include:

**GREGORY BATESON:** controller of the initiating MK-Ultra experiments at the Palo Alto, Calif. Veterans Administration Hospital from 1950-1962. Bateson is a Cambridge University-trained "anthropologist," friend of Huxley's from the 1920s, for 15 years husband of the late Margaret Mead, and a regional ethnology specialist in the Office of Strategic Services from 1944 to 1947. Bateson was the personal psychiatrist of Alan Watts, Buddhist guru and founder, with Huxley, of the Esalen Institute. In the 1950s, Bateson became spiritual leader and drug supplier for a group of young artists gathered through Stanford University, the Palo Alto VA Hospital, and California School of Fine Arts in San Francisco. This group became the original Merry Pranksters. Bateson addressed Jerry Brown's State Prayer Breakfast in 1976 on the subject of peyote. He is currently a Brown appointee to the California State Board of Regents and a Scholar in Residence at the Esalen Institute.

**STEWART BRAND:** an original Merry Prankster, recruited by Bateson, publisher and editor of *The Whole Earth Catalogue* and its successor *CoEvolution Quarterly*. Brand is an official "special consultant" to Brown, who Brand recently described in print as "in effect . . . a contributing editor for *CoEvolution Quarterly*, at no pay."

**KEN KESEY:** leader of the Merry Pranksters and orchestrator of the so-called "Electric Kool-Aid Acid Test." Kesey, a former jailbird, was invited by Brown in October 1977 to address the governor's staff on the subject of police practices.

**SIM VAN DER RYN:** key provocateur of Berkeley's "People's Park" riots; technical advisor to Brand's *CQ*; protégé of Buckminster Fuller, founder of the Farralones Institute, a West Coast think tank specializing in solar energy research. Van der Ryn met Brown at the San Francisco Zen Center; he was appointed the California State Architect and head of the Brown-created State Department of Appropriate Technologies.

**THEODORA KROEBER-QUINN:** British-trained anthropologist, close friend of Bateson's, author of *Ishi in Two Worlds*, a cult anthropology book which develops themes originating in *Brave New World*. Appointed by Brown to the State Board of Regents.

**ZENTATSU BAKER-ROSHI:** Zen "priest," head of the San Francisco Zen Center, where Brown goes to meditate. Baker-Roshi is one of a string of gurus, including MK-Ultra operative Baba Ram Das, the former Richard Alpert, who have advised Brown on "spiritual" matters. Baker-Roshi's Zen Center was founded in 1959 with aid from Alan Watts, who according to a representative of the Center "may still be associated with us, but I don't know since he's passed over."

By the time of San Francisco's 1968 "Summer of Love," the number of "freaks" in California had reached major proportions. Haight-Asbury was run by the so-called "Diggers," which included key figures previously involved in the founding of the *Los Angeles Free Press*, one of the earliest models for the underground press, which would later be instrumental in the success of Jerry Brown's first electoral campaign. Haight leaders held their power on the basis of their known connections to MK-Ultra drug sources. Their control of San Francisco's LSD culture was institutionalized in the creation of the Haight-Asbury Free Clinic, which was founded by an MK-Ultra connected psychiatrist, Ernest Dernberg, and Roger Smith, street-gang organizer and parole officer of later mass murderer Charles Manson.

The clinic was itself controlled through the Langley-Porter Clinic, where Bateson had worked before his term at the Palo Alto VA Hospital, and which directly took part in MK-Ultra related experiments. The Haight clinic was the first in a city-wide network of drug clinics which included the North East Mental Health Clinic and the Los Siete Clinic, which were connected to what one key NEMH staffer described as the Black Liberation Army's "underground railroad," and the Delancey Street Foundation, directed by MK-

Ultra operative Dr. Joel Fort, who later helped found Project One.

Parallel to the "hippie" developments in the Haight, the culture of "political" hippies was being developed in Berkeley, out of the refuse of the Berkeley Free Speech Movement of the early 1960s.

By the second half of the 1960s a major migration of these elements to northern California had begun. The key figure in directing this migration was anarchist-terrorist Murray Bookchin, a personal friend of Bateson, who is today key controller of Spain's Basque terrorists. Allan Hoffman, a personal protégé of Bookchin's and leader of the New York-based "Motherfuckers," a Diggers-type group controlled by Bookchin, moved to California and began organizing elements of the Diggers, the Hells Angels, and the Motherfuckers into a network of primitive communes centered around Ukiah, the same city to which Jim Jones also took his followers in the mid-1960s.

At the same time Bookchin personally intervened in the network of political communes in Berkeley during a 1967 tour of the West Coast. He called for the establishment of a parallel support network of rural communes for "rest and recreation" and study purposes. Like the Jones cult, the Diggers and Bookchin's "politicos" based their plans on the need to survive an inevitable nuclear holocaust. The California network created on this basis has since functioned as a safe-house network for every terrorist operation run through California since that time — including the Symbionese Liberation Army and the Weathermen.

## The creation of Jerry Brown

Literally every cult operation was created or directly supported by these or other known MK-Ultra networks: "est" and Mind Dynamics, both channeled through Esalen; Transactional Analysis, founded by Langley-Porter's Eric Burn; Hare Krishnas and other pseudo-Indian "mystic" groups, directed through networks directly affiliated with Bateson.

Simultaneous with the development of mass-based cultism in California, former Jesuit seminarian Jerry Brown was being developed on a parallel track as the perfect figurehead for an MK-Ultra government.

Brown is a totally synthetic politician, a combination of the brainwashing apparatus of MK-Ultra with the heavily entrenched Hollywood-based Kennedy machine in California which together put him into power. Brown's entire career (even given his position as the son of a popular former governor) is inexplicable except as a totally controlled media project of these two apparatus.

That project critically included the wrecking of the legitimate political networks which had led California during its postwar development boom. Even before running for Governor, Brown and his Kennedy-trained lawyer associates were working with outfits like

Common Cause to watergate California politicians on grounds of "illegal campaign financing" and similar issues. The Brown candidacy of 1974, interestingly, was only successful over the political "dead body" of San Francisco Mayor Joseph Alioto, the front-runner for the Democratic Party nomination, who was destroyed by a media brouhaha over alleged "mafia connections," after his city had been brutalized by successive waves of SLA, "zombie killer," and BLA terrorism by the MK-Ultra network.

The use of heavy media manipulation was developed to its height in Brown's campaigns. His campaign for governor was actually based on a strategy of staying out of sight and giving huge media play to his name. Brown's key campaign advisor and later executive secretary, Grey Davis, was trained in the 1972 Los Angeles mayoralty campaign of Tom Bradley under the special direction of David Garth. Garth is a former member of the Army Security Agency, a trained clinical psychoanalyst and McLuhanite brain-washer who has recently gained notoriety directing the campaigns of, among others, New York Governor Carey and New York City gay rights Mayor Koch.

Jerry Brown was picked up as a perfect combination — a 1960s counterculture neocultist with a big name and a thoroughly amoral, moldable public profile. Brown's cultism is indicated in his early Jesuit training, in 1956-60, and represents a key to his psychological makeup. The training he underwent in a Jesuit seminary in California was overtly expressive of the (sadistic) military discipline and mind control around which the elitist Jesuit intelligence apparatus is built. Only Latin was spoken in the Novitiate, and total silence was maintained for long periods of time. Once a week a form of criticism—self-criticism, known as *defectus*, was practiced; novices who broke rules had to confess and ask forgiveness on their knees in front of the entire community; once or twice a month they would bind themselves with chains for an hour at a time; they would also beat themselves on the rear end with a rope.

The underlying approach of the Jesuits dominates everything Brown is, and the Jesuit themes, often mixed with counterculture, MK-Ultra-type "spiritualism," are quite out in the open. Brown still studies St. Ignatius, the founder of the Jesuits, and the rules he wrote for the Jesuit order, along with Brown's other anti-growth gurus, particularly E.F. ("Small is Beautiful") Schumacher. Early in his term as governor, Brown told an audience of priests, "If you want to know what my administration will be like, look at St. Ignatius's 11th and 12th rules." The rules he referred to dictate that a Jesuit must seek self-mortification, practice self-denial, and abhor worldly needs and desires.

Brown left the Jesuits in 1960, finished college at Berkeley, and went on to Yale Law School. He then served as a law clerk to a family friend and tried to make a career of sorts in law, passing the bar only

after two tries and signing up with the prestigious Los Angeles law firm of Tuttle and Taylor, in 1965.

In the late 1960s Jerry Brown became active in the antiwar movement and Eugene McCarthy's presidential campaign, attending the Democratic Convention as an alternate delegate for him. Brown was already being groomed as a youth-guru political figure, and by the time he announced his first campaign for public office in late 1968, it was understood among friends and associates that this was only the opening salvo of a campaign for much bigger stakes.

Brown ran and won election that year to the Los Angeles Junior College Board, entirely on the strength of his father's name, with media hype from *Los Angeles Free Press* networks. He served only one and a half years of a four-year term, using the position to get maximum press coverage. Brown's press aide at that time, and a close associate since, Tom Quinn (Brown was no doubt the only Junior College Board member with a press aide), has been described by one reporter as "essentially programming Brown to get the greatest amounts of publicity." Brown managed in that short time to advocate a variety of California "radical" causes, from the rights of the Huey Newton-Eldridge Cleaver Defense Committee and SDS to the use of college property for meetings to defend a teacher dismissed for reading a poem which was described as "on abnormal sexual relations with God, Christ, and animals."

Brown moved on up with a 1970 campaign for Secretary of State, a campaign that not incidentally persuaded his father to drop a possible comeback bid against Ronald Reagan. Brown's victory came despite a Republican sweep of all other statewide offices except the Senate seat won by John Tunney, a son of another famous father and a former roommate of Ted Kennedy's at law school. Kennedy sycophant Tunney and Brown became close associates, during this period and after.

Brown used his new office exactly as he had his earlier one, but on an expanded scale. Immediately on taking office in January 1971 he began filing high-publicity law suits for failure to comply with campaign financing laws, including a public threat to prosecute 134 candidates. Brown's operation against California politics escalated in April when he announced a campaign in alliance with Common Cause and the People's Lobby to place a Fair Political Practices initiative on the June 1974 ballot. The initiative was drafted by poverty lawyer Daniel Lowenstein and became known as Proposition 9 (later declared unconstitutional). Lowenstein was later appointed head of the Fair Political Practices Commission by Governor Brown. The southern California-based Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions, founded by a former Aspen Institute head and OSJ Commander Robert Hutchins, was extensively involved in the Proposition 9 campaign and was a key element in Brown's own Democratic primary victory in the June 1974 election.

## The campaign for governor

Brown's announcement as a candidate for governor was a surprise — given that he had zero qualifications — and Mayor Alioto was the clear front-runner, followed by candidates George Moscone (then a state senator) and Bob Moretti, the powerful speaker of the assembly. Moscone dropped out early, Moretti had no state-wide recognition, and Alioto showed the effect of continual press harassment on his alleged "mafia connections." With Watergate and the help of some key figures in the Democratic machine who swung crucial labor support to him, Brown won the primary, and following that, the governorship.

The record of Brown's governorship will not be dealt with here — his destruction of nuclear energy development, Proposition 13 austerity operation, and his general antigrowth policies are well enough known. We return instead to his Governor's apparatus — along with the MK-Ultra crowd, came the network of poverty and public interest lawyers created straight out of Bobby Kennedy's Justice Department, now centralized nationally through the D.C.-based Center for the Study of Law and Social Policy — which was founded and is run by former Kennedy associates. This "network of people who came through legal services and public interest law" has been described accurately as "the old school tie" of the Brown administration. Brown's top administrative staff and advisors come from the California ACLU, and its offshoots, the San Francisco-based Public Advocates Inc., California Rural Legal Assistance, and the Mexican-American Legal Defense and Educational Fund.

Grey Davis is one of these. A graduate of Stanford Law School before serving as a captain in the army in Vietnam, Davis organized for McCarthy in Vietnam and after discharge joined a top Los Angeles law firm. He worked on Tunney's 1970 campaign and then was finance director, under Garth, in the Bradley campaign. Another figure is Mickey Kantor, five years a poverty lawyer representing farm workers in Florida and a close buddy of Tony Kline, Brown's legal affairs secretary and founder of CSLSP-affiliated Public Advocates, Inc.

Kantor comes on board in an important post — as campaign manager for Brown's presidential bid of 1976. Kantor ties right back into the Hollywood-liberal networks whose ties to MK-Ultra in both the drug-running and mass psychosis industry are a major part of this picture. Kantor had managed Senator Cranston's re-election campaign in 1974 and was a member of the law firm of Manatt, Phelps and Rothenberg, a Century City firm whose head, Charles Manatt, has been chairman of the California Democratic Committee since 1971. This is the firm that Tunney joined when he lost his Senate race in 1976. Finally, and most important, this firm's clients include Eli Lilly, the company whose foundation is one of the major foun-

ders of the terrorist networks of MK-Ultra and the Peoples Temple cult.

In managing his presidential bid through Kantor and key Kennedy associate Allard Lowenstein, the Kennedy machine that runs Brown reveals itself. Brown is a stalking horse for Ted Kennedy, a pawn for a bigger pawn, in the planned Cartergate destabilization of the United States. Brown's California is the launching pad for that destabilization — from Jim Jones to Jerry Brown to Ted Kennedy stretches one continuous line of control to that purpose.

—Cornelia Reynolds

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## Sources

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Sources for this report included:

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Valuable information for this report came from numerous interviews conducted by the author and others with persons directly associated with the events described. These included interviews with a former fellow of the Center for the Study of Democratic Institutions; an interview with Stewart Brand, provided by a New York-based journalist; and interviews with observers of the 1960s events in Berkeley and San Francisco.