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# Bulletin

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## Carter's sister in Krishna land IN SEARCH OF TRUTH

By Patrick Michael

WHAT SHALL it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world and lose his own soul? And so it was that in the very early hours of November 14, the world's most powerful and one of the richest man's sister, Ruth Carter Stapleton 50, landed in Bombay's Hare Krishna land in search of that elusive truth and inner peace that the high and low in every continent are in constant search of.

Being the sister of the President of the United States of America—Pastor Jimmy Carter has still two more months in the Oval office before he makes way for Sheriff Ronald Reagan—Ruth's landing was enveloped in total—or almost total—secrecy.

"Nobody, least of all the Press, should know about my arrival here. I don't want publicity of any kind" she told the orange-robed, select devotees of Hare Krishna who had gathered at the airport to welcome their guest of honour. But the request did not prevent the Hare Krishna chanting men from clicking pictures of their "prized catch" for their album.

Mrs Ruth Stapleton Carter stayed for three days (Nov 14-16) at the Hare Krishna land in Juhu with the 1000 and odd men and women devotees.

Throughout her stay she was dressed as a commoner. She did not carry the japa-mala (counting beads) and was addressed by her first name as she had not yet been allowed to accept the Hari-nam (spiritual name) initiation from the spiritual master. (Anybody who wants to join the flock is carefully scrutinised and screened for six months before being initiated into the fold.)

All the same, during her 72 hours at Krishna land the "un-initiated" Ruth Carter tried her very best to live up to the four basic principles which the initiated devotees have to strictly adhere.

Anyone who desires to join the movement should not:

(A) eat meat, fish or eggs or even onions and garlic.

(B) have illicit sex (sex is only permissible within marriage for the production of Krishna conscious children).

(C) have intoxicating stuff like alcohol, cigarettes, drugs and even tea and coffee.

(D) participate in gambling, speculative enterprise or waste time in activities like idle sports, cinema or the TV.

These are the four basic Hare Krishna principles.

Most of the time Ruth was out visiting her mother's acquaintances at Vikhrol, where Lillian Carter worked with the Godrejes as a Peace Corps volunteer.

On November 17 Ruth Carter took off for Brindavan from where, after a short stay, she would fly to Calcutta and then



or down 100 miles to the  
e Mayapur. Chandrodayo  
hir in Mayapur.  
om here onwards, the rest  
er itinerary is a closely  
ded secret. The Hare Kri  
people are tight-lipped on  
matter.

came as a total shock to  
when this reporter re-  
ted the ISKCON Secretary  
range for an audience with  
Ruth Carter. They could  
understand how the news-  
ers Ruth's "very secret mis-  
for inner peace and truth

e Krishna land" had leak-  
the media.

November 17 when this  
r approached ISKCON  
ry: R. K. Maheshwari—  
er by profession—at his  
he was caught on the  
foot and was clearly em-  
ed at the request. All  
e he promised to do his

illed out a sheet of paper  
e second drawer of his  
nd studied the itinerary

ontd. on page 12)

ontd. from page 1)

ter's sister. "Mrs Ruth  
on Carter (I had till  
oment of time not known  
at was her name) is sche-  
to leave for Brindavan  
ence to Mayapur in West  
So the question of an  
ce with her does not  
he said. When I persist-  
even offered to fly down  
ever she was he tried  
varicate. "Give me time  
5 p.m. tomorrow" he said.  
ged.

at 2.15 p.m. the next day  
sed that he had only been  
to buy time. In a tele-  
conversation he denied  
hing he had said includ-  
at which he had read  
the paper which clearly  
e blue colour letter-head  
re Krishna embossed on

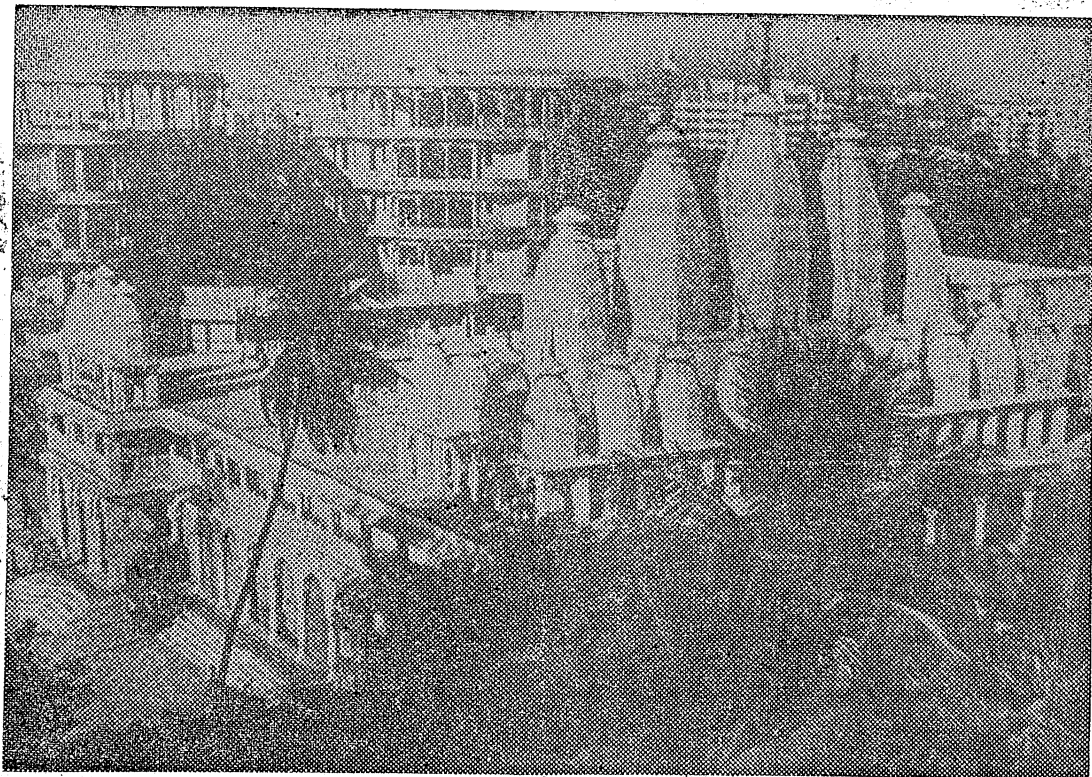
do not know where she  
one. I don't even know  
er she went to Brindavan  
ayapur. None of us know  
she is. "Something has  
wrong. Whatever we want  
achieve by her visit has  
through."

it went wrong? Are we to  
e that not one—not even  
secretary—of the Hare  
aites know the present  
abouts of the US Presi-  
sister?

on did Mrs Ruth Stapel-  
arter come in contact with  
range-robed shaven-haired,  
and cymbal beating Hare  
na people? Nobody knows  
ire. But according to an  
ON source her first con-  
nd influence was Acharya  
van Maharaj in Paris about  
months ago. It was after  
'close encounter" that she  
rawn closer to them and  
ps closer to the truth she  
search of.

at could have been the  
a for this search for truth  
ner peace? She had every-  
that a woman could want  
yet.....Only she can tell,

# Ruth Carter's spiritual trip



A view of the Hare Krishna land at Juhu.