

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

12 day report, Pre-brief report, Comment

Sheets, Routing Slips Internal memos

The above-described material was removed from this file pursuant to the following exemption provided in the Freedom of Information Act; 5 U.S.C. Section 552(b):

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | (1) Classified Information | <input type="checkbox"/> | (6) Personal privacy |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | (2) Internal rules and practices | <input type="checkbox"/> | (7) Investigatory files |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | (3) Exempted by other statute | <input type="checkbox"/> | (8) Banking Information |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | (4) Trade secrets and commercial or financial information | <input type="checkbox"/> | (9) Well Information (geographic or geophysical) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | (5) Internal Documents | | |

8504053313

Signed Charles W. Sings
date 7/27/85





FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

1125 K STREET N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20543

THIS IS THE END OF MUR # 1846

Date Filmed 7/26/85 Camera No. --- 2

Cameraman J.A.Q.

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FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

July 15, 1985

Swami Prartho Subhan, Esquire
The Rajneesh Legal Services Corporation
P.O. Box 20
Rajneeshpuram, Oregon 97741

RE: MUR 1846
Rajneesh Foundation
International
Rajneesh Humanity Trust
Ma Anand Sheela, President
Rajneesh Neo-Sannyas
International Commune
Ma Yoga Vidya, President
Rajneesh Investment
Corporation
Ma Anand Su, President

Dear Mr. Subhan:

This is to advise you that after an investigation was conducted, the Commission concluded on June 25, 1985, that there is no probable cause to believe that your clients violated the Act. Accordingly the file in this matter, numbered MUR 1846, has been closed. This matter will become part of the public record within 30 days. Should you wish to submit any factual or legal materials to appear on the public record, please do so within 10 days.

If you have any questions, contact Charles Snyder, the attorney assigned to handle this matter at (202) 523-4000.

Sincerely,

Charles N. Steele
General Counsel

Enclosure
General Counsel's Report

8504053315



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

July 15, 1985

Larryann Willis
Larryann Willis for Congress
Committee
Rt. 2 Box 2574
Vale, Oregon 97918

Re: MUR 1846

Dear Ms. Willis

This is in reference to the complaint you filed with the Commission on November 5, 1984, concerning Rejneesh Foundation International, Rajneesh Humanity Trust, Rajneesh Neo-Sannyas International Commune, Rajneesh Investment Corporation, and Rajneesh Services International Limited ("the Respondents").

Based on your complaint, the Commission determined there was reason to believe that the Respondents violated 2 U.S.C. § 441b, a provision of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended ("the Act"), and instituted an investigation of this matter. After an investigation was conducted and the brief of the General Counsel was considered, the Commission concluded on June 25, 1985, that there was no probable cause to believe that the Respondents violated the Act. Accordingly, the file in this matter, numbered MUR 1846, has been closed. This matter will become part of the public record within 30 days. Should you wish to submit any factual or legal materials to appear on the public record, please do so within 10 days. The Federal Election Campaign Act allows a Complainant to seek judicial review of the Commission's dismissal of this action. See 2 U.S.C. § 437g(a)(8).

If you have any questions, please contact Charles Snyder, the attorney assigned to this matter, at (202) 523-4000.

Sincerely,

Charles N. Steele
General Counsel

Enclosure
General Counsel's Report

3504056316



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

July 15, 1985

Rajneesh Services International Ltd.
32 Englands Lane
London NW3 4UE, England

RE: MUR 1846
Rajneesh Services
International, Ltd.

Dear Sir:

This is to advise you that after an investigation was conducted, the Commission concluded on June 25, 1985, that there is no probable cause to believe that you violated the Act. Accordingly the file in this matter, numbered MUR 1846, has been closed. This matter will become part of the public record within 30 days. Should you wish to submit any factual or legal materials to appear on the public record, please do so within 10 days.

If you have any questions, contact Charles Snyder, the attorney assigned to handle this matter at (202) 523-4000.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Charles N. Steele".

Charles N. Steele
General Counsel

Enclosure
General Counsel's Report

8504053317



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

Rajneesh Services International Ltd.
32 Englands Lane
London NW3 4UE, England

RE: MUR 1846
Rajneesh Services
International, Ltd.

Dear Sir:

This is to advise you that after an investigation was conducted, the Commission concluded on June 25, 1985, that there is no probable cause to believe that you violated the Act. Accordingly the file in this matter, numbered MUR 1846, has been closed. This matter will become part of the public record within 30 days. Should you wish to submit any factual or legal materials to appear on the public record, please do so within 10 days.

If you have any questions, contact Charles Snyder, the attorney assigned to handle this matter at (202) 523-4000.

Sincerely,

Charles N. Steele
General Counsel

C. N. Steele

Enclosure
General Counsel's Report

8504053318



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

Swami Prartho Subhan, Esquire
The Rajneesh Legal Services Corporation
P.O. Box 20
Rajneeshpuram, Oregon 97741

RE: MUR 1846
Rajneesh Foundation
International
Rajneesh Humanity Trust
Ma Anand Sheela, President
Rajneesh Neo-Sannyas
International Commune
Ma Yoga Vidya, President
Rajneesh Investment
Corporation
Ma Anand Su, President

Dear Mr. Subhan:

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If you have any questions, contact Charles Snyder, the attorney assigned to handle this matter at (202) 523-4000.

Sincerely,

Charles N. Steele
General Counsel

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "CNS", located below the typed name of Charles N. Steele.

Enclosure
General Counsel's Report

8504053319



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

Larryann Willis
Larryann Willis for Congress
Committee
Rt. 2 Box 2574
Vale, Oregon 97918

Re: MUR 1846

Dear Ms. Willis

This is in reference to the complaint you filed with the Commission on November 5, 1984, concerning Rejneesh Foundation International, Rajneesh Humanity Trust, Rajneesh Neo-Sannyas International Commune, Rajneesh Investment Corporation, and Rajneesh Services International Limited ("the Respondents").

Based on your complaint, the Commission determined there was reason to believe that the Respondents violated 2 U.S.C. § 441b, a provision of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended ("the Act"), and instituted an investigation of this matter. After an investigation was conducted and the brief of the General Counsel was considered, the Commission concluded on , 1985, that there was no probable cause to believe that the Respondents violated the Act. Accordingly, the file in this matter, numbered MUR 1846, has been closed. This matter will become part of the public record within 30 days. Should you wish to submit any factual or legal materials to appear on the public record, please do so within 10 days. The Federal Election Campaign Act allows a Complainant to seek judicial review of the Commission's dismissal of this action. See 2 U.S.C. § 437g(a)(8).

If you have any questions, please contact Charles Snyder, the attorney assigned to this matter, at (202) 523-4000.

Sincerely,

Charles N. Steele
General Counsel

CNS

Enclosure
General Counsel's Report

850403320

BEFORE THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

In the Matter of)
Rajneesh Foundation International,) MUR 1846
et al.)

CERTIFICATION

I, Marjorie W. Emmons, recording secretary for the Federal Election Commission executive session of June 25, 1985, do hereby certify that the Commission decided by a vote of 5-0 to take the following acitons in MUR 1846:

1. Find no probable cause to believe that Rajneesh Foundation International and Ma Anand Sheela, as President, violated 2 U.S.C. § 441b.
2. Find no probable cause to believe that Rajneesh Humanity Trust, and Ma Anand Sheela, as President, violated 2 U.S.C § 441b.
3. Find no probable cause to believe that Rajneesh Neo-Sannyas International Commune and Ma Yoga Vidya, as President, violated 2 U.S.C. § 441b.
4. Find no probable cause to believe that Rajneesh Investment Corporation, and Ma Anand Su, as President, violated 2 U.S.C. § 441b.

(continued)

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5. Find no probable cause to believe that Rajneesh Services International Limited violated 2 U.S.C. § 441b.
6. Close the file.

Commissioners Elliott, Harris, McDonald, McGarry,
and Reiche voted affirmatively for the decision;
Commissioner Aikens was not present at the time of the
vote.

Attest:

6/27/1985

Date

Marjorie W. Emmons

Marjorie W. Emmons
Secretary of the Commission

85040533322



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

MEMORANDUM

TO: Office of the Commission Secretary
FROM: Office of General Counsel *OK*
DATE: June 14, 1985
SUBJECT: MUR 1846 - General Counsel's Report

The attached is submitted as an Agenda document
for the Commission Meeting of June 25, 1985
Open Session _____
Closed Session XX

CIRCULATIONS		DISTRIBUTION	
48 Hour Tally Vote	[]	Compliance	[X]
Sensitive	[]	Audit Matters	[]
Non-Sensitive	[]	Litigation	[]
24 Hour No Objection	[]	Closed MUR Letters	[]
Sensitive	[]	Status Sheets	[]
Non-Sensitive	[]	Advisory Opinions	[]
Information	[]	Other (see distribution below)	[]
Sensitive	[]		
Non-Sensitive	[]		
Other	[X]		

SENSITIVE
CIRCULATE ON BLUE PAPER
FOR AGENDA OF 6-25-85

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CONFIDENTIAL

RECEIVED
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY
COMMISSIONER SECRETARY

BEFORE THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

JUN 14 P 4: 10

In the Matter of)
)
 Rajneesh Foundation International)
 Rajneesh Humanity Trust)
 Ma Anand Sheela, President)
 Rajneesh Neo-Sannyas)
 International Commune)
 Ma Yoga Vidya, President)
 Rajneesh Investment Corporation)
 Ma Anand Su, President)
 Rajneesh Services International,)
 Limited)

MUR 1846

EXECUTIVE SESSION

JUN 25 1985

GENERAL COUNSEL'S REPORT

I. BACKGROUND

On February 20, 1985, the Commission found reason to believe that the Respondents in the above-captioned matter violated 2 U.S.C. § 441b. The basis for that finding was an allegation that Respondents used corporate funds to transport indigents to Oregon for the purpose of having them register and vote in support of certain candidates for Federal office.

II. LEGAL ANALYSIS

(See OGC Brief of May 7, 1985)

As was pointed out in the General Counsel's brief, no evidence, nor even any potential source of evidence, has been found to support the conclusion that Respondents undertook their relocation effort in connection with a Federal election. There is no evidence, furthermore, that Respondents sponsored or

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conducted any indoctrination of the indigents in connection with a Federal election. While Respondents have not filed a reply brief^{*}/, their responses to interrogations support the conclusions of the General Counsel's brief. It is recommended, therefore, that the Commission find no probable cause to believe that Respondents violated 2 U.S.C. § 441b.

III. GENERAL COUNSEL'S RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Find no probable cause to believe that Rajneesh Foundation International and Ma Anand Sheela, as President, violated 2 U.S.C. § 441b;

2. Find no probable cause to believe that Rajneesh Humanity Trust, and Ma Anand Sheela, as President, violated 2 U.S.C. § 441b;

3. Find no probable cause to believe that Rajneesh Neo-Sannyas International Commune, and Ma Yoga Vidya, as President, violated 2 U.S.C. § 441b;

4. Find no probable cause to believe that Rajneesh Investment Corporation, and Ma Anand Su, as President, violated 2 U.S.C. § 441b;

^{*}/Rajneesh Services International Ltd. has sent a letter stating that it had not received notification of the complaint and asserting that the Commission has no authority over it. The corporation therefore refuses to respond to interrogatories. Based on the information received from the other Respondents, it is recommended that the Commission reach a finding of no probable cause to believe this corporation violated the Act.

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5. Find no probable cause to believe that Rajneesh Services International Limited violated 2 U.S.C. § 441b.

6. Close the file.

14 Jan 1976
Date


Charles N. Steele
General Counsel

85040533326



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

Swami Prartho Subhan, Esquire
The Rajneesh Legal Services Corporation
P.O. Box 20
Rajneeshpuram, Oregon 97741

RE: MUR 1846
Rajneesh Foundation
International
Rajneesh Humanity Trust
Ma Anand Sheela, President
Rajneesh Neo-Sannyas
International Commune
Ma Yoga Vidya, President
Rajneesh Investment
Corporation
Ma Anand Su, President

Dear Mr. Subhan:

This is to advise you that after an investigation was conducted, the Commission concluded on , 1985, that there is no probable cause to believe that your clients violated the Act. Accordingly the file in this matter, numbered MUR 1846, has been closed. This matter will become part of the public record within 30 days. Should you wish to submit any factual or legal materials to appear on the public record, please do so within 10 days.

If you have any questions, contact Charles Snyder, the attorney assigned to handle this matter at (202) 523-4000.

Sincerely,

Charles N. Steele
General Counsel

95040533327



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

Rajneesh Services International Ltd.
32 Englands Lane
London NW3 4UE, England

RE: MUR 1846
Rajneesh Services
International, Ltd.

Dear Sir:

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Sincerely,

Charles N. Steele
General Counsel

8504053328



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

Larryann Willis
Larryann Willis for Congress
Committee
Rt. 2 Box 2574
Vale, Oregon 97918

Re: MUR 1846

Dear Ms. Willis

This is in reference to the complaint you filed with the Commission on November 5, 1984, concerning Rejneesh Foundation International, Rajneesh Humanity Trust, Rajneesh Neo-Sannyas International Commune, Rajneesh Investment Corporation, and Rajneesh Services International Limited ("the Respondents").

Based on your complaint, the Commission determined there was reason to believe that the Respondents violated 2 U.S.C. § 441b, a provision of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended ("the Act"), and instituted an investigation of this matter. After an investigation was conducted and the brief of the General Counsel was considered, the Commission concluded on , 1985, that there was no probable cause to believe that the Respondents violated the Act. Accordingly, the file in this matter, numbered MUR 1846, has been closed. This matter will become part of the public record within 30 days. Should you wish to submit any factual or legal materials to appear on the public record, please do so within 10 days. The Federal Election Campaign Act allows a Complainant to seek judicial review of the Commission's dismissal of this action. See 2 U.S.C. § 437g(a)(8).

If you have any questions, please contact Charles Snyder, the attorney assigned to this matter, at (202) 523-4000.

Sincerely,

Charles N. Steele
General Counsel

Enclosure
General Counsel's Report

8504053329

RECEIVED AT THE FEC
G.C.C. # 7755
85 JUN 17 9:51

THE RAJNEESH LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

Ma Deva Anando ·····
Swami Anutosh Nion ·
Swami Prem Niren ·
Swami Preamsukh ·

Ma Prem Sheelu ·
Swami Prartho Subhan ··
Swami Deva Vatula ···
Swami Satyam Vishuddha ····

RECEIVED
OFFICE OF THE
GENERAL COUNSEL
5 JUN 17 12:17

June 11, 1985

Charles Snyder
Federal Election Commission
Washington, DC 20463

Re: MUR 1846, Rajneesh Foundation International,
Rajneesh Humanity Trust, Rajneesh Neo-Sannyas
International Commune, Rajneesh Investment
Corporation

Beloved Mr. Snyder:

Recently, the Office of the General Counsel decided to recommend that the Federal Election Commission find no probable cause to believe that my clients violated federal election law in the above-referenced matter. As you know, this investigation was undertaken as a result of a complaint filed by Larryanne Willis, who was a congressional candidate at the time.

Recently, I was shocked and dismayed by an article I read in the May 15, 1985 issue of THE DALLES CHRONICLE. In this article, Ms. Willis said that her complaint had accomplished its intended purpose - ensuring that "street people" bused to Rajneeshpuram did not vote in the election. This statement strongly indicates that Ms. Willis knowingly manipulated the federal electoral review process, the Federal Election Commission, and my clients to achieve her own ends. Even worse, however, it shows that Ms. Willis filed her complaint with the deliberate intention of denying several thousand people the right to vote in the November 1984 election.

The exercise of voting rights, guaranteed by our constitution, is at the very heart of democracy. The individuals who came to Rajneeshpuram to participate in the Sharing-A-Home project would have been able to vote in the November election had they remained on the streets. Because of Ms. Willis' abusive tactics, however, they were denied this right.

Member CA Bar · Member MD Bar ·· Member NY Bar ··· Member WA Bar ···· Member VIC (Aust) Bar ·····

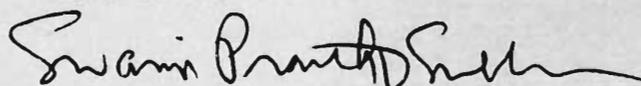
P.O. Box 20, Rajneeshpuram, OR 97741
(503) 489-3358

8504053330

Charles Snyder
June 11, 1985
Page 2

I have attached a copy of the above-referenced news article to this letter. I urge you to take whatever action is appropriate in these circumstances.

With love,



Swami Prartho Subhan

su/sug
enc.

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FEC to get Rajneeshee vote case

RAJNEESHPURAM, Ore. (UPI) — No indication that federal elections laws were violated in connection with a share-a-home program instituted by followers of Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh last fall was found by the Federal Elections Commission legal staff, a Rajneeshee spokeswoman said Tuesday.

Spokeswoman Prem Isabel said the matter would go to the commission after a 15-day comment period.

The complaint was filed last November by Larryann Willis, then a Democratic candidate for Congress from Eastern Oregon's 2nd District. She said she was not sure if she would pursue the matter.

The share-a-home program attracted about 4,000 people at its peak last fall. Willis accused the Rajneeshees of bringing the people in so they could vote in the Nov. 6 election. The Rajneeshees denied this. Only a few of the people brought in under the program remain at the guru's Central Oregon ranch.

Willis said the complaint itself had accomplished its intended purpose—ensuring that "street people" bused to Rajneeshpuream did not vote in the election.

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RAJNEESH LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

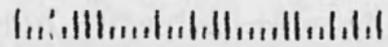
20, Rajneeshpuram, OR 97741



Charles Snyder
Federal Election Commission
Washington, DC 20463

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05 JUN 17 16 48:51





Rajneesh Services International Limited

32 Englands Lane, London NW3 4UE, UK • Tel: 01 722 5241/5281 • Telex: 23843 RSILTDC

ACC#7605
Aruder
MUR 1846

25 MAY 28 P 1: 54

Mr. John Warren McGarry esc
Chairman Federal Election
Commission

Washington D.C. 20463
USA

May 15, 1985

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Beloved Mr. McGarry,

Love.

We have received your letter of march 1st 1985 and wish to forward the following comments for your information.

It would appear that the federal election commissions have no authority over this company under the status you erroneously claimed we have violated, therefore we are under no obligation to answer any of your ambiguous questions.

We have not, as you claim, received any prior correspondence from your office including the referenced letter dated december 26, 1984. So you can understand our failure to reply. We also advised you that we are not at liberty to discuss any client without their prior approval.

In reference to the other corporation named, all transactions on behalf of our american client are outside of the United States. We are not in a position to give you information on the subjects mentioned. In view of the above information we expect no further communication from you regarding this matter.

His blessings

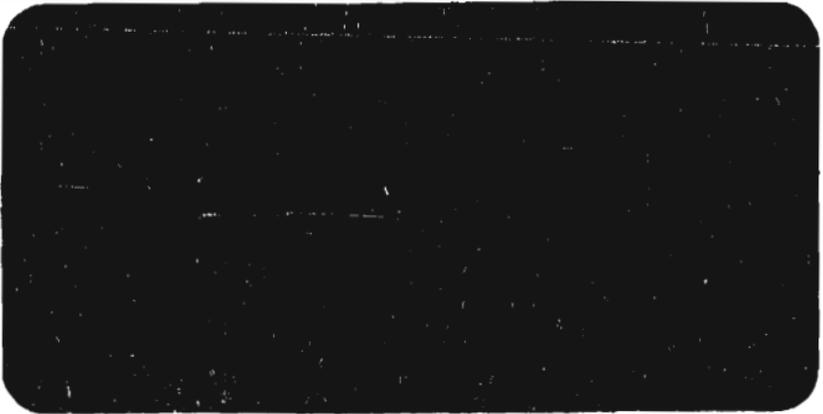
RAJNEESH SERVICES
INTERNATIONAL LIMITED

Swami Veet Chitten
Director

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GENERAL COUNSEL
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By air mail
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FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

MEMORANDUM

TO: Office of the Commission Secretary

FROM: Office of General Counsel *Out*

DATE: May 8, 1985

SUBJECT: MUR 1846 - Memorandum and GC's Brief

The attached is submitted as an Agenda document
for the Commission Meeting of _____
Open Session _____
Closed Session _____

8504 053 3336

CIRCULATIONS

DISTRIBUTION

48 Hour Tally Vote	[]	Compliance	[X]
Sensitive	[]	Audit Matters	[]
Non-Sensitive	[]	Litigation	[]
24 Hour No Objection	[]	Closed MUR Letters	[]
Sensitive	[]	Status Sheets	[]
Non-Sensitive	[]	Advisory Opinions	[]
Information	[X]	Other (see distribution below)	[]
Sensitive	[X]		
Non-Sensitive	[]		
Other	[]		



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

May 8, 1985

Swami Prartho Subhan, Esquire
The Rajneesh Legal Services
Corporation
P.O. Box 20
RajneeshParan, OR 97741

RE: MUR 1846
Rajneesh Foundation International
Rajneesh Humanity Trust
Rajneesh Neo-Sannyas
International Commune
Rajneesh Investment Corporation

Dear Mr. Subhan:

Based on a complaint filed with the Commission on November 5, 1984, and information supplied by your clients, the Commission determined on February 20, 1985 that there was reason to believe that your clients had violated 2 U.S.C. § 441b, a provision of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended ("the Act") and instituted an investigation of this matter.

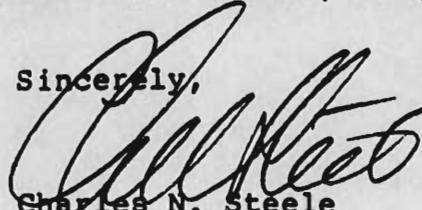
After considering all the evidence available to the Commission, the Office of General Counsel is prepared to recommend that the Commission find no probable cause to believe that a violation has occurred. The Commission may or may not approve the General Counsel's Recommendation.

Submitted for your review is a brief stating the position of the General Counsel on the legal and factual issues of the case. Within fifteen days of your receipt of this notice, you may file with the Secretary of the Commission a brief (10 copies if possible) stating your clients' position on the issues and replying to the brief of the General Counsel. Three copies of such brief should also be forwarded to the Office of General Counsel, if possible. The General Counsel's brief and any brief which you submit will be considered by the Commission before proceeding to a vote of no probable cause to believe a violation has occurred.

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Should you have any questions, please contact Charles Snyder, the attorney assigned to handle this matter, at (202) 523-4000.

Sincerely,



Charles N. Steele
General Counsel

Enclosure
Brief

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FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

May 8, 1985

Rajneesh Services
International, Limited
28 Oak Village
London NW5, England

RE: MUR 1846
Rajneesh Services
International, Limited

Dear Sir:

Based on a complaint filed with the Commission on November 5, 1984, the Commission determined on February 20, 1985, that there was reason to believe that you had violated 2 U.S.C. § 441b, a provision of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended ("the Act") and instituted an investigation of this matter.

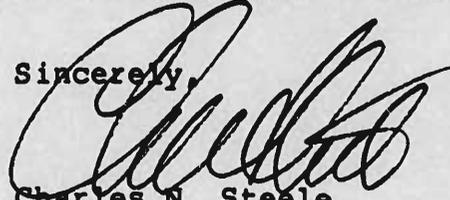
After considering all the evidence available to the Commission, the Office of General Counsel is prepared to recommend that the Commission find no probable cause to believe that a violation has occurred. The Commission may or may not approve the General Counsel's Recommendation.

Submitted for your review is a brief stating the position of the General Counsel on the legal and factual issues of the case. Within fifteen days of your receipt of this notice, you may file with the Secretary of the Commission a brief (10 copies if possible) stating your position on the issues and replying to the brief of the General Counsel. Three copies of such brief should also be forwarded to the Office of General Counsel, if possible. The General Counsel's brief and any brief which you submit will be considered by the Commission before proceeding to a vote of no probable cause to believe a violation has occurred.

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Should you have any questions, please contact Charles Snyder, the attorney assigned to handle this matter, at (202) 523-4000.

Sincerely,



Charles N. Steele
General Counsel

Enclosure
Brief

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SENSITIVE



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

REC'D
REC
COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION

25 MAY 8 12:48

May 8, 1985

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Commission

FROM: Charles N. Steele
General Counsel *CNS*

SUBJECT: MUR #1846

Attached for the Commission's review is a brief stating the position of the General Counsel on the legal and factual issues of the above-captioned matter. A copy of this brief and a letter notifying the respondents of the General Counsel's intent to recommend to the Commission a finding of no probable cause to believe was mailed on May 8, 1985. Following receipt of the Respondents' reply to this notice, this Office will make a further report to the Commission.

Attachments

1. Brief
2. Letters to Respondents

8504053341

BEFORE THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

In the Matter of)	
)	
Rajneesh Foundation International)	
Rajneesh Humanity Trust)	MUR 1846
Ma Anand Sheela, President)	
Rajneesh Neo-Sannyas International)	
Commune)	
Ma Yoga Vidya, President)	
Ma Anand Su)	
Rajneesh Services International,)	
Limited)	

GENERAL COUNSEL'S BRIEF

I. STATEMENT OF THE CASE

The Commission found reason to believe on February 20, 1985 that the five corporate Respondents in the above-captioned matter violated 2 U.S.C. § 441b, a provision of the Federal Election Campaign Act ("the Act"). That statute prohibits corporations from making expenditures in connection with a Federal election.

The basis for the Commission's finding was an allegation by Complainant Larryann Willis that Respondents financed and directed the settlement in Oregon of indigents from various U.S. cities, and that this project involved efforts to pressure the indigents to register to vote. Complainant Willis alleged further that Respondents sponsored political indoctrination of the indigents, for the purpose of causing them to oppose her candidacy for the U.S. Congress and support the incumbent Rep. Bob Smith.

Respondents have, in answer to questions propounded by this Office, denied that their indigent relocation project ("Sharing-A-Home") had any connection with the Willis - Smith contest or any other Federal election. Specifically, Respondents made the following assertions:



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1. Respondents Rajneesh Humanity Trust ("RHT") initiated and directed the project of relocating indigents in Oregon. RHT spent \$1,490,000 on this project.

2. Various entities contributed to "Sharing-A-Home." Respondent Rajneesh Foundation International ("RFI") contributed \$300,000, subject to a contractual condition that the funds be used for charitable purposes. Respondent Rajneesh Neo-Sannyas International Commune, ("RNSIC") made a non-cash contribution in the form of clothing, food, and "household necessities" valued at \$318,000. Another "Rajneesh corporation", Rajneesh Medical Corporation, contributed medical services valued at \$265,000. Rajneesh Investment Corporation (RIC) denies knowing of any corporate contributions to Sharing-A-Home.

3. The indigents were asked if they were U.S. citizens and if they were over eighteen years old; but Respondents posed those questions to avoid transporting illegal aliens or minors who might participate without parental consent. The only other criterion that determined which indigents were chosen "was their willingness to live in a drug-free, violence-free and crime-free society." No questions of a political nature were asked.

4. Finally, Respondents deny subjecting the indigents to any political indoctrination. They also deny encouraging or pressuring the indigents to vote or to register to vote. They deny supporting, endorsing, or aiding any Federal candidate.

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II. LEGAL ANALYSIS

The Sharing-A-Home project would present no question within the ambit of the Act, absent evidence of an attempt to mobilize the indigents on behalf of or against some particular Federal candidate. Complainant, while asserting that Respondents indoctrinated the indigents so that they would consider Larryann Willis an "enemy," provided no evidence to support that allegation. Nor has Complainant identified any witnesses whose testimony might supply the missing link between Sharing-A-Home and Federal electioneering. Respondents, meanwhile, have fully answered the interrogatories put to them^{*} and have categorically denied conducting any activity that might constitute a violation of the Act. On the basis of this record, therefore, it is recommended that the Commission find no probable cause to believe that Respondents violated 2 U.S.C. § 441b.

III. GENERAL COUNSEL'S RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Find no probable cause to believe that Rajneesh Foundation International and Ma Anand Sheela, as President, violated 2 U.S.C. § 441b;

2. Find no probable cause to believe that Rajneesh Humanity Trust, and Ma Anand Sheela, as President, violated 2 U.S.C. § 441b;

^{*}/ Respondent Rajneesh Services International, Limited, the British corporation, has not answered the questions posed to it. Based on the answers submitted by the other respondents, however, this office feels it is unnecessary to seek subpoena enforcement.

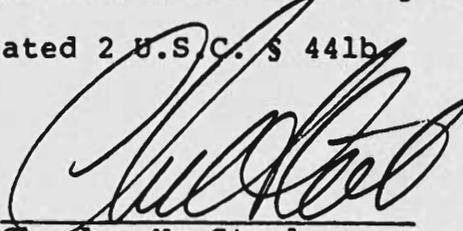
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3. Find no probable cause to believe that Rajneesh Neo-Sannyas International Commune, and Ma Yoga Vidya, as President, violated 2 U.S.C. § 441b;

4. Find no probable cause to believe that Rajneesh Investment Corporation, and Ma Anand Su, as President, violated 2 U.S.C. § 441b;

5. Find no probable cause to believe that Rajneesh Services International Limited violated 2 U.S.C. § 441b.

4 May 1985
Date



Charles N. Steele
General Counsel

8504053345



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

MEMORANDUM TO: CHARLES N. STEELE
GENERAL COUNSEL *MWE*

FROM: MARJORIE W. EMMONS/JODY C. RANSOM *JCR*

DATE: APRIL 19, 1985

SUBJECT: MUR 1846 - Comprehensive Investigative
Report #1 signed April 17, 1985.

The above-captioned matter was circulated to the Commission on a 24 hour no-objection basis at 11:00, April 18, 1985.

There were no objections to the Comprehensive Investigative Report at the time of the deadline.

0304053345



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

MEMORANDUM

TO: Office of the Commission Secretary
FROM: Office of General Counsel *CA*
DATE: April 17, 1985
SUBJECT: MUR 1846 - Comprehensive Investigative Report #1

The attached is submitted as an Agenda document
for the Commission Meeting of _____
Open Session _____
Closed Session _____

CIRCULATIONS		DISTRIBUTION	
48 Hour Tally Vote	[]	Compliance	[X]
Sensitive	[]	Audit Matters	[]
Non-Sensitive	[]	Litigation	[]
24 Hour No Objection	[X]	Closed MUR Letters	[]
Sensitive	[X]	Status Sheets	[]
Non-Sensitive	[]	Advisory Opinions	[]
Information	[]	Other (see distribution below)	[]
Sensitive	[]		
Non-Sensitive	[]		
Other	[]		

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SENSITIVE

BEFORE THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

RECEIVED
THE FEC
COMMISSION SECRETARY

In the Matter of)
Rajneesh Foundation International)
et al.)

MUR 1846

25 APR 17 P 4: 08

COMPREHENSIVE INVESTIGATIVE REPORT #1

The Commission found reason to believe on February 20, 1985 that the five corporate Respondents in the above-captioned matter violated 2 U.S.C. §441b. Four of the five Respondents have answered the questions attached to the notification of the Commission's finding. The fifth, Rajneesh Services International, Limited, a British Corporation, has not responded.

The information provided by the Respondents can be summarized as follows:

1. Respondent Rajneesh Humanity Trust ("RHT") initiated and directed the project of relocating indigents in Oregon (a project referred to by Respondents as "Sharing-A-Home"). RHT spent \$1,490,000 on this project.

2. Various entities contributed to "Sharing-A-Home." Respondent Rajneesh Foundation International ("RFI") contributed \$300,000, subject to a contractual condition that the funds be used for charitable purposes. Respondent Rajneesh Neo-Sannyas International Commune, ("RNSIC") contributed goods and services valued at \$318,000. Another "Rajneesh corporation", Rajneesh Medical Corporation, contributed medical services valued at \$265,000.

3. The indigents were asked if they were U.S. citizens and if they were over eighteen years old, but Respondents posed those



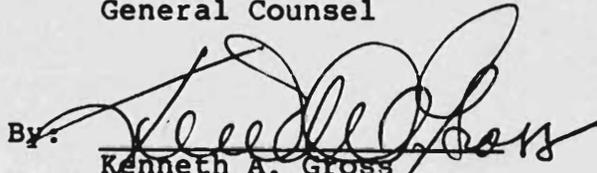
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questions to avoid transporting illegal aliens and minors travelling without parental consent. The only other criterion that determined which indigents were chosen "was their willingness to live in a drug-free, violence-free and crime-free society." No questions of a political nature were asked.

4. Finally, Respondents deny subjecting the indigents to any political indoctrination. They also deny encouraging or pressuring the indigents to vote or to register to vote. They deny supporting, endorsing, or aiding any Federal candidate.

This Office will now proceed to the next stage of the enforcement process.

Charles N. Steele
General Counsel

By: 
Kenneth A. Gross
Associate General Counsel

April 17, 1985
Date

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GOC # 7115
Snyder

THE RAJNEESH LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

Ma Deva Anando
Swami Anutosh Nion
Swami Prem Niren
Swami Premsukh

Ma Prem Sheelu
Swami Prartho Subhan
Swami Deva Vatula
Swami Satyam Vishuddha 2:30

April 2, 1985

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. John Warren McGarry
Chairman
Federal Election Commission
Washington, DC 20463

Re: MUR 1846

Beloved Mr. McGarry:

Please find enclosed individual responses to your order to submit written answers served on the corporations named in the above complaint.

Please note that Swami Prem Jayananda is not the President of Rajneesh Investment Corporation. For your information you should know that there is no such group of entities known as "Rajneesh corporations." Each corporation mentioned in the complaint has a clear and separate corporate identity. My clients would appreciate your addressing them in the correct manner.

Furthermore, I expect that in accordance with U.S.C. §§ 437g(a)(4)(B) and 437g(a)(12)(A), this matter will remain confidential.

With love,

Swami Prartho Subhan
Swami Prartho Subhan

ps/ast
encs.

RECEIVED
OFFICE OF THE
GENERAL COUNSEL
25 APR 9 1985
P3:17

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BEFORE THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

In the Matter of)
Rajneesh Foundation International) MUR 1846
_____)

RESPONSE TO ORDER TO SUBMIT WRITTEN ANSWERS

Rajneesh Foundation International responds to the Order to Submit Written Answers as follows:

QUESTION 1:

State which Rajneesh corporations financed the recruitment, transportation, and provisioning of indigents from various U.S. cities in connection with all projects of relocating such indigents in or around Rancho Rajneesh or Rajneeshpuram, Oregon.

- a) State whether Rajneesh Humanity Trust directed or participated in such projects.
- b) State how much money was expended by each corporation in connection with all indigent relocation projects.

RESPONSE TO QUESTION 1

The Sharing-A-Home project was initiated and has been directed by Rajneesh Humanity Trust ("RHT"), an Oregon nonprofit charitable corporation. Donations have been received from numerous sources who have desired to support RHT in this worthwhile project. The following corporations situated in the City of Rajneeshpuram have made the following contributions:

- 1. Rajneesh Foundation International ("RFI") entered into a conditional gift agreement with RHT. Under the agreement, RHT

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promised that RFI's contributions would be used solely for charitable purposes in connection with the Sharing-A-Home project. In addition, RFI reserved the right to inspect the financial records of RHT to ensure that this condition was adhered to. The amount donated under this agreement was \$300,000.00.

2. Rajneesh Neo-Sannyas International Commune has donated support in the form of household necessities, clothing and food to the Sharing-A-Home project. As of December 31, 1984, this non-cash donation was valued at \$318,000.

3. Rajneesh Medical Corporation has donated medical services to the Sharing-A-Home project. As of December 31, 1984, this non-cash donation was valued at \$265,000.00.

RHT, as the founder of the Sharing-A-Home project has been solely responsible for all expenditures made in connection with the project. As of December 31, 1984, RHT spent a total of \$1,490,000 under the project (this amount includes the cash and non-cash donations described above).

QUESTION 2:

State whether the recruiters in the aforementioned relocation project questioned the indigents in connection with:

- a) whether they were U.S. citizens;
- b) whether they were eighteen years of age or older;
- c) their political affiliation.

RESPONSE TO QUESTION 2

Rajneesh Foundation International has no knowledge of the questions asked by recruiters.

QUESTION 3:

State what criteria or considerations determined which indigents would be transported to Oregon.

RESPONSE TO QUESTION 3:

Rajneesh Foundation International has no knowledge of these criteria or considerations.

QUESTION 4:

State whether any of the corporations listed above, and/or their agents, conducted, sponsored, financed, and/or proposed any political indoctrination and/or instruction classes, lectures, and/or meetings that any of the aforementioned indigents attended.

For each such occurrence, state:

- a) the name of the sponsoring corporation
- b) the date of the meeting
- c) the name(s) of the federal candidates discussed
- d) the substance of the discussion
- e) the amount expended by the corporation for this purpose.

RESPONSE TO QUESTION 4:

Rajneesh Foundation International did not conduct, sponsor, or finance any such class or meeting and has no knowledge of such meetings conducted by any of the other corporations named.

QUESTION 5:

State what efforts the corporations listed above, and/or their agents, made to encourage the aforementioned indigents to register to vote.

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RESPONSE TO QUESTION 5:

Rajneesh Foundation International did not encourage the aforementioned indigents to register to vote and has no knowledge of any such encouragement by any of the other corporations named.

QUESTION 6:

State whether the indigents were promised or given special food, lodging, or other inducements if they agreed to register to vote, and state which corporations paid for or offered to pay for such inducements.

RESPONSE TO QUESTION 6:

Rajneesh Foundation International did not promise or give any consideration of the kinds specified or any other kind as an inducement to vote. RFI has no knowledge of such activity or offer by any other corporation named.

QUESTION 7:

State which of the corporations listed above endorsed, supported, and/or in any way assisted candidate(s) for election in 1984 to the offices of the Presidency of the U.S., the U.S. Senate, or the U.S. Congress.

State in what manner such endorsement, support, or assistance was manifested.

RESPONSE TO QUESTION 7:

Rajneesh Foundation International did not endorse, support or assist any candidate for election in 1984 to the offices of the Presidency of the United States, U.S. Senate or the United States Congress and has no knowledge of any such endorsement by any other corporation named.

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AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF OREGON)
) ss.:
COUNTY OF WASCO)

I, MA PREM GEETA, being sworn, say:

I am Secretary of Rajneesh Foundation International and the foregoing answers are within my personal knowledge and if called as a witness I can testify competently thereto.

Geeta
MA PREM GEETA

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 2nd day
of April, 1985.

Julie Anne Croke - Singh
Notary Public for Oregon
My Commission expires: 6-28-88

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BEFORE THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

In the Matter of)
Rajneesh Humanity Trust) MUR 1846
)
)
)

RESPONSE TO ORDER TO SUBMIT WRITTEN ANSWERS

Rajneesh Humanity Trust responds to the Order to Submit
Written Answers as follows:

QUESTION 1:

State which Rajneesh corporations financed the recruitment,
transportation, and provisioning of indigents from various U.S.
cities in connection with all projects of relocating such indigents
in or around Rancho Rajneesh or Rajneeshpuram, Oregon.

- a) State whether Rajneesh Humanity Trust directed or participated in such projects.
- b) State how much money was expended by each corporation in connection with all idigent relocation projects.

RESPONSE TO QUESTION 1

The Sharing-A-Home project was initiated and has been directed by Rajneesh Humanity Trust ("RHT"), an Oregon nonprofit charitable corporation. Donations have been received from numerous sources who have desired to support RHT in this worthwhile project. The following corporations situated in the City of Rajneeshpuram have made the following contributions:

- 1. Rajneesh Foundation International ("RFI") entered into a conditional gift agreement with RHT. Under the agreement, RHT

promised that RFI's contributions would be used solely for charitable purposes in connection with the Sharing-A-Home project. In addition, RFI reserved the right to inspect the financial records of RHT to ensure that this condition was adhered to. The amount donated under this agreement was \$300,000.00.

2. Rajneesh Neo-Sannyas International Commune has donated support in the form of household necessities, clothing and food to the Sharing-A-Home project. As of December 31, 1984, this non-cash donation was valued at \$318,000.

3. Rajneesh Medical Corporation has donated medical services to the Sharing-A-Home project. As of December 31, 1984, this non-cash donation was valued at \$265,000.00.

RHT, as the founder of the Sharing-A-Home project has been solely responsible for all expenditures made in connection with the project. As of December 31, 1984, RHT spent a total of \$1,490,000 under the project (this amount includes the cash and non-cash donations described above).

QUESTION 2:

State whether the recruiters in the aforementioned relocation project questioned the indigents in connection with:

- a) whether they were U.S. citizens
- b) whether they were eighteen years of age or older;
- c) their political affiliation.

RESPONSE TO QUESTION 2:

Applicants for the Sharing-A-Home Project were asked if they were U.S. citizens in order to avoid any accusations that

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Rajneesh Humanity Trust was transporting illegal aliens to participate in this project. In addition, applicants were asked if they were eighteen years of age or older to assure that no minors were attempting to participate in the project without parental consent. No questions were asked as to any person's individual political affiliation.

QUESTION 3:

State what criteria or considerations determined which indigents would be transported to Oregon.

RESPONSE TO QUESTION 3:

2. a) and 2. b) of above and their willingness to live in a drug-free, violence-free and crime-free society.

QUESTION 4:

State whether any of the corporations listed above, and/or their agents, conducted, sponsored, financed, and/or proposed any political indoctrination and/or instruction classes, lectures, and/or meetings that any of the aforementioned indigents attended.

For each such occurrences, state:

- a) the name of the sponsoring corporation
- b) the date of the meeting
- c) the name(s) of the federal candidates discussed
- d) the substance of the discussion
- e) the amount expended by the corporation for this purpose.

RESPONSE TO QUESTION 4:

Rajneesh Humanity Trust did not conduct, sponsor or finance

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assistance was manifested.

RESPONSE TO QUESTION 7:

Rajneesh Humanity Trust did not endorse, support or assist any candidate for election in 1984 to the offices of the United States Presidency, the United States Senate or the United States Congress, and has no knowledge of any such endorsement by any other corporation named.

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AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF OREGON)
) ss.:
COUNTY OF WASCO)

I, MA PREM ARUP, being sworn, say:

I am Secretary/Treasurer of Rajneesh Humanity Trust and the foregoing answers are within my personal knowledge and if called as a witness I can testify competently thereto.

Ma Prem Arup
MA PREM ARUP

of April, 1985. Subscribed and sworn to before me this 2nd day

Vishuddha
Notary Public for Oregon
My Commission expires: 9/22/88

8504053361

BEFORE THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

In the Matter of)
Rajneesh Neo-Sannyas)
International Commune) MUR 1846
)
)
)

RESPONSE TO ORDER TO SUBMIT WRITTEN ANSWERS

Rajneesh Neo-Sannyas International Commune responds to the Order to Submit Written Answers as follows:

QUESTION 1:

State which Rajneesh corporations financed the recruitment, transportation, and provisioning of indigents from various U.S. cities in connection with all projects of relocating such indigents in or around Rancho Rajneesh or Rajneeshpuram, Oregon.

- a) State whether Rajneesh Humanity Trust directed or participated in such projects.
- b) State how much money was expended by each corporation in connection with all indigent relocation projects.

RESPONSE TO QUESTION 1:

Rajneesh Humanity Trust sponsored the Sharing-A-Home Project.

- a) Rajneesh Humanity Trust directed the Sharing-A-Home Project.
- b) Rajneesh Neo-Sannyas International Commune donated support in the form of a non-cash donation of \$318,000.00 in the form of clothing, household necessities and food and has no

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their agents, conducted, sponsored, financed, and/or proposed any political indoctrination and/or instruction classes, lectures, and/or meetings that any of the aforementioned indigents attended.

For each such occurrence, state:

- a) the name of the sponsoring corporation
- b) the date of the meeting
- c) the name(s) of the federal candidates discussed
- d) the substance of the discussion
- e) the amount expended by the corporation for this purpose.

RESPONSE TO QUESTION 4:

Rajneesh Neo-Sannyas International Commune did not conduct, sponsor or finance any such class or meeting and has no knowledge of such meetings conducted by any of the other corporations named.

QUESTION 5:

State what efforts the corporations listed above, and/or their agents, made to encourage the aforementioned indigents to register to vote.

RESPONSE TO QUESTION 5:

Rajneesh Neo-Sannyas International Commune did not encourage the aforementioned indigents to register to vote and has no knowledge of any such encouragement by any of the other corporations named.

QUESTION 6:

State whether the indigents were promised or given special food, lodging, or other inducements if they agreed to register to

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vote, and state which corporations paid for or offered to pay for such inducements.

RESPONSE TO QUESTION 6:

Rajneesh Neo-Sannyas International Commune did not promise or give any consideration of the kinds specified, or any other kind, as an inducement to vote. RNSIC has no knowledge of such activity or offer by any other corporation named.

QUESTION 7:

State which of the corporations listed above endorsed, supported, and/or in any way assisted candidate(s) for election in 1984 to the offices of the Presidency of the U.S., the U.S. Senate, or the U.S. Congress.

State in what manner such endorsement, support, or assistance was manifested.

RESPONSE TO QUESTION 7:

Rajneesh Neo-Sannyas International Commune did not endorse, support or assist any candidate for election in 1984 to the offices of the Presidency of the U.S., U.S. Senate or the U.S. Congress and has no knowledge of any such endorsements by any other corporation named.

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AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF OREGON)
) ss.:
COUNTY OF WASCO)

I, MA YOGA VIDYA, being sworn, say:

I am President of Rajneesh Neo-Sannyas International
Commune and the foregoing answers are within my personal knowledge
and if called as a witness I can testify competently thereto.

Ma Yoga Vidya
MA YOGA VIDYA

Subscribed and sworn to before me this *2nd* day
of *April*, 1985.

Julie Anne Croke-Singh
Notary Public for Oregon
My Commission expires: *6-28-88*

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BEFORE THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

In the Matter of)
Rajneesh Investment Corporation) MUR 1846
)
)
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RESPONSE TO ORDER TO SUBMIT WRITTEN ANSWERS

Rajneesh Investment Corporation responds to the Order to Submit Written Answers as follows:

QUESTION 1:

State which Rajneesh corporations financed the recruitment, transportation, and provisioning of indigents from various U.S. cities in connection with all projects of relocating such indigents in or around Rancho Rajneesh or Rajneeshpuram, Oregon.

- a) State whether Rajneesh Humanity Trust directed or participated in such projects.
- b) State how much money was expended by each corporation in connection all indigent relocation projects.

RESPONSE TO QUESTION 1:

Rajneesh Humanity Trust sponsored the Sharing-A-Home Project.

- a) Rajneesh Humanity Trust directed the Sharing-A-Home Project.
- B) Rajneesh Investment Corporation has no knowledge of any expenditure made in this project.

QUESTION 2:

State whether the recruiters in the aforementioned

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relocation project questioned the indigents in connection with:

- a) whether they were U.S. citizens;
- b) whether they were eighteen years of age or older;
- c) their political affiliation.

RESPONSE TO QUESTION 2:

Rajneesh Investment Corporation has no knowledge of the questions asked by recruiters.

QUESTION 3:

State what criteria or considerations determined which indigents would be transported to Oregon.

RESPONSE TO QUESTION 3:

Rajneesh Investment Corporation has no knowlege of these criteria or considerations.

QUESTION 4:

State whether any of the corporations listed above, and/or their agents, conducted, sponsored, financed, and/or proposed any political indoctrination and/or instruction classes, lectures, and/or meetings that any of the aforementioned indigents attended.

For each such occurrence, state:

- a) the name of the sponsoring corporation
- b) the date of the meeting
- c) the name(s) of the federal candidates discussed
- d) the substance of the discussion
- e) the amount expended by the corporation for this

purpose.

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RESPONSE TO QUESTION 4:

Rajneesh Investment Corporation did not conduct, sponsor, or finance any such class or meeting and has no knowledge of such meetings conducted by any other corporation named.

QUESTION 5:

State what efforts the corporations listed above, and/or their agents, made to encourage the aforementioned indigents to register to vote.

RESPONSE TO QUESTION 5:

Rajneesh Investment Corporation did not encourage the aforementioned indigents to register to vote and has no knowledge of any such encouragement by any other corporation named.

QUESTION 6:

State whether the indigents were promised or given special food, lodging, or other inducements if they agreed to register to vote, and state which corporations paid for or offered to pay for such inducements.

RESPONSE TO QUESTION 6:

Rajneesh Investment Corporation did not promise or give any consideration of the kinds specified, or any other kind, as an inducement to vote. RIC has no knowledge of such activity or offer by any other corporation named.

QUESTION 7:

State which of the corporations listed above endorsed, supported, and/or in any way assisted candidate(s) for election in 1984 to the offices of the Presidency of the U.S., the U.S. Senate,

or the U.S. Congress.

State in what manner such endorsement, support, or assistance was manifested.

RESPONSE TO QUESTION 7:

Rajneesh Investment Corporation did not endorse, support or assist any candidate for election in 1984 to the offices of the Presidency of the United States, the U.S. Senate or U.S. Congress and has no knowledge of any such endorsement by any other corporation named.

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AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF OREGON)
) ss.:
COUNTY OF WASCO)

I, MA ANAND SU, being sworn, say:

I am President of Rajneesh Investment Corporation and the foregoing answers are within my personal knowledge and if called as a witness I can testify competently thereto.

Ma Anand Su
MA ANAND SU

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 7th day
of April, 1985.

Julie Anne Croke - Singh
Notary Public for Oregon
My Commission expires: 6-28-88

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THE RAJNEESH LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

Ma Deva Anando ·····
Swami Anutosh Nion ·
Swami Prem Niren ·
Swami Premsukh ·

Ma Prem Sheelu ·
Swami Prartho Subhan ··
Swami Deva Vatula ····
Swami Satyam Vishuddha ····

March 25, 1985

5 11 13 P12: 53

EXPRESS MAIL

Kenneth A. Gross
Associate General Counsel
Federal Election Commission
Washington, D.C. 20463

Re: MUR 1846

Beloved Mr. Gross:

Pursuant to my telephone conversation with Lois Lerner of your office today, this is to confirm an agreed 10-day extension of time for the submission of the written answers by my clients, until April 4, 1985. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

With love,

Swami Prartho Subhan
Swami Prartho Subhan

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Member CA Bar · Member MD Bar ·· Member NY Bar ···· Member WA Bar ····· Member VIC (Aust) Bar ·····

P.O. Box 20, Rajneeshpuram, OR 97741
(503) 489-3358



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

March 1, 1985

CERTIFIED MAIL

RETURN RECEIPT

Rajneesh Services International, Ltd.
28 Oak Village
London NW5 England

Re: MUR 1846
Rajneesh Services
International, Ltd.

Dear Sir:

The Federal Election Commission notified you on December 26, 1985, of a complaint alleging violations of certain sections of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended ("the Act"). A copy of the complaint was forwarded to you at that time.

Upon further review of the allegations contained in the complaint, the Commission, on February 20, 1985, determined that there is reason to believe that Rajneesh Services International, Ltd. has violated 2 U.S.C. § 441b, a provision of the Act. Specifically, it appears that the corporation made expenditures to relocate indigents in Oregon, and to have them register to vote, and to provide them political indoctrination, for the purpose of influencing a Federal election.

As of this date, we have received no response from you in connection with this matter. Please submit answers to the enclosed questions within ten days of your receipt of this letter. Statements should be submitted under oath.

The Office of General Counsel would like to settle this matter through conciliation prior to a finding of probable cause. However, in the absence of any information which demonstrates that no further action should be taken against you, the Office of General Counsel must proceed to the next compliance stage as noted on page 2, paragraph 2, of the enclosed procedures.

This matter will remain confidential in accordance with 2 U.S.C. §§ 437g(a)(4)(B) and 437g(a)(12)(A) unless you notify the Commission in writing that you wish the matter to be made public.

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Letter to Rajneesh Services International, Ltd.
Page 2

If you have any questions, please contact Charles Snyder the attorney assigned to this matter, at (202)523-4000.

Sincerely,



John Warren McGarry
Chairman

Enclosures
Procedures
Questions

6504053374

DESCRIPTION OF PRELIMINARY PROCEDURES
FOR PROCESSING COMPLAINTS FILED WITH THE
FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

Complaints filed with the Federal Election Commission shall be referred to the Enforcement Division of the Office of the General Counsel, where they are assigned a MUR (Matter Under Review) number and assigned to a staff member. Within 5 days of receipt of a complaint, the Commission shall notify, in writing, any respondent listed in the complaint that the complaint has been filed and shall include with such notification a copy of the complaint. Simultaneously, the complainant shall be notified that the complaint has been received and will be acted upon. The respondent(s) shall then have 15 days to demonstrate, in writing, that no action should be taken against him/ her in response to the complaint.

At the end of the 15 days, the Office of General Counsel shall report to the Commission making a recommendation(s) based upon a preliminary legal and factual analysis of the complaint and any submission made by the respondent(s). A copy of respondent's submission shall be attached to the Office of General Counsel's report and forwarded to the Commission. This initial report shall recommend either: (a) that the Commission find reason to believe that the complaint sets forth a possible violation of the Federal Election Campaign Act (FECA) and that the Commission will conduct an investigation of the matter; or (b) that the Commission finds no reason to believe that the complaint sets forth a possible violation of the Federal Election Campaign Act (FECA) and, accordingly, that the Commission close the file on the matter.

If, by an affirmative vote of four (4) Commissioners, the Commission decides that it has reason to believe that a person has committed or is about to commit a violation of the Federal Election Campaign Act (FECA), the Office of the General Counsel shall open an investigation into the matter. During the investigation, the Commission shall have the power to subpoena documents, to subpoena individuals to appear for deposition, and to order answers to interrogatories. The respondent(s) may be contacted more than once by the Commission during its investigation.

6504053375

BEFORE THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

In the Matter of

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MUR 1846

ORDER TO SUBMIT WRITTEN ANSWERS

TO: Rajneesh Services International, Ltd.
28 Oak Village
London NW5 England

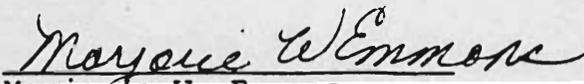
Pursuant to 2 U.S.C. § 437d(a)(1), and in furtherance of its investigation in the above-styled matter, the Federal Election Commission hereby orders you to submit written answers to the questions attached to this Order.

Such answers must be submitted under oath and must be forwarded to the Commission within 15 days of your receipt of this Order.

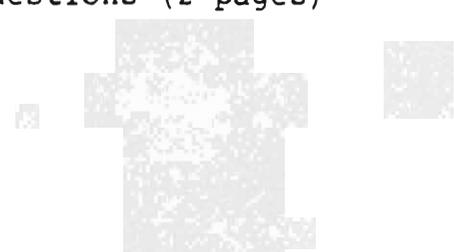
WHEREFORE, the Chairman of the Federal Election Commission has hereunto set his hand in Washington, D.C. on this *27th* day of *February*, 1985.


John Warren McGarry
Chairman

ATTEST:


Marjorie W. Emmons
Secretary to the Commission

Attachment
Questions (2 pages)



8504053376

Questions To: Rajneesh Services International, Ltd.

1. State whether you have any knowledge as to whether Rajneesh Neo-Sannyas International Commune, Rajneesh Investment Corporation, Rajneesh Foundation International, or Rajneesh Humanity Trust financed the recruitment, transportation, and provisioning of indigents from various U.S. cities in connection with all projects of relocating such indigents in or around Rancho Rajneesh or Rajneeshpuram, Oregon.

a) State whether Rajneesh Services International Limited participated in and/or financed such projects.

b) State how much money Rajneesh Services International Limited expended in connection with all indigent relocation project.

2. State whether the recruiters in the aforementioned relocation projects questioned the indigents in connection with:

a) whether they were U.S. citizens;

b) whether they were eighteen years of age or older;

c) their political affiliation.

3. State what criteria or considerations determined which indigents would be transported to Oregon.

4. State whether Rajneesh Services International Limited and/or any of the other corporations listed in question 1 above, and/or their agents, conducted, sponsored, financed, and/or proposed any political indoctrination and/or instruction classes, lectures, and/or meetings that any of the aforementioned indigents attended.

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For each such occurrence, state:

- a) the name of the sponsoring corporation
- b) the date of the meeting
- c) the name(s) of the federal candidates discussed
- d) the substance of the discussion
- e) the amount Rajneesh Services International Limited expended for this purpose.

5. State what efforts Rajneesh Services International Limited and/or the other corporations listed in question 1 above, and/or their agents, made to encourage the aforementioned indigents to register to vote.

6. State whether the indigents were promised or given special food, lodging, or other inducements if they agreed to register to vote, and state which corporations paid for and/or offered to pay for such inducements.

7. State whether Rajneesh Services International Limited and/or any of the other corporations listed in question 1 above endorsed, supported, and/or in any way assisted candidate(s) for election in 1984 to the offices of the Presidency of the U.S., the U.S. Senate, or the U.S. Congress.

State in what manner such endorsement, support, or assistance was manifested.

8504053378



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

March 1, 1985

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT

Swami Prartho Subhan, Esquire
Rajneesh Legal Services Corporation
P.O. Box 20
Rajneeshpuram, Oregon 97741

Re: MUR 1846
Rajneesh Foundation International
Rajneesh Humanity Trust
Ma Anand Sheela, President
Rajneesh Neo-Sannyas International
Commune
Ma Yoga Vidya, President
Rajneesh Investment Corporation
Swami Prem Jayanda, President

Dear Mr. Subhan:

The Federal Election Commission notified your clients on November 17, 1984, of a complaint alleging violations of certain sections of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended ("the Act"). A copy of the complaint was forwarded to them at that time.

Upon further review of the allegations contained in the complaint, the Commission, on February 20, 1985, determined that there is reason to believe that your clients have violated 2 U.S.C. § 441b, a provision of the Act. Specifically, it appears that these corporations made expenditures to relocate indigents in Oregon, and to have them register to vote, and to provide them political indoctrination, for the purpose of influencing a Federal election.

Your clients' response to the Commission's initial notification of this complaint did not provide complete information regarding the matter in question. Please submit answers to the enclosed questions within 10 days of receipt of this letter. Statements should be submitted under oath.

The Office of General Counsel would like to settle this matter through conciliation prior to a finding of probable cause. However, in the absence of any information which demonstrates that no further action should be taken against your clients, the Office of General Counsel must proceed to the next compliance stage as noted on page 2, paragraph 2, of the enclosed procedures.

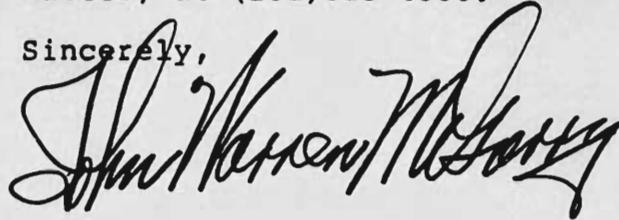
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Letter to Swami Prartho Subhan
Page 2

This matter will remain confidential in accordance with 2 U.S.C. §§ 437g(a)(4)(B) and 437g(a)(12)(A) unless you notify the Commission in writing that you wish the matter to be made public.

If you have any questions, please contact Charles Snyder, the attorney assigned to this matter, at (202)523-4000.

Sincerely,



John Warren McGarry
Chairman

Enclosures
Procedures
Questions

85040533390



DESCRIPTION OF PRELIMINARY PROCEDURES
FOR PROCESSING COMPLAINTS FILED WITH THE
FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

Complaints filed with the Federal Election Commission shall be referred to the Enforcement Division of the Office of the General Counsel, where they are assigned a MUR (Matter Under Review) number and assigned to a staff member. Within 5 days of receipt of a complaint, the Commission shall notify, in writing, any respondent listed in the complaint that the complaint has been filed and shall include with such notification a copy of the complaint. Simultaneously, the complainant shall be notified that the complaint has been received and will be acted upon. The respondent(s) shall then have 15 days to demonstrate, in writing, that no action should be taken against him/ her in response to the complaint.

At the end of the 15 days, the Office of General Counsel shall report to the Commission making a recommendation(s) based upon a preliminary legal and factual analysis of the complaint and any submission made by the respondent(s). A copy of respondent's submission shall be attached to the Office of General Counsel's report and forwarded to the Commission. This initial report shall recommend either: (a) that the Commission find reason to believe that the complaint sets forth a possible violation of the Federal Election Campaign Act (FECA) and that the Commission will conduct an investigation of the matter; or (b) that the Commission finds no reason to believe that the complaint sets forth a possible violation of the Federal Election Campaign Act (FECA) and, accordingly, that the Commission close the file on the matter.

If, by an affirmative vote of four (4) Commissioners, the Commission decides that it has reason to believe that a person has committed or is about to commit a violation of the Federal Election Campaign Act (FECA), the Office of the General Counsel shall open an investigation into the matter. During the investigation, the Commission shall have the power to subpoena documents, to subpoena individuals to appear for deposition, and to order answers to interrogatories. The respondent(s) may be contacted more than once by the Commission during its investigation.

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BEFORE THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

In the Matter of

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MUR 1846

ORDER TO SUBMIT WRITTEN ANSWERS

TO: Rajneesh Foundation International
Rajneesh Humanity Trust
Ma Anand Sheela, President
Rajneesh Neo-Sannyas International
Commune
Ma Yoga Vidya, President
Rajneesh Investment Corporation
Swami Prem Jayanda, President

c/o Swami Prartho Subhan, Esq.
P.O. Box 20
Rajneeshpuram, Oregon 97741

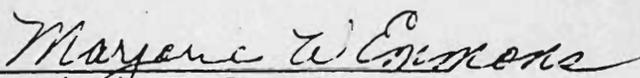
Pursuant to 2 U.S.C. § 437d(a)(1), and in furtherance of its investigation in the above-styled matter, the Federal Election Commission hereby orders you to submit written answers to the questions attached to this Order.

Such answers must be submitted under oath and must be forwarded to the Commission within 15 days of your receipt of this Order.

WHEREFORE, the Chairman of the Federal Election Commission has hereunto set his hand in Washington, D.C. on this 27th day of February, 1985.


John Warren McGarry
Chairman

ATTEST:


Marjorie W. Emmons
Secretary to the Commission

Attachment
Questions (2 pages)

85040533382

QUESTIONS TO: Rajneesh Foundation International
Rajneesh Humanity Trust
Ma Anand Sheela, President
Rajneesh Neo-Sannyas International
Commune
Ma Yoga Vidya, President
Rajneesh Investment Corporation
Swami Prem Jayanda, President

1. State which Rajneesh corporations financed the recruitment, transportation, and provisioning of indigents from various U.S. cities in connection with all projects of relocating such indigents in or around Rancho Rajneesh or Rajneeshpuram, Oregon.

a) State whether Rajneesh Humanity Trust directed or participated in such projects.

b) State how much money was expended by each corporation in connection with all indigent relocation projects.

2. State whether the recruiters in the aforementioned relocation project questioned the indigents in connection with:

a) whether they were U.S. citizens;

b) whether they were eighteen years of age or older;

c) their political affiliation.

3. State what criteria or considerations determined which indigents would be transported to Oregon.

4. State whether any of the corporations listed above, and/or their agents, conducted, sponsored, financed, and/or proposed any political indoctrination and/or instruction classes, lectures, and/or meetings that any of the aforementioned indigents attended.

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For each such occurrence, state:

- a) the name of the sponsoring corporation
- b) the date of the meeting
- c) the name(s) of the federal candidates discussed
- d) the substance of the discussion
- e) the amount expended by the corporation for this purpose.

5. State what efforts the corporations listed above, and/or their agents, made to encourage the aforementioned indigents to register to vote.

6. State whether the indigents were promised or given special food, lodging, or other inducements if they agreed to register to vote, and state which corporations paid for or offered to pay for such inducements.

7. State which of the corporations listed above endorsed, supported, and/or in any way assisted candidate(s) for election in 1984 to the offices of the Presidency of the U.S., the U.S. Senate, or the U.S. Congress.

State in what manner such endorsement, support, or assistance was manifested.

85040533394



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

MEMORANDUM TO: CHARLES N. STEELE
GENERAL COUNSEL

FROM: MARJORIE W. EMMONS/JODY C. RANSOM *JCR*

DATE: FEBRUARY 27, 1985

SUBJECT: MUR 1846 - Orders

The attached orders, which were Commission approved on February 20, 1985 by a vote of 6-0, have been signed and sealed this date.

Attachment

85040503305

BEFORE THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

In the Matter of)
)
Rajneesh Foundation International)
Rajneesh Humanity Trust)
Ma Anand Sheela, President)
Rajneesh Neo-Sannyas International) MUR 1846
Commune)
Ma Joga Vidya, President)
Rajneesh Investment Corporation)
Swami Prem Jayanda, President)
Rajneesh Services International)
Limited)

CERTIFICATION

I, Marjorie W. Emmons, recording secretary for the Federal Election Commission executive session of February 20, 1985, do hereby certify that the Commission decided by a vote of 6-0 to take the following actions in MUR 1846:

1. Find reason to believe Rajneesh Foundation International, and Ma Anand Sheela, as President, Rajneesh Humanity Trust, and Ma Anand Sheela, as President, Rajneesh Neo-Sannyas International Commune, and Ma Yoga Vidya, as President, Rajneesh Investment Corporation and Swami Prem Jayanda, as president, and Rajneesh Services International Limited violated 2 U.S.C. § 441b.

(Continued)

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2. Approve and send the letters attached to the General Counsel's report dated February 6, 1985.

Commissioners Aikens, Elliott, Harris, McDonald, McGarry, and Reiche voted affirmatively for the decision.

Attest:

2-20-85

Date

Marjorie W. Emmons

Marjorie W. Emmons
Secretary of the Commission

85040533387



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

MEMORANDUM

TO: Office of the Commission Secretary
 FROM: Office of General Counsel *Cot*
 DATE: February 6, 1985
 SUBJECT: MUR 1846 - General Counsel's Report

The attached is submitted as an Agenda document
 for the Commission Meeting of _____

Open Session _____

Closed Session _____

CIRCULATIONS

DISTRIBUTION

48 Hour Tally Vote	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Compliance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sensitive	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Audit Matters	<input type="checkbox"/>
Non-Sensitive	<input type="checkbox"/>	Litigation	<input type="checkbox"/>
24 Hour No Objection	<input type="checkbox"/>	Closed MUR Letters	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sensitive	<input type="checkbox"/>	Status Sheets	<input type="checkbox"/>
Non-Sensitive	<input type="checkbox"/>	Advisory Opinions	<input type="checkbox"/>
Information	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (see distribution below)	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Non-Sensitive	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>		

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BEFORE THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

RECEIVED
OFFICE OF THE FEC
COMMISSION SECRETARY

In the Matter of)
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Rajneesh Foundation International)
Rajneesh Humanity Trust)
Ma Anand Sheela, President)
Rajneesh Neo-Sannyas International)
Commune)
Ma Yoga Vidya, President)
Rajneesh Investment Corporation)
Swami Prem Jayanda, President)
Rajneesh Services International)
Limited)

95 FEB 6 12: 59

MUR 1846

SENSITIVE

GENERAL COUNSEL'S REPORT

BACKGROUND

The Larryann Willis for Congress Committee filed the complaint in this matter on November 5, 1984, alleging that Respondents Rajneesh Foundation International ("RFI"), Rajneesh Humanity Trust ("RHT"), Rajneesh Neo-Sannyas International Commune ("RNSIC"), Rajneesh Investment Corporation ("RIC"), and Rajneesh Services International Limited ("RSIL") violated the statutory prohibition against the expenditure of corporate funds to influence a Federal election. 2 U.S.C. § 441b. (All the corporate respondents will be collectively referred to as the "Rajneesh Corporations"). The complaint also named Ma Anand Sheela as President of the five corporations. Subsequently, the Presidents of the various corporations were identified as follows: Ma Anand Sheela, RFI and RHT; Swami Prem Jayanda, RIC; and; Ma Yoga Vidya, RNSIC. */

*/ Once the correct address for RSIL was obtained, a notification letter was sent to that corporation. As yet, however, the President of RSIL has not been identified. RSIL did not respond to the notification letter within the period allotted by 2 U.S.C. § 437g.

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The complaint alleges that Respondents violated 2 U.S.C. § 441b in that they expended funds to influence the Congressional election between Larryann Willis and Congressman Bob Smith in Oregon's Second Congressional District. Specifically, it is alleged that Respondents financed a drive to recruit and transport indigents from various U.S. cities in order to relocate them in the Rajneesh settlement in the Second Congressional District. It is further alleged that Respondents expended corporate funds to provide those indigents who registered to vote with better food and lodging than was given those who refused to register. Also, Respondents allegedly sponsored political indoctrination classes for the purpose of causing the indigents to support Congressman Smith or oppose candidate Willis.

LEGAL ANALYSIS

The statute cited in the complaint states in part that "It is unlawful ... for any corporation whatever ... to make a contribution or expenditure in connection with any [Federal] election..." 2 U.S.C. § 441b(a). The Federal Election Campaign Act (the "Act") defines "expenditure" as:

any purchase, payment, distribution, loan, advance, deposit, or gift of money or anything of value, made by any person for the purpose of influencing any election for Federal office....

2 U.S.C. § 431(9) (A) (i).

The focus of the present inquiry is whether the activities of the Respondents were in connection with federal elections,

namely, in support of Congressman Smith or in opposition to candidate Willis. Complainant has submitted newspaper clippings indicating that the Rajnessh Times, a newspaper apparently controlled by some or all of the Respondents, opposed her candidacy, Rajneesh Times, December 30, 1983; and that the indigents participated in rallies against the candidacy of a state senator whom the Rajneesh movement opposed. Spokane (Washington) Chronicle, September 20, 1984. (Attachments 1 and 2) These circumstances give rise to an inference that the Respondents may have similarly indoctrinated the indigents with respect to the Congressional election.

Assuming such indoctrination did take place, the Rajneesh corporations would have expended money in connection with a Federal election under either of two possible views of the facts. It may be that a desire to influence the outcome of the Smith/Willis contest was among the original motivations for the relocation drive, in which event at least a share of the cost of the entire enterprise would be deemed to have been expended in connection with a Federal election. Alternatively, the Rajneesh corporations may have transported the indigents to Oregon for reasons unrelated to any election, but once having gotten them there, endeavored to influence them to register and vote in accordance with Rajneesh interests. Ma Anand Sheela has reportedly admitted that such was the case with respect to

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local elections. According to several published reports, Sheela said:

she hadn't thought of potential votes when disciples began recruiting the homeless. But, when detractors accused the sect of such a motive, she said, she liked the idea.

"The county is so ... bigoted it deserves to be taken over," she said.

Spokane (Wash.) Chronicle, September 20, 1984; (Boise) Idaho Statesman, September 19, 1984. (Attachment 3) Use of corporate facilities and corporate employees to conduct political indoctrination of the indigents in connection with a Federal election would clearly involve the Rajneesh corporations in a violation of 2 U.S.C. § 441b.

Further investigation is necessary, not only to determine the extent of the political indoctrination undertaken by the Rajneesh corporations, but to discover which corporations actually made the expenditures in question. Based on information provided by complainant (in manuscript form) deriving from Oregon Magazine, it appears that the five corporations are linked in a complex financial network. Each corporation has a distinct function: RFI is the religious, non-profit organization; RNSIC is the commune to which all Oregon-based Rajneeshees belong; RIC is a profit-making business organization that owns Rajneeshpuram and Rancho Rajneesh, and leases those properties to RNSIC; RSIL, a London-based firm, holds the mortgage on the aforementioned real properties; and RHT is the organization that actually

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conducted the recruitment drive. It is uncertain which corporations financed the recruitment of the indigents and the alleged political indoctrination. All the Rajneesh corporations should, therefore, remain Respondents until further investigation reveals which of them engaged in unlawful activity.

In summary, it appears from numerous press reports that Respondents recruited indigents from around the country and financed their re-settlement in Oregon. It also appears that Respondents encouraged these indigents to register to vote, and expended corporate funds to provide incentives, in the form of better food and lodging, to foster such registration. The press reported that these indigents participated, at the behest of the Respondents, in political rallies related to a local election. Complainant has asserted that Respondents also conducted political indoctrination sessions to cause the indigents to oppose Larryann Willis or support Bob Smith in the then ongoing Congressional election. Should evidence bear out these allegations, those Respondents who paid for the recruitment and political indoctrination of the indigents would have violated the prohibition on corporate spending in connection with a Federal election. 2 U.S.C. § 441b. It appears, therefore, that there is reason to believe the Respondents violated 2 U.S.C. § 441b.

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RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Find reason to believe Rajneesh Foundation International, and Ma Anand Sheela, as President, Rajneesh Humanity Trust, and Ma Anand Sheela, as President, Rajneesh Neo-Sannyas International Commune, and Ma Yoga Vidya, as President, Rajneesh Investment Corporation and Swami Prem Jayanda, as president, and Rajneesh Services International Limited violated 2 U.S.C. § 441b.
2. Approve and send the attached letters.

Charles N. Steele
General Counsel

February 6, 1985
Date

By: *Kenneth A. Gross*
Kenneth A. Gross
Associate General Counsel

Attachments

1. Rajneesh Times, December 30, 1983
2. Spokane (Washington) Chronicle, September 20, 1984
3. (Boise) Idaho Statesman, September 19, 1984
4. Oregon Magazine, November, 1984
5. Letter to Swami Prartho Subhan, Esq., order and questions
6. Letter to Rajneesh Services International Limited, order and questions

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INSTANT REPLAY:

Voters in two of Oregon's Congressional Districts will be faced with a slow-motion instant replay of the races they yawned about in 1982. Former Georgia-Pacific exec Bill Moshofsky will square off again with 1st District Rep. Les AuCoin. Moshofsky gave AuCoin the closest call of his five-term Congressional career — and at least one political consultant says Moshofsky will win this time if President Reagan runs strongly in Oregon. To date, Reagan is rating well in Oregon polls.... In the 2nd District, which includes eastern, central and much of southern Oregon, political fly-by-night Caryann Willis has been busting a gut trying to get some public attention in her hoped-for repeat bout against Rep. Bob Smith, who left her in the dust in their first go-round. ... Willis' latest heat-seeking missile wasn't aimed at Smith. It was aimed at Publisher Greg Cushman and Editor Bob Chandler of The Bulletin, Bend. Willis paid \$600 for a full-page ad in The Bulletin to lambaste the newspaper for being unfair to her. Willis is bent out of shape — a not inconsiderable feat given her shape — because The Bulletin conducted an investigation and found that she "misrepresents the facts at the least" in her denial of her solicitation of Rajneeshees for money and votes.... Willis, we assume, will also sponsor a full-page ad in The Hermiston Herald — because they also raked her over the coals.... Observers in

Salem, some of them Willis' acquaintances, say her anti-Rajneesh fund-raising appeal in The Bend advertisement is a desperate last-ditch attempt to save a floundering campaign. Her own polls show her in bad shape, even among many fellow Democrats. And the people who contribute to campaigns aren't going to throw their money down a lost-cause rat-hole.

Spokane, WA
 (Spokane Co.)
 Spokane Chronicle
 (Cir. 8xW. 60,888)

SEP 20 1984

Allen's P. C. B Est. 1888

Rajneeshis announce plan to defeat Oregon legislator

5174
 BY SALLY CARPENTER
 HALE

Associated Press

RAJNEESHPURAM, Ore. — With the enthusiastic approval of many of their 900 "guests," disciples of Indian guru Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh have announced a campaign to drive a state legislator out of office.

The Rajneeshis prefaced a news conference featuring testimonials from more than 40 of the "street people" based in from around the nation with a song aimed at Rep. Wayne H. Fawbush, D-Hood River.

"Goodbye, Wayne," they sang. "... Your campaign's going down the drain, glub, glub, glub."

The disciples previously denied that their "experiment," which brought busloads of homeless people to this central Oregon commune-city, was designed to enlarge its voting population.

Ma Anand Sheela, the guru's outspoken personal secretary, said she hadn't thought of potential votes when disciples began recruiting the homeless. But, when detractors accused the sect of such a motive, she said, she liked the idea.

"The county is so ... bigoted it deserves to be taken over," she said.

Fawbush, whose district includes Gilliam, Hood River, Sherman, Wasco and Wheeler counties, could not be located for comment.

He faces a challenge Nov. 6 from Republican John Lundell of The Dalles.

Ma Anand Sheela accused Fawbush of trying to take away the new arrivals' voting rights.

"If they touch any one of our people, ... I'll have 15 of their heads," she said.

Under Oregon law, voters must live in the state at least 20 days before an election.

Sean Osborne of Santa Cruz, Calif., said he hadn't planned to vote until he saw a television interview with a state legislator whose name he did not know.

"Nobody asked me to vote. I've never voted in my entire life ... (but) I am going to register and I am going to vote against you," he said.

"In two months, we're going to drop a peace bomb on Washington," added Richard Williams of Berkeley, Calif.

Ma Anand Sheela did not specify other candidates against whom the Rajneeshis would vote, but she often has spoken harshly of many elected officials, including U.S. Sen. Mark Hatfield.

Larry Willis, who opposes Republican U.S. Rep. Bob Smith in the district that includes Rajneeshpuram, has accused the Rajneeshis of bringing in the street people in recent weeks as part of a plot to influence the outcome of state and federal elections in Oregon.

Rajneeshi opponents, meanwhile, have announced a plan to move en masse to Wasco County to prevent the sect from taking over the county government.

A similar controversy erupted in 1982, when the nearby town of Antelope sought to disincorporate rather than have the disciples overrun the community.

Antelope's population of 40 more than doubled as both sides moved in voters from elsewhere in Oregon. State law allows registered Oregon voters to move into a town on election day, register and vote. The Antelope proposal failed two years ago, but the town was voted out of existence Tuesday.

Antelope voters, now comprised primarily of the guru's followers, decided to change the town's name to Rajneesh.

The new Rajneeshpuram residents who spoke Tuesday — many of whom had been at the commune only a few days — gave glowing reviews of their benefactors, and most said they planned to stay. Some even said they would die for the Rajneeshis.

Joseph Coulson of Portland said he was sent to Rajneeshpuram by a counselor at the Burtside Community Council, which helps the homeless in that city.

"I was sent ... to see if I could find anything wrong. I apologize for coming under those pretenses, and if they'll still have me, I'd love to stay," he said.

"I'm still in the skeptical stages," said Michael Anthony Groom of Washington, D.C.

The Rev. Tom Durkin, a Catholic priest from Pennsylvania, said he was on assignment for the Ecumenical Catholic Diocese of America to study the Rajneeshis' experiment.

"There is no contradiction between Jesus and Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh. ... I'd like to say, 'Drop your fear, Catholic Church,'" he said.

8504053396

Boise, ID
(Ada Co.)
Idaho Statesman
(Cir. D. 56,330)
(Cir. S. 71,219)

SEP 19 1984

Allen's P. C. B. Est. 1888

Homeless vow to aid Rajneeshees at polls

8504053397

The Associated Press

RAJNEESHPURAM, Ore. — Some of the 900 "street people" brought to this commune-city by disciples of Indian guru Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh vowed Tuesday to help their benefactors by voting against a state legislator in November.

The Rajneeshees have denied that the homeless people were bused in from across the nation to enlarge their voter rolls.

Ma Anand Sheela, the guru's personal secretary, said Tuesday that she "hadn't thought of voting" when the disciples began recruiting the homeless.

But the county is so "bigoted it deserves to be taken over," she said.

The Rajneeshees began busing indigent people from various parts of the country to Rajneeshpuram in recent weeks in what the Rajneesh followers say was an experiment in communal living and charity.

More than 40 of the street people spoke glowingly of their new home at a news conference, which began with a song called Goodbye Wayne. Ma Anand Sheela said the song was aimed at State Rep. Wayne Fawcush, whose district includes Rajneeshpuram and who is up for re-election Nov. 6.

Sean Osborne of Santa Cruz, Calif., said he hadn't planned to vote until he saw a state legislator on television.

(but) I am going to register and I am going to vote against (Fawcush)," Osborne said. He said he did not know the legislator's name.

"In two months, we're going to drop a peace bomb on Washington," added Richard Williams of Berkeley, Calif.

Meanwhile, Rajneeshees in nearby Antelope voted Tuesday on a proposal to name the town after Rajneesh.

The town's 90 registered voters had to cast absentee ballots after a flap over whether the polling site should be transferred into the Rajneeshee part of town.

Only a handful of Antelope's original residents remain. Most moved after the sect members took control of Antelope's government and raised taxes. The street people who spoke were highly complimentary of the Rajneeshees, with some even vowing to die for them.

Joseph Coulson of Portland said he was sent to Rajneeshpuram by a counselor at the Burnside Community Council, which helps the homeless in that city.

"I was sent ... to see if I could find anything wrong. I apologize for coming under those pretenses, and if they'll still have me, I'd love to stay," he said.

Two of the testimonials came from people who said they had exchanged drugs for love.

"Love is the best high I ever had," said Scott Burnett of De-

Rajneesh Watch--November 1984

BHAGWAN'S BOTTOM LINE
PART 1: THE CORPORATE OCTOPUS

Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh, who has often extolled the virtues of capitalism, is clearly a man who practices what preaches.

Although his name does not appear on any known document of ownership of a single enterprise or piece of property anywhere in the world, Rajneesh, through top assistants like Sheela Silverman and her husband John Shelfer (whose names do appear on such documents), has ^{DEVELOPED} ~~created~~ a complex and lucrative international financial empire that belies his claim to be a ^{PURELY} ~~unconcerned~~ ^{OBVIOUS TO} spiritual leader ~~unconcerned~~ with worldly affairs.

The heart of Rajneesh's financial empire is the Rajneesh Foundation International (RFI), an Oregon non-profit corporation that, according to its charter, is "organized exclusively for charitable purposes and particularly for the spreading of the religious teachings and messages of Bhagwan

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Shree Rajneesh. "RFI is the successor to the Rajneesh Foundation in Poona, India, the city where Rajneesh's community was located until he fled that country in June, 1981 ~~on the heels of~~ Indian tax authorities WITH ON HIS HEELS.

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The Rajneesh Foundation in India (whose tax-exempt status as a charitable institution had ~~just~~ been revoked) was effectively disbanded when seven of its eleven officers resigned their positions JUST as they and Rajneesh were leaving for the United States. At the time of their departure, in the words of the highly respected Indian magazine India Today (June 15, 1981), the Rajneesh Foundation of India was "up to its neck in income tax arrears, defalcations with the charities is commissioner, a major insurance fraud, and a string of cases for criminal offenses which were still being investigated when they left."

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It is the reconstituted foundation in Oregon, i.e. RFI, that receives the monies from most of the Rajneesh organization's known sources of income in the United States-- sales of Rajneesh books, audio and video tapes, films and paraphenalia; various "therapy" and "meditation" courses offered at Rajneeshpuram and other Rajneesh centers; profits from the annual world festival given every summer at the ranch in Oregon; and "donations" from wealthy and non-wealthy followers. Although informed observers seriously doubt that these stated sources of income can, by themselves, fully account for the apparent limitlessness vastness of Rajneesh financial resources, they can indeed be quite remunerative: it has been estimated that the Third Annual World Festival at Rajneeshpuram last summer netted upwards of ten million dollars for the city and its various business enterprises.

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Most residents of Rajneeshpuram are members of the Rajneesh Neo-Sannyas International Commune (RNSIC), an Oregon "Cooperative Corporation" (Coop) whose stated purpose is "to be a religious community whose life is, in every respect, guided by the religious teachings of Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh and whose members live a communal life with a common treasury." It is the commune that provides the work-force (or slave-labor force) to run the ranch, build and maintain the city and operate ~~the~~ ^{RAJNEESH} various businesses. Members of the commune not only work 12 hours a day, seven days a week for no wages, but actually have to pay a substantial fee for the privilege of being in Bhagwan's Buddhafield and performing this act of "worship."

The fee for residing and working at Rajneeshpuram is said to range between \$500 and \$1500 a month, and is apparentl



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in addition to an initial entrance fee that itself reportedly can range between \$5000 and \$150,000., depending on a person's financial resources and work skills. Any money a commune member has left over after ^{PAYING} these fees will undoubtedly be spent in the various high-priced boutiques, shops and restaurants in downtown Rajneeshpuram. (Adrian Greek, director of Portland's Positive Action Center, an organization that monitors the activities of "destructive cults," has called Rajneeshpuram "an aggressive capitalist-feudal system in which you owe your soul to the company store").

Because it is a cooperative, the commune is tax-exempt; ^{UN/} Under Oregon and Federal tax laws, members of a coop are taxed on benefits they receive from their membership, but no income tax is levied on the organization itself. The RNSIC, in any case, is said to operate at a loss; even if

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it made a profit, tax experts say, the income it paid out
would be APPORTIONED TO ~~spread over~~ so many members that actual taxes would
be quite low relative to those that would have to be paid
by a single profit-making entity.

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The "profit-making" arm of the Rajneesh corporate
empire is the Rajneesh Investment Corporation (RIC), a
wholly-owned subsidiary of RFI. The investment corporation
holds title to Rancho Rajneesh and the entire city of
Rajneeshpuram, as well as to Rajneesh properties in Antelope
and Portland, and in turn "leases" these properties to the
commune. These same properties are fully mortgaged to Rajneesh
Services Internation^l Limited (RSI) in London, England, a
registered English corporation whose principal function
SEEMS ~~appears~~ to be to transfer money from one component of the
Rajneesh international financial empire to another (including,

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reportedly, secret bank accounts in Geneva, Switzerland).

The RIC also has various specialized holdings in an assortment of subsidiary "trusts," such as the "Modern Car Trust," which manages Bhagwan's fleet of 40-plus "graced" Rolls Royces.

Attorneys and accountants who have pondered the

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Rajneesh corporate octopus believe that the investment corporation, RIC, serves ^{two different} ~~several~~ functions. First, they say, because it is a private corporation, RIC's records are not open to the public, as are those of its parent corporation, RFI, which is a public foundation. Thus, the investment corporation enables the Rajneeshees to keep details of certain financial transactions confidential, particularly some reportedly large transfers of ^(C + S) money from RSI in London.

Second, by mortgaging all of its real property holdings to a corporation in England, RIC has made these assets

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~~immune from~~ ~~civil~~ and administrative court judgments in

America. The sealing off of other special assets such as the Rolls Royces in RIC-controlled trusts insulates those assets from such court judgments as well, legal experts say. One Portland attorney has said that the Rajneeshees have built "a nearly impregnable wall of protection for their assets."

These experts say that the function of the Rajneesh Foundation International, the center or head of this financial octopus, IS COMPLETELY ~~should be fairly~~ obvious, ~~even to most laypeople:~~ by virtue of its being a non-profit "church," RFI does not have to pay any taxes whatsoever on its clearly considerable income.

Win McCormack

--30--

NEXT MONTH: THE EXPLOITATION OF MAN BY 'GOD'

85040533405



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT

Swami Prartho Subhan, Esquire
Rajneesh Legal Services Corporation
P.O. Box 20
Rajneeshpuram, Oregon 97741

Re: MUR 1846
Rajneesh Foundation International
Rajneesh Humanity Trust
Ma Anand Sheela, President
Rajneesh Neo-Sannyas International
Commune
Ma Yoga Vidya, President
Rajneesh Investment Corporation
Swami Prem Jayanda, President

Dear Mr. Subhan:

The Federal Election Commission notified your clients on November 17, 1984, of a complaint alleging violations of certain sections of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended ("the Act"). A copy of the complaint was forwarded to them at that time.

Upon further review of the allegations contained in the complaint, the Commission, on _____, 1985, determined that there is reason to believe that your clients have violated 2 U.S.C. § 441b, a provision of the Act. Specifically, it appears that these corporations made expenditures to relocate indigents in Oregon, and to have them register to vote, and to provide them political indoctrination, for the purpose of influencing a Federal election.

Your clients' response to the Commission's initial notification of this complaint did not provide complete information regarding the matter in question. Please submit answers to the enclosed questions within 10 days of receipt of this letter. Statements should be submitted under oath.

The Office of General Counsel would like to settle this matter through conciliation prior to a finding of probable cause. However, in the absence of any information which demonstrates that no further action should be taken against your clients, the Office of General Counsel must proceed to the next compliance stage as noted on page 2, paragraph 2, of the enclosed procedures.

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Letter to Swami Prartho Subhan
Page 2

This matter will remain confidential in accordance with 2 U.S.C. §§ 437g(a)(4)(B) and 437g(a)(12)(A) unless you notify the Commission in writing that you wish the matter to be made public.

If you have any questions, please contact Charles Snyder, the attorney assigned to this matter, at (202)523-4000.

Sincerely,

John Warren McGarry
Chairman

Enclosures
Procedures
Questions

85040533407

BEFORE THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

In the Matter of

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MUR 1846

ORDER TO SUBMIT WRITTEN ANSWERS

TO: Rajneesh Foundation International
Rajneesh Humanity Trust
Ma Anand Sheela, President
Rajneesh Neo-Sannyas International
Commune
Ma Yoga Vidya, President
Rajneesh Investment Corporation
Swami Prem Jayanda, President

c/o Swami Prartho Subhan, Esq.
P.O. Box 20
Rajneeshpuram, Oregon 97741

Pursuant to 2 U.S.C. § 437d(a)(1), and in furtherance of its investigation in the above-styled matter, the Federal Election Commission hereby orders you to submit written answers to the questions attached to this Order.

Such answers must be submitted under oath and must be forwarded to the Commission within 15 days of your receipt of this Order.

WHEREFORE, the Chairman of the Federal Election Commission has hereunto set his hand in Washington, D.C. on this day of , 1985.

John Warren McGarry
Chairman

ATTEST:

Marjorie W. Emmons
Secretary to the Commission

Attachment
Questions (2 pages)

8504053408

QUESTIONS TO: Rajneesh Foundation International
Rajneesh Humanity Trust
Ma Anand Sheela, President
Rajneesh Neo-Sannyas International
Commune
Ma Yoga Vidya, President
Rajneesh Investment Corporation
Swami Prem Jayanda, President

1. State which Rajneesh corporations financed the recruitment, transportation, and provisioning of indigents from various U.S. cities in connection with all projects of relocating such indigents in or around Rancho Rajneesh or Rajneeshpuram, Oregon.

a) State whether Rajneesh Humanity Trust directed or participated in such projects.

b) State how much money was expended by each corporation in connection with all indigent relocation projects.

2. State whether the recruiters in the aforementioned relocation project questioned the indigents in connection with:

a) whether they were U.S. citizens;

b) whether they were eighteen years of age or older;

c) their political affiliation.

3. State what criteria or considerations determined which indigents would be transported to Oregon.

4. State whether any of the corporations listed above, and/or their agents, conducted, sponsored, financed, and/or proposed any political indoctrination and/or instruction classes, lectures, and/or meetings that any of the aforementioned indigents attended.

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For each such occurrence, state:

- a) the name of the sponsoring corporation
- b) the date of the meeting
- c) the name(s) of the federal candidates discussed
- d) the substance of the discussion
- e) the amount expended by the corporation for this purpose.

5. State what efforts the corporations listed above, and/or their agents, made to encourage the aforementioned indigents to register to vote.

6. State whether the indigents were promised or given special food, lodging, or other inducements if they agreed to register to vote, and state which corporations paid for or offered to pay for such inducements.

7. State which of the corporations listed above endorsed, supported, and/or in any way assisted candidate(s) for election in 1984 to the offices of the Presidency of the U.S., the U.S. Senate, or the U.S. Congress.

State in what manner such endorsement, support, or assistance was manifested.

85040533410

● Attachment 6 ●



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

CERTIFIED MAIL

RETURN RECEIPT

Rajneesh Services International, Ltd.
28 Oak Village
London NW5 England

Re: MUR 1846
Rajneesh Services
International, Ltd.

Dear Sir:

The Federal Election Commission notified you on December 26, 1985, of a complaint alleging violations of certain sections of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended ("the Act"). A copy of the complaint was forwarded to you at that time.

Upon further review of the allegations contained in the complaint, the Commission, on _____, 1985, determined that there is reason to believe that Rajneesh Services International, Ltd. has violated 2 U.S.C. § 441b, a provision of the Act. Specifically, it appears that the corporation made expenditures to relocate indigents in Oregon, and to have them register to vote, and to provide them political indoctrination, for the purpose of influencing a Federal election.

As of this date, we have received no response from you in connection with this matter. Please submit answers to the enclosed questions within ten days of your receipt of this letter. Statements should be submitted under oath.

The Office of General Counsel would like to settle this matter through conciliation prior to a finding of probable cause. However, in the absence of any information which demonstrates that no further action should be taken against you, the Office of General Counsel must proceed to the next compliance stage as noted on page 2, paragraph 2, of the enclosed procedures.

This matter will remain confidential in accordance with 2 U.S.C. §§ 437g(a)(4)(B) and 437g(a)(12)(A) unless you notify the Commission in writing that you wish the matter to be made public.

0504053411

Letter to Rajneesh Services International, Ltd.
Page 2

If you have any questions, please contact Charles Snyder the attorney assigned to this matter, at (202)523-4000.

Sincerely,

John Warren McGarry
Chairman

Enclosures
Procedures
Questions

85040533412

BEFORE THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

In the Matter of

)
)

MUR 1846

ORDER TO SUBMIT WRITTEN ANSWERS

TO: Rajneesh Services International, Ltd.
28 Oak Village
London NW5 England

Pursuant to 2 U.S.C. § 437d(a)(1), and in furtherance of its investigation in the above-styled matter, the Federal Election Commission hereby orders you to submit written answers to the questions attached to this Order.

Such answers must be submitted under oath and must be forwarded to the Commission within 15 days of your receipt of this Order.

WHEREFORE, the Chairman of the Federal Election Commission has hereunto set his hand in Washington, D.C. on this day of , 1985.

John Warren McGarry
Chairman

ATTEST:

Marjorie W. Emmons
Secretary to the Commission

Attachment
Questions (2 pages)

85040533413

Questions To: Rajneesh Services International, Ltd.

1. State whether you have any knowledge as to whether Rajneesh Neo-Sannyas International Commune, Rajneesh Investment Corporation, Rajneesh Foundation International, or Rajneesh Humanity Trust financed the recruitment, transportation, and provisioning of indigents from various U.S. cities in connection with all projects of relocating such indigents in or around Rancho Rajneesh or Rajneeshpuram, Oregon.

a) State whether Rajneesh Services International Limited participated in and/or financed such projects.

b) State how much money Rajneesh Services International Limited expended in connection with all indigent relocation project.

2. State whether the recruiters in the aforementioned relocation projects questioned the indigents in connection with:

a) whether they were U.S. citizens;

b) whether they were eighteen years of age or older;

c) their political affiliation.

3. State what criteria or considerations determined which indigents would be transported to Oregon.

4. State whether Rajneesh Services International Limited and/or any of the other corporations listed in question 1 above, and/or their agents, conducted, sponsored, financed, and/or proposed any political indoctrination and/or instruction classes, lectures, and/or meetings that any of the aforementioned indigents attended.

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For each such occurrence, state:

- a) the name of the sponsoring corporation
- b) the date of the meeting
- c) the name(s) of the federal candidates discussed
- d) the substance of the discussion
- e) the amount Rajneesh Services International Limited expended for this purpose.

5. State what efforts Rajneesh Services International Limited and/or the other corporations listed in question 1 above, and/or their agents, made to encourage the aforementioned indigents to register to vote.

6. State whether the indigents were promised or given special food, lodging, or other inducements if they agreed to register to vote, and state which corporations paid for and/or offered to pay for such inducements.

7. State whether Rajneesh Services International Limited and/or any of the other corporations listed in question 1 above endorsed, supported, and/or in any way assisted candidate(s) for election in 1984 to the offices of the Presidency of the U.S., the U.S. Senate, or the U.S. Congress.

State in what manner such endorsement, support, or assistance was manifested.

85040533415

THE RAJNEESH LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

RECEIVED AT THE FEC
@LL#6237

85 JAN 3 AM: [initials]

Ma Deva Anando
Swami Nion
Swami Prem Niren
Swami Premasukh

Ma Prem Sheelu
Swami Prartho Subhan
Swami Deva Vatula
Swami Satyam Vishuddha

December 28, 1984

Charles Snyder
Associate General Counsel
Federal Election Commission
Washington, D.C. 20463

Re: MUR 1846

Beloved Mr. Snyder:

We represent Rajneesh Investment Corporation and we are in receipt of a complaint filed in your office to which we herewith submit a response.

Our client denies all allegations regarding violations of the Federal Election Campaign Act 2 USC 441b. These allegations are untrue and are based on hearsay, irrelevant and distorted statements and so-called "evidence." The complaint contains nothing that even vaguely suggests that this corporation was involved in violations of the F.E.C.A..

We believe that based on the unfounded nature and inadequacy of the complaint, it will be dismissed by the Commission.

With love,

Swami Prartho Subhan

Swami Prartho Subhan

su/pp

8504053416

85 JAN 3
FEB: 22
GENERAL COUNSEL

AJNEESH LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

D, Rajneeshpuram, OR 97741

Charles Snyder
Associate General Counsel
Federal Election Commission
Washington, D.C. 20463



85 JAN 30 ALL: 26

RECEIVED
FEC

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FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

MEMORANDUM

TO: Office of the Commission Secretary
FROM: Office of General Counsel *Cut*
DATE: December 27, 1984
SUBJECT: MUR 1846 - First General Counsel's Report

The attached is submitted as an Agenda document
for the Commission Meeting of _____
Open Session _____
Closed Session _____

CIRCULATIONS		DISTRIBUTION	
48 Hour Tally Vote	[]	Compliance	[X]
Sensitive	[]	Audit Matters	[]
Non-Sensitive	[]	Litigation	[]
24 Hour No Objection	[X]	Closed MUR Letters	[]
Sensitive	[X]	Status Sheets	[]
Non-Sensitive	[]	Advisory Opinions	[]
Information	[]	Other (see distribution below)	[]
Sensitive	[]		
Non-Sensitive	[]		
Other	[]		

85040533418

SENSITIVE

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
1325 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20463

RECEIVED
OFFICE OF THE FEC
COMMISSION SECRETARY

FIRST GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT

NOV 29 9:12

DATE AND TIME OF TRANSMITTAL
BY OGC TO THE COMMISSION _____

MUR #1846
DATE COMPLAINT RECEIVED
BY OGC November 5, 1984
DATE OF NOTIFICATION TO
RESPONDENT November 13, 1984
STAFF MEMBER Snyder

COMPLAINANT'S NAME: Larryann Willis for Congress Committee

RESPONDENT'S NAME: Ma Anand Sheela
Rajneesh Foundation International
Rajneesh Humanity Trust
Rajneesh Neo-Sannyas International Commune
Rajneesh Investment Corporation
Rajneesh Services International Limited

RELEVANT STATUTES: 2 U.S.C. §§ 441b, 441e

SUMMARY OF ALLEGATIONS

This matter involves an alleged violation of the statutory prohibition against the expenditure of corporate funds to influence a Federal election. 2 U.S.C. § 441b. Complainant asserts that respondent corporations financed the transportation of indigents from various U.S. cities to a settlement located in Oregon's 2nd Congressional District. In addition to provisioning these indigents, Respondents allegedly pressured them to register to vote, promising better food and lodging for those who did so. The corporations, furthermore, allegedly sponsored political indoctrination classes that included advocacy of the re-election of complainant's opponent in the then ongoing Congressional election.

8504053419

FACTUAL AND LEGAL ANALYSIS

The present complaint was filed with the Commission on November 5, 1984, naming as respondents the five Rajneesh Corporations and designating Ma Anand Sheela as President of all five corporations. On November 13th, the Office of the General Counsel mailed notification letters to the Respondents. On November 17, Respondents Rajneesh Foundation International ("RFI") and Rajneesh Humanity Trust ("RHT") received their notification, but the remaining letters were returned to this Office on November 23rd marked "undeliverable as addressed". On November 27th, this Office wrote to the Secretary of State of Oregon asking for the addresses of the corporations.

On December 11, this Office received the Secretary of State's response. We learned the correct address for Rajneesh Neo-Sannyas International Commune ("RNSIC") and for Rajneesh Investment Corporation ("RIC") and for Rajneesh Investment Corporation ("RIC"). The report also revealed that the President of RNSIC is in fact Ma Yoga Vidya and the President of RIC is Swami Prem Jayananda. Notification letters were promptly sent to these Respondents. The Secretary of State had no information concerning Rajneesh Services International Limited. Further inquiries resulted in identifying that Respondent as a British corporation, based in London. A notification letter was sent to their address on December 20, 1984.

Meanwhile, Swami Prartho Subhan had called this Office on December 3rd to identify himself as the attorney representing RFI, RHT, and Ma Anand Sheela and to seek a 10 day extension of

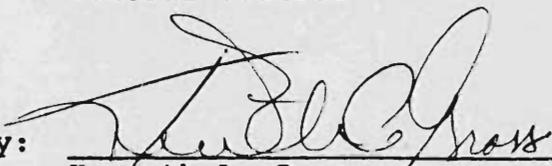
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time in which to respond to the Complaint. Upon being advised to submit his request in writing, Mr. Subhan wrote this Office on December 6th simultaneously requesting the extension and submitting a response. (See attachment). This Office on December 13th acknowledged receipt of Mr. Subhan's response.

Due to difficulty in obtaining their correct addresses, therefore, three Respondents have not yet had an adequate opportunity to respond. Consequently, this Office is not yet able to make a recommendation to the Commission concerning the question whether there is reason to believe a violation has occurred in this case. As soon as the response time has expired, this Office will report to the Commission with appropriate recommendations.

Charles N. Steele
General Counsel

Dec 27, 1984
Date

By: 
Kenneth A. Gross
Associate General Counsel

85040533421



STATEMENT OF DESIGNATION OF COUNSEL

MUR 1846

NAME OF COUNSEL: Swami Prartho Subhan

ADDRESS: THE RAJNEESH LEGAL
SERVICES CORPORATION

P.O. Box 20

Rajneeshpuram, OR 97741

TELEPHONE: (503) 489-3358

The above-named individual is hereby designated as my
counsel and is authorized to receive any notifications and other
communications from the Commission and to act on my behalf before
the Commission.

December 4, 1984
Date

Geeta
Signature

RESPONDENT'S NAME: MA PREM GEETA, Secretary

ADDRESS: RAJNEESH FOUNDATION INTERNATIONAL

P.O. Box 9

Rajneeshpuram, OR 97741

HOME PHONE: _____

BUSINESS PHONE: (503) 489-3301

85040533423

STATEMENT OF DESIGNATION OF COUNSEL

MUR 1846

NAME OF COUNSEL: Swami Prartho Subhan

ADDRESS: THE RAJNEESH LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

P.O. Box 20

Rajneeshpuram, OR 97741

TELEPHONE: (503) 489-3358

The above-named individual is hereby designated as my counsel and is authorized to receive any notifications and other communications from the Commission and to act on my behalf before the Commission.

December 4, 1984
Date

Ma Prem Arup
Signature

RESPONDENT'S NAME: MA PREM ARUP, Secretary

ADDRESS: RAJNEESH HUMANITY TRUST

P.O. Box 24

Rajneeshpuram, OR 97741

HOME PHONE: _____

BUSINESS PHONE: (503) 489-3370

8504053424

RECEIVED AT THE FEC
GCC# 6204

THE RAJNEESH LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

85 JAN 2 AM: 45

Ma Deva Anando
Swami Nion
Swami Prem Niren
Swami Premasukh

Ma Prem Sheelu
Swami Prartho Subhan ..
Swami Deva Vatula ...
Swami Satyam Vishuddha

December 26, 1984

15 JAN 2
PI2: 38

Charles Snyder
Associate General Counsel
Federal Election Commission
Washington, D.C. 20463

Re: MUR 1846

Beloved Mr. Snyder:

We represent Rajneesh Neo-Sannyas International
Commune and we are in receipt of the complaint filed in your
office against this party. We herewith submit a response as
follows:

Our client denies all allegations regarding violations
of the Federal Election Campaign Act, 2 USC 441b. These
allegations are untrue and are based on heresay, irrelevant and
distorted statements and so-called "evidence." The complaint
contains nothing or even vaguely suggests that this corporation
was involved in violations of the FECA.

We believe that based on the unfounded nature and
inadequacy of the complaint, it will be dismissed by the
Commission.

With love,

Swami Prartho Subhan
Swami Prartho Subhan

su/mt/pa

Member CA Bar Member MD Bar Member NY Bar Member WA Bar Member VIC (Aust) Bar

05040533425

RAJNEESH LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

20, Rajneeshpuram, OR 97741

8504054342

Charles Snyder
Associate General Counsel
Federal Election Commission
Washington, D.C. 20463

85 JAN 2 ALL: 44



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

December 17, 1984

Swami Prartho Subhan, Esquire
Rajneesh Legal Services Corporation
P.O. Box 20
Rajneesheuram, Oregon 97741

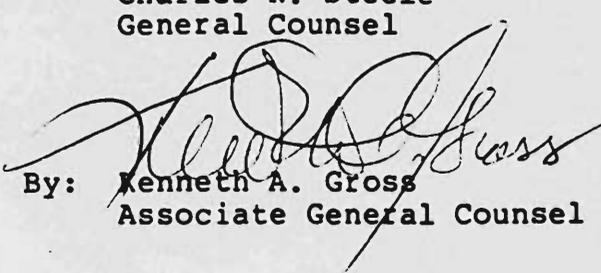
Re: MUR 1846

Dear Mr. Subhan:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter dated December 6, 1984. Although your letter refers to a request for an extension of time in which to respond, you did not ask for any specific amount of additional time. Indeed, you also included in your letter a response to the allegations in question. Hence we will conclude that you have decided not to seek an extension, and we acknowledge receipt of the response you have made to the complaint.

Sincerely,

Charles N. Steele
General Counsel


By: Kenneth A. Gross
Associate General Counsel

0504053427





FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

December 14, 1984

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Ma Yoga Vidya, President
Rajneesh Neo-Sannyas
International Commune, Inc.
Devateerth Mall
Rajneeshpuram, OR 97741

Re: MUR 1846

Dear Ms. Vidya:

This letter is to notify you that on November 5, 1984, the Federal Election Commission received a complaint which alleged that you have violated certain sections of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended ("the Act"). A copy of the complaint is enclosed. We have numbered this matter MUR 1846. Please refer to this number in all future correspondence.

You were not previously notified because there was no address for your corporation in the complaint. Under the Act, you have the opportunity to demonstrate, in writing, that no action should be taken against you in connection with this matter. Your response must be submitted within 15 days of receipt of this letter. If no response is received within 15 days, the Commission may take further action based on the available information.

Please submit any factual or legal materials which you believe are relevant to the Commission's analysis of this matter. Where appropriate, statements should be submitted under oath.

This matter will remain confidential in accordance with 2 U.S.C. § 437g(a)(4)(B) and § 437g(a)(12)(A) unless you notify the Commission in writing that you wish the matter to be made public.

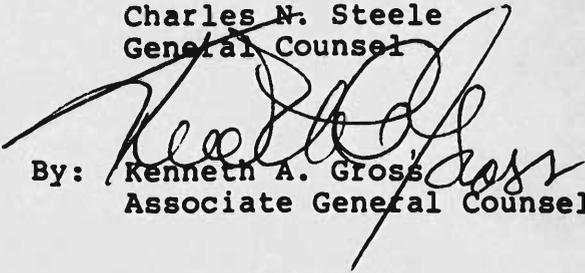
If you intend to be represented by counsel in this matter, please advise the Commission by completing the enclosed form stating the name, address and telephone number of such counsel, and a statement authorizing such counsel to receive any notifications and other communications from the Commission.

85040533428

If you have any questions, please contact Charles W. Snyder, the attorney assigned to this matter at (202)523-4000. For your information, we have attached a brief description of the Commission's procedure for handling complaints.

Sincerely,

Charles N. Steele
General Counsel


By: Kenneth A. Gross
Associate General Counsel

Enclosures

1. Complaint
2. Procedures
3. Designation of Counsel Statement

85040533429



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

December 14, 1984

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Swami Prem Jayananda
President
Rajneesh Investment Corp.
Jesus Grove
Rajneeshpuram, OR 97741

Re: MUR 1846

Dear Mr. Jayananda:

This letter is to notify you that on November 5, 1984, the Federal Election Commission received a complaint which alleged that you have violated certain sections of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended ("the Act"). A copy of the complaint is enclosed. We have numbered this matter MUR 1846. Please refer to this number in all future correspondence.

You were not previously notified because there was no address for your corporation in the complaint. Under the Act, you have the opportunity to demonstrate, in writing, that no action should be taken against you in connection with this matter. Your response must be submitted within 15 days of receipt of this letter. If no response is received within 15 days, the Commission may take further action based on the available information.

Please submit any factual or legal materials which you believe are relevant to the Commission's analysis of this matter. Where appropriate, statements should be submitted under oath.

This matter will remain confidential in accordance with 2 U.S.C. § 437g(a)(4)(B) and § 437g(a)(12)(A) unless you notify the Commission in writing that you wish the matter to be made public.

If you intend to be represented by counsel in this matter, please advise the Commission by completing the enclosed form stating the name, address and telephone number of such counsel, and a statement authorizing such counsel to receive any notifications and other communications from the Commission.

8504053430

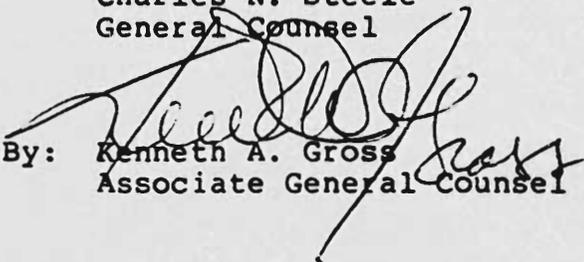


Mr. Swami Pkem Jayananda
Page 2

If you have any questions, please contact Charles W. Snyder, the attorney assigned to this matter at (202)523-4000. For your information, we have attached a brief description of the Commission's procedure for handling complaints.

Sincerely,

Charles N. Steele
General Counsel


By: Kenneth A. Gross
Associate General Counsel

Enclosures

1. Complaint
2. Procedures
3. Designation of Counsel Statement

85040533431

THE RAJNEESH LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

RECEIVED AT THE FEC
GCC#5940
84 DEC 12 A8:59

Ma Deva Anando
Swami Nion
Swami Prem Niren
Swami Premasukh

Ma Prem Sheelu
Swami Prartho Subhan
Swami Deva Vatula
Swami Satyam Vishuddha

December 6, 1984

GENERAL COUNSEL
12
A9:45

Charles Snyder
Associate General Counsel
Federal Election Commission
Washington, D.C. 20463

Re: MUR 1846

Beloved Mr. Snyder:

We represent Rajneesh Foundation International and Rajneesh Humanity Trust. We are in receipt of a complaint filed in your office against these parties.

Pursuant to my conversation with you on December 3, we are writing to request an extension of time in which to respond. Simultaneously, we herewith submit a response, as follows:

Both corporations deny all allegations regarding violations of the Federal Election Campaign Act 2 USC 4416. These allegations are untrue and are based on hearsay, irrelevant and distorted statements and so-called "evidence." The complaint contains nothing that even vaguely suggests that either corporation was involved in violations of the F.E.C.A.

We believe that based on the unfounded nature and inadequacy of the complaint, it will be dismissed by the Commission.

With love,

Swami Prartho Subhan
Swami Prartho Subhan

su:gy

85040535402

Member CA Bar Member MD Bar Member NY Bar Member WA Bar Member VIC (Aust) Bar

STATEMENT OF DESIGNATION OF COUNSEL

MUR 1846

NAME OF COUNSEL: Swami Prartho Subhan

ADDRESS: THE RAJNEESH LEGAL
SERVICES CORPORATION

P.O. Box 20

Rajneeshpuram, OR 97741

TELEPHONE: (503) 489-3358

The above-named individual is hereby designated as my
counsel and is authorized to receive any notifications and other
communications from the Commission and to act on my behalf before
the Commission.

December 4, 1984
Date

Geeta
Signature

RESPONDENT'S NAME: MA PREM GEETA, Secretary

ADDRESS: RAJNEESH FOUNDATION INTERNATIONAL

P.O. Box 9

Rajneeshpuram, OR 97741

HOME PHONE: _____

BUSINESS PHONE: (503) 489-3301

85040533433

STATEMENT OF DESIGNATION OF COUNSEL

MUR 1846

NAME OF COUNSEL: Swami Prartho Subhan
ADDRESS: THE RAJNEESH LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION
P.O. Box 20
Rajneeshpuram, OR 97741
TELEPHONE: (503) 489-3358

The above-named individual is hereby designated as my counsel and is authorized to receive any notifications and other communications from the Commission and to act on my behalf before the Commission.

December 4, 1984
Date


Signature

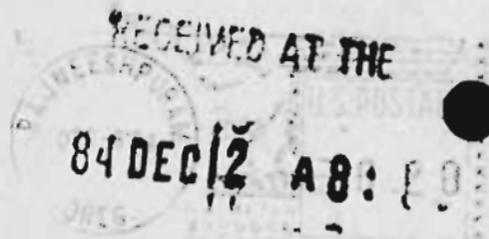
RESPONDENT'S NAME: MA PREM ARUP, Secretary
ADDRESS: RAJNEESH HUMANITY TRUST
P.O. Box 24
Rajneeshpuram, OR 97741
HOME PHONE: _____
BUSINESS PHONE: (503) 489-3370

85040533434

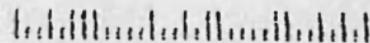
AJNEESH LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

0, Rajneeshpuram, OR 97741

Charles Snyder
Associate General Counsel
Federal Election Commission
Washington, D.C. 20463



5504053340





FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

November 27, 1984

RECEIVED AT THE FEC
GCC#5918
84 DEC 10 P12: 54

RECEIVED
NOV 30 1984
CORPUS
SECRETARY OF STATE DIVISION

Office of the Secretary of State
State of Oregon
State Capitol
Salem, Oregon 97310
Attention: Corporate Records

Mr 1846
Smyder

Dear Sir:

Please advise us of the addresses of each of the following corporations:

- ✓✓ Rajneesh Foundation International;
- ✓✓ Rajneesh Humanity Trust;
- ✓✓ Rajneesh Neo-Sannyas International Commune;
- ✓✓ Rajneesh Investment Corporation; and
- ✓✓ Rajneesh Services International Limited. - No RECORD

We would also need to know the names of the President and Treasurer of each of these corporations.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

Charles N. Steele
General Counsel

[Handwritten Signature]
By: Kenneth A. Gross
Associate General Counsel

NOV 27 1984
A9:33

8504053436

RAJNEESH FOUNDATION
INTERNATIONAL

PO BOX 9

RAJNEESHPURAM OR 97741
DBA:

FNP-017906 AR:84 TR:AR
SOI: NEW JERSEY
DOQ: 07/06/1981
DOI: 02/02/1978
LIC FEE: \$5.50

REGISTERED AGENT AND OFFICE
SHEELA, MA ANAND
JESUS GROVE
RAJNEESHPURAM OR 97741

DUR:
AR FILED: 07/30/84
TR FILED: 07/30/1984
KEYED DATE: 08/09/84

BUSINESS TYPE: RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS

PRESIDENT
SHEELA, MA ANAND
JESUS GROVE
P O BOX 9
RAJNEESHPURAM OR 97741

SECRETARY
GEETA, MA PREM
JESUS GROVE
P O BOX 9
RAJNEESHPURAM OR 97741

8504053437

RAJNEESH HUMANITY TRUST

NP -173734 AR: TR:NF
DOI: 01/12/1984 EC
LIC FEE: \$5.50

REGISTERED AGENT AND OFFICE
VISHUDDHA, SWAMI SATYAM
SOCRATES BUILDING
HASSID DRIVE
RAJNEESHPURAM OR 97741

CLF:
AR FILED:
TR FILED: 01/12/1984
KEYED DATE: 09/28/84

BUSINESS TYPE:

DIRECTOR
SHEELA, MA ANAND
P.O. BOX 10
RAJNEESHPURAM OR 97741 *

DIRECTOR
VIDYA, MA YCGA
P.C. BCX 10
RAJNEESHPURAM OR 97741

DIRECTOR
ARUP, MA PREM
P.O. BOX 10
RAJNEESHPURAM CR 97741

85040533438



WA

RAJNEESH NEO-SANNYAS
INTERNATIONAL COMMUNE

STOCK DESC

AUTH SHRS

C -157719 AR:83 TR:AC
DOI: 12/23/1981
LIC FEE: \$5.50
ISS SHRS PAR VALUE

REGISTERED AGENT AND OFFICE
VIDYA MA YOGA
DEVATEERTH MALL
RAJNEESH PURAM OR 97741

DUR: PERPETUAL
AR FILED:
TR FILED: 09/05/1984
KEYED DATE: 09/12/84

BUSINESS TYPE:
PRESIDENT
VIDYA MA YOGA
JESUS GROVE
RAJNEESH PURAM OR

SECRETARY
DOLMA MA
JESUS GROVE
RAJNEESH PURAM OR

TREASURER
PRABODHI MA SAT
JESUS GROVE
RAJNEESH PURAM OR

85040533439

1. NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF PRINCIPAL OFFICERS

ENTER NAMES AND COMPLETE ADDRESSES—(P.O. BOX NOT ACCEPTABLE)

PRESIDENT Ma Ybga Vidya aka Ann McCarthy	ADDRESS Jesus Grove Rajneeshpuram, OR
SECRETARY Ma Dolma	ADDRESS Jesus Grove Rajneeshpuram, OR
TREASURER Ma Sat Prabodhi	ADDRESS Jesus Grove Rajneeshpuram, OR
GENERAL MANAGER NONE	ADDRESS

2. ADDRESS of Principal Place of Business
Jesus Grove, Rajneeshpuram OR

3. CAPITAL STOCK as of 30 Days Prior to "Anniversary"

ENTER NUMBER OF SHARES

	PAR VALUE COMMON	NO. PAR VALUE COMMON	PAR VALUE PREFERRED	NO. PAR VALUE PREFERRED
NUMBER OF SHARES SUBSCRIBED NOT PAID-UP	0	0	0	0
NUMBER OF SHARES PAID-UP	0	0	0	0

4. To Be Completed by Cooperative Having Membership Certificates

NUMBER OF MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATES ISSUED	AUTHORIZED MEMBERSHIP FEE	TOTAL REVENUE RECEIVED FROM MEMBERSHIP FEES
NONE	\$1.00	NONE

5. A brief statement of the character of business in which the corporation is actually engaged in this state.
agriculture, restaurants, hotels, misc. ser.

6. AUTHENTICATION—Must be signed by an officer

SIGNATURE OF OFFICER <i>Ma Ybga Vidya aka Ann McCarthy</i>	DATE <i>12/20/83</i>
TITLE <i>President</i>	

814-200 CC-3 5-82

8504053440

RAJNEESH INVESTMENT
CORPORATION

157242

\$220.00

\$15,000 Cl. A Com. \$1
\$15,000,000 Cl. B Pref. \$1,000

11-24-1931 perpetual 157242

DECEMBER 1

SWAMI PREM NIREN
SOCRATES BLDG.
HASSID DR.
RAJNEESH PURAM, OREGON 97741

85040533441

1. NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF PRINCIPAL OFFICERS

ENTER NAMES AND COMPLETE ADDRESSES—(P.O. BOX NOT ACCEPTABLE)

PRESIDENT Swami Prem Jayananda	ADDRESS Jesus Grove Rajneeshpuram, OR 97741
SECRETARY Ma Prem Geeta	ADDRESS Sosan Grove Rajneeshpuram, OR 97741

2. CAPITAL STOCK as of 30 Days Prior to "Anniversary"

ENTER NUMBER OF SHARES

	PAR VALUE COMMON	NO. PAR VALUE COMMON	PAR VALUE PREFERRED	NO. PAR VALUE PREFERRED
NUMBER OF SHARES ISSUED	8,000			

3. A brief statement of the character of business in which the corporation is actually engaged in this state.

Real estate investment and leasing;
equipment leasing

4. AUTHENTICATION—Must be signed by an officer

SIGNATURE OF OFFICER	
<i>Swami Prem Jayananda</i>	
TITLE	DATE
President	

CORPORATION DIVISION USE ONLY

DATE RECEIVED	DATE FILED

814-200 BC-3 5-82

85040533442

Department of Commerce
CORPORATION DIVISION

COMMERCE BUILDING
SALEM, OREGON 97310-0210

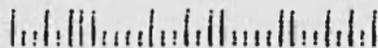
Federal Election Commission
Washington,
D.C. 20463

PREMIER
FIRST CLASS



8 5 0 4 0 5 3 3 4

90.00. 0107010





FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

November 27, 1984

Office of the Secretary of State
State of Oregon
State Capitol
Salem, Oregon 97310
Attention: Corporate Records

Dear Sir:

Please advise us of the addresses of each of the following corporations:

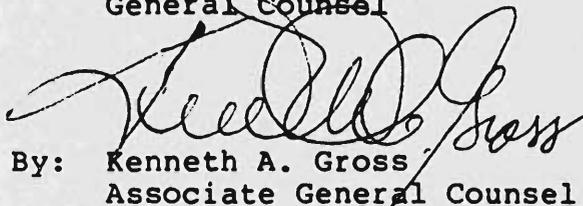
Rajneesh Foundation International;
Rajneesh Humanity Trust;
Rajneesh Neo-Sannyas International Commune;
Rajneesh Investment Corporation; and
Rajneesh Services International Limited.

We would also need to know the names of the President and Treasurer of each of these corporations.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

Charles N. Steele
General Counsel


By: Kenneth A. Gross
Associate General Counsel

85040533444



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

November 13, 1984

Larryann Willis
Larryann Willis for
Congress Committee
Route 2, Box 2574
Vale, Oregon 97918

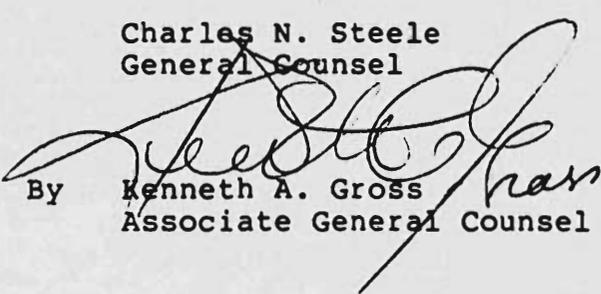
Dear Ms. Willis:

This letter is to acknowledge receipt of your complaint which we received on November 5, 1984, against Rajneesh Foundation International, Rajneesh Humanity Trust, Rajneesh Neo-Sannyas International Commune, Rajneesh Investment Corporation, and Rajneesh Services International Limited, which alleges violations of the Federal Election Campaign laws. A staff member has been assigned to analyze your allegations. The respondent will be notified of this complaint within five days.

You will be notified as soon as the Commission takes final action on your complaint. Should you have or receive any additional information in this matter, please forward it to this office. We suggest that this information be sworn to in the same manner as your original complaint. For your information, we have attached a brief description of the Commission's procedure for handling complaints. If you have any questions, please contact Barbara A. Johnson at (202) 523-4143.

Sincerely,

Charles N. Steele
General Counsel

By  Kenneth A. Gross
Associate General Counsel

Enclosure

85040533445



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

November 13, 1984

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Ma Anand Sheela
President
Rajneesh Services
International Limited
Rajneeshpuram, Oregon 97741

Re: MUR 1846

Dear Ms. Sheela:

This letter is to notify you that on November 5, 1984 the Federal Election Commission received a complaint which alleges that your corporation may have violated certain sections of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended ("the Act"). A copy of the complaint is enclosed. We have numbered this matter MUR 1846. Please refer to this number in all future correspondence.

Under the Act, you have the opportunity to demonstrate, in writing, that no action should be taken against your corporation in connection with this matter. Your response must be submitted within 15 days of receipt of this letter. If no response is received within 15 days, the Commission may take further action based on the available information.

Please submit any factual or legal materials which you believe are relevant to the Commission's analysis of this matter. Where appropriate, statements should be submitted under oath.

This matter will remain confidential in accordance with 2 U.S.C. § 437g(a)(4)(B) and § 437g(a)(12)(A) unless you notify the Commission in writing that you wish the matter to be made public.

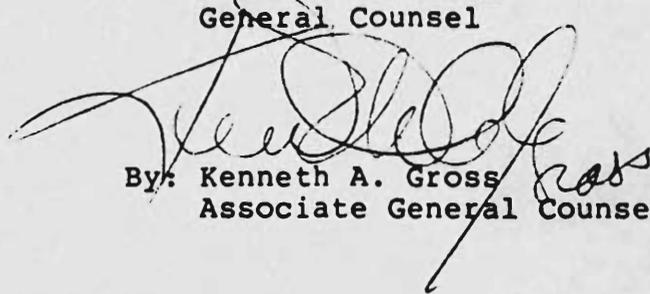
If you intend to be represented by counsel in this matter please advise the Commission by completing the enclosed form stating the name, address and telephone number of such counsel, and a statement authorizing such counsel to receive any notifications and other communications from the Commission.

8504053446

If you have any questions, please contact Charles Snyder, the attorney assigned to this matter at (202) 523-4000. For your information, we have attached a brief description of the Commission's procedure for handling complaints.

Sincerely,

Charles N. Steele
General Counsel



By: Kenneth A. Gross
Associate General Counsel

Enclosures

1. Complaint
2. Procedures
3. Designation of Counsel Statement

85040533447



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

November 13, 1984

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Ma Anand Sheela
President
Rajneesh Investment
Corporation
Rajneeshpuram, Oregon 97741

Re: MUR 1846

Dear Ms. Sheela:

This letter is to notify you that on November 5, 1984 the Federal Election Commission received a complaint which alleges that your corporation may have violated certain sections of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended ("the Act"). A copy of the complaint is enclosed. We have numbered this matter MUR 1846. Please refer to this number in all future correspondence.

Under the Act, you have the opportunity to demonstrate, in writing, that no action should be taken against your corporation in connection with this matter. Your response must be submitted within 15 days of receipt of this letter. If no response is received within 15 days, the Commission may take further action based on the available information.

Please submit any factual or legal materials which you believe are relevant to the Commission's analysis of this matter. Where appropriate, statements should be submitted under oath.

This matter will remain confidential in accordance with 2 U.S.C. § 437g(a)(4)(B) and § 437g(a)(12)(A) unless you notify the Commission in writing that you wish the matter to be made public.

If you intend to be represented by counsel in this matter please advise the Commission by completing the enclosed form stating the name, address and telephone number of such counsel, and a statement authorizing such counsel to receive any notifications and other communications from the Commission.

85040533448

If you have any questions, please contact Charles Snyder, the attorney assigned to this matter at (202) 523-4000. For your information, we have attached a brief description of the Commission's procedure for handling complaints.

Sincerely,

Charles N. Steele
General Counsel


By: Kenneth A. Gross
Associate General Counsel

Enclosures

1. Complaint
2. Procedures
3. Designation of Counsel Statement

85040533449



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

November 13, 1984

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Ma Anand Sheela
President
Rajneesh Neo-
Sannyas International
Commune
Rajneeshpuram, Oregon 97741

Re: MUR 1846

Dear Ms. Sheela:

This letter is to notify you that on November 5, 1984 the Federal Election Commission received a complaint which alleges that your corporation may have violated certain sections of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended ("the Act"). A copy of the complaint is enclosed. We have numbered this matter MUR 1846. Please refer to this number in all future correspondence.

Under the Act, you have the opportunity to demonstrate, in writing, that no action should be taken against your corporation in connection with this matter. Your response must be submitted within 15 days of receipt of this letter. If no response is received within 15 days, the Commission may take further action based on the available information.

Please submit any factual or legal materials which you believe are relevant to the Commission's analysis of this matter. Where appropriate, statements should be submitted under oath.

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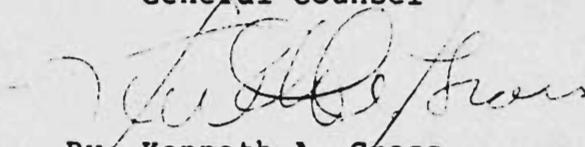
If you intend to be represented by counsel in this matter please advise the Commission by completing the enclosed form stating the name, address and telephone number of such counsel, and a statement authorizing such counsel to receive any notifications and other communications from the Commission.

85040535450

If you have any questions, please contact Charles Snyder, the attorney assigned to this matter at (202) 523-4000. For your information, we have attached a brief description of the Commission's procedure for handling complaints.

Sincerely,

Charles N. Steele
General Counsel



By: Kenneth A. Gross
Associate General Counsel

Enclosures

1. Complaint
2. Procedures
3. Designation of Counsel Statement

85040533451



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

November 13, 1984

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Ma Anand Sheela
President
Rajneesh Humanity Trust
Rajneeshpuram, Oregon 97741

Re: MUR 1846

Dear Ms. Sheela:

This letter is to notify you that on November 5, 1984 the Federal Election Commission received a complaint which alleges that your corporation may have violated certain sections of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended ("the Act"). A copy of the complaint is enclosed. We have numbered this matter MUR 1846. Please refer to this number in all future correspondence.

Under the Act, you have the opportunity to demonstrate, in writing, that no action should be taken against your corporation in connection with this matter. Your response must be submitted within 15 days of receipt of this letter. If no response is received within 15 days, the Commission may take further action based on the available information.

Please submit any factual or legal materials which you believe are relevant to the Commission's analysis of this matter. Where appropriate, statements should be submitted under oath.

This matter will remain confidential in accordance with 2 U.S.C. § 437g(a)(4)(B) and § 437g(a)(12)(A) unless you notify the Commission in writing that you wish the matter to be made public.

If you intend to be represented by counsel in this matter please advise the Commission by completing the enclosed form stating the name, address and telephone number of such counsel, and a statement authorizing such counsel to receive any notifications and other communications from the Commission.

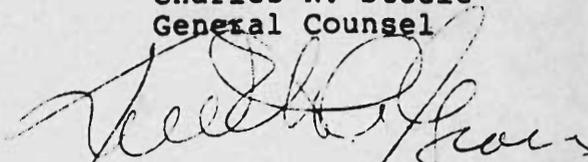
85040533452



If you have any questions, please contact Charles Snyder, the attorney assigned to this matter at (202) 523-4000. For your information, we have attached a brief description of the Commission's procedure for handling complaints.

Sincerely,

Charles N. Steele
General Counsel



By: Kenneth A. Gross
Associate General Counsel

Enclosures

1. Complaint
2. Procedures
3. Designation of Counsel Statement

85040533455



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

November 13, 1984

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Ma Anand Sheela
President
Rajneesh Foundation
International
Rajneeshpuram, Oregon 97741

Re: MUR 1846

Dear Ms. Sheela:

This letter is to notify you that on November 5, 1984 the Federal Election Commission received a complaint which alleges that your corporation may have violated certain sections of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended ("the Act"). A copy of the complaint is enclosed. We have numbered this matter MUR 1846. Please refer to this number in all future correspondence.

Under the Act, you have the opportunity to demonstrate, in writing, that no action should be taken against your corporation in connection with this matter. Your response must be submitted within 15 days of receipt of this letter. If no response is received within 15 days, the Commission may take further action based on the available information.

Please submit any factual or legal materials which you believe are relevant to the Commission's analysis of this matter. Where appropriate, statements should be submitted under oath.

This matter will remain confidential in accordance with 2 U.S.C. § 437g(a)(4)(B) and § 437g(a)(12)(A) unless you notify the Commission in writing that you wish the matter to be made public.

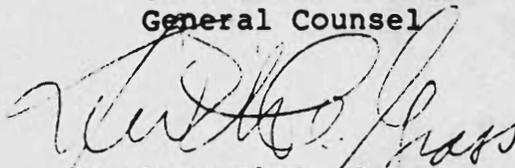
If you intend to be represented by counsel in this matter please advise the Commission by completing the enclosed form stating the name, address and telephone number of such counsel, and a statement authorizing such counsel to receive any notifications and other communications from the Commission.

8504053454

If you have any questions, please contact Charles Snyder, the attorney assigned to this matter at (202) 523-4000. For your information, we have attached a brief description of the Commission's procedure for handling complaints.

Sincerely,

Charles N. Steele
General Counsel



By: Kenneth A. Gross
Associate General Counsel

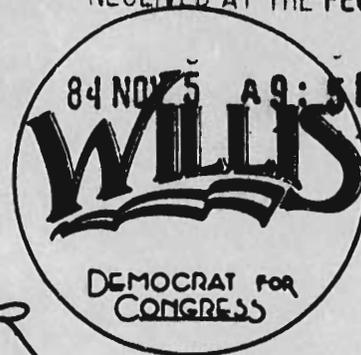
Enclosures

1. Complaint
2. Procedures
3. Designation of Counsel Statement

85040533455

GCC 5497

RECEIVED AT THE FEC



Larryann Willis For Congress Committee, Rt. 2, Box 2574, Vale, OR 97918
Phone (503) 473-2133

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

MUR
1846

Larryann Willis for Congress Committee)
Rt 2, Box 2574)
Vale, Ore 97918)
(503) 473-2133)

Complainant

vs

Ma Anand Sheela, President)
Rajneesh Foundation International)
Rajneesh Humanity Trust)
Rajneesh Neo-Sannyas International Commune)
Rajneesh Investment Corporation)
Rajneesh Services International Limited)
Rajneeshpuram, Oregon 97741)
(503) 489-3358)

Respondent

84 NOV 5 11:06

11:06

RECEIVED
GENERAL COUNSEL

85040533456

COMPLAINT FOR VIOLATION OF THE FEDERAL CAMPAIGN ACT OF 1971, AS AMENDED

JURISDICTION

This complaint is filed pursuant to the Federal Election Campaign Act, as amended, ("the act") 2 U.S.C. s 441b Contributions or expenditures by national banks, corporations, or labor organizations.

(a) It is unlawful for any national bank, or any corporation organized by authority of any law of Congress, to make a contribution or expenditure in connection with any election to any political office, or in connection with any primary election or political convention or caucus held to select candidates for any political office, or for any corporation whatever, or any labor organization, to make a contribution or expenditure in connection with any election at which presidential and vice presidential electors or a Senator or Representative in, or a Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, Congress are to be voted for, or in connection with any primary election or political convention or caucus held to select candidates for any of the foregoing offices, or for any candidate, political committee, or other person knowingly to accept or receive any contribution prohibited by this section, or any officer or any director of any corporation or any national bank or any officer of any labor organization to consent to any contribution or expenditure by the corporation, national bank, or labor organization, as the case may be, prohibited by this section.

Complainant, Larryann Willis for Congress Committee, is filing this complaint as the representative of Federal Candidate Larryann C Willis.



This Complaint charges that Rajneesh Foundation International, Rajneesh Humanity Trust, Rajneesh Neo-Sannyas International Commune, Rajneesh Investment Corporation, and Rajneesh Services International Limited, hereinafter referred to as Rajneesh Corporations, illegally expended corporate funds for the purpose of influencing the outcome of a federal election.

This Complaint alleges that the Rajneesh Corporations illegally expended funds, in part, for the purpose of influencing the outcome of the Willis/Smith race for United States Congress in Oregon's Second District by paying for the recruitment, transportation, political indoctrination, food, housing, and other support and sponsorship of individuals with the intent, in part, of having said individuals cast their November 6, 1984 ballots in favor of Congressman Bob Smith.

More specifically, between June 1984 and the date of this Complaint, the Rajneesh Corporations have expended funds to relocate from major American cities to Rajneeshpuram more than 1500 impoverished individuals, hereinafter referred to as "new potential voters", at an estimated cost in excess of \$250,000.00.

This Complaint alleges that the Rajneesh Corporations have:

1. Expended corporate funds to advertize in various media for homeless people over the age of 18 years of age, who are U.S. citizens without felony convictions (all Oregon voting requirements) to live rent-free for 3 months at Rajneeshpuram or Rajneesh in Oregon's Second Congressional District.
2. Expended corporate funds for the transportation and living expenses of Rajneesh Corporations' representatives who traveled to numerous major urban areas throughout the United States and recruited new potential voters, in part, for the purpose of influencing a federal election.
3. Expended corporate funds to rent, furnish and supply recruiting offices used for the purposes of locating and recruiting new potential voters, in New York, N.Y.; Chicago, Ill; Los Angeles, CA; San Diego, CA; Phoenix, AZ; Austin, TX; Albuquerque, N.M.; and numerous other major American cities.
4. Expended corporate funds to transport new potential voters from their respective cities to Rajneeshpuram or Rajneesh and to feed and shelter said new potential voters while in transit.
5. Expended corporate funds to provide incentives and disincentives to new potential voters by rewarding those who registered to vote and attended political indoctrination classes with better clothing, improved housing and other creature comforts while leaving those who refused to register to vote or attend political indoctrination classes in unplumbed, unheated A-frames and without adequate clothing.
6. Expended corporate funds to conduct political indoctrination classes in which Rajneesh Corporation representatives identified to the new potential voters "enemies" of the Rajneesh and advocated their defeat at the polls. Larryann Willis, a candidate for U.S. Congress, a federal office, was named an enemy of the Rajneesh in these indoctrination classes. This constitutes an attempt to influence a federal election.

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PRAYER FOR RELIEF

The citizens of this country and the candidates for federal office who serve them have no protection against corporations who abuse and corrupt the electoral process to gain their own ends except through the Federal Election Commission.

The Complainant therefore respectfully requests that the Federal Election Commission investigate this matter, as it is obligated to do, and impose the maximum fines and penalties, as provided by the act, to protect the democratic processes of our society from the use of such underhanded tactics.

Respectfully submitted

Sincerely,



Complainant Larryann Willis
For the Larryann Willis for Congress
Committee

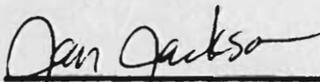
Oct 1, 1984

Date

On the 1st day of November, 1984
I duly swear that the information
contained in this complaint is
true to the best of my knowledge.
This has been sworn before a
Jurat (notary)



Complainant Larryann Willis
For the Larryann Willis for Congress
Committee



Jan Jackson
My commission expires: 5-17-88

Nov 1 1984

Date

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RAJNEESH CORPORATE STRUCTURE

Information provided by Oregon Magazine, P.O. Box 40028, Portland,
Oregon 97240.

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BHAGWAN'S BOTTOM LINE
PART 1: THE CORPORATE OCTOPUS

Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh, who has often extolled the virtues of capitalism, is clearly a man who practices what preaches.

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Although his name does not appear on any known document of ownership of a single enterprise or piece of property anywhere in the world, Rajneesh, through top assistants like Sheela Silverman and her husband John Shelfer (whose names do appear on such documents), has ~~created~~ ^{DEVELOPED} a complex and lucrative international financial empire that belies his claim to be a ^{PURELY} spiritual leader ~~unconcerned~~ ^{OBLIVIOUS TO} with worldly affairs.

The heart of Rajneesh's financial empire is the Rajneesh Foundation International (RFI), an Oregon non-profit corporation that, according to its charter, is "organized exclusively for charitable purposes and particularly for the spreading of the religious teachings and messages of Bhagwan

Rajneesh
Nov.

2.

Shree Rajneesh.¹¹ RFI is the successor to the Rajneesh

Foundation in Poona, India, the city where Rajneesh's

community was located until he fled that country in June,

1981 ~~on the heels of~~ Indian tax authorities WITH ON HIS HEELS.

The Rajneesh Foundation in India (whose tax-exempt

status as a charitable institution had just been revoked)

was effectively disbanded when seven of its eleven officers

resigned their positions JUST as they and Rajneesh were leaving

for the United States. At the time of their departure, in

the words of the highly respected Indian magazine India

Today (June 15, 1981), the Rajneesh Foundation of India was

"up to its neck in income tax arrears, defalcations with

the charities is commissioner, a major insurance fraud, and

a string of cases for criminal offenses which were still

being investigated when they left."

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Raj
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3.

It is the reconstituted foundation in Oregon, i.e. RFI, that receives the monies from most of the Rajneesh organization's known sources of income in the United States-- sales of Rajneesh books, audio and video tapes, films and paraphenalia; various "therapy" and "meditation" courses offered at Rajneeshpuram and other Rajneesh centers; profits from the annual world festival given every summer at the ranch in Oregon; and "donations" from wealthy and non-wealthy followers. Although informed observers seriously doubt that these stated sources of income can, by themselves, fully account for the apparent LIMITLESSNESS vastness of Rajneesh financial resources, they can indeed be quite remunerative: it has been estimated that the Third Annual World Festival at Rajneeshpuram last summer netted upwards of ten million dollars for the city and its various business enterprises.

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Most residents of Rajneeshpuram are members of the Rajneesh Neo-Sannyas International Commune (RNSIC), an Oregon "Cooperative Corporation" (Coop) whose stated purpose is "to be a religious community whose life is, in every respect, guided by the religious teachings of Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh and whose members live a communal life with a common treasury." It is the commune that provides the work-force (or slave-labor force) to run the ranch, build and maintain the city and operate ~~the~~ ^{RAJNEESH} various businesses. Members of the commune not only work 12 hours a day, seven days a week for no wages, but actually have to pay a substantial fee for the privilege of being in Bhagwan's Buddhafield and performing this act of "worship."

The fee for residing and working at Rajneeshpuram is said to range between \$500 and \$1500 a month, and is apparently

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in addition to an initial entrance fee that itself reportedly can range between \$5000 and \$150,000, depending on a person's financial resources and work skills. Any money a commune member has left over after ^{PAYING} these fees will undoubtedly be spent in the various high-priced boutiques, shops and restaurants in downtown Rajneeshpuram. (Adrian Greek, director of Portland's Positive Action Center, an organization that monitors the activities of "destructive cults," has called Rajneeshpuram "an aggressive capitalist-feudal system in which you owe your soul to the company store").

Because it is a cooperative, the commune is tax-exempt; ^{UN}der Oregon and Federal tax laws, members of a coop are taxed on benefits they receive from their membership, but no income tax is levied on the organization itself. The RNSIC, in any case, is said to operate at a loss; even if



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it made a profit, tax experts say, the income it paid out
APPORTIONED TO
would be ~~spread over~~ so many members that actual taxes would
be quite low relative to those that would have to be paid
by a single profit-making entity.

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The "profit-making" arm of the Rajneesh corporate
empire is the Rajneesh Investment Corporation (RIC), a
wholly-owned subsidiary of RFI. The investment corporation
holds title to Rancho Rajneesh and the entire city of
Rajneeshpuram, as well as to Rajneesh properties in Antelope
and Portland, and in turn "leases" these properties to the
commune. These same properties are fully mortgaged to Rajneesh
Services Internation^l Limited (RSI) in London, England, a
registered English corporation whose principal function
SEEMS
~~appears~~ to be to transfer money from one component of the
Rajneesh international financial empire to another (including,

Raj
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reportedly, secret bank accounts in Geneva, Switzerland).

The RIC also has various specialized holdings in an assortment of subsidiary "trusts," such as the "Modern Car Trust," which manages Bhagwan's fleet of 40-plus "graced" Rolls Royces.

Attorneys and accountants who have pondered the Rajneesh corporate octopus believe that the investment corporation, RIC, serves ^{two different} ~~several~~ functions. First, they say, because it is a private corporation, RIC's records are not open to the public, as are those of its parent corporation, RFI, which is a public foundation. Thus, the investment corporation enables the Rajneeshees to keep details of certain financial transactions confidential, particularly some reportedly large transfers of ^(C.A.S.) money from RSI in London.

Second, by mortgaging all of its real property holdings to a corporation in England, RIC has made these assets

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THE VULNERABLE TS

~~immune from civil and administrative~~ court judgments in

America. The sealing off of other special assets such as the Rolls Royces in RIC-controlled trusts insulates those assets from such court judgments as well, legal experts say. One Portland attorney has said that the Rajneeshees have built "a nearly impregnable wall of protection for their assets."

These experts say that the function of the Rajneesh Foundation International, the center or head of this financial octopus, ^{IS} COMPLETELY ~~should be fairly obvious, even to most laypeople:~~ by virtue of its being a non-profit "church," RFI does not have to pay any taxes whatsoever on its clearly considerable income.

Win McCormack

--30--

NEXT MONTH: THE EXPLOITATION OF MAN BY 'GOD'

85040533467

BHAGWAN'S BOTTOM LINE
PART 2: THE EXPLOITATION OF MAN BY 'GOD'

Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh, who claims to live in a spiritual

REALM;

~~atmosphere~~ so rarified that the base, mundane concerns of

the material world never intrude on his consciousness, ~~none~~

ACTUALLY;

~~He~~ stands at the apex of an intricate and highly lucrative
world-wide financial empire, <sup>BUILT PRIMARILY ON CHEAP OR FREE LABOR
AND AVOIDING TAXES,</sup> that would make some of the most
rapacious business executives in America ^{SICK} flush with envy.

HIS FAME,

The corporate empire ~~that bears his name~~ radiates out

from the Oregon-based Rajneesh Foundation International (RFI),

a non-profit, tax-exempt Oregon corporation. RFI takes in

~~the~~ income from Rajneesh's American operations, such as the

Rajneesh book-publishing company--but, by virtue of its

being a tax-exempt "church," pays no taxes on that income.

(In 1983, the head of the Rajneesh book-publishing division

estimated that income from sales of Rajneesh books, audio

and video tapes and posters and cards was running around a

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Rajneesh

December

2.

million and a half dollars a year).

In a publicly circulated letter, a group of dissident
ex-sannyasins called the "Wild Geese" has alleged that,

"The RFI 'conglomerate' is more of a business organization
than a religious organization. 'God incorporated'!" In the

same letter, the Wild Geese ^{HAVE} also accused RFI of

SCHEMING TO

avoiding taxes for the Rajneesh financial empire as a whole

"through secret investment schemes, juggling and falsifying
records, and Swiss bank accounts."

Rajneesh properties in Oregon are held by the for-
profit Rajneesh Investment Corporation (RIC), a wholly-
owned subsidiary of RFI. RIC holds title to Rancho Rajneesh,
all of the city of Rajneeshpuram, Rajneesh properties in
Antelope and Portland, and, through various subsidiary
"trusts," miscellaneous goods such as Bhagwan's "graced"

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Rolls Royces. Its real estate holdings are fully mortgaged
to Rajneesh Services International (RSI) in London, England,
(from which it ~~also~~ receives periodic infusions of cash.

Although it would be liable for income taxes if it ever
showed a profit, the investment corporation reportedly has
never shown one.

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The RIC leases^{" "} its properties to the Rajneesh Neo-
Sannyas International Commune (RNSIC), an Oregon cooperative
corporation (i.e. coop). The "commune," in effect, is the
work-force that operates the ranch and other Rajneesh businesses
in Oregon. As a coop, under the law, it does not have to
pay any taxes, although its members (i.e. the residents of
Rajneeshpuram) would have to pay an individually pro-rated
share of taxes if the coop ~~made~~^{showed} a profit. The coop, however,
does not ~~show~~^{show} a profit.

4.

Thus, this interlocking set of Rajneesh corporations, through which many millions of dollars ^{FLOW} ~~pass~~ annually (the Rajneeshees themselves ^{claim} to have spent over \$100 million in Oregon since coming here in 1981) are paying virtually no taxes in Oregon or the United States. The investment company, RIC, does pay property taxes on its holdings in Rajneeshpuram, Antelope and Portland--but in Rajneeshpuram and Antelope, because those taxes go mostly to remunerating various Rajneesh organizations for providing "city services," the Rajneeshees are essentially paying taxes to themselves.

RSI in London, according to Rajneesh literature, was "born out of the need to provide and coordinate services on an international basis for the rapidly growing number of Rajneesh Neo-sannyasin organizations: communes, business entities and invididual enterprises world-wide." And indeed

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MANY TENTACLES IN P. RAJNEESH'S FINANCIAL OCTOPUS

there does appear to be ~~much~~ to coordinate. For instance, the August, 1982 edition of The Australian reported Rajneesh enterprises in Australia to include ~~the~~ ^{SEVERAL} Zorba the Buddha restaurants, ~~one in Sydney and one in Perth~~; a national building company called Oregon Builders and Renovations; \$800,000 worth of donated real estate; a rapidly expanding hotel chain; and numerous other, ^{SMALL} businesses. The magazine identified as the primary reason for the Rajneeshee's rapid expansion in that country the fact that they were willing to work ~~up to~~ 16 hours a day, six days a week for their ^{CAUSE} ~~cause~~.

In Germany, Rajneeshees operate a chain of discos in Cologne, Frankfurt, Hanover, Freiburg and Wiesbaden, as well as vegetarian restaurants, boutiques and home renovation companies. Accordint ^G to a June 15, 1984 Associated Press report, German authorities are concerned that Rajneeshees

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CYNICALLY
in their country are being exploited by being made to work

RAJNEESH
long hours in the discos for "only pocket change." (AP

estimated the annual turnover of the Rajneesh discos in Germany to be at least \$1.1 million).

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In fact, the willingness of Bhagwan's followers to donate extraordinary amounts of free labor (called "worshipping" in current Rajneesh parlance), as well as extraordinary amounts of no-strings-attached money, to him and his organizations, seems to be the very foundation of Rajneesh's still-burgeoning world-wide *BUSINESS* financial empire. Adrian Greek, director of the Positive Action Center in Portland, has referred to Rajneeshism as "a *Slave* system with an aristocracy at the top that receives most of the benefits."

At Rajneeshpuram, according to Greek's findings, followers work as much as 12 hours a day, seven days a week; they are *FOR NO WAGES*



Raj
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also required to pay a substantial amount of money to the Rajneesh organization in order to gain admittance to Rajneeshpuram, and, in addition, a substantial monthly fee in order to remain there. (The entrance fee, according to Greek, can range from \$5000 and up, and the monthly fee starts at about \$500).

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In India, when followers ran ^{LOW ON.} out of money to finance their stay at Bhagwan's ashram in Poona, they were ^{SOLICITED} encouraged by ^{some} members of the Rajneesh hierarchy to engage in prostitution and drug-smuggling (see Oregon Magazine, Sept., 1984 issue). There have been reports ⁷ substantiated by research by Oregon Magazine ⁷ of involvement by Rajneesh followers in strip-tease and prostitution in San Francisco. And, in an INTERVIEW ^{BY INDIAN AUTHORITIES} suggestive incident in the summer of 1983, three Rajneesh followers were arrested in Bombay, India, and charged with



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^{1.06.}
conspiracy to smuggle huge amounts of illegally obtained foreign exchange out of India to Rajneeshpuram in Oregon.

In the April 5-11, 1981 edition of the Illustrated Weekly of India--two months before Rajneesh fled that country for the United States--the author of an article about Rajneesh called "The Saffron Superstar" asked ~~the~~ following question: "So what is he--a con-man or a saint? Most likely," he ^(Wrote) ~~went on~~, answering his own question, "he is neither. More likely he is a crafty businessman who recognizes a good thing when he sees it--the good thing being gullibility."

Win McCormack

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RAJNEESH SUPPORT

of

CONGRESSMAN BOB SMITH

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ELECTION RESULTS

ELECTION: WASCO COUNTY NOVEMBER 2, 1982 GENERAL ELECTION	REPORT TYPE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CUMULATIVE <input type="checkbox"/> PRECINCT <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">CUMULATIVE</p>
--	--

	VOTING POSITION	VOTES	BALLOTS CAST	PERCENTAGE	TO BE ELECTED
PRECINCTS COUNTED		21			
Ballots Cast/Percentage			9828	71.3	
Registration			13765		
REP IN CONGRESS, 2ND DISTRICT					
Robert F (Bob) Smith-Rep	1	1	4755	48.3	1
Larryann Willis-Dem	2	2	4423	45.0	
Undervotes			634	6.4	
Overvotes			16	.1	
GOVERNOR					
Vic Atiyeh-Rep	4	4	5647	57.4	1
Paul J Cleveland-Lib	5	5	239	2.4	
Ted Kulongoski-Dem	6	6	3744	38.0	
Undervotes			175	1.7	
Overvotes			26	.2	
COMM BUREAU OF LABOR & INDUSTRIES					
Burgess Laughlin-Lib	7	7	363	3.6	1
Mary Roberts-Dem	8	8	5979	60.8	
Mike Wooton-Rep	9	9	2555	25.9	
Undervotes			906	9.2	
Overvotes			25	.2	
STATE REP 56TH DISTRICT					
Wayne H Fawbush-Dem	10	10	4768	48.5	1
Rita Swyers-Rep	11	11	4498	45.7	
Undervotes			556	5.6	
Overvotes			6	.0	
WASCO COUNTY ASSESSOR					
Clair L Balzer-Rep	14	14	5530	56.2	1
Elmer S (Steve) Mohr-Ind	15	15	3577	36.3	
Undervotes			709	7.2	
Overvotes			11	.1	
WASCO COUNTY CLERK					
Sue A. Proffitt-Dem	17	17	8200	83.4	1
Undervotes			1627	16.5	
Overvotes			0	.0	
WASCO COUNTY JUDGE					
James Comini-Dem	18	18	4156	42.2	1
William L (Bill) Hulse-Rep	19	19	5242	53.3	
Undervotes			421	4.2	
Overvotes			9	.0	
WASCO COUNTY COMMISSIONER					
Rick Cantrell-Rep	21	21	4760	48.4	1

Thank you Bob Smith

A round of applause is due to Bob Smith, U.S. Representative for Oregon's Second District, who stood up strongly against anti-Rajneesh agitators last Friday during a question-and-answer session at The Dalles City Hall.

Smith was fed a stream of rumors, lies and allegations about the Rajneeshees by a so-called journalist who has been at the forefront of the anti-Rajneesh campaign in Oregon.

The journalist then demanded to know what Smith and the Federal Government proposed to do about Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh and the Rajneesh commune.

Smith began his reply by pointing out that when the ancestors of present-day Oregonians came to the USA they were dressed in funny garb and speaking with strange accents or foreign languages. He drew a parallel between these pioneers and the arrival of Bhagwan.

Then he reminded the agitators that the USA is a nation of laws, and that Bhagwan and the Rajneeshees would have to abide by the same laws as everyone else. The same laws which protect other Oregonians also protect the newcomers, he added.

"My job is really not to judge," Smith told the critics, "My job is to make sure that the laws are carried out. And if they're not, or if they need to be changed, then we ought to determine under democracy how to change them."

But Smith warned his audience that any change in the laws would apply just as much to other religious groups as to the Rajneeshees. "If we want to change the law to get rid of the Rajneesh, I suggest to you that a lot of us left-handed Lutherans and

some of us right-handed Catholics are going to go down the road with it, because we can't adjust the democracy of this country to protect one segment," Smith explained.

The Congressman said the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service is already investigating the question of Bhagwan's health — one of the issues raised by the anti-Rajneesh lobby — and that two hearings had already been held on Bhagwan's application for residency.

"Unfortunately or fortunately, depending on which side of the issue you want to take, we have a system of appeals, even in immigration, so that you don't have an instant kind of decision making," Smith said.

The objectors then raised the issue of the unanimous votes which the Rajneeshees return at elections. Smith replied that many ethnic and religious groups in Oregon and across the country vote in blocks.

"I encourage you to look at the alternatives to what has occurred in Antelope," he said, answering another point. "If you can go beyond the point of enforcing the law justifiably I'd like to hear it."

Smith pointed out that one of the facts of life about living in a democracy is that we can't make other people do what we want, and that the laws of the land are decided by the majority.

An audience member summed up the session by stating to Smith: "Thank you for your level headed comments on the Rajneesh issue. I'd like to think that the United States is a big enough country to handle the Rajneeshees without having to throw them out."

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Smith stance no shock

Congressman Bob Smith's spirited defense of the rights of Rajneeshees was no surprise to his former colleagues in the State Legislature. Smith's remarks came at a recent Town Hall meeting attended by about 50 persons in The Dalles. "There aren't many legislators who know as much about the rights of minorities as Bob Smith. He's been in the minority himself in geographic, philosophical and partisan senses for many years," says one Senate member. "He's had to scrap hard to protect his rights as a political minority — and he has defended the rights of other political minorities in the process." Smith represented Southeastern Oregon for 22 years in the Legislature prior to his election to Congress last November.

85040533400

April 29, 1983

VISIONS 5138 for AMERICA

Visions for America is a periodic feature of The Rajneesh Times in which we feature the thoughts of some of our elected officials about where America has been — and where she is headed.

Our first Vision is from our own Congressman, Bob Smith, R-Burns. Mayor Krishna Deva met Congressman Smith on a recent visit to the nation's Capitol — and was impressed by the newest member of Oregon's delegation.

Smith made the following comments to a Lincoln Day dinner in Hood River a year ago:

"...We can have a government with a renewed respect for the collective genius and common sense of the people. We can have a government which respects the idea that decisions affecting your backyard should be made in your backyard.

"We can have a government which reaffirms our unique American faith in the ability of people to govern themselves. We can have a government with a reawakened awareness of the importance and worth of each individual, and particularly the individual who expects and wants only one thing from government: Freedom.

"We can have a government which understands the deep longing Americans have to return to the spirit of independence and individuality which seems to have been misplaced in the bureaucratic backwaters of Washington — but which is alive and well here at home.

"We can have a government which embraces the spirit which says that all are created equal, that each of us should be able to fly as high and as far as our ability and drive will take us, and that each of us counts, and is accountable, beholden only to our Creator for our sovereign rights.

"...The people of the nation and the world, concerned as we are with true Democracy and the freedom and individuality of man, are looking to us for leadership. How we respond will fill a page in history. It can describe the rise and fall of America — or it can be a recital of our finest hour."

85040533431

Second District
ROBERT F. "BOB" SMITH

Counties: Mind River, Wasco, Sherman, Gilliam, Morrow, Umatilla, Union, Wallowa, Jefferson, Wheeler, Grant, Baker, Deschutes, Crook, Klamath, Lake, Harney, Malheur, and portions of Josephine and Jackson

BOB SMITH, Republican, born in Portland, Oregon, June 16, 1931. Willamette University, B.A., Business Administration and Economics, 1953. Named to National YMCA All-American basketball team. Business-man and cattle rancher in Harney County. Elected State Representative 1960; reelected 1962, 1964, 1966, 1968, 1970. House Majority Leader and Speaker pro tem 1965, 1967; Speaker of the House 1969, 1971. Elected State Senator 1972; reelected 1978; Senate Minority Leader 1978. Elected delegate to Republican National Convention 1972, 1976; served as delegation whip. He and his wife, Kaye, have three children; members of Pioneer Presbyterian Church, Burns. Elected to 96th Congress 1982. Member Public Works and Transportation Committee; subcommittees on Water Resources and Transportation. Chairman Research Task Force on Agriculture and Timber. Salary \$69,000. Term: 2 years.

WASHINGTON, D.C. ADDRESS: 118 Cannon Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20515; (202) 225-6730

DISTRICT OFFICE: 1150 Crater Lake Ave., Suite K, Medford 97501; 776-4646 or toll-free 1-800-533-1281



Bob Smith

Bob Smith is drawing rave reviews for his first six months in Congress. The former two-term Oregon House Speaker is everyone's rookie-of-the-year — and Washington kingmakers are already talking about his U.S. Senate potential.

No one who's followed Smith's political career is surprised at his instant success and acceptance in Washington. His 22-year State Legislative career, always in elected leadership roles, prepared him well to take Washington by storm.

His reputation in Salem has always been that he is liked and respected even by his fiercest of enemies — usually urban liberal Democrats.

And Smith is rapidly becoming liked and respected

by friend and foe alike, in Washington ... where minority Party freshmen aren't usually noticed.

This is all bad news for Larryann Willis, the Democrat National Committeewoman who was crushed by Smith in November, and who insists she will try again next year.

What Larryann's best democrat friends won't tell her is that they like her very much — but they won't dump a bunch of bucks into a race they know they can't win against a guy who isn't all that bad.

Both Parties figure this seat is Bob Smith's domain as long as he wants it. And no one, perhaps except Larryann Willis, is betting otherwise at this point.

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RAJNEESH OPPOSITION

TO

U.S. Congressional Candidate

Larryann Willis

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INSTANT REPLAY:

Voters in two of Oregon's Congressional Districts will be faced with a slow-motion instant replay of the races they yawned about in 1982. Former Georgia-Pacific exec Bill Moshofsky will square off again with 1st District Rep. Les AuCoin. Moshofsky gave AuCoin the closest call of his five-term Congressional career — and at least one political consultant says Moshofsky will win this time if President Reagan runs strongly in Oregon. To date, Reagan is rating well in Oregon polls.... In the 2nd District, which includes eastern, central and much of southern Oregon, political fly-by-night Carryann Willis has been busting a gut trying to get some public attention in her hoped-for repeat bout against Rep. Bob Smith, who left her in the dust in their first go-round.... Willis' latest heat-seeking missile wasn't aimed at Smith. It was aimed at Publisher Greg Cushman and Editor Bob Chandler of The Bulletin, Bend. Willis paid \$600 for a full-page ad in The Bulletin to lambaste the newspaper for being unfair to her. Willis is bent out of shape — a not inconsiderable feat given her shape — because The Bulletin conducted an investigation and found that she "misrepresents the facts at the least" in her denial of her solicitation of Rajneeshes for money and votes.... Willis, we assume, will also sponsor a full-page ad in The Hermiston Herald — because they also raked her over the coals.... Observers in

Salem, some of them Willis' acquaintances, say her anti-Rajneesh fund-raising appeal in The Bend advertisement is a desperate last-ditch attempt to save a floundering campaign. "Her own polls show her in bad shape, even among many fellow Democrats. And the people who contribute to campaigns aren't going to throw their money down a lost-cause rat-hole."

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The Rajneesh Times

EDITORIALS

Political panhandling

SWAMI PREM NIREN didn't know quite what to expect when he was invited to a meeting six months ago with Larryann Willis, Democratic National Committeewoman for Oregon and an unsuccessful candidate for Congress from this district last year.

It didn't take him long to find out. First, Willis hustled him for a Rajneesh financial contribution. Then she invited herself to the ranch to make a personal pitch for the Rajneesh vote for herself and other candidates on the Democratic slate next year.

Willis, a staunch supporter of Teddy Kennedy, told Niren she would represent Rajneeshee interests in Washington — unlike Republicans in general and incumbent 2nd District Congressman Bob Smith in particular. (Willis was right about Smith; he hasn't helped. Neither has he propositioned us for money or votes.)

Willis castigated our opponents as religious bigots. She stated her support for the right of Rajneeshpuram to exist. She told of her interest in our lifestyle.

Since that meeting last Spring, Willis has plopped her fanny in the saddle for another race for Congress. And candidate Willis is now hustling the other side of the street for the money and votes she hopes will propel her from the banks of the Big Muddy to the power along the Potomac.

Willis issued a long list of accusations against us last week. The

level of her diatribe can best be characterized by her assessment that Rajneeshees are "a corporate clan of red-clad kooks."

We've already heard every conceivable accusation and rumor and half-truth and lie — so one more politician's ill-informed contribution to the language doesn't cause a ripple here. We've answered all the crackpot questions — no matter how outlandish.

Candidate Willis, however, isn't nearly so forthcoming in answering questions about her own actions. For instance, why has Larryann stonewalled the media's questions about her 11th hour smear campaign against Smith last year? It was said to be the sleaziest political attack in Oregon since Wayne Morse tried to implicate Mark Hatfield in the death of a youngster in a traffic accident. Why won't Willis talk?

Why, also, does Willis refuse to answer questions about her streetwalker style of politics, doing whatever she thinks will sell, even smear tactics, lies and bigotry. We'd love to hear Willis try to deny Niren's account of their meeting — and we hope someone gives her the chance.

The questions about Rajneeshpuram are being answered one by one in the appropriate forums of the democratic process. That is how it should be. The questions about Willis also should be answered in the appropriate forum, in this case the media of the district.

85040533485

SOUTHERN STRATEGY:

Some Oregon Democrat leaders have seen a poll showing that Republican Congressman Bob Smith of Oregon's 2nd District, including Rancho Rajneesh, can be beaten next year. That's the good news for Demos. The bad news? They don't have anyone who can beat him. The poll shows that Democrat National Committeewoman Larryann Willis, who was pummeled by Smith last year, has lost ground since the last election. "She's desperate," says one of Willis's Salem friends.... Democrats who want to win the seat have been working behind Willis's strapping back to recruit a moderate Democrat against the liberal Willis in the Primary.... Names we hear a lot about as prospective Democrat candidates include former State Legislator and Medford Mayor Al Densmore, Jackson County Commissioner Peter Sage and State Rep.

RAJNEESH TIMES
December 23, 1983

Hendricksen believes Hatfield is as vulnerable now as Morse was in 1968.... Hendricksen isn't Hatfield's only concern. His Salem staff reports that the office budget is so strained that staff members can't find a few bucks to subscribe to The Rajneesh Times. It's a jungle out there...and then along bumbles Congressional candidate Larryann Willis, who told the world that Hatfield is conducting his own personal investigation of Rajneeshees — something Hatfield has hotly denied in the past.

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MAID IN THE SHADE:

We haven't heard much lately about 2nd District Congressional candidate Larryann Willis — at least not since Swami Prem Niren, followed by several newspapers in our district — peeled her like a grape a few months after she tried to solicit money from Rajneeshees to further her ambition of political fame and fortune. Willis has been quiet as a mouse for a couple of reasons: Many people who gave money to her loser of a campaign two years ago aren't being as cavalier with their political money this year; and she's having a hard time living down the kind of jokes about her which were prevalent at the State GOP convention in Klamath Falls a week ago. The one a friend heard goes this way: Larryann went fishing for money with the PAC big-boys...and she came home with a big red snapper. We're not sure what it means...but it was getting big laughs among the GOP-types. A couple of others from Democrats arriving in San Francisco for the Demo convention this week: A cab ride around Larryann costs more than a cab from the airport to downtown; if SF has a heat wave, we can use Larryann for shade.

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Willis lied to her own party, states Rajneesh corporation president

RAJNEESHPURAM — Democratic congressional candidate Larryann Willis lied to her own party's national committee when she said that offers of campaign funds had been made by Rajneesh organizations, said Swami Prem Jayananda, President of Rajneesh Investment Corporation in a statement yesterday.

"Neither our organization nor any other Rajneesh organization has offered campaign contributions to any political figure or party," Jayananda said.

"Willis lied to the Democratic National Committee in order to gain national support for her fear-and-smear campaign against the Rajneeshees. She hopes to get elected next year on an anti-Rajneesh ticket," he added.

Larryann Willis told reporters earlier this week that her national party had decided not

to accept funds or support from supporters of Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh — ~~acting on her personal recommendation.~~

When a Rajneesh Times reporter telephoned the Democratic National Committee offices yesterday, press spokesman Terry Michaels revealed that the committee had heard no reports of Rajneeshees offering donations other than a report from Willis herself.

Swami Prem Niren, a Rajneesh attorney, told The Rajneesh Times that Willis is fully aware that she has never been approached by any Rajneesh organization or individual offering campaign funds.

In fact, it was Willis who approached the Rajneeshees seeking financial support in return for representing their interests, Niren said.

Willis approached me soliciting funds and I told her, in the presence of witnesses,

that the Rajneesh organizations, which I represent at the ranch do not make political contributions, Niren said.

"She told me that she supported our civil rights and lifestyle and would represent our interests on Capitol Hill. I was offended by her transparent offer to peddle influence and repeated that Rajneesh organizations do not make political contributions," he added.

"Since somebody is obviously lying about this issue, I suggest to Willis that we all sit down and take a lie detector test, so that the truth will be apparent for all to see."

Cyndy Smith, office manager for Willis, said Thursday that she did not recall the specifics, but that several months ago Willis had met someone called "Niren" and had been offered a contribution of "several thousand dollars."

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Says she asked for money Sect's lawyer calls Willis a liar

By David Cash
Bulletin Staff Writer

Congressional candidate Larryann Willis is a liar and the Democratic National Committee has embarrassed itself by supporting Willis' version of her dealings with the Rajneeshees, says a Rajneeshee lawyer.

Contrary to what Willis says, she did solicit the religious sect's political support at a meeting earlier this year in a Portland law office, according to Swami Prem Niren, a lawyer and disciple of Indian guru Bhagwan Shree Rajneeshee.

Portland lawyer Frank Josselson, who hosted the meeting, says Niren's statement is true.

Also contrary to what Willis reports, the sect did not offer financial support to the Democratic National Committee at that meeting, Niren said.

Again, Josselson, the only other person present at the meeting, says Niren's statement is true.

But Willis says Niren's version of the meeting six months ago in Portland is "complete fabrication."

The conflicting stories have become part of the running feud between Willis and the Rajneeshees.

It escalated last week to a national level when Willis announced that the Democratic National Committee had adopted her recommendation to reject any money the Rajneeshees might contribute.

Willis is a national committee-woman representing Oregon and head of the Democrats' Northwest regional finance unit. She's running for the 2nd District congressional seat held by first-term incumbent Bob Smith, a Republican who defeated her in 1982.

Willis initially said the meeting in Portland was arranged because Niren had offered, as a representative of the sect, to guarantee a "six-figure" bank note for use by the DNC in staging its fund-raising telethon earlier this



Larryann Willis

year. She said they discussed that offer in Josselson's office before the meeting broke off because "they got mad at me because I was asking too many questions."

"That's a lie," said Niren.

In a telephone interview Wednesday from Washington, D.C., Willis said that, although she doesn't recall the details of the conversation, the main subject was whether Niren and Josselson could find persons who would guarantee \$20,000 notes to support the telethon.

She said it was clear from the outset that no Rajneeshee money would be welcomed. Both Niren and Josselson dispute that.

Josselson, who has occasionally performed legal work for the Rajneeshees but is not one of the guru's disciples, recalled the discussion in three parts: Willis solicited the Rajneeshees for support of the forthcoming Democratic Party telethon; Willis asked Josselson to help by contacting some of his fellow Democrats; and Willis told Niren that "you guys really made a mistake in supporting Smith" and she wanted their votes in 1984.

She said she'd like to visit the sect's commune at Rajneesheepuram, Josselson said. He con-

cluded at the time, as did Niren, that it would be a vote-seeking visit.

Willis had said that's not true, but added Wednesday that "any time a politician visits with anybody, we'll never say 'don't vote for me.'"

She said Niren "apologetically" mentioned that the sect's voters had supported Smith in 1982 because it was "politically expedient" and he hoped there were no hard feelings.

Whatever the reason, hard feelings surfaced in October—several months after the meeting in Josselson's office—when Willis ripped the Rajneeshees in a speech at The Dalles. She described them as a "corporate cult of red-clad kooks" and criticized everything from their lifestyle to their political control of Antelope and their effort to establish a city at Rajnesapuram in north-central Oregon.

She linked Smith to the Rajneeshees, telling her audience that the congressman "wants to keep" the Rajneeshee votes, implicitly calling for the support of the anti-Rajneeshee votes.

"She's trying to tar Smith with us and to go after him by using us," Niren said. "It's transparently obvious."

Willis didn't attack the Rajneeshees until after they had rebuffed her effort to enlist their votes, Niren said.

"I think what she decided (following the meeting in Portland) was that we were more valuable to attack than to get votes from," he said.

"She's trying to use the national Democratic Party to give credibility to her present position," he added later. "I think she's an embarrassment to the national Democratic Party."

Following the meeting at Josselson's office, Willis recommended that the committee reject any offer of money from the Rajneeshees.

"Just because somebody offers us money doesn't mean we have to take it," she said.

She said her concern was that donors reached via Niren or Josselson might be "fronting" Rajneeshee money. She said Niren and Josselson refused to discuss that topic and that's when the meeting ended.

Last week, Willis announced that Tom Drew, head of the national finance committee, had adopted her recommendation.

Committee spokesperson Terry Michael, speaking from Washington, D.C., confirmed Willis' announcement, but said it was an "institutional decision" and not one made solely by Drew.

Michael said the committee will reject any contribution the

Rajneeshees might make "because of the appearance of a conflict of interest related to the immigration case."

The federal Immigration and Naturalization Service is reviewing the guru's immigration status and will decide whether to permit continued residency or to order him out of the country.

Conceivably, the Rajneeshees would expect some kind of political influence in exchange for a contribution, according to Michael and Willis.

When asked whether he thinks other donors—which include individuals, business organizations, unions and political action committees (PACs)—don't want or expect political influence in exchange for their contributions, Michael said it would not be correct to "generalize" the committee's ruling on the Rajneeshees to include other donors.

"We're not trying to generalize that we would never take money from people who had legislation pending or who wanted to influence the process," he said.

"The bottom line is that they are a very controversial group," Michael said.

"We did not consider it wise, politically, to take money from this group," he added later.

As a Democrat and former law-firm associate of Charles Manatt, Democratic National Committee chairman, Niren said he was surprised and disappointed by the committee's action, although no Rajneeshee money was offered in the first place.

He added that if the national party is going to decline contributions on a "conflict of interest" basis, refusing money from persons or organizations interested in acquiring political influence, "then they're going to have to find a new way to fund their campaigns."

Madras, OR
Pioneer
(Cir. W. 3,300)

DEC 8 - 1983

Allen's P. C. B. Est. 1888

Missing facts

To the Editor:

In response to the recent Bend Bulletin story as to why the Rajneesh have unfairly attacked me, I would like to point out the following items that were either buried or missing completely from the article.

I did prevent the Rajneesh from gaining influence within the Democratic National Committee by:

- (1) Investigating the Rajneesh to make sure I had my facts straight,
- (2) Reporting the possibility of political blackmail to the Democratic National Committee, and
- (3) Following up on my recommendations and insuring that they became DNC policy.

If Congressman Bob Smith took a similar interest in the welfare of the citizens of the Second Congressional District, the Rajneesh situation would be less threatening to the longtime residents of this area.

I thought it was time somebody took action to block the growth of Rajneesh political and economic power. I did it. I'm proud of it. And, I'll continue to do it until the Rajneesh either leave Oregon or learn to live in harmony with their neighbors.

Larryann Willis
DNC Northwest Finance Chair
DNC Executive Committee

85040533489

Bend Bulletin on Rajneesh Payroll

Large cash payments from the Rajneesh to the Bend Bulletin has blurred the Bulletin's editorial judgment and resulted in gross unfairness to Congressional Candidate Larryann Willis and her campaign, according to Willis.

The Bend Bulletin has been and still is printing The Rajneesh Times at its facility in Bend. It performs this service for profit and has earned tens of thousands of dollars from the Rajneesh corporation.

Bend Bulletin publisher Greg Cushman verified that The Rajneesh Times is printed by the Bulletin. Although he refused to reveal the exact amount the Bulletin receives from the Rajneesh he estimates it to be approximately 1% of the Bulletin's \$5 million plus gross income—which translates to about \$50,000.00 per year income from the Rajneesh.

In a note following a letter to the editor last year, the Bulletin tried to minimize the amount of money it gets from the Rajneesh, claiming it was only a minuscule percentage of what the Rajneesh spend. A \$50,000.00 cash payment hardly seems minimal. Imagine what the Bulletin would say if a local politician received a \$50,000.00 contribution from a single special interest group and then proclaimed that the group has no influence on his judgment.

No business or corporation can afford to alienate a \$50,000.00 per year client. And that, in my opinion, is why recent Bend Bulletin articles and editorials have attacked my efforts to reduce the influence of the Rajneesh in this community and throughout the state.

If I were a private citizen instead of a public figure, I believe I could successfully sue the Bend Bulletin for libel due to their distortion of facts and outright falsehoods published in recent articles and editorials about me and my battle against the Rajneesh.

For example, the Bend Bulletin cited as a credible witness against me, one of the Rajneeshes' key lawyers who, in fact, was the very person I stopped from possibly secretly funneling Rajneesh money to the DNC. While touting one of the culprits of the scheme as a reliable source, the Bulletin minimized the statements in my support by national level Democratic Party officials who handed the rejection of the Rajneesh funds. They buried DNC spokesman Terry Michael's confirmation of my statement and his verification that the DNC will reject any contribution the Rajneeshes might make "because of the appearance of a conflict of interest related to the immigration case," and "Conceivably, the Rajneeshes would expect some kind of political influence in exchange for the contribution."

Since in my opinion we cannot expect unbiased coverage of Rajneesh issues as long as the Bend Bulletin is profiting from the Rajneesh, I feel it is necessary to purchase space to ensure that the people of Central Oregon know the truth about my activities and my efforts to halt Rajneesh abuses of citizens' rights.

To set the record straight, here are the undistorted facts of the incident in question:

At the request of the Democratic National Committee and in my capacity as Northwest Finance Chair for the DNC, I met in a Portland law office with Portland attorney Frank Josselson and attorney Phil Tolkes. The meeting was in response to interest in the DNC expressed to our Washington, D.C., headquarters by Mr. Tolkes, whom we subsequently discovered was also known as Swami Prem Niren.

After this fact finding meeting and Mr. Josselson's failure to provide required information on financial sources, I recommended that the DNC accept NO funds, guarantees, or other support from Rajneesh Foundation International, its affiliates or from persons suspected of fronting funds for the Rajneesh. This position has been adhered to by the DNC since that time.

While the Bend Bulletin has editorially distorted my October 14, 1983, speech delivered in The Dalles in which I exposed Rajneesh wrongs, the paper has failed to print the speech or an accurate summary of it.

In the interest of fairness to the public which depends on the news media for factual information, I am paying to have that important speech reprinted in its entirety below.

Sincerely,
Larryann Willis

WILLIS REVEALS RAJNEESH WRONGS

In 1859 John Stewart Mill wrote that personal freedom is deserved so long as we do not deprive others of theirs. For over 100 years free people have lived by that code.

The United States was founded upon religious freedom and we adamantly guarantee that right to all including the followers of Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh in Antelope and Roy Masters in Grants Pass. However, when these groups interfere with the rights of others, when they claim that their rights take precedence over those of other citizens on the grounds that they are an organized religious cult, they have misinterpreted and misused our constitutional guarantees of religious freedom.

I remind these cult leaders that the United States Constitution also requires the separation of Church and State. Their attempts to control city and county governments is a clear challenge to our Constitution. I applaud Attorney General Dave Frohnmayer's opinion that the incorporation of Rajneeshpuram violated constitutional separation of Church and State and that Rajneeshpuram is not entitled to collect a share of state gasoline and cigarette taxes and liquor revenues.

The reason for the separation of Church and State is that when a religious body is granted the awesome powers of government and law enforcement, jails, court actions, fines and other governmental powers can be used to coerce all citizens to conform to that religious code and the goals of that church or cult. Those who are supposed to provide spiritual guidance in an atmosphere of freedom of religion, under those circumstances, become spiritual dictators brandishing the club of government power over the heads of those who disagree with the goals of the cult leaders. Anyone who has read history can easily recognize the same dangerous religious dictatorship shaping up in Antelope. When people disagree with the Guru, his puppets in city government raise their taxes. When the citizens dare to speak out against those actions his legal puppets file lawsuits to silence the voice of dissension under an avalanche of legal bills and court costs.

The Rajneesh continually accuse their critics of religious persecution and bigotry born of ignorance. This public relations tactic has successfully caused well-meaning people to rally to their defense and obscured Rajneesh abuses of other people's rights.

In my opinion, religious preferences should

never come up when discussing the activities of the "for profit" Rajneesh corporation. Rajneesh Foundation International and its spinoffs are a multimillion-dollar international corporation with 500 other locations in the U.S., Canada, Europe, India, New Zealand and Australia which employ over a quarter million people. Like other corporate giants, they employ a battery of high priced lawyers, public relations experts and lobbyists to help them achieve their corporate profit goals.

This particular corporation has shown a callous disregard for the rights and welfare of citizens outside of their corporate structure who are in the way of their expansion plans. The story of the intrusion of this corporate giant into the little town of Antelope, Oregon, reads like a segment of the hit show "Dallas"—but it isn't fantasy to the people whose lives have been destroyed.

Oregon law prohibits city-type commercial uses of land zoned for exclusive farm use. Every other farm in the state whether corporate or family is required to abide by the Land Use laws. Some of us are not happy with various rulings but we stay within the laws and change things we do not like through due process. I see no reason why a corporate cult of red-clad kooks should be exempt from these laws and allowed to run roughshod over the citizens of Antelope.

The Rajneesh corporation convinced Wasco County to allow them to incorporate their own city on the grounds that Rajneeshpuram was "designed to meet only the needs of the agriculture work force on the ranch itself" and that "the new city will not attempt or support urban uses or densities." 1,000 Friends of Oregon filed a suit against Rajneeshpuram claiming that they did not stay within the boundaries of the agreement with Wasco County and were in violation of LCDC (Land Conservation and Development Commission) goals. The suit slowed Rajneesh development plans, so the corporation embarked on an alternate development scheme.

Employees of the corporation moved into the little neighboring incorporated town of Antelope, Oregon, where they established a headquarters for Rajneesh Foundation International and sought permits to build and operate commercial projects. Some permits were granted but the city council turned down a permit for an 18,000 square-foot printing plant because it would require a work force three times the population of Antelope and the water supply was already insufficient for current needs.

Rather than accepting local restrictions on their corporate expansion plans, Rajneesh Foundation International launched an organized scheme to legally take over the Antelope city government and drive local residents away. In addition, the Mayor of Rajneeshpuram and loyal Guru follower Krishna Deva gave an ultimatum to Oregon lawmakers stating, "The only reason the Disciples are in Antelope at all is the difficulty they've encountered with Rajneeshpuram. We regard our presence in Antelope as definitely temporary. As soon as 1,000 Friends drops its suit we will withdraw." The little town of Antelope and its unlucky residents are being held hostage until the corporate demands are met.

Thus began a nightmare for Antelope citizens. The corporation took over the city council by voting Rajneeshes in as mayor and the 6 city council members. The outgoing city council gave the local church to the Episcopal Diocese to keep it from falling into corporate hands and suffering the fate of a Laguna Beach, California, church Rajneesh Foundation International grabbed for an outreach mission. The Religious Science Church (similar to mainstream Unity Churches) of Laguna Beach was infiltrated by Rajneeshes who frightened away the elderly members of the congregation and elected themselves to the Board of Directors. When they had a majority they voted to give the Church, worth several million dollars, to the Guru. The original members of the congregation sued and the case is held up in court. However, the Rajneesh Corporation is in control of the church and using it for its own purposes.

The new Rajneesh-controlled city council of Antelope immediately hired a \$100.00 per hour Rajneesh attorney and sued the old city council members as well as the Episcopal Diocese. The attorney fees are being paid for by staggering new taxes imposed on Antelope citizens.

The new city taxes were \$17.00 per \$1,000.00 valuation. Prior to that there had never been a city tax on property. Fire protection fees were tripled from \$1.00 to \$4.00 per month and water charges were doubled from \$10.00 to \$20.00 per month. This meant that a family living in an average \$60,000.00 home pays an additional \$1,176.00 per year in city taxes imposed by the Rajneesh. Most of Antelope's residents are senior citizens on fixed incomes who simply cannot bear the additional burden.

In what appears to be a planned attempt by the Rajneesh Corporation to make local citizens

afraid to exercise their constitutional right of free speech and speak out in opposition to Rajneesh Foundation International tactics, the Rajneesh attorneys have filed many lawsuits against local residents. For example, Rosemary McGreer is being sued for several million dollars for negative comments she made on the Merv Griffin show. She is responsible for her legal fees, so while local residents are confident she will win the case, they are now afraid to comment on Rajneesh activities because they can't afford the legal fees if the corporation sues them.

At the same time city property taxes were imposed on the citizens of Antelope, the Rajneesh jerked the funding out from under Antelope's public school, a move designed to impose yet another burden on locals. School Board member Swami Deva Wadud, another Guru puppet, said "The Rajneeshes, who form a large majority in the voting district have already told the board they will vote down the next one (levy) too. So if the board is really concerned about the education of these children it will take action to make other schooling arrangements—such as bussing the children to Madras."

Rajneesh Foundation International and its spinoffs have been able to accomplish the legal takeover of a city government by block voting techniques, a practice strongly defended by Congressman Bob Smith who received hundreds of Rajneesh votes by followers carrying out the Guru's wishes in the 1982 election. The Rajneesh have repeatedly praised Congressman Smith's "spirited defense of the rights of Rajneeshes."

On May 27, 1983, in response to concerns raised by citizens at a meeting in The Dalles City Hall, Smith began his defense of Rajneesh rights by pointing out that when the ancestors of present-day Oregonians came to the USA they were dressed in funny garb and speaking with strange accents or foreign languages. He drew a parallel between the pioneers and the arrival of (the) Bhagwan.

Congressman Bob Smith went on to tell this group of people who came to him for help that "You can't answer a political question by changing the law." The political question I see is that Bob Smith wants to keep the Rajneesh votes. He and other lawmakers need to wake up and start protecting the rights of American citizens who are under attack by greedy corporate giants hiding behind a religious facade.

In order to respond to the unfair Bend Bulletin attack and present facts on the Rajneesh to Central Oregonians, my committee had to spend over \$700.00 on this ad. Your help in defraying the cost would be greatly appreciated.

If you wish to help, please send contributions to:



Willis for Congress Committee
Rt. 2, Box 2574
Vale, OR 97918

Comments: _____

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Medford Mail Tribune: Sunday Sept 16, 1984

Smith, Willis issue press releases

Guru accused of ballot scheme

By ALLEN HALLMARK
Mail Tribune Staff Writer

Congressional candidate Larryann Willis, a Vale Democrat, has accused the Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh of trying to perpetrate a "ballot box stuffing scheme" in Wasco County.

Mrs. Willis said in a press release that by bringing 2,000 "street people" to Wasco County, the Rajneeshees may change the outcome of her race with incumbent Rep. Bob Smith, R-Ore.

Meanwhile, Smith issued a press release of his own, calling upon the state Legislature to change the state election law to require a six-month residency as a qualification to register to vote. Smith advocated a 30-day cutoff on registration before each election.

Mrs. Willis contended that the bhagwan will help the street people register to vote and will instruct them to vote for Smith.

"The Rajneeshees have vowed to import several thousand street people, who will be registered and instructed how to vote," Mrs. Willis said. "So, obviously, the Rajneeshees will be able to control the Wasco County elections, defeat (state Rep.) Wayne Fawbush (D-Hood River), and even alter the outcome of the 2nd Congressional race."

Fawbush, who won his fourth term in 1982

by only 270 votes, in a speech Sept. 7 also accused the Rajneeshees of trying to pack the county with new voters in an effort to defeat him.

But Ma Prem Isabel, a spokeswoman for the bhagwan at Rancho Rajneesh, denied that politics had anything to do with the decision to bring the street people to Rajneeshpuram, the city founded by the Indian guru.

"These people have been invited to Rancho Rajneesh to share what we have here, a very positive lifestyle," Ma Isabel said. "Those who do want to vote can absolutely do so, and those who don't want to vote can do that, just as they could do anywhere else."

Ma Isabel said Mrs. Willis "really doesn't like the Rajneeshees, and she's used us as a platform for a long time. It's dirty tactics to get the anti-Rajneesh people to vote for her."

Besides criticizing the Rajneeshees in her speech last week, Mrs. Willis also criticized her opponent, Smith.

"Congressman Smith has Rajneeshee support because he has refused to look into reports by local citizens of Rajneeshee violations of civil rights," Mrs. Willis said. "Smith has taken the position that the Rajneeshee problem is not his concern because he is a federal representative, and he claims that the

Rajneeshee matter is a state and local problem.

"I disagree," Mrs. Willis said. "The Rajneeshees know that if elected I will be on top of their activities. They don't want that, so they are doing everything they can to re-elect Smith."

Smith could not be reached for comment on Mrs. Willis's statements. But perhaps not coincidentally, he issued a press release from his Washington, D.C., office in which he advocated the change in Oregon's liberal voter registration law.

He said he wants Secretary of State Norma Paulus to join him in asking the state Legislature to change the law. Now, 20-day residents can register, and registration continues until the polls close on election day.

The congressman said his suggested changes were prompted by "charges that temporary residents making use of the state's immediate voting qualification laws have been or could be significant factors in Oregon's elections."

Before residents are allowed to become voters "they should be fully aware of the problems and needs of their community and equally aware of the candidates and issues involved," Smith said in the press release.

RAJNEESH INTENT TO
INFLUENCE THE OUTCOME
OF A FEDERAL ELECTION

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Rajneesh

NEWS

JIM WEAVER CONGRESSMAN

4th District, Oregon

Washington

202/225-6416

Eugene

503/687-6732

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1984

WEAVER ASKS RAJNEESHPURAM MAYOR TO EXPLAIN 'WE WILL TAKE OVER OREGON' COMMENT

(WASHINGTON) - Congressman Jim Weaver, (D-OR), has asked the mayor of Rajneeshpuram to explain a statement the mayor made on a television broadcast that the Rajneeshees, followers of Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh, will take over Oregon if they are forced to.

On January 13, Oregon Public Broadcasting's Front Street Weekly program carried a story titled "In Memory of Antelope," which included footage of Rajneeshpuram mayor Krishna Deva stating "If we are forced to, we will take over Oregon. If we are forced to; we would hate to have to do it."

"I know that the Rajnessshees' presence in Oregon has generated considerable controversy, and that parties to this controversy have uttered some extreme rhetoric," Weaver said in a letter to Deva.

"I am also aware that statements taken out of context are often misconstrued or misunderstood," Weaver wrote. "Therefore, I would like you to explain fully the meaning of your statement. Specifically, please explain what you mean by '...we will take over Oregon.' Also, please explain how you could be 'forced' to take such action."

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Oregonian

Sept 23, 1987

State seeks poll observers

By DON JEPSEN
of The Oregonian staff

SALEM — Oregon Attorney General Dave Frohnmayer said Friday that he had asked the U.S. Justice Department to monitor the Nov. 6 general election in Wasco County to "ensure the public safety and the integrity of the ballot box."

Frohnmayer said he had decided to ask for monitoring because of widespread speculation that the followers of Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh had been importing homeless people from across the country to swell their voter-registration figures and seize control of the county.

Also, critics of the Rajneeshees have urged Oregonians to respond by moving temporarily to Wasco County to vote there.

State elections officials have said that registering to vote without intending to establish a permanent residence is a violation of state elections laws. Oregon's election laws require only a 20-day residency, and eligible people can register up to and including election day.

In a joint news conference Friday, Frohnmayer and Secretary of State Norma Paulus said federal observers had been asked to watch for violations of federal election laws and to investigate whether the Rajneeshees had violated the public accommodations regulations of the U.S. Civil Rights Act in moving in homeless people.

Federal civil rights division officials could not be reached Friday for comment on the monitoring request.

Frohnmayer said there had been "unverified" reports that Rajneeshees had turned away those younger than age 18 and non-citizens as they recruited street people to live at Rajneeshpuram.

Anand Sarita, a Rajneeshee spokeswoman, said Friday that Rajneeshee efforts to recruit homeless people excluded persons under 18 "because we don't want parents breathing down our neck and saying we are stealing their kids."

She said her group excluded non-citizens because of its widely publicized dispute with the federal Immigration and Naturalization Service over whether Rajneesh should be granted permanent resident status in the United States.

Paulus said the federal officials were being sought to observe, not conduct, the election.

"I'm very confident that we can conduct a fair and impartial election that doesn't disenfranchise any of our voters," she said.

Earlier in the day, Frohnmayer said the state intended to guard against voter fraud in the election.

"We are very concerned to keep the peace and make sure the integrity of the election is not compromised," he said in an interview with a Lincoln City radio station.

"We are absolutely drawing a line in the dust that there be no election fraud. We are going to act ahead of time to make sure that ... (improper voting or registration) will be challenged and the perpetrators of any kind of fraud will be prosecuted."

Frohnmayer also said state and local police were paying "very close attention" to what he called security issues surrounding the influx of homeless people.

He refused to elaborate, but State Police Superintendent John Williams said two more state troopers had been assigned to Madras "because our intelligence tells us there are people there with criminal records, some of them perhaps wanted by authorities."

"It's a real concern to us," he said.

8504053494

Bloc-voting fears spur voter registration

By JEANIE SENIOR
Correspondent, The Oregonian

THE DALLES — Many Wasco County residents are focusing on registering new voters in an apparently bipartisan effort to counter an expected large bloc vote from followers of Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh.

The county had 12,278 registered voters as of July 31, and officials have estimated 3,000 to 4,000 more people are eligible but not registered.

Of those registered, about 820 are Rajneeshees. However, 100 more followers have moved to Rancho Rajneesh recently to take part in a three-month program, and some 1,000 homeless people have been brought in by the Rajneesh Humanity Trust, with more arriving daily.

"Quite obviously we want to make sure that we have enough voters that are not in Rajneesh's pocket so that we can elect our candidates, be they Republican or Democrat," said Jack Howe, a former mayor of The Dalles and an active member of the Republican Party.

Many people in Wasco County are concerned that the new arrivals, if they register to vote, could determine the outcome of several local races in the Nov. 6 election.

About 500 of the 3,000 voter registration cards that have been handed out by the Wasco County clerk's office have gone to Rancho Rajneesh, according to Karen LeBreton, chief deputy clerk.

She said about 40 new voter registrations daily have come into the clerk's office in the past week, none from the ranch. LeBreton said the office expects to need additional help to deal with the expected new voter registrations.

Races in contention include two for the county court, for sheriff and for the state Legislature.

"Obviously when the Rajneeshees started bringing in the homeless to Rajneeshpuram and Antelope, that scared a lot of people in this area," said Scott McKay, chairman of the Wasco County Democratic Central Committee. "In order to meet that

challenge, voter registration seems to be one of the few avenues people can go. People are carrying around voter registration forms with them and passing them out."

Howe said the situation is creating political alliances where none existed before.

"I just can't believe for a second that they really are now interested in poor people. Why don't they sell all those Rolls-Royces and use the money for the poor?" he asked. "No man on Earth needs more than two or three."

Howe, a resident of Wasco County for almost 40 years, described it as "conservative, agricultural, almost a rural community. Most of the people who live in the community like being able to walk down the street and say hi to every other person that they see.

The peaceful environment is no longer here. It's gone forever, and I think that's a absolute tragedy."

LeBreton said Oct. 17 is the last day people can move to Oregon to establish the 20-day residency requirement.

Meanwhile, some opponents of Rajneesh based in Albany say they are still hoping that many Oregonians will move to Wasco County temporarily in order to vote, despite warnings that to do so would be illegal. "I hope we find another solution, but if we have to (move), we will," said Talbot "Robbie" Robinson.

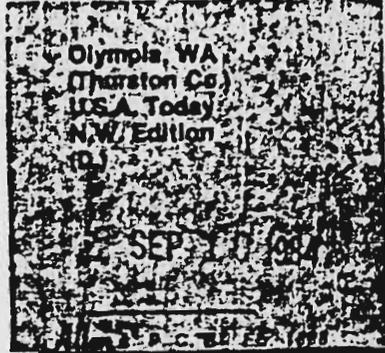
Secretary of State Norma Paulus, in Salem speech Thursday, once again warned against Oregonians moving to Wasco County just to vote.

"The best thing the people can do is cool the rhetoric and stay home," Paulus said. "I'm confident the good

citizens of Wasco County can solve this."

Paulus suggested a court test of the intent of voter registrants could result from this fall's election in the county. "What I'm hoping is we will have the process set up so it can be solved in a calm, rational process," she said. "I'm quite confident that we'll be able to address the issue."

85040533496



Guru's town imports 'street people'

5138

By Alan Gustafson
USA TODAY

RAJNEESHPURAM, Ore. — Homeless "street people" from around the USA are moving to this religious commune in central Oregon, stirring another controversy in a seemingly endless series.

About 100 street people from San Francisco, Santa Cruz, Calif., Los Angeles and Washington, D.C., arrived Sunday in Rajneeshpuram where 80 percent of the 2,000 residents are followers of Indian guru Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh.

Rajneesh spokeswoman Ma Prem Sunshine said they're being invited to take part in an

experiment to help people less fortunate than residents here.

The group of street people has grown to 350 since the first arrived Sept. 2. They're living in one-bedroom A-frame buildings provided by Rajneeshes.

Some Oregon officials worry about possible political motives. Newcomers could vote in November under Oregon's election laws if they move into the state 20 days before the Nov. 8 election.

Democratic congressional candidate Larryann Willis, whose sprawling 2nd District includes Rajneeshpuram, first raised the issue.

Noting thousands of outsiders could arrive in the sparsely

populated region, she said. "The Rajneeshes can elect anyone they want with the kind of margin."

But Ma Prem Sunshine says the Rajneeshes are not even seeking religious converts, let alone political supporters.

Controversy is not new. Rajneeshpuram, founded in 1981 on an 81,000-acre ranch,

The Rajneeshes first took political control of the nearby city of Antelope and its school district. The commune has since become embroiled in a number of challenges, including questions about land and whether the group violates the constitutional separation of church and state.

120 street people leave commune

By JEANIE SENIOR
Correspondent, The Oregonian

MADRAS — With a bus ticket to Spokane and about \$8 in his pocket, Roy Ezell nursed a paper cup of ice water in a Madras restaurant and mused on his sojourn at Rancho Rajneesh.

"I will say this: They mean well."

said Ezell, who boarded a bus in Phoenix, Ariz., over a week ago after Rajneesh Humanity Trust recruiters invited him to take part in its share-a-home program.

During the past few weeks, Rajneeshes have invited homeless street people from cities all over the United States to come to Rajneeshpuram for the program. More than 1,000 special guests are there now; at least 120 have left the program.

"The point is, you get three squares a day out there. They do give you a place to stay, all the clothes and food you want, but when Friday comes, you want your money," Ezell said. "I don't mind working, but I expect to get paid for it."

Ezell said he spent almost a week of observing the routine at the Rancho Rajneesh before he told his hosts he had personal business in Spokane and requested a bus ticket there. He didn't volunteer to work, although he said he was told by another guest, "If you don't work, at the end of 90 days, you're gone, junior."

Madras in recent days has become the departure point for those people who, for whatever reason, are not staying. Nearly 80 have left Madras since Tuesday, according to Jackie Finley, Trailways agent in Madras, and about 120 have left since Sept. 11.

As the lodging for the homeless at Rajneeshpuram is filling up, according to Prem Isabel, a Rajneesh speaker-woman, recruiters "now are telling people, if they come, we're not going to give them tickets back, so think twice. We want people that really want to be here."

Ezell said several guests left after a group of about 15 got in a fight at the disco in Rajneeshpuram — "I think it was over a woman" — and then carried the row over to the cafeteria tent in Walt Whitman Grove, where the newcomers live.

The travels of street people to and from the ranch through Madras means

that "there are a lot of concerned folks here," said Hamlin Perkins, Jefferson County sheriff. "This is a new thing, and it doesn't fit too well."

Joe Hodges, a Trailways driver, said the returning guests have caused some problems on the buses. It was necessary to call Bend City Police a few days ago when four or five of them became drunk and disorderly on a bus he was driving, he said.

Linda Tallison, a dispatcher for the Bend police, said, "We've noted at this point no great problems created by what they're doing, not to say there won't be down the road, but at this point no great problems."

In Madras, police said there have only been minor problems.

Several who were leaving through Madras Thursday said they had no ill feelings about the place or the people but simply had reasons to return to their home cities.

"I'm going back to college," said Wayne Ellsworth, 23, who is returning to Los Angeles.

Steve Davis said he "passed the physical" at the ranch but was returning to Chicago because his wife, Denise, who accompanied him to Oregon, was five months pregnant and the Rajneeshes "don't have medical facilities" to deal with her condition.

"They were nice to us," Davis said. "I can't say nothing bad. We'll probably be back right after she has the baby." Davis volunteered that the Rajneeshes had "asked me to register and vote."

"I got a feeling they were trying to register people to vote," Ezell said. He said the Rajneeshes had not specifically asked him to do so. Anand Sheela, president of the Rajneesh Humanity Trust, had discussed politics with the group, he said.

Ezell said he filled out a long "application form" detailing his previous work experience, next of kin, his Social Security number and other information.

8504053497

The Dalles, OR
(Wasco Co.)
Chronicle
(Cir. D. 8,241)

SEP 16 1984

Allen's P. C. B Est. 1888

Rajneesh recruit more, ⁵¹⁷⁴ 30 from Puerto Rico

The Rajneesh Commune's efforts to import the homeless and jobless continued throughout the country Saturday with Puerto Rico included.

United Press International reported that the recruits included 75 from Los Angeles, 30 from San Juan, Puerto Rico, 26 from Phoenix and 36 from Chicago. Spokesmen for the Rajneesh claim about 500 recruits have arrived in Rajneeshpuram since the nationwide drive began.

The controversy over the plan has spilled over into the race between Democrat Larryann Willis and Republican incumbent Robert Smith. Smith said bringing in the street people could affect the out-

come of the race.

Willis said the importation of hundreds of street people is likely to result in a Rajneesh takeover of the Wasco County government, cause the defeat of State Rep. Wayne Fawbush and could even change the result of her race against Smith. She calls herself a longtime opponent of the Rajneesh.

Smith announced Friday he has asked Secretary of State Norma Paulus to join him in asking the 1985 Legislature to toughen Oregon's voter requirements, a move apparently aimed at concerns that the Rajneesh are offering street people free lodging at Rajneeshpuram so they can swell their voting clout.

85040533498

San Diego, CA
(San Diego Co.)
Evening Tribune
(Cir. D. 127,454)

SEP 19 1984

Allen's P. C. B. Est. 1888

Skeptics doubt guru's 'charity'

5174
Power grab feared as cult invites the nation's homeless

By Darla Welles

Tribune Staff Writer

Several busloads of San Diego's homeless street people who accepted an offer of free lodging at an Oregon commune may not find the peaceful paradise they imagined.

Instead, they may find themselves in a political cross-fire between disciples of East Indian guru Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh and longtime residents of a rural central Oregon area who resent the presence of the 3-year-old commune, called Rajneeshpuram.

The Rajneeshes say they are inviting transients from major cities across the nation as a charitable act, a way of sharing the wealth of their 2,000-member commune, which boasts status as a city and has a booming tourist trade.

The Oregon locals say commune members are doing it to beef up their voting power in upcoming elections, in

which two of the three county commissioners' seats are up for grabs. The old-timers tear a massive write-in effort that they say could wreak havoc.

"There's a lot of fear, a lot of suspicion here," said Wasco County Clerk Sue Proffitt. "What has happened to us here would be like having another half-million people suddenly plunked down on you in San Diego, people who have the stated intent of moving in and taking control."

The Rajneeshes already have taken over Antelope, a small town near the commune, "and the next step could be the government of Wasco County," Proffitt said.

"They've told us that by the year 2000 there won't be any state of Oregon left," she said.

A Rajneesh spokeswoman, who identified herself only as Sunshine, denied that possibility.

Please see *COMMUNE, B-7*

*Commune

5174
Continued From B-1

"We're not interested in taking over Wasco County," said "N."

... is running. If any of the homeless did run, I think I'd vote for them over what we have running the government here now.

"The people who are criticizing us for bringing in the homeless are the same ones who criticized us in the past for not doing charitable works. These are people who are so bigoted that they think that if you're not fundamentalist Christians you're the anti-Christ. We don't take what they say about us seriously."

Sunshine said the commune has collected about 900 transients since it began contacting them on the nation's urban streets in early September, offering them three-month trials of commune life and tickets home if they didn't like it.

She said the commune will contin-

ue bringing in transients as long as there is housing for them. She added she could not estimate how many could be absorbed.

County officials said they fear the commune could import 4,000 to 5,000 potential bloc voters — enough to tip the balance in the sparsely populated area in a write-in campaign.

Wasco County Judge William Hulse, who heads the county commission and is not facing re-election, called a government takeover a possibility.

Oregon law, he said, allows a person to register as a voter after a 20-day residency and permits registration up to the time the polls close on election day.

"We don't know yet what the chances are," he said. "We haven't seen any major increase in voter registration yet, but it could all hit at the last minute. The possibility is very real."

85040533499

Boise, ID
(Ada Co.)
Idaho Statesman
(Cir. D. 66,330)
(Cir. S. 71,219)

SEP 19 1984

Allen's P. C. B. Est. 1888

Homeless vow to aid Rajneeshees at polls

The Associated Press

RAJNEESHPURAM, Ore. — Some of the 900 "street people" brought to this commune-city by disciples of Indian guru Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh vowed Tuesday to help their benefactors by voting against a state legislator in November.

The Rajneeshees have denied that the homeless people were bused in from across the nation to enlarge their voter rolls.

Ma Anand Sheela, the guru's personal secretary, said Tuesday that she "hadn't thought of voting" when the disciples began recruiting the homeless.

But the county is so "bigoted it deserves to be taken over," she said.

The Rajneeshees began busing indigent people from various parts of the country to Rajneeshpuram in recent weeks in what the Rajneesh followers say was an experiment in communal living and charity.

More than 40 of the street people spoke glowingly of their new home at a news conference, which began with a song called Goodbye Wayne. Ma Anand Sheela said the song was aimed at State Rep. Wayne Fawbush, whose district includes Rajneeshpuram and who is up for re-election Nov. 6.

Sean Osborne of Santa Cruz, Calif., said he hadn't planned to vote until he saw a state legislator on television.

"Nobody asked me to vote. I've never voted in my entire life ...

(but) I am going to register and I am going to vote against (Fawbush)," Osborne said. He said he did not know the legislator's name.

"In two months, we're going to drop a peace bomb on Washington," added Richard Williams of Berkeley, Calif.

Meanwhile, Rajneeshees in nearby Antelope voted Tuesday on a proposal to name the town after Rajneesh.

The town's 90 registered voters had to cast absentee ballots after a flap over whether the polling site should be transferred into the Rajneeshee part of town.

Only a handful of Antelope's original residents remain. Most moved after the sect members took control of Antelope's government and raised taxes. The street people who spoke were highly complimentary of the Rajneeshees, with some even vowing to die for them.

Joseph Coulson of Portland said he was sent to Rajneeshpuram by a counselor at the Burnside Community Council, which helps the homeless in that city.

"I was sent ... to see if I could find anything wrong. I apologize for coming under those pretenses, and if they'll still have me, I'd love to stay," he said.

Two of the testimonials came from people who said they had exchanged drugs for love.

"Love is the best high I ever had," said Scott Burnett of Detroit.

85040533500

Cooe Bay, OR
(Cooe Co.)
World
(Cir. D. 16,279)

SEP 13 1984

Allen's P. C. B Est. 1888

5174
**Some of
homeless
leaving**

RAJNEESHPURAM, Ore. (UPI) — Several of the homeless people who were transported to Rajneeshpuram recently have left the religious commune saying they were being pressured to become members of the group and to vote in Wasco County's November election the way the Rajneeshes wanted.

Shameace Jones, who was transported by bus from Washington, D.C. to Rajneeshpuram, said he and a friend requested to leave the

commune because he felt the Rajneeshes were trying to brainwash the homeless people and encourage them to vote in the November election.

Jones also said he felt the homeless people had been misled about what they would be doing at the commune and he thought he would be getting a paying job.

Richard Hartwell was recruited from Portland to travel to the commune. He spent nine days at the ranch and said he felt the

homeless were expected to act like Rajneeshes while at the ranch. He said they were asked to participate in activities like meditating and attending the daily drive-bys of Indian guru Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh in one of his Rolls Royces.

Hartwell said during an orientation session the homeless were encouraged to vote in the Wasco County election.

"You don't have to if you don't want to, but they encourage you to

go out and vote to keep this community going," he said.

"It's very important to them — they need the votes — they need them to keep their community alive." Hartwell said.

Ma Prem Sunshine, a spokesman for the Rajneeshes, denied Hartwell's claims. The number of homeless who have arrived in Rajneeshpuram so far has been estimated at about 500 and Sunshine said about three busloads a day are arriving from cities such as

Los Angeles, Washington, San Francisco, New York, Seattle and Portland.

She said they are currently living in cabins but the commune has also purchased modular housing units from a housing complex at Challis, Idaho, which have been mentioned as possible housing for them.

She said the homeless are free to either practice or not practice any part of Rajneeshism.

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Spokane, WA
(Spokane Co.)
Spokane Chronicle
(Cir. 6xW. 60,888)

SEP 20 1984

Allen's P. C. B. Est. 1888

Rajneeshis announce plan to defeat Oregon legislator

5174
By SALLY CARPENTER
HALE

Associated Press

RAJNEESHUPURAM, Ore. — With the enthusiastic approval of many of their 900 "guests," disciples of Indian guru Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh have announced a campaign to drive a state legislator out of office.

The Rajneeshis prefaced a news conference featuring testimonials from more than 40 of the "street people" bused in from around the nation with a song aimed at Rep. Wayne H. Fawbush, D-Hood River.

"Goodbye, Wayne," they sang. "... Your campaign's going down the drain, glub, glub, glub."

The disciples previously denied that their "experiment," which brought busloads of homeless people to this central Oregon commune-city, was designed to enlarge its voting population.

Ma Anand Sheela, the guru's outspoken personal secretary, said she hadn't thought of potential votes when disciples began recruiting the homeless. But, when detractors accused the sect of such a motive, she said, she liked the idea.

"The county is so ... bigoted it deserves to be taken over," she said.

Fawbush, whose district includes Gilliam, Hood River, Sherman, Wasco and Wheeler counties, could not be located for comment.

He faces a challenge Nov. 6 from Republican John Lundell of The Dalles.

Ma Anand Sheela accused Fawbush of trying to take away the new arrivals' voting rights.

"If they touch any one of our people, ... I'll have 15 of their heads," she said.

Under Oregon law, voters must live in the state at least 20 days before an election.

Sean Osborne of Santa Cruz, Calif., said he hadn't planned to vote until he saw a television interview with a state legislator whose name he did not know.

"Nobody asked me to vote. I've never voted in my entire life ... (but) I am going to register and I am going to vote against you," he said.

"In two months, we're going to drop a peace bomb on Washington," added Richard Williams of Berkeley, Calif.

Ma Anand Sheela did not specify other candidates against whom the Rajneeshis would vote, but she often has spoken harshly of many elected officials, including U.S. Sen. Mark Hatfield.

Larryann Willis, who opposes Republican U.S. Rep. Bob Smith in the district that includes Rajneeshpuram, has accused the Rajneeshis of bringing in the street people in recent weeks as part of a plot to "influence the outcome of state and federal elections in Oregon."

Rajneeshi opponents, meanwhile, have announced a plan to move en masse to Wasco County to prevent the sect from taking over the county government.

A similar controversy erupted in 1982, when the nearby town of Antelope sought to disincorporate rather than have the disciples overrun the community.

Antelope's population of 40 more than doubled as both sides moved in voters from elsewhere in Oregon. State law allows registered Oregon voters to move into a town on election day, register and vote. The Antelope proposal failed two years ago, but the town was voted out of existence Tuesday.

Antelope voters, now comprised primarily of the guru's followers, decided to change the town's name to Rajneesh.

The new Rajneeshpuram residents who spoke Tuesday — many of whom had been at the commune only a few days — gave glowing reviews of their benefactors, and most said they planned to stay. Some even said they would die for the Rajneeshis.

Joseph Coulson of Portland said he was sent to Rajneeshpuram by a counselor at the Burnside Community Council, which helps the homeless in that city.

"I was sent ... to see if I could find anything wrong. I apologize for coming under those pretenses, and if they'll still have me, I'd love to stay," he said.

"I'm still in the skeptical stages," said Michael Anthony Groom of Washington, D.C.

The Rev. Tom Durkin, a Catholic priest from Pennsylvania, said he was on assignment for the Ecumenical Catholic Diocese of America to study the Rajneeshis' experiment.

"There is no contradiction between Jesus and Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh. ... I'd like to say, 'Drop your fear, Catholic Church,'" he said.

85040533502

SEP 12 1984

Allen's P. C. B. Est. 1888

Group sticks with plan to stack votes against guru

By HASSO HERING
Democrat-Herald Writer

Rejecting advice from Secretary of State Norma Paulus, Albany residents Joanne Boies and Marilyn Bardin said today they and others would pursue their plan to stack the voting rolls in Wasco County in November.

They have visions of getting up to 10,000 other Oregonians to move to Wasco County just in order to vote Nov. 6 and counteract what they fear will be increased voting strength by the followers of Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh.

They've had a few calls from people interesting in joining the venture, and they may start holding meetings soon, perhaps at the Albany Public Library, Boies said this morning.

She said others were active in the venture in Portland, Myrtle Creek, Medford and Madras.

Boies, Bardin and Albany resident Talbot "Robbie" Robinson talked with Paulus in Salem Tuesday. They were accompanied by two other women, one from Corvallis and one from Albany, who Boies said wanted to remain unidentified.

Paulus warned them that going to Wasco County briefly just to vote against the Rajneeshes would constitute a class C felony. But Boies said the legal question hinged on voters' intention, "and they can't prove what my intentions are."

She said she might get a motel room, produce rent receipts and even look to buy real estate to establish herself as a Wasco County voter.

Bardin said, "What we're doing is not legal... but I don't know that it's morally wrong... We're trying to keep them from taking over the state."

The mid-valley residents involved in the controversy are a loosely knit group that formed a few years ago under the name "Concerned Citizens" to fight utility-rate increases. Later they adopted the anti-Rajneesh cause.

The Rajneeshes reportedly have bused hundreds of "street people" from around the country to their central Oregon settlement of Rajneeshpuram, and the opponents fear this is an attempt to gain more voters in Wasco County. The Rajneeshes have denied it.

In a news interview on Portland's KATU-TV, however, Rajneesh leader Ma Anand Sheela said Tuesday night Oregon would no longer exist after the year 2000 but Rajneeshpuram would still be there.

Boies said her group today would ask state Sen. L.B. Day, R-Salem, Rep. Mike McCracken, D-Albany, and other legislators to sponsor legislation consolidating sparsely populated eastern Oregon counties such as Wheeler and Grant with larger ones. She said this would help prevent political takeovers of small counties.

Wheeler County, she said, has only 800 voters.

About 2,000 of the guru's followers live in Rajneeshpuram, and the Rajneeshes also have taken control of the town of Antelope 18 miles away.

Wasco County has about 12,900 registered voters, including 757 registered at Rajneeshpuram and 175 in the Antelope precinct, which includes the town and environs.

On Tuesday, the secretary of state warned the opponents not to be so acrimonious in their criticism of the Rajneeshes, who they contend are an "alien cult."

"Oregon has enough problems without getting a reputation back East as being a bunch of bigots," Mrs. Paulus said.

Meanwhile, at least one legislator, Rep. Wayne Fawbush, D-Hood River, told the Associated Press he thinks the Rajneeshes are making an effort to increase their political clout in the area.

Fawbush's district includes part of

85040533503

Seattle, WA
(King Co.)
Sunday Times/
Post Intelligencer
(Cir. 8, 469,488)

SEP 23 1984

Allen's P. S. & Co. Inc.

D.2 Sunday, September 23, 1984

574 "Street people" flap heats up in Rajneeshpuram

RAJNEESHPURAM, Ore. (UPI) — Disciples of the Indian guru Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh will use force if necessary to protect themselves and hundreds of street people who are moving to their commune as part of a program to aid the homeless, a leader says.

Authorities and residents near the central Oregon religious community of Rajneeshpuram have speculated that the recent influx of nearly 1,000 transients may mean the sect intends to expand its political power by swelling the number of registered voters.

Ma Anand Sheela, personal secretary to the Bhagwan, warned "beaten pigs outside" the commune against interfering with its project to help the street people.

"If they touch any one of our people, I'll have 15 of their heads, and I mean business," said Sheela, who sometimes carries a gun. Members of the Rajneesh police force also carry high-powered weapons.

About 300 singing street people gathered in a meadow to deny claims they are being given free room and board at the commune to help swing the Nov. 6 elections.

Many of the homeless people said, though, they plan to vote because they are angry over allegations by local residents that they are being used as voting pawns by the commune.

The street people sang a song, led by disciples, that warned Democratic state Rep. Wayne Fawbush, a critic of the sect, that

his re-election effort is in danger.

The song began, "Goodbye, Wayne, your campaign is going down the drain. Glub, glub, glub."

The street people, almost all of them dressed in the red clothing worn by disciples, gathered under a tent and took turns saying how they have found hope for a better life.

The Bhagwan, who claims 500,000 followers worldwide, lives with 1,700 disciples at Rajneeshpuram, a city they founded in the sparsely populated area after emigrating from Poona, India, in 1981.

The Rajneesh Humanity Trust plans to invite at least 2,000 destitute people from major cities around the country to live for free at the commune. About 800 street people have come so far from New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, Phoenix, San Francisco and elsewhere and more were arriving by daily.

Another 500 disciples have arrived to take part in a \$250-a-month residency program, swelling the total population to 3,100.

Under Oregon law, anyone who can prove residency 20 days before an election can vote.

Disciples contend they wish to share their abundance with the needy, but some Wasco County officials are worried that the newcomers will vote in a bloc with the Rajneeshes.

The disciples used their voting power two years ago to take over the nearby hamlet of Antelope and now control the town's local government.

85040533504

SEP 19 1984

Allen's P. C. B. Est. 1888

Anchorage Daily News Wednesday, September 19, 1984 C11

Commune-recruited street people say they'll vote in election

5174

United Press International

RAJNEESHPURAM, Ore. — About 300 singing, red-garbed street people gathered in a meadow Tuesday to deny claims they were given free homes at an Indian guru's commune to help the sect control upcoming local elections.

Many of the homeless people said, though, they plan to vote in the Nov. 6 elections because they are angry over allegations by local residents that they are being used as

pawns by the commune.

Guru disciples said they will help the street people register and also vowed to gain revenge if anyone tries to harm the commune's residents.

The street people sang a song, led by disciples, that warned state Rep. Wayne Fawbush, a critic of the sect, that his re-election effort is in danger.

The song began, "Goodbye, Wayne, your campaign is going down the drain. Glub,

glub, glub."

One newcomer, Shawn Osborne of Santa Cruz, Calif., said he never has voted in his life and denied that any Rajneeshee has told him to vote.

The street people, almost all of them dressed in the red clothing worn by disciples, gathered under a tent in Walt Whitman Grove and took turns saying they have found hope for a better life.

Guru Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh, who claims 500,000

followers worldwide, lives with 1,700 disciples at Rajneeshpuram, a city they founded in sparsely populated central Oregon after moving to the area from Poona, India, in 1981.

The disciples plan to invite at least 2,000 destitute people from major cities around the country to live for free at the commune. About 900 street people have come so far from New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, Phoenix, San Francisco and elsewhere and more are

arriving by buses daily.

Another 600 disciples have arrived to take part in a \$250-a-month residency program at the commune, swelling the total population to 3,200. Under Oregon law, anyone who can prove residency 20 days before an election can vote.

Disciples contend the program is aimed at sharing their abundance with the needy, but area officials are worried that the newcomers will vote in a bloc with the Rajneeshees in November.

The disciples used their voting power two years ago to take over the nearby hamlet of Antelope and now control the town's local government.

Ma Anand Sheela, the guru's personal secretary, cautioned the "bigoted pigs outside" against interfering with the commune's project to aid the homeless.

"If they touch any one of our people, I'll have 15 of their heads, and I mean business," Sheela said.

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The Dalles, OR
(Wasco Co.)
Chronicle
(Cir. D. 6,241)

SEP 12 1984

Allen's P. C. B. Est. 1888

12,278 county voters, ⁵¹⁷⁴ 3,000-4,000 potential estimated by officials

Only July 31, there were 12,278 voters registered in Wasco County and some officials here believe some 3,000 to 4,000 people are eligible to register but have not done so.

That was the estimate of County Clerk Sue Proffitt when asked to evaluate the latest vote registration figures. The county population is about 21,000 based on projections made since the 1980 census. Voters in Oregon must be 18 years old.

A voter must establish Oregon residence 20 days before registration application. A voter who moves from one address to another, even within the same precinct, must re-register under the new address.

Students away from home at

college and Wasco County residents serving in the military can register to vote in the county.

The clerk's office estimates an election turnout of up to 10,000 voters in November.

The potential for additional registration based on residents becoming 18 years old, people who have not before registered and new residents is estimated at 3,000 to 4,000 staff members in the clerk's office said.

Proffitt said her office had received 15-20 calls through Tuesday afternoon from citizens inquiring about voter registration total in connection with the Rajneesh Commune's project of bringing homeless and jobless people to

Rajneeshpuram.

Proffitt said that she advises callers that they can ask people to register and vote. On Monday and Tuesday, The Chronicle received telephone calls in relation to voter registration and the concern that the additional people at Rajneeshpuram could impact the county election.

The newspaper became aware also that some senior citizens in The Dalles area had received telephone invitations to spend some time at Rajneeshpuram. One man told The Chronicle he believed he was called based on the fact he was a former subscriber to the Rajneesh Times. He said he advised the caller that he was not interested in going to live on the ranch.

Wasco County July 31 Voter Registration

Precinct	TOTALS	DEM	REP	IND
19 Rajneeshpuram	755	467	260	28
20 Col. Basin TD	569	276	222	71
21 Dry Hollow TD	314	139	143	32
22 Mill Creek TD	284	124	114	46
23 Wahtonka	1,074	614	281	179
24 Chapowith Primary	627	372	171	84
25 Mosier	480	254	132	94
26 Petersburg	257	115	115	27
27 Dufur	633	292	263	78
28 Tygh Valley	251	151	69	31
29 Barlow Gate	366	219	110	37
30 Maupin	607	340	212	55
31 Antelope	155	71	71	13
81 Nazarene Ch. TD	851	471	288	92
82 Col. Wright TD	637	305	275	57
83 Zion Lutheran TD	742	398	241	103
84 Calvary Baptist TD	723	333	300	90
85 Gateway Presbyterian TD	562	282	210	70
86 Evangelical Church TD	716	358	263	95
87 TD Junior High	680	329	277	74
88 Church of God TD	995	493	369	133
	12,278	6,403	4,386	1,489

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 Chronicle
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Fawbush, Proffitt discuss Rajneesh vote impact

By BARBARA HICKS
 Chronicle Staff Writer

The voting citizens of Wasco County have not yet faced up to the problem of what to do with the voting block that has formed in Rajneeshpuram, State Rep. Wayne Fawbush warned here Monday.

He told members of the Oregon Federation of Democratic Women in an informal discussion, that if the voters don't face up to it, the Rajneesh "will determine the outcome of the election."

The discussion, which took place after Fawbush's speech to the OFDW, was the result of recent importation of an estimated 2,000-7,000 homeless Americans from around the nation.

Swami Krishna Deva, mayor of Rajneeshpuram, inquired last week at the courthouse about these people registering to vote, County Clerk Sue Proffitt said.

The problems facing the election Nov. 6 for county positions "goes beyond partisan politics," Fawbush said. He urged a massive voter registration drive in Wasco County, saying that the voters must beat the Rajneesh by legal means rather than by illegal means.

Proffitt agreed, saying that the Rajneesh function within the law, "then charge us with voter fraud." This is what would happen if anti-Rajneeshes came to Wasco County on election day, registered to vote, then left, Proffitt and Fawbush agreed. They could prove voter fraud because they could prove the voters came in just for the election. The immigrants to Rajneeshpuram have no former addresses, so this could not be proven, Fawbush said.

Wasco County has 12,800 registered voters including the 957 voters in Rajneeshpuram and in the Antelope precinct, according to Proffitt. In a general election 10,000 non-Rajneeshes usually vote. They would need 6,000 to swing the election their way, Proffitt said.

In a telephone conversation today,

Proffitt responded to an announcement by an Albany group that said they plan to send 250 members to Wasco County to register to vote on Nov. 6.

"If you're publicly saying that you're coming here to violate election laws, I don't want to see you," she said. "We don't need that kind of help. If you're sincerely interested in moving to Wasco County, then you're welcome to register and vote."

Proffitt and Fawbush estimated that there are another 4,000 eligible people in Wasco County, including teenagers and senior citizens who have not registered to vote. Fawbush told the audience, "We have to go forward from here with the most active campaign drive we've ever had." This means that when someone begins talking about the problem, respond in three ways:

- "First, ask them if they have registered to vote.
 - "Second, ask them if they have friends who have not yet registered.
 - "Third, hand them a voter registration form," Fawbush said.
- Fawbush cautioned people to maintain their "cool" in dealing with the situation.

"These people are trying to create a confrontation," he said. They need this to maintain cohesion of their organization, he added. "We must maintain our civility" and our self-respect, he said.

Fawbush said he put in a legal request to the State Legislative Legal Council to determine if there is any evidence of potential voter fraud with bringing in large numbers of people. He also asked the Council to determine if any possible changes in the Oregon election law could prevent people being brought for the purposes of voting. If there is a possibility of doing this without restricting other people's rights, he may request a special session to implement these changes.

At this point the possibility is remote, however, he said.

In response to the question, "How can they get by with a closed city in a free nation," Fawbush said this is the most important issue of all, and

that the issue is now in the federal district court. This is a case of "clear separation of church and state," he said, adding that "this is

why Nativity scenes are not allowed on courthouse steps." Democracy is a slow process, and the Rajneesh have operated on the

edge of it, Fawbush said. But "We are beginning to balance out the scales," he said. We simply have to be patient," he said.



PROSPECTS OF NOV. 6—State Rep. Wayne Fawbush and County Clerk Sue Proffitt, standing, discussed voter registration and the prospects of the Nov. 6 election here on Monday at a meeting of the

Mid-Columbia Democratic Women's Club. Seated from left are Lydia Willett, chairman of Democratic campaign headquarters here and Kay Spivey, Mid-Columbia Women's Club President.

barbara hicks/the chronicle

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County fears Rajneeshee takeover

5174

By Laura Parker
P-I Reporter

RAJNEESHPURAM, Ore. — Until 11 days ago, William White was collecting aluminum cans for a living and sleeping on the sidewalks of Washington, D.C.

Then, in a soup line, he heard about a new program, where he'd be fed and clothed for free and could "sit back and relax" on a ranch where John Wayne once filmed one of his westerns — if only he would take a free four-day bus ride across the continent into the badlands of central Oregon.

"You gotta understand, when you're in Washington, people don't call you 'sir,'" White said. "When I got off the bus here, this lady comes up to me and says, 'Pardon me, sir, can I take your bag?'"

An attractive woman took his clothes to the laundry. Another woman gave White some new ones. Two sets. They gave him a hot meal and two glasses of beer and an A-frame cabin with wall-to-wall carpeting.

Colors of sunrise

The 21-year-old street hustler, who was more accustomed, he says, to being addressed with adjectives that begin with "mother" than "sir," thinks it's so pleasant at the ranch that he might stay on for a few months.

He is one of 1,000 street people, mostly men, who've been brought here by the people who wear the colors of sunrise and worship a wispy, silent Indian guru named Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh.

As the neighboring ranchers and sheep farmers in sparsely populated Wasco County watched the buses roll up the highway toward the ranch, a chilling fear began to take hold. Now most of the county outside Rajneeshpuram is convinced that the derelicts are



William White left Washington, D.C., for Rajneeshpuram with the promise of free food and clothing.

Part 1

This is the first in a two-part series examining the controversy surrounding the Rajneeshees in central Oregon.

part of some larger scheme of the Rajneeshees, as Bhagwan's disciples are called, to take over the county government.

"Our main fear is a takeover, a loss of control," said William L. Hulse, chairman of Wasco County's three-member county commission.

The plan, the current thinking here goes, is that these street people will be smothered with kindness and then persuaded to register to vote — all to give the Rajneeshees a rather substantial voting block in local elections this fall.

"Look what they've done in other elections," said Wasco County Clerk Sue Proffitt. "They've been here three years. We have seen them move in an expeditious manner in major undertakings. Whether it's construction of a major dam or bringing in 20,000 people for their summer festivals. Yes, I think they can do this."

Numbers feared

Like White, the new arrivals are mostly unemployed. Many of them are drunks or derelicts. A few are drug addicts. They come from places like New York, Chicago, Phoenix and Los Angeles. From every city that has a mission and a soup line and a population that lives on the street. Seventy are from Puerto Rico, although after a fight between two of them at the ranch, recruiting efforts in Puerto Rico were stopped.

"The biggest fear would be the sheer numbers of their voting strength," Hulse said, explaining that Wasco County has only 12,000 registered voters.

Hulse is the only commissioner not up for re-election and he's afraid come November he may be sharing duties with two Rajneeshees elected as write-in candidates.

The leaders of the Rajneeshees scoff at such a notion, saying their original motive for bringing in the homeless was to share their wealth with those in need. But now that some of the residents of Wasco County have given them the idea about voting, they ask, why not?

"We're trying to inspire a life of dignity with love and respect," said Ma Prem Sunshine, a spokeswoman for the Rajneeshees. "There is a paranoia about takeovers. We have no need to control Wasco County government."

Ma Anand Sheela Silverman, the pistol-carrying president of the Rajneesh Foundation International, said: "This county is so bigoted it deserves to be taken over."

Even county residents who live far from Rajneeshpuram concede that the Rajneeshees have



The Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh rides a Rolls-Royce through Rajneeshpuram, Ore., every day to the adoration of his followers. His town has taken root, but neighbors still don't like it.

plenty of reasons for wanting to replace various elected officials.

The Wasco County Commission must approve building permits for Rajneeshpuram. With a majority on the commission, the resistance to Rajneesh building projects would end.

Congressman Denny Smith, a Republican, is on record as saying he wants the guru deported.

Oregon state Rep. Wayne Fawbush, a Democrat whose district includes Rajneeshpuram, says he wants the Rajneeshees' city dismantled and has announced his own effort to call a special session of the Oregon Legislature to draft legislation that would prevent the newest residents of Rajneeshpuram from voting in November.

Oregon voter registration law requires simply that new voters reside in the state for 20 days before registering to vote. They can register to vote as late as election day.

Incorporation ruling

Proffitt says she began to question the Rajneeshees' reasons for providing free room and board for the street people after Rajneeshpuram's mayor, Swami Krishna Deva, telephoned to inquire about voter registration procedures. Proffitt figures the Rajneeshees' real motives will be known by Oct. 16 — 20 days before election day.

With two Rajneeshees on the county commission, the Rajneeshees could more easily protect their city of Rajneeshpuram, which has been challenged in the courts.

The Oregon Court of Appeals

ruled in June that the incorporation of Rajneeshpuram is invalid, and the issue has been sent back to the Wasco county commissioners to reconsider. The Rajneeshees have appealed the case to the Oregon Supreme Court, but many in the county want to bulldoze Rajneeshpuram into the dust.

The city was incorporated in 1982, after 150 residents of the ranch requested and received approval from the county to hold an election and incorporate 2,000 acres of Rancho Rajneesh.

As November's general election nears, emotions are running high. Fear breeds speculation, speculation breeds rumors. Now, talk is that if the Rajneeshees win control, property taxes will go up, county road money will be diverted to pave the county road leading to Rajneeshpuram and county employees will be fired and replaced with Rajneeshees.

Fawbush's call to convene the legislature only managed to align the street people with their benefactors. Some of Rajneeshpuram's new residents called a press conference to announce they hadn't thought about registering to vote before, but they will now.

High turnout

For instance, White has never been registered to vote, but he said he may cast a vote against Fawbush just for trampling on his rights.

"I ain't ever voted in my life," White said. "But if there's this person that wants to stop these guys from voting, I'm gonna register."

They still have rights to vote.

The net effect of all this is that Wasco County may have one of the highest voter turnouts in the nation this November. Residents who haven't voted since Franklin Roosevelt occupied the White House are streaming into the Wasco County clerk's office to fill out voter registration forms to blunt the effect of any Rajneesh voting block.

"To really understand our fear, you'd have to have been here from the beginning," explains Hulse, who believes that the Rajneeshees effectively silenced the voice of 40 retired Oregonians when they took over control of Antelope, their small town.

The Rajneeshees arrived in Oregon in 1981. They were looking for a place "in the middle of nowhere," they explained, where they could set up their social experiment of a classless society based on love.

They found what they were looking for at the Big Muddy Ranch — 64,000 acres of over-grazed range land, with its lion-colored hills and dry dusty canyons, which they bought for \$6 million, a quarter of it in cash.

The closest town was Antelope, which wasn't much of a town, 19 miles back down the winding gravel road. When 40 Antelope residents made it clear the newcomers weren't welcome, the Rajneeshees registered to vote and elected themselves to the Antelope City Council. A year later, they took over the Antelope school board.

The new Antelope City Council

See COUNTY, Page 2

5174

Newcomers at Rajneesh Ranch

Many Say
They'll Vote
With Guru

By Paul Liberatore
Chronicle Correspondent

Rajneeshpuram, Ore.

The Rajneeshes trotted out their new friends, the homeless, at a revival-style tent meeting yesterday — and many of the newcomers pledged to vote for local Rajneesh candidates in the November election.

The speakers often criticized U.S. society but were full of praise for life here in the Oregon desert, saying it is all hugs and love and three square meals a day.

Cindy Goldstein, a 22-year-old self-described "body worker" from Santa Cruz, said, "I came here because I didn't want to compete in the rat race of society and pretend to be someone I'm not. This is home, definitely home."

Yesterday's event was a closely supervised media event designed to fire back at critics of the rich and powerful religious movement.

The Rajneeshes say they bused in 800 poor people from cities all over the country so that they can share their abundant lifestyle with the less fortunate.

These poor are living in small cabins and undergoing medical tests before being integrated into the religious group's regular population of about 1000. Many of them are remaining, but others are leaving the ranch, saying they are dissatisfied.

Opponents of the growing religious community in central Oregon are calling this sudden benevolent



Two new arrivals at the ranch, both wearing baseball caps, warily watched a guard armed with a semi-automatic weapon yesterday during the Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh's drive-by in a Rolls-Royce

a dirty trick, aimed at stuffing the ballot box and allowing the Rajneeshes to take over the government of Wasco County.

"The county is so bigoted that it deserves to be taken over," said M. Anand Sheela, the fire-breathing high priestess of the Rajneesh Church.

Several of the new arrivals promised yesterday to vote for Rajneesh candidates on November 6. Yet they said they got the idea from hostile media and from outside politicians, not from the disciples of the Indian guru Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh.

"I'm not a fool," said Sean Os-

borne, a 24-year-old street musician from Santa Cruz. "I've been here nine days and nobody has asked me to vote.

"I've never voted in my life, but I saw a politician on TV the other night saying I was brought here to vote. Now I am going to register and vote against him."

Only about 150 or so of the 800 street people who are supposed to be here appeared at the press conference, which was held under a parachute tent in the dusty valley where they are living three to a room in tiny A-frame cabins.

There were blacks, whites, Hispanics, American Indians, men

women, young and old. Most of them wore the red, orange and purple clothing of the Rajneesh religion, but without the beaded necklaces bearing pictures of the guru that true disciples wear.

Richard Williams, 62, a Social Security recipient from Berkeley, said he hooked up with the Rajneeshes in People's Park recently.

He took the speaker's microphone and announced that "this community is showing America we're not derelicts — and we can make a big difference when it comes time to vote in November."

Two of the three seats on the Wasco County Commission, which is the equivalent to San Francisco's Board of Supervisors, are up for grabs in November. If the Rajneeshes can put 4000 votes together, they could capture the two seats with a write-in campaign and thus control county government.

There is evidence that the Rajneeshes don't win every vote, however. After yesterday's session,



Photos by Chris Strawn

Newcomer Ron Adams of New York City, wearing a straw hat, joined local followers of the guru in cheering as he drove by them

about 10 homeless people were driven in a van to a nearby town where they can catch buses out of the area. The Rajneeshes provide those who decide to leave with a free bus ticket and some spending money for the trip.

Before getting aboard the van, a young carpenter toting his tool belt said he was going home to Denver to a good job.

"I just came here to see if it was for real," he said. "It's real for some people, but not for me."

The guru, who preaches a conglomeration of Eastern and Western religions and human potential philosophy, established this settlement on a former cattle ranch three years ago.

The followers who came along with him quickly took over the Board of Education and City Comm-

cil of the small town of Antelope, and now many opponents feel the group is making a move on the county's government.

The Rajneeshes say they'll continue to bus in homeless people to reach their goal of 2000 in the community.

Not everyone who has been shipped to the ranch follows the company line. After watching the Bhagwan take his daily Rolls-Royce drive through the commune, a 34-year-old bridge painter from South Carolina said he believes the guru is a false prophet.

"This is all fake," he said quietly so that none of the ever-present ranch residents could hear him.

"I came because it's three squares a day and a place to sleep for a while, but I'm getting bored. I won't be around too much longer."

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San Francisco, CA
(San Francisco Co.)
Examiner
(Clr. D. 158,777)

SEP 17 1984

Allen's P. C. A. 1111

Oregonians fearful of Rajneesh voters

By Howard Taylor Jr.
Examiner staff writer

RAJNEESH PURAM, Ore. — A plan to resettle 2,000 of the nation's homeless in the Rajneeshes' "model city" has drawn charges from longtime area residents that followers of the Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh are trying to take over the county.

Tension in this northwestern Oregon farming county is running as high as the near 90-degree temperatures.

Already battling over land use and the constitutionality of Rajneeshpuram, founded in 1981 by the Indian religious leader and his followers, Waco County officials and sect leaders are now in a war of words over the Rajneesh Humanity Trust's effort to resettle 2,000 homeless men and women here.

Already, an estimated 600 to 700 street people from San Francisco, New York, Chicago and other cities have joined the permanent residents here, said guru spokeswoman Ma Prem Isabel. Two weeks ago 35 people from the Bay Area left for Rajneeshpuram, and a bus is expected in San Francisco later this week to pick up anyone else who wants to go.

Frustrated county officials regard the recruitment

See back page, col. 5

Homeless swell cult's voting clout

—From Page A1

drive as a ploy to give the Rajneeshes a strong voting bloc that could insure election of their write-in candidates in the Nov. 8 election and an eventual "takeover" of county government.

"I view it as nothing other than trying to disrupt our county government," says William Hulse, county judge and commissioner. "I think their primary goal is to put a couple of people on the County Commission. The way the law is in Oregon, you can't change addresses for the purpose of voting. But if you don't have an address, that's different. And with these street people, if you're going to bring anyone in, they're the ones to bring in."

"If there's any legal way of doing it, that's it."

Rajneesh leaders say Hulse and other officials are paranoid and vow to continue busing in homeless people from around the nation, despite a state moratorium on building new housing here and a state representative's threat to call a special session of the Oregon Legislature to make homeless votes null and void.

"I have the state and press on my throat," says Trust President Anand Sheela, who is also personal secretary to Rajneesh. "The state is beginning to show its bigotry... Their true color is coming out now."

Antelope, about 19 miles from the sprawling Rancho Rajneesh, will probably be renamed Rajneesh after tomorrow's city election on the measure. Rajneeshes control the seven-member Antelope City Council and outnumber non-member city residents by an overwhelming margin.

Sheela says she knows nothing of the tensions or political ambitions of Hulse and other officials openly disagree.

"I don't talk to the county. They're bigoted pigs. The county is filled with bastards."

County commissioner Virgil Ellett says Sheela's attitude reflects the wall of "uncooperation" county officials have met when trying to deal with the Rajneeshes. He says Sheela's hostile talk only fuels the anti-Rajneesh sentiment that's sweeping this county of 22,000.

"They're so suspicious, so paranoid," says Ellett, 56, a third-generation Oregon farmer. "They're just so



Examiner graphics

scared that if they turn around somebody's going to shoot them in the back. And somebody will.

"They watch us like a hawk all the time. They do everything but hold our hands to go to the bathroom."

Ellett fears the county's hands are tied in dealing with the Rajneeshes, until the government or the courts act to stop the sect's expansion.

"They took over Antelope," Ellett said. "They took over the school there. They just took over everything. There were only 30 or 40 people there. It was a ghost town but retired people would buy and move in there. Now they've got that and they want the whole county."

Judge Hulse says he sees no way of improving the county's relations with the group or ending its growth. But he disagrees with Rep. Wayne Pawbush's attempt to call the Legislature into special session to disqualify votes cast by the Rajneeshes' homeless.

"You have to be extremely careful when you make legislation and aim it primarily at one group of people," Hulse says. "Whenever you make legislation against any one, it affects everyone. Frankly, at this point in time, I really see no way of stopping them."

"If they would get a bloc vote of 4,000 or 5,000, they could control the whole county."

The Rajneeshes' homeless guests

began arriving more than a week ago. Some have just ended a mandatory nine-day quarantine, that includes testing for parasites and venereal diseases.

Living and eating at a collection of A-frame cabins in Whitman Grove, they are shielded from the press, and only those handpicked by Rajneesh leaders are allowed to speak to the press. Several of the newcomers, however, were interviewed on the county road that runs through Rancho Rajneesh.

All identified themselves as "Doo-bie," and said they had been asked about their willingness to vote but had not been pressured to do so.

"They asked me and I said I might," said one man, who described himself as a "package from Santa Cruz."

"I just came here because I'm tired of the streets. I wanted to try something new and it's pretty good. Some guys left already. But I'm staying. It's better than nothing."

Rajneesh leaders would not say how many transients had left the ranch but said all had been given return bus tickets and traveling expenses.

"Most of the homeless are happy here," Sheela insisted. "They're getting along just beautiful. They're beginning to pick themselves up."

Rajneeshees can call the election shots in angry Oregon county

By Laura Parker
P-I Reporter

Part 2

□ This is the second story in a two-part series on the controversy surrounding the Rajneeshees in Oregon.

"No, I don't think it's fair," said Wasco County Commissioner William L. Hulise, the only one of the three commissioners not facing re-election this year. "But it isn't a case of whether it's fair. It's a question of whether it's legal."

As the rift between local and state officials and the Rajneeshees has deepened in the three years since the Rajneeshees bought the Big Muddy ranch, the law has become the most potent weapon of both sides.

Environmental lawyers are battling Rajneeshee lawyers over the existence of a city in range land. Assistant state attorneys general are battling other Rajneeshee lawyers over separation of church and state. Immigration lawyers are battling still other Rajneeshee attorneys over immigration cases.

But it's the election that struck a raw nerve. The voters here fear a

See RAJNEESHEES, Page A-3

THE DALLES, Ore. — When Richard Murray, a local well driller, announced his intentions last spring to run as a write-in candidate for the Wasco County Commission, he won the Democratic nomination in the May primary election with the help of Rajneeshee votes.

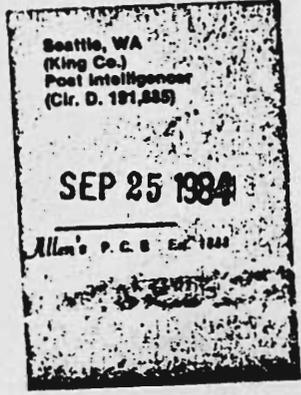
"We have a lot in common," he said. "I tried to obtain a drilling license to be a water-well driller. It took me eight years. You can't imagine the frustrations that any individual goes through to deal with the system."

Murray said he does not expect the Rajneeshees to support him in November. Then again, they may. The point is that, as a group, they have the power to elect either him or his Republican opponent.

Or, they could elect a candidate of their own.

Legality is the issue

Wasco County has about 25,000 residents, of which 12,000 are registered to vote. If the Rajneeshees are able to move in 5,000 voters, as some Wasco County officials say the Rajneeshees have promised to do, the Rajneeshees could use the power of the polls to elect their own write-in candidates.



Rajneeshees tend to become ecstatic when their guru, Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh, rides past them in a car. But the Rajneeshees' potential power at the polls leaves many long time residents of Wasco County in Oregon far from ecstatic.

JENNIFER WERNER, P-I PHOTO

Rajneeshees can swing the election

From Page A-1
loss of their individual voice
"If you have a group that can control the election process, then we are prevented as a community from using the electoral process as a community," said state Rep Wayne Fawbush, a four-term Democrat whose district includes the city of Rajneeshpuram.
The Rajneeshees view the fervor over politics with a certain irreverence. In the May primary election, several hundred Rajneeshee voters voted for Miss Piggy as a write-in candidate for secretary of state and Pontius Pilate for the U.S. Senate.
There is a smugness as well. "Usually, politicians are the lowest grade of human form, proven to be true especially in Wasco County," said Rajneeshpuram Mayor Swami Krishna Deva. "The only thing that

would change (if Rajneeshees were elected) is the government would be fairer."
They have little sympathy for the residents who feel they've lost their voice at the polls. The Rajneeshees took over the town of Rajneesh, formerly Antelope, by electing themselves to the city council. Now they say the original residents can move out if they don't like the turn local politics has taken.
The fear about the Rajneeshee strength at the polls has produced some unusual positions in local political campaigns. Fawbush's Republican opponent suggested, for example, that the Rajneeshees be given their own county.
Fawbush, not to be outdone, has made sure his constituents received an itemized list of the challenges he has made to the Rajneeshees.

"I have taken the following actions to ensure our laws are being upheld . . ." his letter begins.
Laryvann Willis, a Democratic candidate for Congress, held a press conference to announce she has asked the Justice Department to speed up an investigation into alleged violations of a citizen's civil rights by four Rajneeshee "peace officers."
Still, some elected officials concede the difference between the Rajneeshee's clout and any other single-interest group or lobbyist is only a matter of degrees.
"It would be basically the same as the influence of someone who heavily contributed to a campaign," Hulise said.
The commissioner said the difference he sees is in the way the

Rajneeshees think. And when it comes to politics, as opposed to religion, that bothers him.
"I think their thinking is somewhat controlled by their hierarchy," he said. "This is the feeling I have. This is what my fear would be."
The Rajneeshees decry that as just another form of religious persecution from residents who are convinced the disciples of Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh are brainwashed members of a cult.
Fawbush, who is worried that the Rajneeshees will defeat him in November, said a large voting block can mean that Wasco County will rarely have a politician who serves more than one term.
"There could be a constant situation where there is no stability with elected officials," Fawbush said. They could throw them out the next time if anyone elected doesn't agree with them 100 percent.
Wasco County residents believe that Rajneeshees are manipulating the election law. That, and the fear of losing a voice in government, have fueled the fervor over the election.
"We prided ourselves on having election laws that encourage people to vote," said Fawbush. Now, he fears, residents of Wasco County may find they have more power in court than at the polls.

RAJNEESH PURAM:

Events surrounding the controversial cult may be coming to a head. Many in Oregon fear the unstable situation could turn explosive.

"This commune is not an ordinary commune, this is an experiment to provoke God. You may not be aware of what is going to happen."

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A lot of people are concerned about potential violence out there now. Four months ago, I didn't think that was a possibility. But now I do.

"If they continue to lose in the courts, which I'm sure they will, then we will have to be much more careful. They are getting very frustrated and will be getting more so."

The speaker is State Representative Wayne Fawbush, whose legislative district includes the city of Rajneeshpuram, a city under growing legal siege from a variety of quarters, including 1000 Friends of Oregon, the Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC), the Wasco County Court and the Oregon court system, the federal Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) and the U.S. Attorney for the district of Oregon, and the state attorney general.

The Rajneeshes now face the following real threats: the possibility of the loss of the legal status of their city, which could result in a legal order to dismantle all or most of their buildings; the possibility of the indictment and arrest of Rajneeshpuram residents, including top Rajneesh leaders, for criminal violations of U.S. immigration laws; and the possibility of the arrest and deportation of their revered leader, Bhagwan Shree ("Sir God") Rajneesh.

"They are," says Fawbush, "a bunch

of people who have gambled and are in the process of losing. I am very concerned."

THE COURT BATTLES

In an affidavit filed on July 3 in U.S. District Court in Portland, INS District Director Carl Houseman revealed that the INS "is presently conducting an ongoing investigation into suspected violations of immigration laws and related criminal statutes by the Rajneesh Foundation International and related organizations and/or their members." He also stated: "This investigation has now resulted in the preparation of an extensive investigative report which has been referred to the U.S. Attorney for the District of Oregon for his consideration."

According to sources familiar with the INS investigation, the violations of immigration laws referred to in the affidavit involve alleged "marriages of convenience" at Rajneeshpuram between U.S. citizens and foreign nationals. The marriages are allegedly manufactured to help Rajneeshes from other countries gain entry into the United States or remain here in violation of U.S. immigration restrictions. Says one source close to the case: "They [the INS] expect to get indictments against twenty-five to thirty of them, including at least half a dozen top officials."

BY WIN MCCORMACK AND BILL DRIVER



VALLEY OF DEATH



RAJINI SRI FOUNDATION INTERNATIONAL

"The fifth valley: the thundering valley. In the fifth valley you enter into death.... You are disappearing.... And one should be ready for this disappearance, one should be ready! Not only ready, but in a deep welcome!"

"I've heard other people say if Bhagwan asked them to kill themselves, they would do it. If Bhagwan asked them to kill someone else, they would do it.... I don't know if my trust in him is that total. I would like it to be."



ARMED FOR TROUBLE: Security vehicle paves way for Bhagwan ...



"Peace Force" officer stands ready ...

THE WILL OF BHAGWAN: DRUGS AND PROSTITUTION?

His disciples say they will do anything for the Bhagwan. Court testimony shows that willingness has led to drug smuggling and prostitution.

What is the source of the Rajneesh cult's astonishing wealth? As Rajneeshes explain it, their money derives almost exclusively from sales of Rajneesh books and paraphernalia and from voluntary donations by wealthy followers.

But according to a scholarly journal and transcripts of criminal court proceedings, other sources existed that may have contributed significantly to Rajneesh riches.

In a 1980 article in an English psychology journal called *Energy and Light*, an ex-Rajneesh follower named David Boadella had this to say:

"At a well-known religious community in the East ... sannyasins are selling their bodies on the open market to secure the money to gain a home for their souls in the spiritual community. This may take the form of earnings from masturbation-shows, or prostitution, and is tacitly encouraged by the community in question, where the immoral earnings are discreetly referred to as 'getting sweets....' At the same community there is an official policy that actively discourages or even prohibits drug-taking. Unofficially, however, an active drug run organized by sannyasins flourishes with or alongside the community, and people in need of money to buy a place in the community are put in touch with it covertly by high-ranking

leaders there. Five or six kilos of cannabis are secreted in false-bottomed suitcases, and are smuggled by plane via Amsterdam and Paris to Montreal, where they are sold for £9,000 [approximately \$20,000]. The drug-ring collects £6,000 [approximately \$13,000], and the person who smuggles the drugs collects £3,000 [approximately \$6,500] toward his ticket to heaven. Several sannyasins are currently serving jail sentences for participating in the drug run. Two of

"When you surrender, you have surrendered all possibility of saying no. Whatever the situation, you will not say no."

—Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh

them used 'brainwashing' as a defense at their trial, in order to get a reduced sentence."

The two sannyasins referred to by Boadella who used brainwashing as a defense at their trials were an English actress named Margot Gordon and a Swedish woman named Maria Kristina Koppel. Koppel was arrested at Heathrow airport outside London in June 1979, carrying 3.46 kilograms of canna-

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And despite its decision earlier this year—greeted with jubilation at Rajneeshpuram—to grant Rajneesh Chandra Mohan (the guru's real name) third-preference visa status as a "religious teacher," sources say that the INS has not abandoned its effort to deny him permanent resident status. Perhaps taking a cue from the Shah of Iran, Rajneesh secured his original three-week visa at the American Consulate in Bombay by claiming that he needed specialized medical treatment in the United States for a back ailment. The INS would like to prove, as suggested by a January 1982 U.S. State Department report, that "Rajneesh either faked or, more likely, seriously exaggerated his alleged medical condition in order to transfer his ashram to the United States and escape tax difficulties in India." Predicts one source bluntly: "He will be deported."

Assistant U.S. Attorney for Oregon Bill Youngman confirms the possibility that he will present to a grand jury a criminal case against certain residents of Rajneeshpuram. Another official source involved in the investigation claims that if a grand jury is impaneled, the INS will not be the only federal law enforcement agency presenting evidence.

The land-use case against the city of Rajneeshpuram, originally filed by the environmental watchdog group 1000 Friends of Oregon, has been kicked up and down the Oregon judicial ladder for almost three years now. But on June 27, the Oregon Court of Appeals issued a clear opinion that, unless unexpectedly reversed by the Oregon Supreme Court, will essentially invalidate Rajneeshpuram's incorporation as a legal city. The Court of Appeals ruled that the Wasco County Court (Commission) acted improperly when, on November 4, 1981, it granted residents of Rancho Rajneesh the right to hold an incorporation election on

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CIRIS STEWART/SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE
WILLIAM BYRON MURPHY

Spokesperson Sheela wears a sidearm...



Officer brandishes one of numerous assault weapons.

CHECKPOINT CENTRAL OREGON: RAJNEESH'S 'POLICE STATE'

If Rajneeshpuram is a city like any other, as its residents claim, why do more than 150 security officers maintain a military watch on the area?

Approaching Rajneeshpuram is unlike entering any other American city. Visitors to the embattled mini-metropolis in the arid reaches of Central Oregon find themselves subject to constant surveillance, the kind of security precautions normally associated in the United States only with military installations.

"Rajneeshpuram is a place where honesty is blamed, hypocrisy rewarded, dependency nourished and spying on each other encouraged and where freedom is buried."

Hugh Milne (formerly Swami Shivamurti),
Rajneesh's ex-bodyguard

As you drive south from Antelope toward Rajneeshpuram, you pass four observation posts, each staffed by two members of the Rajneesh private security team. And that's before you enter Rajneeshpuram proper. The posts, which provide excellent vantage points on the comings and goings on the highway, are located on private land owned by the Rajneeshes, as are seven additional posts located within the city lim-

its of Rajneeshpuram.

The observation posts, eleven in all, serve as the tentacles of an extensive, radio-linked security system revealed by confidential Rajneesh security manuals, obtained by *Oregon Magazine* and confirmed by the monitoring of the Rajneesh radio system. The security system, which includes more than 150 officers, is intended to observe and record every movement along the only main road linking Rajneeshpuram with the outside world, alerting the Rajneesh command to the presence of anyone perceived as hostile to the group.

The manuals disclose that strangers are first announced as they pass through the town of Antelope, nineteen miles to the north of Rajneeshpuram. Antelope is itself patrolled by the Rajneesh Peace Force (police department) by day and by a private Rajneesh security force by night.

As automobiles pass the first Rajneesh observation post, located four miles from Rajneeshpuram, guards at the post record the vehicle's license plate, the number of passengers and assign a code to each car. Code "Q1" is assigned to those strangers of "questionable intent" and is announced over the "blue" radio channel. "12-28s," those vehicles deemed "suspicious," are announced over the red channel.

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land zoned for exclusive farm use. Both 1000 Friends and the Wasco County Court have indicated they plan to move quickly to force the dismantling of buildings at Rajneeshpuram.

"They played real hardball," says Henry Richmond, executive director of 1000 Friends, of the Rajneeshes. "They built as fast as they could, thinking that when the day came when their city was declared illegal, nobody would have the guts to make them take it down."

On July 11, in a move seen by many as the first step toward achieving dismantlement of the city, the Wasco County Court voted to remove Rajneeshpuram's Comprehensive Plan from the Wasco County Comprehensive Plan. Rajneeshpuram Mayor Swami Krishna Deva reacted to this action with belligerence.

"What I see here today," he told the commission, "is the beginning of civil war in this county. If that is what you want, fine."

Deva's statement to the Wasco County Court is not the only implied threat of violent resistance uttered by Rajneesh spokespeople recently. In an interview on KGW-TV aired June 29, Rajneesh Foundation President Ma Anand Sheela (Sheela Silverman) told how she would deal with any attempt to dismantle buildings at Rajneeshpuram.

"I will be dead," she said. "I will paint the bulldozers with my blood." Then, in a July 5 article in the *San Francisco Chronicle*, quotations from Sheela implied that she would block any attempt to arrest people at Rajneeshpuram for immigration or other legal violations.

"I mean business," Silverman said through (according to the *Chronicle* account) lips trembling with anger. "You will find out what will happen to you if you come here to harm me or Bhagwan or any of my people. ... I'll take things as they come. We are willing to die for hu-

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man freedom. I have 100 percent support from my people."

What worries people like Wayne Fawbush, as well as federal and local governmental authorities monitoring the situation at Rajneeshpuram, is that not only have the Rajneeshees been issuing these kinds of threats recently but, over the past several months, they have apparently been acquiring the means to act upon them.

ARMING THE FAITHFUL

Since last February, according to numerous Oregon weapons dealers and local and federal investigators, the Rajneesh Peace Force and Rajneesh Security

"I mean business. You will find out what will happen to you if you come here to harm me or Bhagwan or any of my people.... We are willing to die for human freedom. I have 100 percent support from my people."

Ma Anand Sheela to the
San Francisco Chronicle

force have acquired the following kinds of weapons: the CAR-15, a cheaper version of the AR-15, a semi-automatic version of the M-16 machine gun; the Uzi Model B, an Israeli-made semi-automatic assault weapon, shorter than the AR-15, which is carried by the U.S. Secret Service; the Mini-14, a short, semi-automatic rifle; the Ruger 44 Magnum carbine; the MIA 308-caliber rifle, often referred to as a "sniper rifle"; the 357 Magnum revolver, a standard service revolver used by many police; and twelve-gauge shotguns.

The possession by Rajneeshees of at least thirty CAR-15s and Uzi Model Bs particularly worries investigators, who point out that the Portland Police Bureau has but fifteen of such semi-automatic assault weapons. Both the CAR-15 and Uzi Model B can easily be converted into fully automatic machine guns.

"Those are assault weapons," says one investigator. "They are only used on very rare occasions by police forces even in large cities. You have to wonder, what are they really for?"

Although *Oregon Magazine* was unable to obtain precise information on the quantities of these kinds of weapons purchased by the Rajneeshees, one investigator says they have purchased a "vast" amount of "223" ammunition—the standard load for U.S. military weapons since the Vietnam era.

They have more 223 ammunition out

there than all the other police departments in the state of Oregon combined," alleges the investigator. Another investigator alleges that the Rajneeshees "have

"Unless you are ready to die, it is better you should not be here, because only through your death is resurrection."

Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh

enough ammo to supply a battalion for a year."

What will the Rajneeshees do with all the weapons and ammunition they are accumulating? Will they, as some observers are beginning to fear, deploy them against state and federal authorities in a variation on the mass cult suicide at Jonestown, Guyana, six years ago? Is this a real possibility? Listen to Antelope Mayor Ma Prem Karuna talking to the *San Francisco Examiner* (July 1, 1984): "At this stage [emphasis ours], the battle may not be with guns and ammunition. But to be treated like human beings with equal rights, we have to fight every step of the way."

Or consider the words of Sheela Silverman in the official invitation to the June 30-July 6 Third Annual World Celebration at Rajneeshpuram this year: "We are being simultaneously attacked by all kinds of fascist forces.... As far as our community is concerned we are determined to protest, and protect our truth and our freedom with the very last drop of our blood."

Kathleen McLaughlin, a professor of religious studies at Lewis and Clark college, visited Rajneesh's former ashram while on a trip to the city of Poona in

"The whole truth would be too much. You may simply be shocked, shattered. The whole truth you cannot contain; it would be destructive. Only through lies can you be brought to the door of the temple, and only at the door can the whole truth be given to you."

Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh

1977-78 and studied his meditation and group therapy techniques and his philosophy. She is also an expert on the cult phenomenon in general; as a result of her brother being in the Hare Krishna cult,

she served on the board of directors of the Positive Action Center, Portland's leading cult-watching group. As far back as last year she was extremely alarmed by developing trends at Rajneesh's isolated Central Oregon commune.

"I think there's the possibility that it could become more and more isolated and extremist in the same way that the Jim Jones community did," she said then, perhaps presciently. "The Jim Jones community had that kind of progression. As paranoia and isolation developed, people got crazier and began to consider extreme actions as normal or acceptable or as the only possibility. I don't mean to be inflammatory; I'm not predicting that. But all the conditions are there."

"It is a risky endeavor. You don't know what's going on. You may be lost or you may not come back again. Who knows whether this is good or bad, divine or evil?"

Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh

Ma Amrita Pritam, formerly Shannon Jo Ryan, is the daughter of Leo Ryan, the California Congressman gunned down at Jonestown. A sannyasin living at Rajneeshpuram, Pritam was quoted in a January 10, 1981, *Los Angeles Times* article as telling a reporter, "I've heard other people say if Bhagwan asked them to kill themselves, they would do it. If Bhagwan asked them to kill someone else, they would do it." She added, "I don't know if my trust in him is that total," but "I would like it to be." Expert testimony presented at the 1980 trial of a Scandinavian sannyasin in London on drug-smuggling charges suggests that true believers in the divinity of Rajneesh will indeed "do anything"—including murder and suicide—that Rajneesh or his top assistants order them to do (see *The Will of Bhagwan*, p. 28).

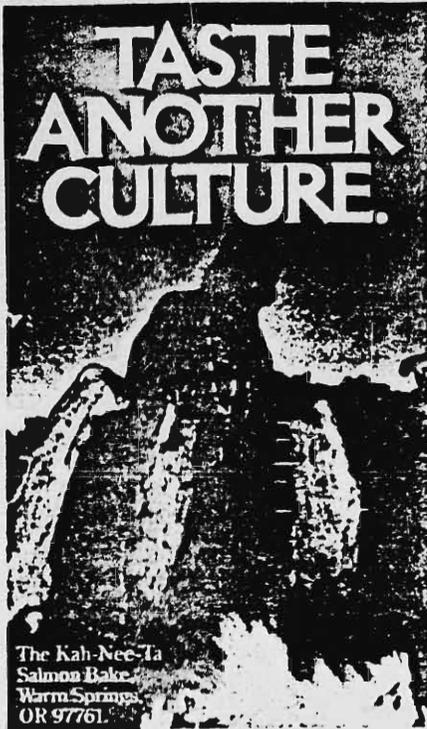
THE ULTIMATE STAGE

What is Rajneesh likely to ask his followers at Rajneeshpuram to do as the American judicial system inexorably closes in on him and his isolated and paranoid little world? When Rajneesh was in similar legal difficulties in India, he simply fled the country, taking his possessions and his following with him. This time, however, for several reasons, the dynamics of his predicament appear to be quite different.

For one thing, Rajneesh proclaimed, just before leaving India, that he was entering the "ultimate stage" of his work.

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OREGON

RAJNEESHPURAM

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perhaps implying that he was going to make a final stand at his new commune in America. Secondly, Rajneesh is looked upon with disfavor in Europe and Australia, the only other locales where he has both followers and financial footholds. And thirdly, the Rajneesh focus on and fascination with death, long a theme in the cult's ideology, has recently become disturbingly more pronounced.

On May 7, for instance, in the midst of some fifteen minutes of rambling, disjointed testimony before the Wasco County Planning Commission, Ma Anand Sheela launched into the following pronouncement: "Death is the climax of life. Death is even more beautiful. The Church of Rajneeshism has special facilities to celebrate death. To dance death when death comes because death is just as important as life." When a sannyasin died during the Third Annual World Festival this summer, Rajneeshpuram Public Relations Director Ma Prem Isabel called death, "the ultimate peak of life, the ultimate adventure." Sheela Silverman proclaimed that anyone who dies within a twenty-four-mile radius of Rajneeshpuram is guaranteed "automatic enlightenment."

Rajneesh himself once told his followers "You have come to me. You have taken a dangerous step. It is a risk, because near me you can be lost forever. To come closer will mean death and cannot mean anything else." □

THE WILL OF BHAGWAN

continued from page 28

bis resin (hashish) in a false side of her suitcase. The hashish had a street value of about £5,000, or \$11,000. Margot Gordon was arrested at Charles de Gaulle airport outside Paris later that year. In a similarly lined suitcase, she was carrying thirty-two packets of cannabis weighing eleven pounds and worth £15,000, or \$33,000, on the open market.

Koppel's trial took place in England, on September 14, 1979, before Judge J. Murchie. The prosecutor was Mr. C. Hilliard, and Koppel's defense attorney was a Mr. W. Taylor. Taylor introduced his case to the court with the following comments:

Taylor: "Today, there are a lot of people in court very worried about this woman, and the people behind her in India. My extensive inquiries show that the man out in Poona, called Bhagwan, is nothing short of an evil man, using a lot of young people—I am told some 50,000 to 60,000 people—and reducing their mentality to such a position that it becomes no more and no less than putty in his hands. He does it for money, and he uses these girls

as a front for smuggling drugs all over the world. Over a period of time these young women, or young men, have their personalities reduced to nothing, their past is forgotten, and suggestions are put to them *and they would do anything that this man tells them to do.*" [emphasis ours]

Taylor called as a witness an expert on Hinduism and Eastern religions who had done research on the Rajneesh cult, Prof. Johannes Aagard. Professor Aagard gave the following testimony.

Aagard: "In Poona, Bhagwan and his people, not least his group of high-ranking officers, have established an alternative world. . . . Various young people are fascinated by this, as I myself was, and during the period of that fascination they

**"So the negative part is
clinging to the self; and
the positive part is
relaxing into no-self,
into nothingness, being
ready to die, willingly,
joyously, voluntarily!"**

Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh

are thrown into total obedience to Bhagwan. He gives them a mala with his own picture on it, and they get a piece of his hair, connecting their reality with his. It is done very quickly but the result of this is done in two ways, through daily meditation during which he lectures two hours on a tape, and two hours in the evening, sitting in meditation and totally opening themselves and giving up anything but receiving. That is done each day, year in and year out. It is supplemented by the workshops, and there are eight or nine of them, and from the beginning the aim is to do away with the mind, the personality, the memory . . . you end up being nobody. You have to give up your ego. You have to empty yourself totally to be able to surrender to Bhagwan. 'Total surrender' is the key word. That is done by a series of humiliating acts where you are forced to do what you hate to do in a group. You lose that identity feeling which is connected with certain acts, certain reservations, certain sexual inhibitions. In a number of those workshops promiscuity takes place in the most rude and horrible ways. Male persons are allowed to do whatever they like with the females, and vice versa, and it aims at bringing down the conscious connected with the individual, in order that a new conscious connected with Bhagwan and his ideology can take place."

Taylor: "And what is left at the end of the day?"

Aagard: "The will of Bhagwan."

Aagard was cross-examined by Hilliard, the prosecutor, and then re-examined by Taylor.

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Hilliard: "After a person has had this process administered to them, do they know what they are doing?"

Aagard: "I must say that they are observing as a witness, as a spectator, everything they are doing. What is acting is not them. They are only witnessing an action, and therefore you can murder, but you are not a murderer. You can steal, but you are not a thief."

Hilliard: "Does Bhagwan say who is a thief, and who is a murderer?"

Aagard: "It is the mind, and the mind is an illusion. Therefore the act of stealing and murdering is an illusion."

Taylor: "When somebody joins one of these sects they are given a name, are they not, an Indian name, and is it right that they are encouraged to kill—and I use that word advisedly—their old name, and all connections they had with their countries, parents, friends, everything?"

Aagard: "Yes, kill the other ego and the new one will come into existence, and even physical death is considered a possibility under circumstances."

Taylor called to the stand Dr. June Gomez, a psychiatrist from the University of London who had examined Koppel, to support Aagard's testimony.

Taylor: "Do you think this young woman knew when she was asked to bring this cannabis into this country the difference between right and wrong?"

Gomez: "I do not know about right and wrong, but I am quite sure she did not know it was against the law. I am sure if Bhagwan said it was all right it was just like God saying it."

Taylor: "And did she have an alternative?"

Gomez: "I do not think it would have been possible for her to opt out at all. Even intellectually she could not, because the alternative was very horrible. She had to get money to go back to him. One way was prostitution and the other was cannabis."

Taylor pleaded with the court not to send his client to jail, saying "That will kill her mind, and all she will do when she comes out is to go back to this sick and sad community." Saying, "I accept wholly the evidence I have heard," Judge Murcie gave Koppel a fifteen-month suspended sentence.

At the 1980 trial of Margot Gordon in Paris, her lawyer, Philippe le Bouanger, argued similarly that his client had been coerced into smuggling cannabis out of India by the Rajneesh "sect." He alleged that, in order to persuade her to carry the drugs, Gordon had been subjected to three sessions of two hours apiece in a "serenity tank" (a darkened, soundless sensory-deprivation tank filled with warm salt water at body temperature) at the ashram, a treatment he described as "a Nazi-style torture designed to brainwash the victim." Gordon

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was given an eight-month jail sentence and an additional sixteen-month suspended sentence and was fined £10,000.

During the same period of time, the last six months of 1979, numerous sannyasins were arrested at European and Canadian airports for drug smuggling, including two other arrests at the Paris airport for cannabis smuggling and an arrest at Heathrow airport in December 1979 for heroin smuggling. There have been no arrests known to *Oregon Magazine*, of Rajneesh followers for involvement in international drug-trafficking since then.

—Win McCormack

CHECKPOINT

continued from page 29

Says the manual: "Red is an emergency channel. . . 'O' is always on red and sometimes monitors all channels." "O" appears to be the code name for control central.

A special section of the manuals entitled "Bad Buys" lists license plates that should be reported on the red channel. According to the manuals, all government inspectors and investigators require special attention, particularly Tom Casey of the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service. Codes for such government intruders are "9-20" and "9-21."

Separate pages of the manuals, highlighted in blue and green ink, list special

codes and procedures to be used if Casey is seen approaching the ranch. Casey has been investigating the Rajneeshes for more than two years for possible criminal violations of U.S. immigration laws.

At the bottom of one page is the warning: "Better wrong than sorry."

Overall the manuals give the distinct impression that the supposedly "open" city of Rajneeshpuram is not very open at all. The manuals state: "On-

"I am preparing you for something of which you cannot even dream."

Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh

ly the Post Office, shops, and restaurants in the Mall and at Buddagoshia . . . are open to the public without day passes or armbands." The road to Rajneeshpuram's City Hall, open to the public on a limited basis during the day, becomes a private road at night, the manuals say.

In fact, most of the city of Rajneeshpuram and all of the unincorporated area of Rancho Rajneesh is private property, and in order to enter those areas visitors must consent to a thorough search. Instructions for such searches read: "Luggage and handbags need to be searched for matches, incense, candles, drugs, fire-

arms, meat, fish, explosive devices, and ranch mail. . . Ranch mail should be held here to be delivered to Nanak."

Thinking of vacationing at the ranch hotel? Think twice. The manuals stipulate: "The Hotel is open to the public 24 hours a day legally. So officially we can't refuse anyone, sannyasin or not. But non-sannyasins try to discourage . . . say the road is dangerous in the dark, best to go to Madras."

The Rajneesh security forces consist of ten full-time and thirty-five part-time police officers. This Rajneesh "Peace Force" is sanctioned officially by the state of Oregon. The force works in cooperation with a 127-member private Rajneesh security force. These forces are now armed with a variety of weapons, including semi-automatic assault weapons such as CAR-15s and Uzi Model Bs, both of which can be easily converted into fully automatic machine guns.

Rajneesh spokespeople say both the Rajneesh Peace Force and Rajneesh private security force operate in Antelope, because they are needed to protect Rajneesh residents and their property from alleged threats of violence. The Rajneesh Peace Force has been operating in the town since the Rajneesh-dominated Antelope City Council contracted with them for police protection late last fall.

Rajneeshes in private, commune-

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- 7. Prizes:** Birell is so superior it has won the Grand Prix in the Monde Selection in Paris, 1982, and the Gold Medal in Vienna, 1980.



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owned vehicles have patrolled in Antelope since the group first purchased property there in August 1981. From the beginning, pre-Rajneesh Antelopes have complained of the Rajneesh patrols watching them and their houses and photographing them.

Tension in the town between the Rajneeshes and non-Rajneeshes escalated last year when former Mayor Margaret Hill and several other non-Rajneesh local residents travelled to Salem for a meeting with Attorney General Dave Frohnmayer. After the meeting, according to non-Rajneesh Antelope residents, the Rajneesh security patrol stationed a manned vehicle outside Margaret Hill's house almost twenty-four hours a day for three months.

On November 1, local resident Jim Opray picketed the Zorba the Buddha restaurant in Antelope for thirteen straight hours with a sign that read: "UNFAIR TO ANTELOPE RESIDENTS—PATROL CAR HARASSMENT." Chief Rajneesh attorney Swami Prem Niren threatened Opray with civil legal action. Three weeks after his threat, the Antelope City Council contracted with the Rajneeshpuram Peace Force to provide a one-person, twelve-hour-a-day patrol in Antelope. (The contract has since been amended to provide a two-man patrol.)

Opray frequently picketed in Antelope throughout the first six months of this year, sometimes joined by other local residents. On June 16, four Rajneeshpuram city police officers entered Opray's house in Antelope and arrested him. The Oprays recall the officers claimed they had permission from county District Attorney Bernie Smith. They drove Opray to the county jail in The Dalles, seventy-five miles away, and charged him with "menacing."

District Attorney Smith says that the Rajneesh police had "no authority whatsoever to go into Opray's house." He dismissed the Rajneesh police's charge against Opray, calling it "ridiculous."

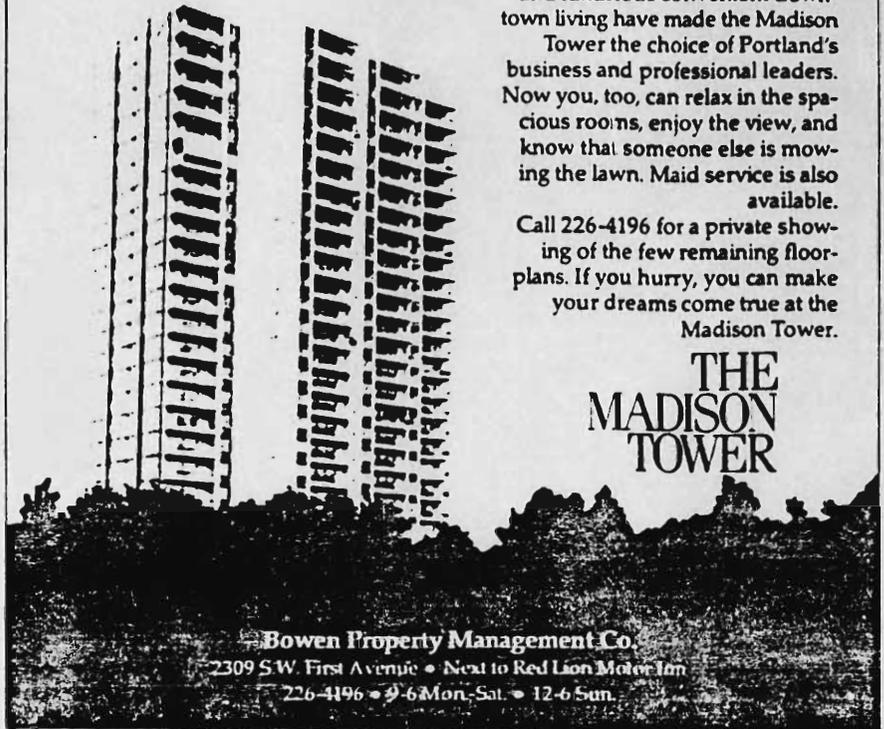
Pre-Rajneesh Antelopes complain of the sizable tax burden that the city council's contract with the peace force has imposed on a town with virtually no history of crime. (Total taxes in Antelope have more than tripled, to \$35-40 per \$1000 of assessed valuation, since the Rajneeshes took control of the City Council.) Residents also say that the arrest of Opray is only the most blatant example of how the Rajneesh police patrol in Antelope is used to intimidate them.

Says former Mayor Margaret Hill: "We live in a police state."

—Bill Driver and Win McCormack

Win McCormack is Editor-in-Chief of Oregon Magazine. Bill Driver is a local freelance writer who has covered the Rajneesh story for a variety of media. Driver received two awards this year from the Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association.

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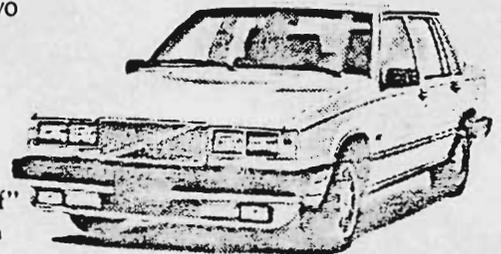
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