

Swami Thomas Stone
Rajneeshpuram, Ar. 977

July 24, 1983

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing you about the case of Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh and my concern for his staying in this country.

If Bhagwan leaves the United States, my life here will be less.

I graduated from Indiana University in 1973 Phi Beta Kappa and with honors from the Political Science Department. In all my studies and subsequent years of searching, I was looking for a vision and a practical way of helping bring humanity to a higher level of understanding and realization of its potential. In 1980 when I met Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh I found the answers to many questions I had been asking (asking ardently) for over ten years.

EXHIBIT "A-1451"

• Upon Rajesh's coming to America in 1981 and then the beginnings of a true spiritual Commune at Rajneeshpuram, Oregon, I saw, in a very practical way, the realization of a vision that I had always felt was possible: - a group of people working & living together very peacefully and honestly and yet whose goal was the development of the potential of each individual.

I now am one of the individuals living in this Commune, and, for me, Bhagwan's presence here is vital to the life of this Commune - where his teachings and our potentials are being brought to realization.

In the great American tradition, this Commune under the spiritual guidance of Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh, is the place where I most fully find expressed my right to "life, liberty, and the Pursuit of happiness." While I feel no anger toward those who, in their misunderstanding, are trying to oust this most valuable man from the U.S., I will do my utmost to defend

my right to live the way I choose and to keep Rajneesh in this country. His presence here is of vital importance to deepening my understanding of the human condition and to the realizing of a beautiful vision.

It is this man, Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh, that answered many questions for me that school and travelling could not. With his continued presence here, I think the world will see at Rajneeshpuram, Oregon a glowing example of a socio-economic unit that is based on love and freedom - a much needed alternative in a world so stifled with greed, ambition, and violence.

In these war torn times, America (or any country) should be happy that a man of Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh's calibre - a man of true vision and concern for the upliftment of humanity - wishes to reside in our country.

Sincerely,
 Sw. Thomas S.T.