

6970 Brace Street
Houston, TX 77061

To Whom It May Concern

Please accept my request that all and full rights and priveleges be accorded to Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh accorded to anyone else seeking admittance to the USA. There can be no question of his status as a religious leader with thousands of followers both here and abroad.

It is hard to understand our acceptance of Cuban (released prisoners, undesirables, anti-US, & Communist)immigrants and to deny admittance to those who come to promote and support our democratic ideæls.

It is hard to understand our acceptance of those who come and live on welfare; and deny those who come not only self-sufficient--but adding to our economy millions of dollars in building an agri-community and a prosperours city as well.

It is hard to understand official denial in this case when many native Oregonian neighbors who have visited the ranch find the hard work and creative techniques of farming and ranching to be nothing short of a miraculous transformation of some of the most wasted, arid, barren land into an unbelievable oasis of truck-farm produce, wheat, grapes, trees, dairy and chicken farm, etc. Unbelievable! What a refreshing congribution to our country to see demonstrated a successful farm and ranch under the most adverse conditions.

Also, unbelievably, the Rajneesh have built lakes and check dams to provide water; have initiated successful business enterprises; and all in an unbelievably short time. I have visited with residents of Madras, Portland, Vancouver WA, and others who support the Rajneesh endeavor as a boon to Oregon.

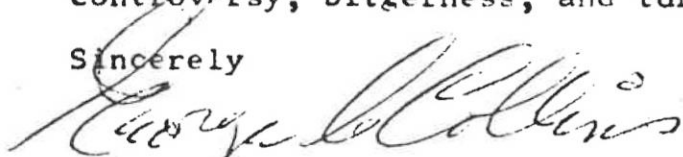
Though our own background and beliefs are founded in the Christian religion, we have two sons who have accepted Bhagwan's philosophy and a daughter-in-law who has been a folower for over ten years--all three living in Rajneeshpuram.

We visited the ranch for three days in August of 1982 and find everything about the life style and conduct of the Rajneesh to be wholesome, positive, and refreshing. Everyone who is living and working in the commune are doing so because that is what they want most to do and take much pride in the accomplishments of their hard work. Few communities can claim such trouble free, crime free, self supporting citizenry.

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Again may I encourage all those in official positions to speed the granting of Bhagwan's VISA. Not only is this the right thing to do; but the sooner it is done, the sooner the controversy, bitterness, and turmoil over it can and will cease.

Sincerely



George L. Collins

retired UH professor, School of Communication,
University of Houston

20 July 1983

PS. Please pardon typing errors on borrowed campground typewriter.
We are on vacation. Thanks.

I recommend permanent resident status!