



STATE OF OREGON

INTEROFFICE MEMO

*file
10/19*

TO: Gerry Thompson

DATE: October 19, 1983

FROM: Bob Oliver *BO*

SUBJECT: Rajneesh

Attached is a memorandum received this morning from Colonel Pankratz, regarding a strange development in Medford which may have some bearing on the Rajneeshpuram issues. Also attached is a memorandum of my conversation with Jayananda on the evening of October 18.

The allegation that Sheela is "keeping the Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh in a drug-induced stupor" is interesting. In a memo to Governor Atiyeh on March 23, 1983, following my visit to Rajneeshpuram, on page 5 I made the following observation: "We were told the Bhagwan's health forced him to leave India, and he came to Central Oregon so that he could be away from pollution and consume more natural foods. Based on what they said, and numerous subjective impressions including his lapse into silence, Judy has hypothesized that the Bhagwan may have 'slipped a cog' -- and that his isolation and silence is encouraged by his senior followers to preserve his image as a great master. On the other hand, Bob Davis met with the Bhagwan a few months ago when preparing to terminate his employment. Bob says the Bhagwan is one of the best-read and most articulate individuals he ever met, although quite naive about wordly matters going on around him."

Rumors about the role of drugs in the movement already were current last March when Judy and I visited the ranch, so evidence of their presence was among a number of things we were looking for. Judy has had considerable experience in her work dealing with persons who have abused drugs, and is familiar with the behavioral and physical evidences of drug abuse. We saw no such evidence during our stay. At the same time, as indicated in the memorandum of last March, ours was a highly structured visit and our contacts were strictly limited to senior members of the group. It would be naive to draw any conclusions from that sampling about the behavior of the group at large.

cc: Colonel Pankratz