

MEMORANDUM

OREGON STATE POLICE

XX/XX, Bend Sept. 18, 1984

To: Mr. John C. Williams, Superintendent From: K. L. Lamkin, Major

Reference: MEETING WITH CONCERNED LEGISLATORS

On September 7, 1984, a meeting was held at Madras, Oregon with Representative Bill Bellamy. Also attending that meeting was Jefferson County District Attorney Michael Sullivan, Jefferson County Judge Herschel Read, and Captain E. Noland.

Representative Bellamy was very concerned about the Rajneesh importing street people from throughout the United States to live at Rajneeshpuram and possibly later in Antelope. His concerns were two-fold; one being the safety of the residents in the surrounding counties and the second being the possibility of these people being used by the Rajneesh to control voting in Jefferson and Wasco Counties. Representative Bellamy felt we should have far more patrol coverage in the Antelope area and that a State Police Post should be activated in Antelope. He was assured that we were aware of the problem and increased patrols had already been implemented. He was also advised that we did not believe there was any immediate problem in Antelope, although after additional housing, already being constructed in Antelope, was completed and should a rumored 1,000 plus of either Rajneesh or street people be moved in, some changes in our area of coverage may very well have to be made. But, in any event, we would continue to monitor the problem and increase or decrease our area coverage as necessary, to protect people and property.

On September 11, 1984, Jefferson County District Attorney Michael Sullivan, Captain E. Noland, Lieutenant Thiess, First Sergeant Wiese, and the writer contacted Peace Force officials at Antelope. At that time the site within the city limits being prepared for the construction of a man-camp was viewed. The man-camp was purchased from a mining concern in Idaho and is reported to be large enough to house from 600 to 800 persons. Neither the Rajneesh site engineers nor the Peace Force officials would shed any light on how many persons would be housed in the man-camp, when it would be completed or who would occupy it. The Peace Force officials would not comment on the information of an Antelope Police Department being formed, other than to say any information would have to come from Antelope City officials. AT 10:59 a.m., contact was made at Rajneeshpuram Peace Force Headquarters with the Chief, Ma Deva Markha, and her assistant, Ma Dhiresha. Neither had any information concerning the Antelope Police Department's projected size, funding, or when it would be formed. They also had no information concerning the building program in Antelope. Ma Barkha indicated she had not been consulted regarding the importation of street people and it was a matter of concern to her and members of the Peace Force. They related that there had been some incidents with the street people, one being a fight between two blacks from North Carolina, after which time they were returned via Portland. Another incident related to us involved a woman from Berkley, California, who, after arrival, refused to comply to a rule that all street people wear a white band on their right wrist until their quarantine was over. They described her as crazy and indicated force had to be used to subdue her. She allegedly refused to wear the white band. When told she would have to leave, refused, indicating they had invited her and she was going to hold them to it. She was later transported to Portland where she was released to return to Berkley, California. Further information concerning this incident is that this woman contacted a Portland attorney and upon request of the Wasco County District Attorney, one of our Portland members took a statement from her.

We were permitted to talk with a small group of the street people on the main street of Rajneeshpuram. All were chosen by the Rajneesh and talked very highly of the program. One of these appeared to be retarded, whose name is "Dobbie" from Portland, Oregon. Another was a colored male and his white wife from Washington, D.C., who indicated he was a journeyman electrician and she a housewife. Two other colored males were from Washington, D.C., and were break dancers. All in all, it was quite a show. A later discussion with Ma Anand Sheela, Ma Yoga Vidya (President of Rajneesh Neo-Sannyas International Commune), Ma Barkha and her assistant, Ma Dhiresha, was uninformative. Ma Sheela stated they would continue to receive the beautiful street people until they could hold no more. As none of the Antelope officials were present, no information concerning the soon to be organized police force was available. All denied any intention of importation of the street people for political purposes. They would only indicate it was one of their humanitarian grants to help and share with others. Also indicated there was no time limit being placed on the street people's stay; they could stay as long as they liked. No one would definitely say they these people would be housed in Antelope, but indicated it would possibly be a mixture of street people and those who will be living on the ranch for \$250.00 per month for the purpose of trying out their way of life. Between the two, as many as 3,000 to 3,500 could be added to the approximate 1,700 permanent residents. One interesting fact was learned from Ma Barkha, that being that on the morning of our arrival, the commune had called a meeting of all residents and street people. The reason for this meeting had been to dispel the doubts of the commune residents about the street people. Apparently, this program is causing some internal problems.

As the Rajneesh Peace Force is unable to check criminal records through the system, they were advised that should they wish to submit the street people's fingerprints, we would check them out. No information would be returned unless the person was wanted and they only that information concerning the want. They stated that they thought this would be demeaning to the street people and therefore did not wish to do this at this time.

On September 12, 1984, a meeting was held at Grass Valley, Oregon, with Senator Jernstedt, Representative Fawbush, Jefferson County Sheriff Ham Perkins, Jefferson County District Attorney Michael Sullivan, Captain E. Noland, Lieutenant Thiess, and the writer. The same fears were voiced by these legislators that Representative Bellamy voiced. Representative Fawbush was very concerned with the voting of the Rajneesh and the impact of the street people on the vote. Patrol strength and the possible impact of up to 3,500 new Antelope residents was discussed. Senator Jernstedt, although very concerned, was far more supportive of our operations, whereas Representative Fawbush had a tendency to be very demanding concerning our police role within a city. He advocates that we should take over when non-Rajneesh are involved. The same assurances of State Police services were made to both legislators as were made to Representative Bellamy.

The Rajneesh are preparing a site for at least one man-camp at this time and information that a second has been purchased in Tennessee had been received via a truck driver who indicated his company lost the transport bid. Should the Antelope population be increased by 1,000 to 3,500, it would take a sizeable city police force. Should some of these new residents be the street people who are mainly colored or Puerto Rican, we will also be required to increase our patrol strength accordingly. In fact, the remoteness of the area could very well require a Post or at the very least, increased personnel at the Madras and The Dalles to protect the local ranchers.

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From all indications and discussions with Antelope non-Rajneesh residents, there will be none of them residing there by Spring. It should also be noted that the Peace Force is very uneasy about the street people and if past performance is any indication, they will not be able to maintain control should the street people become restless and begin to cause problems.



K. L. Lamkin, Major

KLL/kv

cc: To Lieutenant Russell R. Thiess
To Lieutenant H. Cofer