



STATE OF OREGON

INTEROFFICE MEMO

Governor

DATE: September 27, 1984

FROM: Gerry Thompson

SUBJECT: Rajneesh

Contrary to the agreement made yesterday with federal agencies that none of us would discuss the content of the meeting or those in attendance, Dave Frohnmayer had a press conference this morning regarding the Rajneesh situation.

We still refuse to reveal the identity of the federal agencies in attendance. This is important to both you as Governor and John Williams as superintendant of State Police. The federal agencies want to protect their identity and their involvement. for fear that if their involvement is known, chances of investigation and followup on complaints will be diminished. Everyone has held to this agreement to this point except some knowledge that has been printed in the paper which probably is just a guess.

In Dave's conference he openly discussed the issues that were discussed with the federal agencies. Those issues are:

Concern for the street people and problems they may cause government and local residents.

Public safety concerns.

Reports of weapons within the ranch.

Protection of the elections process integrity.

Possibility of a rumor control center awaiting your review.

Broad general vague discussion of pending litigation, i.e., Bahgwan's residency and Rajneesh as a city.

A review of the ability to respond to any emergency.

Frohnmayer's response to the discussions of the threat of physical violence was basically handed off. Frohnmayer indicated he did not want to speak about it publicly because it only helps to fuel tempers and emotions. Frohnmayer refused to discuss worst case scenario, but did admit it had been reviewed.



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Press is eager to get an answer to what we are going to do with street people who will be dumped in the area. That is one of the discussions that will occur with you tomorrow.

Frohnmayr, when asked if he felt in control of the situation, indicated he did from his department's perspective.

Who initiated the meeting: answer was Attorney General's office in conjunction with the Governor's office.

Is the Governor aware of the meeting: yes.

When asked if the Governor was going to be meeting with him: yes, at the earliest opportunity.

Questions of disarming the Rajneesh are becoming more prevalent. Standard answer has been that they, the peace officers, were legally certified by the BPST before the litigation was sought. The law allows police to have certain weapons that citizens may not have.

Asked if he felt Governor should visit Wasco County to bring calm. Frohnmayr answered he guessed it would help. The real answer should be it is not just Wasco County -- the entire population of the state of Oregon is concerned, but of course Wasco County has become more tense than others. Considerable attention being paid to Wasco and Jefferson Counties through increased state police patrols, district attorney's involvement and of course, our constant communications within and without the ranch.