

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

TITLE		FILE NUMBER
RAJNEESH MEDITATION FOUNDATION		POO 50/88
REPORT MADE AT	DATE	BY
Portland, Oregon	October 19, 1988	Thomas A. Casey, Principal Investigator

SYNOPSIS

Information gathered to date strongly indicates that RAJNEESH, SHEELA SILVERMAN, and other RFI members conspired to secure RAJNEESH'S admission to the United States as a nonimmigrant visitor by fraud. In the same fashion SILVERMAN determined to style RFI a religion for the purpose of gaining First Amendment protection, tax exemption, and immigration benefits. The RFI pattern of marriages of convenience has been carried over from India to the United States for such purposes as suited RFI. Legitimate inquiry into the nature and goals of RFI, from the Service or any other source, are characterized by RFI as religious bigotry and persecution.

Substantiation of the information in hand would result in RAJNEESH, SHEELA SILVERMAN, and key members of RFI being amenable to both criminal prosecution and administrative action. The same would apply to numerous other participants in fraud marriages.



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DETAILS

SOURCES P-10 and P-11 advised on May 11, 1982, that they had traveled to the Muddy Ranch earlier that year. They stated that while there, they were told by ASHA SIPUS that RAJNEESH was to be publicly characterized as a "guest" of the Rajneesh Foundation International (RFI). SIPUS, who was at that time a vice president of RFI, conceded that such a statement was ridiculous and that RAJNEESH intended to remain in the United States but insisted that that fact had to be kept quiet.

The same SOURCE stated that a MARGE WRIGHT, also known as SUVIRO, had advised them that she had assisted SHEELA SILVERMAN to smuggle two million dollars into the United States in 1982. Her husband, DR. ROBERT M. WRIGHT, also known as SWAMI SAGAKESH, had also written a letter concerning RAJNEESH'S alleged allergies on behalf of RAJNEESH to the Service. Both are United States citizens residing in Carmel, California. United States Customs has been advised of the details.

SOURCES P-10 and P-11 also stated that in November 1982, a disaffected RFI disciple, GAIL WAINWRIGHT, also known as MA AVINO, advised them that RFI engaged in what she called "dirty tricks," such as creating documents to meet their needs and the concealment or destruction of potentially embarrassing ones. She stated that PHILIP TOELKES, also known as SWAMI PREM NIKEN, had told her that he had engaged in illegal acts regarding voter registration, lawsuits, and immigration laws and that if caught, could go to jail for them.

(INVESTIGATOR'S NOTE: TOELKES is an attorney and RFI disciple, engaged in representing RAJNEESH and RFI interests in extensive litigation at various levels, including with the Service. He is also married to one ISABEL D'ETIGY, also known as MA PREM ISABEL, another RFI disciple. The bona fides of that marriage are under inquiry as are many others.)

SOURCES P-10 and P-11 also advised that a DEBRA OLSEN, a United States citizen, had dealt with RFI, offering them her alleged expertise in political circles. They stated that OLSEN had a tendency to dabble in politics and movements.

On December 22, 1982, SOURCE P-13 advised that from a strictly medical standpoint many aspects of RAJNEESH'S health problems, as set forth in documents submitted to the Service by RFI, were questionable. It was felt that the alleged problems were poorly documented and that the admitted failure of RAJNEESH to seek or undergo any outside medical attention in the United States after arrival was highly unusual from a medical point of view. It was also observed

that with the exception of DR. JAMES CYRIAX, all the physicians involved in the case were either Indians or disciples of RAJNEESH.

(INVESTIGATOR'S NOTE: It may be worthy of notice that SARASWATABAI JAIN, RAJNEESH'S mother, prior to coming to the United States in December 1982, made no mention of a cardiac problem. Once in the United States, she and RFI claimed it was of a life-endangering nature and sought diagnosis and documentation from non-affiliated physicians in the United States. RAJNEESH, on the other hand, is not known to have been examined by any non-disciple physician other than an authorized civil surgeon, since his arrival. The purpose of that examination was in connection with his adjustment of status proceedings only.)

On December 7, 1982, SOURCE P-14 advised that one RONALD FRED FISHMAN, also known as SWAMI ANATOSH MANGLAN, a United States citizen, had come to their attention. It was learned that FISHMAN, arrested and convicted of two violations of 18 USC 1542, passport fraud in San Francisco, California, in April 1982, had links with RFI. In his possession when arrested were names and telephone numbers of key RFI members and detailed directions to the ranch. Inquiries conducted had revealed that FISHMAN not only made extensive use of false identities himself but was strongly suspected of brokering them to others. Associates of FISHMAN advised that he was a RAJNEESH disciple and had traveled to an RFI meeting in New Jersey in August 1981. His purpose in traveling there is presently unknown. FISHMAN remains on parole in Arizona at this time.

On December 14, 1982, SOURCE P-15 provided a document titled "coordinator's notes," which he advised had been obtained from RFI sources. The document, later publicly acknowledged as such by RFI, referred to RAJNEESH'S willingness to break his self-imposed silence to raise money if necessary, RFI'S readiness to sue persons for alleged defamation, and concern that any illegal activity on the part of disciples might reflect adversely on RAJNEESH'S immigration case.

On December 20, 1982, DEBRA OLSEN initiated contact with the writer stating that she was an ex-disciple and wished to assist the Service, claiming that RAJNEESH and RFI were "the ultimate scam." She cited her experience, alleging that RFI and particularly SHEELA SILVERMAN had attempted to obtain her car, house, and jewelry as "donations." She claimed to have intimate knowledge of RFI workings stemming from a series of dealings with RFI. She stated that in June or July of 1981, RFI had paid her expenses and flown her to New Jersey to meet with RAJNEESH. The purpose of the meeting

was to enlist her aid in seeking permanent residence for RAJNEESH, preferably without any interview by the Service. She indicated that her attempts to assist were largely in the area of letter writing by herself and her boyfriend, SOL WEST III.

OLSEN stated that disciple or sannyasin marriages were also fraudulent and claimed that she had overheard SHEELA SILVERMAN arranging marriages in four cases. She declined to name the persons involved. She also stated that RFI had sent a number of aliens to her home in Los Angeles in July 1982, to conceal them from the Service. She similarly declined to name those persons or provide further details.

On January 24, 1983, OLSEN again called writer, asking numerous leading questions as to what the Service's intentions and plans were regarding RAJNEESH. Writer allowed OLSEN to pursue her line of inquiry, responding with vague and inconclusive answers.

(INVESTIGATOR'S NOTE: The above call, witnessed and detailed in a separate memorandum to the file, was felt to be an effort to draw forth information useful to RFI and possibly damaging to the Service.)

On December 21, 1982, the District Director at Portland, Oregon, denied RAJNEESH'S third preference petition as a minister of religion and his request for adjustment of status. The basis of the denial was RAJNEESH'S apparent failure to carry out the duties as specified in the RFI petition for the previous two years, as is required in the Act. The adjustment of status denial was made on the basis of perceived false and misleading statements made by RAJNEESH and RFI hierarchy at the time of his application for his nonimmigrant visa in Bombay.

On December 27, 1982, a CHRISTOPHER COOMBS, a United States citizen, initiated the first of a series of calls from Los Angeles. He indicated that he and two other United States citizens, STEVEN SOBEL and GARY GOLDMAN, had been hired by RFI to provide armed security for the 1982 RFI festival in Oregon. Arrangements were made for COOMBS and GOLDMAN to be interviewed by the Service in Los Angeles, at which time they were unable or unwilling to provide any information of value to this or any other agency. Describing themselves as mercenaries, they offered to gather and provide such information as desired to the Service. The offer was declined and the two advised that such information as they had would be accepted by the Service in a legitimate manner. COOMBS has remained in contact and relayed minor bits of information from time to time.

(INVESTIGATOR'S NOTE: It has been established that both COOMES and GOLDMAN were arrested and convicted in Concord, California, in 1982 for criminal conspiracy to commit extortion. The incident arose in connection with an attempt to collect an alleged "debt" by intimidation. It was also learned that GOLDMAN was involved in the abortive GRITZ expedition to Laos in February 1983, and arrested in Thailand. He thereafter returned to the United States. The Service has had no further contact with him.)

On December 28, an anonymous caller claiming to be an ex-disciple advised that United States citizen women were being urged by RFI officials to marry aliens in order to keep alien disciples in the United States. He stated that his knowledge was based on his experiences in the Poona ashram and presence at the ranch for seven months. Although his further cooperation was sought, nothing further was obtained from him.

On the same date, SOURCE P-16 advised that her husband, an RFI disciple, had received a letter from one DAVID HENDRICKS, also known as MADYAPA also known as ANAND DAVID, a United States citizen. The letter, dateline December 10, 1982, from "Kajneeshpuram, Oregon," requested that HENDRICKS and his alien spouse ELIDA FLORES DE HENDRICKS be allowed to use SOURCE P-16's address in Texas as a claimed residence. HENDRICKS stated in his letter that the purpose was to avoid difficulties with the Service. Inquiry was undertaken. The relating file is A24 811 559.

On January 6, 1983, SOURCE P-17 advised that she was familiar with RFI from having visited the Poona ashram in 1979 to investigate allegations of deaths and child abuse there. She stated that in addition, she was familiar with India, its language, and its customs inasmuch as she had been born and raised in India. She provided a lengthy sworn statement, which is incorporated in the subject file. She also advised that she was acquainted with the case of one GAY WALKER, a native and citizen of the United Kingdom, an RFI disciple. She stated that in October 1982, in London, England, WALKER had sought their advice and assistance in marrying any United States citizen she could find in order to immigrate to the United States and be near RAJNEESH.

SOURCE P-17 stated that she was also acquainted with one SHARON HANCOCK, a native and citizen of the United Kingdom. She advised that she knew HANCOCK from her 1979 trip to Poona, where HANCOCK had been a "medium" at the ashram. She stated that she encountered HANCOCK and her new United States citizen spouse, JOHN ARTHUR HANCOCK, in the waiting room at the Service office in Los Angeles, California, in June 1982, at which time she recognized HANCOCK and greeted her. She stated that she then observed HANCOCK's "mala"

tucked inside her clothing and inquired as to why.

(INVESTIGATOR'S NOTE: A "mala" is a brown necklace containing 108 wooden beads and bearing a wooden locket with a photo of RAJNEESH visible on it. On June 4, 1982, writer specifically asked SHEELA SILVERMAN, president of the RFI and personal secretary to RAJNEESH, if there were any circumstances, including dealings with the Service, which would result in a disciple's concealment or removal of a mala. She stated that there were no circumstances that would justify such an act and that the mala was to be openly worn at all times.)

SOURCE P-17 stated that HANCOCK was wearing brownish clothing and admitted to her that she was concealing both her mala and her RFI affiliation from the Service. HANCOCK is also reported to have admitted to SOURCE P-17 that many United States citizens had married aliens to facilitate their admission and immigration to the United States. The file relating to HANCOCK is A24 900 290; the bona fides of this marriage are presently under inquiry.

SOURCE P-17 further advised that a SALLY BELFRAGE, author of the book Flowers of Emptiness which deals with her RAJNEESH related experiences, had told her in London in 1982 of her involvement in visa frauds. BELFRAGE allegedly advised that numerous disciple acquaintances of hers had borrowed plain clothes in order to apply for United States visas in other than red or orange clothing. BELFRAGE stated that this was done to conceal their RFI affiliation. She further stated that numerous disciples married United States citizens in order to remain in the United States and near RAJNEESH. The above remarks were taped, filmed, and transcribed. When subsequently contacted by the visa section of the Embassy in London, BELFRAGE denied them and declined to be interviewed concerning them.

SOURCE P-18 advised on January 7, 1983, that he had spent several months at the Poona ashram in 1979, during which time he became a disciple. He stated that upon close scrutiny, he became alarmed at the effects RFI participation had on people and remained within the ashram for the purpose of studying and documenting what he saw. In addition to providing detailed information as to the organization, dynamics, and personalities of RFI, he advised that violation of immigration and other laws was commonplace. He stated that he had been encouraged by MAKIA KORTENHORST, also known as ARUP, to obtain extensions of stay illegally through corrupt Indian officials. He further advised that he had learned of two alien disciples named PRANGEET and PAULA who had engaged in fraud marriages in the United States to remain.

SOURCE P-18 also provided a number of documents from his 1979 stay in Poona. Among them was an official RFI document which suggested to prospective visitors that they engage in subterfuge to gain entry to India. It specifically cautioned that no references should be made to RAJNEESH or RFI by the visitor as entry refusals were likely to result.

On January 11, 1983, the District Director at Portland, Oregon, announced that the decisions to deny RAJNEESH'S visa petition and request for adjustment of status would be vacated as procedural errors might exist. RFI was allowed an opportunity to examine certain evidence to present rebuttal evidence if it chose to do so. Rebuttal material was submitted in full on August 4, 1983. It is presently being reviewed and a decision will be forthcoming.

On January 14, 1983, SOURCE P-19 was contacted. He advised that he had been the foreman of the Muddy Ranch prior to, during, and after its purchase by RFI. He stated that he had been employed by RFI until his break with them over wages owed on January 5, 1983. He stated that the purchase was made by SHEELA SILVERMAN on the basis of a trip by her to the ranch on June 10, 1981. At that time she was accompanied by JOHN SHELFER, also known as JAYANANDA. Both wore red clothing and malas and gave evasive answers about their meaning. SILVERMAN was likewise vague about her intentions with the property. After subsequent review of the purchase agreement by one BIPPIN PATEL, purchase of the ranch was finalized on July 10, 1981.

(INVESTIGATOR'S NOTE: BIPPIN PATEL, a naturalized United States citizen, is the brother of SHEELA SILVERMAN. His relating file number is A14 512 443.)

SOURCE P-19 stated that as of July 10, approximately 57 RFI disciples were present on the ranch, only three of whom appeared to be aliens. He stated that numbers of aliens began arriving at the ranch in November of 1981, ostensibly to visit but in reality to work long, hard hours. He stated that these individuals, whom he named, had been selected for their skills and were prohibited from leaving the ranch in order to maintain a low profile.

SOURCE P-19 stated that RFI officials; such as MA YOGA VIDYA, also known as PHYLLIS ANN MCCARTHY; MA PREM ARUP, also known as MARIA KORTENHORST; and MA PREM KARUNA, also known as WENDY WYATT, were engaged in orchestrating the marriages of persons deemed useful to RFI to United States citizens.

(INVESTIGATOR'S NOTE: VIDYA is not fully identified but believed to be a native and citizen of South Africa; ARUP is a ranking member of the RFI hierarchy and presently herself seeking

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adjustment of status through her recent marriage to a United States citizen. File A26 707 905 relates to her. KARUNA is a United States citizen and the present mayor of Antelope, Oregon.)

SOURCE P-19 stated that such marriages were arranged on the basis of matching personal qualifications index cards of individuals to achieve the results desired. He elaborated by stating that KARUNA had briefed disciples in his presence on the ranch in July or August of 1982. According to him, KARUNA would coach the disciples as to the proper answers to give to the Service. SOURCE P-19 stated that he and SOURCE P-20 assisted the process, in one case helping a disciple fabricate a story as to how he happened to meet his spouse. The alien in that particular case was one JOSEF DICK, also known as ALOK, a native and citizen of Germany.

SOURCES P-19 and P-20 stated that the fraudulence of disciple marriages was patently obvious and that a common joke on the ranch was that if the Service ever became aware of the fraud marriages it would take years to unravel them. They stated that "almost all" the married couples they talked to admitted the fraudulence of their marriages by way of confirming the obvious. They stated that the marriages had taken place throughout the United States and Europe and that between three and five hundred such marriages had been arranged.

SOURCE P-21 also advised that she had worked in the RFI records section, called "Hakim Sanai," in a building named "Zarathustra" in 1982. She stated that RFI kept detailed records of all disciples, both on and off the ranch. She stated that the records of aliens were kept separately from those of citizens to facilitate matching them. She did not, however, see any such matching done. She stated that she had sent such cards to "Jesus Grove," SHEELA SILVERMAN'S quarters, on request.

In response to a question, SOURCE P-19 stated that vague or evasive answers such as given to the Service on June 4, 1982, when the whereabouts of 80 aliens were sought, would be lies. He advised that during the time he was there, an inquiry to Hakim Sanai would establish the presence and location of a given individual within minutes.

SOURCE P-20 stated that in the summer of 1981 while at "Jesus Grove," she observed SHEELA SILVERMAN matching the names of United States citizens and aliens for the purpose of keeping the aliens at the ranch. Other key RFI personnel were present. She stated that the matchmaking decisions would then be announced, as all others, by SILVERMAN as those of RAJNEESH.

Both SOURCE P-19 and P-20 advised that the real or imagined presence of the Service on the ranch created a panic response on the part of RFI. They stated that in January 1982, JOHN SHELFER ordered that some 20 persons, all aliens, be taken to a remote part of the ranch because of such an alarm. SOURCE P-19 stated that he assisted the process. SOURCE P-20 stated that in May of 1982, a disciple named ROSALIE came to her residence and stated that the Service was believed to be on the ranch and that SHEELA SILVERMAN had ordered that all aliens remain behind locked doors. They provided other examples of extreme RFI sensitivity to the presence of the Service or any other governmental entity on the ranch.

SOURCE P-19 advised that he had observed disciples, including one DEVA PREM, enroute to marry an alien named JAYA, departing the ranch in plain clothing and without malas, with the apparent approval of "Jesus Grove." He also indicated that at least one disciple named TAPADANA had told him he had reentered the United States from Canada in plain clothes. He further stated that the distinctive RFI clothing was removed at other times when it was considered advantageous to do so.

SOURCE P-19 stated that he had witnessed RAJNEESH'S arrival at the ranch in August, 1981, and occasionally acted as a bodyguard for RAJNEESH. He advised that it was his observation that RAJNEESH walked slowly but gave no sign of experiencing difficulty or pain in movement. He stated further that he had seen RAJNEESH ride as a passenger in a four wheel drive vehicle on rough roads with no ill effects. He advised that he had seen RAJNEESH expose himself to a wide variety of smells and odors during his daily drive without effect and that RFI demonstrated little concern for his health in the absence of outside observers. He stated that the only medical care given RAJNEESH, that he was aware of, was the daily visit of DR. GEORGE MEREDITH, also known as DEVIRAJ, whom he described as a dentist.

(INVESTIGATOR'S NOTE: MEREDITH, a native and citizen of the United Kingdom, is presently an applicant for adjustment of status through marriage to a United States citizen. He is not a dentist. File A22 753 087 relates to him.)

SOURCES P-19 and P-20 provided lengthy sworn statements in January 1983, and will testify as required.

On January 18, 1983, SOURCE P-22 advised that in early 1982 while in France, she received a phone call from SHEELA SILVERMAN; VIDYA; and one IAN MURKAY CLARK, also known as SIDDHENA, requesting her to assist CLARK in his efforts to immigrate to the United States. SOURCE P-24 stated that

earlier, in 1978, she had married CLARK during her stay at the Poona ashram in India. The express purpose of her marriage was to facilitate her stay in India and resolve her own problems with the Indian immigration authorities. She stated that SILVERMAN asked her to travel from France to the United States at her own expense to petition for CLARK. SOURCE P-22 originally declined to do so and incurred SILVERMAN'S anger; SILVERMAN allegedly said that SOURCE P-22 had totally misunderstood RAJNEESH'S message and that RAJNEESH was disappointed in her.

SOURCE P-22 partially relented and did in fact file an immediate relative petition on behalf of CLARK in France, and he subsequently obtained an immigrant visa and entered the United States. SOURCE P-22 advised writer that at no time had she and CLARK been more than friends or intended to live as man and wife. She has since provided a sworn statement to the Service detailing her involvement.

In connection with the above, SOURCE P-22 also revealed that a companion, one PETER SCHOBEL, a native and citizen of Germany, had also engaged in a fraud marriage with yet another disciple. SCHOBEL stated that he had married at the urging of SILVERMAN in order to remain in the United States for RFI.

IAN MURRAY CLARK is a native and citizen of the United Kingdom; file A22 753 055 relates to him. SCHOBEL'S file is A26 346 834. Recission proceedings will be undertaken against CLARK; an Order to Show Cause has been issued against SCHOBEL in San Francisco.

On January 24, 1983, SOURCE P-23 advised that while a disciple, he had attended a dinner at the RFI "Geetam" center in Lucerne Valley, California. At the dinner, held in 1978, the marriage of a MA SUMIA and a SWAMI YOGANANDU was celebrated. The group was given to understand that the purpose of the marriage was to keep SUMIA in the United States.

SOURCE P-23 also advised that at a June 1981 meeting of RFI disciples in the Santa Cruz, California, center, a MA PREM CAYLE stated to a gathering that RAJNEESH wanted the disciples to get off welfare and not participate in fraud marriages. She indicated that such activities at that time could jeopardize RAJNEESH'S efforts to immigrate to the United States.

On January 25, 1983, the American consulate in Bombay, India, advised that many RFI disciples still in Poona declined to provide information concerning disciple marriages through fear of RFI retaliation. The consulate stated that the few who concented to discuss RFI marriage indicated that married couples seldom lived together and that the primary purpose of the marriages had been to obtain Indian residence permits. The consulate advised that from 1975 to 1981, some

180 foreigners there had married United Kingdom citizens; 56 of these were United States citizens.

On January 31, 1983, HARVIN PATTENAUE, a United States citizen and police officer recently employed by the "Rajneeshpuram Peace Force," was interviewed. At that time he stated his observations had been that during his employment on the ranch in late 1982, numerous persons with accents had been residing there. He expressed his belief that fraud marriages were occurring between United States citizen and alien disciples. Questioned as to his basis for so stating, he declined to provide details but stated only that he based it on his experience of RFI's tendency to employ double standards. He further advised that any Service presence near the ranch elicited considerable concern on the part of RFI.

PATTENAUE consented to give a sworn statement a few days later, in which he amplified the above comments slightly. He then stated that he felt the RFI marriages had been contracted for the purpose of evading the immigration laws. He stated that he had resigned from the "Peace Force" in resentment against what he felt to be RFI's determination to exercise complete control over the "Peace Force."

(INVESTIGATOR'S NOTE: The Service officers conducting the two interviews of PATTENAUE believe that he was not being completely candid and was withholding information.)

On January 26, 1983, an anonymous complaint was received in which the writer claimed that RFI launched a scheme in 1982 to facilitate the immigration to the United States of large numbers of disciples. The marriages were to take place in both the United States and Europe, and a \$1,000 fee charged by RFI for services rendered. The complainant alleged that RAJKEESH and SHEELA SILVERMAN were the authors of the plan.

Another anonymous complaint was received on February 1, 1983, advising that a number of disciple marriages were fraudulent. named as parties were DAVID KNAPP, a United States citizen and mayor of "Rajneeshpuram;" a German citizen named BRODIGHAKNA; MA ARAND KAHALA, a United States citizen; and a DEVAPREM, a United States citizen.

On February 18, 1983, an open letter from a group styling itself "The Wild Geese" and claiming to be comprised of past and present members of RFI was received at Portland, Oregon. Copies were also sent to a wide variety of other addressees dealing with RFI. The letter accused RFI of being an "orange mafia" and business conglomerate operating under the guise of a religion in order to establish a religious state. It accused RFI of avoiding taxes, falsifying records, intimidation of opponents, and large scale immigration fraud. The authorship is anonymous.

3, JOYCE SMITH was contacted at her post, Panama City, Panama, by telephone. She received to the effect that she might be in violation of her sworn statement of January 12, 1982, due to the circumstances of the issuance of her passport in Bombay, India. SMITH denied any changes in the document or her narrative. In the course of conversation that SHEELA TRIBE had visited her in Memphis, Tennessee during the holiday season of 1982-83.

NOTE: SILVERMAN and TRIBE had been previously involved in RFI efforts to obtain SMITH'S visa at Bombay and dealt with SMITH in the process.)

RYAN, United States citizen and former ranch hand, was contacted by telephone. He advised that SILVERMAN had called him in April or May 1982 regarding a possible purchase of the ranch. She learned of its availability through her father. The ranch was subsequently purchased for 5.75 million dollars. A down payment of 1.25 million dollars was made and payments were to be made over 10 years. RYAN disclaimed any detailed knowledge of the ranch and indicated that he remained in the United States.

SWAMI SHIVANURTI, called the writer and stated that he was privy to the initial plan to move to the United States. He stated that there had been a preconceived intent on the part of SILVERMAN to permanently relocate in the United States. He advised that he had been a bodyguard for ten years and RAJNEESH'S bodyguard for that time. He stated that his departure from India had been precipitated by RFI'S betrayal of his ideals. He claimed that since that time he had been branded a traitor who would bear the consequences if RAJNEESH had to leave the United States.

RAJNEESH'S back problem was largely a result of his June 1981 entry to the United States. SILVERMAN showed little concern to him or RFI by advising that 90 percent of all disciple immigration purposes only and that he had arranged marriages had been contracted in the United States. He stated that one such marriage was that of SABEL D'ETIGNY. He indicated that he had known SABEL well in the past and was in a position to help her.

had written to Stern magazine that he was severely criticized as a despot and the result of this, SUSHILA had admitted to membership in the RFI.

That JAMES CAROUBA, a man disciple he had known since he was an alien, IRMTRAUT CAROUBA also known as MAJESTIC, a bookkeeper. The writer stated that such marriage took place at the ranch, and that CAROUBA'S Naturalization Service application was fruitless. SOURCE P-24 advised that JAMES CAROUBA'S travel to the United States with IRMTRAUT CAROUBA during the summer of 1983.

JAMES CAROUBA had married IRMTRAUT CAROUBA on February 16, 1983, and the marriage was approved. The marriage was approved. The marriage was approved. Since that time IRMTRAUT CAROUBA, rather than JAMES CAROUBA, has been working on financial matters. During the course of the marriage, the name of the couple was changed to IRMTRAUT CAROUBA.

On July 24, 1983. She advised that RAJNEESH'S first Western trip was to the ashram in 1981. She stated that she had access to RAJNEESH'S files and was involved in making processes. The execution of the move was completed by July 24, 1983.

IRMAK, who came to the United States on the idea of an RFI, advised that SILVERMAN had promoted the idea with IRMAK. IRMAK had additional space had been provided on many levels, but did not alleviate those problems.

On July 7, 1981, SILVERMAN advised that he intended to return to the United States to help with the RFI.

RAJNEESH again. The other persons present are believed to be ARUP; VIDYA; and SAVITA, also known as SALLY ANNE CROFT.

(INVESTIGATOR'S NOTE: MA PREM SAVITA, also known as CROFT also known as RAMSEY, is a native and citizen of the United Kingdom and a chartered accountant. She claims to be the managing director of Rajneesh Services, Ltd. of London and the overseer of all financial matters for the RFI network of centers. She is presently seeking an adjustment of status through her marriage to a United States citizen, PHILIP ALSPACH, also known as SWAMI ANAND PRAGITAM, whom she married on February 8, 1983.)

SOURCE P-25 stated that on the following day, May 8, SILVERMAN indicated to the same group that RAJNEESH had been favorably impressed by her arguments and wished key RFI people to give him written evaluations of the merits of a move to the United States. SOURCE P-25 stated that this was done by the parties named, either in written or verbal form, and a consensus reached that such a move was desirable.

SOURCE P-25 advised that her first confirmation that such a move was actually underway was an offhand comment by RAJNEESH to her on or about May 10, 1981, that of course she knew that they were going to the United States. At the same time, he observed to her that "India was finished." SOURCE P-25, when asked how she knew that a permanent move to the United States was contemplated, stated that RAJNEESH for years had expressed a desire to build a large, permanent community of his own where he could do as he wished. She stated further that JOHN SHELFER had previously been bringing RAJNEESH real estate brochures from the United States featuring large tracts of land for sale.

SOURCE P-25 also stated that one ROSALIND SAMPSON, a local Indian citizen employee of the American consulate in Bombay, had been cultivated by SILVERMAN so she might assist RFI as needed. She advised that SAMPSON had made a number of trips to the Poona ashram, one being on a Sunday in mid-April 1981. She stated that at that time she witnessed SILVERMAN ask SAMPSON if RAJNEESH might be able to obtain an American visa as a minister of religion. SAMPSON allegedly replied that perhaps he could but that the process would be a time consuming one. SILVERMAN was then heard to respond that RAJNEESH could then use health reasons to obtain a visa to the United States.

SOURCE P-25 stated that on May 12, 1981, RAJNEESH told her to gather a work crew of 20 persons and proceed to the RFI center in Montclair, New Jersey, to prepare it for his arrival there. Another work crew was to follow shortly. SOURCE P-25, citing her previous experience traveling in the United States, expressed her opinion that aliens in the

group were liable to present difficulties in that context. According to her, RAJNEESH replied that they could then conduct the appropriate marriages as necessary.

SOURCE P-25 stated that she then gathered together the persons she felt she needed and polled them as to their citizenship, visas or lack thereof, and marital status. SILVERMAN thereafter selected the women to marry United States citizen men scheduled to travel in a May 14, 1981, group with SOURCE P-25. She stated that within this initial group, five marriages were hurriedly performed in Poona. All were performed within the Arya Samaj rite, in which only a perfunctory conversion to the hindu religion is required.

SOURCE P-25 stated that additional visas for the United States were obtained as necessary in Bombay with the same \$2,000 in "show money" being used by the applicants. She stated that in addition, each RFI applicant was given a name representing a person they were ostensibly going to visit while in the United States.

SOURCE P-25 advised that both her group of May 14 and the follow-on group of May 15 were given the task of smuggling in articles of value. She stated that these included the wearing of a number of solid gold bracelets under the guise of brass, master RFI tapes, RAJNEESH'S watch (allegedly worth \$100,000) and ivory. Pan American flights 001 were used in both cases.

SOURCE P-25 stated that the valuables passed unnoticed upon the first group's arrival in New York, but the presence of the master tapes and purchase of group tickets in New York raised questions about their nonimmigrant status. She stated that all were finally admitted. She thereafter hurriedly called the ashram in Poona urging that tickets for the second group be purchased in Bombay.

SOURCE P-25 advised that all the arriving disciples, including the aliens, promptly set to work preparing a large estate in Montclair, New Jersey, for RAJNEESH'S arrival. She stated that the complaints of local union representatives about the presence of alien workers caused her some concern but that nothing occurred. She named a total of 23 disciples involved in the project, to include a number involved in fraud marriages.

SOURCE P-25 stated that she overheard SHEELA SILVERMAN conversing on the telephone in August 1981, at the Montclair estate. The subject of the conversation, according to SOURCE P-25, was RFI tax exemption. She stated that she distinctly recalled SILVERMAN saying, "Okay, so we'll be a religion." In addition, she stated that at about the same period in time, SILVERMAN referred to RAJNEESH as "our only asset." SOURCE P-25 stated that she was shocked by both statements.

SOURCE P-25 stated that in her ten years as a disciple, she knew of only one bona fide disciple marriage. She stated unequivocally that all others she knew of were entered into for ulterior motives, usually for immigration purposes. She stated that RFI began experimenting with marriage as a tactic in about 1975. The object was to keep useful members in India indefinitely rather than have them seek extensions of stay by whatever means. She cited the marriage of MA PREM ARUP as an example of the earliest approach. ARUP'S marriage to an Indian apparently did not have the desired effect, and further experimentation was done with marriages to Canadians and Australians. The most successful approach, from the RFI standpoint, was marriage to citizens of the United Kingdom. SOURCE P-25 stated that her own marriage was one such and stated that its real purpose had been to allow her to remain in India. She was most emphatic in referring to RAJNEESH'S utterances as reflective of his and RFI'S real position on marriage to the present day.

Regarding RAJNEESH'S health, SOURCE P-25 advised that she was familiar with his general state of health from long association. She stated that she knew him to have asthma from the early days in Bombay, but it was usually manifested only in coughing of a minor nature. She stated that she understood that RAJNEESH had experienced back problems commencing about January 1981, and that two disciples, DANIEL BLAKE and DEVIRAJ, also known as DR. GEORGE MEREDITH, had attempted to alleviate them.

SOURCE P-25 further observed that RAJNEESH and members of his immediate circle, including MA YOGA VIVEK, also known as CHRISTINE WOLF also known as CHRISTINE SMITH, commenced using valium and quaaludes to excess at that time.

(INVESTIGATOR'S NOTE: VIVEK, a native and citizen of the United Kingdom, is acknowledged in all quarters as RAJNEESH'S constant companion. He claims that she is the reincarnation, as per Hindu tradition, of a girlfriend of his youth. She entered with RAJNEESH as a nonimmigrant visitor, subsequently married a United States citizen disciple RICHARD DUTTON SMITH, and adjusted her status to that of permanent resident in El Paso, Texas, on June 1, 1982.)

SOURCE P-25 detailed the visit of DR. JAMES CYRIAX, an English physician and back specialist, to the Poona ashram in early 1981. She stated that CYRIAX impressed her as an honest man, unimpressed by RAJNEESH. She related that while there, a group of concerned disciples asked CYRIAX how serious RAJNEESH'S problem was. When CYRIAX replied that the back problem was a simple one, the result was an embarrassed silence.

SOURCE P-25 stated that RAJNEESH was something of a hypochondriac in the past, to the point where his Indian physician, DR. HARDIKAN, declined to respond to RAJNEESH'S continual complaints in about 1976. She stated that she believed that RAJNEESH used his claims of poor health as a means of manipulating those around him, and she admitted that she herself had used it as a means of getting disciples to work harder even though she knew no need existed. She stated that longer term disciples were aware of the deception and would occasionally make jokes about it.

SOURCE P-25 stated that she last saw RAJNEESH face to face in India on May 10 and 12, 1981. She advises that he sat, stood, and moved about with no apparent signs of pain or discomfort at that time. She stated that at no time prior to her May 14 departure for the United States was any concern shown in her presence for RAJNEESH'S health. She stated that such measures as were taken were for the purpose of convincing outsiders that a serious health problem existed.

SOURCE P-25 advised that DR. PHILIP EICHLING, also known as SWAMI SHUNYO, had been used as a front in RAJNEESH'S medical case in Poona because he was an American. She stated that DEVIRAJ was in fact the physician in charge.

SOURCE P-25 stated that upon RAJNEESH'S arrival in New York City on June 1, 1981, on Pan American flight 001, she and JOHN SHELFER, also known as JAYAGANDA, went to the aircraft with a chartered ambulance and a limousine. She advised that inspecting officers were induced to come to the aircraft to conduct their inspection, having been told that RAJNEESH would otherwise have to be brought to them on a stretcher. After an apparently routine inspection and departure of the inspecting officers, RAJNEESH deplaned normally and chose to ride in the limousine to Montclair, New Jersey. She further stated that the only alteration made to accommodate RAJNEESH'S alleged disabilities at the Montclair estate was the installation of an escalator chair, which he used only once. She advised that his room was on the second floor.

SOURCE P-25 stated she understood that a law firm had previously been contacted by SILVERMAN to pursue the possibility of permanent residence for RAJNEESH. SILVERMAN'S insistence on mediating for RAJNEESH throughout, in lieu of the attorney's dealing with RAJNEESH directly, resulted in a breakdown of the plan.

SOURCE P-25 stated that one of the firm's attorneys, one BOB JUCEAN, maintained contact with SILVERMAN. It is alleged that he advised SILVERMAN that RFI marriages would constitute no problem to them as they would be "a drop in the ocean." The same SOURCE indicated that a conversation of her own with JUCEAN after she had left RFI had the effect

of discouraging her from contacting authorities regarding possible crimes. She stated that in retrospect, she felt JUCEAN was acting to protect RFI and SHEELA SILVERMAN.

SOURCE P-25 cautioned that many potentially valuable informants either feel compromised by past actions or fear of RFI retaliation. She stated that many ex-members believe that past involvement in narcotics or other offenses will result in RFI blackmail or official action against them. Alternatively, she stated that legal or physical harassment by RFI is feared. By way of illustration, HUGH MILNE had recently advised her that RFI had circulated the information throughout Europe that a disciple name PRAVASI would "get" anyone who talked.

(INVESTIGATOR'S NOTE: SWAMI PREM PRAVASI, also known as JOHN D'ARCO, a United States citizen born [REDACTED], has come to notice from several sources as a drug trafficker, although no criminal record is known to exist at this time.)

On August 1, 1983, DR. JAMES CYRIAX of 206 Regent's Park, London, England, was interviewed. He advised that he had been contacted by a former medical student, DR. GEORGE MEREDITH, also known as SWAMI DEVIKAJ, in April 1981, concerning RAJNEESH'S health. At the express request of RFI, he flew to India and on April 24, 25, and 26 examined RAJNEESH, treating him for a back condition. He thereafter returned to the United Kingdom and had no further contact with RAJNEESH or anyone associated with RFI until March of 1982.

DR. CYRIAX, a noted back specialist, advised that RAJNEESH'S back problem was a simple one amounting to a slipped disc. The result would be discomfort and at most a laminectomy would be required. He stated that he was aware of the extent of diabetic and asthmatic conditions in this particular case and that the combination was quite manageable under proper medical conditions. He stated that a laminectomy would not be an emergency situation and that there was nothing "life threatening" about his medical problem. He did state that he had advised that the operation, if necessary, take place outside of India on general principles, but that he had not specified that a trip to the United States was indicated. He stated that adequate medical facilities for such surgery existed in the United Kingdom and would have been available on very short notice if required.

DR. CYRIAX stated that he consulted with DR. MEREDITH while in Poona and that at no times were any medical records relating to RAJNEESH shown him. He stated that RAJNEESH'S failure to seek additional medical diagnosis in the United States was understandable as his diagnosis had been con-

clusive. He attributed RAJNEESH'S claimed recovery to proper care and exercise. DR. CYRIAX stated that he otherwise had no involvement with RFI and that no attempt had ever been made to influence his statements or opinions.

SOURCE P-26, interviewed in London on August 1, 1983, advised that she had been a disciple for seven years and an ashram jeweler for five years. She stated that in her opinion, perhaps one percent of sannyasin or disciple marriages were bona fide ones. The remainder were contracted for ulterior purposes. She stated that she personally knew of five such marriages recently contracted in the United Kingdom from having made wedding rings for the couples. She also referred to RAJNEESH'S own writings disparaging marriage as accurately representing the true RFI position on marriage. She declined to provide the names of the parties concerned, citing her skepticism that the Service would proceed against the RFI arrangers as opposed to the marriage partners.

SOURCE P-26 stated that in her experience, RAJNEESH had always been very antireligious. When advised that RFI was now promoting itself as the religion of "Rajneeshism," she considered it a joke and had difficulty in pronouncing the word.

SOURCE P-26 stated that she, herself, was not privy to the RFI plans for departure from Poona in 1981 but had observed the burning of RFI ledgers and records in the bakery ovens shortly before RAJNEESH'S departure.

SOURCE P-26 also stated that at the same general time she was involved in the fabrication of gold ingots into crude bracelets at the direction of MA YOGA VIDYA. She stated that other incidents involved the "modification" of luggage in the ashram workshops over a period of time. She stated that she did not know for certain that this was done for the purposes of smuggling of narcotics but would not be surprised if it were. She stated that in 1979 or 1980, she was asked by SHEELA SILVERMAN and MA PREM ARUP to alter admission stamps in passports, but the work was in some way unsatisfactory and the practice quickly discontinued. She mentioned that she understood that altered Canadian passports had been sold at the ashram in some quantity but stated that she had no details.

SOURCE P-26 advised that she decided to leave RFI in late 1982 when she found old disciple friends prostituting themselves to raise funds for RFI. She stated the final break came when a German drug courier for RFI was sent to her apartment to stay until he could obtain a new passport. She advised that she continued to remain in contact with old acquaintances who were disciples but was finished with RAJNEESH and RFI. She advised that PRAGEET, also known as NORMAN COHN, a United States citizen attorney, was in the

in what was known as the "woodworks" in the Poona ashram. She stated that an Italian narcotics fugitive, for whom a federal warrant is outstanding, was well known to RFI and presently in Italy. She advised that he is expected to travel to the United States this year. SOURCE P-27 stated that drug couriers were recruited by RFI and she, herself, was scheduled to make such a trip by ARUP. She advised that an accident canceled the proposed trip and that her substitute was arrested enroute.

SOURCE P-27 stated that she knew of other major narcotics dealings by RFI members, past and present. She advised that one involving one SANDESH in the Seattle, Washington, area resulted in RAJNEESH being offered a 1.0 million dollar donation recently. She stated that another transaction now in the planning stage in France by a disciple would also classify as a major effort. SOURCE P-27 indicated that she wished to discuss these matters in detail with a third agency and the proper contacts were made accordingly.

SOURCE P-27 advised that it was her understanding that the proceeds of drug transactions had been channeled into RFI and funds set aside for the personal use of RAJNEESH himself.

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MEMORANDUM TO THE FILE

TO: CJ-DA-85-13

FROM: Bill C. Carroll
Investigator

DATE: February 10, 1986

On February 6, 1986, writer accompanied United States Marshalls LAMB and ABRAHAM on the extradition of Diane ONANG, aka Ma Anand PUJA, from Frankfurt, Germany to Portland, Oregon. Officer LAMB obtained a cardboard box, containing documentary evidence, from the German police at 10:32 a.m. During the course of the extradition, the contents of the box were reviewed. A brief summary of the contents is attached.

Ms. ONANG was advised of her Constitutional Rights by the Marshall's Service prior to boarding the flight for the United States. Ms. ONANG indicated that she understood her rights. She further advised that she is represented by an attorney in Portland, and one in San Francisco. She was asked no questions relating to the criminal allegations.

Ms. ONANG advised that she attended Davis University in California; but, did not receive a Bachelor's degree. She has a step-brother and half-sister living in the area of San Luis Obispo, California. She also has a sister in San Francisco that is a terminal cancer patient. ONANG stated that this sister is the only living member of her real family.

Contact with Ms. ONANG ended at 10:45 p.m. on February 6, 1986.

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EVIDENCE ITEMS - FEBRUARY 6, 1986 - 10:32 a.m.

- I. a. 3cc syringes and needles
- b. Philip S. EICHLING letterhead stationery
- c. Rajneesh Medical Associates letterhead and envelopes
- d. Rajneesh Medical Corporation letterhead and envelopes
- e. (2) teletypes from Susan STROCK directing records be sent directly to Susan STROCK, c/o Hagan, 455 Staniforth Road, Sheffield 9, Yorkshire, England, dated 9/9/85.
- II. a. Brown notebook, handwritten diary
 - 9/17/85 - SU, SAVITA, HOMA and ANUGITEN in Black Forest, Zurich
 - 9/26/85 - They make secret moves, several plane trips to avoid the media
 - 10/06/85 - Bought hotel for 3.9 million DM. 50,000 DM, down with payments within a specified time. Hotel Weisses, Rossle Hinterzarten), Hochschwarzwald, phone number: 07652/1411; entries relating to SHEELA'S interviews with the press, SHEELA possibly authoring a book and reference made to the drugs taken by persons at Lao Tzu.
- III. a. Promissory notes - RMCT and RNSIC
- b. Promissory notes - Rajneesh Services International Ltd., London
 - 1) \$1,500,000 loan from SUSHILA
- c. Promissory notes - RMCT and RNSIC
 - 1) These came directly to RNSIC, not via RSI-RPDF account
- d. Republic of India Passport - Ma Anand SHEELA
 - 1) Obtained in San Francisco, 1/8/85
 - 2) Lists husband as JAYANANDA
 - 3) Entries include: (passport is filled with stamps)
 - a) 7/17/85 Bombay
 - b) 7/13/85 Mexico
 - c) 9/7/85 Bangkok

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e. Photographs of a wedding

1) ANUGITEN is in some of the photographs

IV. a. Power of Attorney for Bhagwan Shree RAJNEESH

1) dated 11/19/81

2) gives SHEELA complete power of attorney

3) amended 5/1/82 - no significant change

b. Photocopies of old parchment paper, written in Hindu

1) adoption papers of Bhagwan

c. Translation of Hindu document

d. Original, legal opinion of Bippen PATEL as to the authenticity of the document

e. Orange folder with RMC letterhead and envelopes

f. KAMENSKY'S opinion of analysis conducted on the parchment on 8/9/85 and 8/10/85

V. a. SHEELA'S financial folder

1) Bank accounts at Bank of Greece - 9/13/85

a) Checking #51 1269-9 Bal. \$1468.68

b) Savings #354829-4 Bal. \$1600.00

c) Savings #500-118-8 Bal. \$1300.00

1) Sheela PATEL

d. Trust #500-118-8 Bal. \$2900.00

1) ANUJA

2) Ledger sheets for credit cards and expenditures - signees include PUJA, K.D. and ANUGITEN

VI. a. Personal Property of PUJA

1) Opthomology prescription for Diane MOWRY from Dr. Chas. D. FRITCH (805) 327-8511

2) Oregon State Health and Science/University library card issued 4/85, File/OR Ph. 225-8026

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- 3) Social Security Card # [REDACTED]
- 4) Telephone calling card (RMC) (503) 489-3268-2257
- 5) Business card Dr. H.V. SARDESAI, 816 Shivajinager, Pune
- 6) Business card D.R. JOHNSON, M.D.P.C., Bend, OR Phone #382-7822
- 7) United Airlines Frequent Flyer Card #Y874224
- 8) Voter registration (D)
- 9) (2) Upgrade passes for AVIS Rent-a-Car
- 10) Blue Cross/Shield card # [REDACTED] Group #48093
- 11) (3) Oregon Board of Nursing certification cards
- 12) Oregon driver's license # [REDACTED]
- 13) Beneficial National Bank - Mastercard # [REDACTED], expiration 9/86
- 14) Phillipine birth certificate of Diane Ivonne TAYLOR
 - a) Date of Birth: [REDACTED]
 - b) Father: Dana Ivan TAYLOR
 - c) Mother: Magdelana ONANG
- 15) Receipt from St. Charles Gift Shop for two candy bars .70

VII. a. Swiss Passport for Sheela BIRNSTIEL

- 1) Date of Birth: [REDACTED]
- 2) Issued 5/7/85
- 3) Entry: Bangkok; arrived: 9/3/85; departed: 9/4/85

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VIII. a. Personal Property of Shanti BHADRA

- 1) Australian Passport for Catherine Jane LALOR
- 2) Birth Certificate, West, Australia
 - a) Father: John Patrick PAUL
 - b) Mother: Dulcie Alma STUBBS
- 3) Marriage Certificate
 - a) Issued in Perth on 9/6/66
 - b) Husband: Roger Michael LALOR,
DOB: ██████████
 - c) Wife: Catherine Jane PAUL


Bill C. Carroll
Investigator

bk