



BEND RESEARCH, INC.

July 20, 1983

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This letter is written in support of the Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh. It is my understanding that the Bhagwan is now facing possible deportation from the United States. I have visited Rajneeshpuram personally and have discussed the activities there with a number of friends and colleagues from around the world. I am very favorably impressed with both the Bhagwan and his teachings. The town that he and his followers are building is undoubtedly the happiest place I have ever visited. In many respects, it is a model community, free of most of the negative values of most American towns. Anyone considering the deportation of the Bhagwan really must visit their town and observe the energy of the people there and note their accomplishments.

Thoreau taught us many years ago to respect those "who march to a different drummer," and the Bhagwan and his followers are clearly in this category. Their movement is certain to have an important and favorable impact on the way we live in America. If the Bhagwan were to be deported, it could well snuff out this important experiment before we have had a chance to measure its success. I understand that people with exceptional ability may seek permanent residency status under preference three, and I recommend that the Bhagwan be classified accordingly. I urge you to allow the Bhagwan to remain in the United States under this type of visa. If America, the land of freedom and opportunity, turns its back on this gentle and enlightened human being, we will be the poorer for it.

Sincerely,

Harold K. Lonsdale
President

HKL:skm

cc: Sheila Silverman ✓
Patricia Gainsforth

EXHIBIT "A-886"