July 21, 1983



To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to support Rajneesh in his request to be allowed to stay in the United States of America. He is indeed a unique person: he should be admitted as a religious leader or a person of exceptional ability. If these categories did not exist for immigration purposes, then a special one should be made for him as the assets he brings are unparalleled.

Because I am not a disciple, I feel I am in a position to objectively comment on just how extraordinary Rajneesh is; attached is my vitae which should provide some sense of my background. Yearly, I work with thousands of people in small and large groups here at Sky Hi Ranch and elsewhere around the country. My work covers a range from psychological and healing to transformational, energetic and spiritual. My work is also well-known in Canada and abroad.

I am familiar with some of Rajneesh's writings and am aware that he has authored over 370 books. He has organized an extraordinarily large and effective group of people and has inspired millions. Rajneesh's work is essentially spiritual; since true spirituality involves a fundamental transformation of the life energies and experience of reality, his work dovetails with psychological, philosophical, theological issues, in fact, with all issues of values and life style. His contribution in all these areas is invaluable. As for his silence, this is not an uncommon phase in the lives of spiritual teachers. St. Benedict spent years in silence, and even today Benedictine priests spend whole years in silence. St. Seraphim's whole ministry was accomplished in nearly continuous silence. Sri Aurobindo, an immense spiritual figure in the first half of this century, spent the last ten years of his life in silence. Silence in the final phase of the life of spiritual giants is quite common.

I believe that we could all learn and prosper if we would open our hearts to this man and give him the welcome to our country that he deserves. I do not understand what we have to gain by expelling him. It is my experience that that which we reject in fear and ignorance only gets stronger. Certainly from an economic perspective, his presence in Antelope has added much to the coffers of the suppliers of materials, construction, food, etc. that service his community.

I appreciate the concerns of some that he is the leader of a powerful cult. This concern is real but is founded in a prejudice that really asks us to look at our own lives. Rajneesh and those that love him and have devoted their lives to his teaching are a highly motivated group; at times they are insensitive to those around them whose values are different. But this insensitivity is a continuous phenomena of human interaction anywhere and not something for which Rajneesh should be singled out. It is true that some of what has happened in and around Rajneesh's work and the Antalope Valley community has frightened and offended, however, I believe that much of this arises from misunderstanding and defensiveness.

I know Rajneesh's work is far advanced; I believe his work indicates possible alternatives to the imbalances that exist in so many areas of our personal and collective lives. Instead of rejecting him, we would be better helped to take what we can from him and give him the gift of living in a society whose highest value is freedom.

Please know that I am honored to give my support to Rajneesh and if there is anything more I can do on his behalf, I would be delighted.

With best wishes,

Richard Mon

Richard Moss, MD

RICHARD MOSS, M.D.

Sky Hi Ranch Lucerne Valley, California 92356 714/247-7881

PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

Leader/Facilitator of intensive seminars/workshops since 1976 (San Francisco Bay Area and Sky Hi Ranch)

Director of Sky Hi Ranch, a conference center in southern California and an intentional awareness community since December, 1980

Lecturer/Workshop Leader at conferences, radio and television programs, both East and West coasts.

Private Practice, 1976-present.

Faculty, J.F. Kennedy University, 1979-1981

Consultant - U.C. Berkeley Health Sciences Dept; 1976-77 St. Georges Homes, Berkeley, CA; 1977-79 Los Angeles Center for Healing Arts; 1978-present

Physician for mountain climbing expedition in Peruvian Andes, 1975

Emergency Physician and General Practitioner, Oakland, CA; 1972-76

AUTHOR

The I That Is We; Celestial Arts, 1981

Lecture Tape Series

"The Individual and Collective Levels of Consciousness and Their Relationship to Disease"; Three Mountain Press, 1979

"Holistic Health: Practitioner verses Modality"; Yoga Journal, 1/77; and Holistic Health Review, Spring/78

EDUCATION

S.U.N.Y. at Stony Brook; June 1969, BA New York Medical College; June 1972, MD Internship, Herrick Memorial Hospital, Berkeley, CA; 1972-73

MEMBERSHIPS

American College of Emergency Physicians; 1973 American College of Preventive Medicine; 1980 American Holistic Medical Association; 1981