

AFFIDAVIT

I, Ma Anand Sheela, being duly sworn, do depose and say:

On August 5, 1983, I went to Zorba the Buddha Rajneesh Restaurant in Antelope at about 3:00 pm. I saw two people come out of a car and I suddenly recognized the older man with the yellow and orange crochet hat as the man who had been writing me letters for a long time. He had sent me photographs of himself. His name was El Rashid. I happened to recognize him because right after the incident of the bombing I was going through our negative letter files and had pulled out letters by this man. He had also sent me tapes with his letters but I had not heard them as normally letters which had been recognized as crank or negative letters get filed, without my seeing them.

The man approached me straight and said, "I have seen you enough times on television." He followed me into the restaurant, sat next to me, and started talking to me as if he knew me and knew about me. From his letters I felt that the man was either crazy or dangerous so my interest was to get him out of Antelope as quickly as possible. While I was talking to him, the people at Zorbas were watching me very carefully as people are just sensitive about me with strangers.

He started talking to me: "I had been meaning to see you for a long time and I knew I was going to see you this time; I knew you had to see me this time. It is good I met with you here. I have many proposals to offer you and suggest to you, and have many ideas to make money. I have gone through many people with my ideas, I know if I told you about my ideas in a right way, in a right time, you would give me everything I need."

I tried to divert his conversation from finances to more casual conversation. At that time one of the first things he said was, "I have chosen this time to come and see you because of the bombing. I know because of the bombing you would listen to me and listen to me very carefully."

He introduced me to the man who accompanied him as his marketing agent, Abraham. I asked his last name and he reluctantly told me "Capers". I asked the other man, "Are you a Sufi too?" as El Rashid had mentioned he was Sufi. He said "No", he was not a Sufi, he was a Muslim. I tried to

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ask both of them what particular order they followed and El Rashied kept telling me he follows his own order; he is the master.

El Rashied said to me that he had been in the jail for 15 years. I asked him what for. He said for bank robbery. I said "Oh boy!" At that time, Ma Prem Padma asked him if he was armed and he said "Yes". Padma asked him if he harmed anyone and he remained silent. He referred to the bank robbery several times during the conversation. Also he said he had made many mistakes in his life, but now he knows how to get what he wants. During this time I started getting a big paranoid inside myself. Abraham did not speak, but nodded his head in approval and smiled. I didn't want to offend them because I was not aware what they may be carrying on themselves, so I continued a very polite conversation.

During the conversation, my husband, Swami Prem Jayananda, called me from Portland so I went into the back room to answer the telephone. While there, Ma Prem Kavido mentioned to me that Abraham had taken her out to their car and had shown her a white robe in the back of their car. I immediately became even more cautious because of news reports linking the hotel bomber with men wearing long robes. When I finished talking with my husband, I told El Rashid that I had come for some business and I would like to be finished with it. I was about to go, and El Rashied said that he needed to see me tomorrow, that he wanted to see me tomorrow, and he wanted to present some proposals to me. He then presented a package of writing to me and said, "I would advise you to go through this wiring before I see you tomorrow." I joked with him and said I probably will not read as I am not good at reading but my secretary will read and brief me about it. At that point he said very seriously, "It may be worth your while to read it as it will make it very clear to you who I am and what I am capable of."

I did not want to argue with him and said, "Fine, you leave it with me and I will return it tomorrow to you." He again started talking about financial trouble and pressure he was in and his friend Gopal Bhai was, who had now returned back to India to take care of his ill mother and how he needs money to do much work. And during the conversation he also mentioned to me that, "If 'Master Rajneesh' would have come to know about the letters I have written I would not have to come out here." He also said that he had been to the ranch four times before. I looked surprised and he seemed a bit angry towards the people who had dealt with him and not recognised him as Sufi master and who had not cooperated with what he wanted.

He seemed to be a man who easily changed into anger. The man seemed schizophrenic to me and dangerous. As I showed my anxiousness to get started with other work he said, "What time could I come to see you tomorrow?" I was not too keen to give a time but I saw that if I did not give a time, the situation could worsen immediately, so I told him 10:30 tomorrow morning.

He again talked about wanting finances and putting up proposals for finances. I explained to him that we may not be able to participate in the proposals that he had in mind, and that I did not want to disappoint him after he came to visit me. At that point very quickly he responded and said, "Now that you have gone through the experience of bombing and if I present everything in a right way, in a right situation, you will have no choice but to accept my proposal and you will give me what I want."

At that point I said, "In that case I will see you at 10:30 tomorrow morning." He told me to "have a safe night". This statement felt extremely threatening to me.

Throughout the conversation Abraham hardly said anything, although he looked sharp and was watchful. Everything he wanted was paid for by El Rashied.

After they had left, Kavido told me that Abraham took her out to the car telling her that, "I would like to show you a carpet we make." And showed her the white robe and asked her, "Do you know what this is?" And Kavido said, "Sure, a robe. Why don't you wear it?" Upon which he replied that when he wears that robe he gets into a lot of difficulty with people because people ask him why he is dressed that way. I immediately came home, asked my secretary to pull out the letters and tapes and started reading the material he had written, plus what he had given to me and it was clear in his tapes - he said he was a militant Muslim and had had survivalist training - that he was capable of violence.

That evening, I discussed the afternoon incident with Ma Deva Barkha, Chief of the Rajneeshpuram Peace Force, and with my Husband, who is the

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Commissioner of the Peace Force. They decided to contact Sheriff Bob Brown because of the seriousness of the situation.

signed _____

MA ANAND SHEELA

Subscribed and sworn to before me this _____ day of _____, 1983

Notary Public for the State of Oregon

My commission expires _____