



*M i - i* *for* *to be awarded on* *22<sup>nd</sup>* *(1st)* *at 10<sup>am</sup> (10)* *refuse it* *now*  
HOME OFFICE  
QUEEN ANNE'S GATE LONDON SW1H 9AT

17 December 1979

PRIME MINISTER

*Equivocal Home Office advice about whether you should refuse a Maharishi award - see letter below. Perhaps safer to refuse, at the risk of seeming discourteous?*

Dear Mike

*MA 19/12/79*

I do apologise for the delay in replying to your letter of 30 November about the invitation to the Prime Minister from the Government of the Age of Enlightenment to accept one of their Maharishi Awards.

We know relatively little about this organisation except from what we saw in the newspapers at the time of the sale of Mentmore. The Age of Enlightenment appears to be a somewhat eccentric religious movement which is exceptionally well endowed. We know nothing of its funding or of its aims or objectives, though we think from the extravagant language in which these are couched that it would be prudent to view them with at any rate some suspicion.

Certainly the Prime Minister should be advised not to attend the ceremony - but in any case you made it clear in your letter that she will not wish to do so.

The offer of the Maharishi Award is more difficult. In view of what I have said it would be preferable if the Prime Minister could decline this award. However, to do so would be difficult given that the Age of Enlightenment people have anticipated the Prime Minister's likely inability to attend their Winter Festival to accept the Award and have offered to deliver it to No. 10. The Home Secretary's view is that he can see no harm in the Prime Minister accepting the Award on the basis that it would simply be delivered to No. 10 and not received by her personally.

... I am afraid, therefore, that I can only offer you somewhat equivocal advice on this matter. Accordingly, I attach two alternative draft letters for your consideration, one declining the Award and the other accepting it. I cannot say that either is entirely satisfactory.

... Finally, I attach for your information a copy of an article from the Times of 4 July 1978 about the activities of the Age of Enlightenment in Kent.

*Yours sincerely*  
*Tony Butler*

(A J BUTLER)

WORLD  
GOVERNMENT  
OF THE AGE OF  
ENLIGHTENMENT



Ministry of  
Celebrations  
and Fulfilment

British Capital  
of the Age of Enlightenment  
Mentmore Towers  
Buckinghamshire  
Tel. Cheddington (0296) 668008  
Telex mentmr 837878

— Great Britain

25th November, 1979

R29

The Rt. Hon. Margaret Thatcher, M.P.,  
Prime Minister,  
10 Downing Street,  
London S.W.1.

Dear Madam,

It is my great honour to inform you that the World Government of the Age of Enlightenment - Great Britain would like to present to you the *Maharishi Award of the Age of Enlightenment* in recognition of your outstanding leadership which has inspired the whole nation with a new sense of purpose and direction.

It is the tradition of the World Government of the Age of Enlightenment to celebrate the start of each season. These seasonal festivals centre around the presentation of the *Maharishi Awards of the Age of Enlightenment* by each of the ten Ministries of the World Government of the Age of Enlightenment to the most successful members of the community who through their success and achievements have demonstrated their own high level of consciousness and expressed the greatest creativity, thus providing the whole community with an inspiration for higher knowledge, higher action, and higher achievement.

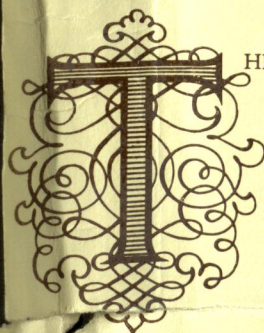
The Award from the Ministry for the Capitals of the Age of Enlightenment is traditionally given to the most enlightened leader in the whole community. Mentmore Towers being the national headquarters of the World Government of the Age of Enlightenment in Great Britain, the Mentmore Award is given in recognition of the most enlightened leadership in the entire nation.

The Awards will be presented at the Winter Festival of the Age of Enlightenment which will be held at Mentmore Towers on Saturday, 22nd December 1979, at 7.00 p.m. Dinner will be served at 7.30 p.m. and will be followed by the actual ceremony of presentation of Awards by the ten Ministries.

We will be most honoured if you would accept this Award and would be especially honoured if you were able to attend the evening's celebrations to receive the Award in person. However, we fully appreciate that your many responsibilities may not allow time to attend. In this case the Award will be presented in your absence, and, with your permission, be delivered to 10 Downing Street.

Yours faithfully,

Anthony Hardy  
Minister of Celebrations and Fulfilment



THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE WORLD GOVERNMENT OF THE AGE OF ENLIGHTENMENT is the realization of the most sublime aspirations of the wise throughout the ages. The sovereignty of the World Government of the Age of Enlightenment is the domain of consciousness, the prime mover of life, the home of all the laws of nature, the field of all possibilities. The World Government is not based on territorial power. It does not usurp any of the functions of existing governments, nor does it replace them in any way. ● Invincible in the strength of wisdom, love and joy of duty, the World Government has come into being to raise world consciousness, thereby creating an atmosphere of harmony and positivity in which all governments can fulfil the noble aspirations of their constitutions. It exists to refine and strengthen the national consciousness of every country, which is the prime mover and unseen governor of every government. The World Government raises world consciousness through the activities of the 1,500 Capitals of the Age of Enlightenment so far established, each Capital enriching the collective consciousness of one million people by raising and maintaining higher states of consciousness in the individual. ● Inspired by the success of the Transcendental Meditation programme in improving all spheres of life, as validated by the personal experiences of thousands of individuals in all parts of the world and hundreds of scientific experiments in the fields of physiology, psychology, and sociology, His Holiness Maharishi Mahesh Yogi, founder of the Science of Creative Intelligence, in 1972 inaugurated the World Plan to solve the age-old problems of mankind in this generation. When it was further discovered that a powerful influence of orderliness and harmony in an entire city is produced when only one per cent of the city population is growing in orderliness through the daily practice of the Transcendental Meditation technique, a phenomenon known as 'the Maharishi Effect', Maharishi inaugurated the dawn of the Age of Enlightenment on 12 January 1975. When over six hundred cities on all continents reached one per cent of their population practising the Transcendental Meditation technique and started to grow in the values of an ideal society — decreased sickness and suffering and increased positivity — on 12 January 1976 Maharishi established the World Government of the Age of Enlightenment to usher in and perpetuate the Age of Enlightenment for all mankind. ● Through the activities of the ten ministries of the World Government, the field of infinite correlation at the basis of all creation is being enlivened. Society will soon be characterized by harmony and happiness. Through the Science of Creative Intelligence education will be ideal, producing fully developed citizens. Through the Transcendental Meditation programme health will be perfect. The increasing ability of man to act in accordance with the laws of nature will strengthen cultural integrity and promote fulfilling progress in every country. The achievements of every government will be enhanced. Nations will rise to invincibility. Nature will be balanced — the seasons will come on time, crops will be abundant. There will be peace in the family of nations. The whole human race will soon enjoy all possibilities in the full sunshine of the Age of Enlightenment. 1979 — the Year of All Possibilities for Every Nation.