

DRAFT/JTALLAKSON/arb/8/5/82

Dr. David W. Preus  
President  
The American Lutheran Church  
422 South Fifth Street  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55415

Dear Dr. Preus:

I forward the enclosed proposal for your review and consideration on behalf of the National Congress of American Indians and the threatened indigenous populations throughout the world. The "International Indigenous Communications Project" seeks to address the American Indian peoples grave concern and frustration regarding the brutal torturing and murdering of our indigenous brethren in the world.

As the narrative explains, the National Congress of American Indians has been swept into the international arena in recent months as reports of escalating violence against Tribal populations in El Salvador, Nicaragua, and Guatemala validate our fears that genocidal initiatives have been launched by these military governments. It is an emergency, interim eight month proposal to support a communications and international coordination effort pending the securance of long term financing. Eventually, we hope to present a consistently strident message of indignation and moral outrage to the Congress and international forums regarding the blatant violation of distinct peoples right to existence on this planet.

The decimation of these indigenous populations, unfortunately, has some direct links with United States corporate exploitation. As the foreign vanguards of the American way of life, the message is resoundingly clear that moral values may be cast aside by a Christian nation in the name of progress.

I appeal to The American Lutheran Church to provide this initial support so vital to the threatened indigenous populations.

Sincerely,

Joseph B. DeLa Cruz  
President

Enclosure