

728 212th Pl. S.W.
Lynnwood, Washington
98036

10, February 1982

Mr. Joe DeLaCruz, President
National Congress of American Indians
c/o Quinault Nation
P.O. Box 189
Taholah, Washington
98587

Dear Joe:

Please find a copy of the draft proposal for an NCAI Office of Tribal International Relations as you requested on 3 February 1982. While the scope of the proposal may be a little broader than you had originally envisioned I believe it does respond to your request. I have deliberately made the scope broader because I believe that such an office will be both fundable and more useful to NCAI.

I have taken the liberty of sending a copy of this proposal to Ralph Eluska in an effort to make your communications with him more efficient and timely. Since I spoke with Ralph on Monday he is aware of the proposal's general contents. He tells me that you will be sending him a letter regarding the proposed office and my employment beginning this month. I am hopeful that it will be possible to take me on as soon as possible.

As always I stand ready to serve. (Perhaps with this new arrangement I can help you secure the funds from Inter-tribal Study Group tribes to get that study published!) Please advise me of your decisions.

Regards,

Rudolph C. Ryser

Enclosure.

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MEMORANDUM

5 MARCH 1982

TO: Joe DeLaCruz, President
National Congress of American Indians

FROM: Rudolph C. Ryser

SUBJ: Preliminary Discussions regarding DOI/BIA Plans to Establish a "National Fisheries Office" in the Portland Area Office: Implications and alternatives.

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The BIA, led by Deputy Assistant Secretary Roy Sampsel, is working to develop plans for the establishment of a policy to "regionalize" Central Office functions in six new BIA Regional Offices in accord with certain recommendations of the American Indian Policy Review Commission (1976). Sampsel proposes, as a part of this process, to establish a "National Fisheries Office" at the Portland Area Office as a demonstration of Central Office Regionalization.

The APRIC recommended that the "Secretary of the Interior implement an action plan for the modernization of the Bureau of Indian Affairs in order to change it from a management to a service agency. ... A new organizational structure be established to transfer authority and responsibility to the local level. Particularly, the present area offices be divested of their line authority and be established as service centers." (APRIC 1977: 23)

The thrust of this recommendations was to reduce the number of area offices from 12 to six, and organize each as a "regional service center". Line authority would extend directly between the Central Office and the tribal/agency level with the result that the "regional service centers" would serve as technical and service pools for each new region. The APRIC anticipated a net saving of \$11 million. Current estimates suggest a savings of \$16 million. The APRIC recommendation anticipates future elimination of the local agency with its functions dissolving into each tribal government, thus creating a direct line of "inter-governmental" communications between the Central Office and each tribe while the region service centers provide service and technical backup to each tribe taking directions from the tribes.

Our discussions on March 1 produced the following observations:

1. The Central Office does not appear to have a developed a restructuring plan (management, personnel, budget, etc.)
2. There does, however, appear to be some discussion about relocating up to 800 Central Office personnel to six new "regional service centers."
3. An initial proposal has be placed on the table to "establish a national fisheries office" in the Portland Area office as an apparent move toward the establishment of a regional service center.
4. The potential exists, given the national fisheris office proposal, for the establishment of a large bureaucracy in the Portland Area Office which will impose US federal control over tribal fisheries thus reducing tribal authority.

MEMORANDUM

BIA Restructuring: National Fisheries Office

5 March 1982

Analysis:

- 1 The first thing that might be noted is that the preliminary proposal to establish a national Fisheries office in Portland represents a consolidation or concentration of US federal administrative, legal and policy authority in a regional office, instead of reducing regional authority. Furthermore, the initial proposal represents a net reduction of Central Office control and tribal government control over policy within the federal government and within tribal government.
- 2 The initial proposal, furthermore, virtually eliminates tribal access to federal fisheries support services in regions outside the northwest. Fisheries functions within the BIA are now non-existent for all tribes including those in Alaska, the Great Lakes Region, Louisiana, Northern California and the Northwest. The proposal to locate the federal presence for fisheries in the Portland Area Office would hamper tribes outside the region.
- 3 With the prospective transferr of Central Office personnel to the Portland Area, the anticipated "savings" of \$16 million would not directly benefit tribal governments or increase their capacity to manage and regulate their fisheries. The "savings" would be in the Central Office followed by a net increase in budget in the Portland Area Office.
- 4 It is anticipated that a "National Office for Fisheries" would encompass at minimum the following functions if the Central Office follows past practices: Enforcement, Enrollment, Fisheries technical (data) and management, contracts, public relations, BIA fisheries policy formulation, interagency coordination (i.e. Interior, Commerce and Justice Depts.), legislative liaison, environmental management, training, economic development-marketing, international treaty negotiations, audit and legal advice. The placement of such capabilities in a regional office would undoubtedly increase chances of "creeping federal domination" over tribal fisheries in the Pacific Northwest.
- 5 Transferr of Central Office personnel to the Portland Office would not produce a net improvement of federal capabilities to serve tribal governments in the field of fisheries management, but, rather, complicate efforts at improving federal technical capabilities and hamper the more capable tribal governments.
- 6 There is no evidence in the past that an "increased federal presence" in the fisheries controversy between tribes and states has improved the chances of cooperative agreements on technical and management problems. The federal government has, more often than not, been an adversary to tribal interests engaged in "hidden efforts" to erode tribal political influence and tribal technical control and regulation of fisheries and related resources.

Alternatives:

- 7 Adopt the APRIC recommendation for "six region service centers" AND place line authority functions of a national fisheries office in Washington D.C. and at each agency/tribal government with "service functions" located at the regional office (Portland) in each of the

BIA Restructuring, National Fisheries Office
5 March 1982

six regional service centers. Distribution of functions may be as follows:

Central Office

Budget	InterAgency Coordination
BIA Fisheries Policy	International Treaty Negotiations
Legislative Liaison	Intergovernmental Relations

Regional Service Center

Technical support	Training
Regional Economic-Marketing	Audit Services
Mapping Services	Computer support Services

Agency

Contracting	Training
Agency Legal Advisor	Marketing Services

Tribal Governments

Enrollment	Tribal Management - technical and data services
Public Relations	Contract Administration
Legislative Liaison	Fisheries Policy
Budget	Intergovernmental relations
International Treaty negotiations	Environmental Management
Training	Marketing
	Legal advisors

The federal funds available to cover these services and activities should be distributed and contracted in accordance with the following rough formulae: Central Office: 10%, Regional Service Centers: 10% Agencies: 15%, and Tribal Governments: 65%. The federal government would, therefore, be responsible for 35% of the funds and the tribes would be responsible for 65% of the funds.

- 9 Adopt a modified approach to Sample's initial proposal and accept the establishment of a National Fisheries Office in Portland but require that it assume the functions of the Center Office and the Regional Service Center as noted above, while the agency and tribes assume the functions as noted. Funds would be distributed on a federal: 25% and Tribal Government 75% basis because of increased responsibility for Central Office Liaison falling to the tribes.

COPY

BIA Restructuring: National Fisheries Office
5 March 1982

10 Adopt a policy of direct Tribal Government and Federal Government line authority by eliminating the Regional Service Center and place primary functions in the Central Office (as noted above) and distribute Regional Service Center Functions between the agencies and tribal governments. The budget might be distributed as follows: Central Office: 10%, Agencies:15% and Tribal governments: 75%.

11 The options presented at paragraphs #7, #9, and #10 are three alternative ways of looking at restructuring the BIA and establishing a fisheries capability within the BIA. Each of our alternatives emphasize dramatically increased tribal capabilities and responsibilities. The nature of the "federal presence" is advocacy and service while lines of authority are placed on the Central Office and the Tribal Governments with some authority going to the Agency. In each instance except the option presented at paragraph #9 the area office has no line authority.

The proposal for a National Fisheries Office should not be considered in isolation from the broader problems of BIA restructuring. This discussion may, therefore, be regarded as having policy implications for BIA restructuring throughout the United States and, therefore, of some importance to all tribes.

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17 June 1982

Reply To: 728 212th Pl. S.W.
Lynnwood, Washington
98036

Mr. Joe DeLaCruz, Chairman
Quinault Indian Nation
Quinault Tribal Affairs
P.O. Box 189
Taholah, Washington
98587

Dear Joe:

Please find enclosed your "galley print" copy of "Tribes and States in Conflict: A Tribal Proposal". Only 15 such copies exist. In early July I will begin using these "galley prints" as manuscripts to find a publisher for a final book. Some editing still remains to be done. A listing of Inter-Tribal Study Group members will have to be added to the cover sheet in the final publication. Because I am short on postage I have been unable to send a copy to other members of the ITSG, and I was unable to send a copy to the Western Attorneys General meeting because I received the fifteen galley prints too late. If you copy the booklet I would suggest that it be done sparingly and all copies should be marked with the number appearing on the front of your copy. "Galley print" should be printed on the outside of all copies.

I hope this package finds you in good spirits.

Regards,

Rudolph G. Ryser

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Joe DeLaCruz, President
Ralph Eluska, 1st Vice President
Hollis Stabler, Treasurer
Ella Mae Horse, Secretary
Ron Andrade, Executive Director

FROM: R.C. Ryser

SUBJECT: NCAI Coordination of WAFN "Indigenous Political & Legal Roundtable".
North American Leadership Conference
WCIP Executive Council Meeting

DATE: 28 June, 1982

Further to the Executive Committee Briefing re WAFN in San Diego and the recent telephone briefing of Joe D. and Ralph E. on 23 June and Ron A. on 24 June I offer the following up-date re the above mentioned subjects:

In accordance with the task directive issued by Ralph E. and Joe D. I have been coordinating and organizing NCAI's lead role within the World Assembly of First Nations structure in connection with the conduct of a two-day conference called the "Indigenous Political and Legal Roundtable since June 1, 1982. Since the NCAI decision (in San Diego) to continue NCAI's sponsorship role at the WAFN many of the political problems I cited in my San Diego briefing still exist while others have been somewhat resolved. Based on several discussions with principle North American Indian leadership and a two-day series of meetings with WAFN officials in Regina (21, 22 June) as Ralph E.'s representative I can report the following up-date:

1. The WAFN "expo" remains thinly defined in terms of substance (except for the Indigenous Political & Legal Roundtable which I will discuss in more detail below) and fatly defined in terms of entertainment, competitions, gambling and displays.
2. The question of political focus remains tied to the "permanent establishment of the WAFN" even though much of the "business focus" is on Canadian and U.S. indigenous relations
3. The "vencer" of internationalism is being reinforced through invitations to "17 embassies" in Ottawa, representatives from nation-state governments in Europe (particularly France and Germany), representatives from the governments of Canada and the United States; these invitations are combined with invitation to "indigenous cultural groups": eighty people from tribes in Mexico and "fifteen elected members to the South American Indigenous Council (CISA) through contact with Julio Tumeri in Bolivia. The Native Council of Canada and the National Aboriginal Council of Australia are known to be officially boycotting WAFN. The Assembly of First Nations (which relaced the National Indian Brotherhood) was boycotting WAFN, but is now officially in favor of "promoting discussion on the application of international law to Indigenous peoples" and promoting "the permanent establishment of WAFN". The NCAI policy remains in opposition "to the permanent establishment of WAFN as a global organization while supportive of

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MEMORANDUM

NCAI Coordination of WAFN...

28 June 1982

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the establishment of a North American Regional Indigenous Council (NARIC) affiliated with the WCIP. NCAI's sponsorship remains directed solely at the conduct of the Indigenous Political & Legal Roundtable (formerly known as the Politics and Law Conference). The WCIP has, this month, formally issued a release notifying the public that it is not a sponsor of WAFN and has not officially authorized its name to be used in sponsorship connection with WAFN.

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4. The Federation of Saskatchewan Indians (FSI) and the WAFN are rumored to be in debt because of this weeklong expo to the tune of \$1.2 million (CAN) though they have officially made proposals to the Saskatchewan Provincial Government and the Canadian Foreign Ministry (aid section - Canadian International Development Agency - CIDA) WAFN has received direct financial and administrative help from the Canadian Department of Indian Affairs. The Canadian Foreign Ministry has apparently decided against providing funds due to pressure (apparently) from the WCIP and the Native Council of Canada. WAFN officials (Sol Sanderson and Del Anaquad) report that they have applied for funds in the amounts of \$20,000., \$50,000., and \$75,000 from foundations in New York.
 5. A "Pueblo Youth Dance Group" from New Mexico has been designated a "goodwill ambassadors" to the WAFN by the Governor of that state. Rodeo, golf, baseball and artist Indians from the United States are slated to participate in WAFN activities. Cultural dancers from Fiji and other South Seas islands are rumored to be planning trips to WAFN festivities with Ross Moore (an aboriginal from Australia) coordinating their participation. Many anti-assimilationist Indians from Canada still seem intent upon boycotting the WAFN.
 6. No provision has been made in WAFN for clearly defining whether indigenous people will participate in the "business portion of the festivities" as delegates with authority from their respective governments or organizations, or as individuals representing themselves. There appears to be a mixture favoring individuals representing themselves. As far as the Indigenous Political & Legal Roundtable is concerned, people who participate in this two-day work-session on the Draft International Covenant on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples will act as individuals representing themselves.
 7. NCAI is now firmly recognized within WAFN as the "lead organizer and coordinator of the Indigenous Legal and Political Roundtable. As of this month, at the direction of NCAI I have reorganized this "conference" to be a roundtable discussion on the "political development of indigenous peoples in North America with a focus on a review and comment on the Draft International Covenant on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (adopted in principle by the Third Assembly of the WCIP in Canberra) Formal presentations will be delivered by five indigenous leaders from North America and five indigenous

MEMORANDUM

NCAI Coordination of WAFN...

28 June 1982

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representatives (Hans Pavia Rosing-Inuit, Greenland; Millian Painimal-Mapuche, Chile; Hinyangerwa Ashoke, Deputy Representative to the United Nations for the Southwest African Peoples' Organization, Namibia; Yann Celene Uregei, Kanak, Leader of the United Kanak Liberation Front, New Caledonia and Dave Ahenekew-Cree, Assembly of First Nations, Canada. Jose Carlos Morales Morales, Buruca, Central American Indigenous Council and President of WCIP from Costa Rica will also participate. The Indigenous Political and Legal Roundtable will produce a verbatim summary of discussions centering on comparative political development in North America and suggested changes which may be considered in the Draft International Covenant on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

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8. The question of WAFN permanence remains an open question. Sol Sanderson (PSI/WAFN) maintains the view that "whether organizational support is forthcoming or not" he intends to establish the WAFN as a permanent organization. Such an event could be extremely damaging to indigenous political development internationally -- what with the apparent proliferation of "international indigenous organizations" becoming a pattern. At present there is only one "world-wide" indigenous organization and that is the World Council of Indigenous Peoples. The International Indian Treaty Council is a "non-constituent" organization with limited international standing and even more limited organizational ties among Indigenous groups in the world. To solve this problem, after consulting with Joe D. and Ralph E., I have begun to arrange a "North American Leadership Conference" with WAFN staff to take place on 18 July in Regina which will be an unscheduled meeting of principle North American (National) leadership. The purpose of this special meeting (it is proposed) will be to reaffirm "past commitments to mobilize a North American Political Alliance".. The goal will be to outline procedures for the establishment of a permanent indigenous mechanism to advance North American Indigenous interests internationally. Participants in this six hour meeting will be NCAI, Assembly of First Nations, PSI, the Native Council of Canada and the National Tribal Chairmans' Association. The topic for discussion will be the Draft WAFN Charter (produced by Sol Sanderson) and the North American Regional Indigenous Council (NARIC) offered by Ralph Eluska as North American Delegate to the WCIP Executive Council. Two protocol agreements will be considered for "initialling" subject to organizational ratifications. The object of this "special meeting is to deal directly with procedural problems associated with establishing either an Indian organization regionally based and affiliated with the WCIP or with Sol's proposed new world organization. The political leaders mentioned above will be the only competent authorities present at the WAFN.
 9. A WCIP Executive Council Meeting will be convened in Regina coincident with the WAFN meetings though not a part of them Jose Carlos has agreed with Ralph E.'s suggestion that such a meeting be convened.



**NATIONAL
CONGRESS
OF
AMERICAN
INDIANS**

202 E STREET, N.E., WASHINGTON, D.C. 20002 (202) 546-1168

23 September, 1982

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Eddie Tullis
Poarch Band of Creeks

Dear Joe:


I have prepared the following materials in accordance with our discussions. They are, herein, included:

1. Strategy paper: National Reconstruction; A New Indian Strategy
2. National Policy Mandate: Indian Country Under Siege: A State of Emergency
3. New Indian Strategy background brief

With these materials I would add the following reminders:

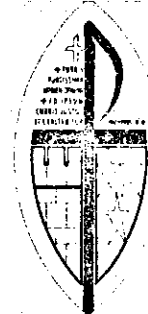
1. You and Ralph must talk with Eugene Crawford regarding our short proposal for \$40,000 +. This proposal contains funds for you and Ralph to travel in addition to funds that will give use more flexibility to apply pressures on the Reagan administration.
2. You have received the report on WAFN... it should probably be used in summary to report on that event.
3. I have enclosed a copy of the "Draft International Covenant" for internal discussion purposes and transmittal to Theresa.
4. The Strategy document, enclosed, should be used for selective discussion purposes with people you trust. After it has been modified, you may want to surface it at the Convention as an attachment to the National Policy Mandate as an outline of a program to carry out the Mandate.
5. In addition to a broad concensus at the Convention we will need major committments from five or six tribal leaders and tribal councils to carry out the Mandate and the Strategy outline.

I hope these materials satisfy your needs at the Convention. I'm sorry I could'nt do more to directly help out. Between your speech and these materials I believe you have at least an adequate foundation for what you must do. Good luck my friend!

Regards,

RUDOLPH C. RYSER

LUTHERAN COUNCIL OF THE USA

Suite 1847
35 East Wacker Drive
Chicago, IL 60601
312/726-3791
NATIONAL INDIAN LUTHERAN BOARD



RECEIVED

NOV 13 1982

November 12, 1982

Joseph De La Cruz, President
National Congress of American Indians
202 E Street NE
Washington, DC 20002

Dear Joe:

If you recall that, while at the NCAI Convention in Bismarck this past September, I said I would bring the NCAI proposal for Third World involvement to the NILB executive committee meeting in late October. The NILB's commitment with the Lutheran churches is to work with Indians in North America. Each of the NILB executive committee members was sympathetic about the South American situation but this goes beyond our mandate with the churches. After much discussion, our president, Paul Schultz, suggested I write to you and refer you to Lutheran Resources Commission-Washington.

DuPont Circle Building, Suite 823
1346 Connecticut Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20036
202/872-0110

We feel they would be the best organization to help you with this search for funds.

On Friday, October 1 at the NCAI executive committee meeting you asked them to decide on the creation of a committee to implement a Lucy Covington Scholarship Fund. Among other suggested names for the committee you named Rose Robinson and me. I know you intended this scholarship fund committee to be under the auspices of NCAI. I brought this information to the NILB meeting and the executive committee is very supportive of this effort.

This will be a great on-going and living tribute to dear Lucy. It would be just the thing she would have loved and wanted. I remember all her years as a member of American Indian Scholarship Fund.

I wonder if we can arrange for this committee to meet just prior to or during the NCAI executive council meeting in January in order to formulate recommendations. These would be brought back first to the executive committee and then presented to the executive council.

At the JSAC/Indian Ministries Task Force meeting the end of October I was elected chairman for the next two years. In my opening remarks I mentioned the strong possibility of this scholarship fund to enhance the memory of Lucy. I had to be very

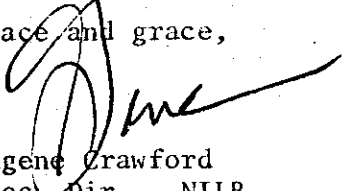
Joseph De La Cruz, NCAI
page two

general in my remarks but there was a good response. That group meets again in April and if we can get this thing to gel in January I could present it formally at their meeting. I believe church women across the country would respond very favorably to this type of appeal.

I should emphasize, Joe, that NILB has no desire for ownership of the effort rather, to be helpful in any way we can. I sensed this also from the remarks made by the members of JSAC?IMTF.

Let me hear from you. If you would like us to assume the responsibility I volunteer Rose and me. We could coordinate that first meeting.

Peace and grace,



Eugene Crawford
Exec Dir. - NILB
EC:mw

cc: Ron Andrade
Morris Sorenson
Rose Robinson
Paul Schultz



CHURCH COUNCIL of GREATER SEATTLE

4759 Fifteenth Avenue N.E. - Third Floor
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98105
Telephone 525-1213

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October 21, 1982

Joe Delacruz
Chairman
Quinault Tribe
Taholah, WA 98587

Dear Joe:


I am glad Marilyn Bode had the chance to talk to you about the occasion we hope for in November. Mr. Anwar Barkat is going to be in town, and he is head of the Program to Combat Racism of the World Council of Churches. Mr. Barkat's home country is Pakistan, but he works out of Geneva, Switzerland. His interest is in the rights and struggles of indigenous people around the world, and this program has been active in many areas, especially in South Africa where it has attracted much attention.

Mr. Barkat is very eager to talk to leaders of Indian peoples from around this area, to get a feel for your perceptions and sense of priority around current issues. We are hopeful that through your acquaintance in the area, a number (perhaps a dozen?) or so of Native American leaders would come together for an afternoon's conversation with Mr. Barkat.

The time we have planned for such a meeting is November 10th, 1982, Wednesday afternoon at 3:30 pm in the offices of the Church Council of Greater Seattle, 4759 15th NE. There is ample parking across the street.

I'll be calling you about the first of November to see if there are people willing to attend. They need not especially have a sense of global tie with others, if they feel like lifting up some of their own concerns. There is also the chance that the grant program Mr. Barkat represents might be helpful to some.

Thanks for your response.

Sincerely,

Jonathan C. Nelson
Chair: Native American Task

.....
The Rev. Loren E. Arnett
Cheri Babyak
Laura Bailey
Ann Baughn
Debbie Beck
The Rev. William Berney
The Rev. Michael Black
The Rev. Dr. Frank E. Brown
Chris Craton
The Rev. Richard Cunningham
The Rev. Wesley Durland
The Rev. Miguel De Guzman
Sr. Vera Gallagher
Lillian Gideon
Mark Hillman
The Rev. David Jackson
Nason James
The Rev. Dr. Riley Jensen
Sr. Mary Keyes
Iris Knapp
The Rev. Justin McCreedy
Sally Mackey
The Rev. Lee May
The Rev. Charles W. Mays
Christine Meade
The Rev. O. J. Moore
The Rev. Christine E. Morton
The Rev. Timothy Nakayama
The Rev. Candace Naisbitt
The Rev. Jonathan Nelson
Arlene Oki
The Rev. Dr. Rodney Romney
Sam Saltonstall
Lois Selmar
Carrie Sheehan
The Rev. Dr. Charles Smith
Imo Steele
The Rev. Dr. Fred Stephens
Ann Stever
The Rev. Marlis Stoner
The Rev. J. Graley Taylor
James Thebaut
Bruce Walker
Barbara Van Ark Wilson
Phyllis Wilson

.....
Meekness Israel
Softness Israel
Armageddon Observers
Art Abramson
Rabbi James Mirel
David Stahl
Jewish Observers
Margaret Lueders
Unitarian Observer
Melanie Grimes
Karen Herrin
Baha'i Observers

MEMORANDUM

TO: J. DeLaCruz, President
FROM: R.C. Ryser
SUBJECT: Meeting with Anwar Barkat, World Council
of Churches Program to Combat Racism -
Geneva, in Seattle, Nov. 10, as per
correspondence from Rev. John Nelson.
DATE: 28 October, 1982

In accordance with your request I am taking steps to organize tribal participation for the above mentioned meeting.

I have talked with Marilyn Bodey and received some background regarding the meeting. I will talk with J. Nelson to morrow. I am preparing letters to several people initially, including: Chief Wayne Christian of the Spalmucheen Band, Mel Tonasket, Russel Jim, Mark Recalma, Qualicum Band of Indians; and Marie Starr from the Mukelshoot. I will add more names to this list next week. There is a high probability that the Washington Council of Churches will provide some money for travel expenses. I will confirm this with Nelson.

Initial background and overview

This meeting has been precipitated as a result of a number of factors: Discussions you had with Marilyn Bodey regarding the WCC's overemphasis on financial support to the IITC; increased pressure on the WCC Program to Combat Racism in Geneva as a result of direct contacts by tribes in Canada during the last two years, and by representatives of the Six Nations; pressure from the Australian Aboriginals and a series of proposals we authored from the WCIP during the last two years; and the fact that the WCC is holding its world assembly in Vancouver, B.C. next summer. The WCC's Program to Combat Racism has apparently been under some criticism for its failure to have closer ties to tribal groups in North America at the "local" level. IITC is not considered representative enough! The meeting may be tied to next year's UN Conference on actions to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination. I will explore these connections more thoroughly and provide a more indept, assessment.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Joe DeLaCruz, President NCAI
Ralph Eluska, Vice President NCAI
Hollis Stabler, Treasurer

FROM: R.C. Ryser

SUBJECT: North American Indian Participation in the 1983 World Council of Churches General Assembly - Summer, Vancouver British Columbia, Canada.

DATE: 22 November, 1982

On 25 October the president asked me to facilitate an exploratory meeting between tribal leaders, Mr. Anwar Barkat, Director of the Geneva Based WCC Program to Combat Racism; and representatives of the Church Council of Greater Seattle. The meeting was planned for Nov. 10 in Seattle. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss Indian rights issues in the U.S. and Canada, the role of the WCC Program to Combat Racism in connection with indigenous populations, and an invitation by the World Council of Churches to tribes in North America to introduce Indian Rights issues into the agenda of the upcoming WCC General Assembly (planned for Vancouver B.C. in the Summer of the next year).

The meeting was attended by Joe DeLaCruz, Mr. Cliff Hanus of the Bella Coola District Council (participating on behalf of key tribal Chiefs in Canada), Karen Boney, Chairwoman of the Snoqualmie Tribal Council and Roger Jackson, Lillian Pullen and Diana Penn from the Quileute Tribe. Mr. Anwar Barkat from the World Council of Churches, Rev. Dr. William B. Cate, President of the Church Council of Greater Seattle; Rev. Jonathen Nelson, Chairman of the Native American Task Force; Marilyn Bode, Inter-Lutheran Coordinator for Native American Concerns participated with other church representatives.

HIGHPOINTS of the Nov.10 meeting:

Mr. Anwar Barkat, a national of Pakistan, introduced himself AND described his program as a small part of the WCC with three staff committed to the idea of supporting indigenous efforts to increase their public visibility and political effectiveness. While the Program to Combat Racism grants some funds toward supporting indigenous efforts, Barkat urged his listeners not to think of the Program as a granting agency. "Our funds are simply too limited," he said. "We occasionally offer small sums of money in emergency situations. Our greatest contribution to Indigenous populations has been to help create forums where they can present their own ideas and views for themselves." He pointed out that "... as spokesmen for themselves Indigenous peoples are more believable ... and tend to garner greater support from a wider range of sources."

Barkat's principle focus was on his invitation to tribal leaders in NW United States and SW Canada to organize a "significant" indigenous presence at the three-week World Council of Churches General Assembly in Vancouver, Canada scheduled for July-August, 1983. He suggested that Indian issues (particularly land rights and related matters) could become a significant part of the WCC General Assembly--especially if tribal leaders took the initiative. He further noted that delegates from 100 countries would be present, and international, national and regional press would be accessible.

MEMORANDUM

Anwar Barkat and the WCC General Assembly

22 November 1982

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Tribal participants raised several questions, including:

Why is the WCC interested in tribal participation in its General Assembly?

BARKAT: "The Program to Combat Racism has been involved in supporting indigenous people around the world, and have recently completed an inquiry into "Indigenous Land Rights". The issue will be considered by the General Assembly because of an internal mandate. Indigenous rights will be considered whether tribes in this region participate or not. I am simply suggesting that you consider taking the initiative to shape the issues-- since, if you don't someone else will."

The tribes in Canada and the United States do not have the necessary resources (financial) to undertake an initiative. Will the WCC Program to Combat Racism provide financial help?

BARKAT: "My program's resources are limited. There may be some funds available through the local (Vancouver conference planning committee) organization." It was suggested that the responsibility for raising such funds to support the tribal initiative must come from church organizations in the immediate area (Seattle and Vancouver).

What opportunities will exist during the General Assembly for Indian issues to be raised?

BARKAT: "Initial steps have been made to permit tribal presentations during the opening plenary session, a five-day seminar session and various mid-day and evening ceremonial situations. More details on possible opportunities are available from Gloria George, connected with the Vancouver planning committee.

The observation was made that the Church Council of Greater Seattle and the Vancouver based church organizations must be closer in their cooperation, while Indian peoples in Canada and the United States must work closely together. The Chairman of the Native American Task Force, Rev. Jon Nelson, suggested that his task force could take the church initiative to create linkages. He further noted that his task force would meet within a week to decide if they could be helpful by raising funds and organizing area church support for a tribal initiative.

A World conference is difficult to justify on reservations. In what ways can tribal participation have concrete importance for tribal communities?

BARKAT: "The Program to Combat Racism has prepared reports, based on tribal issues and tribal direction, which have considerable political impact on local situations. By making Indian Rights and Indian issues a major agenda item of the WCC political and economic support from churches at the International, national and local level can be more effectively organized. Many churches have begun returning lands they have controlled to tribal groups. Church groups have the potential for effective political influence at all levels of non-Indian government.

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Anwar Barkat and the WCC General Assembly

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SUMMARY: conclusions

Barkat observed that the issues and concerns raised by tribal representatives were similar to concerns raised by indigenous peoples around the world. These concerns include conflicts with surrounding non-indigenous jurisdictions (counties, cities, states) and non-Indians, troubled and unstable tribal economies, external threats to tribal natural resources and means of survival, undo interference from non-indigenous institutions like the churches and surrounding governments in the internal affairs of tribal peoples.

It was generally agreed that the following steps should be taken regarding the invitation for tribal participation in the WCC General Assembly:

1. The Church Council of Greater Seattle, through its President, will contact officials in the Vancouver Planning Committee to establish formal contact.
2. The Native American Task Force headed by Nelson would conduct a meeting of its members to determine what they can do to answer questions raised by tribal representatives.
3. Tribal representatives in NW U.S. and SW Canada will subsequently meet to determine the nature (if any) of tribal presence in the WCC General Assembly.
4. If tribal leaders agree, a proposal will be prepared including a budget and narrative for church financial support.
5. A decision will be made before the end of the first week of December.

SUBSEQUENT RESULTS AND OBSERVATION:

As of the date of this memo the Church Council's President has contacted church counterparts in Vancouver, the Native American Task Force has met, and the following has been proposed and offered:

Rev. Jon Nelson has advised that his Task Force Met on 17 November and decided to provide an initial \$300 to support the organization of a meeting between tribal persons -- at which meeting tribal representatives are invited to prepare a proposal (including a budget and narrative) which would be supported by the Church Council of Greater Seattle to secure funds from the Vancouver Planning Committee and churches from across the United States and Canada. The CCGS will link with the WCC Planning Committee. CCGS will raise from U.S. churches an estimated \$12,000.

I spoke with Chief Wayne Christian of the Spalmucheen Band of the Shuswap Nation -- he advises that he and Derek Wilson will assume primary responsibility for coordinating Canadian Indian participation in the WCC General Assembly. He will serve as the tribal link with leadership in NW U.S. Chief Christian wants to meet with tribal leaders soon.

I have proposed that a meeting between interested tribal leaders

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during the week of December 6 - 10 where the following things may take place:

1. Meet at the offices of the Union of British Columbia Indian Chiefs on either December 8 or 9 (Wednesday or Thursday).
2. Meet in the morning with Gloria George and Gordon Howe of the Vancouver Planning Council to examine what ideas have already been raised regarding tribal participation.
3. Meet in the afternoon to discuss and consider a proposal to be written for church support
4. Approve major parts of the proposal and agree upon a division of labor to organize tribal participation.

I am suggesting that tribal leaders consider the following broad budget outline as a basis for making a proposal:

Planning and Organization: December 1982 - January 1983

\$6,000

Organization and development: February 1983 - July 1983

\$19,250

On-site General Assembly: July - August

\$9,000 (about \$10,100 Canadian)

Post Conference follow-up August - November

\$5,750

(All \$\$ amounts are in U.S. currency)

I further suggest that two staff personnel (one in Canada and one in the U.S.) be assigned. Two tribal leaders (one in Canada and in the U.S.) assume linkage responsibilities. Tribal organizers both north and south should include no more than 9 or 10 persons. Finally I suggest that a proposal and plan of action be agreed to before 10 December, and Planning and Organization efforts should commence immediately thereafter.

**Chief Wayne Christian and Chairwoman Karen Boney are agreeable to a meeting in Vancouver on either 8 or 9 December.

WILLIAM C. BYSER
728 612th St. S.W.
Lynnwood, Washington
98036

MEMORANDUM

TO: Joe Schatz, Karen Boney, Russel Jim, Ralph Eluska

FROM: W.C. Byser

SUBJECT: Proposal: Indigenous Peoples and Christian Churches
Dialogue. For World Council of Churches Sixth Assembly.

DATE: 16 December, 1988

The enclosed proposal is a product of discussions involving chiefs from British Columbia and yourself in the last four weeks. It has been hand delivered to Rev. Jon Nelson Chairman of the Native American Task Force of the Church Council of Greater Seattle.

The proposal contains provisions sufficiently flexible to allow for maximum benefit. In other words, the proposal has been written so that the public agenda can be accomplished while leaving room for support of any "hidden" agendas. Nelson advises that he will pull his task force members to determine their willingness to raise funds for the project. As soon as word is given I will pass it along to you. It should be noted that to the extent possible this proposal has been written to permit a modest flow of funds directly into tribal communities.

You should understand that for us to be successful in our effort to introduce "substantive" issues into the 6th Sixth Assembly certain modifications will have to be made in the current draft program outlined by Maria George. In October she reported that she was promoting an extensive "public display" of great lodges, potlatch and religious ceremonies. She heard that people in Canada oppose any such display of traditional religious practices. Our proposal clearly indicates that such events will not be tolerated. Chief Wayne Christian and Derek Wilson (of the Union of British Columbia Indian Chiefs) will talk with Maria to make the necessary modifications. It should be further noted that all preparations up to now have been designed to deal with the "Urban Indian" perspective and not the tribal perspective. Again, it should be noted, modifications will have to be made.

If your views are satisfied by the enclosed proposal then we can proceed. If you have any further comments please contact me. I will otherwise keep you informed of our progress.

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND CHRISTIAN CHURCHES DIALOGUE (ICDP)

A Tribal Project

OVERVIEW:

The World Council of Churches is holding its Sixth Assembly in Vancouver, British Columbia, CANADA (July 24 to August 10) in the Summer of 1983. Planners for the General Assembly have prepared an extensive draft agenda which currently contemplates a significant Native involvement from North America emphasizing demonstrations of "the Native Spiritual experience", ceremonies and artistic events, and educational events. Tribal leadership in the Southwest of Canada and Northwest of the United States view the WCC Sixth Assembly as a major event within which the substantive concerns of Indigenous Peoples may be properly considered. Noting that western churches have historically played the role of vanguard for state colonization of Indigenous homelands in the Americas, Tribal leaders have come to view the WCC Sixth Assembly as both an event which can further harm native peoples, or an event which can encourage understanding and cooperation. Substantive interaction between the Christian peoples of the World and Indigenous peoples is seen as promoting the latter. Recognizing that positive interaction is possible if tribal leaders take the initiative to promote dialogue the decision has been made to attempt a systematic, nine-month effort to organize substantive native participation in the WCC Sixth Assembly.

This decision has been arrived at among tribal leaders in both the United States and Canada. The principles which guide the decision to participate include the following:

1. Tribal participation must be substantive and concrete, with the intent of opening a dialogue between Indigenous Peoples and the Christian Religious Community.
2. No Indigenous Spiritual ceremony or demonstration (including a Potlatch) is to be conducted, though discussion of spiritual values will be encouraged.
3. Cultural expressions through art, craft and dance will be encouraged as a two-way exchange, but not as a mere display.
4. The dialogue between the Christian Community and Indian Peoples must begin in January of 1983 and become formally staged at the WCC Sixth Assembly, with the widest possible exposure of the dialogue being arranged.
5. No restrictions must be placed on the substantive or topical character of Indigenous presentations.
6. There must be a formally expressed willingness on the part of the WCC to promote and continue Indigenous and Christian dialogue to advance concrete actions following the Sixth Assembly.

With some indication that these principles will be respected, Tribal

Leaders are in agreement that the following proposal may be submitted to raise funds to provide for tribal preparations and participation in the World Council of Churches Sixth Assembly.

Proposal Summary

It is proposed that President Joe DeLaCruz of the Quinault Nation, and Chief Wayne Christian of the Spallmucheen Band of the Shuswap Nation jointly head a Steering Committee (consisting of eight Chiefs and Tribal Chairmen) with the responsibility for directing tribal preparations and participation in the WCC Sixth Assembly. Rudy Ryser, a member of the Cowlitz Tribe, will serve as staff coordinator with the responsibility for organizing technical support, scheduling, document preparation and logistics. The Indigenous Peoples and Christian Church Dialogue Project (ICDP) will commence in December 1982 and end August 15, 1983. The ICDP is designed to achieve extensive Indian community participation through a series of Public Forums and/or roundtables, wide tribal, church and general public exposure to key issues affecting the tribal condition through the printed press and electronic media, and formal consideration of indigenous issues during the WCC Sixth Assembly. Indigenous leaders and communities from North America shall define the substantive content of the public forums and representations at the Sixth Assembly. The intended results of this project will be: wider visibility of North American Indigenous issues in North America and throughout the World, a direct exchange of ideas and information between indigenous communities and Christian Churches, establishment of an ongoing dialogue between Indigenous Leadership and Christian Leadership and the publication and distribution of documented representations pro-filling the situation of Indigenous Peoples in North America.

Purpose:

The purpose of the ICDP is to open channels of communications between North American Indigenous Peoples and Christian Churches to promote dialogue and cooperative concrete action on substantive issues, including, but not limited to: Indian land rights, spiritual and cultural rights, political rights and economic rights.

Goal:

The goal of the ICDP is to organize a series of public discussions between Indigenous peoples and Christian leaders, public information presentations and formal substantive presentations before and during the WCC Sixth Assembly.

Objectives:

To achieve the purpose and goal of the ICDP the following objectives have been established:

1. Conduct six, day-long public forums (one in Seattle, one in Vancouver and four on Indian reserves and reservations) involving Indian and Church people in discussions of Indian Rights issues of local, regional and international importance beginning in February 1983 and ending July 1, 1983.

2. Preparation of Public informational materials aimed at tribal populations, the Church community and the general population in North America on a Monthly basis beginning in February 1983.

3. Organize the participation of five or more tribal spokespersons to deliver presentations during the Plenary Session of the WCC Sixth Assembly (2 persons), and presentations during the five day "Native Forum".

4. Prepare a final document of tribal representations for tribal, church and general distribution after the WCC Sixth Assembly comes to a close.

Program:

The Steering Committee will meet during the Planning Phase (December - February 15, 1983) to prepare a detailed schedule and timetable. Contact will be made with Indigenous Communities and Church groups to facilitate this process. Tribal and Church linkages will be established, and technical support will be identified. Firm liaison with the Vancouver Planning Committee will be established.

During the Development Phase (February 16, 1983 - July 23, 1983) the Coordinator and technical support will arrange and organize six public forums. The first of these will be conducted in Seattle, the second, third, fourth and fifth will be conducted on reservations and reserves, and the sixth will be conducted in Vancouver, B.C.

Each fora will be accompanied by efforts to promote tribal and general news coverage. Necessary materials will be prepared for each Public Forum. The Development Phase will include efforts to stimulate similar forums across North America. Substantive document preparation will be in process for use in the WCC Sixth Assembly.

The Participation Phase (July 24, 1983 - August 15, 1983) will consist of two major statements before the Sixth Assembly Plenary Session. The first of these will be a message from Indigenous Spiritual Leadership to the Christian leadership. The second Plenary presentation will be a message to the Assembly on critical issues of concern to North American Indigenous Peoples. Indigenous spokespersons will deliver presentations and guide discussions during the five-day Native Forum. Other Indigenous participants will be invited to join these discussions with Church delegates. It is anticipated that the five-day Forum will focus on five issue areas of concern to indigenous peoples, including: Territorial and Natural Resource Rights, Indigenous Spirituality, Indigenous Community, Indigenous Political Development and the Family of Nations, Indian and non-Indian relations in Canada and the United States.

At the close of the Assembly, all relevant documents will be compiled into a publication for tribal, church and general distribution.

Budget Summary:

For the period of December 1982 to August 1983 it is estimated that a total sum of \$42,510 (U.S.) will be required. The funds will be administered under the direction of the Spallmucheen Band Government of the Shuswap Nation. Distribution of costs according to phase is

estimated as follows: Planning Phase: \$4,956 + administration, Development Phase: 22,170 + administration, Participation Phase: \$11,519 + administration. Where possible, all expenditures will be directed into tribal communities.

ICDP Budget: December 1982 - August 1983

Consultant Expenses:

Coordinator @ \$900/mo	\$ 8,100
Technical Support @ \$100/day	
Writer/Researcher 35 days	3,500
Media Relations @ 20 days	2,000
<u>Public Forums @ \$1,200 ea six</u>	7,200
<u>Steering Committee - 3 Mtg. @ \$800 ea</u>	2,400
<u>General Travel and Expenses:</u>	5,000
<u>Participation of Spokesperson in Sixth Assembly including travel, expenses and honoraria</u>	5,340
<u>Support:</u>	
Telephone	2,450
Supplies	525
Postage	1,000
Duplication	77,720
Space Rental	360
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TOTAL PROJECT COST	\$38,645
<u>Administration @ 10%</u>	3,865
	<hr/>
<u>Final Total</u>	\$42,510 (U.S.)

RUDOLPH C. NYSER
788 21st Pl. S.W.
Lynnwood, Washington
98036

MEMORANDUM

TO: Joe DeLaCruz, President, NCAI
Ralph Bluske, Vice President, NCAI

FROM: R.C. Nyser, International Counsel

SUBJECT: FOUR ARROWS PROJECT FOR GUATEMALAN INDIAN REFUGEES
George Manuel Report from the border area between
Mexico and Guatemala - Dec. 3, 1982.

DATE: 6 December, 1982

"What are we Indian people doing in the face of the genocide of a people who are just like ourselves, who live closer to us than the distance from Vancouver to Halifax? (Closer than the distance between the Makah Reservation and the Kiowa Reservation)

"Sometime, these Indians are going to liberate themselves, against all the military aid of the United States, against the military aid of Israel and Argentina, against the fiercest and best equipped armies in the world. The Indians are going to win. They will win because on their side they have the power of truth, and justice and right, and because they are fighting for their lands, lives future and liberty. When they win, we will see for the first time in the Americas a real Indian Government. We will have Indian people sitting in the General Assembly of the UN. We will say to ourselves, "now we will have someone in the United Nations who will help to defend our Indian rights...." When we go to them for help, they will say to us, 'And what did you do for us when we were facing genocide? What did you do for us when we were hungry and dying in the refugee camps in Mexico?' When that time arrives, I don't want to have to turn my head in shame. As poor as some of our people are, there is a lot we can do to help."

It is in this way that George Manuel, having returned from the Indian Refugee camps, challenges us to support the Four Arrows Project for Guatemalan Indian Refugees -- a project he has initiated within just the last week. George advises me that his independently initiated visit to Indian refugee camps profoundly shocked him. He spent three weeks living in the refugee camps, talking with the people and doing what he could to help. He personally arranged to transport a ton of corn from Mexican farmers to the camps. Indians are eating a single meal or less of corn per day while contending with occasional confrontations with Guatemalan insurgency forces which freely attack camps and villages. The Mexican government offers no protection to the Indians. George estimates that there are now between 200,000 and 300,000 Indian refugees located in the Mexican states of Yucatan, Chiapas, Tabasco and Oaxaca. Most are being cared for by equally poor Indians located in villages throughout these states.

While we must recognize that our own peoples are suffering under the greatest distress we have known for decades, and we must work harder with practically no resources to help our peoples, we must make a direct effort to help our brothers and sisters who have an even greater need than our own. George is attempting to raise about \$500,000 (CAN) to secure a matching amount of \$1,500,00 from the Canadian International Development Agency to provide food and medical aid.

At present an individual requires about 210 pesos per day to live in Southern Mexico. At 73 pesos per \$1 and with an estimated 200,000 people, the need per month in U.S. dollars is an estimated \$18,000,000. For the next year refugees would need a minimum of \$216,000,000. As you can imagine, the level of need at minimum will not be met. Starvation and disease will kill thousands even as the Guatemalan elite anti-insurgency troops, saibiles, attack and kill Indians.

The U.S. government will not likely officially recognize that thousands of Indians have become refugees in Southern Mexico; just as the Mexican Government has not officially recognized their presence. The U.S. policy of benign neglect and possible reestablishment of military assistance to the Guatemalan government strongly suggest that the Indian Crisis will be ignored.

I firmly believe that it is our own best interest to extend our political and economic assistance to our brothers and sisters to the South. I am, therefore, independently working to contact tribal and non-Indian leaders in the U.S. to secure support for George's Four Arrows campaign. I have called upon the All Indian Pueblo Council and the Muckelshoot Indian Tribe to extend help. I will call upon The Lutheran World Relief, National Council of Churches and the Church Council of Greater Seattle to help. The extent to which my own personal resources can be stretched, I will work to promote help for Indian Refugees. I, of course, hope the NCAI will continue and even expand its efforts to call attention to the Indian Crisis in Central America. We cannot do less. We must do more for ourselves and for our brothers and sisters who have no one else to turn to in this critical time.

RUDOLPH C. RYSER
728 212th Pl. S.W.
Lynnwood, Washington
98036

25 January, 1983

JOE DELACRUZ
P.O. Box 6
Taholah, Washington
98587

Dear Joe:

I understand you to be serving as a member of the search committee considering candidates for the position of Special Assistant to the Governor for Indian Affairs. I would appreciate the Search Committee's consideration of my application for the position.

As you know, I have been engaged all my working life in Indian Affairs. I have had considerable experience in inter-governmental relations between Indian and State governments and, therefore, have had considerable direct experience with the issues concerning tribal/state relations.

I believe I could make a valuable contribution to improving and facilitating tribal/state communications, and greater clarification of State and tribal relations. I hope the Search Committee will give my application serious consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Rudolph C. Ryser

Similar communication sent to Mel Tonasket

ROBERT C. BYSER
723 212th St. S.W.
Lynnwood, Washington
98036

(206) 775-1007

January 10, 1983

MEMORANDUM

TO: Joe DeLaCruz, President
National Congress of American Indians
Ralph Bluska, Vice President
Mollis Stabler, Jr., Treasurer

FROM: R.C. Bysen

SUBJECT: Year-End Review of International Portfolio
February 3, 1982 - December 31, 1982

Please find enclosed my year-end "Review of the International Portfolio". You will find in this review a highlighted narrative and "chronology of significant documents and communications" which describes actions on the NCAI International Agenda over the last eleven months. I have prepared this review as a reminder of our actions and initiatives and as a document that may be useful at the January Executive Council meeting. Though the work under the International Portfolio has often been difficult, I believe after you have read this review you will agree with me that some important achievements have been made this last year.

I am gratified and appreciative for having been able to work with NCAI during this last year. I only wish we had been better able to form a working team -- especially with the NCAI Executive Offices. We could have accomplished a great deal more if we had had the financial resources as well. But, despite a few glitches along the way I do believe progress has been made.

I would have included in this review a discussion of questions raised about the Central American Resolution by the International Treaty Council, OAS and the World Assembly of First Nations, but, unfortunately I haven't seen any of that correspondence. I suspect there will be some controversy regarding the resolution. All I can say is that every news report and on-site report I have read, and every personal discussion I have had with affected parties in Central America since NCAI adopted the Central American Resolution confirms its content. It would be a sad thing if domestic personality politics is allowed undermine the very solid efforts that NCAI has initiated in connection with Central America.

I believe that we have made solid effort in the international arena; and, I further believe that U.S. tribes will benefit from the difficult diplomatic work in which you all have shared. In only ten years U.S. tribes and NCAI have accomplished a great deal to overcome mental and emotional obstacles which have prevented Indian peoples from participating in international affairs which so directly affect their lives. Perhaps in the next ten years we will see Indian peoples working to represent themselves in the international bodies which have for so long ignored their very existence.

I look to many more successes in the year to come.