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Lynnwood, Washington
98036

12 January, 1983

Prof. John H. Bodley
Department of Anthropology
Washington State University
Pullman, Washington
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Dear John:

Just a note to see how you are coming along on/your "World Bank Rebuttal" article. I would like very much to see what you come up with. I have been talking with Randy Hayes (Friends of the Earth in San Francisco) about my article. He thinks some of the Survival International people (some of whom work in the Environmental Section of the World Bank) also had something to do with the World Bank's Indigenous policy. He noted, coincidentally, that the Ford Foundation has been unsatisfied (what ever that means) with Survival, and has decided not to provide them with anymore funding.

Along those lines; I have been talking with a Mr. Kojo Bentsi-Enchill of Ford's International Human Rights Division over the last several months. He tells me that Ford will likely place considerable emphasis on Indigenous group grants during this and the next year. He has asked me to comment on the new guidelines he has authored. Have you had any contact with Mr. Bentsi-Enchill? If so, have you any thoughts about him or the apparently new trend within the Ford Foundation?

Last month I told you I was working on a book entitled: Ancient Peoples and Modern Times (Not a very inspired title, but a working title nevertheless.). For your comment, or what ever, I have enclosed a Chapter outline of this which now consumes more and more of my labors. I have written to a few publishers hoping I can get some backing to finish the thing.

I hope this letter finds you in good health.

Regards,

RUDOLPH C. RYSER

Reply:

Institute for World Indigenous
Research

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21 September, 1981

Prof. John Bodley
Department of Anthropology
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Dear John:

This letter is in partial response to our recent talk on the telephone. I have enclosed copies of the WCIP Third General Assembly release and the Institute for World Indigenous Research prospectus. When I receive the final draft of the WCIP's submission to the UN Conference on new and Renewable Sources of Energy (Nairobi, Kenya August 1981) I will promptly send it your way.

Thank you for offering the services of your students for work on IWIR research efforts. As you can probably guess the WCIP and IWIR need as much support as can be freely given. Since we are just getting the research element of WCIP underway a great deal of work is going into organizing capabilities and mustering financial support. We of course have a considerable workload in the area of Secretariat, Executive Council and General Assembly research. One major focus of this work is on the subject of Transnational Corporations and their impact on indigenous populations located in each of the WCIP Regions (North America, Central America, South America, South Pacific and Northern Europe.). We are attempting to monitor TNC activities and strategies as they move into rich indigenous territories. We are also going to increasingly focus our attention on the political developments surrounding indigenous "political" status movements in Australia, New Calidonia, Canada

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J. Bodley
21 September 1981
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Thank you again for writing Victims of Progress. On behalf of the World Council of Indigenous Peoples I extend our gratitude and appreciation for including the WCIP and references to some of our documents in the second edition of your book. I personally look forward to using your book in an indigenous philosophy class I will be teaching this Winter at the University of Lethbridge. As I mentioned on the telephone your book is the best and most up-to-date piece I have ever read that so effectively compares the situations of indigenous peoples.

On the chance that you may be interested I will be sending you a booklet I wrote last year with the Inter-Tribal Study Group on Tribal State Relations entitled: Tribes and States in Conflict: A Tribal Proposal. This booklet deals with the fundamental problem of relations between tribes, the United States and various states which produces "symptoms" (court battles over land, water, Indian rights generally) of the conflict that are so often dealt with in public forums and in the media. The fundamental problem is described as being that Indian tribes are not now nor have they ever been a part of the US federal system (though they are treated as if they have always been)--- they are extra political entities geographically surrounded by another political entity. The consequence of this state of affairs is that Tribes in the US do not have a recognizable political status either within or outside the US federal system. The booklet argues for a process that may lead to the firm definition of a tribal political status either within the international context or within the US domestic context. Once I send you the booklet I would be grateful for any comments you might have.

Meanwhile, I look forward to hearing from and reading your increasingly "controversial" monograph.

Regards,

Big signed
RUDOLPH C. RYSER
Acting Director (IWIR)
Special Assistant to the President

cc: WCIP Secretariat
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