

CENTER FOR WORLD INDIGENOUS STUDIES

728 212th Place S.W. * Lynnwood, Washington * 98035 * U.S.A.
(206) 775-1007

20 MAR. 1984

Mr. Anwar Barcat
Program to Combat Racism
Unit 2
Justice & Service
World Council of Churches
P.O. Box 66
1211 Geneva, 20
Switzerland

Dear Mr. Barcat:

Last year we met during a meeting Preparatory to the World Council of Churches General Assembly. The Preparatory meeting was held in Seattle at the offices of the Church Council of Greater Seattle and was concerned with Indian contributions to the General Assembly. At that time I gave you a draft copy of a booklet entitled "Tribes and States in Conflict: A Tribal Proposal". Since that time, several of us at that meeting have founded and established the Center for World Indigenous Studies which I would like to introduce you to now.

The Center for World Indigenous Studies was founded in February 1984 as a result of my discussions with Dr. George Manuel, founder of the World Council of Indigenous Peoples, Russel Jim, former member of the Yakima Indian Nation Tribal Council and various indigenous leaders in the South Pacific, Central America, Canada, Northern Europe and Africa. The idea for the Center began in 1980 when such a center was proposed and advocated at the Third General Assembly of the World Council of Indigenous Peoples in Canberra, Australia during the Spring of 1980. Indian leadership in the United States have advocated the establishment of such a center for more than ten years.

Incorporated on March 7, 1984 under the laws of the State of Washington as a nonprofit corporation, the Center for World Indigenous Studies has been established to advocate and promote the advancement of knowledge from the perspective of indigenous peoples. The Center shall fulfill this purpose through research, study, people exchanges, education, publication and communications activities. While there are many indigenous organizations and indigenous "support" organizations in the United States and elsewhere in the world, none have been specifically established to function as an indigenous peoples' "think tank". The indigenous perspective in areas of knowledge such as social development, economics, history, philosophy, technology, conflict resolution, resource management and the arts is profoundly rich. Yet, despite

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the diversity and depth of such knowledge little or no effort has been made to give indigenous knowledge and ideas visibility. Little or no effort has been expended to ensure wide accessibility of indigenous Peoples' knowledge and ideas to indigenous Peoples themselves and the wider population. It is the intent of the Center for World Indigenous Studies to facilitate the visibility and advocacy of Indigenous Peoples' knowledge and ideas.

During the first year of operation we seek to raise an estimated \$200,000 in general support funds and an additional \$400,000 in specific project and fellowship funds. We are currently seeking to generate seed and general support funding by direct mail contribution solicitations, the sale of subscriptions to our Center Journal and applications to various foundations and organizations. It is our hope that the World Council of Churches Program to Combat Racism will consider our enclosed request for general support.

Sincere regards,

RUDOLPH C. RYSER
Chairman

Enclosure.

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728 212th Place S.W. * Lynnwood, Washington * 98036 * U.S.A.
(206) 775-1007

Z. Jim

415-552-0860

6 March 1984

MR. ART SIMMON
Chairman of the Board
CAPP Street Foundation
294 Page Street
San Francisco, California
94102

Call 3:30 10 April

Dear Mr. Simmon:

Since the early 1960s, more than four million indigenous people have been killed as both combatants and as non-combatants in conflicts with nation-states. The people of East Timor, the Pipil of El Salvador, Na'ga in India, Herero and Ovimbundu in Namibia, Yanomamu in Brazil, the Miskito, Sumu and Rama nations in Nicaragua, and the Bontoc and Kalinga in the Philippines are among the many peoples who are targeted by expansionist state governments or various anti-government rebel forces. Many more indigenous people are dead and their societies under stress due to state promoted economic and social policies. Not since the era of Christian European colonial expansion in the fifteenth century have indigenous peoples been so directly targeted by state governments.

As a member of the Cowlitz Tribe, former special assistant to the President of the World Council of Indigenous Peoples and former Deputy Director of the National Congress of American Indians, I have since 1969 been actively involved in U.S. domestic and international indigenous affairs. Many tribal leaders in the U.S. and in other countries have agreed with me that the situation of indigenous peoples is grim despite the organizational efforts aimed at protecting indigenous peoples. A new and more direct effort is required to increase the capacity of indigenous peoples to defend themselves and their national territories. An indigenous peoples' "think-tank" which serves as an information source and reflects the indigenous perspective is desperately needed. Accordingly, with some of my colleagues in the U.S. and in other countries I am founding the Center for World Indigenous Studies.

Ockino:
Joe Ryan, Director of the AFSC Indian Program in Seattle, suggested that I contact you on the possibility you may be willing to help raise funds to support the Center and its projected activities. I have enclosed a Center Prospectus for your examination and consideration.

Archie Pultas
799-5955
The Nuxalk Nation in Canada and the Quinault Nation in the United States are considering granting some funds to the Center. I am preparing proposals to the Ford Foundation and the World Council of Churches Program to Combat Racism in hopes of securing support for the Center. Before year's end, we are hoping the Center will have been able to secure a base support of about \$208,000 (US). Such a

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sum will permit the Center to begin research educational efforts sufficient to make an important impact during its first year.

We are in the Process of establishing cooperative linkages with the Institute for Policy Studies and the Institute for Food Policy, national and international indigenous organizations and key international non-governmental organizations to facilitate wider consideration of Center generated ideas and concepts.

We in the indigenous world have long sought the opportunity to formalize our contribution to human thought and particularly formalize collaborative efforts for the development of ideas and information between indigenous nations. Such contributions to human thought and to our own communities has long been delayed.

The Center is established to develop information from the indigenous perspective. Information is Power! For indigenous Peoples, access to information has been slight and often dictated by the standards and perspectives of state ideologies and western thought. This reality has often prohibited the successful defense of indigenous national and territorial interests. The Center will change this situation.

I understand you will soon be traveling to Nicaragua. It is my hope you will consider our request before you leave. I will call you before you depart. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincere regards,

CENTER FOR WORLD INDIGENOUS STUDIES

728 212th Place S.W. * Lynnwood, Washington * 98036 * U.S.A.
(206) 775-1887

28 MAR. 1984

Mr. Anwar Barcat
Program to Combat Racism
Unit 2
Justice & Service
World Council of Churches
P.O. Box 66
1211 Geneva, 20
Switzerland

Dear Mr. Barcat:

Last year we met during a meeting preparatory to the World Council of Churches General Assembly. The preparatory meeting was held in Seattle at the offices of the Church Council of Greater Seattle and was concerned with Indian contributions to the General Assembly. At that time I gave you a draft copy of a booklet entitled "Tribes and States in Conflict: A Tribal Proposal". Since that time, several of us at that meeting have founded and established the Center for World Indigenous Studies which I would like to introduce you to now.

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Sincere regards,

RUDOLPH C. RYSER
Chairman

Enclosure.

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20 MAR. 1984

Charities Division
Office of the Secretary of State
Olympia, Washington
98504

Dear Sirs:

It is the intention of the Center for World Indigenous Studies to, from-time-to-time, solicit contributions from individuals and organizations to support Center research, publication and educational activities. We, therefore, request that you send all forms necessary for the Center for World Indigenous Studies to apply for registration as a charitable organization.

Sincerely,

RUDOLPH C. RYSER
Chairman

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20 MAR. 1984

Ms. Lynn Walker
Ford Foundation
2nd Ave. & 43rd St., 6th Floor
New York, N.Y.
10017

Dear Lynn:

The Center for World Indigenous Studies was founded in February 1984 as a result of my discussions with Dr. George Manuel, founder of the World Council of Indigenous Peoples, Russel Jim, former member of the Yakima Indian Nation Tribal Council and various indigenous leaders in the South Pacific, Central America, Canada and Northern Europe. The idea for the Center began in 1980 when such a center was proposed and advocated at the Third General Assembly of the World Council of Indigenous Peoples in Canberra, Australia during the Spring of 1980. Indian leadership in the United States have advocated the establishment of such a center for more than ten years.

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Journal and applications to various foundations and organizations.
It is our hope that the Ford Foundation will consider our enclosed
application for general support.

Sincere regards

RUDOLPH C. RYSER
Chairman

Enclosure.