

A NEW IDC PROJECT

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Archive of the Fourth Russell Tribunal On the rights of the indians in the America's

A microfiche edition of the complete archive of the tribunal held in Rotterdam in November 1980, with detailed evidence, official reports, legal documents and testimony pertaining to 47 cases, with indices for tribes and countries. More than 12,000 pages on microfiche in one practical binder, including the indices.

The rights of indigenous peoples became the subject of discussion on an international level in the early 1970s. The Fourth Russell Tribunal was one of the major conferences in this framework. The members of the jury met in the city of Rotterdam, The Netherlands, in November, 1980, to consider alleged violations of the rights of the Indians in the Americas. Of the 47 cases submitted to the tribunal, 14 were accepted for presentation by witnesses, experts, and documentation. Many other documents and statements were presented as well, including some by indigenous peoples of other continents. More than 100 representatives of indigenous organisations participated in the sessions of the tribunal, coming from as far away as Bolivia, Canada, and New Zealand. Among them were Indian Chiefs, priests, lawyers, and anthropologists. On Sunday, November 30th, the jury reached the conclusion that in most of the cases national and international law had been violated. Recommendations were made to governments, international agencies, and religious groups.

The aim of the tribunal was to serve as a forum for testimony against ethnocidal oppression and for the free expression of the will to struggle against those powers that still wish to destroy the

authentic character of the oldest cultures of the Americas. That the Tribunal's goal was achieved, is shown by the many references to it in newspaper articles and publications all over the world as well as in reports of United Nations meetings and other international conferences.

A complete account of the sessions of the tribunal was published in April, 1981 (a 7-volume report comprising about 1400 pages), and includes all cases, some annexes to the cases, testimonies, statements, and conclusions.

The complete archive of the tribunal has been transferred to the library of the University of Amsterdam, where a detailed table of contents was prepared, encompassing 2,000 titles and indices pertaining to tribes and countries. This archive is a unique collection of documents, many of which have never been published. For many of the cases the full evidence is given in annexes including official reports, legal documents, photographs, maps, testimonies, articles, and even books, private letters, and fingerprints.

The archive will become available on microfiche during the first half of 1984. The microfiche edition will cover the text on more than 12,000 pages.



REPLY FORM. *Please return to IDC AG, Poststrasse 14, 6300 Zug, Switzerland*

The undersigned wishes to:

- order the Archive of the Russel Tribunal at the approximate price of (no more than!) Sfr 700, to be delivered in the first half of 1984.
- be informed when the Archive becomes available and what the definitive price will be.

Name:

Date:

Address:

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