

**NATIONAL  
CONGRESS  
OF  
AMERICAN  
INDIANS.**

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

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Ronald P. Andrade  
Luiseno Diegueno

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

NATIONAL CONGRESS OF AMERICAN INDIANS

MID-YEAR CONVENTION

May 25, 26, 27 1982

San Diego, California

A Resolution

( INDIAN CRISIS IN CENTRAL AMERICA; A Resolution concerning the urgent situation of Central American Indian Peoples in the face of violence and genocide, with particular references to situations in El Salvador, Guatamala and Nicaragua.)

1.0 Statement of Findings:

The more than fifteen million Indigenous peoples (Indians) located within the asserted boundaries of Panama, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Honduras, El Salvador, Belize, Guatamala and Mexico constitute majority populations within their respective territorial enclaves. The majority of Central American Indigenous peoples retain their own cultural practices, their own native languages and internal political systems and have maintained their distinct group identity despite Spanish and British colonization of their territories and subsequent formation of eight nation-states by Spanish and British descendents. None of the Central American states recognize the distinct political character, nor do the individual states recognize the right of indigenous peoples to participate in the state governments as distinct political groups. (Note: Indigenous group representation in the Nicaraguan government was accepted in the new Council of State formed by the Sandinista regime, but was terminated in 1981.) The Indigenous populations of Mexico and Central America are treated as peasants at the bottom of the general economic system, though in reality Indigenous peoples are forced, by virtue of their Indian lineage, to live as the poorest of the poor. Over the generations rival groups of Spanish and/or British descendents have met in violent confrontations to control the various state governments which have in turn formulated laws or used violence to confiscate indigenous lands and natural resources for the direct benefit of a minority of wealthy, landed families. Thus forced off of their rich lands into less productive lands, Indigenous populations in Central America and Mexico now occupy the last remaining parts of their original homelands. During the last twenty-five years Indigenous territories now occupied have been found to contain vast amounts of petroleum, gold, nickle, timber and other raw materials of economic importance to the wealthy, landed families; and of significant strategic importance to the industrial states of North America and Europe. The current violence in Central America reflects a resurgence of rivalries among non-indigenous groups seeking to hold or gain control

over the instruments of state government to gain ultimate control over the newly found wealth in the remaining indigenous territories. In the course of resurgent violence acts of genocide and ethnocide are being committed against indigenous groups. Indigenous populations are caught between the rival forces as a third political force which holds ideals and aspirations, values and political views in opposition to non-indigenous rivals.

1.1 Non-indigenous rival forces in Guatamala are directly and indirectly responsible for the violent deaths of an estimated 25,000 Indigenous Mayan people during the last ten years, and the dislocation of thousands more who have become refugees in other countries. The Guatamalan government, private death squads and their non-indigenous rivals are carrying out a deliberate policy of genocide to deny the Mayan peoples their fundamental human rights, their territorial rights and their livelihood as a peaceful people by confiscating Mayan lands and natural resources for the benefit of wealthy, landed families, national and multinational corporations and for the benefit of nations which receive import products from the exploitation of Mayan lands and natural resources. The Mayan population constitutes the majority population in Guatamala living under the domination and control of a minority which holds control over the military and instruments of governance. The ruling minority uses torture, intimidation and coercion against the Mayan majority to secure virtual slave labor; and the ruling minority practices torture, mass murder, intimidation and coercion to induct Mayan men and boys into the military to carry out insurgency and counter insurgency actions among the minority population and against Mayan communities. Weapons and armaments widely used against indigenous communities are imported to Guatamala from the United States, Brazil, Israel, Venezuela, Chile and Eastern Block states through government-to-government sales or through the private black market.

1.2 Non-indigenous rival forces in El Salvador are directly and indirectly responsible for the violent deaths of an undetermined number of Indigenous Pipiles (Nahuat-Pipiles) whose collective population is estimated at 360,000. El Salvadoran government officials, private militias, death squads and their rival counterparts are carrying out a deliberate policy of genocide against the Pipiles to deny them their fundamental human rights, their territorial rights and their livelihood as a peaceful people. The Pipiles constitute a majority populations within their own region living under the domination and control of a majority which holds control over the military and instruments of governance. Rival forces within the majority use torture, intimidation and coercion against the Pipiles to secure virtual slave labor; and the ruling majority practices torture, mass murder, intimidation and coercion to induct Pipiles men and boys into the military to carry out insurgency and counter insurgency attacks within the majority population and against Pipile communities. Weapons and armaments widely used against indigenous communities are imported to El Salvador from the United States, Argentina, Venezuela and Israel through government-to-government sales and transferrs, and through the private black-market from Libya, Western Block states and Eastern Block States.

1.3 Non-indigenous rival forces in Nicaragua, in the border areas of Honduras and Costa Rica and in Guatamala are carrying out acts of genocide and ethnocide against the Indigenous Miskito, Sumu and Rama peoples who have a combined population exceeding 180,000. The Miskito, Sumu and Rama constitute the majority population living on the Atlantic Coast, in Zelaya Department, within the asserted boundaries of Nicaragua. Acts of violence against the Miskito, Sumu and Rama have been percipitated by the 1979 overthrow of the Anastasio Samoza Regime by the "Frente Sandinista De Liberacion Nacional" (F.S.L.N.) which subsequently established the Sandinista Regime. An undetermined number of Miskito, Sumu and Rama have been murdered by the military and insurgency forces of the former Samoza Regime operating from protected enclaves in Honduras and Costa Rica with the covert aid of the United States government, paramilitary forces in Florida and California, and covert forces organized by Argentina, Chile and other South and Central American states. These enclave and covert forces are using torture, mass murder, intimidation and coercion to induct Miskito, Sumu and Rama men and boys into their ranks to carry out violent actions against Miskito, Sumu and Rama communities, and against communities and installations under the control of the Sandinista Regime. The Sandinista Regime has enacted a policy entitled "Declaration of the Popular Sandinista Revolution in Regards to the Indigenous Communities of the Atlantic Coast" which contemplates forcible assimilation of Miskito, Sumu and Rama peoples and their territories into Nicaraguan society despite their relative independence prior to 1979. The Sandinista policy further contemplates annexation and confiscation of Miskito, Sumu and Rama territories and natural resources against the will of the coastal indigenous peoples. These policies are now being executed as demonstrated by the forced relocation of more than 8,500 Miskito from their native villages to permanent government controlled "model communities". The Miskito, Sumu and Rama peoples are being tortured, murdered, intimidated and coerced by representatives of the Sandinista Government and the United States supported forces seeking to overthrow the Sandinista Government. Weapons and armaments from France, Libya, the United States, Cuba, the Soviet Union, Argentina, Israel, Brazil and Chile provided through government-to-government sales and transferrs, and through the black-market are being used against the Indigenous Miskito, Sumu and Rama peoples.


1.4 The acts of violence against indigenous peoples, as revealed by events in Guatamala, El Salvador and Nicaragua, demonstrate a systematic and calculated pattern of state supported and rival group supported practice of genocide and ethnocide against the indigenous peoples of Central America. The states of Argentina, Chile, Brazil, Honduras, Venezuala, Israel, United States, Libya, France, the Soviet Union and Cuba, are by virtue of their arms and weapons sales, knowingly or unknowingly contributing to acts of genocide and ethnocide against indigenous peoples in Central America.

2.0 WHEREAS: In consideration of the Founding principles upon which the Constitution of the National Congress of American Indians is based where member Tribal Governments are committed to the preservation of Indian cultural values, the equitable adjustment of Indian Affairs, the preservation of Indian rights, the

the promotion of the common welfare of the American Indian;  
and a better understanding of Indians, and

- 2.1 WHEREAS: Recalling that the National Congress of American Indians is a Charter member of the World Council of Indigenous Peoples, founded in Port Alberni, Canada on October 27-30, 1975, and is, thereby, committed under that Charter to: "Promote unity of Indigenous peoples through knowledge and organization; to combat racism, to abolish genocide and ethnocide; to ensure political, economic and social justice; and to establish equality among indigenous peoples and other peoples of the world", and
- 2.2 WHEREAS: Recalling that the National Congress of American Indians has from time-to-time extended its support and assistance to indigenous populations throughout the Western Hemisphere through the adoption of relevant resolutions in convention, and
- 2.3 WHEREAS: Recalling that the National Congress of American Indians has mandated international initiatives to organize and promote supportive action within the United Nations and other international organizations to stop national government policies of genocide and ethnocide against tribal peoples\*\* in South America, Central America, North America, the South Pacific and Northern Europe, as provided in the "Tribal/Global Relations: Policy & Action Plan for the 80's" adopted by the 37th-Annual NCAI Convention, October 28, 1980, and
- 2.4 WHEREAS: Recognizing that the rights of indigenous peoples to self-determination and self-government is accepted in international law, and has been increasingly given effect in the domestic law of States, and
- 2.5 WHEREAS: Considering that the Recognition of the Inherent dignity and the equal and inalienable rights of individuals and of peoples is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world, and considering that these principles are recognized and proclaimed in the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the European Convention on Human Rights and the Inter-American Convention on Human Rights, and
- 2.6 WHEREAS: the Indigenous peoples of Central America and Mexico are suffering from systematic and calculated genocide and ethnocide due to the actions of State governments and their rivals; and the Indigenous Indian Peoples of Central America and Mexico are suffering from the systematic and calculated efforts of States to force assimilation, annex indigenous territories, and expropriate and confiscate indigenous lands and natural resources.
- 3.0 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE National Congress of American Indians does, hereby, proclaim its endorsement and support of the Indigenous peoples of Central America and Mexico and offers its assistance and participation in World Council of Indigenous Peoples sponsored commissions or other actions which may be instituted to protect Indian Rights in Central America and Mexico, and

- 3.1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the National Congress of American Indians does call upon the World Council of Indigenous Peoples to receive this resolution and transmit it to the good offices of the United Nations, Organization of American States, Organization of Non-Aligned Countries, the European Human Rights Commission, the U.N. Human Rights Commission, the Inter-American Human Rights Commission, the Foreign Ministries of all of the hostile States governments, representatives of hostile rival groups located in Central America and Mexico, and the relevant international press,
- 3.2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the National Congress of American Indians does direct its President and Executive Committee and staff to take all necessary steps to express our collective outrage and the contents of this resolution to the Executive and Legislative offices of the United States Government relevant to our concerns, and
- 3.3 BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the National Congress of American Indians does direct its President and Executive Committee and relevant staff to take all necessary steps to convey the contents of this resolution to the U.S. electronic media and press, and to the Central American Regional Indigenous Council (CORPI) with all deliberate speed.

  
JOSEPH DELACRUZ, President  
National Congress of American  
Indians

Confidential

MEMORANDUM

TO: Ralph Eluska, NCAI Senior International Relations Rep.  
cc: Joe DeLaCruz, President  
Hollis Stabler, Treasurer  
Ron Andrade, Executive Director

FROM: R.C. Ryser *R.C. Ryser*

SUBJECT: Preliminary Progress and Follow-Through re: Indian  
Crisis in Central America Resolution.

DATE: 10 June, 1982

Subsequent to the adoption of the above mentioned resolution, the following actions have been taken:

1. I discussed the steps for formally releasing the resolution with a "cover story" to the wire services, domestic press and international press with Theresa of the NCAI staff and was assured this matter would be taken care of. I have seen no evidence that the "press" was systematically and thoroughly briefed -- except several interviews with radio (local San Diego) by R. Eluska, J. DeLaCruz and myself. I had asked D. LaCourse (of the CERT Report) to help facilitate distribution
2. On Wednesday - 2 June - I called the NCAI Office to determine if the resolution had been transmitted to the WCIP "with all deliberate speed" as required in the resolution. I was advised that key staff were not yet returned from San Diego, and wouldn't be back until Monday, 7 MAY. The transmission had not been executed. I called WCIP to advise them of the resolution noting that the Non-Aligned countries were meeting the week of 1 June - 4 June in Havana, Cuba. I further urged that the resolution with a WCIP cover be sent to key non-aligned countries including Tanzania, India and Yugoslavia following a telephone consultation with George Manuel. I sent a copy of the resolution to the WCIP Secretariat on Wednesday with the understanding of General Administrator, Marie Marule, that the Secretariat would act in accordance with the NCAI resolution. I called WCIP/CORPI President Jose Carlos Morales in San Jose, Costa Rica to advise him of the resolution. I advised him that copies of the final resolution were being hand-carried by Juana Vasquez and Floriberto Diaz Gomez to CORPI by way of Ellizar Lobe. Jose expressed pleasure with the resolution and extended his gratitude to NCAI. I briefed former President (WCIP) George Manuel over the telephone and provided a personal five hour briefing to him on 8 June in Blaine, Washington near the Canadian border. I called Juana Vasquez in Mexico to confirm that she and Floriberto returned to their homes safely and was encouraged by Juana's comment that the political leadership (Indigenous) in Oaxaca were pleased with the resolution and were actively holding meetings on it.
3. I have completed a preliminary assessment of steps that should be considered concerning implementation of the Resolution in connection with NCAI actions toward the U.S. government. This assessment follows:

MEMORANDUM

Indian Crisis in Central America

10, June, 1982

Page 2

The United States foreign policy in Central America and Mexico must be seen in the context of a broader set of policies which include the whole of the Caribbean Basin. The US operates on the basis of the Monroe Doctrine which asserts that the Caribbean Basin (including Mexico and Central America) is within the US sphere of influence which must not be "penetrated" by countries outside the Western Hemisphere. The sphere of influence is defined as geographical, military (strategic) and economic. Central American and South American countries have become the largest source of imported raw materials and goods to the US, and U.S. companies (involved in mining, timber, specialty agricultural crops like bananas, coffee and cotton; and banking, petroleum and aluminum) have invested heavily in business and industrial activities which serve primarily the U.S. markets. U.S. strategic interests in the Caribbean include the commercial interests, shipping lanes and the Panama Canal.

The advent of revolutions in Cuba, Granada and now Nicaragua are seen as examples of "external penetration" by other states which threaten U.S. strategic, commercial and import/export dominance. Communism is presented as the most significant external influence though in fact the principal concern is not ideological but rather military and economic. U.S. policy opposes any external penetration including British, French and Spanish as well as Soviet and Chinese penetration. Japanese commercial influence is equally opposed by the U.S. The justification of U.S. policies in the Caribbean basin during the last thirty years has been generally "anti-communism" despite the actual motivations arising from military and economic self-interest. The U.S. has treated the Caribbean Basin as its own strategic and economic preserve.

The U.S. has maintained a large military presence in Panama and a fleet of ships in the Caribbean for decades. These military capabilities have been used primarily to support and maintain U.S. economic and commercial interests, and more recently they have been used to destabilize unfriendly governments. Most all of the National Guards and police forces in Central American and Caribbean countries have been trained in the United States and most all of the Secret police and security forces are directly connected or associated with the US CIA. The principal bases for CIA operations are located in Mexico City and the Capitol of Honduras.

For the period running from 1964 to 1979 the U.S. government has provided "friendly" governments with modest economic and military support. Economic aid has been devoted primarily to emergency aid in areas of natural disaster and economic aid to assist countries threatening default on loans secured from the Inter-American Bank, the World Bank and the International Monetary fund. U.S. economic aid funds have been used primarily to prevent default through payment of "debt service" costs. Mexico currently has the highest foreign debt (equalling about \$30 Billion) and is unable to pay on the principal much less the interest and debt service. El Salvador has a foreign debt estimated to be in excess of \$2 Billion while Nicaragua has a foreign debt of more than \$2.4 Billion. None of the Central American Countries and Mexico is able to pay the principal, interest or debt services to avoid default. The U.S. is eager to prevent default by any of these countries to avoid

MEMORANDUM

Indian Crisis in Central America

10, June, 1982

Page 3

a total collapse of the international monetary system (which has been in trouble ever since the United States devalued its currency in 1971 and removed the dollar from the gold standard in that year). U.S. Caribbean Policy has therefore, been recently directed toward propping up governments and failing national economies through bi-lateral financial transferrs. Mr. Reagan's recently announced Caribbean Basin Initiative, which proposed \$300 Million in credits and direct transferrs was primarily designed to deal with the prospects of international loan defaults.

Apart from its military installation in Panama and the Caribbean fleet the U.S. has more recently begun to increase its military aid to Central American and other Caribbean Countries. Direct U.S. Military aid to Central American countries in 1981 was about \$90 million while economic aid was about \$214.7 million. According to the North American Congress on Latin America and Time Magazine U.S. direct military and economic aid in Central America was distributed in 1981 as follows: Guatamala: Military aid= \$0, Economic aid \$11.7 million; El Salvador: Military aid= \$80 million, Economic aid= \$104 million; Honduras: Military aid \$10 million, Economic aid= \$38 million; Nicaragua: Military aid= \$0, Economic aid \$10 million; Costa Rica: Military aid= \$50 Thousand, Economic aid= \$51 million. Additional military support to these Central American countries has been indirectly provided by the United States through Israel through arms transferrs. Such transferrs were also a product of Israeli military sales and manufactured export. Between 1970 and 1980 the Israelis have transferred arms to Central American countries as follows: Mexico: 10 Arava (STOL) Transports; Guatamala: 11 Arva STOL Transports, 10 RBY Mk Armored Cars, 15,000 5.56-mm Galil Assault Rifles, 4 Field Kitchens; El Salvador: 17 Arava (STOL) Transports, 6 Fouga Magister Trainers\*, 18 Dassault Ouragan Fighters\*, 200 60-mm Rocket Launchers, 200 9-mm Uzi Submachine Guns, Ammunition and Spare parts; Honduras: 12 Dassault Super Mystere Fighters\*, 4 Arava (StOL) Transports, 1 Westwind Reconnaissance Plane, 106-mm Mortars, 14 RBY Mk Armored Cars, 106-mm Rifles, 5 Fast Patrol Boas\$ (unconfirmed); Nicaragua: 2 Arva (STOL) Transports, Rifles, Ammunitions, Patrol Boats, Radios; Panama: 1 Westwind Reconnaissance Plane.

(Notes: \*Indicates rebuilt planes from the Israeli Air Force. Sources: DMS Market Intelligence, Foreign Military Markets: South America-Australasia, 1981, p. 9; various issues of the Weekly Report of Strategic Latin American Affairs; and World Armaments and Disarmament -- SIPRI 1969/1970 and 1971 a 1981.)

Along with the Soviet Union, France, Britain, Israel, Brazil, Venezuela and Argentina, the United States has in 1982 dramatically increased its foreign military sales to Third World Countries. Arms shipments into the Caribbean and particularly Mexico and Central America have increased an estimated \$300% in the last few years. Covert military actions involving the US CIA and the intelligence agencies of other countries have also increased dramatically. An estimated \$19 million has been committed by the United States for one operation alone in southern Honduras in connection with insurgencies in Nicaragua.

Trends in U.S. foreign investment in Central America and South America follow the military investment patterns:



## MEMORANDUM

Indian Crisis in Central America

Page 4

10, June 1982

( During the period from 1967 to 1977 -- the most recent figures-- U.S. corporate investments ~~in~~ in developing countries has grown from \$59.5 billion to \$148.8 billion)

| <u>U.S. Investments in Central and South America:</u> | <u>1967</u> | <u>1972</u> | <u>1977</u> |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| % of Total U.S. investments                           | 20.2        | 17.6        | 18.6        |
| % of U.S. Invest in Develop Countries                 | 63.2        | 55.5        | 82.2        |

U.S. Investments in Central and South America  
by Industry.

|               |       |       |       |
|---------------|-------|-------|-------|
| Mining        | \$1.7 | \$2.1 | \$1.6 |
| Petroleum     | 3.5   | 4.3   | 3.4   |
| Manufacturing | 3.6   | 5.6   | 10.0  |
| Other         | 3.2   | 4.6   | 12.7  |

(Source: Survey of Current Business, Sept, 1973 and August 1978.)

As a proportion of investment capital going to developing countries the U.S. has dramatically increased its involvement in Central and South America. The trend for development is increasingly focusing on manufacturing because of the large pool of labor that can be purchased cheaply.

It is in this military and economic context that the United States has defined its "national security" interests. It should be apparent that because indigenous populations represent a large and inexpensive labor pool and they occupy territories which are increasingly found to contain important raw materials these military and economic trends cannot be seen as beneficial. When U.S. military and economic trends are combined with similar escalations by other countries the violent political responses and extraordinarily adverse social consequences are bound to occur.

U.S. Central American policy is receiving significant attention in the U.S. Congress with current consideration of foreign aid bills and military aid bills. The Reagan administration has proposed to increase its military aid to El Salvador, Honduras and Costa Rica while attempting to promote new direct aid to Guatamala. (Note: Military aid to Guatamala was stopped by the Carter Administration even though indirect aid and transferrs continued) Legislation concerning military aid to these countries is currently pending before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Senate Appropriations Sub-committee on Foreign Operations and in the House Appropriations Sub-committee on Foreign Operations and House Foreign Affairs Sub-committee on Inter-American Affairs. It appears that such legislation will be concluded in July, 1982. The Senate Foreign Relations Committee has recently voted to reduce the Reagan requested military aid appropriation to El Salvador from \$166 million to \$66 million in response to a recent decision of the El Salvadoran National Assembly to delay and therefore repeal the U.S. supported "land reform" program. There is considerable sentiment in the U.S. congress opposing U.S. arms shipments and Military aid in Central America. CORPI has been urging for three years that U.S. arms shipments and military aid be stopped.

MEMORANDUM

Indian Crisis in Central America

10 June 1982

Page 5

The WCIP has also sought to reduce US arms shipments and military through letters to the US Department of State. In the light of these efforts and the view of CORPI it would seem prudent that the NCAI adopt a systematic strategy to advocate the elimination of arms shipments, U.S. military training of Central American Nationals and an elimination of U.S. military aid to all Central American Countries. Such an effort could be coordinated with a similar effort by the WCIP at the international level to push for a halt of all arms shipments, sales, transferrals and aid efforts in which other countries are involved. While pursuing this course NCAI, WCIP and CORPI may press for recognition of Indigenous populations in Central America and Mexico as negotiators on their own behalf in multi-lateral negotiations for cease-fire between rival groups.

NCAI/U.S. government

I would urge that NCAI consider carrying out the following actions in connection with the U.S. Government (in coordination with CORPI and the WCIP):

1. Notify the following agencies, committees and individuals inside the U.S. government of the NCAI resolution with a cover-letter and a copy of the NCAI resolution:

Key U.S. Senators:

|                  |                 |                 |
|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Henry M. Jackson | John Glenn      | Charles Percy ✓ |
| Howard Baker ✓   | Richard Lugar   | Robert Packwood |
| Barry Goldwater  | Clairborne Pell | Mark Hatfield ✓ |
| Ted Kennedy      | Orrin Hatch     | Nancy Kassebaum |

Key Congressmen:

|                    |                 |               |
|--------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Clement Zablocki ✓ | Thomas Foley    | John Dingell  |
| Don Bonker ✓       | Jim Wright      | Morris Udall  |
| Paul McCloskey     | Joel Pritchard  | Clarence Long |
| Thomas O'Neil      | Guy Vander Jagt |               |

Key Executive Branch:

|              |                  |                     |
|--------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Edwin Meese  | Jim Baker        | Alexander Haig, Jr. |
| Walter Clark | Jean Kirkpatrick |                     |

In connection with this letter NCAI should offer to provide personal briefings as a follow-up to the correspondence. Such briefings should be conducted by R. Eluska or his surrogate.

\*Note: all correspondence should contain a full listing of the cc's

2. NCAI should conduct immediate follow-up briefings with CORPI at their scheduled meeting in San Jose, Costa Rica in the month of June.
3. NCAI should consult with the WCIP Secretariat to monitor its follow-up efforts and specifically urge wide distribution of its resolution internationally.
4. NCAI should send a cover letter and its resolution directly to the following foreign embassies located in Washington D.C.:

MEMORANDUM

Indian Crisis in Central America

10 June 1982

Page 6

Key Foreign Embassies:

|  |               |           |
|--|---------------|-----------|
| Brazil                                 | El Salvador   | Honduras  |
| Chile                                  | Costa Rica    | Guatemala |
| Mexico                                 | Nicaragua     | Panama    |
| France                                 | Venezuela     | Israel    |
| Union of Soviet<br>Socialist Republics | Cuba          | India*    |
| Kuwait*                                | Lesotho*      | Norway*   |
| Papua New Guinea*                      | Saudi Arabia* | Tanzania* |
| Nauru*                                 | Canada*       | Barbados* |
| Australia*                             |               |           |

(\* indicates that resolution and cover are transmitted as a point of information for reference to the respective foreign ministries.)

5. Several specific agencies of the U.S. should receive the same letter and resolution as the Key individuals:

State Department:

Bureau of Inter-American Affairs  
Assistant Secretary for Inter-American Affairs  
Director for Central America  
Director for Mexican Affairs

Bureau of International Organization Affairs  
Assistant Secretary for International Organization Affairs

Bureau of Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs  
Assistant Secretary .....

U.S. Senate:

Senate Appropriations  
Sub-committee on Arms Control of Armed Services  
Banking, Housing & Urban Affairs Subcommittee on International  
finance  
Foreign Relations Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere Affairs  
Indian Affairs Committee

U.S. House:

Appropriations Subcommittee on Foreign Operations  
Banking, Finance and Urban Affairs Subcommittee on Inter-  
national Development Institutions and Finance.  
Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Inter-American Affairs

A letter of transmission and a copy of the resolution should be forwarded to the above mentioned agencies, individuals, embassies and committees immediately. A formal briefing and position paper should be developed as further follow-on use. Our correspondence must be cc'ed with references to the WCIP Secretariat and CORPI as blind copies.

(Note: This memorandum must be held in confidence within NCAI -- it is not, I repeat, it is not to be used for public attribution or general distribution.)

CC/KCP  
Regional Members  
Ralph S. Jose

Release Teresa Comally -  
72-215-7776  
To WASH Post -  
UPI - AP

TO: Senators: Howard Baker, Charles Percy, Mark Hatfield  
Congressmen: Clement Sablocki, Don Bonker,

Proxmire  
Doll

Dear Bernes - McCloskey -

The National Congress of American Indians is aware that the U.S. Congress is now considering foreign military aid and assistance bills which will substantially increase the military capability of the Central American States of Honduras, El Salvador and Guatamala. As a result of our communications with Indian leaders and Indian organizations in Central America we have <sup>concluded that we must</sup> been strongly urged to Urge the United States to withhold any further military or economic transferrs to the above mentioned Central American governments. In accordance with our own enquiries in Central America the National Congress of American Indians unanimously adopted, following ~~two days~~ <sup>we</sup> of debate, the enclosed resolution which I now draw to your attention. The countries of Guatamala and El Salvador are now engaged in massive human rights vilations and committing acts of genocide specifically directed at the Mayan populations in Guatamal and the Naquat-Pipile populations of El Salvador. As we observe in our resolution acts of genocide are being committed against these Indian populations by government militaries, private militias and various rebel forces. In Guatamala and El Salvador alone Indian populations numbering in excess of four million are being specifically targeted by government and rebel forces using weapons and other armaments provided by the United States and other countries.

We in the National Congress of American Indians believe that ~~to~~ for the United States to continue military aid and even increase the number of weapons in Guatamak and El Salvador on the grounds that the <sup>le</sup> governments are improving their "human rights" records is to make a mockery of human rights. We further believe that U.S. ~~ma~~ <sup>if</sup> military aid <sup>is</sup> sent to Guatamak and El Salvador after you have been advised of genocidal practices of the various governments in Central America you will in fact place the ~~pos~~ the United States in the position of knowingly contributing to acts of genocide and ethnocide against indigenous peoples in Central America. We strongly urge that you and your congressional colleagues recognize that the lives of thousands of Indian men, women and children are being placed in jeopardy even though they are not themselves actively engaged in the general conflicts in Guatamala and El Salvador. We urge you to withhold all military aid and military related aid from the governments of Honduras, El Salvador