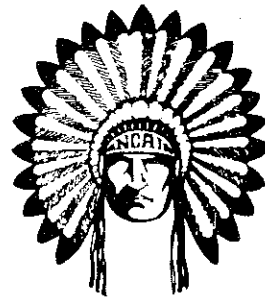


NCAI NEWS



National Congress
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The National Congress of American Indians is aware that the United States Congress is now considering foreign military aid and assistance bills which would substantially increase the military capabilities of the Central American states of El Salvador and Guatemala.

The National Congress of American Indians (NCAI), the oldest and largest Indian organization in the United States, has mandated international initiatives to organize and promote supportive actions within the United Nations and other international organizations to stop national government policies of genocide and ethnocide against tribal peoples in other parts of the world.

In accordance with this policy and recognizing that the rights of indigenous peoples to self-determination and self-government are accepted in international law, the NCAI believes that for the United States to continue military aid, and even increase the number of weapons in Guatemala and El Salvador on the grounds that these governments are improving their "human rights" records is to make a mockery of human rights.

NCAI calls upon the Congress of the U.S. to withhold all military and military related aid from the governments of Guatemala and El Salvador as the NCAI is cognizant of the fact 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 Guatemala and El Salvador.

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