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RED ALERT RED ALERT RED ALERT RED ALERT RED ALERT RED ALERT RED ALERT RED ALERT RED ALERT

Americans for Indian Opportunity
600 2nd St., NW, #403, Albuquerque, NM 87102

RED ALERT #78-8-1
February 8, 1978

INDIAN CHILD WELFARE ACT IN DANGER

The Carter Administration has apparently taken a position against the Indian Child Welfare Act (S.1214/H.R.). We believe it to be an Office of Management and Budget decision based on cost rather than on the issue of what's good for Indian children. This is awful!

Testimony presented to the President's Commission on Mental Health indicates that 25% of all Indian children are removed from Indian families for some sort of placement.

The Bill, as you know, would go a long way toward eliminating the abusive child welfare practices that have led to the unwarranted separation of Indian children from their families and towards allowing Indian tribes the opportunity to provide for their own children.

The Bill passed the Senate November 3, 1977.

It has been referred to the House of Representatives Subcommittee on Indian Affairs and should be acted on early in this session. Contact your own Congressional delegation and the Chairman of the Subcommittee, The Honorable Teno Roncalio as soon as possible.

Also Contact:

The Honorable Jimmy Carter
The President
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

Send copies to:

The Honorable James Abourezk
Chairman
Senate Select Committee on Indian Affairs
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

And us:

Americans for Indian Opportunity
Plaza Del Sol Building Suite 403
600 Second St. N.W.
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102

Americans for Indian Opportunity
600 2nd St., NW #403, Albuquerque, NM 87102

RED ALERT #78-8-2
February 8, 1978

KEEP THOSE CARDS AND

LETTERS GOING!

You've done a great job responding to the Red Alert on 638 funding. We've received dozens of copies of letters you've sent. The following is a letter from Senator Abourezk. Hope you'll express your appreciation to him and urge your Congressional delegations to support his position:

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

February 1, 1978

Mrs. LaDonna Harris
AIO
600 2nd Street, NW, 403
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102

Dear LaDonna:

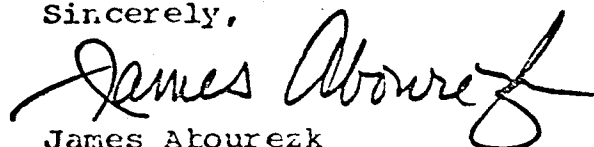
Thank you for taking the time to write me about your concern for adequate and full funding of the indirect costs incurred in contracting under P.L. 93-638.

You will be interested to know that the Bureau of Indian Affairs has initiated a FY 78 supplemental request within the Interior Department for \$10 million. When added to the already appropriated amount of \$8.7 million, this figure would fully fund the indirect costs related to FY 78 P.L. 93-638 contracts according to the best estimates available. The Interior Department is currently considering the merits of the BIA's request, and if approved, will send it to Congress by February of this year.

I assure you that I will actively support a FY 78 supplemental for \$10 million, regardless of whether or not Congress receives an Administration request. The success of many P.L. 93-638 contracts depends on adequate funding of the indirect costs associated with sound contract administration.

Again, thank you for contacting me on this matter. With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,



James Abourezk
Senate Select Committee
on Indian Affairs

RED ALERT RED ALERT RED ALERT RED ALERT RED ALERT RED ALERT RED ALERT RED ALERT RED ALERT

Americans for Indian Opportunity
600 2nd St., NW, #403. Albuquerque, NM 87102

RED ALERT #78-8-3
February 8, 1978

AND THANKS TO ANOTHER FRIEND!

MICHAEL J. HARRINGTON
6TH DISTRICT, MASSACHUSETTS

COMMITTEE ON
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

COMMITTEE ON
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
(202) 225-8020

DISTRICT OFFICES:
POST OFFICE BUILDING
SALEM, MASSACHUSETTS 01970
(617) 745-5800

POST OFFICE BUILDING
LYNN, MASSACHUSETTS 01901
(617) 599-7105

January 26, 1978

RECEIVED

FEB 8 1978

Mrs. Bette C. Mele
Indian Rights Association
1505 Race St.,
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Dear Mrs. Mele,

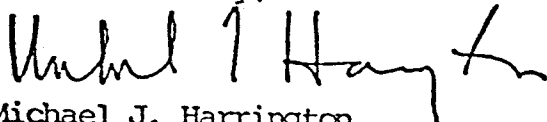
Thank you for your letter of October 26, expressing your opposition to HR 9054, introduced by Congressman Cunningham. Please accept my sincere apologies for the extraordinary delay in responding.

I agree with your stand on the "Native Americans Equal Opportunity Act", and you may be assured that I will vote against this bill should it ever reach the House floor. It does not seem to me, however, that this bill has any legislative future. Thus far, no member of Congress has joined Representative Cunningham as a co-sponsor. HR 9054 has been referred to the subcommittee on Indian affairs in the House Interior committee where no action has been taken.

As you may know, I am a strong supporter of Native American rights. I voted with the majority to extend the statute of limitations on Indian claims under title 28 of the U.S. code, which passed the House on July 12. I am also in support of the "Indian Child Welfare Act" of 1977, which has passed the Senate and is expected to be approved by the House Interior committee early this session.

Thank you for contacting me about your views on this bill. Please do not hesitate to write again on other issues of mutual concern.

Yours sincerely,


Michael J. Harrington

MJH:ael

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Americans for Indian Opportunity
600 2nd St., NW, #403, Albuquerque, NM 87102

RED ALERT # 78-9-1
March 3, 1978

URGENT

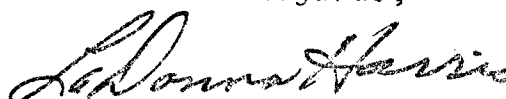
Jobs! Jobs! Jobs! Everyone willing and able to work should have a job. We all need jobs.

We all know that average unemployment on Indian reservations is 65% and on some, it's as high as 85%. The Humphrey-Hawkins bill, which will be considered the week of March 6, is an essential first step toward full employment.

We need to let our Congressional Delegations know our position by letters, telegrams and phone calls. Local phoning to your representative's district office is an inexpensive and effective way to get a message out quickly. Not only is it important to assure passage of this bill, but to prevent the bill from being weakened by amendments. The most serious threat to the bill is an effort by House opponents to add a specific numerical goal and timetable on inflation. We oppose this amendment.

As you know, I've been a member of the Full Employment Action Council for two years. I personally urge you to work toward passing this bill. Passage of this bill would be a good living memorial to one of the bill's authors, the late Senator Hubert Horatio Humphrey. Send copies of your letters and telegrams to us and to Senator Muriel Humphrey.

With Warm Regards,


LaDonna Harris
President

Dear Representative

I urge you to vote for the Humphrey-Hawkins bill as the first step in achieving full employment, and to enact implementing legislation creating jobs at decent wages for all Americans willing and able to work.

Sincerely,

Name.....

Address.....

City/State..... Zip.....



March 3, 1978

AMERICANS for INDIAN OPPORTUNITY

PLAZA DEL SOL BUILDING SUITE 403

600 SECOND STREET, N.W. · ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO 87102 · (505) 842-0962

LaDonna Harris
President

AN AIO RED PAPER: FOR SOME OF OUR BEST FRIENDS - AND OTHERS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Honorable James Abourezk
Lionel Bordeaux, *Rosebud-Sioux*
Joan Bordman

Edgar Bowen, *Coos-Oregon*

Lee A. Buck

Mary Jo Butterfield, *Mukah*

Price M. Cobbs, M.D.

Ron Cournoyer, *Rosebud-Sioux*

Eugene Crawford, *Sioux*

Ada Deer, *Menominee*

Jack Edmo, *Shoshone-Bannock,*

Blackfeet

Coy. G. Eklund

Roy George, Sr., *Nooksack*

LaDonna Harris, *Comanche*

Rev. Theodore M. Hesburgh,

C.S.C.

Minerva Jenkins, *Apache*

Louis LaRose, *Winnebago*

A. David Lester, *Creek*

Dennis Limberhand, *Northern*

Cheyenne

Charles Lohah, *Osage*

Grace McCullah, *Navaho*

Betty C. Mele, *Seneca*

Ed Mitchell, *Penobscott*

Jerry Muskrat, *Cherokee*

Joe Dan Osceola, *Seminole*

Morgan Otis,

Apache-Arapaho-Kiowa

Ray Paddock, *Tlingit-Haida*

Elma Patterson, *Tuscarora*

Cal Peters, *Squaxin Island*

Jack Rushing, *Creek*

Joe S. Sando, *Jemez Pueblo*

Vickie Santana, *Southern*

Piegian-Blackfeet

Eddie L. Tullis, *Alabama Creek*

Jake Whitecrow, *Seneca*

Cayuga, Quapaw

INDIAN TRIBES ARE SEPARATE GOVERNMENT UNITS

Most Americans have been taught that our "federal system" is made up of only local, state, and federal governments. But, that is not true. From the first, Indian tribes have also been recognized as separate governmental units, distinct from the states in which their reservations may lie. The United States Constitution gave the federal government exclusive authority to regulate commerce with (1) foreign nations, (2) Indian tribes, and (3) among the states. Both before and after the adoption of the Constitution, more than 350 treaties were entered into with the tribes, and these treaties were ratified with all the solemnity and formality of any other treaty. Indians are different from other ethnic groups in that their tribal organizations are units of government.

In two early Supreme Court cases, Cherokee vs. Georgia and Worcester vs. Georgia, Chief Justice John Marshall ruled that Indian tribes are "distinct, independent, political communities, retaining their original natural rights", that tribes and their members have a "unique relationship" with the federal government, and that the law of a state "can have no force" within the reservation.

It is clear that the "federal system" has always included local, state, and federal governments, and tribal governments.

MODERN INDIAN SELF-GOVERNMENT

Modern Supreme court decisions and acts of Congress have followed and extended the treaty and Constitutional rights of Indian tribes and the holdings of the early Supreme Court decisions. States or local governments, it has been held, have no jurisdiction over tribes, except where states have specifically been delegated such power by Congress - and this has been narrowly construed. Tribes have been held to have retained all governmental powers which they have not given away by treaty or agreement, or which have not been specifically taken away by Congress. Thus, in a rapid succession of modern Court decisions, have upheld the powers of tribes to tax, to set up courts, and law enforcement systems, to zone, and to license, or refuse to license, enterprises or activities within the reservation - for both Indians and non-Indians - and thus to limit the powers of states to do these same things within the reservation have been upheld.

Ending the old concepts of "assimilation" and "termination", the Congress has enacted a series of laws - from the Indian Civil Rights Act

(which largely applied the Bill of Rights to Indians and non-Indians dealing with tribal governments on reservations - for example, the right to a lawyer in a tribal court proceeding) - to the Self-Determination Act (which seeks to turn over actual administration of a number of federal programs to tribes - just as with state and local governments) - which make clear that it is national policy that tribal governments are here to stay and are to be encouraged in their development. In addition, a recent publication of the Council of State Governments makes similar recommendations for state action to strengthen tribal governments.

TRIBAL MEMBERS HAVE DUAL CITIZENSHIP AND DUAL ENTITLEMENT

Most of us have only a single citizenship - United States Citizenship, from which also flows our state and local citizenship. At first, Indians were not considered to be United States citizens, because they were citizens of their own, separate tribes. Even the Civil War Amendments to the United States Constitution, which made former slaves citizens, were held not applicable to Indians because they had not been living "within the jurisdiction of the United States". An act of Congress changed this and granted full United States citizenship to Indians - but did not take away their tribal citizenship. Indian tribal members have dual citizenship. They have the same United States citizenship that all citizens have, which carries with it full citizenship in the states where they reside. They also have separate citizenship in their own tribes.

Indians also have dual entitlement to government services and programs. From the first, it was held that Indians have a "unique relationship" with the federal government. Today, we call this the government's trust responsibility to Indians and tribes. Individual Indians are no longer considered to be "wards" of the government; individual Indians do not receive some kind of regular payment from the federal treasury. But they are entitled to special attention to their health, housing, education, and other needs, often through treaty, by law and particularly, in modern times, because they fall so far below average national standards in these and other social and economic fields. In addition, Indians are entitled as United States citizens, just like all other American citizens, to all the services of all the agencies and departments of the federal government, not just of the Bureau of Indian Affairs. For years and years, the fact that the Bureau of Indian Affairs programs were so poorly funded, at a time when the Bureau administered virtually all federal services for Indians and tribes, meant that Indians could not receive the full federal assistance which other citizens received and would therefore fall behind the rest of the country. Now, an attempt is being made to compensate for this and help Indians catch up.

TRIBES ARE MOVING TOWARD ECONOMIC SELF-DETERMINATION

Indian tribes own the largest units of privately owned land in America. They own large percentages of America's timber, water, coal, uranium, oil, gas, and other minerals. Yet, Indians are some of the poorest people in America. One of the reasons is that the federal government for too long encouraged Indians and tribes to lease their land and natural resources to non-Indians and non-Indian corporations for low-level lease payments (with no right to share in management or the resultant jobs, risks, and profits) and then encouraged the individual Indians to move from the reservations - away from friends, family and reinforcing traditions and customs - to the cities. Indian leadership has brought about a

change in this practice. More and more, it is being recognized by the non-Indian community, too, that America was never a "melting pot", where everyone must look alike, speak alike, live alike, worship alike, but it is a place where there should be pride in difference, where the strength of a pluralistic society should be built upon.

There has been a kind of "Indian Renaissance" - a renewal of pride in the old ways. The reservations have proved to be enclaves of cultural preservation from which individual Indians can draw reinforcement. And Indian tribes have begun to move to wrest back control of their own land and natural resources and to build upon this economic base in ways which to them seem culturally, economically and environmentally sound.

NON-INDIAN ALLIES

In a number of states, Americans for Indian Opportunity has assisted groups, New Mexicans for Tribal Development, for example, to express their support for tribal efforts toward self-government and self-sufficiency. These are not "do good to Indians" efforts. The non-Indians involved think it is in their own interests.

These are groups of non-Indians who recognize that: (1) American Indian tribes, as political entities, are an integral part of the federal system; (2) It is in the interest of all Americans that Indian tribes and their tribal members be encouraged and assisted in efforts to strengthen self-government and to achieve economic self-sufficiency; and (3) Local, state and federal governments should work cooperatively with Indian tribes toward these ends.

Such non-Indian groups work primarily to inform public opinion, which affects public policy. They also seek to inform public officials and to influence their decisions. The organizations work closely with tribal and other Indian organizations.

SERVING THE INTERESTS OF NON-INDIANS

Most states, have worked hard to get new federal installations - such as a solar research facility, say - located within their borders. State court jurisdiction does not reach to such federal installations, nor can the state tax them. Yet, states and local communities greatly desire them for the federal dollars they bring in and for the jobs they create, directly and indirectly. A great many local communities are quite happy to issue taxexempt revenue bonds to build non-taxable plants for lease to private industries, because these industries mean more local jobs.

It is important to note that in many such states there are already, in the form of local Indian tribes, a number of such installations and industries which bring in millions of outside dollars, that are mostly spent off the reservations, and thousands and thousands of jobs.

"Yes, but they're saying we can't tax Indian reservation enterprises", some say. The Indian answer is: "Well, you're glad to have Andrews Air Force Base, and you can't tax its commissary; you can't levy a tax on the residences in Yellowstone National Park".

"Yes, but I'm subject to the tribal court's jurisdiction if I speed on the reservation at Laguna Pueblo, and I have no right to vote for the election of the tribal officials", some say. The Indian answer is: "Well, a resident of Tucson who speeds in Albuquerque is subject to Albuquerque jurisdiction, without the right to vote there".

"Yes, but Indians claim all the rights of state citizens, and they don't contribute", some say. The Indian answer is: "Well, first of all, Indians pay federal income taxes on their wages and salaries, and they pay state and local sales, excise, income and ad valorem taxes on off-reservation purchases and on non-trust property and income - and the state governments are called upon to provide only the most minimal services on the Indian reservations. Non-Indians should be happy if Indian tribes are willing to take care of their own court, law enforcement, zoning, licensing, and other governmental services."

COOPERATION IS THE ANSWER

There are a number of complex issues in state-tribal relations - issues of mutual interest, including law enforcement, zoning, planning. In a number of states, tribes have taken the position that these issues ought to be resolved by agreement. This is also the recommendation of the American Indian Policy Review Commission, created by Congress. Each local situation may be different. Americans for Indian Opportunity believes that conflicts can be worked out, so long as state governments recognize that tribes exist, constitutionally and legally - and have a right to exist - as separate units of government. More and more state governments are understanding this. More efforts at cooperation and conciliation can be expected from the states.

SO-CALLED "BACKLASH" FADING

Court decisions upholding the governmental powers and treaty rights of tribes, as well as efforts by tribes to regain control of their own lands and other natural resources have caused a number of disgruntled nonIndians to organize to counteract these developments. Congressman Cunningham of Washington introduced a bill to abrogate Indian treaty rights (to obviate a federal court decision upholding Indian fishing rights). Congressman Meeds of Washington introduced a bill to limit tribal jurisdiction on the reservation to Indians only (though it is clear that Indian jurisdiction is often the only protection against what non-Indians may do on the reservation). Such non-Indian reactions came to be called the "white backlash". It is strong, but it is not as strong as it once was.

For one thing, Indians are united as never before. For another thing, Indians and tribes have always proved to be adept at gaining the help of non-Indian allies in their vital causes. For another thing, a great many - and an increasing number - of non-Indians have begun to see their own self-interest in the Indian economic and political struggle.

As long as Indians and their non-Indian allies remain vigilant and active, the Cunningham and Meeds bills seem to be going nowhere. Meeds is retiring from the Congress. The backlash will thereby lose its main leader - a happy development.

But the struggle will become more sophisticated - over water rights, for example. It is not enough anymore for non-Indians simply to say, "Some of my best

friends are Indians". Knowledgeable and concerned non-Indians will increasingly be called upon to help other non-Indians understand the meaning of the United States Constitution, the federal system and the national interest as they affect Indians.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

You can help form a non-Indian organization like New Mexicans for Tribal Development, or National Coalition to Support Indian Treaties in your own state or community - as a kind of auxiliary to what the tribes want and need. New Mexicans for Tribal Development, for example, has members from all kinds of influential local groups and individuals - the state AFL-CIO Cope director, the Director of the state inter-church agency, the head of an energy consumers group, leaders in other minority communities, prominent lawyers, writers, professors, business leaders, and leaders in women's groups.

For information, you can write us or get copies of:

- "Indian Sovereignty", published by the Institute for the Development of Indian Law, 927 15th Street, Northwest, Washington, D.C. 20005
- "Indians and the United States Government", published by the Institute for the Development of Indian Law.
- "Indian Rights and Claims", published by the Council of State Governments, Iron Works Pike, Lexington, Kentucky 40511

May 22, 1978

Mr. Robert P. Richards
Administrative Services

Red Alert # 78-10

We have received from Americans for Indian Opportunity and sent to Reproduction Red Alert # 78-10. Three thousand copies will be delivered to you for mailing when completed. This Red Alert will be 18 pages printed on both sides.

Attached to this memo are lists for revision of the Red Alert mailing list. Some are marked as additions; some are corrections. One list includes many government officials and Mr. Linder has indicated not to send Red Alert # 78-10 to these names. Since I do not know if these are included in the current Red Alert list, I thought you would want to check to be sure this current Red Alert is not sent to these people.

Nancy Nichols is out for a few weeks on maternity leave, therefore, I am trying to coordinate this one Red Alert mailing. Thank you for your assistance; please call me if you have any problems.

William P. Epke
Director
Corporate Support Programs

June 26, 1978

Mr. Paul Linder
Americans for Indian Opportunity
Plaza Del Sol Building
Suite 403
600 Second Street, N. W.
Albuquerque, NM 87102

Dear Paul:

We have been advised that the last of the Red Alerts was mailed on Monday, June 19. We are sorry it took so long, but the combination of Nancy's absence, the size of the job, and tremendous demands on the Reproduction Division from other parts of the company all took their toll.

Bob Richards, the Director of the Addressograph Section, has asked if it would be possible to review the distribution list for Red Alerts. Although they have made the corrections that have been submitted, they are concerned that there may be duplicates or perhaps individuals receiving the bulletin which should no longer be doing so. He will give me a printout of the complete list which I will send to you for review as soon as I receive it.

In this regard also, I learned, as the job was nearly completed, that Red Alerts were being sent in plain envelopes with no return address. Therefore, if any of them are undeliverable they would simply be destroyed by the post office rather than returned for correction. It seems inadvisable to use regular Equitable imprinted envelopes, but I would recommend that for future mailings an AIO imprint be used to indicate a return address.

I hope all is going well for you. I look forward to seeing you back in these parts soon.

Sincerely,



William P. Epke

WPE:AVA

bec: EB, KLA

Congratulations, Commish!

The Board and Staff of Americans for Indian Opportunity extend their congratulations and best wishes to William Hallett, the new Commissioner of Indian Affairs. We stand ready to help any way we can. Don't listen to those turkeys who say we can help best by sitting down and shutting up! They are prone to do that - What do they know anyway? Seriously, Bill, we wish you well.

Are You Serious? Department

Is it true that Undersecretary Jim Joseph spent most of his speech at the swearing-in ceremony talking about backlashing the Sage Brush Rebellion? Sounds like a kinky rock group -

MESSING WITH MOTHER NATURE CAN BE HAZARDOUS TO YOUR HEALTH

Assessing the environmental health impacts of development on Indian reservations and the roles of government agencies charged with the responsibilities for various aspects of environmental protection and individual worker safety is the focus of a two year project AIO is undertaking. This is a continuation of our emphasis on strengthening tribal governments and Indian control of Indian resource development. Informed decision making is the key to strengthening tribal governments.

In order to make this project worthwhile, we will need your interest and your help. We are enclosing a fact sheet on the project and will be in touch with tribal chairmen directly immediately after the first of the year.

Realities of Reclamation

The report from our seminar "Realities of Reclamation" is at the printers! It will be in your Valentine stocking at the latest!

We The Peoples...

We are enclosing our latest back-from-the-printers-finally report, called "We The Peoples..." for your Christmas stocking. We will be most interested in your reactions. I think -

STOP THAT RUMOR!

As a service to the Indian community, AIO will publish a regular feature called "STOP THAT RUMOR" which we hope will stop a lot of unnecessary gossip.

(CONTINUED)

Stop That Rumor!

If you have a rumor that needs stopping, please call it to our attention and we'll tell everybody to quit telling it. Mail it to: Americans for Indian Opportunity, Plaza del Sol Building, Suite 808, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102, ATTENTION: Stop That Rumor!

The following are this issues' Top Ten.

1. Contrary to popular belief Forrest Gerard's resignation had nothing whatsoever to do with the President signing the Honkey Bill.
2. Forrest was not dressed as Father Time and Bill Hallett was not naked except for a banner that said "Happy 1980" at the coronation last week.
3. The Kickapoos are not (yet) opening a chain of service stations selling gasahol. And if they do, they will not call it Kickapoo Joy Juice. Probably.
4. The Council of Energy Resource Tribes did not call their annual meeting CERT-CUS or even CERT-CUS CERT-CUS and Peter MacDonald's real name is not Ronald.
5. Emery Johnson is not a manicurist at the Gold Rush.
6. Cummins Engine is not a federally recognized tribe.
7. AIO's latest project is not to teach Indians to feel up Elephants (if you want to be in the "In" group and understand that, you'll have to read "Messing With Mother Nature...")
8. "Consultant" is not a synonym for "unemployed".
9. Osage is not an Irish spice; nor a spicy drink. Well, maybe sometimes.
10. Sid Mills is not a moccasin manufacturing plant. In fact, nobody knows what Sid Mills -

THANKS TO OUR FRIENDS!

Many members of Congress responded very favorably to the Indian community's concerns about the Windfall profits tax. We will be sharing those responses with you in our next Red Alert.

And thanks to all of you, friends, who help to make our lives rewarding and our work fun!!

Americans for Indian Opportunity
Suite 403, Plaza Del Sol Building
Albuquerque, N.M. 87102

Red Alert # 78-10-2
April 25, 1978

HELP US UPDATE OUR MAILING LISTS

Is your copy of the Red Alert addressed properly to insure prompt delivery? Are you receiving more than one copy? Do you know of someone who would like to be on our mailing list? Please take the time to let us know how to improve our service.

Many of our friends tell us that they share our news with their friends. Please feel free to reproduce our Red Alerts and pass them on to everyone who might be interested.

Please use this handy form to help us update our mailing lists.

Mail to: Americans for Indian Opportunity
Suite 403, Plaza Del Sol Building
600 Second Street, NW
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102

CHECK ONE:

- ☐ Change of Address
- ☐ Add to Mailing List
- ☐ Delete from List

PLEASE PRINT

NAME _____

STREET _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

COMMENTS:

Americans for Indian Opportunity
 Plaza Del Sol Building, Suite 403
 Albuquerque, N.M. 87102

RED ALERT # 78-10-3
 April 25, 1978

RED ALERT DRAWS
 RESPONSE FROM CABINET OFFICIALS

Our AIO Red Alert (#78-9-2) "An AIO Red Paper: For Some of Our Best Friends - And Others; Indian Tribes Are Separate Government Units" was sent to about 80 assistant secretaries in domestic departments of the U.S. Cabinet.

We are very heartened by the responses and wanted to share them with you. The following is a list of those officials with responses attached as indicated.

RED ALERT RESPONSE LIST

ALL DOMESTIC DEPARTMENTS IN THE U.S. CABINET

<u>Department/Name/Title</u>	<u>Response Attached</u>	<u>No Response</u>
AGRICULTURE		
The Honorable Bob Bergland, Secretary *	X	
J. Fred King, Acting Assistant Secretary for Administration		X
Carol Tucker Foreman, Assistant Secretary for Food Consumer Services	X	
Robert H. Meyer, Assistant Secretary for Marketing Services		X
M. Rupert Cutler, Assistant Secretary for Conservation, Research, Education	X	X
Dale E. Hathaway, Assistant Secretary for International Affairs/Commodity Programs		X
Alex P. Mercure, Assistant Secretary for Rural Development		X
COMMERCE		
The Honorable Juanita M. Kreps, Secretary	X	
Elsa A. Porter, Assistant Secretary for Administration		X
Frank A. Weil, Assistant Secretary for Domestic, International Business		X
Robert T. Hall, Assistant Secretary for International Business		X

<u>Department/Name/Title</u>	<u>Response Attached</u>	<u>No Response</u>
COMMERCE (continued)		
Robert J. Blackwell, Assistant Secretary for Maritime Affairs		X
Jerry J. Jasinowski, Assistant Secretary for Policy		X
Jordan Baruch, Assistant Secretary for Science and Technology		X
Fabian Chavez Jr., Assistant Secretary for Tourism		X
ENERGY		
The Honorable James R. Schlesinger, Secretary		X
Donald A. Beattie, Acting Assistant Secretary for Conservation/Solar Applications		X
John Deutch, Assistant Secretary for Energy Research/Development		X
Robert D. Thorn, Assistant Secretary for Energy Technology	X	
James L. Liverman, Acting Assistant Secretary for the Environment		X
Phillip S. Hughes, Assistant Secretary for Intergovernmental/Institutional Relations	X	
Harry E. Bergold Jr., Assistant Secretary for International Affairs		X
Alvin L. Alm, Assistant Secretary for Policy and Evaluation		X
George S. McIsaac, Assistant Secretary for Resource Applications	X	
HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE		
The Honorable Joseph A. Califano, Secretary		X
Mary F. Berry, Assistant Secretary for Education	X	
Dr. Julius B. Richmond, Assistant Secretary for Health		X
Arabella Martinez, Assistant Secretary for Human Development	X	
Richard Warden, Assistant Secretary for Legislation		X
John D. Young, Assistant Secretary for Management/Budget		X
Thomas F. McFee, Acting Assistant Secretary for Personnel Administration		X
Henry Aaron, Assistant Secretary for Planning/Evaluation	X	
Eileen Shanahan, Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs	X	
William A. Medina, Assistant Secretary for Administration		X
Emery A. Johnson, M.D., Assistant Surgeon General, Director Indian Health Service	X	

<u>Department/Name/Title</u>	<u>Response Attached</u>	<u>No Response</u>
HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT		
The Honorable Patricia R. Harris, Secretary	X	
Robert C. Embry, Assistant Secretary for Community Planning/Development	X	
Chester C. McGuire, Assistant Secretary for Fair Housing/Equal Opportunity		X
Lawrence B. Simons, Assistant Secretary for Housing; Federal Housing Commissioner		X
Harry K. Schwartz, Assistant Secretary for Legislation/Intergovernmental Relations	X	
Geno Baroni, Assistant Secretary for Neighbor- hoods, Voluntary Associations, Consumer Protection		X
Donna E. Shalala, Assistant Secretary for Policy Development/Research		X
INTERIOR		
The Honorable Cecil D. Andrus, Secretary		X
Joan M. Davenport, Assistant Secretary for Energy/Minerals		X
Robert L. Herbst, Assistant Secretary for Fish/Wildlife/Parks		X
Forrest J. Gerard, Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs		X
Guy R. Martin, Assistant Secretary for Land and Water Resources		X
Robert Mendelson, Assistant Secretary for Policy/Budget/Administration		X
JUSTICE		
The Honorable Griffin Bell, Attorney General		X
John H. Shenefield, Assistant Secretary for the Antitrust Division		X
Barbara Allen Babcock, Assistant Secretary for the Civil Division		X
Drew Saunders Days III, Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights	X	
Benjamin C. Civiletti, Assistant Secretary for the Criminal Division		X
Daniel J. Meador, Assistant Secretary for Improvement in Justice Administration		X
James Moorman, Assistant Secretary for Land and Natural Resources Division		X
John M. Harman, Assistant Secretary for Legal Council		X
Patricia M. Wald, Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs		X
Kevin D. Rooney, Assistant Secretary for Management/Finance		X
M. Carr Ferguson, Assistant Secretary for the Tax Division		X

<u>Department/Name/Title</u>	<u>Response Attached</u>	<u>No Response</u>
LABOR		
The Honorable Ray Marshall, Secretary		X
Alfred M. Zuck, Assistant Secretary for Administration/Management		X
Donald E. Elisburg, Assistant Secretary for Employment Standards	X	
Ernest G. Green, Assistant Secretary for Employment/Training		X
Francis X. Burkhardt, Assistant Secretary for Labor Management Relations		X
Eula Bingham, Assistant Secretary for Occupational Health and Safety		X
Arnold H. Packer, Assistant Secretary for Policy, Evaluation, Health		X
TRANSPORTATION		
The Honorable Brock Adams, Secretary	X	
Edward W. Scott, Assistant Secretary for Administration		X
Terrence L. Bracy, Assistant Secretary for Inter-Governmental Affairs		X
Martin Convisser, Acting Assistant Secretary for the Environment, Safety, Consumer Affairs		X
Chester Davenport, Assistant Secretary for Policy, Plans, International Affairs	X	
Lloyd Money, Acting Assistant Secretary for Systems		X
TREASURY		
The Honorable W. Michael Blumenthal, Secretary		X
William J. Beckham Jr., Assistant Secretary for Administration		X
Roger C. Altman, Assistant Secretary for Domestic Finance		X
Daniel H. Brill, Assistant Secretary for Economic Policy		X
C. Fred Bergsten, Assistant Secretary for International Affairs		X
Gene E. Godley, Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs	X	
Joseph Laitin, Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs	X	
Laurence N. Woodworth, Assistant Secretary for Tax Policy		X

* = Secretary Bergland responded for the Agriculture Department with his letter.



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20250

† April 6 1978

Ms. LaDonna Harris
President
Americans for Indian Opportunity
Plaza Del Sol Building, Suite 403
600 Second Street, N.W.
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102

RECEIVED

APR 10 1978

Dear LaDonna:

Thank you so much for including me and others in the Department of Agriculture on the RED ALERT mailing list. This is helpful both to me and to Alex Mercure and the others in the Department who deal daily on a policy basis with issues which involve Indian country.

I hope that the Department is beginning to effectively deal with the barriers you described which tend to ignore the governmental nature of tribes.

I also appreciate your confidence in the Carter Administration and hope that in the Department you are finding continued reasons for such confidence.

I know it would be of value to Alex if you would include him on not only the RED ALERT mailing list but for all of the valuable information that Americans for Indian Opportunity produces.

Please continue to keep in touch and thanks for thinking of me.

Sincerely,

BOB BERGLAND
Secretary



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20250

April 3, 1978

RECEIVED

APR 7 1978

Ms. LaDonna Harris, President
Americans for Indian Opportunity
Plaza Del Sol Building, Suite 403
600 Second Street, N.W.
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102

Dear Ms. Harris:

Thank you for forwarding me a copy of the Red Alert on Indian tribal governments. I am interested in the issues surrounding this area and look forward to reading the material and sharing it with my staff.

Again, thank you for bringing this information to my attention.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Carol", is written over the typed name.

CAROL TUCKER FOREMAN
Assistant Secretary for
Food and Consumer Services



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Office of the Secretary
Washington, D.C. 20230

March 22, 1978

RECEIVED

MAR 27 1978

Ms. LaDonna Harris
President
Americans for Indian
Opportunity
Plaza Del Sol Building
Suite 403
600 Second Street, N.W.
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102

Dear Ms. Harris:

Secretary Kreps has asked me to respond to your letter and newsletter which urged greater Federal recognition of the governmental nature of Indian tribes.

I have asked Janet Gordon to arrange a meeting with you to discuss any specific recommendations you have for strengthening communications between AIO and the Commerce Department and to inform you about the broad range of assistance programs which Commerce offers to governmental jurisdictions. She will be in contact with you shortly to arrange such a discussion.

Sincerely,

Lawrence O. Houstoun, Jr.
Assistant to the Secretary



Department of Energy
Washington, D.C. 20545

March 24, 1978

RECEIVED

MAR 30 1978

Mrs. LaDonna Harris
President
Americans for Indian Opportunity
Plaza del Sol Building, Suite 403
600 Second Street, NW.
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102

Dear Mrs. Harris:

Thank you for your very informative letter and enclosure regarding the structure of Indian Tribal Governments.

I have forwarded the materials to Mr. George Crossland of the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Intergovernmental and Institutional Relations for proper dissemination within the Agency of the materials you sent.

Enclosed is a recent issue of our biweekly newspaper which describes two recent announcements affecting native Americans. One of these articles describes Mr. Crossland's activities and the other concerns a grant to the Crow Indian Coal Authority.

If the Department of Energy can be of any assistance in the future, please feel free to contact this office.

Sincerely,

[Handwritten signature: R. D. Thorne]
for Robert D. Thorne
Acting Assistant Secretary
for Energy Technology

cc: George Crossland



Department of Energy
Washington, D.C. 20585

RECEIVED

APR 16 1978

Ms. LaDonna Harris
President
Americans for Indian Opportunity
Plaza Del Sol Building, Suite 403
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102

Dear Ms. Harris:

Thank you for your letters of March 3 to the Secretary and to me, enclosing copies of RED ALERT. We agree that, too often, our Government's handling of Indian tribal matters has lacked sensitivity as well as basic understanding of American Indian problems.

As you know, the Department of Energy is taking a series of steps to help avoid the problems of the past. Notably, we are establishing a focal point for American Indian Affairs and placing persons in that office who understand Indian problems, particularly as they related to the Department of Energy. We believe this will both facilitate our relations with the Indian tribes and enable us to deal more effectively with energy problems confronting the Nation.

Thank you for the informative RED ALERT

Sincerely,

Phillip S. Hughes
Assistant Secretary for
Intergovernmental and
Institutional Relations



Department of Energy
Washington, D.C. 20461

MAR 22

RECEIVED

MAR 27 1978

Ms. LaDonna Harris
President
Americans for Indian Opportunity
Plaza Del Sol Building
600 Second Street, N.W.
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102

Dear Ms. Harris:

Thank you very much for your letter of March 3, 1978, and the interesting and informative enclosure on Indian tribes as separate units of government moving toward self-determination.

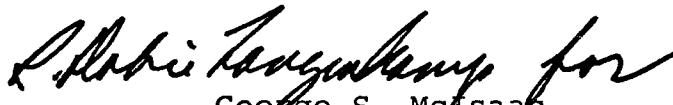
I am aware that certain Indian tribes own large tracts of energy-rich land, and that they can contribute to the Nation's energy supply. I am reminded that on page 89 of the National Energy Plan it says "The National Energy Plan can be built only on a foundation of partnership and understanding among the Federal Government, the States, local governments, and the Nation's Indian tribes, which regulate or own a substantial part of the United States energy resources," and "The Federal Government is willing to do its part to assist States, localities, and Indian tribes in coping with new energy developments, principally from coal utilization, that will occur under the Plan."

As you are undoubtedly aware, the Department of Energy has taken steps to ensure that our programs and policies are designed to take Indian needs and concerns into account. Several weeks ago, Mr. George Crossland was appointed Special Assistant on Indian Affairs in the Office of Inter-governmental and Institutional Relations. I am looking

forward to working with Mr. Crossland in the future. I am forwarding your letter to Mr. Crossland, who is at 736 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20585.

If we can be of further assistance, please to not hesitate to let us know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "George S. McIsaac for".

George S. McIsaac
Assistant Secretary
Resource Applications



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20202

29 E.

Ms. LaDonna Harris
President
Americans for Indian Opportunity
Plaza del Sol Building
Suite 403
600 Second Street, NW
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102

RECEIVED

APR 8 1978

Dear Ms. Harris:

Thank you for sending me a copy of your newsletter Red Alert. I found the analysis of tribes as governmental units and the description of economic development activities to be interesting and well reasoned. I have circulated the newsletter to my staff and I expect that they too will find it useful.

Sincerely,

Mary F. Berry
Assistant Secretary
for Education



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
OFFICE OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20201

APR 10 1978

RECEIVED
APR 12 1978

Ms. LaDonna Harris
President
Americans for Indian Opportunity
Suite 403, Plaza Del Sol Building
600 Second Street, N.W.
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102

Dear LaDonna:

Thank you very much for your letters to Secretary Califano and to me describing your emergency newsletter, RED ALERT. I have enjoyed reading it and sharing it with our staff.

I note that this issue of RED ALERT calls attention to the fact that tribes are units of government and entitled thereby to participate in each of the various Federal programs like other units of Government. I am happy to see this position restated and shared once again with the readers of RED ALERT because many agencies are still apparently uninformed about the status of American Indians and their relationship to the various Federal programs.

To this end, I am extremely pleased that as a result of an initiative submitted by this office, the Secretary has recently directed the implementation of a major Departmental initiative to increase the delivery of services and benefits to Indian people from all the Department's programs. Under this effort, each agency is responsible for developing a plan which outlines how the agency will increase its services and benefits to Indians. This initiative emphasizes that the Department's responsibility and that of other agencies to Indian people is not limited to Indian earmarked programs, but is shared by all programs available to citizens of this country. The Secretary and I expect that this activity will significantly increase and improve services available to Indians.

I think this issue of the RED ALERT will be especially valuable to its readers and I am pleased that it summarily complements the recent steps taken by this office and the Department.

Page 2 - Ms. LaDonna Harris

I look forward to receiving future copies of this newsletter as it becomes available and wish you well in your very important work.

Sincerely,


Arabella Martinez
Assistant Secretary for
Human Development Services



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20201

MAR 31 1978

LaDonna Harris
President
Americans for Indian Opportunity
Plaza Del Sol Building, Suite 403
600 Second Street, N.W.
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102

RECEIVED

APR 3 1978

Dear Mrs. Harris,

Thank you for your letter of March 3, 1978. Your newsletter RED ALERT is very informative; please place this office on your permanent mailing list. On page 5 of the newsletter, several publications are listed as available from your office. Could you please send these.

Your letter discusses barriers to services for Indians. As you are aware, the Secretary has directed the Intra-Departmental Council on Indian Affairs to address this problem. He specifically directed the Department to identify needed actions by each HEW agency to improve delivery of its services to Indians. The council is to be the central coordinating point for this initiative. It is to be accomplished in consultation with Indian representatives. A work plan for this initiative has been sent to the Secretary for his approval. The Indian Council can be contacted directly for the status of this initiative.

The representative to the Indian Council from this office is William Daniels. If Mr. Daniels can be of assistance to you in the future, please, do not hesitate to get in touch with him. His telephone number is (202) 245-2240.

Sincerely,

Henry Aaron
Assistant Secretary for Planning
and Evaluation



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20201

14

Ms. LaDonna Harris
President
Americans for Indian
Opportunity
Plaza Del Sol Building
Suite 403
600 Second Street, N.W.
Albuquerque, N.M. 87102

RECEIVED

MAR 17 1978

Dear Ms. Harris:

It was thoughtful of you to send me a copy of your Red Alert on Indian tribal governments. I found it interesting and informative.

This office, of course, is not concerned with service delivery, but we are very much concerned with information delivery that is clear and accurate.

We would appreciate receiving from you the kind of clear and accurate information about Indians that Red Alert contains.

I have asked Henry Santiestevan, Director of our Review and Outreach Division, to keep in touch with you and your organization. Henry tells me he will be very pleased to do so, since he is a good friend of yours and knows about the excellent work your organization does.

Sincerely yours,

Eileen Shanahan

Eileen Shanahan
Assistant Secretary
for Public Affairs



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE
HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND 20857

INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE

MAR 31 1978

RECEIVED
APR 4 1978

Ms. LaDonna Harris
President, Americans for
Indian Opportunity
Plaza Del Sol Building, Suite 403
600 Second Street, N.W.
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102

Dear Mrs. Harris:

Thank you for your letter of March 3 to the Assistant Secretary for Health and the recent copy of "Red Alert" on Indian tribal governments.

As a representative of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, the Indian Health Service agrees the "Red Alert" sent to the Assistant Secretary is of interest, not only to us, but all Agencies within Health, Education and Welfare (HEW). We further acknowledge the emphasis on human rights and bringing government to the people.

Thank you for bringing the "Red Alert" to the attention of HEW. If we can be of assistance to you and Americans for Indian Opportunity, please let us know.

Sincerely yours,

Emery A. Johnson, M.D.
Assistant Surgeon General
Director, Indian Health Service



DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20410

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

MAR 13 1978

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Ms. LaDonna Harris
President
Americans for Indian Opportunity
Plaza Del Sol Building, Suite 403
600 Second Street, N.W.
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102

RECEIVED

MAR 17 1978

Dear Ms. Harris:

Secretary Harris has asked me to respond to your letter of March 3 sending us a copy of your recent RED ALERT on Indian Tribal governments.

As you know, the basis for the HUD housing and community development programs is the recognition of the independent governmental nature of Indian tribes and their lands. This was the basis for the original housing program started in 1961 with Indian Housing authorities and Indian Tribes entering into contracts directly with the Public Housing Administration of the National Housing Agency, the predecessor of HUD.

We found the RED ALERT very informative.

Sincerely yours,

for Arnold L. Kaplan
Joseph Burstein
Counselor to the Secretary



DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20410

24 MAR 1978

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY
FOR COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

RECEIVED

IN REPLY REFER TO:

MAR 27 1978

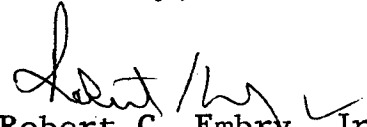
Ms. LaDonna Harris
President, Americans for Indian
Opportunity
600 Second Street, N.W.
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102

Dear Ms. Harris:

I appreciate your sending me the March 3 issue of Red Alert, and I would like to receive future issues. This material will be most helpful to us in understanding the needs and problems of American Indians and the roots of the Indian movement. I am taking the liberty of sending this material to Irvin Santiago, Special Assistant to the Secretary for Indian Affairs.

Thank you for bringing this to my attention.

Sincerely,


Robert C. Embry, Jr.
Assistant Secretary



DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20410

March 24, 1978

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY
FOR LEGISLATION
AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

IN REPLY REFER TO:

RECEIVED

MAR 27 1978

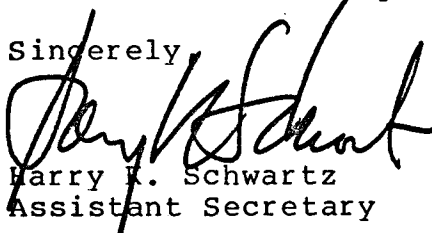
Ms. LaDonna Harris
President
Americans for Indian Opportunity
Plaza Del Sol Building
Suite 403
600 Second Street, N.W.
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102

Dear Ms. Harris:

Thank you for your letter of March 3, 1978,
forwarding a copy of your RED ALERT of the same date.

I have taken the liberty of forwarding a copy
to Irvin Santiago, HUD's new Special Assistant to the
Secretary for Indian and Alaska Native Programs.

Sincerely,


Harry K. Schwartz
Assistant Secretary

cc: Irvin Santiago

Department of Justice
Washington, D.C. 20530

RECEIVED

MAR 28 1978

MAR 22 1978

Ms. LaDonna Harris
President, Americans for
Indian Opportunity
Plaza Del Sol Building, Suite 403
600 Second Street, Northwest
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102

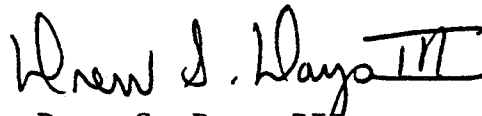
Dear Ms. Harris:

Thank you very much for your recent letter
enclosing a copy of RED ALERT.

I would like to let you know we share your
interest in issues affecting American Indians and,
through our Office of Indian Rights, have recently
taken some significant steps to advance the civil
rights of Indians. We appreciate the opportunity
to work closely with organizations such as Americans
for Indian Opportunity. I am convinced that with
your assistance we will continue to make progress
in our joint effort to secure basic rights for Indians.

Thank you again for your interest in our
work.

Sincerely,



Drew S. Days III
Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20210



MAR 28 1978

Ms. LaDonna Harris
President
Americans for Indian Opportunity
Plaza del Sol Building
Suite 403
600 Second Street, NW.
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102

RECEIVED

APR 8 1978

Dear Ms. Harris:

Thank you for your letter of March 3, 1978. I appreciated receiving a copy of RED ALERT which dealt with Indian tribal governments. It was very informative, and I look forward to receiving it in the future.

We are planning to communicate with our Regional Office in Dallas, which is the nearest office to Albuquerque. Either the Regional Director or one of his staff associates will contact your office when they are in New Mexico, for the purpose of discussing your problems and needs. In addition, I would like to suggest that the next time you are planning a trip to Washington, D.C., and if your schedule permits, that you let us know and we may arrange a meeting. I would like to discuss your paper and ways and means that the Employment Standards Administration of the Department of Labor could be of assistance to you.

Thank you again for your communication.

Sincerely,

Donald Elisburg
Assistant Secretary



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

MAR 27

RECEIVED

MAR 30 1978

Ms. LaDonna Harris
President
Americans for Indian Opportunity
600 Second Street, NW
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102

Dear Ms. Harris:

The Secretary has asked me to express his appreciation for your sending along a copy of Red Alert on Indian tribal governments. I think the publication is appropriate and informative. In this light, I am making copies of it and sending it to the civil rights leadership of the Department of Transportation.

I still plan to meet with you and other Indian leaders and hope to arrange a meeting date in the very near future. If you will be coming to Washington within the next few weeks, please let me know what dates you might be available for meeting and we might schedule something around your visit.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Ellen Feingold", is written above the typed name.

Ellen Feingold
Director of Civil Rights



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

ASSISTANT SECRETARY

Ms. LaDonna Harris
President
Americans for Indian Opportunity
Plaza Del Sol Building, Suite 403
600 Second Street, N.W.
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102

17
RECEIVED

MAR 23 1978

Dear Ms. Harris:

Thank you for your letter of March 3, transmitting a copy of RED ALERT on Indian tribal governments. We have read the paper with interest and have found it to be an excellent description of the governmental nature of Indian tribes. We will place this paper in our files for ready reference in developing programs that impact upon the lives of Indian people.

Again, thank you for your letter and the accompanying copy of RED ALERT.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chester Davenport", is written over a horizontal line.

Chester Davenport
Assistant Secretary for
Policy and International Affairs



ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20220

March 20, 1978

RECEIVED

MAR 24 1978

Dear Ms. Harris:

This is to acknowledge the copy of Red Alert.

I appreciate your courtesy in forwarding the information relating to Indian tribes as separate governmental units.

Sincerely,

Gene E. Godley
Assistant Secretary
(Legislative Affairs)

Ms. LaDonna Harris
President, Americans for
Indian Opportunity
Plaza del Sol Building
Suite 403
600 Second Street, N.W.
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102



DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20220

RECEIVED

MAR 31 1978

ASSISTANT SECRETARY

March 27, 1978

Dear Mrs. Harris:

Thank you for your letters to Secretary Blumenthal, Assistant Secretary Beckham and myself enclosing the Americans for Indian Opportunity "Red Alert."

The newsletter has been read with interest. We appreciate having the information it contains.

Sincerely,

Joseph Laitin
Assistant Secretary
(Public Affairs)

Mrs. LaDonna Harris
Americans for Indian Opportunity
600 Second Street N.W.
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102

Americans for Indian Opportunity
600 2nd Street, NW, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102

Red Alert #78-10-4
April 25, 1978

BROWN SKINNED PEOPLE MAY BE MORE SUSCEPTIBLE TO PESTICIDES -
ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING SEMINARS SCHEDULED BY AIO

Americans for Indian Opportunity with support from the Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Pesticide Programs, is in the process of conducting a series of meetings with tribal officials and EPA officials. One of the interesting items we've discovered is that dark skinned people were reported to be more susceptible - possibly twice as susceptible to pesticide poisoning through skin absorption as others. This information was published in the proceedings of an EPA sponsored training course in 1971 entitled Pesticides and Public Health. Pesticide regulation and other environmental issues are discussed in these seminars. Two have already been conducted, in Billings, Montana and Seattle, Washington. The remaining four have been tentatively scheduled as follows.

May 18, 19, 1978 - Albuquerque, New Mexico (for Tribes in New Mexico, Colorado, and Arizona.)

June 27, 28, 1978 - San Diego, California (for Tribes in California, Nevada, and Utah.)

Week of August 15, 1978 - Nashville, Tennessee (for tribes in Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, Virginia, and North Carolina.)

The following is a memo from Barbara Blum, Deputy Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, to the Regional Administrators which expresses her interest and support for the project.



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

February 21, 1978

RECEIVED

FEB 23 1978
OFFICE OF THE
ADMINISTRATOR

SUBJECT: Americans for Indian Opportunity Pesticide
Seminars

FROM: Deputy Administrator

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Barbara Blum".

TO: Regional Administrators Regions I-II IV-X

Americans for Indian Opportunity (AIO), a non-profit organization based in Albuquerque, New Mexico, has received a grant from the Office of Pesticide Programs to conduct six meetings with American Indian tribal officials around the country.

Americans for Indian Opportuntiy
600 2nd Street, NW Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102

Red Alert #78-10-4-2
April 25, 1978

The purpose of the meetings is to familiarize officials of tribal governments with EPA and its programs, particularly certification and regulation of pesticide use.

I believe that the environment on Indian lands can best be protected through joint Tribal/Federal efforts. Such efforts, however, require the informed and willing cooperation of tribal governments. To this end, the Office of Pesticide Programs chose AIO, to serve as liaison between this Agency and the Indian tribes to see that the tribes are fully and accurately informed about EPA and our programs. AIO will coordinate their efforts with your Regional Pesticide Branch Chief. The AIO project manager is Ms. Margaret Gover, Suite 403, 600 2nd Street, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102.

I fully support this project and urge you to give it your personal attention and support.

Please, plan to attend the one in your area - letters of invitation will be sent out to reservation tribal chairmen with exact times and places. (If you missed the one in your area and are interested, call or write us for information.)

HEALTH IS NOT THE ONLY CONCERN - CULTURE ALSO THREATENED:

ALBU JOURNAL 4/23
**Indian Tribes
Voice Protest
On Spraying**

EUREKA, Calif. (AP)— Several Indian tribes are protesting the spraying of plant-killing chemicals on forests near California's largest Indian reservation because, they say, the practice destroys brush trees and weeds important to their way of life.

The 2,000 Indians — mainly from the Yurok, Karok and Hupa tribes — object to the spraying of the herbicide 2,4,5-T, which timber companies have used for 25 years to kill vegetation that interferes with the growth of commercially valuable redwood, Douglas fir and pine trees.

The Indians, who live in and around the 12-square-mile Hoopa Valley Indian reservation about 290 miles north of San Francisco, call the spraying "cultural genocide."

One of the herbicide's victims is the tan oak, used in making acorn soup, which has been part of the Indians' diet for centuries, said Peter Jackson, a member of the Hoopa Valley Tribal Council.

Jackson added that the herbicide kills ferns, grasses and roots used in basket-making, and threatens animals and native plants used in the sacred White Door Skin Dance.

The Environmental Protection Agency this month told the timber industry that it is looking into the risks and benefits of using the herbicide, which contains the chemical dioxin, suspected of causing birth defects in animals.

Opposition also has come from environmentalists, who fear the herbicide will affect other plants, and from health advocates, who question the chemical's safety.

An investigation last year by the state Agriculture Department concluded there was no link between health problems and the spraying of the chemicals.

The timber companies, meanwhile, have announced plans to resume spraying the herbicide when early spring rains end in the area.



RECEIVED

NOV 2 1978

AMERICANS for INDIAN OPPORTUNITY

PLAZA DEL SOL BUILDING SUITE 403
600 SECOND STREET, N.W. ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO 87102 (505) 842-0962

RED ALERT RED ALERT RED ALERT RED ALERT RED ALERT RED ALERT

78-12

Dear Friends:

The Indian education issue has been a very difficult one for all of us. Our Board deliberated long and hard before a decision was made. We wanted to share that discussion with you. The following excerpts from the minutes of our annual Board meeting are for your information. You may also find other resolutions and issues discussed by our Board of interest. Any suggestions or support you might want to offer will be greatly appreciated.

With warm regards,

LaDonna Harris
President

The Proposed Transfer of the Bureau of Indian Affairs
Division of Indian Education to the New Department of Education:
The President told the Board that Americans for Indian Opportunity has been asked by Senator Abraham Ribicoff, Chairman of the Committee on Governmental Affairs, and several other Senators to take a position on the proposed transfer of the Bureau of Indian Affairs Division of Indian Education to the new Department of Education. She called their attention to the position papers of other Indian organizations included in their information packets. She provided them with the following background information:

Several weeks ago the President was asked by Sam Deloria, who has been working on President Carter's reorganization plan, to contact the White House staff regarding the proposed transfer. She informed Jack Watson, of the White House staff, that the proposed transfer and the apparent lack of interest by the Administration in Indian concerns generally was very disturbing to the Indian community. The feeling of the Indian community was that policy was either being made piecemeal without consideration of the impacts or that the transfer was the first step in a calculated plan to dismantle the Bureau of Indian Affairs. She asked that any actions taken be carefully considered with those concerns in mind and that he consult with Mr. Deloria and others who have been actively involved in studying reorganization.

A few days ago, in a conversation between Maggie Gover and a high ranking Interior Department official who asked not to be identified, it was suggested that the President call Senator Ribicoff personally to ascertain if the Senator was acting out of strong personal conviction in insisting that the Bureau of Indian Affairs Education Division be

transferred or if he was acting based on staff or administration recommendations as some felt. An alternative recommendation for delaying the transfer for three years for a study to be made of the impacts of the transfer was also suggested.

The President did make the suggested call and learned that Senator Ribicoff has a very strong personal commitment to improving the education of Indian children and that he was absolutely convinced that the transfer with the following stipulations would do that:

- The legislation sets up a distinct, tangible office within the Department of Education which Indian people can call their own. The office, on an equal footing with other educational interests, will be headed by an Assistant Secretary for Indian Education.
- The bill contains a provision requiring the Department of Education to uphold the trust responsibility. The strongest possible language will be used in the Committee report to further guarantee this.
- The bill insures that the transfer will not change existing eligibility standards for both the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Office of Indian Education programs. Bureau of Indian Affairs education programs will continue to serve the Federally-recognized tribes.
- The bill provides specifically for the continuation of existing Indian preference hiring laws in the new Department.
- The bill amends the Indian Self-Determination Act to make its provisions, including the ability to contract with the Secretary of Education, fully applicable in the Department of Education.
- The bill directs the Secretary of Education to institute more local control of education by Indian people.
- The bill requires consultation and coordination between the two top ranking Federal Indian officials--the Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs in the Department of Interior and the Assistant Secretary for Indian Education in the Department of Education.

--Lastly, the bill provides for a three-year "phase-in" period for the Bureau of Indian Affairs school system, so that the transfer can be conducted with little disruption and much consultation with Indian people.

Senator Ribicoff asked for the AIO Board's support. The President told Senator Ribicoff that she personally appreciated his concern for the education of Indian children and that the Board would be considering their position on Wednesday, July 12, 1978.

The President then introduced Del Lovato, Executive Director of the All Indian Pueblo Council made up of the nineteen Pueblo Tribes, who had asked for an opportunity to present the position of that organization.

Mr. Lovato reported that the nineteen Pueblos which make up the All Indian Pueblo Council support the transfer of the Bureau of Indian Affairs Education Division to the new Department of Education with the following stipulations:

1. That the trust responsibility be guaranteed in the legislation.
2. That Indian education be headed by an Assistant Secretary.
3. That there be an Indian Board of Education with policy-making powers.
4. That the self-determination aspects of P.L. 93-638 and Indian preference apply.
5. That Head Start stay where it is.
6. That funding under no circumstances be less than it is presently and that a concerted effort be made to provide "catch up" funding.
7. That local control be guaranteed.
8. That there be direct funding to tribes and tribal organizations for education programs.

Mr. Lovato said the Council had based its position on the fact that the educational needs of Indian children had not been met and showed little sign of improvement over the past few years in spite of repeated promises. He also stressed the fact that even though we all know that Indian Health Service needs much improvement, it has, in fact, greatly improved since it was removed from the Bureau of Indian Affairs. The same arguments were made then regarding fragmentation. Funding for Indian Health has increased from several thousand to several million.

Mr. Lovato said that for years we have asked and been promised change with few results. The Pueblo Indian community wants change. They feel that with fifty-seven Senators co-sponsoring the Bill which proposes the transfer, the Bill will pass and with the above listed stipulations in the legislation and an Assistant Secretary heading up Indian Education, there is a chance for meaningful change.

The Board discussed the proposed transfer in great detail. Feelings expressed, both pro and con, were very deeply held and strongly stated. Mr. Eklund reserved any comment in the discussion saying that as a non-Indian he should withhold any comment until the vote. Those opposing the transfer--Mary Jo Butterfield, Minerva Jenkins, Louis LaRose, Grace McCullah, Joe Dan Osceola, Cal Peters, and Jack Whitecrow--expressed the following concerns:

1. Tribes whose councils they worked for or were members of, had already taken positions opposing the transfer.
2. Fear that the transfer was, in fact, a first step to dismantle the Bureau and that the ultimate result would be termination.
3. That the gains made in self-determination, Indian control and Indian preference would be lost.
4. That the Indian community had not been consulted in a meaningful way regarding the transfer.
5. That the present Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs had not had adequate time for a fair chance to make meaningful changes.
6. That as members or employees of tribal councils they were more directly concerned than others and more representative of Indian concerns.

7. There was no guarantee that Indian education would be better under the new Department of Education.
8. That the proposed transfer is not in keeping with the recommendations of the Policy Review Commission to consolidate all Indian programs into a cabinet level department.

Those favoring the transfer expressed the following concerns:

1. The quality of education for Indian children is very poor, particularly in Bureau of Indian Affairs Boarding Schools.
2. Change is necessary if there is to be any improvement and striving to keep the Indian Education Division in the Bureau of Indian Affairs without a legislative mandate for it to "clean up its act", amounts to an endorsement of the status quo. The transfer at least offers a chance for change.
3. There are indications that one of the leading causes of Indian child abuse may be the result of the emotional and psychological damage suffered in BIA Boarding Schools by the parents of the present generation of small Indian children.
4. The trust responsibility is inherent in the entire Federal government, thus a transfer, particularly with strong legislative language regarding the trust responsibility would strengthen rather than damage that trust responsibility.
5. Real tribal permanence rests on the ability of the tribes to protect and nurture the human as well as the natural resources of the tribe rather than on the Bureau of Indian Affairs.
6. The emotional and mental abuse of Indian children, especially in Bureau of Indian Affairs Boarding Schools contributes to the excessively high number of suicides, (the suicide rate for Indian teenagers generally is four times the national average; in BIA Boarding Schools, the rate is ten times the national average), suicide attempts, drug and substance abuse and other mental health problems crippling Indian children permanently.

7. Any resolution for support of the proposed transfer should include strong statements regarding the following:

- the trust responsibility of the Federal government will be inherent in the new Department of Education;
- the remaining functions exercised by the Bureau of Indian Affairs will be enhanced and improved;
- the new Indian education component of the Department of Education will carry Assistant Secretary status;
- Indian self-determination will be improved and enhanced, including direct funding to tribes and appropriate Indian organizations through grants and contracting;
- that all staffing under the new Department will include new and innovative personnel;
- that all gains made by the Indian community in self-determination, tribal sovereignty, Indian preference and Indian control of Indian education will not be impaired; and
- that the education of Indian people will in fact be improved.

Motion was made by Joan Bordman, seconded by Grace McCullah that the Board postpone a vote on a resolution until after lunch in order that the luncheon honoring the Honorable John O'Leary, Undersecretary of the Department of Energy might proceed on schedule. Motion carried.

Environmental Health: Ms. Gover reported that our work this year has pointed up environmental health problems that have not been properly addressed by government agencies. These include the following: mental health problems aggravated by the "boomtown syndrome", pollution of water and air by uranium, coal, copper, phosphate and other mining, the dangers of pesticide use particularly to dark skinned people, the effect of increased irrigation both on and off reservations on water quality, dangers to those involved in production in various forms of development as well as dangers to the local populace, the lack of monitoring and reporting of development related health problems, the lack of consideration of an increase in traffic accidents because of increased development without proper road building, the effects of acid rain on water and food supplies, etc. Motion was made by Bette Mele, seconded by Louis LaRose that the following resolution be approved:

Resolution on Environmental Health

Board of Directors of Americans for Indian Opportunity

WHEREAS The Federal government is actively encouraging Indian tribes to develop vast quantities of energy resources in order to help satisfy the nation's energy and other natural resource needs; and

WHEREAS Substantial energy projects in the past have proved to create far-reaching and often unexpected environmental problems, including hazards to the physical and mental health of the local population; and

WHEREAS Tribal leaders must now make development decisions without benefit of adequate information on the social and environmental consequences of such development or of the means for reducing its negative impacts; and

WHEREAS The federal government's trust responsibility include a responsibility to insure that the environmental and health effects of energy and other natural resource development are fully explored and understood by both federal and tribal decision-makers;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that the federal government, including the Department of Interior, Department of Energy, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, Department of Labor, Department of Transportation, the Environmental Protection Agency, and other appropriate federal agencies must take action in a coordinated effort to:

- a. analyze and assess the potential environmental, sociological, and health impacts of anticipated development projects;
- b. insure that tribal decision-makers are made fully aware of such potential impacts;
- c. establish mechanisms for monitoring such impacts on the local population and the environment as development on Indian reservations proceeds; and
- d. provide means to alleviate the negative aspects of such impacts in order to avoid any unnecessary sacrifice by Indian people or their habitat in the name of national energy needs.

Motion carried.

The Proposed Transfer of the Bureau of Indian Affairs Division of Indian Education to the New Department of Education-
Continued: The Board reconvened for further discussion of the proposed transfer of the Bureau of Indian Affairs Division of Education to the new Department of Education. Motion was made by Joan Bordman, seconded by Eddie Tullis, that the following resolution be adopted.

Resolution on the Proposed Transfer of the Indian Education Division of the Bureau of Indian Affairs to the New Department of Education (S.991)

Board of Directors of Americans for Indian Opportunity

- WHEREAS the education of Indian children has suffered and continues to suffer immeasurably under the direction of the Bureau of Indian Affairs Division of Education; and
- WHEREAS there have been continuing reassurances that major reforms would be made in this Division by each of its several Directors during the past few years; and
- WHEREAS these promised reforms have not materialized despite the constant proddings of the Indian community; and
- WHEREAS S.991 would transfer the education program for Indian people from the Bureau of Indian Affairs to the new Department of Education under an Assistant Secretary for Indian Education; and
- WHEREAS the Board of Directors for Americans for Indian Opportunity has reviewed the alternatives to S.991; and
- WHEREAS the Board is aware that the proposed transfer if not universally acclaimed or desired by Indian peoples; and
- WHEREAS the Board sees no present or credible future alternatives;

10.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED: that S.991 is supported by the Board of Directors of Americans for Indian Opportunity with the understanding that

- the trust responsibility of the federal government will be inherent in the new Department of Education;
- the remaining functions exercised by the Bureau of Indian Affairs will be enhanced and improved;
- the new Indian education component of the Department of Education will carry Assistant Secretary status;
- Indian self-determination will be improved and enhanced, including direct funding to tribes and appropriate Indian organizations through grants and contracting;
- that all staffing under the new Department will include new and inovative personnel;
- that all gains made by the Indian community in self-determination, tribal sovereignty, Indian preference and Indian control of Indian education will not be impaired; and
- that the education of Indian people will in fact be improved.

BOARD MEMBERS VOTING FOR

Joan Bordman
Edgar Bowen
Ron Cournoyer
Ada Deer
Coy Eklund
LaDonna Harris
Charles Lohah
Bette Mele
Ed Mitchell
Jerry Muskrat
Elma Patterson
Joe Sando
Victoria Santana
Eddie Tullis

BOARD MEMBERS VOTING AGAINST

Mary Jo Butterfield
Minerva Jenkins
Louis LaRose
Grace McCullah
Joe Dan Osceola
Cal Peters
Jake Whitecrow

BOARD MEMBERS ABSTAINING

Eugene Crawford

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Price Cobbs
Jack Edmo
Roy George, Sr.
Theodore Hesburgh
Dennis Limberhand
Morgan Otis
Ray Paddock
Jack Rushing

Use of Solar Energy: Motion was made by Ed Bowen, seconded by Jerry Muskrat that the following resolution introduced by Joan Bordman be approved:

Resolution on the Use of Solar Energy

Board of Directors of Americans for Indian Opportunity

WHEREAS Indian people, particularly in the Southwest, have traditionally used solar energy for economic, religious and environmental reasons,

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of Americans for Indian Opportunity fully supports Indian people in their attempts to utilize solar energy as an alternative fuel supply and encourages the use of solar energy in all building projects being considered for the reservation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of Americans for Indian Opportunity calls upon all federal agencies and other funding sources to support the tribes in these efforts.

Motion carried.

The Longest Walk: Motion was made by Charles Lohah, seconded by Eugene Crawford that the following resolution be approved:

Resolution on the Longest Walk

Board of Directors of Americans for Indian Opportunity

The Board of Directors of Americans for Indian Opportunity endorses and supports the legislative goals of the Longest Walk.

Motion carried.

Appropriations for Indirect Cost Support for P.L. 638 Contracting: Motion was made by Cal Peters, seconded by Grace McCullah that the following resolution introduced by the staff be approved:

Resolution on Appropriations for Indirect Cost Support for P.L. 638 Contracting

Board of Directors of Americans for Indian Opportunity

- WHEREAS the purpose of the Indian Self-Determination Act (P.L. 638) is to facilitate the delivery of services by the tribe to its own people; and
- WHEREAS it is impossible for tribal governments to adequately carry out delivery of services without indirect cost support; and
- WHEREAS the House of Representatives Appropriations Interior Subcommittee has recognized the critical shortfall in the amount of funding needed for indirect cost support by recommending to the Congress a supplemental appropriation of \$10,117,000 for FY 78 and a total of \$24,146,000 for FY 79

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that Board of Directors of Americans for Indian Opportunity endorses the recommendation of the House of Representatives Interior Subcommittee and urges the Congress to appropriate an additional \$10,117,000 for FY 78 and a total of \$24,146,000 for FY 79 for indirect cost support of tribal contracting.

Motion carried.

Federal Recognition of Indian Tribes and Groups: Motion was made by Ed Bowen, seconded by Charles Lohah that the following resolution introduced by Eddie Tullis be approved:

Resolution on the Establishment of an Orderly Process of Federal Recognition of Indian Tribes and Groups

Board of Directors of Americans for Indian Opportunity

WHEREAS there has been no orderly process of federal recognition of Indian tribes and groups; and

WHEREAS the National Congress of American Indians and representatives of unrecognized groups have agreed on a set of principles for the process; and

WHEREAS the Bureau of Indian Affairs has published proposed regulations to establish a fair and equitable process for recognizing those genuine Indian groups; and

WHEREAS the BIA has delayed the finalization of the proposed regulations for an unconscionable length of time;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED: that the BIA move quickly to establish the process and put it into effect.

Motion carried.

Preparation of the Census: Motion was made by Mary Jo Butterfield, seconded by Edgar Bowen that the following resolution introduced by Eddie Tullis be approved:

Resolution on the Preparation of the Census

Board of Directors of Americans for Indian Opportunity

WHEREAS The Bureau of the Census has agreed to make a special effort to count Indians

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that all Indians be counted.
Motion carried.

Resolution on Settlement of the Penobscot Land Claims

Board of Directors of Americans for Indian Opportunity

WHEREAS The State of Maine has ratified a treaty with the Penobscot Nation 200 years after the fact and has attempted to extinguish the Penobscot Tribe land claims case by pushing the Penobscot Nation's claim into the U.S. Court of Claims; and

WHEREAS large corporate entities who own large tracts of land in Maine have inflamed the passions of the small land-holders in Maine over the issue of Penobscot land claims, removing it from the legal arena and transforming it into a politically volatile issue with racist proportions; and

WHEREAS the Penobscot Tribe has in all respects followed the American legal system in attempting to seek a solution to the problem and to deal equitably and fairly with the small land-holders and the state government; and

WHEREAS the State of Maine has the solemn legal and moral duty to uphold the rights of the Penobscot Tribe

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the elected officials of the State of Maine proceed with all due haste to negotiate with the Penobscot Tribe to settle this land claims dispute in an equitable and reasonable fashion so that the rights of the Penobscot Tribe will not be jeopardized.

Motion carried. Mr. Eklund will call this resolution to the personal attention of the Governor of Maine.

Indian Task Panel's Recommendation to the President's Commission on Mental Health: Motion was made by Eugene Crawford, seconded by Calvin Peters that the following resolution introduced by the staff be approved:

Resolution on The Indian Task Panel's Recommendations to the President's Commission on Mental Health

Board of Directors of Americans for Indian Opportunity

- WHEREAS the President's Commission on Mental Health has submitted to President Jimmy Carter a report and recommendations regarding mental health needs of Americans with special note of the unique needs of American Indians and Alaska Natives; and
- WHEREAS the PCMH appointed a Task Panel of American Indians and Alaska Natives to submit to the PCMH a special report with recommendations; and
- WHEREAS the above mentioned Task Panel submitted a report and specific recommendations regarding the mental health needs of American Indians and Alaska Natives; and
- WHEREAS this report titled "A Good Day to Live for One Million Indians", reflects the wishes, thoughts, and sincere recommendations of Indian peoples nationwide;
- BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED: that the AIO Board endorses the report and urges the President, the Federal Agencies, and Congress to take immediate and committed action to facilitate the recommendations made in the report "A Good Day to Live."

Motion carried.

Settlement of the Penobscot Land Claims: Motion was made by Coy Eklund, seconded by Louis LaRose that the following resolution introduced by Ed Mitchell be approved:

Independent Management Review of the Indian Health Service:
 Motion was made by Vicki Santa, seconded by Jacke Whitecrow that
 the following resolution introduced by Ron Cournoyer be approved:

Resolution on an Independent Management Review of
 the Indian Health Service

Board of Directors of Americans for Indian Opportunity

- WHEREAS The enactment of the Indian Self-Determination Act (PL 93-638) and the Indian Health Improvement Act (PL 93-437) has added unique and special responsibilities to the Federal Government in general and the Indian Health Service specifically; and
- WHEREAS the responsibility for enabling and assisting tribal governments and organizations to design health care delivery systems to meet needs as defined locally rests with Indian Health Service, the Department of Health, Education and Welfare; and
- WHEREAS some improvement has been made in certain areas (such as tuberculosis) of Indian health in the past few years, the service delivery system seems to be increasingly cumbersome and bureaucratic; and
- WHEREAS the health of American Indians remains lower in quality than that of the U.S. norm and the mental health problems are rapidly increasing; and
- WHEREAS it seems that funds appropriated by Congress specifically for service delivery programs for Indian people have been co-mingled with other program funds, a possibility which lends itself to a lack of accountability and poor management practices;
- BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Congress require that a full management review of Indian Health Service activities be conducted by an independent source. The review should be similar to that conducted on the Bureau of Indian Affairs by the American Indian Policy Review Commission.
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this study be made available to all tribal groups and organizations.

Motion carried.



THE UNDER SECRETARY OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20201

June 13, 1978

RECEIVED

JUN 19 1978

LW

Ms. LaDonna Harris
President
Americans for Indian Opportunity
Suite 403
600 Second Street, N. W.
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102

Dear Ms. Harris:

Thank you for your letter of June 2 enclosing
copies of Red Alert.

The Department is very much interested in the
issues surrounding tribal rights and self-
government. HEW has been working with the Standing
Rock Sioux Tribal Council, Fort Yates, North Dakota
on a demonstration project involving several of the
Department's programs and their relationship to
Tribal administrative responsibility.

I appreciate your bringing Red Alert to my attention.

Sincerely,

Eugene Eidenberg
Deputy Under Secretary for
Intergovernmental Affairs



18.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Economic Development Administration
Washington, D.C. 20230

Red Alert Response

10
RECEIVED

JUN 29 1978

JUN 26 1978

Mrs. LaDonna Harris
President
Americans for Indian Opportunity
Plaza Del Sol Building, Suite 403
600 Second Street, N.W.
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102

Dear Mrs. Harris:

This is in response to your letter of June 2 to Sidney Harman, Under Secretary of Commerce, in which you enclosed a copy of AIO's RED ALERT.

As you know, the Economic Development Administration (EDA) classifies the Indian reservations and Alaskan native villages as government entities, just as we do with boroughs, cities, townships and counties. The EDA Indian Desk was established in order that there would be a close coordination between the Indian tribes and the Agency.

The Office of Minority Business Enterprise (OMBE) relates to Indian tribes as part of the numerous minorities in the nation to make sure that contracts and programs are provided in accord with the government's desire to assist all minorities.

We appreciate receiving this material and your interest in bringing the numerous issues to our attention.

Sincerely,

H.W. WILLIAMS
Deputy Assistant Secretary
for Economic Development



ASSISTANT SECRETARY

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20590

JUN 12 1978

Red Alert Bup

RECEIVED

JUN 16 1978

Ms. LaDonna Harris
President
Americans for Indian Opportunity
600 Second Street, N.W.
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102

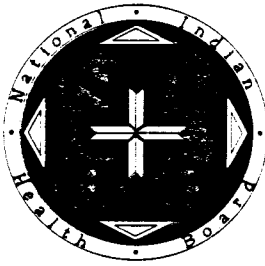
Dear Ms. Harris:

I appreciated very much receiving your letter of June 2, 1978, in which you enclosed a copy of your newsletter, RED ALERT. Thank you for putting us on the mailing list for that useful publication which I intend to circulate to my staff.

Many of the Department's programs, particularly those for highways, include provisions designed to help meet the special needs of Indians. We are most interested in the views of your organization on the effectiveness of our programs in this area and I am sure that in this connection we will find your publication informative.

Sincerely,

Mortimer L. Downey
Mortimer L. Downey
Assistant Secretary for
Budget and Programs



NATIONAL INDIAN HEALTH BOARD, INC.

"The 1980's: A Decade of Indian Health Initiatives"

RED ALERT

7 April 1982

TO: NIHB Board Members & Alternates
Area Health Board Directors
U.S. Congressional Appropriation Committee
Tribal Leaders
NCAI, NTCA, GLITC, ITCN, AAIP, NCIOA, NIYC, AIO, AIPC, ITCA, INMED

Information has come to our office indicating plans, mandated by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), that will reprogram monies from certain line items to other line items in the IHS FY '82 budget.

I understand IHS requested the authority to ask Congress for a supplemental add on appropriation to their FY '82 budget. This add on would have provided funding (\$18.2 million) for IHS to meet their responsibilities for the Pay Act, which Congress authorized but failed to provide funding for. OMB did not request additional funding either. This supplemental appropriation would have also provided funds (\$9.3 million) to meet the deficit in the Hospitals and Clinics line item of the IHS FY '82 budget.

Office of Management and Budget has denied IHS their request and mandated the following:

1st Stage of Reprogramming dollars

FROM: Facilities Budget	TO: Hospitals & Clinics line item
Sacaton, Arizona; Hospital	\$11.5 million, which is still
Rosebud, South Dakota; Hospital	\$6.7 million, short of meeting
Anadarko, Oklahoma; Clinic	the Pay Act obligation for
Tsaile, Arizona; Clinic	IHS employees.
Huerfano, New Mexico; Clinic	

This in effect will temporarily stop all proposed action on the above facilities in FY '82 and possibly in FY '83 also.

2nd Stage of Reprogramming dollars

FROM: The Following Line Items	TO: Hospitals & Clinics Line Item
Maintenance/Repair	\$4,000,000
Equity Health Care	2,000,000
Contract Health Care	2,100,000
Savings generated from the time difference proposed time of new facilities and actual occupation	1,200,000
TOTAL	<u>\$9,300,000</u>

April 7, 1982

Page 2

Indian Health Service needs the following amount of money in order not to reprogram:

\$18.2 million for Pay Act
9.3 million for Direct Health Delivery
\$27.5 million total

I understand that if IHS does not receive either the authority to reprogram the monies as stated above, or a supplemental appropriation of the above referenced amount from Congress, they will face the very real possibility of closing some facilities and having a reduction in force (RIF). We cannot afford the reprogramming; our budgets have been cut enough!!! Therefore, a supplemental appropriation is mandatory to meet the needs of our people.

These are drastic times and we are faced with terrific decisions. Do we set by the wayside and see our health services go down the drain or do we do something about it?

If the Office of Management and Budget had their way, no one would receive any assistance at all.

I have taken it upon myself to instruct our Washington office to initiate a supplemental budget request for IHS' FY '82 budget, in the amount of \$27.5 million with the Congressional offices and committees to meet the above referenced requirements.

I urge each of you to support this request and notify your congressional offices to support it. I also urge each of you to give this information wide dissemination to both the Indian and non-Indian world. We need everyone's help.

Most Sincerely,


Jake L. Whitecrow
Executive Director

JLW/de