

The original documents are located in Box 4, folder “Office of Native American Programs (HEW)” of the Bradley H. Patterson Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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August 30, 1976

Dear LaDonna,

Guess who is back in the Indian business...
Thought you would like to see the attached
memorandum from the President.

The President has asked me to thank you for
your letter of the 25th. I will try to find
out about some of the things you have described
and will be in touch with you again. I'll
probably phone you also, since perhaps a few
illustrations for me of the problems on your
mind would be helpful.

Affectionately,

Bradley H. Patterson, Jr.

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

BHP/tm

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

ON A P focussing on
~~advice~~ strengthening
advis & managerial
competence in technical
staff.





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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- I. W. Abel
- Lionel Bordeaux, *Sioux*
- Joan Bordman
- Edgar Bowen, *Coos-Oregon*
- Terry Brown, *Karok*
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- Charles Lohah, *Osage*
- Philip Martin, *Choctaw*
- Grace McCullah, *Navaho*
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- Jerry Muskrat, *Cherokee*
- Joe Dan Osceola, *Seminole*
- Morgan Otis, *Apache-Arapaho-Kiowa*
- Elma Patterson, *Tuscarora*
- Cal Peters, *Squaxin Island*
- Jack Rushing, *Creek*
- Vickie Santana, *Southern Pegan-Blackfeet*
- Joe S. Sando, *Jemez Pueblo*
- Eddie L. Tullis, *Alabama Creek*

August 25, 1976

Honorable Gerald R. Ford
President of the United States
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500



Dear Mr. President:

As President and Director of Americans for Indian Opportunity, I would like to share with you my observations of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare's handling of the Office of Native American Programs. As you know, ONAP originated with the Office of Economic Opportunity and was transferred to HEW with strong objections from the Indian community. We feared that it would lose its flexibility, recognizing that this flexibility is important for the development of new programs and the philosophy of self-determination by the Indian community, and also from observations of what happens to other programs when they reach HEW's bureaucracy.

It's my opinion, in watching this transfer very closely, that Assistant Secretary Stan Thomas strongly resented the way ONAP was set up and the influence the Indian community had on the ONAP programs. The former director, Bob Howard, worked very hard at keeping the Assistant Secretary and other pressures from making what I would consider destructive changes in the ONAP programs. On his tragic death, again came the fear of the destruction of ONAP. There was great hope in the decision to appoint Dr. George Bluespruce as director that ONAP would continue as it was originally created. On several occasions, Americans for Indian Opportunity and other national

Indian organizations have had to go directly to the administration, mostly the White House, to overcome obstacles that Mr. Thomas created to stifle the Indian community and their programs. Though I find Mr. Thomas a charming man socially, I find him to be an obstructionist as far as the Indian community is concerned. I feel that this administration, congress and the government as a whole has learned the hard way that Native American problems are uniquely different from any other minority, and that the government as a whole has a special responsibility to the Indian community.

To help you understand the motivation of this letter, we want you to know that AIO is a non-profit organization whose funding is provided by gifts from the private and corporate community. We have felt that one of our obligations as a national organization was to work with government agencies so that they could better understand the uniqueness of the Indian community, and help them to recognize their trust responsibility so that their programs would be more effective. I think that you can check with many of your top agency people to find that we are a credible Indian organization, and we do not make accusations lightly.

Upon the appointment of Secretary Matthews we tried to make an appointment to brief him on our concerns about HEW, recognizing that HEW has as many, and in some ways more important, programs than the Bureau of Indian Affairs. We were referred to Assistant Secretary Marjorie Lynch, whom we found to be very sensitive, cooperative and aware of the problems of the Indian community. In the past few months the action of HEW has brought about a great deal of concern, such as kicking Dr. Bluespruce upstairs to

the intra agency council, which leaves the directorship of ONAP vacant. Reports have come to our office that Mr. Thomas is usurping all the Indian staff's decision making, and we strongly object to this due to our past experience. We don't feel that Mr. Thomas has the right attitude for the welfare of the Indian community.

We hope that the director's vacancy can be filled immediately by an Indian person so that the activities of ONAP can continue with as much Indian input as possible. We would also like you to know that the Director of Indian Education has not yet been replaced with an Indian. We find both of these conditions deplorable, and hope that you will use your good offices to see that these matters are immediately attended to so that the Native American community can continue its growth with self-determination.

We recognize that this is a very busy time, but we hope that you can refer this matter to a member of your staff, such as Ms. Roberta Kilberg, so that HEW and your administration can carry out its trust responsibility to the Indian community.

With Warmest Personal Regards,



LaDonna Harris
President

LDH/bb

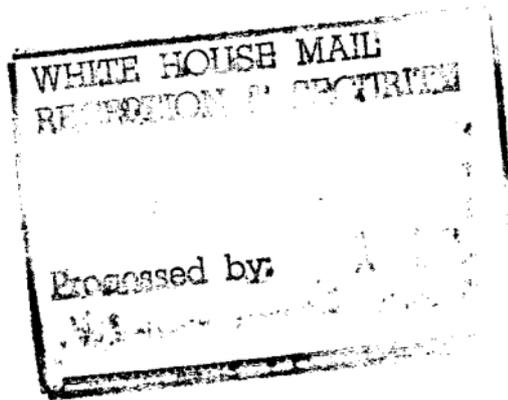
cc: Secretary Matthews
Under Secretary Lynch
Wendell Chino, National Tribal
Chairman's Association
Mel Tonasket, National Congress
of American Indians





**AMERICANS for
INDIAN OPPORTUNITY**

PLAZA DEL SOL BUILDING SUITE 403
600 SECOND STREET, N.W. - ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO 87102



Honorable Gerald R. Ford
President of the United States
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

AGREEMENT FOR ADMINISTRATION OF THE INDIAN
CONSTRUCTION COMPANY PROGRAMS

I. PARTIES:

This memorandum sets forth terms of agreement between the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, Office of Native American Programs and Office of Human Development, hereinafter referred to as "ONAP/OHD", and the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs, hereinafter referred to as "BIA", for the administration of the Indian Construction Company Program, hereinafter referred to as "Construction Program."

II. BACKGROUND

The ONAP/OHD has provided support to Indian tribal governments for several years to help them establish and maintain tribally owned construction companies. This initiative, which was undertaken in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the BIA, has made it possible to pursue several major social and economic goals on Indian reservations at one time.

One basic goal of the interagency effort on construction assistance was to develop tribal administrative and business management capabilities. The tribally owned construction companies were expected to develop the capability to compete successfully for construction contracts both on and off-reservation. ONAP has provided grants and technical assistance to tribes having a commitment from HUD for a sizeable construction effort and from BIA for an Indian Action Team (IAT.) The grants subsidized the start-up and administrative costs of tribally owned construction companies. This may have included salaries for a general manager and a bookkeeper/secretary.

The technical assistance was provided by specialists experienced in various areas of Indian housing, including general construction management, cost estimation, civil engineering, cost control, interim financing and bonding.

Another goal of the interagency construction assistance effort was to support the long-range economic and social development of Indian reservations through the support of feasible self-sustaining tribal businesses. Providing employment on the reservation creates a demand for additional goods and services on the reservation which leads toward long term economic and social self-sufficiency.

Another goal was to replace substandard housing on Indian reservations with adequate housing for low income residents and to construct adequate community facilities. HUD provides the bulk of the funds for this important effort and makes it possible for the Tribes to negotiate contracts with the tribally owned construction companies.

Another goal was to provide employment for Indian reservation residents who have a much greater rate of unemployment than the national average. Off-reservation contractors usually bring in construction workers from outside the reservation, who spend their pay checks in their home communities off reservation. In cooperation with the BIA's Indian Action Team (IAT), tribal members are prepared for employment through skills training on the reservation, and then paid for on the job training while building these facilities.

III. PURPOSE:

The purpose of this Agreement is to continue those interagency efforts listed in attachment "A" in support of the following goals:

- (1) to develop tribal administrative and business management capabilities in the construction field;
- (2) to support the long-range economic and social development of Indian reservations;
- (3) to provide better housing and community facilities, and;
- (4) to provide training and employment opportunities for residents of Indian reservations.

The reasons for transferring ONAP/OHD funds to BIA for the above purpose are to provide an opportunity for these efforts to be continued, to enhance our coordinated effort, and to enable ONAP to concentrate on its tribal capacity building and other ongoing commitments. From ONAP's experience in working with BIA's IAT, it is confident that with BIA's fully staffed office and substantial budget devoted to Indian construction, BIA will be able to better accomplish our mutual objectives.

With the ONAP/OHD funds and assistance provided under this Agreement, BIA will administer, support and operate the Construction Program for the period of this Agreement.

IV. AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY:

A. BIA shall

- (1) Assure that monies made available through this Agreement are used for the purpose of establishing effective administrative and management components for participating Tribally owned construction companies and that such monies are used in addition to, and not in substitution for, current BIA support to IAT.
- (2) Develop contracts in consultation with the Indian Tribes specified in attachment "A" in the amounts specified therein, for achieving the purpose of this Agreement.

- (3) Designate an Agreement coordinator before October 1, 1976 for the purpose of coordinating activities directed toward achieving the purpose of this Agreement.
- (4) Negotiate and execute contracts with the affected Tribes for the periods and amounts specified in attachment "A" before September 30, 1976.
- (5) BIA will consult with the Indian Community to receive policy advice and input regarding the construction programs, advising ONAP/OHD of this input and the process utilized to obtain this advice.
- (6) Develop a monitoring plan and submit to ONAP/OHD by January 1, 1977 for review and comment.
- (7) Closely monitor programs established under the authority of this Agreement by making quarterly on-site visits to each participating Tribe, notifying ONAP/OHD at least 2 weeks in advance and supplying copies of reports and data gathered during on-site visits to ONAP/OHD within 30 days after the visit.
- (8) Assure that when requested by ONAP/OHD or when otherwise considered appropriate or necessary project audits are completed within 120 days after the end of the contract period.
- (9) For the period of this Agreement, BIA will provide a minimum of four(4) person years of staff effort in administering the contracts made possible through the Agreement.
- (10) In consultation with the affected tribes, develop a T/TA plan for provision of required T/TA and submit to ONAP/OHD by December 1, 1976 for review and comment.
- (11) Included within the total effort in part (9) above, provide a minimum of 35 person-days of technical assistance to each participating construction company in areas identified by the participating tribe or as recommended by the BIA.
- (12) Notify ONAP/OHD 30 days in advance of any national or regional participant meetings.
- (13) Provide for independent evaluation of participating tribal programs and supply copies of the evaluation reports to ONAP/OHD and to the tribe three months prior to the end of the contract period.

B. ONAP/OHD shall:

- (1) Provide the BIA any pertinent information about the grantee which will facilitate the successful implementation of the construction program(s).
- (2) Designate a person at ONAP/OHD who will be responsible for liaison with the BIA regarding the grantees and this Agreement.
- (3) Review and comment on the program progress reports of the construction operations and make any suggestions as warranted to the BIA for possible improvements in the successful completion of the program.
- (4) Cooperate with the BIA in all matters concerning the grantees and their Construction Programs and will assist in any possible manner to effectuate successful completion of this Agreement.
- (5) Notify the BIA of any forthcoming on-site visits that ONAP/OHD will be making to coordinate T/TA and evaluation efforts as required.

C. BIA and ONAP/OHD jointly shall review this Agreement no later than July 1, 1977 for the purpose of considering whether or not it should be continued, extended, modified or terminated.

V. PROPERTY:

No real property purchases are allowable.

VI. FUNDING:

Consistent with the purposes of this Agreement, ONAP/OHD hereby agrees to transfer \$1.680,000 to BIA via SF 1081 for the support of this program.

VII. AUTHORITY:

This Agreement is made under the authority of the Economy Act, approved June 30, 1932, as amended (31 USC 36) and under the provisions of general and pertinent regulations of the Comptroller General.

VIII. DURATION OF AGREEMENT:

This memorandum of Agreement is for the period of one (1) year beginning October 1, 1976, and ending September 30, 1977 as subscribed hereto by representatives of both ONAP/OHD and BIA, and remains in effect,

as funded, and will be subject to review and modification by ONAP/OHD and BIA at such times as these Agencies find it mutually convenient to do so. If this Agreement is extended, it is understood ONAP/OHD would transfer funds to BIA to support those projects listed in Attachment A.

This Agreement may be terminated at the next annual anniversary by either party upon ninety(90) days written notice, or sooner, if agreeable to both parties after full consideration is provided to the construction companies affected.

For Department of Health
Education, & Welfare

For Department of the
Interior

Stanley B. Thomas, Jr.
Assistant Secretary for
Human Development

Morris Thompson
Commissioner
Bureau of Indian Affairs

Date: _____

Date: _____



ATTACHMENT A

INDIAN CONSTRUCTION COMPANIES

<u>Grantees</u>	<u>Funding</u>	<u>PYE</u>
1. Central Tribes, Shawnee Area	\$ 125,000	*
2. Coeur d'Alene	35,000	*
3. Eight Northern Pueblos**	225,000	*
4. Great Lakes ITC	205,000	*
5. Mescalero Apache	205,000	*
6. Minnesota Chippewa	150,000	*
7. Nevada ITC	150,000	*
8. Quechan	150,000	*
9. Salt River	150,000	*
10. Seminole of Oklahoma	80,000	*
11. Standing Rock Sioux	148,000	*
12. Kenai Native Association	<u>137,000</u>	
	\$ 1,680,000	

* All effective period 10/1/76 to 9/30/77

** .Includes \$75,000 specifically for Adobe Stabilization Project

*Kranowitz (OMB)
has action*

HENRY M. JACKSON, WASH., CHAIRMAN
FRANK CHURCH, IDAHO
LEE METCALF, MONT.
J. BENNETT JOHNSTON, LA.
JAMES ABUREZK, S. DAK.
FLOYD K. HASKELL, COLO.
JOHN GLENN, OHIO
RICHARD STONE, FLA.
DALE BUMPERS, ARK.
PAUL J. FANNIN, ARIZ.
CLIFFORD P. HANSEN, WYO.
MARK O. HATFIELD, OREG.
JAMES A. MC CLURE, IDAHO
DEWEY F. BARTLETT, OKLA.
GRENVILLE GARSIDE, SPECIAL COUNSEL AND STAFF DIRECTOR
WILLIAM J. VAN NESS, CHIEF COUNSEL

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

September 16, 1976

Honorable Gerald R. Ford
President of the United States
White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

It has recently come to my attention that portions of the money allocated to the Office of Native American Programs may be transferred to the Bureau of Indian Affairs. I feel this would be a grave mistake.

The Office of Native American Programs was established because Native American people felt there was a need for a new innovative agency to create original and more effective programs for Indian people. I feel O.N.A.P.'s past record has shown its effectiveness in this area.

O.N.A.P.'s record indicated that it has the ability to use its resources for the increased benefit of Indian people and I feel that to transfer funds to the Bureau of Indian Affairs or any other agency is a step backward, when forward motion is so greatly needed.

If this transfer of funds takes place, there will be a great political reaction throughout the country on the part of Tribes, Indian organizations, and the thousands of Native Americans who benefit from O.N.A.P. programs.

I find it strange that the B.I.A. was the agency chosen to administer the funds. They have neither the staff required nor any experience in grants. The B.I.A.'s primary function has been services and trust protection. This transfer of funds seems to substantially alter the nature of the Bureau.

The American Indian Policy Review Commission is reviewing the structure of the B.I.A. and all agencies dealing in Indian matters. For H.E.W. to unilaterally change O.N.A.P. and the B.I.A. without letting you, me, or any of the Indian people know is, at least, premature.

I would, therefore, greatly appreciate it if you would have your office investigate this situation. I would be interested in receiving any information you turn up.

With best personal regards, I am

Sincerely,

James Abourezk
James Abourezk U.S.S.



Honorable Gerald R. Ford
September 16, 1976
Page 2

cc: Bradley Patterson ✓
David Mathews

MEMORANDUM

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

TO : ONAP STAFF

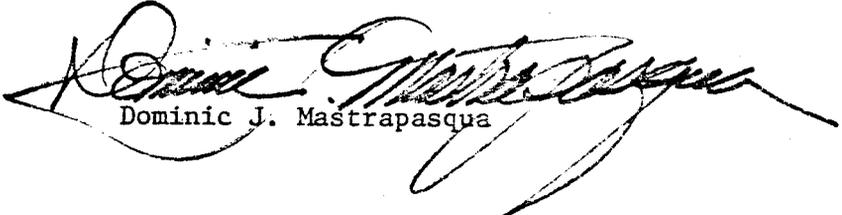
OCT 8 1976

FROM : Acting Director
Office of Native American Programs

SUBJECT: Staff Meeting with Mr. Brad Patterson

Per my previous memo, Mr. Patterson stopped by the ONAP Office Thursday. His visit was rushed, however, and he was unable to meet with the ONAP staff as he had planned.

I have made other arrangements and am pleased to report he will join us for a staff meeting Tuesday, October 12 in our Office. As he and I will both be coming directly from a meeting of the Inter-Departmental Council on Indian Affairs, the time of the meeting will be as close to 11:00 am., as possible. The staff is invited to attend.


Dominic J. Mastrapasqua



61747

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 26, 1976

Dom -

Kindly prepare for my signature a generalized but candid letter which can be sent in response to all these inquiries, and any other similar ones which come on the ONAP/BIA matter.

Personally, I suggest that you say that a copy of the two-agency agreement is enclosed (and send me several copies so I can do this). Your draft should also indicate what consultation was held with Indian groups about this action, assuming some was...

Please return these original communications with your draft.





61747

Office of the Director
Washington

1976 OCT 18 PM 5 59

*Brad
Patterson*

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PMS PRESIDENT GERALD FORD

WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON DC 20500

ONCE AGAIN THE FEDERAL BUREAUCRACY MAKES A BLUNDER IN REGARDS TO
INDIAN AFFAIRS. HOW MANY TIMES MUST WE REQUEST THE U.S. GOVERNMENT
TO STOP MAKING DECISIONS WITHOUT THE IMPUT OF THE INDIAN PEOPLE?
THIS IS TO INFORM YOU THAT THE INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA IS
AGAINST THE PROPOSED TRANSFER OF ONAP CONSTRUCTION FUNDS TO THE
BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS. THE BIA CONTROLLED INDIAN ACTION TEAMS IN
CALIFORNIA ARE A TOTAL BLUNDER BECAUSE NO DIRECTION WAS GIVEN BY THE
BIA- COME OUT AND EVALUATE IF YOU DOUBT OUR MESSAGE- AND PLEASE
DON'T ALLOW THE TRANSFER OF \$1,000,600 IN TRANSFER POTENTIAL

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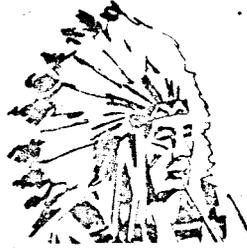
FORM 0805 PRINTED BY THE STANDARD REGISTER COMPANY, U. S. A.

6/747

CUMBERLAND COUNTY
ASSOCIATION for INDIAN PEOPLE

P. O. BOX 64243

FAYETTEVILLE, N. C.
28306



October 15, 1976

President of the United States, Gerald R. Ford
White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear President Ford:

It has been brought to our attention that \$2,000,000 of the FY-77 budget of the Office of Native American Programs has been transferred to the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

We fear this might be the initial step in possibly phasing out the only office responsive to the special project needs of Indian organizations throughout the United States.

This organization which represents an Indian population of over 3,200 disapproves of ONAP money going to the Bureau of Indian Affairs. The B.I.A.'s main responsibility has been tribal services and trust protections. Even these functions have been ill applied. Grants management is outside their area of skill and know-how.

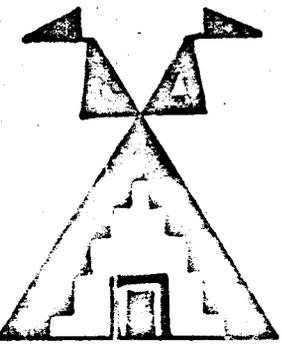
We recommend that if the money cannot be returned this year it should be applied back into the total ONAP budget next year.

We would appreciate you looking into this and keeping us posted on any action taken concerning the matter.

Sincerely yours,

James P. Jacobs
Chairman of the Board

6/747



INTERTRIBAL FRIENDSHIP HOUSE
523 E. 14TH STREET, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA 94606
(415) 452-1235

October 12, 1976

President Ford
White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mr. President;

There are many areas of concern for the self determination of Indian people. One area which has been the primary concern for years has been the organization of the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA). The BIA has certain functions which has been service and trust protection and those services are questionable. Programs such as Office of Native American Programs (ONAP) were funded with the intention of phasing out in a few years. It seems as if the time has come for the phasing out period of a lot of Native American programs. As an Indian leader in Oakland, California, I protest the transferring of \$2,000,000 from ONAP to the BIA and request reconsideration of these monies returned to ONAP.

Sincerely,


FELIX SPENCER
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

FS/cj

cc: David Matthews, Secretary, Health, Education & Welfare
Ron Dillums, House of Representatives
Dominic Matrapasqua, Acting Director, ONAP
LaDonna Harris, President, Americans for Indian Opportunity
Nicholas Petris, U. S. Senator

61747

LEGAL AID SOCIETY OF SAN DIEGO, INC.

OFFICE OF PUBLIC ATTORNEY

ROOM 430, GRANGER BUILDING

964 FIFTH AVENUE

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92101

TELEPHONE: 239-9611

October 11, 1976

President Gerald Ford
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Mr. President:

It has been called to our attention that \$2,000,000 of the Native American Program funds have been transferred to the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

We are deeply concerned that this has been done seemingly without adequate input from the tribes and Indian organizations who depend on the program for funding for their special projects.

It is our hope that the present staff feelings and concerns will be taken into consideration in determining how the Office of Native American Program monies will be used under the auspices of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, as well as reasonable participation in the decision making process by the tribes and affected organizations.

Sincerely,



Geraldine Moses
Deputy Director

GM/hp

CC: Americans for Indian Opportunity
Tahnazbah McIntire, Indian at Large,
National Board, National Clients Council
Mary Wright, National Clients Council

6/747



THE COCOPAH INDIAN TRIBE

COCOPAH TRIBAL OFFICE
Bin G
Somerton, Arizona 85350
Telephone 627-2102 or 627-2061

October 13, 1976

President Gerald Ford
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

It has come to our attention that part of the Office of Native American Programs functions have been transferred to the Bureau of Indian Affairs. (\$2,000,000 of Office of Native American Programs funds have been transferred to the Bureau of Indian Affairs).

We feel that this action may affect small Tribes negatively, therefore if any action can be initiated to counter this move, it will be considered a positive support for Indian communities such as the Cocopah Tribe.

Sincerely,

Robert S. Barley

Robert S. Barley
Chairman
Cocopah Tribe

RSB:eg

cc.

6/747



CENTRAL COUNCIL
of the
Tlingit and Haida Indians of Alaska

130 Seward Street - Rm. 412 Juneau, Alaska 99801
(907) 586-2204, 586-2206 or 586-2293
Manpower Division: (907) 586-3405

RAYMOND E. PADDOCK, JR.
President

October 15, 1976

The President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Ford:

Subject: Transfer of ONAP Funds to BIA

Word has reached the Central Council of the Tlingit and Haida Indians of Alaska that \$2 million of ONAP funds have been transferred to the Bureau of Indian Affairs. It is our understanding that this was done without a Director of ONAP.

The Central Council of the Tlingit and Haida Indians of Alaska wishes to go on record opposing this action for the following reasons:

1. We have in our hands, two proposals for additional ONAP dollars to fund two very vital projects to our tribe. One is for \$44,495 for an Associate Planner in our Urban Planning Office. The other is for approximately \$85,000 to create a much-needed Management Information System (MIS) for the Central Council. No other tribal entity in Alaska has a Management Information System, so this is a unique project.



Both proposals need those ONAP dollars.

- 2. All ONAP grantees nationwide are underfunded. What rationale exists for a transfer of these dollars when there are projects ready to go?
- 3. ONAP funds are very flexible. The variety of situations presented in Indian country require funds of a flexible nature. Only in this way can Self-determination be realized.

Mark Jacobs, Jr., 1st Vice President, Sitka
Chris E. McNeil, Jr., 2nd Vice President, California
Alfred Widmark, 3rd Vice President, Juneau

Richard Kito, 4th Vice President, Petersburg
Charles Nelson, 5th Vice President
Mrs. Margaret Demmert, 6th Vice President

6/747

President Ford
October 15, 1976
Page 2

4. Transfer of funds to the Bureau of Indian Affairs will make the ONAP dollars more rigid and harder to get.

We urge the restoration of these funds to ONAP, and we support the continuance of the Office of Native American Programs.

Sincerely,



Raymond E. Paddock, Jr.
President

REP: eb

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

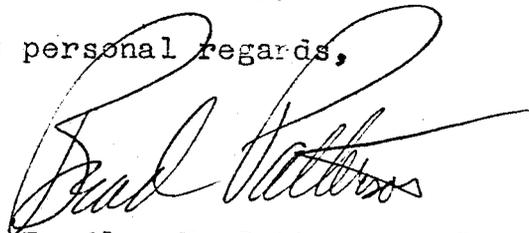
November 5, 1976

Dear Governor Garcia,

The President has asked me to thank you for your letter of October 14 and to apologize for the delay in responding.

I checked into that ONAP/BIA fund transfer, and find that the two agencies have worked this out very carefully so that the funds will really be used carefully and more effectively. ONAP's acting head, Mr. Mastrapasqua, recently wrote to LaDonna Harris explaining the rationale of this transfer, and I think the letter also answers your own inquiry. I enclose a copy.

With best personal regards,



Bradley H. Patterson, Jr.



17

PUEBLO OF ACOMA

"THE SKY CITY"

P. O. Box 64

SAN FIDEL, NEW MEXICO 87049

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

October 14, 1976

TELEPHONE 552-6606

BP

President Gerald Ford
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C.

Dear President Ford:

I have been recently advised that \$2,000,000 of the Office of Native American Program (ONAP) funds have been transferred to the Bureau of Indian Affairs. This has been done without a Director of ONAP and against the advice of the present ONAP staff. The BIA neither has the staff required nor the experience in grants. The BIA's primary function has been services and trust protection.

Why were the funds transferred and for what purpose? What are the future plans for ONAP - is it to be phased out? What will happen to tribes and Indian organizations that can't get funding any other place for their special projects?

The Pueblo of Acoma prefers working with ONAP on special projects and grants. Furthermore, our ONAP work programs have expanded and the \$2,000,000 of ONAP funds should be appropriated to the Tribe's to meet this expansion. Supplemental funds for BIA should be taken from foreign aid or other categories instead of ONAP.

I am requesting an explanation as to the transfer of funds and until justification is received, I cannot approve this action. Thank you and I will be awaiting your reply.

Sincerely,



Merle L. Garcia
Governor

MLG/jl



PUEBLO OF ACOMA
mission san estevan rey



P.O. Box 67 San Fidel, New Mexico 87049

President Gerald Ford
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
• Washington, D.C.



THE ASSOCIATION OF AROOSTOOK INDIANS, INC.

P. O. Box 223

HOULTON, MAINE 04730

RUSSELL SOCOBY
PRESIDENT
MAYNARD POLCHIES
VICE PRESIDENT
GARY ENNIS
TREASURER
SUSANNA LEVASSEUS
SECRETARY

November 8, 1976

TEL. 532-6452

Bradley A. Patterson, Jr.
White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Our concern over the ONAP/DIA transfer, (ref. AAI letter, dated October 1976 and White House letter November 1, 1976) is that any money transferred from ONAP to DIA is money being allotted to recognized Indians where if the money is left with ONAP the money is theoretically available to non-recognized Indians.

We feel the transfer project is worthwhile since Indian construction companies are needed. However, there never seems to be any money given for construction companies for non-recognized Indians. We would like to feel that there will still be money available for non-recognized Indian construction.

Sincerely,


Russell Socoby
President, AAI

BSh/db

