

**The original documents are located in Box 5, folder “Puyallups Occupation of Tacoma Hospital (1)” of the Bradley H. Patterson Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

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4 PM tomorrow



Should try to  
regain title

~~#~~ - We do have authority  
to buy lands & property.

Reprogramming - counsel  
of committees - has  
to do in recess.

Bill Hall

No prep on

or n. 2 h

---

5:30<sup>F</sup>

Bob well interested

Tyler to call us

before Marshall

most in



**MEMORANDUM  
OF CALL**

TO:

BRAD

YOU WERE CALLED BY—

YOU WERE VISITED BY—

Larry Knapp

OF (Organization)

Spec Asst to Mrs Lynch

PLEASE CALL →

PHONE NO.  
CODE/EXT. \_\_\_\_\_

WILL CALL AGAIN

IS WAITING TO SEE YOU

RETURNED YOUR CALL

WISHES AN APPOINTMENT

MESSAGE

2 45 9098



RECEIVED BY

DATE

TIME

HELL has agreed  
to receive sovereignty  
of state of Kashmir  
in 1961 - - to see  
if there is a plan in  
it - - can't do it by  
C/M the.

Talked w Ramona B.  
Gov.'s office informed.

5A3 58 30

Budd Patterson

Call immediately

Elbot marks

office of Gov. Evans

1<sup>st</sup> 206-866-1331 HOME

2<sup>nd</sup> 206-753-6780 OFF

~~Called yesterday~~

Alan Sanders att.

Seattle Wash

206-464-5921



~~David Brazelton~~

U.S. ~~AT~~ <sup>CA</sup>  
CRS - <sup>on</sup>

Walter will ask

Will

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

Wash agree to  
avoid further fees  
emissions until 11/5.

---

Return conditional sales  
agreement:

ord of faculty pushing  
negot among Wash  
& Fed's table.

---

Perovner agrees



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

If not agreed: Do not  
interfere

There is a cloud over table.

Judge Sharp

Tanner  
Wing  
Johnson



1:7:48  
depreciation -- 12-15  
years old. appears on  
the part of the table

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

~~Revised~~ 8-429-4248

Ken Hadley

Jack Hunt

RB's lawyer:  
Clinebell

---

1st hearing: 4 PM remove

and " 4 PM. Treble

requested extension because  
negot's were being. ~~Judge granted~~

still covered in estate [SOT 12  
rooms]

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

No agreement by them: ??

No one wants a confrontation  
state & tribe.

Judge did say: he  
expected Washobas to do their  
duty & order LE officials to  
give them support.

RB frustrated as feeling  
unjust as leading to  
peaceful settlement &

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

Did not send E

in.

to R AM

---

Johns - 5/1.

Gov + RB ) J. D. I

in.

---

(L: - E.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

Bill Gray .

739 2121

~~AG's office satisfied~~

~~Service of justice can be delayed~~

~~Enforcement of order can be delayed~~

~~& redressing a problem~~  
May have legal case

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

Now - Teddies W  
609 ( - )  
W

---

Creggman 10/29

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

"very acceptable" "may lead to  
Indians vacating the facility" said

RB. "If we can get a hard, solid  
agreement, we will leave here." •



MEMORANDUM  
OF CALL

TO: Brad

YOU WERE CALLED BY—  YOU WERE VISITED BY—

Sue Volsoe

OF (Organization) Poyallup Tribe

PLEASE CALL  PHONE NO. CODE/EXT. \_\_\_\_\_

WILL CALL AGAIN  IS WAITING TO SEE YOU

RETURNED YOUR CALL  WISHES AN APPOINTMENT

MESSAGE

383-8297

Hotel - Staller

393-1000

Rm. W 836



RECEIVED BY	DATE	TIME

Ray Butts<sup>va</sup> (931-4348)

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

2 PM

Nearby called Butts  
Tom Hutton - AAG of Wash state  
legality of Section 2 of 1954 Act

No clause w/o consent of  
Tribes. No consent.

Did it fall under the limitation?

Sid Edelman HEW GS: Sec 2

limited to 1 year only -  
Academicians - any term

(7/1/59 actually closed) <sup>given to</sup> <sup>State in</sup>  
1961

Feds must have closed  
it legally & given it  
illegally to the state



R 508

GS STAT 674675

8/5/1954

Transferred IHS  
to HEW

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

Gray - 291-8239

Order was received  
today - no problem.

Judge has briefed  
the Marshall - he would  
give the order  
propose the order -

no without  
not until 11/4



333-0818 Tyler



STATE OF WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

OLYMPIA

DANIEL J. EVANS  
GOVERNOR

May 7, 1975

The Honorable Floyd Hicks  
United States Representative  
1203 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Floyd:

It is the policy of the State of Washington to develop a more systematic community level diagnostic and treatment planning program for juvenile offenders. Specifically, this would involve the closure within eighteen to twenty-four months of the present facility at the Cascadia Diagnostic and Treatment Center. If the state were fully reimbursed for its investment in Cascadia, it would have no objections to its transfer to the United States to be held in trust for Indian use.

While the state supports the transfer, I believe full responsibility for the funding and operation of the new facility, outside of those areas where the state would provide funds under contract, should be accepted by the responsible federal agencies, which include the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Indian Health Service. It would be tragic if the high hopes which are envisioned by such a transfer were destroyed because of inadequate management or funding. Furthermore, in any planning for the use of the new facility I believe all Indian constituencies need to be consulted and involved.

The proposals for the use of Cascadia are exciting and innovative. The state administration is agreeable to transfer the property, given adequate compensation, and anxious to work with Indian people and the appropriate federal agencies on plans for the future.

Sincerely,

Daniel J. Evans  
Governor



DJE:aka

teletcopy to: Barry Jackson (Tacoma)

593-6536

TESTIMONY OF  
CONGRESSMAN FLOYD V. HICKS  
before the  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE INTERIOR  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS



May 12, 1975

Mr. Chairman, Members of the Subcommittee: I am grateful for this opportunity to appear before the Subcommittee in support of three requests which I hope you will be considering. The first two requests are from the Puyallup Tribe of Indians, Tacoma, Washington. The first one is for \$849,000 in the Indian Health Service budget for an Outpatient Medical-Dental Clinic; and the second request is for \$1,764,000 in the Bureau of Indian Affairs budget to reacquire the old Cushman Indian Hospital to use as a multi-service health center.

Regarding the third item, I wish to underscore my support for a request which will be discussed later this week by our colleague, Congressman Meeds. This request is for \$4,338,500 in federal assistance for the severe resource management problems that confront the Washington State fishing industry as a result of the recent decision by Judge Boldt in U. S. v. Washington.

Ms. Ramona Bennett, Chairwoman of the Puyallup Tribal Council, is scheduled to testify tomorrow, I understand, regarding the first two requests. In advance of her appearance before this Subcommittee, I would like to commend to you the work done by Ms. Bennett and other Tribal officers in getting these two proposals together. You will be impressed, as I am, with the careful documentation of the needs of Indians in our area, and the merits of the proposed programs which the Puyallup Tribe would manage, with the guidance of the Indian Health Service.

The first request, seeking funds for an Outpatient Medical-Dental Clinic, has the full support, I understand, of the Indian Health Service and the State of Washington. Indeed, the State will be making available to the Tribe a building for the Clinic, the Crestview Cottage which is a part of the Cascadia Diagnostic and Treatment Center.

The needs of the nearly 7000 Indians in the immediate area to be served by the Clinic are similar to those of Indians elsewhere. Though I do not need to belabor this point by enumerating these needs to Members who are as knowledgeable as those on this Subcommittee, I would like to point out an additional fact. Pierce County, in which the Clinic would be located, faces a severe shortage of primary care

physicians for its population size. This makes it extremely difficult to get to a doctor when one is needed, aside from being able to afford the services. And, affording medical services is a major problem among Indians with low average incomes and a high level of unemployment.

In addition to the amount of \$849,000 requested for the first year, the Indian Health Service has advised me that appropriation requests for the Clinic for the second year would be \$708,199, and for the third year, \$800,678.

The second request which I am supporting and would like to discuss in more detail, is for an appropriation in the Indian Affairs budget of the Department of Interior for \$1,764,000 to acquire the property of the Cascadia Diagnostic and Treatment Center, formerly the old Cushman Indian Hospital. The amount sought would reimburse the State of Washington for improvements to the facility and land, and to posture the land to be returned to trust status. This land was once held in trust by the United States for the Puyallup Tribe and was transferred to the State of Washington in 1961.

Permit me a brief review of the history of this property which has had a long and dramatic place in Northwest Indian relations. Congress originally appropriated funds to build the structure and purchased some 38 acres of reservation land for "Indian Sanatorium" purposes. This property was used by the Bureau of Indian Affairs as an Indian Health Center until July 1, 1955 at which time the installation was transferred to the Public Health Service (PHS) of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare. When the facility was closed by PHS in December 1959, it was reported to the General Services Administration (GSA) as excess to PHS needs.

An approximately 8.4 acre portion was assigned to the Bureau of Public Roads (now Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation) and then conveyed to the Washington State Highway Department by deed dated October 10, 1960, in accordance with the provisions of Sections 107 and 317 of the "Highway" Act (23-U.S.C. 107 and 317). The remaining approximately 30.1 acres were assigned to the Department of Health, Education and Welfare by GSA and conveyed to the State of Washington, Department of Institutions, by deed dated July 1, 1961, for use as a diagnostic and treatment center for children committed to the Washington State Department of Institutions by the State Juvenile Courts, in accordance with Section 203 (k)(1) of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, as amended.

For several years it has been the desire of the Puyallup Indians to reacquire this property. Discussion on this matter and how the property would be used, if acquired, have been proceeding between Indian leaders and State officials. The State has now agreed to transfer this property, if properly reimbursed for its investment. And, I would like to point out, the proposed use of the property by the Puyallup Tribe is consistent with the policy of the State of Washington to regionalize its social and health services.

I have a letter dated May 7, 1975 from Governor Daniel J. Evans in which he confirms that "the State Administration is agreeable to transfer the property," given reimbursement for its investment, and is anxious to work with Indian people and the appropriate federal agencies on plans for the future use of this facility. The full text of the letter from Governor Evans is available for the Subcommittee.

Once obtained, the Puyallup Tribe proposes to use the facility as a self-supporting, multi-service health center for Indians in Tacoma and the vicinity. By self-supporting, the Puyallups propose to contract with various agencies in the State to provide a variety of needed services.

The services proposed for beginning programs are: convalescent, geriatric and nursing home services; alcoholism detoxification, treatment, training and counseling for the entire family unit of the alcoholic person; and group homes, shelter and placement services for juveniles. Ms. Bennett, in her testimony later, will describe these proposed programs in more detail, if the Subcommittee so chooses. I can summarize this part by stating that these services are desperately needed by the Indians in our area.

As stated earlier, the Puyallups are seeking to have this land and the property of the present Cascadia facility returned to trust status, following reimbursement to the State. I have received a letter from Commissioner Morris Thompson of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, stating that authority does exist for the United States to accept the subject tract and improvements in trust for the Puyallup Tribe of Indians. According to Commissioner Thompson, sufficient authority exists pursuant to Section 5 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984) which authorizes the Secretary of the Interior at his discretion "...to acquire through purchase, relinquishment, gift, exchange, or assignment, any interest in lands, water rights or surface rights to land within or without existing reservations..."

Section 5 provides further that "Title to any lands or rights acquired pursuant to this Act shall be taken in the name of the United States in trust for the Indian tribe or individual Indian for which the land is acquired, and such lands or rights shall be exempt from State and local taxation."

Further, regarding the appropriation, I am advised by the Counsel of the Indian Affairs Subcommittee of the House Interior Committee that in his judgment Section 465, Title 25, U.S.C. provides sufficient authority to appropriate funds up to \$2 million each fiscal year for the Secretary of the Department of Interior to acquire lands for Indians or an Indian tribe.

Thus, given the State's willingness for the transfer to take place, and the existing authority for the transfer, I would appeal to this Subcommittee to act favorably on the request.

Thank you.

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

May 15, 1975

The Honorable Robert C. Byrd  
Subcommittee on the Interior  
Senate Appropriations Committee  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This letter is to express our support for two requests made by the Puyallup Indian Tribe during recent Subcommittee hearings.

First, we urge approval of the Tribe's request for a line-item appropriation of \$849,000 to the Indian Health Service for an Out-patient Medical-Dental Clinic at the Cascadia Diagnostic and Treatment Center located on the Puyallup Reservation. As the Tribe indicated in its testimony, the proposed Clinic has the full support of the Indian Health Service and of the State of Washington which presently owns the Cascadia Diagnostic and Treatment Center.

Second, we urge approval of the Tribe's request for a line-item appropriation of \$1,764,000 to the Bureau of Indian Affairs for it to use in re-acquiring the property of the Cascadia Diagnostic and Treatment Center. That property is presently held by the State of Washington and the State has agreed to transfer the property to the BIA to be held in trust for the Puyallups provided it is reimbursed for the improvements it has made in the property since it was acquired from the Federal government in 1961. Originally, the land was held by the United States in trust for the Puyallup Tribe.

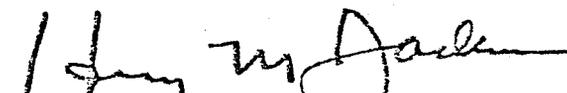
The Tribe desires to use the property to provide a variety of outpatient health and social services to Indian people. These services are critically needed by Indians in the area. Of the \$1,764,000, \$1,718,938 would be used to reimburse the State and \$863,000 would be used to provide those services.

Again, we urge favorable action on these requests by the Puyallup Indian Tribe.

Best personal regards.

Sincerely,

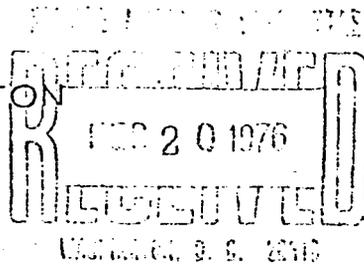
  
WARREN G. MAGNUSON, U.S.S.

  
HENRY M. JACKSON, U.S.S.





STATE OF WASHINGTON  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
OLYMPIA



DANIEL J. EVANS  
GOVERNOR

FILE

February 13, 1976

The Honorable Henry M. Jackson  
United States Senator  
Senate Office Building  
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear ~~Senator~~ Jackson

I find the proposal to transfer Cascadia Diagnostic and Treatment Center to Federal Government in trust for use as an Indian medical center not only practical, but exciting and innovative. It is no doubt high time to provide funding to accomplish this requested transfer.

The Puyallup Tribal Council has worked rather closely with the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services delivery plans to correlate medical service with state focus on community diagnostic service. Although there are some details to be worked out, this program for improving medical services to Indian people should be implemented as soon as possible. Congressional action to transfer Cascadia to U.S. Government in trust for use by the Puyallup Tribe and other Indians will greatly assist in achieving their goals.

I strongly urge your personal attention and action to make possible these services to Indian people that are envisioned and needed by the Puyallup Tribe.

I stand ready to assist you in every reasonable way.

Sincerely,

Daniel J. Evans  
Governor

DJE:ia



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON



October 27, 1976

NOTE TO MRS. KILBERG

The purpose of this note is to summarize where we are, as of 1 PM today, re the Indian occupation of the Cushman Hospital in Tacoma, Washington.

Some 100 Indian people, some armed, are said to be occupying the building, headed by Ramona Bennett, the Tribal Chairperson. They have been trying to get BIA to buy out the State's interest in the improvements in the building and take it over for a counselling and clinic center. The State says it will gladly give up the building if someone pays them \$1.7 million as the value for their improvement. The 30 acres of the hospital, State property, adjoin the Puyallup Tribe's own 30 acres of tribal land. There is at least some small legal basis for the Tribe's assertion that they should have the hospital, since when they originally let the federal government have it, it was to be used for "Indian health purposes" always.

The State (and I have talked with Elliott Marks, Special Assistant to Governor Evans) wants to go into Federal Court today and ask for a removal injunction. But the State's argument is that the reason they want the Indians out is that the hospital is State property. Nonetheless they are going to Federal Court and may ask for Federal marshals to do the evicting. You have talked with Justice and we all agree that this does, indeed, smack of a State attempt to foist responsibility for the whole matter and its outcome on the Federal government. The US Attorney and CRS are staying out of it for now.

Ray Butler, who is acting in charge of BIA this morning,

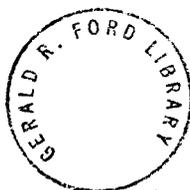
has consulted with Solicitor Austin and the latter is now in the process of asking the State Attorney General to amend the State's petition in Federal Court to provide for a deadline of November 5, rather than one of today or tomorrow. Austin is also asking the State Attorney General to give favorable consideration to drawing up a "conditional sales agreement" providing for Indian use and occupancy of the hospital pending negotiations on price among the State, the Tribe and the Federal Government. (Butler says the \$1.7 million is too high; it doesn't take account of depreciation of these improvements, some of which are 12-15 years old; he considers the \$1.7 million as openers by the State).

Butler has talked with Mrs. Bennett and the two above proposals are OK with her.

If the State turns down Butler's proposals, Butler then intends to go to Justice and ask them to intervene. Butler will inform me before this is done.

I think it better for Butler to handle this ball and do the talking with Marks and Mrs. Bennett, than anybody in the White House to do this. I did talk twice with Marks earlier and while not making any actual recommendations to him, did indicate that it has been our experience with Indian occupations that going to court and setting deadlines always raises the tension and temperature and, accordingly, the publicity about these affairs -- which thus plays into Indian hands in what is usually (though perhaps a bit less in this case) a guerilla theater situation. But Marks said the Governor did not accept this reasoning and is insisting on going to Court at 2 PM our time.

cc: McConahey  
Parsons  
Connor  
Baroody



A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Sean P. [unclear]".



# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20245

IN REPLY REFER TO:

October 28, 1976

## Memorandum

To: Loren Rivard

From: Ray Butler *Ray Butler*



Subject: Follow-up report on Puyallup situation

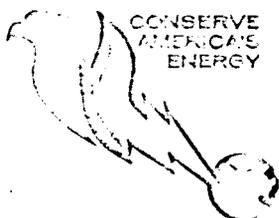
Please find attached advance draft copies of the proposed response to Chairwoman Ramona Bennett and Governor Dan Evans which Dennis Ickes and I drafted last evening. The verbatim contents of the draft have been shared with Ms. Bennett and with Mr. Elliott Marks, Assistant to Governor Evans. Both concur that the points have merit and would be welcomed by them in their mutual efforts to resolve the issues in Tacoma.

I have also discussed the points in general with Dr. Emery Johnson, Director of the Indian Health Service, who concurs in principle.

In a late evening phone call from Perry Jackson, Administrative Assistant to Congressman Hicks, I learned that the substantive issue for legal arguments before the court on November 5 are specific to Point No. 2, i.e., the legal review of the deed of conveyance from HEW to the State of Washington in 1961. Hence, we will need an expeditious legal review by the Solicitor's Office and if there are substantive legal questions, in my judgment, this would further support our recommendation to the Solicitor's Office that we request the Justice Department to intervene in the case. In this regard, Dr. Johnson suggested that perhaps our Solicitor's Office should work closely with the General Counsel at HEW so that both agencies could perhaps make a recommendation for intervention to Justice.

Dennis Ickes and I will present to you later this morning a final draft for your consideration.

Attachment



*Save Energy and You Serve America!*

Ms. Ramona Bennett  
Chairwoman, Puyallup Tribal Council  
2232 East 28th Street  
Tacoma, Washington 98404

Dear Ms. Bennett:

In response to your longstanding proposals to this Department regarding the former Cushman Indian Hospital facilities and property to be placed in trust for the Puyallup Tribe for Tribal purposes, I hereby commit this Department to the following action:

1. To seek the consent of the State of Washington to make the facility and property available for lease, or other appropriate legal instrument, to Tribe commencing November 1 or December 1, 1976, for period not to exceed 12 months.
2. To review the 1961 deed of conveyance from the United States to the State of Washington to determine if the conveyance is valid and if the State has complied with the substantive terms.
3. To take appropriate legal and/or administrative action as required for the return of facility and property to the trusteeship of the United States for the Puyallup Tribe.
4. To seek appropriate Congressional action on matters necessary to the effectuation of above, if required.

In light of the foregoing action by this Department, I would sincerely hope that the above commitments will alleviate the necessity of your continued occupancy of the facility and you will act accordingly upon the receipt of this telegram.

Secretary of the Interior





# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20245

IN REPLY REFER TO:

D R A F T

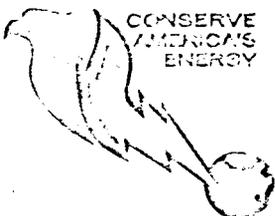
Honorable Daniel J. Evans  
Governor of Washington  
Olympia, Washington 98504

Dear Governor Evans:

Please find attached a copy of the Department of Interior telegram to Ms. Ramona Bennett, Chairwoman of the Puyallup Tribe. A draft of the attached telegram was discussed between members of Interior staff and Mr. Elliott Marks of your staff on October 27. In principle, Mr. Marks concurred in these actions by the Department of the Interior.

It would be our pleasure, on behalf of the Puyallup Tribe, to enter into negotiations with you and members of the appropriate staff in the State of Washington, to achieve the ultimate objective of the return of the former Cushman Hospital and property in trust for the Puyallup Tribe.

Sincerely yours,



*Save Energy and You Serve America!*

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 28

NOTE TO

Max Friedersdorf  
James Shuman

If you or your staffs  
get any queries about the Indian  
occupation of the Cascadia (Cushman)  
hospital in Tacoma, Washington, I am  
following the situation and can give  
you a fill-in.



Bradley E. Patterson, Jr.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 28

4:45 PM

NOTE FOR

Mrs. Kilberg  
Mr. McConahey  
Mr. Parsons

Interior and HEW have agreed on the attached telegram which has been sent to the Indians who occupy the Cushman Hospital in Tacoma.

An experienced US Marshal will also today be serving the Court notice on the Indian group. No move to enforce this notice by force will be undertaken without further notification to Interior and to us. Senior officials of Justice, HEW and Interior as following the situation.

  
Bradley H. Patterson, Jr.





# United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

October 28, 1976

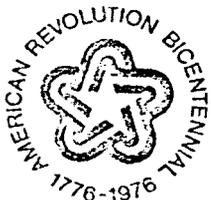
Ms. Ramona Bennett  
Chairwoman, Puyallup Tribal Council  
2232 East 28th Street  
Tacoma, Washington 98404

Dear Ms. Bennett:

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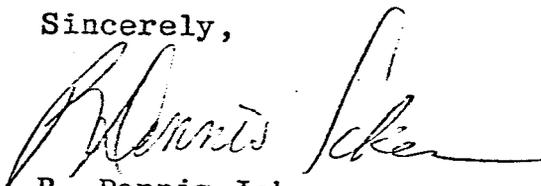
As you know, the District Court for the Western District of Washington on October 27, 1976, directed the Tribe to cease occupying the premises and to return all property to its pre-occupation status. I understand that Judge Sharp will sign a written Order to that effect today in the event that the Tribe and its associates fail to affirmatively respond to his directive. I am committing this Department to the following action:

1. To seek the consent of the State of Washington to make the facility and property available for lease, or by any other appropriate legal instrument, to the Tribe commencing on or about December 1, 1976, for a period not to exceed 12 months, but which provides a reasonable opportunity for the State to phase out their need for the facility.
2. To review the 1961 deed of conveyance from the United States to the State of Washington to determine if the conveyance is valid and if the State has complied with the substantive terms.
3. To take appropriate legal and/or administrative action as required for the return of the facility and property to the trusteeship of the United States for the Puyallup Tribe.
4. To seek appropriate Congressional action on matters necessary to the effectuation of above, if required.



This Department will commence the above actions as soon as the Tribe and its associates comply with the Order of the Court.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "R. Dennis Ickes". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

R. Dennis Ickes  
Deputy Under Secretary



# United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

October 28, 1976

Honorable Daniel J. Evans  
Governor of Washington  
Olympia, Washington 98504

Dear Governor Evans:

Please find attached a copy of the Department of Interior telegram to Ms. Ramona Bennett, Chairwomen of the Puyallup Tribe. A draft of the attached telegram was discussed between members of Interior staff, including myself, and Mr. Elliott Marks of your staff on October 27, 1976. In principle, Mr. Marks concurred in these actions by the Department of the Interior.

It would be our pleasure to enter into discussions with you and members of the appropriate staff in the State of Washington, to achieve the ultimate objective of the return of the former Cushman Hospital and property in trust for the Puyallup Tribe.

Sincerely,

R. Dennis Ickes  
Deputy Under Secretary

Enclosure





# United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

October 28, 1976

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Chairwoman, Puyallup Tribal Council  
2232 East 28th Street  
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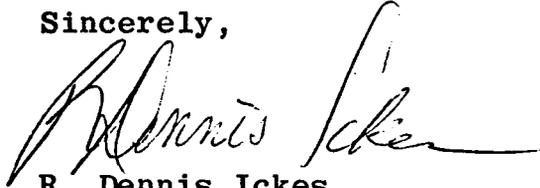
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1. To seek the consent of the State of Washington to make the facility and property available for lease, or by any other appropriate legal instrument, to the Tribe commencing on or about December 1, 1976, for a period not to exceed 12 months, but which provides a reasonable opportunity for the State to phase out their need for the facility.
2. To review the 1961 deed of conveyance from the United States to the State of Washington to determine if the conveyance is valid and if the State has complied with the substantive terms.
3. To take appropriate legal and/or administrative action as required for the return of the facility and property to the trusteeship of the United States for the Puyallup Tribe.
4. To seek appropriate Congressional action on matters necessary to the effectuation of above, if required.



This Department will commence the above actions as soon as the Tribe and its associates comply with the Order of the Court.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "R. Dennis Ickes". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

R. Dennis Ickes  
Deputy Under Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 28, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: ED SCHMULTS  
FROM: BOBBIE GREENE KILBERG *Bobbie*  
SUBJECT: Indian Occupation of Cushman  
Hospital in Tacoma, Washington

Brad Patterson will continue to have up-to-the-minute information on the situation in Tacoma. It is hard to predict whether the Puyallup Indians will vacate the hospital after receiving the Interior letter (see attached) and, if they do not vacate, whether Federal District Judge Sharp will order the U.S. Marshals to evict them. Tyler's office will contact you if Judge Sharp orders, or seems about to order, an eviction of the Indians by U.S. Marshals.

I called Jim Cavanaugh twice but was not able to reach him. Both Tyler's staff and I think that a phone call to Governor Evans could not hurt and might be somewhat helpful if it would result in a better understanding of the State's strategy. Evans probably could go to Judge Sharp and ask him to order the Marshals to evict the Indians, though he has not indicated that he would do so.

Background

Cushman Hospital is not presently operational. The State of Washington went into Federal District Court on October 26 or 27 and asked the Court to take jurisdiction on the matter of whether the State or Federal government owns the Cushman facilities and property. Federal District Judge Sharp took jurisdiction, set a hearing date on the ownership issue for November 5, and ordered the Puyallup Indians off the premises by 4:00 p.m. today (Washington State time).

The Puyallup Tribe evidently had a request into Interior for a considerable period of time asking that the Federal Government hold the facility and property in trust for the Tribe, paying the State for it if necessary. The State of Washington is amenable to this but obviously would like to be paid for it (I understand the figure being discussed is in the range of \$1.7 million).

The hospital is on land adjacent to the present Puyallup Reservation of about 30 acres and at one time the hospital land was within the exterior boundaries of the Reservation. It is my understanding that the suit before Judge Sharp involves some Federal treaty issues as well as a deed of conveyance from the U.S. to the State of Washington.

The hospital is occupied by about 60 or less Indian men, women and children (all Indian occupations include children as a basic strategy). An agreement was worked out today with the occupiers to the effect that a group of them will meet a very experienced and respected U.S. Marshal at the gate of the hospital property and the Marshal will hand them the Judge's Order. Justice does not expect any trouble with the delivery of the Order.

cc: Brad Patterson ✓



703-253-5624 Hugh Garney

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

Notes Flint

Real question as to  
validity of deed to the  
~~State~~ Co. D.

Presumably's guaranteed  
warranty case, jobs there.

Property may be  
able to be transferred to

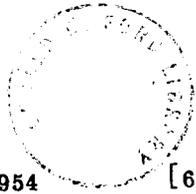
Tribe

Consent decree on (11/5)

- 9.



6115



after June 30, 1946, and prior to July 1, 1953, over the unemployment administrative expenditures made after June 30, 1946, and prior to July 1, 1953”.

(2) The third sentence of such section 904 (h) is hereby repealed.  
Approved August 5, 1954.

Public Law 568

CHAPTER 658

AN ACT

August 5, 1954  
[H. R. 303]

To transfer the maintenance and operation of hospital and health facilities for Indians to the Public Health Service, and for other purposes.

Indian hospitals.  
Transfer to Public Health Service.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That all functions, responsibilities, authorities, and duties of the Department of the Interior, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Secretary of the Interior, and the Commissioner of Indian Affairs relating to the maintenance and operation of hospital and health facilities for Indians, and the conservation of the health of Indians, are hereby transferred to, and shall be administered by, the Surgeon General of the United States Public Health Service, under the supervision and direction of the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare: *Provided,* That hospitals now in operation for a specific tribe or tribes of Indians shall not be closed prior to July 1, 1956, without the consent of the governing body of the tribe or its organized council.

Restriction.

HEW transfer to state or private institutions.

SEC. 2. Whenever the health needs of the Indians can be better met thereby, the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare is authorized in his discretion to enter into contracts with any State, Territory, or political subdivision thereof, or any private nonprofit corporation, agency or institution providing for the transfer by the United States Public Health Service of Indian hospitals or health facilities, including initial operating equipment and supplies.

Condition.

Restriction.

It shall be a condition of such transfer that all facilities transferred shall be available to meet the health needs of the Indians and that such health needs shall be given priority over those of the non-Indian population. No hospital or health facility that has been constructed or maintained for a specific tribe of Indians, or for a specific group of tribes, shall be transferred by the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare to a non-Indian entity or organization under this Act unless such action has been approved by the governing body of the tribe, or by the governing bodies of a majority of the tribes, for which such hospital or health facility has been constructed or maintained: *Provided,* That if, following such transfer by the United States Public Health Service, the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare finds the hospital or health facility transferred under this section is not thereafter serving the need of the Indians, the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare shall notify those charged with management thereof, setting forth needed improvements, and in the event such improvements are not made within a time to be specified, shall immediately assume management and operation of such hospital or health facility.

Failure to meet requirements.

HEW regulations.

SEC. 3. The Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare is also authorized to make such other regulations as he deems desirable to carry out the provisions of this Act.

Personnel, etc.

SEC. 4. The personnel, property, records, and unexpended balances of appropriations, allocations, and other funds (available or to be made available), which the Director of the Bureau of the Budget shall determine to relate primarily to the functions transferred to the

Public Health Service of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare hereunder, are transferred for use in the administration of the functions so transferred. Any of the personnel transferred pursuant to this Act which the transferee agency shall find to be in excess of the personnel necessary for the administration of the functions transferred to such agency shall be retransferred under existing law to other positions in the Government or separated from the service.

SEC. 5. The Act of April 3, 1952 (66 Stat. 35), and all other laws or parts of laws in conflict herewith, are hereby repealed.

SEC. 6. This Act shall take effect July 1, 1955.

Approved August 5, 1954.

25 USC 444-449.  
Repeals.

Effective date.

Public Law 569

CHAPTER 659

AN ACT

To extend emergency foreign merchant vessel acquisition and operating authority of Public Law 101, Seventy-seventh Congress, and for other purposes.

August 9, 1954  
[S. 2371]

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That during any period in which vessels may be requisitioned under section 902 of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936, as amended, the President is authorized and empowered through the Secretary of Commerce to purchase, or to requisition, or for any part of such period to charter or requisition the use of, or to take over the title to or possession of, for such use or disposition as he shall direct, any merchant vessel not owned by citizens of the United States which is lying idle in waters within the jurisdiction of the United States, including the Canal Zone, and which the President finds to be necessary to the national defense. Just compensation shall be determined and made to the owner or owners of any such vessel in accordance with the applicable provisions of section 902 of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936, as amended. Such compensation hereunder, or advances on account thereof, shall be deposited with the Treasurer of the United States in a separate deposit fund. Payments for such compensation and also for payment of any valid claim upon such vessel in accord with the provisions of the second paragraph of subsection (d) of such section 902, as amended, shall be made from such fund upon the certificate of the Secretary of Commerce.

Foreign vessels.  
Emergency ac-  
quisition.  
49 Stat. 2015.  
46 USC 1242.

SEC. 2. During any period in which vessels may be requisitioned under section 902 of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936, as amended, the President is authorized through the Secretary of Commerce to acquire by voluntary agreement of purchase or charter the ownership or use of any merchant vessel not owned by citizens of the United States.

46 USC 1242.

SEC. 3. (a) Any vessel not documented under the laws of the United States, acquired by or made available to the Secretary of Commerce under this Act, or otherwise, may, notwithstanding any other provision of law, in the discretion of the Secretary of the Treasury be documented as a vessel of the United States under such rules and regulations or orders, and with such limitations, as the Secretary of the Treasury may prescribe or issue as necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes and provisions of this Act, and in accordance with the provisions of subsection (c) hereof, engage in the coastwise trade when so documented. Any document issued to a vessel under the provisions of this subsection shall be surrendered at any time that such surrender may be ordered by the Secretary of the Treasury. No

Surrender of  
document.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 29

5:25 PM

NOTE TO ED SCHMULTS

Latest on the Tacoma situation from Interior and Justice:

The Court's Order was served without incident.

The Judge has briefed the Marshals and has told them that he would give them a good deal of leeway if it comes to a matter of enforcing the order. Justice interprets this to mean that things will stay cool over the weekend and probably until Wednesday morning.

The agreement still stands that if anything warms up, we will be consulted in advance.

Mr. Ickes has arrived in Seattle and will be meeting with Mrs. Bennett at 6 o'clock time; I will get a report on this meeting and will let you know about it.

Interior (Garner) after analysis of the history of the statutes and deeds under which the Hospital changed hands, is coming to the legal conclusion that the chain of deeds etc may show such deficiencies and mistakes that both the feds and the State may well conclude that the hospital can be given straight back to the Tribe without the necessity for paying the State the \$1.7 million. Even the State people seem to be

THE WHITE HOUSE

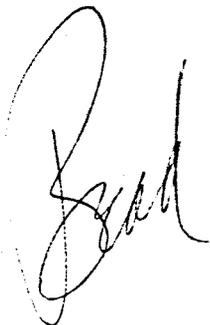
WASHINGTON

coming to this conclusion also, but HEW disagrees and Justice has not umpired the dispute to any real conclusion yet. But if Garner's view prevails, a consent decree could be worked up by the time of the Court hearing November 5.

Russell Means of AIM apparently is in the area but has not, reportedly, gone in to join the Puyallup group in the hospital.

&  
Justice, Interior officials and I have exchanged phone numbers and will be in touch with each other over the weekend as necessary -- and I'll fill you in as necessary.

Never heard back from Cavanaugh.



cc Parsons  
McDoukey

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

October 29  
2:45 PM

NOTE TO ED SCHMULTS

The attached just came in to me from Interior. I think Dennis is taking the proper position. The Court yesterday did extend its evacuation order until noon on Saturday. The Marshal decided yesterday not to try to deliver the order; he considered that things were too risky at the hospital.

Today's Portland Oregonian quotes Ramona Bennett as saying that Interior's offer is "very acceptable"; "may lead to Indians vacating the facility" and "if we can get a hard, solid agreement, we will leave here."

I have an unconfirmed report that Russell Means of the AIM group has been seen in Seattle. Personally I don't think Mrs. Bennett will let any other Indian leader or pseudo-leader interfere with her act...

Cavanaugh has not yet returned my call.

cc Parsons  
McConahey

*Boyd*





# United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

October 29, 1976

## Memorandum

To: Loren Rivard

From: R. Dennis Ickes

Subject: Puyallup Tribe

Late on October 28, 1976, I received a telephone call from a representative of the Governor and the Tribal attorney requesting that I come to Tacoma and personally deliver the substance of the message that we sent by telegram of this date. The Tribe has received the telegram but are unsure about the Department's commitment to carry out its statement unless there is some flesh and blood representative present as a good faith evidence of the Department's commitment.

I emphatically noted in my acceptance of the invitation that I was not responding as a result of violence or threats of violence being asserted by the Tribe, but that I was merely responding to their invitation to set forth our position in sufficient clarity as to assist the State and the Tribe to completely understand our position and in that manner give assistance to the State and the Tribe to resolve the differences between them. I re-emphasized to the Tribal lawyer that the offer that was made in that telegram was absolutely contingent upon the Tribe's compliance with directives of the Court. The Tribe was scheduled to go into Court this afternoon to seek a delay in the effective date of the Order probably until Saturday noon. The State Attorney General's Office indicated that they would not oppose that insofar as that I would be agreeable to personally delivering the position of the Department to the Tribe and to the State of Washington.

I attempted to call you several times and was unable to reach you. Therefore, by the time you receive this memorandum I will be on my way to Seattle. My secretary will have my itinerary as to where you can reach me along the way. I will



stop in Denver and then arrive in Seattle shortly after noon Seattle time. I have notified the United States Attorney and the United States Marshal Service of this plan. I have not apprised the White House, but I believe that someone should keep them at least informed of what we are doing.

I intend to simply set forth the position that we took in our telegram to the Tribe and to the Governor of October 28. I suspect that there may be some questions asked by way of commitment and perhaps attempts to ask questions beyond the four corners of that telegram, but my desire is to simply respond to that telegram and its meaning without getting into any discussions about money or anything of that nature. It is also my intent that I not get involved in active negotiations which have the apparent intent by the Tribe to delay decision by them or which is designed to delay the processes of the Court. I intend to be firm in stating our position and adhering to it to the extent that our position is reasonable and fair. I do not intend to be placed in a position where we are "used" as a vehicle for the Tribe to seek additional delays in the issuance of Court Orders, unless it is reasonable and makes sense under the circumstances.



## AGREEMENT

This agreement is entered into this 30th day of October, 1976, by and between the State of Washington (hereafter referred to as "State"), acting through Milton Burdman, Secretary of the Department of Social and Health Services; The Puyallup Tribe of Indians (hereafter referred to as "Tribe"), acting through Ramona Bennett, Chairwoman of the Tribal Council; the United States of America (hereafter referred to as "United States"), acting through Dennis Ickes, Deputy Under Secretary of the Department of the Interior, and Bernard Kelly, Region X Administrator, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.

Tribe, on October 23, 1976, assumed control over Cushman Medical Facility also known as Chief Leschi Medical Building, also known as Cascadia Juvenile Reception and Diagnostic Center (hereafter referred to as the property), located in Pierce County, Washington. State, on October 26, 1976, initiated action in U. S. District Court, Cause No. C76-217T, and obtained, on October 28, 1976, a temporary restraining order against Tribe pursuant to which Tribe is required to vacate the premises by noon on October 30, 1976.

The parties hereto, being desirous of a peaceful settlement of various claims, and recognizing that there is a question regarding the validity of the transaction whereby the United States conveyed the subject property to the State in 1961, do hereby covenant and agree as follows:

1. The United States, by and through the Department of Health Education and Welfare finds that a portion of the subject property, more particularly described in Exhibit I attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference, is no longer being used for the purposes set forth in that certain deed dated July 1, 1961, and title to the same is hereby reverted in the United States of America. State does not contest this finding.

2. The U. S. Department of HEW will return the said property to the U. S. General Services Administration for disposition as excess property.

3. The Secretary of the United States Department of the Interior will take the following actions:

- a. Complete as soon as possible and in an expedited fashion a review of the 1961 deed of conveyance from the U. S. to the State of Washington to determine if the conveyance is valid and if the State has complied with the substantive terms of the deed and report its findings to Tribe, together with a timetable for further action.
- b. Take immediate and appropriate legal and/or administrative action consistent with the determination made in 3.a for the return of the property to the trusteeship of the United States for Tribe.
- c. Seek appropriate Congressional action on matters necessary to the effectuation of 3.a and 3.b, including a request in the Department budget for such funds as may be necessary to compensate the state for their improvements in the property.

~~4. Pending expedited hearing on the merits to be held by stipulation of the parties on November 15, 1976, the Tribe will maintain administrative and law offices in the property, total personnel not to exceed 10. All weapons will be removed from the property by both sides. During this period state staff and maintenance personnel will not exceed 30, with no more than 10 clients on the property at any one time.~~

4. Pending resolution of the dispute over ownership of the subject property, suitable office space will be made available on the property for use by Tribe, provided that no weapons shall be carried or stored by members of Tribe or its invitees on the premises.

6. Tribe, its associates and supporters, will comply with the temporary restraining order issued in U. S. District Court Cause No. C76-217T.

7. No State official, employee, or agent under the control or direction of the Governor of the State of Washington will file or initiate criminal charges including charges

RB  
MB  
REK

Deleted by  
State mb  
RB

5-INSERT  
NEXT  
PAGE

INSERT ON P. 2

5. If the deed is found to be valid, and a determination made that the State has complied with its terms and conditions subsequent, The U.S. Department of HEW will continue their efforts to make available existing funds from federal agencies to compensate the State for its improvements to the facility, reporting their findings to the parties on or before December 1, 1976.



relating to destruction of property, trespass, unlawful assembly, riot, kidnapping, or conspiracy to commit any of these or related offenses, against Tribe or any individual Indian for conduct related to the takeover and occupation of the subject property, individual acts of violence excepted.

STATE OF WASHINGTON

By: Milton Burdman  
Milton Burdman, Secretary, Dept.  
of Social and Health Services  
*Ci-Osoh K.* GOVERNOR'S OFFICE  
PUYALLUP TRIBE OF INDIANS

By: Ramona Bennett  
Ramona Bennett, Chairwoman,  
Tribal Council

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

By: Dennis Ickes  
Dennis Ickes, Deputy Under  
Secretary, Department of the  
Interior

By: Bernard E. Kelly  
Bernard Kelly, Region X Adminis-  
trator, Department of Health,  
Education and Welfare



EXHIBIT I

From a point beginning near the SE corner of the below described property at the entrance on 32nd Street near Roosevelt continuing northerly along ingress road approximately 120 feet. ~~Thence in a westerly~~ ~~southwesterly~~ ~~along road which runs approximately parallel to 32nd Street extended to western boundary, all of which is contained in the following described real property:~~

*ms  
RLL  
RB  
BEK*

Tract 7 of the NE 1/4 of Section 10 and Section 11, Township 20, Range 3E, of the Indian Addition to the City of Tacoma, excepting therefrom all that portion of Tract 7 described as follows:

Beginning at the NW corner of said Tract 7; thence south  $9^{\circ} 02' 27''$  east, along the westerly boundary of said Tract 7, a distance of 224.19 feet; thence north  $62^{\circ} 52' 45''$  east, a distance of 493.54 feet, more or less, to a point on the northerly boundary of said Tract 7 which is also the southerly boundary of South 28th Street; thence south  $89^{\circ} 34' 00''$  west, along said northerly boundary, 474.52 feet, more or less, to the point of beginning.

As will be described more particularly upon survey, together with any required easements to provide rights of ingress and egress.

thence in a westerly direction along the road running approximately parallel to 32nd Street, extending the said line to the western boundary of the below described tract. Thence southerly to 32nd St. Thence easterly to point of beginning..





DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE  
REGION X  
ARCADE PLAZA BUILDING  
1321 SECOND AVENUE  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98101

OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR

October 30, 1976

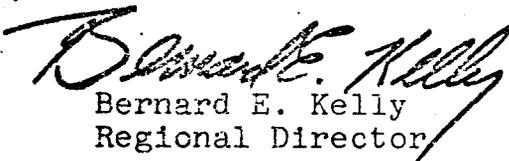
Ms. Ramona Bennett  
Chairwoman, Puyallup Tribal Council  
2232 E. 28th  
Tacoma, Washington 98404

Dear Ms. Bennett:

The purpose of this letter is to inform the Puyallup Tribe of this Department's intent to take the following actions as more fully discussed in the joint Tribal-State-Federal meeting held at Cascadia yesterday:

1. To seek reverter of title to a portion of the Cascadia facility from the State of Washington, said property consisting of approximately eight (08) acres of land improved with a single brick/masonry garage type structure;
2. Make the property described the subject of a report of excess to be submitted to the General Services Administration for disposal.

Sincerely yours,

  
Bernard E. Kelly  
Regional Director





DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE  
REGION X  
ARCADE PLAZA BUILDING  
1321 SECOND AVENUE  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98101

OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR

October 30, 1976

Mr. Milton Burdman  
Secretary  
Department of Social  
and Health Services  
Olympia, Washington

Dear Mr. Burdman:

The purpose of this letter is to confirm our discussion of October 29 wherein you identified to me a certain portion of the Cascadia facility as no longer required by the State for conduct of its DSHS program of utilization which is more fully described in its application to this Department for the acquisition of the former Tacoma PHS Indian Hospital, more commonly referred to today as Cascadia. The property concerned consists of a single brick/masonry garage building and approximately eight (08) acres of underlying land.

As explained, failure to utilize the property places the State in breach of Condition Subsequent number one set forth in our Quitclaim Deed to the State dated July 1, 1961. Accordingly, pursuant to the terms and conditions of transfer recited in the quitclaim deed instrument, you are hereby advised that it is the intent of this Department to revert title to that portion of the property mentioned. A return deed instrument is being prepared which, when signed by you, will provide revestment of title to the property in the United States of America.

Sincerely yours,

  
Bernard E. Kelly  
Regional Director



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

November 2, 1976

Dennis -

Part of the Cushman operation obviously included a letter-writing campaign; and I now have a collection of telegrams, mailgrams and letters urging our "support" of the Puyallup action.

Would you kindly have prepared the text of a letter I can send back in response -- which tells in positive terms the way we helped resolve the situation peacefully and what comes next. Perhaps we should wait a day or so until the legal findings are clear, but at the right time I need a general response to reply to the incoming inquiries.

Thanks, Dennis, and an orchid from here for your own performance.





UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
WASHINGTON

November 5, 1976

Mr. Bradley H. Patterson, Jr.  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Brad,

Attached is a draft of a letter which you may utilize to respond to inquiries concerning the Puyallup incident at Cushman Hospital. I am also enclosing a copy of the final signed agreement.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

R. Dennis Ickes  
Deputy Under Secretary

Attachments



I. A. 's

The White House  
Washington

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5 PMS BRAD PATERSON

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10 THE WHITE HOUSE  
11 WASHINGTON DC 20000

12  
13 I WOULD APPRECIATE IF YOUR OFFICE WOULD SUPPORT THE EFFORTS OF THE  
14 PUYALLUP TRIBE, IN THEIR OCCUPATION OF THE CASCADIA JUVENILE CENTER,  
15 LOCATED ON THE PUYALLUP RESERVATION. THE PUYALLUP TRIBE ARE LEGAL  
16 OWNERS OF THE BUILDING AND HAVE BEEN NEGOTIATING WITH THE STATE OF  
17 WASHINGTON TO OBTAIN PHYSICAL OWNERSHIP OF THE BUILDING FOR SEVERAL  
18 YEARS, TO NO AVAIL. PLEASE GIVE THIS MATTER YOUR CLOSEST ATTENTION  
19 IMMEDIATELY, OR THE PHYSICAL SAFETY OF THIS FOLKS MAY BE  
20 JEOPARDIZED. THANKS,  
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25 PATRICIA ELOFSON CHAIR-PERSON LOWER ELVNA KLALLAM TRIBE  
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Brod Patterson

The White House  
Washington

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RMS PRESIDENT GERALD FORD

WHITE HOUSE DC 20500

WE SUPPORT RIGHTS OF SOVEREIGN INDIAN NATIONS AND DEMAND IMMEDIATE  
RETURN CASCADIA CENTER, TACOMA, WASHINGTON TO PUYALLUP TRIBE,  
REINSTATING ORIGINAL UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT PROMISE TO ALWAYS  
PROVIDE HEALTH CARE FOR INDIANS AT CUSHMAN INDIAN HOSPITAL.

JOANNE WARD TAMARA TURNER ANN BROWN ANN MANLY  
NNNN

976 OCT 25 AM 10 52

WHITE HOUSE  
MAIL ROOM



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

U.S. AIR FORCE  
WASHINGTON

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8 PMS PRESIDENT FORD ATTN BRAD PATTERSON  
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11 SPECIAL ASSISTANT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS, RDM REPORT DELIVERY BY  
12 MAILGRAM, DLR  
13  
14 WASHINGTON DC

15 WE STRONGLY SUPPORT THE PUYALLUP TRIBE'S OWNERSHIP AND POSSESSION OF  
16 CUSHMAN INDIAN HOSPITAL (CASCADIA JUVENILE DIAGNOSTIC CENTER) AND  
17 URGE YOU TO RETURN IT TO THEM WE WANT TO KNOW WHAT YOU ARE DOING TO  
18 ENSURE THE TRANSFER OF THE TITLE TO THE US GOVERNMENT IN TRUST OF  
19 THE TRIBE? HOW CAN WASHINGTON STATE HAVE A VALID TITLE? WE ARE  
20 DISTRESSED THAT THE US GOVERNMENT HAS BROKEN ITS PROMISE TO ALWAYS  
21 PROVIDE HEALTH CARE TO INDIANS AT CUSHMAN  
22

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24 MARY ANN CURTIS AND YOLANDA ALANIZ  
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(6335 NORTHEAST BRADFORD DR SEATTLE WA 98115)  
NNNN



The White House  
Washington

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6 2067251224 NL TDRN SEATTLE WA 100 10-24 1146P EST  
7 PMS PRESIDENT FORD ATTN BRAD PATTERSON, SPECIAL ASSISTANT FOR  
8 INDIAN AFFAIRS  
9 WHITE HOUSE  
10  
11  
12 WASHINGTON DC

13 WE SUPPORT PUYALLUP INDIAN OWNERSHIP OF CUSHMAN INDIAN HOSPITAL  
14 (CASCADIA JUVENILE DIAGNOSTIC CENTER). WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO  
15 TRANSFER CUSHMAN TITLE TO U.S. GOVERNMENT IN TRUST FOR THE PUYALLUP  
16 NATION. WASHINGTON STATE HAS NO VALID TITLE. YOU MUST TAKE IMMEDIATE  
17 ACTION TO RETURN TO PUYALLUP TRIBE.  
18  
19

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21 FREEDOM SOCIALIST PARTY GLORIA MARTIN AND RADICAL WOMEN CONSTANCE  
22 SCOTT  
23 NNNN  
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BP

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FIS PRESIDENT FORD ATTENTION BRAD PATTERSON SPECIAL ASSISTANT

INDIAN AFFAIRS

WHITE HOUSE DC 20010

URGE YOU TO ACT IMMEDIATELY IN SUPPORT OF THE WASHINGTON STATE

PUYALLUP INDIANS' DEMAND THAT THE CASCADIA CENTER BE RETURNED TO ITS

PROPER OWNERS, THE PUYALLUP TRIBE.

MONICA HILL

NNNN

The White House  
Washington  
The White House  
Washington DC

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WHITE HOUSE  
MAIL ROOM



The White House  
Washington

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RMS PRESIDENT GERALD R FORD

ATTN BRAD PATTERSON, SPECIAL ASSISTANT ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

WHITE HOUSE DC

URGENT THE PUYALLUP TRIBAL COUNCIL TOOK POSSESSION OF ITS PROPERTY  
TONIGHT, THE CUSHMAN INDIAN HOSPITAL EFFORTS SINCE 1970 HAVE BEEN  
UNSUCCESSFUL LATEST MEETINGS GIVING TRIBE THE RUNAROUND CLIMAXED  
FRUSTRATIONS AND LEFT SELF HELP THE ONLY ALTERNATIVE TO TRIBAL  
COUNCIL AND TRIBAL MEMBERS GOVERNOR HAS BEEN NOTIFIED CHILDREN  
JAILED THERE BY STATE ARE BEING MOVED OUT TRIBE WILL MAINTAIN  
POSSESSION UNTIL TITLE IS PROPERLY RETURNED TO THE TRIBE PLEASE  
CONTACT US IMMEDIATELY NOW URGENTLY NEED TO SPEED NEGOTIATIONS WITH  
AGENCIES AND STATE

0808 PRINTED BY THE STANDARD REGISTER COMPANY, U. S. A.

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RAMONA BENNETT CHAIRWOMAN PHONE 2063834771 OR 4740154

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The White House  
Washington

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7 PMS PRESIDENT GERALD FORD

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11 HONOR MEDICINE CREEK TREATY TO PROVIDE HEALTH AND EDUCATIONAL

12 SERVICES TO PUYALLUPS AT CUSHMAN HOSPITAL

13 MARY BYE CONVENER OF PEACE AND SERVICE COMMITTEE BUCKS QUARTERLY

14 MEETING THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRANCE DOYLESTOWN PA

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PMS PRESIDENT GERALD FORD

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON DC 20000

I WOULD APPRECIATE IF YOUR OFFICE WOULD SUPPORT THE EFFORTS OF THE  
PUYALLUP TRIBE, IN THEIR OCCUPATION OF THE CASCADIA JUVENILE CENTER,  
LOCATED ON THE PUYALLUP RESERVATION. THE PUYALLUP TRIBE ARE LEGAL  
OWNERS OF THE BUILDING AND HAVE BEEN NEGOTIATING WITH THE STATE OF  
WASHINGTON TO OBTAIN PHYSICAL OWNERSHIP OF THE BUILDING FOR SEVERAL  
YEARS, TO NO AVAIL. PLEASE GIVE THIS MATTER YOUR CLOSEST ATTENTION,  
IMMEDIATELY, OR THE PHYSICAL SAFETY OF THIS FOLKS MAY BE  
JEOPARDIZED. THANKS,

PATRICIA ELOFSON CHAIR-PERSON LOWER ELWHA KLALLAM TRIBE

The White House  
Washington

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WHITE HOUSE  
MAIL ROOM



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

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The White House  
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6174985904 TDMT CAMBRIDGE MA 15 10-29 0837A EST

PMS WHITEHOUSE AID BRAD PATTERSON

WHITEHOUSE

WASHINGTON DC

WE SUPPORT THE PUYALLUP NATION THEIR ATTEMP TO REGAIN THE CASCADIA

JUVENILE CENTER IN WASHINGTON

FAYE BRESLER LARRY WISEMAN DAVID JOHNSON TALLI NAUMAN

NNNN

25 October 1976

Dear Madam/Sir:

The Native American Solidarity Committee (NASC Seattle) strongly supports the Puyallup Tribe ownership and possession of the Cushman Indian Hospital (Cascade Juvenile Diagnostic Center).

We would like to know what you are doing to insure that the proper paper work is being taken care of to transfer the title to the US Government in trust for the Tribe. We are distressed that the US breached its trust promises to Indian people to always provide health care to Indians at Cushman. We question how the State court has any valid title.

We trust that you will take immediate steps to fully return Cushman to the Puyallup Tribe.

The Native American Solidarity Committee

cc: Marjorie Lynch, Undersecretary, Dept of HEW  
Brad Patterson, Spec. Asst. Indian Affairs  
Emery Johnson, Indian Health Service  
Ted Krensky, Community Services, BIA  
Morris Thompson, Commissioner, BIA



RE: Cushman Hospital in Tacoma, Washington

## THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

, 1976

Dear /s/

This is in response to your recent communication concerning the Cushman Hospital in Tacoma, Washington.

On October 30, 1976, Deputy Under Secretary Dennis Ickes from the Department of the Interior and Regional Director Bernard Kelly of HEW in Seattle, Washington, joined in an agreement with the Puyallup Tribe and the State of Washington to return the facility known as Cushman Hospital to the Puyallup Tribe. The means by which this will be accomplished will be attendant upon the outcome of a legal review of the deeds of conveyance from the Tribe to the United States and from the United States to the State of Washington. Nonetheless, the United States is committed to seeking the return of the facility in trust to the United States on behalf of the Puyallup Tribe. In addition, arrangements were made to have the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare review the land at the hospital to determine if any such lands have been utilized by the State of Washington as required by the terms of the deed of conveyance in 1961. A review of the land use by HEW was performed on October 29 and 30 and the decision was made by HEW to seek the reversion of six to eight acres of the hospital facility area in the immediate future. These agreements and arrangements have been entered into in writing by the State, Tribe and Federal agencies. I am confident that with appropriate follow-through by the relevant agencies and the Tribe that this matter will be amicably resolved and the rights of the Tribe preserved.

Sincerely,

Bradley H. Patterson, Jr.

/s/  
///  
///cut 11/11/76 - mvk  
proofed cbs/mvk

(Rec. 11/10/76)

BHP:/s/  
BHP-5

November 17, 1976

Dear Friends:

This is in response to your recent communication concerning the Cushman Hospital in Tacoma, Washington.

On October 30, 1976, Deputy Under Secretary Dennis Ickes from the Department of the Interior and Regional Director Bernard Kelly of HEW in Seattle, Washington, joined in an agreement with the Puyallup Tribe and the State of Washington to return the facility known as Cushman Hospital to the Puyallup Tribe. The means by which this will be accomplished will be attendant upon the outcome of a legal review of the deeds of conveyance from the Tribe to the United States and from the United States to the State of Washington. Nonetheless, the United States is committed to seeking the return of the facility in trust to the United States on behalf of the Puyallup Tribe. In addition, arrangements were made to have the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare review the land at the hospital to determine if any such lands have been utilized by the State of Washington as required by the terms of the deed of conveyance in 1961. A review of the land use by HEW was performed on October 29 and 30 and the decision was made by HEW to seek the reversion of six to eight acres of the hospital facility area in the immediate future. These agreements and arrangements have been entered into in writing by the State, Tribe and Federal agencies. I am confident that with appropriate follow-through by the relevant agencies and the Tribe that this matter will be amicably resolved and the rights of the Tribe preserved.

Sincerely,

Bradley H. Patterson, Jr.

Mr. Doug Barnes  
Mr. John Foe  
Mr. Chris Billey  
Mr. Dick Snedigar  
831 32nd Avenue  
Seattle, Washington 98122

BHP:plr  
BHP-5



November 17, 1976

Dear Mr. Wooten:

This is in response to your recent communication concerning the Cushman Hospital in Tacoma, Washington.

On October 30, 1976, Deputy Under Secretary Dennis Iokes from the Department of the Interior and Regional Director Bernard Kelly of HEW in Seattle, Washington, joined in an agreement with the Puyallup Tribe and the State of Washington to return the facility known as Cushman Hospital to the Puyallup Tribe. The means by which this will be accomplished will be attendant upon the outcome of a legal review of the deeds of conveyance from the Tribe to the United States and from the United States to the State of Washington. Nonetheless, the United States is committed to seeking the return of the facility in trust to the United States on behalf of the Puyallup Tribe. In addition, arrangements were made to have the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare review the land at the hospital to determine if any such lands have been utilized by the State of Washington as required by the terms of the deed of conveyance in 1961. A review of the land use by HEW was performed on October 29 and 30 and the decision was made by HEW to seek the reversion of six to eight acres of the hospital facility area in the immediate future. These agreements and arrangements have been entered into in writing by the State, Tribe and Federal agencies. I am confident that with appropriate follow-through by the relevant agencies and the Tribe that this matter will be amicably resolved and the rights of the Tribe preserved.

Sincerely,

Bradley H. Patterson, Jr.

Mr. Robert I. Wooten  
Chairman  
Samish Indian Tribe  
of Washington  
Post Office Box 217  
Anacortes, Washington 98221

BHP:plr  
BHP-5

November 17, 1976

Dear Mr. Adams:

This is in response to your recent communication concerning the Cushman Hospital in Tacoma, Washington.

On October 30, 1976, Deputy Under Secretary Dennis Iokes from the Department of the Interior and Regional Director Bernard Kelly of HEW in Seattle, Washington, joined in an agreement with the Puyallup Tribe and the State of Washington to return the facility known as Cushman Hospital to the Puyallup Tribe. The means by which this will be accomplished will be attendant upon the outcome of a legal review of the deeds of conveyance from the Tribe to the United States and from the United States to the State of Washington. Nonetheless, the United States is committed to seeking the return of the facility in trust to the United States on behalf of the Puyallup Tribe. In addition, arrangements were made to have the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare review the land at the hospital to determine if any such lands have been utilized by the State of Washington as required by the terms of the deed of conveyance in 1961. A review of the land use by HEW was performed on October 29 and 30 and the decision was made by HEW to seek the reversion of six to eight acres of the hospital facility area in the immediate future. These agreements and arrangements have been entered into in writing by the State, Tribe and Federal agencies. I am confident that with appropriate follow-through by the relevant agencies and the Tribe that this matter will be amicably resolved and the rights of the Tribe preserved.

Sincerely,

Bradley H. Patterson, Jr.

Mr. Hank Adams  
Executive Administrator  
Survival of American  
Indians Association  
Post Office Box 719  
Tacoma, Washington 98401

BHP:plr  
BHP-5

November 17, 1976

Dear Mr. Peters:

This is in response to your recent communication concerning the Cushman Hospital in Tacoma, Washington.

On October 30, 1976, Deputy Under Secretary Dennis Iokes from the Department of the Interior and Regional Director Bernard Kelly of HEW in Seattle, Washington, joined in an agreement with the Puyallup Tribe and the State of Washington to return the facility known as Cushman Hospital to the Puyallup Tribe. The means by which this will be accomplished will be attendant upon the outcome of a legal review of the deeds of conveyance from the Tribe to the United States and from the United States to the State of Washington. Nonetheless, the United States is committed to seeking the return of the facility in trust to the United States on behalf of the Puyallup Tribe. In addition, arrangements were made to have the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare review the land at the hospital to determine if any such lands have been utilized by the State of Washington as required by the terms of the deed of conveyance in 1961. A review of the land use by HEW was performed on October 29 and 30 and the decision was made by HEW to seek the reversion of six to eight acres of the hospital facility area in the immediate future. These agreements and arrangements have been entered into in writing by the State, Tribe and Federal agencies. I am confident that with appropriate follow-through by the relevant agencies and the Tribe that this matter will be amicably resolved and the rights of the Tribe preserved.

Sincerely,

Bradley H. Patterson, Jr.

Mr. Calvin J. Peters  
Chairman  
Squaxin Island Tribe  
Route 1, Box 257  
Shelton, Washington 98584

BHP:plr  
BHP-5

November 17, 1976

Dear Miss Saint Claire:

This is in response to your recent communication concerning the Cushman Hospital in Tacoma, Washington.

On October 30, 1976, Deputy Under Secretary Dennis Ickes from the Department of the Interior and Regional Director Bernard Kelly of HEW in Seattle, Washington, joined in an agreement with the Puyallup Tribe and the State of Washington to return the facility known as Cushman Hospital to the Puyallup Tribe. The means by which this will be accomplished will be attendant upon the outcome of a legal review of the deeds of conveyance from the Tribe to the United States and from the United States to the State of Washington. Nonetheless, the United States is committed to seeking the return of the facility in trust to the United States on behalf of the Puyallup Tribe. In addition, arrangements were made to have the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare review the land at the hospital to determine if any such lands have been utilized by the State of Washington as required by the terms of the deed of conveyance in 1961. A review of the land use by HEW was performed on October 29 and 30 and the decision was made by HEW to seek the reversion of six to eight acres of the hospital facility area in the immediate future. These agreements and arrangements have been entered into in writing by the State, Tribe and Federal agencies. I am confident that with appropriate follow-through by the relevant agencies and the Tribe that this matter will be amicably resolved and the rights of the Tribe preserved.

Sincerely,

Bradley H. Patterson, Jr.

Miss Betty Saint Claire  
1530 Northeast 62  
Seattle, Washington 98115

BHP:plr  
BHP-5

November 17, 1976

Dear Mr. Lerner  
and Mr. Wood:

This is in response to your recent communication concerning the Cushman Hospital in Tacoma, Washington.

On October 30, 1976, Deputy Under Secretary Dennis Ickes from the Department of the Interior and Regional Director Bernard Kelly of HEW in Seattle, Washington, joined in an agreement with the Puyallup Tribe and the State of Washington to return the facility known as Cushman Hospital to the Puyallup Tribe. The means by which this will be accomplished will be attendant upon the outcome of a legal review of the deeds of conveyance from the Tribe to the United States and from the United States to the State of Washington. Nonetheless, the United States is committed to seeking the return of the facility in trust to the United States on behalf of the Puyallup Tribe. In addition, arrangements were made to have the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare review the land at the hospital to determine if any such lands have been utilized by the State of Washington as required by the terms of the deed of conveyance in 1961. A review of the land use by HEW was performed on October 29 and 30 and the decision was made by HEW to seek the reversion of six to eight acres of the hospital facility area in the immediate future. These agreements and arrangements have been entered into in writing by the State, Tribe and Federal agencies. I am confident that with appropriate follow-through by the relevant agencies and the Tribe that this matter will be amicably resolved and the rights of the Tribe preserved.

Sincerely,

Bradley H. Patterson, Jr.

Mr. Jonathan Lerner  
Mr. David Wood  
57 Hayes Street  
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

BHP:plr  
BHP-5

November 17, 1976

Dear Miss Morton:

This is in response to your recent communication concerning the Cushman Hospital in Tacoma, Washington.

On October 30, 1976, Deputy Under Secretary Dennis Ickes from the Department of the Interior and Regional Director Bernard Kelly of HEW in Seattle, Washington, joined in an agreement with the Puyallup Tribe and the State of Washington to return the facility known as Cushman Hospital to the Puyallup Tribe. The means by which this will be accomplished will be attendant upon the outcome of a legal review of the deeds of conveyance from the Tribe to the United States and from the United States to the State of Washington. Nonetheless, the United States is committed to seeking the return of the facility in trust to the United States on behalf of the Puyallup Tribe. In addition, arrangements were made to have the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare review the land at the hospital to determine if any such lands have been utilized by the State of Washington as required by the terms of the deed of conveyance in 1961. A review of the land use by HEW was performed on October 29 and 30 and the decision was made by HEW to seek the reversion of six to eight acres of the hospital facility area in the immediate future. These agreements and arrangements have been entered into in writing by the State, Tribe and Federal agencies. I am confident that with appropriate follow-through by the relevant agencies and the Tribe that this matter will be amicably resolved and the rights of the Tribe preserved.

Sincerely,

Bradley H. Patterson, Jr.

Miss Laurie Morton  
2411 Boylston Avenue  
Seattle, Washington 98102

BHP:plr  
BHP-5

November 17, 1976

Dear Miss Schacher:

This is in response to your recent communication concerning the Cushman Hospital in Tacoma, Washington.

On October 30, 1976, Deputy Under Secretary Dennis Ickes from the Department of the Interior and Regional Director Bernard Kelly of HEW in Seattle, Washington, joined in an agreement with the Puyallup Tribe and the State of Washington to return the facility known as Cushman Hospital to the Puyallup Tribe. The means by which this will be accomplished will be attendant upon the outcome of a legal review of the deeds of conveyance from the Tribe to the United States and from the United States to the State of Washington. Nonetheless, the United States is committed to seeking the return of the facility in trust to the United States on behalf of the Puyallup Tribe. In addition, arrangements were made to have the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare review the land at the hospital to determine if any such lands have been utilized by the State of Washington as required by the terms of the deed of conveyance in 1961. A review of the land use by HEW was performed on October 29 and 30 and the decision was made by HEW to seek the reversion of six to eight acres of the hospital facility area in the immediate future. These agreements and arrangements have been entered into in writing by the State, Tribe and Federal agencies. I am confident that with appropriate follow-through by the relevant agencies and the Tribe that this matter will be amicably resolved and the rights of the Tribe preserved.

Sincerely,

Bradley H. Patterson, Jr.

Miss Susan Schacher  
424 Belmont, East  
Seattle, Washington 98102

BHP:plr  
BHP-5

November 17, 1976

Dear Miss White:

This is in response to your recent communication concerning the Cushman Hospital in Tacoma, Washington.

On October 30, 1976, Deputy Under Secretary Dennis Ickes from the Department of the Interior and Regional Director Bernard Kelly of HEW in Seattle, Washington, joined in an agreement with the Puyallup Tribe and the State of Washington to return the facility known as Cushman Hospital to the Puyallup Tribe. The means by which this will be accomplished will be attendant upon the outcome of a legal review of the deeds of conveyance from the Tribe to the United States and from the United States to the State of Washington. Nonetheless, the United States is committed to seeking the return of the facility in trust to the United States on behalf of the Puyallup Tribe. In addition, arrangements were made to have the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare review the land at the hospital to determine if any such lands have been utilized by the State of Washington as required by the terms of the deed of conveyance in 1961. A review of the land use by HEW was performed on October 29 and 30 and the decision was made by HEW to seek the reversion of six to eight acres of the hospital facility area in the immediate future. These agreements and arrangements have been entered into in writing by the State, Tribe and Federal agencies. I am confident that with appropriate follow-through by the relevant agencies and the Tribe that this matter will be amicably resolved and the rights of the Tribe preserved.

Sincerely,

Bradley H. Patterson, Jr.

Miss Meg White  
1125 Broadway, East  
Seattle, Washington 98102

BHP:plr  
BHP-5

November 17, 1976

Dear Mr. Stern:

This is in response to your recent communication concerning the Cushman Hospital in Tacoma, Washington.

On October 30, 1976, Deputy Under Secretary Dennis Ickes from the Department of the Interior and Regional Director Bernard Kelly of HEW in Seattle, Washington, joined in an agreement with the Puyallup Tribe and the State of Washington to return the facility known as Cushman Hospital to the Puyallup Tribe. The means by which this will be accomplished will be attendant upon the outcome of a legal review of the deeds of conveyance from the Tribe to the United States and from the United States to the State of Washington. Nonetheless, the United States is committed to seeking the return of the facility in trust to the United States on behalf of the Puyallup Tribe. In addition, arrangements were made to have the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare review the land at the hospital to determine if any such lands have been utilized by the State of Washington as required by the terms of the deed of conveyance in 1961. A review of the land use by HEW was performed on October 29 and 30 and the decision was made by HEW to seek the reversion of six to eight acres of the hospital facility area in the immediate future. These agreements and arrangements have been entered into in writing by the State, Tribe and Federal agencies. I am confident that with appropriate follow-through by the relevant agencies and the Tribe that this matter will be amicably resolved and the rights of the Tribe preserved.

Sincerely,

Bradley H. Patterson, Jr.

Mr. Robby Stern  
524 30th Avenue, South  
Seattle, Washington 98144

BHP:plr  
BHP-5

November 17, 1976

Dear Miss Roman:

This is in response to your recent communication concerning the Cushman Hospital in Tacoma, Washington.

On October 30, 1976, Deputy Under Secretary Dennis Ickes from the Department of the Interior and Regional Director Bernard Kelly of HEW in Seattle, Washington, joined in an agreement with the Puyallup Tribe and the State of Washington to return the facility known as Cushman Hospital to the Puyallup Tribe. The means by which this will be accomplished will be attendant upon the outcome of a legal review of the deeds of conveyance from the Tribe to the United States and from the United States to the State of Washington. Nonetheless, the United States is committed to seeking the return of the facility in trust to the United States on behalf of the Puyallup Tribe. In addition, arrangements were made to have the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare review the land at the hospital to determine if any such lands have been utilized by the State of Washington as required by the terms of the deed of conveyance in 1961. A review of the land use by HEW was performed on October 29 and 30 and the decision was made by HEW to seek the reversion of six to eight acres of the hospital facility area in the immediate future. These agreements and arrangements have been entered into in writing by the State, Tribe and Federal agencies. I am confident that with appropriate follow-through by the relevant agencies and the Tribe that this matter will be amicably resolved and the rights of the Tribe preserved.

Sincerely,

Bradley H. Patterson, Jr.

Miss Linda Roman  
1403 36th Avenue  
Seattle, Washington 98122

BHP:plr  
BHP-5

November 17, 1976

Dear Mr. Armour:

This is in response to your recent communication concerning the Cushman Hospital in Tacoma, Washington.

On October 30, 1976, Deputy Under Secretary Dennis Ickes from the Department of the Interior and Regional Director Bernard Kelly of HEW in Seattle, Washington, joined in an agreement with the Puyallup Tribe and the State of Washington to return the facility known as Cushman Hospital to the Puyallup Tribe. The means by which this will be accomplished will be attendant upon the outcome of a legal review of the deeds of conveyance from the Tribe to the United States and from the United States to the State of Washington. Nonetheless, the United States is committed to seeking the return of the facility in trust to the United States on behalf of the Puyallup Tribe. In addition, arrangements were made to have the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare review the land at the hospital to determine if any such lands have been utilized by the State of Washington as required by the terms of the deed of conveyance in 1961. A review of the land use by HEW was performed on October 29 and 30 and the decision was made by HEW to seek the reversion of six to eight acres of the hospital facility area in the immediate future. These agreements and arrangements have been entered into in writing by the State, Tribe and Federal agencies. I am confident that with appropriate follow-through by the relevant agencies and the Tribe that this matter will be amicably resolved and the rights of the Tribe preserved.

Sincerely,

Bradley H. Patterson, Jr.

Mr. William Armour  
10600 Southwest  
Seattle, Washington 98146

BHP:plr  
BHP-5

November 17, 1976

Dear Miss Hatch:

This is in response to your recent communication concerning the Cushman Hospital in Tacoma, Washington.

On October 30, 1976, Deputy Under Secretary Dennis Ickes from the Department of the Interior and Regional Director Bernard Kelly of HEW in Seattle, Washington, joined in an agreement with the Puyallup Tribe and the State of Washington to return the facility known as Cushman Hospital to the Puyallup Tribe. The means by which this will be accomplished will be attendant upon the outcome of a legal review of the deeds of conveyance from the Tribe to the United States and from the United States to the State of Washington. Nonetheless, the United States is committed to seeking the return of the facility in trust to the United States on behalf of the Puyallup Tribe. In addition, arrangements were made to have the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare review the land at the hospital to determine if any such lands have been utilized by the State of Washington as required by the terms of the deed of conveyance in 1961. A review of the land use by HEW was performed on October 29 and 30 and the decision was made by HEW to seek the reversion of six to eight acres of the hospital facility area in the immediate future. These agreements and arrangements have been entered into in writing by the State, Tribe and Federal agencies. I am confident that with appropriate follow-through by the relevant agencies and the Tribe that this matter will be amicably resolved and the rights of the Tribe preserved.

Sincerely,

Bradley H. Patterson, Jr.

Miss Marcel Hatch  
1310 15th Avenue, South  
Seattle, Washington 98144

BHP:plr  
BHP-5

November 17, 1976

Dear Miss Cecotti  
and Miss Saadat:

This is in response to your recent communication concerning the Cushman Hospital in Tacoma, Washington.

On October 30, 1976, Deputy Under Secretary Dennis Ickes from the Department of the Interior and Regional Director Bernard Kelly of HEW in Seattle, Washington, joined in an agreement with the Puyallup Tribe and the State of Washington to return the facility known as Cushman Hospital to the Puyallup Tribe. The means by which this will be accomplished will be attendant upon the outcome of a legal review of the deeds of conveyance from the Tribe to the United States and from the United States to the State of Washington. Nonetheless, the United States is committed to seeking the return of the facility in trust to the United States on behalf of the Puyallup Tribe. In addition, arrangements were made to have the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare review the land at the hospital to determine if any such lands have been utilized by the State of Washington as required by the terms of the deed of conveyance in 1961. A review of the land use by HEW was performed on October 29 and 30 and the decision was made by HEW to seek the reversion of six to eight acres of the hospital facility area in the immediate future. These agreements and arrangements have been entered into in writing by the State, Tribe and Federal agencies. I am confident that with appropriate follow-through by the relevant agencies and the Tribe that this matter will be amicably resolved and the rights of the Tribe preserved.

Sincerely,

Bradley H. Patterson, Jr.

Miss Deanna Cecotti  
Miss Kathleen Saadat  
3018 Northeast 8th  
Portland, Oregon 97212

BHP:plr  
BHP-5



November 17, 1976

Dear Mr. Fickeisen:

This is in response to your recent communication concerning the Cushman Hospital in Tacoma, Washington.

On October 30, 1976, Deputy Under Secretary Dennis Ickes from the Department of the Interior and Regional Director Bernard Kelly of HEW in Seattle, Washington, joined in an agreement with the Puyallup Tribe and the State of Washington to return the facility known as Cushman Hospital to the Puyallup Tribe. The means by which this will be accomplished will be attendant upon the outcome of a legal review of the deeds of conveyance from the Tribe to the United States and from the United States to the State of Washington. Nonetheless, the United States is committed to seeking the return of the facility in trust to the United States on behalf of the Puyallup Tribe. In addition, arrangements were made to have the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare review the land at the hospital to determine if any such lands have been utilized by the State of Washington as required by the terms of the deed of conveyance in 1961. A review of the land use by HEW was performed on October 29 and 30 and the decision was made by HEW to seek the reversion of six to eight acres of the hospital facility area in the immediate future. These agreements and arrangements have been entered into in writing by the State, Tribe and Federal agencies. I am confident that with appropriate follow-through by the relevant agencies and the Tribe that this matter will be amicably resolved and the rights of the Tribe preserved.

Sincerely,

Bradley H. Patterson, Jr.

Mr. Frank Fickeisen  
5436 153rd Street, SE.  
Bellevue, Washington 98006

BHP:plr

November 17, 1976

Dear Miss King:

This is in response to your recent communication concerning the Cushman Hospital in Tacoma, Washington.

On October 30, 1976, Deputy Under Secretary Dennis Ickes from the Department of the Interior and Regional Director Bernard Kelly of HEW in Seattle, Washington, joined in an agreement with the Puyallup Tribe and the State of Washington to return the facility known as Cushman Hospital to the Puyallup Tribe. The means by which this will be accomplished will be attendant upon the outcome of a legal review of the deeds of conveyance from the Tribe to the United States and from the United States to the State of Washington. Nonetheless, the United States is committed to seeking the return of the facility in trust to the United States on behalf of the Puyallup Tribe. In addition, arrangements were made to have the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare review the land at the hospital to determine if any such lands have been utilized by the State of Washington as required by the terms of the deed of conveyance in 1961. A review of the land use by HEW was performed on October 29 and 30 and the decision was made by HEW to seek the reversion of six to eight acres of the hospital facility area in the immediate future. These agreements and arrangements have been entered into in writing by the State, Tribe and Federal agencies. I am confident that with appropriate follow-through by the relevant agencies and the Tribe that this matter will be amicably resolved and the rights of the Tribe preserved.

Sincerely,

Bradley H. Patterson, Jr.

Miss Kathleen King  
738 North 94th  
Seattle, Washington 98103

BHP:plr  
BHP-5

November 17, 1976

Dear Miss Myers  
and Mr. Granatir:

This is in response to your recent communication concerning the Cushman Hospital in Tacoma, Washington.

On October 30, 1976, Deputy Under Secretary Dennis Ickes from the Department of the Interior and Regional Director Bernard Kelly of HEW in Seattle, Washington, joined in an agreement with the Puyallup Tribe and the State of Washington to return the facility known as Cushman Hospital to the Puyallup Tribe. The means by which this will be accomplished will be attendant upon the outcome of a legal review of the deeds of conveyance from the Tribe to the United States and from the United States to the State of Washington. Nonetheless, the United States is committed to seeking the return of the facility in trust to the United States on behalf of the Puyallup Tribe. In addition, arrangements were made to have the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare review the land at the hospital to determine if any such lands have been utilized by the State of Washington as required by the terms of the deed of conveyance in 1961. A review of the land use by HEW was performed on October 29 and 30 and the decision was made by HEW to seek the reversion of six to eight acres of the hospital facility area in the immediate future. These agreements and arrangements have been entered into in writing by the State, Tribe and Federal agencies. I am confident that with appropriate follow-through by the relevant agencies and the Tribe that this matter will be amicably resolved and the rights of the Tribe preserved.

Sincerely,

Bradley H. Patterson, Jr.

Miss Susan Myers  
Mr. Joseph Granatir  
216 32nd Avenue  
Seattle, Washington 98122

BHP:plr  
BHP-5

November 17, 1976

Dear Miss Carey:

This is in response to your recent communication concerning the Cushman Hospital in Tacoma, Washington.

On October 30, 1976, Deputy Under Secretary Dennis Ickes from the Department of the Interior and Regional Director Bernard Kelly of HEW in Seattle, Washington, joined in an agreement with the Puyallup Tribe and the State of Washington to return the facility known as Cushman Hospital to the Puyallup Tribe. The means by which this will be accomplished will be attendant upon the outcome of a legal review of the deeds of conveyance from the Tribe to the United States and from the United States to the State of Washington. Nonetheless, the United States is committed to seeking the return of the facility in trust to the United States on behalf of the Puyallup Tribe. In addition, arrangements were made to have the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare review the land at the hospital to determine if any such lands have been utilized by the State of Washington as required by the terms of the deed of conveyance in 1961. A review of the land use by HEW was performed on October 29 and 30 and the decision was made by HEW to seek the reversion of six to eight acres of the hospital facility area in the immediate future. These agreements and arrangements have been entered into in writing by the State, Tribe and Federal agencies. I am confident that with appropriate follow-through by the relevant agencies and the Tribe that this matter will be amicably resolved and the rights of the Tribe preserved.

Sincerely,

Bradley H. Patterson, Jr.

Miss Marilyn Carey  
1525 32nd Avenue  
Seattle, Washington 98122

BHP:plr  
BHP-5

November 17, 1976

Dear Miss Scott:

This is in response to your recent communication concerning the Cushman Hospital in Tacoma, Washington.

On October 30, 1976, Deputy Under Secretary Dennis Ickes from the Department of the Interior and Regional Director Bernard Kelly of HEW in Seattle, Washington, joined in an agreement with the Puyallup Tribe and the State of Washington to return the facility known as Cushman Hospital to the Puyallup Tribe. The means by which this will be accomplished will be attendant upon the outcome of a legal review of the deeds of conveyance from the Tribe to the United States and from the United States to the State of Washington. Nonetheless, the United States is committed to seeking the return of the facility in trust to the United States on behalf of the Puyallup Tribe. In addition, arrangements were made to have the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare review the land at the hospital to determine if any such lands have been utilized by the State of Washington as required by the terms of the deed of conveyance in 1961. A review of the land use by HEW was performed on October 29 and 30 and the decision was made by HEW to seek the reversion of six to eight acres of the hospital facility area in the immediate future. These agreements and arrangements have been entered into in writing by the State, Tribe and Federal agencies. I am confident that with appropriate follow-through by the relevant agencies and the Tribe that this matter will be amicably resolved and the rights of the Tribe preserved.

Sincerely,

Bradley H. Patterson, Jr.

Miss Constance Scott  
2809 Northwest 65th Street  
Seattle, Washington 98117

BHP:plr  
BHP-5

November 17, 1976

Dear Miss Hoddersen  
and Miss Durham:

This is in response to your recent communication concerning the Cushman Hospital in Tacoma, Washington.

On October 30, 1976, Deputy Under Secretary Dennis Ickes from the Department of the Interior and Regional Director Bernard Kelly of HEW in Seattle, Washington, joined in an agreement with the Puyallup Tribe and the State of Washington to return the facility known as Cushman Hospital to the Puyallup Tribe. The means by which this will be accomplished will be attendant upon the outcome of a legal review of the deeds of conveyance from the Tribe to the United States and from the United States to the State of Washington. Nonetheless, the United States is committed to seeking the return of the facility in trust to the United States on behalf of the Puyallup Tribe. In addition, arrangements were made to have the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare review the land at the hospital to determine if any such lands have been utilized by the State of Washington as required by the terms of the deed of conveyance in 1961. A review of the land use by HEW was performed on October 29 and 30 and the decision was made by HEW to seek the reversion of six to eight acres of the hospital facility area in the immediate future. These agreements and arrangements have been entered into in writing by the State, Tribe and Federal agencies. I am confident that with appropriate follow-through by the relevant agencies and the Tribe that this matter will be amicably resolved and the rights of the Tribe preserved.

Sincerely,

Bradley H. Patterson, Jr.

Miss Guerry Hoddersen  
Miss Susan Durham  
2326 Castro Street  
San Francisco, California 94131

BHP:plr  
BHP-5



November 17, 1976

Dear Mr. Durham:

This is in response to your recent communication concerning the Cushman Hospital in Tacoma, Washington.

On October 30, 1976, Deputy Under Secretary Dennis Ickes from the Department of the Interior and Regional Director Bernard Kelly of HEW in Seattle, Washington, joined in an agreement with the Puyallup Tribe and the State of Washington to return the facility known as Cushman Hospital to the Puyallup Tribe. The means by which this will be accomplished will be attendant upon the outcome of a legal review of the deeds of conveyance from the Tribe to the United States and from the United States to the State of Washington. Nonetheless, the United States is committed to seeking the return of the facility in trust to the United States on behalf of the Puyallup Tribe. In addition, arrangements were made to have the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare review the land at the hospital to determine if any such lands have been utilized by the State of Washington as required by the terms of the deed of conveyance in 1961. A review of the land use by HEW was performed on October 29 and 30 and the decision was made by HEW to seek the reversion of six to eight acres of the hospital facility area in the immediate future. These agreements and arrangements have been entered into in writing by the State, Tribe and Federal agencies. I am confident that with appropriate follow-through by the relevant agencies and the Tribe that this matter will be amicably resolved and the rights of the Tribe preserved.

Sincerely,

Bradley H. Patterson, Jr.

Mr. Stephen Durham  
36 East Sola  
Santa Barbara, California 93101

BHP:plr  
BHP-5

November 17, 1976

Dear Miss Whitish:

This is in response to your recent communication concerning the Cushman Hospital in Tacoma, Washington.

On October 30, 1976, Deputy Under Secretary Dennis Ickes from the Department of the Interior and Regional Director Bernard Kelly of HEW in Seattle, Washington, joined in an agreement with the Puyallup Tribe and the State of Washington to return the facility known as Cushman Hospital to the Puyallup Tribe. The means by which this will be accomplished will be attendant upon the outcome of a legal review of the deeds of conveyance from the Tribe to the United States and from the United States to the State of Washington. Nonetheless, the United States is committed to seeking the return of the facility in trust to the United States on behalf of the Puyallup Tribe. In addition, arrangements were made to have the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare review the land at the hospital to determine if any such lands have been utilized by the State of Washington as required by the terms of the deed of conveyance in 1961. A review of the land use by HEW was performed on October 29 and 30 and the decision was made by HEW to seek the reversion of six to eight acres of the hospital facility area in the immediate future. These agreements and arrangements have been entered into in writing by the State, Tribe and Federal agencies. I am confident that with appropriate follow-through by the relevant agencies and the Tribe that this matter will be amicably resolved and the rights of the Tribe preserved.

Sincerely,

Bradley H. Patterson, Jr.

Miss Rachel Whitish  
Chairwoman  
Shoalwater Bay Indian Tribe  
Tokeland, Washington 98590

BHP:plr  
BHP-5

November 17, 1976

Dear Mr. Wilson:

This is in response to your recent communication concerning the Cushman Hospital in Tacoma, Washington.

On October 30, 1976, Deputy Under Secretary Dennis Ickes from the Department of the Interior and Regional Director Bernard Kelly of HEW in Seattle, Washington, joined in an agreement with the Puyallup Tribe and the State of Washington to return the facility known as Cushman Hospital to the Puyallup Tribe. The means by which this will be accomplished will be attendant upon the outcome of a legal review of the deeds of conveyance from the Tribe to the United States and from the United States to the State of Washington. Nonetheless, the United States is committed to seeking the return of the facility in trust to the United States on behalf of the Puyallup Tribe. In addition, arrangements were made to have the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare review the land at the hospital to determine if any such lands have been utilized by the State of Washington as required by the terms of the deed of conveyance in 1961. A review of the land use by HEW was performed on October 29 and 30 and the decision was made by HEW to seek the reversion of six to eight acres of the hospital facility area in the immediate future. These agreements and arrangements have been entered into in writing by the State, Tribe and Federal agencies. I am confident that with appropriate follow-through by the relevant agencies and the Tribe that this matter will be amicably resolved and the rights of the Tribe preserved.

Sincerely,

Bradley H. Patterson, Jr.

Mr. Roy I. Wilson  
Tribal Chairman  
Cowlitz Indian Tribe  
2815 Dale Lane, East  
Tacoma, Washington 98424

BHP:plr  
BHP-5

November 17, 1976

Dear Miss Colquet:

This is in response to your recent communication concerning the Cushman Hospital in Tacoma, Washington.

On October 30, 1976, Deputy Under Secretary Dennis Ickes from the Department of the Interior and Regional Director Bernard Kelly of HEW in Seattle, Washington, joined in an agreement with the Puyallup Tribe and the State of Washington to return the facility known as Cushman Hospital to the Puyallup Tribe. The means by which this will be accomplished will be attendant upon the outcome of a legal review of the deeds of conveyance from the Tribe to the United States and from the United States to the State of Washington. Nonetheless, the United States is committed to seeking the return of the facility in trust to the United States on behalf of the Puyallup Tribe. In addition, arrangements were made to have the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare review the land at the hospital to determine if any such lands have been utilized by the State of Washington as required by the terms of the deed of conveyance in 1961. A review of the land use by HEW was performed on October 29 and 30 and the decision was made by HEW to seek the reversion of six to eight acres of the hospital facility area in the immediate future. These agreements and arrangements have been entered into in writing by the State, Tribe and Federal agencies. I am confident that with appropriate follow-through by the relevant agencies and the Tribe that this matter will be amicably resolved and the rights of the Tribe preserved.

Sincerely,

Bradley H. Patterson, Jr.

Miss Mary Colquet  
Business Manager  
Cowlitz Indian Tribe  
2815 Dale Lane, East  
Tacoma, Washington 98424

BHP:plr  
BHP-5

November 17, 1976

Dear Friends:

This is in response to your recent communication concerning the Cushman Hospital in Tacoma, Washington.

On October 30, 1976, Deputy Under Secretary Dennis Ickes from the Department of the Interior and Regional Director Bernard Kelly of HEW in Seattle, Washington, joined in an agreement with the Puyallup Tribe and the State of Washington to return the facility known as Cushman Hospital to the Puyallup Tribe. The means by which this will be accomplished will be attendant upon the outcome of a legal review of the deeds of conveyance from the Tribe to the United States and from the United States to the State of Washington. Nonetheless, the United States is committed to seeking the return of the facility in trust to the United States on behalf of the Puyallup Tribe. In addition, arrangements were made to have the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare review the land at the hospital to determine if any such lands have been utilized by the State of Washington as required by the terms of the deed of conveyance in 1961. A review of the land use by HEW was performed on October 29 and 30 and the decision was made by HEW to seek the reversion of six to eight acres of the hospital facility area in the immediate future. These agreements and arrangements have been entered into in writing by the State, Tribe and Federal agencies. I am confident that with appropriate follow-through by the relevant agencies and the Tribe that this matter will be amicably resolved and the rights of the Tribe preserved.

Sincerely,

Bradley H. Patterson, Jr.

Native American  
Solidarity Committee  
RSO 383  
University of Massachusetts  
Amherst, Massachusetts 01003

BHP:plr  
BHP-5

November 17, 1976

Dear Friends:

This is in response to your recent communication concerning the Cushman Hospital in Tacoma, Washington.

On October 30, 1976, Deputy Under Secretary Dennis Ickes from the Department of the Interior and Regional Director Bernard Kelly of HEW in Seattle, Washington, joined in an agreement with the Puyallup Tribe and the State of Washington to return the facility known as Cushman Hospital to the Puyallup Tribe. The means by which this will be accomplished will be attendant upon the outcome of a legal review of the deeds of conveyance from the Tribe to the United States and from the United States to the State of Washington. Nonetheless, the United States is committed to seeking the return of the facility in trust to the United States on behalf of the Puyallup Tribe. In addition, arrangements were made to have the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare review the land at the hospital to determine if any such lands have been utilized by the State of Washington as required by the terms of the deed of conveyance in 1961. A review of the land use by HEW was performed on October 29 and 30 and the decision was made by HEW to seek the reversion of six to eight acres of the hospital facility area in the immediate future. These agreements and arrangements have been entered into in writing by the State, Tribe and Federal agencies. I am confident that with appropriate follow-through by the relevant agencies and the Tribe that this matter will be amicably resolved and the rights of the Tribe preserved.

Sincerely,

Bradley H. Patterson, Jr.

Liberation League  
Tacoma Branch Young Workers  
1236 South Adam  
Tacoma, Washington 98405

BHP:plr  
BHP-5

November 17, 1976

Dear Miss Sullivan:

This is in response to your recent communication concerning the Cushman Hospital in Tacoma, Washington.

On October 30, 1976, Deputy Under Secretary Dennis Ickes from the Department of the Interior and Regional Director Bernard Kelly of HEW in Seattle, Washington, joined in an agreement with the Puyallup Tribe and the State of Washington to return the facility known as Cushman Hospital to the Puyallup Tribe. The means by which this will be accomplished will be attendant upon the outcome of a legal review of the deeds of conveyance from the Tribe to the United States and from the United States to the State of Washington. Nonetheless, the United States is committed to seeking the return of the facility in trust to the United States on behalf of the Puyallup Tribe. In addition, arrangements were made to have the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare review the land at the hospital to determine if any such lands have been utilized by the State of Washington as required by the terms of the deed of conveyance in 1961. A review of the land use by HEW was performed on October 29 and 30 and the decision was made by HEW to seek the reversion of six to eight acres of the hospital facility area in the immediate future. These agreements and arrangements have been entered into in writing by the State, Tribe and Federal agencies. I am confident that with appropriate follow-through by the relevant agencies and the Tribe that this matter will be amicably resolved and the rights of the Tribe preserved.

Sincerely,

Bradley H. Patterson, Jr.

Miss Gail Sullivan  
8 Lee Street  
Somerville, Massachusetts 02145

BHP:plr  
BHP-5

November 17, 1976

Dear Friends:

This is in response to your recent communication concerning the Cushman Hospital in Tacoma, Washington.

On October 30, 1976, Deputy Under Secretary Dennis Ickes from the Department of the Interior and Regional Director Bernard Kelly of HEW in Seattle, Washington, joined in an agreement with the Puyallup Tribe and the State of Washington to return the facility known as Cushman Hospital to the Puyallup Tribe. The means by which this will be accomplished will be attendant upon the outcome of a legal review of the deeds of conveyance from the Tribe to the United States and from the United States to the State of Washington. Nonetheless, the United States is committed to seeking the return of the facility in trust to the United States on behalf of the Puyallup Tribe. In addition, arrangements were made to have the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare review the land at the hospital to determine if any such lands have been utilized by the State of Washington as required by the terms of the deed of conveyance in 1961. A review of the land use by HEW was performed on October 29 and 30 and the decision was made by HEW to seek the reversion of six to eight acres of the hospital facility area in the immediate future. These agreements and arrangements have been entered into in writing by the State, Tribe and Federal agencies. I am confident that with appropriate follow-through by the relevant agencies and the Tribe that this matter will be amicably resolved and the rights of the Tribe preserved.

Sincerely,

Bradley H. Patterson, Jr.

Boston Native American  
Solidarity Committee  
8 Lee Street  
Somerville, Massachusetts 02145

BHP:plr  
BHP-5



Department of the Interior  
Office of the Under Secretary

Date 11-10-76

Referred to: Brad Patterson

From: R. Dennis Ickes

For: Necessary action and return \_\_\_\_\_

Prepare reply for U/S signature \_\_\_\_\_

Reply on behalf of U/S \_\_\_\_\_

Per our conversation \_\_\_\_\_

Information and return \_\_\_\_\_

Information \_\_\_\_\_ ✓

Return to U/S by \_\_\_\_\_

Remarks: \_\_\_\_\_

Brad: This was an editorial reaction  
from Tacoma, No credit cast our  
direction.

R. Dennis Ickes

## Puyallups harm cause

Federal Judge Morrell E. Sharp minced no words. He called the Puyallup Indian takeover of the Cascadia Juvenile Diagnostic Center "highhanded, foolish and irresponsible."

Agreed. Ramona Bennett and her followers have done the Puyallup Indian Tribe considerable harm in their ill-advised armed occupation of the former Cushman Indian Hospital.

They have endangered lives and property, and it is only because of the remarkable calm and patient restraint by state and Tacoma officials that no one was hurt. Dr. Milton Burdman, secretary of State Department of Social and Health Services, and Tacoma Police Chief William Perrett deserve high praise for their skillful and sensitive handling of a difficult situation.

Bennett and her band must be held accountable for any damage or injury that resulted from their action. It is evident some property has been damaged and stolen. Indians spray-painted markings on state-owned vehicles which they took over for their use as "Indian Patrol" cars.

Indians were seen in the building wearing clothing "appropriated" from the center's warehouse, and they helped themselves to food supplies. There are also reports some personal belongings of youngsters who had been housed in Cascadia were stolen.

The Indians showed little consideration for the harm they might have caused the children who were residents of the diagnostic center. Their treatment and processing were interrupted and their lives disrupted by the takeover. They had to be housed

in widely spaced and often inadequate facilities.

Bennett and her followers showed callous disregard for the fact some of the disturbed youngsters at the center could have suffered further damage by their abrupt and unexpected ouster.

The most disturbing aspect of a bad situation was the use of arms. Self-appointed "guards" patrolled the building and its grounds with handguns strapped to their sides. There were veiled references to their possible use in statements about what might happen should efforts be made to evict them.

The takeover won them a great deal of publicity, but it is not the way the Puyallup Indians should pursue what they claim to be their legal rights to the facility. The proper avenue is through the courts.

By deciding to ignore legal means in favor of the dramatic headline-catching armed takeover, the Puyallup Tribal Council has raised doubts about the sincerity of its stated desire to utilize the Cascadia facility as an Indian health center.

The Indians already had access to Cascadia. In fact, the takeover occurred during an Indian open house held in the upper floor of the building. Indians were there for dinner, and there were dances and songs by tribal elders. Ramona Bennett and her group used the event as a ruse to infiltrate the building for their takeover.

Judge Sharp again put it well when he called it a "self-defeating" situation and suggested there must be "wiser-heads" in the Puyallup Indian Tribe than those who conceived the Cascadia incident.

*File*  
*Puyallup*

The Honorable Daniel J. Evans  
Governor of Washington  
Olympia, Washington

Dear Governor Evans:

On October 30, 1976 the Secretary of the Department of Social and Health Services of the State of Washington, acting on behalf of the State, executed a written agreement with the Tribal Council of the Puyallup Tribe of Indians and with representatives of our two Departments concerning the custody and legal status of certain property on which the Cushman Indian Hospital was previously situated and on which is now located the Cascadia Juvenile Reception and Diagnostic Center. As one of the terms of this agreement, the Secretary of the United States Department of the Interior agreed to review the 1961 deed of conveyance of the property from the United States to the State of Washington to determine if the conveyance was valid and whether the State had complied with its terms and conditions. The Department of the Interior further agreed to take whatever action was appropriate in light of the results of the review.

Since entering into the agreement with the State and the tribe, our two Departments have separately reviewed the deed of conveyance and the present legal status of the property. Each Department has reached the same conclusion, namely, that the action of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, in declaring the Cushman Hospital site "excess" in 1959, and in conveying the site as "surplus" to the State of Washington in 1961 for use as a health or education facility (not necessarily for Indians), was inconsistent with the legislation authorizing the conveyance of the land from the Tribe to the United States. Our two Departments have also concluded, as a result of our review, that the title to the land is properly vested in the United States.

We have reviewed these conclusions with the Department of Justice, and that Department concurs in our views.

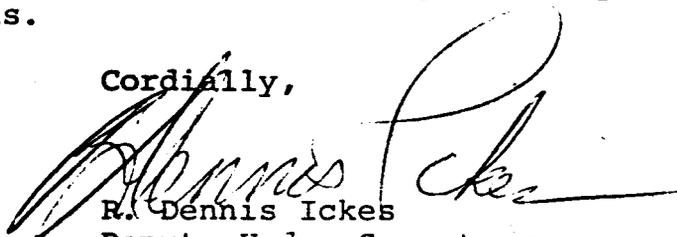


The Honorable Daniel J. Evans -- Page 2

We are enclosing a joint staff memorandum setting forth in detail the reasons for our conclusions.

Given the conclusion of this legal review, we believe that it would be desirable to arrange a meeting between representatives of our departments and the State of Washington to determine appropriate steps for returning possession of the land to the United States, including the exploration by HEW of the possibility of obtaining funds to compensate the State for the value of the improvements lost by transferring the property back to the United States. We hope that this meeting can be arranged as soon as possible, preferably within the next two weeks.

Cordially,



R. Dennis Ickes  
Deputy Under Secretary  
Department of Interior

Marjorie Lynch  
Under Secretary  
Department of Health, Education,  
and Welfare

**LEGAL REVIEW OF THE TRANSFER  
OF THE CUSHMAN INDIAN HOSPITAL  
TO THE STATE OF WASHINGTON**

We have been asked to examine the legal aspects of the transfer of the Cushman Indian Hospital site to the State of Washington. The Puyallup tribe desires that the Federal Government recover the site of the former Cushman Indian Hospital from its present owner, the State of Washington, so that it can be held in trust for this tribe for use as a medical center for the Puyallups and other Indian people.

For the reasons stated below, we conclude the Government had no authority to have the Cushman Indian Hospital site declared surplus and transferred to the State of Washington. We further conclude that the Government may recover the property and restore it to the use for which it was originally conveyed to the United States by the tribe.

**I. Legal Issues Presented**

There are two legal issues presented. The first is whether the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare was authorized to dispose of this hospital's site as surplus.

The second issue, assuming the Department lacked the authority to dispose of the property, is whether the State of Washington is obligated to transfer the property to the United States so that it may be used for the purpose for which it was acquired by the United States.



## II. Background

The Cushman site was originally part of a large area of land ceded in 1854 to the United States by nine tribes, including the Puyallups, in the Treaty of Medicine Creek. <sup>1/</sup> The treaty provided, among other things, that some of the land including the disputed site would be reserved for Indian use, and that education and health care would be provided the signatory tribes by the Federal Government at the central agency for Puget Sound.

Pursuant to the treaty, approximately 18,000 acres were set aside as a reservation for the Puyallup Tribe by Executive Order of President Franklin Pierce on January 20, 1857. Most of the original reservation was allotted to individual members of the tribe or sold for the tribe's benefit. Certain land was retained, including the Cushman site. <sup>2/</sup> However, the boundaries of the reservation remain as originally established. United States v. State of Washington, 496 F.2d 620 (9th Cir. 1974); cert. den. 419 U.S. 1032. Several small tracts remained as tribal trust property after the allotment process was completed. See Opinion of Solicitor of Interior M-36825, March 26, 1971.

The Cushman site was first used as a site for a boarding school for the Puyallups. <sup>3/</sup> The first physician to reside there arrived in 1878. The school was converted to a hospital in 1929. Under the terms of a 1929 lease, the Bureau of Indian Affairs paid the Puyallups \$9,000 per year rent for the property. By 1930, Cushman was both a general hospital and tuberculosis sanatorium. It also provided outpatient and clinic services. However the administrators of the hospital at this time viewed the facility's physical plant as less than adequate to its purposes.

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<sup>1/</sup> 10 Stat. 1132, signed December 26, 1854; ratified, March 3, 1855. Charles J. Kappler, Indian Laws and Treaties, Vol. II, p. 661, Washington, D.C., Government Printing Office, 1904.

<sup>2/</sup> Act of March 3, 1893, 27 Stat. 612, 633.

<sup>3/</sup> See Act of June 12, 1906, 34 Stat. 377, which authorized the sale of other tribal lands, the proceeds to be used to establish "an industrial and manual training school for the Puyallup and allied tribes and bands at the site of the present Indian school."

In 1931, the Bureau of Indian affairs offered an appraisal of \$235,000 for the site, which the tribe accepted. A letter dated March 4, 1937 from the Superintendent of the local Indian Agency indicated the Puyallups still desired to sell the land at the 1931 price, despite an additional \$200,000 worth of improvements that had been made to the site. The Superintendent indicated that continued acceptance of the offer to purchase was at least in part motivated by a desire to see Cushman further improved. The Government did not wish to see the value of further improvements accrue solely to the Puyallups, and desired to have complete ownership before further improvements were made. 4/

At the 1931 tribal meeting where the appraisal was offered, the Puyallups were assured by the then hospital director that the Puyallups would continue to receive medical services at Cushman after the sale, and could continue to have jobs there. 5/

Congress passed an Act authorizing the purchase of the Cushman Hospital site "for Indian sanatorium purposes" by the Secretary of Interior from the Puyallups at the 1931 appraisal price. Acceptance of their per capita share of the payment, according to the statute, was to "be recognized as completely extinguishing any and all right or interest such member of the tribe might have had in said property." The final section of the Act provided that members of the tribe would not, however, be barred from receiving medical care at the sanatorium. 6/

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4/ Letter of Supt. O.C. Upchurch to Commissioner of Indian Affairs, March 4, 1937.

5/ Minutes of Tribal meeting, June 30, 1931.

6/ The August 11, 1939 Act provides as follows:

"That the Secretary of the Interior be, and he is hereby, authorized to acquire, from the Puyallup Tribe of Indians of Washington, for Indian sanatorium purposes, tracts numbered 6 and 7, containing thirty-eight and fifty one-hundredths acres, including all tribal-owned improvements thereon, of the Indian addition to the City of Tacoma, Washington, established under the Act of March 3, 1893 (27 Stat. 633); title to be conveyed to the United States by such tribal officials as the Puyallup Tribal Council shall authorize by resolution and by such form of relinquishment or deed as the Secretary of the Interior may designate.  
(continued on next page)

In 1940, the tribe deeded "all right, title, and interest" in the property to the United States. This quitclaim deed, in its preamble, recited the statutory authority for purchase of the land for "Indian sanatorium purposes."

The hospital facility was under the administration of the Bureau of Indian Affairs until transferred to the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare (HEW) pursuant to the Act of August 5, 1954, 42 U.S.C. 2001. HEW operated a hospital and sanatorium for Indians in the facility until July 1, 1959, when it was closed. On July 1, 1961, the facility was conveyed by quitclaim deed to the State of Washington for "public health and education purposes" pursuant to the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, 42 U.S.C. 484. The quitclaim deed conveying the property contained a reversionary right in the United States if the property was no longer used for health and education purposes. That right of reentry, the deed provides,

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Ftnte. 6 cont'd:

Sec. 2. In order to carry out the provisions of section 1 hereof there is hereby authorized to be appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury of the United States not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$228,525, which sum shall be distributed by the Secretary of the Interior in equal shares to the tribal members of the Puyallup Indian Tribe, determined in accordance with the constitution and bylaws of the tribe approved May 13, 1936, as of the date of the passage of this Act, under such rules and regulations as he may prescribe: Provided, That acceptance by each individual, or by his or her natural legal guardian or heirs, of the pro rata share of the amount hereby authorized as completely extinguishing any and all right or interest such member of the tribe might have had in said property.

Sec. 3. The fulfillment of the provisions of section 2 hereof shall not bar the hospitalization of or medical attention to members of the Puyallup Tribe at the Indian sanatorium referred to in section 1."



would have to be exercised within 20 years of the initial conveyance, or before July 1, 1980. The present use of the property--at least this 30.1 acre portion of it--by the State, as the Cascadia Juvenile Diagnostic and Treatment Center, apparently is in accordance with its original proposal to HEW. 7/

### III. Legal Analysis

In construing the act authorizing the purchase of the Cushman Hospital site, we must use rules of construction applicable to statutes affecting Indians. Doubtful expressions in acts relating to Indians, instead of being resolved in favor of the United States, are to be resolved in favor of the Indians. United States v. Santa Fe Pacific R. Co., 314 U.S. 339 (1941), rehearing den. 314 U.S. 716. This is particularly true when the act purports to extinguish Indian title, Santa Fe, supra; Spaulding v. Chandler, 160 U.S. 394, (1896); U.S. ex rel Shoshone Indian Tribe v. Seaton, 248 F.2d 154 (D.C. Cir. 1957), cert. denied 355 U.S. 923, and Congressional intent must be clear in order to overcome the construction of the act in favor of the Indians, De Coteau v. District County Court for the 10th Judicial District, 420 U.S. 425 (1975), rehearing denied 421 U.S. 939 (1975). In addition, statutes passed for the benefit of dependent Indian tribes are to be liberally construed in favor of the Indians, Rockbridge v. Lincoln, 449 F.2d 567 (9th Cir., 1971).

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7/ The recent October 30, 1976 agreement between the Puyallup Tribe, the State of Washington and the United States, however, declares that a described portion of the tract is no longer used in accordance with the provisions of the deed and that title is revested in the U.S. It should be noted that while a total of 38.5 acres (Tracts 6 and 7) was initially conveyed to the United States, the Tribe here seeks recovery of 30.1 acres.

All of these rules of construction can reasonably be applied to the Act of August 11, 1939. It authorizes the purchase of land for Indian sanatorium purposes and is clearly a statute passed for the benefit of Indians generally, explicitly including the Puyallups. It also terminates at least some property rights of the Puyallups, thereby altering rights granted by the Treaty of Medicine Creek, supra. The statute is ambiguous in at least one respect in that it does not specify the length of time for which the land must be used for an Indian sanatorium. Considering the rules of construction outlined above, we conclude that the Act of August 11, 1939 must be construed as appropriating the land for Indian sanatorium purposes. As such, it would constitute a reservation of the land for the stated purpose and a restriction on its use.

In addition, the Act should be construed as providing that the land should continue to be reserved for this use until otherwise directed by Congress. This would be the construction most favorable to the Indians. Further, when 25 U.S.C. 462 was enacted on June 18, 1934, it provided that then existing periods of trust placed upon any Indian land were extended and continued until otherwise directed by Congress. While this statute does not directly control here, it can be taken as an expression of Congressional intent that restrictions placed by Congress on land for the Indians' benefit remain until Congress authorizes removal of the restrictions. If the Act of August 11, 1939 is construed in this way, the Cushman Hospital site could be used for non-Indian purposes only if Congress authorized it. 8/

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8/ The question has also been raised whether the restrictions and obligations discussed above can be imposed on the State of Washington. There are cases holding that when land is subject to restrictions allowing Indian use of the land, a purchaser of the land takes title subject to those restrictions, absent a clear Congressional intent to eliminate those restrictions, Spaulding, supra; Minnesota, supra; Ahtanum, supra. However there are no cases holding that an affirmative duty to provide services can be imposed upon a subsequent holder of title. Given the apparent inability to impose these duties on the State of Washington, the only practical way for the United States to meet its obligations would be to recover the land from the State of Washington.

Construing the Act of August 11, 1939 as having reserved the Cushman Indian Hospital site for Indian sanatorium purposes until Congress directed otherwise, then it was outside of the scope of the surplus property provisions of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, 40 U.S.C. 484. The definition of "property" in that Act, found in 40 U.S.C. 472(d), excludes the public domain and excludes lands reserved from the public domain unless the Secretary of the Interior, with the concurrence of the Administrator of GSA, finds that the land would be unsuitable for return to the public domain. There appears to have been no such finding. The land could be said to have been reserved from the public domain by the Treaty of Medicine Creek, and therefore not subject to the surplus property provisions of 40 U.S.C. 484. The uses for which it was reserved were merely modified by the Act of August 11, 1939. Ash Sheep Company v. United States, 252 U.S. 159 (1920).

Moreover, before property can be declared surplus under 40 U.S.C. 484, it must be found to be "excess property" by the agency holding the property. In 40 U.S.C. 472(e) "excess property" is defined as property not required for the discharge of the agency's responsibilities. Construing the Act of August 11, 1939 to create an obligation to use the land for Indian health purposes, and those responsibilities having been placed with HEW, then the land could not be said to be "excess property."

In addition, there is "a familiar principle of public land law that statutes providing generally for disposal of the public domain are inapplicable to lands which are not unqualifiedly subject to sale and disposal because they have been appropriated to some other purpose." United States v. O'Donnell, 303 U.S. 501, 510 (1938). Also, United States v. Minnesota, 270 U.S. 181 (1925); F.P.C. v. State of Oregon, 349 U.S. 435 (1955). Even though these cases refer to statutes providing for the disposal of the public domain, there is no apparent reason why there should be a different rule for the disposal under 40 U.S.C. 484 of lands reserved for use for Indian purposes.

In United States v. Minnesota, supra, patents for land that was within lands granted to the State of Minnesota under a general swamp lands grant were cancelled because the land was reserved for Indian use. The swamp lands grant was by statute, but the Court held that patents issued under the grant were issued in disregard of the obligations to the Indians, which the United States had assumed and was still bound to respect.

In the Minnesota case, the Court also ruled that, since it was still necessary to meet the obligations to the Indians, it was necessary to allow the United States to sue to cancel the patents in order to meet those obligations. See also, Cramer v. United States, 261 U.S. 219 (1923), and United States v. Ahtanum Irrigation District, 236 F.2d 321 (9th Cir. 1956), cert. denied 336 U.S. 968.

A similar result was reached in United States v. O'Donnell, supra, where the United States sued to quiet title to land that it held as a result of a conveyance from persons who had held the land under a Mexican land grant, a grant the United States had been obligated to respect by a treaty with Mexico. The Court denied a claim by a party who had purchased the land from the State of California. California had been granted the land as a part of a general statutory swamp lands grant, four years before the United States had purchased the specific parcels from the holder of the Mexican grants.

These cases also hold that laches and estoppel are not available as a defense against such a suit by the Government. Cramer v. United States, supra; United States v. State of California, 322 U.S. 19 (1947). In United States v. O'Donnell, supra, 78 years had passed since the grant to California, and in United States v. Minnesota, supra, 66 years had passed before suit was filed. In Ahtanum, supra, at 334, the Court pointed out that there is "a special reason why the Indians' property may not be lost through adverse possession, laches or delay. This [citing United States v. 7,405.3 Acres of Land, 97 F.2d 417 (4th Cir.)] arises out of the provisions of Title 25 U.S.C.A. 177, R.S. 2116, which forbids the acquisition of Indian lands or of any title or claim thereto except by treaty or convention."

In summary, we conclude that the Act of August 11, 1939 created a restriction on and reservation of the Cushman Hospital site that could only be removed under authority from Congress. Therefore, the sale of the land to the State of Washington was outside the authority granted by Congress. We thus conclude that the United States could request the State of Washington to execute a quitclaim deed for the property in favor of the United States, or, if this cannot be accomplished, we could initiate legal action to reassert the title of the United States to this land.

Special  
NATIVE AMERICAN  
Issue

# The Freedom Socialist

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Vol. 2 No. 2 Seattle, WA Voice of the Freedom Socialist Party Fall, 1976

## Return Cascadia to the INDIANS!



**CASCADIA**  
Juvenile Reception  
Diagnostic Center,  
Department of Social  
and Health Services,  
State of Washington

### Proclamation

**NOTICE TO ALL CONCERNED**  
THAT THIS PROPERTY OWNED BY THE SOVEREIGN PUYALLUP TRIBE AND BEING A PART OF THE PUYALLUP INDIAN RESERVATION, Known by Native Americans as the Cushman Hospital, and by the State of Washington as Cascadia Juvenile Diagnostic Center, IS HEREBY TAKEN INTO THE POSSESSION OF THE PUYALLUP TRIBE OF INDIANS AS ITS SOVEREIGN AND RIGHTFUL OWNERS.

PUYALLUP TRIBAL COUNCIL  
RESOLUTION NO. 76-10-23

WHEREAS the Puyallup Tribal Council is the governing body of the Puyallup Tribe in accordance with the authority of its Constitution and By-Laws, as amended, approved by the Assistant Secretary of the Interior on the 1st day of June, 1970; and

continued on page 5

### Insurrection

## Puyallups Evict State From Tribal Property

by Sam Deaderick

A small but daring group of Pacific Northwest Indians, the Puyallups, electrified the nation on the evening of October 23 when the courageous tribe suddenly and efficiently took control of Cascadia Juvenile Reception and Diagnostic Center—beautiful land and buildings on the Puyallup River that once were theirs but had been lost for years to the thieving and deceitful federal and State governments.

For seven eventful days after the stunning takeover, the entire Northwest held its breath as the Puyallups coolly consolidated their occupation of the premises. Cascadia Center, once the Cushman Indian Hospital, is just outside the city of Tacoma in Pierce County, Washington, thirty miles from Seattle. And for a solid week it hosted hundreds of Indians and their supporters, nervous State and federal bureaucrats forced into negotiations, and an excited press corps.

The surprise uprising resulted in a substantial victory for the Puyallups. An official agreement between the tribe, the State and the federal government was

finally hammered out at the eleventh hour, virtually guaranteeing the return of Cascadia to the trusteeship of the United States for use by the Puyallup Tribe as a medical and social welfare center for its people.

This reporter joined the tribal forces on Sunday, the day after the successful takeover, and I remained with them until the Agreement was signed and everybody departed from Cascadia.

What follows is the actual, almost totally eyewitness, account of one heroic week in October when local Native Americans, bitter over years of neglect of their claim for reversion of Cascadia to tribal control, startled the State of Washington by taking the offensive against it and pressuring both State and federal governments into far-reaching concessions.

The intrepid Puyallups have added yet another historic chapter to the saga of the long and agonizing war of survival by Indians against the American ruling class, and I am proud and grateful that I was

continued on next page



The killer whale, symbol of the Puyallups, swims within the sun's circle of unity and the four great winds.

# Indian

# Leschi

# Chief

Lenore and I spent a great deal of time working in this giant-sized institutional kitchen. Very few of us had ever cooked, served, or cleaned on such a massive scale, but necessity quickly taught us how. Nobody went hungry. One night we cooked a delicious Indian dinner of fresh salmon brought in by Indian fishermen and broiled with buttered onions, corn-on-the-cob and fried bread. From the appetites of the hungry diners, it was more than obvious that occupying forces, like armies, march on their stomachs.

A complex security system was maintained, including appropriated State autos utilized as mobile units. Sentries were posted at the entry gate, on the rooftops and throughout the site, maintaining communications via a walkie-talkie radio network. Lenore and I were also able to work within the security system, watching the entrances to the facility from the roof and from the ground.

One day we were assigned to check people in and out of the clinic, which was still in operation. I had the opportunity to discuss the occupation with two white construction workers entering the clinic to talk to the director. After I explained why I had to take their names, they asked if the Indians had occupied the entire 30 acres. When I said, "They sure have!" they responded, "Good for them. It's about time!"

Childcare was organized, the switchboard operated, supplies were purchased and distributed, floors were mopped, and friendly visitors, after clearance from the gate patrol, were welcomed.

A skeleton crew from the previous Cascadia staff was invited inside to evacuate the juvenile residents, and State authorities agreed to transfer the inmates. The State has consistently maintained that it would take up to two years to arrange new facilities for the juveniles, yet all the young people were evacuated within 48 hours of the dramatic takeover. As the kids left, many of them shoved upraised fists out of the bus windows, shouting "Indian Power!" and "Where have you been so long?"

Cascadia is a notorious prison warehouse for delinquent youth. (*Editor's Note:* For more on this subject, see Clara Fraser's interview of Ramona Bennett on page 9).

During the week-long occupation, supplies and money were continually

for Indians. But the federal Department of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW) illegally closed the hospital in 1959 and then transferred ownership to the State in 1961.

The Puyallups had been tricked out of their land and their own hospital. And now, ironically, they were "celebrating" the State's miserly concession of an extremely limited medical service on the very site once dedicated completely to Indian health care.

But the Puyallups had plans for a greater celebration later that evening. At 6:15 p.m., after 150 juvenile prisoners incarcerated in detention units finished dinner, a band of 50 Indians descended from their 5th floor open house and casually swarmed through the huge main building. Accompanied by their tribal police, who are always uniformed and armed while on duty, they firmly served a previously prepared eviction notice on the assistant shift officer, seized the switchboard and assumed control of the building.

In a calm but decisive act of revolutionary transformation of property relations, they completed the expropriation by announcing that the entire institution was, in the words of Resolution #76-10-23 of the Puyallup Tribal Council, "in the possession of the Puyallup Tribe of Indians as its sovereign and rightful owners."

"We've been involved in the legislative process for the past several years and have now decided to act," said Ramona Bennett, tribal chairwoman. "The hospital is ours and we have it. We are the Puyallup nation."

### Anatomy of an Expropriation

For the next week, the Indians administered the facility. Puyallups and supporters from other tribes ran the huge kitchen, serving three meals a day to as many as 200 people.

## ...Puyallups Evict State

*continued from preceding page*  
permitted to share this stirring experience with them.

Lenore Norrgard, my FSP comrade and a member of Radical Women, also joined the occupation. Many of the Indians there knew her from her long involvement with Native American struggles through the Evergreen State College, where she is a student and activist. Her excellent photographs, taken during her breaks from the work we were all engaged in, are featured throughout the pages of this issue of the **Freedom Socialist**.

On Saturday evening, October 23, about 200 members and guests of the Puyallup Tribe were at the Cascadia detention facility celebrating the opening of a new Indian clinic on the grounds.

The Puyallups vividly recalled the time when the sprawling institution was the Cushman Indian Hospital, serving Native Americans from Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana and Alaska. The Puyallups had relinquished the land to the federal government for \$228,000 in return for a promise that the site would be used to supply desperately needed medical care

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# Building!

# Medical

donated by supporters on the outside. Reporters and photographers, restricted to the lobby, milled about, awaiting a break in the story. The lobby lounge boasts an overpowering mural of an Indian woman curing skins at her riverside campground—a fitting backdrop for the labor expended during the occupation. Grim-faced government negotiators, trying to look folksy, scurried in and out, strange figures against the rural beauty of the mural. Meanwhile, phone calls and telegrams of support and enthusiasm poured in from all over the country.

Throughout the day the building echoed with the triumphant high-pitched chant of the AIM (American Indian Movement) anthem resounding against the throbbing beat of a large drum decorated with the symbol of the Trail of Self-Determination.

People worked tirelessly, and behind the apparent chaos an atmosphere of order, dignity and humor prevailed. The mood was one of watchful high spirits. Federal marshals and troops with overkill fire power could arrive at any moment and everyone knew it, yet the entire occupation force was quietly prepared to stay through to the end.

By the third day of the occupation, a fifty-foot banner created by Freedom Socialist Party and Radical Women members draped the outside upper corner of the massive building. Visible for a mile down the freeway which passes Cascadia, the banner blazed out in scarlet letters on a brilliant yellow background the new name of the center—Chief Leschi Indian

Medical Building. The first letters of each word were emphasized to reveal the acronym: CLIMB!

### Backdrop: Another Trail of Tears

The decision to occupy Cascadia was not made lightly. The Puyallups had been requesting the return of the facility ever since HEW declared it "surplus to Indian health needs" and simply handed it over to the State behind the backs of the tribal owners. The State promptly put the land to use for a freeway and a juvenile prison.

The history of the Puyallup struggle for decent health care, supposedly guaranteed them by the federal government, is long, bitter and still unresolved.

In 1871, a Puyallup Elder who occupied the acreage now known as Cascadia, agreed to the use of the 38 acres of tribal land for a trade school for Indians, and such a school operated from 1871 until 1920. Medical treatment for the students was handled by the students themselves, assisted by a travelling physician. In 1878, a resident doctor was installed and care was extended to all Northwest Indians. In 1929, a tuberculosis sanatorium, Cushman Hospital, began operation on the premises. TB, an infection transmitted to the Indians by whites, had become a major medical problem for the native population.

It soon became clear that Cushman Hospital was hopelessly inadequate to deal with the growing problem of TB. The Puyallups entered into negotiations with the U.S., hoping to sell the land to the

*continued on next page*

## FORKED TONGUE DEPARTMENT Washington State Plots to Sue Puyallups and Violate Agreement



*The Burdman of Cascadia*

The State of Washington has already unleashed a triple-barrelled counter-offensive against the victorious Puyallups.

Since the Agreement ending the occupation stipulated only that no criminal charges would be filed, the State is now viciously threatening a civil suit to recover alleged damages to the facility sustained during the occupation.

And if this isn't treachery enough, a special legislative subcommittee of notorious conservatives and big business-dominated figures has been appointed ostensibly to "probe" all aspects of the takeover. But even before the investigation has begun, key subcommittee members have released public announcements of their intent to retain ownership of Cascadia and dishonor the Agreement signed by the State of Washington, the U.S. Department of the Interior, and the Puyallup Tribe.

"I think it is wrong and I'll tell Ramona Bennett so," said A.L. Rasmussen, (D). "It seems foolish to turr such a valuable facility over to a tribe consisting of 450 people."

It just happens that the Indian population of Pierce County is over 7,000, and the Puyallups have never insinuated that the services of CLIMB! would be open only to Puyallups. In fact, when the facility was operating as Cushman Indian Hospital, it served Native Americans from Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana and Alaska.

As part of the backlash being instigated so that the State can more easily renege on the Agreement, officials are currently undertaking a massive inventory at Cascadia, clearly designed to be used punitively against the Indians.

When State authorities demanded an inventory from the Indians during the takeover, Ramona Bennett said to them, "When this was an Indian hospital, it was packed with stuff for Indians. Where did it all go? I wanted an inventory of all of our kids who have been put up for adoption. I wanted an inventory of all of our people who have been locked in prison. There is a lot of inventorying to do!"

The man behind these multi-pronged reprisals is Milton Burdman, the Governor's man, who is Director of the State Department of Social and Health Services and the State's signatory on the Agreement ending the takeover. He was chief negotiator for the State during the occupation.

The trail of broken treaties is swiftly developing into a super-highway.



A Puyallup security patrol blocks the main entrance of Cascadia/Cushman. A newly-liberated State auto, repainted to indicate a transfer of ownership, is a prominent aspect of the barricade.



## ...Puyallups Evict State

*continued from preceding page*  
government, which would hold it in trust for the Puyallups for the *express purpose* of constructing an Indian Hospital that would furnish both expert health care and employment for Northwest Indians.

Congress appropriated the purchase price of \$282,525 in 1939, and construction of the present facilities was completed in 1941. The Cushman Indian Hospital was born, housing both inpatients and a medical and dental clinic for Indian outpatients.

Suddenly, in 1954, HEW began phasing out the Indian health facilities, and the State of Washington was unexpectedly enriched by the gift of a multi-million dollar property. This callous bureaucratic robbery, added to centuries of broken treaties, land theft and genocide, provoked an immediate multi-tribal protest. For the past five years, the Puyallups have tried to negotiate through the maze of interlocking bureaucracies—the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the State, HEW, Congress, the Department of the Interior, the executive branch, etc.—in a concerted effort to reclaim their property legally.

The primary roadblock was the State's refusal to budge unless it was "reimbursed" \$1.719 million for its "capital investment" in equipment, a demand which the federal government refused.

Negotiations threatened to drag on for decades more when the tribe simply got fed up, cried "Enough!" and proceeded to take back, in their own way, what was theirs all the time.

And one extremely meaningful by-product of the takeover was the public attention focused on the inhuman conditions faced by the imprisoned children of Cascadia.

### *From Indian Health to Child Abuse*

The State of Washington has operated Cascadia as a juvenile jail for over fifteen years, contradicting the high-sounding name of the institution—Cascadia Reception and Diagnostic Center. Youngsters aged 13 to 18 who are delinquent in any way, from running away to murder, are placed here to be "observed."

The staff watches them and makes a judgment on their fate, based on the child's progress and stability *under prison conditions*.

Some of the kids are returned to their homes, others assigned to foster parents, some shipped to other institutions, and some simply detained indefinitely. When the Puyallups occupied the buildings, they freed three children from medieval isolation cells in the basement—small, unheated, windowless rooms buzzing with mosquitos and furnished only with an open toilet and a blanket thrown on a piece of mattress-like material covering the bare

metal bedframe. One adolescent had sat handcuffed in one of these dungeons for three days when the Indians released him.

### *A Fateful Decision by Women*

No story of the Cascadia takeover can be authentic unless it pinpoints the leadership role of the remarkable women in the Puyallup Tribe, exciting testimony to its matriarchal tradition.

The Tribal Council has been led for years by its dynamic chairwoman, Ramona Bennett. Bennett was in the forefront of the occupation and subsequent negotiations. She was consistently calm and articulate, eloquently expressing the determination of a desperate people to achieve justice and self-determination. Her clear and incisive statements, frequently tinged with sarcasm and always packing an emotional wallop, instantly captured the respect and attention of the media and the support of a large segment of the public.

Never during the occupation did Bennett play the role of aloof executive issuing decrees from above. She was constantly with her people, soliciting their ideas and judgments, participating in many of the routine tasks, socializing with the children and conducting herself as an intrinsic part of the tribe. She was accessible, responsive and unpretentious.

Women comprise the leadership of the Puyallup Tribal Council and these women,

along with the Tribal Elders, are held in the highest esteem by the entire tribe and by Indian supporters from other tribes.

It was essentially women who organized and led the takeover, coordinated the occupation activities, appeared before the media, conducted the government negotiations, and mobilized outside support and assistance.

Indian men viewed the women with respect, generally working together with the women on terms of mutual consideration, their joint concern focusing on the welfare of the tribe as a total entity.

### *A Groundswell of Support*

The liberation of Cascadia-Cushman elicited an immediate rallying of support. Indians from tribes all over the country came to Tacoma to join the insurrection—Duwamish, Steilacoom, Blackfoot, Sioux, Clallam, Cowlitz, Cheyenne, Ojibway, Colville, Chippewa, and Muckleshoot. Chicanos, Blacks and whites from neighboring cities journeyed to Pierce County to express support or join in the work and the risks. Delegates from militant Seattle-based organizations were prominent in the ranks of sympathizers, representing such groups as El Centro de la Raza, the Native American Solidarity Committee, Freedom Socialist Party and Radical Women.

Outside supporters responded quickly to the situation and secured funds, food,



Ramona Bennett (second from left) and other Puyallups argue for their tribal demands during one of many marathon negotiating sessions with State and federal officials (the two white men in suits).

# CHIEF LESCHL INDIAN MEDICAL BLDG.

supplies and favorable publicity for the takeover. Over 700 telegrams in support of the Puyallups were sent to government officials as a result of this public defense activity.

Provisions were collected by many individuals and groups, including The Little Bread Company, CC Grains, Community Produce, Seattle Counseling Service for Sexual Minorities and many more.

Seattle adherents held a press conference to demand the return of Cushman-Cascadia to the Puyallups. Speakers called on government officials to act in a sensitive and restrained manner and avoid unleashing of violence against the Indians. Over 35 individuals and organizations endorsed the statement, including the National Lawyers Guild, United Farmworkers of America, United Workers Union-Independent, American Friends Service Committee, Council of Churches of Greater Seattle, La Raza Law Forum, Radical Arab-Jewish Alliance, Union of Sexual Minorities, Action Childcare Coalition, Freedom Socialist Party, Radical Women, Rescate Press, Seize the Time for Oppressed People, El Centro de la Raza, International Socialists and Native American Solidarity Committee.

By exposing the imminent threat of Wounded Knee-style massacre by government troops, the community support groups along with a remarkably sympathetic Seattle press corps were instrumental in restraining the trigger-happy, hawk mentality of the Governor and related officials, and bolstering the Puyallups' bargaining power with the government.

Very little opposition to the takeover was evident to those of us inside the facility. There were reports of shots fired on the building a few times during the week, and once there was a run-in with an irate, drunken white man.

Two of the Indian security people and I went over to check on a car sitting near the back gate. When we approached it, the man inside immediately began shouting and threatening, screaming "You goddamn Indians! You all ought to be shot!" His wife had just returned from an appointment at the health clinic on the Cascadia grounds and tried frantically to shut him up. My Indian companions, with dignity and restraint, explained to him why they had to check out all the cars in the area. He spun out of the lot, cursing and swerving as he sped off.

## Negotiations, Government Style

The moment Cascadia's "normal" operations were disrupted by the Indian occupation, the State got down to serious negotiations. Discussions with the Director of the State's Department of

Social and Health Services (DSHS) began the day after the seizure of the facility and continued steadily until agreement was reached.

At one point in the negotiations, after DSHS Director Milton Burdman reneged on a tentative agreement, Ramona Bennett refused to negotiate privately and transferred the talks to the main floor lounge, where tribal members, supporters and the press could witness the State's hypocrisy and trickery. While the State negotiators spoke in deliberately low voices, Ramona talked loudly so that everyone could hear what was going on.

During one session, Burdman said that the State of Washington was certainly willing to give the Indians the facility eventually, but he wouldn't "give it up with a gun." Said Bennett, "He's trying to get the federal marshals in on us but he's talking about no guns!" Everybody laughed—everybody except Burdman.

## The Injunction Cometh

The State went into federal court on Tuesday, October 26 to seek an injunction against the Indian occupation. The judge couldn't decide if the uproar was a federal or State matter, but on Wednesday, Federal Judge Morell Sharp said he would issue a restraining order enforceable by federal marshals that would be effective at 4:00 p.m. the next day.

Judge Sharp called the Puyallups' action "high-handed, foolish and irresponsible."

"I can't conceive of a situation more self-defeating to the Indians' cause than this situation," he opined. He had no comment whatsoever on HEW's illegal gift of Indian land and buildings to Washington State, or the criminal neglect of Indian health care for the past 17 years.

He admitted that a substantial federal question was involved in the ownership dispute, but he righteously refused to consider the matter so long as the Indians occupied the buildings. His opinions clearly demonstrated that the federal court system, the supposed protector of Indian rights against violation by the states, stood firmly with the State against the Puyallups.

Judge Sharp signed the restraining order on Thursday, but extended the deadline to noon Saturday, October 30 to allow time for negotiations with federal representatives flying in from Washington, DC.

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## ... Puyallup Tribe Proclamation

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WHEREAS in 1939 the sovereign Puyallup Tribe transferred the land known as the Cushman Indian Hospital and its grounds to the United States Government for the sole and express purpose of building a new Indian Hospital, which would always be an Indian Hospital fulfilling the obligation of the United States of America, under the Treaty of Medicine Creek, to provide Health Care to our People; and

WHEREAS the promises to always use this land as an Indian Hospital made by the United States through its BIA agents and duly and officially recorded by those agents, was also reaffirmed and expressed in the federal legislation that enabled the United States purchase of our land to build a new hospital; and

WHEREAS the United States broke its promises and contract obligations to the Puyallup Tribe when it closed the Cushman Indian Hospital in 1959, which the Puyallup Tribal Council believes and recognizes, as effectively and legally reverting this land to Tribal ownership; and

WHEREAS the United States was in possession of land stolen from the Puyallup Tribe when it refused to stop the Hospital's closure and then did not give the land back to the Puyallup Tribe; and

WHEREAS the United States, when it transferred the Cushman land and facility to the State of Washington in 1961, transferring by quit-claim deed, could transfer no right in title to the property since it then had none; and

WHEREAS the Puyallup Tribal Council has tried, for the past five years, to arrange peacefully and smoothly for the transfer of possession of Cushman back to the Puyallup Tribe, making requests to the State, the U.S. Congress, and the executive branch through its responsible agencies, with no success and meeting constantly with advice that we should be trying in another way to get our land back; therefore

BE IT KNOWN BY ALL PERSONS, BY THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND BY THE STATE OF WASHINGTON That the PUYALLUP TRIBAL COUNCIL, being unable to succeed through these other routes of action, HEREBY RESORTS TO SELF-DETERMINATION AND EXERCISES ITS SOVEREIGN RIGHTS OF OWNERSHIP BY TAKING BACK INTO TRIBAL POSSESSION The Property and facility known as CUSHMAN INDIAN HOSPITAL and known by the State as CASCADIA JUVENILE DIAGNOSTIC CENTER; and further

BE IT KNOWN by the State of Washington that any protest of Tribal POSSESSION of the Cushman (Cascadia) lands and facility may be made to the Puyallup Tribal Council, at the Cushman Hospital, and that such protests will be carefully and duly considered.

## CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the above resolution was duly enacted at a meeting of the Puyallup Tribal Council held at Tacoma, Washington on the 22nd day of October, 1976, a quorum being present, with a vote of 3 for and 0 against and 2 abstaining.

SUZETTE MILLS, ACTING SECRETARY OF THE PUYALLUP TRIBE OF INDIANS

ATTEST:  
RAMONA BENNETT, CHAIRWOMAN OF THE PUYALLUP TRIBE OF INDIANS

## Freedom Socialist Party Representatives Join Occupation Forces

Reporter Sam Deaderick (second from right) and photographer Lenore Norrgard (far right) take a break from their duties. Note security guard operating walkie-talkie.



# Convicted on Mother's Day

## YVONNE WANROW'S FIGHT FOR LIFE

by Yolanda Alaniz

First there was Joan Little, a jailed Black woman. Then came Inez Garcia, an angry Chicana. And now the name of Yvonne Wanrow, an Indian from the Colville Tribe, has been added to the roster of minority women forced to resort to a deadly weapon in defence of themselves or their children against the violent crime of rape.

All three women refused to be victims in the time-honored tradition of female passivity. And because they fought back, they were all charged with murder.

On Mother's Day three years ago, an all-white jury in Spokane, Washington, found Wanrow, the mother of three children guilty of second-degree murder for killing a deranged male who tried to sexually molest her 11-year-old son. Since that day, her energetic and determined fight to vindicate herself has elevated her to a heroic symbol of resistance to the sexist and racist criminal justice system.

Wanrow's appeal is presently under consideration by the Washington State Supreme Court. Nine white, middle-class male judges will either entitle her to a new trial or condemn her to prison for as long as 25 years.

"Any day the court may reach its decision, or it could be six or eight months," Wanrow said. "Nobody knows for sure. It scares me. No matter what the decision is, we will have to be ready."

This young mother's desperate battle for justice began on the night of August 11, 1972 when she fatally shot William Wesler, a previously convicted child molester. Wanrow's children were being cared for at the home of a friend, who called Wanrow to inform her that Wesler was bothering the boy, Darren. Wanrow rushed to her children while her brother-in-law located and confronted Wesler, who had left the vicinity. Later, however, a drunken and abusive Wesler barged into the house. When he refused to leave, Wanrow took her gun from her purse and shot him. The bullet went straight through his heart.

The state prosecution based its case on a tape recording of her phone call to the Spokane Police reporting the shooting. This recording was made without Wanrow's knowledge or consent. The prosecutor claimed that she had acted calmly and coldly, not in fear or outrage, as evidenced by her voice on the phone, which was controlled and free of hysteria.

To Wanrow, such an accusation is a product of the rankest racism, attesting to the ignorance and arrogance of whites who cannot conceive of another culture that breeds self-control instead of hysterics in a time of stress.

The all-white jury readily agreed with the state, and she was sentenced to serve two concurrent 20-year prison terms for murder and assault, plus one 5-year term for use of a deadly weapon.

Before the trial, Wanrow was a quiet, retiring person, devoted to her family, to poetry and to art. Since her conviction, she has become an eloquent speaker, assiduous journalist, and proficient organizer. She has travelled across the country and to Europe to build public support and raise the funds so urgently needed for her legal defense.

If the Court rules in her favor, she will be entitled to a retrial, but she prefers not to have to undergo another trial. The prosecutor will decide whether or not to appeal that decision. If she loses the appeal, pressure can be put on the prosecutor for a change or reduction of sentence.

But she is worried and apprehensive. "I need people to help organize my defense efforts, concentrating on asking the prosecutor to stop any further proceedings when the decision finally comes down," she says.

Aided by her sisters, whom she calls "the little people," Wanrow publishes a newsletter, *The News*, to fuel and coordinate defense efforts. Working out of her home in Inchelium, Washington, the family publicizes



Wanrow and her sisters publish *The News* to inform the interested public about developments in her case and the progress of defense committees. Funds are urgently needed to sustain this valuable newsletter.



their need for immediate funds in order to maintain this newsletter.

Wanrow will travel anywhere to speak, so long as her expenses, including fee, are covered. On October 22, she was a featured speaker at the Native American Women's Forum presented by the Freedom Socialist Party and Radical Women at the University of Washington in Seattle. From November 15 through 18, she will appear in Phoenix, Tucson and Tepee, Arizona; the Tucson engagement is co-sponsored by the National Lawyers Guild, ACLU and Native American Solidarity Committee. She flies to New York on December 9 for the 10th Anniversary meeting of the Center for Constitutional Rights, which is coordinating her legal case.

Joan Little's experience is extremely meaningful to Wanrow. "People have come to help me as they did Joan Little," she says. "If Little had not had national support, she could not have won. That is why I am asking people from all over to help me now."

Like Little and Garcia, Wanrow's crusade for freedom embodies the struggle of all women to protect themselves and their loved ones from the injury and brutality stalking them in a decadent society rife with torment for non-whites, women, and young people. In their desperate fight for survival and emancipation, Wanrow, Little and Garcia strike at the very underpinnings of a system that survives because of the free labor, culturally-imposed submissiveness and sex-object status of women.

The capitalist class and its legal lackeys are extremely hostile to uppity minority women who take unilateral action against male prerogatives, and Wanrow sorely needs increased public notice, support, and technical assistance.

Letters of support and funds should be sent to: Yvonne Wanrow, Indian Defense Committee, P.O. Box 49, Inchelium, WA 99138.

**Yolanda Alaniz is a Chicana feminist and radical, member of the Seattle Women's Commission and president of United Workers Union-Independent.**

# Help Yvonne uit de gevangenis te blijven

Tegen Yvonne Wanrow wordt 25 jaar gevangenisstraf geëist  
Zij schoot een man neer die haar kinderen bedreigde  
en een 7 jarig meisje verkrachtte

Stort voor haar verdediging op gironummer 2248473  
tnv Wil Wiggelman, Amsterdam



Supporters of Yvonne Wanrow's cause in Holland produced and circulated this striking poster in the Dutch language.



*As a human being, I am ignored  
As a woman, I am ridiculed  
As an Indian woman, I am hated  
As a mother, I am condemned*

*There was a travesty of justice  
on Mother's Day.*

## DURING THE TRIAL

Between the lines  
in the daily newspapers  
I saw my sisters suffering  
in Wounded Knee,  
I heard the war cries of my brothers  
as they fought for freedom  
and their rights,  
I felt the hunger pains  
of the little children  
And the cold wind  
surrounding the camp  
freezing the old people,  
I heard the curses of the aspiring American heroes  
striving for a trophy  
And I hated the greed,

The government captivated many men  
in their lust for gold  
and brass  
and medals  
and built-up egos  
and money,

It materialized before me  
in the courtroom

And I was moved to continue fighting  
for my rights  
my freedom,

Following the tradition  
I prayed to the Indian Spirit  
to help me ward off the forces of hatred  
that surrounded me  
So that I would have strength to endure,  
The voice of prosecutor Brockett  
and the pointing of his finger  
Persuaded the all-white jury  
to misinterpret my silence  
as coldbloodedness,

I was denied an interpreter of my heritage  
I was instructed to tone down the Indian dress,  
The atmosphere was non-Indian all the way  
except for my family and close friends  
behind me,  
They threw me a thread of hope and strength  
to cling to  
But it shattered  
on Mother's Day.

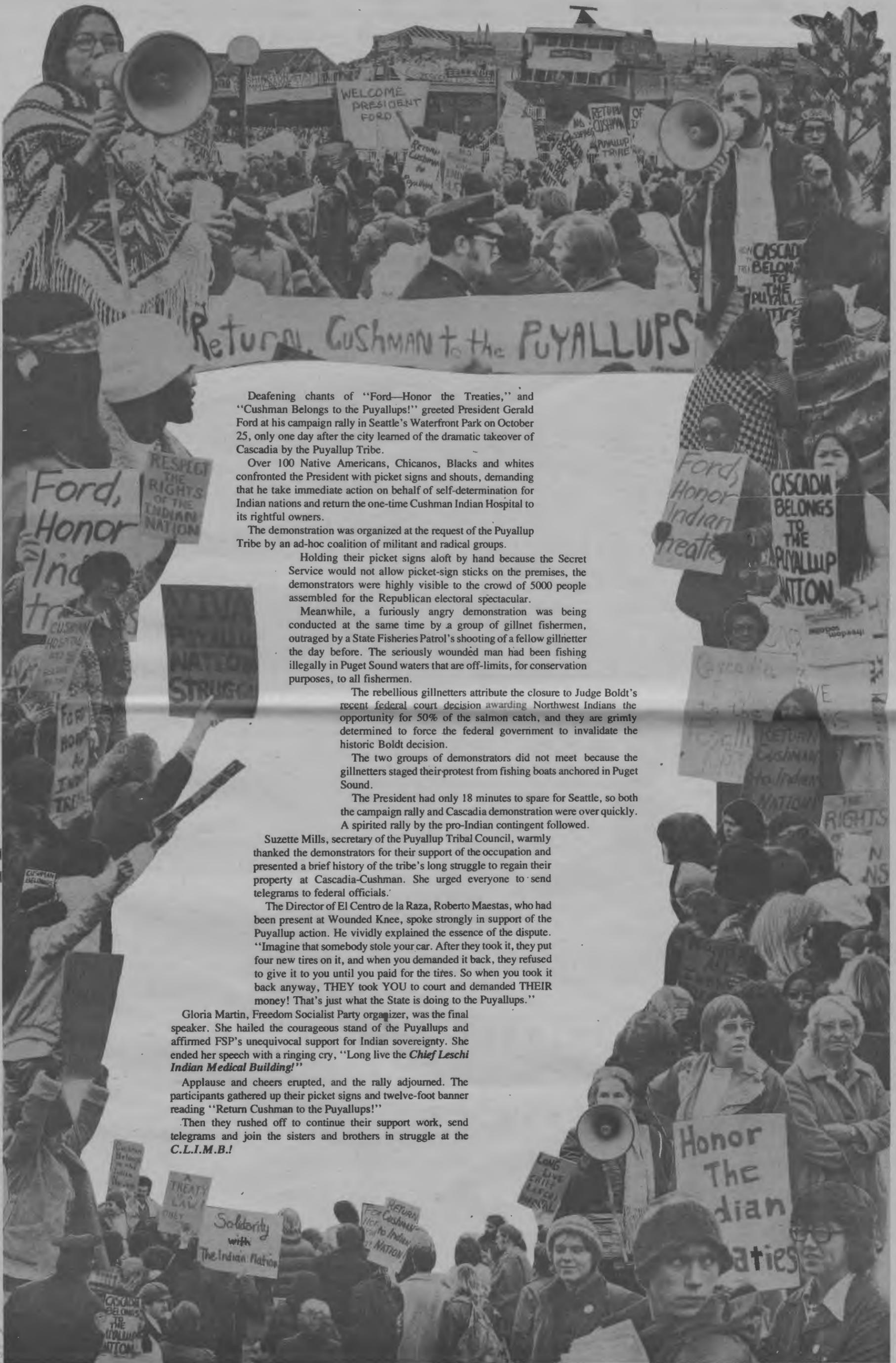


## GRAPHICS AND POETRY by Yvonne Wanrow

Examples of drawings and poems created by Wanrow as her only source of income. The drawings grace the covers of beautiful greeting cards (shown above). A Coloring Book and poetry volume will be available soon. Selections may be ordered directly from her.



**On the Waterfront: Indian Supporters Confront President Ford in Seattle**



Deafening chants of "Ford—Honor the Treaties," and "Cushman Belongs to the Puyallups!" greeted President Gerald Ford at his campaign rally in Seattle's Waterfront Park on October 25, only one day after the city learned of the dramatic takeover of Cascadia by the Puyallup Tribe.

Over 100 Native Americans, Chicanos, Blacks and whites confronted the President with picket signs and shouts, demanding that he take immediate action on behalf of self-determination for Indian nations and return the one-time Cushman Indian Hospital to its rightful owners.

The demonstration was organized at the request of the Puyallup Tribe by an ad-hoc coalition of militant and radical groups.

Holding their picket signs aloft by hand because the Secret Service would not allow picket-sign sticks on the premises, the demonstrators were highly visible to the crowd of 5000 people assembled for the Republican electoral spectacular.

Meanwhile, a furiously angry demonstration was being conducted at the same time by a group of gillnet fishermen, outraged by a State Fisheries Patrol's shooting of a fellow gillnetter the day before. The seriously wounded man had been fishing illegally in Puget Sound waters that are off-limits, for conservation purposes, to all fishermen.

The rebellious gillnetters attribute the closure to Judge Boldt's recent federal court decision awarding Northwest Indians the opportunity for 50% of the salmon catch, and they are grimly determined to force the federal government to invalidate the historic Boldt decision.

The two groups of demonstrators did not meet because the gillnetters staged their protest from fishing boats anchored in Puget Sound.

The President had only 18 minutes to spare for Seattle, so both the campaign rally and Cascadia demonstration were over quickly. A spirited rally by the pro-Indian contingent followed.

Suzette Mills, secretary of the Puyallup Tribal Council, warmly thanked the demonstrators for their support of the occupation and presented a brief history of the tribe's long struggle to regain their property at Cascadia-Cushman. She urged everyone to send telegrams to federal officials.

The Director of El Centro de la Raza, Roberto Maestas, who had been present at Wounded Knee, spoke strongly in support of the Puyallup action. He vividly explained the essence of the dispute. "Imagine that somebody stole your car. After they took it, they put four new tires on it, and when you demanded it back, they refused to give it to you until you paid for the tires. So when you took it back anyway, THEY took YOU to court and demanded THEIR money! That's just what the State is doing to the Puyallups."

Gloria Martin, Freedom Socialist Party organizer, was the final speaker. She hailed the courageous stand of the Puyallups and affirmed FSP's unequivocal support for Indian sovereignty. She ended her speech with a ringing cry, "Long live the *Chief Leschi Indian Medical Building!*"

Applause and cheers erupted, and the rally adjourned. The participants gathered up their picket signs and twelve-foot banner reading "Return Cushman to the Puyallups!"

Then they rushed off to continue their support work, send telegrams and join the sisters and brothers in struggle at the C.L.I.M.B.!

**EXCLUSIVE**

Ramona Bennett, the leader of the Puyallup Tribe and chief organizer of the Cascadia Center takeover, granted an hour-long interview on October 25 to Clara Fraser, a *Freedom Socialist* editor, FSP founder and spokesperson, and longtime activist in support of the struggle for Native American rights.

The interview took place in the lounge of the newly liberated center, renamed the Chief Leschi Indian Medical Building (CLIMB!). Frequently interrupted by reports from tribal

staffworkers, and once by reporters from a Seattle television station (whom Ms. Bennett asked to wait until the interview was concluded), the two women militants discussed topics ranging from federal and state duplicity to the juvenile justice system and the matriarchal tradition of Northwest Indians.

The *Freedom Socialist* takes great pride in presenting highlights of this illuminating dialogue between two experienced fighters for social justice.

**Fraser:** Ramona, I'm not going to ask you to "explain" your action here at Cascadia. I am familiar with the background of broken promises by the federal and state authorities and you know that the Freedom Socialist Party and Radical Women strongly endorse your taking back what is yours.

When your leaders asked for our assistance, we were happy to help organize the support rally in front of President Ford today, and we are doing all we can to furnish you with personnel and supplies. So I'd like to skip the "what in the world are you doing by occupying Cascadia" bit and go on to related issues.

**Bennett:** Good, good. I'm so tired of trying to talk to media people who only think in terms of how many guns do you have and why did you decide to take such violent action and so on. We're not violent and haven't engaged in any violence, but that's where their minds are.

**Fraser:** Yes, their reports all start out, "No violence has erupted yet today at Cascadia." A very positive lead. Have you had any chance to read the press accounts of your takeover here or to see the television coverage?

**Bennett:** I haven't seen anything on television. I have been able to see some of the very early papers.

**Fraser:** What is your impression of the media coverage? And what needs to be said about the meaning of what you're doing that the press isn't reporting?

**Bennett:** There are two very important things that are not being adequately explained. One is that we have for the past several years objected to the program that has been called Cascadia Diagnostic Service. We have believed for a long time that this is a real Dark Ages program.

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**The issue is that the state knows they have been operating here on stolen property for seventeen years and they haven't done a damn thing about it.**

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I resent the process the state uses. There is

just this one facility servicing the entire state, with the exception of Kitsap County that has its own diagnostic program. And I've had an opportunity to go around this facility when the kids were here and to talk to them. They were from all over the state. I talked to them about what that means, and I already knew what it meant. I'd had an opportunity to see the Kitsap County program and to compare the two.

The kids in Kitsap will go before the judge, and when the state doesn't know what to do with them, they are put into a diagnostic program right there in their own region. The kids have the continuity of the same case workers, court workers, dependency workers, parents, aunts, uncles, grandparents. They're as close to their normal, natural environment as can be provided.

But what I see happening here at Cascadia is a removal, an isolation, a loss of emotional support. The kids who are already in trauma are being further traumatized by that sudden rip, the jolt of losing what little they've got in their home communities. And that hurts.

*continued on next page*

## *Clara Fraser Interviews*

# Ramona Bennett

**Puyallup  
Tribal  
Chairwoman**



# ...Fraser Interviews Bennett

continued from preceding page

It really hurts the kids who are already in trouble. that sense of removal.

To me, it's like taking a little wild mouse that lives in the woods, that has its little nest, that gathers food, that does its little things for amusement. You take that little mouse and you put it in an aquarium with a concrete floor and you watch it bounce off the floor and you say, gee, that's a defective mouse! Look how crazy it is, running around hurting itself.

To me, that's what this program is like. It's inhumane.

**Fraser:** I'm sure you've communicated your objections to the DSHS (Department of Social and Health Services) bureaucrats.

**Bennett:** Of course. The state has known for a long time that it needed to move to regional programs. They are aware of this. It is their goal, something that they mean to pursue. For at least the last three years, they have been telling me they are aware of the problem and—well, hello!

**Indian man:** Hello! We are from Montana and we've come to help.

**Bennett:** Gee, it's so good to see you brothers and sisters coming here . . .

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**. . . we have for the past several years objected to the program that has been called Cascadia Diagnostic Service.**

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The state told us that it would take them a year to find alternatives to the use of this facility and you've just seen that within a period of 48 hours they decided that it was in the best interests of their children to get them out of here. Before, they used a lot of stalling tactics.

**Fraser:** American capitalism seems to hate children in general, and delinquent or depen-

dent kids are lost in our correction systems. It's barbaric.

**Bennett:** The only reason the children were here was because the judges just didn't know what to do with them, just don't know if they're stable enough to go into a foster home or a group situation. *But this is no place to prove stability.* This is not a natural situation. There's no way of observing these kids and getting any kind of a feeling of what their behavior is in a more natural situation. How would you react if you were jerked two hundred miles away from your friends and family and put in with a whole bunch of strangers in a concrete isolation center?

**Fraser:** I know I wouldn't react favorably. I've been in jail enough to know my reaction to concrete isolation, and my disposition in jail is not exactly normal.

**Bennett:** I'm certain I would not react favorably.

Now, the other main problem with the press is that we stated our purposes and our needs over and over, but *I don't think any of the regular press understands how critical our social needs really are. We have the highest arrest rate, the highest teenage suicide rates, the highest unemployment rates, the highest infant mortality rates. Our elders have the highest rate of tuberculosis, diabetes, disease.*

The press also repeatedly makes the removal of the kids at Cascadia the main issue, when the real issue is the property question and the illegal action of the state in denying us our property. The issue is that the state knows they have been operating here on stolen property for seventeen years and they haven't done a damn thing about it.

All the state is willing to do is stall us. They did break a promise to us. The promise was that no matter what happened, they would be co-seeking relief, seeking the 1.7 million dollars (demanded by the state) jointly with us. Milt Burdman himself (Director of State Department of Social and Health Services) made a commitment that he would be going back to Washington, D.C. with me this week to jointly secure those dollars. He says now that he never meant to imply that he was going; he was only



going if we moved out of this building and that this was an agreement.

I told him we've had treaties before, we know how good they are. The deed and the lease—**THAT** was our agreement.

**Fraser:** The state claims it won't transfer ownership to you until it is reimbursed almost 2 million dollars. Why do you consider it your responsibility to help raise that money from the feds?

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**You take that little mouse and you put it in an aquarium with a concrete floor and you watch it bounce off the floor and you say, gee, that's a defective mouse! Look how crazy it is, running around hurting itself.**

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**Bennett:** It's not my responsibility. But I am a foster parent myself and most of our Indian people here have been involved with foster homes or have been in institutions or are foster



Clara Fraser, a Freedom Socialist editor, listens intently as Ramona Bennett recounts an amusing incident involving government officialdom.

parents themselves. We are directly involved in the juvenile justice system. 25 to 35% of our children are adopted, in foster homes, in institutions, or incarcerated. So we are real, real sensitive to the whole juvenile justice system and its processes, and we want good facilities for the kids.

Also, the whites mess up with their own kids, the future citizens of their nation, and we have to live with that result, you and I both. I give a damn about it. I care enough about it that I do think raising the money is worth the investment of time on my part.

Fraser: The state is, in theory, legally obligated to create appropriate facilities for diagnosing disturbed or delinquent children. Don't you think they will have to construct substitute facilities whether or not they are reimbursed by the federal government?

Bennett: The citizens of this state have tolerated the existence of this Cascadia



program for two decades. The people have known that this was a juvenile storage unit, a warehouse for kids the system doesn't know what to do with. The Legislature has known it. We've talked to them.

And I'll tell you something else that you may be interested in knowing. Doc Adams, who is a sensitive man, the head of the House DSHS Committee, said it's one of his dreams to move into a modern and protective system for juveniles. But the head of the Senate DSHS Committee looked at me blankly when I told him about our needs, our goals, our problems. The man was completely insensitive to the subjects of poverty, dependency, aging, rehabilitation, etc.

I know now why State Senator Day refused to be sensitive. The man is sick. He's a sick, lecherous man. And he is in a position to control what happens to our little babies, our preschool children, our young children who are lost and separated from their families, our young public assistance mothers, our old people.

State Senator Day is a man who is in a critical position to help people in this state, and he is running around propositioning teenagers. He is a sick, lecherous creep. If the citizens of this state will put up with a piece of shit like that man, then they're probably not going to move on behalf of their children.

**25 to 35% of our children are adopted, in foster homes, in institutions, or incarcerated.**

Fraser: It figures. Day was one of our main opponents in the fight for legal abortions in Washington State. I understand he has a strong Catholic constituency.

Bennett: He ought to be removed. He ought to be institutionalized.

Fraser: Preferably in one of those horrible cells downstairs that the kids were condemned to! But suppose the feds say that they cannot or will not reimburse the state for Cascadia?

Bennett: If the state addresses themselves to these issues, jointly with us, there should be no problem. We've already spent many weeks and several trips to D.C. laying the groundwork.

Fraser: What if the state does not cooperate?

Bennett: I don't know. I hope the state will be controlled by the citizens, although in many ways it isn't. I think there will be people



delegated to make this decision who are going to work on behalf of the best interests of everybody.

Fraser: I'm confused. You say you're going to stay here until the deed is transferred over to you—

Bennett: *We're going to stay here PERIOD.*

Fraser: Even if the feds refuse to reimburse the state?

Bennett: Yes.

Fraser: Even if the state doesn't get its money back from any source?

Bennett: Yes.

**The kids who are already in trauma are being further traumatized by that sudden rip, the jolt of losing what little they've got in their home communities. And that really hurts.**

Fraser: So you're not making the existence of your new medical center contingent on the state getting its blood money?

Bennett: No! We just meant to help them, all along. The Puyallups help them that help themselves, but the state has got to be involved in the creation of their own services.

Fraser: You know, Ramona, there's an old socialist tradition, a revolutionary practice, relating to this issue. It's called nationalization without compensation, a policy for taking back lands and property from the capitalists or government who stole them without paying them one red cent, so to speak. That's what Mexico did with the oil fields, what happened in Cuba and in—

Bennett: Sure—but this is a federal faux pas to begin with! HEW played a major role in this. The Bureau of Indian Affairs should have asserted its responsibilities. It's been one hell of an inconvenience to us, and it's now an inconvenience to the state, too. The feds have got to assume some responsibility.

Fraser: We both know what Governor Evans

and DSHS are like—what does Roberto Maestas (Director of Centro de la Raza) call him? Dirty Dan?

Bennett: Dirty Dan Evans.

Fraser: So even if the state got the money, they could still allocate it to something completely different than an adequate juvenile facility. Those jokers could appropriate the money to highways!

Bennett: Yes, they could. But it's up to us as parents and citizens to remain vigilant, to stay on them . . . we've got a cute staff here, don't we?

Fraser: They're fantastic. Great. Are any of the kids still here?

Bennett: Yes, there is one boy that we liberated—he's a Puyallup.

Fraser: That's marvelous, to be freed by your own people.

Bennett: He's scheduled to go to Detox (alcohol detoxification) on Thursday and we'll just make sure he gets there.

Fraser: As a socialist feminist, I am excited about the high quality and participation of Puyallup women in tribal affairs, about the strong and skillful leadership of the women.



How do you see the relationship of feminism with the Native American struggle?

Bennett: I have quite a few feelings on that subject. I don't believe any women can be totally liberated until their society is liberated, until their families are liberated, and we have no liberated citizens so long as my people are suffering and dying. This is my condition. We are moving for the liberation of our whole community. We are moving for economic and social liberation.

**The men are supportive to us and they know we are working to build them into leaders alongside us.**

We have four women on a tribal council of five, and the reason I see for our success is that we are a non-drinking council, and we also have a very high level of awareness of the needs of our people. So our tribe is advancing more rapidly than other tribes.

Fraser: Women generally are more aware than men of social needs because we're closer to them. And your women are very strong to be able to resist alcohol and alcoholism. But how do you explain the fact that so many women actually came to constitute the tribal council leadership?

*continued on next page*



Left: Entrance to one of the forbidding and windowless segregation cells for teenagers in the Cascadia basement. The grill in the metal door is the only source of air. Right: The interior of an isolation cell. Dots on the open toilet are mosquitos and flies, which infest the prison.

## ...Fraser Interviews Bennett

continued from preceding page

**Bennett:** Well, our societies were always matriarchal and women were always important. Our men built the longhouses and the canoes, did the fishing, and controlled many of the social aspects of our society. But the women were involved with medicine, justice, education, decisions. Now, the male occupations have been removed from our community and the men are deprived of their traditional work. The women have been able to retain many of their roles, so the women have stayed strong. It used to be that all of our people were strong, but the women had an advantage. The women have managed to remain strong.

**Fraser:** And your goal is to rebuild total strength?

**Bennett:** Yes. In areas where the men had opportunity to work side by side, they have remained strong. But where the men have been knocked down and the women continue to be strong, we give a helping hand to the men. Our ex-offender program, for instance, is damned important to us, because of the high rate of unemployment and incarceration of our people. We want those men to learn from us what a community is and what mutual help is because we'll be looking to them for leadership in the future. We need them, because when they're side by side with us, working as our partners, we can be liberated to do some neat things. Like see our children, for instance.

I have half a dozen children and a 94-year-old man, they are my family. And if we get some more men working with us, giving us a hand, I could even do things with my family. They need me, too. I have three children of my own and three foster children. I would add for any DSHS employees who might read this article that my foster children aren't here!

**Fraser:** The state can be vicious about foster children.

**Bennett:** Yes. I have them and I love them and I don't want to lose them. They're not here.

**Fraser:** You're the sole support of your family?

**Bennett:** Yes.

**Fraser:** And you work fulltime for the Puyallup Tribe?

**Bennett:** Yes, that's my work.

**Fraser:** Have you encountered any resistance or antagonism from the men to the female leadership?

**Bennett:** No, not in the Northwest. The men are supportive to us and they know we are working to build them into leaders alongside us.

**Fraser:** Are the women supportive also?

**Bennett:** Oh, yes!

**Fraser:** You have it a lot easier than Black women, who are still being put down hard by Black males who equate liberation with freedom for the Black Man! You remember Stokely Carmichael's infamous quote, "The proper position of women in the movement is prone?"

**Bennett:** Our men are with us. Let me ask — what he thinks. Do you resent the big-mouthed little women from Puyallup who run around here?

**Indian man:** No! Why should I?

**Bennett:** She's asking if the men resent the positions that women assume here.

**Indian man (forcefully):** No way. It's a big improvement. Indian men know that we need real strong women's leadership. That's important to the whole family unit; everybody is in this together.

**Bennett:** When the women and the men are both working, then you've got twice as many people working on our issues, and you get it done four times as fast.

**Fraser:** All poor people and radicals need all the leaders we can get.

**Bennett:** Yes, we do. And another thing. In the Indian community, there really aren't any 'leaders' in the usual sense. There have never been any Indian followers. If we had had a pattern of following, we'd have all gotten bunched up in one place at one time and there wouldn't be any survivors. The Indian people really do think for themselves. There's no blind following. Everybody in this place is doing their own thinking. We ask each other for help, but all these people are on their own, doing their own thinking.

**I don't believe any women can be totally liberated until their society is liberated . . .**

**Fraser:** It's amazing how bosses and politicians always complain about agitators and ascribe all protests to sinister figures who apparently hypnotize people into action, against their will and better judgment. It's always assumed that the ranks have no militancy or intelligence of their own.

**Bennett:** That's right. A lot of people don't understand that. They believe that we really do have followers and leaders. But we're not into that at all.

**Fraser:** You're not into blind or passive followership. But you do have leaders—you are the public spokesperson and organizer.

**Bennett:** Right, right.

**Fraser:** I know you need money, food and supplies.

**Bennett:** Yes, yes.

**Fraser:** What kind of food? I know what kind of money.

**Bennett:** Canned, in sealed containers. The reason I'm stressing canned things is because we have a lot of crazies in this community who could be poisoning food and sending it in. We're not the most popular segment of the population, you know. People will be leaving food at the gate for us and not coming in themselves, so we don't know them, and someone could whip us up a batch of

strychnine cookies or any damn thing. If we receive any fresh or homemade food directly from people we don't know, we won't eat it.

I'm also seeing an awful lot of soda pop and I'd like to see some fruit juice coming in.

The Cowlitz tribe brought us toothbrushes yesterday. A lot of people have just come in without bringing an extra pair of socks or underwear or deodorant, razors, shaving cream, things like that. People outside need to understand that supplies can be brought in to us.

The Mucklehoots are just coming over and the Cowlitz tribe has been here all day. There are Indian people here from a number of tribes. A lot of people think we're just barricaded in here, so we are letting them know that our friends are going in and out of here. It's OUR place.

**Fraser:** You are requesting supporters to come and join you?

**Bennett:** Yes, whoever is authorized and recommended by our people. We especially need people who can identify any finks or plants who may have slipped in. FBI types.

**Fraser:** Ramona, I've seen many social programs ruined when the recipients of the funds became cautious and conservative, anxious to hang on to the grants. Now your tribe has received a lot of federal dollars for services and programs. Could your funds be jeopardized because of your occupation of the building? And does this worry you?

**Bennett:** Not at all. The money is to serve our community and that's what we are doing. We'll not be bought off or bribed to become goodie-goodies. Anyway, they owe us the money—they robbed us of it. If we stay on their asses, we'll keep getting the money. And we'll keep this land and this building, too.

*It's all ours, and you fight for what's yours.*



# National Roundup of Indian News

## Oregon:

### *Butler and Robideau*

Two FBI agents, part of a huge federal armed invasion of Pine Ridge, South Dakota, in 1973, were found dead on June 26, 1975. An armada of 350 FBI agents, state troopers and BIA police, backed up by tanks and airplanes, swept through the Indian reservation in Pine Ridge, completely violating the civil rights of residents. The cops ransacked houses and grilled suspects.

Several months later, two Oregon members of the American Indian Movement, Dino Butler and Bob Robideau, were charged with aiding and abetting first degree murder. Also indicted were Jimmy Eagle (these charges have since been dropped because of lack of evidence) and Leonard Peltier.

"The government is trying to make scapegoats out of Bob and me," Butler said during the trial. But on July 16, 1976, Butler and Robideau were acquitted. A crack legal defense team, headed by William Kunstler, effectively turned the case upside-down, using it to expose FBI harassment of AIM. Even FBI Director Clarence Kelly was forced to testify.

By the time the trial was over, all government evidence had been completely discredited and a verdict of innocence was read to the crowd of relieved spectators.

## British Columbia:

### *Leonard Peltier*

The federal government still seeks to make Leonard Peltier a scapegoat for the death of the two FBI agents.

Peltier is incarcerated in Vancouver, B.C., Canada, conducting a fight against U.S. government attempts to extradite him.

Funds are needed to continue the defense of Indian victims of the Wounded Knee occupation. Donations should be sent to Wounded Knee Legal Defense/Offense Committee, P.O. Box 4287, Omaha, Nebraska 68104, or to the Leonard Peltier Defense Committee, 1855 Vine St., Vancouver, B.C., Canada.

Letters and telegrams supporting Peltier's attempt to gain political asylum in Canada should be sent to the Hon. Ron Basford, Minister of Justice, House of Commons, Ottawa, Canada.



## Indiana:

### *Leonard Crow Dog*

A courageous Sioux medicine man, Leonard Crow Dog, is imprisoned in the federal penitentiary in Terre Haute, Indiana, victim of a series of vicious frame-ups.

Convicted of assault, he has been refused permission by the U.S. Supreme Court to remain free pending an appeal.

Like many Native American leaders, Crow Dog has been systematically set up and convicted of false crimes in an attempt to discredit him with his people.

The first charge against him was "interfering with federal officers" during the occupation of Wounded Knee. Crow Dog escorted four postal inspectors from the area after they were arrested by Indian-occupation security forces. Although all four inspectors testified that he had protected them, he was put on trial, convicted and sentenced to eleven years in prison.

Put on probation, he soon found himself facing another concocted charge. Two drunken and belligerent trespassers, suspects in the brutal beating of one of his nephews and the murder of another, drove through log barriers set up at his home. Friends repulsed the trespassers while Crow Dog only watched, yet he was promptly convicted of assault by an all-white jury and sentenced to two five-year terms.



Last January, he was again spuriously charged with assaulting a provocateur who entered his house without permission. Another all-white jury found him guilty and sentenced him to five years.

Early last summer, he was freed briefly as he sought a U.S. Supreme Court appeal. But the Court, which ordinarily takes months to answer an appeal, took only a few days to deny his appeal and order him to surrender within 24 hours.

Crow Dog now waits in a maximum security prison for an appeal hearing.

## Who Says There's No Equal Employment Opportunity?

D 10 The Seattle Times  
Thursday, November 11, 1976

### Woman fined for illegal gillnetting

Karen Reed, 27, a Puyallup Indian convicted of unlawful gillnet fishing in closed waters, has been fined \$250, suspended on condition of no more fishing violations.

Superior Court Judge Francis E. Holman also ordered Miss Reed to pay court costs, and confirmed that the state has the right to proceeds from selling fish confiscated when she was cited October 4, 1975.

Miss Reed had appealed a District Court conviction. She had a prior conviction for fishing in closed waters the previous year.

The unlawful fishing last year was about a half mile west of West-point Light in Puget Sound.



Sally Fixico

## California:

### *Skyhorse and Mohawk*

Paul Skyhorse, a Minnesota Chippewa, and Richard Mohawk, a Tuscarora/Mohawk, have already spent two years in a Ventura, California jail reputed to be the worst in the state.

The charge is murder of a non-political, uninvolved cab driver, yet all available evidence points to the fact that the actual murder was engineered by the FBI.

A number of problems, including the influence of provocateurs inside AIM who kept the organization from defending the two men, have prevented more than minimal public information about the case. It is becoming abundantly clear, however, that the trial may reveal the incredible lengths to which the FBI will go to frame up Indian militancy.

Skyhorse and Mohawk are conducting their own defense, amassing considerable evidence against the government, informers and government agents. They are still in the pre-trial discovery stage of their case.

Help is needed badly. Contributions should be sent to Skyhorse/Mohawk Judicial Liberation Committee, c/o Attorney Andrew Marsh, 326 S. "A" St., Oxnard, CA 93030.

## South Dakota:

### *Russell Means*

"Since Wounded Knee, I have been arrested twelve times—an average of once every two months," said Russell Means at a press conference last June.

For the past four years, the U.S. government has unmercifully harassed the national AIM leader, forcing him to trial on a long string of phony charges ranging from carrying a concealed weapon to assault and murder.

This war of attrition is a typical federal government attempt to exhaust Means with constant legal battles that prevent him from actively participating in the Native American movement.

The persecution against Means was capped on June 7 when he was shot in the back and seriously wounded by a BIA police officer. Means faces a continual threat of assassination and is forced to use bodyguards at many of his public appearances.

A fund has been established to assist Russell Means in his determined resistance to physical and legal attacks. Donations should be sent to the Russell Means Defense Fund, P.O. Box 30116, St. Paul, MN 55168.



# Violence in the Wake

# WAR IN THE PACIFIC

by Fred Hyde

The spectacle of the blood-splattered gillnet boat "Alaska Revenge," tied empty to its dock, serves as a grim reminder of the inevitable outbreak of violence that erupted on October 24 when a shotgun blast from the gun of a State Fisheries Patrol officer shattered the window of the vessel's pilot house and seriously wounded the boat's skipper, William Carlson.

Infuriated gillnetters lay the blame on Federal Judge George Boldt's 1974 ruling in support of Pacific Northwest Indian treaty rights—the "taking of fish at all usual and accustomed grounds in common with citizens of the territory." Boldt's decision directed the State to provide Indians the opportunity to harvest 50% of Puget Sound salmon runs, and white gillnetters hate him.

The State blandly insists that the issue is not race but "conservation" and a surplus of fishermen.

**Only the Indians and the radicals seem to know that the real culprit in the fishing war is the severe depletion of the salmon itself, caused primarily by the depredations of large fish-packing corporations whose giant ocean-going trollers harvest the lion's share of the salmon catch.**

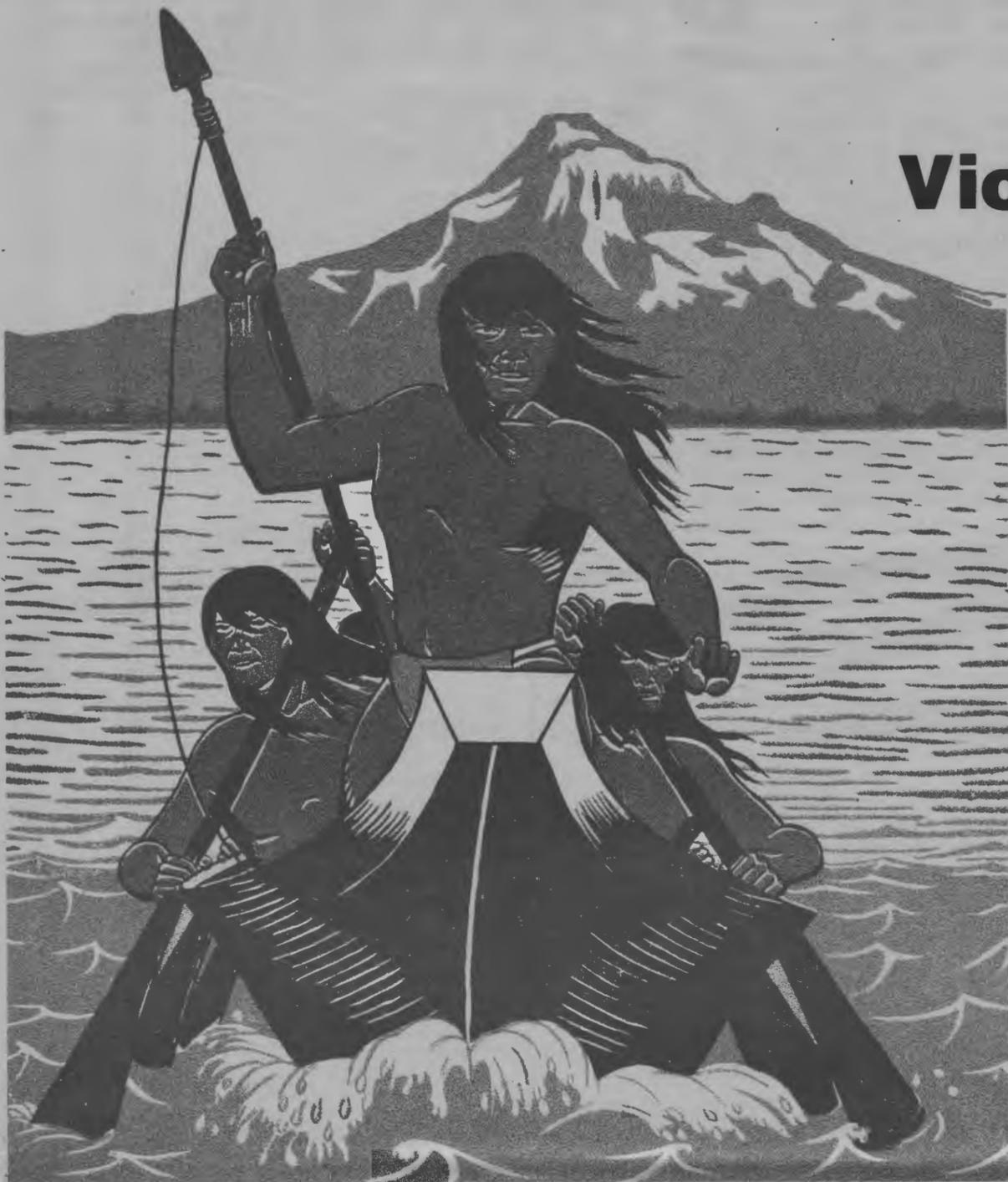
Three other factors contribute to the alarming salmon shortage: (1) the enormous salmon catch from commercial charter boats hired by tens of thousands of avid sports fisherpeople, (2) the fatal effects of industrial pollution on salmon-spawning rivers, and (3) the blockage of salmon runs by hydroelectric dams, making breeding impossible.

The truth is that *both* gillnetters and Indians have been deprived of their fair share of existing fish by the completely unregulated excesses of trollers and commercial charter boats, which catch far more than their legal share of salmon long before the fish ever reach Puget Sound, where both Indians and independent white fishermen seek their prey. Packing companies and charter boats together have already harvested over two million salmon this year—an all-time record catch!

Almost everything and everybody, *except* the truly conservation-minded Indians, bear responsibility for the disastrous dwindling of Northwest salmon. Yet Washington State officials are insolently provoking the small-businessmen gillnetters to vent their rage on the hapless Indians.

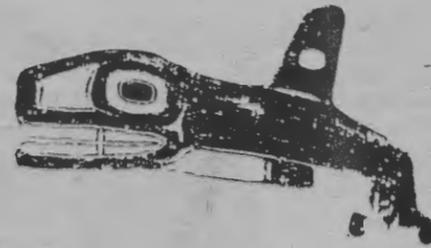
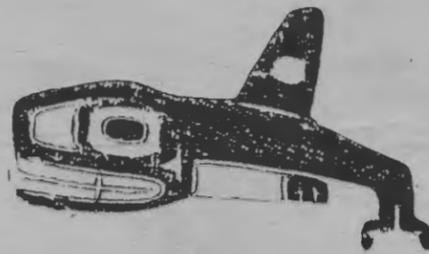
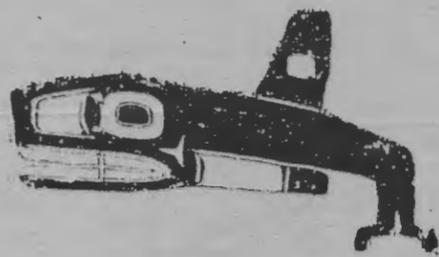
### **The State Serves Big Business**

Washington State bureaucrats deliberately foster and exploit racist sentiment in order to obscure the obvious fact that large capitalist firms and well-heeled sportspeople, not Judge Boldt or the Indians, are the villains. To exacerbate the situation after the Boldt decision, the State callously doubled the number of fishing licenses issued and deliberately instigated the current financial crisis among gillnetters. But it is hardly to be expected that the State Department of



## Fishing Rights Under Attack





# of the Boldt Decision

Fisheries, created expressly to serve the special interests of fishing and canning entrepreneurs, charter boat owners and bigtime sportsmen, would act otherwise.

The State of Washington has always persecuted Native Americans. Prior to 1974, State Fish and Game officers carried out a concerted effort to prevent Indians from exercising treaty rights to fish off the reservation. Indians were continually beaten, jailed and harassed, and their fishing gear confiscated and destroyed.

When Judge Boldt upheld the Indians' claim, he also granted the State emergency powers to close fishing areas for conservation purposes. The State has arbitrarily exploited this closure power to prevent Indians as well as non-Indian gillnetters from achieving their quotas.

Indian fishermen are hardly better off now than before the Boldt decision. They have been unable to obtain more than 10% to 12% of the total salmon run this year. And, Indians caught violating closure orders are often arrested, thrown in jail or fined, and their boats and gear confiscated, just as before.

Non-Indian gillnetters still attempt to ram and sink Indian vessels. Whites have vandalized Indian equipment and boats, and are wont to open fire in order to drive Indian fishermen out of legal fishing areas.

The State has never protected the Indians from the white fishermen. Indeed, Assistant State Attorney General James Johnson of the Fisheries Department was guest speaker at a gillnetters' protest rally at the State Capitol. He was roundly cheered for denouncing the Boldt decision as "morally reprehensible and unconstitutional."

## Injured Gillnetter Attacked State Boat

The near-murder of gillnetter Carlson by State Fisheries officers was neither a show of government independence in the fishing wars, nor an example of concern with law and order. All evidence points to the fact that it was a simple act of self-defense.

During the week preceding the shooting, gillnetters conducted a terror campaign of high speed passes at patrol boats, attempting to swamp them and drown the officers. And the State Patrolman who opened fire was simply trying to prevent Carlson from ramming his 35-foot gillnet boat into the smaller patrol skiff and slicing it in half.

The duel took place at Foulweather Bluff, a choice fishing site closed to all gillnetting, and the scene of increasingly hostile confrontations between Fisheries officials and non-Indian gillnetters. Carlson was one of thirty gillnetters fishing in defiance of State closure of the area; the fleet's stated purpose was to focus attention on the despised Boldt decision.

Two days after Carlson was shot, gillnetter boats flying black flags met President Ford's hydrofoil vessel when he arrived in Seattle for a waterfront election rally. More gillnetters approached him on the shore, waving signs decrying the fate of their new martyr and proclaiming their "Revolt against Boldt."

Later that week, hundreds of incensed gillnetters and their families marched on the State Capitol, demanding that Governor Evans and the legislature stop the closures and disarm the Fisheries patrols. The angry crowd denounced the closures as the product of a scheme to allocate fish to the Indians, blind to the fact that the State also closes off waters to Indians, prohibits fishing by anybody at certain sites for conservation purposes, and generally prevents both the Indians and non-

Indians from interfering with fish slated for the deep-sea corporate fisheries and charter boats.

The gillnetters have been driven to desperation measures by economic pressure. They claim they are going broke, and there is no question but that the system isn't working for the small fishermen—white and Indian alike. But the whites want the return of affluence at the expense of their even poorer and much longer oppressed Indian colleagues.

Given their current shortsighted and frenzied course, the white gillnetters cannot achieve their goal of open fishing. Until they are prepared to take on their real enemies—large-scale commercial fisheries and their government agents—they have nowhere to go but away from the sea. Or else towards escalated violence.

## The Long Fishing-Rights Voyage

Indian tribal leaders fear further bloodshed and expect to be the next victims. Their frustration with the lack of State protection, and apprehension over increased violent attacks, have led them to call on the FBI to intervene and protect their civil rights. Dismayed by the media's fascination with the novel problems of newly-impooverished white fishermen, and the tacit support and encouragement of illegal acts by white gillnetters, the tribes associated with the Point Elliott Treaty Conference called a news conference to demand swift government action in their defense. But most Indian leaders expect little help from the very FBI agents who, as servants of America's ruling class, are harassing and persecuting Native Americans across the nation.

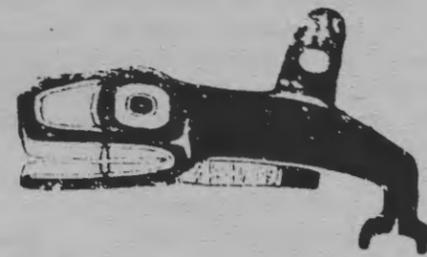
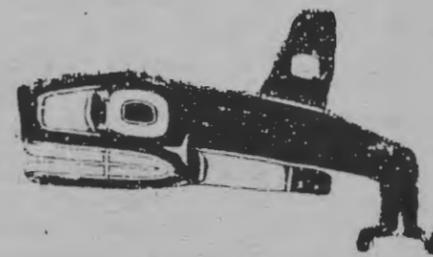
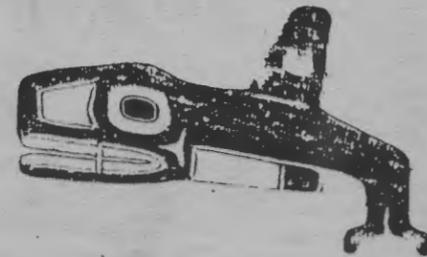
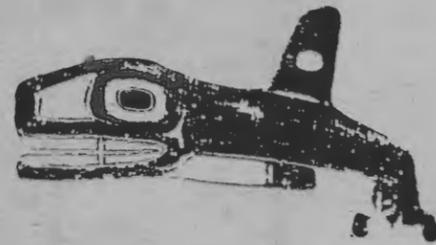
Local Indian leaders have always relied on themselves and their supporters to exert pressure against the government. Militant demonstrations, rallies, fish-ins, protest picket lines, extensive legal action, and well-publicized, deliberate flaunting of State-imposed closures have marked the decades-long campaign of Pacific Northwest Indians to draw local, nationwide and international attention to their plight in Washington State.

Western Washington Indians are fishers; they can barely survive without access to their traditional source of food and chief occupation, and that is why the Indian fishing rights movement in Washington State has been so protracted and insistent, winning media notice, extensive community support and, eventually, the Boldt decision itself.

The gillnetters learned their propaganda tactics directly from their Indian competitors. But it will be the Indians, undoubtedly, not the white fishermen, who will be the first to offer a united front in order to launch a concerted drive against their common opponents. Only in this way will the workers and concerned segment of the public come to understand the class-war character of the fishing conflict.

.....

At a time when physical and political assaults on Indian rights are exploding from all directions, it is vital that radicals, feminists, minorities and class-conscious working people join with the Indian Tribes of Washington in defense of their treaty rights, their sovereignty as autonomous nations, and such tenuous victories as the Boldt decision. It is only through solidarity on a vastly increased scale that further violence can be averted, the war in the Pacific between two deprived sectors of working fishermen brought to a welcome halt, and the salmon run rescued from extinction.



Fred Hyde is a Seattle attorney who is well-versed in Indian treaty law. Involved in Indian legal defense work and in civil rights cases, he is a member of the National Lawyers Guild and an active socialist.



## Editorial

# Return of the Native, 1976

Before issuing the injunction ordering the Puyallups to leave Cascadia, Judge Morrell Sharp lashed out at the tribe with classic petty bourgeois indignation over its "aggression" against the State of Washington.

"It's like taking over your neighbor's house and then telling them that they'll have to sue you to get it back," intoned this dignitary.

Now just wait a minute, Judge. Who stole what from whom? Who are the real aggressors? Whose house is it?

We are reminded of the delicious statement made recently by S.I. Hayakawa, Senator-elect from California: "I think we should keep the Panama Canal. We stole it fair and square."

In its insatiable lust for wealth and privilege, the American capitalist class stole three million square miles of territory from the Indians, carving its empire out of the unspoiled homeland of the original inhabitants of this continent. Racism and "Manifest Destiny" were the primary ideological weapons of the conquest, and the roots of imperialism spring from the corpses and sacked civilizations of the native tribes.

America was not "discovered" but invaded, and "fair and square" genocide followed swiftly in the shadows of this greatest land grab in history.

When white Europeans first came to this land, approximately six million natives flourished here. Today, perhaps one million have survived the carnage.

This wholesale slaughter is rivalled in history only by the Nazi holocaust against the Jews and America's latest war of extermination against the Vietnamese.

Strong parallels exist between the Vietnamese fight for liberation and the struggle of the Native American. Janet McCloud, a Pacific Northwest Indian leader, once remarked that the Vietnamese need only look at the Indians to see what their future would be should they lose the war.

The drive for Indian liberation is basically one of national self-determination—the right to live as an independent and autonomous nation. The various Indian nations and tribes possess every attribute of a classic nation: a common geography, language, culture, tradition and distinctive

mode of production. Every truly national struggle involves a primary fight for land—a fight to regain lost territory and re-establish political hegemony over it. This is the crux of the matter.

But men like Hayakawa and Judge Sharp are seriously worried about something even more dangerous than Indian self-determination and sovereignty. Indian demands pose an explicit threat to the most sacred of all capitalist fetishes—*private property*.

Private ownership of the land, a concept totally alien to the Indian communalistic society, is a cornerstone of capitalist property relations. By occupying land that is rightfully theirs, Indians strike a blow at the very foundation of the entire capitalist system.

So it is unlikely that the white government which stole the land in the first place will return it without bloody contention. For in the final analysis, only a complete transformation of the economic system by means of social revolution will guarantee the right of Native Americans to nationhood and freedom. The ruling class knows this, and properly fears the implicit and logical connection between Indian nationalism and revolutionary internationalism.

Indians want independence and then some. They want what amounts to a socialist transformation of their lands, which is bound to have a wonderfully contagious effect on workers in the white private-property sector.

The ruling class is not anxious to aid and abet such subversion.

The Puyallups occupied Cascadia and proclaimed to the world that "This is Indian land—we're not leaving!" This was a revolutionary act. In a simple but profound act of elementary social self-defense, they expropriated the expropriators. If this be "aggression," let all revolutionaries throw a gala potlach in its honor.

The United States IS Indian land. We cannot undo the past or mitigate its horrors, but all who profess belief in justice and fair play can rise to the defense of Native Americans' historic right to a free and secure future on their own soil.

It is the ineradicable human right of the Indian nations to determine their own fate and manifest their own destiny, fair and square.

## FSP Conference Resolution on Native Americans

The April, 1976 Tenth Anniversary Conference of the Freedom Socialist Party featured an extensive discussion of the Native American movement for self-determination. The last issue of the *Freedom Socialist* contained a brief summary of the major point of that discussion. The summary expresses the FSP's basic programmatic approach to the Indian struggle and reaffirms its longstanding support to Native American militants. —Editors.

A life-and-death battle against the extermination tactics of the federal government is being waged by American Indians as they mobilize to resist an unending wave of attacks and political murders. This is a people deprived of their homelands, traditional means of livelihood, communal lifestyle, culture of naturalism and humanism, and basic pride and dignity. They are struggling desperately for their very survival as a people.

Lenore Norrgard, who has been working with Native Americans for two years, told the FSP Conference that "we must thoroughly recognize the Native American struggle as

one of national self-determination, and pay particular attention to the key role of women in their movement."

Said Marcel Hatch, "The American radical movement must prepare for the defense of the Indians from full-scale attack by the government and vigilante groups."

The heroic resistance of the Native American to capitalist genocide is not slackening and the fight for freedom is intensifying all over the country. This land is **their** land, and their right to a secure future in it must be confirmed.

**Victory to the struggle for Indian liberation!**



Yvonne Wanrow



Diane Didrickson, Alaskan Tlinget, addresses a Women's Rights Day audience, recounting the little-known career of Princess Angeline, daughter of Chief Sealth (Seattle). Angeline's generous help to the white settlers was never understood or respected, and her humanity was abused, scorned and exploited.

Ms. Didrickson is a member of Radical Women.

Money, Anyone?

# FSP Fund Drive Scoreboard

The FSP's Publications and Travel fund drive has raised \$8,125, roughly \$2,000 short of our \$10,000 goal which must be reached by the end of this year.

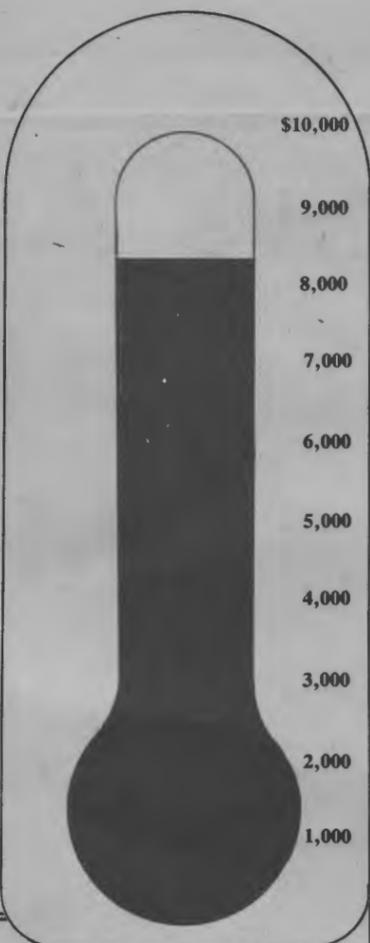
Publications and travel are enormously expensive, but decisive in spreading the word—presenting our revolutionary program to working people and concerned students all over the country.

Publishing a newspaper, printing and reprinting basic documents, attending regional conferences and conducting speaking tours demand money, dinero, rubles and bread, man. **So we need your help!**

We are all workers who give as much as we can, but we depend greatly on the generosity and support of our readers and friends.

Please help put us over the top. Your contributions, large or small, enable us to sustain our growing movement for socialist feminism and working class power.

You can mail checks and money orders to us at Freeway Hall.



## THE FREEDOM SOCIALIST Volume 2, No. 2 Fall, 1976

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## No Hablamos Español En Esta Edición

### Un Desculpe a Nuestros Leédores de Español

Porque estabamos cortos de tiempo, desafortunadamente no podimos traducir a español ninguno de los articulos en esta edición especial del **Freedom Socialist**.

Los desarrollos recientes en la lucha de los Indios nos han forzado a publicar esta edición adelante de nuestro plan de realización.

Nuestros traductores estan ocupados trabajando en nuestra próxima publicación que si tendra una grande seccion en español.

Gracias por su paciencia. Sabemos de que estan decepcionados tambien nosotros lo estamos. ¡Hasta mañana!

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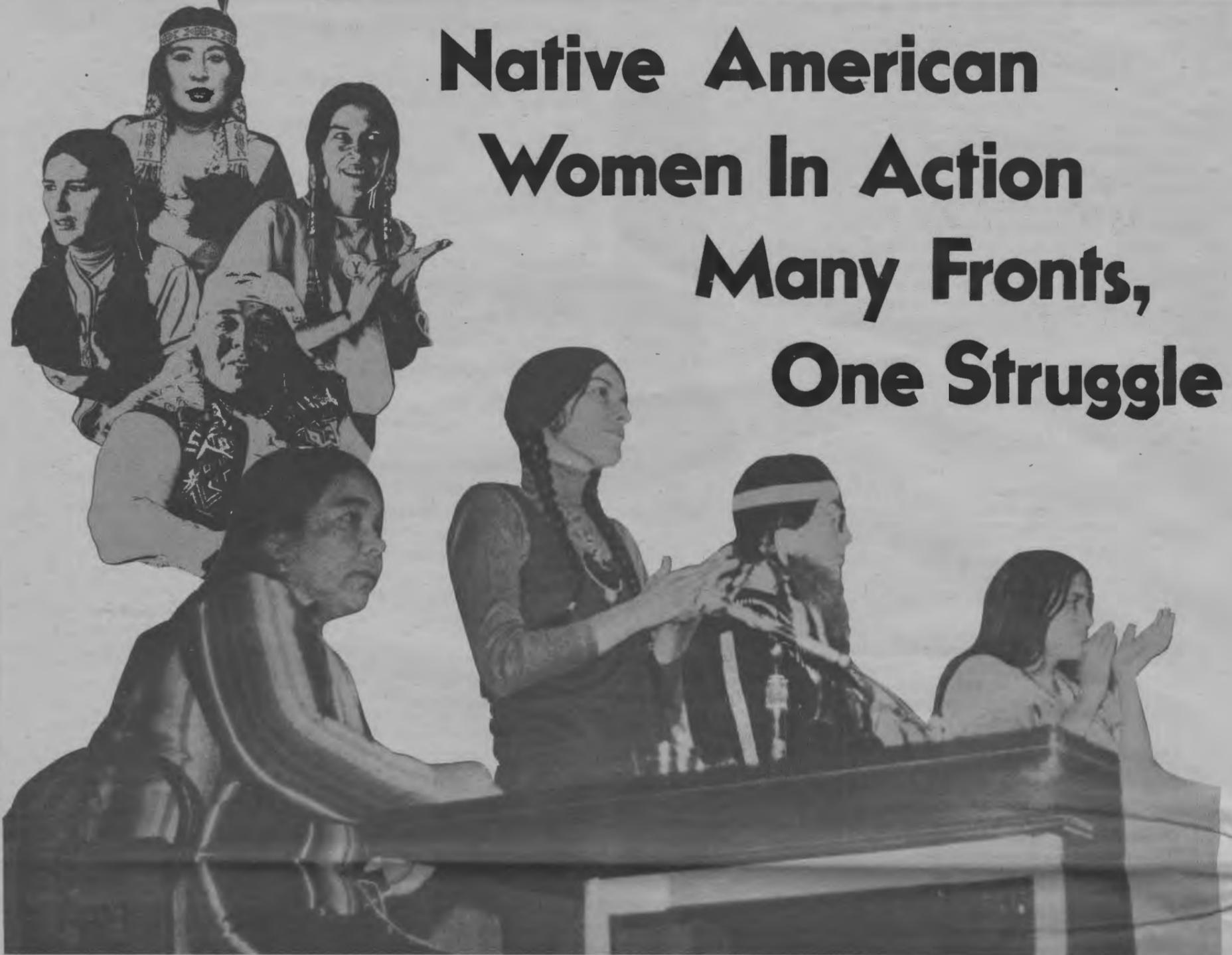
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22. Native American Women's Forum (full color—vivid burgundy and rose) ..... \$2.50
23. Radical Women Conference (full color—copper, gold and tangerine) ..... \$3.00

# Native American Women In Action Many Fronts, One Struggle



by Monica Hill

**I don't want to come here just to entertain you. I'm not here to stimulate you. If it had been anybody else but the Radical Women group that asked me to speak, I wouldn't have come.**

**Does it do any good to open up our wounds and speak to you from our hearts, not only about our future, but your future? How many of you feel secure in your future? How many of you feel you have rights or a real choice in elections?**

**How many of you believe Chief Seattle, who warned, 'Nation follows nation, like waves upon the sea. Even your nation, now on top of the heap, will decay. And then in the future we may find out we may be sisters and brothers after all.'**

**We shall see.**

The speaker is Janet McCloud of the Tulalip tribe, superb orator, incorruptible Indian rights leader, and eloquent tribune for her people.

Appearing on a large stage together with three other courageous Native American women activists—Yvonne Wanrow, Sally Fixico and Barbara Means—she is addressing a rapt audience of 400 who have come to the University of Washington HUB Auditorium on October 22 to attend a unique public forum on "Native American Women in Action: Many Fronts, One Struggle."

The historic forum has attracted Indians from Canada, Oregon and Eastern Washington, as well as Blacks, Chicanos, Asians and whites from Seattle, Tacoma, Everett and Olympia, Washington. Sponsored by U.W. Radical Women and the Freedom Socialist Party, the forum graphically demonstrates the keen affinity and fervent sense of solidarity of radicals,

militants and humanitarians with the Indian cause.

When Janet McCloud says, "Whites are here by treaty, not by discovery, not by conquest. One can't build on stolen property!" the audience cheers, applauding the woman who radiates so much pride, dignity, bitterness and passion as she relates the terrible story of her aggrieved and tortured people.

McCloud, and the sisters on the platform like her, personally symbolize the enduring strength, intelligence and nobility of character that endow the struggle of Native Americans with its dynamic. Their discussion ranges widely and knowledgeably over the many battlefields of the war for survival: fishing rights; legal defense; the police; health, housing and education; welfare officials; civil rights; jobs; the B.I.A.

And through it all runs the red thread of their encompassing love for children—all

children—and family, plus their commitment to recovering, preserving and bequeathing their singular native culture.

### **McCloud and the Fishing-Rights Struggle**

Janet McCloud, mother of eight, grandmother of seven, and frequent leader of thousands, is suffused with compassion and anger. She has spent her life resisting racism, capitalism, sexist courts and customs, cultural annihilation, poverty, broken treaties, and the harassment and murder of family members, friends and co-fighters.

She was instrumental in focusing public attention on Indian fishing rights. She interested both Dick Gregory, the Black comedian and social activist, and Jane Fonda, the actress, in the fishing struggle, and they came to Washington frequently to help her. She has organized innumerable civil rights and welfare demonstrations and is currently in the forefront of the Native American Rights Fund movement to uphold the landmark Boldt decision on Indian fishing in Washington State.

But McCloud takes care not to over-emphasize the significance of this legal decision.

"The salmon run was once thick enough for people to walk across the stream on the backs of the fish," she says. "And now it is devastated. When fish first became non-perishable through the freezing process in the early 1900's, commercial fishing companies broke treaties with impunity—treaties that permitted white citizens to fish only for

survival needs, not companies and governments to plunder for profit. Now there is not enough fish left for Indians to make a living.

"A racist system deprives us of schooling, job training and jobs, and we face the loss of the one source of livelihood remaining to us. But the Boldt decision, even if it were enforced, and it is not, does not protect Indian rights to scientifically replenish the fish stock. All the decision does is preserve our rights to fifty per cent of nothing, which is nothing."

Indians first demonstrated against wholesale decimation of the salmon run by big business in 1915, McCloud informs her listeners. "Many fought, many died. If it weren't for our ancestors' struggles, we wouldn't have any of the rights we have today."

McCloud's closing remarks engendered a standing ovation. "I don't want to waste a minute of my life. I want to live it to its fullest extent, despite all the negative things. For I can still feel joy in my heart when I see my grandchildren take their first steps or say their first word. Indian people's inherent love of freedom and life is so strong it stands under the worst threats. But life is threatened. It is time to fight and win together—now!"

### **Yvonne Wanrow: Murder Conviction**

Anyone who resists the system, including its stifling and sexist legal mores, will be persecuted. Yvonne Wanrow is a Native American mother of three who faces prison for killing a convicted child molester who threatened

her young son, and she vividly recounts the plight of a fighting woman, as it happened to her.

She prefaces her speech with an Indian prayer for the unity of all races. "Come together like beadwork, for I am not the only mother suffering from the threat of being separated from my children."

Condemning the racist courts, Wanrow tells how a 7-year-old victim of the child molester was not allowed to testify at her trial, although a 3-year-old child was permitted to testify in another case of rape of a white child. "I believe children have some rights," she says. "My children believe they have rights. And that includes the right to testify in their own defense."

Sentenced to 25 years in prison, Wanrow's conviction was later overturned by the Spokane, Wa. Court of Appeals, which ruled that a secret tape recording of her initial report to the police was inadmissible evidence. The state prosecutor appealed the reversal and Wanrow now awaits a State Supreme Court decision.

"Any minute now those nine men seated on the Supreme Court will decide whether or not I serve the 25-year jail term. But I'm not going to let them scare me," she says quietly but fiercely. "I can't."

This compelling woman sees her legal fight as closely linked to the striving of every Native American for independence. She believes that nothing less than her abiding right to Indian culture, heritage, and land is at stake.

She relates a story of going camping with her children on land given to her by her mother. Two white men threatened her and actually drove her off the land. "It's one thing to feel misjudged and misplaced, pushed around, disgraced and disrespected in one's own country. It's another thing to have it happen to you on the land of your grandfather, right where you were born and raised," she says.

Composed, deliberate and tired when she begins, Wanrow quickly develops audience rapport and engages the sympathy of her hearers. At the close of her presentation, she is excited by the interest and warm response, and she sparkles.

#### **Wounded Knee: The Horror of a Government Massacre**

The violence of the two white males violating Yvonne Wanrow's land is a microcosm of the outrage perpetrated on Barbara Mean's Pine Ridge, South Dakota reservation at Wounded Knee.

In 1890, the U.S. Army massacred 350 unarmed Native Americans there. In 1973, the government again moved on Wounded Knee. "This time," says Means, "with 16 armored personnel carriers, 6 helicopters, 2 Phantom jets,

120 sniper rifles, 20 grenade launchers, 400,000 rounds of ammunition and hundreds of U.S. Marshals and FBI agents."

Thirty-five people died at Wounded Knee that time. "But only the Indians who took up arms in self-defense are being forced to defend themselves in court," says Means. "The FBI agents and marshals got off scot free."

Janet McCloud later challenges the audience about the retaliatory murders, harassment and prison sentences proliferating at Pine Ridge. "How many of you know about Gladys Bissenette's 14-year-old daughter who was raped, sexually tortured and murdered in Pine Ridge? How many of you know, how many of you care?"

Barbara Means, a University of Washington graduate student and researcher in Indian history, stresses the need for appropriate education relevant to Indian life and talks about recent research project data illuminating the unusual learning capacity of Indian children. Means hopes to become an historian of her people's deeds and culture.

#### **Education for Indians: Out of Sight**

Sally Fixico's battle to increase Native American enrollment at Evergreen State College in Olympia, Washington is part and parcel of the uphill struggle of all minority students systematically denied education and vocational training.

After being promised funds from the Bureau of Indian Affairs, twenty Native American students were forced to leave the Evergreen campus because the BIA reneged on them, just as it has on 20,000 Indian students throughout the U.S.

"They let in just enough of us to fill their quotas, then they deprive us of the funds and faculty we need to finish," Fixico says.

Indian students recommend teachers to be hired and the Evergreen administration "loses" their resumes. Athletes and wealthy Vietnamese refugees receive tuition waivers, but the Indians who once owned the very land that Evergreen rests on get nothing. "I've been at Evergreen five years! It's taking me so long because I'm fighting," says Fixico, radiating pride and defiance.

Evergreen State College, ironically, is touted as a mecca for liberals. Unstructured and "progressive," it is rated as terribly avant garde. Fighting Fixico, a mother of two, doesn't think the college is so hot. In addition to her activity with the Native American Student Organization and the Third World Coalition on campus, she works with the tribal and public school systems, and the Olympia Indian Center.

Paraphrasing Chief Sitting Bull, she

explains the importance of joining forces with other oppressed groups. "It's like the fingers of your hand; if you fight with one at a time, they'll cut you down. If you meet them with one mighty fist, they can't beat you. This fist is all of us—women, Indians, Blacks, sexual minorities, Chicanos, Asian Americans—all of us!"

Fixico, like so many Indian children, spent much of her childhood in a B.I.A. school and she pays tribute to women like Janet and Edith McCloud and Maiselle Bridges who resurrected the Native American heritage for her. "Women like Janet, my main teacher, kept going on. They didn't stop, because it is not a stopping thing," she says.

#### **Both Separate and Together**

All the speakers exude a strong sense of nationhood, of dedication to their unique national culture.

"The American system is forcing us to preserve our culture in museums. I don't want my culture in a museum," says Barbara Means flatly. "I want to live it, and I want to die in it—as an Oglala Sioux."

To Janet McCloud, the boundary lines are very clear. "We are a sovereign nation, with our own ways. I cannot see any cavalry charging to protect us. And I wouldn't call the FBI on my worst enemy!"

These women are different than non-Indian women. Yet they seem to feel a sisterhood with all other concerned women. Yvonne Wanrow mourns her people who are being beaten, shot, tortured and killed. "When is it going to end?" she pleads. "When are people going to wake up and do something to help us? When are they going to be together? If I have to go to prison, I would like to think that there are people who are continuing the struggle for Native Americans, for all of us women, for our children."

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Top: MADLYNE SCOTT was an effective chairperson of the forum, freely and warmly expressing admiration for the panel members—her "sisters in struggle."

Above: The animated people in this photo are enjoying a Freeway Hall reception for the four guest speakers.

**JANET McCLOUD**, a widely-known Tulalip, is a longtime leader of Pacific Northwest Indians. Dedication to her people and eloquence on their behalf have won her the love of thousands of Indians, Blacks, Chicanos and whites who respect her integrity and fighting spirit.





## ...Puyallups Evict State

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The Undersecretary of the Department of the Interior, R. Dennis Ickes, who smiled diplomatically at the news cameras as he was greeted by the drummers at the front door of the facility, took over the negotiations. He pledged to "take appropriate action for the return of the property" to be held in trust by the U.S. government for the Puyallup Tribe. "Appropriate action," however, actually meant action according to the wishes of the State of Washington. Since the feds had already taken the "action" of stealing the land from the Tribe, and a federal restraining order was hanging over their heads, the Puyallups had little reason to trust the federal government to act in their interests.

Negotiations seemed to drag on endlessly. Minutes before a court-ordered deadline, as everyone was gearing up for marshals to come busting in, news would fly through the buildings that a postponement had been granted. People would sigh with relief and go back to work, while reporters rushed off with their hot stories.

Finally, on Saturday, minutes before the final deadline, agreement was reached.

The terms essentially provided that in return for the Puyallups and their supporters leaving the premises, one small building and a parcel of land would immediately revert to U.S. government ownership for tribal use. In addition, the Secretary of the Department of the Interior would review the claim of the State to the facility and, depending on its determination, would "take immediate and appropriate action . . . for the return of the (total) property to the trusteeship of the United States for (the) Tribe."

### A Qualified Victory

Did the insurgent Indians win this battle? Yes. The outcome was not an unqualified victory, for the Puyallups were forced to leave the premises without a deed to the total property in their hands. But they held (1) a deed for a portion of the facility, and (2) a written assurance that the disputed ownership question would be speedily resolved.

The federal government, of course, is not to be trusted, but the Puyallups raised their struggle with the intertwined government bureaucracies to a new level. They demonstrated a resounding refusal to accept legalistic brushoffs and decisively

proved that if they could not *get* action, they would *take* action. And the feds know that if total victory doesn't follow from this skirmish, the Puyallup wars will erupt again.

Skillful public relations and negotiating tactics by the Indians avoided reprisals and injuries, and maintained intact all the occupying personnel. The Indians lost nothing and gained much.

After the agreement was signed, Ramona Bennett addressed her troops.

"Six to eight acres of this land will be broken away and given to us with no reservations. This will provide land for our schools. The next time we come here, we'll have the title in our hands and won't have to worry about any goddamn marshals blowing up our building.

"The Puyallup Tribe thanks all of you who have been here with us. We know this kind of courage comes from a real understanding of the link between all our needs. We offer you our deepest thanks and appreciation."

A mighty cheer rose from all the people assembled there at Cascadia, and then the low drumbeat began. Everyone moved slowly in a circle around the drummers, voices mingled in the familiar A.I.M.

anthem, fists raised in proud victory.

The siege was over.

The saga of the Puyallup invasion of Cascadia has already carved a niche in the annals of revolutionary heroism by the oppressed and outcast. The birth of Chief Leschi Indian Medical Building is an inspiration to all warriors of social justice.

It was thrilling and illuminating for me to be there. As a revolutionary socialist, a Marxist-Leninist-Trotskyist, I felt that I had been swept up in a dress rehearsal for revolution, a preview of the coming main event in this country when the capitalist liars and plunderers will finally be overcome and a socialist democracy established in the spirit and tradition of the great Indian nations.

For socialism, after all, is nothing more or less than the "revival, in a higher form, of the liberty, equality and fraternity of the ancient matriarchal clans." Lewis H. Morgan, the great American anthropologist and student of Indian society, wrote this in 1877, and I have just learned this lesson through living with the Puyallups for one incredible week almost one hundred years later.

Yes, the siege is over. But make no mistake—the war goes on.

## ...Native American Women

continued from preceding page

### Generous Audience Response

When the thunderous applause at the conclusion of the speakers panel subsides, a brief discussion from the floor ensues.

Constance Scott, President of Radical Women, refers to the deep-seated racism and sexism in America. "Radical Women's program states that only if there is recognition and mutual support among all oppressed people, especially minority women, can we truly come together with the mighty fist that Sally Fixico spoke about," she says.

The organizer of the FSP, Gloria Martin, takes the floor to salute the personal strength, courage and warmth of the panelists. She urges the audience to dig deeply into their pockets for money to support Indian struggles, and well over \$300 is speedily collected and distributed to the speakers.

After interesting remarks by a few more participants, the exciting meeting is over. Its high quality is no small tribute to the skill and impact of the chairperson, Madlyne Scott, a Black woman veteran of the civil rights, anti-war and radical movements (she started in her early teens!). Scott precedes each speaker with a carefully prepared introduction, and her chairing is laced with cordiality and wit. The mutual respect and empathy between Scott and the panelists contribute significantly to the ambience of the forum.

The crowd now browses among the many literature tables set up in the auditorium by supportive groups, including the Organization of Arab Students, the University's Minority Affairs Commission and Ethnic Cultural Center, YWCA, ERA Coalition, United Farmworkers, Native American Solidarity

Committee, the sponsoring organizations and others.

A post-forum reception for the four women speakers follows at nearby Freeway Hall, crowded far into the night with politically-minded people conducting intense discussions with the guests of honor.

The clarion call for action raised by the panelists during the forum has energized everybody, and now, fortified by well-prepared food and drink, the people are communicating to the guests and to each other their common determination to heed the call for active support of the Native American's vital and enduring crusade for sovereignty.

.....

The summons is not long in coming.

Only 24 hours later, the Puyallup Tribe in neighboring Tacoma favors us with a midnight phone call announcing their takeover of Cascadia. "We need your help," they say.

And they got it, unstinted help, help for which the groundwork was paved by an inspiring group of Indian women of action who brilliantly motivated us to join their many embattled fronts.

All power to the Native American Nation and their beautiful women's vanguard!

Monica Hill was the leader of the first staff strike in history at the University of Washington, in 1973. As a Marxist citizen of the world, she has travelled to Europe, Asia, and Africa and is at home in many cultures.



**FORUM DANCER**  
Gerrid Weaskus, a seven-year-old Nez Perce Indian, performs a War Dance to the accompaniment of Sioux music. The youth, carrying on the culture of his people, was enthusiastically received by the audience at the Native American Women's Forum at the University of Washington.