

**The original documents are located in Box 3, folder “Indian Leaders - Meeting of July 16, 1976” of the Bradley H. Patterson Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

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# United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

JUN 24 1976

Dear Mr. President:

Recently, the Bureau of Indian Affairs has been engaged in discussions with members of your staff concerning a proposed White House meeting with the National Indian leadership for the purpose of reaffirming the Administration's interest and concern in matters of significance to America's Indian people.

As the Nation's Bicentennial is now rapidly approaching its climax, I am writing to request that the plans for such a meeting be finalized and to indicate that an announcement to that effect would now be most timely.

Respectfully,

Secretary of the Interior

The President  
The White House  
Washington, D. C. 20500





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Respectfully,

(Sgd) Tom

Secretary of the Interior

The President  
The White House  
Washington, D. C. 20500

cc: T. Marrs, Special Assistant to the President





SUGGESTIONS FOR THE PRESIDENT'S SPEECH TO INDIAN LEADERS

July 16, 1976

1. The critical unmet needs of the First Americans, American Indians and Alaskan natives, are recognized to a significant degree in this bicentennial year. I have directed the departmental secretaries to analyze these economic, social, and educational needs, and to make a coordinated effort to meet these needs.
2. I support the efforts of local Indian communities to direct their own affairs. I support self-determination without termination of tribes and/or the Federal services delivered to them and this is the established policy of this Administration.
3. Too often in the past Indians have not received services and benefits from Federal programs to which they were entitled as citizens, independent of special programs and funds earmarked for Indians. The reasons or excuses for this are many, ranging from the rural isolation of the reservations to the lack of knowledge and concern by the Federal agencies toward Indian people. To rectify this situation I am asking the Secretary of each Department to develop a plan of action to assure that Indian people receive more of the services through Federal programs for which they are eligible as citizens. Each Department will show what activities are planned to accomplish this goal and how the increased receipt of services will be measured.
4. While there is an excess of teachers, nationwide, there is not an excess of Indian teachers. There is a lack of trained leadership to support Indian self-determination in all of the other professions. Therefore, I am directing the Secretary of HEW and the Secretary of Interior to continue a strong coordinated effort to support training and advance education for American Indians, particularly in the areas of Education, Medicine, Law, Engineering, Business, and Forestry.
5. There is already a nucleus of Indian-controlled junior colleges scattered throughout the nation. I am directing the Secretary of HEW and the Secretary of Interior to increase Federal communications with these institutions and to determine areas for increased cooperation.





6. The Indian Education Act of 1972 has had a significant and successful beginning. A total of 158 million has been expended aiding over 400,000 American Indians since the law was passed. These resources have provided services to Indians and we look forward to continued success in this area.
7. I have directed the Federal Interagency Committee, under the sponsorship of HEW, to convene a National Conference on Indian Education in the spring of 1977. This conference will focus on analyzing all Federal educational services to Indians. We expect significant proposals for legislative remedies to correct deficiencies. (Note: planning has already started for this conference.)
8. Under Part D of the Indian Education Act of 1972, a National Council on Indian Education was established to provide technical assistance to local educational agencies and to Indian organizations. The law stipulates that the Council will be composed of 15 persons who are Indian or Alaskan natives and are appointed by the President from recommendations submitted by Indian tribes and organizations. These names have been submitted to me and I intend to appoint this Council within thirty days.
9. Too often Federal agencies are unable to detail what services are being provided to Indian people and in what amount because the agencies neglect to collect information which includes "American Indian and Alaskan Native" as a separate population category. Instead, Indians are one of the nameless groups which compose the "Other" category. When agencies cannot detail how many of their services are being utilized by Indian people, there is no way of telling whether the agency is making its resources and services available to Indian people. To correct this situation which fosters non-accountability, I am requesting each agency which collects descriptive data on the recipients of its services to include the separate category of "American Indian and Alaskan Native," using the format that has already been recommended by the Office of Management and Budget.
10. In recent years, the settlement of Indian land claims has resulted in increased income for many Indian families. The receipt of these judgment funds has caused a hardship for many Indian college students when they were considered for financial aid. Therefore, I am directing the Secretaries of HEW and Interior to

ignore these judgment funds for Indians, when analyzing the financial needs of Indian and Alaskan native students, and to prepare appropriate guidelines.

11. This Administration is committed and will continue to be committee to making the Federal bureaucracy more aware and responsive to the needs of Indian people. Some progress has been made. I understand that the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare has chartered an Intra-Departmental Council on Indian Affairs composed of high level agency personnel and committed to forging a consistent and uniform Departmental policy on Indian Affairs. In addition, this Council has been chartered to improve and increase the delivery of the Department's services to Indian people. I endorse this initiative by the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare and trust that it will achieve its goals and serve as a model for other Departments.
12. Many Federal programs, such as General Revenue Sharing, allocate funds to cities, States and Tribes based on their population. Unfortunately, too often the population data on Indian derived from the Census represents an undercount of the actual Indian population both on reservations and in urban areas. Because of this undercount, Indian people have not always received their fair share of the funds allocated on the basis of population. The Bureau of the Census has recognized this problem. I am requesting that the Bureau of the Census redouble its efforts to insure that the 1980 Census accurately counts the American Indians and Alaskan Natives in villages, on reservations and in cities.
13. I have directed the Federal agencies to improve communications among the Indian communities particularly in the use of newsletters, mailouts and other media for the purpose of informing them of policy developments and changes.



0719

~~03A~~

Merna Thompson

~~04A~~

Annette Mann

~~05A~~

Bobbe Brayboy

~~06A~~

Lucille Dawson

~~07A~~

W. J. Strickland

~~08A~~

Ronnie Lupe ?

09A

~~10A~~

Preston Mc Creen

11A

12A

~~13A~~

Bob Trapp

~~14A~~

Bob + Nancy Trapp

~~15A~~

Rose Swimmer

~~16A~~

Alec Garfield

~~17A~~

Peter Maston

~~18A~~

Banning Taylor

~~19A~~

Charles Lumble

20A

Karen Grassmuck

21A

Matthew Friedman

~~22A~~

Joe Vasquez (scribe)

~~23A~~

Janet Sullaway

~~24A~~

Emery Johnson

25A

Alvin Echehawk

~~26A~~

27A

Walter Latus and Zillie

~~28A~~

Wopik Johnson (Latus Aide) Meninick

~~29A~~

30A





0718  
~~30A~~

George Ortiz

~~31A~~

~~Claude Cox~~ no picture

~~32A~~

Claude Cox

33A

Jake White Crow

~~34A~~

~~35A~~

Jim Henry

~~MCCROSSEN~~

- JACKET
- TRAPP ~~Lucille Sawyer~~  
~~Strickland~~
- Lumbl, Chalge
- Karen Bradenwick
- Matthew J
- Joe Vasquez
- Bob Hong
- Janet Sullivan
- ~~Walter J. Stone~~



0718  
19A  
20A  
21A

0719  
03A  
04A  
05A  
06A  
07A  
08A  
09A  
10A  
11A  
12A  
13A  
14A  
15A

- |                              |   |                               |
|------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|
| <del>James Merritt</del>     | ✓ | Ellenda Rank                  |
| <del>Charles Cox</del>       | ✓ | Michael Jandrew               |
| <del>John Whitman</del>      | ✓ | Ketzler, Alfred               |
| <del>James Henry</del>       | ✓ | Wm Richards                   |
| <del>Ellenda Rank</del>      | ✓ | James W. Taylor (?)           |
| <del>Jandrew, Michael</del>  | ✓ | Eugene Taylor                 |
| <del>Ketzler, Alfred</del>   | ✓ | <del>John Cox</del>           |
| <del>Richards, Tom</del>     | ✓ | Mr. + Mrs. James Cox          |
| <del>Taylor, Eugene W.</del> | ✓ | Edward Welch                  |
| <del>Taylor James</del>      | ✓ | Richard <del>Barrow</del> (?) |
| <del>Cox J.M.</del>          | ✓ | Stan Thomas                   |
| <del>Welch, Edward</del>     | ✓ | Art Le Blanc                  |
| <del>Barrow, Richard</del>   | ✓ | Ray Goetting                  |

|                |                           |                        |
|----------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| <del>16A</del> | <del>Le Blanc</del>       | Dan McDonald           |
| 17A            | <del>Dotting</del>        |                        |
| <del>18A</del> | <del>McDonald, Dan</del>  |                        |
| 18A            | Williams, Cecil           |                        |
| 28A            | Calbi Lara                |                        |
| 20A            | Walter Lara               | 27A Roy Midway         |
| <del>22A</del> | <del>Midway, Roy</del>    | <del>best Siskey</del> |
| 23A            | <del>Siskey, best</del>   | Eddie Chris            |
| 24A            | Chris                     | Standoverbull          |
| 25A            | <del>Standoverbull</del>  | Carl McKay?            |
| 26A            | <del>McKay, Carl</del>    |                        |
| 27A            | Wident, Wilborn           |                        |
| 28A            | OK La Rose, Louis         |                        |
| 29A            | OK Srok, Lawrence         |                        |
| 30A            | Isaac, Calvin             |                        |
| 31A            | Paddock, Kay              |                        |
| <del>32A</del> | <del>Paxton, Gabe</del>   |                        |
| 33A            | Secordine, Leroy          |                        |
| 34A            | Ahtore, Quantia           |                        |
| 35A            | Inger Buffels             |                        |
| 36A            | Spong, Roy                |                        |
| 37A            | Plurage Charles?          |                        |
| 0716 08A       | <del>Stewart</del> (?)    |                        |
| 09A            | OK Murdock, V.            |                        |
| 10A            | OK Rose Crow Dies High    |                        |
| 11A            | OK Massetti Max           |                        |
| 12A            | <del>Legade, Robert</del> | Matthew Calbi CALAC    |
| 13A            | OK Nabokh, Rochel         |                        |

~~14A~~ OK Antonio, G

~~15A~~ OK Doves

~~16A~~ OK Upickson,

~~17A~~ OK Franklin Martin

~~18A~~ ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~

~~18A~~ OK Bruce

~~19A~~ OK Noel Adelph \_\_\_\_\_ (Telephone Request)

~~20A~~ OK Charles

~~21A~~ OK Lomme, Howard

~~22A~~ OK Leonard, Floyd

~~23A~~ OK Headley

~~24A~~ OK Lewis, Martin -

~~25A~~ OK Jordan King -

~~26A~~ OK Rogers, Tony

1716 ~~27A~~ OK Cox Hal

~~28A~~ OK Eden

~~29A~~ OK Zanner

~~30A~~ → Peter Mc Donald

~~31A~~ OK → Covington, Lucy

~~32A~~ OK Laselute \_\_\_\_\_ Located

? ~~33A~~ OK Johnson, Roland -

~~34A~~ Garcia, Joe - ?

~~35A~~ \_\_\_\_\_

0 719 ~~36A~~ OK Zanyak

~~37A~~ OK Garcia, Merle

~~38A~~ OK Welch, Carmel

~~39A~~ OK Welch, Robert

~~40A~~ OK Blanchard, Cecilia

- 08A ✓ OK Shope, Grace
- 10A ✓ OK Waring Hawk - Ed + Carmen
- 11A ✓ OK Duckman
- 12A ✓ OK Crowe, Lois
- 13A ✓ OK Hake
- 14A ✓ OK Connor ?
- 15A ✓ OK Mc Cormick, Mary
- 16A ✓ OK Katon
- 17A ✓ OK Leon Clyde
- 18A ✓ OK Ross 200 + some
- 19A ✓ OK Babbar ?
- 20A ✓ OK Mills, Ed
- 21A ✓ OK Pat Mc Laughlin
- 22A ✓ OK Chase, Joe
- 23A ✓ OK Parker, Eugen
- 24A ✓ OK Brown, Arlow
- 25A ✓ OK Townsend, Eva M.
- 26A ✓ OK Harango, Alford
- 27A ✓ OK Duran, Joseph - Address Missing
- 28A ✓ OK Arnette Kodoy ?
- 29A ✓ OK Barlow, Louis
- 30A ✓ OK Mills, Luzyette
- 31A ✓ OK Caleb Shields
- 32A ✓ OK Bennett, Kearna
- 33A ✓ OK Webster, Stanley
- 34A ✓ La Larte
- ~~James Jones~~
- ~~Whitt Clarks~~
- ? 36A ? Mintoour, Lechi



0720

06A

OK Wintirabat

07A

OK Anderson, Horng

08A

OK Chapposa, Lectr

09A

OK Grabowski

10A

OK Harvi, de Vonne  
~~de Vonne~~

11A

OK Grover Bagge

12A

OK Boyer

(?)

13A

OK Gaylor, Jonathan ~~John Gaylor~~

~~12A~~

~~OK Stone, John~~

14A Richard Halfman

13A

~~Henry, Ralph~~

14A

~~Halfman, Richard~~

\* 15A

Wright, Bob

\* 16A

" Judy

July 27, 1976  
Don & Judy Wright and  
Paul Williams pictures  
were sent to Patty Karyga  
in Cong. Relations Office -  
to be sent to Senator Strom

18A - 17A

OK Wilbur, Sandy, Jr

\* 19A

Wilbur Paul

21A

OK Sue Lerna, George

22A

OK Kraszke, Ted

23A

OK Mary Wagner

24A

OK Louis Messini

25A

OK Fred Sakota?

26A

OK Rowland, Allen

27A

OK Otto, Pete

28A

OK Howard Goodbear

~~William Wilbur~~

0721 03

OK Shumbe, Al

04

OK Teroni, Skee

- 05 ✓ OK Sandy MacNabb
- 06 ✓ OK Ben Rudetsky
- 07 ✓ OK A T. Anderson
- 08 ✓ OK Wally Leask.
- 10 ✓ OK Myles Flint.
- 11 ✓ OK George Williams.
- 12 ✓ OK Lal Havatso.
- 13 ✓ OK Wilfred Whatonam, Jr.
- 14 ✓ OK Davis Fred
- 15 ✓ OK Merrill, Mr. Harry
- 16 ✓ OK Wesley Gilbert
- 17 ✓ OK Herb Smelcer
- 18-19 ✓ OK Wawakt, Annie -
- 20 ✓ - OK Jack Overden
- 21 ✓ OK Jim Schurmerhorn
- 22 ✓ OK James Allen
- 23 ✓ OK Bill Follis
- 24 ✓ OK Leonard Cotter
- 25 ✓ OK Lyberty Tucker,
- 26 ✓ OK Leonard Burch.
- 27 ✓ OK Lenovo, Stanley,
- 28 ✓ OK Garcia, Valente.
- 29 ✓ OK Calchazo, Felix
- 30 ✓ OK Gene Cook

Joseph Averis

33 Maxine Hatchers?

Lara Trueman  
 (Flora) Douglas

0721 { 31 32 33  
 247 unidentified

0722 = 03 a Lal Olderson

0722 03 - 04

(62) unidentified

247 unidentified  
 John Woodman 1995

0722

- 04 ✓ OK James Breenpather
- 05 ✓ OK Mc Kibben? Jesse McKibben
- 06 ✓ OK Fritz Brown
- 07 ✓ OK Caber Peter
- 08 ✓ OK Richard W. Peir.
- 09 ✓ OK Locke, Pabes
- 0722-10 ✓ OK ~~John~~ Lynn Engles
- 11 ✓ OK Fred Kleep
- 13 ✓ OK Shandoha
- 0722-14 ✓ OK Owen Lyons
- 15 ✓ OK James Powless
- 16 ✓ OK Arnold Hewitt
- 17 ✓ OK Corbett Sundown
- 19 ✓ OK Ray Halbritter
- 20 ✓ OK Elijah, Buss
- 21 ✓ OK Abraham, Frank!
- 22 ✓ OK Le Roy Pauline
- 23 ✓ OK Leuff, James
- 24 ✓ OK Henry, Leo
- 25 ✓ OK De La Cruz
- 27 ✓ OK Jim, Mr. Roger
- 28 ✓ OK Rivard, Louis
- 29 ✓ OK Bennett, Wm
- 30 ✓ OK Mc Gessick, Charles
- 31 ✓ OK Tomoket, Mel
- 33 ✓ OK ~~McGessick~~ Baker Odrvi Baker
- 0723-02 ✓ OK ~~McGessick~~ Baker
- 208 ✓ ~~Wildcat, Wm~~ also Baker
- 03- unid
- 04- Royd Leonard



0506 - Rodney Arnett







JULY 16, 1976

## OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY

THE WHITE HOUSE

REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT  
TO THE  
AMERICAN INDIAN LEADERS

THE EAST ROOM

3:15 P.M. EDT

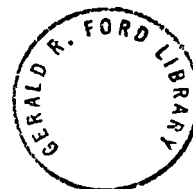
Let me welcome each and every one of you to the White House this afternoon. I am extremely happy to have the opportunity to meet with you individually as well as collectively and I am very proud to have the distinguished leaders and the elected representatives of America's Indian tribes here in the East Room of the White House.

I looked over your schedule and I hope from the distinguished speakers that spoke with you that you have had an informative briefing session, not only with Secretary Kleppe, but the others -- those who were responsible for some of the Government Indian programs. I think it is vitally important that you tell us what your problems are, what your needs are and then we can be fully informed as to the right policies and the right programs.

Let me take just a few minutes to talk with you on a personal basis, to let you know of my personal concern and for the needs of Indians and native Americans. The Federal Government has a very unique relationship with you and your people. It is a relationship of a legal trust and a high moral responsibility. That relationship is rooted deep in history, but it is fed today by our concern that the Indian people should enjoy the same opportunities as other Americans, while maintaining the culture and the traditions that you rightly prize as your heritage.

That heritage is an important part of the American culture that we are celebrating in this great country in our Bicentennial year. Your contribution has been both material and spiritual. Your ancestors introduced settlers not only to new foods and new plants, but to Indian ways of life and Indian values which they absorbed.

MORE



This is a year for all of us to realize what a great debt we individually and collectively owe to the American Indians. Today, you are concerned about such serious problems as poverty, unemployment, crime, poor health and unsuitable housing on Indian reservations. I share your concern. I am hopeful about the future and about what we can achieve by continuing to work together.

The 1970s have brought a new era in Indian affairs. In the last century, Federal policy has vacillated between paternalism and the threat of terminating Federal responsibility. I am opposed to both extremes. I believe in maintaining a stable policy so that Indians and Indian leaders can plan and work confidently for the future.

We can build on that foundation to improve the opportunities available to American Indians, and at the same time, make it possible for you to live as you choose within your tribal structure and in brotherhood with your fellow citizens.

We have already begun to build. My Administration is supporting the concept of allowing Indian tribes to determine whether they and their members, in addition to being under tribal jurisdiction, should be under State or Federal civil and criminal jurisdiction.

I have directed the Departments of Justice and Interior to draft legislation which would accomplish this goal efficiently, effectively and within adequate guidelines. They have solicited the views of the Indian community in preparing their recommendations which I will soon send to the Congress.



I am committed to furthering the self-determination of Indian communities but without terminating the special relationship between the Federal Government and the Indian people. I am strongly opposed to termination. Self-determination means that you can decide the nature of your tribe's relationship with the Federal Government within the framework of the Self-Determination Act, which I signed in January of 1975.

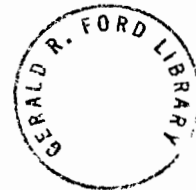
Indian tribes, if they desire, now have the opportunity to administer Federal programs for themselves. We can then work together as partners.

On your part, this requires initiative and responsibility as you define your tribal goals and determine how you want to use the Federal resources. On the Federal Government's part, self-determination for Indian tribes requires that Federal programs must be flexible enough to deal with the different needs and desires of individual tribes.

MORE

In the past, our flexibility has been limited by the lack of effective coordination among departments and agencies offering a wide variety of programs and services to the Indian people. Programs serving both reservation and non-reservation Indians are spread across half a dozen different Cabinet Departments involving agencies ranging from the Economic Development Administration to the Federal Aviation Administration.

MORE



As many of you know, this is Ted Marrs' last day on the White House staff. Ted's service as White House Liaison for Indian Affairs has been invaluable to me as President and to the Cabinet officers and, I am confident, to the Indian community.

With his departure, I will announce shortly the name of a person who will assume Ted Marrs' duties in the Office of Public Liaison in the area of Indian Affairs. This appointee will be an individual with responsibility to work with the Cabinet officers, with the Office of Management and Budget, with the Domestic Council and with my Legal Office to encourage the improved coordination of the various Federal agencies and programs that currently serve the Indian population.

As an additional step in this direction, I am also sending a memorandum to the heads of all Cabinet departments with Indian responsibilities, directing them to give priority attention to the coordination of Indian programs. These two actions will help to insure that one and one half billion dollars spent annually on Indian programs and services will be spent efficiently, with cooperation and without duplication.

An important task we can help you with is the challenge of economic development of your lands. I congratulate you on the initiative that you have shown. I pledge encouragement. I pledge help in your efforts to create long-term economic development.

Many Indian reservations contain valuable natural resources. There must be the proper treatment of these resources with respect for nature, which is a traditional Indian value. My Attorney General has established an Indian resources section whose sole responsibility is litigation on behalf of Indian tribes to protect your natural resources and your jurisdictional rights.



Indian leaders and the Indian people have gained an increasing skill in managing these resources so they benefit your tribes and our nation as a whole. I wholeheartedly and unequivocally pledge our cooperation in working with you to improve the quality of Indian life by providing soundly managed programs and a stable policy.

We can make the rest of the 1970s decisive years in the lives of the Indian people. Together we can write a new chapter in the history of this land that we all serve and this land that we all share.

I thank you very much.

END

(AT 3:25 P.M. EDT)

OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY

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(OVER)





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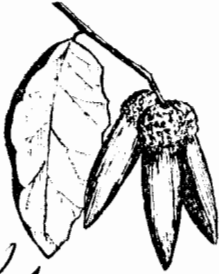
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I thank you very much.

END (AT 3:25 P.M. EDT)



Viejas Indian Development Council, Inc.

25 Browns Road, Alpine, CA 92001

Telephone (714) 445-3275

*F  
July 16  
McArthur*

*Brad Patterson*

August 10, 1976

The President  
White House  
Washington, D. C. 20202

Dear Mr. President:

Thank you for the invitation for Tribal Leaders to attend a briefing at the White House and the opportunity to meet you. It was indeed, quite an honor, and something I will never forget.

A very special thanks to Mrs. Velma Shelton, who was kind enough to have my son, Robert, cleared so he would have the opportunity to meet you.

We, both would like to thank you for allowing me to take your picture with him so he could get an "A" in civics. He gave a presentation to both civics classes the following Monday.

Thank you again, it was nice.

Respectfully,

*Carmen Daisy Welch*

Carmen Daisy Welch  
Tribal Chairman  
Viejas Indian Reservation



# Indians Meet With Ford, Charge Publicity Pitch

By Cynthia Kadonaga  
Washington Post Staff Writer

President Ford met yesterday with more than 200 American Indian leaders, a meeting their spokesman later called a campaign publicity pitch.

National Congress of American Indians President Mel Tonasket said, "There's no doubt we've been used. Our only reason for coming is that statements made here today were made in front of lots of witnesses."

Some Indian leaders said before the meeting they suspected the President might be using them for political purposes, especially because the White House had invited them to wear traditional native costumes to the affair. Few of them did.

The Indians met all day with government officials responsible for Indian programs, such as Interior Secretary Thomas S. Kleppe.

Despite a statement by Mr. Ford that it was "vitally important" the Indians tell government officials what their needs were, an Indian spokesman later complained that they were not allowed to do so.

Tonasket said the Indians "got into a big fight" with Kleppe over whether they could discuss issues, such as water rights on Indian land.

But, "we lost," he said. "Kleppe's attitude was, 'We'll talk to you, you listen.'"

Mr. Ford also said at the meeting that White House

Indian liaison official Theodore C. Marrs had resigned. Marrs, a pediatrician, plans to work at an Indian health center in Albuquerque. He was appointed to the White House staff in 1974.

Mr. Ford said he would announce a replacement soon.

## Franc Tumbles To 22-Year Low

PARIS, July 16 (AP)—The French franc tumbled 1.4 per cent in value against the dollar today in the sharpest drop of a two-week decline.

It was quoted at 20.48 cents compared to 20.77 cents Thursday. This corresponds to a rise in the dollar's power against the franc from 4.81 to 4.88. It also meant the franc was at its lowest level since September 1974.

Several factors were blamed for the dip of the French currency against almost all currencies. They included a continuing inflation rate of about 11 per cent, a long drought that is reducing agricultural production and a weak foreign trade picture.

Since mid-March the franc has lost about 6.6 per cent of its value.

Traders said the Bank of France stepped into the market today and sold about 100 million worth of foreign exchange. This roughly equals the bank's support effort Thursday.

## Two Indians Acquitted in FBI Deaths

CEDAR RAPIDS, Iowa, July 16 (AP)—A federal court jury found two American Indian Movement members innocent today of murder in the shooting deaths of two FBI agents.

The decision came in the fifth day of deliberations, after the jury twice told U.S. District Court Judge Edward McManus that it was "hopelessly deadlocked." McManus had refused to declare a mistrial.

The case against Robert Robideau, 29, Portland, Ore., and Darelle Butler, 33, Rogue River, Ore., had gone to the jury Monday afternoon.

When the verdict was read, spectators in the courtroom burst into applause. The defense team was visibly surprised, and Butler and defense attorney William Kunstler embraced and cried.

The two AIM members were charged in the shootings of FBI agents Jack Coler and Ronald Williams, both of Los Angeles, at a shootout on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota last summer. The defense alleged during four weeks of testimony that a hostile and violent attitude pervaded the reservation because of FBI harassment and that the killings were in self-defense.

The lists include continually updated telephone numbers and addresses. They consolidate voters by households to eliminate costly duplicate mailings and can be printed out into "walking sheets" that list addresses in order on each side of a street so that neighborhood canvassers do not have to cross back and forth.

The value of good mailing and telephone lists is demonstrated by the Republican fund-raising record, which is being achieved with an average donation, Royall and

telephone banks in seven areas of the state turned out a heavy vote in conservative precincts and delivered Godwin's thin margin of less than 15,000 votes out of 1 million cast.

McMath said the party will hire three professional field workers in September to help Congressional candidates make use of the state party services. After the election, the field persons will remain to recruit local office and legislative candidates for 1977 and advise local party units.

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SAT. JULY 17, 1976

'They Talked, We Listened'

## Indians Unhappy With Ford Visit

By David Braaten

Washington Star Staff Writer

No one went so far as to say the Great White Father spoke with a forked tongue — that's not the Indians' style these days, if indeed it ever was outside Hollywood — but a spokesman for the American Indian leaders who met with President Ford and administration officials yesterday was clearly unimpressed with the day's lobbying effort.

"He's not informed on the illegal actions of his underlings," said Mel Tonasket, president of the National Congress of American Indians, at a sidewalk press conference outside the White House, where the chiefs had just been greeted with soothing words by the chief executive. "We were denied the opportunity for give-and-take. It was all 'we'll talk, and you listen.'" Tonasket said.

FORD HAD promised the Indian leaders he would take steps to coordinate the handling of Indian affairs, giving help particularly to economic development of reservation lands, many of which contain valuable natural resources.

Tonasket, an Okanogan from Colville, Wash., expressed a definite suspicion that he and his colleagues were being used for political purposes, invited to the White House as more-or-less colorful props in Ford's election campaign.

"The President made good promises, and we wholeheartedly agree with them," he said outside the Northwest Gate of the White House. He seemed skeptical that the bureaucrats who would be charged with putting Ford's promises into effect will ever get the word, however.

"We weren't even given an opportunity to talk with (Interior Secretary Thomas) Kleppe," Tonasket said. "We got in an argument, and we lost. It shows the kind of one-way street the Indians always wind up on."

IN HIS BRIEF speech to the Indians in the East Room, Ford mentioned the \$1.5 billion a year allocated

for Indian affairs, but Tonasket said, "Very little of that gets down to the reservations. It goes for employes' salaries, for rugs and lamps. It would probably be enough, if it was used properly."

The paradox of the Indians' situation, he indicated, is that, though they're sitting on vast mineral and other wealth, they need money to make money out of it. One of the things they need money for is the legal expenses of battling the federal government over the the best way of realizing the potential of Indian-owned resources.

Uncle Sam, as trustee of Indians and their lands, is always the adversary when it comes to exploiting mineral and hydroelectric wealth that nominally belongs to the tribes, he said.

As an example, Tonasket cited a lease negotiated

Bureau of Indian Affairs on behalf of the Northern Cheyennes for extraction of coal in northern Montana.

THE GOVERNMENT handled lease set royalties at 7½ cents a ton, he said, an absurdly low price by present-day, energy-short standards. The Indians are trying to overturn the lease and get a better price for their coal.

"I think the government has always taken us for granted as a bunch of dummies," Tonasket said.

The Indian leader declined to be drawn into a partisan political discussion of his people's chances for better treatment under a Democratic administration.

