

The original documents are located in Box 4, folder “Native American Awareness Week” of the Bradley H. Patterson Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

Copyright Notice

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material. Gerald Ford donated to the United States of America his copyrights in all of his unpublished writings in National Archives collections. Works prepared by U.S. Government employees as part of their official duties are in the public domain. The copyrights to materials written by other individuals or organizations are presumed to remain with them. If you think any of the information displayed in the PDF is subject to a valid copyright claim, please contact the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

**MEMORANDUM
OF CALL**

TO: *Mr. Patterson*

YOU WERE CALLED BY— YOU WERE VISITED BY—

Kathy McCort
OF (Organization)

PLEASE CALL → PHONE NO. *457-6669*
CODE/EXT. *457-6669*

WILL CALL AGAIN IS WAITING TO SEE YOU

RETURNED YOUR CALL WISHES AN APPOINTMENT

MESSAGE



| RECEIVED BY | DATE | TIME |
|-------------|------|-------------|
| | | <i>2:00</i> |

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

MPH
Howard
Ekinside
Cowan





United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20245

IN REPLY REFER TO:

SEP 2 1976

Memorandum

To: Legislative Counsel

Through: Commissioner of Indian Affairs

From: Director, Congressional & Legislative Affairs Staff, BIA

Subject: Native American Awareness Week

Attached is a proposed report to the House Post Office and Civil Service Committee on S.J.Res. 44, H.J.Res. 946 and five other bills pending before that Committee which would authorize the President to proclaim a Native American Awareness or an American Indian Day.

We request that prompt OMB clearance be requested on the report in hopes that S.J.Res. 44 (amended) or one of the other bills can be enacted by the 94th Congress.

(Sgd) Ralph Reeser

Ralph R. Reeser

cc: Brad Patterson, The White House - w/encl.
Howard Borgstrom, OMB - w/encl.

Honorable David Henderson
Chairman, Committee on Post Office
and Civil Service
Suite 207, Cannon Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

We wish to express our views on a number of bills pending before your Committee providing for the proclamation of a "Native American Awareness Week" or an "American Indian Day". H.J. Res. 946, H.J. Res. 958, and H.J. Res. 990 would each authorize the President to proclaim the week of October 10 through 16, 1976 as "Native American Awareness Week" while S.J. Res. 44, in the House of Representatives, H.J. Res. 394, and H.R. 6879 would each authorize the President to proclaim a "National Indian Day".

While we would strongly support either approach (i.e., establishment of a "Day" or a "Week"), our preference would be for House passage of S.J. Res. 44 amended to substitute the language such as that in H.J. Res. 946 providing for the proclamation of the week of October 10 through 16, 1976 as "Native American Awareness Week".

Such action by the Congress would provide National recognition of a relatively small group of Americans whose contributions, culture, and heritage are fundamental to the values of the larger non-Indian society. Efforts to promote a National Indian Day or a Native American Awareness Week have been many, and some States and large cities now have such observances.

One of the first proponents of an American Indian Day was Dr. Arthur C. Parker, a Seneca Indian, who was the Director of the Museum of Arts and Sciences, Rochester, N.Y. He persuaded the Boy Scouts of America to set aside a day for the "First Americans," and for three years they adopted such a day. In 1915, the annual Congress of the American Indian Association, held at Lawrence, Kans., formally approved the plan. It directed its president, the Rev. Sherman Coolidge, an Arapahoe Indian, to call upon the country to observe such a day. He issued a proclamation September 28, 1915, which declared the second Saturday of each May as an American Indian Day and contained the first formal appeal for recognition of Indians as citizens.

The year before this proclamation was issued, Red Fox James, a Blackfeet, rode from State to State on his horse seeking approval for the celebration of a day in honor of American Indians. He later presented the endorsements of 24 State governors at the White House December 14, 1915.

The first American Indian Day was observed on the second Saturday in May 1916, when the Governor of New York fixed that day for a State observance. Several States celebrate the fourth Friday in September as American Indian Day. In Illinois, for example, it became that day by legislative enactment in 1919. In Massachusetts, in accordance with a law passed in 1935, the Governor issues a proclamation designating the day that will become American Indian Day for any given year.

Oklahoma Governor David L. Boren recently proclaimed the week of October 10 through 16, 1976, as "Native American Awareness Week" in Oklahoma. Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley issued a similar proclamation on July 8, 1976, and called upon the citizens of Los Angeles to observe the week of October 10 through 16, 1976, "with appropriate ceremonies and activities." We understand that such observances will also be held this year in the cities of Oklahoma City, Okla., San Francisco, Calif., and Nassau Bay, Texas.

Indian contributions to American society, both in times of war and peace, have been largely overlooked by historians. It is not generally recognized that the patriotism shown by more than 8,000 Indian servicemen in World War I (6,000 by voluntary enlistment) was one of the main factors which influenced the Congress to pass the Indian Citizenship Act of 1924.

In World War II more than 25,000 Indian men and women served in the Armed Forces, fighting on all fronts in Europe and Asia and winning (according to an incomplete count) 71 awards of the Air Medal, 51 of the Silver Star, 47 of the Bronze Star, 34 of the Distinguished Flying Cross, and two of the Congressional Medal of Honor.

Probably the best known Indian exploit was that of the Navajo Marines who used the Navajo language as a battlefield code which the Japanese could not break. The Navajo "code talkers" were recent participants in the July 3, 1976, Bicentennial Parade in Washington, D.C.

Perhaps lesser known contributions of Indian people might include active participation in the Revolutionary War by members of the Passamaquoddy tribe between 1777 and 1784. Such military contribution was most recently recognized by the United States Court of Appeals for the first circuit, in *Passamaquoddy, et al v. Morton, et al*, 388 F. Supp. 649. 667 (D. Me. 1975).

It is generally conceded that one of the major contributions of Indian people to the United States is a form of government based on that of the Six Nations of the Iroquois Confederacy. The idea of such a "confederacy" of tribes electing a headman or chief who was, individually, their master, and collectively, their servant, was developed into the American concept of government with the consent of the governed.



The reverence of Indian people for the land and environment would later become the non-Indian notion of conservation of natural resources and would later evolve into a nationwide movement for ecology and environmental protection.

The Executive Director of the National Congress of American Indians, the oldest and largest National Indian organization in this country, has endorsed legislation to establish a National Native American Awareness Week during the week of October 10 through 16, 1976.

In an April 19, 1976 letter to Jerry Elliott, board member of the National Society of American Indian Engineers, Dr. Theodore C. Marrs, then Special Assistant to the President for Indian Affairs, endorsed the proposal to establish a Native American Awareness Week.

Although it is very late in the life of the 94th Congress, we urge prompt favorable consideration by your Committee of S.J.Res. 44 or one of the other bills mentioned above.

The Office of Management and Budget has advised that there is no objection to the presentation of this report from the standpoint of the Administration's program.

Sincerely yours,

Commissioner of Indian Affairs

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

~~ST~~ Res
209

10/10-16/76

Health
William E. Cragg

CT: low priority:
issue a press release.

Visitor Center?



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

CBS Los Angeles
Mugger Bradley

Ohta &
Calif



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Have visited
Andarbo dancers.
Pop program

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Wilbur Jones

45 Wood Farmers
45 Cottlesney

hantou, Tripod



**MEMORANDUM
OF CALL**

TO:

Brad

YOU WERE CALLED BY—

YOU WERE VISITED BY—

OF (Organization)

Jerry Elliott

PLEASE CALL →

PHONE NO.
CODE/EXT. _____

WILL CALL AGAIN

IS WAITING TO SEE YOU

RETURNED YOUR CALL

WISHES AN APPOINTMENT

MESSAGE

(713) 483-5226

RECEIVED BY

DATE

TIME

© FFE Project Office of
Space Shuttle Program

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Sulpha, Okla Chickasaw

5 Analyzed tribes



Friday

Quarterly meeting of
5 tribes subtribes Council

TT of studies

5 ~~Opston James~~ ^{Don} Chickasaw

~~Pross~~ ~~Summer~~ ^{Ed} Chickasaw

Claude Coop ^{Ed} Creek
Edwin Tanyors. ^{Ed} Seminoles
Daniel Goodner - Choctaws
+ 3 Council
Members each

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

05

0-405-521-3311

Other \$1

Total 405-622-6131.

John Daves 1 HP

~~405-~~

PTS 8-736-4796

Non-PTS

231-4796

H 405-751-6561

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Chickasaw Notes for

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

~~Jim Cox 405-732-2934~~

~~3201 Steady brook~~

~~Midwest City, Okla.~~

~~near Okla City~~

~~Chairman United Western~~

~~Trites~~ Howard Gadberry

good supports & goal Republican

Watorga - 19, 4 Okla
4 Kansas

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

209 N. Noble
Watonga, Okla.
73.772

H 405-623-5465
O 405-623-5020

BLUJACKET

O- 8-736-7191
H- 918-341-3342

353-0200 WS
Room 220-222-224

Lanston PHS Indian
Hospital

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

80 patients

1966 Indian Hosp

Good shape

Accredited

Staffing & funding
Outpatient facility

Head:

Emerson Edwards

O-405-353-0350

H-405-357-5719

Indian

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Ford Hill Judean
School

~~1900~~ School for
Judean
Judean

BIA took down 1900

205 students 9-12

125 local tribes

80 US-wide

Boarders

~~took to do~~

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Jack Williams Super
of School

Bob Randolph
non-Techie

good school

MEMORANDUM
OF CALL

TO:

BRAD

YOU WERE CALLED BY— YOU WERE VISITED BY—

Don Bluejacket

OF (Organization)

Sen. Bartlett's Office

PLEASE CALL → PHONE NO.
CODE/EXT. _____

WILL CALL AGAIN

IS WAITING TO SEE YOU

RETURNED YOUR CALL

WISHES AN APPOINTMENT

MESSAGE

Is in Tulsa.

Said you have his number

8-736-7191



RECEIVED BY

DATE

TIME

10/5

12:53

**MEMORANDUM
OF CALL**

TO:

Beard

YOU WERE CALLED BY—

YOU WERE VISITED BY—

Mr. Nichols

OF (Organization)

OMB

PLEASE CALL →

PHONE NO.
CODE/EXT. _____

WILL CALL AGAIN

IS WAITING TO SEE YOU

RETURNED YOUR CALL

WISHES AN APPOINTMENT

MESSAGE

X 4550

RECEIVED BY

DATE

TIME

9:40

**MEMORANDUM
OF CALL**

TO:

Blad

YOU WERE CALLED BY— YOU WERE VISITED BY—

Don Bluefield

OF (Organization)

PLEASE CALL → PHONE NO. CODE/EXT. _____

WILL CALL AGAIN IS WAITING TO SEE YOU

RETURNED YOUR CALL WISHES AN APPOINTMENT

MESSAGE

*Chamber of Commerce
Tulsa
585-1201 (918)*

| RECEIVED BY | DATE | TIME |
|-------------|------|------|
| | | |

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Tribal leaders from
all over US
all Pueblo Sons
Gardens & Otis
to New
all ~~Tribal~~ leaders to
come at that time
Join the big gathering ^{no}
separate gathering
2 HS man upon

10+3

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Ves Tucker

**MEMORANDUM
OF CALL**

TO: _____

YOU WERE CALLED BY—

YOU WERE VISITED BY—

OF (Organization) _____

Jerry Elliott

PLEASE CALL →

PHONE NO.
CODE/EXT. _____

WILL CALL AGAIN

IS WAITING TO SEE YOU

RETURNED YOUR CALL

WISHES AN APPOINTMENT

MESSAGE

(713)
483-5226

RECEIVED BY _____

DATE _____

TIME _____



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Jake Whitcomb
918-542-4486

Ornton James

Ves Tinkov
H 918-287-4389



1
Mr. Mc ~~At~~ Call

456-2884

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 18, 1976

MEMORANDUM TO: JACK MARSH

FROM: RUSS ROURKE

Jack, I discussed the "Native American Awareness Week" proclamation matter with Jerry Elliott.

Elliott now accepts the fact that, in the absence of favorable Congressional action, it is highly unlikely that the President would issue such a proclamation. FYI, Elliott discussed this situation with Ted Marrs during the past week. Elliott did indicate that "Pat Schroeder had extended the deadline for action in the House until the end of next week".

Elliott specifically asked that you contact Senator Hruska, urging him to move the Resolution out of Committee. We had a very "frank exchange of views" on the practice of White House officials pressuring U. S. Senators to take action they are not otherwise disposed to take. Elliott indicated that one of Senator Lloyd Bentsen's staff members stated that "Hruska needed a push from the White House on the Resolution".

Bottom line...I assured Elliott that I would brief you on the entire substance of our conversation, and that, in the event of favorable Congressional action, the President would move swiftly on the matter.

cc: Cleppert
BPatterson ✓





United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

70-1100-100-100
SEP 21 1976

Dear Mr. Chairman:

There are six bills pending before your Committee which provide for the proclamation of either a "Native American Awareness Week" or an "American Indian Day". H.J. Res. 946, H.J. Res. 958, and H.J. Res. 990 would each authorize the President to proclaim the week of October 10 through 16, 1976 as "Native American Awareness Week" while S.J. Res. 44, in the House of Representatives, H.J. Res. 394, and H.R. 6879 would each authorize the President to proclaim a "National Indian Day".

While we would strongly support either approach, i.e., establishment of a "Day" or a "Week", our preference would be for House passage of S.J. Res. 44, amended to substitute the language such as that in H.J. Res. 946 providing for the proclamation of the week of October 10 through 16, 1976 as "Native American Awareness Week".

Such action by the Congress would provide National recognition for a group of Americans whose contributions, culture, and heritage are an intrinsic part of this country. There have been many efforts to promote a National Indian Day or a Native American Awareness Week, and some States and cities now have such observances.

One of the first proponents of an American Indian Day was Dr. Arthur C. Parker, a Seneca Indian, who was the Director of the Museum of Arts and Sciences, Rochester, New York. He persuaded the Boy Scouts of America to set aside a day for the "First Americans," and for three years they adopted such a day. In 1915, the annual Congress of the American Indian Association held at Lawrence, Kansas, formally approved the plan. It directed its president, the Reverend Sherman Coolidge, an Arapahoe Indian, to call upon the country to observe such a day. He issued a proclamation on September 28, 1915, which declared the second Saturday of each May as an American Indian Day. The proclamation also contained the first formal appeal for recognition of Indians as citizens.



Save Energy and You Serve America!



The year before this proclamation was issued, Red Fox James, a Blackfeet, rode through many States seeking approval for the celebration of a day in honor of American Indians. He later presented the endorsements of 24 State governors to the White House on December 14, 1915.

The first American Indian Day was observed on the second Saturday in May 1916, when the Governor of New York fixed that day for a State observance. Several States celebrated the fourth Friday in September as American Indian Day. In Illinois, for example, it became that day by legislative enactment in 1919. In Massachusetts, in accordance with a law passed in 1935, the Governor issues a proclamation designating the day that will become American Indian Day for each year.

The Governor of Oklahoma recently proclaimed the week of October 10 through 16, 1976, as "Native American Awareness Week" in that State. On July 8, 1976, the Mayor of Los Angeles issued a similar proclamation and called upon the citizens of the city to observe the week of October 10 through 16, 1976, "with appropriate ceremonies and activities." We understand that such observances will also be held this year in the cities of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, San Francisco, California, and Nassau Bay, Texas.

Indian contributions to American society, both in times of war and peace, have been largely overlooked by historians. It is not generally recognized that the patriotism shown by more than 8,000 Indian servicemen in World War I (the majority by voluntary enlistment) was one of the main factors which influenced the Congress to pass the Indian Citizenship Act of 1924.

In World War II more than 25,000 Indian men and women served in the Armed Forces, fighting on all fronts in Europe and Asia and winning (according to an incomplete count) 71 awards of the Air Medal, 51 of the Silver Star, 47 of the Bronze Star, 34 of the Distinguished Flying Cross, and two of the Congressional Medal of Honor.

One of the better known Indian exploits was that of the Navajo Marines who used the Navajo language as a battlefield code which the Japanese could not break. The Navajo "code talkers" were recent participants in the July 3, 1976, Bicentennial Parade in Washington, D.C.

Lesser known contributions of Indian people include, among others, active participation in the Revolutionary War between 1777 and 1784 by members of the Passamaquoddy tribe. This military contribution was recently recognized by the United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit, in Passamaquoddy, et al. v. Morton, et al., 388 F. Supp. 649, 667 (D. Me. 1975).



The form of the government of the Six Nations of the Iroquois Confederacy set a major example for the American people during the time of the creation of our own government. The working example of such a "confederacy," where tribes elected a headman or chief who was, individually, their master, and collectively, their servant, contributed to the American adoption of government with the consent of the governed.

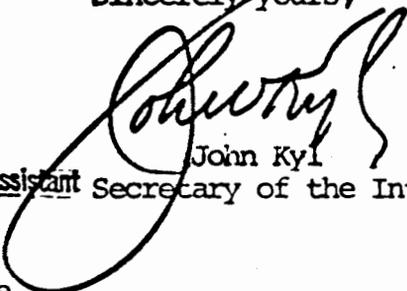
The reverence of Indian people for the land and environment pre-dated and served as an example for the growing national concern for conservation of natural resources which evolved into a nationwide movement for ecology and environmental protection.

The Executive Director of the National Congress of American Indians, the oldest and largest National Indian organization in this country, has endorsed legislation to establish a National Native American Awareness Week during the week of October 10 through 16, 1976.

We urge prompt favorable consideration by your Committee of S.J. Res. 44 or one of the other bills mentioned above.

The Office of Management and Budget has advised that there is no objection to the presentation of this report from the standpoint of the Administration's program.

Sincerely yours,


John Kyl
Assistant Secretary of the Interior

Honorable David Henderson
Chairman, Committee on
Post Office and Civil Service
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

NATIVE AMERICAN AWARENESS WEEK

PROCLAMATION ----- OCTOBER , 1976

By the President of the United States of America, a Proclamation:

The Native American or American Indian people have a special and unique history and relationship to the United States and it is fitting that in this Bicentennial year of our Nation that the Congress, by a joint resolution of October __, 1976 (90 Stat. ___), has requested the President to issue a proclamation designating the week of October 10 through 16, 1976, as Native American Awareness Week, calling for its appropriate observance and declaring that --

"Whereas native American people, both on and off the reservations, are receiving too little recognition for their contributions to society;

Whereas to the extent there has been oppression of all Indian tribes and people, many non-Indians have lost or have never fully understood the true image of the native American;

Whereas there is a strong and renewed interest in the self-preservation of all aspects of Indian culture and heritage;

Whereas there is urgency to promote a unified effort of all for the common good, and to bring about a more wholesome relationship among native Americans;

Whereas the native American population is working for a better future, for a revival of participation in the tribal affairs, and for a revival of moral support for the tribal councils;

Whereas the opportunity exists for an improved understanding regarding how the peoples' needs and desires are reflected in the programs and policies of the tribal governments and Federal agencies;

Whereas the native American communities are voicing greater self-expression and exposure of their value to surrounding communities, and are taking a more active role in the use and development of their skills and resources;

Whereas the native American people made significant historical contributions to the welfare and survival of early pioneers and explorers who ultimately founded the Republic of the United States of America:"

Now, Therefore, I, Gerald R. Ford, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the week of October 10 through 16 as Native American Awareness Week and call upon the people of the United States to observe that week with appropriate ceremonies and activities.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this ___ day of
October, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-six, and
of the Independence of the United States of America the two
hundred and first.



NATIVE AMERICAN AWARENESS WEEK

PROCLAMATION ----- OCTOBER ____, 1976

By the President of the United States of America, a Proclamation:

In this year of our Bicentennial we have in many ways expressed our pride in the heritage which our forebears have bequeathed to us. A vital part of our heritage is the cultural and spiritual contributions of our First Americans. However, these contributions have never been fully understood by historians nor given full recognition by Americans generally.

Indian contributions to American society have been evident both in times of war and peace. It is not generally recognized that the patriotism shown by more than 8000 Indian servicemen in World War I (the majority by voluntary enlistment) was an influential factor in persuading Congress to pass the Indian Citizenship Act of 1924.

One of the better known Indian exploits in World War II was that of the Navajo Marines who used the Navajo language as a battlefield code which the Japanese could not break. The Navajo "code talkers" were recent participants in the July 3, 1976, Bicentennial Parade in Washington, D. C.

The form of government of the Six Nations of the Iroquois Confederacy set a major example for the American people during the time of the creation of our own government. The working example of such a "confederacy," where tribes selected a headman or chief who was, individually, their master, and collectively, their servant, contributed to the American adoption of government with the consent of the governed.

The reverence of Indian people for the land and environment pre-dated and served as an example for the growing concern for conservation of natural resources which later evolved into a nationwide movement for ecology and environmental protection.

Many of our cities and States have already taken the initiative to declare that the week of October 10 through 16, 1976, as "Native American Awareness Week."

The Congress, by a joint resolution of October __, 1976 (90 Stat.____), has requested the President to issue a proclamation designating the week of October 10 through 16, 1976, as Native American Awareness Week, and calling for its appropriate observance.

Now therefore, I, Gerald R. Ford, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the week of October 10 through 16, 1976, as "Native American Awareness Week" and call upon the people of the United States to observe such week with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this __ day of October, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and seventy-six, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and first.

NATIVE AMERICAN AWARENESS WEEK

 SEPTEMBER 29, 1976.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. HRUSKA, from the Committee on the Judiciary, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S.J. Res. 209]

The Committee on the Judiciary, to which was referred the joint resolution (S.J. Res. 209), authorizing the President to proclaim the week of October 10 through 16, 1976, as "Native American Awareness Week," having considered the same, reports favorably thereon without amendment and recommends that the resolution be agreed to.

PURPOSE

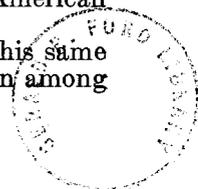
The purpose of the joint resolution is to authorize the President to proclaim the week of October 10 through 16, 1976, as "Native American Awareness Week."

STATEMENT

The central theme of Native American Awareness Week is to spotlight the impressive collection of contributions to our society made by American Indians, Eskimos, and Aleuts. Among this collection of talents are current and historical figures who have made notable contributions in education, law, medicine, art, the military, science, and literature. We do not pause often enough to recognize how various groups of Americans have helped our country and society become what it is today.

We think it is also important for us to realize the struggle that native Americans have faced in developing their talents and maintaining their identity. It has been difficult for these Americans to survive as distinct ethnic groups. Indeed, many tribes and groups have disappeared from this land, and the loss of them has somehow made us less than we could have been. During Native American Awareness Week, we should reflect on this great loss.

Not so many years ago, several tribes and groups faced this same extinction. But thanks to a resurgence of interest and concern among



native Americans, it is safe to say that America will be able to maintain and develop this part of her cultural heritage. We should recognize and be grateful for the many groups and individuals who are actively working to preserve that which might have been lost.

Another area to focus on is the reality of the struggle faced by many native Americans in taking part in the American dream. Too many of these Americans across our country lead a barely subsistence existence on some reservations and in rural and urban slums. Sadly, this happens all too often because we have neglected our responsibilities as leaders and because too many Americans have not been aware of and concerned about these problems.

The Committee on the Judiciary believes this joint resolution is meritorious and recommends its favorable consideration.





United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20245

IN REPLY REFER TO:

OCT 5 1976

Memorandum

To: Legislative Counsel
Through: Acting Deputy
Commissioner of Indian Affairs (SGD) THEODORE KRENZKE
From: Director, Congressional & Legislative Affairs Staff, BIA
Subject: Enrolled bill S.J.Res. 209, authorizing the President to
proclaim the week of October 10 through 16, 1976, as Native
American Awareness Week.

We recommend approval of S.J.Res. 209 which is the same as H.J.Res. 946 which was the subject of a favorable Interior Department report of September 21, 1976, to the House Post Office and Civil Service Committee.

Enclosed are two alternative draft proclamations to implement S.J.Res. 209.

(Sgd) Ralph Reeser

Ralph R. Reeser

Enclosures

cc: Brad Patterson w/encl.





GENERAL COUNSEL

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

October 6, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR ROBERT D. LINDER

Subject: Native American Awareness Week

Enclosed is a proposed proclamation entitled "Native American Awareness Week."

The proposed proclamation was prepared in this office in accord with the passage of S.J. Res. 209 which passed both Houses of the Congress, and authorizes the President to designate the week of October 10 through October 16, 1976, as Native American Awareness Week. Also enclosed are suggestions informally submitted by a representative from the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Time has not permitted formal submission to the Department of Justice in accordance with the provisions of Executive Order No. 11030, as amended. However, an attorney in that Department, who normally reviews proposed Executive orders and proclamations for form and legality, has reviewed this proposed proclamation and has informally advised that there is no legal objection to its issuance.

We have not as yet received a copy of the enrolled bill from the Congress; however, in order to avoid the situation of having to designate a week after it is all over or of vetoing the Joint Resolution, we are forwarding the proposed proclamation so that it may be presented promptly for the President's consideration.

This proposed proclamation has the approval of the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

(Signed) William M. Nichols

William M. Nichols
General Counsel

2 Enclosures

COPY FOR MR. BRAD PATTERSON - THE WHITE HOUSE

NATIVE AMERICAN AWARENESS WEEK

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

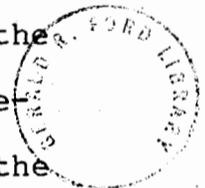
A PROCLAMATION

It is especially appropriate during our Bicentennial Year to recall the impressive collection of contributions made to our society by American Indians, Eskimos, and Aleuts. These native Americans have made notable contributions in education, law, medicine, art, the military, science and literature.

The culture and heritage of our native Americans are uniquely American. In renewing the spirit and determined dedication of 1776 which brought forth a new Nation, we should also join with our native Americans in rebuilding an awareness, understanding and appreciation for their historical role and future participation in the American dream. We should do so with the same spirit and dedication which, fostered with reliance on Divine Providence and with firm belief in individual liberty, kindled and made a reality of the hopes for a new life for all who inhabited this land.

In recognition of the importance of the contributions made to our society by native Americans, the Senate (September 30, 1976) and the House of Representatives (October 1, 1976) have requested that the President proclaim the week of October 10, 1976, as Native American Awareness Week (S.J. Res. 209).

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GERALD R. FORD, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate the



week beginning October 10, 1976, and ending October 16, 1976, as Native American Awareness Week.

I call upon all the people of the United States to join in observing this week with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this day of , in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-six, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and first.

October 6, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Subject: Proposed Proclamation entitled "Native American Awareness Week"

Mr. Leon Ulman, Office of Legal Counsel, Department of Justice (187-2051), advised they had reviewed this proposed proclamation and had no objection to its issuance.


Ronald A. Kienlen

Assistant General Counsel



NATIVE AMERICAN AWARENESS WEEK

PROCLAMATION ----- OCTOBER , 1976

By the President of the United States of America, a Proclamation:

The Native American or American Indian people have a special and unique history and relationship to the United States and it is fitting that in this Bicentennial year of our Nation that the Congress, by a joint resolution of October__, 1976 (90 Stat.____), has requested the President to issue a proclamation designating the week of October 10 through 16, 1976, as Native American Awareness Week, calling for its appropriate observance and declaring that --

"Whereas native American people, both on and off the reservations, are receiving too little recognition for their contributions to society;

Whereas to the extent there has been oppression of all Indian tribes and people, many non-Indians have lost or have never fully understood the true image of the native American;

Whereas there is a strong and renewed interest in the self-preservation of all aspects of Indian culture and heritage;

Whereas there is urgency to promote a unified effort of all for the common good, and to bring about a more wholesome relationship among native Americans;

Whereas the native American population is working for a better future, for a revival of participation in the tribal affairs, and for a revival of moral support for the tribal councils;

Whereas the opportunity exists for an improved understanding regarding how the peoples' needs and desires are reflected in the programs and policies of the tribal governments and Federal agencies;

Whereas the native American communities are voicing greater self-expression and exposure of their value to surrounding communities, and are taking a more active role in the use and development of their skills and resources;

Whereas the native American people made significant historical contributions to the welfare and survival of early pioneers and explorers who ultimately founded the Republic of the United States of America:"

Now, Therefore, I, Gerald R. Ford, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the week of October 10 through 16 as Native American Awareness Week and call upon the people of the United States to observe that week with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this ___ day of
October, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-six, and
of the Independence of the United States of America the two
hundred and first.

NATIVE AMERICAN AWARENESS WEEK

PROCLAMATION ----- OCTOBER ____, 1976

By the President of the United States of America, a Proclamation:

In this year of our Bicentennial we have in many ways expressed our pride in the heritage which our forebears have bequeathed to us. A vital part of our heritage is the cultural and spiritual contributions of our First Americans. However, these contributions have never been fully understood by historians nor given full recognition by Americans generally.

Indian contributions to American society have been evident both in times of war and peace. It is not generally recognized that the patriotism shown by more than 8000 Indian servicemen in World War I (the majority by voluntary enlistment) was an influential factor in persuading Congress to pass the Indian Citizenship Act of 1924.

One of the better known Indian exploits in World War II was that of the Navajo Marines who used the Navajo language as a battlefield code which the Japanese could not break. The Navajo "code talkers" were recent participants in the July 3, 1976, Bicentennial Parade in Washington, D. C.

The form of government of the Six Nations of the Iroquois Confederacy set a major example for the American people during the time of the creation of our own government. The working example of such a "confederacy," where tribes selected a headman or chief who was, individually, their master, and collectively, their servant, contributed to the American adoption of government with the consent of the governed.

The reverence of Indian people for the land and environment pre-dated and served as an example for the growing concern for conservation of natural resources which later evolved into a nationwide movement for ecology and environmental protection.

Many of our cities and States have already taken the initiative to declare that the week of October 10 through 16, 1976, as "Native American Awareness Week."

Alternative #2

The Congress, by a joint resolution of October __, 1976 (90 Stat. __), has requested the President to issue a proclamation designating the week of October 10 through 16, 1976, as Native American Awareness Week, and calling for its appropriate observance.

Now therefore, I, Gerald R. Ford, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the week of October 10 through 16, 1976, as "Native American Awareness Week" and call upon the people of the United States to observe such week with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this __ day of October, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and seventy-six, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and first.

BRAD:

DON BLUEJACKET CALLED AND LEFT LIST OF TRIBES:

ABSENTEE SHAWNEE
CADDO
CHEYENNE-ARAPAHO
CITIZENS BAND POTAWATOMI
COMMANCHE
DELAWARE OF WESTERN OKLAHOMA (KNOWN AS ABSENTEE DELAWARE)
FORT SILL APACHE
IOWA OF KANSAS-NEBRASKA
IOWA OF OKLAHOMA
KAW
KICKAPOO
KICKAPOO OF OKLAHOMA
KIOWA
APACHE
OTOE MISSOURIA
PAWNEE
PONCA
PRAIRIE BAND POTAWATOMI
SAC AND FOX OF MISSOURI
SAC AND FOX OF OKLAHOMA
TONKAWA
WICHITA

ALL COMPRISE THE UNITED WESTERN INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL

YOU CAN REACH HIM AT HOME TONIGHT IF NOT IN HIS OFFICE.

HOME NUMBER: CLAIRMORE, OKLAHOMA (918) 341-3342



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 6, 1976

NOTE TO BILL NICHOLSON

Subject: Possible Indian Event at Lawton, Oklahoma



Recapping what I mentioned to you last night, the following describes what might be a small opportunity for the President (I guess his only one during the campaign) to strike a chord for Indians.

The Congress has, in its final hours, approved a Joint Resolution designating October 10-16 as Native American Awareness Week. (This has no foundation in US or Indian history, but there it is, and we are stuck with it.) It is S.J. Res. 209, being enrolled.

If the enrolled Resolution gets here in time for the President to sign it, the following events are a possibility:

1. Interior is drafting and OMB has been alerted to clear, quickly, a Proclamation. Hopefully to be ready for the 2:30 courier today.
2. President arrives in Lawton Oklahoma for an "open arrival" at 6:15 Friday the 8th. This is in Indian country.
3. (MINIMUM EVENT): The President could sign the Resolution and the Proclamation and make a few remarks about them upon arrival at Lawton.
- 3-a. (MORE THAN MINIMUM) In Lawton there is the Fort Sill Indian School with 205 Indian students in grades 9-12. 125 of them are local students, 80 from other places in the US. The school is old, tho (1900) and is headed by a non-Indian superintendent. But also in Lawton is

a modern, accredited, (1966) Indian Health Service hospital of 80 beds and an outpatient clinic. It is directed by an Indian (Emerson Eckiwady). The President might go to the hospital, sign the Resolution and the Proclamation, and talk about his signing of the Indian Health Bill and a bit more about his policies for Indians.

4. For either 3 or 3-a, with some advance notice, we could assemble some Indian leaders who are there in Western Oklahoma (Tribal Chairmen of Kiowa, Cheyenne-Arapahoe, Wichita/Caddo, maybe others). A gent named Howard Goodbear (who lives near Oklahoma City) is Chairman of a group called **the** United Western Tribes of Oklahoma; he is a Republican and could help us with the arrangements, I believe, if called upon. (There are many tribes in Eastern Oklahoma, but that is a different bunch.)

- A. NOTE: Oklahoma is the state with the largest Indian population of all: 98,468 Indians according to the 1970 Census.
- B. POLICY NOTE: The purpose of anything the President does re Indians is not so much to get Indians to vote for him but to reinforce his very good and very pro-Indian position in the perception of the American public, which itself is very pro-Indian.
- C. LEGAL NOTE: After starting this memo, I got a call from BIA's Legislative counsel who informs me that the actual Resolution, SJ Res 209, enrolled, won't reach the White House until Friday. But the Proclamation will be ready for the courier today. But technically, the President doesn't require the Resolution before he signs the Proclamation -- it's just that that's been our

policy, in order to screen out thousands of requests for prob~~lam~~ations. This being the legal situation, and since the Resolution has been passed, we could certainly stretch this into an entirely proper signing at Lawton. Bill Nichols, General Counsel of OMB, concurs in this view .

I recommend you DX this out to Terry and then give me further guidance. I will not put anything in motion with the Indian people until I hear further from you , tho I am doing some contingency staff work within the Executive Branch.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Gerald R. Ford". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned in the lower right quadrant of the page.

cc: Baroody
Linder



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 6, 1976

NOTE TO BILL NICHOLSON

Some more pertinent information about the possible Indian event in Lawton:

1. As I mentioned on the phone, the Chiefs of the Five Civilized Tribes of Eastern Oklahoma (Chickasaws, Seminoles, Choctaws, Cherokees and Creeks) are meeting for their quarterly intertribal meeting in Sulphur, Oklahoma, 60 miles from Lawton. on October 7-8. These are the big, "heavy" tribes from E. Oklahoma, where most of the Indians live. The western tribes (22 count 'em 22) are much smaller.

2. It would not be proper -- and would lay us open (the second time) to the charge of manipulation -- if we just asked such important leaders to come to Lawton, especially from far away, to only a ceremony, handshakes, pictures, etc.

3. Accordingly I propose that the President say a few words at the airport at Lawton, ~~the~~ skip any stop at any hospital, and meet with the Oklahoma Indian leaders from the eastern and western part of the State, for 30 minutes at his hotel. Private meeting at first, then call in the press and cameras for full press coverage of the signing of the Proclamation. (OMB has sent it to Limer; it is ready).

4. This would be much easier on the boss and on all the security etc logistics -- to have just two places



to worry about: the airport and the hotel.

5. My intelligence system has picked up word that Carter is going to be in Albuquerque on noon of that same day--- the 8th -- and has invited tribal leaders from all over the US , especially New Mexico -- to join him in Albuquerque for a period around the noon hour. Ted Marris is doing detective work to try to find out, but his interim report is that there will be no private meeting with Carter -- the Indians are just being invited to be present at a rally. All the more reason for the President to have an actual meeting.

Marris will let me know if he finds out anything more about Carter's plans.



cc: Baroody

130

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Rec'd. Comr.s. Office

OCT 7 1976

October 6

130-Action
(cc: 100)

Morrie -

Is this draft absolutely
correct vis-a-vis Oklahoma
Indians?



Please **check** carefully &
let me know of any important changes
that shouldbe made (the writers
here are probably going to edit it
considerably...)

Handwritten signature

HAND CARRY

TO: L. Ingles

ROOM: 130 343-7445

AIRPORT REMARKS - LAWTON OKLAHOMA

Re Indians

(Assumption: approval of the pending proposal for the President to meet with Indian leaders for half an hour following the airport arrival.)

One of the reasons I particularly wanted to come to Lawton is to be with and meet with Indian people in this State of Oklahoma -- which has more Indian residents than any other State in the Union.

There is no domestic matter of which I am more proud than the record of this Administration and its predecessor in changing the policies of the past for American Indians.

Indian people -- and the American people generally -- know how shameful those policies were. In the past there were treaties made -- and the Government broke them. In the past there was Indian land reserved, and the Government took it away. In the past the Government told many tribes that they should terminate themselves and that their Reservations would be wiped out. [The remaining tribes were run for decades by a paternalistic federal bureaucracy.] *Omit*



Beginning in 1970, those old policies have been totally reversed.

In January of 1975 I signed the Indian Self-Determination Act -- a Magna Charter for American Indian people.

Today we recognize Indian tribal governments -- including those in Oklahoma -- as vital governmental organizations in their own right. My policy now is to offer Indian tribes the opportunity to run and manage their own schools, their own hospitals, their own economic development. At the pace they choose, Indian tribes can contract to take over these functions ~~and to diminish that federal bureaucracy.~~ Under the Self-Determination Act, Indian parents are given a definite voice in the education of their children and Indian tribal governments are strengthened.

Just a week ago I signed the Indian Health Care Improvement Act, which authorizes significantly greater resources for the Indian health care delivery system. I know you are proud of the fine, accredited Indian hospital here in Lawton -- but many Indian hospitals are not accredited, and we must, and will, bring them up to standard.

I will be meeting later this evening with the Tribal Chairmen and leaders of the Western and the Eastern Oklahoma tribes. I want to sit down with them and have a face to face talk about issues and questions which we face together.

At the end of our meeting, I will sign a Proclamation declaring October 10-16 as Native American Awareness Week.

You all know the challenge which goes "Put your money where your mouth is!"

My administration's support for Indian programs is not just rhetoric from the mouth; it is dollars where they are needed.

Eight years ago the Bureau of Indian Affairs budget was \$262 million dollars; today it is ~~\$75~~^{\$177} million. The Indian Health budget was \$113 millions; today it is \$425 millions. Four years ago the manpower training budget for Indian people was \$17 millions; today mine is \$75 millions; HEW's Indian education budget was \$18 millions; mine today is \$42 millions.

My record of support for Indian programs and for the protection of Indian trust rights is clear and precise. I am confident that Indian people will want those policies -- and my Administration -- to continue.



AIRPORT REMARKS - LAWTON OKLAHOMA

Re Indians

(Assumption: approval of the pending proposal for the President to meet with Indian leaders for half an hour following the airport arrival.)

One of the reasons I particularly wanted to come to Lawton is to be with and meet with Indian people in this State of Oklahoma -- which has more Indian residents than any other State in the Union.

There is no domestic matter of which I am more proud than the record of this Administration and its predecessor in changing the policies of the past for American Indians.

Indian people -- and the American people generally -- know how shameful those policies were. In the past there were treaties made-- and the Government broke them. In the past there was Indian land reserved, and the Government took it away. In the past the Government told many tribes that they should terminate themselves and that their Reservations would be wiped out. The remaining tribes were run for decades by a paternalistic federal bureaucracy.

Beginning in 1970, those old policies have been totally reversed. In January of 1975 I signed the Indian Self-Determination Act -- a Magna Charter for American Indian people.

Today we recognize Indian tribal governments -- including those in Oklahoma -- as vital governmental organizations in their own right. My policy now is to offer Indian tribes the opportunity to run and manage their own schools, their own hospitals, their own economic development. At the pace they choose, Indian tribes can contract to take over these functions and to diminish ~~that~~ federal bureaucracy. Under the Self-Determination Act, Indian parents are given a definite voice in the education of their children and Indian tribal governments are strengthened.



Just a week ago I signed the Indian Health Care Improvement Act, which authorizes significantly greater resources for the Indian health care delivery system. I know you are proud of the fine, accredited Indian hospital here in Lawton -- but many Indian hospitals are not accredited, and we must and will bring them up to standard.

I will be meeting later this evening with the Tribal Chairmen and leaders of the Western and the Eastern Oklahoma tribes. I want to sit down with them and have a face to face talk about issues and questions which we face together.

At the end of our meeting, I will sign a Proclamation declaring October 10-16 as Native American Awareness Week.

You all know the challenge which goes "Put your money where your mouth is!"

My administration's support for Indian programs is not just rhetoric from the mouth; it is dollars where they are needed.

Eight years ago the Bureau of Indian Affairs budget was \$262 million dollars; today it is \$764 millions. The Indian Health budget was \$113 millions; today it is \$425 millions. Four years ago the manpower training budget for Indian people was \$17 millions; today mine is \$75 millions; HEW's Indian education budget was \$18 millions; mine today is \$42 millions.

My record of support for Indian programs and for the protection of Indian trust rights is clear and precise. I am confident that Indian people will want those policies -- and my Administration -- to continue.

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
A PROCLAMATION

It is especially appropriate during our Bicentennial Year to recall the impressive ~~collection of contributions~~ ^{role played} ~~made to~~ ⁱⁿ our society by American Indians, Eskimos, and Aleuts. ~~These~~ Native Americans have made notable contributions in education, law, medicine, ^{sports,} art, the military, science and literature.

The culture and heritage of our native Americans are uniquely ~~American~~. In renewing the spirit and determined dedication of ^{the past 200 years} ~~1776~~ ^{that} ~~which brought forth a new Nation,~~ we should also join with our native Americans in rebuilding an awareness, understanding and appreciation for their historical role and future participation in ^{our diverse society.} ~~the American dream.~~ We should do so with the same spirit and dedication which, fostered with reliance on Divine Providence and with firm belief in individual liberty, kindled and made a reality of the hopes for a new life for all who inhabited this land.

In recognition of the importance of the contributions made to ^{many-cultured} ~~our~~ society by native Americans, the Senate (September 30, 1976) and the House of Representatives (October 1, 1976) have requested that the President proclaim the week of October 10, 1976, as Native American Awareness Week (S.J. Res. 209).

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GERALD R. FORD, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate the



NATIVE AMERICAN AWARENESS WEEK, 1976

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A PROCLAMATION

It is especially appropriate during our Bicentennial Year to recall the impressive role played in our society by American Indians, Eskimos, and Aleuts. Native Americans have made notable contributions in education, law, medicine, sports, art, the military, science and literature.

The culture and heritage of our native Americans are unique. In renewing the spirit and determined dedication of the past 200 years we should also join with our native Americans in rebuilding an awareness, understanding and appreciation for their historical role and future participation in our diverse American society. We should do so with the same spirit and dedication which, fostered with reliance on Divine Providence and with firm belief in individual liberty, kindled and made a reality of the hopes for a new life for all who inhabited this land.

In recognition of the importance of the contributions made to our many-cultured society by native Americans, the Senate (September 30, 1976) and the House of Representatives (October 1, 1976) have requested that the President proclaim the week of October 10, 1976, as Native American Awareness Week (S.J. Res. 209).

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GERALD R. FORD, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate the week beginning October 10, 1976, and ending October 16, 1976, as Native American Awareness Week.



I call upon all the people of the United States to join in observing this week with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this
day of October, in the year of our Lord nineteen
hundred seventy-six, and of the Independence of the
United States of America the two hundred and first.

October 7, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: DICK CHENEY
FROM: BILL BAROODY, JR.

I have learned from the Scheduling office that they have turned down the recommendation that the President have a private meeting with Oklahoma Indian leaders in Lawton tomorrow night.

This will put the President in a clearly embarrassing posture -- because of a development you should know about.

On the same day -- on the 8th around noon -- Carter has scheduled a half-hour dialogue meeting in Albuquerque with 6 leaders from the National Congress of American Indians, 6 from the National Tribal Chairmen's Association and some New Mexico Pueblo Governors. Among the group will be the President of NCAI (Mal Tonasket) and the President of the National Tribal Chairmen (Wendell Chino). It was Tonasket who came to the meeting here on July 16 and then criticized the Administration for not permitting any dialogue and for "using" Indians "in costume" primarily for ceremonial purposes.

At Lawton tomorrow night we are planning -- you guessed it -- only another Indian ceremony: witnessing the signing of a Proclamation designating October 10-16 as "Native American Awareness Week."

The comparison -- coming on the same day -- will be acute and, for us, painful.

We have two alternatives to get ourselves out of this box:

a. Have that private meeting Friday night in Lawton at the hotel with 10 or 20 Indian tribal chairmen from Oklahoma.



b. Have the President, during his Lawton airport remarks, announce that he is issuing an invitation to national Indian leaders to meet with his Cabinet, his Staff and himself for a day long conference at the White House after either the election or the Inauguration to go over ideas for a Second Special Indian Message to the Congress (Nixon's of July, 1970 was the first). (February would probably be the best date, following the submission of the Report of the American Indian Policy Review Commission, a joint Congressional/Indian outfit.)

I recommend Alternative b. with Alternative a. as a fall-back (much less desirable because he would tend to hear only local Oklahoma issues). I attach a paragraph he could use.

But without either a. or b., we will be set up for embarrassing criticism from the Indian community -- its significance being that such criticism is quickly echoed in the non-Indian world.

I now have a special announcement I wish to make to the community of Indian people across the Nation.

In January of 1975 the Congress created the American Indian Policy Review Commission. I have kept abreast of its work and am aware that the Commission's final report is scheduled to be made to the Congress in February of 1977.

At that point, both Indian people and the Congress will want to know how the President stands concerning the recommendations which the Commission will be making.

I wish to announce today that I am going to invite the responsible leaders of the American Indian community to the White House in February of 1977 -- not for ceremonies -- but for a full day of serious dialogue with members of my Cabinet, my staff and myself. The purpose of this conference will be to shape ideas for a Second Special Message to the Congress on Indian policies and legislation. The first was the milestone Message of July 8, 1970; but the progress we have made must go on. Early in my second Administration I shall send such a Message and I want Indian leaders to sit down with me and discuss its substance.

DRAFT
TEXT

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 8

11:15 AM

NOTE TO WJB:

Ted Marrs and I have a deal that he will get, from one of the participants, the substance of the meeting Carter is having today with the Indians (noon - Albuquerque - 3 PM our time). Ted will phone me.

If there is anything that transpires which would affect the President's remarks tonight, I'll be in touch with you.

If you hear anything from Cheney re the memo we sent him, please let me know right away; BIA has contingency briefing material being prepared in case Option (a) is chosen.

Brad



TALKING POINTS FOR SIGNING THE PROCLAMATION
ON NATIVE AMERICAN AWARENESS WEEK

There are some million Indian citizens in America, and some may say "that is a very small minority."

I count American Indian people, however, not in numbers but in the honored place they hold in our multi-cultured society, and in the future of our nation.

The 215 million of us are keenly concerned with the 1 million; the welfare and progress of Native Americans is high on the agenda of the American conscience.

My administration is equally determined that history is going to continue to be changed -- that the Indian shall no longer be lowest in poverty and slimmest in opportunity. And we are making those changes now.

I sign this Proclamation as a signal of that determination -- and as an invitation to all my fellow citizens to reaffirm that our First Americans are among America's most respected and honored citizens.



PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS AT LAWTON AIRPORT RALLY, LAWTON, OKLAHOMA,
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1976

It's great to be in Oklahoma. No state in the union has more residents who are Native Americans than the great state of Oklahoma. No domestic matter has given me greater pride than my Administration's record of turning around the discrimination and neglect that all Indians faced for so many years.

In January of 1975 I signed the Indian Self-Determination Act -- a Magna Charter for American Indian people.

Today we recognize Indian tribal governments -- including those in Oklahoma -- as vital governmental organizations in their own right.

Just a week ago I signed the Indian Health Care Improvement Act, which authorizes significantly greater resources for the Indian health care delivery system. I know you are proud of the fine, accredited Indian hospital here in Lawton -- but many Indian hospitals are not accredited, and we must and will bring them up to standard.

In just a few⁻²⁻ minutes

~~Later this evening I will be meeting with the Tribal Chairmen and leaders of the Western and the Eastern Oklahoma tribes. I want to sit down and talk with them face to face about issues that concern their people.~~

~~At the end of that meeting,~~ I will sign a Proclamation declaring October 10-16 as Native American Awareness Week.

My Administration's support for Indian programs is not just rhetoric. We backed up our words with dollars.

Eight years ago the Bureau of Indian Affairs budget was 262 million dollars; today it is ^{\$ 777} 764 million dollars. The Indian Health budget was 113 million dollars; today it is 425 million dollars. Our manpower training budget for Indian people has increased 400 percent in just four years.

My record of support for Indian programs and for the protection of Indian trustrights is clear and precise. America wants those policies to continue, and in the next four years they will continue.



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20245

IN REPLY REFER TO:

October 8, 1976

Memorandum

To: Mr. Bradley Patterson
Special Assistant to the President

From: Commissioner of Indian Affairs

Subject: Briefing Materials for the President's scheduled visit
to Lawton, Oklahoma

Herewith attached, please find issue and answer paper(s) for subject matters that may surface during the President's meeting with elected Tribal Leaders of Oklahoma.

Merrill Thompson

Attachments

*Brad
Hope it turns
out well*



Save Energy and You Serve America!

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

ORGANIZATION

The Bureau provides services to the Indian tribes of Oklahoma through the Anadarko and Muskogee Area Offices and twenty five subordinate service agencies.

The following is a list of the tribes serviced by the Anadarko and Muskogee Area Offices:

Anadarko

Absentee-Shawnee - Chairman, Danny Little Axe
Caddo - Chairman, Harry Guy Gooday
Cheyenne-Arapaho - Chairman, Howard Goodbeau
Potawatomi - Chairman, Gerald Peltier
Comanche - Chairman, James Cox
Delaware - Chairman, Lawrence Snake
Ft. Sill Apache - Chairman, Tilbert
Iowa - Chairman, Charles Morris
Kaw - Chairman, Jesse Mehojoh
Kickapoo - Chairman, Steve Cadue
Kiowa - Chairman, Pressley Ware
Otoe-Missouria - Chairman, Ken Black
Pawnee - Chairman, Tom Chapman
Ponca - Chairman, Leonard Biggoose
Prairie Potawatomi - Chairwoman, Camilla Wishkeno
Sac & Fox - Chairman, Curtis Giffillan
Tonkawa - Chairman, Henry Allen

Muskogee Area

Alabama-Quassarte - Chairman, Daniel Beaver
Cherokee - Chairman, Ross Swimmer
Chickasaw - Governor, Overton James
Choctaw - Principal Chief, David Gardner
Cherokee-Delaware - Chairman, Bruce Townsend
Creek - Principal Chief, Claude Cox
Eastern Shawnee - Chief, James Greenfeather
Miami - Chief, Floyd Leonard
Osage - Principal Chief, Sylvester Tinker
Peoria - Chief, Rodney Arnette
Quapaw - Chairman, Jesse McKibben
Seminole - Chief, Edwin Tanyan
Seneca - Cayuga - Chief, James Allan
Keetoowah - Chief, Bill Glory
Wyandotte - Chief, Leonard Cotter
Town King, Thlophlocco - Curtis Canard (Chief)



I N D E X

1. Indian Preference
2. OMB Memorandum
3. Commissioner's Resignation
4. Budget
5. Arkansas Riverbed
6. List of Tribal Officials

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
INDIAN PREFERENCE

Indian preference does not have uniform application for all tribes in the United States, especially in Oklahoma.

Probable Question:

What do you propose to do in order to bring about equity in the application of Indian Preference?

Answer:

In order to bring about uniform application of the law to all applicable Indian tribes, it will be necessary to amend the existing statute. Before doing this, I will entertain all recommendations that would be required to affect and bring about material benefits to the tribes concerned.

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

OMB MEMORANDUM

Recently, OMB issued a staff paper that upset the elected Tribal leaders in the United States.

This memorandum in effect proposed some rather adverse ideals regarding a new policy towards the Indian people of America.

Probable Question:

Would the President wish to commit on this rather controversial paper, referred to as the Borgstrom Memorandum?

Answer:

Recently at a White House meeting with Tribal leaders from across the United States on July 16, I unequivocally reassured the Indian leadership at that meeting that this Administration would not condone a new policy of forced termination.

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
RESIGNATION OF THE COMMISSIONER

Probable Question:

What plans does the administration have for filling the vacancy of Commissioner of Indian Affairs created by the resignation of Commissioner Thompson?

Answer:

Secretary Kleppe has assured me that during the transition period in filling this vacancy, the administration's trust responsibility will be maintained with no loss in program services. It will be an orderly transition and I solicit your recommendations in our recruiting process.



BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
BUDGET

Probable Question:

Would the President please provide for the Tribal Leaders a budget figure for FY '77 regarding the Bureau's Education allocation and total BIA Budget.

Answer:

In FY '76 the BIA received 747.1 million and for FY '77 the BIA will receive 776.8 million. This is an increase of almost 4%. The Education allocation for FY '77 is 230.1 million.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242

| | 1976 | | 1977 | | Proposed: 1978 | |
|---|--------------|--|----------------|-------------|-------------------|--------------|
| | \$ | | \$ | % increase | \$ | % increase |
| Operation of Indian Programs | | | | | | |
| 1. Education | 223.5 | | 230.1 | 3.0 | 247.8 | 7.7 |
| 2. Indian Services | 137.6 | | 155.4 | 12.9 | 166.7 | 7.3 |
| 3. Economic Development & Manpower Programs | 72.5 | | 72.9 | .1 | 70.6 | -3.3 |
| 4. Natural Resources | 36.0 | | 38.7 | 7.5 | 47.9 | 23.8 |
| 5. Trust Responsibility | 23.4 | | 25.5 | 9.0 | 29.5 | 15.7 |
| 6. General Management & Facilities Operation | 73.1 | | 80.1 | 9.6 | 81.7 | 2.0 |
| | <u>566.1</u> | | <u>602.7</u> | 6.5 | <u>644.2</u> | 6.9 |
| Construction | 80.7 | | 77.1 | -4.5 | 96.8 | 25.6 |
| Road Construction (Obligations) | - (60.1) | | 39.1 (71.0) | - (18.1) | 68.7 (69.4) | 75.7 --.9 |
| Miscellaneous Appropriations | 87.3 | | 42.9 | -50.9 | 45.6 | 6.3 |
| Revolving Loan Funds | 3.0 | | - | - | - | - |
| Loan Guaranty | 10.0 | | 15.0 | 50.0 | - | - |
| Total Federal Funds | <u>747.1</u> | | <u>776.8</u> | 3.9 | <u>855.3</u> | 10.1 |

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
ARKANSAS RIVERBED

Probable Question:

What will be the position of this administration concerning your settlement of the Arkansas Riverbed Claim?

Answer:

At the present time, as you know, the bill has been introduced into both houses and as of this date the respective committees have not submitted their recommendations. But my administration would favor a proper settlement of these claims.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Paul Davis

H
405

248-4262

0

[482-7133]

482-2250

222 of Hotel

5145

Folio from WHC



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

All Notes
via B/A

by TT
Instructions to attend
Wed Am at the airport

Come in to VIP section
inside fence

TT ~~is~~ helper
speeds

TT goes to avoid crowd
Indian part of VIP section
TT was by them
Tobacco & hand shake
Sept - 1961

457-6464

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Paul Davis

512-478-5963

10/6 B

Sherman Rose Hotel
405-232-4411

OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY
(Lawton, Oklahoma)

THE WHITE HOUSE

REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT
UPON SIGNING A PROCLAMATION DESIGNATING
NATIVE AMERICAN AWARENESS WEEK, 1976

THE MONTEGO BAY HOTEL

8:10 P.M. CDT

Before signing the Proclamation, I would like to make some additional remarks.

I would like to say a few words about a very important issue. No State in the Union has more residents who are native Americans than the great State of Oklahoma. No domestic matter has given me greater pride than my Administration's record of turning about the discrimination and neglect that all Indians faced for so many years.

In January of 1975 I signed the Indian Self-Determination Act, a magna carta for Indian people. Today we recognize Indian tribal Governments, including those in Oklahoma, as vital Government organizations in their own right.

Just a week ago I signed the Indian Health Care Improvement Act, which authorized significant improved resources for Indian health delivery care.

I know you are very proud of the fine accredited hospital here in Lawton, but many Indian hospitals are not accredited. We must -- and we will -- bring them up to standards.

In a few minutes I will sign a Presidential Proclamation declaring October 10 to 16 as Native American Awareness Week. The Administration support for Indian programs is not just rhetoric. We back up our words with action.

Eight years ago the Bureau of Indian Affairs -- its budget was \$262 million. Today it is \$777 million. The Indian health budget was \$113 million; today, \$425 million. Our manpower training budget for Indian people is four times bigger than it was only four years ago. The record of support for Indian programs and for the protection of Indian trust rights is clear and precise. America wants those policies to continue, and I can assure you that they will.

MORE

(OVER)



Let me say to the Oklahoma delegation, and Senator Paul Laxalt here from Nevada, as well as the tribal leaders, and I am delighted to have the opportunity of participating with them in the signing of this Proclamation.

There are about one million American Indian citizens, and some may say this is a very small minority. I count American Indian people, however, not in numbers but in the honored place that they hold in our multi-cultured society and in the future of our nation.

The 215 million of us are keenly concerned with the one million. The welfare and the progress of native Americans is high on the agenda of the American conscience.

My Administration is equally determined that history is going to continue to be changed, that the Indian shall no longer be lowest in poverty and slimmest in opportunity, and we are making those changes now.

I sign this Proclamation as a signal of that determination and as an invitation to all of my fellow citizens to reaffirm that our first Americans are among America's most respected and honored citizens.

Thank you all very much.

END (AT 8:10 P.M. CDT)

October 9, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary
(Dallas, Texas)

THE WHITE HOUSE

NATIVE AMERICAN AWARENESS WEEK, 1976

- - - - -

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A PROCLAMATION

It is especially appropriate during our Bicentennial Year to recall the impressive role played in our society by American Indians, Eskimos, and Aleuts. Native Americans have made notable contributions in education, law, medicine, sports, art, the military, science and literature.

The culture and heritage of our native Americans are unique. In renewing the spirit and determined dedication of the past 200 years we should also join with our native Americans in rebuilding an awareness, understanding and appreciation for their historical role and future participation in our diverse American society. We should do so with the same spirit and dedication which, fostered with reliance on Divine Providence and with firm belief in individual liberty, kindled and made a reality of the hopes for a new life for all who inhabited this land.

In recognition of the importance of the contributions made to our many-cultured society by native Americans, the Senate (September 30, 1976) and the House of Representatives (October 1, 1976) have requested that the President proclaim the week of October 10, 1976, as Native American Awareness Week (S.J. Res. 209).

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GERALD R. FORD, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate the week beginning October 10, 1976, and ending October 16, 1976, as Native American Awareness Week.

I call upon all the people of the United States to join in observing this week with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this eighth day of October, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-six, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and first.

GERALD R. FORD

#

