

INDIAN HISTORIANS SPEAK OUT--

DO the history textbooks used in American schools "tell it like it is" when the subject is the Indian role in American history?

The conclusions reached on this question by the American Indian Historical Society of San Francisco, California, are definitely in the negative. In a recent issue of its publication, *The Indian Historian*, the Society noted that forty-three textbooks used in the fourth, fifth, and eighth grades had the following characteristics:

The American Indian is barely mentioned in connection with the Colonial period of American history.

The American Indian's contribution to the economy of the nation and the world is barely mentioned, if at all.

The history of the Indian in the Gold Rush is either not mentioned or is distorted.

The history of the American Indian during the Mission period of California history is misinterpreted.

The description of the relationship between the federal government and Indians is distorted; there is no effort to

create an understanding of the current situation.

Treaties with the Indian tribes are not mentioned and at best are passed off lightly as of no account. The true condition of the reservation Indians is completely ignored, or misinterpreted. The current economic situation of the Indian is ignored.

Jeannette Henry, editor of *The Indian Historian* suggests that a more balanced presentation of the role of Indians in American history could give all American children a "deeper appreciation of the fact that mankind grows, makes mistakes, tries to correct them, and step by stumbling step, man reaches for understanding, knowledge, and a better way of life.

"We can teach the young student to understand other peoples, other cultures, other races. And first of all we teach him to understand the people, the culture, and the race which is entirely native to this land of ours. In this way we can strike a blow at prejudice more powerfully than any picket line."

Reprint from *Indian Record*, November 1968

YOU'RE INVITED



to a Dinner
for Task Force & Conference Officials
on Friday, January 12, 1968
at 6:00 P.M.
place Alaska Native Brotherhood Hall
given by Alaska Native Brotherhood
and Sisterhood



THE VICE PRESIDENT

WASHINGTON
20510

January 1968

Dear Mr. Bennett:

I am pleased to send you a copy of the Vice President's Handbook for Local Officials. As the Administration's liaison with Mayors and local officials, I came to realize that one of the significant problems in Federal-local coordination and cooperation was a lack of a central source of information about Federal programs. The Handbook was developed in response to this need.

The Handbook is designed for use as a companion piece to the Catalog of Federal Assistance Programs (Office of Economic Opportunity, June 1, 1967). It is organized by local problem areas -- all Federal programs that relate to a particular problem are grouped in one place. Marginal page references to the more detailed explanations in the Catalog will enable interested local officials to pursue particular programs further.

I believe that the Handbook will make a significant contribution toward better programs and more effective use of resources at the local level.

Sincerely,

Hubert H. Humphrey
Hubert H. Humphrey

Mr. Robert L. Bennett
Commissioner of Indian Affairs
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C.

February 26, 1968

Memorandum

To: Assistant Secretary Anderson
From: Commissioner of Indian Affairs
Subject: S. Con. Res. 11

Several questions are raised with respect to the proposed report on S. Con. Res. 11 submitted to this office yesterday for comments by the Assistant Legislative Counsel:

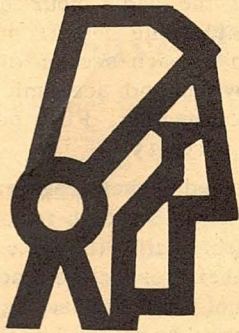
1. The report misses the point of the resolution.
2. The author of S. Con. Res. 11, Senator McGovern, is Chairman of the Subcommittee on Indian Affairs with whom I have an excellent working relationship. Failure to support this resolution in a positive manner will do irreparable damage to this relationship.
3. The political insensitivity of this report will not be lost on Senator McGovern, Democratic candidate for reelection to the Senate in 1968.
4. The hearing on S. Con. Res. 11 will be held before one of the largest groups of substantial Indian leadership from throughout the country with attendant publicity, and I could not in good conscience be the Departmental witness and attempt to support the report as written unless ordered to do so.
5. While I understand that the Department of HEW, OEO, and possibly others are taking a strong stand in favor of the report, we will appear with the posture of a wet sponge if the proposed report is submitted.

6. The contents of the report display an amazing naivete about the attitude in certain Congressional and Departmental circles toward Indian people and their property.
7. While policy statements alone may not help Indian people, a policy statement, H. Con. Res. 108 of the 80th Congress, almost wrecked them and S. Con. Res. 11 is an attempt to rectify and put to rest the effects of H. Con. Res. 108. This attempt is also to be made in the Presidential message.
8. The proposed report is not consistent with public statements made by many officials of the Bureau and the Department.
9. The report is defensive without sufficient grounds therefor and presumes a motive on the part of Senator McGovern which is not accurate.
10. As Commissioner of Indian Affairs, I determine the initial policy of the Bureau of Indian Affairs with respect to legislation affecting Indians. This, of course, can be changed by you and other members of the Secretariat but not by the Assistant Legislative Counsel. I think this point should be made clear to the Assistant Legislative Counsel.

I will be happy to discuss this memorandum with you at your convenience. The hearing is scheduled within 4-1/2 working days, on Tuesday, March 5, at 2 p.m. and our report will not have Bureau of the Budget clearance.

Commissioner

RLBennett/klm 2/28/68



INDIAN RECORD

February 1968

Commissioner's Comments

Important Indian Legislation Now Before Federal Congress

The next few weeks will be vital to Indian people as the 90th Congress begins its second session. Many matters affecting Indian people are before the Congress.

There is substantive legislation pending, such as:

- The Indian Resources Development bill
- A bill to settle the claims of the native peoples of Alaska
- Heirship bills
- Amendment to Public Law 280
- Repeal of the 1917 Act which restricts scholarship aid to Indian students
- Long-term leasing bills

There are also several judgment bills and other bills of interest to particular tribes.

In addition, in this very critical budget year, competition will be very keen and much work will need to be done to justify appropriations for many of the services you need and have requested, particularly where we are requesting increases or funds for new services.

Indications are that this session of the Congress will be shortened because of political conventions and election campaigns. All of this makes it necessary for me and my assistant commissioners to spend a major portion of our time the next few weeks in Washington in support of legislation for you.

We appreciate your many requests to visit and meet with you, but we need to place very high priorities on our work with the Congress. We know that you will cooperate with us, as you always have, and we will leave it to your good judgment when inviting us so that we can be with you on those important occasions which you feel are of special significance to you.

Robert L. Bennett



Secretary of the Interior Stewart L. Udall (right) presents an Interior Department Award of Valor to Daniel N. Martinez, a Papago tribal policeman, for his heroic rescue of two men trapped in a flooded desert wash.

Papago Policeman's Award Reflects Heroic Rescue Effort

An Indian Police Officer, who risked his life for two hours in the swirling waters of a swift running desert wash to rescue two men trapped on the roof of their car, received the Interior Department's Award of Valor from Interior Secretary Stewart L. Udall on December 12.

The Officer, Daniel N. Martinez, 40, of the Papago, Ariz. Reservation, was alerted to the plight of the two men the night of August 16, 1967. They had attempted to drive across Anegam wash, flooded by heavy rains, but their car was washed off the road and was in danger of being swept away by swift current.

Martinez quickly organized a rescue party in the community of Chui Chui and drove to the scene.

He backed his police truck into the wash to serve as a platform for rescue efforts. However, the current started to move this vehicle too and it had to be moved to shallow water where five Papagos climbed on top to weigh it down.

Securing one end of a rope to the truck, Martinez waded into the wash but was immediately swept off his feet and all but carried away by the rushing water. After four attempts he managed to get close enough to the car to throw a rope to the men trapped on its roof, and Guy Pence of Mesa, Ariz. was pulled to safety. Two tries later Martinez got the rope to Eddie Monroe, also of Mesa, and he was assisted to dry land. Martinez then drove the two men to his home and provided them with dry clothes so they could return to Mesa.

Martinez is a Mohave Indian from the Colorado River, Ariz. Reservation where he was employed for several years as tribal chief of police before being employed by the Bureau as a police officer.

Arizona School Program Works For Motivation

A unique educational program, designed to help Indian high school students develop the motivation and educational competence to finish high school and go on for further education is now underway in Arizona.

Named the Arizona Indian High School Demonstration Project, the program is directed by George A. Gill, assistant professor of education, Arizona State University, who is a member of the Omaha Tribe of Nebraska. Funds came from an Office of Economic Opportunity grant.

The 80 students who are participating (42 girls and 38 boys) represent the Mohave, Chemehueval, Hualapai, Hopi, Navajo, Papago, Gila River Pima-Maricopa, San Carlos Apache, and White Mountain Apache Tribes. They were selected from Bureau, mission, and public schools as students of normal learning ability who could benefit from added educational incentives.

These 80 students attended an 8-week residential program last summer on the Arizona State University campus at Tempe, Ariz., from June 17 to August 11. The curriculum included language, arts, typing, mathematics, Indian culture identification, philosophy, health, vocational careers and guidance. After school and weekend activities included a complete recreational program, cultural events, and numerous field trips.

Flexible scheduling, to avoid the dullness of routine, made it possible for students to attend

their regular classes throughout the week without attending any class at the same hour each day. Students received considerable help from the two project tutors assigned to each section of 16 students. These tutors provided both academic help and individual and group counseling. Fifty percent of the staff were of Indian ancestry.

As the students returned to their regular schools in September an extensive 10-month followup program was begun. Project staff will make personal visits to students and their respective teachers and schools during the school year. Counseling, testing, and evaluative sessions will be held with each student.

All the information obtained from this project will be shared with the schools and the tribes to present a better picture of how the student has been affected by the program and how motivation has been increased. If funds are available the program will be continued next year.

New Textile Plant Set For Oklahoma

Plans for the opening of a household textile plant at Tahlequah, Okla., were announced jointly January 9 by Governor Dewey F. Bartlett, Roy C. McCall, Jr., president, McCall Manufacturing Co., Easley, S.C., and W. W. Keeler, Cherokee Foundation and Principal Chief of Cherokee Tribe.

The Tahlequah plant will be operated as Starcross, Oklahoma, Inc., and is expected to begin operation in temporary location in February. Household, textile and related items will be produced.

Many of the employees will be Cherokee Indians. Employment the first year will be approximately 50 when the new 30,000 square foot building is completed and full production is reached.

In making the announcement Governor Bartlett said:

"The Bureau of Indian Affairs at Muskogee, the Tahlequah Chamber of Commerce, the Cherokee Foundation, and Oklahoma Northeast, Inc., are to be commended for their cooperative effort in bringing this industry into Northeastern Oklahoma. Employment should be a strong boost to the Tahlequah area economy.

Indians Say Rocks Will Grow

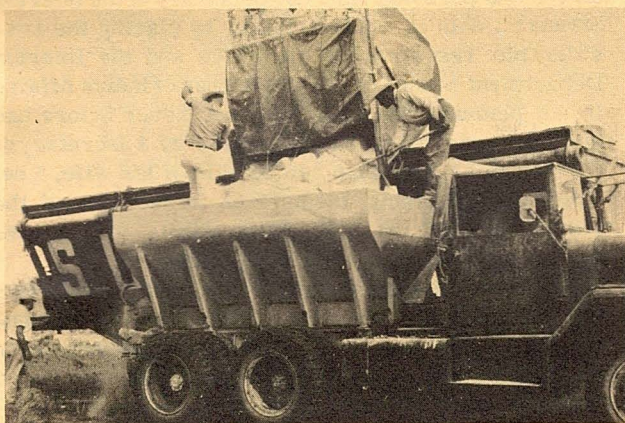
Indian legend holds that California's Alabama Rocks near Lone Pine, Inyo County, Calif., will one day be mountains like the 14,000 foot Sierra Nevada escarpment rising behind them. Their story is told in an article and photograph in a recent Sunday "New York Times" travel section.

Seminoles Make Things Grow, Save Tribal Cash

A famous line from the hit musical "Hello Dolly" says that "money is just like manure, you should spread it around to make things grow."

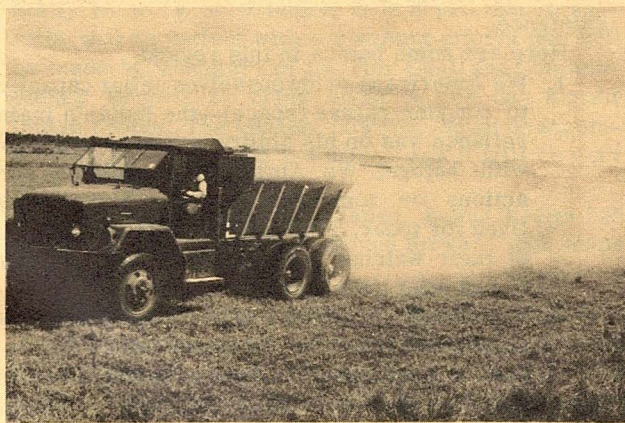
The Seminole Tribe of Florida is interested in money and in making things grow. Accordingly, it has developed a program that involves both a financial savings and an improved fertilizer program for the Tribe's extensive pasture lands on the Brighton and Big Cypress Reservations.

The fertilizer in this case is chemical rather than natural but it is an essential part of growing quality grass on which tribal members can graze their beef cattle herds.



Seminole workers load one of their truck spreaders from a semi-trailer.

Until recently the Tribe had hired the fertilizing done by a commercial company. But Seminole ranchers were concerned that the program was expensive and that they could not always get the work done at the exact time when the fertilizer would do the most good.



Pasture lands receive all important plant nutrition in the tribes latest enterprise.

The solution to these problems? The Seminoles decided to go into the fertilizing business for themselves. At a cost of a little more than \$5,000 they bought four surplus military trucks and spreader boxes.

After some instruction in the use and maintenance of the spreader trucks the tribesmen found that they could spread the fertilizer at an equipment and labor cost of \$3.12 per ton as compared to \$8.50 per ton for the job done commercially. In addition, the fertilizer could be put on at the exact time in the growing season when it would do the most good.

So not only are the Seminoles making things grow as efficiently as possible, they are saving themselves quite a bit of money in the bargain. For fiscal 1967 this saving amounted to \$8,309. And the 1,679 tons of fertilizer grows a lot of hay.

Three Named to Indian Claims Commission Posts

With the swearing in of three new commissioners of the Indian Claims Commission the last month of 1967, the Commission--established in 1946 to hear and determine claims against the United States on behalf of any group of American Indians residing within the United States--is now functioning with its full complement of five commissioners.

John T. Vance of Montana and Jerome K. Kuykendall of Virginia were sworn into office December 19, 1967. Vance fills one of two new vacancies created by Public Law 90-9 of April 10, 1967 which expanded the Commission membership from three to five commissioners. Kuykendall fills the vacancy created by the retirement of Arthur V. Watkins.

Richard W. Yarborough of Texas was sworn into office as the third new commissioner December 28, 1967. He fills the second of the two new vacancies.

Vance was born in Lexington, Ky. Oct. 12, 1921. He received his A.B. in history and political science from the University of Montana in 1947 and an LL.B from George Washington University in 1950. He served in the U.S. Army from 1942 to 1946.

Vance practiced law in Missoula, Mont. from 1950 to 1954. During this period he served as commissioner of safety in Missoula and in 1954 was appointed deputy county attorney for Missoula Co. From 1954 to 1963 Vance served as counsel to the Montana Trade Commission. He was city attorney of Helena, Mont. from 1964 to 1966. For the past academic year he has been director of the continuing legal education program at the University of North Dakota.

Kuykendall was born on Dec. 8, 1907, in Pomeroy, Wash. He graduated in 1932 with an LL.B. from the University of Washington and was admitted to the Washington Bar that same year.

From 1932 to 1941 he practiced law in Seattle. He was assistant attorney general for the State of Washington from 1941 to 1944, and then served from 1944 to 1946 as a lieutenant in the U.S. Naval Reserve. From 1946 to 1947 he was again the assistant attorney general for the State of Washington.

In 1947, Kuykendall was counsel to the Judiciary Committee of the Senate of the State of Washington. He was a partner in an Olympia, Wash. law firm from 1947 to 1951. From 1951 to 1953 he was chairman of the Public Service Commission of the State of Washington.

In 1953 President Eisenhower appointed Kuykendall as Chairman of the Federal Power Commission and he served in that capacity until 1961. From 1962 until September of this year he has been a partner in a Washington, D.C. law firm and in private practice.

Yarborough was born in Austin, Tex. Oct. 20, 1931. He attended the University of Texas, where he received a B.A. degree in 1953 and a law degree in 1955. Mr. Yarborough served in the U.S. Army from 1955 to 1957.

From 1957 to 1958, Yarborough was in private law practice in Austin, Tex. Additionally, during this period and from 1958 to 1965, he served both in Washington and Austin, on the staff of Ralph W. Yarborough, U.S. Senator from Texas.

Yarborough was a member of the staff of the Senate Committee on Labor and Public Welfare from 1965 to 1967. Most recently he has served as legislative assistant to Senator Yarborough.

Sioux Lawmaker Details Indian Future--Problems, Attitudes

(Editor's note: The following article appeared in the January 1967 issue of "The Optimist Magazine." Its author, Rep. Ben Reifel is a member of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe and a former Bureau of Indian Affairs employee. He has been a member of Congress from South Dakota since 1961.)

American Indians on U.S. reservations and in many cities like Minneapolis and Chicago are amongst the lowest income groups of our society.

This results from a shortage of jobs and/or skills on the reservations and in the cities, usually because of lack of social and technical preparation.

The Federal Government, through the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and the churches, via their missionary programs, worked hard for 100 years to educate, but it was not until 1928 that high school training for

Indians got under way in any great measure. Only in the last twenty years have Indian children had all 12 grades available to them.

New Programs Now

War on Poverty programs are adding to Bureau of Indian Affairs' efforts. Pre-school projects were initiated thirty years ago, but never were adequately funded. Now with Office of Economic Opportunity efforts on a nationwide scale, Indians are getting some help in this area of education.

Increased attention to disadvantaged minorities growing out of the recent civil rights legislation will tend to focus national interest on social and economic deficiencies among Indians.

Important in the present situation is the very active and personal interest Secretary of the Interior Stewart Udall is demonstrating by placing the considerable resources of his office and the Interior Department in support of the Bureau of Indian Affairs in its planning and programming. Never before has such dedicated concern been shown by a Secretary of the Interior. This also can be said of his wife, Lee. They are involving themselves in the arts of the Indian as well as furthering efforts to improve his physical and economic well-being.

So there is a great ferment in the top leadership in the Capitol. It commands attention and lends encouragement to all of us who want to be helpful in correcting the woeful circumstances that breed Indian squalor and feelings of helplessness.

People Slow to Change

People everywhere are slow to change. The Indians were here probably 20,000 years before Columbus or Leif Ericson. The life-ways of the many Indian people cultures are not easily uprooted and they should not be. Yet, some hold back social change necessary to a meaningful modern American existence.

Here are some basics in this regard:

1. We Americans pride ourselves on our capacity to conquer nature (space)--the Indian's main reliance was on his ability to live in harmony with nature. We Americans predicate our actions on tomorrow. Indians historically lived for today. For example, Americans look at their watches not to see the time it is, but to see what time it isn't yet!
2. Americans through their acquisitiveness strive to accumulate property which in general is prestigious. Indians have shared their goods mainly as a historical kind of social security and in part to achieve stature among their own peers. By the very nature of our

society this "sharing," while a fine gesture in expressing brotherhood to man, too often is carried to a fault in its application in our modern times.

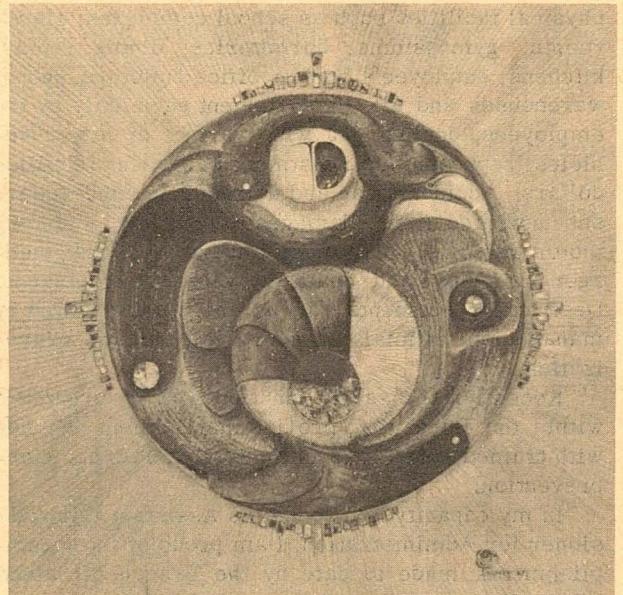
3. We Americans are obsessed with schedules. We make excuses to our associates when we don't show up on time for appointments. Indians place no great store on this phenomenon we refer to as "time." They even lack a word for it in their language.
4. An important part of our American economic development is based on personal savings and their profitable reinvestment. In the nature of things Indians found it to their disadvantage to save.
5. Americans through a long process of many generations have developed a high regard for work as a part of their family upbringing. In the Indians' hunting and food-gathering economy the men were warriors and hunters. The tedious tasks to maintain the family and the local community were left to the old men and the women. This was essential to existence in a territory where tribes continually were warring against each other.

The foregoing significant differences have been overcome effectively with education and job opportunities. Unfortunately, as indicated earlier, work for a money economy is not readily available on the reservations. Individuals who have responded to education and have an effective desire for a decent level of living have found it necessary to leave the reservations, or communities in cities where needy Indians predominate. Thus, those who remain behind consist mainly of young people who are not able to see firsthand every day the importance of "the world of work."

I hope in this short summary I have been able to picture the tremendous social adjustment that lies ahead in communities of Indians where there is virtually no work opportunity. It is hoped that Americans will be patient with the valiant efforts that will be made by Secretary of Interior Udall and Commissioner Bennett to bring about a new day for the Indian people. The change, however, must be accomplished in deeprooted traditions and it will be very slow.

Much has been accomplished. Indian health has improved. Education has moved forward with leaps and bounds.

Indians can change without losing the substance of their culture. There are sufficient examples everywhere by which we and the Indians can take heart. The present effort will not bring overnight changes for the better, but will definitely accelerate the process.



Last month INDIAN RECORD carried a photo of a Navajo rug woven by Lola Yazzie. The caption under the photo made mention of a carving by Lawney Reyes of the Colville Reservation as illustrating the difference between old and new forms of Indian art. Unfortunately, the picture of the carving did not appear. This is it.

30 Percent Work Injury Cut By 1970 Safety Goal of BIA

(Editor's note: The following is excerpted from "Safety, a Function of Effective Management," a speech given by J. Leonard Norwood, Assistant Commissioner for Administration of the Bureau of Indian Affairs before the Bureau Safety Management Conference, 55th National Safety Congress, Chicago, Ill.)

Safety within the Bureau of Indian Affairs is an on-going, vigorous, and energetic function designed specially to achieve management goals. First and foremost concern of management is the safety and welfare of Indian people, students, our employees and their families. Employees who perform their daily tasks, varied in nature and scope throughout the Bureau operations, are a prime safety responsibility of management. The safety of people is the primary ingredient of the achievement of a successful operation.

Second consideration of management officials is the protection of its physical facilities which houses the employees, Indians, and children, and the equipment used by employees to carry out their daily work.

Our Government has invested millions of dollars in the selection, placement, and training of its work force. Competent and thoroughly trained employees are the most valuable asset to our organization. Our

physical facilities such as school complexes, classrooms, gymnasiums, dormitories, dining rooms, kitchens, employee's homes, office buildings, shops, warehouses and all the equipment used daily by the employees, including a wide variety of motor vehicles, represent an investment in excess of a billion dollars. Accidents can and do result in unnecessary and unwanted fires, damages to property, including motor vehicles, and--most important to any manager--injuries and death to valuable employees. Destructive accidents can be and are prevented by management officials at every level of the organization.

Recently, the safety function was re-organized within the Bureau, to provide management officials with trained specialists in the total field of accident-prevention.

In my capacity and scope, as Assistant Commissioner for Administration, I am proud of the accomplishments made to date by the Branch of Safety. Your efforts are bringing the goals of management closer and closer every day.

Together, we are achieving better cost reduction in our operations; we are achieving better manpower utilization; and, we are making considerable gains in the total area of management improvement through the reduction of work errors.

Our President has established goals for every Federal Official in the "Mission-Safety 70" program, a 30 percent reduction in work injuries, property damage, structural fires, motor vehicles accidents, and their resultant costs by 1970.

Our combined efforts achieved the 30 percent cost reduction goal by 1966 - 4 years ahead of the final target year of 1970. However, complacency upon the part of any manager or supervisor within our organization can affect our final cost, the final frequency rate of work injuries and the final property damages under the "Mission-Safety 70" program. Complacency can result in criminal negligence. We have a trust responsibility to protect our students from fires and from injuries in our school dormitories, and all other school buildings. Exits from a school dormitory, from a school classroom building, from a gymnasium or dining room are to be operative at all times. Personnel in Plant Design and Construction, Plant Management and Safety are working diligently to have all the safety devices installed and operative to protect human lives in the event of a fire and/or other emergency. Thoughtless acts of employees when they



There aren't too many cows north of the Arctic Circle but the skills of the cowboy were in evidence recently when Will Rogers, Jr. visited the Bureau of Indian Affairs school at Wainwright. Here Rogers holds an Eskimo girl captive in a hoop of rope as he demonstrates that he has the same skills that his father made famous in the entertainment world. Rogers' visit was part of an inspection tour of Alaskan facilities he is making as an Assistant to Commissioner Robert L. Bennett. (Photo: Jim Bedford, University of Alaska)

bar or chain and padlock exit doors, or when they render emergency fire alarms inoperative are grounds for criminal negligence.

The Bureau has a higher frequency rate of disabling work injuries than the Department as a whole. We have the capabilities to reduce the frequency rate of disabling injuries below the Department rate. Let us now resolve our mutual determination and renew our sense of purpose to achieve the goals of a 50 percent reduction in the frequency rate and in the costs due to accidents by 1970 from the base year of 1963. In achieving the two goals by 1970, we will have a frequency rate of 6.5 or less, and our costs will be \$475,000 or less. The cost reduction goal will require approximately 10 percent reduction in costs due to accidents for the years--1968, 1969 and 1970 from last year's cost figures.

I re-assure you that I will do all that I possibly can from my office to help us achieve this goal. I am certain that we all agree that a frequency rate of 9 and a combined accident cost of \$645,000 is too high for our Bureau. Too high in the number of disabling work injuries; too high in the number of productive man days lost; too high in dollars lost; and far more significant to all managers and supervisors, too high in the amount of human suffering and grief that employees and their families must endure in carrying out our work programs.

Education Leader Calls For Partnership To Meet Goal of Indian Progress

(Editor's Note: The following is a condensation of a speech made by Joseph G. Colmen, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Education--Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, at the Governors' Interstate Indian Council meeting at Reno, Nev. October 18, 1967.)

Today in 1967, for the Indians, the time never looked better. First, the country has been awakened to the fact that segments of our society have been passed by in the race for affluence. Brought forcefully to the forefront by the militant Negro civil rights movement, persons in decision-making positions are becoming concerned about all forgotten groups, including Mexican Americans and Indians. They want to do something now.

Second, President Johnson has directed the Federal departments and agencies to point their resources to a far greater degree than they have in the past to helping to improve the quality of life for American Indians. The Bureau of Indian Affairs, historically preoccupied with natural resources and land, is turning much greater emphasis to a "people-oriented" mission. Secretary Udall is committed to the goal of equalizing opportunity and choice for the Indian people. In Commissioner Bennett, there is a leader who, Indian himself, is devoted with understanding and compassion to seeing his people enjoy the fruits of our great country.

Our mammoth Federal establishment is, everywhere being plumbed to find mechanisms and programs by which its vast services and resources can be delivered to Indian people.

All of these things augur well for the Indians. The time does seem ripe. But I would like to address myself to what I think can continue to be a restraining influence on progress. It is something that can be changed, if there is will to do so, and it is something that can be changed without much money. I refer to what is to me, after a year of immersion in Indian matters, a sorry lack of communications between Indians and the rest of us.

By lack of communication, I don't mean a lack of talk. In some ways, there is an overabundance of talk. Indians talk to us; we talk to Indians. I fear, though, that in all the talking that goes on, very little listening really happens. And when we do try, really try, to listen to each other, our ears are open, but our minds are closed. The message somehow gets garbled in the transmission. It gets

mixed with haunting fears, attitudes of distrust, prejudice (on both sides), and just plain untruths and half truths.

Let me give you a few examples.

We persist in educating Indian children to learn the white man's ways, to the exclusion of his own rich heritage, in spite of the Indians' repeated pleas to provide the bicultural education that will give the child a sense of cultural pride, as well as the know-how he will need to "make it" in the other society, if he opts for that alternative.

We persist in making decisions on a wide range of policy matters that intimately affect the Indian people without their true, full participation, in spite of the Indians' natural, expected resentment of that process, frequently articulated by them. We do too much for, not enough with, the Indians.

On the other hand, attempts to be of help, sincere or not, are reacted to by Indians with distrust and suspicion often without serious study, closing of communication, even to the extent that the real, existing Indian needs become secondary issues.

When asked to develop long range goals, the state of affairs that Indians want for themselves 5, 10 or 20 years hence, Indians respond with the old fear that their unique relationship with the Federal Government will be abrogated: better leave things pretty much as they are.

Once and for all, I think we need to get the termination issue out in the open. Let us declare that the Federal Government supports the views of the Governors Interstate Indian Council on this matter. Then let's get to work on the real problems.

I submit that in a continued atmosphere of barricades, with real or fancied rationales, though there may be genuine desire to improve conditions on both sides, little of real value will occur. First there must be trust and confidence, and with it two-way participating communication between equals in a partnership for action. To accomplish this, the Federal Government must sincerely provide mechanisms not just for Indian involvement or even Indian participation in decision making, but for Indian decision making itself. The Federal Government must be willing to let Indians make their own mistakes, if they do, and yet continue to back them up without punitive reaction. Such support will have to come from both the legislative and the executive branches, and I think they are ready for it. But Indians have to pitch in when the opportunity is given, not sit back, not complain, but work. The power to be constructive can bring far greater rewards than the power exercised so often today; the power of stopping action by being negative.

When we in HEW open this kind of dialogue, I hope you will respond to the challenge in the way I have described.

Mention of the word "partnership" brings me to a second point: that the Federal Government working alone with Indians, cannot bring the full promise we all hope to realize. Like it or not, this country of ours is not just a Federal Government, but a federation of States. This may sound strange coming from a "Fed", but many of the problems of our failure as a Nation to deal with today's problems arise from long years of States' unwillingness to bend, to tackle new problems, to represent the needs of all their citizens, from default of responsibility. This has shown itself clearly in the matter of education of all disadvantaged groups.

In some ways, the State relationship to the Federal Government has for a long time mirrored the Indian relationship to the Federal Government. "Let big daddy solve the problem." But as in the case of Indians who now must join in to do the job, so must the States and localities enter the partnership. So incidentally must all the great institutions of our country: business, labor, non-profit organizations. In the case of Indians, it is easy for States to say that Indians do not pay taxes, they are the Federal Government's wards. In fact, Indians are citizens with the right to vote, and their welfare affects all of us.

Furthermore, let us remember well that there are almost as many Indians residing off of reservations as are residing on them. What answer can the States give for the characteristically poor conditions under which these Indians live in our cities and rural areas? Somehow services intended by States and the Federal Government for Indians off reservations don't seem to get to them. There is no intent on my part to point fingers of blame. We all share in it. I've found that unless there are people with a spark and a sense of commitment to a particular task, a part of our population can easily be overlooked in the onrush directed at the larger group, or in some cases, the noisy group.

I believe that this country is moving toward a position which will make it possible for Indians to share more fully in the benefits of a technologically based society, while still maintaining their cultural identity as Indians. But we must move faster. Our affluence places realistic means at our disposal, enabling us to think of human resources in terms of human potential. The goal of human resource development should be to achieve nothing less than what Thomas Wolfe called the "hope and promise of America", that every man should become whatever he has in his manhood to let him become. Together--Federal Government, States, Indians--we must attack



Mrs. Stewart L. Udall, (center) president of the Center for Arts of Indian America, watches as Liz and Sue Sohapp, Yakima Indian sisters, assemble the John Hoover collection of Eskimo art in the Interior Department Gallery in Washington, D.C. The show consists chiefly of pieces of anthropological significance such as hunting objects, talismans and ceremonial objects. The Sohapp sisters are students at the Bureau of Indian Affairs' Institute of American Indian Art in Santa Fe, N.M. The show, sponsored by the Center, will run through March 29. It will then be displayed at the Institute.

the complexities of the problems which Indians face, wherever Indians live--in rural areas, on reservations, in urban centers. We must mobilize all the resources at our command to free Indian people to develop their best, to expand their choices, to release their utmost potential for growth.

The question remains: how can we encourage the kind of partnership which will enable Indians to participate with the support of the non-Indian community in the complex development process.

The road will not be easy. The dangers are many. But the promise is great. Let us together, Federal and State Governments, tribes, the private sector and the Indian people deduct ourselves nothing less than the goal of full opportunity for all Indians, wherever they choose to find it.

INDIAN RECORD is published by the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Robert L. Bennett, Commissioner, 1951 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20242.

VI CONGRESO INDIGENISTA INTERAMERICANO

Nombre

Mrs. Bennett

Hotel en México

Hab.

Nº

Hotel en Pátzcuaro

Hotel Vasco

Hab.

Nº

Viaje México a Pátzcuaro

Aut.

Nº

Viaje Pátzcuaro a Cherán

Aut.

Nº

Viaje Pátzcuaro a México

cama

Nº

310-4

1-24

1-24

8-8

The Secretary of Public Education

A SECRETARIA DE EDUCACION PUBLICA

is pleased to invite you to a ceremony which
se complace en invitar a usted (es) a la ceremonia que ha
has been planned to commemorate
organizado, para conmemorar el

American Indian Day

Día Americano del Indio,

which will take place April 19 at 11am in the principal

la cual se efectuara el 19 del actual, a las 11 horas, en la

plaza "Vasco de Quiroga" of the city of
Plaza Principal "VASCO DE QUIROGA" de la ciudad de

Patzcuaro, in collaboration with the municipal
Pátzcuaro, con la colaboración del H. Ayuntamiento

authorities in accordance with the following program
Constitucional y de conformidad con el programa adjunto.

Pátzcuaro, Mich., abril de 1968

PROGRAMA

1. Anthem: "The Youth of Zapoteca"

Song: "Canacuas"

2. "CANACUAS"

Address

3. DISCURSO

Indian Songs

4. CANTOS INDIGENAS

Music of the Mexican Revolution

5. MUSICA DE LA REVOLUCION

Address

6. DISCURSO

Music of Michoacan

7. MUSICA MICHUACANA

Band of the Indian School of Guelatao, Oaxaca under direction of Prof. Mendez.
Banda de Música del Internado Indígena de Guelatao, Oax.

Dirección del Profesor Faustino Méndez.

Tarascan musical offering by native group from San Juan Nuevo, State of Michoacan.
OFRENDA TARASCA. Grupo nativo de San Juan Nuevo, Parangaricutiro, Mich.

Señor Profesor Luis Felipe Obregón A., Director General de Indian Affairs and alternate delegate of Mexico to VI Congreso Indigenista Interamericano.

Choral Group. Students of the Indian Schools of Teziutlán, Puebla; La Llave, Queretaro; and Paracho, Michoacan accompanied by a marimba band.
CONJUNTO CORAL. Alumnos de los Internados Indígenas de Teziutlán, Pue., La Llave, Qro. y Paracho, Mich. con acompañamiento de un grupo de Marimbistas.

Dirección del Profesor Hermenegildo García Santiago.

ESTUDIANTINA del Internado Indígena de San Pablo Apetatitlán, Tlax. Student group from Indian School of San Pablo Tlaxcala under direction of Prof. Herrera.
Dirección del Profesor Doroteo Ignacio Herrera.

Señor doctor Gonzalo Rubio Orbe. Pres. of the Ecuadorian Del. to VI IAIIC.
Presidente de la Delegación Oficial de la República del Ecuador ante el VI Congreso Indigenista Interamericano.

Banda de Música del Estado. - Band of the State of Michoacan under direction of Col. Hernandez.
Dirección: Coronel Ramón Hernández Figueroa.

VI CONGRESO INDIGENISTA INTERAMERICANO

Nombre *Dr. Robert L. Bennett*

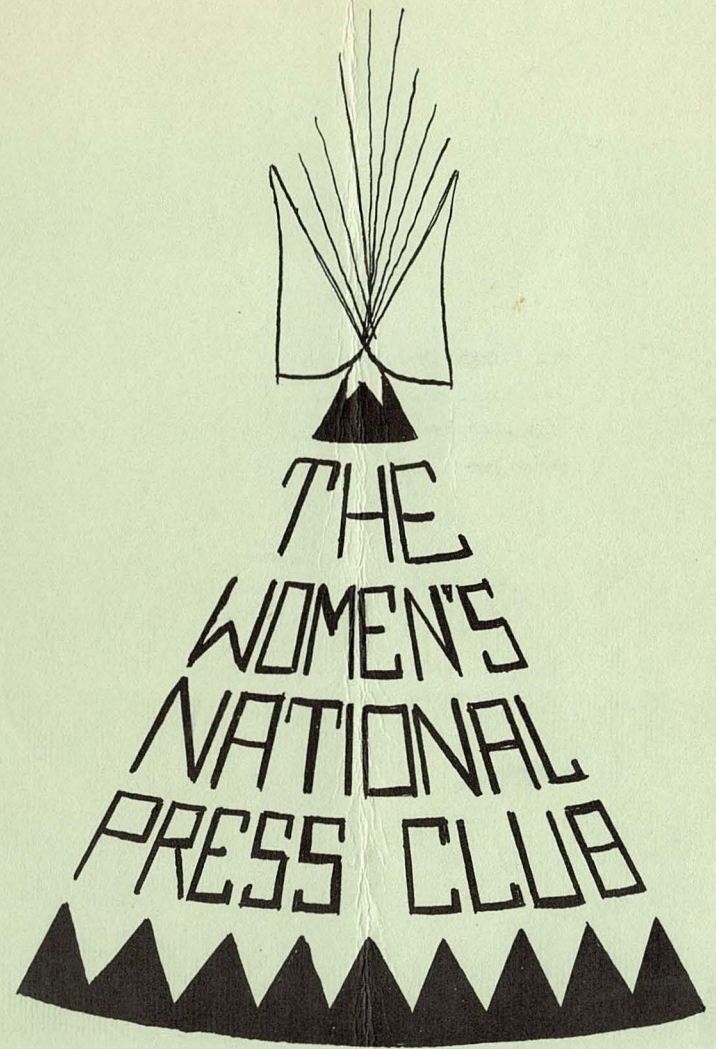
Hotel en México ----- Hab. Nº -----

Hotel en Pátzcuaro *Hotel Vasco* Hab. Nº *310 A*

Viaje México a Pátzcuaro Aut. Nº *1-23*

Viaje Pátzcuaro a Cherán Aut. Nº *1-23*

Viaje Pátzcuaro a México cama Nº *8-7*



INDIAN DINNER
and
Dancing with the First Americans

Monday, May 6, 1968

Department of the Interior

M E N U

Roast Marinade of Buffalo

Planked Salmon

Wild Rice with Carrots

Squaw Bread

Cucumber and Beet Salad

Sweet Corn Pudding

Coffee - Wine

P R O G R A M

Welcome by:

Gerry Van der Heuvel, President, WNPC

Remarks by:

Big Chiefs in Indian Affairs

Indian Dancing

led by Reaves Nahwooksy, Comanche-Kiowa



THE VICE PRESIDENT

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

May 6, 1968

Dear Bob:

Thank you for your message. Your expression of confidence is most helpful to me. I am very pleased by the widespread support that has come from every section of the country.

I am encouraged by your continuing efforts on my behalf and hope I may be able to fulfill your expectations. I will be counting on your help in the days ahead. Together we will succeed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, which appears to read "Hubert H.", is positioned above the printed name.

Hubert H. Humphrey

Commissioner Robert L. Bennett
United States Department of Interior
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Washington, D. C. 20242

OFFICE OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

May 6, 1968

1. RLBPR
2. Speech file -
Albany. — March

Honorable Robert L. Bennett
Commissioner of Indian Affairs
1951 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20242

Dear Mr. Bennett:

Doctor Bob Mendelsohn, Director of our Medical Consultation Services for the American Academy of Pediatrics, has given me an enthusiastic report about the success of the recent Albuquerque Conference of pediatrician consultants to Indian programs. He was particularly laudatory of your presentation to the group.

I want you to know that I appreciate very much your taking the time to address the group and express your interest in Head Start. I hope that we can participate in other efforts designed to coordinate the Federal approach to working with Indians.

Sincerely,

Richard E. Orton

Richard E. Orton
Acting Associate Director
Project Head Start

RECEIVED
BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON, D.C.
MAY 7 7 53 AM '68

100

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ALLEN J. ELLENDER, LA.
LISTER HILL, ALA.
JOHN L. MCCLELLAN, ARK.
WARREN G. MAGNUSON, WASH.
SPESSARD L. HOLLAND, FLA.
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CLIFFORD P. CASE, N.J.
JACOB K. JAVITS, N.Y.

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

THOMAS J. SCOTT, CHIEF CLERK
WM. W. WOODRUFF, ASST. CHIEF CLERK

May 13, 1968

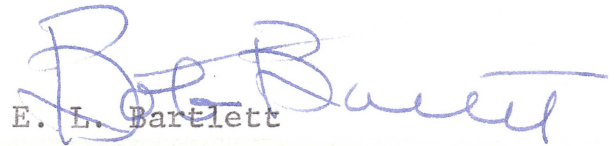
Mr. Robert L. Bennett
Commissioner
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20242

Dear Bob:

It was very kind of you to write as you did on May 1 commenting on my having been honored as the Alaskan of the Year. I was pleased over this, as you can well imagine. It was a great evening.

With best wishes to Mrs. Bennett and you, I am

Sincerely yours,


E. L. Bartlett

THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

Founded in 1850

SALT LAKE CITY 84112

WESTERN HISTORY CENTER

1. RLB R22 Done
2. Trip file
May 14, 1968

RECEIVED
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WASHINGTON, D. C.
JUN 17 2 54 PM '68

Mr. Robert L. Bennett
Commissioner of Indian Affairs
Department of the Interior
1951 Constitution Avenue, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20242

Dear Mr. Bennett:

Your talk before the Utah and the West workshop was indeed the high light of the entire week, and I convey the sentiment of the class when I say this. We have had a number of echoes coming from your remarks, and we are all very appreciative that you could find time to appear on the campus.

Needless to say, I am hopeful that some of our oral history collections may be of practical use here and there on the reservations. It would appear that these expectations may be realized on the Uintah-Ouray Reservation in the very near future.

I hope that we may have the opportunity of meeting sometime again.

Sincerely,

C. Gregory Crampton
C. Gregory Crampton
Director

CGC
CGC:mh



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20242

May 17, 1968

After two years as Commissioner of Indian Affairs I would like to express my appreciation for your confidence and support. These two years have been eventful ones for Indian people made so primarily by your interest, concern and action.

In order that you might assess some of the accomplishments over the last two years, I am enclosing copies of the following:

1. BIA accomplishments.
2. Recent highlights of Indian Economic Development activities.

You might be interested also in a reprint of my message to the Indian people after two years.

I look forward to a continued pleasant working relationship with the members of Congress and its committees for the benefit of Indian people.

Sincerely yours,

Robert L. Bennett
Commissioner of Indian Affairs

Enclosures

*The North American Indian Association
of Detroit
requests the pleasure of your company
at the*

*Twenty-eighth Anniversary Dinner-Dance
on Saturday, the eighteenth of May
nineteen hundred and sixty-eight
at six-thirty o'clock
Terrace Ballroom
Pick-Fort Shelby Hotel
West Lafayette at First Street
Detroit, Michigan*

*Guest Speaker
Mr. Robert L. Bennett, Commissioner
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Washington, D. C.*

Respond before May 15th, 1968 to:

<i>Mrs. C. Aikens</i>	<i>or</i>	<i>Mrs. J. Dearhouse</i>
<i>4730 Brandon Ave.</i>		<i>2725 Twelfth St.</i>
<i>Detroit, Mich. 48209</i>		<i>Detroit, Mich. 48216</i>
<i>Ta. 6-2254</i>		<i>Wo. 3-3869</i>

<i>Dinner-Dance</i>	<i>6:30 p.m.</i>	<i>\$7.50 per person</i>
<i>Ballroom Dance</i>	<i>9:30 p.m.</i>	<i>\$5.00 per person</i>
<i>Dress Semi-Formal</i>		



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20242

May 20, 1968

WELCOME TO WASHINGTON!

We hope your visit here will be informative and helpful. We want you to feel at home. We are ready to discuss your ideas, hopes, and aspirations with you. In order that the best use of your time may be made, we are providing the following information:

1. Your receptionist is Miss Lynda Bernal, a Taos Pueblo from New Mexico.
2. Your host is Mr. Mitchell Bush, an Onondaga from New York and President of the American Indian Society of Washington, D.C.
3. The Chairman of the Bureau Committee for the Poor People's Campaign is Mr. Charles Rovin, Chief of Social Services.
4. The Commissioner is Mr. Robert L. Bennett, an Oneida from Wisconsin.

Available also to meet with you in this building are the following key personnel or their assistants:

Mr. T. W. Taylor, Deputy Commissioner
Mr. George Hubley, Assistant Commissioner, Economic Development
Mr. Charles Zellers, Assistant Commissioner, Education
Mr. Ralph Reeser, Acting Assistant Commissioner, Community Services
Mr. Roderick Riley, Assistant to the Commissioner

Regular office hours are from 7:45 a.m. to 4:15 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Rest-rooms for your use are available on the first floor as marked.

Coffee and refreshments will be available.

The auditorium on the first floor will be available for your use during regular office hours while you are here.

Special arrangements can be made for use of the auditorium outside of regular office hours and on weekends.

Arrangements for meetings with staff of the Bureau of Indian Affairs and other Federal officials will be made at your request.

It is suggested that all large group meetings with BIA staff be held in the auditorium. Small group meetings can be arranged in the offices of those whom you wish to meet.

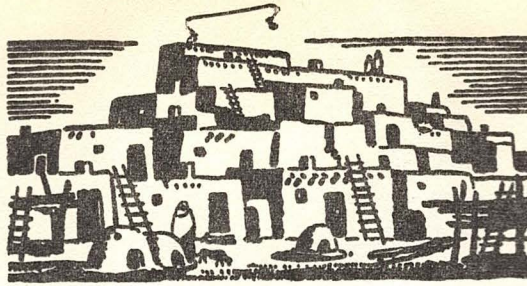
In order to better serve you, we request that all arrangements for use of facilities, services, meetings and appointments be made through Mr. Rovin, Committee Chairman. He or other members of his committee will be available at all times.

I extend my own personal welcome to each and every one of you, along with my wish that your visit here will be both pleasant and fruitful. I will, of course, be happy to meet with you upon request.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Robert L. Bennett", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Robert L. Bennett

Commissioner of Indian Affairs



Taos Pueblo Council

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE
Box 258 — Taos, New Mexico

May 21, 1968

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL-FOR THE COMMISSIONER ONLY

Hon. Robert L. Bennett
Commissioner of Indian Affairs
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Commissioner:

I am writing to tell you that both the Taos Pueblo Council and the Taos Pueblo community have been deeply gratified by the kindness and warm support, and the time and effort that you have given during the House subcommittee hearing on H.R. 3306. Hopefully, we will continue to work together in this struggle until we successfully regain our sacred land back in trust title.

Please accept this expression of thanks and best wishes from the people of Taos Pueblo.

Sincerely,

TAOS PUEBLO COUNCIL

Quirino Romero
Quirino Romero
Governor

Haskell Institute
Lawrence, Kansas
May 23, 1968

Commissioner Robert L. Bennett
Bureau of Indian Affairs
1951 Constitution Avenue, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20242

Dear Sir:

It is now the morning of May 23. Would you believe the morning after you left the skies clouded over; it started raining and has not quit; the temperature has dropped to the point where heat is necessary. These facts point out that the Lord smiled on our end of year activities.

Many have remarked this year's activities were the best ever. People were friendly and warm; the weather was perfect; the campus was neat and orderly; the guests were outstanding.

I am attaching a few newspaper clippings that appeared in the Lawrence Daily Journal World on May 21 and 22. Perhaps you would want to share the Yazzie article with the Navajo Times.

On behalf of the Haskell Alumni Association and myself, I want to thank you for your contribution to our end of year activities.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Eddie Fisher".

Eddie Fisher
President, Haskell Alumni Association

Attachments 6

CARL HAYDEN, ARIZ., CHAIRMAN

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GORDON ALLOTT, COLO.
NORRIS COTTON, N.H.
CLIFFORD P. CASE, N.J.
JACOB K. JAVITS, N.Y.

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

3345

THOMAS J. SCOTT, CHIEF CLERK
WM. W. WOODRUFF, ASST. CHIEF CLERK

May 22, 1968

Mr. Robert L. Bennett
Commissioner of Indian Affairs
Bureau of Indian Affairs
U.S. Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20242

Dear Mr. Bennett: *Bob*

I appreciate your sending me a copy of the report on Bureau of Indian Affairs accomplishments. I am sure that it shall prove not only an interesting review but a valuable document for future reference.

Working with you and your staff has indeed been pleasant for me. I, too, look forward to continuing the relationship.

With very best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Bob

E. L. Bartlett

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

3342

May 22, 1968

Hon. Robert L. Bennett
Commissioner of Indian Affairs
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Washington, D. C.

Dear Bob:

Was very much interested in the material you sent, outlining some of the Bureau's accomplishments over the past two years, Bob, which I am certain are due in a large extent to your untiring efforts, and outstanding leadership.

Keep up the good work!

With my very kind personal regards and best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

E. Y. BERRY

eyb-1

HENRY M. JACKSON, WASH., CHAIRMAN
CLINTON P. ANDERSON, N. MEX.
ALAN BIBLE, NEV.
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ERNEST GRUENING, ALASKA
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LEE METCALF, MONT.

THOMAS H. KUCHEL, CALIF.
GORDON ALLOTT, COLO.
LEN B. JORDAN, IDAHO
PAUL J. FANNIN, ARIZ.
CLIFFORD P. HANSEN, WYO.
MARK O. HATFIELD, OREG.

JERRY T. VERKLER, STAFF DIRECTOR

United States Senate

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

3356 May 23, 1968

Honorable Robert L. Bennett, Commissioner
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C. 20242

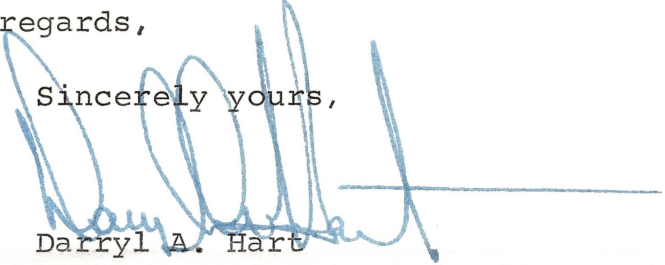
Dear Commissioner Bennett:

Senator Kuchel is away from Washington at the present time, and, therefore, I am acknowledging your letter of May 17, 1968, to the Senator.

I am sure Senator Kuchel would wish me to thank you for sending him the material concerning BIA accomplishments during the two years that you have been Commissioner of the Bureau. I will bring your correspondence to the Senator's attention immediately upon his return to Washington.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,


Darryl A. Hart
Assistant Minority Counsel

DAH:bd

RUSSELL B. LONG, LA., CHAIRMAN

GEORGE A. SMATHERS, FLA. JOHN J. WILLIAMS, DEL.
CLINTON P. ANDERSON, N. MEX. FRANK CARLSON, KANS.
ALBERT GORE, TENN. WALLACE F. BENNETT, UTAH
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VANCE HARTKE, IND. EVERETT MCKINLEY DIRKSEN, ILL.
J. W. FULBRIGHT, ARK.
ABRAHAM RIBICOFF, CONN.
LEE METCALF, MONT.
FRED R. HARRIS, OKLA.

TOM VAIL, CHIEF COUNSEL

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
WASHINGTON, D C. 20510

3444

May 23, 1968

Honorable Robert L. Bennett
Commissioner of Indian Affairs
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Interior Department
Washington, D. C.

Dear Bob:

I appreciated your letter of May 17 with copies of the BIA accomplishments and highlights of the Indian Economic Development activities. This information will be useful and helpful to me and my staff.

With kind regards.

Sincerely yours,



FRED R. HARRIS
U. S. Senate

FRH:nsb

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

May 24, 1968

Mr. Robert L. Bennett
Commissioner of Indian Affairs
U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Washington, D.C. 20242

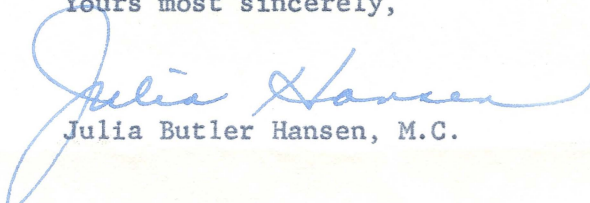
Dear Commissioner Bennett:

Thank you so much for your letter of May 17 and the copy
of the BIA's accomplishments.

I would like to personally express my appreciation and the
appreciation of my Subcommittee for the tremendous work you are
doing on behalf of the Indian people. I think that the BIA has
never been in such sensible nor understanding hands.

It has been a pleasure to serve with you.

Yours most sincerely,


Julia Butler Hansen, M.C.

JBH/RLD

HENRY M. JACKSON, WASH., CHAIRMAN
CLINTON P. ANDERSON, N. MEX. THOMAS H. KUCHEL, CALIF.
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FRANK CHURCH, IDAHO LEN B. JORDAN, IDAHO
ERNEST GRUENING, ALASKA PAUL J. FANNIN, ARIZ.
FRANK E. MOSS, UTAH CLIFFORD P. HANSEN, WYO.
QUENTIN N. BURDICK, N. DAK. MARK O. HATFIELD, OREG.
CARL HAYDEN, ARIZ.
GEORGE MCGOVERN, S. DAK.
GAYLORD NELSON, WIS.
LEE METCALF, MONT.

JERRY T. VERKLER, STAFF DIRECTOR

United States Senate

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

May 27, 1968

3417

Honorable Robert L. Bennett
Commissioner
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C. 20242

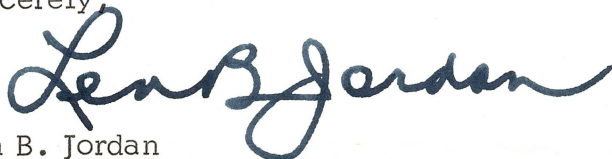
Dear Commissioner Bennett:

I appreciate your thoughtful letter of May 17th and the valuable enclosures concerning the many accomplishments of the Bureau of Indian Affairs over the last two years.

If I can be of assistance to you in any way, please do not hesitate to call on me. Thank you again for your consideration.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,



Len B. Jordan
United States Senator

HENRY M. JACKSON, WASH., CHAIRMAN
CLINTON P. ANDERSON, N. MEX. THOMAS H. KUCHEL, CALIF.
ALAN BIBLE, NEV. GORDON ALLOTT, COLO.
FRANK CHURCH, IDAHO LEN B. JORDAN, IDAHO
ERNEST GRUENING, ALASKA PAUL J. FANNIN, ARIZ.
FRANK E. MOSS, UTAH CLIFFORD P. HANSEN, WYO.
QUENTIN N. BURDICK, N. DAK. MARK O. HATFIELD, OREG.
CARL HAYDEN, ARIZ.
GEORGE MC GOVERN, S. DAK.
GAYLORD NELSON, WIS.
LEE METCALF, MONT.

JERRY T. VERKLER, STAFF DIRECTOR

United States Senate

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

3406

27 May 1968

Honorable Robert L. Bennett
Commissioner of Indian Affairs
U. S. Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C. 20242

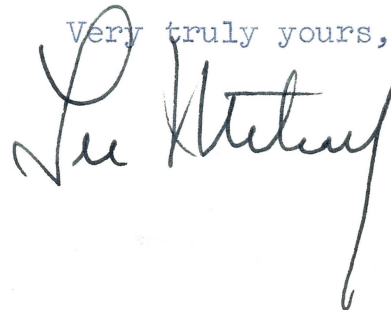
Dear Commissioner Bennett:

Thank you for your letter and enclosures
of 17 May.

Let me assure you it has been a sincere
pleasure to work with you in your capacity as
Commissioner of Indian Affairs these past two
years, and I hope to continue doing so for many
more years. My staff and I know of the diligent
work you have done for the Indians and are most
appreciative of your efforts in their behalf.

Kindest personal regards.

Very truly yours,



CARL HAYDEN, ARIZ., CHAIRMAN

RICHARD B. RUSSELL, GA.
ALLEN J. ELLENDER, LA.
LISTER HILL, ALA.
JOHN L. MCCLELLAN, ARK.
WARREN G. MAGNUSON, WASH.
SPESSARD L. HOLLAND, FLA.
JOHN STENNIS, MISS.
JOHN O. PASTORE, R.I.
A. S. MIKE MONRONEY, OKLA.
ALAN BIBLE, NEV.
ROBERT C. BYRD, W. VA.
GALE W. MC GEE, WYO.
MIKE MANSFIELD, MONT.
E. L. BARTLETT, ALASKA
WILLIAM PROXMIRE, WIS.
RALPH YARBOROUGH, TEX.

MILTON R. YOUNG, N. DAK.
KARL E. MUNDT, S. DAK.
MARGARET CHASE SMITH, MAINE
THOMAS H. KUCHEL, CALIF.
ROMAN L. HRUSKA, NEBR.
GORDON ALLOTT, COLO.
NORRIS COTTON, N.H.
CLIFFORD P. CASE, N.J.
JACOB K. JAVITS, N.Y.

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

3426

May 28, 1968

THOMAS J. SCOTT, CHIEF CLERK
WM. W. WOODRUFF, ASST. CHIEF CLERK

Mr. Robert L. Bennett
Commissioner of Indian Affairs
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C. 20242

Dear Mr. Bennett:

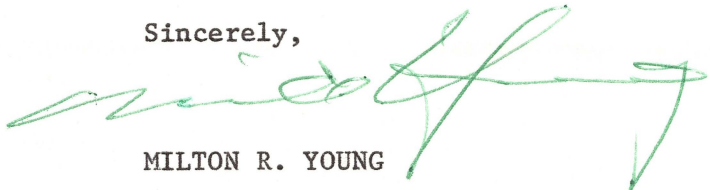
Thank you very much for your letter of May 17
and for the enclosures regarding some of your accomplish-
ments since you became Commissioner two years ago.

Your friendly letter was deeply appreciated
and the information you gave me is most helpful. You
have been very cooperative with me and my staff on all
of the problems we have had relating to Indians. I,
too, am looking forward to a continued pleasant working
relationship.

Thank you again for your letter.

With warmest personal regards,

Sincerely,



MILTON R. YOUNG

MRY:bw

HENRY M. JACKSON, WASH., CHAIRMAN
CLINTON P. ANDERSON, N. MEX. THOMAS H. KUCHEL, CALIF.
ALAN BIBLE, NEV. GORDON ALLOTT, COLO.
FRANK CHURCH, IDAHO LEN B. JORDAN, IDAHO
ERNEST GRUENING, ALASKA PAUL J. FANNIN, ARIZ.
FRANK E. MOSS, UTAH CLIFFORD P. HANSEN, WYO.
QUENTIN N. BURDICK, N. DAK. MARK O. HATFIELD, OREG.
CARL HAYDEN, ARIZ.
GEORGE MCGOVERN, S. DAK.
GAYLORD NELSON, WIS.
LEE METCALF, MONT.

JERRY T. VERKLER, STAFF DIRECTOR

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS

3471

May 28, 1968

Mr. Robert L. Bennett
Commissioner of Indian Affairs
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C.

Dear Bob:

I sincerely appreciate your courtesy in making a copy of your message to the Indian people available to me.

The material which was enclosed concerning the accomplishments of the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the activities in the field of Indian economic development were of great interest and very impressive. I am sure that both of these documents will prove extremely helpful in my continued relationship with the Indians and their problems.

I made a speech last Saturday in Arizona recognizing the efforts of the Bureau with respect to bilingual education and expressed my support of further improvements in this area. You are to be commended for the outstanding accomplishments of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and I assure you that it has been a privilege for me to work so closely with you during the past two years.

With my very best personal regards.

Sincerely,


Paul J. Fannin
United States Senator

PJF:jal

2

KARL MENNINGER, M. D.

TOPEKA, KANSAS

June 2, 1968

*RUB - RRB
2 MH - make
2 copies for
me &
return
original
RRB*

Mr. Robert L. Bennett
U. S. Commissioner of Indian Affairs
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Bennett:

Although I am away from Topeka more than I am there this year, I read in the home town newspaper of your receiving the Outstanding Alumnus Award from Haskell Institute. My hearty congratulations and best of good wishes. You know--don't you--that your work as U.S. Commissioner is close to my heart, too.

Sincerely,

Karl Menninger
Karl Menninger, M.D.

KM:dr

WILKINSON, CRAGUN & BARKER

LAW OFFICES

ERNEST L. WILKINSON
JOHN W. CRAGUN
GLEN A. WILKINSON
ROBERT W. BARKER
ROCCO C. SICILIANO
DONALD C. GORMLEY
CHARLES A. HOBBS
ANGELO A. IADAROLA
PAUL S. QUINN

FRANCES L. HORN
RICHARD A. BAENEN
LEON T. KNAUER
JERRY C. STRAUS
HERBERT E. MARKS
JOHN S. WHITE
R. RICHARDS ROLAPP

1616 H STREET, N. W.
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20006

NATIONAL 8-4400

CABLE ADDRESS:
"WILCBAR"

June 6, 1968
(Dictated June 5, 1968)

1/10/68
Honorable Robert L. Bennett
Commissioner of Indian Affairs
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C.

2/6/78
Dear Commissioner Bennett:

*make 3
copies
+ return
original
to me
RWB*
The Department's news release of your address before the BIA sponsored Education Administrators Workshop at Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff, has just come to my desk. I have noticed, with considerable interest, your comments on the trend of Indian education under Assistant Commissioner for Education, Chuck Zellers. I commend you on your enthusiasm and your deep interest in the education of the Indian youth.

When Dr. Boyd K. Packer and I visited with you recently, we discussed the common interest which we have (Dr. Packer, as official representative of the Mormon Church, and I, as an official of the Church and also attorney for a number of Indian tribes) with you in the education of the Indian youth. I remember specifically your commenting that in a recent talk at Haskell you had commented "where is CBS today". Your comment is appropriate to the problem. Too little recognition is being given to the positive and beneficial aspects of our program and too much publicity is given to criticism and negativism.

In any event, I wish you success in your efforts in this educational area and want you to know that we are appreciative also of your recognition of the accomplishments in a similar area by the Church. I hope we can go forward with our common objective of assisting these many young people.

Sincerely yours,

Robert W. Barker
Robert W. Barker

cc: Dr. Boyd K. Packer
Assistant Commissioner Charles N. Zellers

RECEIVED
BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON, D.C.

JUN 7 9 43 AM '68

SAM STEIGER
3RD DISTRICT, ARIZONA

1417 LONGWORTH BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
202-225-4576

COMMITTEES:
INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

DISTRICT OFFICE:
5015 FEDERAL BUILDING
PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85025
602-261-4041

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

June 7, 1968

3585

Mr. Robert L. Bennett
Commissioner of Indian Affairs
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C. 20242

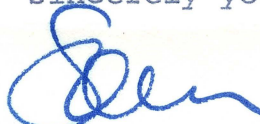
Dear Commissioner Bennett:

Thank you for your letter of May 17th enclosing
a copy of BIA accomplishments and recent high-
lights of Indian Economic Development activities.

I also appreciate your thoughtfulness in sending
the reprint of your message to the Indian people
after your two years as Commissioner, and I would
like to take this opportunity to commend you for
the work you are doing and to extend my best wishes
for continued success in your endeavors.

With best wishes.

Sincerely yours,



SAM STEIGER

SS:mh

/

AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION

aclu

156 FIFTH AVENUE / NEW YORK / NEW YORK 10010 / ORegon 5-5990

Chairman, ERNEST ANGELL; Vice Chairmen, DOROTHY KENYON, NORMAN DORSEN, DAVID ISBELL; General Counsel, EDWARD J. ENNIS, OSMOND K. FRAENKEL; Secretary, GEORGE SOLL; Treasurer, SOPHIA YARNALL JACOBS.

Executive Director, JOHN de J. PEMBERTON, JR.; Associate Directors, ALAN REITMAN, MARTIN GARBUS; International Work Adviser, ROGER N. BALDWIN.

June 11th, 1968

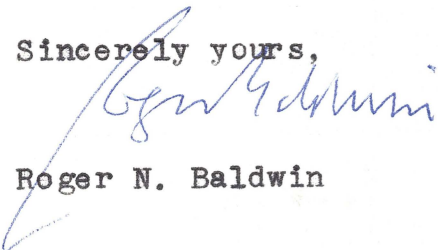
Mr. Robert L. Bennett
Commissioner of Indian Affairs
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Bennett:

May we just congratulate you on the statement of policy reported in a recent speech of yours which looks as if the Indians at last were headed for real control of their reservations, with opportunities for developing their own enterprises--with help!

There is not much that a private organization can do in the field of civil rights which seem fairly assured, but the basic problem of self-support and self-determination seems still with us.

Sincerely yours,


Roger N. Baldwin

RNB:EAL



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
Uintah and Ouray Agency
Fort Duchesne, Utah 84026

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Administration

June 17, 1968

Commissioner Robert L. Bennett
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Washington, D.C.

Dear Commissioner Bennett:

The attached clippings from the Salt Lake Tribune and the Deseret News are for your information.

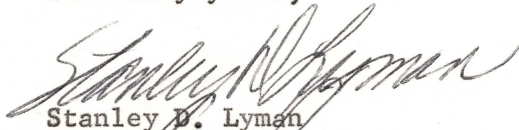
You will be pleased to know that after you left the two Salt Lake City newspapers called for further interviews with you. Two television stations, after hearing about your talk, called and tried to get interviews.

Material published in local papers in the Uintah Basin will be forwarded to you later.

You will recall that you were to find out what happened to our submission of Tribe - BIA Day at this Agency to the Indian Record.

Everyone here enjoyed your visit. Thank you for coming.

Sincerely yours,


Stanley D. Lyman
Superintendent

cc:

W. Wade Head, PAO

Sam Hook

JUN 26 8 16 AM '68

RECEIVED
BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON, D. C.

June 19, 1968

Commissioner Robert Bennett
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Washington D C

Dear Mr. Bennett:

I want to again express to you that your remarks given at the Centennial Ceremonial of the Navajo Tribe were most appreciated.

It was a pleasure meeting you, an event that I had looked forward to for a long time, and I hope that the opportunity presents itself to visit with you at a greater length in the near future.

Best wishes and personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

C. Lawrence Huerta
Judge of Division 20

CLH:gg

cc: file



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
REGIONAL OFFICE - REGION 4
P. O. BOX 11568
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84111

Scrap Book

Rm

IN REPLY
REFER TO: 4-105

700

JUN 27 1968

Mr. Robert L. Bennett
Commissioner of Indian Affairs
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Bennett:

Enclosed are ten photographs of the Bottle Hollow Motel-Complex ground-breaking ceremony that I thought you would be interested in having.

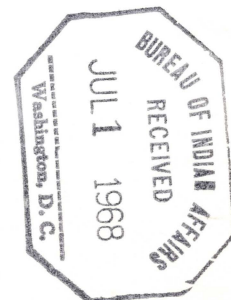
We look forward, as you do, to the success of this most promising and interesting undertaking. I enjoyed seeing you again at the ceremony and look forward to continued contacts in the days ahead.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

Assistant Regional Director

Enclosure



DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
For Release June 30, 1968

*1. RL B...
2. file*
news release

Wilson -- 343-8657

BENNETT PROPOSES /AMERICAN INDIAN ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

Robert L. Bennett, Commissioner of Indian Affairs, announced today that he has asked for tribal ratification of a proposal to establish an "American Indian Athletic Hall of Fame," on the campus of Haskell Institute, Lawrence, Kans.

"The Hall of Fame," Bennett said, "will not only memorialize the achievements of great Indian athletes but will be a source of inspiration for young Indians seeking to develop rewarding and productive lives in modern America."

A copy of the proposed constitution of the new organization and a list of a 13-member board of trustees has been sent to heads of tribal organizations throughout the Nation, Bennett said.

"We hope to secure ratification of this proposal and be ready to formally organize and select the initial inductees to the Hall of Fame in the fall," Bennett said. "Indians in many areas have already enthusiastically endorsed the Hall of Fame idea," Bennett said, "and I am confident it will receive the wholehearted endorsement of most American Indian and Alaska Native peoples."

Bennett noted that while the Bureau of Indian Affairs served as coordinator of the plans to create the Hall of Fame, the organization will not be an official Federal activity. "This will be an Indian organization operated by Indians for the benefit of Indians and all America," he said.

Miss Grace Thorpe, daughter of All-America football star Jim Thorpe, was among those Bennett appointed to the special committee which drew up the Hall of Fame constitution and selected its first board of trustees. Other members of the committee were: Tom Wilson, Office of Public Information, BIA, Chairman; Mitchell Bush, president, American Indian Society, Washington, D.C., executive secretary, George P. LaVatta, retired BIA employee, Portland, Ore., member; John O. Crow, associate director of the Bureau of Land Management, member; and Gus Welch, former Carlisle athlete, now of Bedford, Va., honorary chairman.

The members of the first board of trustees are: Harold Schunk, Yankton Sioux, Aberdeen Area; Clarence Tallbull, Cheyenne Arapaho, Anadarko Area; Clarence Acoya, Laguna Pueblo, Albuquerque Area; Walter McDonald, Flathead, Billings Area; Dr. Walter Soboleff, Tlingit, Juneau Area; Roger Jourdain, Red Lake Chippewa, Minneapolis Area; Overton James, Chickasaw, Muskogee Area; Joe Watson, Navajo, Navajo Area; Albert Hawley, Fort Belknap, Phoenix Area; George LaVatta, Shoshone-Bannock, Portland Area; Elijah Smith, Oneida, Sacramento Area; Louis R. Bruce, Jr., Mohawk-Sioux, Northeastern U.S. and Frell Owle, Eastern Cherokee, Southeastern U.S.

The constitution provides that after their initial terms expire board members will be elected by the Indian or Alaska Native peoples in the area they represent.

X X X

6540-68

1-RLB
20354 Enadia Way
Canoga Park,
California. 91306

August 2, 1968

Mr. Robert L. Bennett
Bureau Of Indian Affairs
Washington, D.C.

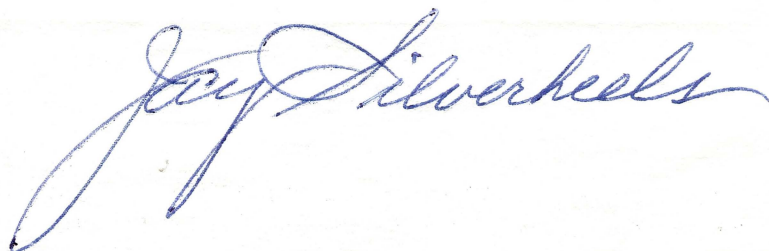
Dear Mr. Bennett:

I must tell you how much I enjoyed meeting you, and being associated with you at the recent function at LaGrande, Oregon. It was both interesting and revealing to me, to observe the humility and dignity with which you so capably discharge the demanding duties of your office. I know that everyone with whom you spoke feels that they are necessary to the success of all you wish to accomplish for your people. I was honored and indeed proud to be associated with you.

The articles you sent are just what I wanted, and I am glad that you so kindly offered to send any further articles that you might chance upon. I can use all the information on the subject, that I can find.

I thank you sincerely for the very kind gesture in taking the time from your very busy schedule, to send me the articles. If there is anything I can do for you when you are out this way, please don't hesitate to call on me, I would be grateful. My phone number is 348-3604.

Sincerely Yours

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Jay Silverheels". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping initial "J" and a long, horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Eagle Butte to Dok.
August 19, 1968

Robert L. Bennett
Commissioner of Indian Affairs
Washington D.C. 20242

Dear Bob

I want to thank you for your autographed photograph taken in your office. It was the proudest moment of my life when you ask me to be present when you were going to present to Franklin the notification of his acceptance by the civil service commission for the 1968-69 Congressional Fellowship Program.

The opportunity that you have afforded Franklin, he appreciates, for he has said that he hopes that he can live up to your expectation. I know the interest that you have in the young

People and with your leadership
and guidance that he will go far
in what ever career is a head of
him.

I would also like to thank
you for your interest in the Indian
people of these United States and
the noticeable changes that has taken
place since you have been
commissioner, in that the tribes
have begun to participate in their
own local government which gives
them prestige and confidence in
their endeavors and the change in
S.B.I.A. personal, in recognizing your
aim for a better life for the
American Indian in management
of their own affairs. Also you have
restored the Indians confidence in
the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

We hope that at this election year that it will be decided in favor of those who will recognize your leadership and the progress that has been made to give the Indian what is their own, so you may continue to carry on.

Will see you in Amoka in September at the Convention

Sincerely

Frank Duckenbury

JACKSON, WASH., CHIEF
CLINTON P. ANDERSON, N. MEX.
ALAN BIBLE, NEW.
FRANK CHURCH, IDAHO
ERNEST GRUENING, ALASKA
FRANK E. MOSS, UTAH
QUENTIN N. BURDICK, N. DAK.
CARL HAYDEN, ARIZ.
GEORGE MCGOVERN, S. DAK.
GAYLORD NELSON, WIS.
LEE METCALF, MONT.
THOMAS H. KUCHIEL, CALIF.
GORDON ALLIOTT, COLO.
LEN B. JORDAN, IDAHO
PAUL J. FANNIN, ARIZ.
CLIFFORD P. HANSEN, WYO.
MARK O. HATFIELD, OREG.

5652

United States Senate

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

JERRY T. VERKLER, STAFF DIRECTOR

August 20, 1968

Robert L. Bennett, Commissioner
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C.

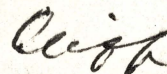
Dear Bob:

I would like to take this means to thank you for your assistance in disposing of the \$100 per capita payments to the Arapaho Tribe of Wyoming.

Your efforts on behalf of the Department of the Interior, in developing a situation which would be agreeable to all concerned, was greatly appreciated.

Kind personal regards,

Sincerely yours,



Clifford P. Hansen
U. S. S.

CPH:pjr

AMERICAN INDIAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

INCORPORATED

THE CHAUTAUQUA HOUSE

1451 Masonic Avenue, San Francisco, California 94117

Telephone 626-5235

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THE INDIAN
HISTORIAN

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INDIAN STUDIES

Research:

INDIAN LIBRARY
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MEMORIAL PARK

August 20, 1968

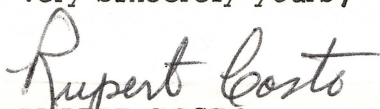
Mr. Robert L. Bennett
6015 Landon Lane
Bethesda, Maryland 20034

Dear Mr. Bennett:

We thank you most sincerely for having followed through, in such a thoroughly practical way, our proposals made on July 23.

Perhaps our cooperative effort will enlighten the Indian community that our cause for leadership and higher education is not remotely a lost one!

Very Sincerely yours,


RUPERT COSTO,
President

**PROGRAM FOR THE DEDICATION OF MUTUAL HELP HOUSING PROJECT MONT 10-3
HAYS, MONTANA. 12:00 NOON - AUGUST 26, 1968.**

MASTER OF CEREMONIES: Mr. John (Jiggs) Adams

INVOCATION: Rev. Joseph Brown, S. J., St. Paul's Mission,
Hays, Montana

SPEAKER: Mr. Clarence Adams, President, Fort Belknap Indian
Community Council, "Importance of Housing to Fort
Belknap".

SPEAKER: Mr. Francis Bardonove, Secretary, Fort Belknap
Housing Authority, "Housing Developments on Fort
Belknap".

SPEAKER: Mr. Clifford Doney, Participant, "Comments of
Participants in Mutual Help Housing Project".

SPECIAL INTRODUCTIONS:

SPEAKER: Mr. Lon Street, Construction Representative Housing
Assistance Administration, San Francisco, "Housing
Assistance Administration and Housing on Indian
Reservations".

SPEAKER: Ray Beech, Administrative Officer, U.S.P.H.S.,
Fort Belknap, "Public Health is Housing".

SPEAKER: Mr. Robert L. Bennett, Commissioner of Indian
Affairs, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Washington, D.C.
"General Comments".

Introduction by Mr. James F. Cason, Area Director,
Billings.

CLOSE: Mr. John Adams.

GEORGE V. HANSEN
2ND DISTRICT, IDAHO
1027 HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

5792

COMMITTEES:
INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS
AGRICULTURE

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.
Sept 3, 1968

Mr. Robert L. Bennett
Commissioner of Indian Affairs
United States
Department of the Interior
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Washington D. C.

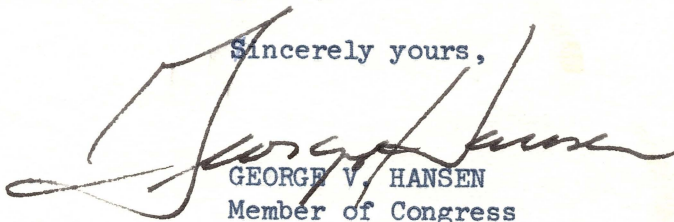
Dear Mr. Bennett:

Thank you for sending me copies of the
BIA accomplishments and Indian Economic
Development activities.

I certainly appreciate all the work you
are doing as Commissioner of Indian
Affairs.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,



GEORGE V. HANSEN
Member of Congress

1



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

New Brunswick • New Jersey 08903 • 201 249-6000

September 10, 1968

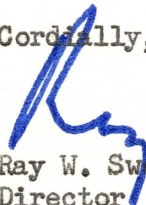
Honorable Robert L. Bennett
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Department of the Interior
1951 Constitution Avenue--Room 233
Washington, D. C. 20242

Dear Bob:

Sometime ago you very kindly provided us with a fine statement of your personal endorsement of the Scouting movement and permission to use your photograph with the endorsement. It is with pleasure that I share the enclosed leaflet with you. This has recently been released and will be given wide distribution throughout America.

Thank you for your continued support and interest.

Cordially,


Ray W. Sweazey
Director
Urban Relationships

mmr

enclosure

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 1, 1968

Dear Mr. Colosimo:

I am grateful for your kind invitation to be the honored guest at the special program you are sponsoring for the benefit of scholarships for our American Indian children. My heavy schedule unfortunately prevents my being with you. But all my thoughts and good wishes attend your very worthwhile cause.

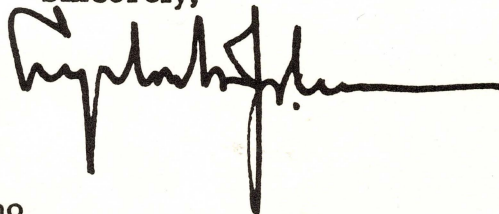
My congratulations go out to the members and friends of Arrow, Inc., and all who contributed to this fine program.

I have asked the Congress to increase scholarship aid to Indian students. Yet, the fact remains that the Government is still not meeting all their needs.

To be truly successful, Federal efforts must be accompanied by strong assistance from the private sector of American society. You have recognized the urgency of these private programs and responded with commendable enthusiasm.

We are grateful for the excellent encouragement and support you are giving to one of the foremost goals of the national agenda.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "Richard M. Nixon", written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Mr. E. Thomas Colosimo
Executive Director, Arrow, Inc.
1346 Connecticut Avenue, NW.
Washington, D.C. 20036



Council of American Indians

Broken Arrow

~~PHONE LU 2-7840 P.O. BOX 9456 TULSA, OKLAHOMA~~

October 5th 1968

Hon. Robert L. Bennett
Comm. Indian Affairs
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir,

It was a memorable occasion for us
Indians of this area at the National Indian
dinner in Tulsa. You honored us with
your presence and shared with us your
talents and magnetic personality.
We are deeply grateful to you.

With every good wish,

Sincerely

Gail Hagme

✓
address added
to file

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Office of the Majority Leader
Washington, D.C. 20515

6199

October 10, 1968

The Honorable Robert L. Bennett
Commissioner
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Washington, D. C.

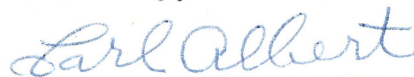
Dear Commissioner Bennett:

I was very sorry I couldn't attend the Choctaw Indian Dinner in McAlester on Sunday, October 6 as I had planned. I had looked forward to joining my friends in welcoming you back to our State. I know your presence added a great deal to the pleasure of the event.

My administrative assistant, Charles Ward, told me how much he enjoyed visiting with you. I hope you will have occasion to be in Oklahoma again before too long and that I will get to be there.

Warm personal regards.

Sincerely,



CARL ALBERT, M. C.

CA:ih



Central Wyoming College

PARK AT NORTH BROADWAY
P. O. Box BD
RIVERTON, WYOMING 82501

RECEIVED
BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON, D.C.
OCT 23 12 54 PM '68

October 17, 1968

Mr. Robert L. Bennett
Commissioner of Indian Affairs
Dept. of Interior
Washington, D.C. 20001

Dear Mr. Bennett:

On behalf of the Fremont County School Administrators, Board of Trustees of Central Wyoming College, Dr. Palmberg and myself please accept our thanks for your contribution to our workshop.

I have heard nothing but praise for your part in the conference. You were part of a pioneering effort and I am pleased to say we will continue this project in the years to come.

Due to efforts by persons such as yourself we will be able to make the life of our Indian citizens-through education-much more meaningful.

Sincerely yours,

Gene Schrader
GW/jc

Fremont County Community College District

The Washington Post took note of his leadership when it said:

Although he and Chairman J. William Fulbright (D-Ark.), who both entered the Senate the same day, were poles apart on the Vietnam War and the Dominican intervention, they managed to create what bipartisanship there has been in recent years on the Foreign Relations Committee.

There are many who profess to put country above party. No one has ever questioned **BOURKE HICKENLOOPER's** devotion to the Republican Party; but his actions consistently bespeak his devotion to his country first.

Throughout these 24 years, he has never forgotten the people who sent him here and whom he has so faithfully served. His love for the people of Iowa transcends any desire for personal gain and comfort. It has been a long record of service above self—commencing in the Iowa House of Representatives, then the lieutenant governorship, then the governorship, and then the ultimate, the U.S. Senate.

His has been a record of shared trust and confidence—between him as an elected public official and the people who elected him. It has been a true partnership between him and his people in the cause of justice, progress, and peace within the family of nations.

Iowa's **BOURKE HICKENLOOPER** has respected the traditions of the U.S. Senate. He has always taken on his full share of hard work and responsibility in his committees, not to mention his conscientious attendance at meetings of the Senate. Additionally, he has served with effectiveness and distinction at many international meetings where his wise counsel has helped greatly in productive—albeit long and difficult—sessions.

BOURKE HICKENLOOPER is one of those rare public servants who shuns dramatics in favor of hard work and reasoned influence in accomplishing his objectives. In line with Benjamin Franklin's wise advice, he receives more inner satisfaction from results than from credit for them. Our association with him and the opportunity to feel his quiet, inner strength clearly brings the recognition that we have been privileged to serve with a statesman, whose retirement we understand, but whose absence the U.S. Senate will deeply miss.

OCTOBER 1968: A SPECIAL REPORT
TO INDIAN AMERICANS OF THE
SEVENTH DISTRICT, VOLUME X—
SPECIAL EDITION

HON. ODIN LANGEN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 14, 1968

Mr. LANGEN. Mr. Speaker, as a way of keeping my constituents as informed as possible I regularly issue a newsletter as one vehicle for this purpose. Because a significant percentage of the Indian-American population in Minnesota resides in my district, I have this year prepared a special report to the Indian Americans in my district and have made

this report a special edition of my regular news letter. I felt that the many things of importance and interest to our first Americans warranted a communication that would speak directly to their problems and concerns. I wish today to share this report with my colleagues:

DEAR FRIENDS: Now that the 90th Congress has adjourned, I would like to take this opportunity to make a special report to you, the Indian American citizens of the 7th District. Because I believe it important to communicate with you directly, I have devoted one issue of my regular newsletter to this purpose. With the news seemingly dominated by such things as the war in Vietnam, riots and violence in the streets of the large cities, the Presidential campaigns and urban problems, I'm sure it is easy for those of us in the minority, whether it be as farmers, rural businessmen, or Indian people, to wonder if we have been forgotten. I can assure you that not only has your Congressman not forgotten you, but we have had occasion several times during this session to work with and answer requests and correspondence from a great number of Indian citizens and officials regarding their various problems and projects. We have also been privileged to greet and discuss matters of mutual concern with a number of visitors from your people who have traveled to Washington from the 7th District. This report is to take specific note of a few items and accomplishments of benefit to your people in the 7th District of Minnesota.

During my ten years in Congress, and as a member of the important Appropriations Committee, and formerly a member of the Interior Committee, I have been grateful for the opportunity to have been in positions which made it possible for many of these projects and programs to become a reality.

SOME OF THE IMPROVEMENTS DURING THE LAST 10 YEARS

Improved roads, hospital improvements and additions, doctors' residences constructed, new housing starts on the reservations.

Improved water facilities, park improvement, tourist programs started, educational facilities and programs improved and expanded, projects and programs to improve economic conditions.

OPERATION "BOOTSTRAP"

My proposal, "Operation Boot Strap" was the first to illustrate to the Congress the need to develop the economies of our Indian Reservations. Many proposals have now evolved from these suggestions.

GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES FOR INDIAN PROGRAMS

In the past 2 years, 1967 and 1968, the total expenditures by the Federal Government for programs to assist in improving conditions and opportunities for our Indian citizens in the 7th District would amount to over \$7.5 million.

HOW DOES THE SEVENTH DISTRICT FARE?

It is natural to ask how much one's district receives in comparison to others. The statistics compiled are for 1967 and the last half of fiscal year 1968. This information is from the Summary of Federal Program Outlays prepared for the Office of the President by the Office of Economic Opportunity. Expenditures in the 7th District were:

For Indian Children's Social Services—\$415,681, or 73.3% of the total outlay in Minnesota.

Indian Hospital and Medical Facilities—\$506,891, or 78%.

Sanitation Facilities—\$233,780, or 94%.

Indian Educational Financial Assistance—\$56,955, or 53.7%.

Indian Direct School District Loans—\$360,475, or 71%.

Indian General Assistance and Social Services—\$253,186, or 93%.

Indian Summer School Program—4,500, or 72%.

In other programs such as Vocational Training, Credit Finance Programs, Direct Employment Assistance, Industrial Development, Adult Education, and Public Housing, the 7th District received a total of \$202,540.

This is about \$2 million in an 18-month period for specific Indian programs, not including programs of OEO. 47% of the Indian population in Minnesota resides in the 7th District, so it is apparent we not only receive our fair share, but in many instances, more, if it is to be judged according to a population ratio.

RECENT LEGISLATION

Some significant legislation passed during this session included an additional \$10 million for expanded Vocational Education and \$3.4 million for sanitation facilities. Also passed was a law permitting the acceptance of gifts for the benefit of Indians. I am pleased to see bills which provide incentive to encourage support by private organizations and individuals. There have been tax incentive bills introduced to encourage industry to move to the reservations, which I am hopeful will receive favorable consideration in the near future. The Civil Rights Act of 1968 which was passed included several provisions affecting Indian Americans.

In referring to Civil Rights legislation, I am reminded of the following quote which I made as part of a statement to the House in support of consideration for Indian Americans during Civil Rights debate in 1964:

"We again find the Indian Americans being deserted and left out of consideration by this House . . .

"Yes, for the past 10 years we have heard debate in this House concerning civil rights, educational opportunities, employment and all other things which we have been endeavoring to establish in some kind of equity and I hope for all citizens of this Nation."

Since that statement supporting equal consideration for Indian Americans, I am glad to see that additional provisions and programs have been provided in the past four years.

INDIAN CLAIMS BILL

A second Indian Claims Bill, which I introduced, was passed during this Congress and was signed into law on 9/27/67. I am pleased that Congress responded favorably to this much deserved and long overdue entitlement. Some have inquired about the delay in receiving their payment. In following the processing the Department advises us that because it requires the completion of a roll of several thousand individuals, it is of necessity taking time to complete, but they hope it will be completed shortly.

MINNESOTA WILD RICE

We always try to promote the 7th District and its products on every occasion possible. Each year Lillian extolls the virtues of the 7th District at the annual Congressional Wives Club Bazaar here in Washington with various products from the 7th District. One of the products which is always popular and which we proudly promote is the Wild Rice harvested by your people. This is an industry which should be maintained and promoted for the economic benefit of our Indian citizens.

INDIAN ART IN WASHINGTON

Mrs. Langen and I had the pleasure last year of viewing a distinctive collection of Indian American art on display in the Smithsonian Institution. We were pleased to discover that three artists from the Red Lake Reservation in Minnesota's 7th District had paintings on display. They were Reginald Beaulieu of Redby, Leo Downwind of Redby and Melvina Johnson of Red Lake. The ex-

hibit was most enjoyable, and again confirmed the great talent among our Indian friends.

POSTER CONTEST

We are reminded from the above of a recent announcement of a travel poster contest for American Indian students attending high schools run by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, which will offer top prizes of \$150, \$100 and \$50 and expense-paid trips to art school and art museums in major cities. The poster theme will be "Discover America with the First Americans." Qualified entries must be received by the Central Office of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Washington, D.C. by January 10, 1969.

A TRIBUTE TO YOUNG INDIAN AMERICANS

In conclusion, I would like to quote in part from Commissioner Bennett's column "Commissioner's Comments," which appeared in the September 1968 bulletin Indian record, published by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and which reads as follows:

"In the past few weeks, it has been my pleasure to meet with several groups of Indian young people. It is apparent that they wish their voices to be heard—not so much in protest as in their concern for their future and the future of other Indians. These meetings have been held in a friendly atmosphere and the young people have been courteous and considerate, as I knew they would be. The traditional courtesy and kindness of Indian people has not been lost in the young people. They have also been positive in their views and opinions, and it has been apparent to me they want action. They must be provided a forum for expression of their thoughts. . . . They are being educated and trained so that society generally and Indian society in particular may benefit from their contributions. . . . Over half of the Indian population is under 18 years of age . . . and they will be better prepared than you and I for their leadership role and to cope with the challenges of the future. We can help in their preparation by providing advice and counsel rather than by ignoring them or downgrading them . . . their voice will not be stilled; indeed, it would be tragic should this happen. . . .

"So, we face the future with a new-found strength and vitality—young Indian America. Youth can become a force for our good if we take them into our confidence and into our councils. With all of our people united in the cause of Indian Americans . . . we can make our future a part of the great future of this—our country."—Robert L. Bennett

In quoting the preceding, I do so to amplify this recognition of young Indian America, and to say that I agree with the sentiments expressed. Further, I believe, as your representative in Washington, that your government and private institutions and organizations in America should continue to join hands to cooperate with our first citizens, the Indian Americans, in their pursuit of progress and opportunity. Primary concern should be in areas of Education, Health, Job Training and Economic Development, and Housing. Not only will it be that through these come the greatest opportunity for our youth, but these are also the greatest concern to all of us now.

I am pleased that significant progress has been made in these areas through various programs in the past several years.

And finally, I wish to say that the door to my office is always open, or wherever I am, I am always willing to listen to your needs, ideas and concerns, whether I talk to you in person or by letter.

Sincerely, Your Congressman,

ODIN LANGEN.

RECENT ADDRESS BY SECRETARY OF STATE DEAN RUSK

HON. JOHN SHERMAN COOPER

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Monday, October 14, 1968

Mr. COOPER. Mr. President, on October 6, Secretary of State Rusk was interviewed on the ABC television program "Issues and Answers."

In the course of the discussion, Secretary Rusk reviewed various current problems in foreign affairs and the approach of the State Department in dealing with these problems in light of changing circumstances.

I believe that Members of Congress and the public will find Secretary Rusk's comments both timely and informative.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that a transcript of the program "Issues and Answers" be inserted in the Record at this point.

There being no objection, the transcript was ordered to be printed in the Record, as follows:

TRANSCRIPT OF AN INTERVIEW WITH HON. DEAN RUSK, SECRETARY OF STATE, ON THE ABC TELEVISION PROGRAM "ISSUES AND ANSWERS," OCTOBER 6, 1968

ANNOUNCER. The Honorable Dean Rusk, Secretary of State of the United States here are the Issues: Is the American political campaign hurting the Vietnam peace talks in Paris? Will President Johnson stop the bombing before Election day? Does Russia's crackdown against Czechoslovakia foreshadow a return to the cold war?

(Music.)

ANNOUNCER. "Issues and Answers," The Race To The White House, brought to you from New York City by the American Broadcasting Company and Sentry Insurance.

(Commercial.)

ANNOUNCER. Our guest on "Issues and Answers," Secretary of State Dean Rusk, will be interviewed by ABC News Commentator Frank Reynolds, and by ABC State Department Correspondent John Scali.

Mr. SCALI. Mr. Secretary, welcome to "Issues and Answers."

Mr. RUSK. Thank you very much. I'm glad to be here again.

Mr. SCALI. Does Vice President Humphrey's pledge to end the bombing of North Vietnam represent a break with the Johnson Administration which might create complications in the Paris Peace Talks?

Mr. RUSK. Well, our problem here is not whether the President or I, or the candidates make identical speeches. The problem is whether Hanoi is willing to do anything to move towards peace. The delegation at Hanoi has rejected what Vice President Humphrey said. We have the impression that the North Vietnamese look upon all of us in this country as just a bunch of imperialist rascals. So I think that any debate among ourselves is somewhat irrelevant because Hanoi says "no" to everything.

Now, President Johnson is President until January 20th. He was elected by an overwhelming majority of the American voters in 1964. He and I are responsible for trying to get peace now. The candidates are talking about what their general attitude and their approach will be in January. In January the situation will be different, in important respects, because it changes from time to time.

I do not myself believe that the problem is here among ourselves. We have a habit in this country of tearing ourselves pieces in ways which are irrelevant to the problem. The problem for all America is what Hanoi is going to do. Is Hanoi interested in peace? Is it willing to do, as President Johnson once put it, almost anything step towards peace? Now, we can quarrel among ourselves, but much of this quarrel is irrelevant to the problem of making peace in Southeast Asia.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Secretary, is it your impression that the American political campaign is not having any effect on the Paris negotiations? That the North Vietnamese regard it as irrelevant?

Mr. RUSK. I think the North Vietnamese watch public discussion in this country closely. They, from time to time, quote to the most obscure statements made by somebody in this country. They put great weight on the demonstrators and the signs of dissent in this country. It is not my impression they attach that importance to the election campaign as such, or to the difference among candidates. They are hoping, I have no doubt, that the American people will abandon Southeast Asia and we will grow tired, and we will grow disillusioned, that we will turn to isolationism, that we will give up effort.

Anything in this country, that points in that direction undoubtedly gives them heart. One of our problems, quite frankly, Mr. Reynolds, is that Hanoi may be confused. You and I would be confused if we were on the other side listening to the great diversity of statements coming out of this country. Hanoi may not clearly understand the nature of the American political system. They may not understand that debate is not a full answer to decisions. That responsibility for decisions in this country rests with the President and with the Congress.

Now, for example, if we heard that 50,000 demonstrators were marching around the headquarters in Hanoi crying for peace, we would say the war is over. Now when we hear that 50,000 demonstrators a few months ago were out in front of the Pentagon in Washington they can be misled, you see.

So, a part of our problem is to be sure that they understand the basis on which the United States makes decision so they do not misunderstand or miscalculate, or come to the conclusion that somehow the United States is going to abandon Southeast Asia because we are not going to abandon Southeast Asia, whoever is elected in November. And Hanoi should understand that, and get down to the serious business of making peace.

Mr. SCALI. But does a suggestion such as that by Mr. Humphrey add to this confusion and make it even more difficult for the North Vietnamese to decide?

Mr. RUSK. Oh, I don't think so. I think that if you look at the entire speech made by the Vice President, the context, his discussion of peace in Southeast Asia and Vietnam, and his references to readiness to accept free elections, with all of those participating who would accept constitutional process, and who would accept the very idea of an election in Vietnam, if you look at the entire speech that he made, this is not a problem. Hanoi says no. They've already said no to what the Vice President said. He did refer to the demilitarized zone. Now, the point is in Paris we have laid before the Hanoi delegation a very considerable number of points on which some progress might be made. We have talked about the DMZ, we have talked about the level of forces, we have talked about the at-

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October 31, 1968

RCA

Mr. Robert L. Bennett
Commissioner of Indian Affairs
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C. 20242

Dear Commissioner Bennett:

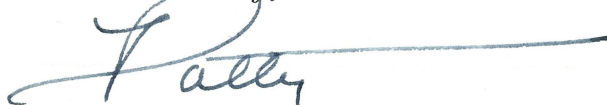
I returned from covering the Apollo shot to find waiting for me on my desk your comments at the annual convention of the National Congress of American Indians at Omaha.

Thanks so very much for sending them along.

I have long known that you are an outstanding innovator, but it's fun to have the facts documented. The future of our first Americans looks considerably brighter now than it did when you took office 29 months ago, and RCA and I are proud to have played a very small part with our Mississippi family training project.

Best wishes for continued success.

Sincerely,



(Mrs. F. Edward Cavin)

Patty Cavin
Manager
News and Information

1-100
2. file



Hollywood NATIONAL BANK

6225 HOLLYWOOD BOULEVARD · HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA 90028

November 7, 1968

PERSONAL

Mr. Robert L. Bennett
U. S. Commissioner of Indian Affairs
Washington, D. C.

Dear Bob:

The evening with you fine people in Pasadena was most delightful. It was a pleasure meeting with charming Mrs. Bennett.

I sent a copy of the program to our mutual friend, Henry Schmitt, Publisher of the American News, and enclosed is a copy of a nice release he gave you two fine gentlemen.

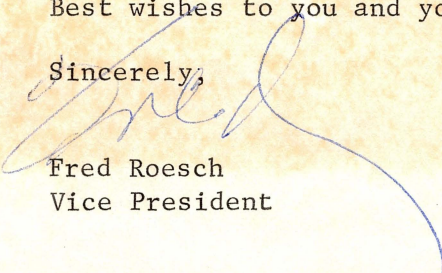
Mr. Bernard F. Martin, a highly competent, dedicated employee of yours at the Bureau of Indian Affairs in Shiprock, New Mexico, is also a native of Aberdeen. When you resided in Aberdeen, Bernie was operating a super market prior to joining the Indian Affairs.

I have been keeping closely in touch with Bernie because he is a tremendous fellow; formerly served as President of the Chamber of Commerce and served in many important positions. Bernie has so much energy and drive that he suffered a heart attack last year from which he has completely recovered. His doctor is keeping a careful watch over Bernie and he may one day request him to move to a lower climate. I give you this for information only at the present time.

On your next visit to Los Angeles, please give me a call and perhaps we can again have luncheon together.

Best wishes to you and your nice family,

Sincerely,


Fred Roesch
Vice President

FR:ET
encl.

AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION

aclu

156 FIFTH AVENUE / NEW YORK / NEW YORK 10010 / ORegon 5-5990

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Executive Director, JOHN de J. PEMBERTON, JR.; Associate Directors, ALAN REITMAN, MARTIN GARBUS; International Work Adviser, ROGER N. BALDWIN.

November 8th, 1968

Mr. Robert L. Bennett
 Commissioner of Indian Affairs
 U. S. Department of the Interior
 Washington, D. C. 20240

Dear Mr. Bennett:

We have read with the greatest of interest your remarks to the NCAI last September and it was a satisfaction to see leadership developing at last and to have more civil rights and autonomy assured.

One of the points you raised and on which we would appreciate further information is the right of off-reservation Indians to vote along with reservation Indians on such matters as termination. Is there not a danger that those who remain on the reservation and wish to continue may be overpowered by those who have left? If so, should any different arrangement be made in franchise rights?

Our best wishes to you in your constructive and difficult program.

Sincerely yours,

Roger N. Baldwin (EAL)
 Roger N. Baldwin

RNB:EAL

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and Trust Company

Established 1903

WILLIAM E. ABEL
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT
INDIAN BANKING DEPARTMENT

HOME OFFICE
150 N. STONE AVE.
TUCSON, ARIZONA

November 8, 1968

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100
Mr. Robert L. Bennett, Commissioner
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C. 20240

Dear Commissioner Bennett:

May I thank you once again for your very kind participation in the various events connected with the celebration of "Cochise Day" which was held in Tucson last weekend. We certainly enjoyed having you with us at the Reception and Dinner Friday evening, and your interesting and challenging talk at the ceremonies Saturday morning in Armory Park was one of the highlights of the program.

We here in Tucson feel that "Cochise Day" was an unqualified success. We realize that a great deal of this is due to your attendance, and wish to thank you again for arranging to be with us.

Sincerely yours,

Bill Abel

The Modern Bank of the West...



AMERICAN INDIAN CLAIMS ASSOCIATION

Dedicated to the Rights and Claims of All Indians

I. J. SPENCER
Executive Secretary

510 West Tenth St.
Long Beach, California 90813
November 9, 1968

13212 Mona Blvd.
Compton, Calif., 90222
Phone NE 5-7967

100
Mr. Robert L. Bennett
Commissioner of Indian Affairs
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Washington, D. C. 20242

Dear Bob:

Thank you for your letter of October 30th, in which you gave suggestive help that has proven out all right already. Contact was made with Elijah Smith at Riverside and his referral ended up successful according to a student who needed help and got help.

Our organization met today and had a good meeting and one of the good things that came out of the meeting was the overall endorsement of your continuance in office. In fact, I have this day written to Senator George L. Murphy and Congressman-Elect Craig Hosmer and told them we were endorsing you for furtherance as Indian Commissioner.

Whenever you are out this way again, we would like very much to have you meet with our group so that they will know what a good personable Commissioner we have.

Much as I dislike telling you this but, have you heard about my sister, Florence and Lewis E!'s recent divorce? It shook me to the marrow of my bones and I very well know now that nothing is too bad to happen to your own loved ones.

Good luck and may Good Fortune be yours always.

Sincerely,

H. E. Roberts, Jr.

H. E. Roberts, Jr.
President

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United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20242

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Mr. Overton James
President, Inter-Tribal Council of the
Five Civilized Tribes
6033 Glencove Place
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73132

Dear Mr. James:

I wish to thank you from the bottom of my heart for the support and encouragement which you have given me during the uncertain days following the change in Administration.

The almost unanimous and spontaneous efforts made by you and the Indian leadership to have me retained as Commissioner of Indian Affairs was a most gratifying development. I will always treasure the many expressions that have been made on my behalf. It makes the disappointment at not being able to continue as Commissioner less severe, and it assures me that I was doing all the things and providing the kind of leadership that the Indian people wanted.

My three years as Commissioner of Indian Affairs have been the most wonderful experience of my life, for they put me in contact with so many fine people. The courteous and welcome manner in which I was received in Indian country was an inspiration to me. You made me feel at home, and in turn I brought back to Washington renewed desire to be of service to the Indian people.

So I leave the position of Commissioner of Indian Affairs not by my choice, but at the request of the new Administration. In so doing, I extend to my successor every good wish for the difficult job ahead. If he merits the same kind of support from you that you gave to me, then his job will be made less difficult.

I intend to keep up my long association with the Indian people and to serve them in other capacities. I look to the future, therefore, with hope and enthusiasm and to the opportunity of seeing many of my Indian friends again.

Sincerely yours,

Robert L. Bennett
Commissioner of Indian Affairs

November 13, 1968

Mr. Overton James
President, the Inter-Tribal Council
of the Five Civilized Tribes
6033 Glencove Place
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73132

Dear Governor:

It was thoughtful of you to send me a copy of the letter written to the Chairmen of the Democratic and Republican National Committees to which was attached a resolution adopted by the Inter-Tribal Council on October 11, 1968, recommending my retention as Commissioner of Indian Affairs. I hope that I have justified the confidence of you and other leaders. Certainly, your continued cooperation and support has been helpful to me.

If it is the will of the incoming administration that I continue as Commissioner of Indian Affairs, you may be sure that I will make every effort to continue to serve you and the other Indians as I have in the past.

With all good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,



Robert L. Bennett
Commissioner of Indian Affairs

RLBennett/klm 11/13/68
file, chrono, mailroom

The INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL
of the FIVE CIVILIZED TRIBES

ORGANIZED ON FEBRUARY 3, 1950



Hon. Lawrence F. O'Brien, Chairman
Democratic National Committee
Watergate Office Building
2600 Virginia Ave., N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20000

Dear Chairman O'Brien:

There is attached hereto a resolution adopted by The
Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes in regular
session at Sequoyah High School, Tahlequah, Oklahoma,
on October 11, 1968.

This resolution expresses the views of the Council and is
forwarded to you for your consideration and favorable action.

Sincerely,

Overton James
President

Enclosure

cc:
Secretary of the Interior
Commissioner of Indian Affairs
Area Director, MAO
W. E. McIntosh
Robert H. Kingsbery
President, Inter-Tribal Council
Executive Secretary file

NOTE: Identical letter written to Hon. Ray Bliss, Chairman, Republican
National Committee, 1625 I St., N. W., Washington, D. C.

October 25, 1968

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BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
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© OFFICERS
PRESIDENT
OVERTON JAMES
6033 GLENCOVE PLACE
OKLA. CITY, OKLA. 73132
VICE PRESIDENT
JOHN BROWN
BOX 24
SASAKWA, OKLA. 74867
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
MRS. ELIZABETH SMITH
P. O. BOX 1199
MUSKOGEE, OKLA. 74401
TREASURER
TOMMY RAY MORTON
P. O. BOX 282
STILLWELL, OKLA. 74960
SERGEANT-AT-ARMS
ALFRED DEERE
ROUTE 2, BOX 110
WEWOKA, OKLA. 78884
CHAPLAIN
DR. B. FRANK BELVIN
517 S. WOODLAWN
OKMULGEE, OKLA. 74447

OCT 20 2 16 PM '68

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes is established for the purpose of enlightening the public toward a better understanding of the Indian race; to preserve Indian cultural values; to enhance and promote the general educational opportunity among members of the Five Civilized Tribes; to seek an equitable adjustment of tribal affairs; to secure and to preserve rights under Indian treaties with the United States; and otherwise to promote the common welfare of the American Indians, and

Whereas, Robert L. Bennett, Commissioner of Indian Affairs, has initiated new programs and has enlarged existing programs and has attained a high degree of cooperation and coordination among Federal, state and private organizations that are helping Indian tribes, and

WHEREAS, he has obtained the support of Congressional Committees that can assist Indian programs, and

WHEREAS, he has sought and obtained the full support of Indian leaders in planning tribal programs, and

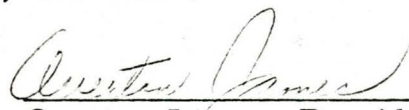
WHEREAS, under the leadership of Commissioner Bennett the Indian people are now developing more than they ever have before, more than at anytime in the history of this country, and

WHEREAS, The Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes firmly believes that this momentum developed by Commissioner Bennett should be carried into the new administration, and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Bennett's appointment will expire on January 20, 1969,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes strongly recommends that Robert L. Bennett be retained as Commissioner of Indian Affairs so that the programs under way will be achieved without interruption and without delay.

Adopted this 11th day of October 1968 in a regular quarterly meeting held at Sequoyah High School, Tahlequah, Oklahoma.


Overton James, President

ATTEST:


Elizabeth Smith, Executive Secretary

DEC 18 9 26 AM '68

December 16, 1968

435
Hon. Walter J. Hickel
Secretary of the Interior Designate
Office of the Governor of Alaska
Anchorage, Alaska 99500

Dear Mr. Secretary Designate:

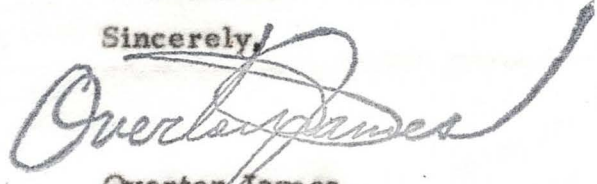
The Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes of Oklahoma congratulates you and extends to you every good wish as the new Secretary of the Interior.

At a meeting of this Council held October 11, 1968, at Sequoyah High School, Tahlequah, Oklahoma, the enclosed resolution was adopted. This resolution is submitted to you for your sincere consideration and favorable action.

It is the concensus of all Indians of this area that Commissioner Bennett has done an outstanding job in Indian affairs, and this Council respectfully requests that he be retained in his present position.

We look forward to working with you in the days ahead in the welfare and interest of the Indian people of this country.

Sincerely,



Overton James
President

Enclosure

cc:
President, Inter-Tribal Council
✓ Commissioner of Indian Affairs
Area Director, MAO
W. E. McIntosh
Robert H. Kingsbery
Executive Secretary file

Executive



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20242

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Miss Sarah Gertrude Knott
Director of Programs
National Folk Festival Association
710 Dupont Circle Building
Washington, D.C. 20036

Dear Miss Knott:

I wish to thank you from the bottom of my heart for the support and encouragement which you have given me during the uncertain days following the change of Administration in January.

The almost unanimous and spontaneous efforts made by you and the Indian leadership to have me retained as Commissioner of Indian Affairs was a most gratifying development. I will always treasure the many expressions that have been made in my behalf. It makes the disappointment at not being able to continue as Commissioner less severe and it assures me that I was doing the things and providing the kind of leadership that the Indian people wanted.

My three years as Commissioner of Indian Affairs have been the most wonderful experience of my life, for they put me in contact with so many fine people. The courteous and welcome manner in which I was received in Indian country was an inspiration to me, and I brought back to Washington renewed desire to be of service to the Indian people.

So I leave the position of Commissioner of Indian Affairs not by my choice, but at the request of the new Administration. In so doing, I extend to my successor every good wish for the difficult job ahead. If he merits the same kind of support from you that you gave to me, then his job will be made less difficult.

I intend to keep up my long association with the Indian people and to serve them in other capacities. I look to the future, therefore, with hope and enthusiasm and to the opportunity of seeing many of my Indian friends again.

Sincerely yours,

Robert L. Bennett
Commissioner of Indian Affairs

Knott, Sarah D.
File
11/23/68
RAB

November 21, 1968

President-elect Richard M. Nixon
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Nixon:

The National Folk Festival Association, Inc., has had its headquarters in Washington, D. C. For a long time, as we have developed folk activity programs throughout the United States with annual national gatherings each year bringing together folk song and dance groups from an average of twenty-five states, each program has been opened by one or more tribes of our American Indians.

I have had contact with Commissioners of Indian Affairs since the beginning of the NFFA in 1934. In my opinion, the present Commissioner, Mr. Robert Bennett, has done the very best job for the Indians that has been done by any Commissioner. He has unquestionably done the most in making for better understanding between the Indians and other racial and national groups in the country.

All to whom I have talked since the election sincerely hope that your administration will make it possible for him to remain in the Commissioner's post.

There has never been a time in our country when there was such need for understanding and unity of our people of diverse cultural heritages. We feel very sure that no Indian in the country could come near filling this post as well as has Mr. Bennett. We need him very much in plans that have

been developing since he came to take this post to stabilize the folk activity movement in our country by helping to encourage revival of the basic folk legacies of our people, including the American Indians high on the list as early "settlers" who have left their cultural imprint everywhere in our great land.

No person in our country has a greater appreciation of the Indians' culture nor a greater desire to give his people a sense of "belonging" through developing greater understanding of that culture, then has Mr. Bennett, himself an Oneida Indian. We need him.

Sincerely yours,

A large, flowing handwritten signature in dark ink, which appears to read "Sarah Gertrude Knott". The signature is written over the typed name and title.

Sarah Gertrude Knott
Director of Programs

✓
Copy to Commissioner Robert Bennett, Bureau of Indian Affairs,
Washington, D. C.

404 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

DISTRICT OFFICES:
220 CITIZENS BUILDING
ABERDEEN, SOUTH DAKOTA 57401

300 NORTHWEST BANK BUILDING
SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA 57102

BEN REIFEL, M.C.
FIRST DISTRICT, SOUTH DAKOTA

MEMBER,
APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

VERN LOEN
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

SHIRLEY M. LUIKENS
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

November 27, 1968

Mr. Harry Flemming
Office of the President-elect
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mr. Flemming:

It is not my practice to bombard the incoming President-elect with names of individuals unsuited for the offices they seek.

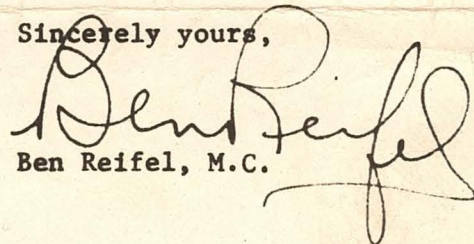
I do feel, however, very strongly about the qualifications of the present Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Mr. Robert L. Bennett.

It would be most appreciated if you would give full consideration to his qualifications as outlined in the enclosed letter and resume to President-elect Nixon.

As the only Indian American in the Congress and as one who has worked intimately with Mr. Bennett through the Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior and in the BIA itself, I feel especially qualified to render judgment as to his performance.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,


Ben Reifel, M.C.

BR:aro

Enclosures

404 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

DISTRICT OFFICES:
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ABERDEEN, SOUTH DAKOTA 57401

300 NORTHWEST BANK BUILDING
SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA 57102

BEN REIFEL, M.C.
FIRST DISTRICT, SOUTH DAKOTA

MEMBER:
APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

VERN LOEN
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

SHIRLEY M. LUIKENS
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

November 27, 1968

The Honorable Richard M. Nixon
President-elect of the United States

Dear Mr. Nixon:

Please accept my warmest congratulations upon your election to the Presidency of the United States.

As you begin to gather your official family, I have been impressed by your public statements indicating a desire to promote bipartisanship and unity through the highest councils of our government.

A number of friends and acquaintances have contacted me for consideration as Cabinet-level appointees; however, there is only one man who I definitely feel has the qualifications and the proven ability to command a responsible position in your Administration.

This is Mr. Robert L. Bennett, presently Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Department of Interior.

It was my privilege to work with Mr. Bennett in the Aberdeen, South Dakota, area office of the Bureau of Indian Affairs prior to my election to Congress in 1960. At that time he was a registered Democrat, but he re-registered in order to vote for me in the primary. It is my understanding that he was a registered Republican at an earlier period in his career.

Mr. Bennett became Commissioner of the Bureau of Indian Affairs in mid-1966 and has served with distinction. A lifetime of experience plus unusual acceptance by Indian Americans everywhere and BIA employees as well, make him exceptionally qualified to continue in this post.

Mr. Bennett, an Oneida Indian from the State of Wisconsin, is the first Commissioner of Indian blood since 1871. This is an extremely important factor in his acceptance by the various tribal groups.

The Honorable Richard M. Nixon

Page 2

November 27, 1968

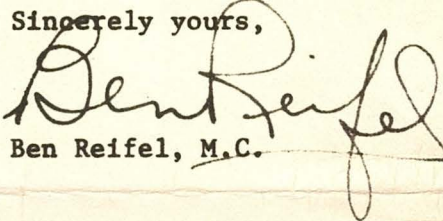
In our long association, I know Mr. Bennett to be highly sensitive and sympathetic of the needs, aspirations and hopes of all Indian Americans--from Alaskan nations and Eskimos to the Seminoles of Florida. He has worked with all major tribal leaders and has visited every tribe and band in his thirty years of service. A tireless worker and an imaginative administrator, he is esteemed by all who have worked with him.

I can think of no qualified administrator better equipped to deal with the peculiar needs of the Indian American and our government's responsibilities to meet those needs through new and effective opportunity.

As I said in the beginning, I shall not trouble you with names of those who fancy themselves qualified for the highest positions in our government, but who obviously lack proper credentials. I do hope, however, that you will find it possible to continue Mr. Bennett in this position where he has really just obtained a foothold and now is in a position to deliver results in return for your confidence.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Ben Reifel". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized "B" and "R".

Ben Reifel, M.C.

BR:aro

File
RW

LAW OFFICES

MERDLER & GABOURIE

4419 VAN NUYS BOULEVARD, SUITE 201
SHERMAN OAKS, CALIFORNIA 91403
783-7606 AND 872-2606

1255 POST STREET, SUITE 1002
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94109
TELEPHONE 771-4400

JOSEPH MERDLER
FRED W. GABOURIE
OF COUNSEL
HAROLD W. ELLIOTT
MAURICE J. NELSON
MARY CARDIFF

November 29, 1968

Mr. Robert Bennett
Commissioner United States Bureau Indian Affairs
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Bennett;

I wish to thank you for your wonderful letter to Leona and myself together with your autographed photograph which I will cherish.

The other day I had the opportunity to make a pitch in your behalf to our Lieutenant Governor Robert Finch, who is rather close to Mr. Richard Nixon. I am enclosing herewith a copy of the letter sent him this date.

Please give our best wishes to Mrs. Bennett, and we certainly are looking forward to visiting with you once again.

Very truly yours,

MERDLER & GABOURIE

Fred Wm. Gabourie
Fred Wm. Gabourie
FWG:jk
encl.

JOSEPH MERDLER
FRED W. GABOURIE

OF COUNSEL
HAROLD W. ELLIOTT
MAURICE J. NELSON
MARY CARDIFF

LAW OFFICES
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783-7606 AND 872-2606

1255 POST STREET, SUITE 1002
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94109
TELEPHONE 771-4400

November 29th, 1968

Lieutenant Governor Robert Finch
c/o State Capitol
Sacramento, California

Re: ROBERT BENNETT,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs,
United States Bureau of Indian Affairs

Dear Governor Finch;

I am writing this letter to implore you to encourage the forthcoming administration to continue Mr. Robert Bennett as Commissioner of the United States Bureau of Indian Affairs.

I am part Indian myself, and have been active in Indian Affairs not only in California but in many other states since World War II. However, it is not my intention to put myself forward at this time, but merely to indicate that I am a part of and active in the Indian community and can speak from first hand experience.

For the past two years our law firm has had the opportunity to work rather closely with Commissioner Bennett and many of his staff and I can tell you that there are few in the entire United States as qualified or as dedicated as this man.

Mr. Bennett is an Oneida Indian born on Indian land and reared in many of the old traditional ways. He received his additional training in Indian Schools, a graduate of Haskell Indian Institute and later went on to complete his higher education. His experience with the United States Bureau of Indian

Re: Robert Bennett

Page II
11-29-68

Affairs spans almost 30 years during which time he has been in almost every type of position.

The problems of the American Indian are extremely important and highly complex because they are intertwined with tradition, treaties, laws and modern concepts. Because of Mr. Bennett's early background, vast experience and his dedication, he has been able to confront the many facets of the problems and come up with good substantial solutions therefor.

It is my opinion that the American Indian people have fared better and progressed further under Commissioner Bennett than at any other period of our history. In all sincerity, this is saying alot when you consider the wide diverse opinions espoused by Mr. Indian and the legislators.

Thank you for your kind consideration in this matter.

Very truly yours,

MERDLER & GABOURIE


Fred Wm. Gabourie

FWG:jk

File
RMB

DEC 2 9 45 AM '68

RECEIVED
BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON, D. C.

November 29, 1968

Mr. Richard M. Nixon
President-Elect
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20036

Attention: Harry Flemming

My dear Mr. President-Elect:

Please find enclosed a resolution requesting your office to give some consideration in retaining the present Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Mr. Robert L. Bennett, Washington, D. C.

The United Tribes of North Dakota Development Corporation resolution reflects the sincere desire of the majority of the Indians to keep Mr. Bennett as the Indian Commissioner.

Mr. Bennett has not been our Indian Commissioner too long and his policies have not had the opportunity to get moving throughout the Indian country. He believes very strongly in maximum Indian economic self-sufficiency; full participation of Indians in American life; and equal citizenship privileges and responsibilities for Indians.

Past history has proven that the changes of Indian Commissioners, often a short tenure of four years, has created chaos, turmoil and confusion. The Indian problem has been a "political football" with little or no regard to solving the dilemma that faces our Indian people.

Every consideration given to this dedicated man will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Theodore Jamerson, Coordinator
United Tribes of North Dakota

Enclosure

RESOLUTION

UNITED TRIBES OF NORTH DAKOTA DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
Minot, North Dakota
November 22, 1968

WHEREAS, the United Tribes of North Dakota Development Corporation comprising of the Chairmen of the Standing Rock Sioux, Three Affiliated Tribes, Devils Lake Sioux and the Turtle Mountain Chippewa Indians are a recognized Development Corporation, and

WHEREAS, said Development Corporation is responsible to the Tribal Councils and members of each tribe represented to conserve its tribal property, to promote the socio-economic development of the resources and general welfare of the Indian people, and

WHEREAS, Robert L. Bennett, the United States Commissioner of Indian Affairs has advocated and supported the programs and proposals of the United Tribes of North Dakota Development Corporation for the economic and social advancement of the Indian people, and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Bennett has achieved a measure of rapport and understanding between the United States Bureau of Indian Affairs and the various tribes and Indian organizations to a greater degree than any Commissioner in our history, and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Bennett has instituted policies beneficial to all Indians that are now being implemented and should be given a fair chance to prove out.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the United Tribes of North Dakota Development Corporation hereby goes on record requesting the President-Elect, Richard M. Nixon to consider the retention of Robert L. Bennett as Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

CERTIFICATION

We, the undersigned, as representatives of the United Tribes of North Dakota Development Corporation, certify that the Development Corporation is composed of the four chairmen of the Tribal Councils and the Executive Director of the North Dakota Indian Affairs Commission and that a quorum was present at the meeting duly and regularly called and held on the 22nd day of November, 1968, at which the foregoing resolution was approved.

Sgd/ Austin Engel
Executive Director
North Dakota Indian Affairs
Commission

Sgd/ A. J. Agard
Chairman, Standing Rock Indian
Reservation

Sgd/ Vincent Malnourie
Chairman, Fort Berthold Indian
Reservation

Sgd/ Lewis Goodhouse
Chairman, Fort Totten Indian
Reservation

Sgd/ Peter Marcellais
Chairman, Turtle Mountain Indian
Reservation

RESOLUTION

UNITED TRIBES OF NORTH DAKOTA DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
Minot, North Dakota
November 22, 1968

DEC 2 9 46 AM '68

RECEIVED
BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON, D. C.

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Executive Director
North Dakota Indian Affairs
Commission

Sgd/ A. J. Agard
Chairman, Standing Rock Indian
Reservation

Sgd/ Vincent Malnourie
Chairman, Fort Berthold Indian
Reservation

Sgd/ Lewis Goodhouse
Chairman, Fort Totten Indian
Reservation

Sgd/ Peter Marcellais
Chairman, Turtle Mountain Indian
Reservation

Dear Mr. Bennett:

The Tribes are supporting you
100 % we are making contacts.

T. E. Jamerson, Coordinator,

United Tribes of North Dakota

File
RJM
NORTH DAKOTA INDIAN AFFAIRS COMMISSION

~~ROOM 15, ELTINGE BUILDING~~

~~1202 1/2 3RD STREET NORTH~~

BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA

58501

STATE CAPITOL

MEMO

From the desk of

AUSTIN ENGEL

Executive Director

TO: _____

The enclosed resolution which asks President-Elect Nixon to consider the retention of Robert Bennett as Commissioner of Indian Affairs was passed by the United Tribes of N.D. Development Corp.

Whatever you can do to support this resolution in the way of letters, telegrams, phone calls, etc. will be greatly appreciated.

Austin Engel

Pat Taylor - first wife for the night - 35!

Frank Kaurila -

Jim O'Brien

Lucas Robinson

Steven & Bob, Bruce

Roland E. Miller

Frederick - you made it! -
again!

Gene Belack

Paul H. Davis

Madison Green

Mar. W. Jellus

Blaythelgus

Lynda L. Bernal - last of the
good guys!

And Riley
that's 213

James J. Guard

Howard

George W. Hubert - Best in a long
string of previous
years!

Donald J. Smith

Red Jellied

Paul J. Gendler - Will
done, just don't get
it - gift now and then!

Myron M. Gendler

Quincy J. Gendler

Philip J. Gendler - we got coming
in going...???

Bill Gendler

M. J. Gendler

Conrad J. Gendler - 20 Sir
with large
rich
money

Will Gendler

John Gendler

John Gendler

John Gendler

John Gendler

John Gendler

John Gendler

To an
Old Pro...

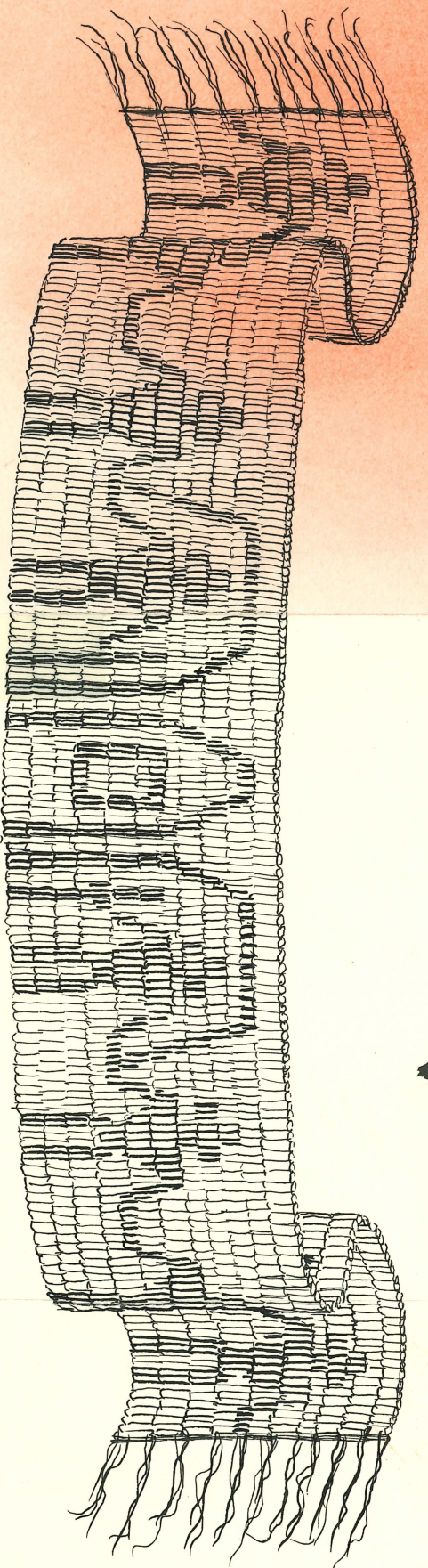


MAY

HISTORY

Be Recorded
on your...

WAMPUM



IN THE SENATE
SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 112
BY STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

A JOINT MEMORIAL

1 TO THE HONORABLE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE
2 HONORABLE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

3 We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of the
4 State of Idaho assembled in the First Regular Session of the Fortieth Idaho
5 Legislature, do hereby respectfully represent that:

6 WHEREAS, the appointment of a Commissioner of Indian Affairs is
7 now under consideration; and

8 WHEREAS, President Richard M. Nixon, in a statement issued on
9 September 27, 1968, pledged that "the right of self-determination of the
10 Indian people will be respected and their participation in planning their own
11 destiny will actively be encouraged"; and

12 WHEREAS, implicit in this pledge is deference to Indian wishes as to
13 who should be their Commissioner of Indian Affairs, other things being
14 equal, to plan and carry out programs; and

15 WHEREAS, the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, the National
16 Congress of American Indians, and Indians throughout the nation have gone
17 on record as supporting the retention of Mr. Robert L. Bennett as
18 Commissioner of Indian Affairs; and

19 WHEREAS, Commissioner Bennett has earned the respect and trust of
20 Indians by his accomplishments in the fields of housing, health, industrial
21 development, employment and education;

22 WHEREAS, the Indians of this nation are justly concerned that
23 Commissioner Bennett may be replaced by someone with unknown insights
24 and unknown inspirational qualities.

25 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the First Regular Session
26 of the Fortieth Idaho Legislature, the Senate and House of Representatives
27 concurring, that we most respectfully urge the Secretary of the Interior to
28 retain Mr. Robert L. Bennett as Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate be, and
30 he is hereby authorized and directed to forward copies of this Memorial to
31 the Honorable President of the United States and the Honorable Secretary of
32 the Interior.

PERSONAL

Mr. Robert L. Bennett
Commissioner of Indian Affairs
1951 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20242

Dear Mr. Bennett:

As advised, there is enclosed a copy of the memorial which
I read to you over the telephone today.

Best regards.

Sincerely yours,


George P. LaVatta

Enclosure

Special File

RJM
2214 N. E. 37 Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97212



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20242

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Mr. Robert A. Whitebird, President
Inter-Tribal Council of the Eight Tribes of Miami Agency
C/O P. O. Box 391
Miami, Oklahoma 74354

Dear Mr. Whitebird:

I wish to thank you from the bottom of my heart for the support and encouragement which you have given me during the uncertain days following the change of Administration.

The almost unanimous and spontaneous efforts made by you and the Indian leadership to have me retained as Commissioner of Indian Affairs was a most gratifying development. I will always treasure the many expressions that have been made on my behalf. It makes the disappointment at not being able to continue as your Commissioner less severe, and it assures me that I was doing the things and providing the kind of leadership that the Indian people wanted.

My three years as Commissioner of Indian Affairs have been the most wonderful experience of my life, for they put me in contact with so many fine people. The courteous and welcome manner in which I was received in Indian country was an inspiration to me. You made me feel at home, and in turn I brought back to Washington renewed desire to be of service to the Indian people.

So I leave the position of Commissioner of Indian Affairs not by my choice, but at the request of the new Administration. In so doing, I extend to my successor every good wish for the difficult job ahead. If he merits the same kind of support from you that you gave to me, then his job will be made less difficult.

I intend to keep up my long association with the Indian people and to serve them in other capacities. I look to the future, therefore, with hope and enthusiasm and to the opportunity of seeing many of my Indian friends again.

Sincerely yours,

Robert L. Bennett
Commissioner of Indian Affairs

RESOLUTION

40 PO Box 391
Miami Okla
74354

RECEIVED
BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON, D.C.

DEC 5 1 07 PM '68

WHEREAS, The Inter-Tribal Council of the Eight Tribes of Miami Agency is established for the purpose of enlightening the public toward a better understanding of the Indian race; to preserve Indian cultural values; to enhance and promote the general educational opportunity among members of the Eight Tribes of Miami Agency; to seek an equitable adjustment of tribal affairs; to secure and to preserve rights under Indian treaties with the United States; and otherwise to promote the common welfare of the American Indians, and

WHEREAS, Robert L. Bennett, Commissioner of Indian Affairs, has initiated new programs and has enlarged existing programs and has attained a high degree of cooperation and coordination among Federal, state and private organizations that are helping Indian tribes, and

WHEREAS, he has obtained the support of Congressional Committees that can assist Indian programs, and

WHEREAS, he has sought and obtained the full support of Indian leaders in planning tribal programs, and

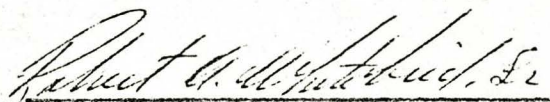
WHEREAS, under the leadership of Commissioner Bennett the Indian people are now developing more than they ever have before, more than at anytime in the history of this country, and

WHEREAS, The Inter-Tribal Council of the Eight Tribes of Miami Agency firmly believes that this momentum developed by Commissioner Bennett should be carried into the new administration, and

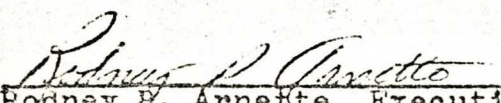
WHEREAS, Commissioner Bennett's appointment will expire on January 20, 1969.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Inter-Tribal Council of the Eight Tribes of Miami Agency strongly recommends that Robert L. Bennett be retained as Commissioner of Indian Affairs so that the programs under way will be achieved without interruption and without delay.

Adopted this 30th day of November 1968 in a regular monthly meeting held at Seneca Indian School, Wyandotte, Oklahoma.


Robert A. Whitebird Sr. President

ATTEST:


Rodney P. Arnette, Executive Secretary