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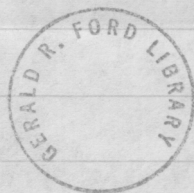
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Sacramento, Calif. 95816

P.O. Box 161144

September 1, 1976

Bradley Patterson, Jr.  
The White House  
Wash., D. C.



Dear Mr. Patterson,

In response to your letter of Aug. 27, '76:

We have printed materials and papers, but to answer your questions concerning the United Tribes Council of Pacific West, it is simple to say to you that our work is to do all the things for which many other groups (here) are well funded to do, but do not: as their non-participation increased, our organization grew, dating back to 1971 when the Sacramento Indian Center was first funded under O.E.O.

Our half-hearted attempts to be funded were rejected, and while there was some disappointment, we have

been able to retain autonomy and build power in our freedom from funding's "guidelines."

The primary funded Indian groups here use a preference system for Native California Indians, and that, of course, excludes 80% of the Indian community in this state from aids, jobs, benefits, or (even) social rapport.

We are approx. 3000 Indian people who are refugees in the west, being pushed to this place since 1800 as our homelands were invaded and wars of conquest were waged against our Nations. Our members are from approx. 40 tribes, each of which has suffered the well-known oppressions, broken treaties, confiscations, and colonialistic take-over of their lands and lives. The first group of note to arrive here was lead by Creek and Tsalagi wise people, including Sequoyah, in 1809, when

the Treaty of Hopewell was flagrantly violated and barbarity against the Muskogean and eastern Nations grew to fearful proportions. Others came when the white man, John Ross, was subsidized to impose dictatorship on the Nation in Indian Territory. Still others came during the scandalous years of the rape of Indian Nations by the politicians in the "Kickapoo Indian affair." As land in the Plains is confiscated, and in the desert, desecrated - as Black Mesa - more fled before the onslaught: they continue to come as their lands and their peace and rights are taken from them.

Our 'program' is simply the natural actions of a tribal extended-family-unit: we keep "Indian" alive, in frequent gatherings, and advocacy as well as performing the social services which refugees require in

a strange, unfriendly land. We are pushed to these western waters and can go no further; together, we are the bundle of sticks which cannot be broken.

Our primary drive is to help get our people educated, and we are responsible for getting hundreds of our members into college, aiding them, and encouraging them to stay there, assisting each other with studies, papers, problems of discrimination which are built in in any standard set of studies. Our work is doubly hard this year due to the gross insults which pound us in every quarter under the ruse of "Bi-Centennial!"

We have scholars, medicine people, tribal religious teachers, and all manner of traditional aids who function for the right reasons, old way reasons, and not for "pay" (which we don't have). Our elected Council-people are from



seven different Indian Nations, and a supplemental 'congress' of 21 are from other Indian Nations. We have an annual Spring Festival, and these people are chosen at that time.

We have sent representatives (at their own expense) across America this summer, to meet with many tribes, Nations, and groups. It has been enlightening to us, and we feel we are unique as we found no such body with like goals and work.

Like the Tewa and the old-way Hopi, we keep our needs simple and they are met and we go on, observing each day that the Great Spirit works in the affairs of man and universe, and that the time our ancestors spoke of, is here. We are therefore probably the most contented group of Indians in this land today, seeing that we have placed our

Trust in the proper powers, and we have sought knowledge rather than gold, and we are prepared for the upheavals, holocausts, or any other vast visitations of geology, or psychology that may come. We are contented and unafraid, and, as such, we are pretty good people, having many friends in all races who now turn to us for assurance in a world going berserk with fear. It is good, for there are good people in every race and every avenue of life.

We publish a newsletter from time to time to let people know what is happening in the world, since the large subsidized media is not allowed to do so. It is an out-of-pocket paper, free to interested persons, and is little more than a headline report and bibliography to assist readers where they can

still obtain true reporting of the affairs we have mentioned. We have great mail and reader response, and these are also sources of clippings and reports of events not widely circulated. We have historians and scientists and well-trained brains to aid us in understanding what is going on from the bits and pieces of information which come from a wide field.

As our goal is knowledge, and our work is by fair exchange, we avoid high crime of fraud, stealing, and other acts so common in every field and strata of society. We therefore feel we are among the best citizens of the land, abiding by the laws of "Caesar" and the laws of our Indian ethics of old. Time is on our side and the Great Spirit is our friend.

V. Card; Spokesperson



UNITED TRIBES COUNCIL

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