IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

ELOUISE PEPION COBELL, <u>et</u> <u>al.</u> ,)
Plaintiffs,)
v.)
DIRK KEMPTHORNE, Secretary of the Interior, <u>et al.</u> ,)))
Defendants.)

Case No. 1:96CV01285 (Judge Robertson)

NOTICE OF FILING OF MARCH 2007 STATUS REPORT BY THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR OFFICE OF TRUST RECORDS

The Department of the Interior Office of Trust Records hereby submits its status report

for activity in March 2007. A copy of the report is attached hereto.

Dated: April 16, 2007

Respectfully submitted, PETER D. KEISLER Assistant Attorney General MICHAEL F. HERTZ Deputy Assistant Attorney General J. CHRISTOPHER KOHN Director

<u>/s/ Robert E. Kirschman, Jr.</u> ROBERT E. KIRSCHMAN, Jr. (D.C. Bar No. 406635) Deputy Director Commercial Litigation Branch Civil Division P.O. Box 875 Ben Franklin Station Washington, D.C. 20044-0875 Phone (202) 616-0328 Fax (202) 514-9163

ACTIVITY REPORT OFFICE OF TRUST RECORDS March 1 - 31, 2007

PROGRAMMATIC:

Labat-Anderson (Labat Indexing Project)

Labat reported that indexing of 869 boxes of inactive Indian records was completed in March 2007. The total number of boxes completed through March 2007 is approximately154,420.

Movement of Records

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and Office of the Special Trustee (OST) moved 3,221 boxes of inactive records from various field locations to Lenexa, Kansas, for indexing and subsequent storage at the American Indian Records Repository (AIRR) during this reporting period.

Site Assessments Statement

During the month of March, OTRA issued final records assessment reports for San Carlos Agency IIM, Siletz Agency BIA, Taholah Agency BIA offices and the Office of the Special Trustee, Chief Information Office. OTRA performed record assessments at San Carlos Agency BIA and IIM offices, OST Trust Services Office, OST Trust Accountability Office, and OST Principal Deputy Special Trustee office.

Records Training

OTR provided records management training for 59 BIA, OST and Tribal records contacts. OTR provided training on vital records for 94 BIA and OST employees.

Equipment

98 pieces of fireproof filing equipment were delivered to BIA, OST and Tribal offices in March 2007. The February OTR Monthly Activity Report reflected 265 pieces of fireproof filing equipment were delivered; however, that figure inadvertently included non-fireproof filing equipment purchased and delivered to BIA, OST and Tribal offices. The correct number for February 2007 is also 98 pieces of equipment delivered. Therefore, the February report is corrected to reflect the correct number of pieces delivered.

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Litigation Support and Research Requests

OTR continued to provide significant support to the Office of the Solicitor, Office of Historical Trust Accounting and its contractors, and the Department of Justice and its contractors. AIRR staff provided responses to 209 research requests from BIA, OST and other requesters.

ADMINISTRATIVE: General administrative activities continued.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS: None.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief. I express no opinion on the content of the Site Assessments Statement described above.

Ethel J. Abeita.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the content of the Site Assessments Statement described above is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief. I express no opinion on the contents of other sections/subsections of the report.

D.J. Jords

Jeff Lords Director, Office of Trust Review and Audit