

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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

Case No. 1:96cv01285–JR

**NOTICE OF FILING OF DECEMBER 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 December 2007. A copy of the report is attached hereto.

Dated: January 15, 2008

Respectfully submitted,
JEFFREY S. BUCHOLTZ
Acting Assistant Attorney General
MICHAEL F. HERTZ
Deputy Assistant Attorney General
J. CHRISTOPHER KOHN
Director

/s/ Robert E. Kirschman, Jr.
ROBERT E. KIRSCHMAN, Jr.
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Phone (202) 616-0328
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that, on January 15, 2008 the foregoing *Notice of Filing of December 2007 Status Report by the Department of the Interior Office of Trust Records* was served by Electronic Case Filing, and on the following who is not registered for Electronic Case Filing, by facsimile:

Earl Old Person (*Pro se*)
Blackfeet Tribe
P.O. Box 850
Browning, MT 59417
Fax (406) 338-7530

/s/ Kevin P. Kingston
Kevin P. Kingston

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

PROGRAMMATIC:

- **Labat-Anderson (Labat Indexing Project)**

Labat reported that indexing of 1,108 boxes of inactive Indian records was completed in December 2007. The total number of boxes completed through December 2007 is approximately 165,825.

- **Movement of Records**

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and Office of the Special Trustee (OST) moved 236 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 December, OTRA performed one records assessment at the following location: OST, Office of Appraisal Services, Pacific Region office. OTRA issued two records assessment reports, one for each of the following locations: OST, Office of Appraisal Services, Great Plains Region office and Seminole Agency BIA office.

- **Records Training**

In December 2007, OTR provided records management training for 96 BIA/OST records contacts and Tribal employees. OTR provided training on vital records for 37 BIA employees.

- **Equipment**

125 pieces of fireproof filing equipment were delivered to BIA/OST and Tribal offices in December 2007.

- **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, the Department of Justice and its contractors and tribal attorneys on behalf of various Tribes. AIRR staff provided responses to 156 research requests from BIA, OST and other requesters. With the filing of numerous tribal trust litigation cases, litigation-related

information and document requests pertaining to records at the AIRR continue to increase. Many of these requests have very short deadlines.

ADMINISTRATIVE: General administrative activities continued.

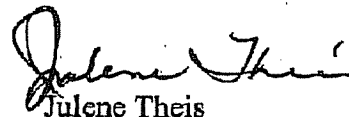
GENERAL OBSERVATIONS: None.

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. Abgita

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.



Julene Theis
Acting Director, Office of Trust Review and
Audit