

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. memo	To Marcia Hale from Leon E. Panetta re: April 29th Tribal Meeting with the President (partial, p. 5) (1 page)	04/13/94	P5
002. memo	To vida Benavidez re: White House Meeting with Tribal Leaders (8 pages) (8 pages)	04/27/94	P5

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
 Domestic Policy Council
 Carol Rasco (Meetings, Trips, Events)
 OA/Box Number: 7262

FOLDER TITLE:

Tribal Leaders Mtg. 4-29-94 [1]

rw177

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advise between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

THE WHITE HOUSE
OFFICE OF DOMESTIC POLICY

CAROL H. RASCO
Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy

To: _____

Draft response for POTUS
and forward to CHR by: _____

Draft response for CHR by: _____

Please reply directly to the writer
(copy to CHR) by: _____

Please advise by: _____

Let's discuss: _____

For your information: _____

Reply using form code: _____

File: _____

Send copy to (original to CHR): _____

Schedule ? : Accept Pending Regret

Designee to attend: _____

Remarks: *Event file for 4/14 5:30 meeting*

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

14-Apr-1994 02:24pm

TO: Carol H. Rasco
FROM: Donsia Strong
Domestic Policy Council
SUBJECT: RE: civil rts; indians

As I understand, Phil wants to know what we and others are doing to prepare for the 29th.

DPC is working with speech writing.

working with Cabinet Affairs to identify the officers who have issues of particular concern.

holding briefings on Apr. 20th or 21st for Sr. Officials and others who will be involved in the 29th.

having ASec'y Deer make a presentation on the 25th to DPC.

drafting Presidential procedural/ceremonial policy statement.

drafting Eagle Feathers Pres. Directive.

We need appointments made. Ed has no Dir of Indian Ed. Has made no outreach efforts, per their cabinet report. Gaiming is being vetted.

Communications strategy.

Shalala
Cisneros
O'Leary
Babbitt
Perry
Espey

Morning
Speakers
requested
by NCAI



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

APR 13 REC'D

THE DIRECTOR

APR 13 1994

MEMORANDUM FOR MARCIA HALE

FROM: Leon E. Panetta ORIGINAL SIGNED BY LEON E. PANETTA
SUBJECT: April 29th Tribal Meeting with the President

The attached materials have been prepared as a summary of Indian issues and to highlight concerns that may arise at the April 29th White House meeting between the President and Tribal leaders. OMB staff will continue to work with Loretta Avent, as needed, to prepare for the meeting.

In previous communications, Tribal leaders have generally focused on the need for the Administration to fully commit to consult with tribes on a government-to-government basis, treating the Indian community on an equal basis with States, counties, municipal governments, and other jurisdictional entities. Furthermore, leaders have sought continued support and expansion of the concept and practice of self-governance, whereby Federal Indian programs are transferred to Tribal governments with Tribes assuming responsibility for setting priorities and delivering services.

Attached for your review, you will find a short statistical summary of American Indians and Native Alaskans, a summary of Tribal concerns and other issues likely to be raised at the meeting, a draft of potential announcements or accomplishments for possible use in conjunction with the meeting, a draft governmentwide table of Federal funding of Indian Programs (this table is updated annually; a current table will be completed prior to April 29th), a map of land held in Trust for Native Americans and Tribes, and recent news clips.

Attachments

cc: Phil Lader
Carol Rasco
Donsia Strong

SELECTED AMERICAN INDIAN AND NATIVE ALASKAN STATISTICS
CONDENSED FROM
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

(Unless otherwise noted, data is from the 1990 Census)

- As of 1994, there are 545 Federally-recognized tribes. Cherokee, Navajo and Chippewa are the three largest tribes.
- The American Indian, Eskimo, and Aleut population ("population") is about two million. More than half the population lives in just six states: Oklahoma, California, Arizona, New Mexico, Alaska, and Washington.
- 22 percent (about 440,000) live on reservations and trust lands. Navajo (AZ-NM-UT), Pine Ridge (NE-SD), and Fort Apache (AZ) are the three reservations with the highest populations.
- The median family income is \$21,750, compared to \$35,225 for the total population of the U.S. ("total population"). About one third of the population and half of the population of reservations and trust lands lives below the poverty line, compared to 13 percent of the total population.
- The unemployment rate of the population averages 26 percent, about four times that of total population.
- Educational attainment has improved, but still lags behind the total population. 66 percent of the population age 25 or older has completed high school, compared to 75 percent of the total population. However, only 54 percent of the population living on reservations and trust lands has completed high school.
- IHS data indicate that in 1987-1989, the most current time period for which such statistics are available: The age-adjusted mortality rate (all causes), the infant mortality rate, and the age-adjusted suicide death rate were all higher for Native Americans as compared to the total population.
- Over the last twenty years, however, there have been tremendous strides in improving the health of American Indians and Alaska Natives. Mortality rates for many diseases afflicting American Indians and Alaska Natives have declined dramatically. A few examples are: Infant mortality has been cut 50 percent; Maternal mortality by 63 percent; Tuberculosis mortality rates have declined by 74 percent. American Indian and Alaska Native cancer mortality rates are 30 percent lower than the national average.

**TRIBAL CONCERNS AND OTHER ISSUES LIKELY TO BE RAISED
AT APRIL 29TH TRIBAL MEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT**

Tribal Budget Priorities:

For FY 1995, tribes requested an additional \$325 million for about 40 priority areas, led by tribal priority allocations, contract support and community and economic grants. Budget constraints held the Administration's recommended increase for identified priorities to about \$10 million.

Indian Health Service

Tribes have expressed concern over the funding and staffing levels for IHS services in the FY 1995 President's Budget. As regards staffing levels, FTE reductions will come primarily from administrative staff, protecting the health professionals who deliver health care services. FTE reductions for health professionals would occur only as tribes assume control of their own health services through self-determination and self-governance compacts, or IHS contracts with private providers to provide health care, as at Pasqua Yaqui or Suquamish.

Tribal Priority Allocations (TPA) and Contract Support:

Under TPA, the Department of the Interior (DOI) transfers program operations to tribal governments, who set the priorities and either deliver or contract out the programs. While DOI increased such funding by \$17 million to \$447 million in FY 1995, this increase is \$8 million lower than the tribes' request. In addition, tribes are complaining that DOI does not adequately fund contract support costs for TPA programs.

Budget limitations and a Congressional cap on contract support funding levels (included in the FY 1994 Interior Appropriations Act) at a time of increased tribal contracting have led to the shortfall. DOI is trying to remedy the situation by increasing contract support funding by \$4 million to \$96 million, paying past shortfalls, and equitably distributing the remaining funding. However, these improvements are unlikely to keep pace with rapidly increasing tribal contracting activity.

Infrastructure:

On reservations, there is a \$550 million backlog of facility improvement and repair needs; a \$420 million backlog of housing rehabilitation needs; and a \$65 million annual shortfall below estimated road maintenance needs.

Law Enforcement:

Crime on reservations is increasing, and there are not enough detention facilities to hold the offenders, so many are not arrested. In addition, BIA has recently been criticized as a result of police brutality allegations on the reservations. The Indian Tribal Justice Act, just passed, authorizes \$50 million annual appropriations for tribal justice needs on reservations. There are no funds budgeted for these programs.

Natural Resources:

The Secretary of the Interior has a trust responsibility for the natural resources on Indian reservations. Tribes need funds to support resource protection and development. In many cases, natural resource development offers some of the few economic development programs on reservations.

Social Services and Child Welfare:

Tribes report greater needs than the basic Indian Child Welfare Act grants can support. In addition, P.L. 101-630 (Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Protection Act) authorizes the BIA and the IHS to establish joint child protection and family violence resource centers in the BIA's 12 regions. The law also authorizes a grant program to expand tribal programs for child protection and family violence centers. There are no funds budgeted for these programs.

Trust Funds:

Tribal trust funds originate from judgment awards, income from proceeds from the surface use of tribal land, proceeds from the extraction of oil, gas and minerals, and proceeds from timber harvest. Trust accounts are established within BIA for tribes and individual Indians either through legislation or voluntary deposits. The number of accounts and their dollar amounts have grown substantially, to 291,000 accounts totalling about \$2 billion.

The Federal Government has a fiduciary responsibility to ensure that these accounts are properly managed, but has not fulfilled this responsibility. OMB, GAO and Congress have long recognized that the accounts are at risk due to mismanagement. OMB has been actively involved in an ongoing effort to improve trust funds management through a joint project with DOI and Arthur Andersen & Company.

Progress to date: BIA in 1991 engaged Arthur Andersen & Company to begin conducting a complete reconciliation of \$1.5 billion in tribal trust funds for the period 1972-1992. This reconciliation is on schedule and will continue into 1995. Procedures to reconcile the remaining small individual accounts will be determined later. Once the accounts are reconciled, BIA will engage a separate CPA firm to audit and certify them. In addition, DOI is planning to reorganize the Office of Trust Funds Management to improve management, internal controls, procedures, customer service, and support reconciliation efforts.

Economic Development:

Tribal leaders regard economic development as a high priority and object to the proposed elimination in the FY 1995 Budget of the \$4 million Indian Business Development Grant Program and the \$2.5 million Indian Direct Loan Program.

However, the FY 1995 Budget assumes a greater reliance on the tax and business investment incentives created in the 1993 OBRA. In fact, during the debate on empowerment zones, Tribes and the National Congress of American Indians sought provisions for all of Indian Country, rather than selecting a small number of Reservations as Empowerment Zones. As a result, the 1993 OBRA enacted the following incentives for investment on Indian Reservations:

- o Accelerated Depreciation for Property on Indian Reservations -- reduced recovery period for business related property or infrastructure investments on or near reservations; and,
 - o Indian Employment Credit -- 20% tax credit on up to \$20,000 in wages paid and health benefits provided to Indian employees that live on or near the reservation on which the work was performed.
- neither provision is available to any type of gaming operation.

These tax incentives became codified and available to affected businesses when the Act was signed into law on December 31, 1993. IRS advises that all relevant tax forms and instruction booklets for individuals, corporations, and partnerships/individual partners have been or are in the process of being changed to include these provisions.

Joint Committee on Taxation staff have estimated the cumulative, five year tax losses attributable to these provisions to be \$126 million from FY 1994 to FY 1998.

Education:

Tribal leaders will likely raise the issues that funding for BIA schools is both inadequately and unstable and that there is a \$550 million backlog in long-need repairs to schools that are in unsafe, substandard condition.

The FY 1995 funding request for BIA Education is \$510 million, a \$16 million (3.2 percent) increase from the FY 1994 enacted level. These funds support elementary and secondary education (184 schools, \$410 million) plus Tribally Controlled Community Colleges (22 colleges located on or near Reservations) and various adult education programs.

Virtually all of the increase is for elementary and secondary school operations, based on an anticipated 5 percent rise in enrollment and a 1.3 percent increase in per pupil expenditures on instructional programs.

The FY 1995 funding request for Education construction is \$43 million, down from the FY 1994 enacted level of \$74 million. Most of the request level is for facilities improvement and repairs (identified as a material weakness) with no funding proposed for construction of new schools. The proposal not to fund new school construction would eliminate the first phase of a \$26 million high school in Takoma, WA (Dicks-D).

Education -- Legislation and Issues: Goals 2000 (recently enacted) provides a new framework for improving the nation's schools through the establishment of eight educational standards and the use of Federal grants to States/schools (including Tribes/BIA schools) to encourage their development of innovative programs to meet these standards. To fund the development of these standards, BIA schools will receive a \$4 million set aside.

Federal funding for the implementation of programs designed to meet the standards in Goals 2000 will be provided through a companion bill, Improving America's Schools Act of 1993, which will reauthorize elementary and secondary education. This bill passed the House March 24th.

Until the last minute, Interior played virtually no role in the legislative process on either bill. The Department's late involvement caused significant concern by the White House (DPC) that raising issues so late in the process could delay passage. Interior advises that they will take a more active role when the education reauthorization act is taken up in the Senate, through the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs.

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. memo	To Marcia Hale from Leon E. Panetta re: April 29th Tribal Meeting with the President (partial, p. 5) (1 page)	04/13/94	P5

**This marker identifies the original location of the withdrawn item listed above.
For a complete list of items withdrawn from this folder, see the
Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet at the front of the folder.**

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
Domestic Policy Council
Carol Rasco (Meetings, Trips, Events)
OA/Box Number: 7262

FOLDER TITLE:

Tribal Leaders Mtg. 4-29-94 [1]

rw177

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advise between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

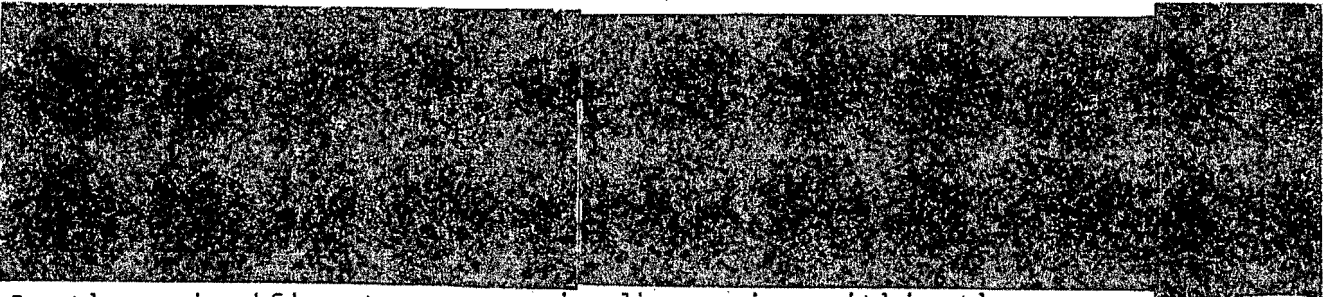
Indian Gaming:

Gaming operations provide significant revenues to many Tribes, but have also caused much controversy on the issues of Tribal sovereignty and States rights.

There are over 300 gaming operations on 103 Indian Reservations (one third of all Reservations). In 1991, \$15 billion was wagered at Indian gaming operations (80 percent annual average growth since 1985 -- 5 percent of total U.S. wagerings). After paying winnings, this provided Tribes with \$1.5 billion in gross revenues. Wagerings and Tribal revenues are expected to continue increasing rapidly.

Many Tribal leaders regard this as a major opportunity with which to fund Tribal initiatives, provide employment opportunities, and promote economic development. A limited number of studies show that gaming has offered on-reservation economic and employment opportunities, for both Indians and non-Indians, while providing Tribes with income to carry out high priority programs and supplementing funds received from the BIA and other Federal sources.

Federal Indian gaming law stipulates that in States where any type of gambling is legal, Tribes may operate any type of gambling operations (not only those types allowed by the State), subject to approval by the State and the Indian Gaming Commission. Allowing Tribes to run gaming operations in only some States creates a "haves" and "have nots" situation among Tribes: Those with gaming operations are said to be very much divided, based on what games they operate and whether they are run fully by the Tribe or contracted to non-Tribal members.



Another significant concern is discussion within the Administration of a possible 4 percent Federal tax on gaming income, as a source of funding for welfare reform, while State lotteries would be exempt.

Additionally, Tribes are very much concerned that the Governors are said to be trying to amend the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act such that Tribes could run only those games allowed by the State in which their Reservation is located.

Tribes are also concerned about a 1993 moratorium imposed by the Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs (Ada Deer) on any BIA financial assistance to gaming operations. This indefinite moratorium resulted from strong objection raised by House Budget Committee Chairman Obey (D-WI) and is consistent with lending to gaming operations being prohibited in the President's stimulus package and in narrative descriptions in the FY 1994 and 1995 budget appendices which specify that such funds should be targeted to projects with an emphasis on manufacturing, business services, and tourism (hotels, motels, and restaurants) providing economic development on Indian Reservations.

Religious Freedom:

Indian Tribes believe that they continue to be denied many religious freedoms due to a lack of adequate protection to religious practitioners and sacred sites.

S. 1021, the Native American Free Exercise of Religion Act, is intended to ensure Native American's religious freedom by restricting all Federal activities that adversely affect the religious practices or sites of Native Americans. It also provides access to certain Federal lands for religious purposes, protects the use of peyote for religious purposes, guarantees Native American prisoners' religious rights, and provides access to eagle parts and other natural substances. It could significantly affect agencies with land management (DOI, USDA), public safety (DOT), and national security (DOD, DOE) missions.

The Administration strongly supports the principle of religious freedom for Native Americans and the White House DPC has identified this as a very significant issue. On March 23rd, Department of Interior and Justice officials testified before the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on S. 1021 (Inouye, D-HI). The Department of the Interior and Justice are now both working to amend S. 1021 and produce a draft alternative.

**APRIL 29TH TRIBAL MEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT:
POTENTIAL ANNOUNCEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

Community Enterprise Board -- This board is responsible for implementing OBRA Empowerment Zone provisions. Chaired by the Vice President, the Board recently created a subcommittee on American Indian Economic Development to help develop innovative solutions to various economic problems facing many Reservations.

1993 OBRA Tax Incentives -- Based on input from Tribes and the National Congress of American Indians, the 1993 OBRA enacted Indian Employment Credits and Accelerated Depreciation Allowances to promote investment and job creation on Reservations.

Executive Order on Environmental Justice (E.O. 12898) -- This E.O. seeks to promote environmental justice in minority and low-income populations. It contains provisions that the responsibilities of all affected Federal agencies should be applied equally to Native American programs, based on consultation with Tribal leaders.

Land and Water Claims Settlement Fund -- For the first time, the FY 1994 Budget included a separate discretionary source of funds for Indian land and water settlement claims. In the FY 1994 and FY 1995 Budgets, \$200 million and \$170 million, respectively, were requested to implement enacted settlement claims and to fund the negotiation of ongoing claims.

Religious Freedom -- The Administration strongly supports religious freedom for Native Americans and the White House DPC has identified this as a very significant issue. Interior and Justice officials recently testified before the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on S. 1021 (Inouye, D-HI) and are now both working to produce an acceptable draft alternative.

Colville Settlement -- Interior, Justice, Bonneville Power (BPA), and the Colville Tribe (WA) have negotiated an agreement in principle to compensate the Tribe for land that was flooded during construction of the Grand Coulee Dam with \$15.25 million annually from BPA power revenues and a one-time \$53 million payment from the DOJ Judgement Fund, settling a 43 year old dispute between the Tribe and the Federal Government.

Indian Trust Funds -- The Federal Government has fiduciary responsibility for 291,000 individual Indian and Tribal trust fund accounts totaling about \$2 billion. Because these accounts are at risk due to mismanagement, OMB and the Department of the Interior, in cooperation with Arthur Anderson & Co., have worked since 1991 to reconcile all Tribal accounts back to 1972. The effort is on schedule and will continue into 1995. Tribal accounts will be audited once the reconciliation work is complete. Plans to reconcile individual accounts will be determined later.

Health Care Reform

The Health Security Act is the only health reform proposal which specifically addresses health delivery for American Indians and Alaska Natives. The Health Security Act provides additional public and private funding for IHS, while preserving tribal sovereignty for self-determination and self-governance.

Hard-Core Substance Abuse Initiative

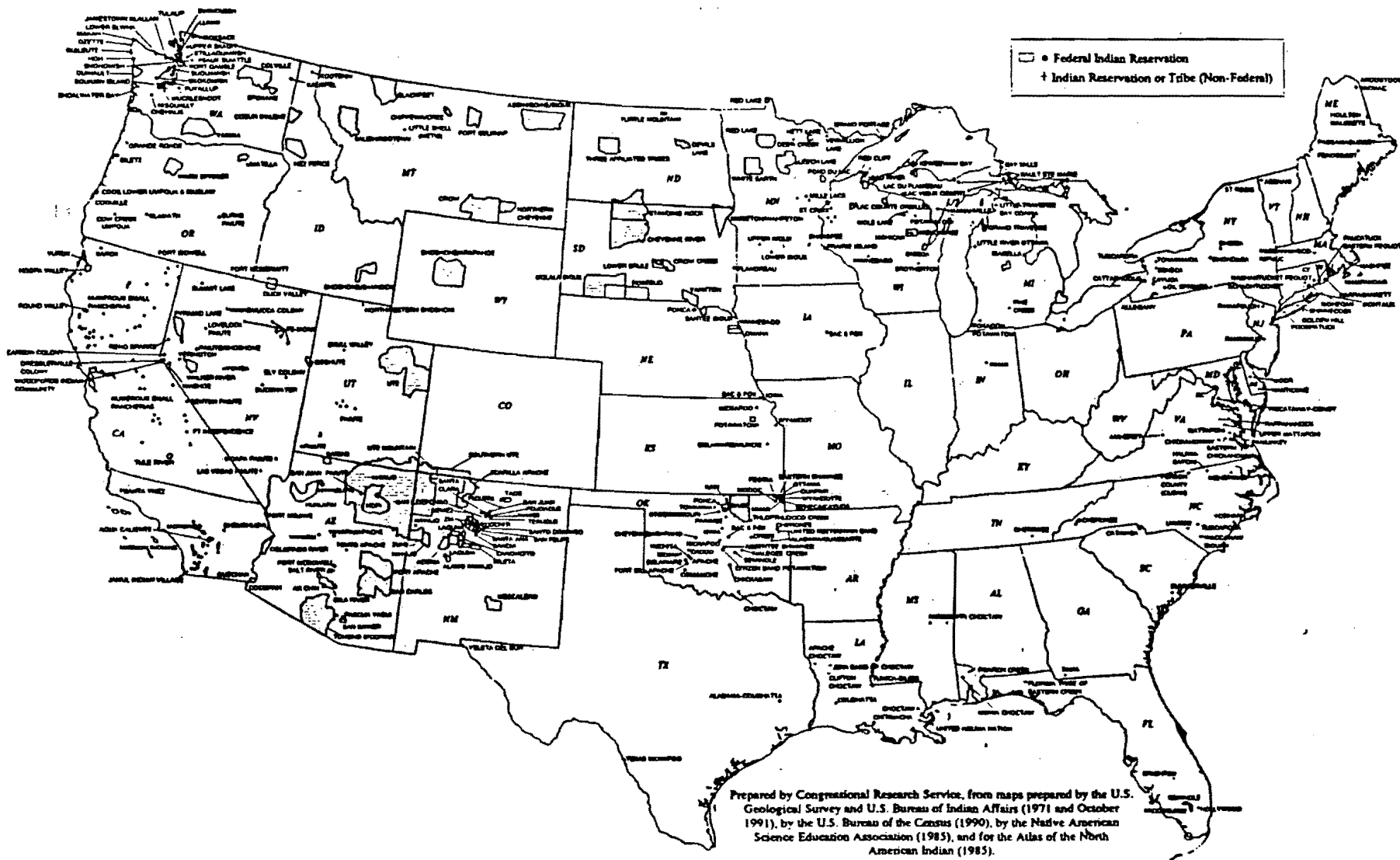
The President's FY 1995 Budget for IHS includes a special \$10 million for treatment of hard-core substance abusers. The alcoholism mortality rate for American Indians and Alaska Natives is five times the national average. Substance abuse is one of the most, if not the most, significant health problem for American Indians and Alaska Natives, not only directly causing mortality and morbidity, but increasing accident and homicide rates, suicide rates, chronic liver disease, etc. In an effort to make serious headway on this problem, the President's Budget includes this special hard-core treatment initiative.

DRAFT

FEDERAL FUNDING OF INDIAN PROGRAMS (in millions of dollars) Budget Authority

	FY 1992 Actual	FY 1993 Estimate	FY 1994 President's Budget
Department of Agriculture	117	119	112
Department of the Army	1	0	1
Department of Commerce	5	5	5
Department of Education	558	551	590
Department of Health & Human Services	1,863	2,026	2,094
Department of Housing & Urban Development	277	308	316
Department of the Interior	1,712	1,763	2,037
Department of Justice	3	3	3
Department of Labor	92	80	86
Department of Transportation	169	209	214
Department of Veterans Affairs	0	5	0
Environmental Protection Agency	29	32	26
Total	4,826	5,101	5,484

Native American Lands and Tribes, 1992



Jack Anderson
And Michael Binstein

Stiffing Native Americans

The Clinton-Gore campaign fought hard to win the American Indian vote as part of its Western strategy. Native Americans were wooed with VIP treatment, special briefings in Little Rock and a full-blown Indian issues platform plank at the Democratic Convention—where the opening invocation was translated into Navajo.

But the Clinton administration's proposed budget for next year requires little translation for tribal leaders across the country. Native Americans got sold out on the altar of deficit reduction.

The Indian Health Service is slated for reductions that will slice into the bone and muscle of a medical system serving the poorest of the poor—and one already woefully understaffed and underfunded. Patient waiting lists at IHS facilities are extensive. It is common for severely injured or sick patients to be transported on dirt roads 100 miles for treatment.

Ironically, the crippling cuts come as the White House tries to build a consensus on health care reform by prickling the nation's conscience. Now, members of Congress who are bitterly divided over health care, employer mandates and universal coverage are rallying behind American Indians—while the Clinton administration takes a walk.

"This is an outrageous and disgraceful sin being directed at the Indian Health Service ... worse than anything that came from either Reagan or Bush," says Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.), who has been a GOP point man against the Clinton health care package. Sen. Don Nickles (R-Okla.), who has offered a conservative alternative to the Clinton health plan, charges that "there is not another group in the nation that did as poorly as Indians did in the president's budget." Deficit hawk Sen. Pete Domenici (R-N.M.), an ardent foe of health care reform, wrote President Clinton earlier this month to argue that "proposed IHS staff cuts should be seriously reconsidered" in order to "avoid a disastrous result for Indian health care."

Senate Select Committee on Indian Affairs Chairman Daniel Inouye (D-Hawaii) is expected to voice his strong objections at a White House meeting with Clinton. He has reminded the White House that more than 800 "solemn treaties" were negotiated, under which millions of acres of ancestral land was ceded to the federal government in exchange for several commitments—the most prominent being health care. "In effect," states Inouye, "Indian people purchased the first prepaid health plan, and we must examine this budget within the context of those treaty commitments."

Sen. Harry Reid (D-Nev.), along with Republicans, is vowing to restore spending. He says he was told by Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala the day after the cuts were announced that the cuts would mainly affect construction—a claim not supported by the facts. IHS will be hit with about a \$247 million reduction—even though the administration is giving Shalala's agency, which oversees IHS, a \$23 billion budget boost. "The inequity is obvious," Inouye says.

Shalala disregards the fact that the IHS, with a staff of about 13,000 to serve more than 1 million American Indians, is being forced to absorb 49 percent of all staffing reductions within the elephantine Department of Health and Human Services this year, and 83 percent for next year. Yet the IHS budget is only 2 percent of the total spent by HHS. Dental, mental health and immunization funding will also shrink.

Government bean-counters might even agree that some of the cuts make no sense. In Shiprock, N.M., for example, a new hospital built to care for Navajos sits all but unused. It has barely half the staff it needs to fully operate. The IHS budget would effectively turn this hospital into a white elephant.

© 1994, United Feature Syndicate Inc.

USA Today 3/22/94

NATIVE AMERICAN CONFERENCE: President Clinton wants to know what's on the minds of Native Americans. In what's said to be the first gathering of its kind at the White House, the president invited leaders of all 545 federally recognized tribes and villages to meet with him late next month.

This is a prelude to a May 3-4 meeting in Albuquerque, where Attorney General Janet Reno and Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt will hear tribal complaints and ideas on everything from Native American gaming and religious freedom, to crime and juvenile justice.

Tesuque Pueblo James Hena, chair of the All Indian Pueblo Council in Santa Fe, says the message will be much the same as in past years: Native American health is abysmal, tribal schools need funding, tribal housing is inadequate, economic opportunities are lacking. "I've heard the same (promises) for the last 35 years," Hena says. "I've yet to see anyone carry them out, from either party." One issue certain to be on tribal agendas: pass the Native American Religious Freedom Act.

Gerald Torres, counsel to Reno, says the information will help mold new policies to end "inefficiencies and redundancies" in Native American policy.



RENO: We hear tribal complaints

By AJ Kamen
Washington Post Staff Writer

These are harsh, painful days for John H. Nuckolls, director of one of the country's two nuclear weapons design centers, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. President Clinton has halted the country's nuclear tests, probably forever, and Energy Secretary Hazel R. O'Leary is said to be thinking of turning the bomb lab into an environmental study center.

Nuckolls's staff of weapons designers east of San Francisco has declined by 50 percent since the good old days of President Ronald Reagan's tenure, and the laboratory's weapons budget next year will be less than two-thirds of what it was in 1987.

On top of that, a group of distinguished scientists has told the University of California, which manages Livermore for the government, in a special secret audit that Nuckolls is a poor manager. Nuckolls has blamed the findings on "a negative bias" promoted by "special interest groups," but some university officials have predicted the report could lead to his ouster.

These troubles may explain why Nuckolls, a former protege of bomb-builder Edward Teller, wrapped himself in the American flag last week and made an extraordinary claim to Congress that the Clinton administration is on the verge of violating the Constitution because of its inadequate attention to Livermore's work. (Even Whitewater accuser Rep. Jim Leach (R-Iowa) hasn't nailed Clinton on a constitutional violation—at least not yet.)

"Speaking both as a citizen of the United States and as a director of a weapons laboratory where the needed technical expertise is being dismantled," Nuckolls said in a statement to the House Armed Service Committee, "I must say . . . the federal government is in danger of failing to meet its constitutional responsibilities to 'provide for the common defense' and to 'secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity.'"

Nuckolls, to drive the point home, had his highlighted remarks faxed to reporters. Michael Gaudin, a spokesman for O'Leary's office, strongly disputed Nuckolls's conclusion but said the lab director was entitled to express any views to whomever he wished.

Desperately Seeking Gaming Commissioner

■ When last we checked—back in early December—Bush appointee Anthony J. Hope (son of Bob) was still running the National Indian Gaming Commission, even though his term expired in May.

Some of the tribes, many of which depend on the \$2 billion produced by gaming, were upset that Hope was still there. Nearly all were furious that someone they didn't know, longtime Kansas City political consultant and Clinton campaign aide Peter Goetz, was the front-runner to replace Hope.

Also not happy was Sen. Daniel K. Inouye

(D-Hawaii), chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Indian Affairs, who had been told he would be consulted about this appointment and that there would be an open selection process.

Word is, Inouye wins. Goetz's nomination, though not dead, is on hold while the administration looks at other candidates, especially people endorsed by the tribes. The White House is working fast and furious to come up with candidates, and there is now something of a deadline. Clinton is scheduled to meet April 29 at the White House with members of all 545 federally recognized American Indian tribes to assure them of his commitment to American Indian sovereignty.

While White House officials say they are going to talk health care at the meeting, for the tribes with gaming operations, this is perhaps the most critical appointment Clinton can make.

The betting now is some sort of package of appointments will be announced for the chairmanship, another vacancy and perhaps the general counsel's job.

The Thinking Man's Postcard

■ Now on sale at the gift shop in the Capitol: postcards with a picture of Clinton and his first-grade class at Brookwood Elementary School in Hope, Ark.

The little blurb on the back says Clinton "became known as a bookworm and a deep thinker. Relatives recall kids going over to Bill's house 'just to watch him think.'"

Guess this was what passed for a hot time on the old town in Hope. Quantities are limited.

Cleared by Ethics Probe: The Rest of the Story

■ Friday's item on former Justice Department official Lula Rodriguez's new job at the U.S. Information Agency failed to note that a Justice Department ethics investigation found "there was absolutely no hint of any unethical conduct or impropriety" on her part, according to USIA spokeswoman Kimberly Marteau.

Retired General Recruited for POW-MIA Post

■ The Pentagon has asked retired Air Force Gen. James W. Wold to be deputy assistant secretary of defense for POW-MIA affairs, a highly sensitive office that has been without a permanent leader since the start of the Clinton administration.

Wold, now a lawyer in Cooperstown, N.D., told the Associated Press on Friday that he had accepted the job. A 27-year veteran who retired in 1977, Wold flew combat missions in Vietnam and had helped American POWs who returned from Vietnam in Operation Homecoming.

Also, Ronald M. Harris, longtime chief information officer for the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, is starting today as the chief flack at the Federal Election Commission.

Wash Post 3/29/94

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Carol,

Tribal

Leaders

file

Attached are copies
of the Native American
Memoranda for your files
if you are interested in
having them.

Steve

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 29, 1994

MEMORANDUM FOR THE HEADS OF EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES

SUBJECT: Government-to-Government Relations with
Native American Tribal Governments

The United States Government has a unique legal relationship with Native American tribal governments as set forth in the Constitution of the United States, treaties, statutes, and court decisions. As executive departments and agencies undertake activities affecting Native American tribal rights or trust resources, such activities should be implemented in a knowledgeable, sensitive manner respectful of tribal sovereignty. Today, as part of an historic meeting, I am outlining principles that executive departments and agencies, including every component bureau and office, are to follow in their interactions with Native American tribal governments. The purpose of these principles is to clarify our responsibility to ensure that the Federal Government operates within a government-to-government relationship with federally recognized Native American tribes. I am strongly committed to building a more effective day-to-day working relationship reflecting respect for the rights of self-government due the sovereign tribal governments.

In order to ensure that the rights of sovereign tribal governments are fully respected, executive branch activities shall be guided by the following:

(a) The head of each executive department and agency shall be responsible for ensuring that the department or agency operates within a government-to-government relationship with federally recognized tribal governments.

(b) Each executive department and agency shall consult, to the greatest extent practicable and to the extent permitted by law, with tribal governments prior to taking actions that affect federally recognized tribal governments. All such consultations are to be open and candid so that all interested parties may evaluate for themselves the potential impact of relevant proposals.

(c) Each executive department and agency shall assess the impact of Federal Government plans, projects, programs, and activities on tribal trust resources and assure that tribal government rights and concerns are considered during the development of such plans, projects, programs, and activities.

(d) Each executive department and agency shall take appropriate steps to remove any procedural impediments to working directly and effectively with tribal governments on activities that effect the trust property and/or governmental rights of the tribes.

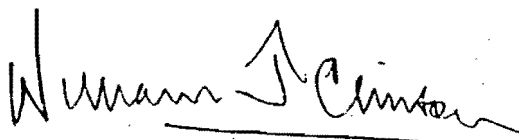
(e) Each executive department and agency shall work cooperatively with other Federal departments and agencies to enlist their interest and support in cooperative efforts, where appropriate, to accomplish the goals of this memorandum.

(f) Each executive department and agency shall apply the requirements of Executive Orders Nos. 12875 ("Enhancing the Intergovernmental Partnership") and 12866 ("Regulatory Planning and Review") to design solutions and tailor Federal programs, in appropriate circumstances, to address specific or unique needs of tribal communities.

The head of each executive department and agency shall ensure that the department or agency's bureaus and components are fully aware of this memorandum, through publication or other means, and that they are in compliance with its requirements.

This memorandum is intended only to improve the internal management of the executive branch and is not intended to, and does not, create any right to administrative or judicial review, or any other right or benefit or trust responsibility, substantive or procedural, enforceable by a party against the United States, its agencies or instrumentalities, its officers or employees, or any other person.

The Director of the Office of Management and Budget is authorized and directed to publish this memorandum in the Federal Register.



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 29, 1994

MEMORANDUM FOR THE HEADS OF EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES

SUBJECT: Policy Concerning Distribution of Eagle Feathers
for Native American Religious Purposes

Eagle feathers hold a sacred place in Native American culture and religious practices. Because of the feathers' significance to Native American heritage and consistent with due respect for the government-to-government relationship between the Federal and Native American tribal governments, this Administration has undertaken policy and procedural changes to facilitate the collection and distribution of scarce eagle bodies and parts for this purpose. This memorandum affirms and formalizes executive branch policy to ensure that progress begun on this important matter continues across the executive branch.

Today, as part of an historic meeting with all federally recognized tribal governments, I am directing executive departments and agencies (hereafter collectively "agency" or "agencies") to work cooperatively with tribal governments and to reexamine broadly their practices and procedures to seek opportunities to accommodate Native American religious practices to the fullest extent under the law.

As part of these efforts, agencies shall take steps to improve their collection and transfer of eagle carcasses and eagle body parts ("eagles") for Native American religious purposes. The success of this initiative requires the participation, and is therefore the responsibility, of all Federal land managing agencies, not just those within the Department of the Interior. I therefore direct each agency responsible for managing Federal lands to diligently and expeditiously recover salvageable eagles found on lands under their jurisdiction and ensure that the eagles are promptly shipped to the National Eagle Repository ("Repository"). To assist agencies in this expanded effort,

the Secretary of the Interior shall issue guidelines to all relevant agencies for the proper shipment of eagles to the Repository. After receiving these guidelines, agencies shall immediately adopt policies, practices, and procedures necessary in accordance with these guidelines to recover and transfer eagles to the Repository promptly.

I support and encourage the initial steps taken by the Department of the Interior to improve the distribution of eagles for Native American religious purposes. In particular, the Department of the Interior shall continue to adopt policies and procedures and take those actions necessary to:

(a) ensure the priority of distribution of eagles, upon permit application, first for traditional Native American religious purposes, to the extent permitted by law, and then to other uses;

(b) simplify the eagle permit application process quickly and to the greatest extent possible to help achieve the objectives of this memorandum;

(c) minimize the delay and ensure respect and dignity in the process of distributing eagles for Native American religious purposes to the greatest extent possible;

(d) expand efforts to involve Native American tribes, organizations, and individuals in the distribution process, both at the Repository and on tribal lands, consistent with applicable laws;

(e) review means to ensure that adequate refrigerated storage space is available to process the eagles; and

(f) continue efforts to improve the Repository's ability to facilitate the objectives of this memorandum.

The Department of the Interior shall be responsible for coordinating any interagency efforts to address continuing executive branch actions necessary to achieve the objectives of this memorandum.

We must continue to be committed to greater intergovernmental communication and cooperation. In addition to working more closely with tribal governments, we must enlist the assistance of, and cooperate with, State and local governments to achieve the objectives of this memorandum. I therefore request that the

Department of the Interior work with State fish and game agencies and other relevant State and local authorities to facilitate the objectives of this memorandum.

With commitment and cooperation by all of the agencies in the executive branch and with tribal governments, I am confident that we will be able to accomplish meaningful progress in the distribution of eagles for Native American religious purposes.

The Director of the Office of Management and Budget is authorized and directed to publish this memorandum in the Federal Register.

William D. Clinton

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

April 29, 1994

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
IN HISTORIC MEETING WITH
AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE TRIBAL LEADERS

The South Lawn

4:40 P.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you very, very much. Chief Wilma Mankiller and to all the other distinguished leaders here today. Let me first welcome you here on behalf of the First Lady and Vice President and Mrs. Gore. All of us are honored by your presence.

I also wanted to especially thank those who have spoken and participated to this point and those who will participate in the remainder of this program. I have listened carefully and learned a lot.

This is, as all of you know, a time of great challenge and transition for our beloved country and for the world. As I travel across this country and talk to the people about the problems that all Americans share, whether it's crime or health care or the economy, I find a concern that goes deeper even in these specific matters.

There is a great yearning in this nation for people to be able to reestablish a sense of community, a sense of oneness, a sense of cooperation, of shared values and spirit. Americans are searching for the chance to come together in friendship, instead of coming apart in anger and distrust. There is a yearning for us to be able to live together so that all of us can live up to our God-given potential and be respected for who and what we are.

It is in that spirit and with great humility I say to the leaders of the first Americans, the American Indian and Alaska Natives, welcome to the White House. Welcome home. (Applause.)

So much of who we are today comes from who you have been for a long time. Long before others came to these shores there were powerful and sophisticated cultures and societies here -- yours. Because of your ancestors, democracy existed here long before the Constitution was drafted and ratified.

Just last week, people all around the world celebrated the 24th annual Earth Day. Yet for thousands of years, you have held nature in awe; celebrating the bond between Earth and the Creator. You have reminded people that all of us should make decisions not just for our children and their grandchildren, but for generation upon generation yet to come.

I believe in your rich heritage and in our common heritage. What you have done to retain your identity, your dignity and your faith in the face of often immeasurable obstacles is profoundly moving -- an example of the enduring strength of the human spirit.

We desperately need this lesson now. We must keep faith with you and with that spirit and with the common heritage so many of us cherish. That is what you came to talk to me about, and what I would like to respond to today.

In every relationship between our people, our first principle must be to respect your right to remain who you are, and to live the way you wish to live. And I believe the best way to do that is to acknowledge the unique government-to-government relationship we have enjoyed over time. Today I reaffirm our commitment to self-determination for tribal governments. (Applause.)

I pledge to fulfill the trust obligations of the federal government. I vow to honor and respect tribal sovereignty based upon our unique historic relationship. And I pledge to continue my efforts to protect your right to fully exercise your faith as you wish. (Applause.)

Let me speak for a moment about religious freedom, something precious to you, something deeply enshrined in our Constitution. For many of you traditional religions and ceremonies are the essence of your culture and your very existence. Last year, I was pleased to sign a law that restored certain constitutional protections for those who want to express their faith in this country.

No agenda for religious freedom will be complete until traditional Native American religious practices have received all the protections they deserve. Legislation is needed to protect Native American religious practices threatened by federal action. The Native American free exercise of religion act is long overdue. And I will continue to work closely with you and members of Congress to make sure the law is constitutional and strong. I want it passed so that I can invite you back here and sign it into law in your presence. (Applause.)

And to make certain that you can obtain the ritual symbols of your religious faith, in a moment I will sign a directive to every executive department and agency of government, not just the Department of Interior, instructing them to cooperate with tribal governments to accommodate wherever possible the need for eagle feathers in the practice of Native American religions. (Applause.)

This then is our first principle -- respecting your values, your religions, your identity and your sovereignty. This brings us to the second principle that should guide our relationship. We must dramatically improve the federal government's relationships with the tribes and become full partners with the tribal nations.

I don't want there to be any mistake about our commitment to a stronger partnership between our people. Therefore, in a moment, I will also sign an historic government directive that requires every executive department and agency of government to take two simple steps: first, to remove all barriers that prevent them from working directly with tribal governments; and second, to make certain that if they take action affecting tribal trust resources, they consult with tribal governments prior to that decision. (Applause.) It is the entire government, not simply the Department of the Interior, that has a trust responsibility with tribal governments. And it is time the entire government recognized and honored that responsibility.

Part of being better partners is also being better listeners. The Department of the Interior and the Department of Justice have never before joined together to listen to the leaders of the Indian nations. It's time to change that. Next week, in Albuquerque, New Mexico, both Attorney General Reno and Secretary Babbitt and many of their sub-Cabinet officials will meet with you for two days at the first National American Indian Listening Conference. I'm looking forward to hearing their specific ideas from the conference on ways to move our nations forward together.

The same applies to the unprecedented series of 23 meetings that the Department of Housing and Urban Development, under Secretary Cisneros, will have with tribal governments by September -- to improve housing and living conditions in tribal communities, and to listen to you about how you can take the lead in doing it.

All governments must work better. We must simply be more responsive to the people we serve and to each other. It's the only way we'll be able to do good things with the resources we have. I know that you agree with that. More and more of you are moving to assume fuller control of your governments. Many are moving aggressively to take responsibility for operating your own programs. Each year the Bureau of Indian Affairs is providing more technical services and fewer direct services.

One avenue for greater tribal control is through self-governance contracts. There are about 30 self-compacting tribes today. We're working with Congress to raise that number by 20 tribes every year. We'd like self-governance to become a permanent program. But we must ensure services will still be provided to the smaller tribes that do not choose to participate.

What is the goal of a better and more equal partnership, and more empowered tribes and more efficient government? Ultimately it must be to improve the living conditions of those whom we serve. And that must be our third and final principle.

Together we must position American Indians and Alaska Natives to compete economically as we move toward the 21st century. I invited the leaders of every recognized tribe here today. But I'll be the first to acknowledge that not all have been able to join us because they simply don't have the resources to come. And I know well that many of you have come here at great personal sacrifice to yourselves and the members of your tribes. That only underscores the importance of our work.

Let us dedicate ourselves to making certain that the next time we all meet together, conditions will be different and better and all of our brothers and sisters will be able to join us. (Applause.)

We must do more to create jobs, raise incomes and develop capital for new businesses. I know there are more success stories in Indian country every year, but not nearly enough as the people who bore witness to your conditions here today so eloquently said.

Strengthening tribal economies will require new thinking and the courage to change. It will require investing in the health, the education and the skills of American Indians and Alaska Natives, as we must do for all Americans.

To the extent that some of the building blocks can be put in place here in Washington, we are working to do that. Our empowerment zone legislation, for example, contains at your request special new incentives for investing in reservations. This is only part of the solution. We can continue to enforce the regulations of the Community Reinvestment Act, to make sure local banks invest and lend in Indian communities. We've brought more tribal leaders than ever together with bankers to improve mortgage loans, financial services and to cut regulations. We must make these efforts permanent and more effective. And we know a more comprehensive approach is necessary.

At my direction, the Vice President has established a working group on Indian economic development as part of our Community Enterprise Board. I've asked them to study the recommendations from last year's National Indian Economic Summit and to consult fully with you every step of the way. Our goal is clear -- to work with you to enhance economic development in every tribe.

I'd like to emphasize that what I have asked them to do in this issue, I asked them to do on all issues. This great, historic meeting today must be the beginning of our new partnership, not the end of it. (Applause.)

I'd like to make a point about economic development that has to do with gaming. As a former governor, I understand some of the concerns that the governors have raised. But as President, I know that gaming gives you a competitive edge when you've had precious few. And the benefits often extend to surrounding communities in full measure. Some of you are now able to invest more in housing and health care and child care and infrastructure in taking care of your elders. I know that gaming is controversial, even among tribes. As many of you has acknowledged, it's also important that tribal governments continue to diversify their economies. Many of you are working with congressional leaders, governors and Secretary Babbitt to resolve tough issues.

My goal is this: I want the tribes to continue to benefit from gaming; and I want current disputes over the 1988 Gaming Regulatory Act to be worked out. I strongly support the process now underway to achieve that goal. But just as with the national economy, we know we can't solve every problem overnight. The important thing is to create policies that give every tribe the chance to have a strong economy in the long run; to develop the will and the consistency to stick with those policies over time; and to keep working and talking together.

Last year, you were kind enough to invite the First Lady to the Indian Health Summit. You asked her to make certain your treaty rights to health care and your rights under the Indian Health Service be preserved and made a part of our health care proposal. Because we work together, and because of you and your input, only one of the health care plans now before the Congress addresses these issues and ensures that tribal members will receive the same high-quality health care as everyone else. That is our plan, thanks to you. (Applause.)

There has been a great deal of debate this year about the budget of the Indian Health Service. It was mentioned earlier. The fact is that we are operating under the tightest spending limits in memory. In our efforts to bring the deficit down, I have recommended the total elimination of 100 programs and cuts in 200 others. And that is contributing to the country's economic revival. But I believe the health needs of tribal communities and families and children clearly require special attention. Therefore, I have amended next year's budget to restore more than \$120 million in funding for the Indian Health Service. (Applause.)

Finally, as we heard so eloquently today, there is in America, across the lines of race and class and region, a profound concern for our children. Too many are poor, or sick or unsupervised. Too many are likely to use violence or be the victims of violence. Too many are unprepared intellectually for life or work. Yet nothing is so striking in tribal communities as your love of family and extended family and your devotion to your children. Every segment of our society could well take a lesson from you.

But in spite of your best efforts, too many of your children also suffer from poor health and inadequate education. And we are trying hard to address these problems. You mentioned Head Start -- our budget calls for continued, substantial increases and expansions of the Head Start program, as well as the Women and Infants and Children program.

Our education plan, called Goals 2000, for the first time sets world-class education standards for every school and all our children, and gives local communities the grass roots support they need to achieve those goals. Goals 2000 contains millions more next year for BIA-funded schools and schools serving Native Alaskans. And these funds cannot be spent until the education goals of your community are considered.

In the 1980s, our nation fell behind many third world countries in the rate at which we immunized children against communicable diseases. I know the Indian Health Service does a good job of immunizing children. Beginning this year, under the Vaccine For Children program, every Indian child -- no matter where he or she lives, and regardless of whether they are fortunate enough to live near an IHS facility -- will be eligible for free vaccine. (Applause.)

The Great Law of the Six Nations Iroquois Confederacy contained this advice: "In our every deliberation, we must consider the impact of our decision on the next seven generations." We are stewards, we are caretakers. That standard will keep us great if we have the vision of your forefathers.

As we look back on the American journey, the test ahead is always whether we are moving in the right direction of more tolerance, wider justice and greater opportunity for all. It is the direction that counts, always the direction. And our choices will set that direction.

Of course, as you well know, our history has not always been a proud one. But our future can be, and that is up to us. Together we can open the greatest era of cooperation, understanding and respect among our people ever. I know that we will. And when we do, the judgment of history will be that the President of the United States and the leaders of the sovereign Indian nations met and kept faith with each other and our common heritage, and together lifted our great nations to a new and better place.

Thank you all. (Applause.)

(The President signs Presidential Directive.)

(Applause.)

(The President, The Vice President, Mrs. Clinton, and Mrs. Gore and presented with gifts.)

* * * * *

THE PRESIDENT: Before we go, I wanted to make a brief announcement to thank you, on behalf of the First Lady, The Vice President, Mrs. Gore and our Cabinet for being here and for giving us a chance to be with you, and for the wonderful gifts we have received.

In keeping with a tradition that goes back to the early days of our republic, I want each of you, in leaving, to receive a miniature replica of the Jefferson Indian Peace Medal.

On the front is a picture of our third President, Thomas Jefferson, author of the Declaration of Independence, and one of the chief architects of our democracy.

When you receive your medal, you will see on the back two hands clasped -- one with a cuff showing three stripes and three buttons, the other wearing a bracelet engraved with an eagle. The hands join with the inscription, "Peace and Friendship."

As we pray and as we leave, let us hope that this is the beginning of true peace, true friendship and true progress.

Thank you. (Applause.)

END

5:21 P.M. EDT

April 28, 1994

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM CAROL H. RASCO
 DONSIA STRONG

SUBJECT AMERICAN INDIAN POLICY

BACKGROUND

The United States Government has a unique legal relationship with Indian tribal governments as set forth in treaties, statutes, court decisions, and the Constitution of the United States. Under treaties and federal law, the United States promised to uphold the rights of Indian tribes and became the trustee of Indian lands and resources. While Indian tribes are referenced in the Commerce Clause of the Constitution, it was later legislation that made clear that Indian tribes would deal directly with the Federal government as opposed to states with regard to land transfers and other matters.

A series of Supreme Court cases established the fundamental maxims of Indian policy. First, Congress has plenary power over Indian tribes. Second, the federal government has a trust responsibility to the tribes. State laws are ineffective on reservations absent express Congressional grant. Last, Indian tribes retain all sovereignty not expressly withdrawn by Congress.

This last principle makes tribal status unique in the United States. Tribes envision being treated much the same as state or local governments, with full rights to consultation by all federal agencies on issues or activities of any agency that affects them. Court cases describe them as "domestic, dependent nations," giving them a distinct status. The Federal government has a long standing trust responsibility to tribes that flows throughout each department of the Executive branch.

ISSUES

At tomorrow's meeting, eight tribal leaders will make presentations on specific issue areas of concern to Indians as a whole. Each of the issue areas they will raise will be addressed in your prepared statement.

Tribal Sovereignty

Tribal government sovereignty derives from the presence and dominion of the Indian Nations in America as self-governing powers long prior to involvement with the Founding Fathers. The unique, distinct status of tribal nations as sovereigns requires the federal government to interact with them on a government-to-government level. At the meeting tomorrow, you will sign a directive ordering each Executive department and agencies to recognize their government-to-government relationship with tribes and acknowledge a shared responsibility to protect Indian trust assets.

Native Americans strongly desire strengthened tribal sovereignty. They assert that the primary government on reservations is, and should be, the tribal government. In their view, only tribal governments can assess tribal needs and implement programs and policies that address such needs in a culturally appropriate manner. The tribes are calling upon this Administration to develop policies that encourage and empower tribal governments to develop their reservations in the manner they choose for themselves.

The Administration's policy of actively supporting the concept of self-governance and self-determination are designed to enhance tribal sovereignty. Self-governance allows tribes to compact for full responsibility to design and operate a variety of reservation programs and services to their reservations. Under the current demonstration project, up to 30 tribes are allowed to participate in this "block grant" concept. The Self Determination Act allows tribes to contract to operate certain federal government programs and services themselves. Final regulations will be published by the end of the year which will establish the scope of federal programs that may be contracted by tribes.

The Department of Interior believes that its trust responsibilities require it to retain authority and funding to serve smaller tribes which choose not to undertake self-governance compacts.

Chairman Gregg Bourland of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe will make the presentation on tribal sovereignty.

Religious Freedom

Religious freedom is a priority issue among Native Americans. Many Native Americans have found that the practice of their religion has been encumbered by Federal government policies and practices. Senator Inouye has introduced the Native American Free Exercise of Religion Act, which would protect sacred American Indian religious sites, protect the ceremonial use of peyote by members of the Native American Church, provide better

access to eagle feathers for religious purposes, and grant rights to Native American prisoners to practice their religion while incarcerated. You will sign a directive acknowledging the importance of eagle feathers and ordering a more coordinated approach for collection of eagle feathers among the land management agencies.

Federal agencies and the White House have actively worked with a coalition of Indian interest groups and Senate staff to resolve the Administration's concerns about land management, public safety, and national security arising under the proposed legislation. The Administration has testified in support of the concepts and goals of the legislation. The critical obstacle to reaching agreement is the need to preserve the secrecy required by the northern New Mexico pueblo's in their religious observances. Pueblo are precluded from disclosing certain things about their religions. However, it is virtually impossible to protect a sacred site or refrain from disturbing it if the government does not have enough information to credibly do so.

Governor Yates of the northern pueblo area of New Mexico will deliver the address regarding religious freedom and ask that you direct the Administration to support legislation to protect the practices.

Natural Resources

Tribes have always displayed great respect and reverence for the land and strongly believe they have primary responsibility as caretakers for natural resources on tribal lands. The tribes believe they require more funding to support resource protection and development. In some cases, natural resource development offers some of the few opportunities for economic development programs on reservations. Tribes are also interested in a guarantee of full participation in the management of fisheries, wildlife and recreational resources on tribal lands.

For many years, tribes have been involved in lawsuits where the Federal government has sued various non-Indian parties to quantify and secure the tribes reserved water rights. The Administration has established a \$200 million fund to assist in settling water rights litigation and has been working with the parties to reach acceptable settlements of these water disputes. The tribes recommended this action at the National Indian Economic Summit.

Chairman Willie Kasayukie of Alaska will deliver the address concerning natural resources. Alaska Natives specifically want restoration of aboriginal hunting and fishing rights, which were legislatively extinguished in 1971.

Economic Development

Tribal governments seek to establish the conditions necessary for sustained economic growth in Indian Country. Tribal economies suffer from severe problems of unemployment and undeveloped local economies. The average unemployment rate for all of Indian Country is about 45%. Reservations are not eligible for empowerment zone designation. This is because Tribal leaders, concerned that empowerment zones would be limited in number and

that only a few tribes could participate, advocated broad tax incentives available to all businesses that located on Indian reservations.

The Administration recognizes that the tax incentives alone will not be sufficient to restore tribal economies. A more comprehensive, multifaceted approach is necessary. To that end, the Vice-President established a working group as part of the Community Enterprise Board to develop a comprehensive strategy for economic development on reservations. The subcommittee is co-chaired by Ada Deer, Department of Interior and Bob Nash, Department of Agriculture. The subcommittee will review existing tribal generated proposals and draw from the concepts of enterprise communities.

Tribes also view economic development as important because it will create a tax base to support essential services they must provide. Tribes would like the Clinton Administration to support a policy that reinforces the right of tribes to tax transactions, privileges and property interests as an exclusive tribal right on reservations. Such a policy would deny states the ability to tax non-Indian businesses or services or goods sold to non-Indians on reservations.

Gaming

Gaming operations provide significant revenues to many Tribes, but have also caused controversy on the issue of tribal sovereignty and states rights.

There are over 300 gaming operations on 103 Indian reservations. In 1991, \$15 billion was wagered at Indian gaming operations (5 percent of total U.S. wagerings). After paying winnings, tribes grossed \$1.5 billion in revenues. Many tribal leaders regard this as a major economic opportunity with which to fund tribal initiatives, boost employment opportunities and promote economic development.

The Indian Gaming Regulatory Act of 1988 (IGRA) provides a regulatory scheme that authorizes Indian tribes to conduct gaming on Indian lands. Three classes of gaming are defined by the Act:

- Class I - (social and traditional games) not subject to regulation;
- Class II - (bingo and similar games) subject to tribal regulation with oversight by the National Indian Gaming Commission; and
- Class III- (all other games) regulated by a tribal-state compact entered into by the tribe and the state.

Although states originally fought to have a voice in the regulation of Indian gaming, some states have refused to negotiate compacts and have challenged the constitutionality of the provisions in IGRA requiring them to "bargain in good faith." Recently, the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals declared these provisions unconstitutional, but if the state refuses to bargain, the tribes can go to the Secretary to prescribe procedures under which they can game.

Secretary Babbitt's staff has begun to develop such guidelines. However, there is substantial legal analysis which must be conducted before the guidelines can be issued.

The Department of Justice has filed an **amicus** brief in support of the constitutionality of IGRA in the Ninth Circuit.

President Ivan Makil of Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community of Arizona will offer the Tribes' views on economic development.

Budget and regulation

The total federal government "Indian budget" is \$6 billion dollars. This represents one-half of one percent of the total federal government budget. Tribes assert that while they support many of the reforms embodied in the NPR, tribal governments should not be held responsible for the federal deficit. They further assert that in light of the government-to-government relationship, the "Indian budget" should be exempt from federal deficit reduction as are other federal agencies. There has been no policy discussion of this proposal within the Administration.

Indians assert that Bureau of Indian Affairs should not be the sole Indian service agency. They believe all federal agencies have a responsibility to support and assist tribes and that their budgets should reflect such a commitment.

Chairman Ron Allen of Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe of Washington will discuss budget issues.

*Specific budget points are attached.

Health and Education

Health

The Administration's initial FY 95 budget contained a substantial cuts in the Indian Health Service budget (IHS). The outcry from the Congress and the tribes had been substantial. In the budget amendment transmitted last week, HHS restored \$124 million to the IHS budget, which should mean no cuts in actual services. It does, however, include a pause in new health facility construction and reduces for one-year sanitation facility construction funding.

The Health Security Act includes a separate section addressing Indian health issues exclusively. No other health reform proposal currently before Congress, or proposed to date, specifically addresses American Indians and Alaska Natives. The tribes will go on record in support of the main elements of the Health Security Act.

The tribes have urged continuation of the Indian Health Service under the direction of tribal governments. However, they assert that the FTE ceilings currently in place will undermine their ability to participate in the Health Security Act.

Tribes believe that IHS capabilities must be upgraded in order for it to be able to provide a package comparable to the general public under health care reform. Tribes also have advocated a national "Indian Board of Directors" to provide ongoing direction for health care reform.

Education

Goals 2000, ESEA reauthorization and the School-to-Work Opportunities Act support efforts by tribes and local communities to help American Indian and Alaska Native students achieve the same high academic standards expected of all students. Goals 2000 contains a BIA set-aside for tribally run schools. About 10 percent of all Indian children attend tribal schools. ESEA provides an authority to maintain and support native cultures and languages while at the same time helping them succeed in the 21st century.

Tribes have called for increased funding as well as priority access to federal assistance for tribally controlled colleges and universities. In addition, they urge direct partnerships between the tribal government, states and other institutions.

Chairman Dale Risling of the Hoopa Valley Tribe will deliver these remarks.

Housing

On reservations, housing conditions are characterized by dilapidated, substandard and often overcrowded buildings, many still in need of basic plumbing. There is virtually no stock of public housing on reservations. In addition, conventional credit is not readily available for purchasing housing located on trust property.

Indians urge establishment of a Native American Finance Authority to finance housing for Indians, Native Americans and Hawaiians. Secretary Cisncros has indicated strong support for the concept. This proposal also has potential for economic development on reservations. The Indian Economic Development subcommittee will actively review this proposal on a fast track.

Administration legislative initiatives

The tribal leaders are very concerned that many legislative initiatives proposed or simply supported by the Administration have adverse impacts on tribes. They are requesting that they be consulted during development of the initiatives. For example:

The crime bill's three-strikes provision would have a disproportionate impact on Indians because reservations are all federal property. In addition, virtually all major crimes are handled in federal court.

Welfare reform would create a deeper problem for reservations because of the lack of private sector jobs being developed on reservations. Unless they can develop their economies, welfare reform will do little to attack the root problems.

The tribes urge the development of the information highway include a place for tribes.

Chairwoman Joann Jones of the Wisconsin Winnebago Nation will deliver the presentation on legislative initiatives.

File of Tribal Leaders folder

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

April 29, 1994

PRESS BRIEFING

BY

SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR BRUCE BABBITT

AND

ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR FOR INDIAN AFFAIRS ADA DEER

The Briefing Room

1:05 P.M. EDT

SECRETARY BABBITT: Good afternoon. I would like to take a few minutes to see if I can cast this meeting, which I believe has historic significance, in the context of the evolution of the relationships between the United States government and the Indian tribes of this country.

I think in order to do that, it's necessary to look backward to what's happened during the course of the 20th century. If you look back prior to World War II, the relationship between the federal government and Indian tribes was paternalistic in every sense. The Interior Department was virtually the only representative of the federal government on Indian reservations. And the Interior Department inherited that role in history from the United States Army. In fact, the Interior Department ran an operation that had many features of the United States Army. The BIA superintendents were on reservations not to consult, not to collaborate, but basically to run the show. And clear up into the 1950s, if you went to an Indian reservation, you would find a tribal council which, in reality, was an advisory committee to the BIA superintendent. And you would find a tribal chairman or a tribal president who would quite frankly say to you, the decisions on this reservation are made over there in this parallel structure by the Superintendent of the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

This paternalistic, sort of dependency kind of relationship really began to change in a very different direction in the 1950s and the 1960s. It began, first, at the hands of the United States Supreme Court which, during the 1960s, took a series of cases and began to look deeply into the history of treaties, of the constitutional provisions, of the early Supreme Court decisions and recast this relationship by writing a series of opinions which made it very clear that Indian tribes had as an inherent feature a reservoir of sovereignty; which meant that they were entitled to be genuine sovereign governmental entities; and that this tribal sovereignty which attached to Indian tribes and their reservations really stood independent not only of states, but in some measure of the federal government and the federal executive branch itself.

Now, fortunately, just as the United States Supreme Court began to paint a larger picture of the potentiality for Indian sovereignty and of their right to self-determination and their right to govern their territory and their affairs, along came a new generation of Indian leaders. And you're going to see this generation with the President today.

I can't overstress the extraordinary nature of the transition. Young Indian leaders in the 60s, 70s and the 80s began

MORE

sophistication, with the technical skills and the education, they no longer listened to BIA bureaucrats in this old paternalistic mode. They have seized upon these concepts and have stepped forward to lead their tribes into a very new and very different world.

Now, most recently, in this evolution of a brand new, entirely different kind of relationship, the United States Congress has stepped into the picture most interestingly, or perhaps, most notably, through the work of the Senate Select Committee on Indian Affairs, chaired by Senator Inouye. It's very important to recognize the role that Congress and Senator Inouye have had in this. Because Congress in the last several years has begun passing legislation to incorporate the leadership of the tribes and the background of the Supreme Court decisions into federal law.

In the Indian Self-Determination Act and other pieces of legislation, Congress has mandated the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Department of the Interior and the Executive Branch to begin dealing with Indian tribes as sovereign governments. And Congress has said to the Executive Branch and the Department of the Interior, we want you to begin the process of restructuring and moving the services and programs of the Bureau of Indian Affairs out to the governments themselves. And Congress has created a mechanism in which the tribal leaders have, for several years now, been working directly with the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Department of the Interior to structure these self-governance programs, to slenderize the Bureau of Indian Affairs, transfer the programs, sort of step away and begin recognizing and dealing with tribal governments much in the way that we would deal with state governments, for example.

Now, it's in that context that I believe this meeting today has historic significance because, for the first time, the Executive Branch, the President are saying to every Indian tribe in this country, we invite you to Washington not to lay out a whole set of prescriptions for what it is that you ought to be doing in the old paternalistic mode, not just for ceremonial functions, but to heighten the reality of this government, the government dialogue. And I would suggest to all of you that as you listen to this proceeding, that you think about these concepts and look beneath the surface of this discussion. And think of it and listen to the responses and the comments in the same way, for example, that you would at a national governors' conference, when the governors of the 50 states come and, in assembly, begin to discuss all of the problems of governments in a federal system; because that's really in fact what's happening today. And you're likely to hear Native American leaders talking about a tax apportionment; talking about their frustrations with the welfare system; talking about health care; talking about the need for the national government to be more sensitive and more responsive to the needs of their governments. And if you think of it in the context of what you hear at a national governors' conference, I think you'll see a lot of similarities for precisely that reason.

The President will sign several executive orders, one relating to a very important religious issue surrounding the use of -- the means of obtaining eagle feathers; a second executive order which stresses and says to all federal agencies, it's now time for you to deal as one government to another. When you deal with Indian tribes, no more of this business of simply sending out programs, making requests, rendering opinions. It's now time, when you deal with the government of an Indian tribe and its elected president or chairman, to deal with that tribe -- whether you're the Department of Housing and Urban Development, whether it's Health and Human Services, whatever department -- to deal with that tribal government in the same spirit that you deal with governors and states; because that's, in fact, a good analog for the way these tribes have recaptured and begun to develop their sovereignty in this governmental context.

I'd next like to introduce Ada Deer, who is the Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Indian Affairs, and ask her to make a few comments. And then I'll come back together with Ada and we'll respond to any questions. Ada.

MS. DEER: Thank you, Mr. Secretary. It's very exciting to be here today at this historic time -- the first time that a President of the United States has invited all of the elected tribal leaders to a meeting, face-to-face, here in the White House.

I'm very pleased to be a part of this administration, and bringing about change. I'm a former tribal leader of my tribe, the Menominee Indian tribe in Wisconsin. I'm a social worker, an activist, an advocate. And when Secretary Babbitt interviewed me on January 21st, I told him this and he said this is what he wanted, this is what the President wanted; and that's what I'm attempting to do in my capacity as Assistant Secretary.

I'd like to emphasize that we are part of an ongoing process here in carrying out the instructions and working with the tribes in consultations with their desires and their requests. Just to mention a few of the ongoing accomplishments that we've been involved with, first is trust funds management. Some of you know that this has been an ongoing issue, but we are making substantial progress in bringing about a resolution of trust funds management.

Early in the fall, I was very pleased to sign off on a memorandum resolving the status of Alaskan aid of villages and tribes. That has been a serious matter of question for a number of years, and it was a great pleasure to be able to do this -- to recognize the Alaskan aid of villages and their government-to-government relationship with the U.S. government.

This administration is in support of religious freedom. That's a very important act that is now before the Congress. We are in support of self-governance. We are working to resolve many of the serious land settlement and water issues. And there are a number of initiatives that will be undertaken dealing with serious economic problems that confront native country.

I was recently named co-chair -- along with Undersecretary Bob Nash and the Department of Agriculture -- co-chair of the Indian Economic Subcommittee of the Community Enterprise Zone. This will be a vehicle whereby we will focus many of the resources of the federal government in analyzing and working on the problems of Indian economic development.

We have staffed, fully staffed our federal acknowledgement office. This means that the tribes that are petitioning for federal acknowledgement will have a much speedier action on their petitions. So there are many ongoing efforts within the administration and I want to stop here and then proceed with questions or comments.

Q Mr. Secretary --

SECRETARY BABBITT: Mr Blitzer, first question, imagine that.

Q What should the role of the federal government be, if any, in overseeing gambling on Indian reservations?

SECRETARY BABBITT: Let me broaden the question, and then I'll come straight back to the answer. The Indian Gaming Regulatory Act has provided the basis for a number of very satisfactory gaming compacts involving my department, the tribes and the states. In fact, it has been the rule -- we hear about the

exceptions, about states where there is still controversy. In fact, we now have workable, negotiated compacts in an enormous variety of states working quite well.

The regulatory role of the states, the tribes and the federal government under those compacts has generally been negotiated. And I think that's a very appropriate way to go. The states have concerns; Indian Gaming Regulatory Commission has concerns. And if you look at those compacts, you're going to see a whole variety of arrangements, including a fairly significant state presence. And I guess to answer directly, it would be my belief that the best way to handle this is in the context of compact negotiations where the states can voice their concerns, the tribes can respond, and as a condition of signing, I can mediate any differences.

Q Mr. Secretary, this administration says that it is committed to this new relationship and to a number of issues ranging from welfare reform to health care. But in its Bureau of Indian Affairs, it proposed a major cut in the budget. There's only -- partially retracted by Secretary Shalala apparently last week and which congressional members say that they have not been able to find offsetting cuts to fund the balance. So, how do you rationalize your budget prescription with your stated policy?

SECRETARY BABBITT: There has been some vigorous discussion about the administration's initial set of budget proposals, specifically with regard to the Indian Health Service. Now, in the context of those discussions, Secretary Shalala has sent, through OMB, an amendment to the budget restoring approximately \$125 million of the initial proposed cuts. Now, we are, at this point, back discussing the situation with the appropriation committees. And what I have said to the tribes is, this is something we need to continue discussing and work out. This is the kind of budget discussion we're having with states and lots of other agencies. And I think there's going to be -- the President will have some comments today. We've restored \$125 million, and I think we'll continue discussing the issue.

Q There's still a net loss. It's still less than was spent last year.

SECRETARY BABBITT: That's correct, and that will be the subject of some additional discussions. We've made that clear.

Q Mr. Secretary, can we look at this cut in the IHS budget as a prelude to the elimination of the Indian Health Service in the health care reform?

SECRETARY BABBITT: Absolutely not. The President has made it clear that the health care reform is not about eliminating the Indian Health Service. I think, in fact, you should draw the opposite conclusion -- it empowers and strengthens the Indian Health Service. How does that happen? It happens because health care reform puts insurance behind every single consumer, every single Native American who chooses to utilize the services of the Indian Health Service. And, as the President has often explained, the health care proposal is broadening the choices of all Americans, including Native Americans.

Now, as a practical matter, most Native Americans are probably for the foreseeable future -- especially with health care reform -- going to be looking to the Indian Health Service. Why? Because most of them live in remote areas where the best, most up-to-date infrastructure for health care is, in fact, the Indian Health Service. And the fact that they bring insurance to that system is going to provide the kinds of resources that the Indian Health Service needs as a purveyor of health care.

Q Mr. Secretary, the President and you and your staff

SECRETARY BABBITT: Joe, are you wearing press credentials today? Wait a minute. (Laughter.)

Q -- out for a Timber Summit. We've had a River Basin Restoration Summit, 129 different tribes from Southeast Alaska, the Endangered Species Act has various impacts on tribal trust lands. And how do we work with you and your department to stop getting conflicting decisions from Fish and Wildlife in the northwest, the southwest and different parts of the country? We recommended we deal with our undersecretary to be the coordinator for the trust between the branches of Interior, because we don't have time to keep educating everybody if you keep changing staff.

SECRETARY BABBITT: Good. If you're nominating Ada Deer to do that, I accept your nomination. (Laughter.)

Joe, we've got to keep pushing our efforts to get the tribes to the table on resource issues. I think the next big one is going to be the salmon issue. And I think Judge Marsh's opinion is a sort of strong directive from the courts to make certain that, as we begin working those issues through, under Section 7 and the rest of the laws, that the tribes are at the table.

Q Our problem is different interpretation from one region to the next within your agencies. And that's where we end up having problems with --

SECRETARY BABBITT: Good, I understand.

Q Mr. Secretary, what is this expanded autonomy mean to the U.S. taxpayer? Will there be more or less federal dollars flowing to tribes? And also, what was that bit about eagles' feathers?

SECRETARY BABBITT: What was that bit about eagles' feathers? Joe, would you like to answer that question?

Q Could you answer the tax question first?

SECRETARY BABBITT: The budget issues obviously are in the hands of the United States Congress each and every year. I think that the most important ramification is that as tribes begin to exercise their governmental functions, and we begin to devolve programs back, that we really ought to get a lot more bang for the buck. I'm absolutely certain that a tribe administering a resource program or an education program with a block grant from the Department of Education or the Department of the Interior is going to make that money go a lot further than when the program is being run from Washington, through a regional office, through a BIA office, over to the tribe and finally down to the intended recipients.

Q So you don't see any decline in the federal budget, but --

SECRETARY BABBITT: No, I don't. And the tribes have been quite outspoken about this. We can't possibly make a case for sort of eliminating or slashing of federal budgets as a way of sort of getting rid of our responsibility. That's not what this is about at all.

Q Mr. Secretary, while we're talking about the religious rights and religious freedoms of our people, the Native Americans, my concern is the fact that while we're banging the buck, the White House is wanting to increase taxes on tobacco. They're trying to outlaw the use of tobacco on all the federal properties and

state properties and so forth. Yet, to our people, it's part of our religious prayers. So where are they going to open up religious freedom by restricting the use of tobacco in federal properties?

SECRETARY BABBITT: Well, let me invite Ada to respond to the eagle feather question and the free exercise of religion questions. They're important. Ada.

Q Could you add peyote to that, too, please?

MS. DEER: There's been a coalition of tribal groups and other groups supportive of American Indian religious freedom acts. And this has been an ongoing process for the last couple of years. There's been some important conclusions, important settlements made on the American Indian Religious Freedom Act guaranteeing freedom of religion. It's a fairly complicated act, but I want to point out that it's extremely important that we, as American citizens, have the same rights as everyone else to practice our religion.

Tobacco is an important part of this in some of the Native American ceremonies, and eagles are a very important part of this. Eagles are a sacred object. There's been a lot of discussion on how to resolve the use of feathers and eagle parts, and we have come to an agreement on this. And the President will be talking about this in more detail this afternoon.

Q Mr. Secretary, in respect to the executive orders, the second part of that on federal -- you said that in dealing with the federal government, they'll have to deal as one government to another. But I'm having a little trouble understanding what will change with these executive orders in terms of how they deal? Will the Indian nation deal not through Interior specifically anymore? They can go directly to these agencies, or how does it actually functionally change?

SECRETARY BABBITT: I think what you suggest is in fact a significant part of the thinking underlying this executive order. The old notion around this government was that Indian tribes went to the Department of the Interior where they said, mother, may I? And the Interior Department would then sort of check around the rest of the government and then, sort of from on high, pass back to the Indian tribes permission, directives or whatever.

If you compare that to what happens when a governor comes to town, I think you can see the difference. When a governor comes to town representing a state, they go straight to Cabinet agencies, to the White House, moving in the fullness of the relationship. And behind this executive order implicitly is that kind of command to the other Cabinet agencies. And it's long overdue.

Q So does the Indian nation itself, or do the different tribes, then, come and deal with the federal government in various agencies?

SECRETARY BABBITT: I use tribe and nation interchangeably. I think nation is often the nomenclature that the Native Americans themselves prefer. But whether you call yourself a tribe or a nation, it is that sovereign tribal entity that becomes, in effect, the party to the government-to-government relationship. And that means there are approximately 540 recognized tribes, and that means 545 Native American leaders in that relationship.

Now, the other thing I would point out is you are going to hear tremendous diversity of issues and opinions as you talk with the Native American leaders and listen to the dialogue with the President. That's something obviously that is implicit in this relationship. The Northwest tribes are going to have a certain

number of issues. The Alaska natives will be talking about fishing and hunting subsistence; the Eastern tribes, often about issues relating to recognition. In the Southwest, it may be oil and gas. So there's going to be a bewildering array of issues. But, again, that simply is a reflection of the diversity of the country and the tribes, much as you would hear at a gathering of the 50 states.

Q Mr. Secretary, would you talk just for a second about next week's conference as well. What's the purpose behind that, and what's that supposed to accomplish --

SECRETARY BABBITT: I think most of you know Attorney General Reno and I, accompanied by Ada Deer and numerous other assistant secretaries, are going to Albuquerque next week to spend a couple of days following up on today's meeting. The President has made it clear that in this relationship, we need to spend more time listening. And that's the reason that it's literally entitled a listening conference.

The reason, I think, that it is centered on -- this particular conference -- on the Attorney General, myself, Secretary Cisneros is that there is an enormous amount of interest in the natural resource issues, and they may not get as detailed of coverage today at the beginning of this heightened dialogue.

Q Can we ask Ms. Deer, as a fellow president of your nation, how this change will affect the nation -- the change, from your perspective, how it affects changes of the nations dealing with the federal government?

MS. DEER: This effort, meeting with the President, the listening conference demonstrates the sensitivity, the openness, the willingness of this administration to deal government-to-government with the tribes --

Q In practical terms, what does that is going to mean?

MS. DEER: This means there are open doors across the government. We've got open doors in my office, in the Interior, and many other offices here in the White House. The Cabinet secretaries have indicated their interest, their willingness, their desire to assume their obligations to American Indians and Alaska natives.

Let me say that we will have a new partnership within the government. I will soon be meeting again with Dr. Trujillo, the new director of Indian Health Service. We expect to have a closer ongoing partnership between BIA and Indian Health as we position tribes for the 21st century, as we assist tribes to work toward progress in the 21st century.

The Indian Economic Subcommittee will be focusing efforts of the agencies on Indian economic development. This will be done in close consultation with the tribes. We are not going to do for, we are going to do with. And so people need to understand this. Tribes are very sophisticated, they are knowledgeable, and we are going to be responsive to their needs and their goals.

Q Does this cut red tape, or is it a change of attitude?

MS. DEER: Both.

Q How does this contrast with the experiences, Ms. Deer, that you've had in the past as an activist with previous administrations?

MS. DEER: There's a great deal of difference. I want to stress again the openness, the sensitivity, the knowledge. We have a Secretary of Interior who is knowledgeable, who is experienced, who is sensitive to native interests. He spent three weeks in Alaska in August visiting many of the native villages, meeting with the native peoples there, as well as going to parks and dealing with some of the other responsibilities of the Department of Interior.

So I want to stress that we have a knowledgeable people, a committed people, and we are embracing the tribes in a new partnership.

Q Ms. Deer, to come back to religious freedom, I don't think you answered the other question earlier. Will the President today approve the killing and trapping of eagles for religious purposes?

SECRETARY BABBITT: No, no, not at all. Not at all.

Q Can you explain what's happening?

SECRETARY BABBITT: The tribes have traditionally placed great reverence on the eagle, and used eagle feathers in a great variety of religious ceremonies. With the advent of the Endangered Species Act, the tribes -- obviously the ones with the most to gain from the restoration of the American eagle -- have abandoned any kinds of practices that would threaten eagles.

The question is, to what extent can we -- where dead eagles are found on the land -- can we make feathers available, and create a system which says to the tribes, as we together work to conserve the American eagle, when feathers are available from carcasses, we want to make sure that everybody recognizes the importance of getting those back into the hands of those tribes that traditionally use them.

Okay, thank you very much.

Q Mr. Secretary, do you anticipate any changes that oil and gas leasing or payments to Indian tribes?

END

1:38 P.M. EDT

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

April 29, 1994

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
IN HISTORIC MEETING WITH
AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE TRIBAL LEADERS

The South Lawn

4:40 P.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you very, very much. Chief Wilma Mankiller and to all the other distinguished leaders here today. Let me first welcome you here on behalf of the First Lady and Vice President and Mrs. Gore. All of us are honored by your presence.

I also wanted to especially thank those who have spoken and participated to this point and those who will participate in the remainder of this program. I have listened carefully and learned a lot.

This is, as all of you know, a time of great challenge and transition for our beloved country and for the world. As I travel across this country and talk to the people about the problems that all Americans share, whether it's crime or health care or the economy, I find a concern that goes deeper even in these specific matters.

There is a great yearning in this nation for people to be able to reestablish a sense of community, a sense of oneness, a sense of cooperation, of shared values and spirit. Americans are searching for the chance to come together in friendship, instead of coming apart in anger and distrust. There is a yearning for us to be able to live together so that all of us can live up to our God-given potential and be respected for who and what we are.

It is in that spirit and with great humility I say to the leaders of the first Americans, the American Indian and Alaska Natives, welcome to the White House. Welcome home. (Applause.)

So much of who we are today comes from who you have been for a long time. Long before others came to these shores there were powerful and sophisticated cultures and societies here -- yours. Because of your ancestors, democracy existed here long before the Constitution was drafted and ratified.

Just last week, people all around the world celebrated the 24th annual Earth Day. Yet for thousands of years, you have held nature in awe; celebrating the bond between Earth and the Creator. You have reminded people that all of us should make decisions not just for our children and their grandchildren, but for generation upon generation yet to come.

I believe in your rich heritage and in our common heritage. What you have done to retain your identity, your dignity and your faith in the face of often immeasurable obstacles is profoundly moving -- an example of the enduring strength of the human spirit.

We desperately need this lesson now. We must keep faith with you and with that spirit and with the common heritage so many of us cherish. That is what you came to talk to me about, and what I would like to respond to today.

In every relationship between our people, our first principle must be to respect your right to remain who you are, and to

MORE

live the way you wish to live. And I believe the best way to do that is to acknowledge the unique government-to-government relationship we have enjoyed over time. Today I reaffirm our commitment to self-determination for tribal governments. (Applause.)

I pledge to fulfill the trust obligations of the federal government. I vow to honor and respect tribal sovereignty based upon our unique historic relationship. And I pledge to continue my efforts to protect your right to fully exercise your faith as you wish. (Applause.)

Let me speak for a moment about religious freedom, something precious to you, something deeply enshrined in our Constitution. For many of you traditional religions and ceremonies are the essence of your culture and your very existence. Last year, I was pleased to sign a law that restored certain constitutional protections for those who want to express their faith in this country.

No agenda for religious freedom will be complete until traditional Native American religious practices have received all the protections they deserve. Legislation is needed to protect Native American religious practices threatened by federal action. The Native American free exercise of religion act is long overdue. And I will continue to work closely with you and members of Congress to make sure the law is constitutional and strong. I want it passed so that I can invite you back here and sign it into law in your presence. (Applause.)

And to make certain that you can obtain the ritual symbols of your religious faith, in a moment I will sign a directive to every executive department and agency of government, not just the Department of Interior, instructing them to cooperate with tribal governments to accommodate wherever possible the need for eagle feathers in the practice of Native American religions. (Applause.)

This then is our first principle -- respecting your values, your religions, your identity and your sovereignty. This brings us to the second principle that should guide our relationship. We must dramatically improve the federal government's relationships with the tribes and become full partners with the tribal nations.

I don't want there to be any mistake about our commitment to a stronger partnership between our people. Therefore, in a moment, I will also sign an historic government directive that requires every executive department and agency of government to take two simple steps: first, to remove all barriers that prevent them from working directly with tribal governments; and second, to make certain that if they take action affecting tribal trust resources, they consult with tribal governments prior to that decision. (Applause.) It is the entire government, not simply the Department of the Interior, that has a trust responsibility with tribal governments. And it is time the entire government recognized and honored that responsibility.

Part of being better partners is also being better listeners. The Department of the Interior and the Department of Justice have never before joined together to listen to the leaders of the Indian nations. It's time to change that. Next week, in Albuquerque, New Mexico, both Attorney General Reno and Secretary Babbitt and many of their sub-Cabinet officials will meet with you for two days at the first National American Indian Listening Conference. I'm looking forward to hearing their specific ideas from the conference on ways to move our nations forward together.

The same applies to the unprecedented series of 23 meetings that the Department of Housing and Urban Development, under Secretary Cisneros, will have with tribal governments by September --

to improve housing and living conditions in tribal communities, and to listen to you about how you can take the lead in doing it.

All governments must work better. We must simply be more responsive to the people we serve and to each other. It's the only way we'll be able to do good things with the resources we have. I know that you agree with that. More and more of you are moving to assume fuller control of your governments. Many are moving aggressively to take responsibility for operating your own programs. Each year the Bureau of Indian Affairs is providing more technical services and fewer direct services.

One avenue for greater tribal control is through self-governance contracts. There are about 30 self-compacting tribes today. We're working with Congress to raise that number by 20 tribes every year. We'd like self-governance to become a permanent program. But we must ensure services will still be provided to the smaller tribes that do not choose to participate.

What is the goal of a better and more equal partnership, and more empowered tribes and more efficient government? Ultimately it must be to improve the living conditions of those whom we serve. And that must be our third and final principle.

Together we must position American Indians and Alaska Natives to compete economically as we move toward the 21st century. I invited the leaders of every recognized tribe here today. But I'll be the first to acknowledge that not all have been able to join us because they simply don't have the resources to come. And I know well that many of you have come here at great personal sacrifice to yourselves and the members of your tribes. That only underscores the importance of our work.

Let us dedicate ourselves to making certain that the next time we all meet together, conditions will be different and better and all of our brothers and sisters will be able to join us. (Applause.)

We must do more to create jobs, raise incomes and develop capital for new businesses. I know there are more success stories in Indian country every year, but not nearly enough as the people who bore witness to your conditions here today so eloquently said.

Strengthening tribal economies will require new thinking and the courage to change. It will require investing in the health, the education and the skills of American Indians and Alaska Natives, as we must do for all Americans.

To the extent that some of the building blocks can be put in place here in Washington, we are working to do that. Our empowerment zone legislation, for example, contains at your request special new incentives for investing in reservations. This is only part of the solution. We can continue to enforce the regulations of the Community Reinvestment Act, to make sure local banks invest and lend in Indian communities. We've brought more tribal leaders than ever together with bankers to improve mortgage loans, financial services and to cut regulations. We must make these efforts permanent and more effective. And we know a more comprehensive approach is necessary.

At my direction, the Vice President has established a working group on Indian economic development as part of our Community Enterprise Board. I've asked them to study the recommendations from last year's National Indian Economic Summit and to consult fully with you every step of the way. Our goal is clear -- to work with you to enhance economic development in every tribe.

I'd like to emphasize that what I have asked them to do in this issue, I asked them to do on all issues. This great, historic meeting today must be the beginning of our new partnership, not the end of it. (Applause.)

I'd like to make a point about economic development that has to do with gaming. As a former governor, I understand some of the concerns that the governors have raised. But as President, I know that gaming gives you a competitive edge when you've had precious few. And the benefits often extend to surrounding communities in full measure. Some of you are now able to invest more in housing and health care and child care and infrastructure in taking care of your elders. I know that gaming is controversial, even among tribes. As many of you has acknowledged, it's also important that tribal governments continue to diversify their economies. Many of you are working with congressional leaders, governors and Secretary Babbitt to resolve tough issues.

My goal is this: I want the tribes to continue to benefit from gaming; and I want current disputes over the 1988 Gaming Regulatory Act to be worked out. I strongly support the process now underway to achieve that goal. But just as with the national economy, we know we can't solve every problem overnight. The important thing is to create policies that give every tribe the chance to have a strong economy in the long run; to develop the will and the consistency to stick with those policies over time; and to keep working and talking together.

Last year, you were kind enough to invite the First Lady to the Indian Health Summit. You asked her to make certain your treaty rights to health care and your rights under the Indian Health Service be preserved and made a part of our health care proposal. Because we work together, and because of you and your input, only one of the health care plans now before the Congress addresses these issues and ensures that tribal members will receive the same high-quality health care as everyone else. That is our plan, thanks to you. (Applause.)

There has been a great deal of debate this year about the budget of the Indian Health Service. It was mentioned earlier. The fact is that we are operating under the tightest spending limits in memory. In our efforts to bring the deficit down, I have recommended the total elimination of 100 programs and cuts in 200 others. And that is contributing to the country's economic revival. But I believe the health needs of tribal communities and families and children clearly require special attention. Therefore, I have amended next year's budget to restore more than \$120 million in funding for the Indian Health Service. (Applause.)

Finally, as we heard so eloquently today, there is in America, across the lines of race and class and region, a profound concern for our children. Too many are poor, or sick or unsupervised. Too many are likely to use violence or be the victims of violence. Too many are unprepared intellectually for life or work. Yet nothing is so striking in tribal communities as your love of family and extended family and your devotion to your children. Every segment of our society could well take a lesson from you.

But in spite of your best efforts, too many of your children also suffer from poor health and inadequate education. And we are trying hard to address these problems. You mentioned Head Start -- our budget calls for continued, substantial increases and expansions of the Head Start program, as well as the Women and Infants and Children program.

Our education plan, called Goals 2000, for the first time sets world-class education standards for every school and all our children, and gives local communities the grass roots support

they need to achieve those goals. Goals 2000 contains millions more next year for BIA-funded schools and schools serving Native Alaskans. And these funds cannot be spent until the education goals of your community are considered.

In the 1980s, our nation fell behind many third world countries in the rate at which we immunized children against communicable diseases. I know the Indian Health Service does a good job of immunizing children. Beginning this year, under the Vaccine For Children program, every Indian child -- no matter where he or she lives, and regardless of whether they are fortunate enough to live near an IHS facility -- will be eligible for free vaccine.
(Applause.)

The Great Law of the Six Nations Iroquois Confederacy contained this advice: "In our every deliberation, we must consider the impact of our decision on the next seven generations." We are stewards, we are caretakers. That standard will keep us great if we have the vision of your forefathers.

As we look back on the American journey, the test ahead is always whether we are moving in the right direction of more tolerance, wider justice and greater opportunity for all. It is the direction that counts, always the direction. And our choices will set that direction.

Of course, as you well know, our history has not always been a proud one. But our future can be, and that is up to us. Together we can open the greatest era of cooperation, understanding and respect among our people ever. I know that we will. And when we do, the judgment of history will be that the President of the United States and the leaders of the sovereign Indian nations met and kept faith with each other and our common heritage, and together lifted our great nations to a new and better place.

Thank you all. (Applause.)

(The President signs Presidential Directive.)

(Applause.)

(The President, The Vice President, Mrs. Clinton, and Mrs. Gore and presented with gifts.)

* * * * *

THE PRESIDENT: Before we go, I wanted to make a brief announcement to thank you, on behalf of the First Lady, The Vice President, Mrs. Gore and our Cabinet for being here and for giving us a chance to be with you, and for the wonderful gifts we have received.

In keeping with a tradition that goes back to the early days of our republic, I want each of you, in leaving, to receive a miniature replica of the Jefferson Indian Peace Medal.

On the front is a picture of our third President, Thomas Jefferson, author of the Declaration of Independence, and one of the chief architects of our democracy.

When you receive your medal, you will see on the back two hands clasped -- one with a cuff showing three stripes and three buttons, the other wearing a bracelet engraved with an eagle. The hands join with the inscription, "Peace and Friendship."

As we pray and as we leave, let us hope that this is the beginning of true peace, true friendship and true progress.

Thank you. (Applause.)

Tribal Leaders

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 28, 1994

MEMORANDUM FOR DISTRIBUTION

FROM: JAKE SIEWERT
SUBJECT: Native American Talking Points

Attached are revised talking points and Q & A on the Native American meeting and on the Administration's American Indian policy. Please let me know if you have any questions. Thank you.

- To: Phil Lader
Ricki Seidman
Dee Dee Myers
Carol Rasco ✓
Marcia Hale
Ann Stock
Christine Varney
Ginny Terzano
Lorraine Voles
Lisa Caputo
Skila Harris
Alan Stone

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON
**MEETING WITH TRIBAL LEADERS
TALKING POINTS**

- **An Historic Meeting.** On Friday, April 29, President Clinton will hold an historic meeting with American Indian and Native Alaskan tribal leaders on the South Lawn. This event will be the first such meeting of all federally recognized tribal leaders and a sitting President.
- **Affirming Our Commitment to Strengthening the Nation-to-Nation Relationship between the Federal and Tribal Governments.** This meeting is not just a photo op. It is designed bring the tribal leaders into the process of designing a sound domestic policy that responds to their needs. The President will have an opportunity to reaffirm his commitment to working closely with tribal leaders on the wide range of issues that affect them.
- **A Unique Opportunity to Hear the Concerns of American Indians.** The President hopes to hear from the American Indian and Native Alaskan leaders about all of their concerns. The tribal leaders have been asked to address the following topics: religious freedom and cultural concerns; natural resources; economic development; budget matters; education and health concern; tribal sovereignty and enhancing tribal government; and human services and housing.
- **This White House Has Made an Unprecedented Effort to Work with Native Americans.** Past administrations chose to farm out American Indian and Native Alaskan problems to the agencies. The Clinton administration has stepped up its efforts to bring the tribal leaders into the White House itself. The President has made relations with the tribes an integral component of the White House Intergovernmental Affairs office. White House representatives have already met with over 200 tribal leaders, tribal council members, the National Congress of American Indians, the Navajo Nation, and tribal affiliated organizations representing Indian Country.
- **The Cabinet Will Follow Up on this Meeting Immediately.** Attorney General Janet Reno and Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt will host a Native American Listening Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico from May 4 through May 6, 1994. That conference will bring together representatives from several hundred Indian tribes with federal, state and local officials. Over 200 Native Villages of Alaska will be linked by satellite to the Conference proceedings.

April 28, 1994

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

TALKING POINTS

CLINTON ADMINISTRATION AMERICAN INDIAN POLICY

- o With this historic meeting, the Clinton Administration recognizes and reaffirms the government-to-government relationship with federally recognized tribal governments.
- o Federal law establishes that the Executive branch has a responsibility to protect and preserve Indian trust resources. The President will sign a directive setting forth guidelines for recognizing the government-to-government relationship with tribes and acknowledging that the trust responsibility flows throughout the federal government.
- o The exercise of traditional Native American religions must be protected against federal actions which sometime threaten this important First Amendment right. The Administration strongly supports the Native American Free Exercise of Religion Act. This legislation would protect sacred Native American religious sights, protect the ceremonial use of peyote by members of the Native American Church, provide better access to eagle feathers for religious purposes and grant rights to Native American prisoners to practice their religion while incarcerated.
- o Indian gaming is an industry which has provided Indian Country with profound positive economic growth and increased self-sufficiency. Its benefits extend not just to the tribal governments involved but to the surrounding communities as well. However, as many tribal leaders have stated it is extremely important that tribal governments continue to move to diversify tribal economies. The President is supportive of the process underway to reach a negotiated compromise between states and tribal governments.
- o Both Administration education initiatives, Goals 2000 and ESEA, support Native American students in achieving the same high academic standards expected of all children. BIA-funded schools receive a funding set-aside. In addition, Goals 2000 and ESEA encourage support for instruction in Native American language and cultural needs.
- o The Administration's Health Security Act is the **only** health reform proposal currently before Congress, or proposed to date that specifically addresses American Indians and Alaska Natives. It preserves tribal sovereignty to directly operate their own health system under Self-Determination contracts, or continue to have IHS operate their health systems.

- o With the President's support, the Vice-President has established a subcommittee of the Community Enterprise Board to provide a strategy for coordinating Federal assistance to complement the separate tax incentives for businesses that locate on Indian country, which were part of the enacted Empowerment Zone legislation. Those tax credits consist of accelerated depreciation and an Indian employment credit. The Indian Economic Development subcommittee, with tribal participation, will also analyze recommendations made by the National Indian Economic Summit to determine their feasibility for economic development.
- o Under the Clinton Administration, Head Start, American Indians Program was increased 19% over FY 1993. The FY 1995 request of \$108 million, 21% above 1994, reflects an expansion of the program to reservations not currently served.
- o Under the Administration supported crime bill, tribal governments are specifically authorized for formula funds under a provision that provides economic assistance and health and safety funds tied to poverty and crime rates. Tribal governments also are eligible for grants to prevent violence against women.
- o The Clinton Administration is deeply committed to strengthening outreach and consultation with tribal governments. On May 5-6, the Attorney General and Secretary Babbitt will convene the first ever Listening Conference regarding shared issues within the jurisdiction of their departments. Both principals will participate in panels both days. By September, Secretary Cisneros will have held an unprecedented 24 meetings in Indian Country designed to receive tribal input regarding the HUD's programs and services. EPA is sponsoring the 2nd National Tribal Conference on Environmental Management May 23-26.

Meeting with Tribal Leaders
Q & A - For Internal Use Only
April 27, 1994
Page 1

Q: Why is this meeting happening? Why did the President commit to meeting with the tribal leaders?

A: The President received a letter from the National Tribal Leaders Coordination Committee last year requesting a meeting. He agreed to meet with them to discuss issues of common concern. As a former Governor, President Clinton understands the importance of fostering stronger intergovernmental relations.

Q: If this is the President's first meeting with tribal leaders, what contact has the White House had with the them?

A: Early on in his Administration, the President assigned a Special Assistant for Intergovernmental Affairs to work with the tribal governments. She has met with over 200 tribal leaders, their elected council members, the National Congress of American Indians, Navajo Nation, and leaders of the affiliated organizations representing tribal issues. In addition, almost every policy office in the White House has met with a substantial number of tribal leaders.

Q: What is the purpose of the meeting?

A: To reaffirm the President's support for tribal sovereignty and government-to-government relations for the tribes. To strengthen the working relationship between the Administration and the tribes on domestic policy matters affecting American Indians and Alaskan natives.

Q: Who is invited to the meeting?

A: Leaders from the 545 federally recognized tribes.

Q: Who will represent the administration at this meeting?

A: The level of attention to this meeting is extraordinary. All four principals -- the President, Vice President Gore, the First Lady and Mrs. Gore -- will attend the meeting. We expect most of the Cabinet as well.

Q: What are the tribal leaders going to talk about?

A: There are eight different topics that tribal leaders will address during their presentations at the White House: religious freedom and cultural concerns; natural resources; economic development; budget matters; education and health concern; tribal sovereignty and enhancing tribal government; and human services and housing.

Q: Will some of the tribal leaders have a prominent role in the meeting at the White House?

A: Yes. [See program below.]

Presentation of Colors.

- Alex Mathews, Chairman of the Pawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, will carry an American flag.
- John Sunchild, Sr., Chairman of the Chippewa-Cree from Box-Elder, MO will carry the Eagle Staff.

Honor Song/ Ceremonial Drum

- Wallace Coffey, Chairman of the Comanche Tribe of Lawton, OK will perform an honor song with a hand drum.

Opening Invocation

- John Sunchild, Sr., Chairman of the Chippewa-Cree from Box-Elder, MO will give the opening invocation.

Opening Remarks - Presentations

- Gaiashkibos, Chairman of the Lac Courte Oreilles Chippewa of Hayward, WI will make introductory remarks.
- Wilma Mankiller, Chief of the Cherokee Tribe from Oklahoma will introduce the presenters.
- Herbert Yates, Governor of the Pueblo Nambe from Sante Fe, New Mexico, will speak about religious freedom and cultural concerns.

**Meeting with Tribal Leaders
Q & A -- For Internal Use Only
April 27, 1994
Page 3**

- William Kasayulie, President of the Yup'ik-akiachak Native Committee from Juneau, Alaska will speak about natural resources.
- Ivan Makil, President of the Salt River Pima - Maricopa Indian Community Council from Scottsdale, AZ will speak about economic development.
- Ron Allen, Chairman of the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribal Commission from Sequim, WA will talk about budgetary matters.
- Joann Jones, Chair of the Wisconsin Winnebago from Black River Falls, WI will speak about Administration-sponsored initiatives.
- Dale Risling, Chairman of Hoopa Valley from Sacramento, CA will speak about education and health matters.
- Greg Bourland, Chairman of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe of Eagle Butte, SD will talk about sovereignty and enhancing tribal government.
- Philip Martin, Tribal Chief of the Mississippi Choctaw from Philadelphia, MI will speak on human services and housing.

Presentation of Gifts

- Peterson Zah, President of the Navajo Nation from Window Rock, AZ will introduce the gift presenters.
- Pearl Capoeman-Baller, Chair of the Quinalt Tribe, will present a gift to Mrs. Gore.
- Wilma Mankiller will present a gift to the First Lady.
- Gaishkibos will present a gift to the Vice President.
- Richard ("Skip") Hayward, Chairman of the Pequot Tribe from Ledyard, CT will present a gift to the President.

Closing Invocation

- Mary Thomas, Chair of the Gila River from Sacaton, AR will make a closing invocation.

Honor Song

- Wilbur Between Lodges, President of the Oglala Sioux Tribes from Pine Ridge, SD, will perform a closing honor song.

Q: Are there other opportunities for the Administration to speak with the tribal leaders while they are in town?

A: Yes. Vice President Gore will speak to the tribal leaders on Friday morning before they come to the White House. Secretary Cisneros, Secretary Shalala and Budget Director Panetta will also address the tribal leaders on Friday morning. All of those events are open to the press.

Q: Will the tribal leaders discuss gaming on the reservations with the President?

A: As you know, one of the most pressing gaming issues has been resolved. The President announced this week that he will not propose any taxes to pay for his welfare reform program. Gaming is not on the agenda specifically. However, an American Indian leader will speak about economic development. Gaming is clearly the major component for economic development on some reservations at this time. However, gaming is but one component of economic development, and many tribes have moved to diversify their economic base.

Q: Are the tribes still upset about cuts in the Indian Health Services budget?

A: Last Friday, OMB submitted a budget amendment that restores \$124 million of the initial budget cuts in IHS. In addition, the Administration has specifically incorporated the concerns and needs of Native Americans into its health care reform package. It is the only plan that does so.

Meeting with Tribal Leaders
Q & A -- For Internal Use Only
April 27, 1994
Page 5

Q: Is the new economic power that the tribes yield because of gaming revenues the real reason this meeting is happening?

A: No. The majority of the tribes that will meet with the President are not tribes that are involved in gaming. Although there is no doubt that gaming has enabled some Indian reservations to invest in education, health care and infrastructure needs, it is just one component of economic development on reservations.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

TO: THE PRESIDENT
THE VICE PRESIDENT
THE FIRST LADY
MRS. GORE

DATE: Friday, April 29, 1994

WHAT: MEETING WITH TRIBAL LEADERS

LOCATION: SOUTH LAWN TENT

TIME: 3:00 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.

OF GUESTS: Approx. 270 Tribal Leaders/Open Press

FROM: Ann Stock, Sarah Ryan

=====

12:30 p.m. The first group of Tribal Leaders arrive by bus at East Visitor's Gate for tour. White House Tour begins.

1:20 p.m. Tribal Leaders begin to arrive on South Lawn and proceed to beverage area.

2:15 p.m. THE PRESIDENT, the VICE PRESIDENT, the FIRST LADY and MRS. GORE receive briefing in Oval Office.

2:20 p.m. White House Tour concludes.

Program participants arrive in the Map Room final briefing. (A. Stock to greet.)

2:30 p.m. Cabinet members arrive West Lobby.

Announcement asking Tribal Leaders to proceed to seat. (Seating is by 12 Tribal Areas.)

2:45 p.m. Cabinet members are escorted to the South Lawn and are seated in specified area.

2:55 p.m.

THE PRESIDENT, THE VICE PRESIDENT, THE FIRST LADY and MRS. GORE arrive in the Diplomatic Reception Room to meet President gaiashkibos and Chief Wilma Mankiller.

3:00 p.m.

President gaiashkibos and Chief Wilma Mankiller are announced from Diplomatic Reception Room and proceed on stage.

THE PRESIDENT, THE VICE PRESIDENT, THE FIRST LADY and MRS. GORE are announced to Ruffles & Flourishes/Hail to the Chief and proceed on stage.

3:05 p.m.

OPENING CEREMONY (All remain standing)

Presentation of Colors

(Color Guard is lined up at SE corner)

-- Wallace Coffeey, Chairman Comanche Tribe (Lawton, Oklahoma) proceeds to small stage with hand drum and begins song.

-- Color Guard begins walk.

-- Alex Mathews, Chairman, Pawnee Tribe (Pawnee, Oklahoma), will carry American Flag

-- John Sunchild, Sr., Chairman, Chippewa-Cree (Box Elder, MO), will carry Eagle Staff

The American Flag and the Eagle Staff walk side by side up the center aisle from the South with five Color Guard walking behind them and proceed to sides of stage (off-stage).

Flag Song

-- Once Color Guard is in place, Chmn. Coffey sings.

-- Upon conclusion of song, Chmn. Coffeey returns to seat.

-- Chmn. Mathews and Chmn. Sunchild position Flags.

Opening Invocation

-- Chmn. Sunchild, Sr. and Alvin Windy Boy proceed to podium on main stage.

-- Chmn. Sunchild, Sr. gives the opening invocation in his language and then in English. Alvin Windy Boy stands to his side with Eagle Feathers.

4:15 p.m.

Upon conclusion of the eighth presentation, THE PRESIDENT proceeds to the podium to make remarks. (No announcement.)

4:35 p.m.

SIGNING OF THE PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVES

Upon conclusion of remarks, THE PRESIDENT proceeds to table to sign two Directives. (Contact: P. Richards)
(Note: No pens are distributed.)

Following signing, THE PRESIDENT returns to seat.

4:40 p.m.

HAUSER PRESENTATION

- Chief Mankiller introduces Mr. Hauser.
- Mr. Hauser proceeds on main stage to present the PRESIDENT with a replica of the Hauser Statue.

4:45 p.m.

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

- Chief Mankiller introduces Peterson Zah, President, Navajo Nation (Window Rock, Arizona).
- President Zah proceeds to small stage to emcee the gift presentations:

(Note: Social Aide will hand gift to presenter. Gifts presented one at a time. Presenters return to seats following presentation. No return remarks by principals. For protocol reasons, Principals hold gifts until departure.)

- Pearl Capoeman-Baller, Chair, Quinalt Tribe presents gift to MRS. GORE.
- Chief Mankiller presents gift to THE FIRST LADY.
- gaiashkibos presents gift to THE VICE PRESIDENT.
- Richard Hayward, Chairman, Pequot Tribe (Ledyard, Conn.) presents gift to THE PRESIDENT.

4:55 p.m.

CLOSING CEREMONY (All Stand)

-- Chief Mankiller announces Color Guard Post.
-- Color Guard returns to positions. (Same as Opening Ceremony)

Honor Song

-- Chief Mankiller introduces Wilbur Between Lodges, President Oglala Sioux Tribe, (Pine Ridge, SD).
-- Wilbur Between Lodges proceeds to small stage to sing song. Upon completion, he returns to seat.

Closing Invocation

-- Chief Mankiller introduces Mary Thomas, Chairperson, Gila River (Sacaton, AR).
-- Chairperson Thomas proceeds to main stage to give closing invocation. Upon completion, she returns to seat.

Retirement of the Colors

-- Chmn. Mathews and Chmn. Sunchild pick up Flags and begin procession down center aisle to south with American Flag and Eagle staff side by side.

5:20 p.m.

THE PRESIDENT, THE VICE PRESIDENT, THE FIRST LADY and MRS. GORE exit stage to Diplomatic Reception Room. (FOR PROTOCOL REASONS, THERE IS NO HAND SHAKING/GREETING UPON DEPARTURE)

President gaiashkibos and Chief Wilma Mankiller exit stage and proceed to respected regions.

Guests exit. Tribal Leaders receive Thomas Jefferson coins as they exit.

APR 28 REC'D



THE WHITE HOUSE

Marcia L. Hale

F41

Joan
Alexis

+ Carol

6-2480



900 Pennsylvania Avenue S.E. Washington, D.C. 20003 (202) 546-9404 Fax (202) 546-3741

April 28, 1994

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President
gaisahkibos
Chippewa

First Vice President
Susan Mason
Yurok

Recording Secretary
S. Diane Kelley
Chezokae

Treasurer
Mary Ann Antone
Tohnon O'odham

AREA VICE PRESIDENTS

Abadom Area
Ken Billingsly
Standing Rock Sioux

Albuquerque Area
Charles J. Doreme
Tesuque Pueblo

Anadarko Area
Marie Boyd
Sac & Fox

Billings Area
John Sunchild, Sr.
Chippewa Cree

Juneau Area
Willis Kasayulie
Yup'ik

Minneapolis Area
Marge Anderson
Ojibwa

Muskogee Area
Donald E. Giles
Ponca

Northeastern Area
Kaley George
Oneida

Phoenix Area
Irene C. Cuch
Northern Ute

Portland Area
Bruce Wynne
Spokane

Sacramento Area
Hank Murphy
Kugwyasy (Mission)

Southeastern Area
A. Bruce Jones
Lumbee

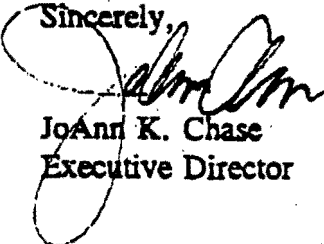
Ms. Loretta Avent
Special Assistant to the President
Office of Intergovernmental Relations
The White House

Dear Loretta:

I would like to bring to your attention two developments concerning the Tribal Leaders Meeting with President Clinton that are causing great consternation among the Tribal Leaders. One involves the rumor, spreading rapidly throughout the ranks, that government staff people have been invited to attend this historic meeting. The Tribes and their members, as well as all others concerned have operated on the premise that this was to be a meeting for Tribal Leaders only. The presence of government personnel at the meeting would go a long way in damaging the relationship we are trying to strengthen with the Clinton Administration.

Second, Tribal Leaders are also very concerned about President and Mrs. Clinton's planned attendance at the pending fundraiser for Mr. Larry Echohawk on Thursday, April 28, 1994. The reason for this concern is their perception that Tribal Leaders are required to pay a good sum of money for an audience with the President. This has caused great concern and makes the possibility of lasting damage very real. Thank you for your help with this and all matters, and please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,


JoAnn K. Chase
Executive Director

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
JoAnn K. Chase, J.D.
Mandan Hidatsa

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
002. memo	To vida Benavidez re: White House Meeting with Tribal Leaders (8 pages) (8 pages)	04/27/94	P5

**This marker identifies the original location of the withdrawn item listed above.
For a complete list of items withdrawn from this folder, see the
Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet at the front of the folder.**

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
Domestic Policy Council
Carol Rasco (Meetings, Trips, Events)
OA/Box Number: 7262

FOLDER TITLE:

Tribal Leaders Mtg. 4-29-94 [1]

rw177

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advise between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

TO: THE PRESIDENT
THE VICE PRESIDENT
THE FIRST LADY
MRS. GORE

DATE: Friday, April 29, 1994

WHAT: MEETING WITH TRIBAL LEADERS

LOCATION: SOUTH LAWN TENT

TIME: 3:00 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.

OF GUESTS: Approx. 270 Tribal Leaders/Open Press

FROM: Ann Stock, Sarah Ryan

=====

12:30 p.m. The first group of Tribal Leaders arrive by bus at East Visitor's Gate for tour. White House Tour begins.

1:20 p.m. Tribal Leaders begin to arrive on South Lawn and proceed to beverage area.

2:15 p.m. THE PRESIDENT, the VICE PRESIDENT, the FIRST LADY and MRS. GORE receive briefing in Oval Office.

2:20 p.m. White House Tour concludes.

Program participants arrive in the Map Room final briefing. (A. Stock to greet.)

2:30 p.m. Cabinet members arrive West Lobby.

Announcement asking Tribal Leaders to proceed to seat. (Seating is by 12 Tribal Areas.)

2:45 p.m. Cabinet members are escorted to the South Lawn and are seated in specified area.

2:55 p.m.

THE PRESIDENT, THE VICE PRESIDENT, THE FIRST LADY and MRS. GORE arrive in the Diplomatic Reception Room to meet President gaiashkibos and Chief Wilma Mankiller.

3:00 p.m.

President gaiashkibos and Chief Wilma Mankiller are announced from Diplomatic Reception Room and proceed on stage.

THE PRESIDENT, THE VICE PRESIDENT, THE FIRST LADY and MRS. GORE are announced to Ruffles & Flourishes/Hail to the Chief and proceed on stage.

3:05 p.m.

OPENING CEREMONY (All remain standing)

Presentation of Colors

(Color Guard is lined up at SE corner)

-- Wallace Coffeey, Chairman Comanche Tribe (Lawton, Oklahoma) proceeds to small stage with hand drum and begins song.

-- Color Guard begins walk.

-- Alex Mathews, Chairman, Pawnee Tribe (Pawnee, Oklahoma), will carry American Flag

-- John Sunchild, Sr., Chairman, Chippewa-Cree (Box Elder, MO), will carry Eagle Staff

The American Flag and the Eagle Staff walk side by side up the center aisle from the South with five Color Guard walking behind them and proceed to sides of stage (off-stage).

Flag Song

-- Once Color Guard is in place, Chmn. Coffey sings.

-- Upon conclusion of song, Chmn. Coffeey returns to seat.

-- Chmn. Mathews and Chmn. Sunchild position Flags.

Opening Invocation

-- Chmn. Sunchild, Sr. and Alvin Windy Boy proceed to podium on main stage.

-- Chmn. Sunchild, Sr. gives the opening invocation in his language and then in English. Alvin Windy Boy stands to his side with Eagle Feathers.

-- Following opening invocation, Chmn. Sunchild and Alvin Windy Boy exit stage and proceed to seats. Color Guard proceeds to seats.

3:25 p.m.

THE FIRST LADY proceeds to podium to make welcoming remarks and introduce MRS. GORE. (No announcement)

3:28 p.m.

MRS. GORE makes remarks and introduces THE VICE PRESIDENT.

3:31 p.m.

THE VICE PRESIDENT makes remarks and introduces gaiashkibos, Chairman, Lac Courte Oreilles Chippewa (Hayward, Wisconsin).

3:35 p.m.

gaiashkibos proceeds to podium and makes introductory remarks.

3:45 p.m.

PRESENTATIONS

gaiashkibos introduces Wilma Mankiller, Principal Chief, Cherokee Tribe of Okla (Tahlequah, Oklahoma).

Chief Mankiller introduces the first presenter. (Note: Chief Mankiller will emcee the presentations. Each presenter will speak from the small stage.)

ORDER OF PRESENTERS (8) (3 min. each)

- Herbert Yates, Governor, Pueblo of Nambe Albuquerque Area (Religious Freedom/Cultural Concerns)
- Willie Kasayulie, President Yup'ik-akiachak Native Community Junea Area (Natural Resources)
- Ivan Makil, President Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Council Phoenix Area (Economic Development)
- Ron Allen, Chairman Jamestown S'Klallam Tribal Council Portland Area (Budget)
- Jo Ann Jones, Chairperson Wisconsin Winnebago Minneapolis Area (Administrative Sponsored Initiatives)
- Dale Risling, Sr., Chairman Hoopa Valley Reservation, Sacramento Area (Education/Health)
- Gregg Bourland, Chairman, Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, Aberdeen Area (Soverignty and Enhancing Tribal Government)
- Eddie Tullis, Chairman, Poarch Band of Creek Indians (Human Services/Housing)

4:15 p.m.

Upon conclusion of the eighth presentation, THE PRESIDENT proceeds to the podium to make remarks. (No announcement.)

4:35 p.m.

SIGNING OF THE PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVES

Upon conclusion of remarks, THE PRESIDENT proceeds to table to sign two Directives. (Contact: P. Richards)
(Note: No pens are distributed.)

Following signing, THE PRESIDENT returns to seat.

4:40 p.m.

HAUSER PRESENTATION

- Chief Mankiller introduces Mr. Hauser.
- Mr. Hauser proceeds on main stage to present the PRESIDENT with a replica of the Hauser Statue.

4:45 p.m.

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

- Chief Mankiller introduces Peterson Zah, President, Navajo Nation (Window Rock, Arizona).
- President Zah proceeds to small stage to emcee the gift presentations:

(Note: Social Aide will hand gift to presenter. Gifts presented one at a time. Presenters return to seats following presentation. No return remarks by principals. For protocol reasons, Principals hold gifts until departure.)

- Pearl Capoeman-Baller, Chair, Quinalt Tribe presents gift to MRS. GORE.
- Chief Mankiller presents gift to THE FIRST LADY.
- gaiashkibos presents gift to THE VICE PRESIDENT.
- Richard Hayward, Chairman, Pequot Tribe (Ledyard, Conn.) presents gift to THE PRESIDENT.

4:55 p.m.

CLOSING CEREMONY (All Stand)

-- Chief Mankiller announces Color Guard Post.
-- Color Guard returns to positions. (Same as Opening Ceremony)

Honor Song

-- Chief Mankiller introduces Wilbur Between Lodges, President Oglala Sioux Tribe, (Pine Ridge, SD).
-- Wilbur Between Lodges proceeds to small stage to sing song. Upon completion, he returns to seat.

Closing Invocation

-- Chief Mankiller introduces Mary Thomas, Chairperson, Gila River (Sacaton, AR).
-- Chairperson Thomas proceeds to main stage to give closing invocation. Upon completion, she returns to seat.

Retirement of the Colors

-- Chmn. Mathews and Chmn. Sunchild pick up Flags and begin procession down center aisle to south with American Flag and Eagle staff side by side.

5:20 p.m.

THE PRESIDENT, THE VICE PRESIDENT, THE FIRST LADY and MRS. GORE exit stage to Diplomatic Reception Room. (FOR PROTOCOL REASONS, THERE IS NO HAND SHAKING/GREETING UPON DEPARTURE)

President gaiashkibos and Chief Wilma Mankiller exit stage and proceed to respected regions.

Guests exit. Tribal Leaders receive Thomas Jefferson coins as they exit.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

TO: THE PRESIDENT
THE VICE PRESIDENT
THE FIRST LADY
MRS. GORE

DATE: Friday, April 29, 1994

WHAT: MEETING WITH TRIBAL LEADERS

LOCATION: SOUTH LAWN TENT

TIME: 3:00 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.

OF GUESTS: Approx. 270 Tribal Leaders/Open Press

FROM: Ann Stock, Sarah Ryan

=====

12:30 p.m. The first group of Tribal Leaders arrive by bus at East Visitor's Gate for tour. White House Tour begins.

1:20 p.m. Tribal Leaders begin to arrive on South Lawn and proceed to beverage area.

2:15 p.m. THE PRESIDENT, the VICE PRESIDENT, the FIRST LADY and MRS. GORE receive briefing in Oval Office.

2:20 p.m. White House Tour concludes.

Program participants arrive in the Map Room final briefing. (A. Stock to greet.)

2:30 p.m. Cabinet members arrive West Lobby.

Announcement asking Tribal Leaders to proceed to seat. (Seating is by 12 Tribal Areas.)

2:45 p.m. Cabinet members are escorted to the South Lawn and are seated in specified area.

2:55 p.m.

THE PRESIDENT, THE VICE PRESIDENT, THE FIRST LADY and MRS. GORE arrive in the Diplomatic Reception Room to meet President gaiashkibos and Chief Wilma Mankiller.

3:00 p.m.

President gaiashkibos and Chief Wilma Mankiller are announced from Diplomatic Reception Room and proceed on stage.

THE PRESIDENT, THE VICE PRESIDENT, THE FIRST LADY and MRS. GORE are announced to Ruffles & Flourishes/Hail to the Chief and proceed on stage.

3:05 p.m.

OPENING CEREMONY (All remain standing)

Presentation of Colors

(Color Guard is lined up at SE corner)

-- Wallace Coffeey, Chairman Comanche Tribe (Lawton, Oklahoma) proceeds to small stage with hand drum and begins song.

-- Color Guard begins walk.

-- Alex Mathews, Chairman, Pawnee Tribe (Pawnee, Oklahoma), will carry American Flag

-- John Sunchild, Sr., Chairman, Chippewa-Cree (Box Elder, MO), will carry Eagle Staff

The American Flag and the Eagle Staff walk side by side up the center aisle from the South with five Color Guard walking behind them and proceed to sides of stage (off-stage).

Flag Song

-- Once Color Guard is in place, Chmn. Coffey sings.

-- Upon conclusion of song, Chmn. Coffeey returns to seat.

-- Chmn. Mathews and Chmn. Sunchild position Flags.

Opening Invocation

-- Chmn. Sunchild, Sr. and Alvin Windy Boy proceed to podium on main stage.

-- Chmn. Sunchild, Sr. gives the opening invocation in his language and then in English. Alvin Windy Boy stands to his side with Eagle Feathers.

-- Following opening invocation, Chmn. Sunchild and Alvin Windy Boy exit stage and proceed to seats. Color Guard proceeds to seats.

3:25 p.m.

THE FIRST LADY proceeds to podium to make welcoming remarks and introduce MRS. GORE. (No announcement)

3:28 p.m.

MRS. GORE makes remarks and introduces THE VICE PRESIDENT.

3:31 p.m.

THE VICE PRESIDENT makes remarks and introduces gaiashkibos, Chairman, Lac Courte Oreilles Chippewa (Hayward, Wisconsin).

3:35 p.m.

gaiashkibos proceeds to podium and makes introductory remarks.

3:45 p.m.

PRESENTATIONS

gaiashkibos introduces Wilma Mankiller, Principal Chief, Cherokee Tribe of Okla (Tahlequah, Oklahoma).

Chief Mankiller introduces the first presenter. (Note: Chief Mankiller will emcee the presentations. Each presenter will speak from the small stage.)

ORDER OF PRESENTERS (8) (3 min. each)

- Herbert Yates, Governor, Pueblo of Nambe Albuquerque Area (Religious Freedom/Cultural Concerns)
- Willie Kasayulie, President Yup'ik-akiachak Native Community Junea Area (Natural Resources)
- Ivan Makil, President Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Council Phoenix Area (Economic Development)
- Ron Allen, Chairman Jamestown S'Klallam Tribal Council Portland Area (Budget)
- Jo Ann Jones, Chairperson Wisconsin Winnebago Minneapolis Area (Administrative Sponsored Initiatives)
- Dale Risling, Sr., Chairman Hoopa Valley Reservation, Sacramento Area (Education/Health)
- Gregg Bourland, Chairman, Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, Aberdeen Area (Soverignty and Enhancing Tribal Government)
- Eddie Tullis, Chairman, Poarch Band of Creek Indians (Human Services/Housing)

4:15 p.m.

Upon conclusion of the eighth presentation, THE PRESIDENT proceeds to the podium to make remarks. (No announcement.)

4:35 p.m.

SIGNING OF THE PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVES

Upon conclusion of remarks, THE PRESIDENT proceeds to table to sign two Directives. (Contact: P. Richards)
(Note: No pens are distributed.)

Following signing, THE PRESIDENT returns to seat.

4:40 p.m.

HAUSER PRESENTATION

- Chief Mankiller introduces Mr. Hauser.
- Mr. Hauser proceeds on main stage to present the PRESIDENT with a replica of the Hauser Statue.

4:45 p.m.

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

- Chief Mankiller introduces Peterson Zah, President, Navajo Nation (Window Rock, Arizona).
- President Zah proceeds to small stage to emcee the gift presentations:

(Note: Social Aide will hand gift to presenter. Gifts presented one at a time. Presenters return to seats following presentation. No return remarks by principals. For protocol reasons, Principals hold gifts until departure.)

- Pearl Capoeman-Baller, Chair, Quinalt Tribe presents gift to MRS. GORE.
- Chief Mankiller presents gift to THE FIRST LADY.
- gaiashkibos presents gift to THE VICE PRESIDENT.
- Richard Hayward, Chairman, Pequot Tribe (Ledyard, Conn.) presents gift to THE PRESIDENT.

4:55 p.m.

CLOSING CEREMONY (All Stand)

- Chief Mankiller announces Color Guard Post.
- Color Guard returns to positions. (Same as Opening Ceremony)

Honor Song

- Chief Mankiller introduces Wilbur Between Lodges, President Oglala Sioux Tribe, (Pine Ridge, SD).
- Wilbur Between Lodges proceeds to small stage to sing song. Upon completion, he returns to seat.

Closing Invocation

- Chief Mankiller introduces Mary Thomas, Chairperson, Gila River (Sacaton, AR).
- Chairperson Thomas proceeds to main stage to give closing invocation. Upon completion, she returns to seat.

Retirement of the Colors

- Chmn. Mathews and Chmn. Sunchild pick up Flags and begin procession down center aisle to south with American Flag and Eagle staff side by side.

5:20 p.m.

THE PRESIDENT, THE VICE PRESIDENT, THE FIRST LADY and MRS. GORE exit stage to Diplomatic Reception Room. (FOR PROTOCOL REASONS, THERE IS NO HAND SHAKING/GREETING UPON DEPARTURE)

President gaiashkibos and Chief Wilma Mankiller exit stage and proceed to respected regions.

Guests exit. Tribal Leaders receive Thomas Jefferson coins as they exit.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

APR 28 REC'D

OFFICE OF MACK McLARTY
CHIEF OF STAFF TO THE PRESIDENT

PHILIP LADER
DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF

HAROLD ICKES
DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF

Date: 4/28

of pages: 2
(including cover)

To: Carol Raso & Donsia Strong

From: Phil Lader

Fax Number: 62878

Comments: FYI

If there are any problems with this transmission, please call 202-456-6797.

APR 29 REC'D

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM TO WHITE HOUSE STAFF

FROM: Philip Lader *PL*
RE: Tribal Leaders Event
DATE: April 28, 1994

As you know, President Clinton is meeting with Native American Tribal Leaders tomorrow, Friday, April 29, 1994.

Please be advised that access to the South Lawn and the Residence will be closed for the day beginning at 12:30 p.m. To move between the East and West wings, please pass on the north side of the White House. The event is closed.

Those staff members who have been expressly invited by the Office of the Social Secretary should be aware that individuals will not be permitted to enter late or leave before the entire two-hour program has ended. Any exceptions to this would be a significant protocol problem.

Thank you for your cooperation with this very special event.

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 4-27 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 4-28 noon

SUBJECT: NATIVE AMERICAN Speech

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MYERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
McLARTY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	QUINN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
LADER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	RASCO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ICKES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	RUBIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
PANETTA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SEGAL	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BAGGETT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	SEIDMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CUTLER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	STEPHANOPOULOS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
EMANUEL	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	TYSON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GEARAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	VARNEY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GERGEN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	WATKINS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GIBBONS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	WILLIAMS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRIFFIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>DREYER</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HALE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>SIEWERT</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HERMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>STRUNK</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
LAKE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>BOORSTIN</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
LINDSEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>CASHIN</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
McGINTY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>AVENT</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u>ALAN Stone</u>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>MIN</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<u>MRS. GORE</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS: COMMENTS TO ALAN STONE 6-2777

RESPONSE: 5:30 p.m.

JOHN D. PODESTA
 Assistant to the President
 and Staff Secretary
 Ext. 2702

American Indian and Alaska Natives -- Draft

[ACKNOWLEDGMENTS]

This is a time of enormous challenge and transition for America and the world. Because many like you voted for change and for hope over fear, however, we are doing better and America is moving forward.

But as I travel America and talk about the economy and crime and health care, I find among the American people a yearning that goes much deeper than even these critical matters.

It is a yearning for community. Americans are searching for a chance to come together instead of coming apart in anger and distrust. There is a yearning for healing in America, so all of us can live up to our God-given potential, and so all of us are respected for who and what we are.

In that spirit, and with great humility, I say to the leaders of the first Americans -- the American Indian and Alaska Natives -- gathered here for the first time in history, welcome to the White House. Welcome home.

So much of who we are comes from who you are. The American character was shaped on the frontier by you. Many believe we borrowed our form of government from you. Last week people all around the world celebrated Earth Day. Yet for thousands of years you have respected the earth, and celebrated in ceremony the bond between the earth and the creator. For American Indians and Alaska Natives, every day is Earth Day.

I am here today because I believe in your infinitely rich heritage, and in our common heritage. What you have done to retain your identity, your dignity, your values -- in the face of immeasurable obstacles -- is a profoundly moving example of the enduring strength of the human spirit. The world desperately needs this lesson now. We must keep faith with you and that spirit, and with the common heritage so many of us cherish. That's what I want to talk to you about today.

In every relationship between our people, our first principle must be to respect your right to remain who you are and live the way that you want. And to do that we must acknowledge the unique and special government-to-government relationship we have enjoyed over time.

Today I re-affirm our commitment to self-determination for tribal governments. I pledge to fulfill the trust and treaty obligations of the federal government. I vow to honor and respect tribal sovereignty based upon the very unique historical and legal relationship between the United States and the Indian

Nations. And I promise to continue my efforts to protect your right to fully exercise your religion as you wish.

Let me talk a minute about the issue of religious freedom because I feel strongly about it.

For many of you, traditional religions and ceremonies are the essence of your culture and your existence. Last year I was very pleased to sign a law that restored certain Constitutional protections for those who want to express their faith.

But as I have said before, no agenda for religious freedom will be complete until traditional Native American religious practices have received the protections that they deserve. Legislation is needed to protect Native American religious practices that are threatened by federal action. The Native American Free Exercise of Religion Act is welcome and long overdue. My Administration will continue to work closely with you and Members of Congress to make sure the law is Constitutional and strong. Then I want it passed and sent to me, so I can invite you back and sign it into law.

And in a moment I will sign a directive to every Executive Department and agency of the government -- not just the Department of the Interior -- instructing them to cooperate with tribal governments to accommodate wherever possible the need for eagle feathers in the practice of Native American religions.

I've directed them to recover Eagle carcasses and feathers found on federal land, to make their distribution to you for use in religious ceremonies their number one priority, to simplify the process of getting the feathers, and to involve you every step of the way.

That, then, is our first principle: respecting your values, your religions, and your identity; and honoring them by respecting your sovereignty.

This brings us to the second principle that should guide us. We must dramatically improve the federal government's relationship with the tribes, and become full partners with the Indian Nations.

I don't want there to be any mistake about our commitment to a stronger partnership between our people. Therefore in a moment I will sign an historic governmental directive that requires every Executive Department and agency of government to take two simple steps. First, to remove any all barriers they may have to working directly with tribal governments, and to do it now. And second, from now on if they plan to take action effecting tribal trust resources, they must consult with tribal governments first.

Our entire government has a trust responsibility with tribal governments, and it's time the entire government recognized it.

Part of being better partners is also being better listeners. The Department of Interior and the Department of Justice have never joined together to listen to the leaders of the Indian nations. Ever. It's time to change that.

Next week in Albuquerque, New Mexico, both Attorney General Reno and Secretary Babbitt, and many of their Sub-cabinet officials will each meet with you for two days at the first National American Indian Listening Conference. I'm looking forward to receiving very specific recommendations from the Listening Conference on ways to move our nations forward together. And the same applies to the unprecedented series of 23 meetings that the Department of Housing and Urban Development will have with tribal governments by September, to improve housing and living conditions in tribal communities.

All governments must work better. We must be more responsive to the people we serve and to each other. It is the only way we'll be able to do the things we must with the resources we have.

I know that you agree, because more and more of you are moving to assume fuller control of your governments. Many of you are moving aggressively to take responsibility for operating your own programs and services, and that's great. Each year the BIA is providing more technical services and fewer direct services, and that's great.

There are 30 self governing tribes today. We're working with Congress to raise that number to 130 by the end of the decade. We'd like self-governance to become a permanent program. But we must ensure services will still be provided to smaller tribes who do not choose to participate.

What is the goal of a better and more equal partnership, and more empowered tribes and more efficient government? Ultimately it's to improve the economy and social conditions of those we serve.

And that must be our third and final principle. Together we must position American Indians and Alaska Natives to compete economically in the twenty-first century.

We've got to do more to create jobs, lift incomes, and develop capital for new businesses. I know there are more economic success stories in Indian country every year, but not nearly enough. Restoring tribal economies will require new thinking and the courage to change. And, it will require

investing in the health, education, and skills of American Indians and Alaska Natives, as we must for all Americans.

Just as in the case of the national economy, however, we will not solve all of the problems overnight. The important thing is to create policies that gives every tribe the chance to be economically self sufficient in the long term, and stick to them.

I think to the extent some of the building blocks can be put in place in Washington, we are working to do that. Our Empowerment Zone legislation, for example, provides special new incentives for investing in Reservations, through employment tax credits, and accelerated appreciation rates.

We can do more. We can continue to enforce the regulations of the Community Re-investment Act to make sure local banks treat Indian communities correctly. We've brought more tribal leaders together with bankers to improve mortgage loans, financial services, and to provide relief from regulation than ever, and we can make these efforts permanent.

But we know a more comprehensive approach is necessary. At my direction the Vice President has established a working group on Indian Economic Development within the Community Enterprise Board. I've asked them to study the recommendations from the National Indian Economic Summit, and to make you full participants in their proceedings. Our goal is to create self sustaining economies for every tribe, and I believe we can do it.

The last point I'd like to make about economic development has to do with gaming. As a former Governor, I understand some of the concerns that Governors have raised. But as President, I know that gaming provides much more capital than you could otherwise raise. I know it gives some of you an economic competitive edge when you've had precious few, and that the benefits extend to surrounding communities, and that is good. Some of you are now able to invest more in housing, health care, child care, infrastructure, and taking care of your elders, and that is good.

But gaming is controversial, even within and among tribes. As many of you have acknowledged, it is also important that tribal governments continue to diversify their economies. Many of you are working with Congressional leaders, Governors and Secretary Babbitt to resolve the tough issues. My goal is this: I want the tribes to continue to benefit from gaming, and I want the current disputes over the 1988 Indian Gaming Regulatory Act to be worked out. And I strongly support the process now underway to achieve that goal.

We cannot discuss economic growth, better government, and the future of our people at this point in time without talking about health care. Our health care system costs too much and provides too little security. We should cover everybody and ask everybody to take some responsibility. This year after waiting 60 years the American people deserve health security they can count on.

Last year you were kind enough to invite the First Lady to the Indian Health Summit. You asked her to make certain that your treaty rights to health care, and your rights under the Indian Health Service, be preserved and made part of any health care proposal we made. Because we worked together, only one plan now before Congress address these issues and insures that tribal members will receive the same high quality health care as everyone else -- and that's our plan.

There has been a great deal of debate this year about the budget of the Indian Health Service. The fact is we are operating under the tightest spending limits in memory. I support this kind of discipline because it has led to more jobs and improved growth. But I also support keeping our commitments. And I believe the health needs of tribal communities and families and children require special attention.

Therefore I have amended next year's budget to increase funding for the Indian Health Service by more than \$100 million.

Finally, today across lines of race and class and region there is a profound concern for the children of America. That too many are poor, or sick, or unsupervised; too many likely to use violence or be victimized by violence; too many intellectually unprepared for life, or work.

Yet nothing is so striking in tribal communities as your love of family and extended family, and your devotion to your children. Every segment of our society could take a lesson from you.

But in spite of your best efforts, too many of your children also suffer from poor health and inadequate educations, and we are trying hard to do something about it. Our education plan is called GOALS 2000. For the first time it sets world class educational standards in every school and for every child, and gives local communities leeway to reach those goals. This new law contains millions more next year for BIA-funded schools and those in Alaska serving Native Alaskans. And these funds can't be spent until the education goals of your community are considered, and the parents and educators in your community are consulted.

Incredibly, in the 1980's our nation fell behind many third world countries in the rate we immunize children against communicable diseases. This is unacceptable. Beginning this year all Native American children will be eligible for immunizations free of all costs but the cost to administer the vaccine. Keeping our children healthy is the most moral, humane, and cost-effective investment we will ever make.

This is the way to honor family values -- to honor and to help all children, and help them get the right start in life.

Let me end with our children. As we look back on the American journey the test ahead is always whether we are moving in the direction of more tolerance, wider justice, and greater opportunity for all. It is the direction that counts, always the direction, and it is the next generation that will set that direction.

It is true that our history has not always been a proud one. But our future can be. It is up to us. It is up to our generation. Together we can open up the greatest era of cooperation, understanding, and respect among our people ever. I know we will.

And when we do the judgement of history will be this. That the President of the United States and the leaders of 545 sovereign Indian Nations met and kept faith, with each other and with our common heritage, and together lifted America again into a new and better place.

Thank you very much.

MEETING WITH TRIBAL LEADERS

Draft: 4/28/94

(Contact: S. Ryan at 67908)

Fyl: ^(a) 5:30 Today is re-
hearsal for tomorrow
(b) 7:00 staff Walk thru
tonight -- Donsia
will be there

12:30 p.m.

The first bus with Tribal Leaders arrives at East Visitor's Gate for tour. Tour Begins.

1:20 p.m.

Tribal Leaders begin to arrive on South Lawn. Marine Band begins to play.

1:50 p.m.

Last bus leaves hotel for White House.

2:15 p.m.

THE PRESIDENT receives briefing in Oval Office. Briefing participants: (P. Lader, C. Rasco, M. Hale, L. Avent, D. Strong, A. Stone). (Note: S. Ryan to provide logistical briefing at end.)

2:20 p.m.

Tour concludes.

Program participants arrive in the Diplomatic Reception Room for final briefing. (A. Stock to greet.)

2:30 p.m.

Cabinet members arrive West Lobby.

Announcement asking Tribal Leaders to proceed to seat. (Seating is by region. All regions are marked w/signs. Tribal Leaders will receive copy of diagram during briefing on the bus.)

2:45 p.m.

Cabinet members are escorted to their seating area. (Contact: J. O'Connor)

2:55 p.m.

THE PRESIDENT, THE VICE PRESIDENT, THE FIRST LADY and MRS. GORE arrive in the Diplomatic Reception Room to meet President gaiashkibos and Chief Wilma Mankiller.

MEETING BEGINS

3:00 p.m.

President gaiashkibos and Chief Wilma Mankiller are announced from Diplomatic Reception Room and proceed on stage.

THE PRESIDENT, THE VICE PRESIDENT, THE FIRST LADY and MRS. GORE are announced to Ruffles & Flourishes/Hail to the Chief and proceed on stage.

(All remain standing.)

3:05 p.m.

PRESENTATION OF COLORS

-- Alex Mathews, Chairman, Pawnee Tribe (Pawnee, Oklahoma), will carry American Flag
-- John Sunchild, Sr., Chairman, Chippewa-Cree (Box Elder, MO), will carry Eagle Staff

The American Flag and the Eagle Staff walk side by side up the center aisle from the South with approx. 4 Color Guard walking behind them.

-- Chmn. Mathews and Chmn. Sunchild proceed on stage with Flags. The American Flag is positioned first, then the Eagle Staff. The four Color Guard remain standing in front of the stage.

HONOR SONG/CEREMONIAL DRUM

-- Wallace Coffeey, Chairman Comanche Tribe (Lawton, Oklahoma) proceeds to small stage with hand drum and performs.

Upon conclusion of song, Chmn. Coffeey returns to seat.

OPENING INVOCATION

-- Chmn. Sunchild, Sr. proceeds to podium on main stage and gives the opening invocation. (All remain standing.)

Following opening invocation, Chmn. Sunchild and Chmn. Mathews exit stage and proceed to seats. Four Color Guard proceed to seats.

3:25 p.m.

THE FIRST LADY proceeds to podium to make welcoming remarks and introduce MRS. GORE.

3:28 p.m.

MRS. GORE makes remarks and introduces THE VICE PRESIDENT.

3:31 p.m.

THE VICE PRESIDENT makes remarks and introduces gaiashkibos, Chairman, Lac Courte Oreilles Chippewa (Hayward, Wisconsin).

3:35 p.m.

gaiashkibos proceeds to podium and makes introductory remarks.

3:45 p.m.

PRESENTATIONS

gaiashkibos introduces Wilma Mankiller, Principal Chief, Cherokee Tribe of Okla (Tahlequah, Oklahoma).

Chief Mankiller introduces the first presenter. (Note: Chief Mankiller will emcee the presentations. Each presenter will speak from the small stage.)

(Note: Add names)

4:10 p.m.

Upon conclusion of the eighth presentation, THE PRESIDENT proceeds to the podium to make remarks. (No announcement.)

4:35 p.m.

PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVES SIGNING

Upon conclusion of remarks, THE PRESIDENT proceeds to table to sign two Directives. (Contact: P. Richards)

Following signing, THE PRESIDENT returns to seat.

4:40 p.m.

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

-- Peterson Zah, President, Navajo Nation (Window Rock, Arizona) proceeds to small stage to begin the gift presentations:

-- Pearl Capoeman-Baller, Chair, Quinalt Tribe presents gift to MRS. GORE. (Chair Capoeman-Baller receives gift from Social Aide as she proceeds on stage.)

- Chief Wilma Mankiller presents gift to THE FIRST LADY. (Social Aide will hand gift to Chief Mankiller.)
- gaiashkibos presents gift to THE VICE PRESIDENT. (Social Aide will hand gift to gaiashkibos.)
- Richard Hayward, Chairman, Pequot Tribe (Ledyard, Conn.) presents gift to THE PRESIDENT. (Chmn. Hayward will proceed on stage after receiving gift from Social Aide.)

(Note: Peterson Zah will introduce each presenter prior to presentation. Presenters return to seats following presentations.)

4:55 p.m.

CLOSING INVOCATION

- Mary Thomas, Chairperson, Gila River (Sacaton, AR) proceeds to main stage to give closing invocation. Upon completion, she returns to seat.

5:10 p.m.

HONOR SONG

- Wilbur Between Lodges, President Oglala Sioux Tribe, (Pine Ridge, SD), proceeds to small stage to perform. Upon completion, he returns to seat.

5:15 p.m.

RETIRE COLORS/HONOR GUARD

Chmn. Mathews and Chmn. Sunchild return to main stage for Flags. Four Color Guard proceed to side of stage. Procession down center aisle to south with American Flag and Eagle staff side by side.

5:20 p.m.

THE PRESIDENT, THE VICE PRESIDENT, THE FIRST LADY and MRS. GORE stand and exit stage rear to Diplomatic Reception Room.

President gaiashkibos and Chief Wilma Mankiller exit stage and proceed to respected regions.

Guests exit. Tribal Leaders receive Thomas Jefferson coins as they exit.