

SHALAKO INDIAN CLUB  
FORT LEWIS COLLEGE, DURANGO, COLO. (MARLENE SPENCER)  
APRIL 14, 1964

"DO YOU REALIZE WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO THE AMERICAN INDIAN IF TERMINATION RESULTS--- THE AGED AND INCOMPETENT, THEIR RESOURCES AND CULTURES?" THIS WAS THE QUESTION POSED BY PRES. WILLIAM WEAHKEE IN A RECENT MEETING OF THE SHALAKO INDIAN CLUB AT FORT LEWIS COLLEGE, DURANGO, COLO.

PRES. WEAHKEE IS A SENIOR AND BUSINESS MAJOR AT THE COLLEGE, AND HIS PROFOUND INTEREST IN THE AMERICAN INDIANS TRADITION AND FUTURE IS NOT TO BE TAKEN LIGHTLY AS WILL BE SHOWN AT THE SOUTHWESTERN REGIONAL YOUTH COUNCIL, MAY 7, 8, AND 9 ON THE FORT LEWIS COLLEGE CAMPUS.

AFTER A CASUAL EXAMINATION, IT WAS REVEALED THAT LITTLE WAS KNOWN OF TERMINATION BY THE MAJORITY OF INDIAN YOUTHS. WEAHKEE DECIDED IN ALL FAIRNESS THAT ALL THE INDIANS SHOULD ACQUAINT THEMSELVES WITH TERMINATION, WHICH HEREFERS TO AS "THE INEVITABLE". THEREFORE, THE THEME FOR THE CONFERENCE, "MAKE HASTE, YOUR PEOPLE NEED YOU" WAS SELECTED. THE PROGRAM WILL PROVE TO BE VERY INTERESTING, WEAHKEE BELIEVES, AS VARIOUS GUEST SPEAKERS HAVE BEEN INVITED TO THE CAMPUS TO AID IN ENLIGHTENING THE YOUTH ABOUT PRESENT PROGRAMS AND PROCEDURES UNDER THE BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS, ALL OF WHICH WOULD BE EXPECTED TO END WITH COMPLETE TERMINATION.

AMONG THE GUEST SPEAKERS WILL BE JOE GAUTHIER, WASH. D.C., AND A MEMBER OF THE ALREADY TERMINATED MENOMINEES OF NEW YORK, AND CHARLES MINTON, SANTA FE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE NEW MEXICO COMMISSION ON INDIAN AFFAIRS. A PANEL GROUP HAS BEEN ORGANIZED TO DEBATE WITH VISITING PARTICIPANTS ON THE FUNCTIONS OF THE BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS AND THE THREE MAIN PHASES OF TERMINATION OR COMPLETE WITHDRAWAL OF FEDERAL AID.

THE SOUTHWESTERN REGIONAL INDIAN YOUTH COUNCIL WILL BE HELD IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE SHALAKO INDIAN CLUB'S ANNUAL POW-WOW. MEMBERS OF THE CLUB WILL SPONSOR A DANCE CONTEST THAT IS OPEN TO ALL NON-PROFESSIONALS, AND FOUR TROPHIES WILL BE AWARDED.

THE INTITAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE CONFERENCE PROGRAM BY PRES. WEAHKEE HAS ALREADY STIMULATED CONSIDERABLE INTEREST. SCHOOLS AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM SEVERAL STATES, INCLUDING ARIZONA, COLORADO, NEW MEXICO, WASHINGTON, SOUTH DAKOTA, AND IDAHO HAVE SENT RESERVATIONS.

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Shalako Indian Club  
Fort Lewis College  
Durango, Colorado  
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Miss Marlene Spencer, daughter of Mrs. Catherine A. Spencer of Toppenish, is a student at Fort Lewis College and advertising chairman for the Southwestern Regional Youth Council that is being hosted by the Shalako Indian Club. Miss Spencer will be on the panel debate of this conference. She attended the Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe last year and after receiving a Yakima Tribal scholarship is resuming her education as an art major.

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