

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GEORGE UMTUCH, CHAIRMAN OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL, TODAY EXPRESSED HIS CONCERN ABOUT THE CONTINUED USE OF THE NAME OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL OF THE YAKIMA TRIBE BY CERTAIN PARTIES WHO HOLD THEMSELVES OUT AS A FISH COMMISSION ESTABLISHED BY THE GENERAL COUNCIL. MR. UMTUCH SAID THAT THIS CONTINUED USE WAS UNAUTHORIZED BY THE GENERAL COUNCIL. I SIGNED AN ORDER IN MARCH WHICH I HAD DOUBTS ABOUT, AND MY INQUIRY TO THE PROPER LEGAL AUTHORITIES PROVED MY DOUBTS TO BE WELL FOUNDED, UMTUCH SAID. THE SOLICITOR'S OFFICE AT THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR, AS EARLY AS MARCH, HAS INFORMED BOTH ME AND ALL OTHER PERSONS INVOLVED THAT THIS GROUP OF PEOPLE WHO HOLD THEMSELVES OUT AS THE "COLUMBIA RIVER GENERAL COUNCIL FISH COMMISSION OF THE YAKIMA INDIAN NATION" ARE NOT AN EFFECTIVE LEGAL BODY. I, THEREFORE, DO HOPE THAT NO ONE WILL BE CONFUSED BY THEIR CONTINUED USE OF THE WORDS GENERAL COUNCIL OR YAKIMA NATION. BEING ESTABLISHED WITHOUT AUTHORITY THEY CANNOT AND DO NOT SPEAK FOR THE YAKIMA NATION OR THE GENERAL COUNCIL.

George Umtuch
GEORGE UMTUCH, CHAIRMAN
GENERAL COUNCIL
P. O. BOX 62
GRANGER, WASHINGTON