

CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES

P.O. Box 5507 - Sherman Oaks, California

No. 32

"REVEILLE"

August 1, 1962

I. REPORT ON INDIAN WRONGS: The following letter, addressed to the Chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, is presented for the information of all those interested in justice for the American Indians.

July 27, 1962

Senator James O. Eastland,  
Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee,  
Washington, D. C.

Emancipation of American Indians

Dear Sir:

Receipt is acknowledged of the courteous letter of Mr. William A. Creech, Chief Counsel and Staff Director, of your committee, dated July 3, 1962, in which he expresses recognition by your committee of serious crimes and abuses against Indian rights taking place on Indian territories, and your purpose to correct them. We are very appreciative.

My reply was delayed due to the trial of two suits filed against me by the Chairmen of the Yakima General, and Tribal, Councils for alleged libel because I exposed abuses going forward on the Yakima Reservation under authority of the U.S. Government, in a letter dated November 25, 1959, addressed to Fred A. Seaton, then Secretary of the Interior, and another to George Umtuch, Chairman of the General Council, dated December 14, 1959, quoting a telegram on the same subjects, addressed to Mr. Seaton. The jury decided that my letters were privileged, and without malice, and ruled in my favor. The obvious underlying purpose of these suits may reasonably be concluded from the statement of the attorney for plaintiffs demanding severe punitive damages to assure that General Holdridge will never again dare open his mouth on Indian matters, or words to that effect - in other words, to silence me - and that the inspiration for the suits came from sources outside the Yakima reservation.

I. Indictment:

My report on the Yakimas was presented as representative of the inhuman, illegal policies of the Government of the United States, turning from early Cavalry massacres to administrative and judicial massacres. Charges were not directed primarily against the two Indians who, by time-dishonored techniques perfected by the White Man, were caused to betray their own people, but against public officials of the United States.

Evidence substantiating my indictment is now of court record. Since I received no reply to my letters or telegrams to Mr. Seaton, nor from the present incumbent of that office, Mr. Stewart Udall, to whose attention I have also repeatedly brought the Yakima and other Indian situations, I now turn the problem over to you for your information and for action by your committee and by Congress. I suggest that you obtain, and study, a copy of the transcript of the trial, which will reveal, among other matters, violations by officials of the U.S. Government, of Indian Bureaus and Yakima Councils of rights established by the Treaty of 1855, as follows:

- 1) Overthrow of the traditional tribal government of the Yakimas by illegal congressional and administrative acts, including the "Umtuch Resolution" of 1955, and the establishment of a "bastard" tribal government which effectively destroys the right of self-government of the Yakimas; a government operating without constitution or by-laws; perpetuated through "un-American", "rigged" elections; the voters a scant handful of the total tribal population of some 5000 individuals, voting under conditions of duress, and inadequately informed of issues presented, particularly concerning tribal finances; and violating both "American" and traditional tribal procedures.
- 2) Establishing an administrative dictatorship under the Tribal Council, amenable to final control by the Bureau of Indian affairs, and permitting interference by State authorities.
- 3) Sequestering under control of the U.S. Treasury a sum of 87 million dollars of tribal funds, for which no proper accounting has ever been made to the Yakimas, and from which they derive no income, while Yakima children go hungry.



- 4) Authorizing the annual cutting of approximately fourteen million dollars worth of tribal and individual holdings of Yakima timber (the total valued in billions of dollars), all contracts under final control of the Bureau of Indian Affairs; accounts locally not available to tribal members; no true financial statement ever being issued to the Yakimas of these funds; and of the former category of tribal timber, only one hundred dollars, more or less, of the total amounts received, ever reaching individual tribal members.
- 5) Reports of probable theft of large quantities of timber hauled away over week-ends, without proper accounting, and over roads without checking points.
- 6) Failure to account to tribal members for large sums received through reclamation (irrigation) rights, leasing of tribal lands to white settlers, and other projects involving loss to the tribal members.
- 7) Disappearance of 3 1/2 million dollars of adult allotment of the Dalles Dam compensation for rights ceded to the U.S. Government, held out for prospective income tax purposes, and when no such taxes were levied, were never heard of again by tribal members.
- 8) Withholding six million dollars of these Dalles Dam funds, allotted for Yakima children, established as a trust fund over protests of tribal members because of lack of control by parents; transferred from the U.S. Treasury where 4% interest was paid to the National Bank of Commerce of Seattle which pays only 1 1/2% interest, and which state taxes must be restricting payments to individuals who reach the 10th grade in school (those surviving attrition due to death), or at the age of 21 when no longer children, thereby depriving parents of the use of these funds for the care of their children from birth; overriding a Resolution formally passed by members of the General Council providing for the day-by-day use of these funds for the welfare of the children; and forcing the parents to accept a program imposed by the Bureau of Indian Affairs.
- 9) Providing a budget of over \$50,000 as annual salaries of tribal officials, but a mere \$15.00 for welfare, requiring taxpayers of the State of Washington to pay for welfare of Indians who have adequate resources if properly used to care for themselves, and permitting the intrusion of the State into tribal affairs.
- 10) Establishing a gambling house on the Reservation over the protests of tribal members, to create a center of adult and juvenile delinquency.
- 11) In violation of the specific provisions of the Treaty of 1855, and overriding the prohibition of the Tribal Council itself, the Chairman thereof approving the sale of alcohol on the Reservation to debauch members of the tribe.
- 12) Other serious violations of Treaty rights, and of law and order, not mentioned above, involving the Department of the Interior and its Bureau of Land Management and Bureau of Indian Affairs, State authorities, and tribal officials, impairing the rights and securities of tribal members.

The above are typical of the shocking crimes of the Bureau of Indian Affairs I have observed at first hand on other reservations throughout the country. I refer you in particular to the Uintah Valley Ute Reservation, where almost identical invasions of Ute rights prevail, accompanied by assaults with deadly weapons. I have made repeated reports of these conditions for the past five years, to all responsible government officials of highest echelons, including the White House, the Supreme Court, the Department of the Interior, the Department of Justice, Congressional Committees, and to your own Judiciary Committee. The letter referred to above, emanating from your office, is the first reply I have received from any such officials, hence the appreciation with which it is received.

Such conditions of wanton crimes violating the Constitution, Treaty rights, and law and order generally, against the Indians, cannot be permitted to continue. Relative to your current, and contemplated, investigations, I strongly urge that you include an on-the-spot, detailed study of the entire Indian situation, constituting a thorough, sweeping investigation and report thereof, of the Department of the Interior, the Bureau of Land Management, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs. I hereby make formal application for the right to testify before your committee on these subjects.

## II. Proposals for Restoration of Justice to the American Indians.

The grievous conditions mentioned in the above indictment deal with symptoms and do not get at the heart of the Indian problem, which arises out of over 200 years of national dishonor,

mismanagement, exploitation, ill will, and violences, perpetrated against the Indians whose lands we occupy, and continuing to the present date. The people of the United States have not yet learned how to require public officials "to promote the general welfare" of our own nation as required by the Constitution. Not being able to govern Constitutionally and wisely for our own people, these officials are neither able, nor inclined, to rule wisely and justly for the Indians, particularly when Indian resources worth billions of dollars can be swindled from them with impunity.

Indian prophecies state that in these "days of the end" the unjust White Man will be punished for his crimes, and that then the Indians and just, honest White Men will unite on a basis of brotherhood under the "Great Spirit". It is futile for the Indians to hope for justice until the people of the United States have set their own house in order. The following suggestions are made as necessary interim action, leading to the new and better day of understanding, and to the new unity on a basis of truth and justice. They fulfill the Commandment: "Come out of her, my people!". The Mormon prophecies, which relate the Indians as being part of the lost tribes of Israel, come to the same conclusion. The following course of action is proposed:

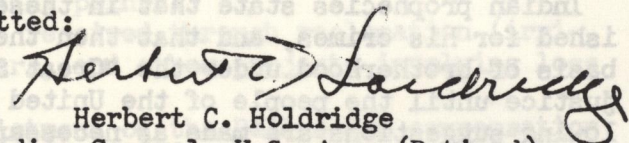
- 1) Emancipation of all Indians from the control of the Government of the United States and of the respective states, except as covered by Treaties, and restoration of self-government; individuals and scattered groups to organize locally or affiliate with larger Indian Nations by common consent. The traditional Indian plan of "Confederation" is suggested.
- 2) Recognition by the Government of the United States, and by the respective States, of all Treaty rights of all Indian Nations, and if no treaties have been made, of all sovereign, human, economic, and political rights possessed when the White Man first invaded their territories.
- 3) Abolition of the Bureau of Indian Affairs; withdrawal of its agents, official and unofficial, and all collaborationists, from Indian territories. Prosecution of those guilty of crimes against the Indians.
- 4) Revocation by the Congress of the United States of legislation extending citizenship on a mass basis to all Indians without their knowledge and consent (Act of June 2, 1924), and requiring all Indians desiring to become U.S. citizens to fulfill naturalization requirements for citizenship as required of other aliens.
- 5) Renouncing by the United States of the myths of the "Great White Father" in Washington; and of the relationship of guardian (trustee), and ward, between the United States and the Indians, already denounced by the Supreme Court in May, 1962 in the case of the Creek Indians seeking payments of financial claims; said myths resulting primarily in exploitation and degeneration of the Indians at the hands of a nation which has betrayed its trusteeship.
- 6) Indian Nations to be conceded their inalienable right, within bona fide Treaty provisions, to establish such governmental, educational, welfare, economic and other procedures as they may deem proper, to conduct their own affairs. Such procedures might include a joint council composed of Indians and non-Indians, the latter selected by the Indians at their own discretion and not imposed by the Government of the United States, such council to coordinate negotiations between the United States and the Indians.
- 7) A complete study of financial and other assets of the Indians to be made by a firm of responsible public accountants in cooperation with Indian representatives, to ascertain all Indian financial and other resources under control of the U.S. Government and the several States at the present time or in the past, with location thereof, all such assets then to be turned over to the respective Indians or Indian Nations.
- 8) Claims of all Indians for resources misappropriated, whether lands, timber, oil, uranium, water, gold reserves in the ground or in the U.S. Treasury, during U.S. occupancy of Indian territories, to be adjudicated by a joint committee of Indians and the United States, and either restored, or if conditions do not permit such restoration because of the passage of time, that they be replaced in kind with equal or like resources, or compensated for in full. Thievery is thievery, whether perpetrated by a hungry worker or by the mighty government of the United States, and the thief must be required to give up his loot prior to rejoining a society of honorable nations.
- 9) Collection of all Indian records and artifacts now in the custody of national and state offices or in the hands of private citizens, into the National Archives to be considered as



the property of the Indians, until such time as permanent disposition may be provided.  
10) The United States to insure that the persistent campaign of slander against the Indians, launched over 200 years ago and continued to the present time, especially by radio, television and the press, showing them as ignorant, vicious savages, cease forthwith.

As is my practice on matters of public concern, I am making general distribution of this letter to interested persons, including the Indians.

Respectfully submitted:

  
Herbert C. Holdridge  
Brigadier General, U.S. Army (Retired)

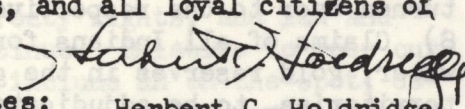
**II. WRONGS AGAINST U.S. CITIZENS:** The wrongs perpetrated against the Indians are being perpetrated with equal, or greater, force against our own citizens. Orderly, constitutional government has disappeared from the United States. The Kennedy administration, established by "rigged" election frauds participated in by both Republicans and Democrats, has led down a blind alley. Not one measure on national or foreign policy, has been designed "to promote the general welfare" as demanded by the Constitution. Financial monopolism of Wall Street, and Clerical monopolism of the Roman Church, control our country. Financial monopolism has bankrupted our economy, now adding four and one half billion dollars of "foreign aid" drained from the blood of our taxpayers, to bribe foreign dictators who hate our freedoms. Clerical monopolism of Rome, functioning through "Shanty Irish" in the White House, has restored the Black medievalism of 13th Century Europe, and now appoints a Roman Catholic as secretary of education to teach sedition in Roman Catholic, and public, schools. An outlaw government, which has full access to the truth, takes refuge behind the last barricade of a falsifying, seditious, monopolistic press which denies the people the truth which might save them.

Corruption cannot bring forth the incorruptible. A government founded on falsification, deception, and violence cannot correct its own corruptions. We have reached the point of no return as a nation.

**III. POSITIVE SOLUTIONS:** "Come out of her, my people!" - come out of this orgy of materialism, corruption and world violence, and return to the principles of the Constitution of the United States!

It is fortunate that in these days of desperate danger we, the people, have a sound, constitutional program of ACTION, NOW!, in the "American Plan" I have presented for over 30 years, which I will match against anything on the scene, nationally or internationally, to restore our fundamental freedoms and securities, and do so with functional simplicity. ("How To Gain Freedom From Economic Slavery") This we shall press upon our sixty million destitute people, and upon patriots who have the vision of a new day of peace, freedom, abundance and brotherhood.

**IV. CALL FOR CONVENTION:** Since corrupt politicians took us into this "mess" we can hardly expect them to take us out of it. We, the "sovereign" people, must do so. The call for a convention to settle these issues which was postponed in February, will be repeated at a timely moment, probably within a month or two. American Indians, and all loyal citizens of the United States, will be invited to attend.

  
For the Constitution of the United States: Herbert C. Holdridge  
Brigadier General, U.S. Army (Retired)  
ADMINISTRATOR