For Release to PM's March 20, 1967

Harris - 202/343-8065

INTERIOR SUBMITS NORTH CASCADES BILL TO CONGRESS

The Department of the Interior today submitted to Congress proposed legislation to establish a North Cascades National Park, a new National Recreation Area, a National Forest Wilderness and two extensions to an existing National Forest Wilderness, all in the State of Washington.

President Johnson in his January 30, 1967, Message to Congress on Protecting our Natural Heritage, recommended that the 90th Congress establish a National Park in the North Cascades in the State of Washington, provided wilderness and recreation areas are safeguarded.

In keeping with the President's recommendation, the legislative proposal was worked out jointly between the Departments of Agriculture and Interior. It was endorsed by both Secretary of Agriculture Orville L. Freeman and Secretary of the Interior Stewart L. Udall.

The bill proposes a North Cascades National Park, consisting of approximately 570,000 acres, a Ross Lake National Recreation Area of about 100,000 acres, including portions of the Skagit River and Ross, Diablo and Gorge Lakes and surrounding lands. Park headquarters will be located in the Skagit Valley near the Community of Newhalem. Major road access will be via State Route 20, the North Cross State Highway now under construction. (Maps showing location, management units and development plans are attached.)

Also called for are creation of the Pasayten Wilderness, consisting of about 500,000 acres, and extension of the western boundary of the existing Glacier Peak Wilderness, to include certain National Forest land in the Suiattle River corridor and the White Chuck River corridor. The two extensions would add about 10,000 acres to the existing Glacier Peak Wilderness.

The new legislation would permit the continued management, use and disposal of timber and other renewable natural resources within the National Recreation Area, as well as the removal of minerals from such lands if their removal would not have significant adverse effects on administration of the area. Grazing also will continue to be permitted in the National Recreation Area.

Present sharing of National Forest receipts with the State for road and school purposes for use by the counties would not be affected.

Development of Ross Lake National Recreation Area would be focused on recreation activities including winter sports. Two major developments on Ross Lake at Roland Point and Hozomeen would include campgrounds, lodges, store and boat docking facilities. Other points along the lake would be accessible by tour boat for picnicking, camping and for access into the Picket Range to the west and proposed Pasayten Wilderness to the east. Other access points to the park would be provided from the west.

A major visitor and interpretive center is proposed along the North Cross State Highway, adjacent to Ruby Mountain. An aerial tramway to the top of Ruby Mountain is under consideration which would provide visitors with a magnificent 360-degree view of the many glaciers and mountains. A second aerial tram in the recreation area might transport visitors from the boat dock on Lake Ross at Arctic Creek into the North Cascades National Park where nature trails would lead into the Picket Range.

At the southern end of the National Park a major development is planned at Stehekin, which would be accessible only boat or float plane. Boat service planned for the area would transport visitors to Stehekin via Lake Chelan.

Hunting would be permitted on lands and waters in the National Recreation Area in accordance with Federal and State laws. Fishing would be permitted in both the National Park and the National Recreation Area. The National Park does not include the drainage area of Granite Creek. In this watershed, the Forest Service plans development of winter sports and other recreation facilities upon completion of the North Cross State Highway.

The proposed legislation is based upon a joint study by the Departments of the Interior and Agriculture completed in 1965. Purpose of the study was to explore all resource potentials of the area and the management and administration which would appear to be in the greater public interest. The study report made 20 recommendations, some of which are contained in the proposed legislation.

The North Cascades National Park, extending from south of the Town of Stehekin, northwest to the Canadian border, would be divided into two units by the Ross Lake National Recreation Area. The northern unit is composed mainly of the Picket Range and Mt. Shuksan. The southern part of the National Park would center around the Eldorado Peaks area and the Stehekin Valley.

. Under the proposal, the Ross Lake National Recreation Area would occupy the Skagit River Canyon and adjacent mountain slopes from below the Town of Newhalen extending northeast along Diablo and Ross Lakes to the Canadian Border.

The North Cascades Primitive Area, with some boundary adjustment, would be designated as the Pasayten Wilderness. It lies east of Ross Lake and its western boundary would be coincident with part of the eastern boundary of the Ross Lake National Recreation Area.

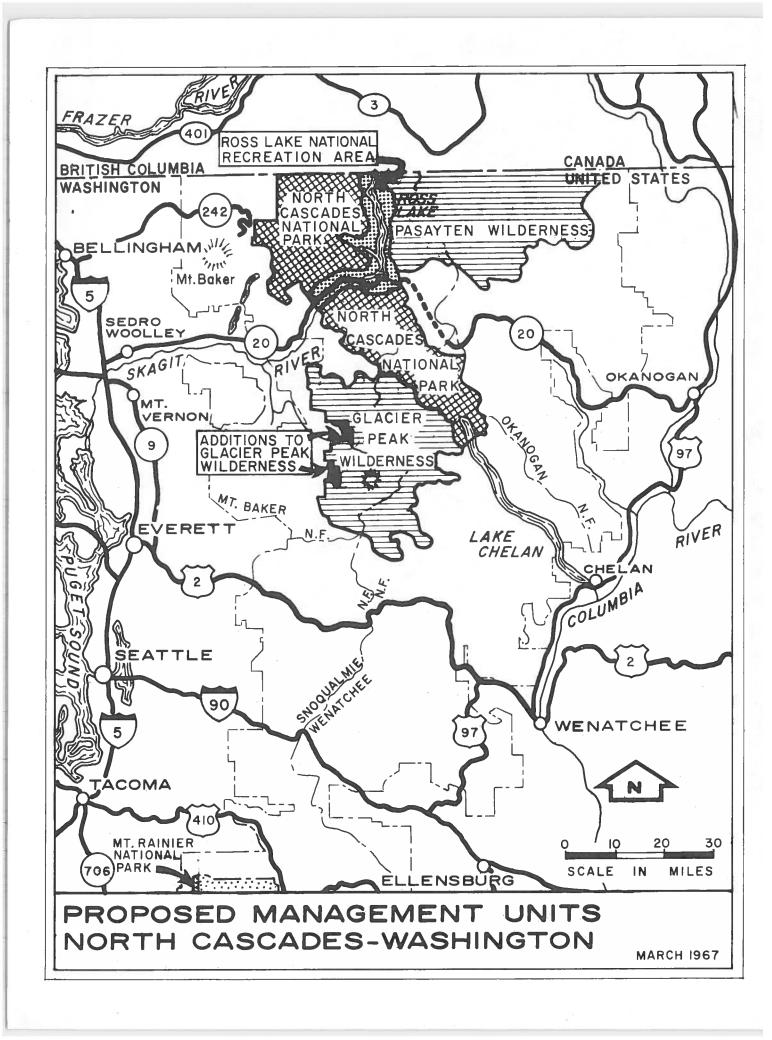
The Pasayten Wilderness and the additions to Glacier Peak Wilderness would be administered by the Secretary of Agriculture in accordance with the provisions of the Wilderness Act of 1964.

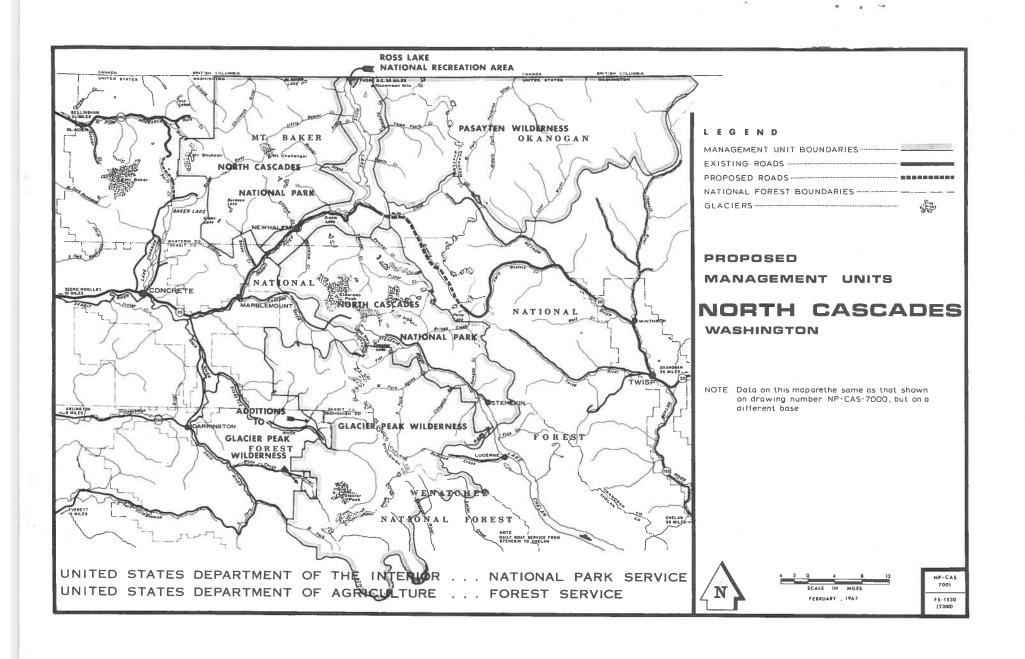
Upon approval of the legislation the Secretary of the Interior is required to review lands within the North Cascades National Park within two years after date of the Act and report to the President on their suitability for preservation as wilderness.

Lands owned by the State of Washington, or any of its political subdivisions, could be acquired only by donation.

The bill also would transfer National Forest lands within the park and recreation area to the Secretary of the Interior for administration. Over 99 percent of the land in the proposed park already is in Federal ownership. Very little merchantable timber is located in the proposed park lands.

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PROPOSED NORTH CASCADES NATIONAL PARK AND ROSS LAKE NATIONAL RECREATION AREA

The Cascades rank among the world's major mountains. Extending from Canada's Fraser River south beyond Oregon, they shape the climate and ecology over most of the Pacific Northwest. Superlative portions of this range will be included within a North Cascades National Park and a Ross Lake National Recreation Area.

There is a total of approximately 670,000 acres within the proposed areas, 570,000 acres in the national park and 100,000 acres in the nation recreation area. They will be administered as one unit by the National Park Service, Department of the Interior. The designation national "park" and national "recreation area" indicates differences in development and management programs.

National park shall provide for all appropriate use and enjoyment by the people that can be accommodated without impairment of the natural values. Park management shall recognize and respect wilderness as a whole environment of living things whose use and enjoyment by man depends on a continuing interrelationship free of man's spoliation. In the national recreation area, outdoor recreation shall be recognized as the dominant or primary resource management objective. Natural resources within the area may be utilized and managed for additional purposes where such additional uses are compatible with fulfilling the recreation mission of the area.

Ross Lake National Recreation Area will occupy the Skagit River Canyon and adjacent mountain slopes from below the town of Newhalem, along Diablo and Ross Lakes part of the Seattle City Power and Light Company Operation, to the Canadian border. Major road access will be via State Route 20, the North Cross State Highway now under construction. Park Headquarters will be located in the Skagit Valley in the Ross Lake National Recreation Area near the Community of Newhalem. Development and public use will be focused on water oriented activities, winter sports and convenient facilities where the visitor may view the spectacle of snow fields, glaciers, jagged mountain peaks, and densely forested valleys. Fees as authorized by the provisions of the Land and Water Conservation Act will be applied where practical.

There will be two developments on Ross Lake accessible by road. Roland Point, the major development, is near the south end. Hozomeen, the second site is adjacent to the Canadian border on the north end. Campgrounds, lodges, store and complete boat docking facilities will be constructed at both sites and car ferry service will be inaugurated when the need develops. On Ross Lake itself there are excellent opportunities for boating, swimming, and fishing.

Other points along the lake will be accessible by tour boat for picnicking, camping and access into the Picket Range to the west and the proposed Pasayten Wilderness (administered by the Forest Service) to the east.

An aerial tram will transport visitors from the boat dock at Arctic Creek into North Cascades National Park. For those who prefer and can undertake strenuous hiking trails will be provided up Beaver Creek and Little Beaver Creek into the Picket Range Wilderness. Nature trails beyond the upper tram terminus will provide an unparalleled view into the glacial cirques in the Picket Range above McMillan Creek and Luna Creek. Additional nature trails will lead along the ridge top for other views of the Picket Range and surrounding mountains.

The major visitor center for the Park and Recreation complex will be located near the south end of Ross Lake. A second aerial tram will go from this general vicinity to the Summit of Ruby Mountain, from which the visitor may enjoy a 360 degree view - including the glaciers around Eldorado Peaks, (Colonial Peak, Mount Baker, Mount Shuksan, Ross Lake and on a clear day the Olympic Range across Puget Sound.

Other facilities within the Recreation Area will include additional campgrounds along Route 20 west of Ross Lake and a small fishing resort on Diablo Lake's north shore.

North Cascades National Park consists of two units, separated by the Ross Lake National Recreation Area, each unit has a major potential wilderness area as its core. The northern unit is composed mainly of the Picket Range, a roadless area of glaciers, remote valleys, granite spires, and glacial lakes. Access to this magnificent mountain complex will be by trail from perimeter developments. These include the previously mentioned developments on Ross Lake plus trailheads on the south and west side of the area.

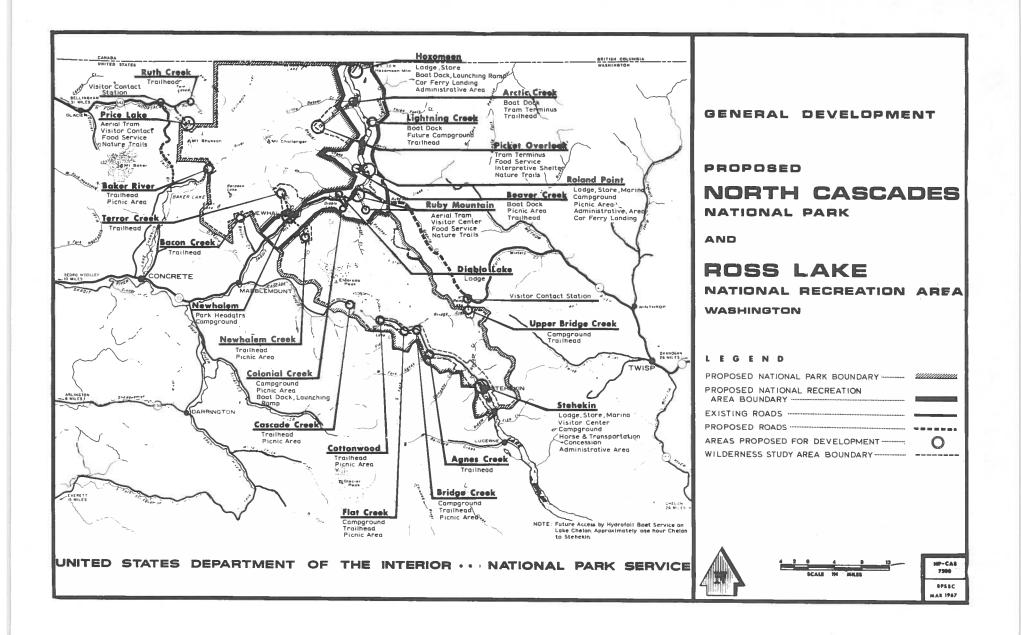
In addition an aerial tram is proposed to cross the upper Nooksack River Valley to Price Lake Basin, on the north flank of Mount Shuksan. Trail access to this alpine lake and the nearby glaciers will be provided.

The south unit of the National Park will center around Eldorado Peaks and Stehekin Valley. Again the wilderness core of the area will be accessible by trail from perimeter developments such as the upper Bridge Creek development, some in the recreation area and some in the park itself. The visitor contact station on the North Cross State Highway near Rainy Lake will assist in orienting visitors proceeding west on Route 20 to the complex of both National Park and National Forest public use facilities.

Stehekin Valley, in accessable by roads, opens into Lake Chelan provides a unique opportunity for location of public services. In addition to the existing boat service, it is planned that visitors may arrive in Stehekin by means of hydrofoil boats. This will decrease the present four hour boat trip from Chelan to approximately one hour. Also charter float plane service will continue to be available.

The public services to be furnished in the Stehekin area include visitor interpretive facilities, lodges, stores, marina, and campgrounds. Activities such as horse back riding, hiking, swimming, fishing and toating will be available.

From these points pack trips may be made into the Eldorado Peaks wilderness study area of North Cascades National Park and the Glacier Peak Wilderness administered by the Forest Service.



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY For Release to PMs March 29, 1967

Wilson -- 343-9431

INTERIOR FAVORS AMENDING ACT GOVERNING USES OF INCOME FROM NAVAJO LAND LEASES IN UTAH

The Department of the Interior has recommended that Congress amend certain provisions of "the Act of March 1, 1933," which added lands in southern Utah to the Navajo Indian Reservation.

The act provides that 37½ percent of net royalties from tribal oil and gas leases on these lands be paid to the State of Utah. The State, in turn, is required to spend the money for "tuition of Indian children in white schools" and for road construction.

As of May 18, 1966 the special fund totaled more than \$5 million.

The Department has suggested that the act be amended to authorize expenditure of the money for any purpose that would contribute to the health, education, and general welfare of the Navajos. The Department said the original provisions have been subject to varying interpretations in the past and, in the Department's opinion, the restrictions are not in the best interest of the Indians.

Another recommendation by the Department is that beneficiaries include all Indians residing in San Juan County and not solely those who live on former public lands in the county.

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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY For Release May 15, 1967

Wilson -- 343-9431

INTERIOR RECOMMENDS AMENDED LEASING ACT FOR INDIAN LANDS

The Department of the Interior has recommended to Congress enactment

of legislation designed to amend the Indian Long-Term Leasing Act of 1955.

Present law is inadequate for development of Indian lands for recreational, business, residential and other non-agrarian uses, the Department said. Under its terms, provision is made for leasing Indian lands for periods of 25 years with a renewable option for an additional 25 years. Grazing leases under the same law are restricted to 10-year terms, with provision for 25-year agricultural leases only in cases that involve making substantial improvements on the land.

A bill now before Congress provides for 55-year leasing authority for Indian lands, with the grazing and agricultural periods to remain the same.

As a change in the new bill, the Department proposes that leasing authority be extended to a minimum of 65 years for non-agrarian purposes and 40 years for farming leases.

The Department also has asked that 99-year leases be extended to the following reservations: The Pueblos of Pojoaque and Tesuque in New, Mexico; Hualapai, Yavapai, Havasupai, Gila River Pima, and San Carlos Apache Reservations of Arizona, and Tulalip, Swinomish and Lummi of Washington.

Since 1959, six exceptions have been made in the Long-Term Leasing Act of 1955, in order to permit 99-year leasing for maximum development. Those reservations already enjoying 99-year leasing authority under the 1955 act are: Agua Caliente (Palm Springs, Calif.); Navajo; Hollywood (Fla.) Seminole; Southern Ute; Fort Mojave; and Pyramid Lake. Congress has also authorized 99-year leases on the Colorado River, San Xavier, and Salt River Pima Maricopa Reservations by other legislation.

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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

For Release May 16, 1967

SECRETARY UDALL ISSUES STATEMENT ON INDIAN EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Secretary of the Interior Stewart L. Udall today issued the following

statement on education programs for Indian children:

"Indian children in Federal schools are handicapped educationally, economically and geographically through physical and social isolation from the mainstreams of American life. Many are further handicapped by an only partial understanding of the English language, if, indeed, they speak English at all.

"The programs of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, applied to Federal Indian schools over the past six months have been a direct and effective frontal assault on the pressing problems of these youngsters.

"In this short span of time we have seen, not only real progress in closing the gap that separates many Indian children from the non-Indian contemporaries but also a new spirit of enthusiasm and support for education develop in families and tribal leaders in Reservations across the nation.

"The Quie Amendment to this milestone legislation would exclude Federally educated Indian children from this Act and would take from these children the hope of continued progress toward educational equality with the rest of the nation and quash the new hopes and new aspirations developing for the Indian peoples who would assist their children to the life of economic and social equality that has been denied.

"It is inconceivable that these projects which have meant so much in terms of academic progress and improved self-image could be summarily abandoned.

"This program has made an appreciable and measureable difference in the lives and achievement of these children. These programs represent an effective discharge of the federal obligation to these children and should be continued."

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY For Release May 16, 1967

Wilson -- 343-9431

UDALL HAILS YEAR OF PROGRESS FOR INDIANS

Secretary of the Interior Stewart L. Udall said today that recent weeks had brought "heartening examples of solid economic gains for American Indians as the result of a determination to put tribal resources and energies to work for the benefit of all."

Udall approved plans last week for a multi-million dollar forest product complex on the Warm Springs Reservation in Oregon that will create 250 jobs for Indians and bring about \$2 million in annual revenues to the tribe.

"This is not a Federal project," Udall said. "The money involved is tribal money and the basic negotiations were between tribal officials and officers of the Jefferson Plywood Co. of Madras, Ore., the firm that will run the sawmill and plywood complex under contract with the tribe.

"Indians will be represented on their board which will direct operations from harvest through sale. The direct benefits, such as an Indian payroll of \$1.5 million annually, will be great, but equally important will be the experience gained by a people learning, under our competitive American enterprise system, to put their resources and their abilities to work for a better future."

Udall noted also that during a trip to Arizona last month he helped break ground for an industrial park on the Gila River Reservation south of Phoenix.

"Five industrial firms -- producing products ranging from marine hardware to asphalt -- will form the nucleus of an industrial complex of tremendous growth potential," he said. "And the tribe has a detailed social action and community development program underway so that individually and collectively the tribe can grow with the industry.

"These are results of programs operated by the Department of the Interior and its Bureau of Indian Affairs that brought 26 new industrial plants to Indian areas in the past year," Udall said. "And these plants are to create 1,700 new jobs.

"A little more than a year ago I suggested at a conference of tribal, Congressional and Government leaders in Santa Fe, N. M., that 'the time has come to operate on our hopes instead of our fears.' I think we are beginning to see the results of that policy in action now."



Other promising developments within the past year, cited by Udall, are:

- •The dedication of a new electronic connector plant on the Seminole Indians' reservation at Hollywood, Fla. The site is leased by the tribe to the Amphenol Corp. of Chicago. The plant will have an initial workforce of 200, one-half of whom will be tribal members. The company is already looking to future expansion.
- •On the Makah Reservation in Washington, Indians are repairing and enlarging a pier to serve as the floating fish processing facility of the Cape Flattery Company. Cape Flattery will process all kinds of fish into fish protein concentrate, a product recently approved by the Food and Drug Administration for human consumption. This is one of the first private domestic ventures in this field. A separate pilot plant is to be constructed under a program sponsored by the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries.

The Indians, in addition to owning a part of the business through an investment of \$50,000 of their own funds, will share in the plant employment and will operate a fleet of fishing vessels to provide, daily, the 200 tons of fish the company is expected to process.

- •The Navajo Tribe will begin construction next week on a plant at Fort Defiance, Ariz., where General Dynamics Corporation will produce components for the Standard Missile. The tribe will provide training facilities during the construction period for Navajos expected to fill most of the 200 jobs to be created by the plant. Annual payrolls are estimated as approaching three-quarters of a million dollars.
- •The receipt of \$757,938 in high bonus bids for copper leases on the San Xavier Reservation in southern Arizona. Tribal officials anticipate that this figure will be far surpassed by tribal revenues resulting from royalties and mining payrolls.
- •The receipt of \$2.6 million in high bonus bids for new oil and gas leases by the Tyonek Village of Alaska which used \$12 million in earlier oil lease funds to completely refurbish their village and acquire real estate in downtown Anchorage, renting office space to clients who include the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

"These are solid achievements in just one field of endeavor," Udall said. "They will be matched by progress and innovation in the areas of education, on-the job training and relocation programs, as we expand our efforts and further develop the new feeling of partnership in progress that is developing under Commissioner Bennett in the Bureau of Indian Affairs."

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR OFFICE OF INFORMATION

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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

For Release May 16, 1967

STATEMENT BY SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR STEWART L. UDALL ON INDIAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ACT, MAY 16, 1967.

I am today transmitting to the Hill the "Indian Resources Development Act of 1967." I consider this the most important legislation proposed for American Indians since the Wheeler-Howard Act of 1934 which permitted tribes much greater latitude in handling their own affairs.

The main purpose of the bill is to provide Indians with managerial, credit and corporate tools to enable them to participate more fully in American social, economic, educational and political life; and to permit them to exercise greater initiative and self determination. The bill results from considerable consultation with the tribes, themselves.

The main feature of the bill authorizes the appropriation of \$500 million, not more than \$100 million in the first five years after enactment, for an Indian loan guaranty and insurance fund and for a direct loan revolving fund.

The loan guaranty and insurance fund will be used to guarantee not more than 90 percent of any one loan or 15 percent of aggregate loans made by one lender. Direct loans will be made from the revolving fund to Indians who cannot obtain commercial loans either with or without a guaranty.

Economic development of Indians has been impeded by lack of free access to the private financial and credit markets of the Nation and by limitations placed upon Indians which prevent them from managing their land and resources. This bill will enable Indians to enter the money markets of the Nation to secure the capital so essential to individual and community development.

The bill also authorizes the issuance of Federal corporate charters to Indian tribes or groups of Indians in order to give them modern organizational forms needed to promote economic development. It places Indian tribes on par with State and local governments with respect to financing governmental affairs through tax exempt bonds. And it provides for the assumption of increasing management responsibilities by the Indians.

Important as this bill is to economic development, it offers even greater potential gains in the field of social growth. The opportunity to accept on a graduated basis, as effective management skills are available, more responsibility for decision making concerning Indian trust assets will provide great impetus and opportunity for Indians to utilize their initiative and enterprise.

The bill authorizes the Secretary of the Interior, through an Indian Development Loan Authority, or otherwise, to

- (1) Encourage the development of industrial, commercial and agricultural enterprises on or near Indian reservations;
- (2) Promote Indian ownership and management of such enterprises; and
- (3) Provide the best economic use of Indian-owned property and financial resources.

This program will include, among other things:

- (1) The preparation of reservation profiles for industrial development.
- (2) Grants for economic surveys and project feasibility studies.
- (3) Guarantee or insurance of private loans to Indians or Indian organizations if such loans are not otherwise available.
- (4) Direct loans to Indians or Indian organizations if private loans are not available.
- (5) Interest subsidies when needed to stimulate loans for industrial development.
- (6) Leadership and management training for directors, officers and managers of Indian enterprises.
- (7) Research, undertaken either directly or by contract.
- (8) Technical assistance.
- (9) Advice regarding the issuance of tribal tax-exempt bonds or obligations for purposes related to the governmental affairs or operation of the tribe.
- (10) Advice on use of tribal funds.
- (11) Advice on proposals to provide Indians greater latitude in the management of their property and financial resources.
- (12) Advice regarding proposals and requests to reduce multiple-ownership of property by petition and sale.
- (13) Advice on charters for tribal corporations and operations.

Loans under this bill must bear "reasonable" interest rates to be determined by the Secretary of the Interior taking into account the range of interest rates prevailing in the private market for similar loans and risks. Whenever the Secretary determines the rate of interest would require a level of interest payments by the borrower that would impair the prospects for successful economic development or other primary purposes of the loan, he may agree with the borrower to pay from the fund up to 25 percent of the interest payments. Loans under the bill require evidence that financing is not otherwise available on reasonable terms and conditions and that there is reasonable assurance of repayment.

Loans will be available for educational purposes, also, with no interest while the borrower is in school or in the military service.

A little more than a year ago I met in Santa Fe with a group of people representing leadership in Indian tribes and organizations, the Congress, the Bureau of Indian Affairs and this Department to plan new directions in Indian affairs that might better solve the pressing problems still faced by our Indian citizens. We established a number of priority undertakings in those four days, including the elimination of some of the restrictions that have hindered the development of Indian resources and Indian initiative. I think this bill will accomplish that important purpose.

This bill has been under consideration for many months. It is the first piece of major Indian legislation to be drafted after full consultation with Indian leaders. It is apparent that Indian leadership today is confident of its ability to deal with the challenges of modern society if it has the tools to do the job.

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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
For Release to PMs May 22, 1967

Wilson --343-9431

INTERIOR SUPPORTS THREE INDIAN BILLS NOW BEFORE CONGRESS

The Department of the Interior has recommended enactment of three bills affecting Indians now before Congress. One bill would increase the appropriation authorization for Indian adult vocational education programs and the other two would permit tribes to issue long-term land leases for industrial and commercial development of reservation properties.

In recommending passage of a bill which would increase the vocational training appropriation authorization from \$15 million to \$20 million annually, the Department suggested an amendment bringing the authorization to \$25 million to meet an anticipated heavier demand for these services.

The Department noted a steadily increasing use of vocational training among young Indians. In Fiscal 1966, more than 5,000 heads of families or single persons received institutional vocational training and an additional 1,652 Indians were placed in on-the-job training, the Department said.

By Fiscal 1969, the Department estimated, most of the 5,400 Indian students graduating from high school that year and an undetermined number of drop-outs will need vocational training if they are to compete successfully for jobs. The expected increase in demand, together with increased opportunities for on-the-job training, because of increased industrial activity on or near reservations, will require an increase in funds, the Department said.

The two leasing bills would affect the Hualapai Reservation in northwest Arizona and the San Carlos Apache Reservation in the south-eastern part of that The Department said that both reservations possess lands suitable for extensive tourist and recreational development and that the San Carlos Tribe has received several proposals for industrial projects.

The lack of authority to enter into property leases for longer than 50 years has discouraged lending institutions and developers in both areas, the Department said. Authority to offer leases up to 99 years has already been extended by special legislation to nine reservations with beneficial results, the Department noted, and would have the same affect for the two Arizona tribes, making possible maximum use of tribal land resources and increased employment for tribal members.

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

FEATURE MATERIAL

For Release June 8, 1967

JOB CORPS VOLUNTEERS COMPILE IMPRESSIVE RECORD AS EMERGENCY WORKERS

For the second time in two weeks, an alarm signaling a forest fire out of control was sounded at 4 p.m. on Thursday, May 4, at the Department of the Interior's Job Corps Conservation Center at Eight Canyon, New Mexico, in the rugged Sacramento Mountains near Cloudcroft.

Fifty-four Job Corpsmen and five staff members were among the first to arrive on the fire line. It was a bad one, burning through stands of Ponderosa pine at elevations ranging from 6,000 to 10,000 feet in three locations, and whipped by winds up to 50 miles per hour.

By 24 hours later the Job Corpsmen had the blaze under control, but it had been a battle, and they showed it. They had used everything from hand shovels and axes to chain saws and heavy equipment to isolate the fires from more forest growth. In all, some 1,800 acres of timber land burned, but far more than that would have been consumed had they not been on the job.

Only a little more than half the corpsmen at the center, maintained by the Interior Department's Bureau of Indian Affairs, had been trained in fire suppression. The others, lacking any training, volunteered anyway. None of them expected or received any extra compensation for their efforts, although the going rate for firefighters in similar situations is \$5 an hour.

It was all in the day's work to them--just as it was when another kind of emergency struck at Interior Job Corps center at the other end of the country, on Cape Cod in Massachusetts on April 16.

Floating crude oil, possibly from a sunken World War II freighter, began washing ashore on the beach a few hundred yards from the Wellfleet Job Corps Conservation Center maintained by Interior's National Park Service. While state officials developed plans for action, the Wellfleet corpsmen decided to do something immediately about the nearly helpless, oil-covered sea birds that were fighting their way ashore through the mess, unable to fly.

Under the direction of National Park Service rangers and officials of the Audubon Society, corpsmen from the camp combed 28 miles of beach during the first three days of the crisis, picking up the birds and carefully carrying them back to the Wellfleet center, where they were washed, dried and given a chance to recover. Rescue work continued for weeks in this operation.

In Lusk, Wyoming, on April 30, a bus load of Job Corpsmen from the Casper Job Corps Conservation Center, operated by the Bureau of Reclamation, found themselves stranded in a blizzard that swept the region. With time on their hands, they volunteered to clear the snow from hospital entrances and other public buildings. The mayor and other city officials were so pleased that they wrote a special letter commending the corpsmen for their thoughtfulness, leadership and initiative.

These were only a few recent instances of voluntary response by Job Corpsmen, Interior officials said. They have turned out at all hours and in all kinds of weather to search for lost children, clean up debris from floods and tornadoes, and help their neighbors in other kinds of emergencies. In the nine months from July 1, 1966, to March 31, 1967, Job Corpsmen from Interior camps took part in suppression of 38 forest and brush fires, 15 rescue missions, four flood disasters, one tornado and two major crop harvest crises.

This was in addition to their conservation work program, which is estimated to have accomplished \$7 million worth of needed conservation work near Interior-operated Job Corps centers across the Nation during the same nine month period. That figure represents nearly half the cost of running their 38 centers. The overall total includes the cost of training the 6,000 corpsmen in skills to make them more productive members of society, Interior officials said.

The regular conservation work done by Job Corps enrollees includes developing hiking and riding trails, building roads, recreation areas and related facilities, beautification, erosion control and other improvements for natural resources protection and development.

Nor is all the volunteer work done by Interior's Job Corpsmen limited to emergencies. During 1966, corpsmen at the Ottawa Job Corps Conservation Center, Port Clinton, Ohio, organized a "Volunteers for Ottawa" group at the center to perform community services. Clean-up drives in other areas were helped by corpsmen from centers at Harpers Ferry, West Virginia; Toyon (at Redding, California); and Lewiston, California. Special Christmas projects to benefit the needy were undertaken by Job Corps volunteers at Castle Valley (Price, Utah); Collbran, Colorado; and Weber Basin (Ogden, Utah). At the Fort Vannoy Job Corps Conservation Center near Grants Pass, Oregon, corpsmen donated a weekend to preparing a Girl Scout campsite.