

June 18, 1993
10:00 a.m.

Meeting with Secretary Bruce Rabbitt

**IDENTIFYING ISSUES, SETTING PRIORITIES, AND
BUILDING AN EFFECTIVE INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONSHIP**

Discussion Points

- Setting a date within the next 60 days for a one-day Tribal Leaders Forum (similar to the regional and national forums with Senator Daniel K. Inouye) in which the Secretary and key Interior senior staff would meet personally with tribal leaders to discuss major issues and to set priorities in Indian policy.
- Working with tribal leaders after the Tribal Leader Forum to develop a bold major policy address on Indian issues (to be delivered in the fall).
- Engaging an expert on Indian policy issues to serve in the Office of the Secretary as a personal advisor on Indian policy matters.
- UPDATE: White House Meeting for Tribal Leaders and the President and the issuance of a Clinton Administration policy statement on Tribal-Federal Government-to-Government Relations.

Richard Trudell
Executive Director
American Indian Resources Institute

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"Dick Trudell"

Announcing
A Tribal Leaders Forum On
**BUILDING SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES, ECONOMIES,
AND ECOSYSTEMS IN INDIAN COUNTRY**
"Redefining the Role of the Department of the Interior"

Date:
July 10, 1993

Location:
The Westin Hotel, Tabor Center
1672 Lawrence Street
Denver, Colorado
(303) 572-9100

Hosted By:
AMERICAN INDIAN RESOURCES INSTITUTE
NATIVE AMERICAN RIGHTS FUND

Tribal leaders now have their first opportunity in a generation to work with an administration determined to enhance tribal sovereignty, fulfill the trust relationship, and protect Indian culture and religion. Perhaps the Clinton Administration's clearest signal of commitment to these goals is the appointment of Bruce Babbitt, a strong Indian advocate, as Secretary of the Interior. More than at any time in history, Indian people have access to all levels of the Interior Department and to the Secretary himself. The transition process, however, has been difficult in many ways. While a number of important issues, including gaming and the budget, have been actively addressed and Secretary Babbitt's office has been responsive to requests by individual tribes, appointments have moved slowly. No comprehensive Indian program has been announced.

Although the Administration is now at a point where it can begin to move into high gear with respect to Indian policy, it is the tribes themselves who must take the initiative. While Congress and the Administration have important roles, the central reality of modern federal-tribal policy is that decisions must be made in Indian Country: the tribes must set priorities and carry them out. Accordingly, the July 10th *Tribal Leaders Forum* will give tribal leaders a full day with Secretary Babbitt to brief him, set priorities, and formulate a course of action. The format will be the same as with many Tribal Leaders Forums, held over the last three years with Senator Inouye, Senator McCain, and Congressman Miller, that have been so useful in helping to set tribal priorities in Congress. As in the past, the program has been designed to give maximum opportunities for tribal leaders to articulate their objectives and their proposals for accomplishing them. One item of business for this forum will be to develop approaches for regularizing communications so that in the future there will be a new and effective working relationship between Indian Country and the Interior Department with respect to the many common issues that are so critical to the sovereignty, cultures, lands, and waters of America's Indian tribes.

SATURDAY, July 10

8:30 a.m. **INVOCATION** (*Continental Ballroom*)

Richard Trudell, *Executive Director, American Indian Resources Institute*
John E. Echohawk, *Executive Director, Native American Rights Fund*

9:15 a.m. PERSPECTIVES ON ISSUES AND CHALLENGES

11:00 a.m. OPEN DIALOGUE

12:00 noon LUNCHEON

1:00 p.m. ADDRESS: Hon. Daniel K. Inouye, *Chairman*
U.S. Senate Committee on Indian Affairs

1:30 p.m. OPEN DIALOGUE: SETTING PRIORITIES AND FORMULATING A COURSE OF ACTION

In order to improve the quality of life in Indian Country, to strengthen tribal governing capabilities, to protect tribal homelands, and to enhance federal-tribal intergovernmental relations, including building a productive relationship with the Department of the Interior, it is imperative that tribal leaders be united. This session will identify priorities and essential steps to moving forward from a united position and to insuring that Indian Country is informed about, participates in shaping, and is in favor of future Interior policy initiatives.

4:00 p.m. CONCLUDING REMARKS/CLOSING PRAYER/ADJOURN

4:30 p.m. FORUM RECEPTION

Hosted By:

NATIVE AMERICAN RIGHTS FUND
COUNCIL OF ENERGY RESOURCE TRIBES

GENERAL INFORMATION

REGISTRATION FEE: Registration is limited. The registration fee, which includes refreshments, Forum materials, a luncheon and a reception, is \$50 per participant. Registration may be phoned in, FAXed, or mailed in advance. To facilitate planning for the Forum, please register as soon as possible.

FORUM LOCATION & LODGING ACCOMMODATIONS: The Forum will be held at the Westin Hotel, Tabor Center, 1672 Lawrence St., Denver, CO; phone: (303) 572-9100 or (800) 228-3000. Participants are responsible for their own lodging and must make their own reservations. A block of rooms has been reserved at the Westin Hotel, Tabor Center; these rooms will be made available on a first come, first served basis. The room rate is \$68.75 for single, or \$88.75 for double, occupancy. When making your reservation, please let the hotel know that you will be attending the Forum being conducted by the American Indian Resources Institute. Participants are encouraged to make their hotel reservations as soon as possible.

FURTHER INFORMATION: For further information, please contact either the American Indian Resources Institute by phone, at (510) 834-9333, or by FAX, at (510) 834-3836; or the Native American Rights Fund by phone, at (303) 447-8760, or by FAX, at (303) 443-7776.

REGISTRATION FORM — DENVER TRIBAL LEADERS FORUM (7/93)

Name(s) _____ Position _____

Tribe/Organization _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ FAX _____

REGISTRATION FEE: \$50/person Number of Persons _____

Payment Enclosed \$ _____

(Make check payable to: AILTP—Denver Tribal Leaders Forum (7/93)).

Mail To: AILTP/American Indian Resources Institute, 319 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland, CA 94610.

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