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United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

August 15, 1974

MEMORANDUM TO NORMAN ROSS, THE WHITE HOUSE

From: Under Secretary

Subject: Proposed Meetings with President Ford

Per our conversation of yesterday, I am listing below two suggested meetings with President Ford.

INDIANS

At Tab A is a memorandum from Morris Thompson recommending that President Ford issue a policy statement generally reaffirming the Nixon Administration's policy on Indian affairs as outlined in the "Message to Congress of July 8, 1970."

A meeting could be arranged to provide the forum for President Ford to enunciate such a policy. I would suggest that, besides President Ford, Secretary Morton and Commissioner Thompson, the following people be invited as representatives of the Indian community:

National Tribal Chairmans Association (NTCA)
Robert Lewis, President
William Youpee, Executive Director

National Congress of American Indians (NCAI)
Milford Tonasket, President
Charles Trimble, Executive Director

American Indian Press Association
Richard LaCourse, News Director

If a broader representation is desired, the presidents of the following organizations should be considered:



Let's Clean Up America For Our 200th Birthday



Coalition of Eastern Native Americans

North American Indian Womens Association

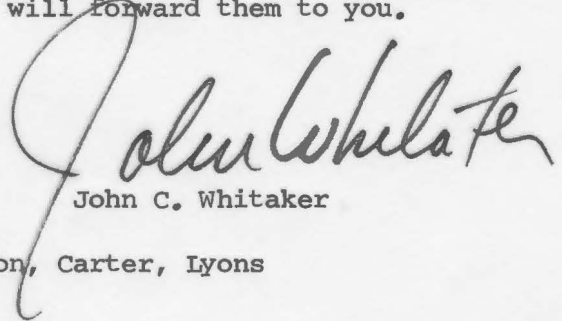
MATERIALS/COMMODITIES SHORTAGES

At Tab B is a proposal prepared by Jack Carlson. As you will note, it suggests a three-tier approach, beginning in September with the release of the Interagency Study of Critically Imported Commodities followed by a discussion by President Ford between September 15-30 on the extent of shortages and suggested policy changes to help, and ending with the suggestion that President Ford address the American Mining Congress in October.

If any of the above suggestions looks interesting to you and you need more details at this time, please give Bill Lyons a call.

I have also asked Jared Carter to develop a proposal for consideration for a meeting with President Ford and the Governors from the Atlantic Coast, California and Alaska on OCS leasing in those frontier areas.

If any other ideas for possible meetings and/or events involving President Ford should come up, Bill will forward them to you.


John C. Whitaker

Enclosures

cc: Messrs. Herge, Carlson, Thompson, Carter, Lyons



A



(A)



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20242

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Memorandum

August 12, 1974

To: Secretary

From: Commissioner of Indian Affairs

Subject: President Ford's Policy on Indian Affairs

I am sure you are aware that the Nixon Administration's policy on Indian Affairs, as outlined in the "Message to Congress of July 8, 1970", was hailed by the Indian community as one of the most direct and thoughtful policies ever stated by a President. Many Indian people strongly support that policy and its supporting legislation, as has this Department.

In order to insure a smooth transition between the far-reaching statement of 1970 and President Ford's Administration of Indian Affairs, I would highly recommend that he issue a policy statement generally aligning his administration of Indian Affairs with that of former President Nixon.

Attached is a recommended statement for the President to make. Also attached are some American Indian Press Association news releases that will give you some idea of how the Indian community views President Ford.

Morris Thompson

Attachments



D R A F T # 1

STATEMENT BY PRESIDENT GERALD FORD ON INDIAN AFFAIRS:

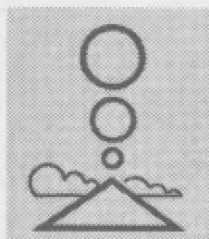
One of the greatest legacies of the Nixon Administration will be its record in Indian Affairs. Beginning with the great policy of "self-determination without termination" enunciated in the "Message to Congress of July 8, 1970", down to the May 1974 statement in support of the return of land to the Havasupai Tribe of Arizona, former President Nixon's record has been unmatched in the history of Indian Affairs.

I want to assure the Indian community that I intend to continue these efforts. Giving Indian tribes greater control over their own destinies and the amelioration of past injustices done to our first Americans are policies my administration can gladly endorse.

I am asking Secretary of the Interior, Rogers C. B. Morton, and his Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Morris Thompson, as well as other heads of agencies working in the field of Indian Affairs, to push forward to the fulfillment of these great goals.



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Executive Director: *Rose Robinson*
News Director: *Richard LaCourse*

FORD - AU122

BY RICHARD LA COURSE

WASHINGTON, D.C.--(AIPA)--Gerald Rudolph Ford Jr., who on Aug. 9 was sworn in as President of the United States, "won't take any U-turns for any Indian policies" but will continue the Indian policies of his predecessor, Richard M. Nixon, according to a White House staffer who met recently with him.

Bradley Patterson Jr., who met with Ford in February of this year on Indian policy matters personally, gave this assessment to AIPA:

"He is forthright and interested and progressive in Indian affairs. Indian people can look forward under Mr. Ford to the same kind--and more of the same kind--of serious interest and concern. There's no question of any diversion. We'll continue on the same track. There won't be any U-turn for any Indian policies."

* If President Ford's Indian policies do continue those of Nixon, there will nevertheless be new faces and new top level personnel in the White House itself. AIPA has learned that Leonard Garment, Nixon's special counsel on minority affairs and the arts, and thus the topmost Indian affairs official in the White House under Nixon, had made known his intention to Nixon that he would leave the White House as soon as impeachment matters had reached their conclusion so that his children could begin the fall school term in September in their home town of New York.

Expected to emerge in some high level capacity at the White House level in Indian affairs was William E. Casselman II, named legal council to then-Vice President Ford when Ford was designated Vice President last October. Casselman has handled, almost singlehandedly, all Indian affairs matters for Ford since that time, including a proposal to replace the mechanisms of the now-defunct National Council on Indian Opportunity (NCIO) with an Indian Affairs Committee on the White House Domestic Council in the White House, and with the creation of two national Indian advisory councils.

On the day Nixon resigned, Aug. 9, Ford asked Morton and other Cabinet officials to remain in their present posts. Morton, however, a long-time close personal friend of Ford, was named the following day to a four-member "transition team" to monitor what Ford labelled "an orderly transition of power." Top national columnists immediately speculated that Morton might leave the Interior Department for a White House assignment, either as White House chief of staff or in another top role in domestic affairs. Should Morton leave Interior, he would likely be succeeded by Interior Under Secretary John Whitaker.

Morton was scheduled to appear at the Crow Fair Aug. 16 and 17, where it was expected he would draw the major outlines of a continuation in Indian policy between Nixon and Ford.

At Interior itself, most top Indian affairs officials told AIPA they expected to continue their work. Indian Commissioner Morris Thompson, a presidential appointee, was also expected to continue, as well as BIA division chiefs recently appointed.

MORE



One uncertainty was whether Bradley Patterson Jr. would continue in the White House, where he had served as special assistant to Leonard Garment. Patterson had been scheduled to head the Indian Affairs Committee on the White House Domestic Council before the impeachment issue drowned all such plans in the making, and Patterson told AIPA "I'm completely unclear where I'll be." Either Patterson or Casselman might eventually hold that post--or Casselman may replace Garment as Patterson's boss.

Besides personnel questions, the major question now is whether and how Ford will continue the Nixon Indian policies and legislative initiatives.

Ford remained almost totally uninvolved in the affairs and needs of Indians in his home state of Michigan during his 25-year tenure in the U.S. House of Representatives, according to Michigan Indian spokesmen who talked to AIPA last October when Ford was designated Vice President following the resignation of former Vice President Spiro T. Agnew on Oct. 10. Those Indians in Michigan telegraphed Ford their congratulations and support on his new assignment.

Ford, according to Capitol Hill staffers, has voted the Nixon administration line on most major national Indian legislative proposals since 1969. As a consequence, it is expected that Ford will continue the Nixon legislative initiatives. Of the original eight Nixon bills originally proposed in 1970, one--the Indian Financing Act--has been enacted into law, another bill to elevate the Indian Commissioner to an Interior Department Assistant Secretary is hung up in the House, and a bill to create an Indian Trust Counsel Authority is expected to gain new momentum before Congress recesses in early winter.

Among the very first Indian bills arriving on President Ford's desk for signature may be bills now moving through Congress to resolve the historic and difficult Navajo-Hopi land dispute, a bill significantly increasing health services and contracting for Indians sponsored by Sen. Henry M. Jackson, D-Wash., and the bill to create the Indian Trust Counsel Authority introduced by the Nixon administration.

And Ford has styled himself a "conservative in fiscal affairs." His approach to government may soon be an approach in spending cuts, which will not bode well for any major increases in federal expenditures for Indians during the new Ford administration.

During his brief eight months as Vice President, Ford met only once with Indian leaders--this past Mar. 7. Mel Tonasket (Colville), president of the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) and Gov. Robert Lewis (Zuni), president of the National Tribal Chairmen's Association (NTCA) met with Ford personally at Ford's initiative for about 40 minutes to review Ford's proposal to liquidate NCIO, then under the office of the Vice President. NCIO formally died this June 30.

Ford proposed the creation of the White House Domestic Council Indian Affairs Committee and the creation of the two national Indian advisory councils to replace NCIO. His proposal became embroiled in controversies among national Indian political groups, and was left unresolved at the hour of impeachment itself. He may, upon the stimulus of his new advisors, revive the proposal.

MORE



During the Mar. 7 meeting with Lewis and Tonasket, Ford told the two: "I will always be your advocate. Come in any time and I'll be your link."

NCAI President Tonasket commented on Ford to AIPA following that meeting:

"The Vice President is very much a businessman--he never took time to joke. I've met quite a few politicians, and my personal impression is that he's kind of a point-blank man. He doesn't mess around. He comes right to the point with a straightforward attitude. And he made no pretense of knowing a great deal about Indians. I appreciate that--and it makes it easier to work. There was no waste of time. It was all business, and that is refreshing."

On Aug. 9, the day Ford took the presidential oath of office, William Youpee, executive director of the National Tribal Chairmen's Association sent the following letter to Ford:

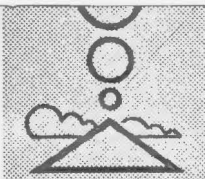
"We wish to congratulate you in assuming the responsibility of the 38th presidency of the United States.

"We in the National Tribal Chairmen's Association feel these are exciting but critical times for Indians in the United States. Treaties are being tested, Indian lives are being exerted and new expectations are being voiced. To be responsive to this mood, the NTCA has dedicated itself to the promise of a better future for the reservation Indian.

"It is to the point, the one of communication and working toward common objectives, that the NTCA pledges its support and cooperation to the Office of the Presidency in matters related to Indians."



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RESIGN - NV291

12/4/73

WASHINGTON, D.C.--(AIPA)--What effect would the resignation of President Richard M. Nixon over the continuing Watergate scandal have on the overall picture of Indian affairs?

To determine what might be lost and what might continue without Nixon--and with Vice President-designate Gerald Ford in his place--it is first necessary to determine the character of the Nixon administration and Indians.

Even Nixon's critics concede that his administration beginning in 1969 has been one of the most active in Indian affairs since that of the "Indian New Deal" under Democratic President Franklin D. Roosevelt in the 1930s and 1940s. Some of the most vocal Nixon critics, both inside and outside the Indian field, give Nixon high marks for his efforts in the Indian field and his Indian policy enunciated in 1970.

That policy was stated as "Indian self-determination without termination" and meant essentially giving federally recognized tribes greater control over their existence without ending the federal recognition.

To support that policy, Nixon proposed to Congress eight pieces of legislation what are in various stages of enactment there. In addition, under the Nixon aegis two total tribal takeovers of federal administration--that of the Miccosukee Tribe in Florida and the Zuni Tribe in New Mexico--have come to pass, as well as other tribal partial takeovers of some programs on a number of reservations to the extent that current law permits by contracting.

Building on precedents set in previous administrations, the Nixon administration has increased the number of Indians holding high-level positions across the federal bureaucracy.

Indian issues such as land returns, taxation of Indian trust incomes, Indian militancy and the like have received firsthand attention from key White House staff, including at times the attention of the President himself.

The federal Indian budget has increased dramatically since 1969 under the Nixon administration, although perhaps not as dramatically as some Nixon administration officials would like to have Indians believe.

In the event of a Nixon resignation, Nixon-named Vice President-designate Gerald Ford would assume the duties of President. And the question for Indians then becomes: Will Ford continue the Nixon Indian initiatives upon assuming the presidency?

Although Ford remained almost totally uninvolved in the affairs and needs of Indians in his home state of Michigan during his 25-year tenure in the U.S. House of Representatives, according to Michigan Indian spokesmen, Ford did vote the Nixon administration line on most major national Indian legislative proposals. As a consequence, it is expected that Ford would continue the Nixon initiatives in the Indian legislative field.

MORE

Even if Ford should not actively pursue the Nixon legislative initiatives, most observers here believe that the proposed Nixon Indian legislation in some version would continue to be processed in Congress in its second session because of the support there for the basic concepts contained in the Nixon policy.

What is least expected by Washington observers is that Ford would actively oppose the Nixon initiatives in Indian affairs. If he were to do so, that would of course make passage of the Nixon legislation or any version thereof impossible, and also other aspects of the Nixon administration's relationships to Indian affairs. That might in the event also mean the end to the tenure of Morris Thompson as Indian Commissioner, since his position is a presidential appointment and subject to a change in Presidents.

A Ford presidency would almost surely mean the exit of Presidential Counsel Leonard Garment and Garment's special assistant for Indian affairs, Bradley F. Patterson Jr., from the White House. These two working closely with former domestic affairs Counsellor John D. Ehrlichman and after Ehrlichman's resignation with his successor Melvin Laird. Now Laird will soon be leaving the White House, and it is known throughout Washington that Garment wants to leave the White House as soon as he can gracefully once he completes his role as the President's lawyer in the Watergate entanglements. Garment's eventual departure would leave Patterson's future in jeopardy as far as his work in Indian affairs is concerned. Amid all this is the customary eventual turnover of top White House aides with an incoming President.

On budget matters, Ford is a self-styled "conservative on fiscal affairs." This might sound ominous as far as any major increases in federal expenditures for Indians are concerned during a Ford administration.

One of the Nixon initiatives most opposed by the national Indian community over the past two years has been the "regionalization" of federal services provided to Indians. Whether or not this process of decentralizing the federal establishment would continue under Ford would depend on how Ford would view his mandate.

If Ford decided he was obligated to pursue the policies of the man who had lifted him to high offices, Indians could look forward to a continuing push for regionalization. If Ford viewed himself as only a "caretaker" President until 1976, then yet unimplemented Nixon policies might well die aborning. Finally, Ford might decide his mandate to govern was such that he could pursue his own course of action. With a Ford clearly in America's future, he might decide he has a better idea. In that event, anything could happen.

Resignation from office by President Nixon would be one thing--it is clean, swift and final. Impeachment of the President is another matter altogether--messy, drawn out and indeterminable. Observers here believe that an impeachment of the President by the U.S. House of Representatives and a trial by the U.S. Senate would take at least a year.

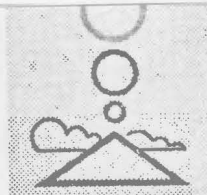
During that time, the world might not stop turning until a verdict was reached, but any kind of forward progress in Indian affairs would stop.



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FORD - MR111



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BY RICHARD LA COURSE

3-14-

WASHINGTON, D.C.--(AIPA)--The current functions of the National Council on Indian Opportunity (NCIO) may be terminated by June 30, according to a proposal made by Vice President Gerald Ford here Mar. 7 to two Indian leaders, and its functions distributed among the White House Domestic Council, a new federally recognized Indian advisory council, and an urban-rural Indian advisory council.

Vice President Ford presented his proposal to Gov. Robert Lewis (Zuni), top-ranking Indian member of NCIO and president of the National Tribal Chairmen's Association (NTCA) and Mel Tonasket (Colville), president of the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) in his first meeting with Indian leaders since his selection as Vice President last October. The Vice President is the chairman of NCIO.

Key features of the Ford proposal for the transformation of NCIO were these:

--Liquidation of NCIO in its current form by June 30, end of the fiscal year;

--Establishment of a Committee on Indian Affairs within the White House Domestic Council, utilizing permanently six Cabinet Departments and one agency, with the option of the use of other departments and agencies as needed;

--Establishment by presidential executive order of a national Indian Leadership Advisory Council for Federally Recognized Indians consisting of 20 Indians appointed annually by the President;

--Creation of an Advisory Council for Urban-Rural Indian Affairs by secretarial order of the Secretary of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW).

Both NTCA and NCAI pledged written responses and evaluations of the Vice President's proposal by early April. The current authorization for NCIO expires this June 30, although the new federal budget asks an annual appropriation of \$300,000 for the annual operating costs of NCIO.

In the two-page Ford proposal the substitutions for NCIO would go like this:

DOMESTIC COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS: A new committee in the present Domestic Council in the White House would be created--the Committee on Indian Affairs--which would be co-chaired by the Secretary of the Interior and Secretary of HEW.

Of the Domestic Council overall, the President is chairman, and the Vice President is vice chairman. Director of the Domestic Council is Kenneth Cole, who is responsible for the operation of a number of current committees within the Domestic Council.

Membership on the Indian Committee would include Interior, HEW, Housing and Urban Development, Labor, Justice, Agriculture and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). Used occasionally would be Commerce, Economic Development Administration, Office of Minority Business Enterprise, Transportation, Small Business Administration, General Services Administration and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

MORE



The Committee on Indian Affairs will have a staff director. AIPA sources indicate Bradley Patterson Jr., minority affairs assistant to Leonard Garment, has been offered that position and has accepted it. Staffing for the committee itself would be provided through the regular procedures of the Domestic Council.

INDIAN LEADERSHIP ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED INDIANS: Annual membership of 21 individuals would include 12 "elected tribal officials," one from each of the 12 areas of the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) who have been selected by area-wide Indian consultative groups. These 12 individuals could be tribal chairmen or tribal presidents, a member of a tribal council, a tribal program officer or any other person who had come by his or her position through the elective process. Overall, this would constitute a self-selection process by Indian people themselves.

The next four Indian members who would become automatic members of this council would be the incumbent presidents and vice presidents of NTCA and NCAI, who themselves are elected annually by their respective organizations.

Five other Indians chosen at large by the President from among leaders and spokesmen for federally recognized Indians would bring the full number up to 21. The Ford proposal would retain the five present Indian members of NCIO on the new council until their terms expire on Aug. 31, 1975. These individuals are currently:

Irene Cuch (Ute), Ft. Duchesne, Utah; Neal A. McCaleb (Chickasaw), Edmond, Okla.; Chairman Paul J. Smith (Salt River), Scottsdale, Ariz.; Chairman William Buffalo Tiger (Miccossukee), Hialeah, Fla.; and Webster A. Two Hawk (Rosebud Sioux), White River, S.D.

This council would elect its own chairman. The BIA and HEW would provide staff assistance on request, as well as travel and per diem expenses for meetings to be held at the determination of Indians with any and all parts of the federal bureaucracy. The 21-member Indian council could be elected and ready to work by midsummer.

This council would become a representative voice for the approximately 530,000 federally recognized Indians in the United States who are served by the federal government under the requirements of the trust responsibility in its current interpretation.

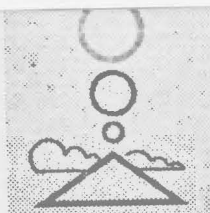
URBAN-RURAL INDIAN ADVISORY COUNCIL: A number of Indian members specified by the Secretary of HEW and appointed by him to a term of one year would be members of the council from among urban, rural, landless and other Indian groups "who have demonstrated experience and knowledge concerning the problems of non-federally recognized Indian peoples."

This council would elect its own chairman, and staff assistants, per diem and travel allowances for federal business would be provided both by the BIA and HEW for attendance at meetings, according to the text of the Ford proposal.

Assured of a place on this council is A. David Lester, current urban Indian member on NCIO, who would remain on the new council until his term expires this Aug. 31. Other members on this council would serve in staggered terms. This council would become a representative voice for about 350,000 urban, rural, landless and other non-federal Indian groupings country-wide, including Indian tribes east of the Mississippi, terminated tribes in California and elsewhere, landless tribes across the whole of the nation, and Indians in the cities which have presently over 80 Indian centers in existence.



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INVITE - MR112
(WITH FORD)

WASHINGTON, D.C.--(AIPA)--What is the setting and what transpires when two Indian leaders meet the Vice President of the United States on business in his office at his invitation?

A glimpse into that world was afforded when Mel Tonasket, president of the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) and Gov. Robert Lewis, president of the National Tribal Chairmen's Association (NTCA) met with Vice President Gerald Ford here Mar. 7 in the Vice President's offices.

Neither of the two Indian leaders had requested the meeting. They were both invited by a memorandum signed by Robert Robertson, executive director of the National Council on Indian Opportunity (NCIO) in the Vice President's Office the day of the meeting itself. There was no mention in the memo of a specific topic of discussion. Both were asked to be about 15 minutes early for the session, set at 4:15 p.m., Thursday, Mar. 7.

Tonasket, whose hair falls over his shoulders, arrived in a vest studded with silver conchos, boots, brown slacks, and a lavender shirt with a bone tie and shell necklace. Gov. Lewis wore a dark suit with a silver-and-turquoise tie.

For the half-hour meeting, both passed "a good looking receptionist" who directed them into Ford's vice presidential office on the second floor of the Old Executive Office Building immediately alongside the White House. As they entered Ford's office the Ambassador of Indian was leaving Ford's quarters. The two were ushered into a conference room next to Ford's main office--a plush area with a gigantic table customary to most top Washington offices.

There they were introduced to the Vice President, who wore a light grey pinstripe suit with a flowered tie, shook hands and sat themselves at the table. William E. Casselman II, legal counsel to the Vice President and the fourth party at the meeting, handed them a set of papers with the business at hand--the Vice President's proposals to abolish the National Council on Indian Opportunity (NCIO) and to set up some other things in its place.

"He came right to the point," said Tonasket. "He apologized for taking so long in making any moves on NCIO. 'I have more obligations today than my predecessor, and I'll have to be honest with you--I can't do this (attending to the Indian matters of NCIO) day after day,' he said."

Then Casselman explained briefly the contents of the proposal. Immediately Ford asked: "What do you think about it? I want your impressions and opinions."

Ford made it perfectly clear that NCIO would be phased out by June 30. Ford also asked for a reaction on the proposal from the two organizations by the following night, Friday, including an appraisal and recommendations. Ford said his proposal would be 'easy to get through the machinery on the Hill with Indian recommendations and support.'

MORE

The Ford proposal included the creation of a new Committee on Indian Affairs within the Domestic Council of the White House itself, to be co-chaired by Interior Secretary Rogers C.B. Morton and HEW Secretary Rogers C.B. Morton. As Vice President in the new proposal, Ford would be the Vice Chairman of the Domestic Council, over Morton and Weinberger.

this ought to keep the Secretary busy.

Ford told the two his commitment to the Indian people of America was genuine, and that he knew HEW Secretary Weinberger "very well--and what the board can't do, I will." Both Indian men reportedly chuckled that they had previously heard high words of promise and little delivery. To that Ford replied: "I will always be your advocate. Come in any time and I'll be your link."

At the conclusion of the brief session they again shook hands and departed.

Tonasket of NCAI offered this first-hand assessment of the Vice President:

"The Vice President is very much a businessman--he never took time to joke. I've met quite a few politicians, and my personal impression is that he's kind of a point-blank person. He doesn't mess around. He comes right to the point with a straightforward attitude. He made no pretense of knowing a great deal about Indians. I appreciate that--and it makes it easier to work. There was no waste of time, it was all business. That is refreshing."



B

B

PRESIDENTIAL ACTIVITIES CONCERNING CRITICAL MINERALS IN SHORT SUPPLY

Event #1: Release the Interagency Study of Critically Imported Commodities at a meeting of the principal agency heads most concerned -- Interior, State, Agriculture, Commerce, etc.

Result: allay some fears and doubts on policy issues to be addressed.

Event #2: President calls for a television public discussion, between September 15-30, on the extent of shortage and suggested policy changes to help (perhaps part of the Economic Issues, public discussion indicated in President's Monday night speech). Panel members could be selected from various affected groups as, for example, a list attached of academic and industry people.

Result: show leadership concern and flush out alternatives.

Event #3: President to address the Mining Congress' Annual Meeting, October 6-10, in Las Vegas, Nevada (15,000 attendees registered ahead; represents the mineral industry which tends to be moderate or conservative.

Result: show leadership.

Attachments



Large Panels

List of University Personnel from which ~~Committee~~ could be selected:

Dr. John E. Husted
Engineering Experiment Station
Georgia Institute of Technology
Atlanta, Georgia 30332

Dr. Frederick C. Kruger
Chairman, Department of Mineral
Engineering
Stanford University
Stanford, California 94305

Dr. Ted J. Planje
Dean, School of Mines
and Metallurgy
University of Missouri at Rolla
Rolla, Missouri 65401

Dr. Edward W. Lear
Dean, School of Engineering
University of Alabama
University, Alabama 35486

Dr. Fred J. Benson
Director, Texas A&M
Research Foundation
Texas A&M University
College Station, Texas 77843

Professor Ted D. Haley
Department of Civil Engineering
University of Kentucky
Lexington, Kentucky 40506

Dr. W. L. Fisher
Director, The University of Texas
at Austin
University Station, Box X
Austin, Texas 78712

Dr. Howard L. Hartman
Dean, School of Engineering
Vanderbilt University
Nashville, Tennessee 37203

Dr. J. Richard Lucas
Head, Division of Mineral Engineering
Virginia Polytechnic Institute
Blacksburg, Virginia 24061

Dr. Carl H. Nyman
Dean, The Graduate School
Washington State University
Pullman, Washington 99163

Dr. O. J. Whittemore, Jr.
Department of Mining, Metallurgical
and Ceramic Engineering
University of Washington
Seattle, Washington 98195

Dr. Jay Hilary Kelley
Dean, School of Mines
West Virginia University
Morgantown, West Virginia 26506

Dr. Robert Heine
Dept. of Metallurgical and
Mining Engineering
University of Wisconsin
Madison, Wisconsin 53706

Dr. Howard F. Silver
Dept. of Petroleum Engineering
University of Wyoming
Laramie, Wyoming 82070

Dr. John D. Ridge
Head, Dept. of Mineral Economics
104 Mineral Industries Building
The Pennsylvania State University
University Park, Pennsylvania 16802

Dr. J. L. Waling
Associate Dean, Graduate School
Purdue University
Lafayette, Indiana 47907

Dr. Carl F. Lutz
Dean of Engineering
South Dakota School of Mines
and Technology
Rapid City, South Dakota 57701

Dr. Ferron Olsen
Chairman, Department of Mining
Metallurgical and Fuels
Engineering
University of Utah
Salt Lake City, Utah 84112

Dr. Earl H. Beistline
Dean, College of Earth Sciences
and Mineral Industry
University of Alaska
College, Alaska 99701

Dr. William H. Drescher
Dean, College of Mines
University of Arizona
Tucson, Arizona 85721

Douglas Fuerstenau, Chairman
Dept. of Materials Science
and Engineering
The University of California
at Berkeley
Berkeley, California 94720

Dr. A. E. Schwartz
Dean of Graduate Studies
and University Research
Clemson University
Clemson, South Carolina 29631

Dr. Manelous D. Hassialis
Henry Krumb School of Mines
Columbia University
New York, New York 10027

Dr. Albert M. Keenan
Head, Dept. of Mining Engineering
Colorado School of Mines
Golden, Colorado 80401

Dr. Arthur A. Ezra
Head, Div. of Mechanical Sciences
and Environmental Engineering
University of Denver
Denver, Colorado 80210

J. R. Hoskins, Dean
College of Mines
University of Idaho
Moscow, Idaho 83843

Dr. Arthur L. Friedberg
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Dr. William R. Upthegrove
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larger panels
List of Industry Officials from which ~~Committee~~ could be selected:

J.B.M. Place
Charles F. Barber
Ian K. MacGregor
Frank R. Milliken
John D. Harper
Maier
R.S. Reynolds
Jaicks
E. B. Speer
H. S. Harrison
E. W. Littlefield
Nelson C. White
John Duncan
John Love
Edwin R. Phelps
John Corcoran
William Calhoun
Claude O. Stephens
John R. Kringel
Paul Henshaw
Gill Montgomery
L. J. Randall

Anaconda Co.
Asarco
Amax Inc.
Kennecott
Alcoa
Kaiser Al.
Reynolds Al.
Bethlehem Steel
U.S. Steel
Cleveland Cliffs
Utah International
International Minerals-Chemicals
St Joe Minerals
Ideal Basic Industries
Peabody Coal Co.
Consolidation Coal Co.
Day Mines Inc.
Texas Gulf Inc.
Lone Star Industries
Homestake Mining
Minerva Oil Co.
Hecla Mining





United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20242

IN REPLY REFER TO:

AUG 22 1974

Mr. Norman E. Ross, Jr.
Assistant Director, Domestic Council
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Norm:

In response to your request, the following proposal is offered for a Presidential meeting with Indian leaders.

Purpose: To assure the Indian community that President Ford's Indian policy will be a continuation of the policy of self-determination without termination and that Indian affairs will continue to receive priority attention under the Ford Administration.

Background: Former President Richard Nixon's message to Congress on Indian affairs of July 8, 1970 and its supportive legislative proposals was hailed as a great landmark in the history of Federal Indian policy and received widespread acclaim and acceptance in the Indian community.

The clear statement in the message that "Federal termination errs in one direction, Federal paternalism in another;" that a middle course between these two which would "assure the Indian that he can assume control of his own life without being separated involuntarily from the tribal group;" and "that Indians can become independent of Federal control without being cut off from Federal concern and Federal support" had two beneficial effects in the Indian community.

First, it permitted Indian tribes to get off their defensive concentration on fighting termination and allowed them to concentrate their time, money and efforts on more positive efforts.

Second, it gave the tribes for the first time in a long time a known framework within which to do some long range planning.

During the Nixon years, the Indian community also had the sense that their problems and concerns were receiving attention at the



highest levels of the Administration--that they were being listened to--proving to them that the message was not just empty rhetoric.

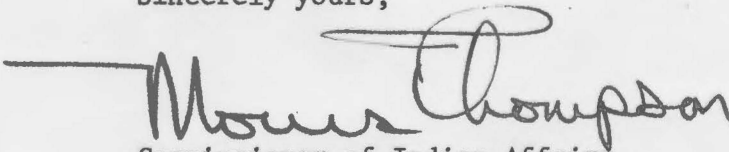
Participants: Governor Robert Lewis, President, National Tribal Chairman's Association (NTCA); William Youpee, Executive Director, NTCA; Mel Tonasket, President, National Congress of American Indians (NCAI); Charles Trimble, Executive Director, NCAI; Helen Attaquin, President, Coalition of Eastern Native Americans (CENA); W. J. Strickland, Co-executive Director, CENA; Richard La Course, News Director of the American Indian Press Association (I will assume the responsibility for notifying these people of the meeting, if you so desire); Rogers C. B. Morton, Secretary of the Interior; and myself.

Talking points: "I have asked for this meeting with you for several reasons: First, I want to assure you that my Administration will continue the Indian policy enunciated by former President Richard Nixon of July 8, 1970. Second, we will work closely with the Congress to see that the supportive legislation for that policy is enacted into law; specifically, to get the self-determination legislation out before Congress adjourns this year and, hopefully, the rest of the legislation before the end of next Congress.

"Third, through the creation of the Indian Affairs Committee of the Domestic Council, Indian affairs will continue to receive White House attention.

"Fourth, that my Administration will continue to consult with the Indian community before making major policy decisions. I look forward to working jointly with Secretary Morton, Commissioner Thompson, and yourselves to get the self-determination policy implemented and to seek out new policy initiatives so that my Administration of Indian affairs will be a positive and progressive one."

Sincerely yours,


Commissioner of Indian Affairs



Tom Ross

DRAFT

STATEMENT BY PRESIDENT GERALD FORD ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

I want to assure the Indian community that I intend to continue the policy of "self-determination without termination" begun in 1970 with former President Nixon's Special Message to Congress.

Giving Indian tribes greater control over their own destinies and the amelioration of past injustices done to our first Americans are policies that my administration will gladly endorse. The record of achievements and legacies over the past 5 1/2 years has been a great one.

Therefore, I am asking Secretary of the Interior, Rogers C. B. Morton, and his Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Morris Thompson, as well as other heads of agencies working in the field of Indian Affairs, to push forward to the fulfillment of the important goals that lay ahead.



SCHEDULE PROPOSAL

DATE: August 22, 1974

FROM: Frank Zarb

Via: Bill Casselman

MEETING:

President to issue policy statement reaffirming Nixon Administration policy on Indian affairs as outlined in 1970 special message. Have meeting with Indian leaders as forum for announcement.

DATE:

Third week of September.

PURPOSE:

To reassure Indian people of your support for the philosophy and goals of self-determination. This policy is considered by the majority of Indian people to be the single most effective statement in recognizing and developing Native American resources.

FORMAT:

- Oval Office
- 15 minutes

Meeting with representative group of Indian leaders and release of Presidential statement. Suggested attendees:

Secretary Morton
Secretary Weinberger
Commissioner Thompson
President Lewis and Executive
Director Youpee of National
Tribal Chairmen's Association
President Tonasket and Executive
Director Trimble of National
Congress of American Indians
Richard LaCourse of American
Indian Press Association
President Attaquin and Executive
Director Strickland of Coalition
of Eastern Native Americans

This attendance can be enlarged with additional Indian leaders and Federal Officials.



SPEECH MATERIAL:

- Generally reaffirm philosophy of self-determination for Indian people.
- Talking points will be prepared.

PRESS COVERAGE:

Release policy statement to all national news associations. Press photo opportunity in Oval Office.

STAFF:

Frank G. Zarb
Norm Ross

BACKGROUND:

There is concern among Indian leaders regarding continuation of the policy of "self-determination without termination" established in 1970. This proposed meeting and the release of the policy statement will alleviate the concern and anxiety expressed by the Indian community.

RECOMMEND:

Under Secretary Whitaker; Commissioner Morris Thompson; *Norm Ross / F. Zarb*

APPROVE _____

DISAPPROVE _____

