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Indian file - covered
Aug 27

AMERICAN INDIAN ACTIVITIES

Seneca Indians Harass Power Company

Meridith "Morning Dove" Quinn, the self-proclaimed "legal advisor" for a small group of dissident Indians on New York State's Cattaraugus Reservation near Buffalo, was recently featured on local TV-news while he burned some subpoenas on the steps of the State Supreme Court. Quinn announced that he did not recognize the authority of the State over the Seneca Nation of Indians, but that he would appear in court the next day as directed by the subpoenas.

The subpoenas were issued in a case by Niagara Mohawk Power Company against Quinn and some Seneca Indians who had refused to pay their power bills and harassed power crews working on the Cattaraugus Reservation.

Quinn failed to appear in court the next day as required, but he did submit a legal brief in lieu of his appearance. The judge granted temporary injunctive relief to the power company. Spokesmen for the Seneca Indians have indicated that this injunction does not apply to them because they do not recognize the court's authority.

In spite of harassment, including shots fired in the vicinity of power crews, the power company has not discontinued service to the Reservation because it wishes to avoid provoking the Indians to real violence against the power company crews and equipment.

In the past, Quinn has tried to establish himself as a leader on the Reservation, but the tribal elders, the elected council representatives, have dismissed Quinn as an ineffectual publicity seeker. He is, however, the influence behind the harassment of the power company.

Dennis Banks: Indian Peacemaker

Dennis Banks, rebuffed in earlier efforts to visit Canada while accompanied by AIM Attorney William Kunstler and Russell Means on August 14 (see CDI August 16), was granted a special immigration permit and admitted to Canada on August 16. He flew in a private aircraft to International



Falls where he was met by the Assistant Crown Prosecutor; a helicopter flew them to Kenora, Ontario.

According to the New York Times, Banks "helped to turn the armed stalemate at Kenora into a peaceful negotiation." Apparently, Banks was able to talk the 80 Ojibwa Indians, who have occupied a 14-acre town park since June 22, into laying down their arms and beginning discussions with Canadian officials concerning their demands for various reforms. As a token of good faith, the Indians publicly destroyed a collection of fire bombs and surrendered eight rifles and handguns to the mayor of Kenora; however, the Indians are believed to have withheld many weapons. In return, the Indians were permitted to spend another 10 days in the park during a "truce" while negotiations with Canada's Deputy Attorney General took place.

Several Indians were arrested at the conclusion of the occupation, including AIM-agitator Harvey Lee Major who was subsequently released with the proviso that he leave Canada and not return, even though he is a Canadian citizen by birth. Major accompanied Banks when he departed from International Falls in a private aircraft during the evening of August 19---the date by which Banks was required, by the terms of the special immigration permit, to leave Canada.

Harvey Lee Major will probably return to Des Moines where he resides and is a self-employed barber.

The Crown Attorney's decision to welcome Banks to Canada may have been influenced by two telegrams sent on August 12 and 14, respectively, to the Canadian Embassy in Washington, D.C. from the ex-National Press Secretary for AIM.

The first telegram protested the plan announced by authorities in Kenora to arrest the Indians holding the park and warned of an "international incident" if the Canadian government failed to prevent the planned "military action."

The second telegram protested the refusal of the Canadian authorities to permit Banks to visit Kenora.

The Canadian Ambassador responded by alerting U.S. Canadian Consulates and requesting them to develop local



information concerning the movement of any AIM members to Kenora or any demonstrations by AIM against Canadian Consulates.

Wisconsin Indians Frighten Neighbors

A pow-wow to "honor the earth", scheduled for Labor Day weekend on the Lac Courte Oreille Indian Reservation, near Hayward, has disturbed the local populace, who anticipate violence. Ostensibly, the purpose of the pow-wow, at which drugs and alcohol will be forbidden, is to help the local Ojibwa Indians "recapture stolen land." Scheduled activities include spiritual ceremonies, contests, and a scholarship awarded to the "outstanding American student and pow-wow participant."

The "stolen land" refers to some resort property which the Indians contend is Indian land. In the past, AIM and other militant Indians have threatened to blow up the Winter Dam which is on the disputed property. Local townspeople apparently believe that the Indians intend to destroy the dam during the pow-wow; they also anticipate violence between the Indians and resort owners.

The Lac Courte Oreille Indian Reservation is under the jurisdiction of the state.



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

9/9

TO: NORM ROSS

FROM: GEOFF SHEPARD

FYI _____

COMMENT _____

Attached is the Indian section of

the Civil Disturbance Information

release:



received
Sept
copy to Frank
Roth-

AMERICAN INDIAN ACTIVITIES

Minnesota Indians to Host Tri-State Conference

The Great Lakes Regional Treaty Conference, sponsored by AIM, will take place on September 10-12, at the Chippewa Ranch on the White Earth Indian Reservation. Tribal leaders and medicine men of the Ojibwa Nation in the Michigan-Minnesota-Wisconsin area will participate in reviewing treaties effecting the sovereignty of the Indian people with particular emphasis on tribal control of hunting, fishing, and wild rice growing. Other subjects to be reviewed are land, water, timber, and mineral rights. The conference is expected to produce spokesmen on treaty law who will participate in the National Treaty Council which was formed during the AIM convention at Mobridge, South Dakota in June 1974.



The Chippewa Ranch was formerly a Job Corps complex and is now the property of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe and is not federal property. (PC)

Hopis Exclude Tourists

The Hopi Tribal Council has closed Hopi shrines and ruins to all, except Hopi visitation. This exclusion is intended to reduce the now frequent theft of religious and cultural artifacts. (DS)

Seneca Indians Protest Troublemakers Action

The actions of Meredith "Morning Dove" Quinn, the leading protagonist in the harassment of the electric power company on the Cattaraugus Reservation, was the object of a recent protest by about 30 Seneca Indians. The Senecas were angered by Quinn's appearance on an August 25 radio program. A few days earlier Quinn had been featured on TV-news in the act of burning subpoenas on the steps of the State Supreme Court. (See CDI August 23). The protestors carried signs which read, "Go home", and "Back to Sioux City, You Bum." Quinn was born on the Sisseton Indian Reservation in South Dakota and is part Sioux. (PC)

Honor the Earth Pow-wow

In spite of local whites' predictions of violence, the August 30-September 2, Pow-wow at Lac Court Oreilles Indian Reservation in Northwestern Wisconsin was completed and the Indians dispersed with reported violations of the law being limited to traffic violations. (DS)

Tempest On the Blackfeet Reservation

A new tribal council was recently elected on the Blackfeet Indian Reservation in Browning, Montana and, on September 5, one of their first actions was to appoint 14 men as tribal police officers. According to the Bureau of Indian Affairs, these police officers serve at the pleasure of the council and appointment or reappointment is a normal administrative action.



In this case, the council failed to reappoint three police officers and the long-time police chief. This so upset the other 10 police officers that during the evening they considered taking various violent actions to express their displeasure, but were counselled against doing so by a tribal attorney; consequently, passions subsided and as of 8:00 a.m. (local) September 6, seven of the 10 officers were on duty and the other three were expected during the afternoon. (PC)



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

9/18

TO: NORM ROSS

FROM: GEOFF SHEPARD

FYI _____

COMMENT _____

Attached is the Indians section from
the Civil Disturbance Information
booklet.



Blad Bitter
Frank Zarb

Sept. 18

sent copy on
Sept 19

THE "PALM SPRINGS" INDIANS

While some Indian tribes are calling for reexamination of 19th century treaty provisions and are claiming poverty level living conditions are resulting from mismanagement of their resources, at least one tribe is "exploiting" the white man's appetite for the luxuries of a desert spa.

Even this affluent tribe finds it necessary to seek relief in the federal courts from what it considers "discrimination" according to a recent issue of the Wall Street Journal.

Just over 90 years ago, (1883) 60,000 acres of Southern California desert land was an Indian reservation inhabited by the Agua Caliente tribe who fought hard for survival in the barren land that included present day Palm Springs.

Today, the Agua Caliente, with only 170 members, is believed to be the richest tribe in the United States. Many of its members live in homes worth more than \$100,000 and drive around in air conditioned Cadillacs and Jaguars says the Journal.

The wealth has been acquired through the development of Indian lands in and around the Palm Springs area. The tribe and many of its 115 landowners have made a fortune by leasing or selling these holdings to whites who are expanding this desert resort.

Only 6 of the 40 adult male landowners have jobs, while the other men sit back and watch the money roll in. (The remainder of the 115 landowners are women and minors)

Indian landowners divide an annual lease income of \$2.5 million and the tribe, as a separate entity, receives about \$250,000 of its own. In addition, the Indians have received \$6 million from the sale of land. The tribe's income is swelled by tolls collected from tourists. All of this income is tax free because the Indians are exempt from income tax on revenues from tribal land.

The Agua Calientes are atypical. Different from most tribes, these Indians have almost entirely lost their language and cultural characteristics. Traditional dances, festivals,



rug weaving and basket making have ceased; most have forgotten their ancestral Indian names.

In 1927, the tribe persuaded the Department of Interior to allot specific lands to certain members of the tribe. It was not until 1940, and after two court battles, that the deeds became valid and the new landowners could begin to realize a personal profit from the holdings. Being unsophisticated in fiscal matters the Indians, according to the Journal were often cheated by opportunist whites. To control this exploitation the Department of Interior appointed a white "conservator" for each Indian landowner. The "conservator" system soon ended when it became obvious that some "conservators" were actually pillagers.

In 1971, members of the tribe filed suit against the city in federal court. The Indians, supported by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, contend that state and municipal planning and zoning measures are not applicable. The city of Palm Springs insists that Public Law 280, gives the state jurisdictional power to zone Indian land. The city's contention was sustained by the federal court in Los Angeles. Since then, the Indians have appealed this decision to the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals. A decision has not been handed down, but the Indians are prepared to go to the Supreme Court if the decision is unfavorable.



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

10/3

TO: NORM ROSS

FROM: GEOFF SHEPARD

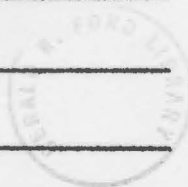
FYI _____

COMMENT _____

Attached is the latest Indians

Activities section from the Civil

Disturbance Information Bulletin.



Perry, Florida

Police were called to a Little League football game on September 25 to disperse a group of black football fans involved in an argument with a county judge; 4 juveniles were arrested. Approximately 150 blacks and whites became involved in fights. Following dispersal, there were isolated incidents of bottle throwing on the streets.

On September 26, two fights broke out between black and white students at a high school and 2 students were injured. As a precautionary measure school was closed for the day.

Hartford, Connecticut

On September 26, an early morning fight between 2 students led to an afternoon disturbance involving black, white and Puerto Rican students. Nine students were arrested and 2 arresting officers were injured. (VK)

SOCIALISTS PROTEST IN SAN JUAN

On September 26, approximately 400 persons participated in a demonstration sponsored by the Socialist Party of Puerto Rico (PSP) outside the Roberto Clemente Coliseum. Demonstrators were protesting the annual meeting and banquet of the National Guard Association of the United States and displayed signs claiming that the National Guard uses brutality on striking workers and minorities to perpetuate American capitalism. (PW)

AMERICAN INDIAN ACTIVITIES

Bombing on Michigan Reservation

The Department of Treasury reported that during the early morning of September 24 a bomb exploded in the partially constructed Saginaw-Chippewa Community House on the Isabella Indian Reservation in Isabella County. About \$60,000 damage was done to the building which is being constructed by a non-union contractor. The FBI has assumed investigative jurisdiction since

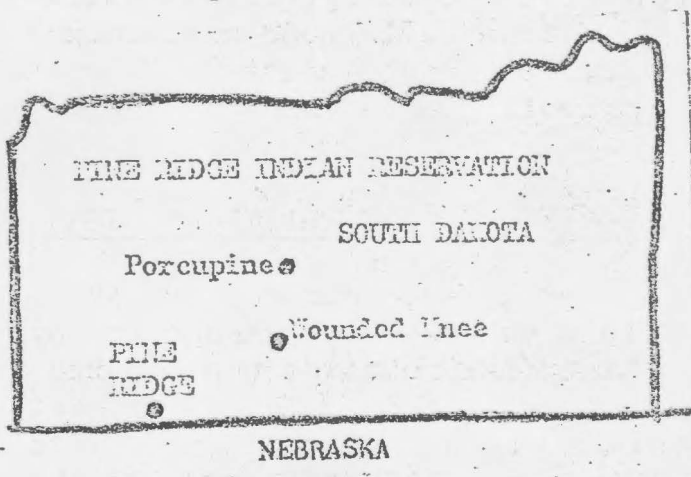


the bombing occurred on a federal reservation. (DS)

AIM Victory Celebration Harbinger of Violence

During the late evening of September 25, Pine Ridge Tribal chairman Richard Wilson and about 30 followers (without visible arms) appeared at the BIA jail in the town of Pine Ridge, apparently intimidated the three BIA policemen on duty and effected the release of the 20 Indians incarcerated for various non-federal offenses.

Wilson's unusual action may have been predicated upon a fear of violent confrontation with AIM members during the Wounded Knee trial victory celebration scheduled by AIM for the weekend of September 27-29 at Porcupine, South Dakota. Porcupine, about seven miles north of Wounded Knee on the Pine Ridge Reservation, will also host the annual district fair during the weekend; the trial defendants, Dennis Banks and Russell Means, are expected to be "honored" at the fair.



The Reservation leadership has become polarized over the methods of maintaining order during these activities.

The Superintendent of the Reservation agreed to permit AIM to hold their celebration on the Reservation and the BIA representative at Pine Ridge has agreed to permit AIM security personnel to accompany BIA police, as observers, in BIA vehicles during these events; however, there is mutual agreement that the AIM personnel will have no law enforcement function.

Tribal Chairman Richard Wilson has been adamant in his efforts to exclude AIM from the Pine Ridge Reservation. In February, just after being re-elected Tribal Chairman Wilson



banned all AIM members from the Reservation; a subsequent court order reversed this decision. Wilson is now demanding the removal of the Superintendent, whom he claim to be an AIM member, the BIA agent and the Administrative manager.

He is also opposed to permitting AIM personnel ride in the BIA police vehicles during weekend celebration.

The 20 Indians released from jail are presumably supporters of Wilson and can be relied upon to assist him in any confrontation with AIM and, in fact, may be part of the "special tribal security force" which, according to a news release, will be present during the activities.

In the past, various AIM spokesmen have threatened Wilson with bodily harm and made deprecating remarks concerning his role on the Reservation. AIM leader Russell Means filed a civil suit against Wilson, the Tribal council and five other members of the Oglala Sioux Tribe, charging improprieties in the February election of Council President.

Means, exhilarated by his "victory" at the Wounded Knee trial, may regard this Pow Wow as an opportunity to right some more wrongs. (PC)

