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JUNE 4, 1982

Governor proclaims Indian Week

by Marsha Shewczyk

Oregon State Governor Vic Atiyeh made ceremony of signing a proclamation claiming May 24-30, 1982 "Oregon American Indian Week." This is the third year the governor has signed such a document.

Indian representatives from various parts of Oregon along with other interested persons joined in the ceremony by being present during the signing of the proclamation.

Louis Alexander, member of the governor's legislative Commission on Indian Services accepted the proclamation on behalf of American Indian of Oregon.

The edict reads:

"In Oregon and throughout the Northwest the unique and exceptionally rich expressions of American Indian people

continue to be present in all facets of Oregon life. The presence is felt by all of us whether it be in great cities, counties, lakes, rivers, or in the enduring and visible existence of the spirit of American Indian people themselves.

Though they have changed in many ways, American Indians have emerged as a people with strength and intelligence to make constant and often highly inventive adjustments to the environment in which they live. They continue to have a singular and vital role as full partners in planning, developing, themselves and the entire Oregon community.

Therefore, as Governor, I am pleased to proclaim May 24-30, 1982 Oregon American Indian Week dedicated to those who have enriched our lives with traditional wisdom, pride, and leadership in all disciplines.

I encourage all Oregonians to recognize the American Indian people of this state whose truly native perception of the world can inspire us all to stand as they do: "At the center of life in good relation to all points in the wide circle of the world."

Activities throughout Indian week preceding the formal signing of the proclamation commenced on Saturday, May 22 with an honor day celebration. It was held at Columbia Park in Portland

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Leaders gather for NCAI mid-year conference

by Donna Behrend

The mid-year conference of NCAI was held May 26-28 in San Diego, California. Not unlike many other NCAI gatherings, this convention was held up by agenda delays and changes, indecision and late arrivals.

Warm Springs sent a delegation to southern California of all but two councilmen, their secretary and Dennis Karnopp, Ralph Minnick, Doug McClelland, Jim Sizemore, Jody Calica, Rudy Clements and two newspaper representatives. Though the Warm Springs delegation was large, Warm Springs conventioners felt that much was accomplished.

Of utmost importance and immediate concern to timber tribes in the Northwest and across the United States are the 10-percent monies for administrative fees that are held in trust for tribes by the BIA. The BIA has been questioning the 10% monies recently and has even considered completely deleting the monies all together.

On May 26, Secretary of the Interior James Watt asked the Solicitor for the Department of

the Interior William Coldiron to withdraw his opinion dealing with the administrative fees. Coldiron had previously ruled that the "BIA cease distribution to Indian tribes of fees collected from sales of Indian timber and shall promptly cover such monies into the U.S. Treasury." Coldiron agreed to withdraw his opinion. Present methods used to determine the fees will continue this year at least.

Watt appointed a task force to work with and receive recommendations from timber tribes to further study the 10% monies and to develop permanent and long-term solutions to the problems.

Also of concern to all tribes across the nation are changes in the Indian education policy. In his speech to NCAI participants, Assistant Secretary of the Interior Ken Smith stated that he was aware that it "bothers some people when I say that education is not a trust responsibility. I hope you don't think I mean to lessen the importance of education when I say that. I do think however, that is one of the issues that has created misconception about what we are trying to do in

education."

Smith continued, "I firmly believe that the federal government has a legal and moral responsibility to assure that education services are properly provided to Indian people. This responsibility to assure that education services are properly provided to Indian people. This responsibility of the federal government is clearly recognized through treaties, statutes and court actions. I do not mean for any of my actions to give anyone



Ken Smith

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Weather

MAY	HI	LOW
24	87	44
25	82	48
26	60	42
27	62	33
28	69	40
29	70	39
30	76	37
31	73	44
JUNE		
1	71	61
2	72	37