# ANNOUNCENEUS Native American Rights Fund

# Eastern Indian Land Claims Part II: Update on NARF's Cases After Maine

"My people have never consented to the forced sales of their land, nor has the passing of years diminished our sense of injustice . . . It was the desire of our predecessors that we hold and maintain the land. It is the desire of the Mashantucket Pequot people to continue to exist on its land as a tribe and to be self-governing." — Tribal Chairman Richard Hayward of the Mashantucket Pequot Tribe of Connecticut, Hearings before the U.S. Senate on the Mashantucket Pequot Indian Claims Settlement Bill, 1982.

The end of the Carter Administration may prove to have marked a significant shift in the progress of settling the aboriginal land claims of the Eastern tribes who, in the early 1970s, began asserting their rights to lands taken illegally from them after passage and in violation of the Indian Nonintercourse Act. At the end of his Administration, in October 1980, President Carter signed into law the Maine Indian Settlement Act, which authorized a \$81-million-dollar settlement for the land claims of three Maine tribes involving two-thirds of the State. Settlement of the Maine Indian claims, the largest and most controversial of the dozen or so active claims, gave encouragement to other tribes with claims pending in the courts or in negotiations. But even as the historical settlement was being signed, the advent of the Reagan Administration put other tribes on notice that future settlements might be even more protracted and difficult to reach.

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Another problem in the latter part of 1982 facing these Eastern tribes with land claims which have not yet been filed in court is that a federal statute of limitations law, potentially affecting these land claims, expires at the end of the year. It is hoped that the statute will be extended, as it has been before, but if it appears that chances for such an extension are dimming, it is expected that most tribes will file suits to protect their land claims. Fortunately, most have already done so and the courts have put some eases on hold pending settlement efforts.

"That no sale of lands made by any Indians, or any nation or tribe of Indians within the United States, shall be valid to any person or persons, or to any state, whether having the right of pre-emption to such lands or not, unless the same shall be made and duly executed at some public treaty, held under the authority of the United States." U.S. Congress, Trade and Intercourse Act, July 22, 1790.

NARF was not only lead counsel in the Maine case — representing the Passamaquoddy and Penobscot tribes — but earlier represented the Narragansett Tribe of Rhode Island when their land claim was successfully settled by federal and state legislation in 1978. NARF now represents the following tribes in their efforts to have their aboriginal land claims recognized and settled:

Western Pequot Claim: Legislation is pending in Congress to settle the claim of the Western Pequots of Connecticut. It would provide \$900,000 for the Tribe for economic development and give the Tribe federal recognition status.

Tunica-Biloxi Claim: Now that NARF has successfully assisted the Tribe in obtaining federal recognition, a stumbling

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# **Native American Rights Fund**

The Native American Rights Fund is a non-profit organization specializing in the protection of Indian rights. The priorities of NARF are: (1) the preservation of tribal existence; (2) the protection of tribal natural resources; (3) the promotion of human rights; (4) the accountability of governments to Native Americans; and (5) the development of Indian law.

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<sup>\*</sup> Washington, D.C. office staff members.

# **NARF Initiates Planned Giving Program**

NARF has recently initiated a planned giving program which will offer information to donors who would like to consider making a substantial contribution to the Native American Rights Fund, especially through a will. Such gifts represent the fastest growing area of American philanthropy and provide a sound basis for future support to organizations such as ours. They often provide substantial tax savings to the donor as well as tremendous satisfaction by assuring the financial future of one's favorite charity. Very importantly, proper planning in setting up such a gift results in a well-managed, long-range financial plan for the donor.

Because of the generous support of CBS, Inc. and the Norman Foundation, NARF recently has been able to add to its staff a Planned Giving Coordinator—an individual specially trained to assist donors with more information on making wills and major lifetime gifts. We can now provide the individual with the necessary information for starting the will-making process. Our development staff can also give specific suggestions for major gifts that will not affect one's current income. Transfers of insurance, real estate, appreciated stock and other valuables might all be considered as possibilities for a lifetime charitable contribution.

NARF's new Planned Giving Coordinator, Marilyn Pourier, can help our donors by providing the initial, basic information necessary to begin putting one's estate in order. We cannot, of course, provide legal counsel in such matters. Donors interested in making or changing their wills or giving substantial lifetime gifts will want to consult their own attorneys.

For further information, contact Marilyn Pourier at 303/447-8760 or write her for more information c/o NARF, 1506 Broadway, Boulder, Colorado 80302. All inquiries are strictly confidential and under absolutely no obligation.



The Native American Rights Fund is fortunate to have Marilyn Pourier as NARF's first Planned Giving Coordinator. Marilyn, a member of the Oglala Sioux Tribe of the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota, brings to the position a high level of administrative expertise, not only through her previous work with NARF, but also in her former ca-

pacity as Office Manager of the Coalition of Indian Controlled School Boards and as Project Assistant to the VISTA Project under the Coalition. Marilyn has previously been a Project Director for the Johnson-O'Malley Indian Education Program on the Pine Ridge Reservation. She has also worked for her tribe as Secretary/Assistant to the Controller, and as Medical Records Technician with the Indian Hospital in Pine Ridge. In her new capacity as Planned Giving Coordinator, she will be filling a much needed position in NARF's fund development program.

"President after president has appointed commission after commission to inquire into and report upon Indian affairs, and to make suggestions as to the best methods of managing them. The reports are filled with eloquent statements of wrongs done to the Indians, of perfidies on the part of the Government; they counsel, as earnestly as words can, a trial of the simple and unperplexing expedients of telling truth, keeping promises, making fair bargains, dealing justly in all ways and all things. These reports are bound up with the Government's Annual Reports, and that is the end of them. It would probably be no exaggeration to say that not one American citizen out of ten thousand ever sees them or knows that they exist, and yet any one of them, circulated throughout the country, read by the right-thinking, right-feeling men and women of this land, would be of itself a campaign document that would initiate a revolution which would not subside until the Indians' wrongs were, so far as is now left possible, righted." (Helen Hunt Jackson, A Century of Dishonor, 1881).

block to their land claim, efforts to settle their land claim in Louisiana are now moving ahead.

Schaghticoke Land Claim: After years of negotiations, the defendants have finally agreed to a proposed settlement in this Connecticut claim. The settlement would provide for 800 acres for the Tribe, for which the landowners are seeking \$2.2 million dollars. The Tribe would also obtain federal recognition and Public Law 280 jurisdictional status. Legislation may be introduced in Congress in late 1982 or early 1983.

Oneida Claims: NARF represents the Wisconsin and Thames Band Oneidas in three cases to Oneida lands in New York State (Other counsel represents the New York Oneidas). A claim for 5.5 million acres was dismissed by a federal district court and is now on appeal. The other two cases involve a claim for 250,000 acres lost after passage of the Nonintercourse Act. A test case for only 1,700 acres of these lands was won and is now on appeal over the issue of whether the State or the counties are liable to the Tribe for damages. The case involving the rest of the acreage will probably be filed in late 1982 or early 1983.

Gay Head Claim: A settlement in the Gay Head land claims in Massachusetts is being delayed pending resolution of a claim brought by a separate group of tribal members. NARF's motion to dismiss their action is to be heard in December 1982. Once this issue is resolved, NARF will proceed to get the legislative settlement process back on track in early 1983 and get this settlement through Congress.

Stockbridge-Munsee Claim: This is a claim of the Stockbridge-Munsee Indians of Wisconsin to lands in New York which they received as a gift from the Oneida Indians. However, when they were moved to Wisconsin, they were never compensated for this land. NARF filed a request with the Department of the Interior asking Interior to assert this claim for the Tribe. The request is still pending with Interior.

Catawba Claim: The details of this South Carolina claim is set out below. It is now on appeal from the lower federal court which dismissed the Tribe's claim.

Although the historical and legal background differs for each of these tribal claims, they generally have in common the fact that the land losses are based upon the Nonintercourse Act of 1790, which was enacted to prevent transfer of Indian lands out of Indian ownership without first obtaining federal consent. The present claim of the Catawba Indians of South Carolina is illustrative of the type of dealings under which the Eastern tribes lost vast areas of their lands in violation of the Nonintercourse Act and other laws.

Case Study: The Catawba Claim

In a 1763 treaty with the southern colonies and the King of England, the Catawba Indian Tribe of South Carolina gave up possession of over two million acres in exchange for promises of a 144,000-acre tract to be located on the present border of North and South Carolina. In 1840, South Carolina, without the consent of the federal government and therefore in violation of the Nonintercourse Act of 1790, concluded a treaty with

the Catawbas which purportedly extinguished the Catawba claim to their promised reservation. In return, the State was to secure a new reservation for the Tribe and pay certain sums of money. However, the State never fulfilled its terms of this treaty.

The basis of the Tribe's present land claim lies in the fact that the State treaty was concluded in violation of federal law, thereby rendering the attempted extinguishment of the 144,000 acres null and void. The Catawba Tribe has been attempting to settle its land claim since the 1880s. In the early 1900s, it filed two litigation requests with the Department of Interior, to no avail. Beginning in 1976, the Tribe began actively pursuing a legislative settlement to its claims. Intensive negotiations with representatives of State and local governments and local land owners continued for several years.

Finally a special commission, authorized by the State legislature and appointed by the Governor, proposed a settlement which provided for the purchase of a small federal reservation close to the Tribe's present reservation; restoration of federal benefits and services for the Tribe and its members; establishment of a tribal economic development fund; and distribution of a portion of the settlement fund to individual tribal members.

Unfortunately, when the State rejected the proposed settlement, the Tribe had no recourse but to file suit in 1981 in federal court for the District of South Carolina seeking to regain possession of the entire 1763 treaty reservation. The court granted the State's motion to dismiss the Tribe's suit and the case is now on appeal.

Ancient Eastern Land Claims Settlement Bill

On February 9, 1982, a bill was introduced in Congress which would, if enacted, remove Indian suits then in court involving land claims in New York and South Carolina. The bill would also authorize the Secretary of the Interior to judge the credibility of these claims; extinguish 100% of the value of the land claims and 95% of their monetary value; and it would allow only certain claims for set monetary damages to go to the U.S. Court of Claims.

Because the bill would apply to the Stockbridge-Munsee and Oneida claims in New York and the Catawba claim in South Carolina, and indirectly to the Tunica-Biloxi land claim, NARF has been involved in the Indian opposition to the bill. NARF attorneys drafted a legal memorandum that was filed with both Senate and House committees considering the bill, laying out the constitutional objections. Hearings were held in June in both the House and Senate. It is now believed that the bill will not be reported out of either the Senate or House committees in this Congress. But there is always the possibility that its supporters may reintroduce it in 1983, and, if so, NARF would once again be occupied in opposing its passage.

How far these Eastern Indian land claims will proceed during the Reagan Administration is uncertain, but more difficulty is surely expected since land claim settlements inevitably involve federal funding — a difficult hurdle considering the current Administration's budget policies. Nevertheless, NARF will continue to press the claims of its client tribes regardless of the difficulties encountered, difficulties which NARF has faced before but overcame in the Narragansett and Maine land claims.

# NARF NEWS

Staff Attorney Changes

In the Boulder Office, NARF has three new staff attorneys. Scott McElroy, who joined NARF in April from his position with the Indian Resources Section of the Department of Justice, transferred to Boulder from NARF's Washington office last July. In August, Jeanette Wolfley and Jerome Kim Gottschalk joined NARF as new staff attorneys. Jeanette, of Navajo/Shoshone-Bannock descent, is a recent graduate of the University of New Mexico Law School and past president of the American Indian Law Students' Association. Kim was formerly with the firm of Fettinger and Bloom in Alamagordo, New Mexico, and worked extensively on behalf of the nearby Mescalero Apache Tribe. Rick Collins resigned in August to accept a full-time law professorship at the University of Colorado Law School, but he will continue to be associated with NARF on an of-counsel basis. In the Washington office, Lare Aschenbrenner has departed for a position as Deputy Attorney General with the Navajo Nation, and Rick Dauphinais recently transferred to NARF's Washington office on temporary assignment.

#### National Support Committee

Since the last issue of Announcements was published, California Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr., jazz musician David Brubeck, Indian author Jamake Highwater, and physicianscientist Dr. Jonas Salk have joined NARF's National Support Committee. The Support Committee was established in 1980 and now has a membership of 22 nationally and internationally known people in the arts, politics, literature and other areas to assist NARF in its national fund raising and public relations efforts (see page 2 for a complete listing of NSC members). Following are brief sketches of Mr. Highwater, and also of previously announced members Ruth Thompson and Studs Terkel.

The Native American Rights Fund is honored to have Mr. Highwater, Miss Thompson and Mr. Terkel on the National Support Committee. Their support, along with that of the other Committee members, will be of increasing importance in NARF's efforts to continue its legal assistance in Native Americans in the years ahead.



Jamake Highwater was born in Montana of Blackfeet-Cherokee descent, raised in California, and now resides in Europe and Africa as well as the United States. The author of numerous award-winning literary pieces, his published works include Journey to the Sky; Anpao: An American Indian Odyssey (Winner of the 1978 Newbery Honor Award): Manu Smokes, Manu Moons: A Chronology of Indian History Through Indian Art; The Suns, He Dies; Song from the

Earth: North American Indian Paintings; and The Sweet Grass Lives On: Fifty Contemporary North American Indian Artists. Other titles deal with Indian dance, folklore, music, history and





Jeanette Wolfley

fiction. Mr. Highwater's upcoming books include the Ghost Horse Trilogy, consisting of Legend Days, I Wear the Morning Star, and Kill Hole. Besides his writing, Mr. Highwater lectures nationwide and is active in numerous literary, civic and welfare organizations throughout the United States. He is also featured in the six-part PBS program titled, "Red, White and Black: Ethnic Dance in America," and in another six-part series produced by Bill Moyers for PBS, "Six Great Western Ideas." He is developing several other PBS programs, one of which is a cultural history of American Indians titled, "Songs of the Thunderbird," a six-part series which he is writing, narrating and hosting.



NARF is pleased to announce that Studs Terkel, nationally acclaimed author, columnist, lecturer and radio interviewer, has recently joined our National Support Comittee. Mr. Terkel has been heard for over 25 years on Chicago's fine arts radio station, WFMT, where he hosts a nationally-acclaimed, syndicated program, "The Studs Terkel Show." The Peabody-Award program features interviews, discussions and readings as well as musical and dramatic presentations and documentaries. His best selling

publications include: Division Street: America; Hard Times: An Oral History of the Great Depression in America; Working; Talking to Myself: A Memoir of My Times; and American Dreams: Lost and Found. Mr. Terkel is the recipient of the Illinois Governor's Award for the Arts, the Clarence Darrow Commemorative Award, and has been cited by the Friends of Literature for his "unique contribution to the cultural life of Chicago." In the theatre, he has won critical praise in the national company of Detective Story, as well as for his appearances in Of Mice and Men, The Time of Your Life, A View from the Bridge, Light of the Sky and The Cave Dwellers.

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NARF is extremely fortunate to have Miss Ruth Thompson of Connecticut as a member of our National Support Committee. For years, she has been at the forefront of issues involving Native Americans. Her support, financial and otherwise, of NARF's work on major issues such as the Maine Indian Settlement Act, has made a significant difference to our Indian constituents. Miss Thompson's interest in American Indians began with her work on the Navajo Reservation in a literacy program in

the 1940s. She also participated as one of the first board members for the fund raising arm of the National Congress of American Indians, serving with such early NCAI leaders as Ruth Bronson, John Rainer, Louis Bruce, Will Rogers, Yeffe Kimball and Bob Burnette. Later she worked in San Carlos and for the Save-the-Children on the Papago Reservation in Arizona. Ruth Thompson's participation with us on behalf of Native Americans throughout the United States is greatly appreciated.

## Pamunkey Tribe Contributes \$10,000 to NARF

The Native American Rights Fund would like to publicly acknowledge and thank the Pamunkey Tribe of Virginia for a \$10,000 contribution made to NARF. Pamunkey Chief Tecumseh Cook stated: "NARF's work has had a tremendous impact on Indian rights all over the country and we hope this will continue." The Pamunkey gift, along with recent contributions from the Passamoquoddy and Penobscot tribes of Maine, represents an increasing awareness by tribal governments of the importance of NARF's role in Indian rights and a commitment by these tribes to help assure the continuation of NARF's legal assistance for other tribes.

Indian self-government is not a new or radical policy but an ancient fact. It is not something friends of the Indians can confer upon the Indians. Nobody can grant self-government to anybody else. We all recall that when Alexander was ruler of most of the known civilized world, he once visited the philosopher Diogenes, who was making his home in an old bathtub. Diogenes was a rich man because he did not want anything that he did not have. He was a mighty man because he could master himself. Alexander admired Diogenes for these qualities, and standing before him said, 'Oh, Diogenes, if there is anything that I can grant you, tell me and I will grant it.' To which Diogenes replied. 'You are standing in my sunlight. Get out of the way.' The Federal Government which is, today, the dominant power of the civilized world, cannot give selfgovernment to an Indian community. All it can really do for self-government is to get out of the way. (Felix Cohen, The American Indian, 1949).

# **CASE DEVELOPMENTS**

Following are summaries of major developments in NARF cases and other matters since the last issue of *Announcements* was published. Recent developments in NARF's eastern Indian land claims cases are reported on in the lead article on page 1.

(1) Narragansett Tribe Given Preliminary Approval for Federal Recognition. On August 13, 1982, the Bureau of Indian Affairs issued a notice that it proposes to acknowledge the Narragansett Tribe of Rhode Island as a federally-recognized tribe. There is a 120-day public comment period, after which the BIA has 60 days to issue its final decision. Barring some unforeseen problem, the Narragansetts will become federally recognized early next year.

NARF first assisted the Narragansetts in their land claim which was successfully concluded when Congress passed settlement legislation in 1978, the first of the many eastern Indian land claims cases still being negotiated or in court. Federal recognition status will entitle the Narragansetts to deal with the federal government on government-to-government basis and to receive federal aid assistance.

(2) Court Rules Oklahoma Allotments Subject to Condemnation. On April 28, 1982, the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals ruled against several Indian allottees in Noble County, Oklahoma, in holding that the City of Stillwater could condemn easements over their allotments to construct a water pipeline. A 1901 federal law authorizes condemnation of allotments, but a later 1948 statute requires the consent of the Indian allottees for rights of way across allotted lands. The Tenth Circuit disagreed with NARF's argument that the 1948 statute impliedly repealed the earlier 1901 statute, holding that a potential condemnor may either condemn the land under the 1901 act or obtain a right of way under the 1948 act. A petititon for rehearing has been filed (Yellowfish, et al. v. City of Stillwater, No. 81-1948 (10th Cir., April 28, 1982)).

(3) Condemnation of Allotments Struck Down in Nebraska District Court. On the heels of the Tenth Circuit decision upholding condemnation of allotments discussed in the Yellowfish case above, the Nebraska Federal District Court ruled that condemnation was not an appropriate vehicle to obtain rights of way over trust lands in which individuals or tribes have an undivided interest. The case challenged rights of way sought by the Nebraska Public Power District to construct high voltage transmission lines over lands owned by the Winnebago Tribe and individual tribal members. It is unclear whether the District Court's decision may be modified in light of Yellowfish. (Nebraska Public Power District v. 100.95 Acres of Land, No. 79-0-411 (D.Neb., June 4, 1982)).

(4) Exclusion of All Native Americans From Jury Panel Held to be In Violation of Equal Protection. NARF recently filed an amicus brief challenging the exclusion of all Native Americans from the jury panel in a criminal case in Wisconsin. The court found that the exclusion, which was made without examination of all jurors and on the assumption that the Native Americans had prior knowledge of the case and the parties, violated the Indian defendant's right to

due process. The court substantially relied on the arguments in the NARF amicus brief (State of Wisconsin v. Chosa, No. 80-1903-CR (S.Ct. Wisc., decided July 2, 1982)).

(5) Yankton Sioux Riverbed Case Sent Back to District Court. In September 1981, the U.S. District Court for South Dakota had ruled that the Yankton Sioux Tribe was the rightful owner of the lakebed of Lake Andes located within their original reservation. When the case was appealed by South Dakota, the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals declined to rule on the merits of the case and sent it back to the District Court in South Dakota for a ruling on whether the lake was navigable during certain periods of time. The outcome of this case is especially important since it is one of the first court rulings related to the landmark 1981 decision of the U.S. Supreme Court in Montana v. United States, which held that Montana, and not the Crow Tribe, held title to the bed of the Big Horn River within the Crow Reservation (Yankton Sioux Tribe v. Nelson (8th Cir.)).

(6) States Seek Supreme Court Review of Indian Water Cases. In two decisions issued in February 1982, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit upheld federal court jurisdiction over Indian water cases in Arizona and Montana in which NARF represents Montana's Northern Cheyenne Tribe and the Ft. McDowell Mohave-Apache Tribe in Arizona. The question of whether state or federal courts should adjudicate Indian water rights is of critical importance to Indian tribes. States have historically been hostile to Indian rights, and both Congress and the U.S. Supreme Court have nearly always favored federal courts as the exclusive forum for deciding Indian property issues. However, in 1974 the U.S. Supreme Court held that state courts, under certain circumstances, also have jurisdiction to adjudicate Indian water rights under a 1952 federal statute known as the McCarran Amendment.

In distinguishing the Arizona and Montana cases from the Supreme Court's 1974 decision, which involved Colorado jurisdiction over the water rights of the Ute tribes, the Ninth Circuit Court held that state courts may be precluded from exercising jurisdiction over Indian water rights if the state has provisions in its enabling act or constitution which disclaim jurisdiction over Indians. The Ninth Circuit also distinguished the Montana cases on the additional ground that there were no exceptional circumstances favoring state jurisdiction, and in fact the circumstances in the Montana cases favored retention of federal jurisdiction. Both Montana and Arizona have asked the United States Supreme Court to review the decisions. NARF, along with counsel for other tribes in Arizona and Montana, have filed briefs opposing review. The Court will decide whether to review the cases when it convenes in October.

(7) Final Decision Issued in Wetumka School Case. The U.S. Department of Education has issued its decision accepting the revised policies and procedures of the Wetumka School District in Oklahoma, which will hopefully ensure greater participation by Indian students and their parents in the Wetumka public schools. Under the federal Impact Aid program, the school district receives federal funding because of its Indian student population. However, for years Indian parents and the Tribe have been concerned about the lack of equal participation of Indian students in the school program, low achievement levels and the high dropout rate. They were equally concerned with the district's

policies which made it difficult for the Indian parents to become involved with and consulted about the school programs and the problems of Indian students.

Because the school district refused voluntarily to amend its policies and procedures to ensure adequate Indian parent and student participation in the school programs, as required by the Impact Aid law, the Tribe filed a complaint to compel compliance. After hearings were held and recommendations filed by all parties, the Department of Education ordered a revision in the district's policies. These were accepted on June 10, 1982. The Wetumka experience could aid other Indians in Oklahoma with similar problems, and could potentially benefit tribes outside Oklahoma as well.

(8) Suit Against Federal Agencies Charges 15,000 Valid Claims Threatened to be Lost. A number of American Indian tribes and Indian individuals from throughout the United States filed suit on September 23rd in Federal District Court in Washington, D.C. to preserve thousands of Indian land claims. The claims are threatened to be lost forever due to decisions and policies of various officials of the Department of Interior, Office of Management and Budget and Justice Department. The 15,000 claims are subject to a federal law setting December 31, 1982 as the deadline for bringing the claims to court. After that the United States is forever barred from commencing lawsuits on behalf of Indian tribes and individuals whose lands are affected by this statute.

The suit filed on behalf of the Indian tribes and individuals by NARF asserts that the federal agencies have failed to evaluate, prosecure or resolve the over 15,000 valid claims that have been identified to date. It also charges that these federal agencies have ignored a congressional requirement to submit proposals for legislative resolution of some of these claims. By filing this action, the tribes and individuals are seeking to compel the Departments of Interior and Justice to take immediate steps to ensure that the claims are not lost. If appropriate action is not taken immediately, these claims will be either abandoned or dealt with in an arbitrary and capricious manner in violation of the federal government's trust responsibility to protect Indian lands and resources (Covelo Indian Community, et al. v. Watt, et al. [D.D.C., filed Sept. 23, 1982]).

#### NARF Publications & Resources

**ANNOUNCEMENTS.** NARF's quarterly newsletter reports on our activities to grantors, individual contributors, clients, the Indian community and others interested in Native American rights. There is no present subscription charge but contributions to help pay for publication and mailing are very much appreciated.

"Indian Rights, Indian Law." This is a film documentary produced by the Ford Foundation, focusing on NARF, its staff and certain NARF casework. The hour-long color film can be rented from: Association Films, Ford Foundation Film, 866 Third Ave., New York, New York 10022 (212-935-4210). 16mm, FF110-\$50.00)

### Thank You For Your Help

Our work on behalf of thousands of America's Indians throughout the country is supported in large part by your generous contributions. Your participation makes a big difference in our ability to continue to meet the ever-increasing needs of impoverished Indian tribes, groups and individuals. The support needed to sustain our nationwide program requires your continued help. Please enclose your contribution with the enclosed coupon or contact Mary Hanewall, Development Officer, at the Boulder office for further information.

#### "Giving Can Benefit You"

We are now able to better assist you by offering information on making a charitable gift through your will (see page 00). Not only can such a gift benefit a charitable organization such as ours, but it can eliminate unnecessary costs and taxes to the donor. The Native American Rights Fund has been in existence since 1970 and will continue to exist as long as there is a need for our legal defense of Indian rights. Gifts and bequests in your name will help us to accomplish our objectives on behalf of Native Americans nationwide, not only today but in the years to come. For further information please contact Marilyn Pourier at the Boulder office or check the box on the "Contribution" coupon.

#### Requests for Assistance

Any work undertaken by the Native American Rights Fund, whether it be litigation, advocacy or other legal assistance, must come within the priorities and guidelines established by the NARF Steering Committee. NARF's resources, both financial and attorney staffing, also determine NARF's ability to accept legitimate requests. All requests for legal assistance or inquiries regarding NARF's services must be addressed to the Deputy Director at the Boulder, Colorado office.

Jeanne Whiteing, Deputy Director Native American Rights Fund 1506 Broadway Boulder, Colorado 80302 (303-447-8760)



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