

RESOLUTION OF THE
WHITE MOUNTAIN APACHE TRIBE OF THE
FORT APACHE INDIAN RESERVATION

WHEREAS, the Whiteriver Community Church has requested a location for the establishment of a church, and

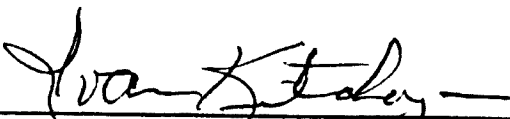
WHEREAS, the concensus of the opinion of the Council is that too many churches are being established and leading to confusion of the tribal members, and

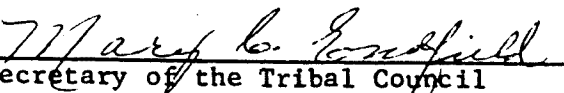
WHEREAS, after a lengthy discussion and a roll call vote, the council denied the location requested by the Community Church.

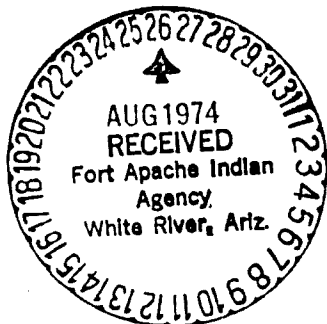
BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that the organization and development of the Whiteriver Community Church is denied and they will not be permitted to organize and operate upon the reservation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this denial of a lease or permit is because of the shortage of suitable homesite locations that the tribe has been unable to meet and satisfy the members of the tribe.

The foregoing resolution was on August 15, 1974 duly adopted by a vote of 1 abst. 0 for and 9 against by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, pursuant to authority vested in it by Article V, Section 1 (1) of the Amended Constitution and By-Laws of the Tribe, ratified by the Tribe June 27, 1958 and approved by the Secretary of the Interior on May 29, 1958, pursuant to Section 16 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (48nStat. 984).


Chairman of the Tribal Council


Secretary of the Tribal Council



SEP 18 1974

MEMORANDUM

TO: Area Director
Attention: Tribal Operations

FROM: Superintendent

SUBJECT: Tribal Resolution No. 74-130

Resolution No. 74-130 was an attempt of the non-denominational Community Church to organize and develop a church location within the proximity of Whiteriver. We have had quite an influx of churches and missionary type of individuals that has begun to cause some disturbances and some unrest within the people of the White Mountain Apache Tribe and the established churches.

There was some concern that the impact of this resolution in denying the operating base for the Whiteriver Community Church was discriminatory and in violation of the right of religion to the individual. By denying this operating area, and the denial to permit operation upon the reservation, by denying a lease or a permit, we could not see where the freedom of religion as it affects Indian reservations has been infringed upon and the Council was so advised that it was not a denial of freedom of religion; it was the desire for proper use and utilization of their land and land resource. As a result, Resolution No. 74-130 denied a lease or a permit because of the selected area and the shortage of suitable homesite locations.

A short discussion was held with Mr. Bill Lavell, Area Solicitor, on or about September 14, 1974, and verbally without a written document to go by, Mr. Lavell was in agreement with the Tribal Council that it is not a violation of the freedom of religion as required by the Civil Rights Act.

(Sgd) Jack D. Smith
Acting Superintendent