

RECEIVED

Resolution No. 81-40

FEB 19 1981

**Fort Apache Indian Agency
Whiteriver, Arizona**

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

WHEREAS, the White Mountain Apache Tribe has established, as its top priority economic development objective a long-term program for the improvement and expansion of its agricultural resources with emphasis upon the irrigated production of livestock feeds and such other crops as their future needs may require; and to further its goal of self-sufficiency, and

WHEREAS, the White Mountain Apache Tribe has, for the past two years, endeavored to obtain funding from the Bureau of Indian Affairs to build the said irrigation and agricultural facilities--utilizing programs authorized by law for the general purposes of natural resource development, including water, and

WHEREAS, the Central Office of the Bureau of Indian Affairs in Washington, D.C. has, on two occasions, approved the release of funds totalling \$250,000 for the purpose of expediting the on-going construction of the Tribe's Canyon Day Irrigation Project, and

WHEREAS, in total disregard of their responsibilities to the White Mountain Apache Tribe as agents of the Trustee United States, the following subordinate officials, Curtis Geiogamah, W. P. Ragsdale, and LaFollette Butler--of the Phoenix Area Office have intentionally violated instructions from the authorized officials of the Bureau of Indian Affairs in Washington, D.C., thereby preventing the release of the aforesaid \$250,000 resulting in irreparable damage to the White Mountain Apache Tribe, and


WHEREAS, Secretary James G. Watt, by his letter dated February 3, 1981, has called upon the White Mountain Apache Tribal Council to bring to the attention of the Secretary needed changes which would "provide opportunity, not smother it; faster productivity, not stifle it".

BE IT RESOLVED by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe that a copy of this Resolution documenting the anti-development philosophy of the above-named personnel of the Bureau of Indian Affairs be submitted to Secretary Watt with the request by the Tribal Chairman that the \$250,000 be immediately released to the White Mountain Apache Tribe so that the Tribe may develop its natural resources toward the goal of self-sufficiency.

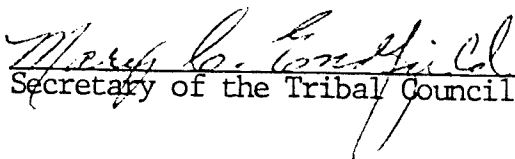
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Secretary Watt, be fully informed that such anti-development decisions and arbitrary conduct by these subordinate officials is preventing the economic development of the White Mountain Apache Tribe on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation and is a prime example of the kind of governmental-bureaucratic roadblocks to the economic revitalization of the nation and the White Mountain Apache Tribe which the Secretary has spoken out against.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Tribal Council does not know and must be informed as to whether the acceptance of the settlement of \$13,000,000 from the Department of Justice would preclude it from recovering damages for the value of the timber cut from the aforesaid lands by the United States assuming that those excluded lands are recovered by the Tribe as is fully expected.

The foregoing resolution was on February 10, 1981 duly adopted by a vote of 10 for and ZERO against by the Tribal Council of the White Mountain Apache Tribe, pursuant to authority vested in it by Article V, Section 1 (i) 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 (48 Stat. 984).



Chairman of the Tribal Council



Secretary of the Tribal Council