

Association on American Indian Affairs, Inc.



432 Park Avenue South
New York, N. Y. 10016

MU 9-8720

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May 22, 1967

Mr. Norbert S. Hill
Route #1
Oneida, Wisconsin

Dear Norbert:

Enclosed please find our check for \$217.80 as the AAIA's participating share of the cost for roofing the Oneida meeting hall.

It is a pleasure for us to be able to contribute to the community activities of the Oneida people through this project.

Sincerely,

William Byler
Executive Director

enclosure

cc: Mr. Iliff McKay



ONEIDA HOUSING AUTHORITY

P. O. BOX 63
ONEIDA, WISCONSIN 54991

June 13, 1967

Mrs. Sarah Metoxen Beard
482 Montecarlo Avenue
Twin Oaks, Pennsylvania

Dear Mrs. Baird:

In reply to your letter of June 5, 1967, reference Oneida claim money and the carpet mill.

I find it quite difficult to express my proper sentiment regarding the matters that you expressed in your letter regarding the Oneida claim money. It is quite obvious that you have become overly concerned with out a complete understanding as to procedure. I hope that you will take the same time at this particular point to digest what information I may be able to pass on regarding the Tribal claim money and the carpet mill.

(1). Oneida has not at any point at this time received any of the claim money which is now only in an awards stage by the Claims Commission and is not to the stage of Appropriation, which was to be accomplished by Congress.

(2). The Oneida Tribe and specifically myself, as you alleged, have taken no steps, at this time, in investing or proposing to invest in any carpet factory.

(3). It is by Constitution of requirements of the Oneida Tribe, necessary for disbursement of such claim money to have a referendum vote of the entire tribe.

(4). Through my personal hope that since you are now concerned that you will remain as concerned for the Oneida Tribe in the future. It is regrettable that you accept such haphazard information with out first checking its reliability before reaching a conclusion. The Tribe has consistently attempted to keep you, one informed by way of newsletters and letters of information. It has been our experience that people do not keep addresses alive and current so that the proper information could be delivered. It has also been the Bureau of Indian Affairs policy to be notified of any address change and assisted us in many cases to deliver proper information, which I am sure Mr. Brennan will attempt to explain to you.



ONEIDA HOUSING AUTHORITY

P. O. BOX 64

ONEIDA, WISCONSIN 54855

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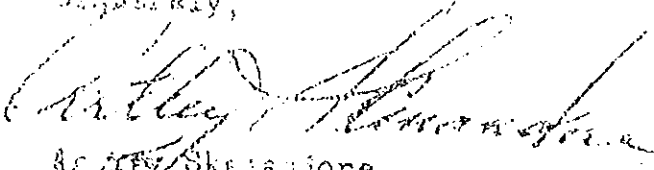
(5). To further advise you, the Chairman of the Tribe and the Executive Committee, of which I serve no part, at this point consist of Mr. Norbert Hill Chairman, Oscar Archiquette Vice-Chairman, Joyce Ninkam Treasurer, and Ira Cornelius Secretary.

(6). A recent election was held to modify present Constitution and By-Laws for the Oneida Tribe on which election board I served and it was our experience to have returned 600 letters because of out-dated addresses and I am sure had your address been current you would have received the proper information.

(7). Reference, the carpet mill. The Tribe has been in constant negotiation in attempting to provide employment for Tribal members and a board has been set up by the Executive Committee, after working diligently, to provide through funds from government appropriation under Economic Development in order to accomplish the carpet mill. I am sure that the venture will provide a great deal toward the future of the Oneida Tribe and were it necessary to use Tribal claim money to assure the future of the Oneida Tribe that, for one, would be very willing to share a portion of the Tribal claim money in securing employment in this area. It is true that our own minds sometimes blind our conceptions and what could be accomplished in a joint venture when individually these small partial amounts might not provide any particularly great accomplishment. But, as I said earlier, it is your privilege to decide as you may choose, and I am sure that your Constitutional rights will be respected by the Tribe and any one else.

Should you desire further information regarding this program we require you contact the Tribal Council directly. Thank you.

Sincerely,


Arthur Skelton
Chief of the Works