

...new state officials to make it to work Friday was ...  
William G. Milliken, who arrived at the state capitol in Lansing in a National Guard armored personnel carrier. On Thursday, Milliken declared a state of emergency for much of Michigan following two days of a record snowfall that left much of the state buried under two to four feet of snow.

## Indian Land Claims Negotiations Slated

By MARC ROSENWASSER  
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Substantive negotiations have been scheduled in an effort to settle two Upstate New York Indian tribes' claim that 75,000 acres were taken from them illegally, government officials said Friday.

The St. Regis Mohawks and Cayugas

say treaties transferring ownership of the land from the tribes to the state between 1790 and 1850 are invalid because they were not approved by the federal government, as required by the Indian Trade and Intercourse Act of 1790.

A third Upstate New York Indian tribe, the Oneidas, claim between 200,000 and 250,000 acres were taken from them illegally by the state. But government officials say no negotiations have been scheduled about that claim because of a split in the tribe.

The federal government, which until two years ago didn't accept responsibility for the Indians' loss of land, is now supporting the claims by the Mohawks and the Cayugas against the state.

"They may have been paid something for the lands, but if they were it was pretty nominal," said Kay Oberly, a Justice Department attorney. "Basically, the Indians didn't have a whole lot of choice about giving up their lands."

At a procedural meeting here Thursday, the parties agreed to begin negotiating Feb. 16 in Albany. Subsequent meetings were scheduled at the tribes' reservations March 2 and March 3, and then March 16 here.

"All parties agree that an out-of-court settlement would be better than resolving the case through litigation," as the Interior Department recommended, Miss Oberly said. "It would be faster and fairer."

The Mohawks are claiming about 14,000 acres of land in Franklin and St. Lawrence counties near the Canadian border, while the Cayugas claim about 60,000 acres in Seneca and Cayuga counties.

## Tip of Finger Sent to Family Of Captive

PARIS (AP) — Kidnappers of a millionaire Belgian baron have sent the family a handwritten letter, an identification card and the tip of a finger to prove they are holding him, police said Friday.

Officers said the letter and identification card appear to be from Baron Edouard-Jean Empain, abducted Monday in front of his luxury apartment on Paris' Avenue Foch. They gave no indication of what the letter said.

They added that experts were unable to determine if the bit of flesh from a left hand finger was genuinely the baron's.

The letter and identification card were in an envelope left in a baggage deposit at Paris train station. The bit of flesh, wrapped in gauze, was left in a baggage deposit in another Paris station. Word of the drop was telephoned to a member of the Empain family, police officers said.

Press reports said a family representative was negotiating with the abductors, who were previously

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