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RECEIVED BY TRIBAL
SECRETARY

The Honorable
Percell Powless
Tribal Chairman
Oneida Tribal Business Committee
P.O. Box 365
Oneida, Wisconsin 54155

JUL 9 1987

ONEIDA TRIBE OF
INDIANS OF WISCONSIN

Pr

Md/ht

Bitte beziehen Sie sich auf vorstehendes Aktenzeichen.
Please refer to above-mentioned file-number.

June 19, 1987

Dear Mr. Powless:

According to recent talks with your Tribal Secretary Gordon McLester, it is a pleasure for me to confirm the arrangements which have been made concerning the visit of an Oneida Dance Group consisting of 24 participants to Germany. The invitation is extended also to Mr. Bob Smith, Director of the Oneida Museum. Lufthansa German Airlines will provide tickets for the Oneida Dance Group, the various institutions in Germany which will be part of the tour, have promised to provide transportation and accommodation. The responsible organizer of the tour will be Mr. Karl Stocker. He will supply all further details regarding this tour.

The Oneida Dance Group will have the opportunity in Germany to meet not only with the general public but also with museums, universities and schools. The itinerary is meanwhile complete and we have among others the agreements of two of the best European Anthropological Museums to host the Oneida Dance Group. Those are the Linden-Museum in Stuttgart and the Niedersächsische Landesmuseum in Hannover. These and other institutions and interested groups are looking forward to the unique opportunity of experiencing the Iroquois/Oneida culture.

Sincerely yours,


Max Maldacker
Vice Consul



LINDEN-MUSEUM STUTTGART
- Staatliches Museum für Völkerkunde -

JUL 8 1987

┌ Linden-Museum Stuttgart · Hegelplatz 1 · D-7000 Stuttgart 1 ┐

ONEIDA TRIBE OF
INDIANS OF WISCONSIN

Mr.
Purcell Powless
Oneida Executive Committee
P.O. Box 365
Oneida, Wisc. 54155-0365
U.S.A.

Vermittlung: (0711) 2050-1

Durchwahl: (0711) 2050-

Stuttgart, den 2nd July 1987

Ihre Nachricht vom:

Ihr Zeichen:

Unser Zeichen:

Dear Purcell,

Happy summer greetings from Stuttgart!

Do you remember the conference at Mülheim and the first speaker (with the short hair), well, that was me.

How is the Oneida Bingo? And how are you? I am sure if the Bingo is profitable you will be well, too.

I hope you have returned to Oneida-Land full of good impressions and many inspirations that help you face everyday life.

Meanwhile the group of people who coordinate the Germany trip of the "Oneida Sing and Dance Group" (as I call them not knowing whether the group has a name) have met and developed a tour schedule. We have discussed various possibilities in relation to the group's performances to make it a good experience for everybody.

As a result of our experiences with an interested public audience we would like to ask the group to provide an insight into the dances, costumes, songs and instruments of the Oneida, as a part of the Iroquois Federation. It would be especially interesting if the group could demonstrate how dances, costumes, songs and life style have changed through time and explain their importance within the Oneida culture in the past and present. I am convinced that the group will represent the Oneida Nation the best way possible and introduce the interested public as well as the "experts" to the historic development from the traditional dances to the Powwow dances of today. Some people I have talked to are especially looking forward to the traditional costumes with its beautiful beadwork or even quill embroidery.

I can assure you that expectations here are very high, especially among the members of Indian hobbyist groups who are extremely knowledgeable when it comes to traditional costumes, dances and songs. Most of them make their whole outfits themselves using "old" techniques and materials such as porcupine quills, moose hair and beads (of course).

Expectations will also be high in the media world - various newspapers, radio and even tv-stations have declared their interest.

Dienstgebäude: Hegelplatz 1 · Sprechstunden: Mittwoch 14.00 bis 16.30 Uhr, nach Voranmeldung



Einfahrt Herdweg

The complete media coverage will be put together in a documentation to let the performing group members and the Oneida people know about the event and the responses over here.

We thought that the Oneida group should also be given the opportunity to introduce the German public to the Oneida Nation (land, natural environment and resources, people's everyday life - not to forget the Bingo game!).

Based on past experiences with poorly performing groups (from all over the world, not only Indians) and severe public criticism, some cultural institutions are still reluctant to cooperate - they want to be insured that the Oneida group adheres to high standards.

Karl Stocker, the liaison person to the German embassy, airline and railroad company, as well as Karin Walz, a journalist of a local newspaper, will visit Oneida the coming weeks to discuss the whole program in detail with the group to make final decisions.

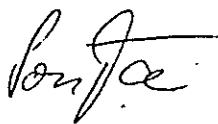
As far as I can see, the tour will be quite an experience for the group, besides performances we also have scheduled some "pleasure activities".

I feel that sharing this information with you could be of importance to you as the tribal chairman. This trip will definitely have a major impact on how people in Germany view the Oneida and through them American Indians in general.

Karl Stocker confirmed that Robert Smith will be part of the group which I was glad to hear. As you know I have met him here in Stuttgart before and we had a very inspiring exchange of ideas and thoughts. Please give my regards to Bob if you see him (in the Bingo lounge, museum, or where your paths might meet). I am very much looking forward to get to know the other "representatives" of the Oneida Nation, whom I have not met so far. Are you sure you will not be part of the group? Well, whenever you return to Germany, please let me know, I would be glad to have you here as a guest.

Until we meet again I wish you many happy days, nice people around you and a successful Bingo and if I am not wrong a good election!

Best regards,



(Sonja Schierle)

P.S.: Thanks again for the "Wolves and Humans"-T shirt which has become one of my favorite tops to wear.

Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin

Post Office Box 365

Phone: 869-1260

Oneida, WI 54155



Oneidas bringing several hundred bags of corn to Washington's starving army at Valley Forge, after the colonists had consistently refused to aid them



UGWADÉMOLUM YATEHE
Because of the help of this Oneida Chief in cementing a friendship between the six nations and the Colony of Pennsylvania, a new nation, the United States was made possible

FOR AGENDA
7/14/87

MEMORANDUM

TO: Oneida Business Committee
FROM: L. Gordon McLester *LM*
DATE: July 10, 1987
SUBJECT: Request from Germany

In June of 1986, Mr. Karl Stocker and a reporter friend of his from Germany were traveling through our area and stopped to visit our Museum.

I was called at home and asked to give them more information about the Oneida People. They had just come from the Menominee Community and were anxious to learn more about the American Indian in general.

After discussion, they viewed the films that were made by the Tribe during the mid 70's, which included our Dance Group. They asked if our Dance Group would consider a tour to Germany if they could arrange it. They were told that we would be interested and they went back and started work on a possible tour.

Since that time, we have had various meetings trying to put everything together. As the attached letters show, we are nearing the time for the tour to be possible. The scheduled time is October 14, 1987 to November 4, 1987.

I explained from the beginning that our Oneida Dance Group was not a part of the Tribal Government, but we were all Oneida people. Their response was that they would like this to be a government to government arrangement where the Oneida government would support the invitation to the Oneida Dance Group to tour Germany with no financial expense from the Oneida Government.

As explained in the letter, we would be taking 24 Oneida people on the group. We will be doing a combination on Traditional dances, Pow-wow dances and Oneida songs. The elders will be able to cover the traditional and contemporary areas very well.