

AMERICAN INDIAN HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

University of New Mexico

Tape Number: #459 Side I

Tribe: Indians of all Tribes

Informant: La Rayne Parrish (Navajo)

Informant's home address: Far West Lab. Berkely

Band or Clan: Kayenta

Date and location of interview: 2/5/70

Field Worker: Boyd, Anna, Dennis<sup>J</sup> Stanford

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Contents: Conditions of the Island, Filming on the Island and work being done by the Far West lab.

Evaluation of Interview:

Future Prospects:

Tape #459  
MISCELLANEOUS - ALCATRAZ  
La Rayne Parrish  
February 5, 1970  
STANFORD AND BOYD  
Side One

CONDITIONS OF THE ISLAND AND  
FAR WEST LAB.

QB. What relationship do you have with Alcatraz?

AP. Do you want for me to identify myself first? Or do you want...

QB. You can go anonymous if you want...

AP. Well, I guess my whole life revolves around what is happening on Alcatraz. I have been involved with the movement for about two and a half months now. And overall I feel it's a beautiful thing, and a movement like this is long overdue but I guess it has always been the nature of Indian people not to jump into things until the time is right and but my total relationship has been more of, and doing a visual anthropology kind of a thing. I have been filming and photographing what's been happening out on the island for sometime, interviewing people, finding out how they feel about what is happening at all age levels. I have talked with a number of older people that have come from the Ranch Rios in California, that have come from reservations, from states all across the nation...and...

QB. What you were saying a little earlier about this filming that you are doing, and you felt that you wanted to, how was it...you wanted like Indians to do a filming about Indians like...instead of...it is like a reverse trip of what everybody else has been doing...

AP. Oh sure...that is the only thing that can be done...for many years ...especially in the past 100 years, the non-Indians...particularly the white people has always felt a need to do things for the Indians

...never allowing the Indian person to do anything themselves and after being on the island for sometime and just observing the kinds of people, the kinds of press people that have been coming on the island, wanting to do a documentary, wanting to write a book, wanting to take photographs and make a book out of it, but all for their own profit...really not anything that could directly benefit the Indians...I strongly believe that any kind of a documentary should be made, it should be done by the Indians themselves...right now there are a number of tribes of Indians living on the island. They want to do their own thing, they don't want...so far they have been getting a lot of public support from non-Indians but that is all a part of the revolution I think...but I think that it is strictly is an Indian movement and it has to be and for something like this to be documented as an historical event, if it is going to be documented by film, it should be done by Indians with the Indian feeling in it. Right now there is a non Indian who is trying to do the film, I don't think he can do a feeling, I don't think he can do the film, the kind of film that needs to be done I mean, not only to be shown to the nation...but internationally...

QB. Is it kind of a matter of him being able to relate to the people that he uses...?

AP. That is a good term that you are using...I think this is what he is doing exactly...using what is happening. At the beginning I talked, like I have talked to a number of people who wanted to do photographing, filming...but it all bears back as they wanting to do their own trip...

...Now...the Indian Council, the Alcatraz council members...have voted to have first rights of all photographs and all the filming that has been done so far, and we will also have the right to sue anyone if the materials are used without our permission. But I think that if a non-Indian is going to come here...I just don't believe that any non-Indian is capable of putting out a film that is needed to make any kind of an impact...

QB. So the filming that you will be doing is like, well...I don't know how to say it, it will in a sense be more for the Indians and you will show it to other Indians no matter if you get any profits or not, and in the sense that if a non-Indian does the films it he will be doing it for the money and publicity that he can see...so you want publicity but in a sense how did you say you want it, you want to put it in a way that it will be more identifiable...

AP. Yeah, I guess we could say...I think this film...if the film should be made...the proceeds and the rights should belong to the Indians of all tribes incorporated...whether it be used initially for educational purposes, but eventually I am sure it will be distributed commercially...but all proceeds...not all proceeds, but a partial proceeds should be...given to the educational cultural complex.

QB. I don't know...like if you took this out to some of the chapter houses or something...like that...where if they can you know speak English or what they can, they can still grasp the meaning from it in a different way, than when, like a cowboy-Indian movie...you know...

AP. Yeah...I think that if the film were to be done by Indians it would

be more readily understood by other Indians...and the way it is put together will be a message for the non-Indian people it would have to be...but I don't think if the Indians themselves...I don't think that there will be any problem in understanding what is happening out there...

QB. There is one question that I have been wondering about...I guess we talked about it before about rural Indians and urban Indians...I mean, how does that fit into this picture about Alcatraz...

AP. Well there are a great deal, you will see tomorrow...there are a great deal of rural and urban Indians involved in the movement, but I think, I couldn't say whether it was an urban...I think it was an urban movement initially...I mean it was started by urban Indians but it doesn't end there, what's happened to the urban Indian is a result of what has happened on the reservation and that alone, that movement alone is symbolic of the need for attention on the rural areas and reservations in the United States!

QB. Is that in a sense why it is real important for rural Indians to come into contact or receive some kind of communication, like seeing a film or any kind of news media in the urban area...they should be more distributed on the reservation.

AP. Oh sure, this is the difference in the thing that we discussed... this movie, is to be distributed to reservations, to schools and to whoever wants to see it.

QB. I wonder how much those people will accept it in the sense?

AP. I don't know how they will accept it...but I think that they will be

more apt to accept it as a good film because it is being done by Indians...

QS. When you said that that guy who is doing your filming isn't an Indian...what is he planning to do with it? Show it to the whites or Indians or what?

AP. At the beginning when we talked about the film we wanted to make the film but more like a groovy kind of a revolution because many people have a romantic idea about the American Indians, and he also wants to make it into a hip revolution kind of a movie, but that really isn't where it is at with the Indians. They are...a lot of them are hip towards what is happening to the society and things that are happening around the world but that is only secondary to what has really happened to the Indians in the past 100 years, the past 400 years, should I say...I mean they are serious...we are serious, when we talked about it, it wasn't, it didn't have the treatment of the film didn't have the depth that it needed. From what I see now, whoever directs or produces the film has to put the depth of the reservation life into it. It must have that because, if it wasn't for the reservation life, we wouldn't be able to put out this film on Alcatraz...

QB. Right now, with Alcatraz, aside from the state provisions and food supplies or whatever, is it like a big legal or political hassle now to get the point across...?

AP. What are you speaking of...the movement or the film?

QB. No, the movement...

AP. From my observation like this at all levels of the movement...

everything is going well. It made quite an impact the first month, especially in the Bay area...it covered the front pages of the paper just about. I don't know what kind of coverage the newspapers carried outside of the bay area, but seeing the Saturday Review...seeing the recent Time Magazine article...it's gotten national coverage. There have been, international presses coming onto the island. We have had the Italian press, the French, the German, the British...all covering the movement. Again I say...as a result of the good press coverage it has touched the Indian on the island, pepped up the morale...and has just added more strength to the whole movement... at all levels...The Indian people on the island are people who are living on the island make up one good, they are the basis of the whole movement, from there are elected council members who act as spokesmen...the council members have, are working with at least a dozen attorney's across the nation...on top of that there have been ad-hoc committee member made up of professional Indian people, connected with universities and colleges who act as advisors and technical capacities or technical problems...there was a little dissention there for a while...but that was I mean that is a normal and a healthy kind of, that is a healthy part of any kind of a movement I think is to have disagreement...if it weren't for disagreement... you know where would the movement be...

QB. You have to question each other...

AP. You can't really question your own roles...or actions...but now... with periodic elected councilmen...well they are able to exchange

ideas and just ways of dealing with the movement...and giving it the strength it needs...to make the impact to the Non-Indians and you know in the United States and all over the world...

QB. You know I was thinking that during this summer time, it seems like a lot of more Indians will be living out there as residents...and I was wondering how that effected the ones that have been living there for so long...

AP. Well, it has been a continual fluctuation of residents...initially there were some 150 college students from all over there, mostly in California and then all the (?) during the winter quarter and the next semester and now...I mean everybody is helping one another...Some of the college kids go back to school and continue their education and some of the drop outs come and take over and this gives everybody a chance to play what leadership roles they can and become involved in the movement and they can identify with that...we have people off the streets...the Indian people from the Indian communities in the bay area...from the reservation area...all supporting so I think the whole, it is just a cross section of the Indian people...

QB. You know when I was back home I heard some people that, all their own type of communication or things they had heard like through some newspaper pictures you know like big articles, just tiny ones and from the radio and then from hearsay and it seems like some of the people I talked to felt that it was going down and they felt that Alcatraz a would be petered out in a couple of months...and I was wondering if they had that feeling because they had indirect contact



or whether the communication from here wasn't getting over there...  
you know, what was...

AP. Sure, that is understandable...you know most of the major newspapers are establishment papers...and I think establishment papers will do anything to not let news out like this...because it's detrimental to the American society...despite our freedom of the press and all this stuff...I think the only, I think we have had underground newspapers from New York...underground papers in the bay area from Los Angeles have been covering the movement for us...but establishment papers controlled Aliotason and they can the newsmen and press can control articles anywhere they want...anyway they want.

QB. Has Alioto really said anything about the whole thing?

AP. Alioto hasn't said a thing...before that Indians took...about five Indians took over the island, five years ago...in '65 about a year after Alcatraz was closed...and I don't know...what the particulars were about you know what happened exactly, but they took it in October, the first part of October, some students from Cal and S. of State...and they were asked to leave they left and they returned a couple of weeks later to stay...

QB. Well what...

AP. I don't know what Alioto has said...Alioto (?) he has no great deal of influence over the country...dissiminating information like this, important information...from our view point, that has to be gotten out and this is why we have to try to make contact with people outside the Bay Area in every state and in every city...and get things out like this...

QB. Do you guys want to ask anything...

QS. No, this is your three dollars...

QB. Oh really

AP. How will you be using the information that you are getting...

QS. Are you familiar with the Duke foundation? Grant for oral history...  
most of this data will be available for Indian history classes  
at UNM and it will be available to bonafide Indian scholars and that  
is all...

QS. What do you think about that?

AP. I think it is a very good idea...I think it is a very good idea

QS. Hopefully we are going to start an Indian History class...on campus  
next semester whenever....did you get on the role for this semester  
or not?

QB. I don't know...it is kind of a (?) it is a bunch of tokenism that  
we are getting

AP. Well hell, take it...

QS. You better believe it.

AP. Even if it is tokenism...we are aware that it is tokenism...use it...  
and ask for more, there is definitely a need for it...especially in  
the southwest where there is a great Indian population...

QS. What have you guys been talking about?

QB. Oh we just talked a little bit about Alcatraz and that is all...what  
else did we say?

AP. Do you know what I can do...I have been trying to keep track of all  
the information that has been put out in the newspaper...I could

make copies of it and you could like put out your own newsletter...  
on Native American Studies...just reproduce the whole...all of it  
articles out of the warpath...No I don't have the articles here...  
I might have them here just a second...

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- QS. Some of us weren't particularly impressed with some of the Indians we met today can you give us some kind of comment on what you feel, the kind of students that are being attracted to this movement...are by and large they pretty sincere or are a number of them just coming because of the publicity and that sort of situation.?
- AP. No, I don't think so...I think the majority of the people that are now involved as residents and as leaders are very serious about what has happened. A lot of the people have experienced reservation life; they know what it is like to, they know what the feeling is when their parents have to live on welfare, when they have to depend of the Bureau of Indian Affairs and their services...their families and relatives have to depend on the reservation, Bureau of Indian Affairs and PHS and other government employment agencies, just for a job just for a livelihood just to exist...I think a lot, the majority...I think maybe half of the students I would say, that is just a guess...are family, are students that have been through the reservation schools...I don't...I can understand why you might have maybe had some problems in relating to the people. A lot of people have been interested in getting photographing and interviewing and just wanting information about the movement, I think the kind of response...well it is a healthy kind of response...well it is a healthy

kind of response to be defensive...did you find that?

QS. It wasn't questions and answers...it was just around New Mexico we begged quite a bit by what we call card carrying Indians...you know...

AP. Oh because this has just happened...they want to be part of it...

QS. Right...

AP. I don't think so...I really don't think so, I don't see it in that way. I can only speak for myself. I have been involved in Indian Affairs like this for a long time on and off the reservation before I came up here...I had completely gotten out of it in September because it just strained me emotionally...physically because I was aware that so much had to be done...and it takes really a lot of strength and a lot of patience to be able to do what people are doing out on the island. I don't think that a lot of them are card carrying kind of Indians...whether they are aware of it or not...it will come out...I mean that...if they are just on a groovy kind of trip just for their ego...interests...that won't last long...

QS. Well, we were down to the pier this afternoon, there was several guys that, I am not so sure that they were part of the group...but they were Indians and I would say they reminded me of riff raff...they guys that hang out in the bars around Mission Street, you get a bunch of this bugging you...

AP. Well, like I said earlier...we have all kinds of people involved in the movement...initially it was like educated Indians out there doing the thing...some with bourgeois backgrounds...some like Reneda Means, who has been through the Indian ghetto scene in the Bay Area...

but because of her wanting to liberate her own people, she is out there fighting...and the kinds of people that you met...on the pier are people that were attracted to the movement...these people before the movement hung out in the parts out on the streets without a damn thing to do...That is why the movement is happening because of people like that...whether they are aware of their behavior now, or whether they are aware of the way they treat other people now...they are bound to learn from it...and in a few months or in a few years but what's happened out there has just been tremendous. Really, I think that everybody that has been involved in the movement one way or another with all the hustle and all we will all have learned from it...How can people from diverse backgrounds from all over the nation be...I mean how can a group of people like that live together and expect to survive and make any kind of an impact at all on 12 acres ...you know, it is just tremendous...

QS. Well the other question was sort of leading to this...that I didn't feel that this particular people of Mission Street type were sincere and they were just there and you just said it a minute ago because it is just the thing...

AP. Whether they are sincere or not...the fact that they are there helping when manpower support is needed they are there...they are identifying with it...before this movement in the eyes of a lot of people they were nowhere and in the eyes of a lot of people they are still nowhere ...but every person out there really means something you know, whether it will be just to riff raff or not...they are an individual and

they are one of the numbers that help...

QS. You are having trouble getting to the boats and captains to go back and forth...now while we were down there they had gotten in a new boat, a new captain, he had been paid and there was a drunk Indian down there, an older man...and he was arguing with the captain, and he said well, I am part of the council and I didn't authorize that you do this and he was really harassing this captain and the captain was getting mad and said, well god's sake if you don't shut up and quit bugging me, I'm not going to run any Indian anywhere...you know and this kind of thing helping...or even the possibly the guy wasn't even part of the group he just somebody that just happened along...

AP. Yeah, I understand what you are saying...but despite the Indians being drunk and trying to do something...we have got to help them...think positively how every way that you can, try to relate...whether they are drunk or not...help them...for a while some people have tried to put the drunk Indians off...and it really pissed me off...it really did because this is just one of the reasons of the movement...

QB. I was thinking about that...you know being wrong in a sense that maybe you should have an Indian boat captain...

AP. Yeah, I dig it...

QB. He says...I am suppose to take people across three times a day and that is all I know...and like it was...

AP. Okay, up until maybe a month ago we had our own boat...we had a boat large enough to carry 40 people...the boat was owned by an Indian man...

but again we had the problem of a lot of riff raffing...but that riff raffing goes back to the Mission street...I mean why are the Indians there in the first place...why they get into that position...

QS. Well, why does anybody...whatever

AP. Right...right...their drunkenness...sure that is an escape for them.

QL. From the white society?

AP. It is just a cry for recognition like that...

QS. I don't know if I can buy that either...or President Nixon...

QS. What was that you were saying, Ron, about the Indian Image...?

QL. Well, the Indian image has always been this down trodden, you know just this thing that you have been talking about. And there's a lot of sincere people are helping the ignorance of Indians, who have always lived their lives, maybe say San Francisco, who have always gone to work from eight to five...you know...always down in the rush hour traffic, always take their three week paid vacation during the summer...this type of people I think are the types that are called the silent majority...they are the ones that rule this great country of ours supposedly...and this is the image they always had of the Indians you know and what really ticks me off is you see this there...we saw it this morning on the pier and this is just kind of taking a step backwards rather than your good intention of trying to go forward you are actually regressing in some ways and this is what really turned me off because there are a lot of sincere Indians a lot of Indians that really need all this help and they are the ones... they are the segment that is being neglected and this other segment here

is always at this point, they are taking advantage of the situation  
...this is bothering me.

AP. Yeah...right, I understand that...see...this has, it doesn't have to be a part of it, but it is a part of it and we have to accept that and we just have to deal with it some way like reassuring these cats that they don't have to booze, that they no longer have to depend on alcohol to escape the problems or escape the feeling of being inadequate...I mean it is...we just have to reassure one another, that's not where it's at anymore...I think that maybe if we think more in positive terms more all the time...helping the guy who is on the pier maybe drunk...say, hey John...I don't think that you should be drunk and working on the boat...we have rules within the organization that if anybody is boozing on the boat or boozing on the island they have to split because there is no time for that, as a part of a movement...oh yes...we have security who controls things like that... a lot of these guys if they just get a few cents in their pockets will go out and buy a bottle of wine you know, and it is sad...it is a sad thing...we just have to say just talk to them, whether they are on a drunk or a sober mind...and just continually reassure them... these people that alcohol will not help. I have seen many drunk Indians on the pier and I have felt very bad...Just the other day I witnessed one of the guys, a thirty year old Sioux...who was his birthday he was celebrating, went in to buy a pack of cigarettes at Casanovas...one of the large exclusive restaurants on the Wharf. I was standing right outside the door the guy went in and the hostess



came and said...I am sorry you can't come in here you are not dressed properly...you don't look like you should be a person to be in here ...and a guy...a little drunk and he got pissed...and he said well let me make a phone call and mentioned something about discriminating against Indians and the hostess made some remark about not being properly dressed...and so he managed to make a phone call and they called the manager, I don't know what kind of talk they had, the guy hung up on him, he called nine times and every time the police department hung up on him....And then again the whole SE police department is again influenced by Alioto...Alioto is probably the most wealthiest man in the Bay Area...

AX. He just fired the Chief of Police...

AP. Tom Cahill...

AX. They fired him...

QL. What was the place called?

AP. Casanova's...it is right in front of Scomas...I'll take you down to the pier sometimes John...

QX. I am going to dress up sometimes and go in there...

AP. No really, these people are just going to have to accept the fact that whether a person is dressed or not you know...wants something and they are there to service people, customers...I don't think they should be so hung up in establishment kinds of roles where a person has to wear a tie and a white shirt...walk into a place and...I just don't think that is...

QS. We got discriminated against down on Mission Street last night...

- QB. We were going to go into that place right next to the hotel...we were going to go in and get just one drink before we go in...we walked in...(?) I guess it is kind of hard to realize the situation here when it is so innocent, it is so different...and like the people know what do to with it, turn from their.
- AP. I think it is a lot more freer here...at least I can go out to the street and sell warpath you know...without fearing that my family would be fired from their jobs if I were to do it on an off reservation...I mean it has happened before to me. My brothers and sisters couldn't get hired because of my attitudes...I mean I am black listed on the BIA that doesn't bother me because I just don't want to have anything to do with those kinds of people...it is a waste of my time and energy...I guess that is really why I left, because it was really frustration for me to try to work on the newspaper in Tuba City
- QS. Where are you from?
- AP. Kayenta...but now...just the whole Bay Area and especially Berkeley... where there are so many other people that feel like I do...most of the students here are frustrated by our society...and the way that it's going and we all share this and we all help one another...I think the largest support...the bulk of the support we have gotten for the movement has been from the hip people from around the Bay Area...
- QS. Yeah, I would suspect so...mainly from them...
- AP. And the Bay Area is known to be quite free...and it is a continual fight...every way...the whole building here is on strike...\$160 for

this one bedroom apartment...We have to change lightbulbs every other day because of defective wiring...the landlord who owns another apartment building...in addition to this one had a defective gas heater...a guy died of asphixiation. Now we have a suit filed against him. And it just has to be a cooperative effort you know on everybody's part...

QB. So you guys in this whole building are striking?

AP. Putting the money into the bank to the landlord until we get this place fixed up...this place has been painted once before since we moved in...it has to be painted again...what actually they should do is if they refuse to maintain their apartment is to at least have a step ladder, boxes of light bulbs in storage for their tenants...

QS. I can't believe it...\$160 a month?

AP. Exactly...it is just outrageous...it is like that in Berkeley, all over...you can't get a one bedroom for less than that...

QS. That is ten dollars more than what I pay...

QL. And this guy has got a mansion...according to this...

QS. Gee, at least a place for my horse...I could put it here or in the bathroom...Well, let's get off this and...what are you doing at the Far West Labs?

AP. Indian Education work...Indian Education work generally...right now I am working as a research intern...and I was hired to develop an Indian history course and this is what I am doing right now is getting a course together for a high school or for high school level anyway and it is going to be done by a whole total audio visual experience

...I will be using six projectors...slides, plus the film I've shot...  
I have got some research to do yet and to the tree making, getting  
a factual information using Buffy Sainte Marie, a couple of her  
recordings...also Indian songs you know, and so it's going to be...

QS. Why are you using Buffy Sainte Marie?

AP. Why?

QS. Yeah, Why?

AP. Because I like two of her records and it goes in well with what I  
am doing like and Now The Buffalos Have Gone"...that is the one and  
another is "Suffer Little Children"...which is a paradox on the  
establishment...I think that all relates to Indian history...but after  
I get this together I hope that it can be used for schools...

QS. Will it be generally available? Like if we would be interested in  
seeing your material at the University of New Mexico, could the  
department of History...

AP. Sure...of course that would depend on whether the Indians of all  
Tribes Incorporated of Alcatraz approve of Far West Laboratory using  
it...I still have to talk with an attorney to find out whether we  
can use it at least for developmental purposes...and if it gets that  
far I would still have to work closely with the Indians of All Tribes  
Inc. in getting their full approval in having all rights reserved for  
them...and then Far West Labs can probably distribute it to schools  
and maybe commercially...

QS. What exactly does Far West Labs do?

AP. It is one of the nine of ten regional educational laboratories in

the nation, Far West Laboratories is located and covers the west coast...you have a similar one in Albuquerque...what is it called... Southwestern...Cooperative Laboratories for Education...something like that...

QS. His wife works there...I didn't know that they were related...and what type of people are running it here...is it run by Indians?

AP. No...it is, a research laboratory of all kinds of professional people...working people, psychologist, educators...anthropologists... I guess that is about...social scientists...if you have heard of Dr. Jack Woods who is now on Davis Campus developing a program for a native American University on The Davis Campus...works with the laboratory...his work is the base of what we are doing...in multi-cultural education. He has done all kinds of handbooks for educators on Native Americans, on Blacks, on Chicanos

QS. Then this laboratory is designed specifically to deal with Indian problems?

AP. Our department right about two years ago, the National Indian Youth Council asked FAR West Labs to do a study for them and this has been the study that has been done and is being...it hasn't been fully released by the Carnegie corporation yet, but they funded the research project and Francis McKinley who is now the director of the National Indian Training Center at Tempe directed the program, but he has left a laboratory and we have about, actually there is only two Indians there with the project..myself and Horace Spencer, who has a Navajo Cultural tutorial program going for the Navajo community in

Oakland for Children and their parents. But we all work very closely...critique one another...have hassles but they all work out...

QB. We were just talking about what we saw...

AP. Oh, would you like to hear it? I will play it...

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QS. Would you tell us about Buffy Sainte Marie and Alcatraz...

AP. Oh...Buffy was out there about the second week of December...the women's...some women's organization on the Stanford Campus gave a benefit for us and she contributed several thousand dollars towards the Alcatraz Relief Fund...and she also spend the weekend out at Alcatraz with us...and generally is quite informed on what's happening, all over the nation with Indian movements and Indian organizations...she was able to contribute some of her ideas...but she isn't on...what she has to say...is a peaceful kind of a message... I mean what she says and just person to person level...what she has to say is very cool...you know and she is not on the violent and militant trip. I don't know how you would define militant...but I think for many years she has been doing the Indian movement on her own, but more in an artistic sense through her songs...let me play you something

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Buffy Sainte Marie songs....

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AP. Is this over near Gallup...?

QL. No, this is from Taos...

AP. What is happening there?

- QL. Well in 1904, Roosevelt decreed that certain land be taken for national forests...in 1906 these lands were taken...and ever since that time it has been protected by Indians using this land, day to day...I think you have heard about it...
- AP. I think she would be very happy to do it, of course right now she is in the middle of recording another album and writing a book...
- QS. There is no hurry, we have been waiting since 1906...
- AP. Yeah, but what I am saying is she would probably be very happy to do it before the end of May...I mean before the end of the school year...
- QS. Yeah you see it would have to be...
- QL. You see, the deal is we have to get back in the crowd...
- QS. But they give you a little more detail, the pueblo lands boards met... and said okay, well this land we have been screwed out of...it was roughly 60 thousand acres...
- AP. I don't know...
- QS. And so they were going to pay Taos for the acreage and they awarded them, well 400...and
- QL. \$25,000
- QS. \$425,000, but the Pueblo said, well give us \$120,000 and you keep the rest to the government, just so we get the 50 thousand acres that is surrounding Blue Lake and include Blue Lake...which is like where the annual ceremonials are held...the whole scene and so they said fine and they kept the three hundred and some thousand dollars and gave the pueblo...the hundred and twenty thousand
- AP. Boy those Red Lechers in New Mexico...

QS. And we never got the land...you know and it has been in court ever since then...

QL. It's gotten through every year you know...

QS. It has gotten through the house every year, but the Senate always turns it down...

QL. And the only reason why the Senate always turns it down is because of Clinton P. Anderson he is a senior member of the senate and is the spokesman as the senior member on the house Indian subcommittee... and

QS. We have got a damn good lawyer, but the problem is he's costing us \$40 an hour.

QL. And this is what we have to pay for...

QS. And we have got a bill run up about \$41,000

AP. Find out, find out if there are any attorneys that would be willing to take the case for you so you don't have to pay them that much bread...

QL. Well you see the deal is...there aren't that many attorneys that...

AP. Okay...okay...all you have to do is talk with Geomick, the attorney in charge...he might be able to give you the names of other attorneys that might be willing to take your case. There are older attorneys that are working on the Alcatraz case, there are so many bright law students now...like the majority of the DNA attorneys on the reservation for instance are from top law schools all over the nation ...and they believe in what they are doing, you know...but I think

QS. With Bernal being chief gun...we can't get rid of this guy...



AP. I know, but get somebody else to assist in the research and all that stuff...

QS. Well that is all done...

AP. I don't mean assistant, but attorney...

QS. If we could just get that one vote in the senate...

AP. Have you done any lobbying at all?

QS. We haven't...

QL. Well like our segment...up to now...the ones that have always argued, have always been year in and year out...

QS. Like we must have written six hundred letters to senators and representatives this fall when it came up in the house...and I mean, but we don't have the bread to go to DC

QL. That is what we want to do eventually

AP. Probably just continual letters and lobbying I think might be effective because last spring this lobbying...I was a member of the California Indian educational association last year and it is probably the largest Indian organization in California (?) and we had to do this you know, we lobbied...and all the time the senators and congressmen and Indian people asking them support... a bill which would do away with advisory council on Indian affairs, which was made up of legislators from Orange County, conservative Glendale you know, communities like that...and we didn't like that and so we brought, we had a hearing in Sacramento and we all contacted one another...we were all prepared because we didn't know when the hearing was going to be scheduled...they were closed hearings on it and so we had people watching and they would call us up like that

and everybody flocked to Sacramento and filmed the whole court battle...and testified saying...we had no use for these people these Indian people form our own committees. The guy who was fighting us Senator Harman from Glendale (?) token Indian, but his token Indian didn't show to testify that it was voted up on and passed to do away with it, the advisory council on Indian affairs...So that is no longer, there is no longer a committee...but after the Alcatraz thing started Senator Murphy who was a member of the committee...but after the Alcatraz thing started Senator Murphy who was a member of the committee on Indian affairs made comments against the Alcatraz occupation movement...saying that legally it wasn't, couldn't be recognized. He tried to...his misinforming, misinterpreting everything that was being done...That didn't get anywhere either...what can they really say...I mean...you know, all in the United States, the land, has been taken...

- QS. Do you hope that Alcatraz will set a precedence possible for some of these other land cases?
- AP. I think so, of course, now we are really in trouble...population explosion...air pollution...they are just going to have...we've got a few years left on this earth...I think. They might as well give a chance for all people to live...it is just madness...
- QS. (?) Ecology...in San Francisco...it is a pretty dismal thing...
- AP. Sure, I can see it...
- QS. We can see it too...over in the Mohave...we can see the smog...pouring out, all the way in...

- AP. Yeah, it is quite obvious, it has been obvious that the cities have been in trouble you know, but there isn't a spot on the in, this whole nation that isn't contaminated...if it isn't contaminated by air, the people are contaminating it...the rich ranchers in New Mexico, for instance...the BIA...on the Indian reservations are completely gone...
- QL. But the rich ranchers aren't from New Mexico they're from Texas...their holdings in New Mexico...
- AP. Exactly...
- QL. There are no rich New Mexicans...
- AP. But the whole mentality is so unhealthy...it is insane...yeah...
- QS. There is clean air and free people at Point Barrow...
- QL. No that is contaminated...hell, there is more radio activity...
- QS. The only rich man in Barrow is an Eskimo...it is contaminated with the fall out really...every piece of reindeer that you eat is bound to kill you sooner or later...caribou, excuse me...
- AP. You know...I am almost afraid to leave the Bay Area...I am afraid that it will be such a culture shock...and then again I am quite aware of how the silent majority is...the silent majority...is only...
- QS. Hey, we did a neat thing tonight...we grabbed us a typical Bay Area resident and we taped about 3 hours on what he thought about Indian problems and he never thought about it before of course we got you know the standard generalization bull shit...yeah, we have got some Indians...
- QL. It worked...sure, that is what you get...generalization
- QS. I think it would be quite useful for classrooms...

- QL. Yeah, it would be...it is...
- QS. Now, this is the kind of stuff that you have to fight...
- QL. But that is the same part of the population that you are going to reach also...that is the sense of the population, they create all the action they either do you in or do something for you...
- QS. I am really glad we talked to you tonight because I was pretty disillusioned with some of the people that we met, talked to, they were really flying people...
- AP. Well a lot of that is just surface observations...you aren't the only people that have mentioned things like this...a lot of people have left the island with mixed feelings...and it is a healthy feeling to have, because everybody wants to see a groovy thing happening you know...and but I tried to over look all the things like that...I don't completely overlook them and ignore them you know...it is all a part of it...
- QL. But in the long run, this is the segment that we are trying to help out too you know...the problems...trying to get at, you know like what part...of the people on the reservation need all the help that we can give them, that segment...we are talking about...
- AP. All over the island, there are all kinds of people with all kinds of different attitudes out there...but it is all the same, I am in the petty defensives...
- QS. Well we talked to that one chick for a long time today and she was really pretty groovy...Miracle...
- AP. Who?

QS. Miracle...

AP. Oh, Miss Miracle...we call her Miss Miracle...yeah...

QS. Outside of addressing three hundred envelopes...no comment...

AP. Did you work at the main line office?

QS. Yeah...

QB. We addressed about 400 envelopes

QS. 400...

AP. Yeah, it's amazing

QS. Yeah, but this is another thing...here we are outsiders...akay...  
god damn, we are glad to help, we will help...

AP. I don't think that you should consider yourselves outsiders at all...

QS. Well that was what we were considered down there...or at least I was  
...but then while we were sitting there...

QL. Like you owe this to us...you come in the door and you owe this to us...

QS. And while we were doing this, a bunch of guys sat down there on  
their god damn fat asses, not doing a damn thing...you know, they could  
have been helping, write these envelopes out...instead they were, I  
don't know...

AP. Well see...Dig it, see, dig it...I don't really think that 100% of  
the people that are involved in the movement really really know the  
impact of it...they have to be reassured that this is a fantastic  
movement...that it takes all, that it takes everyones cooperation,  
everyones energy to keep the ball rolling...a lot of people get up  
tight because only a minority might be carrying the ball...but again...  
they see that there are only a minority carrying the ball...and they

will eventually help, like the guy, even if they were drunk on the pier, they are still helping you know...with the boats...loading and unloading, getting firewood...and

QS. Yeah, we didn't know this...to me it looked like they were just getting in the way and making things worse for what was trying to be done...

AP. A few years ago I would have said, all right you guys...if you believe in this, you better get on your asses and start doing something, you know...but now, I really can't say that...they are all a part of it...I really don't think that anybody has a right to approach anybody else and say that...it is unwinding all the problems that have just developed over 100's of years...and it can't be unwound in 2 and a half months...

QS. Well yeah...well this is how we came up with the other thing...like these guys sitting around...you know, letting somebody else do the work...like maybe after we leave or before we came...they were working their buns off and we were a good coffee break

AP. Yeah, because those guys I know those people...you know...I have been able to relate to all the guys whether they were drunk or not ...I just accept them as a person. Finding help, I would ask them and they were more than happy to help...this is the problem that I will be having now...I am going to stick around for the weekend and I am going to Los Angeles...this relates back to the film and how the film has to have a message...to Indians outside of the Bay Area... but I would like to see this film done by an Indian film crew...and

I am just going to see if I can recruit these guys myself...cause these guys...I know they can do it, like Joe Bill...the guy might have all the time, but he has, he is pretty shrewd and I can get Joe Bill and I can get a guy named White Fox and I can get this other guy named John Jiminez, who is from Southern California, these guys...they are just starting...they might have their petty grievances and all this...but...underneath all that, I know they want to do it and they just have to be reassured...

QL. Well we have to see how they are...our impression of those guys...

QS. White Fox we don't know yet...but we have got a message for him...

AP. You will meet them out there tomorrow

QS. He has got a sleeping bag that we are suppose to borrow...

AP. They have got to have a feel for it...yeah, they are very angry and they have a lot of peeve...and this is why I want to say, all right you guys, I know you can do it...

QL. What kind of songs are you going to use...what tribe?

AP. It will be different kinds of recording it will be all different kinds...

QL. From where...I mean...where are you going to get the recordings?

AP. No, the recordings that we'll use I recorded from the pow wows...and some of the recording...some are from an album called the American Indian song collection, it is put out from I guess out of Taos...

QS. Oh you mean your brothers?

AP. I have a huge album... a set of three records...like it is called...

QS. (?)

AP. Well I am not sure...but they sell it at one of the records shops

down here...my boss has the album and I recorded some...I taped a whole bunch of stuff and taken it out to the island for the kids...

QS. (?)

AP. But they are a combination of mostly plains Indians...you know...and there are some Navajo and some pueblo...Hopi...but they are the most decent recordings that I have heard...and perhaps other recordings should be used...we should hustle and get it together...

QL. You, I don't mean to put you down or anything, but did you know that the kinds of songs that are representative of certain tribes...real good songs...you know what I mean...you get you hear Navajo singing, right?

AP. Yeah, this is what...

QL. (?) are you proficient enough to say, this is...Kiowa song...

AP. That would depend on what the Kiowa people feel...we will contact Kiowa people...find out what they think is most representative of their group...you know...some kind

QS. That depends on the contact...

AP. Sure...

QL. What I am asking is would you yourself know an Indian song taken from a certain tribe...

AP. I probably would have to contact traditional Indians on reservations... they would certainly know...

QS. You are going to be in LA this weekend?

AP. Yeah

QS. (?)



- QL. What I am getting at is you need a good quality recordings to get across and I am not saying that the good, somebody from a certain tribe...he knows the songs, but his knowledge...all the technology that is involved in the recording you know because he is a lamen is a lot less sophisticated...whereas someone who has done this before
- AP. Well a lot of these recordings that I run across, I have checked them out you know, the best one I have got is that record...a set of three records in an album...
- QL. Do you know the album?
- AP. Yeah, a whole collection of them...these are the best songs that I have ever heard...
- QL. You don't have the album?
- AP. In terms of quality...it is stereo you know...I don't...when I speak of quality...all that can be taken care of with the kinds of equipment that we have at the lab...
- QL. Well...
- AP. If you want to go deeper than that...if that isn't any good, we are just going to have to find some way or another to record...
- QL. That is what I mean if you're going to do this you might as well do it right...
- AP. Exactly...
- QL. If you have the best equipment, the best media available to do it...
- AP. I dig that...yeah
- QL. This is what really pisses me off with all these things like say these educational labs are putting out certain methods of teaching

second English...you know and the stuff they use, like the visual media they use is so bad...you see pictures of a little kid and you can't tell whether it is a boy or girl, and pictures of a dog and he has the body of a horse...stuff like that...I just can't see how with all this money, they have such bad...

AP. I dig it...that is my critique about research laboratories...all over the nation...what they are doing now in educational development and research...educational methods and research that should have been done 50 years ago...I mean that is establishment...and if there are going to be any changes, then we have got to start doing it, like now...what I am doing now...I want to do it...apart from the laboratory...they are putting the bread into it, but I am going to do the editing of all, of everything. Of course, I am not really the only one that is going to be doing it...I am going to get the White Fox and these guys to help me...I mean...because why make a person do it if these guys are willing to do it...share it...

QL. Also when you have a common pull like that you get more knowledge... I think that different views and such...

AP. This is the problem that we have...I am in...I have had to contact (?) to discuss this...I don't know what they have discussed about the (?) documentary. He is 25 years old and from Georgia, supposed to be a doctor and he might have the, he might have the technical knowledge of how it is going to be put together...but we need the Indian knowledge...technique of film making is another thing...and this is very simple, just show these guys how to operate a camera...very simple...all they need is technical assistance and they can do their own

thing...no problems...so many possibilities...

QL. If you could do them right man, that would be really great...put it across...

AP. I know...but these research laboratories...I split from the lab at noon everyday because I just can't stand the atmosphere.

QL. Do you know what it is? My opinion of those labs are...you have these sociologists Ph.D.'s in various other fields...concerning human sciences...and they have some idea...

AP. Would you like to hear some of the jiberish I get I call it jiberish ...it is...

QL. I see you get the same, you have some of the same things I do.

AP. Yeah, you get a whole program outlined in rationale

QL. And it has to be put across...

AP. And it is written on a five page booklet, how a person should be able to relate, you know

QL. And for that this guy gets \$30,000 a year...and he gets an appointment to some great center of learning where he is now authority on this certain field which he wrote on e booklet about.

AP. If it weren't for that project that I was working on, I don't think I would be able to...of course it pays good

QL. Yeah, that is the thing...

AP. It pays good...as soon as I get the project together...

QL. Well I hope you get it together and do it well...and like do you have any problems in the recording aspects...I know someone that can help you out...any kind of music just about

AP. That would be groovy...

QL. If you have the equipment to go out..

AP. I wish I had...I don't even have my tapes here either...

QS. Really about the best in the world in terms of taping Indian music...  
absolutely everything has to be perfect...

QL. Yeah, he has got...

QS. Or it won't be taped...

QL. You know like Indians could give a damn about like hearing cracks...  
and all these other sounds...but it's got to have that fidelity...  
but he has damn good music...

AP. But you know recording studios...

QL. But he doesn't use recording studio...he does it out in the field...  
like

QS. If the Indians...if the singers are in a bad mood or he senses that  
they are in a bad mood, he waits till they are in a perfect mood...  
he will be there a month...it is hard work

AP. Yeah, that is beautiful...all right...I am working with this guy  
named Phil Green Owl, over a K (?) it's a non-profit Educational  
Television, and he is doing a documentary on the Navajo...and I am  
working with him on that...and he'll be using some of my footage for  
it and so he will be all trusting. But I have seen a lot of his  
footage that he has on the reservation and it is really very good,  
really very good...I am going to ask if he can act as an advisor...  
to the Indian film crew...

QL. What kind of people that you need?

QS. Yeah

QL. This is one thing that I think we are misusing nowadays, we have very good people that are interested in Indians that know Indians ...you know as a matter of fact, because they have lived all of this stuff and they know...what the hell to think and all this, and in many cases, rather than asking the advice of these people because we are so god damn aloof and everything...you are a whiteman, you are something else...we let this go to waste...we can use these kinds of people rather than waiting for someone to pop up who is a Ph.D. at some university who comes up with a certain material which he does a half assed job on...

AP. Up until today, I was just going to do a documentary...I was going to say, well I will leave it up to the council members and their discretion, you know and whether they want the guy who is filming to continue and complete the film...or should I put my two pennies in and say...you are going to have an Indian film crew if you are going to get a documentary film done...this will break our relationship, the guy and I...but the guy is going to have to accept that fact...even though he quit his job, even though he put in thousands of dollars...that is nothing compared to the past 400 years...shaft ...you know and it's really a lot of hassle...because I don't like to get into that kind of a relationship...

QS. Well what harm would it do to let him do this thing and you do your thing?

AP. No problem...in addition, I will give him my own project and that is taken care of, the documentary film will go through deep than what

I am doing...I mean...have a larger coverage...

QS. What is wrong with sticking him under the restriction and tied down...

QL. Well use him...that is what I am getting at...you should pick brains...

AP. Well I am just going to...tell the council people how I feel about  
it...cause

QS. But why can't you use him...

AP. Use him how?

QS. You know...like

AP. I don't need him...I don't need him...I don't need...

QL. If you don't need him for something like that fine...but in many  
cases, the opportunity has been there and you have never taken  
advantage of it...

QS. Like the guys' obviously, probably pretty good at what he is trying  
to do it's just that he's not an Indian

AP. No, I can usually tell...I am quite receptive whether a guy is  
person is able to relate when a person is able to relate to what is  
happening or not and the first day that I met him, I knew that that  
guy would not be able to do it...and I have tried to (?). As you  
know it is a shame...he has learned a lot since he has been out on  
the island living with the Indians...but my projection is that after  
this film is done, he will split...the minute he gets out of the  
film it is over...he will use, probably use the studio and that will  
be it...and if an Indian film crew made it the proceeds would go to  
the Alcatraz fund...and all he needs will benefit the Indians...I  
know a guy who is getting very frustrated now...because he hasn't

come to the meat of it...he has gotten the visual footage on the island, the buildings, the flowers...the vegetation but no people... and no people...and never has he been invited to a meeting...that is where it is at...the Bay area Indians know where the guy's head is...Many times I have thought, whether he has talked with certain people...and he says no...well listen man, if you want film get to know these people...otherwise he won't get the film he needs...

QS. (?)

AP. Like the passed week for instance...

END OF TAPE