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The Fourth Russell Tribunal held in Rotterdam in 1980, arose in response to a need expressed at the International Conference Against the Discrimination of Indigenous Peoples of the Western Hemisphere held in Geneva, Switzerland in 1977. The Geneva Conference demonstrated that certain Nation-States of the Western Hemisphere practice gross violations of the rights of Indigenous Peoples. The Indigenous Peoples represented at the conference recommended that a Tribunal be formed in order that cases may be presented and witnesses heard to inform the world of the nature and effect of those abuses.

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We have witnessed the accusations brought before the Fourth Russell Tribunal. We have heard our Brothers and Sisters speak of mass executions, kidnappings, tortures, rapes and assassinations committed and permitted by the governments of Nation-States with political acts of terrorism and oppression directed against Indigenous Peoples, organizations and Nations. We believe that the charges brought before the Tribunal provide the most eloquent testimony that Nation-States have <sup>adopted</sup> national policies of ethnocide and genocide of Indigenous Peoples and that such policies are unacceptable to the conscience of humanity. We condemn genocide and ethnocide in all its forms.

The Indigenous Peoples suffer the most outrageous abuses of their rights. Nations-States have adopted national policies designed to deny peoples their right to exist as distinct peoples of the world, including the right to practice their culture, to speak their language, to the peaceful possession of their national territory and their right to a national identity. In almost every case Indigenous Peoples suffer from the unlawful taking of their lands through national policies which are designed to deny Indigenous Peoples of their right to their lands.

The municipal laws of many Nation-States do not provide justice to the Indigenous Peoples.

The accusations and the testimonies of the Indigenous Peoples at this Tribunal have affirmed that Nation-States are not the sole instruments of dispossession and genocide. Certain religious organizations, especially missions of Christian denominations, act in partnership with governments in policies intended to dispossess peoples and to destroy their languages

demonstrations that the economic interests of ruling classes of the Nation-States as well as the economic interests of the ruling classes of industrialized countries, as represented by the activities of transnational corporations, have been instrumental in dispossessing peoples of their lands and freedom. Because of the power of these economic interest in influencing and determining national policies, whole peoples have been forced into economic slavery on the plantations, in the mines, and in the factories of the oppressors. People are being driven from their homelands and forced to live in poverty and despair on the margins of their rightful territories, as exiles in their own land. Those of our people who express opposition to the policies which create these horrifying conditions are subjected to the brutal repression, persecution and discriminations which are the tools by which the people are denied their rights to exist as distinct peoples of the world.

We, the Indigenous Peoples gathered here at this Fourth Russell Tribunal call upon the people of the world to take action to right these horrible wrongs. We reaffirm our support of the principles set forth in the Declaration of the Rights of the Indigenous Peoples of the Western Hemisphere adopted by the Geneva Conference of 1977 and we call upon the People of the world to work for the rights of Indigenous Peoples to exist as distinct peoples of the world and to condemn genocide and ethnocide.

We support the principle that Indigenous Peoples have the right to exist as distinct peoples of the world, and that they have a right to possession of their territories and the right to sovereign self-determination. We call upon the people of the world to join us in asserting that the genocide and dispossession of Indigenous Peoples is a matter of rightful concern to the world community, as are matters involving a consistent pattern of gross violation of the rights of Indigenous Peoples and Nations under principles established by International Law and that action must be taken by world organizations and specifically the United Nations.

Finally, we call upon people of conscience to join us in our call for recognition of Indigenous Peoples and Nations as full members of the world community of nations and peoples with a right to representation and membership in world organizations and especially the United Nations.

We, the Indigenous representatives at the Fourth International Russell Tribunal, 1980 resolve with respect to the following:

1.) GENOCIDE

That the Tribunal denounce the physical extermination which is instrumental through the repression of Indigenous leaders, many of whom have been assassinated, tortured, persecuted, kidnapped and exiled.

2.) ETHNOCIDE

That the Tribunal denounce the campaign of destruction directed against the Indigenous Nations through the denial of their culture, languages and traditions, this being the instrument used by the Western colonialists for the ruling classes of whom they are intermediaries.

3.) TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS

That the Tribunal denounce the transnational corporations which exploit our resources (minerals, petroleum, forests, etc.), destroying at the same time the ecology of our territories, and for which they count <sup>upon</sup> ~~with~~ the complicity of governments and their instruments of repression.

4.) EMIGRATION OF WHITE RACISTS

That the Tribunal denounce the South American governments which would attempt to relocate racist Rhodesians to regions of majority indigenous populations, as in the case of Bolivia, with the express purpose of strengthening western domination.

5.) STERILIZATION

That the Tribunal denounce the sterilization campaigns, direct and indirect, against the Indigenous populations, with the purpose of impeding the population growth of Indigenous Nations, heightening their potential for struggle and thus threatening the western societies' economic and political interests.

6.) MISSIONARIES

Because Indigenous peoples have their own traditional religions and that those religions are consistently under attack by western religions, that the Tribunal in the future look closely at programs conducted by missionary groups belonging to the Roman Catholic Church, Pro-

against the Indigenous Peoples. What would not indict those  
assassins who have conducted themselves so helping  
our people.

obvious complicity in the genocidal processes carried  
out against Indigenous Peoples. In particular we would  
ask the Tribunal to immediately condemn, and in the future,  
completely investigate the activities of that great common  
danger, The Summer Institute of Linguistics.

7.) DEFINITIONS AND BOUNDARIES

We condemn all Nation-States, such as Canada, that have  
divided our various peoples by legislative definitions,  
different modes of land settlements and imposed boundaries  
in contravention of Articles 10 and 12 of the "Dec-  
laration of Principles for the Defense of the Indigenous  
Nations and Peoples of the Western Hemisphere," Geneva  
Conference, 1977.

Before the tragedy of genocide and ethnocide on the part  
of the dominant societies and governments, we value the  
solidarity of those organisms, Nation-States and instit-  
utions that identify with our cause, but at the same time  
we reject those organizations which, under the pretext of  
defending the rights of Indigenous Peoples, foment division  
by supporting groups and organizations driven by political  
interest not based on our own history.

8.) DECLARATION

That the Fourth International Russell Tribunal adopt the  
1977 "Declaration of Principles for the Defense of the  
Indigenous Nations and Peoples of the Western Hemisphere"  
and the subsequent "Declaration of the Indigenous Peoples  
at the Fourth International Russell Tribunal", 1980.

9.) 1948 CONVENTION

That the Fourth Russell Tribunal take into consideration  
the 1948 Convention On the Prevention and Punishment of  
the Crime of Genocide in relation to the violations  
against our peoples and Nations.

10.) PROTECTION OF OUR RELATIVES

That the Tribunal condemn activities and enterprises that  
are destructive of our relatives, the four-legged of the  
land, the winged-ones of the air, the occupants of the  
waters and the creatures of the bottom of the seas, in-  
cluding all other life forms necessary to their survival

11.) BOLIVIA

That the Fourth Russell Tribunal condemn the military dictatorship of General Garcia and his Minister of the Interior, General Luis Arce Gomez, as responsible for the massacre carried out against the Indian miners, campesino communities and the marginal areas of the cities. Many of their representatives have been assassinated, imprisoned in concentration camps, kidnapped, persecuted and exiled.

12.) GUATEMALA

That the Fourth Russell Tribunal condemn the government of General Lucas Garcia de Guatemala for the continual massacre and ethnocide of Indigenous Peoples there, a majority population. Also that the Tribunal should request the immediate withdrawal of the military troops which presently occupy vast areas of the country

13.) EL SALVADOR

That the Fourth Russell Tribunal condemn and repudiate the military Junta of El Salvador, for its obvious involvement in the numerous massacres of Indigenous Peoples in that country - a tactic utilized to maintain the privilege of a minority which despoils the country and oppresses the population.

14.) CHILE

That the Russell Tribunal repudiate the Military Junta of Chile for its continuous violation of the rights of the Mapuche Nation, and the repression of its leadership since the military coup of 1973. Also, the ethnocide Law 2568/78 which divides the Mapuche communities into small parcels of land, therefore destroying the Indigenous concept of Life.

15.) SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE WORK

We propose that a mechanism should be installed so the Tribunal and its results should be continuous. Permanent observation of, continual media dissemination as well as continuous challenges to the accused dominant governments, institutions and individuals must be guaranteed. Therefore we encourage our European supporters to maintain their commitment in the future.

These proposed follow-up activities should guarantee the continued monitoring of these volatile situations and should point the way to appropriate measures on the part of the European Support Community.

The Indigenous delegates recommend that such a work be placed under the authority of an Indigenous National Government, namely the Council of Chiefs of the

League of the Haudeenosaunee, in consultation with the International Indian Treaty Council, the South American Indian Council and other Traditional Indigenous Bodies.