

Working Group on Indigenous Populations, Geneva, 19-30 July 1993

TREATY CHIEFS OF THE LAKOTA NATION  
Statement given by Treaty Chief Richard GRASS

Madam Daes,

I want to thank you and the distinct Indigenous Nations of the World Community and other Nations and States involved in the Working Group, on the Draft Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

As I am here on behalf of the Lakota Nation and on behalf of my great grand-father, Chief John Grass, and his grand-fathers as they were Sovereigns of the Lakota Nation as Sovereigns were handed down from generation to generation. Since I am the eldest male descendant, I have inherited the Sovereign of the Lakota Nation, as Sovereign of other Nations and States are recognized in International Law by the Law of Nations, so henceforth, I will be standing on my God given inalienable rights that cannot be taken away or transferred. So henceforth, I will be working on that capacity on behalf of my people, the Lakota Nation.

Our objectives as a Lakota Nation are freedom from servitude, same as bondage or slavery, freedom from oppression, freedom from depression. As a Lakota Nation, we have declared Independence July 14th 1991 for our 1868-1851 boundarys retroactive to the Louisiana purchase, we want complete autonomy. As a Lakota Nation, we have been involved in securing not only the territories of the United States, but also the territories of our Lakota Nation boundarys and also, we have been involved in all wars the United States have initiated to help liberate the European countries and the Asian countries, which includes Russia and China. So all we are asking from other countries in return is for help for our liberation as a Lakota Nation. Also I want to mention not only the Lakota Nation were involved, but all the Indigenous World Community was also involved in these wars, the Blacks, the Mexicans, the Hawaiians, just to mention a few. Although as a Lakota Nation, we were not citizens of the United States, we still volunteered on our free will to serve the Military Service. So I would like to share the history starting from my great grand-father, Chief John Grass, as he stood the ground for the rights of the Red Race in the Americas, as he was the main strategist for the defeat of General George Armstrong Custer and his famous 7th Cavalry.

For the implementation of genocide by the United States, one more thing I would like to state, that as a Lakota Nation, we have 85% unemployment, the poorest country in the U.S.A.; one doctor to serve 20'000 Lakotas and the United States have 70'000'000 homeless; the deficit of the U.S.A. is 40 trillion -and 40 trillion not talked about-, not 4.5 trillion.

Geneva, July 26th 1993

Peace Treaty Chief.  
Richard Grass  
July 26-1993

WGIP 93/NAM. USA/9