

Madame Chairperson

I am Buckshot Knight from the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe. We Lakota call her Sacred Turtle Island. I am part of this land, she is my Mother Earth.

I am speaking of land issues. In October 1998 I spoke out here at the United Nations Commission on Human Rights (54th Session). I spoke up about our treaties with the United States of America.

Since that time I have lost all of my rights in America. I lost my ranch, my home, and my future as a human being in the United States of America.

I have filed through a lawyer to protect my rights but the lawyer said, "After all he could do nothing, because it was government approved."

I have letters from the leaders of my country expressing sorrow, but they say that they can do nothing to save my home or my future, nor reimburse me for the thirty years I paid to have my ranch and my home.

I plead to you to listen to the Lakota land & treaty issues. Justice and human rights belong to all humans.

Mitakuye Oyasin - All my relatives.
Wolakota, this means peace and love.

Buckshot (Monte) Knight
Minnconjou Lakota
Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe
Eagle Butte
South Dakota, Sacred Turtle Island

WGIP 99 / NAM-USA / 15