

FIGHT FOR LAND

Not 'Feasibility' Studies



UNITED INDIANS INVADE FORT LAWTON

Fort Lawton military base, (in Seattle Wash.) has been declared surplus by the U. S. government and now, by law, the land title reverts back to the Indians "by right of discovery".

So far there have been three attempts at occupying Fort Lawton and claiming the land which belongs to us. On all three invasions the U. S. government has had the arrogance to jail large numbers of us (usually 75 - 100). From the "Canadian" side, 15 brothers and sisters are facing possible six months sentences.

Two carloads of Indians were stopped at the Blaine border crossing in mid-April when we were on our way to join our (U. S.) brothers and sisters in the 3rd attempt at occupying Fort Lawton military base. The border authorities, you see, were expecting an influx of "Canadian" Indians and so were ready to go

against the Jay Treaty rights of border passage. Two carloads of us (numbering 13) would not stand for this blatant and illegal move to keep us from going to Fort Lawton to fight for our land rights, so we proceeded to sit down and block all traffic, demanding that we be let by.

Negotiating from a position of power and utilizing direct-action tactics, naturally, brought the desired results. The border authorities reconsidered what they were up against and let us through.

Note: The Jay Treaty represents recognition of the unity of our Nation in North America. The Canadian government, incidently, being more racist and oppressive to Indians than the U.S. government, does not abide by the Jay Treaty agreements.

Direct action land struggles are also being waged in other areas such as Alcatraz Island (near San Francisco), Pit River (northern California), and Stanley Island (St. Lawrence River).

STANLEY ISLAND

"At 10:30 a. m. on May 9, 1970, a band of Iroquois from Akwesasne (St. Regis) landed on Stanley Island in the St. Lawrence River.

For centuries this and adjoining lands had been the home of the Mohawks. When Canada became a country in 1867, it said that Indian Lands were 'Crown Lands'; but the Indians never sold or gave up their lands, although some were leased. About 1870, Stanley Island was leased for the Queen by the Superintendent General of Indian Affairs for the large sum of \$6 a year. In 1970, this lease ran out. The Island now belongs to the Mohawks again. But the Government has not moved away the people it made the lease with. And these people do not want to leave. This

is why the people of Akwesasne are reclaiming the Island for the Mohawk Nation by camping on their land. They do not intend to leave. It is necessary to have a long-term plan for the takeover and use of this Island. People are needed to help keep the occupation going. Legal advice is needed and it will be important to let as many people as possible in government, in communications and in the country generally know these objectives so that justice will not be frustrated. It will be a long hard fight but the right must and will prevail." (taken from the Ilotan)

For information about Stanley Island occupation phone area code 518-358-2674.

ALCATRAZ ISLAND

The colonialist gov't of the U.S. is making every effort to discourage the Indians who now occupy Alcatraz Island from holding on and maintaining their territory. The call below was issued in the Illotan:

"Dear Brothers and Sisters: Listen well. On November 9, 1969 a small group of Indians...each from different parts of the country...started a movement that was later called Alcatraz. Alcatraz is not an Island...It is an idea. Alcatraz, the Indian Giant has awakened. He quickly steps in the direction of Indianess...a new type of Indianess in the form of Indians of All Tribes...better, Unity To every Indian person, Alcatraz is where the problems are: We need supplies, true, but much more than that we are in need of Indian individuals who want to help others of

their own kind...now!...The work is dirty, dangerous, yet rewarding in the sense of gaining satisfaction in knowing that you helped make it. We are call on you now. By responding to this message, you will be in on the movement from 'the first'. Indians must work together and this is the time... your moment is now, come to California and be proud of the fact that you helped your brothers and sisters. Who knows, you may need help tomorrow. For additional information call (415) 334-2578 or write: New Movement, c/o Richard Oakes, Native American Studies Department, San Francisco State College, San Francisco, California. Call now. TIME IMPORTANT.

Yours in the Struggle,
Richard Oakes"

PIT RIVER

The U. S. Indian Claims Commission conceded in 1959 that 3.4 million acres belonging to the Pit River Indians was part of some 64 million acres taken "without compensation" from numerous California tribes. The tribe has recently refused the 47¢ per acre which was offered them.

On June 4th, 75 Indians attempted to establish a liberated zone at the southern tip of the 3.4 million acre piece of land which was stolen from them in 1853 by white settlers. They were repelled by a vastly superior force of gun-wielding mercenaries.

Within a matter of hours they occupied a portion of the stolen land 80 miles to the north (a pre-arranged secondary site) and laid claim to all of it. This area they held for 24 hours before 80 Shasta county sheriffs succeeded in ousting them and arresting thirty-five.

These patriots will be tried soon by white man's justice ("just us" white folks) for "trespassing."

