

INDIAN NEWS NOTES

Nebraska gives up jurisdiction on Winnebago Reservation

After many years of effort by the Winnebago Tribe, the state of Nebraska has voted to retrocede criminal jurisdiction on the reservation to the federal government. The vote took place January 16, with the effective date for the retrocession to be July 1. Bureau of Indian Affairs staff from the Aberdeen area office and the Winnebago agency went to the Nebraska capitol January 15 to provide technical assistance to the legislature. In the state of Washington, the Colville Tribe reported that the Washington State House of Representatives has voted to retrocede criminal jurisdiction, but action in the State Senate is still needed.

Prudential provides \$5 million to Indian Bank for Economic Development Projects

The Prudential Insurance Company of America has announced a \$5 million financing agreement with the American Indian National Bank (AINB) for the funding of economic development projects benefiting American Indian communities and tribes. The financing will be in the form of participation certificates which will be issued to The Prudential as AINB provides loans for Indian-owned or reservation based business enterprises. The Prudential's \$5 million is the first major outside source of funding that AINB has obtained. Past sources have been the bank's own stockholders, all of whom are American Indians, and its depositors. Since 1973, the bank has loaned ap-

proximately \$20 million for Indian-owned or reservation-located ventures. the Prudential is making money available through its social investment program, which formally began in 1976. This program was established to help finance special socio-economic ventures at below market rates. Approximately \$300 million has been committed since the program began through various minority-owned companies and organizations. Upon receiving The Prudential's commitment, AINB President Alan R. Parker expressed hope that other major financial institutions would follow suit. He said, "We hope this commitment will act as a catalyst to future activity by other institutions."

Northwest Tribes Plan International Trade and Development Council

As a follow up action to two meetings to discuss international trade activities, several Northwest Indian tribes have expressed an interest in establishing an Indian International Trade and Development Council. The initial planning and efforts to establish such a council have been under the leadership of the Lummi Tribe which recently created a foreign trade zone on the Lummi Reservation. The primary objective of the Trade and Development Council will be to organize Indian tribes into a consortium to market their own resources and commodities. The Trade and Development Council would also benefit tribes by identifying opportunities and promoting Indian trade and business transac-

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tions in the world marketplace. The BIA Portland office is offering assistance and support in the efforts to establish the Indian International Trade and Development Council.

Directory Lists Indian Schools, Education Offices

The Bureau of Indian Affairs
(BIA) Office of Indian Education

Programs has announced the completion of a new "Education Directory." The 1985-86 edition lists BIA education officials, elementary and secondary schools — both federal and tribal, community colleges, the three BIA post-secondary schools and a list of BIA central office education personnel. For more information or to obtain a copy of the directory, write or call Ms. Connie Steed, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Room 4659 — Code 513, 18th and C Streets, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20245, (202) 343-7111.