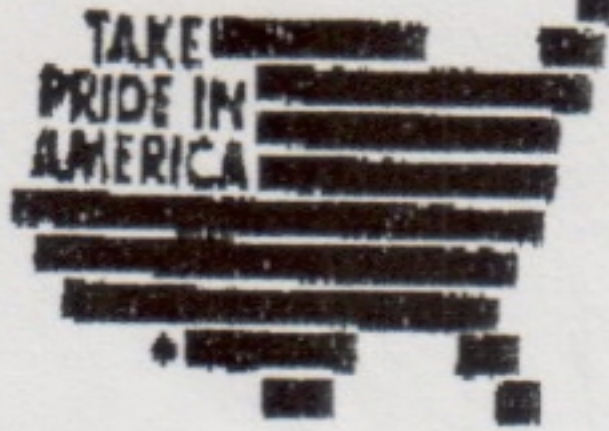




United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
Washington, D.C. 20240



MAR 22 1994

The Honorable Nicholas Villa, Jr.  
Chief, Ione Band of Miwok  
P.O. Box 1152  
Ione, California 95640

Dear Mr. Villa,

I am writing regarding our meeting on October 28, 1993 and subsequent discussions with Congressman Doolittle. In that meeting I agreed to clarify the United States' political relationship of the Ione Band of Miwok, as well as Mr. Louis Bruce's 1972 letter regarding the tribe's political status and its historic land base.

Upon review of the matter, I am now reaffirming the portion of Commissioner Bruce's letter which reads:

The Secretary also recognizes that obtaining a tribal community land base for the Ione Band is a part of his policy of Indian self-determination and cultural identification. \*\*\* Federal recognition was evidently extended to the Ione Band of Indians at the time that the Ione land purchase was contemplated. \*\*\* As the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, I therefore, hereby agree to accept by relinquishment of title or gift the following described parcel of land to be held in trust for the Ione Band of Miwok Indians. (See Bruce letter attached)

As Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs I hereby agree to accept the parcel of land designated in the Bruce letter to be held in trust as territory of the Tribe. As I stated during the October meeting, the Tribe will henceforth be included on the list of "Indian Entities Recognized and Eligible to Receive Services from the United States Bureau of Indian Affairs," last published in the Federal Register on October 21, 1993.

I am hereby directing the Bureau of Indian Affairs and specifically the Sacramento Area Office to deal with the tribe accordingly. The Bureau will maintain contact with the tribe to address the relevant details. I extend my personal congratulations and look forward to working with you and your people.

*Ada E. Deer*

Ada E. Deer  
Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs





United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20342

REPLY REFER TO:

10 10 1972

Mr. Nicholas Villa and the  
IONE BAND OF INDIANS  
c/o Mrs. Bernice Villa  
Route 1, Box 191  
Ione, California 95640

Dear Mr. Villa:

In January of this year the Bureau of Indian Affairs received a letter from Robert J. Demoven, the Director of the California Rural Indian Land Project. This letter requested that the United States agree to accept title to a certain forty acre tract of land near Ione, California and to hold that land in trust for the Ione Band of Indians.

Since then the Bureau of Indian Affairs has learned that the Ione Band has filed suit in Amador County Superior Court to quiet and perfect title in their name. It has been informed that the Indians continue to desire that the land ultimately be taken by the United States and held in trust.

The Secretary of the Interior recognizes his authority under 25 U.S.C. 465 to

"acquire, through purchase, relinquishment, gift, exchange, or assignment, any interest in lands, water rights or surface rights to lands, within or without existing reservations."

The Secretary also recognizes that, there having been no vote pursuant to 25 U.S.C. 478 by the Ione Indians, the provisions of 465 apply to them. The Secretary also recognizes that obtaining a tribal or community land base for the Ione Band is a part of his policy of Indian self-determination and cultural identification.

EXHIBIT E



Federal recognition was evidently extended to the Iona Band of Indians at the time that the Iona land purchase was contemplated. As stated earlier, they did not reject the Indian Reorganization Act and thus are eligible for the purchase of land under this act. The Sacramento Area Office of the Bureau of Indian Affairs should determine that the land is merchantable and free of encumbrance. I am directing the Sacramento Area Office to assist in the preparation of a document containing a membership roll and governing papers which conform with the Indian Reorganization.

As the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, I therefore, hereby agree to accept by relinquishment of title as gift the following described parcel of land to be held in trust for the Iona Band of Miwok Indians:

beginning at the point of intersection of the center line of the County Road to Jackson, with the westerly line of the fifty-two acre tract of land owned by Anthony Meach, Armando Dellaringa, Rocco Dellaringa, and Albert Dellaringa, as recorded in book 130 Official Records, Amador County, California page 98; thence following the center line of said County Road, North sixty-five degrees, fifty minutes West (N. 65° 50' W.) One thousand seven hundred twenty five (1725) feet to a point; thence at right angles, North twenty-four degrees, ten minutes East (N. 24° 10' E) One thousand seven hundred two (1722) feet to a point; thence at right angles, South sixty-five degrees, fifty minutes East (S. 65° 50' E) One thousand five hundred thirty one (1531) feet to the West boundary of the said property of Anthony Meach, Armando Dellaringa, Rocco Dellaringa and Albert Dellaringa; thence following said boundary line, South fourteen degrees, eight minutes West (S. 14° 08' W) One thousand eighty-seven (1087) feet to the point of beginning.

Sincerely,  
*Richard B. ...*  
 Commissioner