



INDIAN COUNTRY COMMUNICATIONS

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Dear Mr. Bachrach:

5/26/04

I have agreed to make the following statement on issues discussed previously with Robert Robideau, and allow Mr. Peltier to withdraw his lawsuit against me and News From Indian Country.

As I was prepared to allow your office to conduct the last two previous depositions scheduled and cancelled at your request, I believe the following material lives up to the spirit of our joint discussions on the matter, and as agreed to by you in previous emails.

Whatever our differences about other issues, I agree with Leonard Peltier that there have been numerous instances of questionable conduct by the FBI and other law enforcement agencies in connection with prosecution of Native Americans in this country. I also agree that the legal, social, and political environment prevailing on the Pine Ridge Reservation during the 1970s could be legitimately compared to a war zone. In my opinion, there has also been widespread misconduct in the judicial system historically with respect to cases involving Native Americans.

More particularly, I do not believe that Leonard Peltier received a fair trial in connection with the murders of which he was convicted. Certainly he is entitled to one. Nor do I believe, according to the evidence and testimony I now have, that Mr. Peltier had any involvement in the death of Anna Mae Aquash.

I understand that Mr. Peltier has agreed to withdraw his lawsuit against News from Indian Country and me, and will ask the Court to dismiss the lawsuit in its entirety, with prejudice (i.e., none of his claims may be pursued later). Thank you for your assistance in resolving this matter.

Paul DeMain, Editor
News From Indian Country