

ABORIGINAL NATIVE HAWAIIAN ASSOCIATION
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December 1, 1999

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HAWAIIAN RECONCILIATION HEARING

December 10-11, 1999

ALOHA!

My name is Mrs. Linda Keaweehu Dela Cruz. I live on
Hawaiian Home Lands in Panaewa-Hilo, Hawaii.

I am President of the Aboriginal Native Hawaiian
Association. This is a statewide organization that started,
June 2, 1982 and the membership are all part Hawaiian.

The purpose of this association is, to work for the
betterment of conditions of native Hawaiians as defined in
the Hawaii State Admission Act, Section 5(f).

Our Slogan is, "ME KEALOHA PUMEHANA NA KAMALII".
(For the love of our children)

Thank you for the opportunity to give input and testimony concerning Public Law 103-150 the apology Resolution signed by President Clinton in 1993. We are also grateful for the opportunity to give input and testimony concerning the ramifications to provide a proper foundation for the reconciliation between the United States and the Aboriginal Native Hawaiian people.

What is, "Reconciliation with the United States? Does it mean, "all is forgiven and we start a new begining?

We agree with Senator Akaka, "to establish permancy to continue dialogue with the United States". However, we also need dialogue with the State of Hawaii.

The Aboriginal Native Hawaiian Association's ("ANHA") main concern and research through out the years has been and still is the Hawaiian geneology as defined in the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, ("HHCA") 1920, as amended, Section 201.1.

The term "native Hawaiian" means any descendant of not less than one-half part of the blood of the races inhabiting the Hawaiian Islands previous to 1778.

When Congress created the HHCA in 1921, and used the term "native Hawaiian", for over 75 years, we lived under the illusion that only those with any Hawaiian blood were "native Hawaiian". In realty and we know this as fact, all those born in Hawaii regardless of enthic orgin is

"native Hawaiian".

The Overthrow of the Hawaiian Monarchy destroyed everything we held dear to our hearts and souls. We are homeless in our own land. Along with the Monarchy went our pride, dignity and our identification. Who are we today?

In the whole 50 United States, and, I speak only of the 50 states, there are two (2) class of people. One is, Aborigine and the other is Immigrates. In the 50 states, there are three (3) class of Aboriginies. Indians, Eskimos, and Hawaiians.

In the reconciliation process, we must first recognize and establish "who we are". Would the United States help us with the problem? Are we native Hawaiian like everybody else? Or, are we, Aboriginal Native Hawaiian? Dialogue between the United States, the State of Hawaii, and the native Aboriginal Hawaiian must work together to make this happen, then once and for all we will be able to speak as one race of people.

In Hawaii, under the HHCA and the Hawaii State Admission Act, Section 5(f), native Aboriginal Hawaiians are the riches people in this state. Yet, we are the poorest. Why?

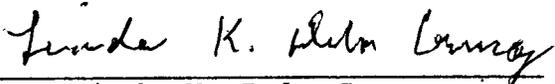
Under the HHCA, Congress set aside 208,000 more or less acres of land and under the Hawaii Admission Act,

Section 5(f) from the ceded land trust, we have over a million dollars every year. Where is it, and when and how are we going to receive it? Again, we need help to solve this problem.

And finally, "what kind of nation are we willing to accept"? So far, we know that we are not willing to give up our United States, State of Hawaii and Counties Citizenship. We need assistance in this area too.

Mahalo a nui loa (thank you very much). Please feel free to call me at the above telephone number should there be anything I can do.

Aloha,



Mrs. Linda K. Dela Cruz