



UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.
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UNITED SOUTH AND EASTERN TRIBES, INC.

Resolution No. 94-29-DC

REQUESTING SUPPORT FOR THE INDIAN PEOPLES OF CHIAPAS STATE

WHEREAS, the United South and Eastern Tribes, Incorporated (USET) is an inter-tribal organization comprised of twenty-one (21) federally recognized tribes; and

WHEREAS, the actions taken by the USET, Inc. Board of Directors officially represent the intentions of each member tribe, as the Board of Directors is comprised of delegates from the member tribes leadership; and

WHEREAS, the New Year's rebellion in Chiapas state in southern Mexico centered around the city of San Cristóbal de las Casas and led by the Zapatista National Liberation Army, is a direct result of the feudal conditions suffered by Mexico's American Indians, who must endure less than subsistence living conditions, the loss of their lands through foreclosure and other means, and the destruction of their culture; and in a political atmosphere controlled by the owners of large cattle ranches directing their own private armies; and

WHEREAS, over 100 people have been killed in the fighting, and several hundred including many who have had no part in the fighting, according to Guatemalan Nobel Peace Prize winner Rigoberta Menchú, have been imprisoned, and have, according to Amnesty International, been subjected to torture; and

WHEREAS, the rebellion has demonstrated the mistreatment of the native population by the government of Mexico, in that, among other things, the former director of state security in Chiapas has been arrested on charges of drug and arms trafficking, kidnapping, and corruption, and is tied to 26 kidnappings carried out for political reasons or in relation to land conflicts; five Indian suspects were lined up and shot in the head by security forces during the rebellion in the town of Ocosingo; and the Mexican government has been forced to replace Chiapas state governor, his interim replacement, and Mexican Interior Secretary Patrocinio González; and

"Because there is strength in Unity"

USET RESOLUTION 94-29-DC

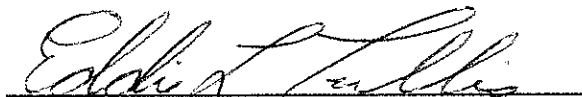
WHEREAS, the enactment of approval for the North American Free Trade Agreement has made especially critical the monitoring of human rights protection in Mexico by the national Administration, yet the President has not mentioned Mexico since the Agreement's approval; and

WHEREAS, the Clinton Administration has repeatedly advocated the provision of weapons to the Bosnian Muslims, a people in a position analogous to that of the American Indians in Chiapas state.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc., does hereby call upon the Clinton Administration and both houses of Congress to impose human rights sanctions on the government of Mexico until such time as the human rights of American Indians of Chiapas state and elsewhere in Mexico are protected.

CERTIFICATION

This resolution was duly passed at the Washington Impact Week meeting, at which a quorum was present, in Washington, D.C., on February 24, 1994.



Eddie L. Tullis, President
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.



Keller George, Secretary
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.