

no more to PE
Indian Claims
Comm.

January 24, 1969

TO: Mr. Ellsworth
From: Tom Whitehead
Subject: Indian Claims Commission

The Indian Claims Commission was established to review claims against the Federal Government that had accumulated over many, many years; it handles only claims filed prior to 1951. The backlog is approximately half completed. Claims paid to date are \$283 million, or an average of \$15 to \$20 million per year. In recent years, awards have been running about \$30 to \$40 million a year. The Commission is temporary and extended as necessary. The terms of all incumbents are for four years, terminating in April 1972.

With the exception of Margaret Pierce (former Clerk of the Court of Claims with experience in Indian appeals), the Commission seems to be made up of political appointees. All Commissioners are attorneys.

The current Chairman, John Vance, is a democrat who was supported by Senator Mansfield. Richard Yarborough is the son of Senator Yarborough. Jerome Kuykendall is a former Chairman of the Federal Power Commission and was sponsored by Senator Dirksen.

CTWhitehead:ed

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

January 24, 1969

Subject: Indian Claims Commission

In a phone conversation, Earl Darrah of the Budget Bureau advises that so far Indian Claims Commission awarded \$283 million -- altogether 122 claims. \$2.3 million per claim. Over the entire history of the Commission. That's the best fastest average they can come up with.

Unlisted home phone number, if needed

262-7893

Bureau of the Budget
ROUTE SLIP

TO _____

- Take necessary action
- Approval or signature
- Comment
- Prepare reply
- Discuss with me
- For your information
- See remarks below

FROM _____ DATE _____

REMARKS

Mr. Darrah,

Bobby Hall called with this additional information:

1964, 6 awards = 36,477,152.65

1965, 20 awards = 60,075,576.00

1966, 5 awards = 7,941,943

1967, 15 awards = 33,482,843

1968, 13 awards = 40,944,434