

Bureaucracy Engulfs Wounded Knee

By Jack Anderson

The bureaucratic build-up outside Wounded Knee is a testament to the government's way of doing things. No less than 400 federal officials have descended upon the small South Dakota village to negotiate, mediate, consult and occasionally exchange gunfire with the Indian occupiers. Cost to the taxpayers: around \$2.7 million.

Yet at this writing, the Indians remain armed and angry.

Take the problem of roadblocks, for example. The daily crisis reports from Wounded Knee, intended for Justice Department eyes only, tell how armed local residents threw up their own vigilante roadblock. Assistant Attorney General J. Stanley Pottinger "met with them at the roadblock shortly after it was established but failed to talk it down," declares a crisis report.

Next day, the vigilante group refused to allow the Community Relations Service's peace-keeping team into Wounded Knee, while "no CRS personnel were in Wounded Knee" to restrain the militants, a "most serious incident" took place. According to a report, the incident "involved the alleged looting of a rancher's home and cattle by WK (Wounded Knee) occupants." Three days later serious shooting broke out, and

one militant Indian was critically injured.

Still, Pottinger took no action against the unauthorized roadblock. "Pottinger has indicated to CRS and at staff briefings," states a report, "that he is inclined to arrest the leaders of the roadblock, but most other agencies advise against it for purposes of public relations or convenience."

Explaining what is meant by "convenience," the report tells of "a planned march on WK by clergymen and others (Easter) weekend. The government would rather have the marchers detained by a citizens' roadblock than by an FBI one."

The Easter march fizzled, and Pottinger finally ordered the roadblock removed. But meanwhile, he was having trouble with the government's own roadblocks. He obtained an order from Washington to put all federal roadblocks and bunkers under the command of U.S. marshals.

"Previously," notes a report, "the marshals, the FBI and the BIA police each manned their own units, and it was difficult to verify and control the repeated incidents of federal vehicles and troops (mostly FBI and BIA police) moving into the WK perimeter."

The CRS peace-keeping team has now returned to Wounded Knee. But the Indians and the federal officers are still manning their armed bunkers. As one federal offi-

cial put it, "We're now back to zero again."

Military Martinet

Maj. Gen. Daniel Graham, a short, ramrod-straight authoritarian, is moving from the Defense Intelligence Agency to the Central Intelligence Agency to take charge of strategic estimates.

He has already alarmed CIA hands by writing in Army Magazine that vital security estimates should be made by military analysts, although he acknowledges that DIA estimates have been slanted in the past to please the Pentagon bosses and the CIA estimates have been more accurate.

The alarm hasn't been allayed any by reports reaching CIA headquarters of his conduct as head of the Wakefield (Va.) High School PTA.

He circulated a memo, for example, urging that five teachers be fired and eight others be enlisted as informers. He wanted them to keep an eye on suspicious teachers and students. The Graham faction also brought pressure to oust the school's able principal, who finally left voluntarily.

In one stormy PTA meeting after another, Graham has fought student privileges including the right to participate fully in PTA activities. So vehement is he at PTA meetings that some neighborhood government officials are afraid to argue with him for fear he'll retaliate against

them in their jobs. In response to our inquiries, Graham sent word through his secretary that he wouldn't speak with us.

Inside North Korea—Visitors just back from North Korea remind us that Kim Il Sung's Red regime is still one of the most oppressive on earth. They describe the towns as drab, the social life as sterile, the people as regimented and the atmosphere as harsh. Individually, the North Koreans were friendly and curious. But in the presence of others, they became stiff and strident. Their private opinions suddenly conformed to the rigid official line. North and South Korean delegations, meanwhile, are preparing for another round of negotiations.

Sikkim Strife—Hush-hush reports smuggled out of the Himalayan kingdom of Sikkim charge that India is financing riots against the regime of King Palden Thondup Namgyal as part of a plot to take full control of his land. The dashing king became a special favorite of Americans when he married a pretty New Yorker, Hope Cooke. Lately, demonstrations have shaken his monarchy, and Indian troops have crossed the border "in the interest of law and order." Insiders close to the royal family have gotten word to us that, even as the troops moved in, Indian political officer K.S. Bajpai began to pressure the king to "hand over all power" to India.

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