

Harold Weisberg
Maryland

August 3, 1994

Dear Harold:

This week is becoming rather crowded. I am finishing my third week of the four week summer course, which takes a lot of time and energy to organize teach, and grade, as well as speaking four times to some Japanese students hear to sample the English language at our English as a Second language Institute.

This week end I will spend two days on the Menominee reservation working with a few old timers and attending the annual pow-wow in their natural heavily wooded bowl. I will mostly be setting up future contacts but will get some material for the impact project.

The attorney phoned yesterday for a chat, he said. Actually he was checking up on my progress and ascertaining problems and issues as I was turning them up. Quite a long conversation and quite interesting. He was satisfied with my outline of the argument but called it dough to be fitted into the pan of the law suit.--quite correctly. He was I think pleasantly surprised at my approach and argument. Two of his colleagues were on a phone group hookup with him.

Out of it came questions that puzzles one of his colleagues. These are defense strategy questions. How to prove there is a trust relationship and responsibility when there is no clear and obvious legal or other law that expresses states that. This can be done by showing the actions of the government in setting up boarding schools, hospitals etc.--but this is indirect. The government could say we did wreck your culture, but so what? That is not our responsibility. How would you answer that?

This is going to be a challenging project. They like my long view of the impact, putting the question into the founding fathers era of ideals and ideas of America and showing the original intentions. ~~This~~ I show it next in practice in the treaty era. Later on I will send you a longer letter on how I will approach it. Much, much work lies ahead. I think the lawyers believe they will be blown out of the water and lose dreadfully badly. But I will give them an argument and documents that will make it a good fight and maybe turn them around and win it.

Your books arrived, the paper backs, and Elaine immediately started the Legacy. It is an interesting thing you got three people reading that guy. What a treat! Thank you. My black student will be one to read Freedom's Road.

Monday I give my first quiz on Whitewash Selections to my class. pp. 1-191. It will be interesting. You might find it to be of interest that I denote idealism running through this students and a quickening of mind when I touch upon it.

David

P.S. Feet's address?