

## Report to the Terminated Mixed-Blood Uintas of Utah on our Resolution to repeal P.L. 671, also known as the Ute Partition Act, at the National Congress of American Indians in Sacramento, Calif., the week of Oct. 1 and the repeal of P.L. 671.

I had intended on doing a whole report which would have been several pages long, and would have cost us a considerable amount of money, for printing in the paper.

We couldn't afford it so with the amount of space I have I will try and explain in short what took place at NCAI, our Resolution and Public Law 671 of the 83<sup>rd</sup> Congress.

Because Maxine Natchees was in the first subcommittee session and was trashing our Resolution, stating that the Ute Indian Tribe's "official" position would be to "oppose" any efforts to repeal P.L. 671, the Resolution died in the first session and didn't make it to the General Assembly on Friday for a vote. Our attorney did the best job he possibly could do at telling of the termination of the M.B. Uintas and why P.L. 671 an Act of Congress needed to be repealed.

Maxine did a very good job at convincing other tribal members not to support the repeal of P.L. 671. What Maxine and all the other Ute Tribal Council members are failing to realize is that by Maxine saying it's okay for the UPA to remain in full force, that she and the rest of the council members are accepting this genocidal federal law. She has placed every American Indian tribe in the U.S. in jeopardy of losing their sovereign immunity by saying, "termination is okay."

Does Maxine and the Council realize what a mistake they made by not supporting the repeal of P.L. 671? When P.L. 671 was passed by Congress it was intended for a "whole tribe" as organized in 1937, meaning both full blood and mixed bloods. This Act of Congress has got to either be "repealed" or "completed," there is no other choice.

The full bloods were to follow the mixed bloods ten years after the termination, this never happened because President Nixon renounced the Termination Policy for all American In-

dian tribes, except for the Ute Indian Tribe whose termination has never been completed.

No American Indian Tribe should ever think they are immune from termination.

All it takes is a few senators, a state that won't support American Indians and a stroke of a pen and it is done!

The Ute Indian Tribe is the "only" tribe in the U.S. arguing in favor of a Termination Act, meaning they would totally abandon their own sovereignty in order to spite the mixed blood by defending P.L. 671.

If this is the path that Maxine and the Council has chosen, then the mixed bloods will start the process to have P.L. 671 of the 83<sup>rd</sup> Congress "completed" as the Act called for. Which will mean the termination of "all" Ute Indian Tribal members, just as the Terminated Mixed Bloods, then and only then will P.L. 671 be completed. Because Maxine wants to keep this law in force then it will be for both, mixed blood and full bloods.

We tried to put P.L. 671 to rest starting at NCAI so it would never again hurt American Indians like it has hurt the terminated mixed-blood Uintas, but Maxine and the Council want it kept alive and breathing, so I hope they can live with their decision.

As Tim Giago, president of the Native American Journalists Foundation stated: "Termination is an "ugly word" in Indian Country." Maxine Natchees by not supporting the Repeal of P.L. 671 is in fact saying, "Termination is okay in Indian Country, we don't want it changed, let it live." You have made your choice Maxine and Council members.

Oranna B. Felter, Terminated M.B. Uinta Band Member of the Ute Tribe of Utah and one of the Lead Plaintiffs in *Felter v. Kempthorne*