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8 February 1978

Honorable Cecil D. Andrus,
Secretary
Honorable Leo M. Krulitz,
Solicitor
United States Department of the Interior
1801 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20240

Gentlemen:

This is to request the United States to bring suit on behalf of the Shinnecock Tribe of Long Island, New York, under the Indian Non-Intercourse Act, 25 U.S.C. § 177, to confirm the Tribe's 1,000-year leasehold interest in, and recover possession of, approximately 3,150 acres of land which were ceded by the Shinnecoeks to the Town of Southampton in 1859 without the consent of the United States, and for trespass damages for the period of the Tribe's dispossession.

The facts, legal arguments, and supporting documents to sustain this request are set forth in the attached MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF LITIGATION REQUEST and STATEMENT following the format of 25 CFR § 54.6.

If you have additional questions or desire further information or documentation we will be pleased to respond.

Very truly yours,



Lawrence A. Aschenbrenner
Attorney

LAA/gjg

Enclosures