

SEMINOLE TRIBE OF FLORIDA

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March 24, 2011

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W.
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

I am writing to you in regards to the brief filed by prosecutors in the Guantanamo military action against convicted Al Qaeda terrorist, Al Buhlal.

The Seminole Tribe is concerned and dismayed by the military prosecutors' backward dive into racist, revisionist history. However, I do not believe that these citations reflect your views. The legalistic apology issued by the military's prosecutors does not take into consideration your long history of respect and support for Native Americans. We hope that you will take the opportunity to publicly reinforce your position within the United States government.

As I'm sure you know, General Jackson's invasion of Spanish-held Florida was not only illegal at the time, it demonstrated just one chapter of Jackson's lifelong campaign of extermination against American Indians. To compare the Seminole Tribe of Florida's defense against a genocidal assault to today's terrorists is not only groundless, it is insulting to a segment of Americans who have proudly served in the United States military. There are nearly 24,000 Native Americans currently serving our country and another 383,000 veterans who would take great exception to the comparison of Seminoles to Al Qaeda terrorists. For their sake and for the sake of your presidential legacy, I would ask you to personally address this matter and issue an appropriate apology.

Sincerely,


Mitchell Cypress
Chairman

"BUT I HAVE PROMISES TO KEEP & MILES TO GO BEFORE I SLEEP"