

The CHAIRMAN. Have you understood those questions?

Mr. SANCHEZ. Yes, sir, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. Has the Governor himself understood those questions, or does he understand English to that extent?

Mr. SANCHEZ. Mr. Chairman, our Governor is deaf, and we have to interpret to him as best we can.

The CHAIRMAN. Are you in agreement with the answers that were given by the representatives of the other Pueblos?

Mr. SANCHEZ. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. To the questions that were propounded by the committee?

Mr. SANCHEZ. Yes, sir.

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Washington.

Mr. MEEDS. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

My compliments to you, sir, on your testimony.

Do I understand correctly—and I do not wish to be repetitious, but I want to make certain that I understand correctly—that the Indian people in your pueblos have all of the right which the former witnesses have testified about in relation to their own tribes?

Mr. SANCHEZ. Yes, sir.

Mr. MEEDS. Then I would ask you to enlighten me a little bit on this in your statement:

Should Congress adopt the act in the present form, titles I and II will result in the alienation of the democratic traditions of the Indians in exercising its sovereign government now practiced by the Pueblo Indian tribes within the region of the Rio del Norte, and the Spaniards had named Rio Grande River.

If your people have all these rights, and these rights are merely guaranteed by a written document, in what way will this result in the alienation of the democratic traditions?

Mr. SANCHEZ. Mr. Meeds, I would like to answer your question this way.

You as a Congressman have a great responsibility to making legislation that would equally well protect some of the historical values which our American democracy is based upon. And we, of the Pueblo Tribe, have equal responsibility to preserve what, as closely, as authentic as can be, what was here about 1492.

Mr. MEEDS. In what way do you feel, in what specific way do you feel that the guarantees of the Indian bill of rights—in what ways do you specifically feel that it alienates the democratic tradition of your Pueblos?

Mr. SANCHEZ. Mr. Meeds, the tribal council and our people feel this way. Since the Pueblo of San Felipe is one of the poorest tribes as far as economic standards and resources, that we will be opening the door to our tribal traditions here of welcoming trained attorneys and trained judges, and you realize yourself in our American democracies, and judicial court systems, that no attorney will serve or represent any of our people on a reservation without cost, which we subscribe to on our reservation.

Mr. MEEDS. Sir, I am sure you have read the bill. Do you see any place in the bill where it says there must be a trained attorney and a member of the bar or bench to represent or hear trials?