

resolution was adopted by the council the sixth day of April before this incident which you are referring to, Mr. Meeds.

The CHAIRMAN. 1967?

Mr. ABEITA. 1967.

Mr. MEEDS. Were the judges actually incarcerated?

Mr. ABEITA. Yes, sir.

Mr. MEEDS. And, did they have any right to appeal from this or any right to get out of jail? On a habeas corpus proceeding or anything like that?

Mr. ABEITA. Yes, sir. They were notified at the time of the incarceration that they could post bond on several occasions which they refused themselves.

Mr. MEEDS. By whom would they be tried?

Mr. ABEITA. The trial was by the council. It was not a trial. They were brought before the council after the impeachment, turned over their records of the tribal court. When they refused to turn the tribal records over to the council, as the records were the property of the tribe, they were held in contempt of the council's order. So, under these conditions they were incarcerated.

Mr. MEEDS. And they were to be tried by the same group that incarcerated them; is that right?

Mr. ABEITA. Yes, sir.

Mr. MEEDS. That is all.

The CHAIRMAN. Do you have any questions?

Mr. McCLURE. I have no questions.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you very much, Mr. Abeita and Mr. Acoya.

Mr. ABEITA. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. ACOYA. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. This means approximately 55 minutes—wait a minute. We have one more witness, Mr. Burnett. Where is Mr. Burnett?

STATEMENT OF ROBERT BURNETT, PRESIDENT, AMERICAN INDIAN TREATY & CIVIL RIGHTS COUNCIL

The CHAIRMAN. Give your name.

Mr. BURNETT. I am Robert Burnett, president of the American Indian Treaty & Civil Rights Council. I have several documents here involving civil rights that I would like to refer to before I turn them in. I would like to make a flat statement, Mr. Chairman, that Indians do not have civil rights or constitutional rights, and I say very emphatically because we have made a three-and-a-half-year research study of this fact.

We have tried to get into Federal court on——

Mr. MEEDS. Pardon me, Mr. Chairman. Do you have a prepared statement?

Mr. BURNETT. No, I do not. I was just notified of this hearing yesterday.

The CHAIRMAN. That is the reason why he is limited to 4 minutes.

Mr. BURNETT. We have researched this very thoroughly. We cannot get into the courts as an Indian. We have no protection of life, person, or property. We have no protection in the courts of our rights to hold office on reservations. We have no right to protect ourselves in voting