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DEH CHO TRIBAL COUNCIL

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26 February 1993



The Honourable Kim Campbell, M.P.
Minister of National Defence
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0A6

RE: Cruise Missile Testing

I am writing to you to express our deep disappointment concerning the recent renewal of the international arrangements for the continued testing of cruise missiles over the Deh Cho, (MacKenzie River in the Northwest Territories).

As the Vice-Chief of the Deh Cho Region, for the constituency over which these missiles will be tested, I wish to point out that the Dene Descendants are not in favour of the renewal of any pact which allows our skies for such a dangerous practise.

We have reflected in numerous Motions of these concerns, in fact we have protested over the past ten years. The Dene Descendants of the area are disappointed that your government has overlooked these considerations prior to this arrangement.

This type of arrangement not only disrupts the livelihood of the animals, it violates the very essence of the Treaty that the Crown had entered with the Dene of the Deh Cho in 1898 and 1921.

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This total lack of consistency is totally unacceptable and I urge you to speak out to rescind your decision to this dangerous practise.

I further request that you immediately set a date to meet and discuss this matter with the Dene National Chief, Bill Erasmus.

Sincerely Yours



Gerald Antoine
Vice-Chief
Deh Cho Region
Denendeh