

SAIIC to Coordinate Visit of Brazilian Indian Leader

SAIIC is pleased to announce that its plans to help bring a coordinator of the Union of Indian Nations (UNI) to the United States are closer to becoming a reality. The trip might take place as early as May, when the UNI representative may testify in Congress regarding the impact of multinational development bank projects on indigenous people in Brazil.

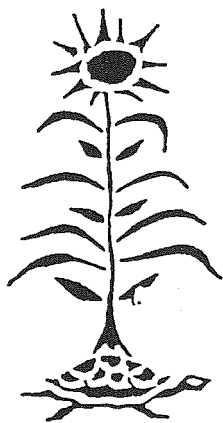
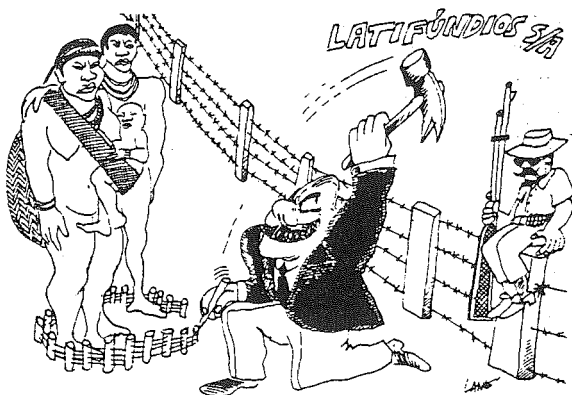
SAIIC hopes to assist UNI in meeting with North American Indian communities to strengthen communication among Indian organizations and individuals. We also hope to raise the awareness of the public in the United States regarding the critical situation confronting indigenous people in Brazil.

We would like to invite organizations and concerned citizens to contact SAIIC for more details on the plans for this historic visit. Suggestions for specific events at which the UNI representative could speak and other ideas which would contribute to a successful visit would be appreciated.

Update: Amazonia Film Project

AMAZONIA: VOICES FROM THE RAINFOREST is a film-in-progress about the struggle for land, resources and survival, where the people of the Amazon suggest solutions for the social and environmental crisis of the rainforest. The film looks at indigenous land use as a model for life in the rainforest and as a focus of conflict on the expanding frontier.

The producers of AMAZONIA, Monti Aguirre and Glenn Switkes, have prepared a slideshow on this subject. For more information, contact them through the SAIIC office.



Floyd Westerman spoke recently on the SAIIC radio program, "South and Central American Indian Update."

"What we are beginning to find out as we work more closely with other groups of Indian nations from Central and South America is that we have a very common destiny as we find ourselves emerging out the the twentieth century. We have a common understanding in relation to Mother Earth, and we have a common understanding of how we want to live. I think we can show the world this way, if we come together at this time to make our understandings known."

For more news reports, interviews, and music from Indian communities in South and Central America, listen in the first Friday of each month at 8:00 p.m. on KPFA FM 94.1 in northern California.