

people because hunger and misery remain unchanged.

We understand also very well the causes of the struggles of our brother and sister Indians of this country and the Indians of other continents. We have a great historic responsibility to unite so that one day our future generations will be able to live in peace. And I can tell the people of the United States that you also have a part of the responsibility in our struggle, since much of your salary goes to finance this war being carried out in our communities.

This struggle of Indian people is not just a struggle of words. It is like the way we grow our corn. First we cultivate the soil, then we find the right seeds, and then we care for the plants so that they bear fruit. Our struggle goes step by step, looking forward to making a change.

## Radio Show Features Guatemalan Indians

*Peggy Berryhill (Muskogee Nation) recently completed a radio documentary on the crisis facing Indians in Guatemala which will air in March on "Horizons," which is broadcast on many public radio stations. She made the following comments to SAIIC about her work.*

I've found that radio is a tool to help communicate new or little-known information about Indian people, especially contemporary issues. It is a way to combat stereotypes and to empower people. It is important to get Indians and non-Indians thinking beyond their isolated problems, whether in Oakland, Juneau, or in Guatemala. We have to understand that there are connections.

*SAIIC: What motivated you to do a radio documentary on Guatemala?*

I think Guatemala is one of the least reported stories. Nobody has been aware of what is going on there.

I had a dream. I was in a hilly community in a pickup truck with another journalist, being strafed by an army helicopter. They were trying to drive us to a safe house. Once we got to the house, the army suddenly came in and killed everyone. I woke up. My heart was beating, and I was terrified. The dream was so vivid, so frightening. Where was this army from? I didn't know then what this dream meant.

In doing the interviews with the Guatemalan refugees for the documentary, I saw where the dream had come from. During the interviews, I heard this same story. The dream was a reality in Guatemala and someone wanted that known. It was someone's dying wish to have their story told, and it came to me. To me radio is the Indian story-telling tradition, and this dream was the vehicle. And if I'm the vehicle for this dream, then the story's being told.

