



Photo provided by Cheryl McClellan



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Meskwaki Code Talkers Honored in Washington, D.C

By Samantha Sam, IT Media Coordinator, Sac and Fox Tribe of the Mississippi in Iowa

A group of Meskwaki tribal members and staff attended the ceremony which took place on November 20, 2013.

The Gold Medal Ceremony honored 33 tribes. Meskwaki was among those tribes.

They will be receiving 1 gold medal and 8 silver medals, one to each of those honored from Meskwaki.

The following individuals were either in attendance or invited to the ceremony.

- Mrs. Theresa Lynne Mahoney, Descendant of Honoree Benson, Sac and Fox/Meskwaki;

- Mr. Robert John Roberts, Descendant of Honoree Roberts, Sac and Fox/Meskwaki;

- Ms. Ramona Norma Sanache, Descendant of Honoree F. Sanache, Sac and Fox/Meskwaki;

- Mr. Alvin Lee Sanache, Descendant of Honoree W. Sanache, Sac and Fox/Meskwaki;

- Ms. Melissa Rose Youngbear, Descendant of Honoree M. Wabaunasee, Sac and Fox/Meskwaki;

- Ms. Marguerite Youngbear Bass, Descendant of Honoree Youngbear, Sac and Fox/Meskwaki;

- Ms. Shirlene Fawn Seymour, Descendant of Honoree Twin, Winnebago;

- Mr. Daniel Ray Wabaunasee, Descendant of Honoree Judie Wabaunasee, Sac and Fox/Meskwaki.

- Mr. Donald Wanatee, Sr, Receive the Gold Medal on behalf of the Tribe.

- Mr. Larry Craig Lasley Sr., Representative, Sac and Fox/Meskwaki;

- Mr. Robin Lee Roberts, Representative, Sac and Fox/Meskwaki;

- Mr. Ram Dhanwada, Representative, Sac and Fox/Meskwaki.

Tribe; Seminole Nation (Oklahoma); Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate; Standing Rock Sioux Tribe; Tonto Apache Tribe; White Mountain Apache Tribe; and the Yankton Sioux Tribe.

“We congratulate the Meskwaki Nation for the Code Talkers finally getting the recognition they deserve,” said Sac and Fox Nation Principal Chief George Thurman. “Our prayers are with the families, and the Sac and Fox Nation shares in being proud of the accomplishments of these brave warriors.”



Meskwaki Code Talkers: Front Row L-R: Dewey Youngbear, Willard Sanache, Frank Sanache, and Edward Benson. Back Row L-R: Judie Wabaunasee, Dewey Roberts, Melvin Twin, Mike Wabaunasee and an unidentified officer. Photo courtesy of the Meskwaki Nation and the Smithsonian Institution.



Chief's Address To The Nation

Happy Holidays to my People!
I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Let us remember what Christmas is all about, the birth and celebration of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, not what it has become with all of the commercialism. I pray that you and your families have a very prosperous and good year in 2014; that your visions become reality; that God bestows many blessings, and that our Sac and Fox Nation unites together and continues fighting for our sovereignty as an Indian Nation.

The Indian Law & Order Commission released “A Roadmap for Making America Safer” to the President and Congress during the White House Tribal Nation’s Summit in Washington, DC last week. The Report represents one of the most in depth reviews ever conducted of Native American and Alaska Native public safety and criminal justice and includes 40 unanimous major recommendations! Many of these recommendations require statute others can be addressed in the Executive Branch, action by the Federal judiciary, or State reform while others remain matters for Tribal Sovereign Nations.

One recommendation made by the Commission is that “The U.S. should set a bi-partisan national policy goal of eliminating the Indian country public safety gap by 2024 – the Centennial of the Indian Citizenship Act, when all Native Americans could finally vote in Federal elections”.

The Commission was created by the Tribal Law and Order Act (TLOA) of 2010. Below is a copy of the 34-page Summary.

A Roadmap for Making Native America Safer

Report to the President and Congress of the United States by Troy A. Eid, Chairman, Indian Law & Order Commission, November 2013. eid@gtlaw.com.

About the Commission

- Created by the Tribal Law and Order Act of 2010 (TLOA) to advise the President and Con-

gress on Federal, State and Tribal reforms to strengthen criminal justice for the 566 Federally recognized Indian Tribes and Nations.

- Extended by the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Reauthorization Act and sunsets in January 2014.

- Consists of nine volunteers appointed by the President and Majority and Minority leadership of Congress.

- Recruited three Federal experts to serve as its staff, who were “detailed” (loaned) to the Commission as provided by TLOA.

- Planned and executed one of the most comprehensive assessments of Native American and Alaska Native public safety and criminal justice ever undertaken.

- Held town halls and field hearings, took testimony, appointed and consulted with an Advisory Board in all 12 regions of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and worked entirely in the field – from Alaska to the East Coast.

- Unanimously prepared and approved THE ROADMAP – a 324-page report, with 40 unanimous major recommendations for making Native America safer and more just for all U.S. citizens.

Some recommendations require new Federal laws, others need executive branch policy changes, some warrant action by the Federal judiciary; others are State-level reforms; and still others are matters for Tribal citizens.
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Upcoming Events 2013

December 21
Powwow Committee
Traditional Dance

December 7
Sac and Fox Elders
Annual Winter Dance
Community Building

December 10, 5 pm
Sac & Fox Nation
Veterans’ Meeting
Elders Bldg Stroud

December 11
Sac and Fox Elders
Christmas Dinner
Multi-Purpose
Shawnee
11:30 - 3pm

December 14
Sac and Fox Nation
Annual Holiday Party
6:00 pm to 9:00 pm
Sac and Fox Gym

Additional Code Talker Facts:

By Sandra Massey, Historical Preservation Officer SFN

The Meskwaki Nation were among 33 tribes who received Congressional Gold Medals in recognition of their Code Talkers, men who used their tribal languages in a code unbroken by the enemy in World War I and II, in Washington, D.C. on November 20, 2013.

The individual Code Talkers or a family representative also received Congressional Silver Medals.

The tribes each designed their own medals, working with the U.S. Mint.

The tribes recognized by Congress were the Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Tribes; Cherokee Nation; Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes; Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe; Choctaw Nation; Comanche Nation; Crow Creek Sioux Tribe; Crow Tribe; Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa; Fort Peck Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes; Ho-Chunk Nation (Wisconsin); Hopi Tribe; Kiowa Tribe; Laguna Pueblo; Lower Brule Sioux Tribe; Menominee Nation; St. Regis Mohawk Tribe; Muscogee Nation; Oglala Sioux Tribe; Oneida Nation (Wisconsin); Osage Nation; Pawnee Nation; Ponca Tribe (Oklahoma); Pueblo of Acoma; Rosebud Sioux Tribe; Sac and Fox Tribe (Iowa); Santee Sioux



Chief George Thurman

National News

I have served on the Department of Justice Indian Law and Order Commission Tribal Advisory Committee for the Southern Plains Region, so I wish to share the Indian Law and Order Report recently released.

Indian Law and Order Commission Report



Court House Parking: The new parking lot at the Sac and Fox Nation Court House is nearing completion