



EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
MEXICO

5-16-94
RECEIVED

OFFICE OF THE AMBASSADOR

April 18, 1994

Chief Wilma Mankiller
Principal Chief
Cherokee Nation
P.O. Box 948
Tahlequah, OK 74465-0948

Dear Wilma:

Thank you so much for sending me your samples for products made by the Cherokee nation. Olivia and I opened the box right away and very much enjoyed the pleasure of seeing each of the beautiful pieces you chose for us.

I asked our Protocol Office to look at these items and give me their recommendation as to whether they could be used for official gifts. I was very sad to hear from them that surprisingly similar products are readily available in Mexican markets produced by the local Indian population and sold at most inexpensive prices. Therefore, they suggested that to give these particular gifts would not be well understood. Ironically, the commonality of our artistic traditions in this case is a stumbling block.

We will be sending the vases and pots listed in the attached inventory sheet back to you. The Cherokee Nation Arts and Craft Catalogs you sent will be most useful in selecting future gifts which we will be able to use.

Again, many thanks for your courtesy in sending these.

Sincerely,

*P.S. - I hope to see you
again either in Oklahoma
or perhaps here in Mexico -
J.J.*

James R. Jones
Ambassador