



CHEROKEE NATION

P.O. Box 948 • Tahlequah, Okla. 74465 • (918) 456-0671

Wilma P. Mankiller
Principal Chief

John A. Ketcher
Deputy Chief

October 4, 1993

Chief Floyd Leonard
Miami Tribe of Oklahoma
P.O. Box 1326
Miami, OK 74355

Dear Chief Leonard:

A copy of a letter from Patsy Wade, your Child Care Director, to Chief Mankiller has been forwarded to my office for reply.

At the outset I must say that this is the first notice that our tribal administration has had regarding your plans for a prison.

Should your plans include trust acquisition of land within the Cherokee Nation it raises a number of concerns. As you may know trust acquisition of land for any purpose at the present time involves a rather lengthy process. Additionally the Cherokee Nation has been reluctant and has resisted any attempts to allow any entity other than the Cherokee Nation itself to acquire land in trust within jurisdiction of the Cherokee Nation. It is now a matter of record that the BIA will not entertain trust acquisition applications within the Cherokee Nation by any tribe other than the Cherokee Nation itself.

In conclusion please understand that the Cherokee Nation has fought hard to preserve its political jurisdiction. We have come a long way in recent years with the development of our own court and criminal law enforcement system. As such it comes as somewhat of

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