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DIOPY

THE CHEROKEE NATION TAHLEQUAH OKLAHOMA CHIEF WILMA MANKILLER

Si-yo Chief Mankiller,

I am writting you to make you and your office aware of what is taking place here in Tennessee. The whole issue is over the federal government not being able to find the funds to mark the routes of the Trail Of Tears. I have come to find this as a slap in the face, that after over 150 Years, the government still is unable to find "the funds".

I have wrote a letter to Senator Nighthorse D-Colorado, asking him for any help he might be able to lend. I have enclosed to you a copy of said letter. As I told the Senator, if he is unable to help get the funds, then there are those of us here in Tennessee who will take up the task of gathering the needed funds.

For to long the trail has been dusted over-forgotton. We as a people can not allow this to continue on. It is an insult to us as a people, for the governments continual observence of the Cherokee peoples as a second class people.

I can only come to you asking that you help support me and the others here in Tennessee who are asking for the markers. Anything at all that you might be able to do in Washington would greatly help. If the Cherokee people are to continue onward we must pull together now! There is no need to continue to feel badly towards the eastern bands or the western bands. in all things we are the Tsa-la-gi! Please write me back and let me know if there is anything at all that you can do to help.

MICHAEL REDCLOUD (CHEROKEE/LAKOT