

**Hickel Defends Indian Rights**

Washington — (NC) — Secretary of the interior Walter J. Hickel tol a Senate subcommittee that the federal government's obligation to protect American Indians' rights is "a gut issue" involving the nation's morality. He said that often the government's obligation is scuttled by covetous ambitions within political machinery.

He was testifying on behalf of two Nixon administration proposals: one to create an Indian Trust Counsel Authority within the president's office, to defend Indians from other federal state and private actions threatening their natural resources, and another that would set up a new position of interior assistant secretary in charge of Indian and territory matters.

"This may sound like just another bureaucratic notion," Hickel said, "but to me, it is a gut issue. It involves the morality of this great country in its dealings with the first Americans."

**Cadet Faces Active Duty**

West Point, N.Y. — (RNS) — Cary E. Donham, the U.S. Military Academy cadet whose request for conscientious objector status was refused by a federal district court, has left the academy as an enlisted man on leave.

According to an academy spokesman, he is due to report to Fort Campbell, Ky., Oct. 22.

The 20-year-old native of New Baden, Ill., will have a Specialist 4 rating and be required to complete a three-year tour of active duty. Donham's lawyers said their motion for a reargument of the case will be acted upon soon.

**Nobel Peace Candidate Backed**

St. Louis — (NC) — The National Federation of Christian Life Communities announced at its offices here that it officially supports the nomination of Archbishop Helder Camara for the Nobel Peace Prize.

Archbishop Camara, 61, of Olinda and Recife, Brazil, was nominated for the prize by the World Federation of Catholic Youth.

In a letter to the Nobel Peace Prize committee supporting the archbishop's nomination, Fred Leone, president of the Christian Life Communities, said:

"Dom Helder has long championed the cause of the poor and the starving masses in his diocese of Olinda and Recife in northeast Brazil. He has done this against the opposition of many in his own country and at considerable risk of his own life."

The life of Archbishop Camara is an example which can "stir up within many young people their faith in the ideal of justice and human rights," Leone said.

The Archbishop's candidacy has been backed by several other groups, including the Lutheran World Federation, Pax Christi (international Catholic peace movement), the Latin American Conference of Christian Trade Unionists, and Christian Century, a Protestant ecumenical magazine.

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