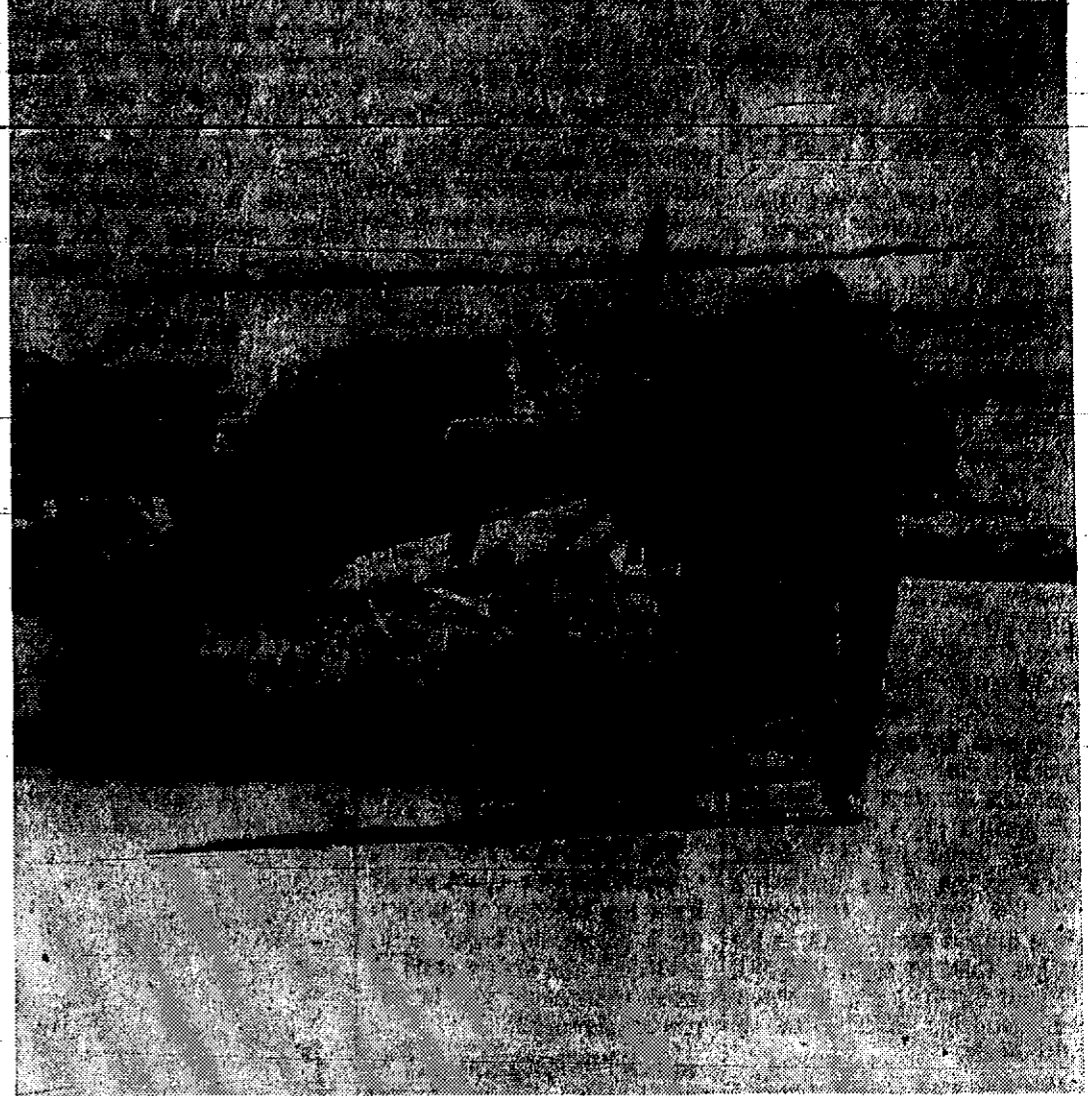


Where Indians Hold Hostages at Wounded Knee, S.D.



Shown from about 3,500 feet is Wounded Knee, S.D., where members of the American Indian Movement (AIM) held hostages Wednesday at Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church, left. Indians earlier reportedly seized weapons and supplies from the trading post located in the cluster of buildings, right, at the tiny community on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation.

A lawman carrying two shotguns arrives in a light plane at the airport in Pine Ridge, S.D., Wednesday. Pine Ridge is located about 10 miles southwest of Wounded Knee.



Indian men pass the time Wednesday at Pine Ridge waiting for news of the trouble at Wounded Knee. Man at left rolls a cigarette while sitting in the sun with other men.

Young Indians who attend the Indian High School at Pine Ridge are shown sitting on a wall outside an old church Wednesday. School was not held because of the disturbance at Wounded Knee.

INDIANS ---

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dians — many of them armed — had joined the occupation force, swelling the Indians' ranks past 400, according to AIM leaders.

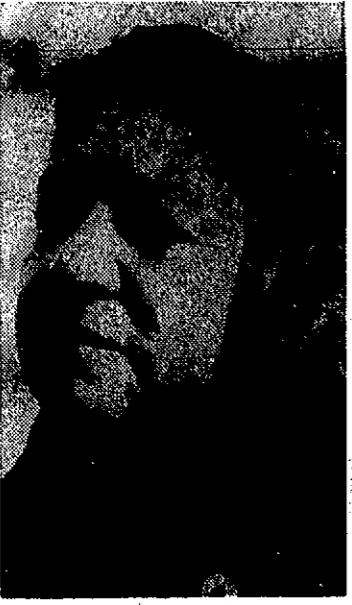
The Indians demanded that Senator Edward M. Kennedy of Massachusetts and J. W. Fulbright of Arkansas, both Democrats, come to the 2,500-square-mile Pine Ridge Reservation to discuss the Indians' grievances.

Camp said the Indians have vowed "to die if necessary" unless their demands are met. He said also the hostages would be held until Kennedy and Fulbright come to the reservation.

No Formal Request

Fulbright, contacted in Little Rock, Ark., said, "I would do anything to help clear up the situation," but added that he had received no formal request for assistance. He also said, "This is one of those things that I don't know much about and I think I should get some advice from some official people in government."

A spokesman for Kennedy said the senator is "not planning to go out there" at the moment. "The question uppermost in the senator's mind was whether he could do anything to help the hostages," the spokesman said. He added that the senator was "keeping in touch" with officials in South Dakota.



Good Woman
"Violence Is Only Way"

when the Indians broke into a trading post in the town 140 miles southeast of Rapid City and armed themselves with weapons and supplies.

Their demands included an investigation of the dealings of the Department of the Interior and the Bureau of Indian Affairs with the Oglala Sioux. They also sought an ouster of the current tribal leaders, including tribal chairman Richard Wilson who has feuded with AIM members in the past.

Bellecourt said, "The hostages have not been harmed



Richard Wilson
Tribal Leader

and will not be maltreated or harmed by Indians." He said there were about 60 to 70 AIM members among the Indian group and that most of the rest were Oglala Sioux. He said the takeover was initiated by Oglala Sioux living on the Pine Ridge Reservation where Wounded Knee is located, and not by AIM.

Bellecourt and Russell Means, another AIM leader, said the Indians were well armed.

Rifles, Grenades

"We have high-powered rifles, shotguns, explosives and 14 hand grenades," Means said.

"The government has two choices: either they attack and wipe us out like they did in 1890 or they negotiate our reasonable demands."

Wounded Knee, which is about 140 miles southeast of Rapid City, was the site of the last major confrontation between Indians and whites in the campaign to settle the West.

More than 200 Indian women, children and men were killed on Dec. 29, 1890, by troops of the 7th Cavalry. That was the division earlier led by Gen. George Custer, whose force was annihilated four years before at the battle of the Little Big Horn in Montana.

Ma j. Samuel Whiteside, second in command of the 7th Cavalry, wrote later that the division had gone to Wounded Knee with the expressed intent "of avenging the battle of the Little Big Horn." Sixty soldiers also were killed or wounded in the Wounded Knee massacre.

Means said Wednesday the decision to take control of the village was made after he was beaten up by five supporters of tribal leader Wilson. He said Wounded Knee was chosen because of its symbolism as the massacre site and because the Indians believe they can defend it.

The hostages were the Rev. Paul Manhart, a Jesuit priest, formerly of Omaha, Neb., who is a pastor of the Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Wounded Knee, and the members of the Clyde Gildersleeve family, who run the Indian trading post in the community.

The only report of injury was an accidental gunshot wound suffered by AIM member Rick Powers of St. Paul, Minn. Bellecourt said Powers lost a finger when a gun accidentally discharged Tuesday night.

Camp said the Indians are demanding that:

"The Senate committee headed by . . . Kennedy launch an immediate investigation of the BIA and the Department of the Interior for their handling of the Oglala Sioux nation."

United States never keeps its treaty commitments."

"That the Oglala Sioux be allowed to elect their own officials. Those now in office are just puppets. They need traditionalists."

The Indians also asked that Senator James Abourezk (Dem., S.D.), chairman of the Senate subcommittee on Indian affairs, convene a hearing on the reservation.

Abourezk said in Washington that he would fly to Wounded Knee to meet with the Indians

HOW IT GOT ITS NAME

WOUNDED KNEE, S.D. (AP) — Indian legend has it that a man and wife quarreled violently, and the man fell to the ground near a creek, shot in the knee by his wife. Henceforth, the stream was called the Creek of the Wounded Knee, and when a village was established here, it assumed the name Wounded Knee.

if they released the hostages. He said he had contacted Kennedy and Fulbright but did not know whether they would accompany him.

17 Arrested

The trading post incident Tuesday night resulted in the arrest by federal authorities of 18 adults and one juvenile on charges of larceny, burglary and conspiracy. A BIA official said the 17 were arrested as they tried to leave Wounded Knee by car.

The State Department of Indian Affairs said there are 11,350 Indians living on the reservation. The land, which is in the foothills of the Black Hills National Forest, is rolling and barren and is of little use for anything except livestock grazing.

The trading post where most of the protesting Indians and hostages were located sells guns and ammunitions, and lawmen granted that the Indians had a considerable arsenal at their disposal.

About 150 U.S. marshals plus about 75 extra BIA special police were dispatched to the scene. All roads into the community, about 20 miles north of Pine Ridge and about 50 miles north of the Nebraska border, were blocked by sheriff's deputies. The deputies also said that the South Dakota-Nebraska bor-

der, south of Pine Ridge, was open only to "local residents."

Lawmen manned their blockades Wednesday while three U.S. attorneys conducted negotiations with the Indians. In Pine Ridge, most of the 5,000 residents, 80 per cent of whom are Indians, appeared to remain impervious to the turmoil north of them.

But Wilson, president of the 11,000-member Oglala Sioux tribe which dominates the Pine Ridge Reservation, said the battle was more a struggle between Indians than between Indians and white men.

Blamed AIM

"AIM started the tension about four weeks ago," said Wilson, whose authority as tribal chief was suspended temporarily Wednesday by the U.S. Department of the Interior.

"AIM wants to come in here and use this reservation as a base for their national operations," he continued. "They tried to impeach me and threaten the people here, but they won't get away with it."

Wilson described the AIM leaders as a "bunch of outsiders who come in here and mooch off of the people." He said AIM has fewer than 100 members in the Pine Ridge area.

As Wilson sat in the living room of his Pine Ridge home, he wore a .38-caliber pistol, and said, "This town is armed to the teeth. There is a small arsenal right here in this house."

Wilson said in an interview, "I don't like guns, but if I take mine out of the holster, I'll use it to kill."

The local Oglala Sioux tribal office and the Pine Ridge BIA office were closed Wednesday by federal officials, who told the Indian leaders to stay in their homes while white federal officials handled negotiations.

AIM is considered the most militant of Indian organizations. Late in 1972, AIM took over the national BIA office in Washington, D.C., ransacked the offices and removed much of the files.

Indian Death

In March, 1972, AIM members took over the nearby town of Gordon, Neb., for two days to investigate the death of a local Indian whom Indians claimed was murdered by white men.

government programs here," Wilson said. "Our tribe and my office co-operate with the BIA. If we don't everything will collapse."

Most Indians interviewed Wednesday in Pine Ridge expressed either ignorance or apathy toward the situation. The town's few white-owned businesses continued to operate, but schools were closed and the young people sat on curbs and benches and discussed their normal topics.

One Oglala Sioux, Hobart Ecoffy, said much of the conflict between Indians in the

CLAIMS ALL AREAS PROBED

area stemmed from bad relations between full-blooded Indians and half-breeds.

"We half-breeds are looked down on around here," Ecoffy said. "The full bloods treat us like dirt."

One AIM member, Good Woman, said she is in favor of the Wounded Knee takeover, and accused Wilson and the tribal council of "being too much in cahoots with the government."

"Turn Wilson Out"

"Wilson wants to run everything his way, and it's time to turn him out," she said. Wilson's term as president has 13 months to run.

Good Woman said she has no objections to possible violence at Wounded Knee, and said, "Violence is the only way to get anything done."

Wilson said unemployment on the reservation, which is the second-largest Indian reservation in the nation, is about 45 per cent and admitted that "like any depressed area, we have health problems."

He said most Indians in the Pine Ridge area work either in

government programs or for a white-owned mocassin factory. "I don't care if that factory is white-owned," he said. "It provides 200 jobs, and that is what matters."

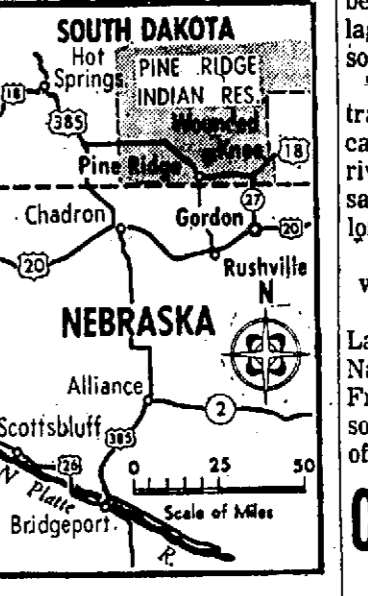
D.M. Indians Head for Area

"We're sending fresh troops," said Harvey Major, president of the Des Moines chapter of the American Indian Movement (AIM).

Major and seven other Des Moines members left Wednesday afternoon for Wounded Knee, S.D., where AIM members seized control of the village and were holding 10 persons hostage.

The eight AIM members, who traveled to South Dakota in two cars, said they expected to arrive by this morning. Major said the group will stay "as long as we're needed."

"When the big shots leave, we'll go home," he said. Accompanying Major are Larry Street, Greg Keahna, Nathan Bear, David Achunk, Frank Rodrigues, Nancy Johnson and Cliff Strandedber, all of Des Moines.



Armored personnel carriers are parked at the Pine Ridge government storage area in Pine Ridge Wednesday. Residents of the community said the Army vehicles were brought into town by truck Wednesday but no troops were on hand. The carriers were said to be equipped with machine guns.

Grant also said he checked reports of a phone call to the Heckles in which a ransom was mentioned. However, he said it was so vague it could not be considered a ransom request. According to the sheriff, the call was traced to a pay telephone in Cedar Rapids.