

CEDI - P. I. B.
 DATA 11/03/94
 COD 00000000

INDIAN EDUCATION NUCLEUS

ACTIVITY PROPOSAL

I - PROJECT DESCRIPTION

During the early 1980's, several indigenous peoples of the Xingu Indian Park, located in the State of Mato Grosso, Brazil, produced approximately 150 narratives at the "Diauarum Indian School", where Mariana Leal Ferreira worked as a teacher. Most of these narratives are about the land and health problems the Indians are faced with nowadays. They show us how the Indians' survival is intimately connected to the preservation of their lands and how badly they need adequate health assistance.

We have selected 65 histories to compose a book which shall be sent to Indian reservations to be used mainly as didactic material for Indian schools. Illustrations made by the Indians at the time will be included. The aims of such a book are: a- the production of Indian literature written by the Indians (themselves) to be used in Indian schools as didactic material; b- return to the population that produced these narratives their own material; c- to show the other Indians the problems the Xingu Indians are facing; d- to incentivate other Indian schools to produce their own material.

The histories we have selected show how the Xingu Indians lived before the contact with the white men, the processes involved in the creation of the Xingu Indian Park (1961), when several indigenous groups were brought into the park, their actual problems with land invasion, their relationship with the Brazilian society and their delicate health situation. Examples of such narratives:

- 1- "Life was so different before we met the white men" written by Aturi Kayabi in october, 1981.
- 2- "A long time ago, there were no white men in our land" written by Tuyat Kayabi in december, 1980.
- 3- "The history of the contact between the Suyá and the Juruna Indians" by Bissaká Juruna, in august 1981.
4. "We want to defend our land against farmers" by Canisio Kayabi, in september 1982.
5. "The white men's diseases are killing us" by Tamariku Juruna, in july 1981.
- 6- "Long ago the Txucarramãe were much healthier" by Megaron Txucarramãe, in may 1984.

In order to inform the Indians about their constitutional rights, a book, in accessible language, has been elaborated by CIMI (Conselho Indigenista Missionário). We believe it is important to continue this process and show the Indians how they can fight for their rights. A first step towards this procedure would be the divulgation of their problems - which the book "Land and

Health in P.I. Xingu" does and the publishing of other similar books would do as well- and afterwards show the Indians exactly how certain indigenous groups have been fighting for their rights, through concrete examples. Thus, we plan on elaborating material about how the government works, how the laws are made, what is the lawyer's job, how to apply for juridical assistance, etc.

II - THE GROUP'S CONNECTIONS WITH OTHER SUPPORT ORGANIZATIONS FOR INDIAN RIGHTS

Our group, originally part of the Pro-Indian Commission of Sao Paulo, is now an autonomous nucleus. We have assessed entities such as DPAN (Operação Anchieta- a laic organization which has communitary projects in the field of Indian education) and CIMI (Conselho Indigenista Missionário - a catholic organization). We have also worked with governmental institutions in order to provide the public schools with information about the Indians' present situation in Brazil. Projects for the "Justice and Peace Committee of São Paulo" have been elaborated by us, concerning the human rights and the indigenous peoples. We are also in contact with other entities that work with Indian Education in São Paulo, such as CTI (Centro de Trabalho Indigenista) and in the rest of Brazil, such as: NEI-MT (Núcleo de Educação Indígena-MT), NEI-PA, NEI-PE, ANAI-RS (Associação nacional de apoio ao Índio - RS). These organizations plus the "Fundação Nacional Pró-Memória" form the "Grupo Bonde", a national forum of articulation of the Indian Education question, which our group is also a member of.

III - STAFF COMPOSITION

Our group is composed of four anthropologists with fieldwork experience in Indian reservations and a lawyer:

ISABELLE GIANINNI VIDAL, a Bachelor of Biology, is a graduate student of Social Anthropology at the University of São Paulo (USP). She has worked for 2 years with the Kayapó-Xikrin Indians in Pará, accompanying the process of scholastic education among these Indians, producing first-reader's books and forming Indian teachers.

MARIANA LEAL FERREIRA worked from 1978 to 1984 as an elementary school teacher in Indian reservations, producing didactic material and forming Indian teachers. She has published articles about Indian Education and participated in conferences, and congresses about the subject. She is presently a graduate student of Social Anthropology at USP. Her dissertation is about Formal Education for Indians.

MARTA MARIA AZEVEDO, a graduate student of Social Sciences at the Pontifical Catholic University (PUC), São Paulo, worked from 1978 to 1981 among the Kaiowá/Guarani Indians as an elementary school teacher and since then she has worked

as an education assessor for different non-governmental entities.

LUIS DONISETE BENZI GRUPIONI, a Bachelor of Social Sciences, is a researcher at Plinio Ayrosa Museum at USP. He worked among the Bororo Indians from 1986 to 1988 and has taught history in High-schools since 1987. He has made researches into the human rights of the indigenous peoples, publishing articles and participating in congresses and courses.

LUCIA MARIA REGUEIRA, a Bachelor of Laws, gives juridical assistance to the Nucleus.

IV - COST ESTIMATE

The cost estimate for 2.000 issues of a 100-page book is US\$ 3.500, for printing costs.

- Characteristics of the book: 4-color hard-cover, 12 colored illustrations inside, 20 black and white illustrations, size 21 x 14 cms
- Honorariums for organization and distribution of the book (6 months of work) US\$ 1.000
- Mailing and telephone costs and other office expenses US\$ 500

(dollar quoted at 4.57 cruzados novos, august 24th, 1989)
1 US\$ = 4.57 CZN

Total= US\$ 5.000

V - CHRONOLOGY

- 1st and second months - preparation of texts and illustrations to be printed.
- 3rd month - printing of material. Contacts with Indian Organizations for the distribution of the book.
- 4th and 5th months - distributin and accompaniment of book usage. This might require a few trips in Brazil.
- 6th month - evaluation of the usage of the material.

VI - REPORTS

As soon as the material is printed we will send you an issue. After the distribution, we will send you a report letting you know where it was sent to and how. The Indians will be asked to send us information on how the material was used and how they liked it. The last report will consist of this information.

São Paulo, August 25th 1989.

Luis Donisete Benzi Grupioni
Indian Education Nucleus