BEFORE THE INDIAN CLAIMS COMMISSION

THE NORTHERN PAIUTE NATION AND THE BANDS THEREOF, EX REL. WALTER VORHEES, AVERY WINNEMUCCA, MARK JONES, FRANK JOHN, ANDREW DICK, DEWEY SAMPSON, HASTINGS PANCHO, WILLIE STEVE, WILLIAM HARDIN, SULLIVAN THOM, EARL FRANK, WESLEY KENO, FRANK KAISER, ALBERT ALECK, HARRY SAMPSON, ANN DOWNINGTON, ROSS HARDIN, OCHO WINNEMUCCA; THE WALKER RIVER TRIBE OF THE WALKER RIVER RESERVATION; THE PYRAMID LAKE TRIBE OF THE PYRAMID LAKE RESERVATION; THE YERINGTON PAIUTE TRIBE OF THE YERINGTON RESERVATION; THE RENO-SPARKS INDIAN COLONY; THE PAIUTE SHOSHONE TRIBES OF THE FALLON RESERVATION; THE FORT McDERMITT PAIUTE SHOSHONE TRIBE,	)	
Petitioners,	)	
v.	)	Docket No. 87
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,	)	
Defendant.	)	

INTERLOCUTORY ORDER

Upon the findings of fact this day filed herein and which are made a part of this order, the Commission concludes as a matter of law:

1. That the petitioners have the right to maintain this action for and on behalf of the members and descendants of members of the three aboriginal bands or groups of Northern Paiute Indians known as (a) the Monos or Paiutes of Owens Valley; (b) the Paviotso or Paiutes of western Nevada; and (c) the Snakes or Paiutes of the Oregon area, with the exception of the Yahooskin band of Snake Indians, the Walpapi (Woll-pah-pe) band of Snake Indians and the Snake or Piute (Paiute) Indians of the former Malheur Reservation, who were parties to the unratified treaty of December 10, 1868,

2. That the petitioners have proven the original Indian title of the Monos or Paiutes of Owens Valley to the lands described in Finding 21;

and of the Paviotso or Paiutes of western Nevada to the lands described in Finding 22; and of the Snakes or Paiutes of the Oregon area to the lands described in Finding 23, and

3. That the title of each of the three aforesaid groups of Northern Paiute Indians to their lands in California was acquired by the defendant on March 3, 1853, and that their title to those parts of their land lying in Nevada and Oregon was acquired by the defendant long prior to the commencement of this action but at a time or times which cannot be determined from the evidence now in the record; and, that none of said groups of Northern Paiute Indians received any compensation for their said lands.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED, That the case proceed for the determination of the acreage in each of the three areas involved, and the time or times said lands outside the present State of California were acquired by the defendant, provided, however, that if the parties should agree on the dates said lands in Nevada and Oregon were acquired by the defendant, and such agreement is filed with the Commission, the case shall proceed with a hearing on such value as of the dates that may be agreed upon, with the value of the lands lying in California to be determined as of March 3, 1853.

Dated at Washington, D. C., this 24th day of March, 1959.

Edgar E. Witt
Chief Commissioner

Louis J. O'Marr
Associate Commissioner

Wm. M. Holt
Associate Commissioner