

Thursday, July 21, 2005

**THE REIGN OF TERROR OPERATIONS:
THE U.S. GOVERNMENT'S IMPLACABLE IMPUNITY - MILITARY,
PARAMILITARY AND COVERT ATTACKS ON SOVEREIGN
INDIGENOUS LAND AND**

PREFACE

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The incident at Oglala was a firefight, a snapshot, one event in a series of firefights that stemmed from Wounded Knee and attempted to quell any resistance to the U.S. government's imperialist designs on our sacred land. In spite of the well disseminated and rehearsed official story, this confrontation was not a law enforcement matter but a **carefully planned paramilitary operation** on sovereign Lakota land. We intend to rectify the language and deconstruct the myths and lies of this history that has been imposed on us. The downed agents, **highly trained in counterterrorism and tactical operations, were carrying out a "recon by fire" mission.** They wanted to find out the strength of the compound at Tent City and opened fire. Indigenous warriors responded in kind. As in a well planned military operation, the intruders did not attempt to leave, knowing that reinforcements and backup were only a few miles away. **They did not arrive in time to prevent the Oglala Akicitas and their allies from counting coup on them.** This is not a civic matter but a case of people under siege protecting themselves from the invading forces. Still, Leonard Peltier, a Lakota-Anishinabe warrior, is paying with his life for protecting his people. We, the indigenous peoples in our occupied lands, have the inalienable right, under the law of the Creator and the man made international law, to defend ourselves in order to survive, and attempt to live with dignity in a society where we are still demonized and oppressed, where any reminder of the truth that we are the rightful stewards of this land is quickly dismissed by invalidating our own humanity.

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