UNITED STATES MISSION
TO THE UNITED NATIONS AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
IN GENEVA

February 4, 2013

Mr. James Anaya
Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
c/o OHCHR-UNOG
8-14 Avenue de la Paix
1211 Geneva, 10 Switzerland

Dear Mr. Anaya:

This is in response to your letter dated August 21, 2012, regarding the pending demolition of the former Carlisle Indian Industrial School. We appreciate your concern and provide the following response to your questions:

1. Has the Army War College considered any alternatives to the construction of the housing units for its personnel that would not require demolition of the farmhouse?

Yes. The Army has and continues to take all appropriate steps, including consultations, in determining the appropriate outcome for the farmhouse.

The Army War College at Carlisle Barracks has placed the demolition of the farmhouse on hold indefinitely pending the results of a cultural resources study that is reevaluating the farmhouse's historic significance. At this time, options and alternatives for treatment of the building remain open and include but may not be limited to: demolition, mothballing, stabilization, and renovation. Consultation with all involved parties will be used to help determine a final course of action for the farmhouse.

2. Have any consultations been carried out with indigenous peoples or individuals about the proposed demolition of the farmhouse?

Over the past several years, there have been numerous consultations and correspondence with indigenous individuals and tribes. In 2004, an extensive report titled "An Ethno-History of Carlisle Barracks, Carlisle, and Pennsylvania" was sent to over 25 federally recognized tribes with previous interests in Carlisle Barracks. This U.S. government report was prepared for the Army / Carlisle Barracks via contract with the Army Corps of Engineers. The report requested dialogue regarding the identification of any traditional cultural properties and sacred sites within the boundaries of lands managed by Carlisle Barracks. There was no response or concern raised about the farmhouse at that time. There have also been many other correspondences and engagements over the years regarding development efforts such as the geo-thermal ground source heat pump project.

Since late 2012, three federally recognized tribes have expressed concern regarding the demolition of the farmhouse. These tribes include: the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe of Hogansburg, New York, the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan, the Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Pottawatomi Indians (Gun Lake). Two interested parties, the Coalition of CIS Descendents, Relatives, and Friends, and a group of persons identifying themselves as the Lipan Apache Band of Texas also expressed concern. The U.S. Army plans to continue consultations with indigenous peoples, individuals, and other concerned authorities and organizations about the historical significance of the farmhouse and its treatment.

The U.S. Army recognizes the history of this installation. The U.S. Army has and continues to be a tremendous advocate of historic preservation and education. There has been diligent documentation and consultation on the cultural resources of Carlisle Barracks:

- In 1988, Archaeological and Historical Consultants, Inc. authored a Cultural Resource Overview and Management Plan for the U.S. Army on Carlisle Barracks. The farmhouse was addressed in the document and was recommended "Non-Significant."

- In 1991, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers was contracted to prepare a Cultural Resource Management Plan. In that assessment, the farmhouse was recommended as not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places due to lack of architectural merit and historical associations.

- In 1996, an Archeological and Architectural Investigation was conducted at Carlisle Barracks. The investigation found that the farmhouse had only minor association with the educational activities of the Carlisle Indian Industrial School (CIIS); that the farmhouse was not used for student housing or classroom training; and that most of the agricultural training took place in the surrounding fields. As an individual historic property, the building does not convey its association with agriculture since its barn and other agricultural outbuildings were demolished in the twentieth century. Finally, the building does not possess structural integrity for listing in the National Register of Historic Places primarily due to remodeling in 1943, 1948, and 1981, as well as its conversion from a single family home into a duplex.

- In 2000, the Pennsylvania State Historic Preservation Office (PA SHPO) accepted the archaeological findings in the report of the 1996 Archeological and Architectural Investigation at Carlisle Barracks.

- On August 31, 2004, the U.S. Army, privatized housing partner Balfour Beatty Communities, and the PA SHPO signed a Programmatic Agreement which identified all of the historic buildings on the installation, and how such buildings

would be treated within the privatized housing venture. The farmhouse is not listed as a historic building.

- As part of this Programmatic Agreement, the Army consulted the PA SHPO and invited the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), the National Park Service (NPS), and the Cheyenne-Arapaho of Oklahoma in accordance with sections 106 and 111 of the National Historic Preservation Act. The ACHP, NPS, and Cheyenne Arapaho tribe declined to participate. The Cumberland County Historical Society (CCHS) was also notified, consulted, and provided an opportunity to comment on the Programmatic Agreement. CCHS is considered a consulting party under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. The Army consulted with CCHS on a regular basis regarding historic properties affected by the privatized housing venture. The correspondence on this issue culminated on September 7, 2004, when the Army provided CCHS a copy of the signed Programmatic Agreement.

3. What consideration has been given to the concerns expressed by the indigenous descendants and relatives of students of the Carlisle Indian Industrial School over the demolition of the farmhouse?

On February 16, 2012, the ACHP acknowledged that the Army had evaluated the farmhouse for eligibility to the National Register of Historic Places and had come to agreement with the SHPO on measures to resolve adverse effects of the privatized housing venture, including provisions that would lead to the demolition of the farmhouse. The ACHP further provided its opinion that the Army was not required to conduct additional Section 106 consultation before continuing with the privatized housing venture. However, on October 9, 2012, the Army placed the demolition of the farmhouse on hold indefinitely as a result of new information that was brought to its attention regarding the possible historical association of the farmhouse with the CIIS and its possible use as a classroom and for student housing. Recognizing that additional information about the potential significance of the farmhouse has since become available, the ACHP more recently encouraged the Army to determine whether current information about the farmhouse might warrant additional Section 106 consultation with the SHPO and Indian tribes in order to reevaluate the farmhouse's significance and its planned treatment. Carlisle Barracks has commissioned a new cultural resources study which is reevaluating the farmhouse's historical significance in light of this new information. The Army's new study is expected to be available in February 2013. The report will be shared with and consultation will continue with the tribes, and an organization and a group who have expressed interest including: the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe of Hogansburg, New York; the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan; the Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Pottawatomi Indians (Gun Lake): the Coalition of CIS Descendents, Relatives, and Friends; and a group of persons identifying themselves as the Lipan Apache Band of Texas.

While the farmhouse demolition is on indefinite hold, the U.S. government continues to have numerous, creative means to share the CIIS story with indigenous descendants and relatives of students of the Carlisle Indian Industrial School.

- The memory of the Carlisle Indian Industrial School is preserved, honored, and shared with descendents of the CIIS American Indian children and all Americans. Multiple structures are found on the grounds where students actually lived during the CIIS era. Historical programs as well as collections of artifacts and photos are available to the public. Visitors are able to walk where American Indian children lived, played, and studied. The historic campus of Carlisle Barracks is the CIIS campus: it was the center of living, studying, physical training, and vocational training activities during the 39 years when the Department of the Interior ran the Carlisle School.

- There are numerous existing CIIS structures that are preserved and include the former CIIS Superintendent's Quarters (Bldg 2), Administration Building (Bldg 3), Guard House (Bldg 38), Doctor's Quarters (Bldg 37), Hospital (Bldg 36), Staff Housing (Bldgs 32-34, 311, 312, 318, 321), Teachers' Quarters (Bldg 24), Print Shop (Bldg 313), Leupp Indian Art Studio (Bldg 322), Laundry facility (Bldg 314), Warehouse (Bldg 315), Thorpe Hall Gymnasium (Bldg 23), Washington Hall Athletic Bldg (Bldg 7), and the cemetery where 186 American Indians are buried. A majority of these buildings have historical markers identifying their ties to the CIIS.

- The former Guard House (Bldg 38) is now the Hessian Guardhouse Museum, which houses a self-guided tour of Carlisle Barracks history to include the CIIS period.

- There are several historical markers throughout the installation with CIIS information. For example, in 2003, Pennsylvania dedicated an official CIIS Historical Marker within a few dozen feet of Carlisle Barracks, adjacent to the cemetery. The marker text, photos, and story of the CIIS are located on the ExplorePAHistory.com web site at http://explorepahistory.com/hmarker.php?markerId=1-A-228.

- The Army Heritage and Education Center (AHEC) holds an extensive CIIS photo collection. There are more than 1,000 photos of students and faculty in academic, recreational, and work environments at the school. The AHEC staff has digitized the entire photo collection, making it accessible online from anywhere in the

world (http://www.ahco.army.mil/site/index.jsp). In 2007, the AHEC featured its CIIS photo gallery in a triad of activities remembering the CIIS years, with complementary art exhibits at Dickinson College and the Cumberland County Historical Society (CCHS) in Carlisle, Pennsylvania.

- A former farmhouse resident did an excellent job compiling and publishing the history of the farmhouse, which is available at https://sites.google.com/site/thefarmhouseatcarlislebarracks/.

- The Cumberland County Historical Society (CCHS) preserves stories and memories in a CIIS gallery that features "the nation's largest repository of Carlisle Indian School artifacts and archival materials," according to the Society's web site.

- Since 1974, the U.S. Army War College has conducted Jim Thorpe Sports Days. Jim Thorpe, a member of the Sac and Fox Nation, began his renowned athletic career as a student at CIIS in 1907. The Jim Thorpe Sports Days games are played as a dedication to Jim Thorpe and are meant to reflect fitness, discipline, camaraderie, and fun for athletes and fans alike. The competition provides an opportunity to recognize the fair play and athletic excellence that became the reputation of Jim Thorpe and the CIIS.

4. What consideration has been given by the relevant state or federal agencies to include the farmhouse at the old Carlisle Indian School into the National Register of Historic Places?

On August 31, 2004, the Army and PA SHPO signed a Programmatic Agreement which identified all of the historic buildings on the installation that are eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. The farmhouse is not identified in the Programmatic Agreement as one of the historic properties eligible for or listed in the National Register. The PA SHPO's signature on the Programmatic Agreement constitutes their consensus with the identification of buildings eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. The Army also invited the ACHP, NPS, and the Cheyenne-Arapaho of Oklahoma to participate in the development of a Programmatic Agreement in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

The relevant state and federal agencies – including the PA SHPO, the ACHP, and the NPS – have been and will continue to be involved in the ongoing reevaluation of the historical significance of the farmhouse. The Army will continue to work with the

concerned tribes, the SHPO, NPS, ACHP, and others to determine the eligibility of the farmhouse for listing in the National Register of Historic Places and its ultimate treatment. Should you require any further assistance, please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,

Robert Needham
Acting Deputy Permanent Representative