Amerind Folk Crafts

Pipe Carved for President Reagan

Custom Carved Medicine Pipes
Good Medicine Pipes

Pipes are Carved to Order
By Woktelal/David K. Hackett, Yuchi

Of Genuineness and Indianness

These Sacred Pipes and carvings are handcrafted in genuine stone, wood, and leather. They are made by hand, with the blessing of the Sacred Wind. It is hereby avowed that this craftsman does not have a BIA number, nor does he have any desire to be racially certified by any Nazi agency, tribal or federal. He is a native of the United States of America, having been born in the Hoosier State of Indiana. He proclaims himself full-blood human, being of mixed-breed American ancestry, including Yucheans heritage and religion. He is Trickster’s Fool. While he is not certified, some have asserted that he is certifiable. Beyond this, he actively defies any and all attempts at definition. Yet, who knows he could be a synthetic person — a ragman, made from cultural detritus.

He also has a letter from the Department of Interior/BIA which states that in their opinion he is NOT in violation of the Indian Arts and Crafts Act of 1990—Public Law 101-644 (104 Stat. 4662). Further, he believes this law to be absurd, exempli gratia, unless and until all Italian restaurants are by law owned and run by certified Italians...

The Yuchi People have never been formally recognized by the Federal bureaucracy. Yet they were a populous, and distinct people, with a language not closely related to any others in the area. The Yuchi were the previous residents of Tennessee, before the colonial and Cherokee immigrations. The word “Tennessee” is from the Yucheans language, meaning confluence of streams (literally: place-of-the-brother-waters — Tana tse dgee.)
Ahnawake Clinch holding Woktela’s crow effigy pipe ca 1980