

¹ Thirty-four years ago in 1975 as a street agent in New York City I learned of the brutal murder of Jack Coler and Ron Williams on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota. Nine years ago in 2000 I became personally involved in the activities of Leonard Peltier who had gained considerable notoriety since the killings. Five years ago in 2004 I made a pilgrimage to the Jumping Bull property at Pine Ridge. Two months ago I was asked to represent current and retired FBI agents at Peltier's first public parole hearing in fifteen years at Lewisburg Penitentiary. Then, on July 27th, I went to Pennsylvania.

² Peltier was sentenced under the old sentencing guidelines and was ultimately entitled to parole review hearings every two years. These were not public hearings and it was their purpose to determine if there were any mitigating circumstances or changes in Peltier's status that the commission should consider in regard to his continued incarceration. There were none, and no changes were made. In his appearance before the parole board in 1993 he was "flopped" for fifteen years; in other words he had to wait another fifteen years for a full *public* hearing. That decision was reaffirmed in 1996: "In conclusion, this examiner would not change his previous recommendations for a 15 year reconsideration hearing based on the determination that the subject was involved in a conspiracy and /or aided or abetted in the death of two law enforcement officers. Moreover, this examiner would also find that an above-the-guideline decision based on the nature of the offense conduct would still be appropriate. In August 2009, the USPC's opinion has not changed.

³ Not his true name. As it turned out my contact in the area was an agent I knew from nearly twenty years prior. I remembered when he arrived as a first office agent in a small Midwest office and we had worked together on cases as I tried to provide some guidance for his later years in the Bureau. At one point during the day in the conference room he commented to someone that "I was trained well by Eddie Woods." I was proud and flattered that he would express that sentiment and it immediately brought to mind my own early experiences. I was very fortunate to have worked closely with SA Larry Sweeney who I first met while on a temporary hardship transfer to the old Babylon Resident Agency on Long Island. I'd been an agent at that point for about three years having spent a year and an half in a small Midwest office and then the New York Office in Manhattan. I couldn't have been more fortunate to be mentored by one of the best. Larry was the quintessential G-Man, a consummate professional and although I felt I had a handle on criminal investigations at that point early in my career I learned a great deal from Larry about becoming an effective investigator. I worked with him on many bank robberies and criminal matters, including effective development of productive informants which were critical to getting the job done. I never forgot those lessons. Larry, in his unassuming way, didn't even realize he was such an effective role model. As a result, in my own career, I took mentoring new agents seriously. When SA Jones made that comment I felt for an instant that I had somehow stepped into Larry's shoes.

⁴ We were later informed by the EAD that when Jack's sons testified, Peltier never looked at them and stared at the floor the whole time.

⁵ Looking Cloud Trial Transcript at 144-145; In reference to a statement made to the witness by Leonard Peltier: Prosecutor: "Exactly what did he say?" Witness: "He said the m----- was begging for his life, but I shot him anyway."

⁶ Leaving Lewisburg with the obligatory T-shirt, I made one final stop at the prison entrance for a [photo](#) and hoping that I wouldn't have to return for a very long time, or ever.

⁷ See <http://www.noparolepeltier.com/response.html#4>

⁸ See attached Desmond Tutu letter: Tutu incorrectly states that "...what your own courts had admitted..." (see <http://www.noparolepeltier.com/585.html>, "...the direct and circumstantial evidence of Peltier's guilt is strong."), and, "These very courts have admitted that Leonard Peltier did not commit the murders..." (see <http://www.noparolepeltier.com/997.html>, "Peltier's arguments fail because their underlying premises are fatally flawed.")

⁹ Announced by the White House on July 30, 2009; www.whitehouse.gov, and presented on August 12, 2009. The sixteen named are an eclectic group to say the least and include one notable Native American, Dr. Joe Medicine Crow-High Bird. But to further demonstrate Desmond Tutu's bias against America, during a Voice of America News interview he was; *Asked if he is disappointed with President Obama, the retired archbishop responded this way:* "It is you people, you Americans who make it so very difficult even for a good person with good policies to prevail," said Tutu. <http://www.voanews.com/english/2009-08-12-voa30.cfm>; last accessed August 12, 2009.

¹⁰ Joe Starita, I Am A Man. Chief Standing Bear's Journey for Justice. (New York: St. Martin's Press, 2008) 83-84. Quoted and paraphrased.

¹¹Joseph M. Marshall III, The Day the World Ended at Little Big Horn; A Lakota History. (New York: Penguin Books, 2007) XIII. Quoted