

# the reactor

By Paul Azevedo



While studying the history of ancient Basque buoys at the Spanish Royal archives in Seville, a Pacifica researcher discovered some California Indian documents, including the following from the village of Pruristac (now Linda Mar.)

According to the Spanish records, it was written in 1769 by Arsuc Niipanaq, Deputy Chief for Environmental Affairs and head clamshell splitter. It has been freely translated from the Costanoan.

## DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT From A.N.

To Praiput Nbqrzeu, Great chief of all Costanoans and Mussel shell gatherer, third class.

**THE PROBLEM:** A group of the people called Spaniards, and their allies from the land of Montezuma's revenge have arrived and are receiving our hospitality. It appears they may wish to settle in our lands.

Our wise men have smoked willow leaves, meditated, and gone into trances, and make the following predictions if the Spanish are allowed to settle.

**THEY WILL** bring their cattle and horses to remove the grasses of our hills. The hills will then wash down to muddy our beautiful clean creeks.

They will kill all the Grizzlies. Where then will we get bear grease to make our hair neat?

**THEY WILL** build many fires and turn the pure wind a dirty brown. They will ride many horses, and these will pollute the landscape with their droppings.

After the Spanish others will come, who will bring water in hollow tubes from the great snowy mountains and through the great valley.

**THIS PURE** water they will dilute with their filth, and then convey it at great expense to a central place where it will smell while they half-way clean it, then dump it in the ocean to foul the clams and mussels.

Thus their wastes, instead of returning to enrich mother earth from which they came, will be stolen from the soil, only to dirty the great sea.

**ALL THIS** will be done at great expense. They will call us savages, but they will cut the trees, smear the trails with liquid rock and bitumen, and bring thousands of their people into an area which can properly support only our 300 people.

The committee recommends that we immediately pass zoning laws, licensing requirements, and have the tribal staff impede the settlers by delaying their applications, losing them, telling them one thing on one visit and the opposite on their next. After as many delays as possible, they can be referred to the tribal council, where they can be rejected and started through the process again.

After we have gained as much time as possible in this way, we will decide to have a general plan.

**SINCE NOTHING** can be started until the general plan is complete, this should delay the whole process another several years.

By then we will be able to devise other ways for keeping the strangers out without actually telling them they are unwelcome.

In this way we will fish in clean streams forever for the steelhead, live in harmony with the grizzly bear, and walk the hills of our ancestors in peace and solitude.