

In The
UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES
October Term, 1989
Before The Special Master

State of Arizona,

v.

State of California, et al.

REPLY MEMORANDUM OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
TO THE BRIEF OF THE STATE
PARTIES ON PRETRIAL ISSUES

F. PATRICK BARRY
Attorney, Department of Justice
Environment & Natural Resources
Division
Indian Resources Section
P. O. Box 44378
Washington, D.C. 20026-4378
(202) 272-4059

Attorney for the United States

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I.	INTRODUCTION	1
II.	ARGUMENT	2
A.	The State Parties Have Failed To Overcome The Express Language In Article II(D)(5) That Allows The United States And The Quechan Indian Tribe To Litigate The Boundaries Of The Fort Yuma Indian Reservation In This Proceeding	2
1.	The Court's holding in <u>Arizona v. California II</u> that the parties may not utilize Article IX of its 1964 Decree to reopen and relitigate that which was "fully and fairly litigated in 1963" is not applicable to the Article II(D)(5) boundary issues	3
2.	Article II(D)(5) expressly allows the United States' claim for water associated with the Fort Yuma boundary lands	6
3.	The 1983 Claims Court "Final Judgment" entered in Docket No. 320 and based upon the "Stipulation and Settlement and Entry of Final Judgment" is not binding upon the United States and is not a "final determination" of the disputed boundary of the Fort Yuma Reservation	9
B.	The State Parties May Not Compel Discovery Of A Department of Justice Internal Legal Memorandum Recommending Settlement In <u>Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation v. United States of America</u> , (Claims Court Docket No. 320, 1951)	12
1.	The United States Department of Justice Settlement Recommendation is an appropriate attorney-client communication and entitled to protection	13
2.	The United States Department of Justice Settlement Recommendation is entitled to protection as attorney work product	15

a.	The Department of Justice Settlement Recommendation was prepared in "anticipation of litigation."	16
b.	Under Rule 26(b)(3), work-product materials retain their immunity from discovery after the termination of the litigation for which the documents were prepared	16
c.	The State Parties have made no showing of substantial need for the document in question	18
C.	The Evidentiary Record Developed In <u>Arizona v. California I</u> For The Colorado River Boundary Dispute Is Not Binding On The Parties	18
D.	In the event the Court should proceed with an adjudication of the boundary lands south of the Benson Line, the United States requires sufficient time to determine the appropriate alignment of that boundary and the water, if any, it will claim	20
III.	CONCLUSION	24

TABLE OF AUTHORITIES

Cases.

<u>Arizona v. California</u> , 288 U.S. 558 (1936)	23
<u>Arizona v. California</u> , 460 U.S. 605 (1983)	<u>passim</u>
<u>Arizona v. California</u> , 376 U.S. 340 (1964)	4
<u>Arizona v. California</u> , 373 U.S. 546 (1963)	<u>passim</u>
<u>Carter-Wallace, Inc. v. Otte</u> , 474 F.2d 529 2nd Cir. 1972) <u>cert. denied</u> 412 U.S. 929 (1973)	19
<u>Coastal States Gas Corporation v. Department of Energy</u> , 617 F.2d 854 (D.C. Cir. 1980)	13, 14 15
<u>Duplan Corp. v. Moulinage et Retordierie de Chavanoz</u> , 509 F.2d 730, 734 (4th Cir. 1974)	13, 17
<u>Federal Trade Commission, et al. v. Grolier Inc.</u> , 462 U.S. 19 (1983)	17
<u>Fisher v. United States</u> , 425 U.S. 391 (1976)	14
<u>Hunt v. United States</u> , 53 F.2d 333 (10th Cir. 1931)	20
<u>Idaho ex. rel. Evans v. Oregon</u> , 444 U.S. 380 (1980)	23
<u>McShan v. Sherrill</u> , 283 F.2d 462 (9th Cir 1960)	23
<u>Mead Data Central, Inc. v. United States Department of the Air Force</u> , 566 F.2d 242 (D.C. Cir. 1977)	15
<u>Otherson v. Department of Justice, I.N.S.</u> , 711 F.2d 267 (D.C. Cir. 1983)	11
<u>Porter County Chapter of Izaak Waton League of America v. Atomic Energy Commission</u> , 380 F.Supp. 630 (N.D. Indiana 1974)	15
<u>Pasquel v. Owen</u> , 97 F.Supp. 157 (W.D. Missouri 1951)	20
<u>Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation v. United States of America, United States Claims Court, Docket No. 320</u> (1951)	1, 9, 14

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26

Red Lake Band v. United States, 607 F.2d 930 (Ct.Cl. 1979) 11, 12

Sekaquaptewa v. MacDonald, 575 F.2d 239 (9th Cir. 1978) 11

United States v. Aranson, et al., 696 F.2d 654 (9th Cir. 1982) 21

United States v. Louisiana, 354 U.S. 515 (1980) 23

United States v. Wood, 466 F.2d 1385 (9th Cir 1972) 23

Treatises.

Wright & Miller, Federal Practice and Procedure, section 4443 11, 12, 16

Reports of the Special Master.

Tuttle (1983) 5, 6, 9

Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

Rule 26(b)(3) 15, 17, 18
19, 22

Federal Rules of Evidence

Rule 804(b)(1) 19

I

INTRODUCTION

In their "Brief on Pretrial Issues," the State Parties address several questions, referred to the parties by the Special Master at our meeting of February 26, 1991. The United States' Reply Memorandum concerns four of the issues discussed by the State Parties in their opening brief. They are: (1) Whether the United States and the Quechan Tribe are precluded from asserting claims for additional water on lands within the disputed boundaries of the Fort Yuma Indian Reservation; (2) whether the State Parties may compel discovery of a Department of Justice internal legal memorandum reflecting the deliberative process and the mental impressions, conclusions, opinions, and legal theories of its attorneys; (3) whether the evidentiary record developed before Special Master Rifkind in Arizona v. California, 373 U.S. 546 (1963), regarding the location of the western boundary of the Colorado River Indian Reservation, is admissible in this proceeding; and (4) whether this proceeding involves only that portion of the western boundary of the Colorado River Indian Reservation governed by the 1969 Order of the Secretary of the Interior or whether the entire western boundary of the reservation is to be determined.

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26

II

ARGUMENT

A. The State Parties Have Failed To Overcome The Express Language In Article II(D)(5) That Allows The United States And The Quechan Indian Tribe To Litigate The Boundaries Of The Fort Yuma Indian Reservation In This Proceeding.

The State Parties' argument that the United States and the Quechan Tribe of Indians are precluded from asserting claims for additional water on lands within the disputed boundaries of the Fort Yuma Indian Reservation is predicated upon two theories. First, the State Parties assert that the United States' claim for water is barred by the doctrine of res judicata. They argue that because the United States did not assert such a claim in Arizona v. California, 373 U.S. 546 (1963) (Arizona v. California I) it is precluded from doing so in this proceeding. Second, the State Parties contend that stipulated judgment entered in Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation v. United States of America, (Claims Court Docket No. 320, 1951), is the equivalent of a judicial determination that the Fort Yuma Reservation boundary lands were ceded to the United States by an 1893 Agreement.¹ See State

¹ In Article 1 of the 1893 Agreement, the Quechan Tribe of Indians agreed "upon the conditions hereinafter expressed," to relinquish all their right, title, and interest to their 1884 Executive Order reservation. Articles 2 through 8 of the Agreement describe the conditions agreed to by the government and the procedures for distributing a small portion of the remaining lands back to the Indians. The 1893 Agreement was ratified by Congress in 1894, 28 Stat. 286, 332. The legal effect of this agreement is the ultimate issue for trial before the Special Master in the fall.

Parties' Opening Memorandum at p. 43. Both arguments are without merit.

1. The Court's holding in Arizona v. California II that the parties may not utilize Article IX of its 1964 Decree to reopen and relitigate that which was "fully and fairly litigated in 1963" is not applicable to the Article II(D)(5) boundary issues.

The State Parties expend considerable energy to make the modest point that the United States did not claim water for the disputed boundary lands of the Fort Yuma Reservation in Arizona v. California I. This we readily admit. When this litigation was initiated by Arizona in 1952, the United States' relied on a 1936 Solicitor's Opinion for its position that the boundary lands of the Fort Yuma Indian Reservation had been ceded to the United States by the Quechan Tribe in 1893.² That position was reaffirmed in 1977 by a subsequent Solicitor's Opinion (84 I.D. 1, 1977).

In 1978, the Secretary of the Interior reviewed this matter for the first time. Based upon the legal analysis provided by his Solicitor, the Secretary reversed the 1936 and 1977 Solicitor's Opinions. The Secretary's action ended the debate within the Department of the Interior, and finally determined that the 1893 Agreement did not divest the Quechan Tribe of its lands and that the original 1884 Reservation boundary was still intact.

² See Opening Memorandum of the United States at pp. 7-15 and the Opening Memorandum of the Colorado River Indian Tribes and the Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation at pp. 22-23, discussing the 1936 Margold opinion.

1 The State Parties contend, however, that this action
2 comes too late. They argue that the principles of "certainty and
3 finality" preclude the United States from making a claim for
4 water for these lands twenty-seven years after the publication of
5 the 1964 Decree. State Parties' Memorandum at pp. 31-35. The
6 State Parties are wrong.

7 The argument that the principles of "certainty and
8 finality" act to bar the United States' claim for water for the
9 Fort Yuma Reservation boundary lands is rooted in the Court's
10 discussion of the scope of its jurisdiction under Article IX of
11 the 1964 Decree. See Arizona v. California, 460 U.S. 605, 619-
12 628 (1983) (Arizona v. California II).³ The issue was joined
13 because, in 1978, the United States petitioned the Court to
14 reopen the 1964 Decree to consider "claims for 'omitted' lands
15 for which water rights could have been sought in the litigation
16 preceding the 1964 decree." Arizona v. California, supra, 460
17 U.S. at 616.

18 The United States' petition to reopen the 1964 Decree
19 was denied. Arizona v. California, 460 U.S. 605 (1983). The
20

21 ³ Article IX of the 1964 Decree reads, in part:

22 Any of the parties may apply at the foot of
23 this decree for its amendment or for further
24 relief. The Court retains jurisdiction of
25 this suit for the purpose of any order,
26 direction, or modification of the decree, or
any supplementary decree, that may at any
time be deemed proper in relation to the
subject matter in controversy.

Arizona v. California, 376 U.S. 340, 351 (1964).

1 Court reasoned that while the "technical rules of preclusion are
2 not strictly applicable" to the instant case, "a fundamental
3 precept of common law adjudication is that an issue once
4 determined by a competent court is conclusive." Arizona v.
5 California, supra, 460 U.S. at 620. The Court went on to hold
6 that "Article IX did not contemplate a departure from these
7 fundamental principals so as to permit the retrial of factual or
8 legal issues that were fully and fairly litigated 20 years ago."
9 Id. at 621.

10 The State Parties' reliance on the Court's construction
11 of Article IX to defeat the United States' claim for water
12 associated with the Fort Yuma boundary dispute, is misplaced.
13 Admittedly, if Article IX were the only basis for the United
14 States' claim, the State Parties' argument would be relevant,
15 although incorrect.⁴ However, in this case, Article II(D)(5) of
16 the Court's 1964 Decree and its 1979 Supplemental Decree provides
17
18
19

20
21 ⁴ Special Master Tuttle's report rejects outright the
22 notion that the United States is precluded under Article IX from
23 asserting a claim for water on the Fort Yuma Reservation boundary
24 lands:

25 * * * Article IX, even if most narrowly construed,
26 would recognize the propriety of entertaining claims as
to the Chemehuevi, Fort Yuma, and Cocopah Reservations
paralleling those that can be raised as to the Fort
Mojave and Colorado River Reservations under Article
II(D)(5). Citations omitted.

Report of Special Master Tuttle, at pp. 56-57, note 73.

1 for such a claim in the event the boundaries of the five
2 reservations are "finally determined."⁵

- 3 2. Article II(D)(5) expressly allows the United States'
4 claim for water associated with the Fort Yuma
5 boundary lands.

6 Special Master Tuttle held that the purpose of Article
7 II(D)(5) is to allow the parties to litigate the Fort Yuma
8 Reservation boundary and its attendant water rights:

9 All of the parties agree that the Court should now
10 determine any additional present perfected rights.
11 Although the 1964 Decree acknowledged and expressly
12 provided for boundary disputes only with respect to the
13 Fort Mojave and the Colorado River Indian Reservations,
14 the additional proviso of the 1979 Decree, issued after
15 the Court was apprised of boundary disputes concerning
16 the other Reservations, indicates that the amounts
17 determined for all five Reservations "shall continue"
18 to be subject to adjustment. Thus, adjustments for
19 boundary determinations affecting any of the
20 Reservations were explicitly provided for in the 1979
21 Decree and impliedly contemplated in the 1964 Decree in
22 the event that the boundaries of the respective
23 reservations are finally determined.

24 Report of Special Master Tuttle, at p. 56, (Emphasis added)
25 (footnotes omitted). The Special Master's conclusion was adopted
26 by the Supreme Court in its decision in Arizona v. California II,

Our supplemental decree of 1979 did not * * * resolve
these [boundary] disputes. Rather, it not only
expressly left unaffected Article II(D)(5) providing
for the possible adjustments with respect to the
Colorado River and Fort Mojave Reservations, but it
also left open the issues about the boundaries of the
other reservations.

Arizona v. California, supra, 460 U.S. at 634.

5 The five reservations are the Colorado River, the Fort
Mojave, the Fort Yuma, the Cocopah and the Chemeheuvi Indian
Reservations. Arizona v. California, supra, 460 U.S. at 631-634.

1 The State Parties do not dispute that Article II(D)(5)
2 allows for the resolution of the Fort Yuma boundary. They
3 contend, however, that it impliedly reserves to the State Parties
4 the opportunity to assert a preclusion defense to any claim for
5 water rights associated with those lands. This position is in
6 obvious conflict with the Court's interpretation of Article
7 II(D)(5).⁶ It is also wholly inconsistent with the position the
8 State Parties took before the Supreme Court in Arizona v.
9 California II. See Exceptions of the States of Arizona,
10 California and Nevada, et al., at p. 60, n. 29 (1982) ("Although
11 Article II(D)(5) of the 1964 Decree refers to the disputed
12 boundaries of only two reservations, the State Parties have not
13 objected to its application to the other reservations as well.").
14 That the State Parties intended Article II(D)(5) to allow the
15 resolution of the various boundary disputes, as well as the water
16 rights associated with those lands, is evidenced by their actions
17 before the Special Master in Arizona v. California II. In that
18 proceeding, both the Fort Yuma Reservation boundary and the water
19 rights appurtenant to the boundary lands were "fully and fairly"
20 litigated by the State Parties.⁷ Furthermore, at no time during
21

22 6 The Supreme Court was aware of the United States'
23 failure to claim lands on behalf of the Quechan Tribe in Arizona
24 v. California I, and saw the issue as whether those lands should
25 now be considered a part of the reservation, "thereby entitling
the Tribe to appropriate additional water rights." Arizona v.
California, supra, 460 U.S. at 632.

26 7 Special Master Tuttle did not take evidence regarding
the appropriate location of the disputed boundaries in Arizona v.
California II. He did rule as a matter of law, after briefing by
(continued...)

1 that proceeding, or in subsequent briefs to the Court, months
2 later, did the State Parties argue that the United States and the
3 Quechan Tribe were precluded from asserting their claim for water
4 for the Fort Yuma Reservation boundary lands.

5 The State Parties find persuasive the fact that the
6 Court's 1984 Decree is silent with regard to their assertion of a
7 preclusion defense. State Parties' Memorandum at pp. 40-43.
8 Unlike the earlier Decrees, where much of the language of Article
9 II(D)(5) was agreed to, that Article was the subject of a heated
10 debate in 1984. Nowhere in that debate, however, do the State
11 Parties raise the issue of preclusion. The State Parties cite
12 extensively from their "Comments on the Decree Proposed by the
13 United States and Revised Decree Proposed by the State Parties,"
14 but cannot point to one paragraph that deals with this issue. By
15 contrast, in that same document, the State Parties do list
16 several issues which they see as arising out of an
17 "administrative" boundary decision. Conspicuously absent from
18 this list is any mention of the State Parties' asserted
19 preclusion defense.⁸

21 ⁷(...continued)
22 the parties, that the three secretarial orders establishing the
23 boundaries of the reservations were "final determinations."
24 Report of Special Master Tuttle at pp. 66-76. The Master then
proceeded to take evidence regarding the water rights associated
with these lands.

25 ⁸ The State Parties' reference to its "Comments on the
26 Decree Proposed by the United States, etc. . ." (hereinafter
"State Parties' Comments") is misleading. The discussion relied
upon by the State Parties in that document deals with the United
States' proposal that "* * * final administrative decisions which
(continued...)

1 The only reasonable interpretation of Article II(D)(5),
2 is that provided by Special Master Tuttle:

3 * * * the additional proviso of the 1979 Decree, issued
4 after the Court was apprised of boundary disputes
5 concerning the other Reservations, indicates that the
6 amounts determined for all five Reservations "shall
7 continue" to be subject to adjustment. Thus,
8 adjustments for boundary determinations affecting any
of the Reservations were explicitly provided for in the
1979 Decree and impliedly contemplated in the 1964
Decree in the event that the boundaries of the
respective reservations are finally determined.

9 Report of Special Master Tuttle, at p. 56.⁹

- 10 3. The 1983 Claims Court "Final Judgment" entered in Docket
11 No. 320 and based upon the "Stipulation and Settlement
12 and Entry of Final Judgment" is not binding upon the
United States and is not a "final determination" of the
disputed boundary of the Fort Yuma Reservation.

13 The State Parties also make the untenable argument that
14 a stipulated judgment entered in Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma
15 Reservation v. United States of America, (Claims Court Docket No.
16 320, 1951) ("Quechan litigation) is a final determination of the
17 disputed boundary of the Fort Yuma Reservation. State Parties'
18 Opening Memorandum at pp. 43-48. The assertion is wrong.

19 The Quechan litigation was a suit brought by the

20 8 (...continued)
21 remain unchallenged by judicial proceedings for more than one
22 year should constitute 'final determinations.'" This proposal
23 and its ensuing discussion is not relevant to the State Parties'
contention that the Court, in drafting Article II(D)(5) for its
1984 Supplemental Decree, intended to allow the defense of
preclusion.

24 9 The State Parties readily concede that they conceived
25 this argument only after the Court ruled in 1983 that Article IX
26 would not allow the United States to reopen the 1964 Decree to
revisit and expand their claim for water for the omitted lands.
State Parties' Opening Memorandum at p. 36. This fact alone
casts doubt on the sincerity of the State Parties' argument.

1 Quechan Tribe in 1951 under the Indian Claims Commission Act for
2 loss of their reservation. The United States responded that the
3 reservation lands had been ceded to the United States by the
4 Quechan Tribe pursuant to an 1893 agreement which was
5 subsequently ratified by Congress in 1894. In 1978, the
6 Secretary reversed this position and reinstated the original 1884
7 boundary of the Fort Yuma Reservation. The Secretary found that
8 the 1893 Agreement and subsequent legislation did not work an
9 immediate cession by the Tribe and that the Tribe retained
10 ownership of such lands, with certain exceptions. United States'
11 Opening Memorandum at pp. 19-22.

12 The United States and the Quechan Tribe settled the
13 Quechan litigation in 1983. A judgement of \$15,000,000.00 was
14 entered, based upon a the parties' "Stipulation For Settlement
15 and Entry of Final Judgment."¹⁰ The stipulated judgment, reads:

16 (1) * * * Entry of final judgment shall finally
17 dispose of all rights, claims, or demands which the
18 plaintiff has asserted or could have asserted with

19 ¹⁰ In our Opening Memorandum, we described the scope of
20 the Quechan Tribe's claim as (1) the fair market value of those
21 portions of the reservation on the effective dates of the
22 permanent acquisitions; and (2) damages for the temporary
23 deprivation of those lands which were reaffirmed by the executive
24 order of December 20, 1978, or of those lands which, after a
25 period of temporary deprivation were permanently acquired. The
26 lands upon which a claim for a permanent taking was based were
also stipulated to as (1) lands as to which valid rights were
acquired by third parties before or after 1884 (2) and
reclamation work projects constructed on the reservation pursuant
to statutes after 1884. The exceptions are described in detail
in the Secretarial Determination and Directives signed by
Secretary Watt on January 30, 1981, and published in 46 Federal
Register at page 11,372, et seq. To our knowledge, the United
States is not claiming water rights for any lands held by third
parties and recognized in the Secretary's Order.

1 respect to the claims in Docket 320, and plaintiff
2 shall be barred thereby * * *.

3 The State Parties contend that this language
4 extinguishes the United States' claim for water:

5 "the judgment of the Claims Court * * * is a 'final
6 determination' that the disputed 'boundary lands' were
7 ceded to the United States (sic) by the 1893 Agreement.
8 Consequently, they are not held in trust by the United
9 States for the Tribe but are public domain lands not
10 entitled to a Winters water right.

11 See State Parties' Opening Memorandum at p. 48. This assertion,
12 however, ignores applicable law.

13 Consent judgments entered upon settlement by the
14 parties are not subject to the defense of issue preclusion. See
15 Wright & Miller, Federal Practice and Procedure, section 4443 at
16 pp. 381-391. "As a general rule, * * * an issue is not 'actually
17 litigated' for the purposes of collateral estoppel unless the
18 parties to the stipulation manifest an intent to be bound in a
19 subsequent action." Red Lake Band v. United States, 607 F.2d
20 930, 934 (Ct.Cl. 1979), see also Sekaquaptewa v. MacDonald, 575
21 F.2d 239, 247 (9th Cir. 1978). The reasoning behind this rule is
22 apparent,

23 The interests of conserving judicial resources, of
24 maintaining consistency, and of avoiding oppression or
25 harassment of the adverse party are less compelling
26 when the issue on which preclusion is sought has not
actually been litigated before. And if preclusive
effect were given to issues not litigated, the result
might serve to discourage compromise, to decrease the
likelihood that the issues in an action would be
narrowed by stipulation, and thus to intensify
litigation.

Otherson v. Department of Justice, I.N.S., 711 F.2d 267, 275
(D.C. Cir. 1983), quoting Restatement (Second) of Judgments

1 section 27, comment e. Moreover, where the parties' intent
2 regarding the future effect of a stipulation is evidenced, that
3 intent should be controlling. Wright & Miller, Federal Practice
4 and Procedure, section 4443 at p. 382. An "intention to be so
5 bound should not be readily inferred." Red Lake Band v. United
6 States, supra, 607 F.2d at 934. In the instant case, the State
7 Parties ignore the parties' expressed intent that,

8 (2) The final judgment entered pursuant to this
9 stipulation shall be construed to be a compromise and
10 settlement and shall not be construed as an admission
11 by either party for the purposes of precedent or
12 argument in any way.

13 Stipulated Judgment at p. 2. Accordingly, there is no basis for
14 the State Parties' contention that the stipulated judgment in the
15 Quechan litigation is a 'final determination' that the disputed
16 'boundary lands' of the Fort Yuma Reservation. That issue was
17 not "actually litigated" by the parties and is not binding upon
18 them.

19 B. The State Parties May Not Compel Discovery Of A Department of
20 Justice Internal Legal Memorandum Recommending Settlement In
21 Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation v. United States
22 of America, (Claims Court Docket No. 320, 1951).

23 The State Parties only address two to the four defenses
24 asserted by the United States to oppose the State Parties'
25 attempt to compel the discovery of an internal Department of
26 Justice legal memorandum.¹¹ First, they argue that the

27 ¹¹ The State Parties have failed to discuss the United
28 States' arguments that the Assistant Attorney General's
29 settlement recommendation is absolutely protected by the
30 "deliberative process" privilege. That privilege extends to
31 "settlement proposals" as well as documents which discuss
32 (continued...)

1 Department of Justice Settlement Memorandum is a communication
2 between lawyers, and is therefore not protected by the attorney-
3 client privilege. Second, the State Parties contend that a
4 document discussing settlement strategy instead of trial strategy
5 is not attorney-work product under Fed.R.Civ.P. 26(b)(3).

- 6 1. The United States Department of Justice Settlement
7 Recommendation is an appropriate attorney-client
8 communication and entitled to protection.

9 The State Parties do not dispute the confidentiality of
10 the Assistant Attorney General's recommendation of settlement in
11 the Quechan litigation. They argue only that its recipient, the
12 United States Deputy Attorney General, is not a "client" within
13 the scope of the attorney-client privilege. State Parties'
14 Opening Memorandum at p. 49. The State Parties are wrong.

15
16 11 (...continued)
17 "settlement strategy" including "recommendations, draft
18 documents, proposals, suggestions and other subjective documents
19 which reflect the personal opinions of the writer rather than the
20 policy of the agency." Coastal States Gas Corporation v.
21 Department of Energy, 617 F.2d 854, 866 (D.C. Cir. 1980).

22 The State Parties have also failed to address the
23 United States' assertion of the attorney work product privilege
24 which protects the "disclosure of the mental impressions,
25 conclusions, opinions, or legal theories of an attorney * * *."
26 Fed.R.Civ.P. 26(b)(3). Even if the Court were to find that
the State Parties have a "substantial need" for the document in
question, this privilege is absolute. See Duplan Corp. v.
Moulinage et Retordierie de Chavanoz, 509 F.2d 730, 734 (4th Cir.
1974) ("No showing of relevance, substantial need or undue
hardship should justify compelled disclosure of an attorney's
mental impressions, conclusions, opinions or legal theories.").

We respectfully ask the Court's leave to file a short
supplement to this memorandum in the event the State Parties'
Response to the United States' Opening Memorandum discusses these
issues for the first time.

1 The purpose of the attorney-client privilege is to
2 encourage clients to make full disclosure to their attorneys in
3 order to obtain legal advice. Fisher v. United States, 425 U.S.
4 391, 403 (1976). "Uninhibited confidence in the inviolability of
5 the relationship is viewed as essential to the protection of the
6 client's legal rights, and to the proper functioning of the
7 adversary process." Coastal States Gas Corporation v. Department
8 of Energy, 617 F.2d 854, 862 (D.C. Cir. 1980). Moreover, while
9 the purpose of the privilege is to protect the client's
10 disclosures, "the federal courts extend the privilege also to an
11 attorney's written communications to a client * * *." Id.

12 The authority to settle the Quechan litigation on
13 behalf of the United States rested with the Deputy Attorney
14 General -- just as authority to settle litigation in a private
15 law suit rests with the client. In order to make an informed
16 decision regarding that issue, the Assistant Attorney General for
17 the Land and Natural Resources Division, provided the Deputy
18 Attorney General with a comprehensive legal memorandum
19 recommending settlement. In any other context, such a document
20 would be viewed as inviolate and absolutely protected from
21 disclosure.¹² The rule is no different when the litigants are

22
23 ¹² In settling the Quechan litigation, the Deputy Attorney
24 General and the Assistant Attorney General acted both as the
25 attorney, by recommending settlement, and as the authorized
26 entity to speak for the client, because of their authority to
engage in and settle the litigation in which the United States or
an agency or officer thereof is a party. See 28 U.S.C. 516 (the
conduct of litigation in which the United States, an agency or an
officer thereof is a party is reserved to the Department of
(continued...)

1 settling a case in which the United States is a party. See
2 Coastal States Gas Corporation v. Department of Energy, supra,
3 617 F.2d at 863 ("[I]t is clear that an agency can be a 'client'
4 and agency lawyers can function as 'attorneys' within the
5 relationship * * *."); Mead Data Central, Inc. v. United States
6 Department of the Air Force, 566 F.2d 242, 252-253 (D.C. Cir.
7 1977); and Porter County Chapter of Izaak Walton League of
8 America v. Atomic Energy Commission, 380 F.Supp. 630, 633 (N.D.
9 Indiana 1974) (Where papers containing legal advice from staff
10 counsel of the Atomic Energy Commission were exempt from
11 disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, citing the
12 attorney-client privilege.).

13 2. The United States Department of Justice Settlement
14 Recommendation is entitled to protection as
attorney work product.

15 The State Parties challenge the United States' work
16 product defense on only two grounds. First, the State Parties
17 contend that because the Department of Justice Settlement
18 Memorandum was prepared to settle litigation, it was not prepared
19 in "anticipation of litigation." Second, they argue that the
20 protection of Fed.R.Civ.P. 26(b)(3) applies only when the subject
21 document is prepared in anticipation of litigation in the case in
22 which the protection is sought. Both of these arguments fail.

23
24
25 12(...continued)
26 Justice); and 519 (the Attorney General shall supervise all
litigation to which the United States, an agency or an officer
there of is a party.).

1	1
2	2
3	3
4	4
5	5
6	6
7	7
8	8
9	9
10	10
11	11
12	12
13	13
14	14
15	15
16	16
17	17
18	18
19	19
20	20
21	21
22	22
23	23
24	24
25	25
26	26
27	27
28	28
29	29
30	30
31	31
32	32
33	33
34	34
35	35
36	36
37	37
38	38
39	39
40	40
41	41
42	42
43	43
44	44
45	45
46	46
47	47
48	48
49	49
50	50
51	51
52	52
53	53
54	54
55	55
56	56
57	57
58	58
59	59
60	60
61	61
62	62
63	63
64	64
65	65
66	66
67	67
68	68
69	69
70	70
71	71
72	72
73	73
74	74
75	75
76	76
77	77
78	78
79	79
80	80
81	81
82	82
83	83
84	84
85	85
86	86
87	87
88	88
89	89
90	90
91	91
92	92
93	93
94	94
95	95
96	96
97	97
98	98
99	99
100	100

1 a. **The Department of Justice Settlement**
2 **Recommendation was prepared in "anticipation of**
3 **litigation."**

4 The State Parties read Fed.R.Civ.P. 26(b)(3)'s
5 requirement that a document must be prepared "in anticipation of
6 litigation or for trial" literally and argue that it would not
7 apply to an attorney's analysis of litigation in the context of
8 settlement. We believe that the drafters of the Federal Rules of
9 Civil Procedure intended the words "in anticipation of
10 litigation" to apply in a much broader context. "[T]he test
11 should be whether in light of the nature of the document and the
12 factual situation in the particular case, the document can fairly
13 be said to have been prepared or obtained because of litigation."
14 Wright & Miller, Federal Practice and Procedure, section 204 at
15 p. 208 (1970). The United States is entitled to the protection
16 of Rule 26(b)(3) and the work product doctrine because the
17 recommendation of the Assistant Attorney General to settle the
18 Quechan litigation can fairly be said to have been prepared
19 because of that litigation.

20 b. **Under Rule 26(b)(3), work-product materials retain**
21 **their immunity from discovery after the termination**
22 **of the litigation for which the documents were**
23 **prepared.**

24 The State Parties also contend that work-product
25 materials lose their immunity once the litigation for which they
26 were created is terminated. State Parties' Opening Memorandum at
p. 50. While they concede that this rule has not been adopted by
the Supreme Court, id. at 51, the State Parties ignore the fact
that, as late as 1983, "all of the Courts of Appeals that had

1 decided the issue under Rule 26(b)(3) had determined that work-
2 product materials retained their immunity from discovery after
3 termination of the litigation for which the documents were
4 prepared * * *." Federal Trade Commission, et al. v. Grolier
5 Inc., 462 U.S. 19, 26 (1983).

6 The rationale for such a rule is apparent:

7 The invasion of "[a]n attorney's thoughts, heretofore
8 inviolate," and the resulting demoralizing effect on
9 the profession, are as great when the invasion takes
10 place later rather than sooner. * * * Many Government
11 agencies, for example, deal with hundreds or thousands
12 of essentially similar cases in which they must decide
13 whether and how to conduct enforcement litigation.
14 * * * He would get the benefit of the agency's legal
and factual research and reasoning, enabling him to
litigate "on wits borrowed from the adversary." Worse
yet, he could gain insight into the agency's general
strategic and tactical approach to deciding when suits
are brought, how they are conducted, and on what terms
they are settled.

15 Federal Trade Commission, et al. v. Grolier Inc., supra, 462 U.S.
16 at 31 (Brennan, J., concurring) (emphasis added). See also
17 Duplan Corp. v. Moulinage et Retordierie de Chavanoz, 509 F.2d
18 730, 735 (4th Cir. 1974) ("Should an advocate's thoughts,
19 theories, opinions and impressions, collected and developed
20 during pending litigation become discoverable in connection with
21 later litigation because they are thought to be relevant, our
22 adversary system would clearly suffer.").

23 The minority position advocated by the State Parties
24 should be rejected. The better reading of Rule 26(b)(3) is that
25 work product materials retain their immunity from discovery after
26 termination of the litigation for which the documents were
prepared.

1 c. The State Parties have made no showing of
2 substantial need for the document in question.

3 Finally, the State Parties have failed to demonstrate
4 any need for the internal memorandum at issue. Rule 26(b)(3)
5 specifically states that it is their burden to show "that the
6 party seeking discovery has a substantial need for the materials
7 in the preparation of the party's case and that the party is
8 unable without undue hardship to obtain the substantial
9 equivalent of the materials by other means." The State Parties
10 can only say that the Department of Justice Settlement Memorandum
11 will only "confirm what the Claims Court pleadings and judgment
12 show on their face and that such reinforcement constitutes
13 'substantial need.'" State Parties' Opening Memorandum at p. 51.
14 Mere confirmation of what the State Parties interpret to be the
15 scope of the Stipulate Judgment in the Quechan litigation, falls
16 short of the "substantial need" test articulated by Rule
17 26(b)(3).

18 C. The Evidentiary Record Developed In Arizona v. California I
19 For The Colorado River Boundary Dispute Is Not Binding On The
 Parties.

20 We disagree strongly with the State Parties assertion
21 that the record developed before Special Master Rifkind in
22 Arizona v. California I, "is binding upon all of the parties
23 * * * but may be supplemented." State Parties' Opening
24 Memorandum at p. 75. The State Parties make the simplistic
25 argument that because the United States appeared in its capacity
26 as trustee in that proceeding, the Tribe is bound by the

1 "evidentiary presentation made before Special Master Rifkind."
2 Id. at 63. This begs the question.

3 The issue presented by the existence of a record before
4 Special Master Rifkind on the boundary disputes is not whether
5 the Colorado River Indian Tribes are bound by the appearance of
6 its trustee, but the legal sufficiency of that record for use in
7 these proceedings.

8 The United States agrees with the Colorado River Indian
9 Tribes' position that the record developed before Special Master
10 Rifkind "is not entitled to special treatment but may only be
11 considered by the Master if it is admissible under the Federal
12 Rules of Evidence." Opening Memorandum of the Colorado River
13 Indian Tribes and the Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Reservation
14 at p. 19. See F.R.E. 804(b)(1) and Cater-Wallace, Inc. v. Otte,
15 474 F.2d 529, 536 (2nd Cir. 1972, cert. denied, 412 U.S. 929
16 (1973). There other compelling reasons for this Court to reject
17 the State Parties' argument.

18 The Court's Order of Reference provides that the
19 Special Master is to "determine the disputed boundaries of the
20 Fort Mojave, Colorado River and Fort Yuma Indian Reservations
21 * * *." Arizona v. California, ____ U.S. ____, 107 LEd.2d 180
22 (1989). It is not predicated upon the proceedings in Arizona v.
23 California I. The earlier Masters' attempts to resolve the
24 boundaries of the several reservations were "set aside" as
25 "unnecessary" by the Court in 1963, Arizona v. California, supra,
26 373 U.S. at 601 and in 1983, Arizona v. California, supra, 460

1 U.S. at 636-637. Moreover, the Court specifically rejected the
2 State Parties' argument that the boundary disputes should have
3 been litigated by Special Master Tuttle:

4 It is clear enough to us, and it should have been clear
5 enough to others, that our 1963 opinion and our 1964
6 decree anticipated that, if at all possible, the
boundary disputes would be settled in other forums.

7 Id. at 637. Given that the Court found the record and
8 proceedings for the boundary dispute before Special Master
9 Rifkind "unnecessary" to their 1963 decision, that record
10 continuing significance beyond that proceeding. Now that the
11 Court has properly chosen to exercise its extraordinary original
12 jurisdiction to adjudicate the boundary lands, the parties must
13 develop their own record in this proceeding. In such a case,
14 "the issues stand undisposed of, as if [the first trial] had
15 never been tried." Hunt v. United States, 53 F.2d 333 (10th Cir.
16 1031). See also, Pasquel v. Owen, 97 F.Supp. 157, 158 (W.D.
17 Missouri 1951).¹³

18 D. In The Event The Court Should Proceed With An Adjudication
19 Of The Boundary Lands South Of The Benson Line, The United
20 States Requires Sufficient Time To Determine The Appropriate
Alignment Of That Boundary And The Water, If Any, It Will
Claim.

21 In the event the Court determines that the parties
22 should proceed with the adjudication of the western boundary of
23 the Colorado River Indian Reservation below the Benson line, the

24 ¹³ Our reading of the Court's Order of Reference does not
25 prohibit the parties from stipulating to the admissibility of any
26 portion of the record developed in Arizona v. California I. In
the absence of such an agreement, however, the parties are not
otherwise bound by that record as it pertains to the boundary
disputes.

1 United States will require more time to determine the appropriate
2 alignment of that boundary and the water, if any, it will claim.
3 The complexity of the problem we face is best expressed by the
4 Ninth Circuit when it was faced with a similar problem:

5 The proper resolution of this appeal [of the district
6 court's judgment that certain lands along the Colorado
7 River are the within the reservation's boundaries and
8 thus are the property of the United States] has proved
9 as difficult to divine as determining the course of the
Colorado River * * * during the period of time with
which this case is concerned. Both have proved
elusive, and, even now, some doubt with respect to both
remains.

10 United States v. Aranson, et al., 696 F.2d 654, 656 (9th Cir.
11 1982). This language is found in the first paragraph of the
12 Aranson decision and is a useful introduction to the ambiguities
13 and confusion associated with the western boundary of the
14 Colorado River below the Benson line. Given the complexity of the
15 problem, it is understandable why the United States has not
16 determined its position as to the appropriate alignment of the
17 that portion of the western boundary of the Colorado River Indian
18 Reservation. Moreover, without a definition of the appropriate
19 alignment of the boundary, we are unable to prepare our claim for
20 water, if any, in this section of the reservation. At a minimum,
21 the United States requires sufficient time to conduct a complete
22 examination of the lands at issue and ascertain what claims, if
23 any, it might choose to bring if required to do so in this
24 proceeding.

25 We did not prepare such a claim in Arizona v.
26 California II, because that proceeding was limited to the United

1 States' claim for additional water based on the lands governed by
2 the 1969 Secretarial Order (the Benson line). Accordingly, if
3 the Court is of the opinion that the United States' claim for
4 water for lands bordering the western boundary of the Colorado
5 River Indian Reservation and south of the Benson line are at
6 issue in this proceeding, we can proceed only if given sufficient
7 time and opportunity to determine the alignment of that boundary
8 and to prepare our claims, if any, for the water associated with
9 those boundary lands.

10 Moreover, if the United States determines that it
11 indeed asserts that some or all of the lands south of the Benson
12 line are a part of the Colorado River Indian Reservation, and we
13 claim corresponding water rights for those lands, the character
14 of the proceeding before this Court may change.¹⁴

15 Under Rule 19, Fed.R.Civ.P., private landowners and
16 other private and public entities asserting an interest in the
17 title to any lands claimed by the United States may be considered
18 to be indispensable parties and must be joined.¹⁵ See, e.g.

20 ¹⁴ In the event the United States determines that it
21 does not assert any claims for additional water rights on the
22 disputed lands, the Court will have no need to adjudicate the
23 reservation boundary south of the Benson Line. Indeed, it is
24 highly questionable whether the Court would have jurisdiction to
25 do so.

26 ¹⁵ Rule 19 applies to actions within the original
jurisdiction of the Supreme Court. Rule 9.2 of the Rules of the
Supreme Court provides that the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure
"may be taken as a guide to procedure" in actions within the
Court's original jurisdiction. While not strictly bound by Rule
(continued...)

1 McShan v. Sherrill, 283 F.2d 462, 463 (9th Cir. 1960) (no decree
2 affecting the title to property can be entered in the absence of
3 all parties interested in the title; they are indispensable
4 parties); United States v. Wood, 466 F.2d 1385, 1388 (9th Cir.
5 1972) ("In a suit to quiet title, all persons interested in the
6 title are indispensable parties."). If such persons exist and are
7 not accessible to service, or if their joinder would oust the
8 Court of jurisdiction, the case, at least insofar as it would
9 affect the title of the absent parties, may be subject to
10 dismissal. McShan v. Sherrill, supra, 283 F.2d at 464; Arizona
11 v. California, 298 U.S. 558 (1936) (where the Supreme Court
12 dismissed bill of complaint seeking an equitable apportionment of
13 the waters of the Lower Colorado due to the absence of the United
14 States as an indispensable party).

15 Given the sensitive and complex nature of the issues
16 that await resolution in the event we proceed with an
17 adjudication of the western boundary of the Colorado River Indian
18 Reservation below the Benson line, we urge the Court to consider
19 the ramifications to the parties before it entertains the State
20 Parties' motion litigate this issue.

23
24 ¹⁵(...continued)
25 19, the Court repeatedly has applied and cited the federal Rule
26 governing joinder and the principles it endorses. See e.g.,
 Arizona v. California, 298 U.S. 558 (1936); United States v.
 Louisiana, 354 U.S. 515 (1957); Idaho ex. rel. Evans v. Oregon,
 444 U.S. 380 (1980).

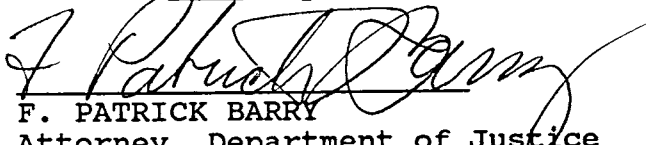
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26

III

CONCLUSION

For the reasons set forth above, the motions of the State Parties to preclude the United States from claiming water for the Fort Yuma Reservation boundary lands; to adjudicate the western boundary of the Colorado River Indian Reservation below the Benson line; to have the Special Master adopt and admit the evidentiary record before Special Master Rifkind as it relates to the western boundary of the Colorado River Indian Reservation; and to compel discovery of a Department of Justice internal legal memorandum should be denied.

Respectfully submitted this 6th day of May, 1991.


F. PATRICK BARRY
Attorney, Department of Justice
Environment & Natural Resources
Division
Indian Resources Section
P. O. Box 44378
Washington, D.C. 20026-4378
(202) 272-4059

1 UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT
2 BEFORE THE SPECIAL MASTER
3

4 STATE OF ARIZONA,)
5 Plaintiff,) NO. 8 ORIGINAL
6 vs.)
7 STATE OF CALIFORNIA, et al.,) NOTICE OF SERVICE
8 Defendant,)
9

10 This is to certify that on this 6th day of May, 1991,
11 copies of the United States' Reply Memorandum to the Brief of the
12 State Parties on Pretrial Issues were mailed to the following:

13 Frank J. McGarr
14 Special Master
15 PHELAN, POPE & JOHN, LTD.
Suite 4200
311 South Wacker Drive
Chicago, Illinois 60606

16 Fred Vendig
17 Karen L. Tachiki
18 Metropolitan Water District
of Southern California
P.O. Box 54153
Los Angeles, California 90054

19 Justin McCarthy
20 REDWINE & SHERRILL
21 1950 Market Street
Riverside, California 92501

22 Jerome C. Muys
23 WILL & MUYS
1825 Eye Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006

24 Anthony B. Ching
25 Solicitor General
State of Arizona
26 1275 West Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

1 Douglas B. Noble
2 Deputy Attorney General
3 State of California
3580 Wilshire Blvd.
4 Los Angeles, California 90010

5 Scott B. McElroy
6 GREEN, MEYER & MCELROY
1007 Pearl Street
Suite 240
7 Boulder, Colorado 80302

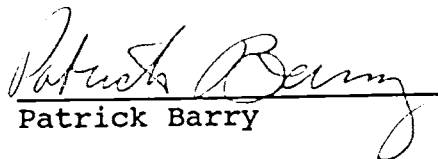
8 William Strickland
9 STRICKLAND & ALTAFER
700 Transamerica Building
Tucson, Arizona 85701

10 Jeanne Whiteing
11 WHITEING & THOMPSON
6684 Gunpark Drive
12 Boulder, Colorado 80301

13 Honorable Paul Van Dam
236 State Capitol
14 Salt Lake City, Utah 84114

15 Honorable Brian McKay
16 Heroes Memorial Building
Capitol Complex
Carson City, Nevada 89710

17 Honorable Hal Stratton
18 Bataan Memoria Building
Galisteo Street
19 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87503

20 
21 Patrick Barry
22
23
24
25
26

