Native Americans in Cold War Public Diplomacy: Indian Politics, American History, and the US Information Agency [Abstract]

Andrew Denson

This essay examines the depiction of Native Americans by the US Information Agency (USIA), the bureau charged with explaining American politics to the international public during the Cold War. In the 1950s and 60s, the USIA broadcast the message that Americans had begun to acknowledge their nation's history of conquest and were working, through an activist government, to redress old wrongs. That message, which echoed the agency's depiction of the African American Civil Rights Movement, allowed the USIA to recognize Indian resistance to assimilation. It offered little room for tribal nationhood, however, during the early years of the modern Indian political revival.

To purchase the full article: http://uclajournals.org/doi/abs/10.17953/aicr.36.2.mh593721537j1ug3