

investigators that the lobbyists asked him to take the matter to the Department of Justice; the lobbyists told investigators that McCain offered to take the matter to Justice. Notwithstanding the jubilant tone of Corcoran's fax to Lewis Taylor a few days later announcing, "Mission Accomplished!," McCain stated that he never did anything with the erroneous information.

2. Tribal Opponents Seek and Obtain the Assistance of the Democratic National Committee

a. Emergence Of A Strategy For DNC Involvement

In his Dec. 28, 1994, memorandum, MIGA Executive Director McCarthy had counseled the opposing tribes that they should point out to the Secretary of the Interior "key political issues" he should bear in mind in evaluating the Hudson casino application. McCarthy urged the tribes to emphasize Interior's need to be sensitive to the possible erosion of "Indian political contributions" as a consequence of the Hudson decision, and the fact that opponent Minnesota tribes had been "very active politically and are strong Democrats . . . [who] contributed heavily in the November elections and played a key role in our support for President Clinton in 1992." Seizing on this theme that political considerations would "probably" affect the outcome on the Hudson application, on February 20, 1995, Kitto advised the St. Croix Tribe to elicit support from the White House and national Democratic organizations in the Hudson lobbying campaign.²⁰³ Kitto advised the St. Croix to consider:

Communicating directly with the White House about how the politics of this issue, if approved, will help the Republicans and hurt the Democrats. . . .

²⁰³Memo from Larry Kitto to Lewis Taylor, Howard Bichler and Thomas Corcoran, Feb. 20, 1995.