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National Museum of the American Indian Archives Center

Grace F. Thorpe collection - Scrapbook: Return Surplus Lands to Indian People, 1971

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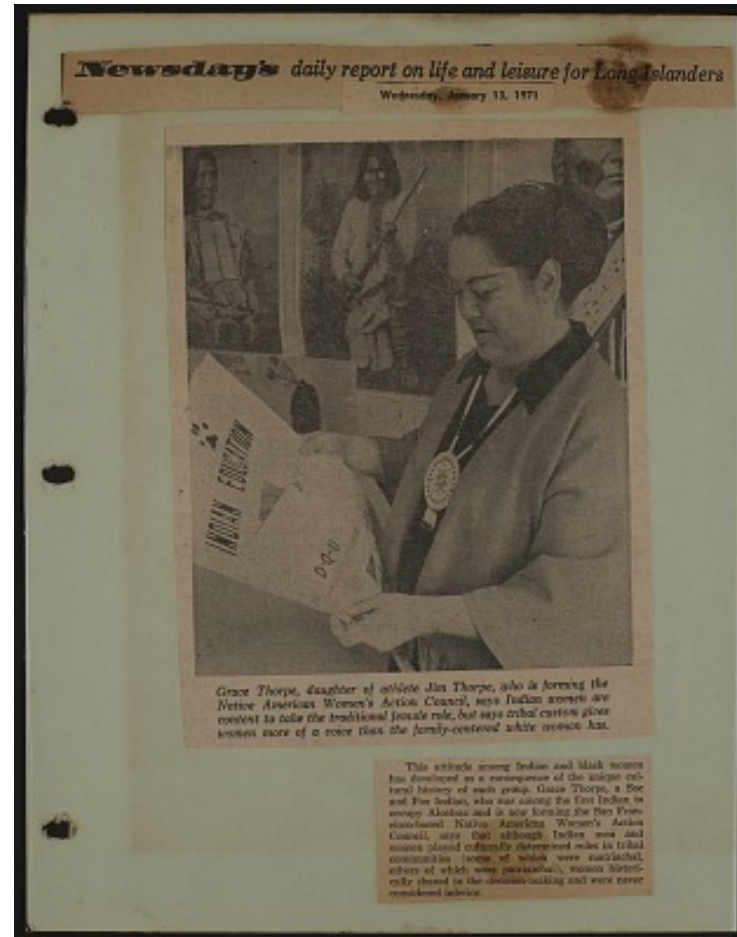
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[[banner]]
Newsday's daily report on life and leisure for Long Islanders
Wednesday, January 13, 1971

[[image - photograph]]

[[photo caption]] Grace Thorpe, daughter of athlete Jim Thorpe, who is forming the Native American Women's Action Council, says Indian women are content to take the traditional female role, but says tribal custom gives women more of a voice than the family-centered white woman has.

This attitude among Indian and black women has developed as a consequence of the unique cultural history of each group. Grace Thorpe, a Sac and Fox Indian, who was among the first Indian to occupy Alcatraz and is now forming the San Francisco-based Native American Women's Action Council, says that although Indian men and women played culturally determined roles in tribal communities (some of which were matriarchal, others of which were patriarchal), women historically shared in the decision-making and were never considered inferior.



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