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Nota di contenuto	Foreword / by W. Ron Allen -- 1. The historical context of the U.S. government's policies regarding Indian people -- 2. The American Indian Policy Review Commission -- 3. The AIPRC recommends that an independent Committee on Indian Affairs be established in the U.S. Congress -- 4. The Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978 -- 5. The American Indian Religious Freedom Act -- 6. Indian land claims and water rights claims settled by an act of Congress serve as treaty substitutes -- 7. Senator Inouye becomes chairman of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs -- 8. Developing an economy in Indian Country -- 9. Senator Inouye travels across Indian Country, 1987-1989 -- 10. The National Museum of the American Indian Act -- 11. Creating the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act -- 12. Looking beyond our borders in the twenty-first century -- Appendix 1. A tribute to Senator Daniel K. Inouye -- Appendix 2. Legislative steps on the path to sovereignty -- Appendix 3. Chronology of the life and work of Alan Parker.
Sommario/riassunto	In a story that could only be told by someone who was an insider, this book reveals the background behind major legislative achievements of U.S. Tribal Nations leaders in the 1970s and beyond. American Indian attorney and proud Chippewa Cree Nation citizen Alan R. Parker gives insight into the design and development of the public policy initiatives that led to major changes in the U.S. government's relationships with

Tribal Nations. Here he relates the history of the federal government's attempts, beginning in 1953 and lasting through 1965, to "terminate" its obligations to tribes that had been written into over 370 Indian treaties in the nineteenth century. When Indian leaders gathered in Chicago in 1961, they developed a common strategy in response to termination that led to a new era of "Indian Self-Determination, not Termination," as promised by President Nixon in his 1970 message to Congress. Congressional leaders took up Nixon's challenge and created a new Committee on Indian Affairs. Parker was hired as Chief Counsel to the committee, where he began his work by designing legislation to stop the theft of Indian children from their communities and writing laws to settle long-standing Indian water and land claims based on principles of informed consent to negotiated agreements. A decade later, Parker was called back to the senate to work as staff director to the Committee on Indian Affairs, taking up legislation designed by tribal leaders to wrest control from the Bureau of Indian Affairs over governance on the nation's 250 Indian reservations and negotiating agreements between the tribes that led to the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act. A valuable educational tool, this text weaves together the ideas and goals of many different American Indian leaders from different tribes and professional backgrounds, and shows how those ideas worked to become the law of the land and transform Indian Country.

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