



**Directors of the Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions:  
Introduction**

Kevin Abing, 1994

The Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions (BCIM) was truly an organization born of necessity. The immediate background for its establishment was President Ulysses S. Grant's implementation of the "Peace Policy" in 1869. Throughout the decade, intermittent warfare marred relations between white Americans and the Indian tribes occupying the far western portions of the United States. Although both sides committed ruthless acts, the Sand Creek Massacre of

