

MEDIATION OFFICE
HOPI - NAVAJO LAND DISPUTE
Public Law No. 93-531

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September 16, 1975

Mr. Abbott Sekaquaptewa, Chairman
Hopi Tribal Council
P. O. Box 123
Oraibi, Arizona 86039

Mr. Samuel Pete, Executive Director
Navajo-Hopi Land Dispute Commission
Navajo Nation
Window Rock, Arizona 86515

Dear Messrs. Sekaquaptewa and Pete:

Since the one hundred eighty day negotiating period expired at midnight on Saturday, September 13, 1975, without a settlement by the parties, it now becomes incumbent on us as mediators to begin preparation of our report and recommendations to the District Court.

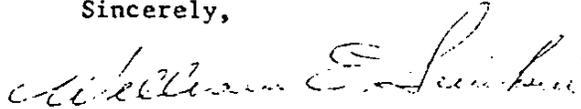
As we calculate the 90 day period for preparation of our report, this period expires at midnight on Friday, December 12, 1975.

As you know, the Hopi team has presented to us an incomplete "last best offer", perhaps better described as a "last official offer". It is incomplete because no partition map has yet been presented and it is possible that the Hopi team may want to revise the text of the draft presented to us covering certain other issues. As soon as we have received a complete and final "last best offer" from the Hopi team, we will forward a copy to the Navajo team.

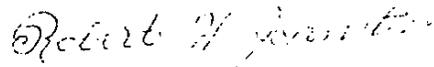
If the Navajo team wishes to prepare a "last best offer" it should be presented to us and we will then send a copy to the Hopi team. In any event, we should know which of the various partition maps presented by the Navajo team up to this date or subsequently should be considered by us as the official Navajo position for purposes of our report to the Court.

As we would see it, no "last best offers" should interfere with any possible attempts to settle the dispute prior to submission of our report to the District Court. We will, of course, be available to assist if the parties agree to any future meetings.

Sincerely,



William E. Simkin
Mediator



Robert H. Johnston
Associate Mediator

cc: Peter MacDonald, Chairman
John Paul Kennedy, Esq.