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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
UNITED STATES INDIAN SERVICE,

Subject:
Control of water supply
for Indians by Govern-
ment and issue of sheep
and goats to Moencopi
Indians.

Tuba, Arizona,

May 4, 1908.

The Hon. Commissioner of Indian Affairs,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

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The water supply for the lands now under cultivation must come from a spring near the village and from springs in Reservoir Canon north of the village. None of this water is included in any allotment. Reservoir Canon comprises about 250 acres of land within its walls; I would suggest that this Canon be declared a Reserve; that the reservoir now there be improved and enlarged, so it would accumulate the flow of the stream for six months, if necessary; that a canal be constructed from the reservoir to the Hopi fields below; that the 250 acres of land within the Canon be planted to forest trees such as soft maple, mulberry, black locust, honey locust, poplar, balm of Gilead, etc.

The canon is sub-irrigated and would produce 30,000 trees without loss of water to the fields as evaporation would be checked; in 10 years these trees would be worth from \$1.00 to \$2. each; the young trees could be sold to Indians for transplanting on their allotments; other trees would yield fence posts,

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which would also sell readily, as the reservation is nearly destitute of post timber; a competent man could be placed in charge of this reserve; in addition to caring for the trees he could distribute their water to the Hopis; the water being on a Government Reserve and under Government control and distribution, each Indian would get his just proportion; at the same time the man in charge of the water could enforce regulations that would prevent the waste of water, and which would require the Indians to put their lands in proper condition, for the economic use of water.

These Hopi Indians know nothing whatever about the proper use of water; and in this they do not differ from other Indians or even from many white farmers who attempt to farm by irrigation.

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Very respectfully,

Matthew M. Murphy,

Spcl. Allotting Agent.

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