

AFFIDAVIT OF S. N. MANGUM, STOCKMAN.
RELATIVE TO STOCK AND RANGE CONDITIONS.

I, S. N. Mangum, a Stockman in the United States Indian Service, residing at Kayenta, Arizona, being first duly sworn on oath, depose and say, as follows:

That for four years I have resided at Kayenta, Arizona, and filled the position of stockman at that place, and during that time I have acquainted myself with all Indians living in that vicinity, and familiarized myself with their work and movements. I have also studied range conditions carefully, and am thoroughly familiar with the country lying within the radius of fifty miles of Kayenta in any direction.

That there has been no general exodus or movement of Indians from the vicinity of Kayenta toward the outer edges of the Navajo country in any direction during the time I have lived at Kayenta, and that to the best of my knowledge and belief the Indians now residing on what is known as the Piute Strip, or those lands lying south of the San Juan River in Utah, have as a whole resided there during all or practically all of their lives, as continuously as Navajo Indians usually reside anywhere.

That for the past two or three years the seasons have been extremely dry so that the range was in very bad condition, and because of this condition the Indians would have been justified in making efforts to find range anywhere they possible could outside the boundaries of the Navajo Reservation, and that the losses of sheep because of the dry seasons and poor range conditions during the past two years have probably been not less than twenty-five per cent (25%).

That in my opinion the range in the vicinity of Kayenta on the Western Navajo Reservation is very much over-stocked and over-grazed in many sections, and that there is a great need for additional lands for Navajos in that vicinity to take care of the natural increase of Indians and herds.

S. N. Mangum

Subscribed and sworn to before this 26th day of
August, 1929, at Tuba City, Arizona.

W. P. Baker

Notary Public.

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