Navajo

Ft Defiance Ariz Sept 27th 8

Hon Commissioner
of Indian Affairs
Washington D.C.

Sir:—

In response to your letter dated Sept 20th (F) calling for information in regard to dam &c; I have the honor to inform you that no work has been done on the dam since the destruction of the greater portion of it as previously reported. As stated in my letter of the 28th the very heavy summer rains had a disastrous effect on our work and greatly hindered the delivery of the material ordered. Acting on my understanding of the wishes of the Honorable Secretary of the Interior, I procured nearly all

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CV-6417-201 NN009206

that purpose until Sept 25th. I was absent in the field in the pursuit of criminals (as reported in other communications) and have only this afternoon returned from the last journey undertaken.

I will go ahead on the fence &c around the school-house on the 1st of October; and will resume work on the dam and ditch just as soon as funds are supplied for that purpose. If the work is to be done this fall we ought to get at it immediately. The storms set in early in this mountain region. Having the timbers on the ground now, I feel that we can make our work secure as we progress (which we could not do permanently) and provide against any damage from freshets.

I am,
Very Respectfully Yours
D. M. Riordan
Agent

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CV-6417-201 NN009207