



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

File Hopi
head operations
Range

Handled

acting Chief
Smith 6/10
Hand 6/11

JUN 17 1963

Hon. Barry Goldwater
United States Senate
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Senator Goldwater:

Reference is made to your letter of May 24, 1963, to the Secretary of the Interior, enclosing a letter from Edward B. Benson. Mr. Benson was briefing you on the severe drought conditions on the Hopi and Navajo Reservations. The Bureau of Indian Affairs is aware of this problem and is taking all possible measures to alleviate the situation.

There is now an accelerated public works program on each of these Reservations. There is a \$400,000 project in soil and moisture conservation and road construction and maintenance on the Hopi Reservation. On the Navajo Reservation there is a \$2,285,600 accelerated public works project in progress for road construction and maintenance, timberland improvement, and soil and moisture conservation.

One of the interesting projects under the public works program has been the development of the springs under the mesa on the Hopi Reservation. Traditionally, these people have religiously prevented any developments at the source of these springs, but this year the Tribe has consented to development which has resulted in doubling the water supply available from these springs, and will permit them to irrigate an expanded acreage of their terraced fields.

We are also planning projects for the Navajo Reservation under the new accelerated public works program. It appears that the Hopi Tribe will be excluded from this new program since it is confined to forested areas.

On January 11, 1963, this Department signed a Memorandum of Understanding, No. 4, with the Department of Agriculture which makes surplus feed grain available to Indian tribes in drought-stricken areas.

We wish to thank you for your interest in the Navajo and Hopi Indian people, and assure you we will do everything possible to assist them in overcoming the results of this serious extended drought.

Identical letter sent to
Hon. George F. Senner, Jr.
House of Representatives

Sincerely yours,
(Sgd) John O. Crow
Acting
Commissioner

SURNAME
[Redacted]

FLERMAN/dh 6-10-63

Asst. Secretary, FLM
Legislative Counsel
Congressional Liaison
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cc: