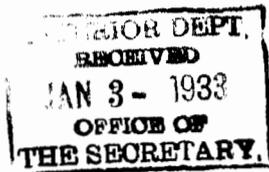


Buffalo, N. Y.
Dec. 30, '32.



Mr. Ray Lyman Wilbur,
The Secretary of the Interior,
Washington, D. C.,

Dear Mr. Wilbur:-

Replying to the Memorandum L-A 57437-32
sent to you from the Indian Office:

The Executive Order of Dec. 16, 1882 placed the Hopi (Moqui) as the dominant beneficiaries of said Order for the well known reason the Hopi rightfully owned the land and had in the past defended same from countless invasions of the Navajo. This Executive Order was the first legal aid given to the Navajos, Invaders, to remain upon Hopi possessions. Later Orders since 1882 have insistantly increased the Navajo possessions of Hopi-land. Through the years the Hopi as a tribe, have refused to accept White-man's Faiths, and we beleive it is no accident that so protracted dispossession activities have been carried out against the Hopi with Political Influence.

The final stroke of obliteration of the Hopi will inevitably result should this bill be passed, for now the Indian Office is asking in this bill to reverse the Executive Order of Dec. 16, 1882 by not only placing the Navajo before the Hopi but to actually give the Navajo out-right title to all the remaining Hopi lands and even their homes, and then try to justify such action by adding that " this area will continue to be known as the Hopi Reservation in the event the proposed Navajo bill is enacted, - and be so regarded until such time in the future as the Hopi indians decide on some definate areas for their exclusive use".

What chance in the future would the Hopi have to regain title from the Navajo to any area of land, once it all was placed in Navajo Title?

The Indian Office does not in a single instance offer to give the Hopi, legal title to anything, but repeat in profusion, to allow the Hopi use and benefits of some parts of the "Navajo Reservation".

I can absolutely refute any and all reasons put forth to make plausible the bill proposed by the Indian Office.

Sincerely,

M. W. Billingsley
M. W. Billingsley,

Until Jan. 7th, '33, - Gen. Del. Buffalo, N. Y.
Frm Jan. 8th to 20th, " " Rochester, N. Y.