

BOYDEN, WILKINSON, TIBBALS, STATEN AND CROFT
LAW OFFICES
SUITE 2 - UTAH BUILDING
351 SOUTH STATE STREET
SALT LAKE CITY 1, UTAH

JOHN S. BOYDEN
ERNEST L. WILKINSON
ALLEN H. TIBBALS
EARL P. STATEN
BRYANT H. CROFT

April 8, 1955

WASHINGTON OFFICE
WILKINSON, BOYDEN, CRAGUN & BARKER
744 JACKSON PLACE
WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

PERSONAL

INTERIOR

APR 12 1955
ASST. SEC.

Honorable Orme Lewis
Assistant Secretary of Interior
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Lewis:

On behalf of the Hopi Tribe of Arizona a Brief has been filed with the Office of the Solicitor of your Department. In due course of time I am sure you will see the Brief, but in view of conversations we have had concerning the subject, I thought you might be interested in receiving the enclosed advance copy.

I believe there is a definite possibility that if certain fundamental rights of the Hopis are recognized a compromise may be worked out between the two Tribes. However, if Hopi rights are disregarded or legal conclusions drawn upon facts that cannot be sustained the Hopis are placed at a strong disadvantage in bargaining. It is my sincere hope that the proceeding I have now instituted will call to the attention of the Solicitor matters that may not have heretofore been considered. The Hopi Indians are a magnanimous and charitable people. I think they can be expected to make concessions on grazing rights for practical reasons. But, it can hardly be expected that they will relent when it is claimed that the Navajos are obtaining the property of the Hopis as a matter of right.

I hope you will at least find the Brief interesting.

Sincerely,

John S. Boyden

JSB:cw

Encl.