

5-1142

Segregation
of Hopis and
Navajos.
A-I
2705-25.
54586-27.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
INDIAN FIELD SERVICE

Handwritten notes:
Hopi Agency
Navajo
report of the
Mc. Murray
E.M.M.

Hopi Agency,
January 16, 1928.

The Honorable
Commissioner Indian Affairs,
Washington:

Sir:

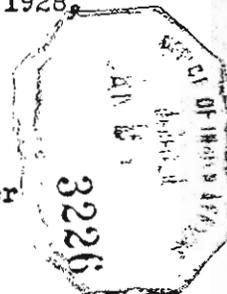
I have the honor to report receipt of your letter of December 10, 1927, cited as above, and to answer as follows:

I have not changed my views, expressed in my letter of February 27, so much, but I realize that if best results are obtained for these two tribes there must, eventually, be a segregation of their interests and definite boundaries established for the proper administration of their affairs.

Since writing the letter of February 27, which covered my views at that time, the Hopis have spread out so much, and we have located so many so far afield - and at such distances from their mesas - in new territories, that additional friction and misunderstanding has developed, and more determined opposition from the Navajos has been encountered. This we are unable to control under present conditions, where there is absence of definite boundaries.

Also, in the past two years, we have uncovered a strong and growing disposition among Navajos off this reservation to leave other parts of the country to take residence on this reservation - oftentimes in direct opposition to the interests of the Hopis who have recently established ranches away from the mesas. This has caused considerable trouble the past year in the Oraibi valley, where a number of Hopis have been settled by us. The outside Indians in this valley have, evidently, come in from the Leupp reservation. They believe the Hopis there are imposing on the Navajos and that they have a right to settle in any part of the Navajo country. This of course, causes flashes of trouble with no definite foundation for either punishment or settlement of the Indians' differences.

To further aggravate this trouble, under present arrangements, the Hopis are getting bolder in their stand that this reservation belongs to them - that it is not Navajo country and that these Navajos have no right on the "Hopi" reservation and that more are coming on each year who have no



right to except to take Hopi land. The Hopis are spreading out more each year from the Mesa villages and the more we encourage this and protect them in this matter the more they expect and the more they complain about the Navajos. In other words, our successful policy to get Hopis out into the valleys brings more determined opposition from the Navajos and more courage to the Hopis.

This condition was not so apparent in February, 1925. Since that time, too, other things have developed, which very materially bear on the matter so far as the Hopis' contentions and feelings go. The opening of the Hopi Reservation Boarding School for Navajos greatly displeased the Hopis and caused the breach between the tribes to widen. Then the granting of part of the Hopi reservation to Western Navajo for administrative purposes accentuated their differences.

The Hopis believe they should have an agent for their tribe in order to fully protect their interests - that no agent for the two tribes can be impartial enough to look after the Hopi interests properly. I firmly believe a number of them already feel that I am favoring the Navajos because I am trying to encourage the progress of both tribes, though none of them have accused me of this in my hearing.

Under present conditions, with no restriction as to boundaries governing either tribe, the more progress each tribe makes the greater the friction. This is really what has suggested action at this time to separate, if possible, the two tribes - for the benefit of each.

I reiterate: "It is my opinion that the matter should be carefully investigated by disinterested and outside officials before any action is taken, and that the Navajos' side should be as completely and thoroughly considered as that of the Hopis."

There has been no serious trouble yet on account of these differences, but the time seems ripe for seriously considering the proposed separation, for unless it is done sometime there is bound to be trouble of a more serious and complicated nature. If boundaries between the two tribes could be established, or satisfactory allotments of land made, then their differences could be adjusted, though always these Hopis will believe they should have all the land (for the Hopi tribe) now within the confines of the Hopi Reservation boundaries.

I have given considerable thought to the proposed separation of these two peoples but have not adjusted my mind to any particular plan or map. This can be only properly

arranged and definitely settled by a committee of high-grade men, who are disinterested in every way. It appears to me now that the best thing to accomplish is the complete segregation of the tribes, possibly by east-and-west lines through the reserve, giving the Hopis the middle section and the north and south sections to the Navajos, making the middle section Hopi country under a Hopi agency and placing the northern Navajo section under Western Navajo and the southern section under Leupp agencies to administer as Navajo country. This would dispossess fewest Hopis, if any, and give to the Navajos most the land they now occupy. Fortunately, it also keeps all the Hopi villages, with all the Hopi day-school plants, within Hopi territory. This plan would probably give the Hopis the best of the deal in some respects, and to some extent, but your greatest opposition to any plan proposing to take any part of this reserve from them, will come from the Hopis and there must be some inclination or action to overcome this.

This agency, under my supervision, has tried very hard to keep neutral and administer the affairs of both tribes in an impartial manner. We are very anxious to give both a square deal in every way. Unfortunately for me, the superintendent whom I succeeded, and the one here before him, with Col. Dorrington and others, felt that in this matter the Navajos were the aggressors and this, of course, tempered their administration and reports, becoming known to the Hopis.

It is, as the Office states, a very important and delicate matter. It should not be hurried into, and only outside men of most excellent character and the highest standing should be detailed to the work.

Very sincerely yours,



Edgar K. Miller, Supt.

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CENT, CLASS. FILES 1907-39
99561-1921-150 MOQUI

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John
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Mr. Edgar K. Miller,
Supt. Hopi Agency.

DEC 10 1927

Dear Mr. Miller:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter of November 19 stating you believe the time is opportune to make some preparation for segregating the Navajos and Hopis.

In this connection your letter of February 27, 1925 took the opposite view. Before proceeding further in such an important and delicate matter, we would like to have a more detailed expression of your views as to the necessity therefor and just how the desired result can be brought about.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) *Chas. H. Burke*

Commissioner.



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Filed by F. N. [unclear]

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CENT, CLASS. FILES 1907-39
99561-1921-150 MOQUI

Initialing Copy - For File

Segregation of
Hopis and
Navajos.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
INDIAN FIELD SERVICE

2705-25.

Hopi Indian Agency,
November 19, 1927.

The Honorable
Commissioner Indian Affairs,
Washington:

54586
NOV 23 1927

Sir:

I have the honor to report that I believe the time is opportune to make some preparation for segregating the Navajos and Hopis.

Four years' careful study of the situation here makes me feel that the thing will have to be done, and as it will take sometime to do it, the time now seems ripe to start the work.

The Hopis are branching out far more than I anticipated, under our encouragement, and this brings more friction and trouble between them and the Navajos. Something will have to be done to protect them in doing this and, at the same time, make the Navajos understand they must keep within proper limits of personal action and territory.

It will be a delicate, important work, and only the most reliable disinterested persons should be put at it.

Very respectfully,

Edgar K. Miller
Edgar K. Miller, Supt.

NA RG 75

CENT, CLASS. FILES 1907-39
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16153-26

FAR

*Amber
Loper
Merschack
Merritt*

APR 13 1926

My dear Senator:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of March 31, 1926, concerning the Hopi and Navajo Indians on the Hopi Indian Reservation in Arizona.

The Executive Order of 1862 set apart 2,472,520 acres of land in Arizona for the Hopi Reservation for the use and occupancy of the Hopi and such other Indians as the Secretary of the Interior may designate. There were undoubtedly some Navajo Indians living on this land before the reservation was set apart; others have gone there since and settled. Their rights must be carefully considered. To exclude the Navajos would mean that many of them would lose their homes, etc.

While there are some difficulties between members of the tribes, none of the trouble seems to be serious, and it is believed that any attempt to remove the Navajos would cause more trouble and friction than is the case at present.

When allotments are made in severalty, provision can undoubtedly be made for all to have allotments.

In view thereof, it is doubtful whether any action is practicable at present.

Initialing Copy - For File X

Cordially yours,

(Signed) Chas. H. Burke

Commissioner.

Hon. Ralph H. Cameron,
United States Senate.

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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
 IRRIGATION AND RECLAMATION

March 31, 1926

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EMM
16153
 OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
 RECEIVED
 APR 1 1926

My dear Commissioner:

Some time ago you will recall that we had conversation about the living conditions of the Hopi and Navajo tribes in that section where they intermingled and lived together. When I was in Arizona last summer the four Chiefs of the Hopi tribe waited on me with a petition in which they requested, "In the hope of effecting a change in the Executive Order of 1882, we hereby address you to consider our request that either a modified order or an act of congress be taken whereby our reserve be made an entire Hopi reserve and those Navajos now residing therein be moved on to their own reservation."

As you may know, there has been considerable friction between these Indians. It is a problem I think should have the attention of the Department. If legislation is necessary, this I will be perfectly willing to sponsor. Will you please write me?

Sincerely yours,

Reynolds Cannon

Morgan
E. 80.
11-10
1/20

Honorable Charles H. Burke
 Commissioner, Indian Affairs
 Department of the Interior
 Washington, D. C.

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 WASHINGTON, D. C.

FILED BY R. H.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

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Hopi
Boundaries.

UNITED STATES INDIAN FIELD SERVICE
HOPI INDIAN RESERVATION
HOPI AND NAVAJO INDIANS

HOPI AGENCY
KEAMS CANON, ARIZO

February 27, 1925.



The Honorable
Commissioner Indian Affairs,
Washington:

Sir:

I have the honor to report receipt of the above-cited letter, dated February 5, 1925, in which it is proposed to establish better relations between Hopis and Navajos of the Hopi Reservation by creating certain boundary lines within which the Hopi may remain and the Navajo vacate.

This being a serious and important Administrative matter I have taken time to consider an answer, hence seeming delay.

I read the statements of Col. Dorrington with much interest, but feel they present but one side of the controversy--just now the most popular, and promulgated by the Hopis themselves.

So far as my experience here is concerned and from what I can learn from others who have been here many years I am inclined to the belief that to establish boundaries such as suggested by Mr. Daniels and Col. Dorrington would be not only unfair to the Navajos but would cause more trouble and friction than has ever been evident between these people, for it is unreasonable to suppose these Navajos would peacefully give up lands they have occupied and improved for years without having a part in such an arrangement and being promised at least something as good in return.

It is my opinion that the matter should be carefully investigated by disinterested and outside officials before any action is taken and that the Navajos' side should be as completely and thoroughly considered as that of the Hopis. The Navajos should be allowed to present and protect their interests. It appears to me that such a thing should not be considered unless there is really trouble of more consequence than at present or there is a concerted movement toward such a division of land made

*In answer to
Dodge and
Dorrington for
the Navajos*

*sent
2-10*

*Acc. and copy of 3/12/25
RR (S.O.)*

Filed by F. N. H.

by both tribes.

Twenty years ago Navajos occupied many places such as Tallyhogan, which are now occupied by Hopis. In the last twenty years Navajos have given away to Hopis. I was here in 1906 and know something of conditions at that time. I know that the Hopis have both prospered and spread considerably since then. They are all much better off in every way than during that period. Many of them have moved out away from the mesas, establishing small communities and ranches, controlling farming, gardening and grazing sections. Additional numbers each year are doing this and we have also a number now living among Navajos in peace and prosperity. In instances the Hopi has displaced the Navajo, and I know of no good reason, unless the Hopi is afraid of the Navajo, why flocks of the Hopis can not go where they please within reason. On my rounds I often see Hopi flocks twenty miles from a mesa, and Hopi cattle are on ranges miles away from where the Hopi maintains a home, sometimes among Navajo stock, sometimes on ranges controlled entirely controlled by Hopis.

To establish any such lines as suggested in the map submitted with your letter would mean confiscation of property for a number of prominent Navajos who have been within the confines of this reservation as long as any Hopi. Some of these Navajos, like Hosteen Nez, Billy Pete and Betonni, have fine places for Indians and are the most influential Indians we have.

Some of the statements made on behalf the Hopis are ridiculous to one who knows actual conditions. There is always trouble here over range, stock and crops, both between the two tribes and members of each tribe. None of this trouble seems serious. We promptly adjust these troubles, which are bound to arise as long as these Indians have to try to farm and run stock without adequate fencing. To me it is ever astonishing they get along as well as they do and that there is not more trouble of this nature.

I appears to me the most serious trouble has occurred in the past where both tribes have had to dip their flocks at the same Dipping Vats. In dipping sheep twice both tribes have had to stay at these vats for from ten to fifteen days. The sheep of both tribes, at a vat like Wepo, would have to be

would have to be held in Hopi territory and, of course, the Navajos would too freely use water and grazing land against the Hopis' protests. They have, also, at these times, caused friction and trouble by stealing vegetables, fruit, etc., from Hopi gardens and orchards, while camped close to them. As I have reported, the building of the new vats at Sand Springs and Pinon, both in Navajo country, has relieved this unsatisfactory condition.

I have had no real trouble with either tribe. Have been here now about 16 months and find there is not much difference, on the whole, between the tribes so far as their behavior goes, excepting the difference found in controlling nomads and those living in communities. I also know that they say they are getting along better than they ever did and that both believe conditions on this reserve are more favorable for their future than ever before. They both are friendly and cooperative. The Hopis are easy of access and are far more popular with the majority of people. For this reason they have made influential friends who are anxious to assist them in any way. The Navajo, on the other hand, lives away from the arteries of travel, where he neither sees nor seeks whites who might be interested in his conditions and problems, but nevertheless he is an excellent and admirable type of the American Indian, deserving every consideration.

It is foolish to believe that if all this land was given entirely over to the Hopis they would come off the mesas settling in the valleys and meadows, using it more extensively than at present. They will maintain their communities on these mesas when all of us are dead, unless they are driven off by force, for even those now having good ranches and valley property go back to the villages on the mesas and live there during the winter months. They are strictly a community people and their dances, religious customs and ceremonials can not exist without their living as such. Neither can the Hopi exist without the dances and ceremonials and this, to large degree, explains why they have not prospered parallel with their neighbors, the Navajo.

In creating the Moqui, or Hopi, reserve President Arthur said it was "set apart for the use and occupancy of the Moqui,(or Hopi), and such other

Indians as the Secretary of the Interior may see fit to settle thereon." I do not feel that the number of Indians, coming on this reserve since its creation in 1882, have in any way prevented further progress and prosperity of the Hopi.

It does not appear to me that any line of boundary dividing this reserve would be satisfactory to both the tribes owing to the present location of homes maintained by members of each and the growing scarcity of feed and water as their flock and herds increase. Draw any boundary line and both Hopis and Navajos will be dispossessed of homes they have maintained for years.

In looking for a solution of this age-old controversy we should not penalize the progressive and independent activity of the Navajo. The Hopi reservation, if either the Hopi or Navajo is to continue to grow in numbers, progress and prosper, owing to the nature of this country, is really too small for both. As it is now the reservation is greatly overgrazed and fed out. As Hon. Carl Hayden says, it seems but right to consider the appeal of the Hopis but isn't it a matter for investigation, negotiation and consultaion on the part of both interests, lawfully and legally now in possession?

Why the Hopis want this land and all the improvements thereon is obvious, but those agitating the matter just now are of the younger element in which undesirables are prominent. The society "The Federation of Hopi Indians" is most active. They are the ones who protested the Navajo School here; they want to drive the Navajos out because they have been bitter enemies in the past and consider them intruders; they want all the territory they can get; they seem to think this land will be worth considerable in time through valuable deposits of coal and oil. Last October, in Winslow, they held a meeting and started this propaganda anew.

The Hopi has always had the same opportunity here as the Navajo and has been aided by the Government far more than the Navajo, but the same reasons which would probably prevent them utilizing all the land of the reserve, were it given them, has restricted them to a small area in the past. This is their pagan persistence in putting ceremony before



Prosperity and living in places from which it is impossible to extend self-supporting agricultural activities to large areas. If these people danced less and emulated the Navajo woman more their condition would be better, for it is really the Navajo woman who has made that tribe prosper as it has.

I know that the Navajo is more aggressive than the Hopi and that there always will be some hereditary antagonistic feeling between members of the tribes, but this seems to be generally disappearing and not wholly responsible for the appeal of the Hopis for all this land. Nor is this feeling now retarding the Hopi, who has many admirable qualities and who is so well thought of because of his friendly attitude and his picturesque ceremonials.

So far as either tribe, or side, is concerned this agency is trying hard to maintain a neutral position, administering in a just and impartial manner the affairs of each. We here are very anxious to give both a square deal and it is to this end that I recommend that the matter be held in abeyance till an outside committee can make careful investigation and report the actual present conditions and needs.

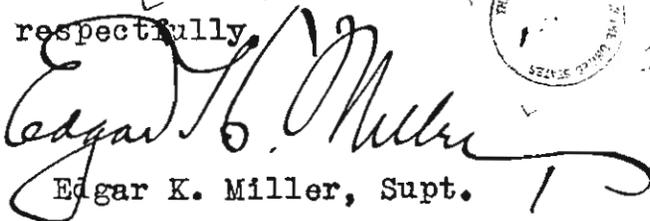
As I have said, right now I feel that any action tending to establish boundaries between these Hopis and Navajos will stir up additional trouble detrimental to the progress and welfare of both tribes. It appears to me there is no real need at this time for such action. If we could remove the Navajos to a new and agreeable country it would be a different proposition and I am sure could be handled without great difficulty or engendering bitter feeling.

In this connection your attention is called the Mr. Leo Crane's report dated March 12, 1918, "Land-Allotments, H.V.C." and similar reports from this agency bearing on this subject.

Any instructions given me in regard to this proposition will be carefully and conscientiously executed by myself personally.

Very respectfully,

Map herewith
returned.


Edgar K. Miller, Supt.



NA RG 75

CENT, CLASS. FILES 1907-39

99561-1921-150 MOQUI

Ed-L. & O.
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R A B

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Mr. E. K. Miller,
Supt., Hopi Agency.

FEB -5 1925

My dear Mr. Miller:

There is inclosed a copy of a report made by Mr. L. A. Dorrington on the encroachments by the Navajos on the lands of the Hopis. The map referred to by Mr. Dorrington is also inclosed for your information. Please return it with your reply.

The subject of the encroachment by the Navajos on the Hopis has been before the Office from time to time, but has as yet not been definitely settled, and it appears that in order to promote harmony and friendship between the two tribes it is best to take some action looking toward the final disposition of this controversy.

Please furnish the Office with your recommendations at your earliest convenience.

Very truly yours,

Signed E. B. Meritt
Assistant Commissioner.

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Initialing Copy - For File

Filed by F. N. B.

-C R

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

UNITED STATES INDIAN FIELD SERVICE
Sacramento, California.
Box 943



January 7, 1925.

Commissioner of Indian Affairs
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Commissioner:

Referring to report of General Scott, member of Board of Indian Commission, copy of which was transmitted with your letter with above citation, having reference to Moqui reservation and requesting report on matter of Navajo encroachment on the Hopi.

Dec 20-
1921

It is a fact that the Navajo Indians do not recognize any boundaries and have persistently and continuously for fifty years or more crowded the Hopi Indians back and back, until they are now confined to comparatively small area immediately adjoining their mesas, where they have established fixed homes. That the Navajos, as you are aware, own the greater number of live stock and because of the limited amount of water have closed in on the Hopi reservation, taking possession of the desired range and holding same with the result that the Hopis have not increased their holdings as they should.

The Hopis may be somewhat to blame in the premises and probably are, by reason of the fact they have not advanced the same energies or asserted their rights to the land through diligent effort to make use of same. In this respect it should be borne in mind that the Hopis have established and maintained their homes on one of the three mesas of the reservation and do not range their stock any considerable distance therefrom, not further than return at night may be covered with safety. Probably not to exceed five or six miles out. Another thing that should be entertained in this connection is the fact that the Hopis corral their stock every night on or near their mesa home, instead of holding them on the range as do the Navajos. Another noticeable fact in this connection is that they do not release their stock from the corral until after the day is well advanced, frequently as late as ten o'clock, hence, as before stated, they can not or do not range any considerable distance from their homes, therefore not making full use of their land.

The relations between the Navajo and Hopi Indians are apparently friendly in their homes, visiting back and forth. The Navajos, however, do most of it as they travel more and are usually away from home, if they have one other than that with their stock, as they invariably make their home on the range wherever their stock may be grazing and water is to be had. A large number of Navajos attend the annual Hopi dances, which usually occur in the latter part of

Filed by [unclear]

August. On the range it is different, entirely so, and that is where encroachments by the Navajos are most experienced by the Hopis. It is reported that Navajos have actually driven the Hopi stock from the best range and water. That they frequently scatter and steal the stock. That it is a common practice among the Navajos to capture Hopi horses on the range and after riding them all day in pursuit of their stock industry, turn them loose many miles from home.

Naturally the Hopi Indians consider and feel that they are not receiving an equitable division of the Moqui reservation and that they should be allowed that part claimed by them and which they have claimed for many years. In this connection, and when discussing the matter of territory with the superintendent and others supposed to have knowledge of conditions, besides consulting the records of the Moqui Agency, it appears that they (the Hopis) originally claimed their reservation to be bounded by a line extending from Oraibi to Frisco Mountain (Flagstaff) and from Oraibi to Tala Hogan, as indicated by blue line on the map attached herewith which was prepared and furnished by Superintendent Daniels. They make no claim as to southern boundary nor do they include the Hotivilla-Bacabi or First Mesa bands. All of which is ridiculously unreasonable, unwarranted and not in their best interests. It is also well to here be advised that they are opposed to other progressive Hopis who keep large bands of sheep and herds of cattle within the stated boundary, although they do not make use of it themselves, nor made any effort to do so. The same objection is entered against the Navajos.

In his annual report for year ending June 30, 1922, the Superintendent offered what he considered a solution of the problem and same is here referred to for consideration at this time.

The red solid line on attached map indicates the boundary of Moqui reservation, while the broken black line indicates an area which the superintendent suggests should be designated and set aside for the exclusive use of the Hopi Indians and comprising about twelve hundred square miles, the balance two thousand six hundred and sixty-three square miles to be likewise set aside and designated as Navajo territory. The Leupp reservation and Public Domain is indicated on the said map as being south of the Moqui reservation and within the broken red line.

FINDINGS

In view of the foregoing it seems reasonable to find that the twelve hundred square miles shown on the attached map should be set aside for the exclusive use and benefit of the Hopi Indians of the Moqui reservation. With the understanding that within a reasonable specified time they will abandon their mesa villages and establish

permanent homes thereon and make beneficial use thereof. This with the possible exception of the very aged who will not consider any proposition which would effect their ancient customs and religious ceremonies. They should therefore be allowed to remain in their villages to follow their customs the balance of their days.

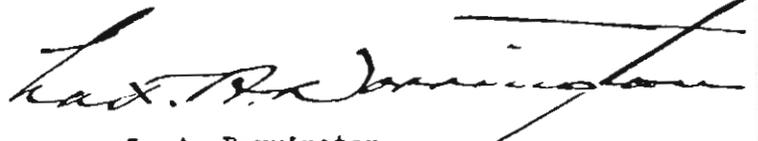
That through such arrangements the Hopi Indians would have squarely placed before them the alternative of "Helping themselves by helping the Government to help them or forfeiting their rights to the exclusive occupancy of the tract." That the balance, two thousand six hundred and sixty-three square miles be designated for the exclusive use and benefit of the Navajo Indians rightfully belonging to the Moqui reservation.

Such a plan as above suggested would probably necessitate substantial assistance by the Department through home building and new school arrangements. That it probably, however, should be upon the reimbursable plan to be considered and met from coal deposits on the reservation that may later be developed.

That in order to insure the Hopi Indians thereon the undisputed and unmolested occupancy of territory above mentioned, necessary action should be taken as will cause all Navajo Indians now encroaching upon the Hopis to return to the respective localities from which they drifted, viz: Moqui, Navajo and Western Navajo reservations and Public Domain.

That the question of police is an important matter and that the request of the superintendent should be given serious consideration and such favorable action as conditions and circumstances will permit.

Respectfully submitted;



L. A. Dorrington
Formerly Inspector.

NA RG 75
CENT, CLASS. FILES 1907-39
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Inspection
17824-16

F H D

NOV 23 1921

JH
EAM

Mr. L. A. Dorrington,
Inspector, Indian Service.

Dear Mr. Dorrington:

General Hugh L. Scott of the Board of Indian Commissioners called upon me recently and discussed two matters of importance to the Indians in your district.

Reference was made to the encroachment of the Navajos upon the lands of the Hopi Indians. This has been before the Office a number of times but apparently no solution of the same has been found. For your information and consideration, I quote the remarks of Superintendent Daniels in his annual reports for 1920 and 1921:

1920: "the Navajo population has encroached upon the Hopi Indians until they are confined to less than 600 square miles. The Navajo is aggressive, the Hopi is not; as a result of which the Hopi is gradually being deprived of his water, land and pasturage. Unless positive corrective measures are taken by the Government, the Hopi Indians will soon be a charge upon the Government or objects of charity for the public to consider."

1921: " the Navajo encroachment upon the Hopi continues without any evidence of Government intervention. For years so much has been said on this subject without results, it seems a waste of time to repeat the some old information every year."

Attaching copy for files

You will at the earliest practicable date visit this reservation and take up this matter with Superintendent Daniels. I wish you to make a thorough investigation, determining the cause or reasons for this condition, what remedy or cure you suggest for the same; whether an expenditure of money is involved in carrying out your recommendation and if so, what amount. Give me all the details possible, both about the conditions as you find them and your suggestions for dealing with same.

General Scott also refers to the purchase or exchange of lands for the benefit of the Navajoes located off of the reservation. This has been under consideration by the Office for a number of years and recently Congress appropriated \$100,000 for the purpose of purchasing additional land. Legislation has also been enacted in connection with the exchange of lands. I enclose a copy of a recent letter addressed to Secretary Fall which will outline the matter of the purchase of land. I wish that you would also take up this subject at the earliest practicable date and submit a complete report concerning same. I would prefer that you visit the several sections of land involved and bear in mind that we should obtain land with improvements wherever practicable. Your mission is not, however, to make an offer to purchase but merely to go into the situation fully from all angles and submit your report to me.

These assignments should be taken up as early as the other work now at hand will permit.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Chas. H. Burke
Commissioner.

NA RG 75
CENT. CLASS. FILES 1907-39
99561-1921-150 MOQUI

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BOARD OF INDIAN COMMISSIONERS

WASHINGTON

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Sir:

The Moqui Reservation, in northern Arizona, has the Western Navajo Reservation as its western neighbor, the Navajo Reservation adjoins it on the east; the Leupp (Navajo) Reservation touches it on the southwest and the Butte country, occupied by public domain Navajo, lies to the south. It has an area of 3,863 square miles and is occupied by 2,236 Hopi Indians and 2,700 Navajo. The agency is located at Keams Canyon, 35 miles from the nearest town on the Santa Fe Railroad and it is one of the most isolated of the Indian Service units. The superintendent, Mr. Robert E. L. Daniel, has one of the most perplexing of Indian problems on his hands. This is caused by the presence, within one reservation, of two tribes whose mental and physical characteristics, and social and industrial conditions are far apart. The result is the relations between the Hopi and Navajo are antagonistic to a degree which makes it impossible for the superintendent to maintain law and order without adequate police - and this he has not been given by the Department.



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In 1882 an Executive Order set apart 2,472,320 acres of land for the Moqui Reservation, for the use and occupancy of the Hopi and such other Indians as the Secretary of the Interior might designate. At that time some one with a ruler on drew a map a parallelogram, which represented an area, approximately, 75 by 55 miles for a reservation, without the least regard to topographical and ethnological conditions, and mis-named it the "Moqui" Reservation. The Hopi call themselves "Hopi-tuh," or "peaceful ones." The Navajo derisively nicknamed them "Moqui" which, in their language means "dead ones" and this term of derision was officially selected, by the authorities, to serve as the name of a reservation set apart, principally, for the Hopi Indians.

It is quite apparent that in 1882 the authorities in Washington either were densely ignorant of the situation in this country at that time or were utterly indifferent to it and by laying out the reservation with a desk ruler and an utter disregard of the welfare of the Hopi, they laid the foundations for trouble and suffering which have developed a situation that calls for immediate remedial action by the Indian Office.

While at Keams Canyon a Hopi Indian handed me a carbon copy of a letter which had been sent to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs. It presents the situation from the side of the Hopi so well that I am placing it herein. The letter reads as follows:

"To Hon. Commissioner of Indian Affairs: We, whose signatures and thumb-marks appear below are Hopi Indians, representing the tribe, residing on five mesas, in villages, under the Moqui Agency.

"We have lived here all our lives as self-supporting people. We have watched the encroachment of our neighbor, the Navajo, upon our reservation from year to year. The land of our fathers and fore-fathers is being taken from us. This land originally belonged to us.

"The history of the United States states that the early Spanish conquerors found our forefathers all through this country and at these present villages. It is true that a few Navajo were residing upon this territory when it was made into a reservation but since that time thousands have come in and settled.

"We have flocks of sheep and herds of horses and cattle but the past years have been exceptionally severe on our stock, due to overgrazing.

"What are we to do if this condition continues? How can we and our children progress when our land is taken? Many of our good and noble Government men are deeply interested in our welfare and we are looking for the time when this reservation will be determined for the Hopi.

"We request that if there is any possible chance for our representatives to appear before you and the Committees of Congress, to explain our condition and the

great necessity for assistance to our race, we will be very grateful. We are grateful to the Government for what has already been done in our behalf and we will be more so when this request of ours is given consideration. To you we look once more for assistance."

The Hopi live in villages on top of high mesas and some of their houses antedate the landing of Columbus. Their villages are strongholds which they built to escape inroads of the Ute and Navajo. They are an inoffensive peace loving people. Their little farms lie in the valleys and, unlike the Navajos, they bring in their cattle and sheep to corrals near the villages. They are a people of fixed habitation whereas the Navajo are semi-nomadic following their flocks and herds through miles of country.

This whole land is semi-arid and a large portion of it is absolute desert. The Navajo are aggressive and independent. There is no doubt that the majority of these on the Moqui Reservation have come in from all sides with a deliberate purpose of taking the grazing land which rightfully belong to the Hopi. When a Navajo sees a Hopi with anything he wants he takes it and there is no recourse. If a Hopi is using grazing land which the Navajo wants he will drive the Hopi off, scatter his stock and force him to draw back to the narrow area adjacent to the Hopi villages. The Hopi declares that the Navajo steal their stock and run them off to other parts of the country and sell them and if a Hopi has horses running in their neighborhood the



Navajo will rope them, use them all day to round up their own stock and then turn them loose, thus saving their own horses.

For years this preventable situation has continued. In 1911 I was sent by President Taft to Keams Canyon with troops to enforce some regulations of the Indian Office. I then found the Navajo encroaching on Hopi land and mistreating the Hopi Indians. The agent, at the time, was given but three policemen, too poorly paid to attract the right men with which to maintain order on a reservation which has the area of an empire. I then recommended that he be given twenty-five well paid policemen with a white chief. The number was increased to eight without change of compensation, which number has lately been reduced to six.

This statement is enough to show the absurdity of any expectation that the superintendent can keep order. The reply to my question as to whether orders were obeyed was that "orders were not sent out as they were not respected or can not be enforced." The superintendent consequently is powerless to maintain the dignity of his office, with the result that the authority and dignity of the Indian Office and of the United States are made a mock of over a large section of Arizona.

The Hopi looks in vain to the Department for protection for although aware of this condition for many years the Government has continued to neglect its duty in providing a remedy. There were, undoubtedly, a few Navajo living on

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this land before the reservation was set apart for the Hopi, who had some rights of occupancy, but the many Navajo who have come in since, in defiance of orders, should be put off and kept off the Hopi Reservation by force; and the Hopi protected in their rights.

The superintendent maintains he should have a squadron of cavalry stationed at Keams Canyon. It might be well to have such a force present at the eviction of trespassing Navajos and for a short time after until tranquillity is restored, but the Navajo, when treated with justice, are a well behaved people. There is, however, a large floating element from other reservations which has come in to the Keams Canyon jurisdiction which occasionally makes trouble. In my opinion a white chief with twenty-five well paid police will be sufficient in ordinary times. As it is now only six insufficiently paid policemen are allowed by the Department to maintain order on 3,863 square miles. These men are paid but \$30 a month, with \$10 additional to the chief. They are all Indians. The agent is only allowed sufficient subsistence to maintain but one or two of these men. At the salary given no Indian who is self-supporting will take the position of policeman, with the result that it is not possible to get dependable men.

It is estimated that the stock on this reservation numbers 100,000 sheep, 30,000 goats, 15,000 cattle, 10,000 horses and 2,000 burros. The Navajo Indians own the greater

part of the sheep; the Hopi owning in the neighborhood of 20,000 head. The average Hopi band runs from 20 to 100 sheep, while the average Navajo band numbers from 300 to 500, with a number of family bands of from 1800 to 2500. The Navajos do not have large herds of cattle but several of the Hopi Indians graze herds running up into the hundreds.

Because of the limited amount of water developed on the reservation the stock, now on the reserve, is all that can be cared for. The range adjacent to watering places is over grazed. The Navajo have gradually closed in on the Hopi grazing land until the Hopi is unable to increase his holdings for the Navajo follow the best water. When the range fails to supply them with water the Navajo move to the sections usually grazed by the Hopi, crowding them until they are compelled to withdraw to a few areas close to the villages where they can watch their stock and care for them.

The home of the Hopi Indians is in a fixed place and he works from that point only, while the Navajo is satisfied to make his home anywhere that his herd may happen to best find water and good grazing. It is not to be wondered at that the Hopi Indians are growing more and more disheartened as, helpless, they see their neighbors crowding them without hindrance from the Government. The Indian Office should take hold of this situation with a firm hand - the policy of following the line of least resistance is leading to the ruination of the Hopi tribe.

There are 1,248 children of school age and eligible for school attendance in this jurisdiction. Of this number 648 are Hopi of whom 563 are in school and 85 are Navajo, of whom only fifty attend school. The Hopi go to the five day schools near their villages where 352 are taught, 211 attending nonreservation schools. The fifty Navajo children attend nonreservation schools for there is no boarding school at Keams Canyon. The one there was closed in 1915 and has not been used since. Superintendent Daniel told me that the Navajo parents had urged him to have this school reopened, promising to fill it with their children. The school was closed under instruction from the Indian Office because the buildings had been condemned as unsafe. Several inspectors have reported on its condition and as to the practicability of repairing it. There seems to be a difference of opinion as to whether the buildings can be restored.

The pressing need of a boarding school for the Navajo in this reservation is evident. The children of this tribe cannot attend a day school because these Indians do not live in permanent homes but are ever on the move. Hence a boarding school is necessary. If the Keams Canyon plant can be made usable it should be placed in commission again. I strongly recommend that this matter be given prompt consideration by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

Since I was at Keams Canyon, on duty, in 1911, there has been a great change for the better in the agency buildings

and grounds. It was difficult for me to recognize the place. The hospital is adequate so far as the building is concerned but it has no doctor, nor has it had one since 1920 with the exception of one month, when the one appointed appeared, served a month and left. Superintendent Daniel is much concerned about the health conditions of the Indians in his charge. He said;

"Some way should be found to send a doctor to this point immediately. The nearest physician to Keams Canyon is at Oraibe, fifty miles west. We have one of the finest hospitals in this section and in the Indian Service, with thirty beds. No specific appropriation is made for it other than salaries and about \$1,000 for subsistence and drugs. All other needs of the hospital are taken care of through savings from unfilled vacancies and, as a result, when all agency positions are filled there are no available funds with which to purchase needed supplies. This hospital is crowded at all times. Indians come in from all directions, sometimes from a distance of seventy to eighty miles, for treatment. A nurse is in charge but she is not able to perform the duties of physician and surgeon. Indians are constantly sending for a doctor to come to their homes. The fact that for almost a year we have had to tell them we have no one to send has undone the work of years securing their confidence and willingness to come to the hospital for treatment.

"About twenty-five per cent of the Indians have tuberculosis and eighty-five per cent have trachoma. These

Indians are receptive to the first disease that touches them. Measles wipes them out by the hundreds but, curiously, small-pox does not seem to affect them to any great extent as they have built up an immunity against the disease. A doctor, an adequate specific appropriation for supplies and several improvements in the hospital plant are sorely needed. The hospital is lighted by kerosene and gasoline lamps. This is dangerous. We should have an electric lighting system. We are eighty-five miles from an ice plant; we ought to have an ice making machine; the need of ice in the hospital alone is justification for this request. Additional room is needed at the hospital for a drug room, dining room and rest room but, above all, we need a doctor."

I was informed that with few exceptions the employees, in this reservation, are constantly changing. Isolation and low salaries cause this continual turn-over. Living expenses are considerably higher than elsewhere because of the long distance supplies must be hauled from the railroad. Traders pay two cents a pound for hauling and, this charge, of course, is passed along to the employees. The price of commodities, particularly fresh vegetables, is high at the railroad points; this high price, with haulage charges added makes the small salaries of employees much smaller and, when the opportunity comes, they leave.

There are practically no well constructed roads. The roads leading out of Keams Canyon to the several day schools were built with Indian labor. In some places culverts have

been placed but the greater part of the washes and arroyos have neither bridges nor culverts. There is no main highway to the railroad because after every rain a new road must be run over rough country. If sufficient traffic passes over the new road it, for a time, is the highway and may remain one until the next rain washes it out. It is estimated that \$30,000 would build a proper road from the agency to Winslow, on the Santa Fe line and that an annual appropriation of \$5,000 would be required to maintain the road and build branches to other agency units.

During the past year \$8,172 was spent for hauling agency freight. With a proper road auto trucks could be bought and used by the agency with much saving. It is estimated that such trucks, in the long run, not only would save their first cost but their upkeep and, at the same time, give better service, particularly in the hauling of coal to the schools. This agency, in winter, sometimes is completely isolated from the outside world days at a time for there is no telephone to the railroad towns. It is estimated one can be built with \$17,500.

While I appreciate the need of good roads, tele-
phones and the minor agency repairs requested by the super-
intendent I desire to recommend, with as much earnestness
as I can, the immediate necessity of putting law and order
in effect on this reservation; in providing school facilities



for the 550 Navajo children and of sending a capable physician to the agency hospital, backing him up with an adequate appropriation to purchase supplies and medical essentials.

Respectfully,

H. J. Scott
Member, Board of Indian Commissioners.

Hon. George Vaux, Jr., Chairman,
Board of Indian Commissioners.

*Approved for transmission
George Vaux Jr
Chairman*
1913. 1921.



Filed by E. M. ...