March 8, 1872

E. L. B. R. 206

Arizona C 981

Ft. Defiance, N.M.

March 8th 1872

Crothers, W. D.

U. S. Indian Agent for Maquis

Statu advantages which would arise for Government & his Indians if they can be removed to New Mexico.

See letter to Supt. Cope

April 27, 1872

Rec'd O.S.I.A. Santa Fe N.M. Mar 12 1872

Office of Supt. of Indian Affairs

Santa Fe N.M. April 11 1872

Respectfully forwarded to the Hon. Comm. of Indian Affairs

The reasons given by Agent Crothers for requesting that the Maquis Pueblo Indians be removed from their present location in Arizona, to a point in New Mexico, are good, and I recommend the change. The Agency for these Indians has been for some years past located at Fort Wingate in New Mexico, a long distance from the Maquis Pueblos, and the Agent has had but little control [illegible] therefore suggest that these Indians be removed to a [illegible] location in New Mexico, and that they be attached to the Pueblo Agency of this Superintendency. This will be a [illegible] the expense of [illegible] them at such a [illegible] and also of the [illegible] the [illegible]

as the Pueblo Agent of this Superintendency can have supervision of them.

Should a vacancy occur in the office of Agent for the Pueblo Indians, I respectfully request that Agent Crothers be placed in charge of all the Pueblos of New Mexico. I believe he is a competent and a faithful officer.

Nathaniel Cope

Supt. of Indian Affairs

RG 75, B1A, M234

Ltr. Rec'd, A7 Supt

C 981, Roll 5

USPRI000118

Fort Defiance N.M.
March 8th 1872

Col N Pope
Supt of Indian
Affairs New Mexico

Sir

I have the honor to state that in my annual report I recommended to the Indian Department the removal of the Moqui Pueblo Indians over whom I have charge to some locality in New Mexico. Should the Department think favorable of my suggestion they will doubtless confer with you on this subject I should be pleased to have your views relative to the propriety of these removal. There are many reasons to my mind looking to the interest of the Indians and also to the Government why a change of locality should be made owing to the present starving condition of these Indians the Government the Government will necessarily have to render some assistance or starvation will be inevitable and owing to their remote locality at an immense cost to the Government

The Moques are an agricultural people looking to the products of the soil for subsistance their lands are not adapted to agriculture having no facilities for irrigation nor are their lands adapted to grazing being a sandy plain Again their locality is so remote living on high bluff almost inaccessible it is deficult it is deficult to obtain teachers or Missionaries to labor among them I have been in correspondance with the Foreign Board of Missions for the last year on this subject but to no affect if the Moques were moved to some point in New Mexico there would be no deficulty on this subject I would also suggest as a very important reason for their removal is their association with the Apache Indians One of the Moque villages is at this time much demoralized by this association & if this association is protracted demoralization must necessarily follow

I have suggested Old Fort Wingate as a favorable locality for their removal If you think the removal of these Indians a practicle thing you may know a more favorable locality than the one I have suggested

Respectfully Your Obt Servt
W. D. Crowthers
U.S. Agent for Moques

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