November 14, 1876

New Mex. D 2099. 76

U. S. INDIAN SERVICE.

Navajo Indian Agency

Fort Defiance A. T.

November 14", 1876

Alex G. Irvine

U. S. Indian Agent.

SUBJECT.

Report of Visit to the Moqui Pueblo Indians and Estimates for Supplies

ACTION.

Ans'd Dec 1/76 - Goods to be purchased by officer

Ans'd. Dec. 4 as to Interpreter for M. R.

Registered

OFFICE OF INDIAN A

Dec 1. 1876

RG75, M23, Roll 567
Ltr. Rec'd by OIA,
1824-1880
New Mexico Supt.

E. 1099 X.

Navajo Indian Agency
Fort Defiance Ct. Nov 14 76
Alex G. Irvine
U. S. Ind. Agent
Reports upon the Moquis Pueblos

[I 1099-76 N.N.]

USPRI000179

Navajoe Indian Agency
Fort Defiance Ad
November 14th 1876

Hon J. Q. Smith.
Commissioner of Indian Affairs
Washington D. C.

Sir:

In compliance with verbal instructions received upon my late visit to Washington D. C. with regard to the Moqui Pueblo Indians, I submit the following report of a visit that I made to their Agency and Village returning on the 11th inst. I took a private conveyance the Agency Ambulance being to heavy and the mules and Horses slow in two days arrived at the Moqui Agency buildings which I found in good condition. The nearest Village is twelve miles from the Agency and situated upon a sand stone cliff and the supply of water for all purposes brought a distance of two miles in native pottergware and carried upon the backs

2

of the women to the Village. The men were all engaged in bringing in corn from their fields and upon inquiring I found that they had an abundance of corn for all purposes and all look well fed but poorly clad children to the age of ten and twelve years going naked. I held an interview with two of the Chiefs or head men and made particular inquiries as to their wants during the coming winter and what they desired concerning their school. In regard to their school they informed me that if a day school was established they would send twelve children and be very glad to have them attend. They also stated that they wanted nothing in the way of provisions and that they were poorly clothed and they had no way to get clothing and depended upon the generosity of the Government to keep them from suffering for the want of that article. I enclose an estimate for clothing and agricultural implements needed by them. I would recommend first and as the most important that a Reservation of fifty (50) miles square be set apart for them and that it

be made to include the agency buildings.
The reason I would recommend so large a reservation is that the land is destitute of water unfit for agricultural purposes as for instance the mosquito raised which at the agency twenty miles by the trail from the nearest village the most of it can be used for grazing sheep and in time they must depend almost entirely upon their flocks for their subsistence. Now is the time to provide for these people for the Mormons have large settlements to the west and south already and the Mormons can make the most of what they have of any frontiersman and soon they will crowd the [illegible] out of their homes. And another fact must be taken into consideration, with regard to both the mosquito and the Navajoes they are and have been at peace during the last few years and their numbers are increasing while the wilder tribes are decreasing. Thereupon I can not urge upon your consideration to strongly [illegible]

4

land question, for in a few years it will be a question of life or death to these Indians. Next would be that of clothing I have estimated for what would answer and the condition of the funds available must control the quantity given. The school question is the most difficult of all and I will state facts at the risk of being thought lukewarm. I do not believe that the best method has been tried for educating the Indians and at the same time I know of no better unless it be to take a few Indians least educate them and return them to their several tribes as teachers. The reasons for failure are these. First the Indians do not place any value upon an education at present it is of no use to them they have no immediate need of it and the future is to them unknown. Next they are surrounded by both americans and mexicans as ignorant as themselves who adopt the Indian modes of living and to all intents and purposes become Indians instead of white men. One comes who speaks English the next does not understand a word of it he speaks Spanish the Indian sees nothing but confusion

and it is not to be wondered at that he thinks that his own way is as good as any, and when he does send his children to a school it is in order that they may get a reward or rather pay in the shape of clothing and provisions which they get by attending school. If their own language was used the case would be quite different money and time enough has been spent to make several good readers and I am unable to find but one who knows the alphabet correctly. A school at the Agency is not practable and one at the nearest Village might be of some use as they have promised to send twelve children, but I doubt unless Calico and Manta were supplied quite liberaly if the attendance would continue. The late Teacher Mr E. D. Merritt is at the Agency and he estimates the cost of maintaining a school at the village would one hundred and twenty five dollars per month which I consider high. I think a school can be maintained for sixty five dollars per month viz. one Teacher fifty dollars and fuel

6

fifteen dollars per month. While at the Village I found four horses which had been picked up probably strayed from Agency on the Prescott road which I ordered them to take and return where found and endeavor to find the owners and I believe they will do so. I also found Ganado Mucho one of the principal chiefs of the navajoes endeavoring to settle an old grievance of about six years standing and found an old grievance the Moquis had against the navajoes of about the same date I assisted Ganada Mucho to settle both. The establishment of good feeling between the two tribes will amply compensate for all the trouble and expense of the trip.

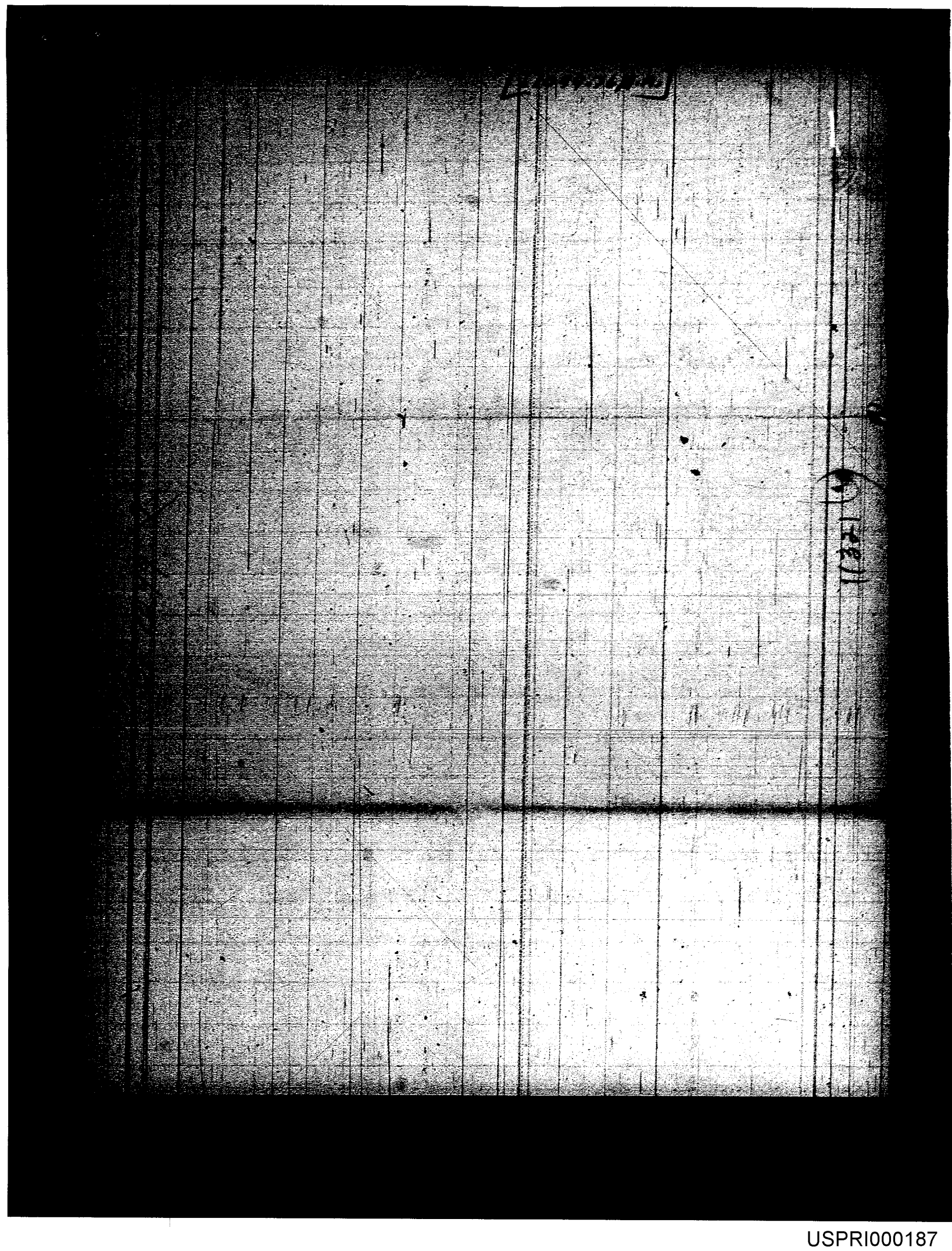
I would respectfully recommend that William Kearns be appointed Interpreter who can keep me advised at all times of the condition of the moquis and reside at the Agency and if considered advisable by Your Office to start a day school that Edward D Merritt late Moquis Teacher be appointed. both to commence January 1st 1877. I will cheerfully endeavor to

Carry out Your Views in any manner to benefit these people and when I can see no progress will so report

Very respectfully
Your obd Servant
Alex G Irvine
U S Indian Agent

To Hon J. D. Smith
Commissioner of Indian Affairs
Washington D.C.

USPRI000186



Fort Defiance A.T. Nov 25 [illegible]

S. A. Galpin Esqr
Chief Clerk Indian Office
Washington
D. C.

Dear Sir

I forward to you Report upon the Moqui Pueblos as agreed upon when I met you in Washington D C last September

I forward to you for the reason that the agreement was made with you personally

In order to save time I have submitted estimates for Supplies

Their greatest need is clothing and if deemed advisable to furnish it to them it will be convenient for me to visit Santa Fe for the purpose of making the purchase about Dec 20th 1876

Very respectfully
Alex S. Irvine

USPRI000188

Copy

ESTIMATE

OF

Indian Supplies, &c.

REQUIRED AT THE

Moqui Pueblo Indian Agency

During Fiscal year quarter 189

BY

Alex G. Sloan

Agent

[illegible]

Required for the Service of the

Cheyenne Pueblo Indian Agency Arizona

During the Fiscal Year ~~[illegible]~~ July 31st 1877

To the Commissioner of Indian Affairs:

Sir: I have the honor to transmit an estimate of supplies, &c., required for the service at the agency under my charge, as above, amounting to $ 1230 00 and respectfully ask for the necessary authority to purchase the same (1) Under Contract

I also ask authority to publish an advertisement, inviting proposals in the case, in the (2) New Mexican Santa Fe New Mexico

and to make contract with the lowest responsible bidder, or bidders, for the delivery of the articles estimated for.

I have on hand (3) $ No Funds available to the proposed purchase, from appropriation

Abj. G. Irwin

Dated October 14, 1876

USPRI000190

		Dolls	Cts	
[illegible] Kenneled	24.00	240	00	
Cabio	10¢	240	00	Clothing Females
[illegible] Largest Plantation	18.00	180	00	
[illegible] Butcher	5.00	60	00	
[illegible] Heavy	15¢	360	00	Clothing Males
Tobacco	75¢	150	00	
Total		1,230	00	

Number of Indians Estimated

Males	600	4 yards Manto Each
Females	600	4 " Cabio "

USPRI000191

[illegible] that the above estimate is correct, and that the articles specified are requisite for [illegible] service, rendered so by the circumstances set forth in the above remarks.

Alex J. Irvine
U. S. Indian Agent.

[illegible] the Moqui Pueblo Agency.
November 14th, 1876.