November 11, 1882

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Moquis Pueblo Agency
Nov 11th 1882

J. H. Fleming
U. S. Indian Agt

Refers to the [illegible] of
[illegible] Sullivan and [illegible]
[illegible] specific [illegible]
in the [illegible]
[illegible] telegram [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] report to Secy [illegible]
[illegible] of Ex. Order Dec [illegible]
[illegible] 45060 + 22[illegible]
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United States Indian Service,

Moqui Pueblo Agency, A.T.

November 11th, 1882.

To the Hon. Com. of Indian Affairs.
Washington D.C.

Sir:

In a recent communication, of the 17th ultimo, I had the honor to notify your office that I had ordered the arrest of one Dr. Jer. Sullivan, and that he had made affidavit to leave the pueblos never to return, and promising, under oath, that he would never go within one mile of any of these villages. This was done in compliance with instructions from your office of August 16th {14616/82}

I regret to inform you that this man, Dr. Sullivan, has returned to the villages, is ocupying his old quarters at the nearest mesa, and that, yes-

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terday he informed Dr. Lawter, the agency physician, that he had come to stay.

I have not met Dr. Sullivan since his return, but am told through reliable authority that he claims that he was forced to make said affidavit, and hence it was not binding; and that, as these pueblos are not on a reservation, the Government has no power to cause his removal. I desire to say, that at the time Dr. Sullivan was under arrest, he was reminded of his promise to leave the pueblos, that he had failed to do so; and that being instructed by the Hon. Com. of Indian Affairs to prevent all intercourse between him and the indians, in order to carry out said instructions, I had resolved to send him to Fort Wingate to be consigned to the military authorities there, unless he would make affidavit to leave the villages and never return. Dr. Sullivan told me that he would willingly make such affidavit, that he considered the terms reasonable and fair and

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accordingly did so, with the results herein stated.

At a council held at the mission house on the day of Dr. Sullivan's arrest, the principal man among the Moquis said Dr. Sullivan should be sent away, and, when informed that the agent had done so, the Moquis said it was well: Now that Dr. Sullivan has returned, in defiance of authority and of his solemn oath, the Moquis seem to regard him as a bigger man than the agent, and my influence over them will be greatly weakened if not destroyed, unless this man can be effectually prevented from all intercourse with them. The Moquis, now, say they do not want a school, and it is of no use to try to induce them to send their children to Albuquerque at present. They say the white men tell them the goods here were sent for them, and not for the school, and, because I do not give them these goods,

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they believe they are being cheated out of them.

This is the position of affairs at this agency; and, much as I dislike to add to the cares of your responsible office, which I know must be very great, I feel it due to the cause which I represent to make this frank statement. I verily believe this state of affairs is largely, if not wholly, due to the presence of white men among them who are in secret hostility to my administration. In a recent letter to your office I referred to one E. S. Merritt who has lived among these Moquis since his discharge as clerk at this agency about nine months since. He seems to be engaged in no business — simply stays there; — and his evident sympathy with Dr. Sullivan, and his well known character is such that I greatly desire him to leave.

I would, therefore, very respectfully in-

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quire if the Government has control over these indian pueblos sufficient to cause the arrest and removal of a man or set of men who evidently stand in the way of the civilization of this people. The indians are the wards of the Government, and, it would seem to me, as such, the Department has a legal right to say who shall live at their pueblos. If so, I would earnestly request specific instructions as to how to proceed in the premises, and I will endeavor to execute the wishes of the Department to the letter. If there is no remedy by which this can be accomplished, I shall tender my resignation as agent of the Moqui; believing, as I do, that it would not be right for me to remain here simply to draw my salary with no hopes of accomplishing anything.

I would respectfully request a speedy answer as the matter is of the utmost importance. I would suggest, if it meet

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your approval, that your office send me a telegram containing instructions in brief, followed by more specific direction by mail.

Very Respectfully.

J. A. Fleming.

U. S. Indian Agent.

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