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February 19, 1894

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Final Report of Allotment work

CASE NO. 147

John S. Mayhugh
U.S. Special Allotment and Dsbg Agent

Moqui Indian Reservation
Arizona

Dated February 19th 1894

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File

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RG75, BIA. E. 102
Special Case 147, Box 149
Moqui
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Final Report
Moqui Indian Reservation
Keam's Canon P.O. Arizona
February 19th 1894

Hon D. M. Browning
Commissioner Indian Affairs
Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to herewith transmit for your examination my final Report of allotment work upon the Moqui Indian Reservation Arizona ordered by Office letter of instructions dated January 25th 1892 marked Land and numbered 2092 - 1892 in [illegible] thereof I arrived at this Reservation February 29th 1892 by the usual travelled route via San Francisco California. I immediately proceeded with the preparatory work as pointed out to me by the general instructions above mentioned - pending the arrival of the field notes and Township [illegible]

My first Act was to call a council of the leading and head men of the three Mesa's but only the head men of the East and Middle Mesa's attended to wit: The Tewa's - Che-chung-o-ves - Mashong-o-ve's, She powl-o-ves, and She-mo-po-ves

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also the Walpis — through an Interpreter I fully explained the purposes of my presence and the good intentions the Government had in view for them in sending an Agent to their Reservation

I read to them paragraph by paragraph of the appropriate parts of my instructions and the Allotment Act of Congress which was interpreted and fully explained to them by Lieu,

IV Keam's the Post Trader of the Reservation in the presence of Supdt Collins of Keams Canon School — They seemed to fully understand what I came for — The Indian's reply was as usual a long list of complaints of what Washington had not done and what they wanted after which they said they would accept their land in severalty but qualified their statement by saying some were absent and they only spoke for themselves and those present

After this I had other meetings that were favorable towards taking their land — I then visited the several Mesa's from time to time to familiarize myself with their people and to have them

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become better acquainted with me and the objects and purposes of the Government - I also rode over the surveyed and unsurveyed (some part) to examine the land and the water supplies accompanied by Supt Collins and at other times by a Guide and Interpreter - pending this preparatory work I received another letter ~~letter~~ of instructions directing me to look over the entire field of allotment work embracing the water supply to the end that all the Moquis should have equal water privileges - as water is exceedingly scarce on this Reservation (in fact all North Eastern Arizona) and when this work was completed I was further directed to take a complete Census of the entire tribe by families giving age relationship &c

On the 5th of April 1892 I reported to your Office the number and character of Springs I had examined - This Report was accompanied with a diagram of the Country and Mesa's I had travelled over and showing the locations of the Springs - I continued to employ my time on this line of work and other matters properly

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connected with it so as to more fully qualify myself for the work on hand - In the meantime the field notes and plats of survey reached me about July 1st 1892 - I at once engaged a Surveyor and as soon as he arrived proceeded with the work of allotment but before I was fully under headway I received your Office letter of July 2nd 1892 marked Land and numbered 22724, 1892 - which directed me to make Homestead Allotments to Indians of Reservation at Mesa in vicinity of Tuba City Arizona this work I completed about the 20th of July 1892 and returned to the Moqui Reservation about the 25th of same month and thereafter re-commenced the Allotment work commencing with the East Mesa - the first village the Tewa whose land is principally on the East side of the Mesa - The Che-chung ove village people next accepted their land which adjoins the Tewa's to the south east - then the Walpis The various Villages had their land boundaries established by stone monuments and the family

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groups or clans of each Village had their local subdivisions such as the ~~[illegible]~~ people the snake-rain, antelope, &c, the same system of holding land prevails throughout the whole seven villages - after holding two Councils I deemed it best to satisfy them to allot them lands within their lines that is to say to give the Tewa's what was claimed as Tewah land and to the Che chungo ves and Walpis what was claimed by them - then they were satisfied and ready I allotted them their land so as to conform to the legal subdivisions of survey this was slow and tedious - I allotted to them their individual tracts consisting of their corn fields that they pointed out to ~~me~~ as belonging to them also their bean and melon patches - I found it necessary often to subdivide 40 acres tracts into 20 acre lots so that each claimant could receive his choice from of the choice land then the additional amount to make their full allotment was selected elsewhere. The land situated in the Valleys around the Mesa's is generally

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first rate and that lying and being at the base around the Mesa's is 2nd rate is generally used for the planting of Melons - squash and beans also their Peach orchards while the Valley land is used for their corn fields - The lands at the foot of the Mesas are more or less sheltered from the prevailing winds and sand storms (hence its selection for Orchards &c) that continue from the 1st of March to the 1st of July of each year - After the 1st of July the summer rains set in and continue to the 1st or middle of September which matures their crops of corn - beans & Melons otherwise I doubt if they would be able to raise sufficient food to sustain life - No preparatory work such as plowing is attempted by these people and no cultivation is necessary after the vegetation has taken root - they simply plant their corn in the sandy places by digging a hole in the ground with a sharp stick to the depth of six to seven inches dropping in each hole from 6 to 10 grains to the hill which are from 4 to 12 and sometimes 16

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feet apart- there is really no soil but a sedimentary sand in places along the washes, and in the immediate neighborhood of the Springs or pools- The land produces only corn, melons, beans, squashes, Chillies, and some Onions- No wheat Barley or potatoes have as yet been raised allthough some attempts have been made without success- no irrigation is attempted except their little garden patches around the Springs- Each family raises but little more than their pressing needs require to sustain life- They are a self supporting people and receive nothing from the Government except a few wagons harness stoves shovels &c, It has been a law among them to keep two to three years supply of corn on hand this rule has lately been relaxed and but few have more than one years supply on hand- Their crops of corn are gathered and housed from the 1st to the middle of October the melons beans and squashes are all gathered after the first frost which occurs from the 1st to the middle of September

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the melons are preserved in underground dark holes called Kee-vers and thereby preserved so as to be eatable up to the 1st of January of each year - as a general rule the men plant and gather the corn and the old men and women plant the melons, beans, and squash - The amount of land they cultivate doesnot exceed in my opinion more than from 2½ to three acres to each person.

A large number of these people have flocks of sheep varying in number from 20 to as high as 500 head - The wool that is not sold is used for making blankets and covering for the women and men - they generally slaughter about the increase for food - The East and middle Mesa Village people have but very few cattle possibly not over from 150 to 200 head while the Oraibi Village people have over 350 head among them The number of Beeves slaughtered I am informed by Chief Lo Lo Lo may is equal to the annual increase - These people have but few

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horses probably not over 450 all told they using Burros instead which number I estimate to be from 1200 to 1300 which are used for packing wood water corn &c and what surplus production they have to market (Post Traders) These people live on high Mesa's of an altitude of 600 to 800 feet above the Vallies in a crowded filthy condition they are a low degraded superstitious ignorant people wearing little or no clothes - but they are beginning to get a glimmer of light through the medium of the schools that have been and are now being established through your Office - Education is their only salvation they should have a school at each Mesa

The grouping of these people into families for Allotments has been a very trying task not only in consequence of the close similarity of names but on account of their peculiar social habits and customs, their ever changing of wifes and husbands and their habit of marring family relation the line only being drawn between father and mother brother and sister - Uncles Neices

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Aunts cousins, steb sons & daughters inter-marrying - they are all related. A man marry to day a Tewa woman and when he leaves her marry her sister - vice versa with the woman the females marry as early as 10 years of age
A Tewa Village man if he marries a woman of another Village he becomes a member of that Village and drops his own selection and works the corn field of his father in law
It took a good deal of time and tact as well as patience to ascertain with any degree of certainty the relationship that exists of one to another particular among the children the reputed head of the family will tell you he has three sons when in fact he is not the father of any one of them and upon investigation you will find that they are the sons of his wife by some other husband or illegitimate children - or sometimes his brothers or brothers wife's children - it is a custom among these people for the children to always remain with the mother and to whatever Village the

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Mother belonged they become members of that village and are known as Walpi's notwithstanding their father was a Tewah or an Orabi man as the case may be however by becoming personally acquainted with nearly every Indian on the whole Reservation and repeated enquiries I have been able to get my schedules correct. The women own the houses and all the household appliances the men own generally the stock such as horses Burros cattle and sheep. The Moqui's have built some 60 houses of rock and adobe of which number 31 has been finished by the Government by putting on the roof and laying the floors also doors and windows There is a matter that has frequently come under my observation that I respectfully ask to refer to and that is the continual dancing of these people Many of these disgusting orgies are so filthy and obscene and degrading that it is not a proper matter to describe in this Report the quicker these disgraceful scenes are stopped the better it will be for the children who are allowed to witness these performances

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many of whom are now being educated by the Government to the end of improving them mentally and morally. The Indians on the East and middle Mesas consisting of Tewahs Che-shung-o-ves Walpis on the first or East Mesa - the Ma chong o ves - She-pool o ves and She-mo-po ves on the middle Mesas making a total of 1210 have all received their allotments

At Orabi Chief Lo, Lo, Lo, my people have not all received their land in severally in consequence of the very crowded condition of some few sections upon which both friendlies and unfriendlies were located these sections were not allotted under instructions from your Office dated Dec 14th 1893 marked Land numbered 45132 therefore about 99 of the friendlies are without land but it was not their fault as they were willing to select their land but would not select land elsewhere in lieu of what they claimed (it being choice land)

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in the crowded sections copies of which I have forwarded to your Office - the friendlies who have received land are 424 this makes the total allotments 1634, During the months of August, September and October I was engaged with the Surveyor and the necessary assistants in surveying and marking out the new additional surveys ordered by your Office through the General Land Office comprising some 75 sections or more so as to have sufficient first and 2nd rate land to complete the work of allotment the major portions of the survey were for the Orabis and we surveyed all the available land we could find both 1st and 2nd rate. Nevertheless there is still a deficiency for the Orabis of some 3000 acres or more in the vicinity of Orabi but there is some land left that that the other villages did not need but I am afraid it is too great a distance from the Orabi Village to be available for the present, I herewith transmit schedules containing the names

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of the families then sex, age, and relationship of the Orabi's who have not received their land including the hostiles numbering 393 300 of which are hostiles - in pursuance to Offici letter dated October 2nd 1893 marked Land and numbered 36332 - 1893.

I have prepared schedules of the number of Springs seepages and pools of water on the Reservation in the vicinity of the Mesa's and allotments giving in most cases the Moqui and English names of the Springs also the locality when sub-divided by legal sub-divisions of survey together with the flow of water by inches reserved for the common use of all Moquis this took time and labor to colate this information. Water is usually found at the base of the Mesa's, during the past year the Supdt. of the schools here have been ~~been~~ prospecting the vallies for water. A large number of Wells were dug in the vicinity of all the Mesa's but in consequence of the appratus used for digging they [illegible]

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only able to penetrate 40 feet and there has only been developed one well of good water and that is at Oraibi about one mile east of the school house, Nevertheless I am of the opinion that with proper machinery and going a greater depth a large amount of good water can be developed until then these Moqui people will remain in Villages upon their Mesa's because the water is found close by it is useless to ask them to come down and settle upon their land away from water, the true solution of the civilization of those Moqui people is a plenty of water and day school, As per instruction under date of May 7th 1892 marked Land and numbered 13680 1892 - I have prepared schedules showing the sections and part of sections that has been reserved from allotment containing the seven Villages of the Moqui people with the Spring's pools of water and Peach Orchards situated thereon for the common use and benefit of the Moquis - they seem to have a strong sentimental attachment to the homes of-

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their food. — The Peach orchards are quite an important factor in their food supply as they dry great quantities — I would suggest they be encouraged in planting the Peach tree also the Apricot as their surplus fruit could be readily marketed when dried at a fair price they could also dispose of their surplus beans and corn, this would enable them to purchase many articles necessary to their new condition of civilization which the schools are preparing for the rising generation they ought to have some person to assist and encourage them in this work. I have also prepared (under instructions from your Off.) ~~and~~ marked out and described by metes and bounds some 15 sections of timber land for the common use and benefit of the Moqui Indians of the East Mesa with a diagram accompanying the same showing Pipsy wash with the Springs thereon which I have heretofore forwarded to your Office for examination

These Indians have only

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one name which has sometimes a very vulgar significance or meaning – those in charge of the Boarding School also Day Schools should be required to give each pupil an English given name. They have repeatedly expressed to me a desire for an English name or names.

The Moquis are increasing in number. As a tribe they are reasonably healthful. No drunkenness exists among them and very little gambling and what they do know they have learned from the Navajoes. The Navajoes do not encroach upon them as heretofore only casually.

There underlies this Reservation in many places deposits of stone coal – I have examined the coal in several places and found it as good as could be expected on the surface subject to climatic conditions. The veins or deposits have a gentle dip to the south, east and are from 8 inches to 10 feet in thickness. There is a large vein some 14 miles from the Canon School to the North west at Wepo of some 6 feet in thickness. – Coal taken from this vein burns

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readily in a stove and leaves little or no ashes.

I counciled with Hay be mer and some of his head men after I finished the work of allotment at Orabi and still found him much opposed to taking his land in severally yet he seemed more pleasent and talked more reasonable upon the subject. I think before the expiration of the time required by law to make forced allotments he may take his land there is quite a difference now in his demeanor to what it was when he ~~with~~ his band pulled up the stakes of survey and levelled down the mounds when the military had to be called in to protect the surveyors in finishing the Government survey.

In view of the general want of knowledge and appreciation of the Moqui people as to the rights and benefits that the Allotment Act confers upon them when they are declared citizens is not comprehended in the least, That they are totally

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unprepared to assume the rights of citizenship for want of knowledge of the English language and take upon themselves the burdens incident thereto there is hardly a question there are but a very few who have any conception of the meaning of the word citizen. Many of these people have considerable stock and some wagons and harness and if upon the approval of the Allotments by the Hon. Secretary they then will become citizens and would be in that event in a helpless condition as to the preservation of their personal property in consequence of the tax levy of the Territory for Territorial and County purposes. I have allready been interviewed by tax payers if the Indians would not be subject to taxation, as there exists an antagonistic feeling between the whites and Indians of Arizona the taxation law would certainly be enforced with vigor, I therefore earnestly hope your honorable office would make some provision for the protection of the personal property of these people from forced sale the rights of citizenship will certainly be a great

detriment to the present generation of the Moqui Tribe under their present condition and should be deferred as long as possible nevertheless I note some improvement and I find it more prominent where the day schools exist

All of which is respectfully submitted

Yours Very Respectfully
John S. Mayhugh
U.S. Special
Allotment & Dsbg Agt

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