

December 7, 1910

# 2781

Land  
Allotments  
93215-1910  
J T R

Allotments.  
Moqui.

Mr. Matthew M. Murphy,  
Special Allotting Agent,  
Keams Canon, Arizona.

DEC -7 1910

FOR FILE

57970-08  
313

Sir:

The Office is in receipt of your letter of November 14, 1910, wherein it is recommended that a number of Navajo Indians living on the high mesas be given 320 acres of grazing land in allotment, with no "farming land", as there are no valley lands adjacent to these mesas and these Indians depend almost entirely on their flocks for subsistence; caring nothing about farming.

The Act of March 1, 1907 (34 Stat. L., 1021), authorizes allotments to the Indians of the Moqui Reservation in such areas "as the Secretary of the Interior may deem for their best interests". Under instructions approved by the Department on February 26, 1909, you were directed to give each Indian entitled thereto 320 acres of grazing land and 40 acres of agricultural or "valley land".

If you have a small number of Navajo Indians entitled to allotments, who do not desire any agricultural or farming land, would it not be for their best interests

RG 75, BIA CCF, E. 121  
57970-08-313  
Moqui, Box 16

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to allot them a larger area of grazing land than 320 acres? Why not give them 480 acres, or even 640 acres, where they are to receive no agricultural or valley lands? This would be permissible under the act and the Office sees no reason why the Department should not readily approve allotments in such areas. The only remaining point to be considered is, whether there is sufficient grazing land within the reserve to afford allotments to the Indians to whom you refer, in larger quantities.

Please submit a further report, when specific instructions as to the number of acres to be given these Indians will be issued.

Very respectfully,

*(Signed) C. F. Houke,*

11-LLN-30

Second Assistant Commissioner.