

May 14, 1959

Major General Louis W. Truman,
Deputy Director Exercise Dry Hills
and commanding, Fort Lewis.

Dear Sir:

I am asking Major Jim Cherry of the Yakima Firing Center to present you as a personal book, not to be constructed with military records, a copy of Drummers and Dreamers.

In 1956 Major General Paul L. Freeman was presented with a copy by the Indians at Fort Lewis, and at that time and in past years the fort was informed of the habitation of this small family clan on the back fringe of the Yakima Firing Center.

Since your visit to the Center during Exercise Dry Hills may have taken you into the back country, and near the duly proclaimed burial place of the Wanapum Indian Band, it seemed probable to the Wanapum survivors and myself that you would have a general interest in the historical background of these people and of the country itself.

The book is not a novel and tells only the story of these people and the area.

Since its publication the Wanapums---Indians who have declined to enroll as did their leader, Mowhala in treaty making days--- have dwindled to four, although they have sizeable families.

The leader and religious man, puck-Hyah-Toot or Johnny Buck died a few weeks before publication of the book. He is buried in the graveyard on the fringe of the Firing Center, in a swale on a bluff a few miles upstream from Priest Rapids Dam on the right bank of the Columbia River

It was his wish and request before his death, and his wish a few days before death, that in years to come guns and marching or mounted men do not disturb the burial grounds which is marked. His sons and other relatives are appreciative of the consideration shown them by the United States Army.

The surviving Wanapums, exclusive of enrolled relatives are: Frank Buck, son and head man; Rex Buck, son; Bobby Tomanawash who recently completed a tour of military service and was discharged at Fort Ord; and Harry Winn or Yena. Bobby is now debating whether he should re-enlist.

We hope the book, now out of print, is of passing interest to you.

Sincerely
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