

Feb. 21, 1953

[Priest Rapids]

Mr. F.W. Arlt, president, Grant County PUD  
P.O. Box 878,  
Ephrata, Wash.

Dear Mr. Arlt:

The Wanapums have asked me to write you, thanking you for your courteous letter of February 16. In the event of any definite developments, that are a matter for public release, they have asked that you drop them a note. The old men are quite worried, despite my frequent attempts to explain them that, at earliest, no dam could be built at Priest Rapids for some time.

I am enclosing a clipping for your information. And, since that story was written, I am told that another of the old men has been taken to the Indian Hospital at Nespalem, gravely ill and may die. I understood he was strictly a non-treaty Indian, but perhaps he has some minor recognition there and hence has disqualified himself as a member of the Wanapum band, other than blood ties and friendship and for ceremonial gatherings. And, since the letter, there has been a baby born, but its mother is a Yakima and is enrolled in the Yakima tribe and hence, I do not believe, is a non-treaty Indian.

I thought you people would be interested in the clipping.

The Wanapums intend to "contest" the plans of the Rock Hounds to remove material that is pertinent to the Wanapum culture, but I do not think this removal imminent.

Sincerely

Click Relander

Rt. 3, box 146, Yakima

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