

1212 N. 32ndth Ave.
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August 19, 1953

Mr. Leland Yost,
Room 2129 Dept. of Justice Bldg.,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

During your visit to Yakima, Wash., in connection with the Yakima Indian claims, I mentioned the possibility of being able to uncover considerably worthy information pertaining to fisheries, bands, lineage, timber and perhaps boundaries, had I access to microfilms available through the General Services Administration.

I mentioned that my studies in the field, interviews and my project of making typescripts of the old letters on file in the Yakima Agency indicated many clues. I believe that the missing pieces could be fit in, and that satisfactory historical backgrounds could be provided, by scanning the microfilms referred to. This I intend to do eventually, since it would be an extensive project fitting into my whole plan of research.

I suggested that this is so extensive and painstaking work, that it would wear heavily upon a regular staff employe, but that I would be willing to provide copies, had I the film.

The series is known as the File Microcopy of the Washington and Oregon Indian Superintendencies. The entire series is available through General Services at \$90. I intend shortly to start ordering the pertinent rolls at \$4 each.

A general listing of the material available is contained in

a Quarterly (University of Washington) which I have ordered and which I will forward to you, if the supply is not exhausted. I know that most competent researchers should be familiar with this but I know that all are not. The complete file of microfilm is possessed, on the coast or in the Northwest, by only the University of Washington and the University of Oregon.

There are 26 rolls in the entire series, File Micropopy, Oregon and Washington Superintendencies.

I make a few notations for your knowledge:

Roll 17-Letters from Employees Assigned to the Columbia River or Southern District and the Yakima Agency, May 1, 1854-July 20, 1861.

Roll 18-Letters from Employees assigned to the Yakima Agency, August 16, 1861, December 31, 1868.

Roll 19-Letters from Employees assigned to the Yakima Agency, January 4, 1869-July 21, 1874.

Roll 20-Letters from Employees Assigned to the Central or Middle District and the Colville Agency, February 24, 1854-July 13, 1874.

Roll 26 relates to Treaties, Dec. 7, 1854-January 9, 1865 and includes record of the proceedings of the Commission to hold treaties, loose papers relating to proceedings etc.

I already possess a series of three film dealing with Washington Territorial papers and miscellaneous papers concerning the Indian wars. I possess a large roll of film, the letters of an Army Officer stationed at Fort Simcoe, Fort Colville, Vancouver, ~~the~~ 1858-1863, not generally known to researchers, that throws considerable light on the Indian wars. I also possess some Fort Simcoe material from Yale University Library available only, upon application and agreement for use only for scanning in connection with Fort Simcoe restoration research. Yale has much valuable material, perhaps as much as in the Northwest. This is listed in a large catalogue (book) and I am attempting to secure a copy of

the book. Undoubtedly microfilm of certain material could be secured by your department.

The File Microcopy, previously referred to, also includes the Puget Sound District, Puyallup Agency, Skallam Agency, Neah Day Agency, (Makah Reservation) Quinalt Agency, Western or Coast district in Chehalis locality, Nez Perce and Umatilla Agencies, Flathead Agency and the Blackfeet Agency, and Miscellaneous letters, 1853-1874.

I mention this because one is able to get deeper into a subject by constant work and digging---the more you go through the records, the more things, Indian names, tribes, bands, etc. tie in.

I mention the above, also, because I will be continuing, a minimum of 35 to 45 hours a week in this type of research for my own purposes. I can see the Yakima point of view, but cannot conclude with it as far as the Priest Rapids band of Wanapums was concerned and I am beginning to wonder if that stand is taken because of the possibility of the entire field being narrowed by adjoining bands that have been "eaten up" by the Yakimas.

You, I believe, referred to the possibility of some separate group on the Yakima reservation filing separate action. That would be, I hazard a guess, the Rock Creeks who lived up toward the Umatilla Reservation, whose aged chief, William Yallup has declined to be interviewed, and whose son, Tom Yallup, is a member of the tribal council, yet has seemed to be spending much time at Celilo and in former depositions indicates lineage along that section of the river. He was among the daily observers at the hearing. William Yallup and the Wyam at Celilo Falls, Chief Tommy Thompson, are the last two real chiefs in this wide region. I note too that the Rock Creeks abandoned their traditional first foods feast until a couple of years ago when it was resumed, and I wondered why it was resumed.

Sincerely

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