

1212 N. 32nd Ave.
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Dear Puck Hyah 'oot, brother:

Oct. 24, 1954

I am sending you an important clipping. It shows that the Federal Power Commission is telling the people who want to built a dam that they have to protect the graves and historical relics. These relics are the rocks on the islands we have talked about.

This means that when the people come scouting and looking around, they will not dig up the graves nor destroy sacred things. If it is necessary to do that, they will consult you and bury them some place else, but in this kind of work, which is a study to determine just where the dam will be built, I don't think it necessary to do much tearing up.

They say that it will be two years before they can start building a dam.

Besides, they have to finance it first. I doubt if they can get it financed so I wouldn't worry too much now.

I got to thinking too about the man who wants to visit the graves and places at White Bluff. Until I know him and who he is, I think it best that you tell him nothing. You can visit the graves that he tells you he will put a fence around. But do not tell him the name of any place.

If he asks you and wants to know the names of places, maybe you should tell him other names for those places and then later that will prove he is wrong if he is trying to find out like the others. So until we know about him, be very careful. If he is a good man that will be shown and then we will accept him.

It may be before long I will want you to go to Ephrata with me, and maybe to Ellensburg. There we will make a speech where there will be people who are planning to build the dam, and I will tell them about you people.

And it may be that if you are at Priest Rapids and these men who are looking over plans for the dam come around, they will want to know things, that will be alright to tell them. But I must work with them. If they work directly with you, soon we will lose all the ground we have gained. And you know I do this for nothing. But I know how they can misunderstand things.

The Yakimas in the arguments with the government about the Dalles Dam never got a government order like the one you people have received because of the work I have done. So we must continue being that way and they will treat us alright.

I shall write to Mr. Stockdale and tell him he had best come when he can and get the canoe, before someone gets it, as there will be many people coming and going. But it will not be given to him, only loaned to him.

You must not forget to do as I have asked, make some more feather fans, old twisted mats, cedar baskets like you pick huckleberries in, fish gigs, gambling bones, twisted ropes out of hemp wasatos, a drum, anything like that. I will be needing them in a few months. Unless you keep them in mind and make them, I will not be able to have them, when the book comes out. And remember, that is why you were made a third partner in the book, so you would do those things. I have done much work but can't do it all and unless you are my partner you cannot be paid, what ever we make, for your share of the book.

I shall write to Tomalawash about this protection the government is giving at the start. I will also write George Schappy. That is a sign that if we continue to be good people, and I continue to do a good job of telling my story and talking and writing, they will see you have a home when the work starts on the dam. And they will see that the graveyard is always protected, so you and all the rest of you who want to be buried there can be buried there and never be in danger of being moved. I have many more letters to write, and you have things to make.