

[Wanapum Pool]

Mr. Ron Andrews, game protector,  
Department of Game, Yakima, Wash.

Nov. 23, 1963

Dear Ron :

Enclosed, a clipping regarding the death of Harry Tomanawash, an enrolled Yakima Indian. He was, however, a Wanapum from Priest Rapids before going on the Yakima Reservation and enrolling. This as you know was true of several of the Wanapums of McWhorter's Day.

Rex Buck came in today to see you and I. His problem was this:

Relatives of Harry gave the funeral. Since this came up suddenly, and to provide the meat required in the Wapato Long House, it was necessary to use some deer that the Wapato people had accumulated for their Thanksgiving dinner next Thursday. They were given the meat in the emergency and have been asked to "replace" it for the approaching Thanksgiving feast, also a religious service. This feast was announced last week, including a short story in the Yakima paper when it was emphasized it was not a celebration, nor a "war dance," but a religious gathering only.

Rex recalled to me that he and Frank are pledged not to hunt deer in the Priest Rapids region.

He is asking if there is any contraband meat that can be turned over to Frank Schappy at the Wapato Long House before the Thanksgiving feast which will be on Thanksgiving Day.

We attempted to phone both you and Mr. Jose today, Saturday. I will make another call during the weekend. We are hopeful some meat can be procured. I will see it gets to Wapato, returning any papers to your office. Schappy lives in the house close to the Long House at Wapato.

Rex also told me, and at the funeral Frank also discussed it with me, that there will be a memorial feast as possible in connection with the first foods feast at Priest Rapids next April. We thought it would be well at this time to recall to you that this is one of the traditional services at which meat is needed. Next spring, however, it will be additionally so because the memorial must be held in the man's place of origin.

I will be glad to answer any questions you may have about the two needs now confronting the Indians. It is a little difficult to explain why this is a family responsibility and the "Yakima tribal facilities" are not geared to attend to current needs. Any help or suggestions you can provide or offer will be appreciated.

Sincerely

Click Relander

November 25, Monday

[1963]

Dear Rex:

This is to let you know that Fred Jose of Ron Andrews' office called me back Sunday and said he would see if there were some deer at the hatchery. He checked and said that there were some there.

I explained how these were "replacement."

Today, just so there would be no mistake, I drove down to Wapato Long House. Frank Sohappy was asleep when I was first there. So I explained to Mrs. Sohappy. She didn't understand too much at first, said that the deer were donations to the funeral. I said everyone understood and that since there were two others available and they would have use for them for Thanksgiving feast it seemed ok they be replaced. She just wanted to be sure you realized they were willing to give their deer.

We sat around a little waiting for the TV (the Presiden't funeral) and then Frank woke up. She explained to him and he said, OK, fine.

They are to go by tomorrow or Wednesday and pick them up. I made it clear the deer were just like Wanapum deer and they seemed happy about it all.

I will contact Ron Andrews again, reminding him about next April or the spring feast so they can keep their eye on any meat brought in and put it in storage.

I think it would be perfectly proper for your wife to write to Ron Andrews, game protector, State Department of Game, Yakima District office, Yakima simply stating: Thank you for the replacement deer for the funeral we have recently had.

We would appreciate it if you could put some deer or elk into storage if they are available, looking toward next spring when there will be a memorial feast or dinner preceding the Priest Rapids root feast. If it is better that when any meat comes in that it be put in storage in some locker until next spring, we will pay the storage charges on it and that way it will not tie up your storage facilities. I think it was done this way once. Our address is Rex Buck, Beverly, Wash." Thank you

As I remember, that is what the game people suggested once several years ago, before your father died. They may wish to do it that way this year and then it keeps good and you could get it near feast time

You could also tell him in the letter if more convenient, to call me when some ~~show~~ shows to be put away in your name and Frank's name, and I will pay the cutting and storage charges on it for you people.

Hope everything is going well with you now. Tell Frank about this, saves me writing another letter.

yours

Now Tow Look

Click Relander,  
1212 N.32nd Ave.  
Yakima, Wash.