

Refer in reply to the following: L

7704 - 1888

Department of the Interior,

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,

Washington, April 13, 1888.

Thomas Priestley, Esq.,
U.S. Indian Agent,
Yakama Agency,
Fort Simcoe, W.T.

Sir:

Referring to your communication, dated March 12, 1888, reporting the murder of an Indian doctor by another Indian on the reservation, and to your telegram of April 11, 1888, reporting another murder of the same kind, I have to direct you to hold the prisoners subject to the call of the authorities of the County in which the offences were committed.

The prosecuting officer of such County should be informed of the facts in each case, and requested to take such action as he may deem right and proper.

In the meantime the Indians should be assembled in council and the provisions of the 9th Section of the Act of March 3, 1885 (See Annual Report for 1885, p. 279) explained to them.

They should be advised to submit peaceably and quietly to the process of the law. If necessary the Attorney General will be requested to direct the U.S. Attorney to defend them and see that they have a fair and impartial trial, and you will so inform them.

You will also inform them that the law must be complied with and that necessary measures will be taken to insure such compliance.

If you find that notwithstanding your efforts, serious resistance will be made to the officers of the law, you will immediately telegraph this Office and the intervention of the military will be invoked.

It is hoped however that you will be able to convince the Indians of the necessity of submitting to the demands of the proper authorities and that the interposition of the military will not be necessary.

Very respectfully,

J D C Atkins

Commissioner.

(Allen)

(Viler)

Commissioner.

Very respectfully,

J. D. Catlin

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Dept of the Interior
Office of Ind. Affairs

April 13 #1888

J. D. Catlin
U.S. Com.

Order to hold Prisoners
for orders of the County
authorities.