

1212 N. 32nd Ave.

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Nov. 7, 1954

Director, Smithsonian Institution,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Stirling:

Having communicated with you before and since you will no doubt recollect my connection with the Wanapum Indians of Priest Rapids, I am writing asking for your assistance.

In connection with my newspaper work, I have need of a copy negative of a Lewis and Clark Medal, one side only perhaps. I will reimburse the Department for this cost but perhaps if you will request it, the receipt can be expedited.

The need is in connection with the Lewis and Clark Sesquicentennial.

Yesterday I visited some of my Indian friends around Celilo and The Dalles. The Maryhill Museum near has two medals, badly worn, given in past years by an educated Indian living near Underwood. They are supposed to be L and C medals, and in the family since their presentation.

I borrowed these and took a photograph of it on a little Indian girl, the great-great granddaughter of Chief Tommy Thompson of the Wyampums at Celilo, also a picture of Tommy and the little girl. He gave me a story concerning his mother and her stories to him of an old woman who had connections with the Lewis and Clark party. Tommy is celebrating his 100th birthday Dec. 15 although he and I believe it to be nearer 95.

Of especial value with the story would be:

- 1-How many medals were issued?
- 2-Were they given out singly or as pairs?

I hope you can give me an assist, as requested above, and in time will transmit a picture of the little girl and the medals.

Sincerely

Click Relander