

Sept. 20, 1956

Gen. Paul Freeman, Jr.,  
Commanding: Fort Lewis,  
Fort Lewis, Washington.

Dear Sir:

Late in the afternoon of October 9, some of the Wanapum Indians of Priest Rapids and I will pass through Fort Lewis en route to Tacoma in connection with a book tour for Drummers and Dreamers.

I am the city editor of The Yakima Daily Republic, and the Wanapums are the Indians I have befriended for several years. Their graveyard borders the back reaches of the Yakima Firing Center, about five miles upstream from the Priest Rapids Dam site.

This was where we buried Puck Hyah Toot, their leader, last week.

I am enclosing some stories concerning his death. It was always his wish that he pay proper respects to the "commanding officer." At one of his feasts, several years ago, a captain came out from the Center and it took considerable convincing on my part to explain to him that the captain represented the Army. He was anxious that the Army know the location of the graveyard so it would never be endangered, and this was done, through the center.

At your desire, and if your time permits, we will be happy to stop and pay our respects, since the tour is turning into a "memorial" for the leader. And it was his wish that the "commanding officer" receive a copy of Drummers and Dreamers. (circular enclosed for explanation).

Additionally, and for your possible collection of military and similar material, I am sending, separately a copy of the Yakima Treaty Centennial. This the Yakimas asked me to compile and edit for them last year.

On the date mentioned, October 9, we plan to leave Portland about noon or 1 o'clock, en route to Tacoma.

Respectfully

Click Relander