

Refer in reply to the following: L

30546 - 1888

Department of the Interior,

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,

Washington, January 3, 1889.

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

Sir:

I am in receipt of a letter from Rickard D. Gwydir, Esq., U.S. Indian Agent at Colville Agency, Washington Territory, dated December 5, 1888, reporting that a party of Indians of the Palouse tribe annually (in the autumn) visit the Colville Reserve ostensibly to hunt, and that they improve their opportunity by selling stolen horses to his Indians, and in stealing horses from them to be sold elsewhere, and engage in drinking and gambling. The Agent requests that steps be taken to keep said Palouse Indians from visiting said Reserve.

Under the treaty with the Yakama Nation of Indians (which includes the Palouse tribe) made June 9, 1855 (12 Stats. 951), the Palouse Indians have full rights to homes on the Yakama Reserve, but I am not advised as to whether any of them are now settled thereon.

You are instructed to make a full report to this Office, showing the number of Indians of the Palouse tribe, if any, residing upon the Yakama Reserve, and the whereabouts so far as




it is practicable for you to ascertain of the other members of such tribe, their condition, habits, and wants, and whether you have issued passes to any of them to visit the Colville Reserve, and in this connection your attention is invited to Office letter of instructions to your Agency, dated October 29, 1887, relative to Indians leaving their reserves. You will under no circumstances, except as authorized in said letter of instructions (copy in blank herewith) issue passes to your Indians to leave their Reserve without having first obtained authority therefor from this Office, and will use all reasonable efforts to prevent the Palouse Indians, whether residing on the Yakama Reserve, or elsewhere, from visiting the Colville Reserve.

You will adopt proper measures to break up the practice of horse stealing referred to, and will if necessary for that purpose take proper steps to have the Indians guilty thereof prosecuted in the courts, (see 9th section Act of March 3, 1885, 23 Stats. 385). An early report on the subject is desired.

Very respectfully,

(Cooper)

  
Acting Commissioner.



Dept of the Interior  
Office of Ind affs  
Washington Jan 2/89

Jno. P. Ensworth  
Acty Com

Concerning Palaus Indians  
visiting Colville Reserve  
and forbidding Indians from  
leaving the Res. without  
permits from agent and  
in some cases from Ind.  
office

Reservat.

You will adopt proper measures to pick up the practice

Very respectfully,

Acting Commissioner.