

1212 N. 32nd Ave.

April 2, 1955

Mr. Del Nordquist,  
Ginko Petrified Forest State Park,  
Vantage, Wash.

Dear Del:

Received your letter yesterday. Today I learn that the Wanapum feast will be held Sunday, April 17. I plan to be there and perhaps Tom Stockdale is interested in attending.

The letter I received from Puck Hyah Toot (Johnny Buck) concerning this feast, asked that no pictures be taken during the ceremony or until after dinner. (They have permitted pictures before) but it seems their guests and some of the relatives on the reservation are rather skeptical.

If you attend, I shall be glad to show you "about the premises" as I can.

This boundary matter is also a rather delicate matter at the present time and I assume it should wait until after the Yakima Claims regarding Ceded Lands is completed. I would not wish to jeopardize the Yakima or any other claims.

I have spent some little time on the Kawachkin, not much, but enuf to get a few things pinned down.

I'm generally of the belief that the prehistoric occupancy of the Moses Indians is quite similar to that of the Yakimas, Klickitats and Snake Indians and the Warm Springs Reservation country. I don't believe it will ever be conclusively solved. And if it is solved by the rock paintings, then perhaps some of my California friends or their descendants have a valid claim to everything from one end of the Columbia River to the other! (That is as far as patterns go)

Hope you and Tom can make the feast. There'll probably be a mob of visitors there from Yakima Reservation, Pendleton, Warm Springs etc. It will give you a fine chance to see how little these people really know about the true old religion.

Tell Tom, please, I'm rushed to death getting out some letters to the State Department of Fisheries people and others regarding this feast, and other work, so I hope he'll pardon me not writing him specifically. I'll be watching for you. I'll send word to Puck Hyah Toot when I hear what your plans are.

Sincerely

Click Relander