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**Letter from Representative Burdick to Special Assistant for
Legislative Liaison Regarding Need for Barges to Ferry Three
Affiliated Tribe Members Across the Lake Created by the Garrison
Dam, May 10, 1957**

Usher Burdick

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May 10, 1957

Office of the Administrator
General Services Administration
GSA Building
18th and F Streets, N. W.
Washington 25, D. C.

Attention: Special Assistant
for Legislative Liaison

Dear Sir:

In the interests of the Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Reservation, North Dakota, I should like to know what prospect there might be of obtaining for them a landing barge large enough to carry big trucks.

The situation is this: The reservoir of the Garrison Dam separates two sections of the reservation, and as things now stand it is necessary to make a trip of 150 miles from one side of the lake to the other by going around it. If a barge could be obtained the Indians could make the trip of 5 miles across the water, and thus save time, expense and inconvenience.

I understand that barges which would serve the purpose are sometimes available through the Surplus Property Division, and I should greatly appreciate information as to how such a barge could be made available to the tribe.

Several of the Indians are now in Washington, and it would be of much help if you could let me have the information requested as soon as possible.

Sincerely yours,

Usher L. Burdick, M. C.