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Letter from Ralph Case to Senator Langer Regarding Appropriations for Tribal Council Expenses, October 7, 1947

Ralph H. Case

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LAW OFFICE OF
RALPH HOYT CASE
SOUTHERN BUILDING
WASHINGTON 5, D. C.

October 7th, 1947.

Hon. William Langer
United States Senate
Washington, D.C.

My dear Senator:

I have your letter of October 1st quoting a portion of a letter to you from Martin Cross, Elbowoods, North Dakota. The answer to Mr. Cross's question is "Yes, the \$38,000 appropriation for use by the Tribal Council comes out of the \$400,000 tribal fund in the U.S. Treasury".

In addition to the foregoing I would like to give you a little additional information as follows:

At the request of Martin Cross, Senator Young introduced the bill, S. 1133. As introduced it provided for the distribution of the \$400,000. fund in per capita payments. This would have left the Tribal Council with no funds with which to meet the situation created by the construction of Garrison Dam. My own opinion is that Martin Cross intended that result. Cross came here and in the latter part of May a short hearing was had before Senator Watkin's Sub-Committee. I attended that hearing and asked that the per capita payment be restricted to \$150.00. Interior Department reported adversely on the bill. The Tribal Council was not consulted by Cross and has not acted for or against the bill. The bill passed the Senate July 26th. I have asked Senator Young's Secretary for a copy of the bill as reported, with the report. I shall send this to the Tribal Council for action before Congress reconvenes. My own position is that I shall be guided by the action of the Tribal Council.

Very sincerely,

