



2-6-1953

Letter from Representative Burdick to Douglas McKay Regarding Elizabeth McCleskey, February 6, 1953

Usher Burdick

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February 6, 1953

Honorable Douglas McKay
Secretary of the Interior
Department of the Interior
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Miss Elisabeth McClesky, head of the Welfare Division for Indians on the Fort Yates Reservation, was separated from the service on January 23 on charges that she was guilty of neglect of duty. She immediately, or as soon as she could, appealed her case to your consideration.

She is now fearful that the order discharging her will be confirmed without a hearing, and I earnestly suggest that she be given a hearing. I have examined a great number of affidavits, signed by other employees of the government at Fort Yates, by a number of Indians as members of the Tribal Council, and the Welfare Department of the State of North Dakota, and according to these affidavits the charges are unfounded.

If a hearing is had, she could come forward with her proof and an ex parte approval of the removal order would be, in my opinion, a great injustice. I have no interest in her whatever, as I never met her before today, but I am always interested in doing justice to anyone.

Yours very truly,

USHER L. HURDICK, M. C.

cc to: Miss Elisabeth McClesky
c/o The Continental Hotel
Washington, D. C.

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60	20	190
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80	40	430

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Elizabeth McCleskey -

Jan 23 -
Certain charges -

at Fort Yates
Supt Spencer

Henry Welford Dept =

Mr Cooper's office
Aberdeen, S.D.

Ralph. Case -