



6-8-1954

## Letter from Martin Cross to Senator Langer Regarding the Invitation of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs to Send Representatives to Fort Berthold, with Enclosures, June 8, 1954

Martin Cross

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Fort Berthold Agency  
New Town, North Dakota  
June 8, 1954

Senator William A. Langer  
U. S. Senate  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Langer:

I have the honor to transmit to you herewith copy of my letter to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, a copy of my wire, and copies of two Tribal Council resolutions extending invitation to the Commissioner's office to send his duly authorized representatives to come to Fort Berthold Reservation for purpose of presenting and explaining the Bureau's approved plan to release all Tribal funds now on deposit in the U. S. Treasury to the credit of the Three Affiliated Tribes.

In view of my recent unsuccessful efforts to appeal the Commissioner's decision. I am very much pleased that this action has been taken by the Tribal Council to extend invitation to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs to send representatives to come to the Reservation, so that the people will have chance to see and argue for themselves about the situation. It takes me out of bad situation and I am greatly relieved.

I will make a personal report to you as to findings of facts and the results of this proposed conference.

Please keep the matter open until further notice.

Sincerely I am,



Martin Cross  
Chairman Tribal Council, Three  
Affiliated Tribes, Fort Berthold  
Reservation

Encl: letter to Comm of Ind. Affairs  
Copy of wire  
2 Tribal Council resolutions

Jenkins, Homer B.  
C-81

X 2838

Fort Berthold Agency  
New Town, North Dakota  
June 7, 1954

Honorable Glenn L. Emmons  
Commissioner of Indian Affairs  
Department of Interior Building  
Bureau of Indian Affairs  
Washington D. C.

Dear Mr. Emmons:

I am transmitting herewith 2 originals and three copies of each Tribal Council resolutions adopted June 3, 1954, pertaining to invitation extended to you by the Three Affiliated Tribes to send your representatives to come to the Fort Berthold Reservation for purpose of presenting an explaining to the members of the tribe the Bureaus plan to release the Tribal funds now on deposit in the U. S. Treasury to the credit of the Tribes.

This is in confirmation to my wire to you dated June 7, 1954.

Pursuant to authority granted me in one of the Tribal resolutions, I hereby select and name the following men that, we would like to have as your representatives to visit the Fort Berthold Reservation, beginning the week of June 14 to 18, 1954 inclusive.

Washington Central Office

- 1. Thomas Reed
- 2. Rex Lee
- 3. Mr. Sigler
- 4. Homer B. Jenkins

*Handwritten notes and initials:*  
The  
12  
P

Aberdeen Area Office

- 1. W. O. Roberts
- 2. Graham Holmes

I sincerely hope that you would consider my request favorably.

Respectfully yours,  
*Martin Cross*  
Martin Cross, Chairman Tribal Council  
Three Affiliated Tribes, Fort Berthold  
Reservation

Approved  
*Sgd* Ralph M. Shane  
Ralph M. Shane  
Superintendent Fort Berthold Agency

COPY

# TELEGRAM

OFFICIAL BUSINESS—GOVERNMENT RATES

FROM \_\_\_\_\_

BUREAU \_\_\_\_\_

CHG. APPROPRIATION \_\_\_\_\_

10-1723 U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

TELEGRAM TO COMMISSIONER TELEPHONED TO ABERDEEN AREA OFFICE 6/7/54

Office of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs  
Washington, D.C.

Through: Mr. W. O. Roberts, Area Director  
Aberdeen Area Office

Tribal Business Council, Three Affiliated Tribes Fort Berthold responds favorably to suggestion representatives Office of Commissioner be invited to visit Fort Berthold to present and explain to members Three Tribes Bureau approved comprehensive plan for full release Tribal funds held in U. S. Treasury. Tribal Resolution authorizing invitation and names representatives of Commissioner desired by Council follows Air Mail. Request Commissioner's representatives come week beginning 6-14-54 if agreeable. Await your reply.

Sgt. Martin Cross

Martin Cross  
Chairman Tribal Council

Approved:

Sgt. Ralph M. Shane  
Superintendent

Fort Berthold Agency  
New Town, North Dakota  
June 3, 1954

RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE  
THREE AFFILIATED TRIBES OF THE FORT BERTHOLD RESERVATION

WHEREAS; A motion was made and duly seconded and was carried by Five for the motion. One against and One abstention, that the Three Affiliated Tribes do extend invitation to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs that he sent representatives from the Indian Bureau of Washington Central office and Aberdeen Area office for purpose of presenting and explaining to the members of the tribe, the Bureau approved comprehensive plan for reeducating and reorienting the position of the tribes as a prerequisite to the full release of Tribal funds held in the United States Treasury to the credit of the Fort Berthold Indians, and

WHEREAS; Indian people present at the Council meeting on June 3, 1954 unanimously favored the extending of the invitation to the Bureau officials, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Tribal Business Council of the Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Reservation that an invitation is hereby extended to the Commissioner of the Indian Affairs to send Indian Bureau officials of both Central office and Aberdeen Area Office to the Fort Berthold Reservation for purposes of explaining the proposed full per capita payment plan designed by the Bureau.

Provided that the transportation and expenses of Bureau representatives be borne by the Indian Bureau and not charged to the Three Affiliated Tribes.

CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned, as secretary of the Tribal Business Council of the Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Reservation, hereby certify that the Tribal Business Council is composed of 10 members, of whom 8 constituting a quorum were present at a Special meeting thereof, duly called, noticed, convened and held on the 3rd day of June, 1954 that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted at such meeting by the affirmative vote of 5 members, 1 member passed, and 1 member opposed, and that said resolution has not been rescinded or amended in any way.

Dated this 3rd day of June, 1954.

Sgd. Samuel B. Matthews, Acting  
Samuel Meyers, Secretary of the  
Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort  
Berthold Reservation an Indian  
Chartered Corporation

Attest

Sgd. Martin Cross  
Martin Cross, Chairman  
Tribal Council

Approved

Sgd. Ralph M. Shane  
Ralph M. Shane  
Superintendent Fort Berthold Agency

Fort Berthold Agency  
New Town, North Dakota  
June 3, 1954

RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE  
THREE AFFILIATED TRIBES OF THE FORT BERTHOLD RESERVATION

WHEREAS, motion was made, duly seconded and carried by Four for the motion. Two abstentions, that the Chairman of the Tribal Business Council be authorized to select the list of Indian Bureau officials of both Washington Central and Aberdeen Area office to visit the Fort Berthold Reservation for conference with tribes relative to presentation of Bureau's comprehensive plan for full per capita payment of all funds remaining on deposit to the credit of the Three Affiliated Tribes, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Tribal Business Council of the Three Affiliated Tribes, that Chairman of the Tribal Business Council, Martin Cross is hereby authorized to select and name the representatives from the Indian Bureau of both Central office and Aberdeen Area office for above stated purpose.

CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned, as secretary of the Tribal Business Council of the Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Reservation, hereby certify that the Tribal Business Council is composed of 10 members, of whom 8 constituting a quorum were present at a Special meeting thereof, duly called, noticed, convened and held on the 3rd day of June, 1954; that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted at such meeting by the affirmative vote of 5 members, 2 abstentions, and 0 members opposed, and that said resolution has not been rescinded or amended in any way.

Dated this 3rd day of June, 1954.

Sgd. Acting, Samuel B. Matthews

Samuel Meyers, Secretary of the Three  
Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold  
Reservation an Indian Chartered Cor-  
poration

Attest:

Sgd. Martin Cross

Martin Cross, Chairman  
Tribal Business Council

Approved:

Sgd. Ralph M. Shane

Ralph M. Shane  
Superintendent Fort Berthold Agency