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Letter from Ralph H. Case to Ben Reifel Regarding Questionnaire Regarding Creation of Contract to Receive Compensation in Return for Land Taken for the Garrison Dam Project, October 3, 1947

Ralph H. Case

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October 3rd, 1947.

Mr. Ben Reifle, Superintendent
Fort Berthold Indian Agency
Elbowoods, North Dakota.

Dear Mr. Reifle:

Please refer to my letter dated yesterday, October 2nd, enclosing Questionnaire.

This morning I had an hour's conference with Senator Langer on the subject of the outline of the contract and the questionnaire. The Senator very kindly volunteered the statement that he would give the matter his full support.

In going over the questionnaire he pointed out the item of interest on the principal fund, which I carry in your copy in Question No. 7 "interest of \$204,225. will accrue annually on the principal fund". He says this might mislead someone as a payment that would be made every year, from now on. Whereas when the principal sum is distributed to the Tribe, to the allottees and to the heirs, interest will accrue and be paid to them and the lump sum interest as I state will accrue only on a small part to the Tribe. I agreed the suggestion as made by the Senator should be explained and therefore, I have drafted a paragraph which I ask you to insert in your copy at the end of Question 7. That paragraph is enclosed separately.

I also enclose Voucher for reimbursement to me for payment made to the Engineer employed by the Tribe, Mr. Daniel C. Walser of Washington, D.C., in the amount of \$250. Please present this and a copy of the Resolution of approval to the Tribal Council at their meeting October 9th. Please then return the voucher and the resolution to me. I will then present it to Indian Office for payment.

Very sincerely,

This insert goes in on bottom of Page 3, Paragraph 7.

Note: This is important. When the principal fund is paid out for lands, improvements, timber, and lignite, the money will be credited to the Three Tribes for Tribal lands, and to the allottees and heirs as their interests are shown on the final schedules. Thereafter the Tribes, the allottees and the heirs will be credited with interest so long as the money remains to their credit. It will probably require five years to do this. So the total of interest on the principal fund will be about one million dollars.