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Letter from the Secretary of the Interior, transmitting an estimate of appropriation for the Indian service in Arizona during the remainder of the present fiscal year.

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ARIZONA INDIANS.

LETTER

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,

TRANSMITTING

An estimate of appropriation for the Indian service in Arizona during the remainder of the present fiscal year.

APRIL 25, 1876.—Ordered to be printed, to accompany bill H. R. 3269.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, D. C., April 20, 1876.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith a copy of a communication of this date, with accompanying papers, from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, submitting an estimate of appropriation for the Indian service in Arizona during the remainder of the present fiscal year.

The causes of this deficiency, and the urgent necessities of the service requiring this relief, are plainly set forth by the Commissioner, and his recommendations are fully indorsed by the Department.

I would respectfully and earnestly urge the early attention of Congress to this matter.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant.

Z. CHANDLER,
Secretary.

The SPEAKER of the House of Representatives.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, D. C., April 20, 1876.

SIR: I have the honor to submit herewith estimate of appropriation for \$50,000 required for the service in Arizona during the remainder of the present fiscal year.

The causes of this deficiency may be briefly set forth as due (1) to the reduced appropriation made by Congress at its last regular session; (2) to the excess of prices paid for supplies under this year's contracts over those paid under contracts of last year.

The amounts appropriated, and the number of Indians subsisted for the last four years, is shown by the following table :

Appropriations for Apaches in Arizona and New Mexico.

Year ending—	Number of Indians on reservations subsisted by Government.	Regular appropriation.	Deficiency.	Total.
June 30, 1872.....	1, 800	\$70, 000	\$125, 000	\$195, 000
June 30, 1873.....	5, 972	250, 000	150, 000	400, 000
.....	*423, 426	423, 426
June 30, 1874.....	6, 206	250, 000	350, 000	600, 000
June 30, 1875.....	6, 466	500, 000	120, 000	620, 000
June 30, 1876.....	6, 368	450, 000

* 1873 and prior years.

For the present and past fiscal years Congress made division of the appropriation for the service in Arizona and New Mexico as follows, no such division having been previously made :

	Arizona.	New Mexico.
1875.....	\$375, 000	\$125, 000
1875, (deficiency).....	120, 000
1876.....	350, 000	100, 000

The rates paid for flour and beef during past and present fiscal years are shown in the following table :

Agencies.	Flour per 100 pounds.		Beef per 100 pounds, gross.	
	1875.	1876.	1875.	1876.
San Carlos.....	\$6 37	\$7 50	\$2 69	\$3 43
Camp Apache.....	6 65	7 50	2 69	3 43
Chiricahua.....	5 00	{ 7 00 7 50 }	2 69	3 43
Colorado River.....	5 00	7 50	2 69	3 43

In forwarding this estimate, I do so only after a failure of all attempts to escape the necessity. The prospective needs of the service in Arizona were fully considered by this Office in February last. The strictest economy was then found essential, and was impressed upon all agents. They were directed to reduce expenditures in every way, even to the discharging of all their employés and suspension of all the usual agency work, when necessary.

The Office and its agents have, in pursuance of this policy of retrenchment, been compelled to desist from all efforts to aid and advance their Indians, and obliged to sacrifice everything else to an attempt to complete the service for the year with the means which Congress saw fit to place at their disposal.

Upon the call of the agents of the San Carlos and Chiricahua reservations for more supplies, it was at that time thought best to divert

from the Colorado River reservation part of the supplies contracted to be delivered there, the ground upon which such diversion was ordered being not that more supplies were under contract for the Colorado River Indians than were required, but that those Indians would perhaps submit to short rations with less turbulence and positive outbreak than the Apaches. It was found, however, that while the contractors for furnishing beef at the Colorado River reservation were willing, though they had the cattle in the vicinity of that agency, to drive them across the Territory and make deliveries at the Chiricahua and San Carlos agencies without extra charge, the contractor for flour refused to divert any supplies intended for Colorado River to the other agencies without extra payment on account of such diversion, and insisted upon a performance by the Department of its contract.

I did not feel authorized to promise any extra allowance on account of such diversion, 1st, because it would have been in effect a new contract, made without proper advertisement; and, 2d, because I had no funds at my disposal from which such extra charge could be met, and would thus have violated section 6 of the Indian appropriation act of 1875, which prohibits any expenditure or incurring of liability without funds to warrant the same.

All my efforts to comply with the law prohibiting deficiencies, and to thus obtain, without further appropriation, supplies for the Apaches at San Carlos, whose progress under their retiring agent has been so marked, and those at Chiricahua, who are even more wild and turbulent, have, in great part, failed. I deem the situation at both of these important agencies critical. Indeed, I received yesterday, through the War Department, information that some of the Apaches from the Chiricahua reservation had broken out, and that Governor Safford, of Arizona, a gentleman of large acquaintance with Indian affairs in that Territory, thinks that the whole tribe have left the reservation. I have no reports from the agent in charge of those Indians, and am therefore unable to say definitely whether or not this outbreak was caused by short supplies of food. The agent, however, in his correspondence with the Office, has never made known any danger of such trouble, but has reported, on the contrary, that he had sent the able-bodied members of the tribe to distant parts of the reservation where game was most abundant, and by issuing only to the aged and infirm hoped to be able to finish the fiscal year upon such provision as had been made for that agency. As, however, the telegram of Colonel Hatch, herewith forwarded, states that there is no game to be had in the country, I am convinced that further appropriation is necessary there also.

I inclose a copy of the communication from the honorable the Secretary of War, with its inclosures, which furnish this information.

I am also in receipt of telegraphic advices from Agent Clum at the San Carlos agency, from which it appears that his Indians are, as yet, quiet; though he fears that the outbreak at the Chiricahua reservation may seriously excite them. I have reason to hope, however, that the fears of a general Indian war are exaggerated and groundless. Governor Safford and Mr. John L. Harris, a gentleman of repute in Tucson, have telegraphed that the trouble with the Chiricahua Indians is believed to be over, and that they are now back on their reservation. These gentlemen ask an investigation of the agent's part in this affair, which I shall institute without delay, and follow up by such action as the circumstances seem to demand.

So far as I have the power, the Indians participating in this outbreak shall be made to feel the strong arm of the Government. It has long

been the opinion of this Office that a change in the location of these Indians, by which their facilities for raiding into Sonora could be diminished, was desirable; but the proper time and conditions for such removal have not heretofore offered. I am disposed to think, however, that, with suitable appropriations, and under the charge of a competent man, such a removal could now be made; and I have ventured to include in the estimate herewith submitted a sum which will probably be sufficient for that purpose. All of my calculations are based upon the prospect of obtaining further supplies at present contract rates, which is by no means certain. It is not improbable, indeed, that the Office may be required to pay higher prices on purchases made at this season of the year. It is believed, however, that the supplies absolutely necessary can be obtained within the estimate of \$50,000, and that from the surplus, if any, the expenses of removal of the Chiricahuas, should it be finally determined upon, can also be met.

I regret that I am unable to give more definite information upon the distance and cost of the proposed removal, but the urgent need of further supplies at these agencies leads me to submit the estimate in its present shape.

Detailed information as to the amount and cost of the necessary supplies is shown in the following table:

Agency.	BEEF.				Total cost.	
	Date on which further supply will be required.	Number of Indians.	Number of pounds, 3 pounds gross to each Indian.	Estimated cost per 100 pounds, (gross.)		
San Carlos	May 16	4,233	584,154	\$3 43	\$20,636 48	
Chiricahua	do	965	133,170	3 43		4,567 23
Colorado River	do	1,170	161,460	3 43, $\frac{1}{2}$ ration.		2,769 04
			FLOUR.			
			1 pound each.	Per pound.		
San Carlos	May 16	4,233	194,718	\$0 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	14,603 85	
					41,977 10	

Urgent calls have been made by nearly all the agents in Arizona for money to use in the purchase of seeds and farming implements and for incidental expenses and repairs of agency buildings. Most of these calls seem to me reasonable and well nigh essential to proper advancement of the service, but I have not thought it best to risk any delay or embarrassment in the action of Congress on this estimate by inserting any item not, in my judgment, imperatively required.

It will be noticed that in the estimate provision is made for the purchase of these supplies in open market. I trust that Congress will see fit to allow the Office that discretion, to be used only in an emergency.

In closing, permit me to say that the record of the Indian service in Arizona, while not perfect, has yet much in it which is commendable. For the past two years, and until the present time, the Indians have been restrained by their agents, and travel and business have been per-

mitted without interruption in those parts of the Territory which had been previously infested with treacherous and relentless savages. To save what has been already gained, and to keep control of the Indians, gathered at so much expense upon their reservations in 1873 and 1874, the appropriation herein called for seems to me to be absolutely necessary. I trust Congress may place the desired amount at my disposal, and ask that you submit the matter to them with your favorable recommendation.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. Q. SMITH,
Commissioner.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

Estimate of appropriation required for the Indian service in Arizona up to June 30, 1876.

For this amount, or so much thereof as may be necessary, to furnish the Apache Indians, in Arizona Territory, with subsistence supplies, to be purchased in open market, if, in the judgment of the Secretary of the Interior, it shall be deemed necessary, required for their use from May 16 to June 30, 1876, and to defray the expenses incident to the removal of the Indians of the Chiricahua agency to the San Carlos reservation in said Territory.. \$50,000

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington City, April 15, 1876.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit, for your information, copy of telegram dated the 14th instant, from General Sheridan, communicating reports of General Pope and Colonel Hatch of the breaking away from their reservation of Apache Indians, having killed several persons and stolen cattle; and that Indians of this tribe are leaving Canada Alamosa and stealing cattle because they have no food, from which serious results may be expected unless food is furnished promptly.

Copy of telegram of the 13th instant from Major-General Schofield is also transmitted herewith, reporting the killing of two men by Chiricahua Indians and their pursuit by troops, and that Governor Safford believes the whole tribe has broken out, and the measures taken under the circumstances by Colonel Kautz.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

H. T. CROSBY,
Chief Clerk, (for and in the absence of the Secretary.)

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

[Telegram dated Chicago, April 14, 1876; received in Washington April 14, 1876, 8.20 p. m.]

To General E. D. TOWNSEND,
Washington, D. C.:

General Pope telegraphs as follows: Hatch telegraphs from Santa Fé that Apaches at Camp Bowie, Arizona, have broken away from reservation there and are coming toward Tularosa, having killed several persons and stolen cattle; also, that Apaches are leaving Canada Alamosa, and are stealing cattle, because no food or supplies for Indians at agencies, and they must leave or starve. There is no game in the country, and the military are prohibited from issuing provisions to Indians. The cavalry in that region are in the field, but have only power to force the Indians to starve peace-

fully or be killed violently. I shall do the best possible ; but unless food is furnished, and promptly furnished, these Indians, one of the two results is inevitable. I may have to enlist thirty or forty Navajos, as the officers and men of the Ninth Cavalry, just arrived from Texas, are in complete ignorance of the country and the Indians.

P. H. SHERIDAN,
Lieutenant-General.

[Telegram dated San Francisco, Cal., April 13, 1876 ; received at Washington, D. C., April 13, 1876.]

Kautz reports that Chiricahua Indians killed two men last Saturday, at Sulphur Springs. They were followed by Lieutenant Henley, with thirty men, who overtook them in San Pedro Mountains ; was unable to dislodge them, and retired with loss of one man. Governor Safford believes the whole tribe has broken out. Kautz concentrating troops and Indian scouts, and will direct operations in person. Asks authority to increase his scouts to two hundred, which I recommend.

J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Major-General.