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12-31-1895

# Indian depredations.

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## Recommended Citation

H.R. Doc. No. 104, 54th Cong., 1st Sess. (1895)

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## INDIAN DEPREDACTIONS.

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DECEMBER 31, 1895.—Referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs and ordered to be printed.

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Mr. MURPHY, of Arizona, presented the following

### MEMORIAL BY THE EIGHTEENTH LEGISLATURE OF ARIZONA, IN REGARD TO INDIAN DEPREDACTIONS.

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TERRITORY OF ARIZONA,  
*Office of the Secretary.*

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,  
*Territory of Arizona, ss:*

I, Charles M. Bruce, secretary of the Territory of Arizona, do hereby certify that the within copy is a true and complete transcript of the council memorial No. 1, in reference to depredations committed by the Papago Indians and kindred tribes, filed in this office the 21st day of February, A. D. 1895, at 4.20 o'clock p. m., as provided by law.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal. Done at the city of Phoenix this 21st day of December, 1895.

[SEAL.]

CHARLES M. BRUCE,  
*Secretary of the Territory.*

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### MEMORIAL.

*To the honorable members, Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled:*

Your memorialists, the legislative assembly of the Territory of Arizona, respectfully represent that ranchmen in southwestern Arizona have during the past three or four years suffered heavily from the depredations of Indians of the Papago and kindred tribes.

That recently these Indians have become more aggressive, systematically killing and stealing the stock of cattle ranchers, threatening employees, and pursuing a general purpose of intimidation and theft, constantly becoming more aggressive, until ranchmen are obliged to abandon their ranches, houses, and other improvements, consisting of wells from seven to eight hundred feet deep, sunk at an expense of from seven to twenty thousand dollars each; said improvements being made on land patented to the owners by the United States.

That these Indians do not respect the authority nor submit themselves to the control of the Indian agent of the Interior Department in whose care they nominally are, and that in like manner they set at

defiance the powers of this Territory, so that when one ranch is abandoned others are exposed to these depredations, and unless succor is extended by the General Government in a short time that whole section of the Territory will have to be given over to these depredating Indians, at an enormous loss to our citizens and consequently to the Territory.

Your memorialists further represent that these Indians of the Papago and kindred tribes have at the present time in the Territory of Arizona for their sole and exclusive use several large bodies of land, to wit:

	Acres.
Papago Indian Reservation, at San Xavier .....	69, 029. 49
Gila Bend Indian Reservation .....	22, 391. 39
Pima and Maricopa Indian Reservations .....	350, 000. 00
Salt River Indian Reservation .....	47, 500. 00
Total .....	488, 920. 88

an area of land much in excess of their ability to use for any purpose whatever.

That a large portion of the above land is of the very best quality, suitable for cultivation by irrigation, and which in the hands of white men would be worth from twenty-five to two hundred dollars an acre:

Therefore, your memorialists earnestly request that immediate steps be taken to have these depredating Indians returned to their reservations and kept there by force of arms, if necessary, to the end that these outrages upon our citizens may be discontinued, the owners be able to return to their ranches, and the future loss of property prevented.

*Resolved,* That the secretary of the Territory be, and is hereby, instructed to forward copies of this memorial under seal of the Territory, to the honorable President of the Senate and the honorable Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States to be by them laid before their respective bodies; and be it further

*Resolved,* That the secretary of the Territory is hereby instructed to forward an engrossed copy of this memorial, duly attested under his hand and seal, to the Hon. M. A. Smith, Delegate to Congress for Arizona Territory.

**J. H. CARPENTER,**  
*Speaker of the House.*

**A. J. DORAN,**  
*President of the Council.*