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Affairs*

August 21, 1963

Mr. Leslie P. Towle
Area Director
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Federal Building
Anadarko, Oklahoma

Dear Mr. Towle:

I understand you've been Anadarko area director a very short time. I want to congratulate you, wish you well in the new job, and then pick your brain -- as well as your area office records.

Recently, as I was checking the Bureau of Indian Affairs budget for 1964, and the activities to be supported in the state of Oklahoma, I looked at the total and at the categories and wondered what it all meant in terms of progress of the Indian in Oklahoma, or progress of the federal government in living up to its responsibilities for the Indians in the state.

We checked with the Bureau in Washington. Both Commissioner Nance and Graham Holmes, who was acting as deputy commissioner today, said real progress is being made in Oklahoma, but referred me to you for a clearer picture of where we are, what we have accomplished and what we need to accomplish in the programs for your area.

To be more specific, we're budgeting \$6,348,000 in Oklahoma "Education and Welfare Services" in 1964. What is your area doing in that category? How many schools are operated? What kind of welfare and guidance services will you provide, for how many people? How much growth has there been in relocation and adult vocational training?

What's ahead in your area for "resources management," for which Oklahoma is allotted \$3,138,089 in 1964, for "construction," of which the state gets \$607,380; and "road construction" at \$960,031.

As a member of the Appropriations Committee, I like to understand the practical results of the money Congress votes, and it's easiest to understand in connection with what goes on in my own state.

If possible, I would like to get some comparative material on progress or changes in emphasis this year over last year, as well as on accomplishments. What they have here is mostly boiler plate stuff and what I want is what's happening to and for real people, with examples.

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I hope that in getting acquainted with your new post you have asked some of these questions, and that the records provide the answers. I would appreciate your help, if this isn't too big an order. I am also writing to the Muskogee director.

Sincerely yours,

A. S. Mike Monroney, USS