

February 6, 1963

✓
Mr. Lawrence Tomah, Jr.
Route 1
Walters, Oklahoma

Int-Indians

Dear Mr. Tomah:

This has further reference to your letter regarding a recent meeting of the Kiowa, Comanche, and Apache General Council.

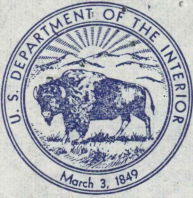
The Bureau of Indian Affairs states, in the enclosed letter, that a lengthy report on the meeting in question has been submitted by the Anadarko Area Office and is now being analyzed.

Any additional information in this connection which I receive will be forwarded promptly to you.

With best regards and good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Enclosure



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Tribal Operations
572-63

Hon. Mike Monroney
United States Senate
Washington 25, D. C.

FEB 5 - 1963

Dear Senator Monroney:

This will acknowledge your letter of January 23, 1963, on behalf of Mr. Lawrence Tomah, Jr.

We have now received a lengthy report from our Area Office in Anadarko on the meeting in question and the circumstances surrounding it. The analysis of this material must be thorough as the conclusions could have extensive ramifications. This will in itself be time consuming, but you may be assured that we shall advise you promptly when our findings are complete.

Sincerely yours,

(SGD) JAMES E. OFFICER
ASSOCIATE
Commissioner

Enclosures 2

January 23, 1963

Mr. Lawrence Tomah, Jr. ✓
Route 1
Walters, Oklahoma

Dear Mr. Tomah:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter regarding the action of the Kiowa, Comanche and Apache Business Committee in cancelling a duly called meeting of the KCA General Council a few hours before it was scheduled to convene.

I am not sufficiently familiar with the provisions of the KCA Constitution and By-laws to comment on the legality of this action. However, I will be pleased to ask the Commissioner of Indian Affairs for the opinion of his Bureau, and will write you again just as soon as I have something to report.

With best regards and good wishes, I am

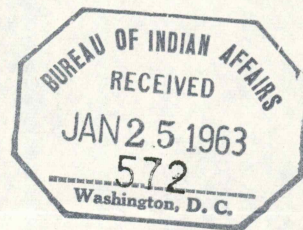
Sincerely yours,

R-1

WALTERS, OKLA

JANUARY 22, 1963

MIKE MONROE
UNITED STATES SENATOR
WASHINGTON, D.C.



Dear Sir:

I would like for you to help
the Kiowa, Comanche and Apache of Oklahoma
in recognizing the General Council of the
Three Tribes held January 19, 1963 at
Apache, Oklahoma.

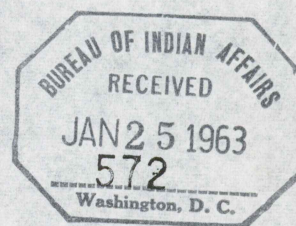
I am enclosing a letter we wrote
to the Secretary of the Interior for
your information.

we solicit your utmost help.

Respect Fully
Lawrence G. Smith

Past Secretary of the
Kiowa, Comanche, and Apache
Inter-Tribal Business Committee

January 21, 1963



Stewart L. Udall
Secretary of the Interior
New Interior Building
Washington 25, D.C.

Thru office of: Will J. Pitner
Area Director

Dear Mr. Secretary,

The meeting of the Kiowa, Comanche, Apache General Council was called by the Kiowa, Comanche, Apache Business Committee on January 7, 1963, to be held at the Apache Highschool, Apache, Oklahoma, January 19, 1963, 1:30 P.M. This General Council was legally called in accordance with the Kiowa, Comanche and Apache Constitution by the Kiowa, Comanche and Apache Business Committee, Article 6, Section 3.

The announcement of the General Council was publicized by the newspapers, radio, and by word of mouth.

In compliance with the agenda set forth for General Council as publicized by the Kiowa, Comanche, Apache Business Committee, the actions taken by the General Council January 19, 1963 fulfilled the announcement of the Kiowa, Comanche, and Apache Business Committee in accordance with the Kiowa, Comanche, and Apache Constitution and By-laws.

There is nothing found in the Constitution that sets forth any provision for the Business Committee of the Kiowa, Comanche, and Apaches to cancel or postpone a duly called General Council of the three tribes. Further, the Business Committee made negligible effort to notify the members of the Kiowa, Comanche, Apache tribes, of the cancellation because the action taken by the Business Committee occurred only a few hours before the General Council was to convene.

Heretofore there has been no knowledge of any cancellations of a duly called General Council of the Kiowa, Comanche and Apache tribes except through Federal Court action. This procedure has been recognized previously by the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Secretary of the Interior as being the only recourse left where the Constitution and By-Laws are silent on anything not specifically spelled out.

In the absence of any knowledge as to the reason given by the Kiowa, Comanche, Apache Business Committee for the purported cancellation or postponement of the General Council meeting of January 19, 1963, and of the absence of any direct authority for the Business Committee taking such action, we contend that the action taken by the Kiowa, Comanche, and Apache tribal members in the General Council of January 19, 1963 is legal and in the best interest of the Kiowa, Comanche, and Apache tribes. We, therefore, request that the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Department of the Interior proceed with the requests of the General Council.

Respectfully Submitted,

Oliver Woodard Sr.