among my children. To do so under the Yakima law, I will be required to deed the property I wish to leave to my Warm Springs enrolled heirs during my lifetime. This is a costly, time consuming process requiring the making of separate deeds at the cost of surveys and conveyance costs of approximately $75 per deed. The law should permit me to make a will disposing of all my property in one instrument.

The Yakima inheritance law should be corrected to allow children of a Yakima parent or natural heirs to inherit from their Yakima father, mother or husband or wife.

DOROTHY QUAEMPTS IKE CASSAWAY.

To Whom It Might Concern:

My name is Irene Quaempts Queahpama Hernandez, 59 years old, an enrolled Yakima of ¾ degree Indian blood, have six children and hold interests in trust interests at Warm Springs Reservation. I also hold trust interests and rights at the Yakima Reservation. Under the present Yakima inheritance laws, none of my children will inherit any of my Yakima trust property or interests in event of my death. The Yakima interest will pass on to Yakima enrolled cousins.

This is an unfair law. It denies my children the right to inherit property and assets I have saved for them over the years. If I deed the property to them now, it will take money I cannot spare to pay the costs of conveyance and surveys; if I happen to suddenly die, they will not inherit. What should I do? The present law is unjust.

IRENE QUAEMPTS QUEAHPAMA HERNANDEZ.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS, WARM SPRINGS AGENCY,
WARM SPRINGS, OREG.,
March 1, 1968.

Mr. VERNON JACKSON,
General Manager, Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon, Warm Springs, Oreg.

DEAR MR. JACKSON: In reply to your request for information and examples to be used at the hearing to be held March 4, 1968 by the Interior and Interior Affairs Sub-committee on Indian Affairs on 1764 to repeal Section 7 of the Yakima Inheritance Enrollment Act of 1946; there appears to be little additional information that would add to the information supplied in Agency letter of January 23, 1968 and May 4, 1967 with examples recited therein, except for the enclosed statements by Yakima allottees and enrollees two exhibits of ownership breakdowns and some additional comments.

The examples recited in the January 23, 1968 and May 4, 1967 letters are good illustrative examples and not extreme examples reflecting the problem. House Hearings on N.R. 7653, a related bill on January 24 and 25, 1968 has resulted in much discussion by concerned Indian people, the Warm Springs Tribal Council and others who are or will be directly involved. Statements have been handed in by four enrolled Yakima owners of trust interests, copies of which are attached; and two examples graphically showing: (1) internal (within the Yakima Reservation) results of the operation of the 1946 Yakima Act and (2) a current Warm Springs Tribal land acquisition case reflecting involvement in multiple ownership plus the trust, fee and enrollment status of the owners.

There yet remains after nearly 12 years of effect under the law, a large number of Yakimas who are not familiar with force of limitations under Section 7 of the law until the realistic facts are brought home to them through probate action or testamentary preparation. Then it is either too late to take curative action or they find that they are faced with time consuming, expensive procedures. A gift conveyance from owner to grantee will average roughly, $75 per transaction depending upon the values of the Yakima property and documentation necessary. The Yakima Tribes finance a part of the Yakima real estate operations by a system of fees charged on each transaction. The fees are assessed on a fee scheduled based on the values involved. Therefore, an owner in interest to trust property or interests if faced with several problems (1) takes no action and allows the provisions of the Act of operate with the Yakima interests passing only to the Yakmia heirs, or (2) gift deed the interests to their non-Yakima heir(s) or (3) sell the interests and allocate the proceeds. This last procedure is time consuming and quite often subject to other certain procedural restrictions.