

my Witt Park area, use my minerals, water, etc., at personal expense to me. The Pueblo owners allow these animals to stray from spring until fall through my private lease land (not a part of the forest at all), and down into my deeded ranch, 25 miles from the Pueblo, onto the grazing acreage and into the hay meadows, on which I am dependent for winter feed for my own cattle. Through the years I have called the Governors and various War Chiefs of the Taos Pueblo for cooperation in these matters to little avail. When no representative has come to my assistance, I have penned their stock, fed and watered them, have turned them back from U.S. Highway 64 and the traffic, and have even impounded them at the request of the New Mexico State Police. My calls to the Forest Service Office in Taos have brought some results which I was unable to attain with the cattle owners, Taos Pueblo. Over the years to date I have collected exactly \$47.00 from one Indian, Mr. Seferino Martinez, for my inconvenience and expenses. Other men have come to my pens, seen their brands, but refused to identify their own stock. These cattle have been hauled by me at my own expense in my own trucks back to their reservation, only to reappear on my property 25 miles from Taos and within two weeks time. After thirteen summers of these trespassers and incompetent businessmen, perhaps you can understand my position. If you favor the grant of land, I respectfully request that you attach riders which would require them to fence the land, pay taxes on it with the rest of us, and operate it in a responsible manner as equal citizens with equal rights and problems under the competitive business system in which we share. Without such controlling factors, even greater infringements on the rights of others can be expected, lack of responsibility being what it is today.

We wish you to know that we truly appreciate your conscientious study of the rights of all people during these times of racial strife. We hope that you, in reading our observations and experiences, can better understand opposition from us and other citizens who must daily strive for a workable, cooperative solution with our neighbors. We shall continue operations in our usual manner of business with the Forest Service of Taos, a most reliable agency, in solving our problems here, unless otherwise notified. We earnestly do not wish to deprive, but neither can we support those who would have thirty times more who, at present, seem not to appreciate the use of what they already have for their use.

Respectfully submitted for your consideration, we are

Very truly yours,

FREDDIE M. GORMAN.
T. V. GORMAN.

TAOS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS,
Taos, N. Mex., May 27, 1968.

Senator CLINTON P. ANDERSON,
U.S. Senate Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR ANDERSON: As you are aware, hearings were held recently by the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs on House Resolution No. 3306. This is a bill to give the Pueblo de Taos Indians 50,000 acres of what is now the Carson National Forest.

You have expressed much interest in this legislation in the past. In fact you sponsored a similar resolution in the Senate in the last session of Congress. We, in Taos County, remain very much interested in this legislation. We have a stake in the lands of Taos County and we want to assure that they are managed in the best interests of our people here. We have gone on record in the past as being opposed to turning 50,000 acres of what is now the Carson National Forest to the Taos Indians.

It is my understanding that the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs has now reported the resolution favorably to the floor of the House for action. I understand the Committee approved three minor amendments, one which I feel is very significant and very undesirable—that is that the entire 50,000-acre tract would be turned over to the Department of Interior for management. The Forest Service has been able to do a good job of management of the National Forests in Northern New Mexico. We believe it would be a mistake to change the management responsibility for this important watershed.

S-1624 and S-1625 recognize that the interest of the Pueblo de Taos Indians in the Blue Lake Area should be maintained. We agree that the Indians need consideration to see that their sacred shrines are protected and will be held for them. We agree with the intent of the two Senate Bills. We would be opposed