

SUPPORT OF CERTAIN INDIANS IN THE INDIAN TERRITORY.

LETTER

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,

TRANSMITTING

*An estimate of appropriation for the subsistence and support of the Cheyenne, Arapahoe, Apache, Kiowa, Comanche, and Wichita Indians in the Indian Territory.*

JANUARY 13, 1875.—Referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs and ordered to be printed.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
Washington, D. C., January 6, 1875.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith a copy of a report, dated the 5th instant, from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, together with estimate of appropriation of \$50,000, for the subsistence and support of the Cheyenne, Arapahoe, Apache, Kiowa, Comanche, and Wichita Indians in the Indian Territory.

The sum above named is a special estimate required to meet the present and pressing wants of certain of the Indians above named, as represented in the reports of the Commissioner and Agent Miles and the communication of the honorable the Secretary of War, with accompanying copy of telegram therein mentioned, copies of which are herewith inclosed.

The subject is respectfully recommended to the favorable consideration of Congress.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. DELANO,  
Secretary.

The SPEAKER of the House of Representatives.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,  
Washington, D. C., January 5, 1875.

SIR: I have the honor to inclose herewith copy of a letter to Agent John D. Miles, of the Arapahoe and Cheyenne Indian agency, Indian Territory, dated the 22d ultimo, submitting a special estimate for

2,197,356 pounds beef, 19,298 pounds of coffee, and 40,583 pounds of sugar, that will be required to feed the Indians of his agency up to July 1, 1875, in addition to what he now has on hand; also, copy of a telegram from headquarters of the Army, dated the 26th ultimo, and letter from the honorable Secretary of War, the 28th following, relative to the surrender of hostile Cheyenne and Arapahoe Indians, and the starving condition of the peaceful Indians of said agency.

The amount of funds now on hand from the appropriation for the subsistence of the Indians at the Kiowa, Wichita, Arapahoe, and Cheyenne agencies is barely sufficient for the purchase of supplies and the transportation of the same for the first two named agencies up to the first of July, 1875.

A careful estimate has been made of the probable cost of the supplies required by Agent Miles, with the following result, viz:

2,197,356 pounds beef, at \$1.90 per 100 pounds gross weight.....	\$41,749 76
19,298 pounds coffee, at 20½ cents per pound.....	3,956 09
40,583 pounds sugar, at 8½ cents per pound.....	3,449 55
And transportation from New York City to the Arapahoe and Cheyenne agency, on the coffee and sugar, at the contract-rate of \$2.68 per 100 pounds.....	1,604 81
Making a total of .....	50,760 21

On account of the troubles with the Cheyennes and others during the past summer and fall, the Indians have been unable to obtain any buffalo or subsistence of any kind by hunting, and, consequently, a much larger quantity of supplies have been required for their subsistence than heretofore.

The immediate and pressing wants of the Indians, as shown by the papers submitted, will require the use of a considerable portion of the funds appropriated for the three agencies, and now on hand, in the purchase of extra supplies of beef, &c., before any provision can be made for them by Congress; and being satisfied that there will be at least \$50,000 required to meet the wants of the service at the three agencies named, I have caused to be prepared the inclosed special estimate for that sum, and respectfully request that the same be laid before Congress, with such favorable recommendations as the Department may deem proper to make in the premises.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

EDWD. P. SMITH,  
*Commissioner.*

HON. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

*Estimate of appropriation required for the Indian service in the Indian Territory during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1875.*

For this amount, or so much thereof as may be necessary, for the subsistence and support of the Arapahoe, Cheyenne, Apache, Kiowa, Comanche, and Wichita Indians in the Indian Territory..... \$50,000

WAR DEPARTMENT,  
*Washington City, December 28, 1874.*

SIR: I have the honor to transmit, for your information, copy of telegram from headquarters of the Army, dated December 26, relative to surrender of hostile Indians at Cheyenne and Arapahoe agency, and the starving condition of the peaceful Indians.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

WM. W. BELKNAP,  
*Secretary of War.*

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

[Telegram, dated Saint Louis, Mo., December 26, 1874. Received 3.30 p. m.]

To General E. D. TOWNSEND,  
Washington, D. C. :

General Sheridan telegraphs this date as follows: General Pope reports the surrender of one hundred more hostile Indians at Cheyenne and Arapahoe agency to Lieutenant-Colonel Neill. We are feeding all the prisoners taken. General Pope says he learns that the peaceful Indians are well nigh starving, the Indian agent being unable to feed or clothe them. Would it not be well to inform the Indian Bureau? These peaceful Indians have behaved so admirably that they should not all be used (made?) to suffer.

W. D. WHIPPLE,  
Assistant Adjutant-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,  
Washington, December 28, 1874.

Official copy :

E. D. TOWNSEND,  
Adjutant-General.

The Hon. SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

OFFICE UNITED STATES INDIAN AGENT,  
CHEYENNE AND ARAPAHOE AGENCY,  
Darlington, Ind. T., Twelfthmonth 21, 1874.

Hon. EDWARD P. SMITH,  
Commissioner Indian Affairs, Washington, D. C. :

Inclosed herewith I forward special estimate for subsistence for the Indians of this agency for remaining six months of the current fiscal year.

Owing to the late and existing disturbances with the Indians on the plains, compelling friendly Indians to depend entirely on Government rations for support, our supplies have become exhausted at this early season of the year. We have but two months' supply of sugar and coffee in store now.

Respectfully,

JOHN D. MILES,  
United States Indian Agent.

UPPER ARKANSAS AGENCY, INDIAN TERRITORY.

Special estimate for subsistence for the Indians of Upper Arkansas agency, Indian Territory, to wit :

Cheyennes, friendly .....	286
Cheyennes, hostile .....	1,650
Arapahoes .....	1,658
Arapahoes, northern .....	47
Apaches .....	120
Total .....	3,748

Indians for the remaining six months of the fiscal year ending Sixthmonth 30, 1875, as follows, to wit: 2,197,356 pounds of beef, (gross;) 29,298 pounds of coffee, less 10,000 pounds on hand, 19,298 pounds; 58,596 pounds of sugar, less 18,013 pounds on hands 40,583 pounds, or as much thereof as may be necessary.

JOHN D. MILES,  
United States Indian Agent.