

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION  
BUREAU OF AMERICAN ETHNOLOGY  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

*Indians*

December 3, 1947.

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Mr. W. S. Campbell  
The University of Oklahoma  
Norman, Oklahoma

Dear Sir:

Your letters of November 14th and 18th have been referred to Dr. John P. Harrington, linguist on the staff of this Bureau.

Dr. Harrington interprets the words as follows: Umentucken means "of the mountain;" Tukutey, more correctly spelled Tukutsey, means "mountain-sheep;" Undewatsy, more correctly spelled Undenwatsy, means "his child." The whole together means "Mountain Mountain-Sheep Lamb."

Tuku-rika, literally "mountain-sheep eaters," means "mountain-sheep tribe." There is no good word in the Shoshoni language for tribe, so they say "eaters" instead, for example, they speak of trout-eaters, meaning trout-tribe, etc.

The word Shoshoni means "people of the grass houses." Dr. Harrington has had no success in finding the meaning of the word musk-a-moots. It is evidently a highly technical word and possibly means saddle-bag as you suggested.

Very truly yours,

*M. W. Stirling*

M. W. Stirling,  
Chief.