

received  
10-1-93

SEPTEMBER 28, 1993

TO: CHIEF WILMA P. MANKILLER  
CHEROKEE NATION  
PO BOX 948  
TAHLEQUAH OK 74465

RE: SEIZED LAND AT FORT GRUBER

*Do it m-  
please  
fwp*

DEAR CHIEF MANKILLER,

FOR THE PAST YEAR I HAVE BEEN WRITING STATE AND FEDERAL OFFICIALS ABOUT SEIZED LAND IN CHEROKEE COUNTY THAT WAS FORMERLY PART OF CAMP GRUBER. I HAVE WRITTEN LETTERS TO THE FORMER PRESIDENT BUSH AND PRESIDENT CLINTON, TRIBAL COUNCIL MEMBERS HAVE ALSO RECEIVED COPIES OF MY LETTER.

RESPONSES FROM THE CORPS OF ENGINEERS, BIA, AND OTHERS GENERALLY JUST FURNISH A LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF THE LAND, AND THAT MY FATHER WAS PAID \$900.00 FOR IT. I HAVE ALWAYS KNOWN THIS INFORMATION. FROM THE SCANT INFORMATION THAT I HAVE, NO TRIBAL COUNCIL MEMBERS WERE REMOVED FROM THE AREA THAT WAS TAKEN FOR CAMP GRUBER. I MADE ONE REQUEST THAT THIS MATTER BE BROUGHT BEFORE THE TRIBAL COUNCIL, BUT I HAVE NO KNOWLEDGE THAT IT EVER WAS.

MY LETTERS TO THE TWO PRESIDENTS REQUESTED THAT THE LAND BE GIVEN BACK TO THE OWNERS OR HEIRS OF THE PEOPLE IT WAS TAKEN FROM. THE LAND TOTALS ABOUT 30,000 TO 33,000 ACRES, DEPENDING ON WHAT AGENCY YOU TALK TO. I AM NOW ASKING THE ASSISTANCE OF THE CHEROKEE NATION IN GETTING THE LAND RETURNED TO THE PEOPLE IT WAS SEIZED FROM. I HAVE ACQUIRED A CONSIDERABLE FILE OF LETTERS, NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS, AND OTHER DATA RELATED TO THIS MATTER. I WOULD BE GLAD TO SHARE ANY INFORMATION I HAVE WITH YOU.

ENCLOSED IS A COPY OF THE LETTER FROM THE WASHINGTON BIA OFFICE. THE ANSWER FROM THE MUSKOGEE BIA OFFICE DID NOT ADDRESS ANY OF THESE ISSUES.

THANK YOU,  
GERALD E. SUMMERLIN

*Gerald Summerlin*

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