

INDIAN OFFICE.

FILES.

CAUTION!

Positively no papers to be added to or taken from this file, except by an employee of the Mails and Files Division.

By order of

E. B. MERITT,

Asst. Commissioner.

6-3544

35787-1917

GARLISLE

File No.

136

Education-
.35787-1917
B S G

FILED BY G. P. F.

APR 18 1917

My dear Mr. Mahon:

I have your letter of March 23, addressed to the Secretary of the Interior, suggesting the utilization of the Carlisle Indian School as a regular military post.

I do not consider it advisable to interrupt the work of the Indian School at Carlisle and do not feel that your suggestion can be given favorable consideration. However, should an emergency arise, necessitating the temporary use of this plant by the military branch of the Service, I would then of course make any sacrifice which might be required.

Cordially yours,

(Signed) Cato Sells
Commissioner.

4-EO-16

Mr. Irvin Mahon,
448 North Hanover Street,
Carlisle, Pennsylvania.

INITIALING COPY - FOR FILE

COPY

[Handwritten signature]

COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
APR 10 1917

Carlisle, March 23, 1917.

[Handwritten initials]

To the Hon.
The Secretary
of the Interior.
Washington, D. C.

FILED BY G. P. F.

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
RECORDED
APR 10 1917
35787

Sir:

Now when the Country needs all the aid that a patriotic people can bestow upon it why not restore the Carlisle Indian School to a regular military post.

Everything connected with these grounds is in good condition to receive, house and drill with profit and comfort from 1000 to 2000 men. Why destroy its usefulness to the nation by holding it particularly at this time, as a school for the education of Indian boys and girls.

This suggestion may strike you as a foolish one, but what the country most needs at this time is trained men for active service, and I am not alone in the opinion that the change, if made, would not prove as foolish as some would have it appear.

What is now known as the Carlisle Indian School, was established for a better purpose than the one now assigned to it. It has a military history second to no other in the nation. It began at a time that tried men's souls and its patriotic page was shortened when

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its purpose was diverted to other use than that of a military post, with a record of service beginning as early as 1764 with one officer and fifteen men.

Make Carlisle a Military post at this time and the old spirit of 1776 - 1812 - 1845 - and 1861 will respond with new life and vigor to the call of the President of the United States for brave men in 1917 - to defend the honor of the Nation's flag.

Respectfully,

Irvin Mahon

448 North Hanover St.,

Carlisle, Penna.



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Carlish March 23, 1917

To The Hon

The Secretary
of the Interior
Washington D.C.

Hills



FILED BY G. P. ...

Sir:

Now when the Country needs all the aid that a patriotic people can bestow upon it, why not restore the Carlish Indian school to a regular military post?

Every thing connected with these grounds are in good condition to receive, house and care with perfect comfort from 1000 to 2000 men. Why destroy its usefulness to the nation by holding it, particularly at this time, as a school for the education of Indian boys and girls.

This suggestion may strike you as a foolish one, but what the Country most needs at this time is trained men for active service, and I am not alone in the

opinion that the change, if made, would not prove as foolish as some would have it appear.

What is now known as the Carlisle Indian School, was established for a better purpose than the one now assigned to it. It has a military history second to no other in the Nation. It began at a time that tried men's souls, and its patriotic page was shortened when its purpose was directed to other use than that of a military post, with a record of service beginning as early as 1764. With one officer and 15 men

made Carlisle a military post at this time and the old spirit of 1776-1812, 1845, and 1861, will respond with new life and vigor to the call of the President of the United States for brave men in 1917, to defend the honor of the Nation's flag.

W. S. West
Carlisle Penna.

Respectfully
Jesse Mahon