

J.O.

1167.	DEPARTMENT	RECEIVED
1887.	INDIAN DIV	JUN 10 1881

9443	OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS Rec'd JUN 3	1881
------	--	------

John Cook,  
Rosebud Agcy.  
May 23<sup>d</sup> 1881.

AUTHORITY

No. 2692	RECEIVED
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS	JUN 11 1881

Trans, rept. of Council held by Inds, where they complain of the deaths of their children at Carlisle. They petition for a school of their own in their country. Recommended by the Agt.

Letter to Secty June 9/81 ✓  
and June 11/81.  
Cook

United States Indian Service  
 BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
 WASHINGTON, D.C.

United States Indian Service,  
ROSEBUD AGENCY, DAKOTA,

May 26<sup>d</sup> 1881

To the  
Commissioner of Indian Affairs  
Washington D.C.

Sir - On last Saturday a general council of  
the Indians at this Agency was held. It was intended that the agent should  
be present, but it stormed so hard we concluded not to call him out to join  
us. The subject-matter of this council was the school at Carlisle and  
the constant sickness and frequent deaths of our children.

We have listened to the "Great Father" and heeded his words to us, we  
have given up our children to him to be educated that they may by  
his teachings learn the ways of the whites so that they may be  
civilized and when they come back to us, help us on the road to  
civilization, all this we have done with a good heart.

We are determined from this on to give up our Indian ways  
and live and act the ways of the whites. We love our children just  
as dearly as the whites do theirs, it grieves our hearts when we

Hear they are sick and we mourn hard and long when they die, and are taken away from us. It is far harder for us to bear these afflictions when they are separated from us. Now this letter we write not only to You but one just like it to the "Great Father" The Secretary of the Interior and to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs. This letter is not written by one man but by the request of all our Chiefs and head men and all the Indians.

Those who love Children at school and those who want to send them to school. We would not want our Children to come away from Carlisle if they could always keep well and not die away from us. We cannot bear to hear of the sickness and death of our Children, and we want You to listen to our words. We tell them in all kindness and love to the "Great Father" we ask You as You love and sympathize with us to send our Children back to us and with them a school and teachers to educate them. This is all we love to say to You we are Your true friends.

Spotted <sup>his</sup> ~~mark~~ Tail

Two <sup>his</sup> ~~mark~~ Strike

White <sup>his</sup> ~~mark~~ Thunder

Light <sup>his</sup> ~~mark~~ Bear

and the council generally

Spotted Tail has asked me to add a postscript to this letter and I do so very cheerfully. I have endeavored in every way to induce these Indians to keep their children where they are. The constant sickness and frequent deaths at the school of our children render it extremely difficult to keep these Indians in good heart, and I do think as we sooner or later will have a school of our own, it would be for the best interests of the agency and the Indians to comply with the request they have made. The mourning of those whose children have died is simply frightful.

Yours very respectfully  
Coast. Agt