

1
Siletz Ind Agency July 7th 1872

to Mr J. S. Adams

Supt Ind Affairs

Sir - The enclosed note written

in haste at Newport - will apprise you of the difficulty
between whites and Indians - I had hoped to send
it by the mail that evening but failed to get it
off - and now send out by special messenger
The said affair has caused great excitement
among a portion of the Indians - and during my absence
on the night of the fifth an Indian came to my
house and stated that a plot had been arranged
to slaughter all whites upon the reservation -
as there was a general fight at Newport they
would carry it out here - A number of the
employees were also absent not having returned
from the celebration - The families were of course
greatly alarmed and all congregated at the
agency building and kept up guard during
the night and until my return yesterday.
We reached Toledo on Friday night between
ten & eleven o'clock with the ^{of the descent} remains of

and forty Indians, where we remained until Saturday morning. We then chartered the corps by small boat to Depo Landing, sending a messenger direct for teams to meet us at that point. We procured here the necessary burial apparel and had a coffin made of large logs of the Indians joining up at this point with the teams. We reached the agency at one P.M. and buried the remains in the evening. Footstomach was the head chief of the tribe and thru a resolute and sometimes reckless fellow. had a good deal of influence over his people and ^{by this aid} had hope to effect a radical change in their condition - for he seemed to realize to a greater extent than most others ^{Indians} the difference between a civilized and ~~barbaric~~ people. This trouble so with many others is traceable directly to the sale of intoxicating drinks ~~into~~ ^{among} them and I have taken some pains to ferret out the guilty parties in this particular case and send you a list of names who ought to be arrested at once. In one case the real name is not known but by the time an officer

searches here on perhaps before I will find out
 I know not whether it is necessary to send
 out the mitnips to procure papers for their
 arrest. I enclose the names of Indians
 who can testify against the parties
 There is no question as to their guilt
 And the peace of the entire community demand
 their immediate apprehension. besides they may
 anticipate such action and leave the neighbourhood
 I hope therefore you will confer with the
 U.S. district attorney at once that the proper
 steps may be taken - but it must be done
 cautiously and quietly, so that no suspicion
 of our action can be entertained. In fact the
 safety of these upon the reservation depends upon
 prompt action, for a few are desperate. The
 kept in subjection under an impression that
 these miscreants will be arrested and properly
 dealt with. There is conflicting statements
 as to the justification for this murder - The
 white roudies present at the time alleging that
 Jack was in the act of drawing his pistol when

100

Boyle drew his from his pocket - but the
Indians who saw the transaction state positively
that Boyle had his pistol in his hand and
pointed at Jack's head before he even
made a motion to draw his weapon - That
as he felt his pistol was drawn out &
fell to the ground with him.

Enough Draft of
letter to Sgt General
in response to chief
John Deeth