

LAURA GILPIN



PHOTOGRAPHER

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April 28,
1967

Mr. Graham Holmes,
Navajo Area Office
Bureau of Indian Affairs,
Window Rock, Arizona

Dear Mr. Holmes:-

I am coming over to Window Rock, but I hope on either May 4th or 5th To make a special portrait of Chairman Nakai for my forthcoming book THE ENDURING NAVAHO. This has been long in the making covering some thirty years work on the reservation.

Two years ago, I tried to get Mr. Nakai's portrait but I was there on a day when he was very busy and though I saw him for a very few minutes only, there was no time to show him the book nor to discuss this with him. I did make one quicek hand held exposure of him in his office which is not at amm what I want. This is primarily a photographic book with some two hundred odd pictures made over this long period of time. Many of the older Navaho People know all about this and are firmly behind this. The section dealing with Tribal Government includes portrait of Sam Ahkeahm Paul Jones, as ex chairmen, Ned Hatathli, Maurice McCabe, Annie Wauneka and others as well as many portraits of the Dineh.

The Texas University Press is publishing the book, to appear in the early fall of next year. I have just gone all over the book with the head of the press who was here day before yesterday, and he agrees with me that I must bring this down to date with the present Chairman. I have just written to Mr. Nakai asking for an appointment for the latter part of next week. I want also to see you, if possible, to obtain the small amount of information necessary for this added page to the book. The book has been in the publsiher's hands for over a year and I have had no oppertunity to go over

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the whole thing in detail until now. Since I was last at Window Rock, I have developed a bad hip so that I am on crutches, but I am able to do some work, and will either have someone with me or find someone over there to help me get my camera in etc.

I would really like to talk to you first, if it is possible about the information I nanned. Perhaps you can check with Mr. Nakai's office as to the time of my appointment. I shall probably come over to Gallup the day before and any time in the morning of the appointed day would be satisfactory for me.

Should you wish to phone me rather than write, my phone number is below, and jsut call me collect. I know many people in the Indian Service and the N.P.S. but I do not believe that I have ever met you.

Thanking you very much for your cooperation, I am

Very sincerely yours,

Laura Gilpin.

Telephone Area Code 505 982-0032