

If peace is not made before the drought comes on the entire Country is ruined: There is more at stake than the gratification of satisfying the whims of fault-finders: the lives of our citizens will be sacrificed unless the war can be closed, and I cannot but believe that all good men, lovers of justice and those desiring the real welfare of the Country will approve the course."

I have instructed Captain Rinearson, at once to dismiss the men under his charge, retaining Mr Fleming, Mr Huff, and three others of the men, of his selection to aid him in taking the horses to Port Orford, Mr G. Taylor has also been directed to purchase twenty five horses. I desire you to turn over to Captain Rinearson any horses on hand belonging to the Indian Department, which, with those to be purchased, will be branded and taken to Port Orford."

Should you find it advisable to take any Indians with you from the Rogue River Camp, as messengers, it would be well not to allow them to carry guns - but they might have revolvers if deemed perfectly trusty: Have a keen look-out for them however. I would think it well to have at least, one white man with you." Be discreet, run no risk, but try and meet me at Port Orford."

Should you need funds for your travelling expenses, call upon Mr Blanchard, who will advance you such amount as may be necessary, provided he has any on hand. The recent heavy expenditures may, however, have nearly exhausted the funds on hand - but a remittance is anticipated the next mail."

I will add, in conclusion that I much rely upon you for the prompt and discreet performance of the important duties herein assigned, and hope to meet you, well and hearty, at Port Orford or vicinity

By B. B. Metcalfe Esq.

Sub. Ind. Agent.

Grand Ronde Reservation.

G. P.

Very Respectfully  
Your Obedt. Servt.



[May 13, 1856]

The safety of the settlements, the peace of the Country and the voice of humanity demand that it should be done. Though we might conquer a peace, it would be at the sacrifice of many valuable lives, and at an enormous expense to the Government and a blight upon the prosperity of our Territory: And whilst peace is important and desirable, it by no means follows that we should secure it on discreditable terms, but demand a rigid compliance with such reasonable and just terms as will be likely to ensure a continuation of it in future, and giving such guarantees of protection as the circumstances in which you are placed, will warrant. The only hope of securing peace is by removing the entire Indian population from that Country, and in thus attaining it, we are promised a sufficient number of troops to fully guarantee any terms requisite to ensure their safety." "On my arrival at Port Orford I will proceed to Rogue River and advance as far into the Country, in the direction of the Meadows, or into the Illinois Valley, as practicable: meeting the Indians on the way, and with such an escort as will be likely to secure a safe passage to Port Orford." Captain Reinerson will be directed to proceed to Port Orford with thirty horses, to aid in the transportation of subsistence and baggage from that point to the Coast Reservation: the saddles for which go down by this Steamer, as does also, six tons of flour." I gave instructions to Agent Ambrose to send a messenger to George and Limpey and direct them to go to Port-Orford, or, if they preferred it, to Port Lane: but that I preferred them to go to the former place."

You understand the object to be attained: Peace in Southern Oregon! There may be those who will oppose the policy of Negotiating, but it is useless to try to please all.



Copy letter instructions  
to Job Smith

R. P. Metcalf

May 13/56

Entered in book

Very Respectfully

Your Obedt Servt.

By

R. B. Metcalf Esq

Sub. Ind. Agent.

Grande Ronde Reservation  
D. T.

(Signed)

Joel Palmer  
Supt. Ind. Affs.