

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS
WASHINGTON

Williamsburg, Virginia
June 6, 1940

Hon. James H. Price
Governor of Virginia
Richmond, Virginia

Dear Sir:

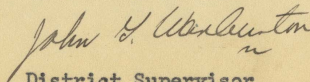
I have been designated by the Federal Bureau of the Census as Supervisor for the Third Congressional District, excluding the City of Richmond, in connection with the taking of the 1940 Census.

In my district there are several Indian reservations, one of which is known, I believe, as the Mattaponi Indian Reservation, the chief of which is a man named Custalow. When our enumerator for that section, a Mrs. Louise P. Johnson, who, incidentally, is a very intelligent and quite well-known person in that section, went to the Reservation to take the Census, she encountered no difficulty from the first few families but when she reached the home of the chief, she was treated rather rudely and was told that since the people there were wards of the state, they were under no obligation to supply the requested information and would not do so unless so directed by you. Mrs. Johnson did everything in her power to obtain the information without antagonizing the people too much, but was unable to do so.

I wonder, therefore, if you will be kind enough to address a letter to Chief Custalow, requesting him to cooperate with us in this matter. I would prefer that you send the letter to me so that the enumerator could show it to him, but if you believe it best to write directly to him, I shall appreciate it if you will forward me a copy of your letter.

Thanking you in advance for your assistance, I am

Very truly yours,



District Supervisor
Bureau of the Census

JGW:AKA