

Terry Moynihan ^{or Kit Carson Coop}
Gov Cargo ^{State}
Telephone REMARKS

VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT H. HUMPHREY

ALAMO NAVAJO INDIAN TRIBE

AUGUST 26, 1967

Larry Monte
Chr Alamo
Tribal Council

N. Mexico. REA - Coop
Pres Paul Frost

Ray Nakai

Carl Turner
Mr. N. Mexico
REA

Seit John Baker
Mr. Haverland

It is a pleasure to be with you ~~at~~ today, even if
it is by the magic of the telephone and not in person.

And I know the day must be one of great joy for
you folks who live on the Reservation. For, as I
understand, while the day has been set aside to celebrate
the arrival of your first electricity, it also recognizes
many other improvements on the reservation.

∟ I imagine all the non-Indians present, like myself,
are filled with pride at your accomplishments after so
many years of isolation.

∟ And there is a great feeling of pride on my part
in knowing ^{that} your government has been able to help you
improve your place in life.

∠ I have heard of you people working to make adobe bricks and then building the walls of new homes under the Big Navajo OEO program. That work is called "Sweat Equity" -- I like that phrase. ∠ It means that, while your government has helped you obtain so many new homes, each of the people who will live in these homes has helped in the construction .

∠ I realize also the troubles you all have had in the field of education, but the dormitory at Magdalena, which enables your children to attend the public schools there, has been a great improvement. ∠ You are to be congratulated on your close work with the United Pueblos Agency in this respect.

∠ There are other improvements, too ... The starting of a water system ... some work on your roads ... FHA loans to help purchase livestock and equipment.

Now electricity!

∠ This, certainly, is a great accomplishment. It brings you the convenience of modern life. Now you can have refrigerators ... ~~a~~ wonderful appliance that will keep food from spoiling ~~and~~ will permit you to buy a wider variety of food. ∠ And of course it will provide *electricity for* lights and power tools ... radio and television sets ... and so many other things that I can't even begin to list them all now.

∠ The only thing I regret is that it has taken so long for those lines to reach your reservation.

∠ But they have now arrived, ~~and I believe you owe a great deal of thanks to the Socorro Electric Cooperative and the Rural Electrification Administration.~~

This program -- which we call REA -- was started under the late President Roosevelt. It was designed to take electricity into poor rural areas -- places where a private firm could not provide service.

You folks on the Alamo Reservation ~~in a way~~
symbolize what this program has meant to the people
of rural America.

Back in the ^{1930's} ~~mid-thirties~~, only about 10 per cent
of the people on the ranches and farms and small towns
of America had electricity. Now about 98 per cent have
this vital service, thanks to the REA and to some
one thousand other cooperatives just like the Socorro
Electric Cooperative.

And, I might add, you still wouldn't have electricity
if it were not for the ^{National} REA program.

But now you have it, and each consumer becomes
a voting member-owner of the Socorro Electric Cooperative.

I urge you to be good members, to attend the district
meetings and the annual meetings, Help the other
members operate this business by voting for trustees and
on other matters that come up. It is your business now.

✓ I know Mr. Gallagher, the manager, and the Board of Trustees will do everything they can to help you become acquainted with this business of which many of you are now part-owners.

✓ In closing, I would like to offer a suggestion:

That we all pledge ourselves today that this ceremony does not mark the end of progress on the Alamo Navajo Indian Reservation.

✓ That we all work now toward other things ^{*1- better Education,*} roads, more income for tribal members, running water in homes, and a sanitation system where possible.

✓ Above all, let every member of the Alamo Navajo Reservation today promise to do everything possible to ^{*that*} make certain every child on the reservation obtains a full education. ✓ You know, this is the real secret to success for you. Your children must be educated.

who are your government representatives

✓ We ~~here~~ in Washington will do our part to help
as will the Big Navajo and representatives of the United
Pueblos Agency and the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Thank you and good bye!



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