

(Copy)

April 17, 1963

Hoyd Stone
131 East 6th Ave.
Mesa, Arizona

Dear Mr. Stone;

Mr. R. C. Courtney, Forest Supervisor of the Forto National Forest suggested we contact you for some further information about the area of your Reeves Ranch property. My husband and I will be a part of a group making a complete photographic ^(exploratory) expedition of the Superstition and Iron Mt. area. We will be taking photographs for National Geographic Arizona Highways and other publications. We will also be gathering historical data of the Indian and Spanish ruins for the History Dept of Texas Christian University and the Anthropology Dept of the University of Arizona.

Mr. and Mrs. Don Bennett will be doing the photography. My husband and I will function as historians and guides. The remaining two members of the party are visitors to this country from West Germany. Mr. Karl Swoboda of Essen and Mr. Oberhard Jackh of Bremen. Mr. Jackh will be collecting the ^{Arizona} insect-life for the Entomology Dept of the Museum in Bremen Germany. They are quite excited about the trip as they have never seen desert country and are ~~excited~~ eagerly looking forward to seeing our beautiful Southwest as we are in showing it to them for the first time.

I hope this brief thumbnail sketch of our group will show you that we are not just curiosity or thrill seekers. My husband and I have been in the area several times (not Iron Mt.) and have made a thorough study through available writings. We are now commissioned to secure new data and photographs for educational purposes. We believe the Reeves Ranch to be an important chapter in the story of Arizona history. We are writing you requesting permission to enter your property to do some photography. Nothing will be disturbed or touched by any member of our group. We would like to photograph Reeves Grave, Reeves Ranch - and the Cliff Dwellings in Pecos Canyon - a little west of

your ranch. The Forest Service threw us quite a curve in their letter to us. We have all been equipped with Honda Trail Machines to make our entry into the Mountains easier and faster as our time is quite limited and we must be able to get around as quickly as possible. They informed us that no motorized vehicle may be used in this area!! Our topography maps show a dirt road that leads to your Ranch. Can the Hondas or our Volkswagen Bus's be used on this road? As the road ends ~~at your ranch~~ ^{at your ranch} ~~we would have to walk~~ ^{it possible to walk} from there to Revis Grave and the Cliff Dwellings? How long would it take to hike to these two places ~~and~~ taking it into consideration that we are all pretty fast hikers. Also is it true that the Old Revis Trail was once used by the soldiers traveling from Camp Verde to Pinal. Please forgive all these questions but we have so much to learn and plan in the next few weeks.

We will be staying with Mr. and Mrs. Tommy O'Rourke at Kings Ranch Resort from May 4 through the 17th of May. If you would like further character references you might check with Mr. and Mrs. O'Rourke as they have known us for ^{two} several years.

If this venture meets with your approval, I have enclosed a self addressed stamped envelope. If you should be at your Ranch anywhere from May 4 through the 17 perhaps we can meet you there at a time designated by you.

Mr. Stone thank you for your time and we would appreciate any information or help you might find time to give us.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Jack M. McDee

2612 Mendocino

St. North 15, N.Y.