

To

Sub. Mas. Comyika

Majis J. P. Hunt

Wes.

To
Sub-Genl. Commr.
D. Stuart
Herc.

Weekleying 10/12/80

re: Promises of land to Sekukuni's
people East of Lolo before
1879.

That, before the present Location West of Lolo the Lolo and the land East of Lolo, between Steelwood and Blifants River has repeatedly been promised to them before 1879 is undoubtably true, but also undoubtably true it is, that before the present Location was set aside, the land West of the Lolo was never then promised to them, nor did they like the flat of present Location West of Lolo. Sekukuni-land proper till they got the Location, was the Triangle of land formed by the Lolo Mts. on the West and the two rivers Steelwood & Blifants River. Old Sekukuni and his people that in this triangle of land they were safe against all enemies, Boers and natives (the Barro - Magali, Tjapan, Pakla, Marishan, Potlwan in the West and against the Swazi's from across Steelwood. The old Chief was very wise in this. On the West the big Lolo Mts. with its many caves - on top of it on Steelwood side he put the Swazi-Chief Shuyeni and Kobi: Where on North-West the Lolo ends in little hills - he had just across the river his big Chief Maphalok. Down Steelwood against the Swazi's he put Riba's on the big hill looking down to Steelwood, Riba, who has successfully been fighting the Swazi's - even raided them in their land from here. Down Blifant River he had his big Magakal-Chief with his Baroka the last occupying all Passes of the Doker Mts. to here.

the possible tribal ~~resistance~~ revolts, and has been used more than once, they being famous hunters & fighters. Thus Ribe was allowed to stay on, on his high hill, but many of Ribe went to Lijdarbug, Balieu m., after the Location was given, not one farm on the Lolu, or East of Lolu, neither Ribe himself, was promised any Location or native freehold here East of Lolu.

Till after the Boer-War, I had always been in intimate confidence of the authorities, so much so, that - when the Location-Commission defined the boundaries of the Location - it declared, that they could not miss me on the old stronghold of Sekukani's East-Lolu and that the Government never took from me any Taxes or Rents there.

As sure as I write of this, if ever before 1879 some places East of Lolu should have ~~yet~~ been granted to some special tribes, I would have been informed. There was no residing Nat. Comm., all letters & Documents from the Executive were sent to my Address to read them to the Paramount Chief, to be answered by me. The whole Sekukani-tribe as I said, was several times promised before 1879 promised the whole old Sekukani-country East of Lolu: this brought over the Lolu to present Location. During the Annexation-time (Sir Owen Lanyon's), the English kept Ft. Burgers on Skeelpoort, Ft. Fagon Ballage Majuba-Knight, Ft. Mamolobe (Majuba, middle of present Location) - leaving then only the three-cornered old Sekukani on Lolu and East for Sekukani - till the joint Boer-Commission after Majuba changed this.

I am the honor F to
 you obedient servant

J. A. Winter-

Mecklenburg 10/12/20.

Sub. Nat. Com.
here.

Sir -

After our conversation last evening re promises of land to Sekukuni's people East of Lolo Mts. before 1879, I decided to help you with the following explanations, the truth of which is safeguarded not alone by my willingness to make them sworn affidavits but by the very surface reasonableness of them.

I was sent here East of Lolo to the destroyed capital of Sekukuni's people January 1880 in consequence of a land grant from Sir Garnet Wolseley written by Major Clarke - to the Berlin Mission, in December '79 immediately after Sir Garnet in a half-day heavy battle destroyed for ever the old independence of Sekukuni's people, so that, when I arrived here, Sekukuni's people told me: "Our Heaven has fallen down."

The following I have personally got alone from President Burgers, General Paul Joubert, President Paul Kruger, Vice-President Schalk Burger, but from the old Paramount Chief Sekukuni himself and his successor Kgolokwe (Golek'ga) and nearly all chiefs of any importance.

Yours faithfully

J. A. Winter.

Collection no: A1655

Collection: HUNT, Donald Papers

PUBLISHER:

Publisher:- Historical Papers, The Library, University of the Witwatersrand

Location:- Johannesburg

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