

Sweeney
Caull

Acknowledgment & Research

**AUG 25 1992**

Mr. Ronald Van Dunk  
P.O. Box 3  
Hillburn, New York 10931

Dear Mr. Van Dunk:

The Branch of Acknowledgment and Research (BAR) is currently reviewing the new petition of the Ramapough Mountain Indian Tribe of New York and New Jersey that has been placed on active consideration. In order to complete this review we will need further information or documentation in the following areas.

1. Many of the photocopies submitted as exhibits in the new petition are of poor quality and cannot be read. Please provide readable copies of the pages noted in Attachment A.
2. Of the 2374 members on your tribal rolls, we have received ancestry charts on fewer than 700. Several of the charts which were submitted are too illegible or too incomplete to be used. The charts that are missing, incomplete or illegible have been identified on your membership list (Attachment B). These charts will be needed to complete the genealogical evaluation of the Ramapough Mountain petition.
3. Exhibits numbered 1, 4, 5, 9, 10, 12, 17, and 21 submitted as evidence contain very few or no citations. Please provide author, title, page, publisher, and date of publication for all published materials. Citations for any unpublished materials should also include the location of the repository.
4. Six unidentified charts (Attachment C) were included in the package of ancestry charts submitted with the petition. These unidentified charts suggest that someone has worked the DeFries/DeFreese family back to 1603 and the Van Dunk family back to 1638. It would be helpful to know who drew the six charts and what was the source of their information? Do you have any information that might connect the John DeFries (born ca 1735) listed on the 1760 muster roll with any of the DeFries on these charts?

5. Also included with the ancestry charts was an undated letter from Robert L. deFreese, Tribal Roll #2163 (Attachment D). This letter claims the DeFries family line as given in David Cohen's "The Ramapo Mountain People" is incorrect. The six unidentified charts cited in item 4 appear to be identical to Cohen's family charts on the DeFries for the first five generations. Which ancestry is correct?

6. The relationship between the ancestry charts submitted with the petition and the Indian John DeFries listed on the 1760 muster roll is unclear. Please explain the connection.

It would be useful to us to talk to the person who prepared the Ramapough Mountain membership list and organized the ancestry charts which were submitted with the petition.

Although members of the BAR staff are scheduled to meet with Mr. Catalano and Ms. Ghosh on Wednesday of this week. It is important for the BAR researchers to meet directly with you and other officers in order to open lines of communication. Please contact us by writing Bureau of Indian Affairs, Branch of Acknowledgment and Research, Mail Stop 2611-MIB, 1849 C Street NW, Washington DC 20240 or by telephone at (202) 208-3592. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

*ACTING* /s/ Holly Reckord

Chief, Branch of Acknowledgment  
and Research

Enclosures

cc: Albert J. Catalano, Murphy & Demory, Ltd.  
Honorable Matthew J. Rinaldo  
Honorable Robert G. Toricelli  
Honorable Frank Pallone, Jr.  
Honorable Bernard J. Dwyer  
Honorable Benjamin A. Gilman  
Honorable H. James Saxton  
Honorable Donald M. Payne  
Honorable Dean Gallo

cc: [redacted] 440B

Hold:CShearer:jd:x3592:08/25/92:cks/rama.ltr/WP51

## ILLEGIBLE DOCUMENTATION FROM THE EXHIBITS

- Exhibit 2. Second page of exhibit "page 957"
- Exhibit 3. p 28, Pioneer Settlement to Suburb" The text is readable but map is not. Is a better copy of this map available?
- Exhibit 8. Ramapo Indian Deed 1709....
- Exhibit 11. Page from "Rockland County Historical Register" right margin has been cut.
- Exhibit 17. pages headed "Court of Claims"-Of the 27 pages submitted the first 26 are not legible.
- Exhibit 20. Second page (A-4) Entire right side of column is missing
- Exhibit 22. Page from 1870 census  
Page titled "8 - First Census of the United States"  
Page titled "10 - " " " " " " "  
Pages titled "139,140, 142,143,144,145,146,147, 148 and 149  
Heads of Families - New York"
- Exhibit 29. Second page of article from "Bergen Evening Journal" is partially legible but the names of the settlers can not be read
- Exhibit 31. Third page of the article from the "Bergen Evening Journal" entitled "The Jacksons"
- Exhibit 33. One page numbered 387 from the "Homemaker" of August 1890. Please provide the entire article. This source is not readily available to our researchers.
- Exhibit 42. "Bergen Evening Record" The bottom of the second page and the top of the third page are missing.
- Exhibit 45. Article from the NY Herald Tribune of May 14, 1861 "The Forsaken Jackson Whites". The continuation page entitled "Forgotten Ramapo People...cont'd from page one "Exhibit 47. "Rockland Leader" of July 14, 1960 is illegible.
- Exhibit 49. Page which begins "Ringwood Life" is illegible
- Exhibit 72. Communicants of Brook Chapel, pp36-37 and 120-121. Lists of names cannot be read.
- Map Exhibit More legible copies of virtually all of the maps in the map exhibit should be provided as well as citations to the books from which they were photocopied.

Attachment B

This list of Tribal Members<sup>with</sup> submitted with the petition for acknowledgment has been annotated to show what is still needed for documentation.

1. Ancestry charts should be submitted for all tribal members whose numbers are NOT circled. Circled numbers indicate that ancestry charts have been received for these members.

How many  
16/20

2. Numbers that have an asterisk (\*) to the left need better photocopies or additional information. PC = Poor copy, INC = Incomplete or insufficient information.

no address information?  
? print <sup>with</sup> ~~information~~ <sup>with</sup> ?