

BEFORE THE INDIAN CLAIMS COMMISSION

THE BLACKFEET AND GROS VENTRE TRIBES OF	)	
INDIANS, Residing Upon the Blackfeet	)	
and Fort Belknap Reservations in the	)	
State of Montana,	)	
	)	
Petitioners,	)	
	)	
v.	)	Docket No. 279-B
	)	
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,	)	
	)	
Defendant.	)	

Decided: August 16, 1965

Appearances:

Glen A. Wilkinson, on behalf of  
Petitioner.

Maurice H. Cooperman, with whom  
was Mr. Assistant Attorney  
General, Edwin L. Weisl, Jr.,  
Attorneys for the Defendant.

OPINION OF THE COMMISSION

PER CURIAM:

In our preliminary statement to the findings herein, we record the fact that the hearing date on the above docket number had been set for July 28, 1965, at the request of petitioner, who stated that the petitioner could not be ready for trial until that date. On the trial date the petitioner stated through counsel that they still were not ready for trial and moved that the hearing be continued indefinitely. We denied the motion and went ahead with the hearing on the merits.

Our denial of the motion to continue the hearing indefinitely was based on the facts that the original Docket, Number 279, had been filed on August 9, 1951; that the split-off Docket, No. 279-B, had been filed May 16, 1957; that the petitioner had had ample time to prepare for hearing, and further, that counsel for the Indian tribes stated that reasonable efforts had been made to find evidence in support of the petition, but only that which he would introduce at the hearing if he were compelled to proceed, had been discovered. Whereupon the motion was denied and the hearing proceeded on the merits.

We have entered our findings on the evidence offered, and have concluded that it fails to support the petition of the petitioners, and that the petition should be dismissed.

An order to that effect will be entered.

Arthur V. Watkins  
Chief Commissioner

Wm. M. Holt  
Associate Commissioner

T. Harold Scott  
Associate Commissioner