1 - After the Stevens treaty of 1855 at Judith River did you ever hunt in the common hunting grounds provided in that treaty, which was south of the Medicine Rock Pass in the basin formed by the three forks of the Missouri River?

2 - How many times have you hunted in that country?

3 - About how many winters since you hunted in that country?

4 - What kind of game did you find in that country?

5 - Was game plentiful in that country when you were there?

6 - What kind of meat, hides and furs did you get there?

7 - About how many pony loads of meat and how many hides and furs would a hunting party get on a trip to that country?

8 - Did your people use all of the meats and furs they brought back, or did you trade some of them to the white people?

9 - Have you ever hunted there without finding plenty of game?

10 - What would you get for the meat, hides and furs traded to white people?

11 - How much for each kind of furs?

12 - How much for dressed buffalo robes?

13 - What furs from that country did you consider most valuable?

14 - What furs did you get the most for when traded to white people?

15 - How much would you get for each kind of such furs?

16 - When you were hunting in that country did white people ever attack and kill any of your people or steal any of your horses?

17 - How much meat was needed by an average family for a year?

18 - How many buffalo robes were needed to make an average family lodge or tent?

19 - How long did a lodge or tent last before you had to get a new one?

20 - How many robes were needed by an average family for other uses than lodges and tents?

21 - How long did these last?

22 - What kind of furs and skins were used for clothes and moccasins?

23 - How many of such skins would an average family need for a year?

24 - Please give us the names and addresses of any of the old men or women among your people whom you think might give us information in regard to the above questions.
The following names were submitted by Mike Day Rider in his letter of February 14, 1926; our letter and questionnaire sent to them March 3, 1926:

- Mountain Chief
- Heart Butte, Mont. - Reply received April 7, 1926

- After Birth
- Heart Butte, Mont. - Reply received Mar. 27, 1926

- Eagle Head
- Family

- Young Running Crane
- Family

- Red Plume
- Family

- Sugar Bear Laid
- Browning

- Black Bear
- Browning

- No. 1 Tom Bird
- Babb

The following additional names were submitted by Mike Day Rider in his letter of March 12, 1926, and our letter and questionnaire sent them March 17, 1926:

- Calv Tail
- Heart Butte, Mont.

- Iron Farter
- Heart Butte, Mont.

- Red Head
- Heart Butte, Mont.

- Many Tail Feathers
- Browning

- Bull Calf
- Browning

- Eagle Tail Feathers
- Browning

- Bear Head
- Browning

- Lazy Boy
- Browning

- Mike Short Man
- Browning

- Old Man Ground (Joe)
- Browning

- White Dog
- Family

The following names were furnished by Major F. C. Campbell in his letter of April 12, 1926, and our letter and questionnaire sent them on April 16, 1926:

- Wolf Plume
- Browning, Montana - Reply received May 12, 1926

- Chief Crow
- Browning

- Turtle
- Browning

- Black Boy
- Browning

- Tom Sanderville
- Browning

The following names were furnished by Mr. Wolf Plume in his letter of May 13, 1926, and our letter and questionnaire sent to them on May 17, 1926:

- Mrs. Maggie, Heart Butte, Montana

- Mrs. Many Smakaa, Heart Butte, Montana

The following names were furnished by Mr. Bull Calf in his letter of April 12, 1926, and our letter and questionnaire sent to them on May 17, 1926:

- Mrs. Hides Front, Browning, Montana

- Mrs. White Calf, Browning

- Peter Oscar Little Chief - reply received dated "March"

The following names were furnished by Major Campbell in his letter of April 24, 1926 and our letter and questionnaire sent to them on May 15, 1926:

- Jack Monroe, McDermott, Toole Co, Mont. Reply received May 29, 1926

- Tom Dawson, Glacier Park, Montana

In his statement of May 29, 1926, Mr. Monroe suggests the following names:

- George Henkell, Ball, Montana

- Andrew Schmeltz, Browning, Mont.

- R. J. Hamilton, Browning

- George Bird Grinnell 235 E. 15th St, N.Y.

- Dick Sanderville, Oliver Sanderville, Gilas. Simons, Deputy Sheriff, Glacier Co; Frank McCabe, State Senator, Tom Magee, and Willie Allison.
Statement of Mountain Chief, Heart Butte, Montana - March 31, 1926.

I was very anxious to fill in and answer the 24 questions you mention. I am now here with enclosing them to you. Ill health cause my delay about the papers. Now I am improving very good. Now my dear friend Mr. Bear Head as I have said before my people how much we depend on you about the Big Claim. This is all. I shake hands to you. Please write me a letter and when you are to come.

1 - Yes.
2 - Four times
3 - I have no idea the number of years.
4 - Buffalo; four different kind deer.
5 - Yes
6 - Buffalo, elk, and antelope meat; buffalo hides, elk hides, deer hides, furs, beaver, fox, wolf and coyote.
7 - Pony loads of meat 1 to 5 loads meat; 1 load of meat with on hide allow to each load.
8 - We used all meat. Furs we traded to white people.
9 - Yes, at certain times of the year.
10 - We traded the meat for flour, sugar, coffee, tobacco; hides for blankets, furs for blankets, shirts, paint, beads and calico.
11 - Four wolf hides for one blanket; four each kind of furs for one kind of each article mentioned the above.
12 - Dressed Buffalo robes for one sack sugar or one sack flour for 2 robes. Weight for each article not known.
13 - Beaver
14 - Beaver
15 - I have no idea.
16 - They have attack us and kill us also steal our horses.
17 - 5 to 8 Bags full of cured meat.
18 - 8 to 14 robes
19 - Three years old
20 - Two to four robes for walling; one robe for bedding, 2 for covers.
21 - About five years
22 - Buffalo skins for clothes and moocasions we used, but no furs used for clothes.
23 - About two years.
24 - Eagle Head, After Buffalo, both of Heart Butte, Montana.
Statement of Young Running Crane, Family, Montana, March 27, 1926

I am 72 years old but I am right along with my tribe on that time, so I can not give you any better information, but I may do better yet if you come up here.

1. Yes
2. Several times for my tribe
3. Ever since we around there
4. Most buffalo
5. My tribe claims yes.
6. They got most buffalo meat
7. About three or four loads
8. We trade some to white people
9. The tribe claims no
10. One pound coffee for the ribs
11. No cash but seems to us like 25¢ worth stuff
12. Two plug tobacco
13. Fox
14. Coyotes
15. Such thing as red paint
16. The tribe claims that white men killed two Indians.
17. Small family two whole beef
18. 12 robes small size
19. About four years
20. Two robes for each person
21. About four years
22. Buffalo
23. Not answered
Statement of Mr. Bull Calf of Browning, Montana, April 18, 1926.

Your letter of the 17th has been referred to me for reply. In reply I would say that the question you given me to answer it will not be exactly, because we dont keep the records for the old times like the white man's history. Again, I think you have definite information by some others from this tribe already. But will answer the questions by my particular experience for the old times and a few the old fellows know the old times;

- Mountain Chief, Heart Butte, Montana
- Eagle Head, Family, Montana
- Mrs. Hides Front, Browning, Montana
- Mrs. White Calf, Browning, Montana

1 - yes
2 - In different years, 1879 to 1880
3 - 46 years since I was hunted
4 - Only game is buffalo in that country
5 - Game is not plentiful at 1880 to 1887.
6 - Some buffalo furs and meat.
7 - Our pony loads meat hides two or more
8 - We dont trade meat, we trade the robes after the hides tan.
9 - We dont find game ever we hunt.
10 - We don't get nothing for meat; we keep it, but hides turn to furs for trade to white people very cheap.
11 - Furs same as robes, big ones 10 chickens.
12 - Dressed buffalo robes $10.00
13 - We consider most valuable furs white buffalo, but we dont trade them.
14 - Buffalo robes
15 - We dont know, trade is cheap
16 - Two of our tribe attack kill by white hunters
17 - The average for family in year about 4 buffalo
18 - Average lodge 11 hides or 15
19 - Lodge last about 5 years before get new
20 - About 19 robes in all tents, bedding, clothes and moccasins.
21 - All the fixtures last about five years.
22 - We used buffalo skins for cloths, moccasins.
23 - Average for family need for year 1 buffalo.
24 - The old folks is not many:
   - Mountain Chief, Heart Butte,
   - Eagle Head, Family
   - Mrs. Hides Front, Browning,
   - Mrs. White Calf, or Catch Two, Browning.
   These are the oldest here at the Blackfeet Agency and Reservation.
   In the year of 1855 we made this treaty and after treaty is made we were left that part of the country. We dont use that country for hunting grounds. We are moved to North of Missouri River. Only twice we cross the country in the year 1880 to 1881 and that the last time we were there.

Bull Calf.
Statement of Mike Short Man, Browning, Montana, March 29, 1926.

1 - Yes
2 - Twice
3 - About 22 years
4 - Buffalo, elk, antelope, black tail and white tail
5 - Yes, plenty.
6 - Buffalo, only is all I killed.
7 - About 10 pony loads of all kinds killed by party.
8 - No, traded with whites, hides only.
9 - No
10 - Provisions
11 - Do not remember
12 - Cannot tell
13 - Buffalo
14 - Buffalo
15 - Don't remember
16 - No
17 - Do not know
18 - Do not know
19 - Five years
20 - About 12
21 - About 5 years
22 - Buffalo
23 - Two
24 - Eagle Head and Joe Ground.

Mike Short Man.
Statement of Wolf Plume, Browning, Montana, May 9, 1926.

I have received your letter of the 16th ultimo and in reply thereto wish to state that the Blackfeet never roamed over the country set aside as a common hunting ground under the provisions of the treaty of 1865, but will answer your questions to the best of my ability and recollections. I saw many bales of buffalo hides killed and gathered by white men along the banks of the Yellowstone River ready for shipment. I met a white man who told me that he was out in that country to kill buffalo and other game and such information would contribute to some extent that white people exterminated buffalo and other game rather than Indians because the Indian people only killed enough buffalo and other fur bearing animals necessary for actual needs. With kindest regards and believe me to be, etc.

1 - I have never hunted in the territory set aside as a common hunting ground but I do know that there were plenty of game of all descriptions which was exterminated by whites.
2 - None
3 - Never hunted there at all
4 - Buffalo, elk, deer, beaver, mountain sheep, moose, fox and other valuable fur bearing animals.
5 - Yes, game of all kinds were plentiful.
6 - Buffalo meat, deer meat, elk meat, wild sheep meat, black tail deer meat, moose meat, buffalo hides, moose hides and furs of all descriptions. If I hunted there I would have gotten the above.
7 - Blackfeet never roam there except on war path and did not get much meat. No more than that could be carried on the back.
8 - Never got any and therefore none to trade to the white people.
9 - Never hunted there as stated above, but always plenty of game there.
10 - None at all
11 - No furs were traded to the white people to my knowledge.
12 - None in that country dressed for commercial purposes.
13 - Otter most valuable and then beaver outside of buffalo robes.
14 - Otter and beaver.
15 - According to quality, say, $7 to $15 for otter and beaver respectively and other furs sold for in proportion.
16 - None to my knowledge or my experience.
17 - Say 6 or 6 in a family, 6 or 7 buffalo would be needed during the winter time and about the same amount would be required in summer time.
18 - It required 76 robes to complete my own lodge and some need more.
19 - 5 to 10 years.
20 - It required 8 robes for parfleches, bedding needs about 2 to 3. About 4 buffalo hides were needed to complete other paraphernalia or lodge equipment.
21 - These articles last over 20 years.
22 - Buck-skins were used for clothes, but buffalo hides were used for clothes and mocasins, made into ropes, moose were used for many purposes. Buffalo supplies all our needs. Deer skins were used to supply our head dresses and other articles of dress and regalia. Buck-skins were used for squaw dresses, women leggings which last for many years.
23 - It required 5 buck-skins for a complete regalia for a man; 3 for a squaw dress which last over 20 years, mocasins do not last long as modern shoes.
24 - Eagle Head, of Family, Montana. After Buffalo, of Heart Butte, Montana. Mrs. Maggie Marineau of Heart Butte, Montana and Mrs. Many Snakes.
Do not get tired read my letter and read it carefully and I am not write plain and I hope you make out words without any trouble. I am the man and the old man Stinge who give you this work not Robert J. Hamilton or any body else and dont pay attention anyone if complaint made against you. You can depend upon those men who first hired you in this contract that you working us now. I heard many stories about R. J. Hamilton try to put you off in this contract but I never said anything to anybody. I said to myself I will write you and find out from you directly and if it is true please send me all the troubles that he make in Washington and I want it to let people know what crooked work is trying among the Indians here and in Washington, D.C. 

25 years ago since you have been worked in our so call Big Claim the Treaty of Oct. 17, 1865 and now passed March 6, 1894 and now is in the Court of Oliam waiting for thoroughly investigation information from the Blackfeet Indians what the value in that country different kind of metal discovered and coal that have been mined in the past or at present time, and now there are great many drilling different kind oil in that country where we are made of our claim against the United States Govt. I am sending you only a few information about oil that have been taken out during the month of Jan. this year, the record have been published in the Great Falls Tribune, Montana, 364, 072 barrels January’s oil pipe line run at three different prices. The field price at the beginning of the month was $1.35 per barrel, this being reduced on January 8, to $1.15 at the close of the month it held in storage for its own account 105, 506.98 barrels had in storage for others 13, 409.30 barrels and had unfilled storage capacity for 192, 356.77 barrels the field price throughout the month was $1.30 per barrel. Please send me about 30 copies of the questionnaire that you want to find out from the old people about the game and of all the animals living on dry land and water different kind animals, metal, coal and oil, timber, grass, different kind berries, roots that we eat and for medicine use and water rights and I cant mention others things that white people taken away from the Indians in the past or present time.

We are Indians all know that the white people destroyed off all games killed off by the whites and what is left was taken away from us Indians and others was captured by the whites and everything that we living on such as berries and roots all taken away and destroyed by the whites. We can get good information from any Indian over 59 to 70 years of age. I know many of this little over 68 years old told me a stories about how fast the Buffalo killed off and of all various kind fur bearing animals was killed off by guns, traps, strychnine, and many different ways killed the above animals mention. There are about 35 or 40 Indians that I know you can get good information from them when you send them 24 questions arrive I can distribute among them and fill out for them carefully so that no misunderstand and when I fill I mail to you right away. Now good kind hearted friend any way I can assistance you in this claim that you have worked for my people for the last 25 years, give me information and instructions must follow with the information so I know thoroughly what to do in that proposition. There are considerable talk going on among the Indians here in this Reservation and other Reservations, Flathead, Crows Reservation and other Reservations east of the Blackfeet Reservation. Some of the white people was talked to some of the Indians telling that you never that you Indians get any money from that claim you Indians will be under the grave before you see any money for this claim. And some of the Indians believe it and others they do not believe it a
a much talk like these men told among the Indians. And I told my people that do not get discouraged about what other people said about this claim and dont worry about it, still moving but slow, that I am appointed a good honest man for your people that to fight for you in this case and he will win the case for us, but takes time to find out thoroughly every thing before get any money for it. First thing we have to get all information from the people who made this claim against the U. S. Govt. and to find out very carefully what is the value, the country, what amount money to be pay to the Indians in this claim. Montana is very valuable State, many things being discovered lately, but and Indians cant do a thing on account of U. S. Govt. controls everything in mineral under in our reservation, we are Indians chain down with log chain so cant do nothing to our property in this reservation.

Now my true friend, Do not pay attention to any one person or persons or attorney or attorneys any complaints try to prevent you or stop you in your work in this case. That I am the man who taken up this claim for the Blackfeet Indians in the year 1906, the Treaty of October 17, 1865 and I am the man hired you in this case and these eight (8) men with me and one woman and that is my wife, Mary P. Oscar. The old man Stingy he is one told me to take it up for the Blackfeet Indians before he died and he said I was present and listen to speakers and know everything thing what they have said and saw Governor Stevens when he was talked to the Indians he was stand on the top dry goods and groceries boxes and I was listen very carefully and every thing what he said I made it and he didnt say very much that I know of and after this he said to me, now my son are you willing to take it up with me? And I said yes, but I want you to explain to me the whole thing so I know what to do after I learned the whole thing. And before he start to explain it he said I given name the names the old people who are present and listen to speakers the same as I do. There are three. Shorty White Grass and Red Paint Lodge, Running Rabbit 4

instead of three and he said three are many living yet men and women that who are present and listen in this loan to the U. S. Govt but I mention to you only a few names at present and others I let you know later on. Mr. Serven, Joyce & Barlow it takes too much time to tell you the whole claim just now, but I will tell next time I write again and tell all information that I know about in that country of our claim. I want to ask you this: The our people her in this reservation want to know how soon you come out here what month and date that you expect to be out here and many of you, are lay out you plan for so many to come out and when you start out for this reservation come with that Govt. attorney and there is another thing that we are Indians like to know, that any show for us to get any money or borrow from the Government to buy battle for very man woman and child. Please let me know by return mail are very anxious to hear from you in that part.

I am your truly friend,
Peter Oscar Little Chief

P.S. I write again and tell you other things there are very important for you win about pay you for your work.
Copy of letter of J. B. Monroe, McDermott, Toole Co., Montana. May 29, 1926

Yours of May 16th reached me here, after going the rounds of all post offices on the Reserve.

I'll answer all your points as far as I am able by next mail (two days hence),

George W. Sullens, Ball, Montana, would also be good authority in his section.

Andrew Shultz, Browning, might be pretty good if not too enthusiastic.

Tom Dawson is a good selection for his section and would also make a good witness as he would be intelligent enough to stay with his conclusions.

Bob (R.J.) Hamilton you know and while Bob is all Wolf, he is sober and capable.

George Bird Grinnell 239 East 16th Street, New York City, was one of three U. S. Commissioners who dealt with the Indians in 1896, and would be a blamed good witness for the Indians.

He has been coming here since 1885 and would be glad to do them a good turn.

He is too modest to offer any information and would carry much weight.

$5000 per annum (year) would be sufficient to cover all damages from the Canadian Boundary down to and including Cut Bank Creek. I'll state this sum in case you have to use it and then answer in detail by next mail.

This would about cover the hunting, fishing and trapping, which is an important factor.

I may want to raise this estimate, but not lower it.

The Indians from Glacier Park Station and G.N.R.R. South are living on the Borders of a Forest Reserve and the question might be asked, have they profited by more privileges; whites have monopolized these privileges I'll try and give you a good grasp of the situation.

Copy of letter of Mr. Monroe, from same address, dated May 31, 1926.

I send a short note in answer to yours of May 16th and this will give some more details.

For instance, Frank Harrison, whose family is Indian, and they helped him fish is my near neighbor at St. Mary's lakes. Frank makes $1000 per year fishing for the Great Northern R. R. (Glacier Park Hotel Co) during three months of each year. This Hotel Company claims to have a concession from the Park authorities (D.C.) to net fish for their tourists while others are denied.

The upper St. Mary's Lake is in Glacier National Park and contains nearly all the Lake Superior white fish, in the U. S. outside of the Great Lakes. This is Sacschechewa waters and the Lake Superior white fish are native.

Most of these fish if not all migrate to the upper Lake in the early fall and residents and especially all Indians are prohibited from fishing just when it is most profitable. It is a very conservative estimate to say that the privilege of fishing is worth $5000 Five Thousand Dollars annually, to the Indians, mixed bloods and those who have Indian families to support.

This is a cast estimate to say nothing of the subsistence of these families in this country and the fish would help a great deal.

Nearly all the game is within the Park lines and this would be worth another $1000 annually, which is more than conservative.

Then the matter of trapping. The Park contains many beaver, martin, coyote, etc. A conservative estimate of their value in the St. Mary's
section would be $2000 annually.
I do not believe there is one family in the St. Mary’s section
that would be benefited by being permitted to cut wood on the Park.
Now Cut Bank Creek has many huckleberries and many Indians went
there in the old days to pick berries and hunt. Some were fined and
imprisoned by the Park authorities for going in on Cut Bank. This
privilege would be worth $2000 annually to these Indians.
There is no commercial fishing in this section but the trapping
on Cut Bank Creek and tributaries would be worth another thousand dollars.
Here as at St. Mary’s there is no call to go on the Park or ceded
strip for wood, so we give it no valuation.
This brings us down to the South Fork of Cut Bank and Two Medicine
country and Mr. Thomas Dawson would be far better authority there than I.
There is a strip of country south of the railroad which is now forest
reserve.
There is no commercial fishing there, but the hunting and trapping
are kept down by tourists hunting parties and professional trappers.
Most of the full blood Indians live in this section and Dick Sanderville,
Oliver Sanderville, Chas. Simons, Deputy Sheriff Glacier Co.,
Dick Croff, Sheriff Glacier Co, Frank McSabe, Senator Glacier Co, Tom
Magee, clerk of the Court G.C., Willie Allison, Treasurer Glacier Co.
could give you useful information.
Yours sincerely, etc.
Copy of statement accompanying the last quoted letter:

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This for the Cut Bank and St. Mary’s regions on which I think I am
a very competent judge.