

2125 Seal Cove Circle,
Prince Rupert, B.C.
November 22, 1966.

Professor Wilson Duff,
Department of Anthropology and Sociology,
University of British Columbia,
Vancouver 8, B.C.

Dear Professor Duff:

During the past five years that I have been working away on material for a history of the Q.C. Islands, you have very kindly helped me out several times with suggestions as to where I might check out the Haida history I want to use. For although my book is being written primarily to record the pioneering days of white settlers, still no Q.C.I. history could ever be written without mention of the Haidas. I have been interested in Chiefs "Albert Edward" Edenso, Koyah, Weah and Seegay, mainly.

So it was with much interest that I purchased Christie Harris's "Raven's Cry" and enjoyed reading it immensely - particularly since your endorsement of it gives the book validity. But some of her material is at such variance with what I believed to be true, that I am having some bad moments. Noting that the map in the front contains inaccuracies, which I know would never have been sanctioned by Christie or yourself, I am wondering now about the other items. Having just had my own book under the editor's red pencil, I know how their deletion of words can throw things out of meaning - and would be indebted to you for guidance as to whether this is what happened in "Raven's Cry", or is my own information incorrect. And if this last is true, I still have time to correct my errors before my book goes into print. I would be most grateful to you indeed for help with four main items -

1. That Conneyhaw (Gunya) was not a hereditary Chief Edenso, and it was only because Conneyhaw migrated to Alaska that the Edenso family became the chief family in the North Island area. I had gathered from my research that Conneyhaw was an Edenso, and that "Albert Edward" Edenso inherited directly from the old man. But Christie has evidently learned that Albert Edward inherited his chieftainship from his uncle Yatza...can you help me here?
2. That Anthony Island was the site of Koyah's main village at the time of the Kendricks fracas. I had understood that Koyah's main village at that time was the "Songs-of-Victory" site just to the south of Carpenter Bay. (Shown as 13, on map 1, page 5 of your excellent booklet on Anthony Island). In fact I also understood that the villages on Anthony Island did not assume importance until Ninstantis came into the limelight. I would be grateful for your corrections.

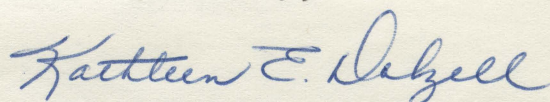
(continued)

3. That Seegay (raven) was Weha's (eagle) heir (page 136 of "Raven's Cry"). That statement is an impossibility, surely. For although Weha may have been an uncle of Seegay's, it was a paternal uncle, was it not?
4. Raven's Cry tells of Albert Edward Edenso moving from Kung to Tou Hill during Collison's tenure in Masset (1876 - 78), and says he was there until 1884, when he moved into Masset. However, Dr. Dawson describes the Tow Hill village as decaying and apparently long abandoned (p.164) when he visited it in 1878, and he says that Albert Edward was in the process of moving his tribe from Kung to Yatza at this time (p.163). I would really like to clear up the Tow Hill residence, since in all my research I never once found anything to indicate that it had been occupied after white men established residence on the Charlottes (excluding the clam cannery operation). But I do know that Henry Edenshaw claimed ownership of an old totem pole out there during Thomas Deasy's big sale of poles, and I had also been told that old Mary Ridley (now dead) was supposed to have been the last surviving relative of anyone who had lived in the Tou Hill village. That whole region is now owned by the Point Village tribe, with Peter Hill in charge - according to Chief William Matthews (Chief Weah).

My sincere apologies for interrupting your busy schedule, but as you are the v ery best person to ask about Haida history, I would indeed be most indebted to you for any help that you can give me. And how I shall watch that editorial red pencil on my Ms!

With very best wishes,

Yours sincerely,



Kathleen E. Dalzell (Mrs. A.)