

# Letters

## *Reader blinded by Reagan rhetoric*

To the editor:

Once again an American president is requesting military aid to assist "freedom fighters" in their struggle against the Sandinista government in Nicaragua. And once again I brace myself to be choked and blinded by smoke-screens of rhetoric, posturing, and self-righteousness as the administration attempts to muster popular and congressional support for its myopic foreign policy. No need to worry, though. I'm learning how to cope with all this racket, because I've had so many opportunities to practice lately.

In fact, since the recent election in the Philippines, I've begun to consider myself an expert at reading between smeared lines, deciphering contradictory official statements, and translating bureaucatese and diplomatese into English. Why, I'm so smart now that I know that a total and unswerving commitment to democracy means that the administration will support you as long as you don't become a political liability. I also figured out that if you want the President to call you a freedom fighter, you just have to be friendly to U.S. military and business interests. However, don't ever receive aid from the Communist bloc, because then the President will have to call you godless, well-armed, and murderous.

Most importantly, I learned that a nation dare not be small, possess meager economic and natural resources, and have the gall to be unfriendly to the U.S. Such insolence may oblige the U.S. to manipulate the World Bank and the international Monetary Fund against you, pressure its trading partners to boycott you, and

generally do everything within its considerable power to grind you into the dirt. Of course, if you can get up, dust yourself off, and toe the line, why then you instantly and magically become a beacon bright of democratic principles, and the U.S. Congress will probably give you enough money to enable you to offer safe haven to other freedom fighters in your region. You may even have enough money left over to feather a nest or two. Carrara marble only, please.

Sadly, there are many other examples of such hemispheric and global bullying throughout past and current human affairs. England was so competent a bully that they raised the practice to an art. The Soviet Union plays the game in masterly fashion, as witnessed by their brutish and brutal puppet regimes in Afghanistan, Poland and Czechoslovakia.

So Mr. President, don't believe for a Hollywood minute that you and yours have fooled all of us. I know that the real issues are not freedom, democracy, Communism, and Marxism. The issue is POWER. The more power that America has, the more often we get our way. The more often we get our way, the more prosperous we can become. And the more that we have, the more apathetic we get. After all, if I've got mine, what else is there to concern myself with? Certainly not a measly \$100 million of American military aid to kill and maim in the jungles of Central America. Baaaaaaa.

Regards,  
Donald Stand

P.S. This shoe should fit your lovely foot also, Comrade Gorbachev.

## *"Affordable limits... for political equality"*

To the editor:

Campaign contribution limits for a particular office could be a set amount per voter registered (constituent) in the area a candidate would represent. Applying an affordable limit per contributor and reducing contributors to constituents only would encourage candidates to get better acquainted with the area's needs while seeking financial support.

To allow non-constituent financial support, except from the candidate's political party, **is like allowing a non-resident to run for office.**

With a \$1000.00 limit, many people could be reluctant to give anything if they cannot give the limit. If one gives less than the contribution limit, one may get the feeling that it could be accepted with a laugh behind one's back but rates a flowery thank-you anyhow. Affordable limits would help equalize the opportunity for greater

political equality.

Our legislators should receive salaries that exceed the salaries of the judicial branch, and our government, not the political contributors, should pay our legislators. Legislators' in-session time compared with in-court time could be about the same per year. Further comparison would possibly place legislative responsibility at 10 times judicial responsibility, but pay should be about equal as minimum.

A voter who wants to be included may have 10-20 candidates to contribute to per year — even at \$25.00 per candidate limit, it takes a big bite out of the average grocery bill and possibly all of one's welfare check or bingo winnings.

Sincerely,  
Leonard E. Moffit  
Box 748  
Palmer, Alaska 99645

## *Resolution addresses ATV issue*

To the editor:

Due to process of ethics with a wilderness system of the Department of the Interior of the United States of America, which we are citizens of, Which prohibits use of any motoriz-

ed equipment. Which is contrary to our past and present style of our subsistence use of land and shorelines.

WHEREAS, history is repeating itself in taking away privileges as it did

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in the lower 48 States to the Indians of their land and subsistence rights;

WHEREAS, the local population of Nunivak in which wilderness was established was not ever consulted with before establishing wilderness and refuge system;

WHEREAS, the entire population of Nunivak is gathering their subsistence products in the established wilderness area;

WHEREAS, the inhabitants of Nunivak are bound to build shelters in the wilderness area;

WHEREAS, the only means of transportation in the winter is by snowmachines;

WHEREAS, Nunivak in it's entirety is our subsistence source, land and it's shorelines;

WHEREAS, no respect for the aboriginal rights of the inhabitants of Nunivak is being displayed as stated in the ANCSA Bill;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Department of Interior de-classify the wilderness system on nunivak and grant it back to it's aboriginal state.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that there be no restrictions on any operations of motorized equipment any where in Nunivak Island.

Signed and Approved this 23rd day of January 1986 by the Board of Directors of NIMA Corporation at Mekoryuk, Alaska.

Attested by

Edward Shavings Sr., Secretary  
Treasurer

Howard Thomas, Chairman