

Letters from Here and There

June 19, 1970

Mr. Eben Hopson
President, AFN
Kaloa Building
Anchorage, Alaska

Dear Eben:

I should have written this letter long ago. Just a thought, I know you are carrying a big load for your own people, Alaska Federation of Natives.

We are being short changed in regards to our land. To me the land is our primary factor. The money, however great, will flow as it always does, but our land remains. The mineral resources that are now untapped will be out of our reach, the way the bill is introduced. I am not going into details, because you already know that. We, the older people may not live to see the outcome, but we are looking for the future of our children.

Sincerely yours,
Tony Joule

cc: Association on American Indian Affairs, Inc.
Tundra Times

P.O. Box 385
Barrow, Alaska 99723
June 21, 1970

The Honorable Keith Miller
Governor of Alaska
Juneau, Alaska

My Dear Governor Miller:

I am writing about the proposed road to the oil fields from the Yukon River to Prudhoe

Bay. It is clear in the minds of the people who are familiar with this area that this road, as now planned, would benefit only the oil industry. If however, this road was built on to the west from Prudhoe Bay to Barrow and eventually on the Kotzebue area all the people of the North Slope would share in the many advantages the road would bring.

This road, extended west from Prudhoe Bay, would solve most of our unemployment problems. People from this area could be able to work on both construction and maintenance of this road. More and cheaper truck freight would help us since all the things we need now must be air freighted or shipped in by sea once a year. For example, we have to pay \$1.03 per gallon for gasoline. By extending the road towards Barrow and Kotzebue, an area rich in minerals and natural resources would be opened so that our North Slope economy would have a broader base. There is no doubt that all the government installations in this great area would benefit.

On my rough estimation, it would cost less than \$100,000 per mile to build this road of some 200 miles, as the land north of the Brooks Range is so flat. All of us Alaskans are tax payers, yet most benefits from our taxes go to the bigger cities in the state and not to the rural and village areas. Let us think of the area where this \$900 million in oil leases came from before we start spending it in the cities and their surroundings. Let the fishing industry take care of its own problems on the money it brings into the state in taxes. Let the mining industry do the same. My point is that there are no earmarked funds in the state to build that road; not only to benefit the oil industry, but to build it on to the west so as to benefit all the people of the North Slope area. Let us think about using that oil lease money to serve the people of the area from which it was derived.

Just think for a moment, that we in the Barrow and Kotzebue area would be able to barter, to exchange products and to get the natural resources into production. This would solve most of the unemployment problem

in this north country. Let us build that road farther on so we in the area would benefit also. Let us do it now while we have the oil lease money, which came from this north country, it can still be spent to develop the north country and improve the lives of people in the area. It is true I would be hesitant to ask for such enormous amount of money if it money if it came from the areas.

Let us start the withdrawal of federal lands from set 4 reserve for the purpose of a highway system. I will gladly furnish help on the proposed route.

Very respectfully yours,
John Nusunginya

cc: Newsminer
Tundra Times
Nome Nugget
Daily News
Jessen Weekly

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The editor of the Tundra Times received a novel request to publish a letter asking for pen pals from a beautiful young woman from India who is studying in Japan. The letter is on the back of a three dimensional color photograph of Miss Mahtani Hans Raj. She said anyone who sends her a letter will receive the same three dimensional photograph of her. The picture is a smiling one of Mahtani that changes into a winking one when turned a bit to one side or the other.)

REQUEST FOR PEN PALS
SOUGHT

Dear Sirs:

Can you possibly publish my REQUEST. Alternately pass to any other appropriate source.

I am a student from INDIA, studying in Japan.

My hobbies: PHOTOGRAPHY, MUSIC. Wisdom of Creation. Object of Living. Peace Within.

I shall forward this 3-D Card "Wink and Smile Away" to all who write.

MAHTANI Hans Raj
25 Karasawa
Yokohama, Japan 232