

Man Clarifies Insurance Matter

Tanana, Alaska
May 14, 1971

Dear Mr. Rock:

Unfortunately there was some misunderstanding regarding my April 14th letter in the Times. I would like to emphasize that disability insurance is important if not essential for many Alaskan Natives. Furthermore, many insurance companies, including Combined Insurance Company of America, offer more extensive and complete policies that appropriately cover the many and often unique conditions and accidents that people in Alaska encounter.

For those people who presently have disability insurance, I urge them to review their policy and decide if their coverage is appropriate for their area. They may be satisfied with their present policy or want to consider additional coverage. If anyone has any questions, either I or your insurance agent will be happy to answer them.

Sincerely,
J. Michael Carroll, M. D.
David R. L. Duncan, M.D.
Service Unit Director

Letters from Here and There

Alaska Native Industries
Cooperative Ass., Inc.
1306 Second Avenue
Seattle, Wash. 98101

The Honorable Ted F. Stevens
United States Senator
Senate Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Senator Stevens:

Alaska Native Industries Cooperative Association, Inc. (ANICA, Inc.) is currently working very closely with Standard Oil Co. on securing bulk oil and gas storage facilities for as many Alaskan villages as possible, subject to loan fund availability from Standard Oil Co., and bulk delivery guarantees from major petroleum distribution centers within Alaska. These storage tanks will be financed over a five year period, primarily by Standard Oil loan funds with repayment dependent upon product flow through the tank.

Bulk petroleum storage of stove oil at the ANICA member stores has long been a part of our program to secure a lower cost of living, and a higher reliability of product availability within the villages of Alaska. Until now, the B. I. A. Revolving Credit Program has been the only source of loan funds available to the villages for purchase of these necessary tanks. When this fund has been exhausted, many villages purchase tanks directly from the village owned Native Store funds - thereby reducing the stores ability to buy necessary food, ammunition and petroleum supplies needed by the village.

Until the arrival of snow machines in village Alaska, there was not sufficient demand for motor gas to justify bulk gas facilities in the villages. Delivery guarantee was also a serious consideration which had to be made due to a limited time available to suppliers to move the product into remote villages. With improved service guarantees by PAC, United Transportation, and other barge carriers, bulk gas delivery becomes a realistic necessity.

ANICA, Inc.'s first efforts in conjunction with the Standard Oil loan program will be to deliver tankage to villages on the Yukon this summer and in the Kotzebue area this fall. The B. I. A. vessel, North Star, provides the best service and most reasonable rates to deliver these tanks to the villages along the coast. Barge delivery of product to the tanks can begin in the summer of 1972.

The next logical step to consider in the villages is one of ecology. How to rid the village of the many unusable drums which it has been necessary to send North over the past 30 years. As you well know, these are an eyesore and ecological problem to the villages and to all Alaskans.

Enclosed with this letter is a copy of a clipping from the Anchorage Daily News dated April 26, 1971. The clipping reports the delivery of a "drum crusher" to the Alaskan Air Command to facilitate the reduction of steel drums from 42" to 4 1/2" high. It appears to me that if this unit is at all portable, it may well be usable to clean up many remote villages where excess drums are a major problem. My reasons for writing to you then are as follows:

1. To request the assistance of your office in having the Alaskan Air Command provide ANICA, Inc. with

details of the crusher (i.e. cost, portability, power source, etc.)

2. Determine what agency or agencies might be able to provide funds for purchase of one or more crushers to be used in cleaning up the regional village areas, etc.

3. Consider acquisition of several of the Alaskan Air Command units as "surplus" after they have finished with the units, if this time factor would not be too great.

4. Assess the possibilities of having the Alaskan Air Command, or Air National Guard, fly the units from village to village as each location is cleaned up. Also assess the possibility of having the Alaskan Air Command fly in small tractors for burials of the drums if the drums cannot be removed by large or the North Star and sold as scrap.

While ANICA, Inc. is very concerned at the growing pile of rotted out drums in most villages, we are not structured or financially able to spearhead a clean-up drive of this scope. For that reason, I am sending a copy of this letter to Mr. John Shively, Director of Rural Cap, in the hope that his agency may want to become involved in an effort

of this type. Additionally, I am sending a copy of this letter to Mr. Don Perkins Director, Rural Development Agency, Juneau, Alaska with the thought that his agency may be able to provide R. D. A. grants to the villages to pay people to collect the drums which have become widely scattered around the villages through the past years.

No one enjoys living in a gas drum garbage pit.

Your assistance in this matter is greatly appreciated and hopefully, will again provide the clean surroundings which all Alaskan people have a desire to enjoy.

Sincerely,
Donald S. Dorsey
ANICA, Inc. Manager

cc John Shively
Rural Cap

Don Perkins
RDA - Juneau

Morris Thompson
BIA - Juneau

BIA Superintendents
Bethel, Nome, Anchorage
and Fairbanks

Harry Carter
A. F. N. - Anchorage

Tundra Times
Fairbanks, Alaska

ANICA Delegates.