

He Helped the Natives

6734 Linden St.
Anchorage, Alaska

Dear Mr. Rock and staff of the Tundra Times,

We are very much disheartened by the ruling of the Personnel Board. They ruled that my absence without leave and my unauthorized trip to Fairbanks was in defiance of established policy; and therefore just cause for firing. Since the members of the board are all employers, lacking in legal experience and knowledge of the intricacies of land selection, disposal and policy; it is understandable, that within the narrow confines of their thinking, such a decision was reached. However, we did get the hearing, and the people directly responsible for firing me, had to publicly voice their reasons to the board. In spite of the witnesses and exhibits presented in support of my action, the board chose to interpret the evidence in

(Continued on page 6)

HE HELPED THE NATIVES . . .

(Continued from Page 2)

favor of the Division of Lands. Steve De Lisio, our lawyer, has advised us that there are no further legal steps we can take. Which action is as regrettable to him as it is to us.

Our fight is over and we lost as far as re-instatement to my job is concerned. But we did make some points in the overall picture, 1, the George Lake area was not sold out from under the Tanacross Indians. 2., The land disposal policy and attitude of the Division of Lands is now under scrutiny by the Legislative Council. 3., Most important, as a result of your coverage of this and other stories, the Natives of Alaska have been alerted, and are now joining forces in an attempt to get their fair share of the land and it's resources.

We wish to thank you and your staff for the news coverage over the past 2½ years, and Sheila Turner for her accurate covering of the hearing. Thank you again, and keep up the good work.

Sincerely,

/s/ R. D. Mueller

/s/ Jerry Maye Mueller

Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Mueller