

Atka Pleads to Be Heard

Atka, Alaska
Box 99, USNS
FPO Seattle 98791

September 14, 1971
TUNDRA TIMES
Box 1287
Fairbanks, Alaska

Dear Editor:

Please print our plea in the "Tundra Times."
REMOTEST INHABITING ISLAND CRY!

Anytime Atka is mentioned it always accompanies the words, Remotest Native inhabited island in the Aleutian chains.

Well the remotest Aleut natives biggest problem today is—it is not too remote to be polluted!

How can we the helpless Aleut natives keep the home island Atka and it's neighboring islands secure in health and tranquility and protected from the dreadful pollution caused by the man which is about to come from the AEC Amchitka underground nuclear test???

We are the sitting ducks waiting for—we don't know what.

After the 1969 blast was bad enough. We hesitated to eat what we had taken for granted in the past. We threw away food if it had just a bit of our suspicion that it is radioactive. We stopped eating little things we ate with no thought in the past. Mussels and clams looked sickly, kelp looked poor. We felt it best not to eat and become sick. We don't have a doctor to beckon right away. Fear, too, polluted us in mind. We are just getting over our 1969s fears.