

Letters from Here and There

Dates Finalized For Hearings on Native Articles

U. S. Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service
Washington, D. C. 20235

August 21, 1974
Mr. Howard Rock
Chairman, Village Art
Upgrade Committee
University of Alaska
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

Dear Mr. Rock:

As indicated in our previous correspondence, the National Marine Fisheries Service, in cooperation with the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, intends to hold public hearings on the proposed list of Authentic Native Articles of Handicraft and Clothing. The new dates of the hearings have now been finalized. The dates, times and locations are as follows:

September 24, 1974, Nome, Alaska, 9:00 a.m. in the District Court Chambers.

September 26, 1974, Fairbanks, Alaska, 9:00 a.m. in the Alaska State Bank Building.

September 27, 1974, Anchorage, Alaska, 9:00 a.m. at the City Council Chambers in the Loussac Library.

Notice of the new hearing dates will soon be published in the "Federal Register."

We hope the hearings will provide interested persons a full opportunity to express their views on the subject.

Sincerely,
Robert W. Schoning
Director

Writer Gets Eye Opener

August 30, 1974

Dear Editor:

Living in the bush has disadvantages sometimes, especially when one doesn't subscribe to newspapers. We at Pt. Lay learned of new President Ford via the Armed Forces Radio. This week's trip to Barrow gave me another eye opener.

So, members of the Arctic Slope Regional Corporation stepped into the political spotlight early this month by endorsing GOP gubernatorial aspirant Wally Hickel. Of course, I didn't believe it until I read confirming articles in two newspapers.

I feel it is time to reassess the role of our corporate leaders. Are we taking steps of merit? Where are the corporate priorities? Most important, do corporate priorities develop with help from the Inupiat community? If so, input from the Inupiat community must be fading out.

Oh, I know, the Land Claims Act places we stockholders into the tender care of elected corporate leaders. Many big deci-

sions and day to day management are in their hands.

Yet, it's uncomfortable for me, as an Arctic Slope resident, to sit smiling as our "leaders" blithely endorse a Republican (we Natives traditionally vote Democrat anyway), whom, I recall, in the early land claims struggle would have rather seen Natives own 10 million acres of soil — not our present 40 million.

Whether or not Hickel can now work in harmony with us is not the question. The question is, "Did we have to endorse anyone at all?"

These days, the political scene is not necessarily a clean arena.

Sincerely,
Nancy Gray