

Kasigluk Supports HR 11164 in Note To Pres. Johnson

The village of Kasigluk on the Kuskokwim delta last Monday wrote a letter to President Lyndon Johnson supporting the land claims bill H.R. 11164 introduced by Rep. Howard Pollock in the House of Representatives.

The following is the letter signed by Irvin Brink:

Kasigluk
Alaska
22 July 1967

Dear Sir:

We feel that we have the right to write to you about this land of ours. Our forefathers have lived here long before Alaska was discovered by anyone. Alaska was not bought from us. We feel that it should have been bought

(continued on Page 4)

Kasigluk Supports

(Continued from page 1)

from us, the Eskimoe's, instead of the Russians. We have lived here long before the Russians discovered Alaska. We feel Alaska belongs to us, rather than Alaska belonging to the Federal Government.

We therefore support bill H.R. 11164; the bill that was introduced by Mr. Pollock in Congress and endorsed by the Alaska Federation of Native Associations.

We also feel that things found under the ground also belong to us, such as oil, minerals, etc, and that this should be included in the bill.

We also feel that we have the right to hunt, fish, and trap here in Alaska. We and our people have lived on this land so long that we feel that we have the right to do what ever we want to do on our land. The only way that we can keep on living is by living in Alaska. We mostly live on hunting, fishing, and trapping; and if a government should take some land away and claim it and stop us from doing such things as hunting, fishing, and trapping on that land we would face a lack of food and maybe starvation. Fish and animals move and we can not say that one place will always be a hunting ground, or one place always a fish camp. We need all our land to live on, not just a small part. And as we move into modern times we need also what is under the land in order to live in this world. This is why we had to write you this letter.

Sincerely yours,
Kasigluk Village Council
Alaska

Irvin Brink

Copies to;
President Johnson
Howard Pollock
Ernest Gruening
Raymond Christiesen
George Kohman
Tundra Times

The great pleasure in life is doing
what people say you cannot do.

Walter Bagehot