

letters

Request Red resign

Leslie E. "Red" Swanson
300 Wedgewood Dr.
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

Dear Red:

After thinking over your recent statements concerning your moving to Fairbanks, and your plans to seek political office as a representative from House District 20 or a senator from District O. I have concluded that in your heart, mind and body you have deserted the people of District 19.

Please resign from your seat in the State House as the representative from District 19.

This will allow a special election to be called and someone whose heart, mind and body is in District 19, can be elected to represent the people of this district in the second session of the Tenth Alaska Legislature.

Charlie Boyd
Mile 276 Richardson Hwy.

cc: Tundra Times

Whaling ban outrageous

Thomas Richards Jr.
Editor and Publisher
Tundra Times

Dear Mr. Richards:

I may be only one little strand of hair representing the Eskimos up here in the North but I do want to put my two little cents on the whale hunt for the natives. I've been reading your paper, the Caribou News from Kotzebue and also letters from certain people that I finally got this urge to write. I, myself having a limited vocabulary, will try to write exactly how I feel in my so-called limited vocabulary so that some people like me will really understand just how I feel instead of coming across a big word and wonder what the heck it means and just let it pass without really finding out the real meaning.

Having been raised in Barrow most of my life where they hunt whales and what I've eaten having been raised eating muk-tuk, I think it's downright outrageous for the big shots at the White House to try to stop the Natives from hunting it. What do they want me and my kids to eat? Beef, I suppose, or maybe chicken which we hardly see up here in our store, and if we do get it, by the time it gets here it costs us over \$5.00 for one and that hardly is enough to

feed a family of five. If it is here to buy, where do we get enough money to buy it with? With no jobs available I tell you it's pretty hard. It's a good thing we have good neighbors that are willing to give than to receive. Natives have a thing about sharing whether the person they give is a white or black. Some whites that have passed through Point Hope can very well verify that they do share their food (native) and don't expect pay in return. They are also invited to eat and aren't starved while they stay here. Now turn around and look at it the other way. Natives go and live in white man's city, town or whatever. Are they invited to their place to eat? Are they given food? No!!!! Not unless they personally know them. They wouldn't even give a hoot whether they are starving or not. Do you call that neighborly? If they do try to stop us from hunting whales, why not cut off beef and chicken slaughtering for the whites too. My kids can't eat that stuff all the time because it's not there all the time and because they were raised eating native food and are used to eating it already. If they do stop the whale hunt, in another year or so all the native kids are going to be skin and bones and doctors will start to wonder what the heck is wrong with them. The only answer will be, due to lack of native food. You aren't going to see anymore rosy fat cheeks, only dull hollow cheeks.

What's this about trying to save the native culture? Are they doing that by cutting off the whale hunt which is one of the most prized culture to natives? Why don't they send all the big shots from the White House up here to the north and let them experience the native way of life instead of sitting in high class style and using their noggins to stop us from hunting, which they haven't even seen in their lifetime. Let them experience all the hours our men put in just trying to catch the whale. Out in the cold, some go without a wink of sleep for over 24 hours. This can be verified by some whites that have come up and actually participated in the whale hunt.

As I've said before, it is downright outrageous for them to stop the whale hunt and being an Eskimo, here is my say so on it and I do hope it's printed.

Sincerely,
Susie E. Frankson

Plans are biased, incorrect & misleading

Greg Bos, Game Biologist
Department of Fish and Game
333 Raspberry Road
Anchorage, Alaska 99502

Dear Mr. Bos:

Reference your letter dated July 26, 1977.

Your summary of the comments made at the public meeting held in Barrow, July 12, on the proposed Alaska Wildlife Management Plans is biased, incorrect and misleading. Your summary clearly demonstrates that your staff was not able to comprehend or analyze the expressions of the community.

Unlike your policy of ignoring the human variables in the ecological framework other than restrictive measures, the Inupiat repeatedly reiterated that their activities should be considered in a sound management program. Your understanding of the meeting reflects the recreational conceptual scheme which continues to dominate your thinking and the proposed Management Plan.

Your summary states, "The Department was criticized for not adequately addressing the potential impact of environmental changes due to development in the north, in addition to subsistence hunting, in dis-

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He paid his fine

Wilda G. Hudson
Executive Director
Alaska Public Offices
Commission

Dear Ms. Hudson:

I am impressed with your persistence in pursuit of my \$3.00 fine imposed because I was late in filing my Financial Disclosure Form, due April 15, 1977. I am not, however, impressed with your inconsistent determination of fines when someone obviously breaks the law as I have done by being a weekend late because your office in the past accepted Campaign Financial Forms on Monday if it was due on Friday. I am speaking, of course, to the fact that Governor Jay Hammond clearly broke the law recently by beginning fund raising activity and spending prior to officially filing for political office. All he got was a "slap on the hand" and both you and the Attorney General's office spent at least \$1,000 in staff time and materials collecting my three-dollar fine.

I was and continue to be a strong supporter of Financial Disclosure. However, inconsistencies in a concept you believe in leave you somewhat frustrated.

I am attaching an additional \$2.00 to my fine to help defray your administrative costs. I believe it is also in line with our current Governor's philosophy that all agencies must pay their own way or be eliminated.

My very best wishes.

Sincerely,
Gordon Jackson

cc: Tundra Times

letters . . .

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cussions of the western arctic herd decline." This statement is a misrepresentation of the discussion. First, in no way did I suggest that subsistence hunting was related to the caribou decline. I pointed out that it was Fish and Game's mismanagement of the Western Arctic herd which is responsible for the current situation. Since Statehood no regulations have been placed on the caribou, and your own reports since 1969 have listed the annual harvest of 25,000 caribou as "normal," "below normal," and one biologist claims the take as "below the natural increment level." However, your recent reports and publications now label the same harvest as "excessive." I have watched during the last two years how the State manager shift the focus away from mismanagement to subsistence hunting. If the herd had remained viable since 1969 to 1975 with an average take of 25,000 caribou, I suggest that the reported decline is due to other causes or in fact the State erred in its own count.

The Management Plan and your summary also ignore your own reports and my comments about reported habitat degradation in the Arctic Slope. Your Management Plans and summary continue to address "potential" or probable impacts related to petroleum activities. In view of the pressures for petroleum development, I pointed out that environmental impacts which have already occurred cannot be ignored. I further suggested that this information be brought to the attention of your State Board which is attempting to implement management plans based on incomplete data. In addition, the Legislature should be appraised of the situation in order to obtain support for the needed research to mitigate negative impacts. In later discussions, I was told that biologists have raised these issues, but that they had been deleted from reports made to the Fish and Game Board.

I would also strenuously object should you interpret the lack of response to your request to review your summary of the meeting as indifference or approval of your review.

Sincerely yours,
Rosita Worl

cc: Tundra Times