

"I may not agree with a word you say but I will defend unto death your right to say it." — Voltaire

Tundra Times



Owned, controlled and edited by Eskimo, Indian, Aleut Publishing Company, a corporation of Alaska natives. Published at Fairbanks, Alaska, weekly, on Wednesdays.

Address all mail to Box 1287, Fairbanks, Alaska, 99707. Telephone 452-2244.

Second class postage paid at Fairbanks, Alaska 99701.

Eskimo, Indian, Aleut Publishing Co., Inc. Board of Directors, Executive Committee: Howard Rock, President and Chairman of the Board; Chris Anderson, Executive Vice President; Elfrieda Kushida, First Vice President; Daphne Gustafson, Second Vice President; James Immel, Treasurer; Mary Jane Fate, Secretary; HOWARD ROCK, Editor.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Regular Mail (including Alaska, Canada and other states)	1 Year \$10.00	6 Months \$ 5.50
Air Mail (including Alaska, Canada and other states)	1 Year \$21.00	6 Months \$12.00

Member of the American Indian Press Association

Editor's Testimony Before the Authentic Native Articles of Handicrafts and Clothing Hearing

A Written Testimony

My name is Howard Rock and I was born at Point Hope, Alaska. At the present time I am the editor of the statewide Native newspaper, Tundra Times. I am also one of five commissioners of the Department of the Interior's Indian Arts and Crafts Board. Since the Board has submitted a paper on the Authentic Native Articles of Handicrafts and Clothing through our office in Washington, D.C., I am submitting this testimony as an artist and as the editor of Tundra Times.

I feel privileged to be able to include my testimony in writing before the Authentic Native Articles of Handicrafts and Clothing hearing conducted jointly by the National Marine Fisheries Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The Federal Register published the 50 C.F.R. 216.23 last June 3, 1974. I am seriously concerned about the cutoff date of December 21, 1972 after which no new Native made items may be originated; and two, the list of items made from such marine mammals as whale, walrus and seal.

THE CUTOFF DATE

I consider the cutoff date as a serious invasion into the creative abilities of Native Alaska artisans who for years have had to tap into the past for inspirations and incentives to create attractive objects in their arts and crafts as well as their clothing. I say this because I am an artist myself. If the cutoff date involved the artisans of the Alaskan Arctic areas, I am, indeed, involved along with them. I have carved ivory items as did, and does, my fellow artisans in Alaska. Along with them, I have never been restricted to certain designs and I have hungered to create new designs as did my fellow artisans.

The restrictive date of December 21, 1972 can well be a stifling one on the creative endeavors of our Alaskan artisans. It would tend to kill off the present creative era which had begun to enjoy a better outlook. Through skillfully designed products, an atmosphere of encouragement to the gifted artisans had begun to emerge. The date would certainly restrict the progress of this newly-developed situation which might even be called a renaissance period. The artisans are enjoying and experiencing a period of creative era and easy atmosphere in which to work. The restrictive date of that December almost two years ago will certainly cool the creativity which can easily be the beginning of a devolution of a progressive period.

As an artist who works mostly with oils and brushes, I feel a close kinship to my fellow artisans that even though they work with different media, they would feel as I would if my art were to be restricted to my certain period of my artistic endeavors.

The restrictive date, and I say this with all sincerity, can be a definite devolution period for the Native artisans of Alaska. Feeling as I do about it, I would ask that it be deleted from the 216.23 altogether. And, too, it cannot serve as a device to conserve animals from which the artisans get their materials because those animals' visitations to certain areas in the Arctic is only a short time sometimes involving only a month long period out of a

Letters from Here and There

Lena Andree Commended

Alaska Native Commission on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse
Aug. 30, 1974

Ms. Lena Andree
Rural CAP
Box 179
Dillingham, Alaska 99576

Dear Lena:

At a meeting of the ANCADA Executive Committee on Aug. 20 and 21 you presented an outline of a drug program which you are in the process of formulating for the Dillingham area.

After discussion and consideration of your program goals and objectives the Executive Committee of the Alaska Native Commission on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse are unanimous in their endorsement of the program as you have presented it.

The Native Commission, although heavily involved in alcohol programs has not as yet addressed the ever present drug problem. So it is heartening to see one of our own commission members taking the initiative by attempting to establish a drug program in their area.

The ANCADA board and staff will provide any assistance which we are capable of in insuring the funding and success of your program.

Sincerely,
George Barril
Executive Director
ANCADA

More on

Lena Andree

Sept. 24, 1974

Mrs. Helena M. Andree
Coordinator and Counselor

Alcohol and Drug Abuse Program
Bristol Bay, Alaska

Dear Lena:

Congratulations on your new Drug Abuse Program in the Bristol Bay area. I'm sure your fine example will be followed throughout the other regions. You dear lady know better than anyone else that such a program is already late in starting. If only more of our people would look to the Native population in the lower forties, and use the experience these people have gained in 200 years of inter-cultural conflict. We are just starting to have the problems they have been coping with on a regular basis with for years.

I do sincerely hope our friend Howard Rock can help out with a series related to your new endeavor. It'll need all the help it can get just to meet the current demand for help that exists.

Your action can and will spare many Native families the hurt and dismay that too many now, already know. Let us not forget where this problem originated and help them also. I would be appalled to hear of them being denied the assistance that so many Natives were denied down here. To cure any problem it's best to go to the root of it and start there. I still honestly believe that more should be done in reference to prevention.

My thanks to Mr. George Barril, executive director of the Alaska Native Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse for supporting your program so strongly.

Sincerely, Your Ilug
John L. Lombard
P.O. Box B-48584
Reprea, Calif. 95671

year. Such an animal is oogruk (bearded seal) and so is the walrus, at least at Point Hope. The hunting period for the Bowhead whale at this village is scarcely a month and a half out of a year. The hunting period for the common seal is different lasting some eight months out of a year and this animal teams in great numbers in the Arctic. It can be pretty much available during that length of time depending, of course, on hunting conditions. It can also be pretty much unavailable when hunting conditions are not favorable.

Some marine mammals hunted for centuries in the Arctic and subarctic areas of Alaska seemed to be naturally conserved by lengths of seasonal migrations and adverse weather conditions. Bowhead whale hunting at Point Hope is roughly a month and a half; oogruk, scarcely a month; walrus about a month long, if that, and these hunting periods are out of year's duration. One can't hunt these animals by the hundreds, at Point Hope at least, because of the limiting factors of nature itself.

And, too, the Point Hope hunters themselves do not tend to overkill because of limited storage spaces provided by traditional siqloags (underground meat caches). When these storage spaces are taxed to the limit, the hunters refrain from taking any more animals because of sure spoilage and by following the ages old Eskimo saying, "Do not kill the animal you do not need."

Perhaps the 216.23 should have been written after much more consultation with the Native people themselves. With this input, perhaps there would never be a cutoff date included in the measure. There would never be an onerous restriction that would actually sever traditions — the sources of creative incentives. From my viewpoint, the list and the cutoff date are ill-considered and burdensome that can degrade, or actually kill, the creative processes as far as the "Authentic Native Articles of Handicrafts and Clothing" is concerned. They should be drastically changed or deleted altogether.

Howard Rock
Editor, Tundra Times

Disgrace and Disruption

Sept. 25, 1974

Dear Sir:

In the National Enquirer newspaper of Sept. 22, 1974 I read an expert says... Modern Living Changes Fun-Loving Eskimos Into Murderers and Suicides.

This is a disgrace to disrupt the Eskimo's way of life which he has liked.

What is happening to the caribou and their way of living? Evidently the Nelchina herd has the most trouble.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Laura Lutby
518 12th Street
Rawlins, Wyoming

Everyone Gossips At Slope Camp

Old Man's Camp
September 30, 1974

Dear Friend the Editor:

We have good weather up here at Old Man. First 8 days I've been here the wind was blowing, 2 days good weather. Then it started to rain heavy for 8 hours. Then it sprinkled for a week, then turned into snow. It snowed every night for 5 days, but disappears during the day.

So many people here no one hardly pay any attention to anyone. People mind their own business. Its not like in the villages. People gets up and go and stand on the Bank till some one comes and then the Gossip starts.

What happened last night and who went up to get, and going to get another Bottle of Whiskey, and on and on and on, all day long. Nobody is worrying about money or jobs or nothing, just same old thing, Gossip. Gossip and some more, and more. Thats the way the Villages are. Nobody worry about the money here in the Slope. Whats money good for. Nobody says I'm a good worker, all they call me is Money Hungry Stickman.

Well Howard, I don't know how long the work here will last. Its getting cold and nasty. Some are leaving and some coming. I guess. So I'll stop by to see you when I come in.

Fred Stickman, Sr.

Continuing Difficulties with North State

KOTZEBUE AREA
HEALTH CORPORATION
P.O. Box 256
Kotzebue, Alaska 99752
Phone (907) 442-3164

Sept. 17, 1974

Commissioner Zerbitz
Alaska Public Utilities Commission
MacKay Building, Suite 1100
338 Denali Street
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Dear Commissioner Zerbitz:

I write this letter in regards to the difficulties we are encountering with the North State Telephone Company, Inc. here in the City of Kotzebue.

I feel it is of utter importance
(Continued on page 8)