

letters

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Hammond's speech

Don Wright
S.R. Box 10402
Fairbanks, Alaska 99704
Telephone (907) 479-3892
January 6, 1979

Jay Hammond
Governor of Alaska
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Governor Hammond:

We listened to your speech January 5, 1979 with great interest — attentive to each word hoping for the guidance we so desperately need to maintain our sovereignty.

What we heard was the reiteration of our uninformed, patronizing attitude toward Alaskans:

1. You gave us the choice of working through legislation that died on December 18, 1978 or living with the Antiquities Act;

In fact, we are forced to work with the BLM Organic Act of 1976;

Your palaver totally ignores the Constitutional rights of the sovereign Alaskan citizens.

2. You stated that Alaskans are not aware of the complexity of the ownership and jurisdiction of our lands and waters;

Alaskans understand violations of our rights and are reacting to the ineptness of their elected leaders — you, your Lt. Governors and the legislators who have presented a posture of subservice to federal tyranny.

3. You repeatedly stated that we should get behind the Congressional delegation and support their position;

There is no question that they are innovative and knowledgeable men capable of drafting legislation for our benefit;

However, the issue of the sovereignty of our lands and waters is crucial. Our Congressional delegation must respond to the needs and desires of Alaskans;

The direction our Congressional delegation goes starts with the people — flows through our legislators to you and the Congressional delegation;

You were elected by 38 per cent of those who voted November 7, 1978; that's only 12 per cent of the population. By law you must represent the will of the majority of Alaskans. Either lead in the direction the people point you or we will choose a new leader.

We demand that you immediately call a special session of the Legislature to sit jointly for three day sessions in Juneau, Anchorage, Kodiak and Fairbanks — all proceedings to the special session will be televised live — for the purposes of hearing the views of the people and to implement these positions:

A. We will reaffirm our domain and dominion of the lands and waters within the exterior boundaries of the Territory of Alaska by declaration of the Legislature, with concurrence by you and the Congressional delegation;

B. We will issue permits for those federal installations necessary for our protection in cooperation with the national system;

C. We will designate those areas of national interest that must be preserved forever — we will do so in consultation with the citizens of the nation — not at the insistence of special interest groups;

D. We will establish laws for the settlement and development of the land and the resources that are responsive to the desires and needs of the people;

E. We will then petition the Supreme Court of the United States for redress of our grievances.

The citizens of Alaska will

persist in these demands and our elected leaders will conform and implement these demands or they will be replaced by others who will.

The people are unified and we will go forward with our demands if we have to maintain a permanent impeachment and election panel 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Donald R. Wright
Judith C. Wright

ACZMB inequity

3701 Eureka Drive, Sp 44B
Anchorage, Alaska 99503
January 5, 1979

Governor Jay S. Hammond
Alaska State Capitol Bldg.
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Governor Hammond:

I am greatly concerned about the current inequity of the make-up of the Alaska Coastal Zone Management Board.

Rural Alaska, which has the majority of affected coastline, has the minority number of seats on that Board. That Board and others like it allow urban Alaska to set policies and establish regulations over rural Alaskans whose lives are impacted by those regulations and yet who have minority representation.

Urban Alaskans are not sensitive to the needs and concerns of rural Alaska. Just as Alaska objects to being dictated to by Washington, D.C., so, too, rural Alaska objects to being dictated to by urban Alaska.

Very truly yours,
Carolyn G. Schubert

cc: Tundra Times

Definition of 'OCS'

United States Department
of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Alaska Outer Continental
Shelf Office
Post Office Box 1159
Anchorage, Alaska 99510
January 5, 1979

Dear Editor:

In response to your request to have a definition for "OCS," I have drawn up one based on the one laid down by Congress in the Submerged Lands Act and the OCS Lands Act, both passed in 1953.

The outer Continental Shelf refers to submerged lands that lie beyond three geographical miles from the mean high tide of the coast line of a state, such as Alaska. Because any island, under statehood, is treated as if it were part of the mainland — for purposes of establishing tide-lands and all submerged lands within the three-mile boundary, the outer Continental Shelf lands are, again, the submerged lands lying outside the three geographical mile limit of an island also.

And, to put it more simply and in the context related to the management of mineral resources under these OCS submerged lands: the outer Continental Shelf refers to the submerged lands outside of the three geographical mile boundary, whether it be measured from the coast of mainland Alaska or from the coast of the islands belonging to Alaska.

As a result, I am sure you can understand that when we see news of an operation on an island, such as Duck Island, referred to as an "OCS" operation, drilling in this case (in December 13, 1978 issue, Vol. 15, No. 50), our concern to right

the error. There has not been, incidentally, any OCS property in the Arctic (federal submerged lands) as yet leased for oil and gas exploration. As you well know, federal OCS lands are involved in the proposed state-federal sale of leases in the Beaufort Sea, scheduled for a final decision to be made by the Governor of Alaska in concert with the Secretary of the Interior next November (1979). Public hearings are to be held this spring.

Thank you for taking the opportunity to read this letter and for your interest in the federal OCS leasing program.

Sincerely,
Consuelo K. Wassink
Public Information Officer

Recycling facilities

December 26, 1978

To all concerned:

I can't help but express my grievances for our future generations, and that of ours, that there is an ever increasing accumulation of solid disposal of the environs of our towns, and our villages. Are we to go on ignoring it, and let our future generation suffer the consequences?

Are there Federal, State, municipal, or corporate funds available for recycling facilities? At least in major cities, and towns with Facilities big enough to handle outlying villages. Not only would that be environmentally sound, but would possibly pay for itself, and produce more jobs among the villagers.

Oh! By the way, Mr. Killian's (All Things Considered, N.P.R.) way of enucleating our way of butchering the whale is in all respects inept, and darn wrong speculations.

Thank you for your time.

Thomas Nusanginya
Barrow, Alaska 99723

Antiquity Act

January 8, 1979

Dear Editor:

I would like to wish everyone a happy New Year and with deepest sincerity to United States President Jimmy Carter and Rep. Morris Udall and John Denver and others who care about you and me and our well being.

Most of us are in favor of this Antiquity Act. Reason — for the last thirty-five years, Sports Trophy hunters have been coming to Bettles Field — The Brooks Range in the neighborhood of four to six thousand of them. They didn't hunt for food or clothing but for trophy horns, etc. We should not allow this. The land set aside for Parks now, will help curb this senseless slaughter, and it still allows us to live subsistence hunting and fishing.

There isn't much a Game Warden can do when you buy a license to hunt and kill animals. We hope they won't be allowed to kill off our moose, caribou and other game like they

(See OUR READERS, Page 10)

Letters to the Editor are invited and should be addressed to 639 'I' Street, Anchorage, Alaska 99501. The Tundra Times reserves the right to edit letters which are excessively long, and to edit or omit letters which may be considered libelous.

● **Our readers write to us**

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did the bison etc in the South 48.

I'm sure the hunting guides can find other ways to make their living such as wayside road-houses, etc.

It's not President Carter's fault the World is in such a sorry mess. We should all hope and pray that he will continue to straighten things out the best of his ability, and he can't accomplish much unless we the people give him our support. There are tougher days ahead for a few years yet. This happens once every two hundred years. The best thing to do is use common sense and play it cool and hang

in there.

From Members of the
Evansville Corp.
Bettles Field, Alaska
W.J. Evans Sr
Millicent Gray
Myrtle C. Beham
Sonja Harris
Stephanie Harris
Cora E. Tootkaylok
Marion Van Horn