

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

Tundra Times



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Editorial—

The North Slope Suit

One of the most heated subjects at the moment is the Arctic Slope Native Association's suit against the State of Alaska and the Department of the Interior in connection with Arctic Slope natives' position on the land claims.

We will say at the outset that this subject has, at last, been posed before the public although it had been held at abeyance by the leadership of ASNA for quite some time. The action by the Arctic Eskimo group, we believe, is one that has been a necessary step in the course of the battle for equitable solution of the native land claims. To have left it out of the battle would have been a mark of indecision on the part of the native people of Alaska as a whole. It needed to be said because it is a fact as it stands on its own. If ASNA had not acted on it, or any other native group, it would have been a dereliction of duty by the present leadership as it would be viewed by the future generations. It is fact now as it has been acted upon. It would probably be viewed by our future generations that it was a step to insure a more stable position in the resolution of native land claims. ASNA's action could be a unifying force for all parties concerned with the land claims issue.

The White element of the battle for the solution of the claims issue has been one of defensive attitude on the ASNA suit. This, we believe, is the desired result by the North Slope leadership and leaders of other native areas because there is a definite ring of justice behind the action.

We believe the ASNA suit will bring about more understanding, and sense of justice, among the parties concerned.

Tundra Times Submits Resolution to AFN

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS the Tundra Times has for nearly ten years attempted to make heard in Alaska and the Nation the voices of Alaska's Native Peoples; and

WHEREAS the Board of Directors of the Eskimo, Indian, Aleut Publishing Company, Incorporated, has on various occasions expressed its desire that the Tundra Times reflect in as much depth as possible the wide spectrum of the opinions and experiences of Alaska's Native Peoples; and

WHEREAS, because of the limited staff and financial resources of the Eskimo, Indian, Aleut Publishing Company, the Tundra Times by its own efforts alone cannot possibly accomplish this goal without the participation and help of all Alaska Natives;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors of the Eskimo, Indian, Aleut Publishing Company, Inc., that the Company solicit the help and opinions of Natives throughout Alaska, in the form of news reports and newsletters, as well as opinions on all subjects as expressed in editorial or letter-to-editor form; that this resolution be presented to the 1971 convention of the Alaska Federation of Natives; and the Company make its best efforts to publish as many such news and editorial contributions as possible, taking into account the requirements of fairness, opportunities to reply, legal counsel as to libel law and other liabilities, and most importantly the need to express and demonstrate the rich and wide variation of Alaska Native experience and opinion.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ESKIMO, INDIAN, ALEUT PUBLISHING CO., INC.

/s/ BY: Howard Rock, Chairman

/s/ ATTEST: Dorothy Perdue, Secretary

Letters from Here and There

Send Telegrams To President

Seattle, Washington
September 28, 1971

Dear Friends:

Please send a telegram or letter to President Richard Nixon asking him to please stop the UNDERGROUND NUCLEAR TESTINGS at Amchitka Island, Alaska.

Amchitka Island is located in the Aleutian Islands which the Atomic Energy Commission selected as a testing site because and I quote from a letter they wrote to me: "...it is an isolated, unpopulated area...the geology of the island provides competent rock for a detonation site..."

With all of its technical sophistication and the AEC has shown its incompetence too many times! What does the word 'area' mean to them, for 150 miles away from the Amchitka site are thousands of naval personnel at Adak Island who live there with their wives and children. 200 miles from the site is Atka Island which is also populated. As for the 'competent rock' I know there still are hazards from such tests, because the earth's surface cracks from such powerful explosions and radiation is expelled into the atmosphere. Scientists recognize the hazards of underground testings, but the AEC seems to ignore their warnings. Mr. Marvin Kalkstein's statement which was presented to the Senate Air and Water Pollution Subcommittee, November 18, 1969 states that, "Kenneth Pitzer, President of Stanford University and formerly chairman of an ad hoc committee on the safety of underground nuclear testing of the President's Science Advisory Committee, voiced concern about unresolved seismic hazards from underground nuclear tests and asked that possible test hazards be studied by an impartial judge and jury of experts who have no AEC affiliation. His position has been that this should be done before proceeding with large underground tests such as the recent nuclear test conducted in Amchitka, Alaska." I have read too many articles stating the carelessness of the AEC in conducting nuclear tests. They also leave their garbage to add to the pollution of our Planet Earth!

I sent a petition January 15, 1969 to the President. The following states some of the statements of the petition:

Studies should be made by a team of scientists, seismologists and doctors before such tests are made.

These tests are being conducted at Amchitka Island because they are too powerful for the Nevada area.

Scientists and other prominent groups are wary of these tests because of the Aleutian Fault which has caused tremors through the years in the Aleutian area.

There are too many cases of cancer along the Aleutian Chain and the Pribilof Islands. There is also a skin disease which doctors are having difficulty diagnosing. There is the radiation illnesses of the Eskimos!

Let us not forget Bikini Islands where 90% of the children have glandular problems although they were 500 miles from the testing grounds. (Life Magazine's "Return to Bikini" October 18, 1968.) The Bikini

tests were made above ground, but please keep in mind that underground testings have their hazards, too.

We must be concerned about our waters. The Readers' Digest predicted that in the near future man would be forced to turn to the sea for food because of the human population taking over the space on land which would destroy animal life on land!

The atomic Energy Commission does not know all the answers. The powers of the world must fully realize the hazards of all kinds of nuclear testings or many may find himself wiped off the face of the earth.

I must also mention there are many other populated islands along the Aleutian Chain and the Pribilof Islands famous for their fur seals to the north! This is the land of my people the Aleuts

In closing let me remind you that the Atomic Energy Commission has made too many mistakes in the past. We must not let them continue in their dangerous actions which could lead to the mutilation of our children or of future generations of the world.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Augustine Tu
(Alexandra Gromoff)

Not Enough to Eat at Banquet

Nulato, Alaska
October 5, 1971

Dear Friend, Howard Rock,
Editor:

Last year I went to the Tun-



Your Horoscope

By Jeane Dixon

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 13

Your birthday today: The questions you ask of yourself and life change this year. What was challenging shrinks to routine while ideas that seemed subtle and remote become spiritual adventure. Today's natives often pursue a vocation with a dogmatic fervor.

Aries [March 21-April 19]: Be alert for sudden incidents, willing to think as you go and stick by decisions implied by your immediate reactions.

Taurus [April 20-May 20]: Try a wide range of projects—and no recriminations offered or accepted for those which go astray or fail.

Gemini [May 21-June 20]: Little you say or do will go unnoticed or unremembered. Discretion preserves future options. Seek serious objectives, changes.

Cancer [June 21-July 22]: Listening brings more information than eager questioning. What you need to know comes from unlikely people, casual strangers.

Leo [July 23-Aug. 22]: Present your finest, most lucid public image. Accept invitations at face value, presuming no special status in those who seek your attention.

dra Times banquet. I got one piece of chicken, two bits. This year I'm staying home. If there was an Indian or Eskimo to talk I'm sure I would be there. I thought Tundra Times was all for Indians and Eskimos but only Whites talk.

This year I have to listen to a woman.

The last meeting I was to a month ago in Fairbanks, all the girls was smoking one cigarette after another, till I started coughing. I had to go out several times. Next day I smoked 10 cigars and filled the place with smoke, with V.O. in the water.

I would like to go up if I could talk about our land settlement, and the tough time we have here in the winter. No floors insulated, no windows to buy, etc. I didn't mind it too much when I was young. I trapped in a tent for 20 years, then I built a cabin. I don't, or can't, do that any more.

There is a lot going on in the other villages except here. We try to get a one mile road. It don't have to be a good road, just a trail to haul our wood.

Whoever is going to do the talking at the banquet should live here one year. Then she'll have lots to talk about.

Fred Stickman

P.S. The paper is still coming slow.