

Letters to the Tundra Times

Civil Rights

St. George Island, Alaska 99660

March 3, 1980

Dear Editor:

When in doubt, get a type-writer and write to the *Tundra Times*! Well, here I am.

Today we all pay a lot of lip service to "Civil Rights." Well, as you might know, we here on the Pribilofs are often in need of some, just a little. Everyone from the President of the U.S. to the International Fur Seal Commission, to the environmentalists all know more about us than I think we do. We are still trying to find out about who we are, and what we can and cannot expect for our future. Well, this is just a brief introduction to my main reason for writing. My question is this: "Why not dogs!" I suppose with all the problems we face out here, and all the very, very important questions we still have to answer out here I could have picked a better subject, but what's more important than "man's best friend?"

You see? It's this. We here on St. George have to always be told by the feds, you cannot have this, you cannot do this, we are not allowing you to do this, and so on and on and on.

They have taken our sealing away, are planning to take some of our jobs away (cause the President says so) planning to take possibly our isle away if the oil giants want it, and planning to take who knows what away. They tried us in the 60s. But for the longest time "they" said, you cannot HAVE Dogs. (Southern pronunciation.) Why not? All the other average American citizens do, why can't my children, or any other Pribilof Aleut who wants it? I mean, really. Don't you think this has been silly? "Listen Aleuts, WE will allow you to live on the Pribilofs with only one exception, and that is NO DOGS!" If you want one, move off. (That's probably what they would like us to do for their precious seals.) Maybe you could help me find the LAW which says we can't.

Thank you very much. From a dogless Aleut:

G.P.

Open Haul Road

Allakaket, Alaska

March 2, 1980

Dear Editor,

I want to comment on the North Slope Haul Road. There is a strong push to open the Haul Road to public access or use. Everytime I pick up news-

paper, there's something about the haul road. Opening the haul road to the public will impact the wildlife resources. (Most important, the wildlife resource are the basis for our subsistence lifestyle. The haul road traverses close to our village and close to our hunting area. Heavy traffic would put too much pressure on the wildlife resource.

Since the construction of the pipeline, the caribou has not gone near our village, could be trying a different route, because too much traffic on the haul road. I wonder...? (Opening the haul road could bring more people into the area, bring a long country road, I wonder if there would be adequate police and fish and game protection. I am against opening the haul road.

Sincerely,

Pollock Simon Sr.

cc. Tanana Chiefs Council

AVEC

March 2, 1980

Dear Sirs,

Ever since last spring, we have been asking the Anchorage office of AVEC (Alaska Village Electric Coop) to send us some service wire needed to provide electricity to several new homes in Nulato. Since AVEC is supposed to provide (See LETTERS, Page Eleven)

Letters to the Tundra Times are welcomed and encouraged. The newspaper considers letters from our readers an important and interesting part of the paper. Letter writers are requested to keep letters at 250 words or less out of consideration to other writers and our readers. The newspaper reserves the right to edit or omit letters for questions of libel or slander or other legal liability.