

Says Caribou Tail to Fish Tail—

'Chichalyu' Not Fit Name for New Minto Village

Nenana, Alaska
January 13, 1969

Dear Editor:

I am writing concerning the change in the name of Minto to Chilchalyu. I can not understand why they should want to change the name to Chichalyu as it would be the first time that a village like Minto or, for that matter, any other has been called after a tribe for as in the case of Minto, there is not only one tribe there, there is a mixed people of different tribes like in the case of Nenana so I cannot figure out why they should name it after one tribe of Indians when there is a mixed people from different places and tribes.

From way back there has never been any place named after any tribe or any one tribe, so why does Richard Frank or anyone else want to change it to Chichalyu. Does Frank think he is the only fish tail down there?

Besides, why should he think there is a minority there of fish tails when there is also caribou tails and some other tribes. So, I guess, we will all have to call them fish tails since Frank does not want to recognize or consider any other tribes there but the fish tail tribes. The rest don't count it seems in his way of thinking.

Some of the people here do not think much of it either in the change too, that name, if they do change it to Chichalyu. It does not make any sense if they do, but if they want to change the name, the name Holland would be good or, if not, that a name of one of the old Chiefs that was there long ago would be good also. It does not seem Frank thinks much of his marriage when he is married to a caribou tail. Here it shows prejudice if he wants to change the name to one tribe which would be wrong.

Sincerely yours,
A Friend