



Wien's Deadhorse Terminal To Be Completed This Summer

A sign of the times is the new Wien Air Alaska terminal at the Deadhorse Airport which will service the Prudhoe Bay oil fields.

The 60-ft. x 132-ft. combination passenger/cargo terminal is slated for completion in early summer, according to Ray Petersen, president of the airline.

The building also will house a branch of the Alaska National Bank of the North, rental car counters and office space and quarters for Wien Air Alaska crews.

Engineered by Dave Shepherd and Associates, the prefabricated structure will be of stressed skin Urethane core panels fabricated in Anchorage and flown to the site by Wien Air Alaska aircraft. The panels are a product of Alchem, Inc.

Electrical engineering will be provided by Theodore Creedon, and mechanical engineering by Jan K. Hansen.

The terminal is part of Wien Air Alaska's program to keep pace with Alaska's growth. This program encompasses ground facilities, as well as the latest and most suitable aircraft for Alaskan operations.

Burl Ives Concert

Sparks Clean-up

Johnny Horizon, that mythical frontiersman who walks the land cleaning up streams, picking up litter, and preaching concern for the earth, will be in Alaska this month in spirit if not in the flesh.

He will be here in the guise of Burl Ives, a folksinger who is a legend in his own right, and Randy Sparks and the Back Porch Majority.

They will all be in Alaska May 17 through the 19th for a round of spring clean-up festivities sponsored by the U.S. Interior Department agencies of Alaska.

The Johnny Horizon program was initiated during the reign of then Secretary of the Interior Walter J. Hickel as a vehicle for encouraging the youth of America to participate in environmental protection activities.

The Fairbanks Johnny Horizon concert, held in conjunction with a Fairbanks clean-up day, will be scheduled for 1 p.m. Saturday, May 18.

The Anchorage concert is set for 12 noon Sunday, May 19 at the Sundowner Drive-In. A local group, Proof, will be the warm-up act.

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Gravel's TT Report

By Mike Gravel
U.S. Senator, Alaska

The fishing industry is in dire need of federal assistance. As the competition increases and foreign nations invade our waters, the supply dwindles. More fish are being caught than can be replaced through the normal reproductive cycle.

WIDE-RANGING EFFECTS

It's a problem that hits all of us, whether we live along the coast or deep in the Interior. Everyone depends on fish, in one way or another, as a basic commodity.

We in Alaska consider fishing one of our most important industries, providing food, jobs, and income.

Yet it is usually considered a seasonal occupation; the pay is low, and the dangers are great.

CONGRESS ACTS

We in the U.S. Senate are making serious efforts to improve the lot of the Alaska fisherman. Some of our efforts have already borne fruit, while others represent a good start and should be a great help, in the near future.

ELIMINATE IMPORT TAX ON FISH NETS

The latest effort is a bill to end the tariff on imported fish nets. As a co-sponsor of that bill, I'm glad to report that it is receiving backing from both Democrats and Republicans.

The high import tax, in the form of a "protective tariff," is an unnecessary, outdated, and discriminatory burden on fishermen. At a recent National Federation of Fishermen meeting, members approved a resolution calling upon Congress to eliminate these tariff restrictions. Most of these nets, incidentally, are constructed of synthetic fibers in Japan, then shipped to the U.S.

RISING COSTS

Even with the tariff, the cost has risen dramatically. Overall, the price for fish nets has gone up from about \$3 a pound in the early sixties to about \$13 a pound today. But the pay for fishermen has increased nowhere near that rate. If costs continue to rise, and the tariff is not removed, even more residents will give up on fishing as a livelihood.

And Alaska's fishermen get gouged twice, not only do they face the combined taxes-and-cost-increases, but they also suffer from long time lags between the day they put in their order

for netting and the day of actual delivery.

FUEL AND THE FISHERMAN

I'm pleased with the positive response from the Federal Energy Office to my requests for special consideration for Alaskan fishermen. Twice, I've urged the F.E.O. to base fuel allocations for fishermen on present actual need, rather than on the complicated system devised in F.E.O. headquarters, which is based on past gas use. Well, the F.E.O. finally agreed to the request; fishing will get fuel allocations amounting to 100 per cent of current needs.

200-MILE FISHING ZONE

For some time now, we've been working to get a 200-mile fishing zone, to control the taking of salt-water fish from our waters. The Senate Commerce Committee has held hearings on this issue. During my testimony before the commission, I pointed out that new technology has meant bigger takes by foreign distant-water fishing vessels into our waters.

We can't afford to wait too much longer, while our fishing stocks become more and more depleted. The salmon run in Alaska may worsen — we face the threat of the destruction of the major industry, both in Alaska and nationwide.

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