

## *Letters to the Editor*

United States Senate  
Committee on Interior and  
Insular Affairs  
Washington D.C. 20510

May 5, 1970

Dear Howard:

I have noticed your recent stories concerning the dispute over the two versions of the Tlingit-Haida judgment bill.

As you know, Congressman Pollock and I introduced one version of the bill—that was the bill given to us by the attorneys for the Tlingit-Haida Council. Your articles refer to this version as the "Stevens bill." To me this is unfortunate because S.2628 is the Tlingit-Haida bill.

I have not argued with the goal that Mike wants to achieve by his version of the bill (S.2650). Rather, I have attempted to represent the decision of the majority of the Tlingit and Haida people as reaffirmed again at their recent convention in Anchorage.

It has been my feeling that we can modify some of the traditions in this field in the Alaska Native land claims settlement bill. To do so in the Tlingit and Haida bill will delay that settlement which has already passed the House. If this is what the Tlingit and Haida people desired, I would support it.

At the hearings on this bill I stated that I did not disagree with Mike in the goal he sought to achieve but did not think this was the vehicle by which to achieve it.

Cordially,  
Ted Stevens  
United States Senator

Nulato, Alaska  
May 9, 1970

Dear Editor:

Every year, fall and spring it's hard to get water, wood, and what we need is cold storage. We can't afford freezer. Electricity is too high, etc. I had to throw some fish and meat. It got too strong.

When we get "our land" settlement, things will be different.

As far back as I could remember, this is the time of year we used to get ready for a flood. We put all our clothes and stuff on to higher caches. Start pitching, painting, caulking, fixing the boats and barges, canoes, and some even make rafts.

Now I notice last fall all the lakes were almost dry of water. That means we need another flood soon. That's Nature.

I hope no one starts to bomb the river this year and kill all the fish, besides try to force Nature by bombing. We need all the fish. We fished here all winter and all last summer since I got laid off.

—Fred Stickman, Sr.