

Bethel Man Critical of Shriver's Trip Timing

Box 416

Bethel, Alaska 99559

July 11, 1967

Dear Editor:

I was extremely delighted to see your headline of July 7, 1967, "SHRIVER SEES TRAGIC POVERTY," however, was horrified when I noticed the villages and towns visited. "Bethel, Unalakleet, Mekoryuk, Galena, Nick O'Nick's Fishing Village, Alaknuk, and King Island." Mr. Director did not see the poverty stricken places, and because of this I find his statement of "The poverty in Alaska is as deep, tragic and appealing as any in the world" unqualified.

Unqualified for the following reasons: (1) His trip was made at the most productive time of the year; (2) his trip was made at the peak of the year's employment; (3) he visited and saw the better side of poverty in western Alaska; (4) his trip was no doubt politically motivated.

I wonder what Mr. Shriver would have said had he seen the real Alaskan poverty. His trip would have been most welcome had he arrived in the months of February, March, and April. Furthermore, it would be my suggestion that he contacts Native Organizations in Alaska for the approval of his itinerary before making another Alaskan swing.

Sincerely yours,
Nathan D.A. Toots