

letters . . .

Tundra Times is not available in Trondheim

Trondheim, Norway
June 27, 1977

Mr. Tom Richards, Publisher
Tundra Times
Fairbanks, Alaska 99707

Dear Tom:

Am enjoying the conference here at Trondheim very much. Saturday evening we had a formal dinner at the Bishop's residence complete with fanfare. Trondheim was the old capital of Norway in Viking times. It is about as far north as Cantwell. Very striking is the agriculture. It is a well-developed farming region.

Yesterday we drove to Snasas and Namsos, stopping to take pictures from time to time. There are many farms being cleared out of bogs like Alaska. This is the northwestern frontier of Norway with many young people moving here.

We are currently having a lecture on engineering codes for structural design. Very sophisticated mathematics. Hasofer, Lind reliability indexes. It sounds quite advanced for Alaska where we just build and let things fall into the permafrost.

The Tundra Times is not available here in Trondheim. Nor is the New York Times.

I'll be going to Finland at the end of the week. My friend Paul Teleki of the U.S. Geological survey, Washington, D.C. informs me the Eskimos have made a very tragic mistake. Paul is Hungarian and gave me the details of the Hungarian-Finnish migrations taking place in the 4th or 5th Centuries when they left the area north of the Altai Mountains. Just before the Mongol invasions a Hungarian Monk visited back there as an envoy of the King of Hungary. He found our forebears who were willing to join either the Finns or the Huns as they were being threatened

by invading forces. Forty years later when the Huns went back for them, they were all vanished.

What the Eskimos might want to check on is the Lapps. Paul tells me they are Finno-Ugic. In your recent circumpolar conference at Barrow, you may have been including the Finns by mistake, something like the Sons of Norway taking in Eskimos.

I had quite a trip to Anchorage with Atungorak ... After a good rest I have settled down to enjoy the conference.

Please mail a copy of the Tundra Times to my Anchorage address ... around the 14th of July. Will see you in a few weeks.

Sincerely,
Jack O. Hakkila
(c)1977 by Jack Hakkila

Governor answers Museum Editorial

State of Alaska
Office of the Governor
Juneau, Alaska
July 7, 1977

Dear Editor:

Please excuse the lateness of my response to your recent editorial wherein you urged my approval of full funding of the University of Alaska museum. I quite agree that the many native artifacts, carvings, etchings, and other valuable properties need gathering, cataloguing and storing in a safe reliable environment. I am advised that the \$6.0 million that I have allocated for this will adequately insure that this occurs. Another \$400,000 is transferable from a 1974 G.O. Bond issue that will augment this first phase of construction. While the \$6.4 million will not be adequate to complete the entire contemplated facility, it should be understood that the additional \$2.0 million appropriated by the legislature would have funded only an expanded version of phase I of the entire project. Additional legislative appropriations would still have been necessary to accomplish phase II completion in any event.

While this reduction was taken reluctantly, even more traumatic on collective statewide priorities would have been the impact of reducing other programs a commensurate \$2.0 million in order to confine expenditures to levels dictated by financial

prudence. Certainly, the Tundra Times has most graphically portrayed some of these other pressing human and physical needs that need support from the budgetary process.

I do thank you for your consideration and certainly hope your recent transition from Editor/Publisher proves beneficial to all concerned.

Sincerely,

Jay S. Hammond
Governor

Selawik Writer Roy Skin has many stories

Selawik, Alaska 99770
July 4, 1977

Dear Friend:

I find in your newspapers that you have question to the village writers!

As I am one of village writers too, since 1930 I write Eskimo's histories, population's, even dog's. Old stories. All kinds of information, everything's in this area.

Now I have about 7,000 pages or more!

Sure enough, this village peoples, older peoples have lot's of old stories! But nobody make's them tell's or none instruments to intake to the tapes!

Also I have photo's more than 200 picture's, old ones. little while ago I talk to a woman to who have lots of stories. she very interested but no way to get them to you! This my writing. I am anxious to sell to you if you purchase them. Gold in land, also oil and two hot spring's in your sides from Selawik!

I wish one of your person come and inspect my writing. Please write me as soon as possible!

In this village not even a page of newspaper for sell!

Please write me as soon as possible.

sincerely yours,
Roy P. Skin