

letters

'Don't open utility corridor'

Allakaket City Council
Allakaket, AK 99720
November 27, 1978

Dear Editor:

This letter concerns the proposed opening of the Utility Corridor (the haul road) from Washington Creek to Sagwon Bluffs.

We, the people of Allakaket are unanimously opposed to opening it up to the general public. Mainly because of the pattern it is bound to take on our future.

The following states some more reasons why we are opposed to it:

1. People will come into this area and rob it of its serenity. Also causing pollution of our land and the air.

2. The caribou, which we depended heavily upon as food to carry us through the hard winter months — are slowly becoming a thing of the past. If the Utility Corridor is opened the caribou most likely will become non-existent in this area.

3. The pipeline haul road has already caused a great number of problems. From it will come more roads. In time cities will grow bringing us the same ugliness and "rat-race" of existing cities.

4. Greed, we have seen the path it takes. It won't be satisfied with just the Utility Corridor. It will demand more land and more money.

5. The crime rate in Alaska will rise. Due to the fact that there will be a great number of people coming to Alaska to "make a buck."

That is only some of our reasons.

The majority of the people out of this area and some within are in favor of opening the Utility Corridor to the public, but without consideration to us, the people that live around here.

The possibility of us benefitting from it is very low. It would do us more harm than good.

If the opening of the Utility Corridor is inevitable — we, the "first Alaskans" should at least have priority in utilizing it for our benefit. If not us as individuals, then our corporations should be allowed to have the privilege.

Please consider printing this letter as it is our voice for recognition.

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Thank you for listening.

Very sincerely yours,
Catherine L. Moses
City Clerk for Allakaket City
Council
Allakaket, Alaska 99720

Ignorance of Alaskan Native life

Fiat Justitia
Box 28
Sterling, Alaska 99672
December 15, 1978

Ms. Deborah Amos
Producer, "All Things
Considered"
c/o National Public Radio
225 M Street N.W.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Ms. Amos:

According to the Tundra Times, Michael Killian's report on November 5th showed an ignorance of the realities of Alaskan Native life.

He mentions bowhead depredation by Russian and Japanese whaling ships, forgetting that white American whalers also killed many bowhead whales as long as the white women needed whalebone for their corsets and oil for their lamps. The small number of whales taken by the Eskimos would never exterminate them.

Mr. Killian also mentions the Eskimos "healthy share of Alaskan oil revenues", and, "... people rich enough to own pickup trucks and have steaks flown in from New York if they want to..."

Better check up on the facts, ma'am. Seven years after the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act was passed the Natives have received an average daily revenue from it of 20 cents to about 99 cents each. And they are still struggling to get title to the land they were promised.

I have received the maximum amount of cash — 99 cents per day because the Kenai Natives did not get their ancestral village land because it had been taken over by the whites.

The Eskimos of the northern coast areas will eventually, hopefully, get some village land, so their money share amounts to around 20 cents per day each.

Rich Natives? How many steaks and pickups can you buy with 20 cents a day?

We are all fed up with you Eastern people who don't know

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what you are talking about.

Sincerely,
Walt Pedersen

cc: Tundra Times

President Carter writes

Fred Bigim
December 13, 1978

Dear Editor:

At a recent National Advisory Council on Indian Education meeting held in Tulsa, OK, December 2, Mr. Vic Miller, coordinator of President Carter's Reorganization Project handed the council members the enclosed letter from President Carter. I would like to share it with the readers of Tundra Times.

Mr. Vic Miller's address if any one would like to contact him regarding the letter is:

Mr. Vic Miller
President's Reorganization
Project
3203 New Executive Office
Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20503

Thank you.

Cordially,
Fred Bigim

The White House
Washington, D.C.
July 19, 1978

Under my proposal for a Cabinet Department of Education, the Indian education programs now located in the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) would be moved to the new Department. I have recommended this transfer because I believe it will make Federal school-based programs more effective.

This transfer will not change the special relationships between the government and Indian tribes.

(See LETTERS, Page 15)

Letters to the Editor are invited and should be addressed to 639 'I' Street, Anchorage, Alaska 99501. The Tundra Times reserves the right to edit letters which are excessively long, and to edit or omit letters which may be considered libelous.

● Our readers write to us

(Continued from Page 2)

bes and Indian people in any way. These relationships include Federal trust responsibilities, Indian self-determination, and Indian preference in hiring. My goal is to improve the delivery of education services to Indians while maintaining these special relationships.

It is especially important that we maintain educational services to Indians without interruption, protect their civil rights, preserve the integrity of the education programs, and strengthen participation of parents, tribes, and Indian people in the education of their youth. A clear recognition of the importance of these issues will help us achieve an orderly, phased transfer of the BIA programs to the new department, while protecting the interests of Indian people. I expect and hope that Indian tribes and Indian people will work with my Reorganization Project staff to assure that these objectives are met.

Throughout the Nation, our educational systems are facing important challenges. For the first time, the new department will permit a coordinated and high-level response to these challenges. I ask Indian tribes and Indian people to join with us in shaping a new Department of

Education that is responsive to their concerns and worthy of their support.

Jimmy Carter

Pen Pal wanted

Don S. Toth
No. 143565
Southern Ohio Correctional
Facility
Box 45699
Lucasville, Ohio 45699
December 3, 1978

Dear Editor:

I trust this will reach your

desk for it's sent in true desperation and distress! Fully realizing you're not obligated to anyone, I'd sincerely appreciate the privilege of exercising a small, important favor; that is to say "having my letter published." Can you please help out, sir?

Dear Readers:

Would you like to brighten up a young man's daily life today? Well you certainly can just by writing him a letter extending your warm friendship even though your weather is freezing (smile).

I am confined at the Southern Ohio Correctional Facility but please do not allow this fact to discourage our correspondence. Being without sufficient "relatives" to write for comfort,

I'm reaching out today in hopes of finding new friends, to exchange views, ideas, and interests...

I do not submit this letter for any such pity, but only seeking contact from your "outside world of reality," friendship AND an alternative to depressive loneliness. For to inherit

these luxuries would surely permit that welcomed ray of sunshine to penetrate my gloomy, negative and forgotten situation in here

Please write anytime, especially TODAY!

Thank you kindly,
Don S. Toth