

Den Nena Henash - Our Land Speaks

Ut Kah neek - Informing and Reporting

Yupit Kaniautciat - The Way Eskimos Talk

Unangan Tunukun - The Aleuts Speak

Inupiat Paitot - People's Heritage

Editorials should fight for rights

To the editor:

I am writing to say you keep people informed on what is happening, but to me your editorials do not fight for the people's rights.

It's all well and good to talk against alcohol abuse but there are other matters that are just as bad.

More should be said of the government cutting money and not recognizing Native Americans. This is the big fight, for without money you can't fight the rest.

Also it is time to stop this corporation nonsense as it only will lead to being unrecognized as tribal people.

These corporations have many different people in them and that is the way the government is going to come down on the Natives, by saying they are only citizens.

A person should have an identity when you talk of them, not just that they belong to a village or corporation.

I said it before and I will repeat, that your paper makes me feel the Natives are falling into a white trap again which in the long run will be lost identity.

Sincerely,
Max R. Breslow
Calumet City, Ill.

Senator warns against hoax

To the editor:

I am writing to warn Alaska veterans to avoid a hoax that has recently resurfaced in our state concerning veterans' insurance dividends.

For years, a person or persons unknown has been circulating what appears to be official information, sometimes including forms soliciting applications, for a so-called special dividend on veterans' life insurance. The forms usually cite recent action by Congress and direct veterans to write to a post office box in Philadelphia. Well meaning local newspapers and newsletters frequently reprint the announcement believing it

to be a public service.

The so-called special dividend is a hoax. There is no such law. Veterans who have kept participating life insurance policies in force will receive dividends due to them without application to the VA. There is no special dividend nor is there a dividend on lapsed policies.

Please help me spread the word about this hoax, which can only disappoint veterans by raising false hopes for a benefit that does not exist.

Sincerely,
Frank H. Murkowski
Ranking Minority Member
Senate Veterans Affairs Committee

ANB concerned about salmon

To Sen. Ted Stevens, R-Alaska, Sen. Frank Murkowski, R-Alaska, and Rep. Don Young, R-Alaska:

On Jan. 10, at the regular meeting of Alaska Native Brotherhood and Alaska Native Sisterhood, Camp 14 in Ketchikan, information by SEACOPS

was presented concerning foreign high seas interception of Alaska salmon.

We are deeply concerned that Asian fishermen are illegally harvesting our salmon. In Ketchikan, Native people depend on these returning salmon for

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One man stands out in 1957 basic training

To the editor:

When I saw the pictures of 50 Alaska Natives on their way to Fort Benning, Ga. for basic training, it brought back memories of our basic training back in 1957.

Toward the end of our annual two week encampment at Camp Carroll in 1957, our company commander was instructed to ask for volunteers to go for basic training. I was a 20 year old greenhorn so I volunteered, not knowing what I was in for.

When it was time to go to basic training, we gathered at Camp Carroll. There were 72 of us Alaska Natives

from all different villages. There were so many of us, we were escorted to our destination, Fort Ord, Calif., by Capt. Ellis.

From Anchorage, we travelled by train to Whittier and from there by ship to Seattle. From Seattle we travelled by buses and trains. We even crossed San Francisco Bay by ferry boat.

During our training, they kept us together and 72 of us made pretty good sized platoon. When one of us goofed up during our training, it included

all 72 of us.

One time they restricted us to our company area. We couldn't even go to the post exchange to buy our individual needs. During that certain restriction our platoon sergeant had to buy us a case of cigarettes. We divided that case among 72 of us.

There were times on the good side too. We broke a few Fort Ord basic training records. We even took home the flag for best marching company on our first parade.

After basic training, I went back

home. In later years, I went through non-commission officer's school for three weeks at Ft. Richardson in Anchorage. After that I was promoted to sergeant E-5 and became one of the company D instructors.

During our basic training, there was one individual who stood out from the rest of us. He became our platoon guide during basic training and that certain person went on to become adjutant general of the Alaska National Guard, John Schaeffer. My most honorable congratulations to you John.

Philip Tikluk, Sr.
Kaktovik

• Protection sought

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subsistence and for their economic livelihood. For us, the 1988 fishing season was a disaster; the 1989 salmon harvests look to be even worse.

We ask that the U.S. government act to protect Alaska's salmon. The commercial and subsistence harvests of these fish benefit not only Alaska but the economy of the entire United States. We ask that Congress promptly deal with this problem of piracy of Alaska's salmon by the supposed squid fleets of Japan, Taiwan and Korea.

We ask that the U.S. government provide ships to adequately patrol and monitor fishing activities throughout the migratory range of North American salmon.

The information provided by

SEACOPS indicates that Taiwanese companies are flooding the world markets with pirated immature North Pacific salmon. We ask that our Department of State negotiate a treaty whereby Taiwan directly forbids its fishermen to catch or retain salmon and whereby Taiwan accepts help from the United States in high seas enforcement of such prohibitions.

We need immediate action to protect our Native lifestyle. We hope that you will respond soon to our concerns. Please be advised that we support the activities of SEACOPS and other concerned organizations in their fight to save our salmon.

Sincerely
Donald F. Hoff, Jr.
President ANB Camp 14

