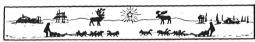
"I may not agree with a word you say but I will defend unto death your right to say it." - Voltaire

## Tundra Times



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#### **Editorial Comment—**

## The 13th Region

The following "impression" was submitted to the Tundra Times by Thomas P. Durand, vice president of the Alaska Native Association, Oregon. cusses the 13th Region. The contents should be read carefully and evaluated. Here in Alaska, the Alaska Native people, their leaders and this newspaper waged a difficult battle to win the Alaska Native Land Claims Settlement. The primary purpose of the fight was to assure a good future for the generations to come here in the North.

While the Alaska native people do not mind sharing the settlement with their families, with those who left the land and did not return to fight for it, Mr. Durand and his group want to disassociate themselves entirely

from their connections back to the land.

The white man has tried in many ways to divide the Native people of Alaska into small groups so that they can be more easily dealt with — and defeated. Mr. Durand has divided the Alaska Native people into resident and non-resident — cold words for a people who are brother, sister, mother, father, and cousin to many of us here.

Life has often been hard for Native people. They have been forced to move from one place to another, not always because they wanted to. Some have moved far

always because they wanted to. Some nave moved har indeed, both geographically and spiritually from the land. There is no such thing, we think, as "local concern" of which Mr. Durand and the staff of the Alaska Native Association of Oregon speak. The Alaska Native Land Association of Oregon speak. The Alaska Native Land Claims Settlement united the Native people for the first time in their history on a matter which transcended 'local concerns.

The question of a 13th Regional Corporation is not a matter between the SEALASKA Corporation and Mr. Durand's corporation alone. It is a matter which concerns all twelve of the Native regional corporations and each and every Alaska Native person.

(We welcome the comments of our readers on this question which involves us all.)

# 'Impressions'

We, the staff of the Alaska Native Association of Oregon, read of SEALASKA's grave doubts on the prospects for a 13th Regional Corporation. Having given some study to the matter, we feel it incumbent on ourselves not only to lay these aside but

we feel it incumbent on ourselves not only to lay these aside but also to point out some reasons for forming this 13th Corporation. The Twelve Regions use one principle argument to induce a Non-Resident to join a resident corporation: this of course, is the 40 million acres of land. Let us investigate this point.

As we see it, this land will be much like a spoiled child, offering some comfort and much grief.

Many residents are still subsistence hunters. Over half the

Many residents are still subsistence hunters. Over half the food consumed in Northern and Western Alaska is taken from the land. Simply in being there the land will provide much of a resident's daily bread. This will be the land's only comfort. The grief beyond this is great. Having land means the Twelve Corporations will be land development corporations. Either together or separately the resident corporations will have to football. gether or separately, the resident corporations will have to form area wide development plans. We can predict with absolute certainty that the birth pains of each of these plans will be the same as those of the North Slope pipeline.

Beyond this, the whole of the 40 million acres will, on Decem-

ber 18, 1992, may be taxed. To be sure, these taxes will provide state services in boroughs where the population is mostly Native. However, these taxes must be paid. Much of the resources of the resident corporations will have to be used to provide money to

pay these taxes.

Moreover, we hear again and again, and again about the great mineral wealth of Alaska. We do not deny their existence.

Tom Richards, Jr.'s Column--

### Muktuk in Travel Bag Permeates Laura's Wardrobe

(c) 1973 by THOMAS RICHARDS, JR.

OLONGAPO CITY agine that my presence in Washington from 1970 through 1972 angered some people and was, to say the least an inconvenience to say the least an inconvenience to others. I have never, for example, made any secret of my love for Eskimo food and how my absence from Alaska has increased my hunger for it.

With all the Alaskans visiting

D.C. during that time, I thought that there might be some chance I could get a regular supply of such foods as dried fish and muktuk. I asked some of these travelers to bring to me some of these delicacies, and I was happy with the response.

Laura Bergt, our beautiful Eskimo ambassador who has

rubbed noses with the famous and powerful, never should have granted me the favor. She was to come to Washington from Fairbanks to attend a meeting of the National Council on Indian Opportunity, and consented to bring along a package of muktuk from my mother.

Laura, a seasoned traveler, has a reputation for her talent in being the last person to check in with the airline and board a flight. It was no different on this flight. With few precious moments remaining before the airplane's departure, she picked the frozen muktuk, threw it in her luggage, and roared off to

the airport.

After disembarking her aircraft at Dulles Airport near Washington, she was dismayed to learn that the airline had misrouted her bag and was work to trace its whereabouts, bemoaned the inconvenience of having "nothing to wear" except what she had on until the airline found her luggage.

airline found her fuggage.

Then the poor woman remembered the muktuk, and also recalled that she hadn't taken the precaution of wrapping the package securely. She endured a painful wait for the bag, all the time thinking about how the muktuk must be thawing, and the oil permeating her wardrobe

Inevitably, the bag arrived after the muktuk had comafter the muktuk had com-pletely thawed, giving her out-fits a distinctive aroma. Maybe, she shouldn't have taken the trouble of specifying those cleaning instructions to the hotel laundry. If she hadn't, Laura laundry. It she hadn't, Laura would truly have been able to show Mr. Agnew and the mem-bers of the President's cabinet a genuine air of Eskimo hospital-

### LETTERS

March 7, 1973

Dear Editor:

Pipeline, pipeline, pipeline! That's all I read everytime I pick up the News-Miner. Don't people look on the other side of world before they talk pipeline? White people coming in from the outside wanted to get rich. All they want is that "almighty dollar." All these years we've been getting along good without the pipeline

Why did Udall froze the land? Rich people buying land right along side of us poor people. He had to do something. are too many people coming in to Alaska, and there'll be a lot more. That's one of the reasons I quit Eielson.

You should guess what I'm talking about. Not safe, sickness, disease, thiefs, dope, etc. coming

Yesterday I didn't even vote because Emil Notti was talking pipeline too. Emil's mother's mother came from here and was related to Mom. mother's mother was from Koy-ukuk, Alaska, 18 miles from So we have two, or will have, if Emil Notti gets in.

The governors, senators, congressman, all want the pipeline Alaska is going to hell, and if the pipeline goes through, it's gone to hell.

Fred Stickman, Sr.

ALASKA LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION Post Office Box 73 Bethel, Alaska 99559 Telephone 543-2238

March 12, 1973

Editor. Tundra Times Box 1287 Fairbanks, Alaska 99707

RE: House Concurrent Resolution No. 63

Last fall the voters of this State approved a bond issue of \$16,000,000 for rural schools.
The bond issue listed twelve native villages as the sites for the schools: Noorvik, Fogiak, St. Lawrence: Island, Kipnuk,

(Continued on page 9)

However, if the conclusions of "Alaska Natives and the Land" thowever, if the conclusions of Alaska Narives and the Land still apply, these are for the most part unexploitable. There are cheaper sources for most. The main exception is oil. And no one can dismiss the possibility of gold. But these two minerals are wherever they are found.

one can dismiss the possibility of gold. But these two limiteras are wherever they are found.

Of course, there are vast usable timber resources available to SEALASKA. Indeed, for many years this corporation may well be the principle contributor to the seventy per cent sharing fund.

On this point, the gentlemen of SEALASKA are correct with regard to the 13th. It is specifically exempted from sharing its revenue with the others. We think this is proper.

And, again these gentlemen are quite right when they say that they could not issue second class shares to the non-resident. However, we would call attention to a portions of the law which pertains to a non-resident holding resident shares.

This is a special provision in Section 7, paragraph (m) which, in essence, says that an equitable portion of a non-resident dividend may be withheld to help finance projects that will benefit the region generally. We have no concept of what an "equitable share" might be: but we do envision may projects that will benefit the regions generally. regions generally.

At this time, we must point out one of SEALASKA's miscalculations. Under the terms of the Act, a majority of non-residents must favor forming a 13th corporation. If the estimate of 20,000 non-residents is correct then a 13th Corporation formed

20,000 non-residents is correct then a 13th Corporation formed by these would have to be at least equal in size to SEALASKA, which is one of the larger Resident Corporations.

The gentlemen of SEALASKA consider the problems of all Natives to be much the same. This may or may not be the case. However, there is one significant difference. The greater part of the solutions for resident problems are yet to be created. We believe that solution to non-resident problems are closer to implementation for the solution of the solut plementationif not already operating.

We admit that either together or singly, the resident corporations might operate non-resident bureaus. But we doubt that they could operate from Alaska to meet circumstances in Oregon, Washington and California where the vast majority of nonresidents reside.

Rather, in general, organizations must select primary objectives. If the officers of a resident corporation did not look firstly to the This means non-resident, in effect, it would be derelict in their duty.

This means non-residents problems would receive low priority.

For the non-resident, in effect, it would be "the same old story".

. . too little help to solve his problems. . . .

As a business, we have been advised that the 13th region might operate in the manner of mutual fund, or a bank. That is it would buy existing securities of public and private organiza-tions. Our advisor remarked that any investment counselor who failed to make an eight per cent return should be dismissed out of

Here, we bring up a small point. Prices are higher in Alaska.

The costs of a resident corporation, from the president's salary to paperclips, would be higher than for the 13th.

We broach another significant topic, that is corporate efficiency. We admit that there are many able experienced residents. However, we believe there are a greater number of capable non-residents. Among the membership ANAO alone there are these residents. Among the membership ANAO alone there are these people; a business man who operates his own extensive machine works; a graduate economist whose work involves deciding the feasibility of proposed prospects; a graduate in business administration; an advanced law student, a pamphleteer who presents and defends non-resident rights ably; and many of large technical knowledge. We presume that the other non-residents organizations can boast of like expertise. In light of these, we say emphatically again, "There is too greaf a talent among non-resident Alaska Natives to be tied to the apron strings of the Twelve Regions. We are able to manage our own affairs for our-Twelve Regions. We are able to manage our own affairs for our

As to enrollment, ANAO has received conflicting statements about a non-residents right to change his vote on the 13th Corporation. We hope to have this matter cleared up as a result of the BIA reorganization.

We trust the above discussion has laid to rest any doubts that the gentlemen of SEALASKA have toward a 13th Corporation. Removed of this burden, they may turn their full attention on more local concerns.

- The staff of the ALASKA NATIVE ASSOCIATION, OREGON