

# Letters to the Tundra Times

## Rate fare increases

### MEMORANDUM

TO: Eben Hopson, Mayor  
FROM: Annie E. Patkotak, AEP  
Secretary to the Mayor  
DATE: October 1, 1979  
SUBJECT: WIEN PASSENGER  
RATE INCREASE

The Wien passenger rate increase was brought to my attention recently and further study of the increases between the round trip from Anchorage to Barrow to Anchorage has risen 30% in the past month and a half. This is not including the

freight rate between these points. Here are the dates and amounts that have been raised.

Before August 1, 1979 the passenger rate was \$228.00 for a round trip ticket Anchorage-Barrow-Anchorage  
August 15, 1979 \$224.00  
September 15, 1979 \$256.00  
September 24, 1979 \$296.00

Since the North Slope Borough does intensive travelling to all points in Alaska and also so does all the businesses affiliated with us I think that we should do something about it. Here are some signatures on a petition that was started here in the Bor-

ough. I understand that there are other petitions going around to this effect. Perhaps you can endorse this with a cover letter or whatever action you may take will suffice.

Thank you.

October 1, 1979

Mr. James Flood  
Chief Executive Officer  
Wien Air Alaska  
4100 International Airport Road  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Dear Mr. Flood:

Enclosed please find a petition by some 186 citizens here to which I have signed and endorsed.

The other parts of the country which might have been involved on raised prices should follow suit and prompt action to get back to the August 1, rates.

I have taken the liberty of sending copies of this file to the following:

AP Office, P.O. Box 2175,  
Anchorage, Alaska  
FAA, Fairbanks and Anchorage  
News Miner, Fairbanks  
Tundra Times, Anchorage  
State Division of Aviation,  
Anchorage

Please make every effort to stop this outrageous gouging by the airlines.

Sincerely yours,  
EBEN HOPSON, MAYOR  
North Slope Borough

## Greenpeace comments

September 28, 1979.

Dear Editor:

A comment or two is necessary re: your news and editorial coverage of last month's Fur Seal Treaty hearings held in Anchorage.

1) You stated that Greenpeace testimony was "mumbling and unsubstantiated" vagueness versus well represented pro Pribilof support. What you failed to mention, and what every one complained about, was the lack of notice as to the time and place of these hearings. Of course, the State was notified, as was the pro treaty element. We had to telephone around town to find that we had less than two hours to scribble questions and comments. We do not have the benefit of double duty state payroll/commission member support, lawyers, corporate presidents, and association ties that work in unison for the same goals. That is where your "support" came from.

2) You termed greenhouses, wind generators, and cultural museums as non-sensical. While you laugh off such ideas, we have found that greenhouses have been very successful in several northern bush villages. We found one type that would withstand the harsh wind conditions on St. Paul and sent that information to the Tanadgusix Corp. Since the islanders, at no fault of their own, are on public support for most of the year your comments suggest that the Aleut residents would rather receive a handout than grow their own greens. We believe otherwise. As for wind generators, St. Paul has already been

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declared an ideal place for such an effort (Arctic Environmental Information and Data Center, May 1978, Community Profile). As the price of oil goes up, so will your attitude change. As for the museum and tourism, we were told several months ago by Aleut representatives that tourism could be increased by two to three times its present rate of 1,000 per season. A museum is not something to only preserve the dead but to also interpret and celebrate the living. be it human culture or wild life which shares this planet with us.

The people of the Pribilofs are complaining of interference by us. We are trying to say, perhaps unsuccessfully, that they are being used to legitimize a practice that their ancestors tried to fight 200 years ago. Attached is a copy of our comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement which in part reads: "Pelagic sealing for other species other than the northern fur seal is an ongoing event by many nations around the world, including the signatory governments of this convention. The marine mammals are being killed and removed from the ecosystem for products which have no socially redeeming value. They are being killed for vanity. The present treaty, though invaluable for rebuilding of the population, is no longer necessary for the survival of the Pribilof population. The treaty gives sanctimony to using animal life for vanity purposes..."

Perhaps with blind overenthusiasm, we see past native cultures as being wonderfully in balance with their environment. We often cite that lifestyle as an ideal. To trade six weeks of non-welfare employment for cashing in such values is a statement in itself. Whatever happened to the anger and demands towards the U.S. Government that has allowed the involvement of today's unhappy situation? Why is the wrath directed to us who wish, however unsuccessfully, to celebrate those values of spiritual worth seen in all living things? Why the factory line? Why do you listen to the Federal bureaucrats who feel that they are able to manage the very earth? It is the Federal Government's responsibility to provide another choice of livelihood as it was they who wanted sealers for their treaties.

Solutions? A harbor on St. Paul is probably full of problems. A harbor on native selections in the Aleutian Chain may well be the solution to the 200 years of mistakes. In the meantime, do not be so easily swayed by "pelagic sealing" scare tactics without realizing that more is

unknown than known in "management". Commercial sealing is but one symptom of a world civilization that has disconnected itself from its living environment.

Sincerely,  
Will Anderson  
President, Greenpeace Alaska

Denmark office

Kuigillingok, Alaska  
October 1, 1979

Governor Jay Hammond  
Governor's Office  
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Governor Hammond,  
Like any other letters I wrote I have been planning to write for sometime. I guess the reason it takes me a while to write letters is that I never knew how to start.

The reason I'm writing you is to ask you a question, that I never get answer from people I ask. So I am sure you will have the answer. Why did you open office in Copenhagen? What good is office in another country when we Alaskans can't go to it? When you had office in Bethel, Alaska it was helpful to people in AVCP area. I even when in there to ask people there some questions. I could write long letter about the office in Bethel, but what good will that do now, but I will be waiting to hear from you about your office in Copenhagen. I will send copies of this letter to Tundra Times and Tundra Drums so people will know the reason why you have office in Copenhagen when you answer my letter.

Sincerely Yours,  
David O. David