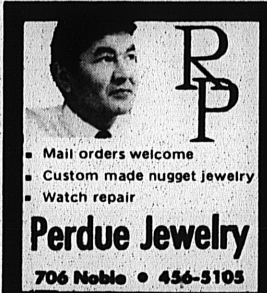


Put up or shut up

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA January 5, 1976—E. L. Patton, president of the company building the trans Alaska pipeline, said that allegations about massive thievery on the pipeline project are unfounded, and suggested that people making the allegations provide evidence to back them up.



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"It's time for them to put up or shut up," he said. Patton, who heads Alyeska Pipeline Service Company, said there was no question that pipeline construction is having a profound impact on the state, but he added, "I'm tired of the pipeline project being used as the scapegoat for everything that anybody thinks is wrong in Alaska today."

Alyeska's chief executive termed as "utterly ridiculous" the estimate that theft and fraudulent billings had resulted in losses that could be as high as a billion dollars. The estimate was contained in a Department of Justice memorandum, copies of which were obtained by the press.

"Whoever wrote that memorandum obviously doesn't even understand how much a billion dollars is," Patton said. "If someone stole all the pipe and all our construction camps, the total take would still be considerably less than a billion dollars. It is incredible, utterly ridiculous."

Patton acknowledged that there is pilferage on the huge project, "just as there is pilferage on any project and in any business," but he added, "There is no evidence to support the allegations which are now being bandied about."

He said, "If any state or federal official has such evidence, I would appreciate it being brought to my attention." He said if thievery were as widespread as some press reports have indicated, the stolen items would be showing up on the market, and that is not happening.

Patton said Alyeska would continue to cooperate fully with state and federal law enforcement officials, and said he wanted to know about any instances in which Alyeska or any of its people refused to cooperate.

Migratory bird hunting seasons

A migratory bird hunting season can now be closed on a temporary emergency basis if the hunting poses a threat to an endangered or threatened species, Lynn A. Greenwalt, Director of Interior's U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, announced today.

Platform FC

LONDON—JANUARY 8, 1976—Despite some of the worst weather conditions ever experienced in the North Sea—winds of up to 90 knots and waves which reached 50 feet—BP has successfully brought its second Forties Field Platform into operation.

The first well on Platform FC is now drilling ahead. This is the start of a two-year production drilling program from the platform.

Four wells have now been completed on the first Forties Platform, FA, and a fifth is currently being drilled. Production from the Forties Field is running at 75,000 barrels per day.

All told, over 1,000 men are working offshore on Forties development. Platform FB has all its major deck modules installed and piling operations are continuing on FD.

New fishing gadget

Paul Almquist, of Ketchikan, Alaska has invented a new and novel fastener which features a grommet with a planar collar in which a hook is formed. The hook forms a U-shaped member with the collar and is ideal for preparing a lap seam between two sheets.

With fasteners like this, the rope is simply laced through the hooks so that lacing is quicker and easier. They permit a wide margin of lap and will hold a pair of sheets together firmly but allow for rapid release when required.

The invention is being introduced to manufacturers with the help and guidance of the Raymond Lee Organization and is covered by a patent application now pending in the U.S. Patent Office.

According to Raymond Lee, founder-president of the Raymond Lee Organization, "almost everyone has invented something at one time or another, usually in connection with his home, hobby or occupation. We believe there are many ideas which could be of interest to industry if their inventors would come forward."

Says Lee, "Our company helps independent inventors throughout the U.S. and Canada with the commercial development and presentation of their ideas to industry."

An Inventor's Kit with information on how to develop, safeguard and market your invention may be obtained free of charge by requesting Kit No. IM from the Raymond Lee Organization, 230 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10017.

The new rules, published November 13 in the Federal Register, acknowledge that some endangered wildlife do not pay attention to such things as refuge boundaries and hunting seasons and can therefore wander into dangerous situations.

So, in order to avoid harm or fatal injury to endangered or threatened species, the Fish and Wildlife Service will close or temporarily suspend, whenever necessary, the migratory bird hunting season in a given area.

These regulations support the intent of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 which requires all Federal agencies to carry out their authorities in a manner consistent with the conservation of endangered or threatened species.

The Fish and Wildlife Service with full cooperation of the State has already closed the hunting seasons for Canada geese in three counties in California because Aleutian Canada geese, an endangered subspecies, were known to rest there during their migration south.

These closures were specifically proposed when the 1975 migratory bird hunting regulations were developed last summer during public hearings.

Two recent events, one caused by weather, the other by the Fish and Wildlife Service, emphasized the need for quicker action. Whooping cranes migrating from Canada to Texas usually stop over in North Dakota where sandhill cranes are hunted.

The whoopers normally depart long before hunting season

begins, but unexpectedly warm weather this year so delayed the whoopers' migration that they were present in North Dakota on the opening day of the sandhill crane season, November 8, although not in the eight counties open for sandhill crane hunting.

An experimental project in which sandhill cranes hatched whooping crane eggs and raised the chicks as their own was initiated this year by the Service. The whooper juveniles have migrated with their foster parents from Idaho to the Bosque del Apache National Refuge in New Mexico.

Bosque del Apache traditionally conducts a snow goose hunting season and it was thought that it might threaten the six whooper juveniles despite the fact that they are under almost constant surveillance.

Refuge personnel devised plans to sound a siren whenever the whoopers approached a hunting area. The siren would indicate to hunters—who had been notified upon entering the refuge—that all hunting was temporarily stopped.


The Fish and Wildlife Service published this regulation as a final rulemaking because of the potential need to exercise the authority in the immediate future.

The Service found it impractical and contrary to the public interest to issue this amendment as a proposed rulemaking subject to comment.

Green, leafy vegetables such as collard, kale and broccoli have a good calcium content.

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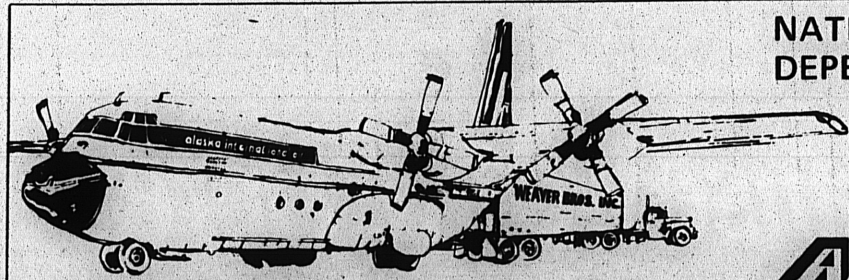
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Applications for grants from the Indian Business Development Fund will be accepted during the period of November 20 through January 20, 1976. Applications from Indians, Eskimos, Aleuts, Native organizations or villages in the Tanana Chiefs region are to be filed with Director of Native Services, Tanana Chiefs Conference, 1st and Hall St., Doyon Building, Fairbanks, Alaska 99701. Applications from member of other tribes or for projects involving reservations outside the Tanana Chiefs region may be filed with the Area Director, Juneau Area Office, P.O. Box 3-8000, Juneau, Alaska 99802.

The Indian Business Development Fund is a supplemental grant program to increase Indian entrepreneurship, Indian employment and Indian income. Indian individuals, groups of Indian individuals, Indian tribes or Indian corporations may apply for a grant. Projects must be located within the State of Alaska and must be profit oriented or self-sustaining economic enterprises employing Indians. The amount of the grant may not exceed forty percent of the capital necessary to make the project profitable or self-sustaining. The grant may only be made as a supplement to other financing. Grants may not be used for planning or for refinancing or debt consolidation. Forms for making applications and assistance in preparation and project planning are available from the Tanana Chiefs Conference Native Services, Doyon Building, 1st and Hall St., Fairbanks, Alaska 99701 or Juneau Area Office.

Deadline for receiving applications has been extended to January 20, 1976.



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