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April 11, 1983

Dear Ms. Leask:

The President has asked me to thank you for your letter concerning the status of Alaska Natives under the President's Indian policy statement of January 24, 1983.

It was the understanding of all involved in the preparation and issuance of the President's statement that the references to "Indian tribes" included not only Alaska Native villages, but California rancherias, Nevada colonies, and New Mexico pueblos. The membership of the Presidential Commission on Indian Reservation Economies will include an Alaskan Native.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Rick J. Neal
Special Assistant to
the President for
Intergovernmental Affairs

Ms. Janie Leask
President
Alaska Federation of
Natives, Inc.
411 W. 4th Avenue, Suite 1A
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

cc: Rick Neal

DRAFT

Ms. Janie Leask
President, Alaska Federation
of Natives, Inc.
411 W. 4th Avenue, Suite 1A
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Dear Ms. Leask:

The President has asked me to thank you for your letter concerning the status of Alaska Natives under the President's Indian policy statement of January 24, 1983.

It was the understanding of all involved in the preparation and issuance of the President's statement that the references to "Indian tribes" included not only Alaska Native villages, but California rancherias, Nevada colonies, and New Mexico pueblos.

~~I have urged that~~ [↑] The membership of the Presidential Commission on Indian Reservation Economies ^{will} include an Alaskan Native. ~~Although it will not be possible to appoint all those who have been recommended, or who have volunteered, to serve on the Commission, I am hopeful that the President's appointments will include an Alaskan Native.~~

Sincerely,



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

APR -6 1983

MEMORANDUM

To: Rick Neal
Special Assistant to the President
for Intergovernmental Affairs

Subject: Letter from Janie Leask, Alaska Federation of Natives, Inc.

Attached is a draft response to the letter you forwarded from Janie Leask,
President of the Alaska Federation of Natives, Inc.

Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs

Attachment



CHUGACH NATIVES, INC.

903 WEST NORTHERN LIGHTS, SUITE 201 • ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99503
(907) 276-1080 TELEX 26-497

December 1, 1981

The Honorable Ronald Reagan
President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear Mr. President:

We take this opportunity to advise you of our rejection of the latest joint Federal proposal dated November 13, 1981 for settling the Chugach Region Study. We do not reject the proposal lightly. As we have indicated to you and others, we feel it is a constructive beginning. We have also indicated to you in our letter of November 19, 1981 how we feel it can be made acceptable. As presently constituted, however, we do not feel it represents the fair and just settlement intended by the Congress for the extinguishment of our aboriginal claims.

You are presently facing a reporting date that is imminent. Under Section 1430 of Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (P.L. 96-487) you are required to report your recommendation to the Congress on December 2, 1981. You are also required to transmit with the report any legislation necessary to implement the study recommendations.

All the study group members and the entire Alaska congressional delegation have agreed that an administratively implementable solution is the preferred solution. Such a solution, however, will require the consent of all parties involved in the study.

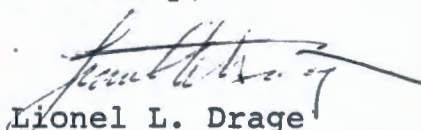
In an effort to provide more time for effectuating such an agreement, Senator Murkowski and Congressman Young have advised the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture to adopt "the final federal proposal on 200,154.77 acres, and that the conveyance process on these lands will be initiated immediately." They have also recommended that the study group continue to meet for an additional 60 days to resolve issues concerning Chugach's remaining acreage entitlement and file a section 1430 report to Congress by February 2, 1982. Senator Stevens has made a similar proposal. Copies of the Alaska delegation letters and our November 19 letter are attached.

We support such a process. We suggest that designees of the respective Secretaries continue the negotiations at the Washington, D.C. level and that the State of Alaska be invited to participate.

Adoption of this process will fulfill several objectives: (1) it will allow you to meet the December 2, 1981 report date with an interim report; (2) it will insure the preservation of the only gain made by the study group in eleven months of work; and (3) it will provide additional time and impetus to resolve the matter administratively. These are goals which all the study participants support.

We hope that you will seriously consider the suggestions of the Alaska congressional delegation as a means of preventing an impasse on this issue.

Sincerely,



Lionel L. Drage
President, Chugach Natives, Inc.

Attachments:

CNI letter of November 19, 1981
Senator Stevens letter
Senator Murkowski letter
Congressman Young letter

cc: Senator Ted Stevens
Senator Frank Murkowski
Congressman Don Young
Governor Jay Hammond
James G. Watt,
Secretary of the Interior
John R. Block,
Secretary of Agriculture
John Crowell,
Assistant Secretary of Agriculture
Kenneth Smith,
Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs
William Horn,
Deputy Under Secretary of Interior
Danny Boggs
John McClaughery
Morton C. Blackwell
Vern Wiggins
John Sandor

Chugach Natives, Inc.



November 19, 1981

The Honorable Ronald Reagan
President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear Mr. President:

The Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (P.L. 96-487) (Sec. 1430) contains a requirement for a Presidential report to the Congress on December 2, 1981, or one year after the date of enactment of the Alaska Lands Act. The purpose of this report is to transmit to Congress the results of the Chugach Region study, along with the President's recommendations on how to implement the study. On November 16, 1981 the Chugach Lands Study Group forwarded to you the results of its year long study of the Chugach Region.

Unfortunately, that report will reveal that the study group has thus far failed to comply with the directives of Section 1430 or to achieve the objectives set out by the Congress in that section of the Alaska Lands Act. Congress directed the study participants "to identify in region and out of region lands, including lands within the Chugach National Forest and State Lands but excluding lands in private ownership, which can be made available to Chugach Natives, Inc., in satisfaction of its regional land entitlement pursuant to section 12(c) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act."

The objectives of the study are also worthy of reiteration:

- (1) to identify lands which can be made available to Chugach Natives, Inc.;
- (2) to consolidate land ownership patterns in the Chugach region;

- (3) to improve the boundaries of and identify new conservation system units;
- (4) to obtain a fair and just land settlement for the Chugach people; and
- (5) the realization of the intent, purpose and promise of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act by the Chugach Natives, Inc.

The study group has been unable to identify lands to be made available to Chugach Natives, Inc. because the group has not reached a consensus. In fact, the study group has been unable to produce a recommendation which has the support of a simple majority of the five participants. (The Department of the Interior, the Department of Agriculture, the State of Alaska, the Alaska Land Use Council, and Chugach Natives, Inc.) Chugach Natives, Inc. has made six formal proposals to the study group and the federal participants have made three proposals. None of these proposals have been acceptable to the group as a whole.

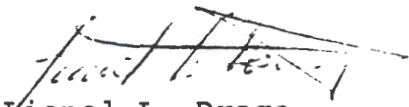
Chugach does not want the study process to fail. Our Board of Directors and our shareholders are committed to the achievement of a fair and just land settlement for the Natives of the Chugach Region. We have spent the better part of a decade trying to obtain what was promised to us under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act. Chugach, alone, of the twelve regional corporations created under ANCSA, has not received a single acre of its regional land selection under the Settlement Act. If we cannot achieve this goal through the study process we will have no choice but to pursue this goal in the courts and in Congress.

The study process still has a chance to succeed. Chugach would like to respond to the final federal proposal with a final proposal of our own. This proposal is more in keeping with the expectations of our board and our shareholders. This proposal has the support of the other eleven regional corporations in Alaska, as well as the Alaska Federation of Natives and the Alaska Native Foundation. All of these groups have given Chugach their firm support and have expressed that support in public hearings and through official resolutions.

Chugach proposes three alternative additions to the final federal offer. We submit them with the understanding that time is running out on the study process. Any one of these proposals would be acceptable to Chugach. Our proposal would accept as a basis the final federal offer in almost all respects and would differ significantly from our earlier proposals in several areas. The alternatives are described in detail in the attachments to this letter. We urge you to give them serious consideration. All of the alternatives can be implemented administratively, if the study group participants agree. Chugach's representatives are willing to meet with study group participants or members of

your staff to discuss these alternatives any time in order to meet the December 2 deadline.

Sincerely,



Lionel L. Drage
President, Chugach Natives, Inc.

Attachments

cc: Senator Ted Stevens
Senator Frank Murkowski
Congressman Don Young
Governor Jay Hammond
James G. Watt,
Secretary of the Interior
John R. Block,
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John Crowell,
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Kenneth Smith,
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William Horn,
Deputy Under Secretary of Interior
Danny Boggs
John McClaughery
Morton C. Blackwell
Vern Wiggins
John Sandor

Alternative I

		<u>Acreage</u>
1.	Accept the federal proposal of 11/13/81 (N.B. this proposal includes 83,797 acres of 12(c) deficiency areas which CNI can select regardless of the study recommen- dations	<u>200,154.77</u>
2.	Reduce the additional ANCSA 12(c) deficiency areas in the federal proposal from 177,845 to 96,000 (approx.)	<u>96,000</u>
3.	Add the following areas:	
	Yakataga (State land) (approx.)	70,000
	Patton Bay (addition to federal proposal to equalize CNI's original nomination)	4,354
	Alaska R.R. lands	200
	Jack Bay	500
	Cordova Airport	97.5
	Green Island	<u>7,242</u>
		<u>82,393.5</u>
Total		<u>378,000</u>

Alternative II

	<u>Acreage</u>
1. Accept the federal proposal of 11/13/81 (N.B. this proposal includes 83,797 acres of 12(c) deficiency areas which CNI can select regardless of the study recommen- dations.	<u>200,154.77</u>
2. Reduce the additional ANCSA 12(c) deficiency areas in the federal proposal from 177,845 to 65,104 (approx.)	<u>65,104</u>
3. Add the following areas:	
Martin River	26,580
Kushtaka Lake	8,751
Katalla (Surface & Subsurface)	65,370
Alaska RR lands	200
Jack Bay	500
Cordova Airport	97.5
Green Island	<u>7,242</u>
Total	<u>378,000</u>

Alternative III

	<u>Acreage</u>
1. Accept the federal proposal of 11/13/81 (N.B. this proposal includes 83,797 acres of 12(c) deficiency areas which CNI can select regardless of the study recommen- dations	<u>200,154.77</u>
2. Reduce the additional ANCSA 12(c) deficiency areas in the federal proposal from 177,845 to 144,906 (approx.)	<u>144,906</u>
3. Add the following areas:	
*North and South Horn Mtn. Emery County, Utah	24,900
Alaska R.R. lands	200
Jack Bay	500
Cordova Airport	97.5
Green Island	<u>7,242</u> <u>32,939.5</u>
Total	<u>378,000</u>

*Contingent upon CNI obtaining state and local political support.

United States Senate

OFFICE OF
THE ASSISTANT MAJORITY LEADER
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

November 25, 1981

The Honorable John R. Block
Secretary of Agriculture
Washington, D.C. 20250

Dear Secretary Block:

Earlier this month, the Chugach Land Study Group dispatched to you their final report pursuant to section 1430 of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act. Although the statute provides for study recommendations, the group was unable to achieve a consensus or majority recommendation regarding lands which can be made available to Chugach Natives, Inc. in satisfaction of its regional land entitlement under section 12(c) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act. The report will contain a number of recommendations made by various members. Among those recommendations will be one proposed jointly by the Department of the Interior and Department of Agriculture on November 13, 1981.

I have met with all parties concerned with the study, including representatives of the Chugach Natives, Inc. (CNI). CNI has informed me that while the joint federal proposal is acceptable as a partial settlement and is a constructive beginning, it is wholly inadequate in their view. Unfortunately, it is not possible for me to determine the merits of the issue based upon a few meetings in Washington. It is my strong desire that this matter be resolved by agreement of the study group participants and that the agreement be administratively implemented. A legislative solution is simply not desirable. In order for an administrative solution to occur, it may be necessary for you to personally review the study recommendations to determine whether Congressional intent has been met in this instance.

I am aware that you are required by the statute to report to the Congress by December 2, 1981. I would suggest that the federal proposal be employed as a nucleus for full examination of all possible options. Such an examination could extend over a reasonable time period with a resolution in the near term. I feel that review by your Department is well worth the avoidance of legislative and judicial entanglements that may result if there is a real or perceived failure to examine every alternative at this juncture. This decision could be reported to the Congress and, we are certain, would fulfill your December 2nd deadline requirement.

The Honorable John R. Block

November 25, 1981

Page Two

Review by you would, at least, guarantee that the progress made in the Chugach Lands Study is not lost. It would be unfortunate indeed if the basic agreements reached by the study group are rejected, simply because of failure to fully examine all available options.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

TED STEVENS
Assistant Majority Leader

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

November 25, 1981

The Honorable John Block
Secretary of Agriculture
Department of Agriculture
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Under Section 1430 of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, the Congress authorized the formation of a study group to assess what lands are available for conveyance to Chugach Natives, Inc. The President is to report to Congress the findings of the study group which is to be completed by December 2, 1981.

Although members of the study group have met throughout the past year, the participants only have agreed on 200,154.77 acres of Chugach's total land entitlement of approximately 378,00 acres. Chugach believes that the United States should make available for their selection more desirable parcels to complete their entitlement. Chugach also needs some land conveyances to alleviate their serious financial position.

I believe further legislation will not resolve this disparity, but an administrative solution may be feasible. I recommend that the Administration report to Congress that the Administration has adopted the final Federal proposal on 200,154.77 acres, and that the conveyance process on these lands will be initiated immediately. On Chugach's remaining acreage entitlement, however, the study group will continue to meet for an additional sixty days, and a Section 1430 report will be filed to Congress assessing these lands by February 2, 1982.

Thank you for your consideration of this proposal. I look forward to your response at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

Frank H. Murkowski
United States Senator

cc: Chugach Natives, Inc.

DON YOUNG
CONGRESSMAN FOR ALL ALASKA

COMMITTEES:
INTERIOR AND INSULAR
AFFAIRS
MERCHANT MARINE AND
FISHERIES

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

WASHINGTON OFFICE

2331 RAYBURN BUILDING
TELEPHONE 202/225-5765

DISTRICT OFFICES

FEDERAL BUILDING AND
U.S. COURT HOUSE
701 C STREET, BOX 3
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99513
TELEPHONE 907/271-5978

BOX 10, 101 12TH AVENUE
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99701
TELEPHONE 907/456-6949

November 30, 1981

The Honorable James Watt
Secretary of the Interior
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20204

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Pursuant to Section 1430 of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, the Congress authorized the formation of a study group to assess what lands are available for conveyance to Chugach Natives, Inc. ANILCA requires the President to transmit the Study, Report and Recommendations to Congress by December 2, 1981, in satisfaction of their entitlement under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act.

Despite efforts to reach a consensus, the participants have agreed on 200,154.77 acres of Chugach's total land entitlement of approximately 378,000 acres. Chugach maintains that the United States could make available for their selection more desirable parcels to complete their entitlement. Chugach also needs some land conveyances to alleviate problems resulting from delays in receiving their entitlement.

An Administrative resolution to this matter may be possible and preferable to delays inherent in legislative resolution. I recommend that the Administration report to Congress that the Administration has adopted the final Federal proposal on 200,154.77 acres, and that the conveyance process on these lands will be initiated immediately. The study to resolve issues concerning Chugach's remaining acreage entitlement should continue. The study group should continue to meet for an additional 60 days and file a section 1430 report to Congress by February 2, 1982.

Your consideration of this proposal would be appreciated. I look forward to your response at your earliest convenience.

DY:ra

P.S. Jim Titus will work by

Sincerely,

DON YOUNG, M.C.

Don Young

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

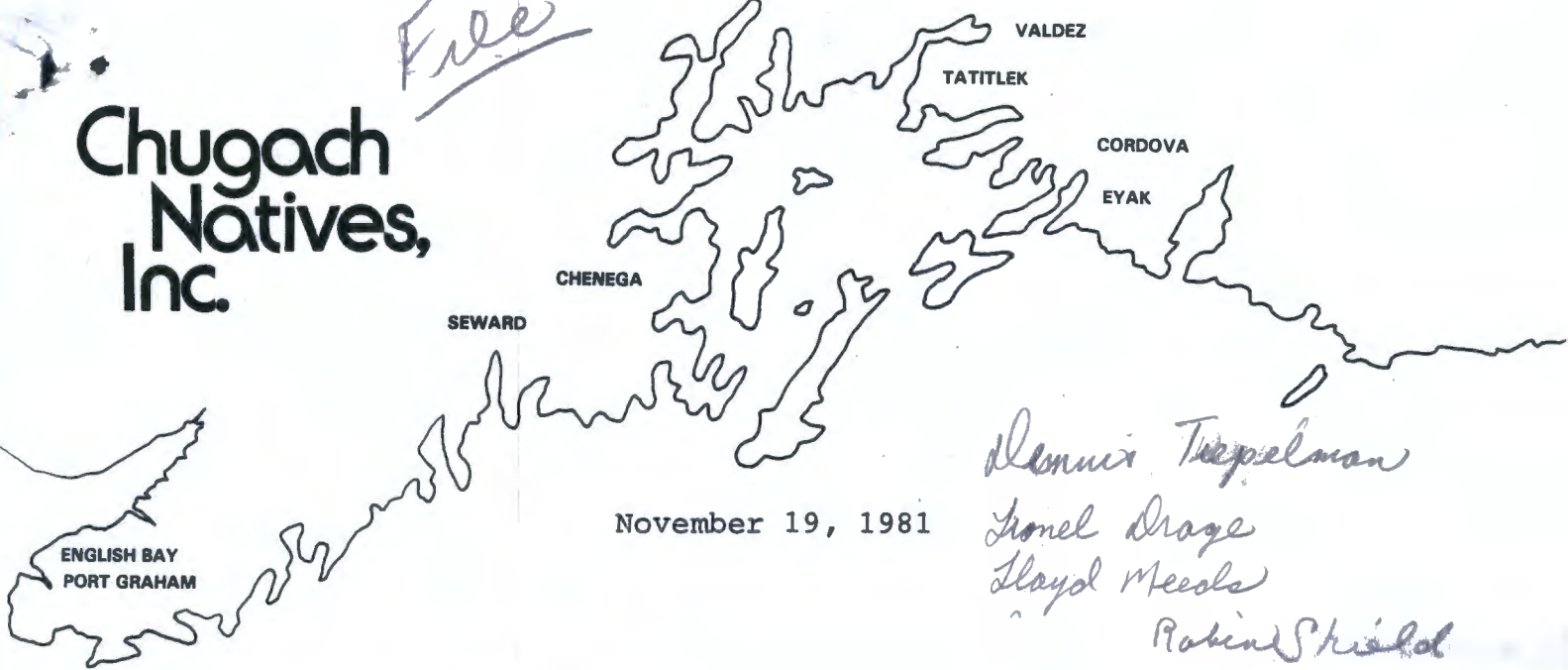
WH

Robin Shield
546-1168

Alaska Federation
of Natives &
Pres. of one of the
Regional Corporations
Chugach

Chugach Natives, Inc.

File



November 19, 1981

Dennis Trappelman
Jonel Drage
Gloyd Meeds
Robert Shield
McCloughly
Debbie Merrick

The Honorable Ronald Reagan
President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear Mr. President:

The Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (P.L. 96-487) (Sec. 1430) contains a requirement for a Presidential report to the Congress on December 2, 1981, or one year after the date of enactment of the Alaska Lands Act. The purpose of this report is to transmit to Congress the results of the Chugach Region study, along with the President's recommendations on how to implement the study. On November 16, 1981 the Chugach Lands Study Group forwarded to you the results of its year long study of the Chugach Region.

Unfortunately, that report will reveal that the study group has thus far failed to comply with the directives of Section 1430 or to achieve the objectives set out by the Congress in that section of the Alaska Lands Act. Congress directed the study participants "to identify in region and out of region lands, including lands within the Chugach National Forest and State Lands but excluding lands in private ownership, which can be made available to Chugach Natives, Inc., in satisfaction of its regional land entitlement pursuant to section 12(c) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act."

The objectives of the study are also worthy of reiteration:

- (1) to identify lands which can be made available to Chugach Natives, Inc.;
- (2) to consolidate land ownership patterns in the Chugach region;

- (3) to improve the boundaries of and identify new conservation system units;
- (4) to obtain a fair and just land settlement for the Chugach people; and
- (5) the realization of the intent, purpose and promise of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act by the Chugach Natives, Inc.

The study group has been unable to identify lands to be made available to Chugach Natives, Inc. because the group has not reached a consensus. In fact, the study group has been unable to produce a recommendation which has the support of a simple majority of the five participants. (The Department of the Interior, the Department of Agriculture, the State of Alaska, the Alaska Land Use Council, and Chugach Natives, Inc.) Chugach Natives, Inc. has made six formal proposals to the study group and the federal participants have made three proposals. None of these proposals have been acceptable to the group as a whole.

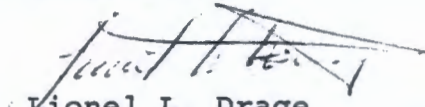
Chugach does not want the study process to fail. Our Board of Directors and our shareholders are committed to the achievement of a fair and just land settlement for the Natives of the Chugach Region. We have spent the better part of a decade trying to obtain what was promised to us under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act. Chugach, alone, of the twelve regional corporations created under ANCSA, has not received a single acre of its regional land selection under the Settlement Act. If we cannot achieve this goal through the study process we will have no choice but to pursue this goal in the courts and in Congress.

The study process still has a chance to succeed. Chugach would like to respond to the final federal proposal with a final proposal of our own. This proposal is more in keeping with the expectations of our board and our shareholders. This proposal has the support of the other eleven regional corporations in Alaska, as well as the Alaska Federation of Natives and the Alaska Native Foundation. All of these groups have given Chugach their firm support and have expressed that support in public hearings and through official resolutions.

Chugach proposes three alternative additions to the final federal offer. We submit them with the understanding that time is running out on the study process. Any one of these proposals would be acceptable to Chugach. Our proposal would accept as a basis the final federal offer in almost all respects and would differ significantly from our earlier proposals in several areas. The alternatives are described in detail in the attachments to this letter. We urge you to give them serious consideration. All of the alternatives can be implemented administratively, if the study group participants agree. Chugach's representatives are willing to meet with study group participants or members of

your staff to discuss these alternatives any time in order to meet the December 2 deadline.

Sincerely,



Lionel L. Drage
President, Chugach Natives, Inc.

Attachments

cc: Senator Ted Stevens
Senator Frank Murkowski
Congressman Don Young
Governor Jay Hammond
James G. Watt,
Secretary of the Interior
John R. Block,
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Alternative III

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*Contingent upon CNI obtaining state and local political support.

Chugach Natives, Inc.



Lionel L. Drage
President

Office:
(907) 276-1080

903 West Northern Lights
Suite 201
Anchorage, Alaska 99503

Chugach Natives, Inc.



November 19, 1981

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The White House
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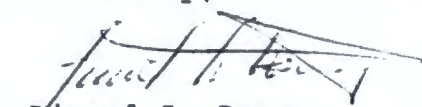
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Sincerely,



Lionel L. Drage
President, Chugach Natives, Inc.

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Morton C. Blackwell
Vern Wiggins
John Sandor

Alternative I

		<u>Acreage</u>
1.	Accept the federal proposal of 11/13/81 (N.B. this proposal includes 83,797 acres of 12(c) deficiency areas which CNI can select regardless of the study recommendations	<u>200,154.77</u>
2.	Reduce the additional ANCSA 12(c) deficiency areas in the federal proposal from 177,845 to 96,000 (approx.)	<u>96,000</u>
3.	Add the following areas:	
	Yakataga (State land) (approx.)	70,000
	Patton Bay (addition to federal proposal to equalize CNI's original nomination)	4,354
	Alaska R.R. lands	200
	Jack Bay	500
	Cordova Airport	97.5
	Green Island	<u>7,242</u>
		<u>82,393.5</u>
Total		<u>378,000</u>

Alternative II

	<u>Acreage</u>
1. Accept the federal proposal of 11/13/81 (N.B. this proposal includes 83,797 acres of 12(c) deficiency areas which CNI can select regardless of the study recommen- dations	<u>200,154.77</u>
2. Reduce the additional ANCSA 12(c) deficiency areas in the federal proposal from 177,845 to 65,104 (approx.)	<u>65,104</u>
3. Add the following areas:	
Martin River	26,580
Kushtaka Lake	8,751
Katalla (Surface & Subsurface)	65,370
Alaska RR lands	200
Jack Bay	500
Cordova Airport	97.5
Green Island	<u>7,242</u>
	<u>108,740.5</u>
Total	<u>378,000</u>

Alternative III

	<u>Acreage</u>
1. Accept the federal proposal of 11/13/81 (N.B. this proposal includes 83,797 acres of 12(c) deficiency areas which CNI can select regardless of the study recommen- dations	<u>200,154.77</u>
2. Reduce the additional ANCSA 12(c) deficiency areas in the federal proposal from 177,845 to 144,906 (approx.)	<u>144,906</u>
3. Add the following areas:	
*North and South Horn Mtn. Emery County, Utah	24,900
Alaska R.R. lands	200
Jack Bay	500
Cordova Airport	97.5
Green Island	<u>7,242</u> <u>32,939.5</u>
Total	<u>378,000</u>

*Contingent upon CNI obtaining state and local political support.

AVCP

Association of Village Council Presidents
P. O. Box 219 • Bethel, Alaska 99559 • Phone 543-3521

File
Alaska
Indians

April 30, 1981

Commissioner
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Attention: Financial Management
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

Regarding: Comments for Bureau management of Consolidated Tribal Governmental Programs requested by the Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary.

Dear Sir:

The Association of Village Council Presidents appreciates the invitation of the Deputy Assistant Secretary in his letter of March 31, 1981 to comment on the proposed tribal block grant options.

AVCP is the regional tribal organization presently and historically representing the 56 Yupik Eskimo communities of western Alaska. The governing body of AVCP consists of each elected President of the IRA and Traditional Village Governments of the AVCP Region. AVCP is defined in Section 7(a) of the Alaska Native Land Claims Act of 1971 by geographic boundaries and member villages. The members of AVCP are defined as tribal governments by the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act of 1975 and numerous other Federal statutes.

AVCP hereby endorses Option "C" as defined by the Option Paper transmitted to us by the Deputy Assistant Secretary. AVCP believes Option "C" for the reasons set forth in the Option paper. Specifically, we consider this option the most equitable of the three in that the distribution formula proposed therein provides our member tribal governments with the opportunity to more fully utilize the benefits of the Indian Action Team program, if they so desire. Additionally, AVCP firmly believes that Indian Contract Support Funds should be excluded from the tribal block grants and should continue to be available Bureau-wide on a need basis to meet the requirements of tribes who have chosen to contract for Bureau programs under authority of P.L. 93-638.

Inclusion of Contract Support Funds, AVCP believes, would penalize tribes who have chosen to participate in the contracting process, and would thereby violate Federal policy as defined by 25 CFR § 271.4(e), which states, "It is the policy of the Bureau not to impose sanctions on Indian tribes with regard to contracting or not contracting; however the tribes which do wish to contract should be made known to all tribes, as should the current realities of funding and Federal personnel limitations." (emphasis provided)

April 30, 1981

Page Two

Option "C" AVCP believes, is the option which is most consistent with this Federal policy. Contract Support should be excluded from Bureau programs included in consolidated tribal grants.

Your attention is requested to comments submitted by AVCP to the Budget Committees of the U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senate on March 31, 1981, regarding application of the tribal grant proposal in Alaska. In item number seven of our comments, AVCP states, "AVCP, in concept, is in agreement with the proposal of BIA for the block grant program. If administered for Alaska in the same manner as the Self-Determination contracting policies, however, this approach will be neither cost effective nor will it reduce administrative apparatus. If administered with no procedural changes from the 638 contracting approach, block grants have the potential of increasing Federal employment position at the expense of program service dollars. Procedural difficulties with 638 contracting have caused duplication of administrative structures in Alaska, particularly at the agency level. AVCP therefore endorses the position of the Alaska Federation of Natives that ANCSA Section 7(a) Native regions or their successors have eligibility to directly apply for and manage block-grant funds in Alaska. AVCP fully supports the right of Indian Reorganization Act and Traditional Governments to directly apply for and manage Tribal block grants if they elect Congress as the desired result of block-grants appropriated for the Alaska Area, administrative savings in program management will permit cost effective delivery of services to the Alaska Native population even while cost reductions may be equally and fairly apportioned among the BIA program activities."

Continuing, AVCP stated, "Another alternative may be amendment of the Self-Determination Act to correct Alaska's procedural and administrative problem deserves support. The Bureau proposes tribal input at a later stage of the program, after Congressional approval. We believe, however, that clear direction from Congress at this time, taking into account the AFN recommendation, to be of infinitely greater value than consultation at an unspecified later time and in the absence of any guarantee of meaningful input. Given previous experience, we respectfully suggest the Congress provide for the concept as well as the process for tribal grants for Alaska."

AVCP has also noted, in statements submitted for review by the Congressional budget committees, that the BIA budget proposal for FY 1982 proposes a disproportionate reduction in Indian programs in comparison to the overall Bureau budget, exclusive of trust services.

In item number three of our BIA Budget testimony, AVCP has noted, "The cumulative effect of cuts for FY 1981 in addition to cuts proposed for FY 1982 result in an overall cut in funds greater than the 25 percent shown in the 1982 budget revision..." and, in item four, AVCP commented, "Programs that actually provide services to Indian and Native people have been targeted for a greater reduction, proportionally, than other BIA activities, in the FY 1982 proposal. We believe it would be more fair to the users of BIA services if, exclusive of the amount for trust functions, reductions in programs that provide services of direct benefit to Indian and Native people are made at the same level or less as reductions for other Bureau activities."

The Option Paper assumes there is agreement on the inordinate reduction proposed for Indian services. Clearly, there is no agreement or tribal consent provided for this budget proposal.

As AVCP stated in budget testimony, "The original BIA budget total is \$1.545 billion. Of this amount, BIA has identified \$162 in the eleven tribal service programs from the area of operation of Indian programs, and which have been proposed for block grants to tribes. This amount is indicated as being available to us to provide services to our members. These people programs have also been targeted for a \$40.5 million reduction, from \$162 million to \$121.5 million, or a cut of 25 percent. The balance of the BIA Budget, representing \$1.383 billion, is proposed for a \$25.5 million reduction, to \$1.358 billion, which represents a cut of 1.65 percent. This does not appear equitable. We propose that Trust Services, which should suffer no reduction, be separated out from the budget proposal, and that a proportionately equal reduction be applied to both the programs that provide services directly benefiting people and the balance of the Bureau budget."

AVCP additionally noted that, "If there is to be any disparity between items which provide services of direct benefit to American Indians and Alaska Natives and those which remain under the general administrative control of the BIA, we suggest that the disparity be weighed in favor of people programs."

AVCP wished to commend the Bureau for the thoughtful development of the Option Paper. It appears well researched and well reasoned, and the authors have taken care to objectively present both the favorable points and potential problems of each option.

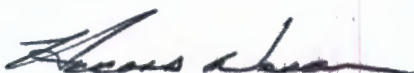
In summary, AVCP endorses Option "C" as being most equitable for member villages tribal governments, we request the method of implementation for Alaska to be spelled out in advance of Congressional approval and in a manner consistent with the process proposed by the Alaska Federation of Natives, and we request adjustment in the total Bureau wide amount of block grant programs such that, exclusive of Trust Services, cuts be equally apportioned among Indian services programs and other Bureau program activities.

Additional comments on other elements of the FY 1982 BIA Budget proposal may be obtained in review of the AVCP budget testimony, transmitted by telegram to the Office of the Secretary of Interior on Tuesday, March 31, 1981.

On behalf of our 56 member village tribal governments, AVCP appreciates the invitation of the Bureau to provide these comments.

Sincerely,

ASSOCIATION OF VILLAGE COUNCIL PRESIDENTS



Harold Napoleon
President

cc: Hon. Peter Domenici, U.S. Senate
Hon. James R. Jones, U.S.S House of Representatives
Hon. Ted Stevens, U.S. Senate
Hon. Frank Murkowski, U.S. Senate
Hon. Don Young, U.S. House of Representatives
Ms. Sylvia Carlsson, Alaska Federation of Natives
Hon. John Hope, President, Tlingit & Haida Central Council
Hon. William C. Williams, President, Tanana Chiefs Conference
Hon. James Watt, Secretary of the Interior
Mr. Morton Blackwell, Executive Office of the President
Hon. Nelson Angapak, Chairman of the Board, AFN
Hon. Frank Ferguson, President, Alaska Federation of Natives
Area Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Juneau Area Office
Mr. Bertram Hirsch, Esq., General Counsel of American Indians
Ms. Susan Hardjo, Native American Rights Fund
Mr. Jake Lestenkof, Cook Inlet Native Association
AFN Budget Reductions Impact Committee of the Board
IRA and Traditional Councils



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20245

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Tribal Government Services (TS)

BCCO-4792

**Mr. Chipper Parr
President, Alaska Inter-Regional
Private Industry Council
Suite 403, Goldstein Building
130 Seward Street
Juneau, Alaska 99801**

MAY 2 - 1983

Dear Mr. Parr:

This is in reply to your suggestion to President Reagan that the member Native Alaskan Organizations of the Alaska Inter-Regional Private Industry Council be recognized for their contributions to the Nation's economy and work force by issuing a "Red Jacket" medal in the form of a Presidential award. The President has decided not to reinstitute a "Red Jacket" type of award at this time.

The President does feel that the purposes as outlined by AIR/PIC for making such an award are extremely laudable. His objection to making a "Red Jacket" type of award stems from the historic use that the Red Jacket medal and the many other so-called "Peace Medals" issued by all of the Presidents from President George Washington through President Benjamin Harrison connotated. The purposes for the issuing of these historic medals were proper for their time but do not fit the significant role being performed by Indian and Native Alaskan organizations within the context of our modern society.

Sincerely,

/S/ John W. Fritz

**Deputy Assistant Secretary -
Indian Affairs (Operations)**

**Copy to Honorable Rick Neal
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500**

MAILGRAM -- MARCH 31, 1982

Mr. Leroy V. Clifford
Executive Director
American Indian Higher Education Consortium
c/o Mauman Printing Company
Post Office Box 1066
Rapid City, South Dakota 57709

I extend greetings to participants in the First Annual American Indian/Alaskan Native Higher Education Conference for a very successful and productive meeting.

The decision by many Indian tribes to establish tribal community colleges is a meaningful step toward Indian self-determination. I am very pleased to see that these tribes are assuming greater responsibility for the education of young Indian adults. The American Indian Higher Education Consortium is to be encouraged in its assistance to tribal community colleges to improve academic program quality and to broaden their bases of financial support. Accreditation and fiscal autonomy are essential to their independent existence as Indian institutions of higher learning.

I am encouraged by conferences such as this which seek to address the difficult issues of local involvement and local fiscal autonomy within the Federal system.

You have my best wishes.

RONALD REAGAN

RR:Livingston:--
cc: K.Osborne/D.Livingston/M.Blackwell/CF
DUE: MARCH 31 EVENT: ARPI 4-7
Draft information provided by ED.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 25, 1982

TO: Claudia
Dodie Livingston's office

FROM: Kathy
Morton Blackwell's office
Room 191 x. 2657

This is a rush job!

We have checked with our Indian contacts and this is a good group.

The Consortium is made up of 18 Indian controlled community colleges in the Dakotas, Montana, and Southwest area. They receive money from PL 95-471 - the Tribally Controlled Community College Assistance Act.

If possible, please send telegram by March 31st to:

Maumani Printing Co.
P.O. Box 1066
Rapid City, South Dakota 57709

I am sending them a picture today.

Thanks so very much!!!



American Indian Higher Education Consortium

1582 South Parker Road - Suite 210 Denver, Colorado 80231
(303) 750-1883

March 18, 1982

STAFF

Leroy V. Clifford
Executive Director

John Emhoolah, Jr.

Paula Cotterly Hanrahan

C. Douglas Roubideaux

Floyd Hernandez

David A. Lee

Mary Rose Moran

Carol A. Nichols

MEMBER INSTITUTIONS

Blackfeet Community
College

Cheyenne River Community
College

Dull Knife Memorial
College

Fort Berthold College Center
Hehaka Sapa College

Little Big Horn
College

Little Hoop Community
College

Lummi Indian School of
Aquaculture

Navajo Community College

Nebraska Indian Community
College

Oglala Sioux Community
College

Salish Kootenai Community
College

Sinte Gleska College

Sisseton-Wahpeton College
Center

Standing Rock Community
College

Turtle Mountain Community
College

United Tribes Educational
Technical Center

The Honorable Ronald Reagan
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

The American Indian Higher Education Consortium is pleased to announce its First Annual American Indian/Alaskan Native Higher Education Conference which will be held in Rapid City, South Dakota on April 4-7, 1982. The theme of this First Annual Conference is "A Vision Quest for Indian Self-Determination Through Higher Education".

The Conference will emphasize several aspects of higher education as it relates to American Indians and Alaskan Natives. The specific themes such as legislation, institutional accreditation, financial aid programs, and the role of Tribally Controlled Community College's in higher education will be presented through key note addresses, major panels, focus sessions, workshops and mini-panels.

Mr. President, the American Indian Higher Education Consortium would be honored with your presence at the Conference should your schedule allow. We are well aware of the demands on your time, thus if you are unable to attend we wish to extend the invitation to any of your White House staff. We would also appreciate it if you could forward to the American Indian Higher Education Consortium office located in Denver, Colorado, a short written message of support for American Indian/Alaskan Native higher education along with a photo of yourself which we could use in the forward of our official conference program.

Mr. President, the American Indian Higher Education Consortium appreciates very much your support for Indian Self-Determination and wishes to thank you in advance for your participation in our First Annual Conference.

Sincerely,

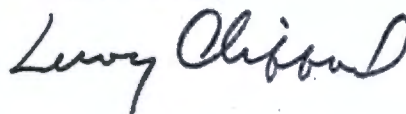
Leroy V. Clifford
Executive Director

Mr. Blackwell:

Please find attached a suggested statement by the President recognizing the Conference. Feel free to make whatever changes are necessary.

Thank you for your cooperation and assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Leroy Clifford". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Leroy V. Clifford

I send warmest greetings to the participants in the First Annual American Indian/Alaskan Native Higher Education Conference and appreciate your efforts to improve the quality of higher education for American Indians and Alaskan Natives in the decade of the 1980's.

Your convention theme refers to the need for new visions and new approaches for quality education. I fully share your determination to meet the challenges of making Indian Higher Education programs better and more responsive to the needs of Indian people. We can no longer tolerate inferior schools or second rate programs for the Nation's Indian Students.

Changes have been made. I am please that we have implemented P.L. 95-471 the "Tribally Controlled Community College Assistance Act of 1973", which gives Indian Tribes the opportunity to exercise much greater control over Indian Higher Education programs at the local reservation level, coupled with P.L. 93-638, the "Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act", which gives Indian Tribes a greater responsibility in local control of their education programs.

Program and policies that will best serve the higher education needs of Indian people will be made by Indians. They will be made with the experienced guidance of Indian Tribes and organizations such as yours and by people who are knowledgeable, concerned and caring. The results are bound to be good.

I hope the Conference will assist you in your critically important task of improving higher education for American Indian/Alaskan Natives and I welcome the opportunity to express my personal support and encouragement to the participants of the First Annual American Indian/Alaskan Native Higher Education Conference.