

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY MR. DUFFIELD

2

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 6

3

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE TERRITORY OF ALASKA

4

TWENTY-FIRST SESSION

5

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, THE SECRETARY OF THE

6

INTERIOR, THE DIRECTOR OF OFFICE OF DEFENSE MOBILIZATION, THE

7

DIRECTOR U. S. BUREAU OF MINES, THE DEFENSE MINERALS ADMINIS-

8

TRATION, THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, AND THE ALASKA ROAD

9

COMMISSION; *Delegated To Congress from Alaska*

10

Your Memorialist, the Legislature of the Territory of

11

Alaska, in Twenty-first Regular Session assembled, respectfully

12

submits that:

13

WHEREAS, The Alaska Territorial Bureau of Mines and The

14

U. S. Bureau of Mines have made intensive studies of The Defense

15

Mineral Potential in the Seward Peninsula Area, and

16

WHEREAS, said studies have disclosed the presence of vast

17

quantities of graphite, tin, antimony, scheelite, lead and

18

undetermined quantities of even more valuable defense minerals

19

in this area, and

20

WHEREAS, The United States Tin Corporation is now operating

21

the largest tin mine in this country at Lost River, Alaska, and

22

WHEREAS, the present high cost and irregularity of air

23

transportation and the infrequency and high cost of boat trans-

24

portation is endangering the success of this aforementioned tin

25

Mine, thus placing the United States in a dangerous position,

26

since the Bolivian supply of tin may be cut off at any time

27

due to internal strife in that country, and

28

WHEREAS, a highway linking Lost River with the cities of

29

Teller and Nome would alleviate these detrimental factors,

1 at the same time bringing mining costs of graphite down to a
2 point where production of the vast deposits of this mineral
3 would be more practicable, and

4 WHEREAS, the continuation of the Nome-Council Road on up
5 the Kougarok Railroad to its northernmost terminus, thence
6 eastward to join the Alcan Highway would open the major por-
7 tion of other known defense mineral areas to the potential
8 miners who know that without this outlet to the Alcan Highway
9 the cost of production would be and has proven prohibitive, and

10 WHEREAS, the people of Alaska wish not only to develop
11 its natural resources but to contribute to the greatest extent
12 to the war effort against a potential enemy who lies within
13 naked eye view of Alaska's West Coast, and

14 WHEREAS, the people of Northwestern Alaska are virtually
15 without industry in an area of extreme plenty, and

16 WHEREAS, thousands in Federal and Territorial funds are
17 spent each month on unemployment compensation and aid for the
18 children of unemployed fathers, and

19 WHEREAS, the military advantages or disadvantages of
20 highways in time of war are no greater nor less in this area
21 than they have been or will be in thousands of areas where no
22 such national wealth exists.

23 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialist, the Legislature of the
24 Territory of Alaska respectfully urges the survey for and con-
25 struction of a highway from Lost River, Alaska to the Alcan
26 Highway; said highway to follow as nearly as practicable the
27 dictates of the known defense mineral deposits, cities and
28 villages enroute.

29 AND YOUR MEMORIALIST WILL EVER PRAY.