

Original sponsors: Fritz, Clocksin and
McBride by request

Funding Information
General Fund \$115,900
Other Funds - 0 -
\$115,900

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

2 CS FOR SPONSOR SUBSTITUTE FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 470 (Finance)

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act making a special appropriation to the Depart-
7 ment of Education, Alaska Historical Commission to
8 produce a documentary film relating to the participa-
9 tion of Alaska in World War II; and providing for an
10 effective date."

11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

12 * Section 1. The sum of \$115,900 is appropriated from the general fund
13 to the Department of Education, Alaska Historical Commission to prepare and
14 distribute a comprehensive documentary film history of the participation of
15 Alaska in World War II.

16 * Sec. 2. The unexpended and unobligated portion of the appropriation
17 made by this Act lapses into the general fund June 30, 1986.

18 * Sec. 3. This Act takes effect immediately in accordance with AS 01.-
19 10.070(c).

PROPOSED HOUSE FINANCE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR HB 470

<u>Citizens Advisory Committee</u>	\$10,000.
<u>Search for available film</u>	
Project Manager: Travel, equivalent to two trips Anchorage - Washington, D. C. and return	\$ 2,000.
Per diem 20 days @ \$80.	\$ 1,600.
Cost of prints of selected film (probably 3/4" video tape) for review and editing: 60,000 ft @ 60¢/ft	\$36,000.
<u>Review and editing of film to be used</u>	
Say: 10,000 feet. 3 persons, 10 day @ \$150/da	\$ 4,500.
Synchronization of sound. 10,000 feet @ \$1/ft	\$10,000.
<u>Preparation of script</u>	\$ 5,000.
<u>Taking new film</u>	
Say 12,000 feet. 4 persons 20 days @ \$150/da	\$12,000.
Per diem 4 x 20 80 =	\$ 6,400.
Cost of 12,000 feet new film (3/4" Video tape) @ 50¢/ft	\$ 6,000.
Processing and synchronization of sound on 12,000 feet @ 60¢/ft	\$ 7,200.
<u>Editing, cutting and final synchronization of sound</u>	
22,000 feet cut to 12,000 feet film probably 3/4" video tape @ 60¢/ft	\$ 7,200.
Final editing, including preparation of titles, accreditation, background music, etc., of finished product	\$ 5,000.
<u>Audio equipment</u>	
Audio equipment, including color TV for showing film to Citizens Advisory Committee and others	\$ 3,000.

TOTAL

\$115,900.

Alaska State Legislature

REP. MAE TISCHER
CHAIRMAN



POUCH V
STATE CAPITAL
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811
(907) 465-3777

March 7, 1984

House of Representatives
HEALTH, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

LETTER OF INTENT FOR SPONSOR SUBSTITUTE FOR HOUSE BILL 470

Sponsor Substitute for House Bill 470, "An Act making a special appropriation to the Department of Education, Alaska Historical Commission to produce a documentary film relating to the participation of Alaska in World War II; and providing for an effective date," has been introduced on behalf of the veterans of World War II.

In adopting this legislation, the Legislature intends that the funds provided by SSHB 470 be used by the Department of Education, Alaska Historical Commission to prepare, or to authorize and coordinate preparation by others of, a comprehensive documentary film on Alaska's role in World War II; that the Alaska Historical Commission create an advisory committee of veterans and other interested persons to assist in the planning and production of the film; that the Commission shall provide at least six copies of the film to the state historical library for permanent record; and that the state should retain all copyright interests in the film. In carrying out this mandate, the Alaska Historical Commission may give financial support to, and otherwise cooperate with, active and retired members of the Armed Forces of the United States, Canada and Japan, and with others, in the production of the film, using materials available from existing sources as well as additional visual material as may be found appropriate.

The Legislature recognizes that today Alaska continues to suffer from the same lack of appreciation and understanding as was the case when the state was purchased in 1867. The Aleutian Campaign of World War II, once referred to as the "forgotten front," could well become just that -- forgotten. It is therefore important for the state to increase the public's awareness of Alaska's role in the war.

Mae Tischler
Rich Uhler

Michael Davis
Terry Anderson

Star Route Box 670
Anchor Point, AK 99556
26 March 1984

Representative Albert R. Adams
Chairman House Finance Committee
Pouch V
Juneau, AK 99811

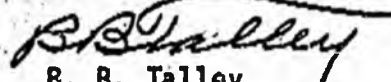
Dear Mr. Adams:

Separately I have sent a copy of the testimony I would like to give in person before your committee in support of SSHB 470 pertaining to the production of a visual history of World War II in Alaska. The shortage of time since I received notification of the time of the hearing has prevented me from giving it in person.

I believe this is a good project and one that needs to be carried out because so few people really know what happened in Alaska during World War II. Also it will make it possible for us to record both the contribution and the sacrifices that our native people made during that historic period.

Your support of this project would be greatly appreciated.

Most sincerely,



B. B. Talley
Brig. Gen. USA-Ret.

P.S. Please tell your committee that although I will do what I can to make this production a success, I will not accept pay for anything that I may do except for reimbursement of per diem and travel expenses according to state law.

Star Route Box 600
Anchor Point, AK 99556
26 March 1984

Lt. Governor Stephen McAlpine
Lt. Governor's Office
State Capitol Building
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Sir:

I have just prepared an estimate of the cost of the comprehensive visual history of World War II in Alaska and have submitted it to Juneau. I have asked that a copy of this be shown to you in advance of the meeting of the House Finance Committee on 27 March.

Your support of this worthy project is appreciated, and I hope that you will be able to express the same support before the House Finance Committee in its hearing March 27 as you expressed before the Health, Education and Social Services Committee two weeks ago.

Sincerely yours,


B. B. Talley
Brig. Gen. USA-Ret.

COMPREHENSIVE VISUAL HISTORY OF WWII IN ALASKA
(SSHB 470)

Statement prepared by Brig. Gen. B. B. Talley, USA-Ret., for the Finance Committee of the Alaska House of Representatives, Juneau, March 27, 1984

The estimate of cost of production of a comprehensive visual history of World War II in Alaska is based on the assumption that the Alaska Historical Commission of the Department of Education will provide a grant for the production.

The details of the production assignment will be developed with the Alaska Historical Commission in Anchorage upon approval of SSHB 470. There have been a series of conferences with Mr. William S. Hanable of the Alaska Historical Commission at Anchorage, and a meeting with Lt. Governor Stephen McAlpine concerning the scope and the methodology of working with the Alaska Historical Commission in the production of the visual history. No difficulty is foreseen in achieving a satisfactory working arrangement with the Alaska Historical Commission.

A Citizens Advisory Committee consisting of between 5 and 7 members appointed by the Lt. Governor who is the Chairman of the commission would provide guidance for the production.

The visual history would be comprehensive and would include the utilization of selected portions of motion picture film made by the Army, including the Army Air Corps, the Navy, the Coast Guard and others, including newsreels. Selection would be made by service representatives wherever possible with narration to be by qualified veterans of WWII in Alaska to the extent feasible. The advanced age of many of these veterans emphasizes the importance of producing this documentary without further undue delay.

In addition, selected veterans would be invited to return to some of the important battle sites, as for example, Dutch Harbor, Kiska and Attu to

describe the action in which they participated more than 40 years ago.

The documentary film can include the use of Japanese film already in the possession of the United States, as may be pertinent and appropriate. It may be possible to obtain other Japanese film, perhaps with narration by Japanese veterans. In 1982, the two Japanese officers who led the first two flights in the attack on Dutch Harbor returned by invitation to Unalaska Island to join with U. S. and Canadian armed forces and Aleuts in the dedication of a common memorial to all who lost their lives in the Aleutians. This participation was well received both in Alaska and in Japan. There are indications that we might obtain further participation by the Japanese.

This documentary gives us an opportunity to record with appropriate recognition the contribution and sacrifice our native population made during WWII. Both Aleut and Eskimo representatives should be involved in the production.

There is an abundance of Army, Navy and Air Corps film available at the National Archives. The U. S. Army maintains its records at an Army depot in Pennsylvania from which it is obtainable.

My office of the Army Corps of Engineers made extensive film, and when I recently discussed it with Lt. Gen. Joseph K. Bratton, Chief of Engineers, his reaction was expressed in a simple question: "What can I do to help?" As a result of this conversation, he immediately took action to release a copy of the Corps film we requested, and it is presently at the office of the Alaska District Engineer, Anchorage. It is in color and is in excellent condition.

The material is available. The job is to locate it, review it to determine its suitability, select what can be used and have professionals put it together into a single narrative. Additional film will be required to fill in the gaps

where they may occur.

In addition to its historical value, the film should be a vehicle for showing the people in the South 48 and our government officials in Washington why Alaska should be dealt with defensively directly from Washington rather than as a subordinate command under an intermediate headquarters.

The job must be done right. If it is not done now, it may never be done.

Two years should be ample to do the job. Here follows an estimate of its cost.

It is regretted that I am unable to present this estimate in person.

ESTIMATE OF COST

COMPREHENSIVE VISUAL HISTORY OF WWII IN ALASKA

UNDER SSHB 470

This estimate is based on the following:

Production shall be financed by a grant from the Department of Education operating through the Alaska Historical Commission

Time of completion: 30 June 1986

A Citizens Advisory Committee of adequate size and qualifications shall be appointed by the Lt. Governor to monitor the production on a continuing basis in the manner of a corporate board of directors. It is suggested that this committee be no larger than seven nor smaller than five.

The members of the Citizens Advisory Committee shall serve without pay but will receive per diem and travel expenses as provided by Alaska state law.

COST

Citizens Advisory Committee

16 meetings, average attendance 5 members, 3 days

Per diem $3 \times 80 \times 16 \times 5 =$ \$ 19,200

Travel (mean) $5 \times 200 \times 16 =$ 16,000

Search for available film

Project Manager: Travel, equivalent to two trips Anchorage

- Washington, D. C. and return 2,000

Per diem 20 days @ \$80 1,600

Cost of prints of selected film (probably 3/4" video tape)

for review and editing: 60,000 ft @ 60¢/ft 36,000

Review and editing of film to be used

Say: 10,000 feet. 3 persons, 10 days @ \$150/day \$ 4,500

Synchronization of sound. 10,000 feet @ \$1/ft 10,000

Preparation of script 5,000

Taking new film

Say 12,000 feet. 4 persons 20 days @ \$150/day 12,000

Per diem 4 x 20 x 80 = 6,400

Cost of 12,000 feet new film (3/4" video tape) @ 50¢/ft 6,000

Processing and synchronization of sound on 12,000 feet
@ 60¢/ft 7,200

Editing, cutting and final synchronization of sound

22,000 feet cut to 12,000 feet film probably 3/4" video
tape @ 60¢/ft 7,200

Final editing, including preparation of titles, accredi-
tation, background music, etc., of finished product 5,000

Audio equipment

Audio equipment, including color TV for showing film
to Citizens Advisory Committee and others 3,000

Operating costs

Personnel (Project Manager, clerical, etc.,) rental of
office, office equipment; telephone; office supplies;
transportation to the Aleutians 100,000

Total \$ 241,100

Contingency 8,900

Total SSHB 470 \$ 250,000

Alaska State Legislature

REP. MAE TISCHER
CHAIRMAN



POUCH V
STATE CAPITAL
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811
(907) 465-3777

March 7, 1984

House of Representatives
HEALTH, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

LETTER OF INTENT FOR SPONSOR SUBSTITUTE FOR HOUSE BILL 470

Sponsor Substitute for House Bill 470, "An Act making a special appropriation to the Department of Education, Alaska Historical Commission to produce a documentary film relating to the participation of Alaska in World War II; and providing for an effective date," has been introduced on behalf of the veterans of World War II.

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The Legislature recognizes that today Alaska continues to suffer from the same lack of appreciation and understanding as was the case when the state was purchased in 1867. The Aleutian Campaign of World War II, once referred to as the "forgotten front," could well become just that -- forgotten. It is therefore important for the state to increase the public's awareness of Alaska's role in the war.

Mae Tischler
Rich Kelly

Michael Davis
Terry Anderson

A COMPREHENSIVE VISUAL DOCUMENTARY
OF
WORLD WAR II IN ALASKA

A joint production by the Alaska Veterans of World War II, assisted by contributions by the US Army, Navy and Air Force, together with the State of Alaska, the Air Force Association, et al.

Draft of Suggested Format
Prepared by B. B. Talley

Background music.

Title and accreditation (Producer, Narrators, Contributors, etc.) Brief introduction by a distinguished Veteran.

PROLOGUE with voice off camera. On the screen flashes of motion pictures and projected stills, changing every 3 to 5 seconds.

Voice off camera:

"ALASKA. A land of inestimable beauty...Its Mountains (McKinley)..Its Rivers...Forests...Lakes: _____ of them...Farms in the Matanuska Valley...A Coastline of _____ miles...The Sea with its abundance of seafood: 35 million salmon alone caught in 1983...The Inside Passage (map) from Seattle to Skagway and to Haines...Its Cities (flash of Fairbanks, Anchorage, and perhaps Juneau)...Its vast natural resources: Oil...Coal... Timber...Gold and other rare metals...Its Industry: Mining... Forestry...Fishing...Construction...Its People (Indians... Eskimos...Aleuts...Sourdoughs...Business Men and Women. Truly a Great Land." (Total time from 3 to 5 minutes.)

On the screen: A map of Alaska superimposed on a map to the same scale, of the South 48 States, with Ketchikan over Jacksonville, FL, and Attu over (vicinity of) San Diego.

As the map is projected, a veteran walks on stage and speaks:

"When the United States purchased Russia's interests in Alaska in 1867, the American people called it 'Seward's Ice Box' or

'Seward's Folly'. The natives called it 'Denali'--the Great Land. A land so vast that if Ketchikan (turns and points) were at Jacksonville, Florida, Attu--one of the Near Islands--would be at San Diego, and the oil fields at Prudhoe Bay would be in North Dakota and Minnesota.

"The Near Islands? Near to what? _____ miles to Soviet Komandorskiye Islands, _____ miles from the Kamchatka Peninsula in Asia.

"Further north, Soviet Big Diomed Island is 5 miles from American Little Diomed. Until recently the Eskimos on these islands visited back and forth, but no more... The inhabitants of Russia's Big Diomed have been evacuated.

"But this is not a history of Alaska, which was governed as a Military District under the Department of California until it attained Territorial status in 1912, or until it became our 49th state in 1958.

"Rather, we present to you the story of World War II in Alaska as experienced by veterans of that war. Too often it is called 'The Forgotten War' or 'The Thousand Mile War'. A war that few Americans knew much about even while it was taking place; and fewer know now that during that war American territory was seized by the Japanese armed forces and occupied for 15 months before we were able to again bring it under the American flag.

"This is a story told by men who took part in that war and by natives who suffered because of it. It is a story the American people ought to know, to see for themselves pictures made at the time the action took place. They should see for themselves the tremendous effort required to build the bases from which our airmen, our soldiers and our navy operated in the defense of Alaska. They should see what those bases look like more than 40 years after the action took place.

"It is important that we do this. History not only tells us what has already happened, but if we are attentive, it will indicate what could occur in the future."

#

Here continue with a brief statement of the situation in Alaska just before we entered the war, including an account of Captain Streit's visit, General Arnold's photographic mission, an account of the passage of the Around the World Flyers in 1924, the statement of Billy Mitchell regarding the strategic importance of Alaska, etc.

This situation is partially covered in my talk at the EAFB on 17 September. Data covering the other items mentioned are readily available.

For the production, we must review the motion pictures and selected stills made by the three services, and by the Japanese as may be appropriate, and as can be obtained.

The foregoing material should be assembled at the EAFB for review by carefully selected personnel of the three services, and from these select what is needed for the documentary. At the same time we should determine what additional photographic coverage is needed both of the bases on the mainland and in the Aleutians. When this is done, we are well on our way to having the documentary we want.

Hopefully, we can assemble these data before the end of the year. As a starter, I spoke to the Chief of Engineers about the Corps film at the National Archives, and of our plans for this documentary. His reaction was expressed in a few words: "What can I do to help?" Action is being taken to get this film.

National Archives, Record Group 18, acc. no.

III-NAV-

Rescue Party Trek Through Deep Snows in Hunt for Two Missing Planes, 11th Air Force, Aleutian Islands, November 27, 1943, 448 feet.

307.

Miscellaneous Stock Photo Shots from Attu Island, November 30, 1943, 202 feet.

Christmas (Preparations), 11th Air Force, Aleutian Islands, November 30, 1943, 876 feet.

Christmas (Preparations), 11th Air Force, Aleutian Islands, December 1, 1943, 631 feet.

Tools and Parts Built in the Field, Mainly from Salvage by Members of 404th Bombardment Squadron Machine Shop, 11th Air Force, Aleutian Islands, December 6, 1943, 796 feet.

Staff Section, 11th Air Force, at Xmas Dinner, and Winter Scenes, Adak Air Field, Aleutian Islands, December 25, 1943, 746 feet.

Christmas Activities in the Aleutians, 11th Air Force, December 25, 1943, 2,103 feet.

Replacement Crews Landing at Alexai Point Air Base in B-25s, 11th Air Force, Aleutian Islands, December 31, 1943, 438 feet.

Air Transport Command and General Shots, 11th Air Force, Aleutian Islands, January 1, 1944, 555 feet.

Adak Snow Storm, January 10, 1944, 776 feet.

General Scenes, Adak Island, January 10, 1944, 301 feet.

Plane Takeoffs in Snow, etc., 11th Air Force, Aleutian Islands, Including Views of General Buckner, January 10, 1944, 334 feet.

Aerial Views Over Adak Island, Aleutian Islands, February 22, 1944, 1,036 feet.

National Archives Record Group 208, Accession 3276:

First Pictures: Alaska-Russia Sky Route. United News Film, 1945, 10 minutes.

National Archives Record Group 111, Accession 2355:

Electronics at Work, 1945 Signal Corps Film, Explaining Basic Principles of Radar, 22 minutes.

Alaska, Signal Corps Educational Film No. 193, 1945, 11 minutes.

Citizen in Arms, Signal Corps Orientation Film No. 48, 1948, Showing Military Bases in Alaska, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico, 9 minutes.

National Archives Record Group 111, Accession III-NAV-210:

General Butler makes awards, Adak Island, February 20, 1943, 794 feet.

Activities at Longview Field, Adak, March 1, 1943, 1,636 feet.

Mission over Kiska and activities at Longview Field, Adak, March 8, 1943, 1,066 feet.

General Activity around Adak, March 27, 1943, 2693 feet.

Activities at Kiska and Adak, April 15, 1943, 800 feet.

Operations at Amchitka -- Attacks on Attu, May 22 (?), 1943, 2700 feet.

C-47 Operations in Alaska, August 3, 1943, 550 feet.

General Scenes of Activity on Attu Island, September 1943, 1872 feet.

Aerial Activity Over Attu by the 77th Bomber Group, B-25s and P-38s, September 20 to October 1, 1943, 1557 feet.

Decoration of Col. Matheny by General Nathan Twining, October 8, 1943, 49 feet.

Adak Activities, October 11, 1943, 1,011 feet.

Kiska Island in the Aleutians, Air Base Headquarters, October 12, 1943, 210 feet.

Building Quonsets, Alaska, October 18, 1943, 103 feet.

Captain Eddie Rickenbacker Visits Adak in the Aleutians, October 19, 1943, 225 feet.

General Shots -- Aleutian Islands, Alaska, October 22, 1943, 681 feet.

General Shots, Aleutian Islands, October 22, 1943, 218 feet.

P-40s Over Kiska Field, October 25, 1943, 320 feet.

P-40s Zooming Field on Kiska Island, October 25, 1943, 321 feet.

Air Mail Service on Kiska, October 27, 1943, 202 feet.

Control Center, 11th Air Force, Aleutian Islands, November 1, 1943, 1,013 feet.

Aerial Views, Kiska Air Field and Harbor, October 27, 1943, 225 feet.

Attu Activities, November 12, 1943, 1,085 feet.

Selected Scenes from "Summer Movements in the Arctic", Big Delta Region, Alaska, August, 1949, 1,701 feet.

Selected Scenes from "Arctic Indoctrination School", Big Delta, Alaska, November 30, 1949, 2325 feet.

Selected Scenes from "Alaska Communication System", Alaska, 1950, 4248 feet.

National Archives Record Group 200, Accession III-NAV-9:

Paramount News Film, 1952, Including (Part I) B-29s of the 58th Strategic Reconnaissance Squadron are Warmed up at an Alaskan Field, Take Off, and Fly Over the North Pole, 6 minutes.

National Archives Record Group 200, Accession III-NAV-60:

Paramount News Film, November 4, 1953, Volume 13, No. 24, Including (Part I) an F-86C Scorpion intercepter plane fueled and taking off from an Alaskan Base, 7 minutes.

02/15/84

Draft prepared by B. B. Talley
with contribution by
Col. Evan J. Griffith, USAF

BACKGROUND MATERIAL IN SUPPORT OF HB _____
APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR A COMPREHENSIVE DOCUMENTARY FILM
OF WWII IN ALASKA

There exist several books and papers, some official, which purport to document the history of WWII in Alaska. In addition, the military services have extensive motion pictures of their operations in Alaska. In recent years there has been a rebirth of interest on the part of individuals and organizations, particularly veterans organizations, in this part of Alaska's history. These individuals and groups have many important visual records which can be obtained for a comprehensive documentary film of WWII in Alaska.

In 1980, on the 40th anniversary of its arrival in Alaska, the veterans of the 11th USAF held a reunion in Alaska. It included a visit to the Aleutians as far out as Shemya. Weather prohibited their going to Attu. Extensive motion pictures and video tapes were made of this celebration, including interviews and oral history from many of the veterans present.

In 1982 extensive motion pictures and video tapes were made by individuals, organizations and by TV stations of the ceremony in dedication of a memorial on Unalaska Island to all those who lost their lives in the Aleutians during WWII. This included the Armed Forces of the United States and Canada, the Aleuts, and the Japanese Armed Forces. The two Japanese officers, now retired, who led the first and second waves of bombers in the attack on Dutch Harbor on 4 June 1942 participated in this dedication. The dedication was preceded by a flight from Unalaska Island to the Umnak Air Base, and to the position of the Japanese carrier from which the attack was launched, thence following the course of the planes to the rendezvous point and returning to Dutch Harbor. The plane was piloted by the Japanese officer who led the attack, flying

in reverse the course flown in the attack. From the rendezvous point, the plane flew the course at the same altitude flown in the actual attack. In the plane were Admiral James S. Russell, USN-Ret. who commanded the US Navy Catalinas in Alaska during WWII, BG B. B. Talley, Corps of Engineers, retired, who was responsible for building the secret air base on Unak Island from which the US AF P-40s broke up the Japanese aerial attack on Dutch Harbor, and Admiral Hiroichi Samejima, JMSDF (Ret.) who led the first wave of Japanese bombers, and Colonel Zenji Abe, JMSDF (Ret.) who led the second wave which consisted of dive bombers. (Then Lieutenant Commander Abe later transferred to the army, as the reconstituted Naval defense force did not have dive bombers.) Also in the plane were Mr. Ted Spencer who arranged the dedication ceremony and the aerial flight here described. There was also a motion picture camera crew aboard who recorded the flight on film.

In view of the advancing age of the still living participants in WWII in Alaska, delay in the production of this visual history might preclude their participation in this important chapter in Alaska's history.

Inasmuch as the State of Alaska would be the primary beneficiary, the State should be the primary sponsor of the project. Such a project is within the purview of the Alaska Historical Commission of the Department of Education.

The project would include, but not necessarily be limited to, bringing together into a single compilation the best of the existing film; editing it into a single comprehensive historical document. There should be included in this compilation such additional footage as may be appropriate, with commentary by selected veterans who took part in the action.

Upon being instructed to carry out this project and being provided with the necessary funds for its accomplishment, the Alaska Historical Commission formed by AS Title 44, Article 3,

would have power to prepare or to authorize and coordinate the preparation and production by others of a documentary film covering this important portion of Alaska's history. Such a history should include but not be limited to the stills and motion pictures already in existence, but should include additional visual components as may be appropriate. Such a project should be completed by June 30, 1986.

A conceptual organization structure for executing this project is shown in Figure 1.

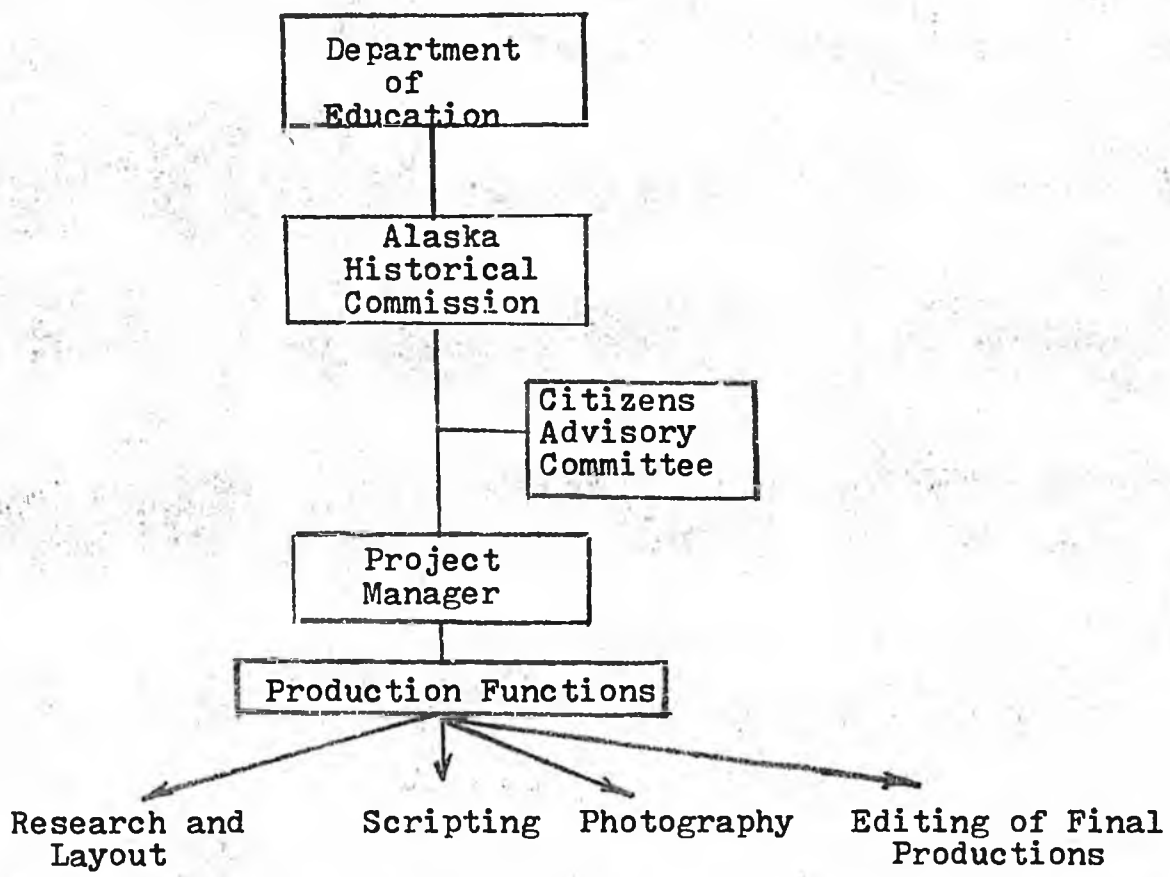


Figure 1. Conceptual Organizational Structure. Production of a Comprehensive Visual History of WWII in Alaska

No 1
Read PTS 1 thru 3 of Preliminary
Proposal "attached and
thumb the remainder.

Star Route Box 600
Anchor Point, AK 99556
23 September 1983

Colonel Joe Griffith
21st Tactical Fighter Wing
Elmendorf AFB, AK 99506

Dear Joe:

With reference to our discussion regarding a visual documentary covering WWII in Alaska, I have prepared a Preliminary Proposal for the preparation of a Comprehensive Visual History of WWII in Alaska which is enclosed.

I am sending this to you in the hope that we may get the show on the road and have it completed by the time of the commemorative ceremony you mentioned for 1984. It is a big order, but it can be done.

I will not go into this proposal here except to request that we have a meeting of key personnel on Tuesday, 3 October, at 1400 hours. See paragraph 3, page 1 of proposal. I suggest a small group of key personnel attend the meeting, say under 10. I suggest that you set up the meeting and invite those who are to attend.

Virginia and I must be in Washington by 10 October, and if the meeting can be held on Tuesday the 4th, we will come to Elmendorf on Monday the 3rd and leave for Washington later in the week, hopefully on Space A.

I talked with John Cloe this morning, and his secretary notified your office that I would telephone you around 0730 Monday 26 September, which will be before you receive this. Should I fail to talk with you, it would be appreciated if you would telephone me (235-7473) when you have read this.

It was a grand party over last weekend - one we shall remember for a long time.

Most sincerely,

B. B. Talley
BG, USA-Ret.

Preliminary Proposal
23 September 1983

WORLD WAR II IN ALASKA
A Comprehensive Visual History
Prepared by
B. B. Talley, BG - USA - Ret.

The following is an outline, preliminary in nature, showing what may be involved in the preparation of a comprehensive documentary film of the principal military operations during World War II in Alaska.

1. Objective: The preparation of a comprehensive visual military history of World War II in Alaska.

There is a wide variety of World War II photographs, motion picture film, etc., prepared by, and in the possession of the military services and other organizations and individuals. It should be readily available.

A consolidation of the best of these would make an invaluable historic document.

2. Participants. It is proposed that the US Army, Navy and Air Force, the State of Alaska, pertinent US civic organizations and individuals, and the Royal Canadian Air Force join together and prepare a comprehensive visual history of World War II in Alaska. The Japanese might be invited to participate in such a production, if deemed to be appropriate.

3. Organizational Structure. Realization of such a project requires the support of the government agencies involved, primarily by permitting the usage of existing records in such a visual history, and possibly by helping finance the final production which should be done by professionals. The work should be carried out under the guidance of an Executive Committee or board comprised of people from all the participating agencies. It is suggested that an Executive Committee or board be established for this purpose, and that the nucleus of such a group meet at Elmendorf Air Force Base at 1400 hours, October 4, 1983, with

Colonel Joe Griffith as Chairman pro tempore.

A small group of individuals invited to attend this meeting may be selected from those listed under "Participating Agencies and Key Personnel" which follows. Aside from the organization of the Executive Committee, the principal immediate duty is the adoption of a schedule leading to the completion of the project.

★ 4. Participating Agencies and Key Personnel.

(a) United States Government

(1) US Army

BG Gerald H. Bethke, CG 172d Infantry Brigade,
Ft. Richardson, AK 99505

LCOL Brandon Weathers, Public Affairs Officer,
HQ 172d Inf. Brigade (AK). Correspondence:
Attn: AF3T-PO, Ft. Richardson, AK 99505

COL Neil E. Saling, Corps of Engineers, District
Engineer, Alaska District, Elmendorf AFB.
Correspondence: P.O. Box 7002, Anchorage, AK
99510. (907) 279-1132/862-3110

Mr. Bruce T. Batten, Public Affairs Officer,
Alaska District, Corps of Engineers, Elmendorf
AFB. Correspondence: P.O. Box 7002, Anchorage,
AK 99510

BG B. B. Talley, US Army, Retired

March through September: Star Route Box 600,
Anchor Point, AK 99556. (907) 235-7473

October through February: 3601 Cumberland St.
N.W., Washington, D. C. 20008. (202) 362-4219

Mrs. Virginia M. Talley, legal adviser, address
as above

(2) US Navy

ADM James S. Russell, USN-Ret., 7734 Walnut Ave.
S.W., Tacoma, Wash. 99498. (206) 588-9356

Other representatives as may be proposed by
Admiral Russell

RADM John D. H. Kane, Director of the Naval
Historical Center, Director of Naval History,
Washington Navy Yard, Washington, D. C. 20374.
(202) 433-2210

Commodore Theodore E. Lewin, USN, Commander, Naval
Base, Seattle, Wash. 98115. (206) 527-3281

(3) US Air Force

LTG Bruce K. Brown, CG, Alaska Air Command,
Elmendorf AFB, AK 99506

COL Joe Griffith, 21st Tactical Fighter Wing,
Elmendorf AFB, AK 99506. (907) 552-2121

COL Lash G. Sanford, Director of Public Affairs,
Elmendorf AFB, AK 99506

Mr. John H. Cloe, Command Historian, Office of
History, Elmendorf AFB, AK 99506. (907) 552-4763

GEN R. J. Reeves, USAF-Ret., 510 L Street,
Anchorage, AK 99501. (907) 276-1178

MG C. F. Necrason, USAF-Ret., 2094 Esquire Drive,
Anchorage, AK 99503. (907) 274-0848

(4) Alaska Congressional Delegation

Honorable Ted Stevens, United States Senate,
260 Russell Office Bldg., Washington, D. C. 20510

Honorable Frank Murkowski, United States Senate,
15 B Russell Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20510

Honorable Donald E. Young, 1210 Longworth House
Office Bldg., Washington, D. C. 20515

(b) State of Alaska

Governor Bill Sheffield, Pouch A, Juneau, AK 99811

Senator Jalmar Kerttula, President of the Senate,
Box Z, Palmer, AK 99645

Representative Joe L. Hayes, Speaker of the House,
515 D St., Anchorage, AK 99501, (907) 272-8222/
278-9363

Dr. Milo Fritz, State Representative, P. O. Box 158,
Anchor Point, AK 99556. (907) 235-8366

(c) Other Organizations and Individuals Which May Be Helpful

(1) Alaska Natives

Mr. Phil Tutiakoff, Chairman, Aleutian/Pribilof
Island Association, Unalaska, AK 99685. (907)
581-1275

(2) Air Force Association

COL T. L. Jenne, USAF-Ret., President, Air Force
Association, P. O. Box 4-2579, Anchorage,
AK 99509. (907) 265-8403

Mr. Adam D. Johnson, Jr., Past President, Air
Force Association, P. O. Box 4-2579, Anchorage,
AK 99509. (907) 333-6766

Mr. William E. Brooks, 9610 Victor Road, Anchorage,
AK 99502. (907) 349-3795 (res.) 344/0213 (bus.)

(3) 11th Air Force Association

COL Charles Pinney USAF-Ret., 304 Esplanade,
Apt. 401, Redondo Beach, CA 90277. (213) 540-8160

Mr. Raiford Perry, P.O. Box 396, Whitehorse, TX
75791. (214) 839-2507

LCOL Laurence Heinke, USAF-Ret., 112 North Street,
Middletown, N.Y. 10940. (914) 343-8000

Mr. Don Cooley, 200 Skydrivevue, Gainesville,
GA 30501

COL Joe E. Schneider, 1850 Vista del Lago,
Fallbrook, CA 92028. (619) 723-4497

(4) Other Individuals

Mr. Robert Atwood, Publisher and Editor, The
Anchorage Times, 820 West Fourth Ave., Anchorage,
AK 99501. (907) 279-5622

LCOL Lyman L. Woodman, USAF-Ret., 117 East Cook
Ave., Anchorage, AK 99501. (907) 277-0764

Mr. Roger Graves, Armed Services YMCA, 609 F
Street, Anchorage, AK 99501. (907) 277-8522

(d) Royal Canadian Air Force

6. Schedule of Completion.

Completion of Project: May 1984.

In the meantime:

(a) Assemble and review all existing material such as
motion picture film, photographs, video tapes made 1980 and
later. Select material to be used. Complete by November 30,
1983.

(b) Assist in drafting legislation for obtaining financial
and other assistance from the State of Alaska. This will include
provision of back-up data necessary to insure political backing
in the legislature. Complete by December 1983.

(c) Choose a professional agency to convert selected data into a completed product. January 1984

(d) Award contract for preparation of the visual history and for furnishing X-number of copies thereof. Award: February 1984. Complete 1 May 1984.

✓ 7. Cost. An accurate estimate of cost cannot be prepared until the scope of the project and the requirements for its accomplishment are established.

In the meantime certain costs will be entailed in obtaining the required material from the organizations possessing such material. It is hoped that most of these costs can be met by the military services and other agencies concerned. For example, the several reels of motion picture film made by the Corps of Engineers during WWII which have just been renovated at the National Archives will be released, but we will have to pay for it. Perhaps this cost may be paid by the Corps of Engineers. Similarly, it may be possible for some of the services to assist in the payment of other expenses, providing they are within the purview of their other work.

The State of Alaska has a vested interest in such a production, since it was the scene of the action portrayed, and of all the states it was most affected by it. It should be requested to join in the project. The suggested timing of the work takes this into account.

In addition, certain individuals will of necessity incur expenses and should be reimbursed. Initially at least, such reimbursement may have to come from voluntary contributions.

The final production should be by contract with professionals who are qualified to do this sort of work. This may well be the greatest item of cost.

MEMORANDUM

State of Alaska

TO:

The Honorable Milo Fritz
Alaska House of Representatives
Attn: Jan Harmon

DATE: March 5, 1934

FILE NO:

TELEPHONE NO: 465-2910

FROM:

Richard B. Engen, Director *Dick Engen*
Division of State Libraries & Museums

SUBJECT: Comments on HB 484

I am sorry I will be in Sitka and cannot be present at the hearing on March 7th dealing with the proposed documentary film on the Aleutian Campaign of World War II.

We have two film centers, Juneau and Anchorage, which provide services to libraries and individuals statewide. We have the largest film library selection in the state. One of our concerns, based on previous experience, is to assure that the State Library has an adequate number of copies for use statewide and full video duplication rights. As the film is being done at state expense, we recommend that the state hold the copyright and that production copies (internegatives) be placed with the State Library depository at Alpha Cine in Seattle. This will assure future access to the film.

Based on estimated use we recommend that 6 copies of the film and 2 video 3/4" masters be placed with the State Library.

We could also offer assistance in locating other footage dealing with the Aleutian Campaign; i.e. U.S. Army Signal Corps film presently in storage.

If we can offer other information or assistance please contact me.

Attachment

cc: Pat Wilson, Alaska State Film Library
Phyllis DeMuth, Alaska Historical Library
Allison Elgee



22 Nov

21ST TACTICAL FIGHTER WING (AAC)
COMMANDER

Gen Talley,

Sorry it took so long to get this out. My time has been limited recently. Next step is to finalize the cost estimate (nearly done) and prepare a statement of work which can be used to bid/describe the effort. On the basis of response & concurrence with Mr Fritz & Gen Dick, I'll petition the Historical Commission for funding. Should have this done by mid-Dec.

In your info, I've included what went out and to whom. Please let me know if I'm missing anyone or any steps. Regards,
Joe Griffith

WWII Documentary Proposal

Sent to:

Col Neil Suling
Mr Robert B Atwood
Mr Wm E. Brooks
MGen C.F. Neerason
BGen G.H. Bellike
Mr A.H. Fleetwood
Mr A.H. Heibert
Mr E.A. Sackett
Mr F.G. Turpin
Mr G.M. Sullivan
Mr G.N. Nelson
Mr H. Heinze
Mr F.H. Jones
Mr R.K. Graves
Mr Jay Kortulla
Mr P. Tutakoff
Dr. M. Fritz
Mayor T. Knowles
Mr. J.S. Hammond
Ms. H. Flynn
Mr. Joe L. Hayes
Mr. T.H. Jenne
Gen. R.J. Reever

4-305 Williwaw Way
Elmendorf AFB, AK 99506

November 18, 1983

Dear

Recent discussions with individuals who participated in (or are interested in) World War II in Alaska indicate strong interest in producing a film or videotape documentary of this important period in Alaska's history. On the basis of this interest, and at the urging of one of the architects of Alaska's WW II contributions, BGEN B.B. Talley, USA, Retired, I have drafted a proposal which might be used as a vehicle to kick off the effort and have agreed to act as the point-of-contact/facilitator for the effort until a responsible agent can be identified.

As you are among Alaska's leading figures, I solicit your thoughts on this undertaking and welcome your ideas as to its relevance and proposed conduct. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

EVAN J. GRIFFITH, JR., Colonel, USAF


1 Atch
Proposal

PROPOSAL TO DEVELOP A COMPREHENSIVE VISUAL
DOCUMENTARY ON WORLD WAR II IN ALASKA

There exist several books and papers which purport to document WW II in Alaska; however, there does not appear to be a comprehensive visual documentary of the principal military operations of the war. As this is an important portion of Alaska's history, it would be appropriate to undertake such a project. In view of the advancing age of the still living participants, delay in production may preclude participation in filming by those who were there.

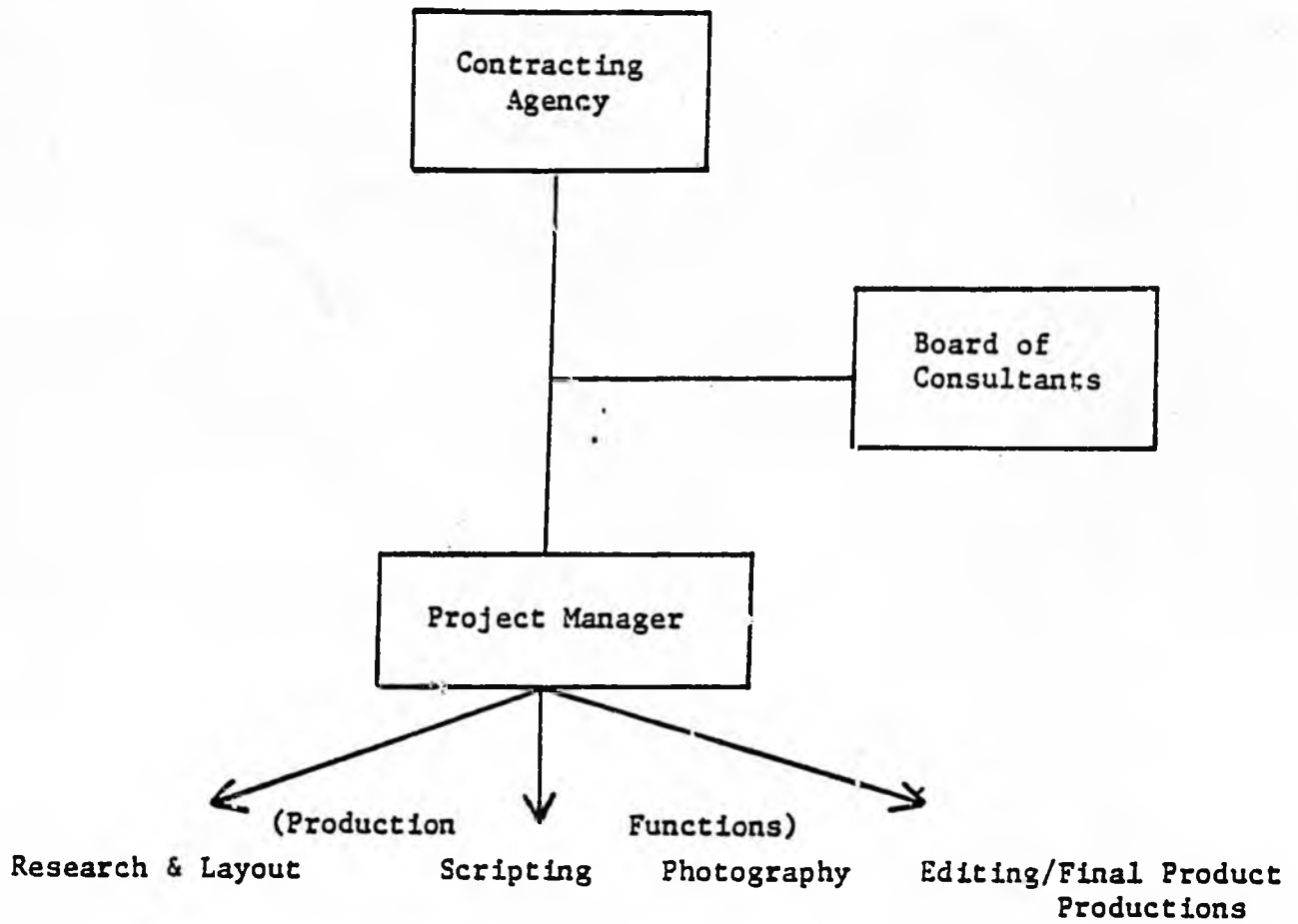
No single agency exists which has the wherewithal to conduct such an effort; therefore, the first activity in this effort should be to identify an organization to sponsor the work.

As the project envisions documentation of WW II in Alaska, it follows that the State will be the primary beneficiary (Historical Commission, Department of Education) of the effort; thus, should be the major sponsor. It is conceivable that public television sponsorship could be obtained as well. Some civic organizations may be interested in backing the activity and will be contacted for support and backing. Indications are that major government sources of historical information will make their libraries and repositories available.

Funding will be necessary to produce the documentary. A preliminary cost  estimate is being prepared at this time. Duration of the project (from start to finish) is estimated to be one year. No Federal Government funding is anticipated.

If the State becomes the responsible agent, it seems appropriate that the project be conducted on a quasi-contractual basis; i.e., with the project group acting as an entity, reporting to the State contract monitor/project officer. Consultants to the project group would be several of the individuals who participated in WW-II in Alaska. These members of the project consultants board would be remunerated for direct expenses of advising the project manager. See Atch 1 for a diagram of the proposed organizational structure.

In the interim period before identification of cognizant agencies and source of funds, Col E.J. Griffith Jr. (4-305 Williwaw Way, Elmendorf AFB, AK 99506) will act as point-of-contact for the effort. Other interested parties are as listed at Atch 2.



Brig Gen B. B. Talley, U. S. Army, Retired

Maj Gen C. F. Necrason, USAF, Retired

Col T. L. Jenne, USAF, Retired - President, Anchorage Chapter of Air Force Association

Mr. W. E. Brooks, Anchorage Contractor, Past President, Anchorage Chapter of Air Force Association

Dr. Milo Fritz, State Representative

Col Neil E. Saling, U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Alaska District Engineer

Col Charles Pinney, USAF, Retired, 11th Air Force Association

3601 Cumberland St. N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20008
27 November 1983

Dear Col. Griffith:

Thanks for your note of 22 November and its inclosures.

I believe we should send the proposal to the following additional individuals for the reasons stated.

The addresses of the following individuals are in my Preliminary Proposal of 23 September which you have.

★ Admiral James S. Russell, USN-Ret. He is interested in this project and is our best Navy contact. He knows who has the Navy film and how to get it. We can count on him.

11th Air Force Association:

Col. Charles Pinney, USAF-Ret. He spearheaded the 1980 11th AF Reunion, is a former movie actor, presently does commercials, is a doer and can help us in our contacts with professionals, cost estimates, etc.

Mr. Raiford Perry. I believe he was a co-pilot, maybe a pilot, in the Aleutians. He is one of the principal financial backers of the Confederate Air Force. Was a generous contributor to the 1980 11th AF Reunion. I am advised he paid for the procurement of some of the planes of the Confederate Air Force. Although a junior officer in WWII, his interest and support should benefit the project.

LCol. Laurence Peineke, USAF-Ret. He remains active in USAF activities and volunteered to contribute to cost of processing 11th AF Reunion film.

Mr. Don Cooley. An enlisted man in the Air Corps, probably one of the two wealthiest men at the 11th AF Reunion. I believe he will help us.

Col. Joe Schneider, USAF-Ret. Joe was a pilot for AAL prior to WWII. He is a close friend of Chuck Pinney and will help us.

Others whose addresses I do not have:

Col. Wayne K. Beckwith, USAF-Ret. I'm sure John Cloe, Col. Sanford and Major Hayes know or should know him well. We should solicit his help. I believe he is now an executive of the Anchorage Chamber of Commerce.

Senator Tim Kelley, whom you know.

-2-

There is a retired Admiral in the Coast Guard living in the anchorage area. He is well recommended, and we should include him. He should be one of our best Coast Guard contacts, and we will need CG help as well as any film footage the CG may have. Coast Guard officers here speak very highly of him.

- - - - -

The time is ripe for us to commence assembling the film, etc., of the other services. I'm sure Major Hayes and John Cloe know how to get it, and I suggest that the officer of the Air Force Command Historian be the focal point for its assembly. We should try to get this without cost to us. I am confident that the Corps of Engineers can get what is at the National Archives--contact Col. Saling.

- - - - -

I talked to Milo Fritz yesterday, and he is drafting legislation calling for the State to furnish \$250,000 for the project. He plans to complete this package in early December. We should back him and also at the proper time see if we can get an advance from the State through Milo (or maybe Tim Kelley) from the State Historical Commission.

As Little Abner said: "Time's a-wastin'."

We shall have to follow up with personal contacts to insure proper response from those we ask to help us.

Kindest regards to all.

Most sincerely,

B. B. Talley

No 2
I suggest you read attached
Draft of Suggested Format

3601 Cumberland St. N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20008
22 October 1983

Colonel Evan J. Griffith, Jr.
Commanding Officer
21st Tactical Fighter Wing
Elmendorf Air Force Base
Alaska 99510

Dear Colonel Griffith:

This is to pass to you my thoughts and action following the conference in your office on September 21st, and to give you a suggested format for our visual documentary of WWII in Alaska.

I agree with you that it will cost more than \$100,000, and believe we should make the sort of production we feel ought to be made, get the funds to pay for it and do the thing right. I also believe this is feasible.

It is suggested that the final production be under the direction of professionals and the story be narrated by personnel from the three services--veterans who are identifiable with what it is all about. To this end, I am enclosing a draft of a format covering the introduction to the production which I have called a "Prologue". It sets the stage for what is to follow.

In addition to what I have mentioned in the enclosure, I will call attention to film and stills which were made in recent years, as for example, the 11th Air Force film made at the reunion in 1980, and the film and video tape which can be put on film, taken on the occasion of the dedication of the Memorial at Unalaska in 1982. From these and the WWII film and stills from WWII, we can select most of what we need. Then comes the chore of editing it, putting it together in the sequence we want and adding to it coverage of the Aleutians at the present time, possibly including under water shots in the bay at Kiska.

Dr. Milo Fritz was our guest at dinner here last Sunday night, and he is serious about getting Alaskan support. He needs an estimate of the cost and a draft of proposed legislation by mid-December. We should be able to give these to him. General Necrason can help line up political support for it. Also, we should not wait until then to get the support of the Alaska Historical Commission. The Chairman is, I believe, a close friend of Milo's. (Milo said the Commission was short of money. That did not cause me to weep.)

-2- Col. Griffith, 10/22/83

I discussed this project with LGEN Joseph Bratton, Chief of Engineers, and told him of the Corps film at the National Archives and that money would be required to get a copy of it. He indicated that funds could be found for it and that he would get in touch with BG James W. Van Loben Sels, Division Engineer, North Pacific Division, Corps of Engineers, Portland, Oregon, Col. Neil Saling's immediate commander. Accordingly, there is enclosed a letter to Col. Saling which I wish you to pass to him.

Early on, meaning by mid-December, we should have an estimate of cost--money we need to get the job done. We ought to find separately funds to carry us to January.

I will do what I can to help the project and am willing to return to Anchorage in December to help put this thing together. I should be able to come Space A and hopefully can stay at VOQ at Elmendorf and not reopen our house at Anchor Point. I would like for Virginia to be there also to help draft the legislation while the legislators are still in Anchorage. She knows most of them and has worked with them before on capital relocation legislation. However, we need to find a way to cover her transportation. It is essential to have this legislation ready before the legislature convenes.

Should you wish to get in touch with me, call our Washington, D. C. telephone number, 202 - 362-4219. We will be here until 3 November when we must go to New York, to return on Sunday, 6 November. We should be here from then until about 17 November when we must go on business to Peoria, Illinois, and to St. Louis, to be gone for 10 days to two weeks. Save for routine engagements, we should be home from the time of our return from the Peoria/St. Louis trip until Christmas.

Should need arise, I would like to call you. What is the best hour, Alaska time, to call you? What number should I call?

I know Admiral Russell quite well and can ask for his assistance. In any event, I must call or write him to tell him what has happened.

We send our kindest regards to you and to your lovely lady.

Most sincerely,

B. B. Talley
Brig. Gen. USA-ret.

Introduced: 2/8/84
Referred: Health, Education &
Social Services and Finance

Funding Information
General Fund \$250,000
Other Funds - 0 -
\$250,000

1 IN THE HOUSE BY FRITZ AND CLOCKSIN
BY REQUEST
2 SPONSOR SUBSTITUTE FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 470
3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
4 THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION
5 A BILL
6 For an Act entitled: "An Act making a special appropriation to the Depart-
7 ment of Education, Alaska History Commission to
8 produce a documentary film relating to the participa-
9 tion of Alaska in World War II; and providing for an
10 effective date."
11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:
12 * Section 1. The sum of \$250,000 is appropriated from the general fund
13 to the Department of Education, Alaska History Commission to prepare and
14 distribute a comprehensive documentary film history of the participation of
15 Alaska in World War II.
16 * Sec. 2. The unexpended and unobligated portion of the appropriation
17 made by this Act lapses into the general fund June 30, 1986.
18 * Sec. 3. This Act takes effect immediately in accordance with AS 01.-
19 10.070(c).