

SWIR

30

HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

(11)

Date Referred: April 21, 1989

FURTHER REFERRALS:

Date of Committee Action: 5/1/89

The FINANCE Committee considered:

SJR 30am

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 30 am

[COORDINATED RESEARCH/OIL SPILL TECHNOLOGY]

Relating to location of a job corps center within the Matanuska-Susitna Borough.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- [] be replaced with _____ [] the same title
- [] have attached amendment(s) [] a new title
- [X] do pass
- [] do not pass
- [] no recommendation
- [] individual recommendations
- [] additional referral to the _____ Committee

ADOPTS: _____ letter of intent

ATTACHES NEW FISCAL NOTE(s):
(Dept)

APPROVES PREVIOUS:

(Date/Dept)

- [] fiscal impact _____
- [] zero fiscal note _____
- [] zero with analysis _____

- [] fiscal note(s) 3/20/89
- [Z] zero fiscal note(s) CL&PA Labor 3/20/89
- [] zero fn/analysis _____

SIGNING DO PASS:

SIGNING:

(Check approp. column)

Do Not
Pass No Rec Amend

Ronald D. Larson Larson
Swackhammer Swackhammer
Brown Brown
Koponen Koponen
Ulmer Ulmer
Phillips Phillips
Rieger Rieger
Wallis Wallis
Barnes Barnes

<u>Dieter Shultz</u>	✓		

Chairman's Signature
 CO- Ronald D. Larson

FISCAL NOTE

REQUEST:

Revision Date: _____
 Title: SJR No. 30 - A resolution relating to a Job Corps Center in Mat/Su Borough
 Sponsor: Senators Kerttula & Szymanski
 Requestor: _____

Agency Affected: Community & Regional Affairs
 BRU: Job Training Partnership Act

Components: _____

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93	FY 94
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

CAPITAL						
---------	--	--	--	--	--	--

REVENUE						
---------	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS : (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Prepared by: *Alma Klein*
 Division: Rural Development

Phone: 465-4890
 Date: 2/27/89

Approved by Commissioner: *[Signature]*
 Agency: Community and Regional Affairs

Date: 2/27/89

Distribution (by preparer):

- Legislative Finance
- Legislative Sponsor
- Requestor
- Office of Management and Budget
- Impacted Agency(ies)

STATE OF ALASKA
1989 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL VERSION: SJR 30 (b)
PUBLISH DATE: 3/20/89

FISCAL NOTE

B 24 '89

REQUEST:

Revision Date: _____ Agency Affected: Labor
 Title: " Relating to location of a job corps center within the Matanuska-Susitna Borough." BRU: Employment Security
 Sponsor: Kerttula and Szymanski Components: Employment Services
 Requestor: Senate State Affairs

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 89	FY 90	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93	FY 94 --
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND&STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL						
---------	--	--	--	--	--	--

REVENUE						
---------	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND						
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Prepared by: Judy Knight, Deputy Director Phone: 465-2712
 Division: Employment Security Date: 2/23/89
 Approved by Commissioner: Jim Sampson Date: 2/23/89
 Agency: Department of Labor

Distribution (by preparer) :
 Legislative Finance
 Legislative Sponsor
 Requestor
 Office of Management and Budget
 Impacted Agency(ies)

1 IN THE SENATE BY KERTTULA AND SZYMANSKI

2 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 30 am

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Relating to location of a job corps
6 center within the Matanuska-Susitna
7 Borough.

8 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

9 WHEREAS the state does not have a federal job corps center; and

10 WHEREAS Alaskan youths must travel great distances to other states to
11 participate in the federal job corps program; and

12 WHEREAS locating a job corps center within the state will reduce
13 existing program costs; and

14 WHEREAS locating a job corps center within the state will reduce
15 program drop-out rates because students will be much closer to their homes
16 and families; and

17 WHEREAS the Matanuska-Susitna Borough contains several existing vacant
18 facilities that would be appropriate for use as a job corps center site,
19 including the Colony Jr./Sr. High School complex, the state-owned military
20 facility at Goose Bay, and other private facilities; and

21 WHEREAS the Matanuska-Susitna Borough has one of the highest
22 unemployment rates in the state;

23 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the Secretary of
24 Labor is requested to consider locating a job corps center within the
25 Matanuska-Susitna Borough.

26 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Elizabeth
27 Dole, Secretary of Labor; and to the Honorable Daniel Inouye, U.S. Senator;
28 and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S.
29 Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the

1 Alaska delegation in Congress.



Official Business

Alaska State Legislature

SENATE

P.O. Box V
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99811

April 17, 1989

TO: House Finance Committee
Members

FROM: Senator Jay Kerttula

SUBJECT: SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 30
LOCATION OF A JOB CORPS CENTER

SJR 30, which is before you in committee, requests that the Secretary of Labor consider locating a job corps center in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough.

Job Corps is a federally funded program under the Job Training Partnership Act, authorizing both residential and non-residential centers. The centers provide educational and vocational training to economically, socially or educationally disadvantaged youth.

The Job Corps program has been in existence for approximately 20 years and Alaska has been participating for almost the entire time. Because there is no job corps center located within Alaska, all the participants have attended out-of-state facilities in the Pacific Northwest. At present, approximately 250 youth are enrolled in the program.

Last fall, it was learned that Congress had appropriated additional funds for the establishment of six new Job Corps centers. The selection criteria were published in the November 1989 Federal Register. Essentially, the Department is soliciting competitive bids. The notice in the Federal Register indicates that preference will be given to those states who do not already have an existing Job Corps Center.

As a result, Governor Cowper wrote to the Department of Labor requesting the establishment of a Jobs Corps Center in Alaska. The Department of Community and Regional Affairs, as the lead state agency, submitted a formal proposal.

It is the opinion of the Administration and those who have been involved in the Job Corps program that an in-state facility would serve an increased number of youth -- including the handicapped and unwed mothers, who are at times limited in their ability to go "outside".

A job corps center in Alaska will result in a greater sensitivity to and awareness of the cultural differences which exist in Alaska and which affect the job training options.

As far as the actual location is concerned, the Department of Labor has indicated that they would prefer a site that is close to Anchorage and not in a remote area.

In November, the Department of Community and Regional Affairs recommended the former Goose Bay Correctional Institution in Wasilla as a potential site for a job corps center. Since then, it has also been determined that the site of the vacant Colony High School in Wasilla would be a feasible location.

The Department of Labor criteria, the availability of the sites in the Mat-Su Borough, the fact that the Borough has over a 12% unemployment rate, the fact that Alaska will receive more than \$2 million in federal construction funds and approximately \$3 million in federal operating funds --all provide the rationale for Senate Joint Resolution 30.

The timing of the resolution is also important. In March, the Department of Labor sent an architectural "team" to Alaska to look at the two potential sites. It is our understanding that they were favorably impressed with the proposed locations; actually, it appears that the Colony School is the more likely site. The actual decision on which states will be awarded funds for additional job corps sites will be made sometime in April.

There are five remaining sites to be selected and only four applicants; thus, the potential for Alaska's selection is extremely good.

Enclosed for your information is back-up information on the proposal which Alaska has submitted to the Department of Labor, together with letters of support from various groups throughout Alaska.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employment and Training
Administration

**Job Training Partnership Act;
Selection of States for Job Corps
Centers**

AGENCY: Employment and Training
Administration, Labor.

ACTION: Notice; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Department of Labor requests information to assist in the selection of States for new Job Corps centers. This notice specifies the criteria for selection.

DATE: Comments are requested by December 5, 1988.

ADDRESS: Comments shall be addressed to the Assistant Secretary for Employment and Training, U.S. Department of Labor, Room N-4508, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20210. Attention: Peter E. Reil, Director, Office of Job Corps.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Peter E. Reil, Director, Office of Job Corps; Telephone: 202-535-0550.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Department of Labor intends to open six new Job Corps centers. Congress appropriated \$48 million in the 1988/89 appropriations bills to undertake this effort. The Senate Appropriations Committee language specified the following criteria for the Department to take into consideration in its selection of sites for new Job Corps centers. In addition to a general assessment of need. These are: priority consideration to States currently without a Job Corps center; preference to States where existing Government facilities can be used at a nominal cost; preference to States which have demonstrated a commitment to linking a center with other Federal, State, and local employment, training, and education programs; consideration to States which have shown a commitment to utilizing the Job Corps program in conjunction with other training programs to meet the needs of individuals with other barriers to employment, such as single parents; priority consideration to enhancing Job Corps services for persons with disabilities.

Based on previously available information, the Department has selected 2 States which have a demonstrated need as well as explicitly meeting criteria in the Senate Committee language. These are Kansas and Connecticut.

The Department of Labor has received initial expressions of interest from several other States and will follow up with these States. This Notice solicits formal input from all interested States to assist in the selection of the remaining 4 center sites. Information which would be helpful to the Department includes any information related to the factors cited above from the Senate Committee language as well as other information demonstrating particular need.

The Job Corps program is designed and intended to serve severely disadvantaged youth in need of intensive services who typically (1) have not succeeded in the traditional public school setting, (2) have experienced difficulty in channeling their behavior and energies in productive ways, (3) are unemployed and lack requisite education and skills to obtain meaningful employment, and (4) are poor.

The Department hereby requests additional input from interested parties in order to assist in its selection process for the additional sites.

Signed at Washington, DC, this 31st day of October 1988.

Roberts T. Jones,

Assistant Secretary of Labor

[FR Doc. 88-25631 Filed 11-3-88; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-30-M

Tim Sullivan 202 535-0556

89

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF LAND AND WATER MANAGEMENT

EXHIBIT I

STEVE COWPER, GOVERNOR

3601 C STREET
PO. BOX 107005
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99510-7005
PHONE: (907) 561-2020

December 16, 1988

The Honorable Ann McLaughlin
Secretary of Labor
U.S. Department of Labor
200 Constitution Avenue. NW
Washington, D.C. 20210

Dear Secretary McLaughlin:

The Department of Corrections, State of Alaska, is vacating their interest in the Goose Bay Facilities located across Cook Inlet from Anchorage. The facilities are located on 278 acres of land.

I have been advised that your department may be interested in the site for locating a Jobs Corps Center. Judging from the information I have received, the Goose Bay facilities would suit your needs very nicely.

As the state's landlord, the Department of Natural Resources will accept applications to lease the property. As a government agency the Department of Labor qualifies for a "less than fair market value" lease. In other words, the annual rent will be zero dollars.

If you are interested in leasing the facilities, I encourage you to apply immediately. We will begin processing your application immediately upon receipt. Your application should be directed to:

Ms. Veronica Gilbert, Regional Manager
Southcentral Regional Office
Department of Natural Resources
Division of Land & Water Management
3601 "C" Street
P.O. Box 7001
Anchorage, Alaska 99510-7001

Your interest in developing a Job Corps Center in southcentral Alaska is appreciated. We look forward to working with your staff in the future.

Sincerely,



Gary Gustafson
Director

STEVE ROWPER
GOVERNOR



STATE OF ALASKA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
JUNEAU

December 15, 1988

Assistant Secretary for
Employment and Training
U.S. Department of Labor
200 Constitution Ave., N.W.
Room N-4508
Washington, D.C. 20210

Attention: Peter E. Rell, Director
Office of Job Corps

Dear Mr. Bell:

Enclosed are five copies of a proposal asking that Alaska be considered as one of six new Job Corps sites authorized by Congress. The proposal was developed consistent with the criteria suggested in the November 4, 1988 Federal Register. (1) Alaska does not have center at this time; our Job Corps participants, now numbering over 250 per year, are transported to sites in the Pacific Northwest. (2) A specific site has been identified in the proposal: the current Goose Bay Correctional Center, will be available on a no-cost lease basis. (3) Our proposal is the product of collaboration between my Departments of Community and Regional Affairs, Labor and Education, in addition to input from our three JTPA Service Delivery Areas. We intend to coordinate any implementation efforts to ensure that employment and training programs and post secondary schools are an integral part of the Job Corps' functions. (4) Because of present limitations in sending Corps members "outside," handicapped and females (particularly unwed mothers) are not adequately served. Our proposal is designed with the intent of facilitating these populations to take full advantage of Job Corps.

The level of interest in having an Alaskan Job Corps site has been impressive. I trust you will give due consideration to our proposal.

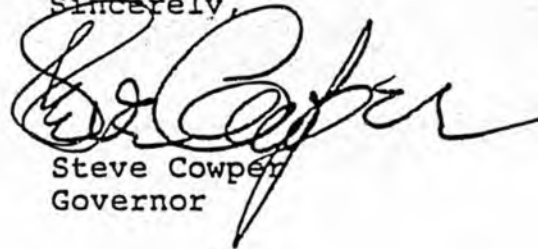
Peter E. Rell

-2-

December 15, 1988

Questions or requests for additional information should be directed to the Department of community and Regional Affairs, David Hoffman, Commissioner, 949 E. 36th Avenue, Suite 400, Anchorage, Alaska 99508, Attention: James Gurke, Grants Administrator, Job Training Partnership Office (907) 563-1955.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Steve Cowper".

Steve Cowper
Governor

cc: Alaska Congressional Delegation
Kay Gowins, Governor's Office, State/Federal Relations
Commissioner Demmert, Dept. of Education
Commissioner Sampson, Dept. of Labor
Commissioner Hoffman, Dept. of Community
& Regional Affairs

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

SECRETARY OF LABOR
WASHINGTON, D.C.

December 16, 1988

RECEIVED
DEC 20 1988

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

Dear Governor Cowper:

Thank you for your letter of November 18 regarding the establishment of a Job Corps center in Alaska.

The Fiscal Year 1989 appropriation contains funding for the establishment of six new Job Corps centers. The report language accompanying the appropriation contained a number of specific criteria to be considered in selecting locations for these centers. These criteria were published as a Federal Register Notice on November 4, 1988. A copy is enclosed for your information.

Based on a demonstrated need for a Job Corps center and on their meeting the established criteria, Connecticut and Kansas were announced in the Notice as sites for new centers. Further, the Notice indicates that additional States have expressed interest in the four remaining sites and that the Department of Labor would be following up with these States. Finally, the Notice requests additional input from interested parties in order to assist in the assessment process.

As you point out, Alaska certainly meets at least one of the specific criteria in the report language (States which currently do not have centers) and may meet additional ones. In this regard, we have contacted Mr. Jim Gurke, Grants Administrator, Office of Community and Regional Affairs, and asked him to submit a more specific proposal.

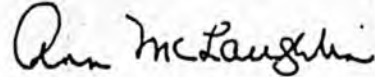
We also indicated to Mr. Gurke that the December 5 deadline in the Notice for submitting proposals would be extended to December 19. At that time, all proposals will be assessed in relation to the relevant criteria contained in the Notice. Please be assured that your request will be given full and fair consideration.

West *12/27* *12/27*
cc: *Conn. Sampson*
Hoffman *Ramsell*
Clarke

- 2 -

If we can be of any further assistance, please contact Daniel L. Lowry, Acting Director, Office of Job Corps on 535-0550.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ann McLaughlin".

ANN McLAUGHLIN

The Honorable Steve Cowper
Governor of Alaska
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Enclosure

THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENT HAS
NOT BEEN FILMED BUT IS
AVAILABLE IN THE ORIGINAL
FILE

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2	WHY ALASKA NEEDS A JOB CORPS CENTER Current Job Corp Participation Alaska Profile of Poverty Demographics of 16-21 year olds
9	JOB CORPS PROPOSED PROGRAM OF STUDY Introduction Proposed Curricula Coordination with JTPA/Carl D. Perkins Postsecondary Programs in the Goose Bay Area
15	DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED SITE Geographic Location Site Specifications
20	SOURCES
21	DOCUMENTS IN SUPPORT

SUMMARY

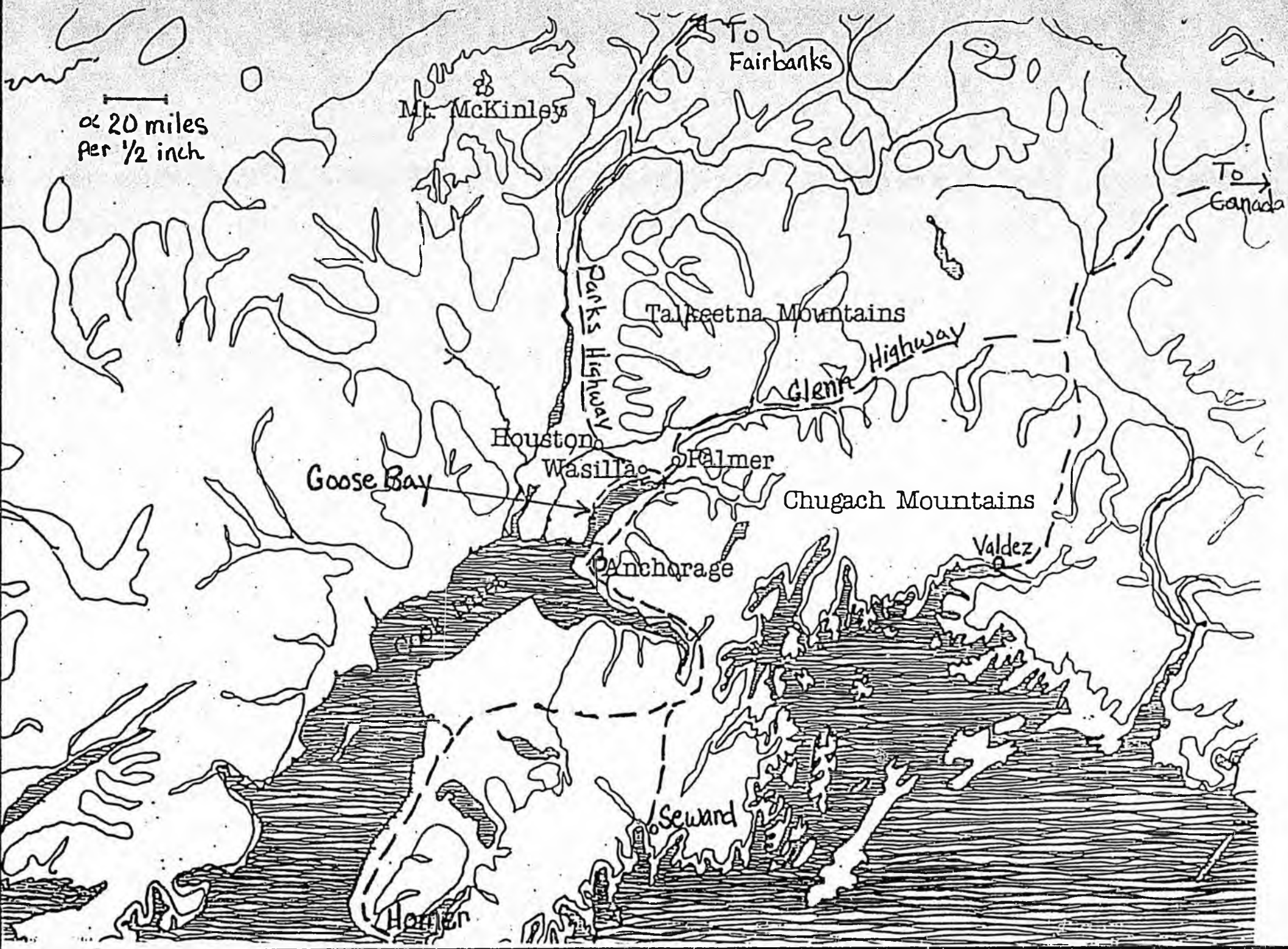
The State of Alaska is commenting on the November 4 Federal Register by asking that it be considered as a site for a Job Corps center.

In the short time since staff learned about the possibility of new sites being established, the level of interest and enthusiasm has been remarkable. People within the employment and training community, education and local government have shown uncommon unity in supporting this opportunity. Job Corps has been viewed as both an opportunity for expanding educational alternatives in Alaska, but also important as a policy statement about the benefits of employment training as a means to improving the Alaskan workforce.

Unemployment within the State has varied between 7.5 and 8.5 percent. The Mat-Su Borough, where the proposed site is located, exceeds 12%. Rural areas rates are up to 20% but are felt to be substantially under reported because of the number of discouraged workers no longer reporting to Job Service.

In areas where employment is stronger, including oil exploration, mining and fisheries, Alaska tends to be an importer of skilled labor. Over 20% of wages in these industries are to non-residents. In seeking to obtain a Job Corps, the State is attempting to generate an important substitution of young, skilled workers.

Alaska is also a very diverse state, having several unique cultures. Having a Job Corps within the State will facilitate our opportunity to contribute to a curriculum that meets the members' needs: as a contributor to their cultural as well as employment development.



≈ 20 miles
per 1/2 inch

Mount McKinley

To Fairbanks

To Canada

Talkeetna Mountains

Parks Highway

Glenn Highway

Houston

Palmer

Goose Bay

Wasilla

Chugach Mountains

Anchorage

Valdez

Seward

Homer

WHY ALASKA NEEDS A JOB CORPS CENTER

Current Job Corps Participation

The current quota for the State of Alaska is 220 screened applicants. The Region X office of USDOL has indicated, however, that the number could rise to 300 based upon current interest by resident youth. It is the State's opinion that an local site could readily support 200+ corps members at any point in time.

Current participation in Job Corps occurs through the services of an Oregon firm, Nero & Associates. Until recently no formal networking with the JTPA system had been established and Service Delivery Areas were virtually unaware of activities. A qualified applicant who meets the federal income guideline is screened by a single intake worker stationed in Anchorage. Networking for recruitment occurs through the Alaska Job Service and local education agencies. Recently the Fairbanks Private Industry Council has entered into an arrangement with the contractor agency, Nero & Associates, to perform additional recruitment and pre-Corps services.

Alaskan Corps members are sent to one of 10 centers located in Washington, Oregon and Idaho. Approximately 175 Alaskans are enrolled at any point in time.

Corps members characteristics vary by year but the tendency has been shifting toward a higher percentage of Alaskan Native youth, coming predominately from the rural villages. The current ratio is about 50:50 Native versus white youth.

The USDOL Regional Office has been conscious of the changing needs brought on by this population shift. Suggestions have been made to offer more counseling strategies to facilitate cultural needs. An anecdotal observation of both the contractor rep and the Regional office is that Alaskan youth prefer facilities where other Alaskan Natives are present.

Only about 10 percent of the total Corps members are female. According to the contractor rep, females most likely to benefit from attendance are unwed mothers; travel to a lower 48 facility is usually out of the question, even should day care be available. Of the rural Native youth, less than 10 current enrollees are women.

Nero & Associates reports three categories of termination: I, II, and III. Category I are those who completed training; Category II represents 3 to 9 months training, usually receiving a GED; Category III is someone with less than 60 days training.

Current statistics show that 20% of the case load, or 34 graduates, are Category I's; 40%, or 69 participants, are Category II's; 20%, or 34 participants, are Category III's. The other 20% are either unlocatables, non-positive placements or do not return to Alaska after training.

The following table shows the population size of the location to which the participant returned to find employment:

under 2500	10,000	50,000	250,000
36	27	17	48

Of the approximately 170 enrollees this past year, only 10 were non-positive or unlocatable.

Approximately 20% of the participants found jobs in the area for which they had been trained. Most of these were Category I's. The others found jobs in such areas as cannery work, carpentry, fire fighters, fish cleaning, auto repair, garbage collecting, housekeeping, cooking, cargo agent, jailer and car washing. At least 60% of the participants found better jobs than they had before they left for Job Corps. A majority of the Category III's are reported to have returned to fast food service.

The State believes that the approximately 40% figure represented by Category III and other non-positives, is a figure that can be substantially reduced by an in-State facility. Networking both in recruitment and in placement services can be increased through coordination with the JTPA Service Delivery Areas. Instead of the USDOL having to pay for recruitment and placement, a method of positive termination form JTPA pre-training could accrue to the SDA's in collaboration with a Job Corps center. The mechanism for coordination activities is already available through an Education Coordinating Committee which oversees Section 123 funds. This proposal is further elaborated in the section describing the program of study.

The Alaskan Profile of Poverty¹

The 1980 census reports that about 42,000 persons in Alaska lived below the national poverty income level. That represented about .10.7% of the state's estimated total population. Considering a poverty threshold equal to 125% of the national level, there were 55,900 persons in poverty in 1979(a poverty rate of 14.4%). Assuming a current population of 540,000, all else constant, there would be about 57,800

persons in poverty in Alaska and 79,400 people would be living below 125% of the national poverty income level.

Table 1 shows the percentage of the poverty population in Alaska, at 125% of the national poverty income threshold, and the percentage of the total population by characteristics.

While about 10.7% of persons in Alaska were below the poverty threshold, 7.7% of whites and 25.7% of Natives were in that category. The percentage was a little higher in rural areas, with 10.7% of rural whites and 28.7% of rural Natives in poverty. The poverty rate was higher among unrelated individuals than among families. About 86% of persons lived in families, and 9.4% of these persons lived in poverty. About 14% of persons were unrelated individuals, and 19% of these were in poverty. The poverty rate of rural, unrelated Natives was 46.6%. The tendency to have higher poverty rates among rural and Native persons holds both for persons in families and for unrelated individuals. Natives tended to younger (less than 22 years old) and older (over 64 years old), and tended more to live in families (91% versus 85%) compared to whites.

The educational attainment of persons in poverty was lower than that of the general population. About 83% of all families were headed by a high school graduate (89% of white families and 45% of Native families). Only about 63% of families in poverty were headed by a high school graduate (79% of white families in poverty and 35% of Native families in poverty). Similarly, unrelated individuals show the same pattern. About 83% of unrelated individuals were high school graduates (87% of whites and 54% of Natives). Only about 67% of unrelated individuals in poverty were high school graduates (76% of whites and 41% of Natives).

About 37.6% of families below the poverty threshold did not have work income in 1979 (34% of white families in poverty and 41.7% of Native families in poverty). Also, 42.6% of unrelated individuals (40.2% of white and 50.1% of Native unrelated individuals) did not have work income in 1979. Further, only 1.7% of all families were in poverty when the householder worked over 50 weeks (1.7% of white and 2.6% of Native families), while 19.3% of families were in poverty when the householder worked less than 27 weeks (15.4% of white and 34.4% of Native families).

Analysis of the data reveals that the demographic characteristics of the poverty population in Alaska are similar to those of the national poverty population. The poverty population is composed of unrelated individuals, females, nonwhites, rural citizens, the old and the young in larger

proportions than would be expected from the composition of the population as a whole. Since there are more white, nonrural people in the population, in numerical terms the largest group of persons in poverty in Alaska is white, nonrural females. It is also evident from the state data that those who live in poverty tend to have loose ties to the labor force. Poverty is associated with the absence of work, with the lack of full time work, and with low wage occupations which may be seasonal or subject to high employment turnover.

General economic development which increases job opportunities, especially high wage opportunities, helps everyone. For the past three years Alaska has been in a severe depression due to the oil price collapse. In the absence of a robust economy, the opportunities provided by education and training help to provide skills to the unskilled people who may have strong ties to the labor force but who find themselves unfamiliar with the world of work and without job specific skills. The added opportunities from a local Job Corps site would be one additional method to improve our young workforce.

An Overview of Demographics for Alaska's 16-21 Year Olds²

1987 information puts Alaska's population of 16-21 year olds at 46,793. 14.6% are Native Alaskans.

In 1985, 51,345 persons aged 14 and over were considered to be living below the 125% poverty level. Of these, 11,036 were between the ages of 16 and 21, and 2991 were either 14 or 15 years of age.

Although there may be a plethora of entry level jobs in Alaska's urban communities, these jobs are often sorely lacking in Alaska's rural areas. You can often count the total number of jobs on one hand in many rural communities. Employment opportunities are often scarce for all age groups in rural Alaska. This in turn translates into a much more acute problem for the younger job seeker. Results from a special survey conducted by the Department of Labor in the Lower Yukon region corroborates this problem. The Department established that the "official" youth unemployment rate was 34%. Using a more liberal definition of unemployment, the rate soared to 64%. Native Alaskan youth unemployment rate was nearly ten points higher than the average for all Alaskan youth.¹

A critical lack of job opportunities is not just a problem for rural Alaska or to Alaska Natives. Job options which offered good pay and career opportunities for all of Alaska's younger workers quickly became scarce with the onset of the recession.

The State has lost more than 20,000 jobs over the past three years. This means younger workers are now often competing with the older, more experienced workers. This is particularly severe for those in the 19-21 age group who are not college-bound. It has become much more difficult for these younger workers to acquire skills and find jobs that provide them with a decent livelihood.

Academic Status

High school dropouts are a real concern because of their failure in the labor market. According to the Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory report "Identifying At-Risk Youth in the Northwest States," 12.2% of Alaska's 16-19 year olds drop out of school. More startling is that a fully 67% of these dropouts don't find jobs. And many members of this group continue to have employment problems as adults.

Approximately 50% of all 16-21 year olds are participating in some form of secondary or postsecondary education.²

Over a three year period ending with school year 1987/88, students, grades 9 through 12, in Alaska's more remote school districts scored significantly lower than did their counterparts in the United States and Alaska as a whole. Those remote school districts in the northern and western parts of Alaska include the following:

Bering Straits	Iditarod
Kashunamuit	Kuspuk
Lake and Peninsula	Lower Kuskokwim
North Slope	Lower Yukon
Northwest Arctic	Southwest Region
Yukon Flats	Yukon Koyukuk
Yupiit	

Percentile scores show marked differences. Reading scores in the remote districts ranged from a high of 45 in one district, to a low of 6 in another. Math scores ranged from the same high to a low of 11. The average from the remote districts was 25 in reading and 36 in math. Statewide averages were 47 in reading and 58 in math.³

The State has no mechanism in place to determine the reading/math scores of out-of school youths. However, the Alaska Vocational Technical Center in Seward admits students from all walks of life and all parts of the state. They administer the ABLE test to all incoming students. They have provided test score averages for their students in the 16 through 21 age group. The reading scores ranged from 8.3 for

fiscal year 1987 to 9.9 for the current year. Math scores ranged from 7.1 for fiscal year 1987 to a high of 8.7 for fiscal year 1989. For the two and one half year periods the averages were 9.1 for reading and 8.0 for math.³

The aforementioned school districts also have high rates of economically disadvantaged families; in many cases substantially dependant upon subsistence activities to provide an important percentage of the food requirements in those areas. A majority of the students are Alaskan Natives; often bilingual with parentage having limited English ability. For example, in 1987 in the Lower Yukon District, over 90% of school children received free or reduced price lunches and over 97% were categorized as Limited English Proficiency (LEP). In preparing a Job Corps site in Alaska, a cross-cultural program component should be incorporated into any final plan. This should include course offerings in English as a second language.³

Additional academic statistics relating to Alaskan students include the following:

Number of GED graduates during FY87 totalled 1,800.⁴

Number of high school graduates during FY87 totalled 5,692.⁴

At least 25.3% of Alaska's 9th grade students don't make it through high school graduation.⁵

Alaska ranks 37th among all states in its ability to retain students in school through graduation.

Social Status

Teen Pregnancy:⁶

Alaska's teenage pregnancy rate is 13% higher than the national average, the ninth highest in the country.

The Native teenage pregnancy rate is estimated at 70% higher than the national average.

Alaska's infant mortality rate is ninth highest in the nation.

The children of teenagers account for 10% of births, but they account for 16% of infant deaths.

Only 41% of non-white and 50% of white Alaska teenagers receive adequate prenatal care, resulting in low birth weight babies with a higher chance of death.

While improvement has been made, Alaska still serves only 27% of those eligible for the federal Women and Infant Care program that provides basic nutrition, education and other services, placing us 48th lowest in the nation.

Alcohol and Drug Abuse:⁶

Alaska's youth have significantly higher rates of alcohol and drug abuse than Lower 48 peers.

Alcohol is involved in at least one fourth of all juvenile crimes.

Alcohol is involved in at least 70% of Native suicides.

8% to 9% of Alaska's youth say they have drug-related problems at school.

Alaska's Fetal Alcohol Syndrome rate is the highest in the world.

One of four children in Alaska is estimated to be a child of an alcoholic, is at higher risk of abuse, neglect, suicide, depression, and substance abuse.

Alcohol abuse is a symptom of a far deeper sociological problem. There is little or nothing to do in the villages. There is no economy and little or no hope for employment. People have a lot of time on their hands and alcohol provides an escape from their problems.

Suicide:⁶

The signs of suicidal patterns are often visible early in the teenage years. Cultural conflict is a particular risk for Native youth.

Alaska's suicide rate is twice the national average. Among young adult Native men, it is 22 times the national average.

Between 1983-1985, youth under 19 accounted for 12% of Alaska's suicides.

For every completed suicide, an additional 110 attempts are serious enough to require medical attention.

JOB CORPS PROPOSED PROGRAMS OF STUDY

Introduction

According to information obtained through the Governor's Council on Vocational Education, Alaska ranks 37th among all states in its ability to retain students in school through graduation. The statistics vary greatly by region, but overall a correlation between achievement and school completion is a generally recognized fact. Most rural high school students score far below the national average on standardized tests, (Figure 3)

Additionally, one of the single weakest areas of small rural schools is the absence of vocational programs and comprehensive jobs readiness training. Work opportunities available in cooperative education are rare due to the limited employment opportunities.

Residents of contemporary rural Alaska need the skills and confidence to handle urban life, whether they choose to remain in their home communities or live in urban areas. Rural adults frequently travel to towns and cities to work, receive training, attend meetings, etc.

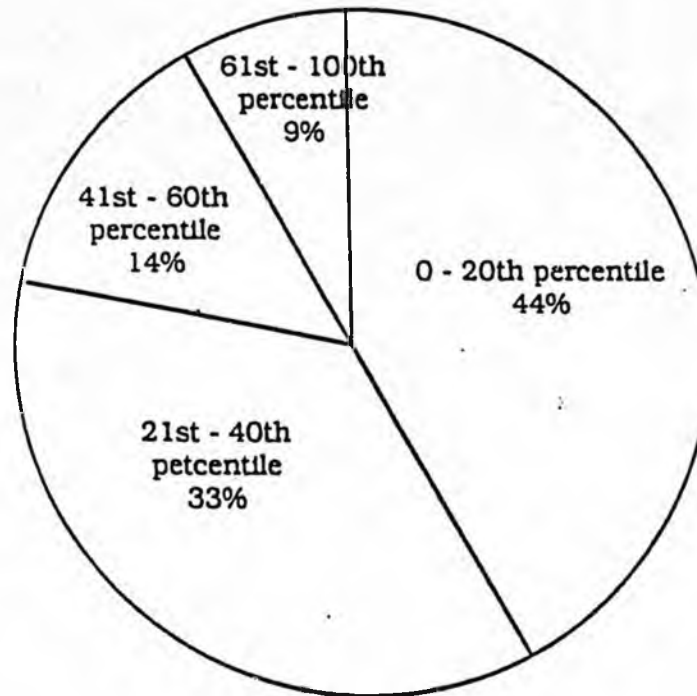
In remote, culturally different communities, educators worry about their students' social isolation. Unfamiliarity with the mechanics of urban life is but one aspect of this concern. More importantly, students are unprepared for the social organization of urban life. They are not equipped to deal with such things as impersonal interactions with other people and the loneliness of stresses outside the traditional family life.⁹

Beside the conditions cited above, Alaskan school districts as a whole offer few alternative programs to youth at-risk of school failure. Efforts have been under way to adopt legislation patterned after Wisconsin's. Use of both Carl D. Perkins and JTPA 8 percent funds has successfully aided some districts in accepting this responsibility. However, the location of a Job Corps site within the State would be an excellent alternative in itself.

Boarding school has a long history in Alaska and interest in it appears on the rise: prior to 1980 very few communities had local schools. Within the past two years the Mt. Edgecomb School in Sitka has been reopened by the Alaska Department of Education with primarily a college preparatory focus. Last fall over 100 applicants were turned away. In many respects,

Figure 3

**Students in Rural High Schools
Have Low Achievement Test Scores**
Percentage of Entire 9th - 12th Grades
at Different Percentile Rankings*



Total Number of Grades Represented: 522

*Please keep in mind that these figures represent average achievement test scores for the whole grade, not scores for individual students.

Source: University of Alaska, ISER Small High School Survey, 1984.

the State views a Job Corps Center as a complementary facility, serving the special need, vocationally minded student. Our intention is to see it succeed as a viable alternative school.

Proposed Curricula

The Alaska Department of Education recommends the following programs be implemented to meet projected labor market needs in Alaska. The Department of Labor text "Alaska Industry-Occupation Outlook to 1992" has been utilized in the development of these recommendations. An effort has been made to reflect employment areas which require less than one full year of full-time training and where significant opportunity for employment exists.

CLERICAL OCCUPATIONS: Employment in clerical occupations comprise an estimated nineteen percent of total employment in 1988 and 1992. This is the third largest occupational employment category in Alaska and represents the fourth largest source of job openings. Statewide, and in both Anchorage and Fairbanks, employment opportunities are best for secretaries and general office clerks. Opportunities for bookkeeping, accounting, and auditing clerks are also relatively good, although job openings occur only when existing workers are replaced. This set of occupational skills prepare students for advanced training in more technical level clerical support positions such as medical records technicians, paralegal assistants, hotel clerks, and legal clerks. This curriculum is available in an individualized open entry/open exit format within the state and nationally.

FOOD PROCESSING: Nearly 1000 new jobs will be created during the next five years in the food processing industry, which is comprised of seafood processing, meat processing, canning fruits, and baking. Most of the growth will occur in the seafood processing sector. Growth will occur primarily as a result of increased catches of salmon, bottomfish and other seafood products. The move towards a year-round fishery, and more in-state processing, will provide more opportunities for Alaskans. Several new surimi plants are providing new year-round jobs and continued growth is expected. Cannery workers, including fish cutters, account for the majority of employment in this industry. Jobs for cannery workers will be the number one source of annual job openings across all occupations for the forecast period. Cannery workers may perform any of a variety of routine tasks in preserving seafood, such as sorting, trimming or slicing seafood. The curriculum for this area must be developed.

FOOD AND BEVERAGE SERVICE: Eating and drinking employment grew rapidly during the early 1980's with an average of more than 1000 jobs per year added during the first five years of the decade. That employment growth stopped and recently declined. However, eating and drinking employment now comprises a much larger share of the total employment than it did in 1980. Eating and drinking employment is expected to increase faster than average during the next five years. The major occupations employed in eating and drinking establishments are combination of food preparation/service workers, fast food, and waiters and waitresses. In addition, hotel employment provides many job openings for service workers. Opportunities exist for bartenders, restaurant cooks, food preparation workers, waiters and waitresses, and maids. These occupations are among those generating the most annual job openings in Alaska and the U.S. Curriculum in these areas is readily available and the actual food preparation operation for the Job Corps center may serve as a classroom and laboratory.

HEALTH SERVICES: During most of the last ten years this industry sector has grown regardless of the activity of the economy as a whole. Most of the employment gains centered in outpatient care facilities, such as drug and alcohol treatment centers and other new or nontraditional health care providers. Employment should continue to grow in this industry as Alaska's population continues to age. While there is a significant shortage of registered nurses, a great need for health aides exists as well. Emergency Medical Technician Training programs have been very successful in placing graduates in rural Alaska, particularly at mineral exploration and production sites which have experienced rapid growth recently. Curriculum materials for health aide training and emergency medical technician training is readily available.

FACILITIES MAINTENANCE: Maintenance repairers and general utility workers are usually found in small establishments where the specialization of maintenance work is impractical. These workers perform two or more maintenance skills to keep equipment and structures in good repair. This type of worker is particularly needed in rural communities to maintain public facilities. Curriculum resources are available in the area but the the actual training program must be developed and refined to meet Alaska-specific needs.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP: The 1980 Census of Population estimates that 12,015 workers, or about 1 in 13 of all employed workers in Alaska were self-employed. females accounted for 3560, or 30%, of all self-employed workers in Alaska. Of the broad occupational categories, females comprised the majority of the total self-employed and fell into two clusters: service

occupations and technical, sales and administrative support occupations. The Department of Education recommends that each student have access to instruction regarding self-employment as an option. Curriculum materials are available through the Department of Education.

ADULT BASIC EDUCATION/BASIC SKILLS DEVELOPMENT: Basic skills development is an essential program component for any training program. Currently, Comprehensive Competencies have been integrated into existing adult basic education and student retention programs with great success. The IBM PALS computer system has been introduced to low-literate students with marked success as well. In FY87 and FY88, over 80% of adult basic education students entered programs with skill levels between 0 and 8th grade. In serving those targetted for the Job Corps, it is likely that a high incidence of students with low reading and math levels will be identified. The Comprehensive Competencies System and the PALS program are two ways of helping to raise the basic skills level necessary for effective training to occur.

Coordination with JTPA/Carl D. Perkins Funding

The State Job Training Coordinating Council has designated the Alaska Department of Education as acting fiscal agent for the PL 97-300 Section 123 of the Job Training Partnership Act. The Office of Adult & Vocational Education administers these and the Carl D. Perkins funds. A working group, the JTPA Education Coordinating Committee, provides direction, coordination and communication among service providers.

The JTPA Education Coordinating Committee meets three times per year to determine the types of activities and services to be accomplished with the Section 123 resources. All services require specific cooperative agreements between the provider of service and the appropriate SDA.

The Committee consists of:

A representative of the Alaska State Job Training Coordinating Council;

A representative of each Private Industry Council; Fairbanks North Star Borough, Anchorage/MatSu Borough Consortium, and the Alaska Statewide;

A representative of the Department of Education;

A representative from the Alaska State Job Training Partnership Office, Division of Community Development;

A representative from the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training;

A representative from the Governor's Council on Vocational and Career Education; and

A representative from the University of Alaska.

This committee is responsible for identifying strategies for the delivery of services which complement existing or planned efforts in each SDA. The committee establishes funding levels, reviews progress and facilitates coordination with the Carl D. Perkins Vocational Education Act programs and services.

The efforts of this committee have been to develop improved programs with close cooperation and coordination with adult education and vocational education in Alaska. It has been a successful approach to cooperative and complimentary service delivery and one which we advocate for use in coordinating Job Corps activities. The Committee stands ready to use both "services" and "coordination" monies, where appropriate, to establish a Job Corps program. A specific example would be the provision of AKCIS (Alaska Career Information System) curriculum and software to the center. AKCIS provides Alaskans with computerized and published information about occupations, programs of study and postsecondary institutions.

Postsecondary Programs Offered in the Mat-Su/Goose Bay Area⁷

University of Alaska Mat-Su: (Variety of vocational and academic programs)

National Outdoor Leadership School: (Wilderness and Leadership Course)

Human Resources Company: (Adult Basic Education Program and JTPA Basic Skills Competencies Program)

North Pacific Business Institute: (Proprietary Business School)

Mat-Su Bush Flying School: (Flight School)

Mat-Su Alternative School: (Student Retention Program, runs through summer)

JTPA financial support is available for 16-21 year-olds in the Mat-Su Area to go to the University of Alaska Mat-Su, the University of Alaska Anchorage, and the Alaska Vocational Technical Center for Vocational Training. These same benefits

could be extended to Job Corps enrollees. Students could be sent to the various schools for specially designed course work; or use of itinerant vocational education instructors could be arranged from the area's postsecondary schools.

Consultation has also occurred with the directors of Alaska's three Service Delivery Areas. Numerous items were suggested for negotiation with USDOL prior to establishment of a Job Corps site: recruitment and intake services including assessment and remediation; transportation from remote sites; placement opportunities including OJT and job search assistance.

Child Care Available in the Mat-Su/Goose Bay Area (8)

There are 11 licensed daycare centers and 18 licensed daycare homes in the Palmer/Wasilla area. The only organization offering State supported daycare assistance in this area is the Valley Women's Resource Center. Reliance upon local providers would be the likely recommendation at start up of a center.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED SITE

Introduction

A specific facility for housing an Alaskan Job Corps center has been identified in what is presently known as the Goose Bay Correctional Center. However, before elaborating on the specifications and commitments made to this particular site, it should be noted that the document draft, Establishing a Job Corps Center (Division of Program Planning and Development, Office of Job Corps), indicates that a much more comprehensive identification and acquisition process may still be required. The State recognizes that a more formal needs assessment is typically prudent when committing to long term projects. While the Goose Bay site appears to be an ideal facility meeting many of the conditions contained in the referenced document, it is not the product of an exhaustive search. The timelines between the notification in the November 4 Federal Register and this submission preclude the luxury of comparing other facilities that may yet offer attractive alternatives. For these reasons, the State is offering the Goose Bay facility as the most logical option given the caveats mentioned above. Inspection of the site revealed that it was, indeed, capable of accommodating the goals of being a safe, efficient and cost effective facility.

Geographic Location

Alaska's geography dictates many of the criteria in attempting to site facilities cost effectively. For this reason consideration of potential sites was limited to what is known as the "railbelt", the area along the rail/roadway that extends from Seward to Fairbanks. Approximately two-thirds of the state's population resides in this area. Further, about half of the population is located in the Anchorage area.

Because Anchorage is the commercial and transportation hub of southcentral Alaska, it has drawn many people from the rural villages looking for improved employment opportunities. In addition, it also offers the largest variety of educational opportunity, social services and other support mechanisms for enriching entry employment success.

The present Goose Bay Correctional Center is located 23 miles southwest of the City of Wasilla off the Knik-Goose Bay Road. The facility is approximately 63 miles from Anchorage; accessible by its proximity to the Glenn and Parks highways, the major thoroughfares east and north out of the Anchorage area. Ground transportation to bring corps members to the site from Anchorage would most likely occur via chartered van.

Goose Bay is only 15 air miles from Anchorage, being on the opposing shore of the Cook Inlet. Adjacent to the facility is 6000 foot, lighted runway which is maintained year-around by the Alaska Department of Transportation. Air charter from Anchorage is readily available at a cost of less \$60.00 for as many as three passengers.

Site Specifications

The Goose Bay facility is situated on State owned land controlled by the Alaska Department of Natural Resources. The total land area is approximately 400 acres, with about 12 acres dedicated to the actual building site. Property management is currently under control of the Alaska Department of Corrections for use as a training center for security personnel; however, they are committed to moving this function to an Anchorage location and expect to vacate the site within the next several months. In their absence, the Department of Natural Resources is on record as supporting the use of the facility as a Job Corps site. Exhibit 1 is a letter to USDOL ensuring that the facility can be available, rent free, for that purpose.

The facility was originally constructed in 1957 under supervision of the U.S. Army Tactical Facilities command at Fort Richardson. In June of 1984, the federal land holdings were formerly transferred to the State of Alaska. By that date, renovations had already begun on what was known as the Goose Bay Correctional Center; a minimum security prison designed to house about 108 residents and additional staff.

The Department of Corrections had apparently envisioned the facility as one serving a long term need; approximately \$3.5 million dollars in improvements were eventually made; Table 2 summarizes the most significant upgrades. Subsequent to these developments, other prison facilities became available and Correction's use of the facility shifted to a residential training site.

The site consists of four buildings:

1. A 24,722 main building that houses residency, kitchen and dining facilities, several classrooms, offices and a recreational/game room. Figure 2. provides a floor plan of the two floors. Functional areas are subdivided according to the following square footages:

Housing	Approximately 9,754 sq.ft.
Food Service	Approximately 4,013 sq.ft.
Education	Approximately 3,777 sq.ft.
Recreation	Approximately 1,932 sq.ft.
Administration	Approximately 2,615 sq.ft.
Medical/Dental	Approximately 156 sq.ft.
Utility/Boiler	Approximately 700 sq.ft.

The northwest side of the building contains patio area adjacent to the kitchen facilities. This area is ideal for outdoor dining and recreation.

The north wall of the building faces a well drained area suitable for expansion. During the course of Department of Corrections, a new septic drain field was built with capacity for over 200 residents.

Building improvements, particularly fire protection and toilet facilities, were designed with handicapped individuals in mind. However, the second floor does not have an elevator for handicapped access.

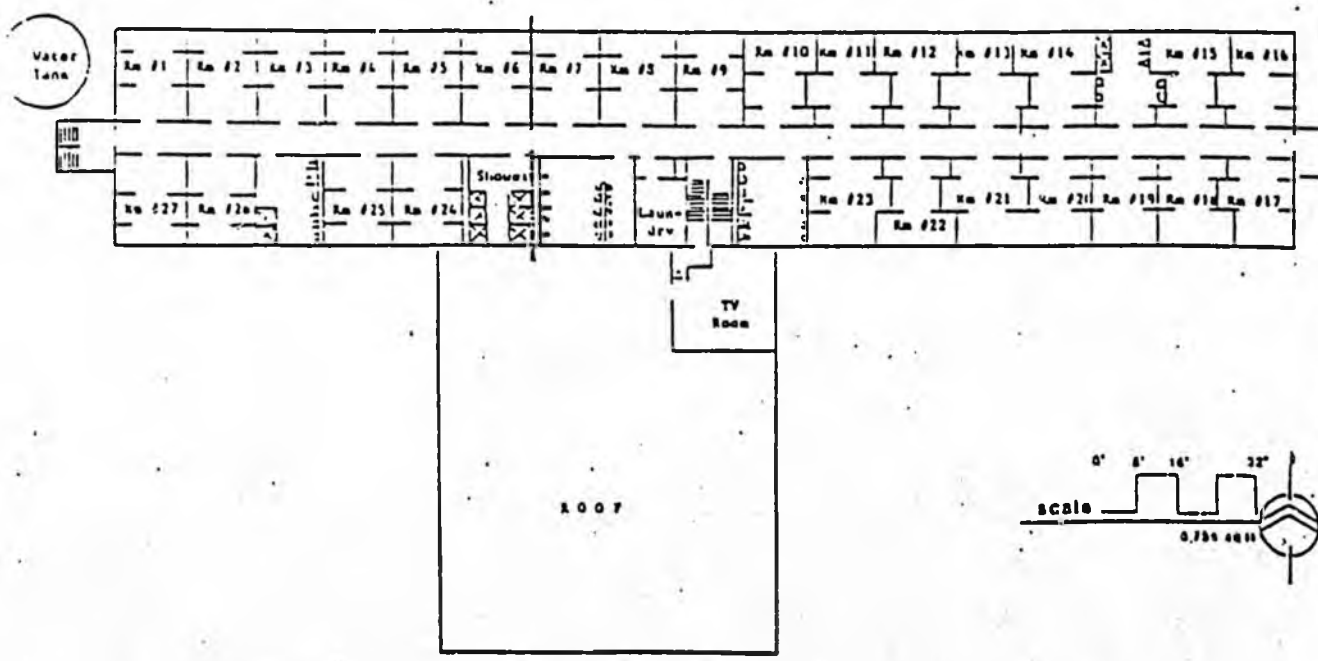
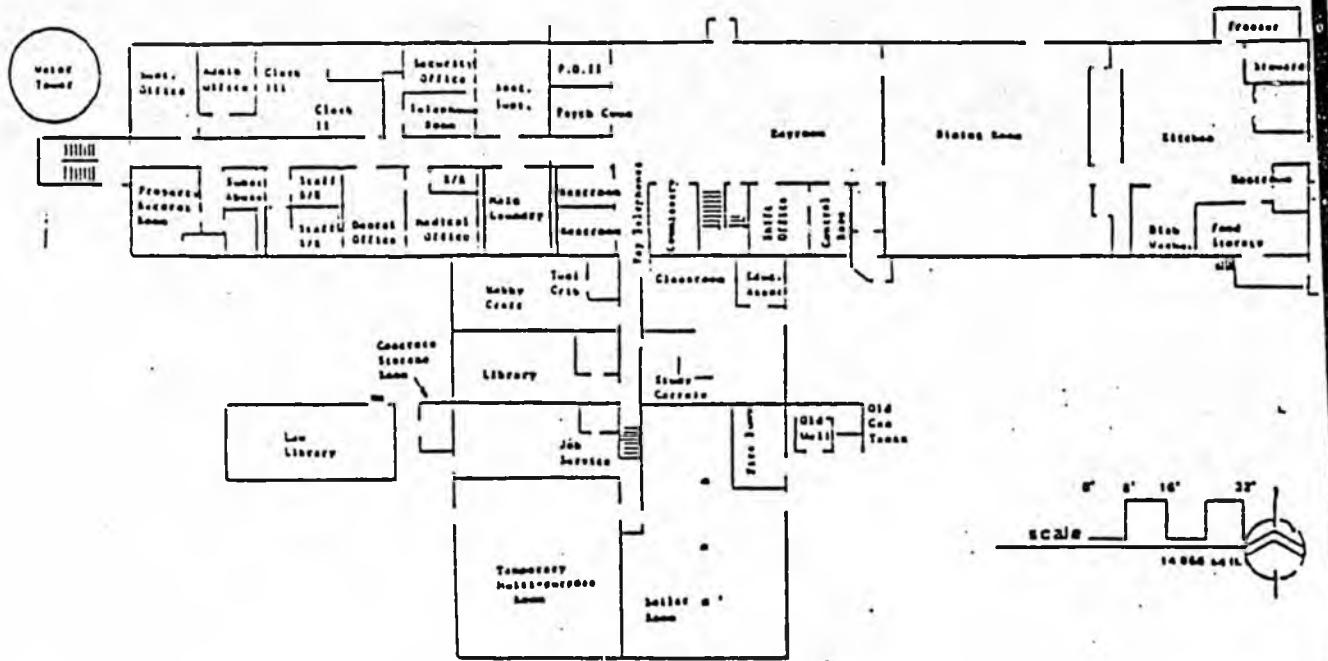
2. A 4000+ square foot metal Butler Building, with block foundation and concrete floor, with a peak height of about 30 feet. This building was purchased by the Department of Corrections and installed within the last several years. The building is fully insulated and has its own natural gas, forced air heating system. Its current use is as a martial arts training area and assembly room. The building needs very little modification for it to serve as a multipurpose room or gym.
3. An approximately 40x70 combination garage/wood shop with office space. The building has five bay doors and is currently used for the purposes described. The building is fully insulated and heated by unit heaters fed by the main boiler room; it is also plumbed and contains a restroom. The building appears to be in excellent shape for immediate use in the manner intended.
4. An approximately 40x50 storage building with 15 foot walls that could also be converted into an educational facility. The building is fully insulated and heated by unit heaters feed by the main boiler. It contains a substantial storage area with built-in shelves and double wide doors for service entry. The building shell is in excellent shape and its use could easily be altered to a variety of purposes.

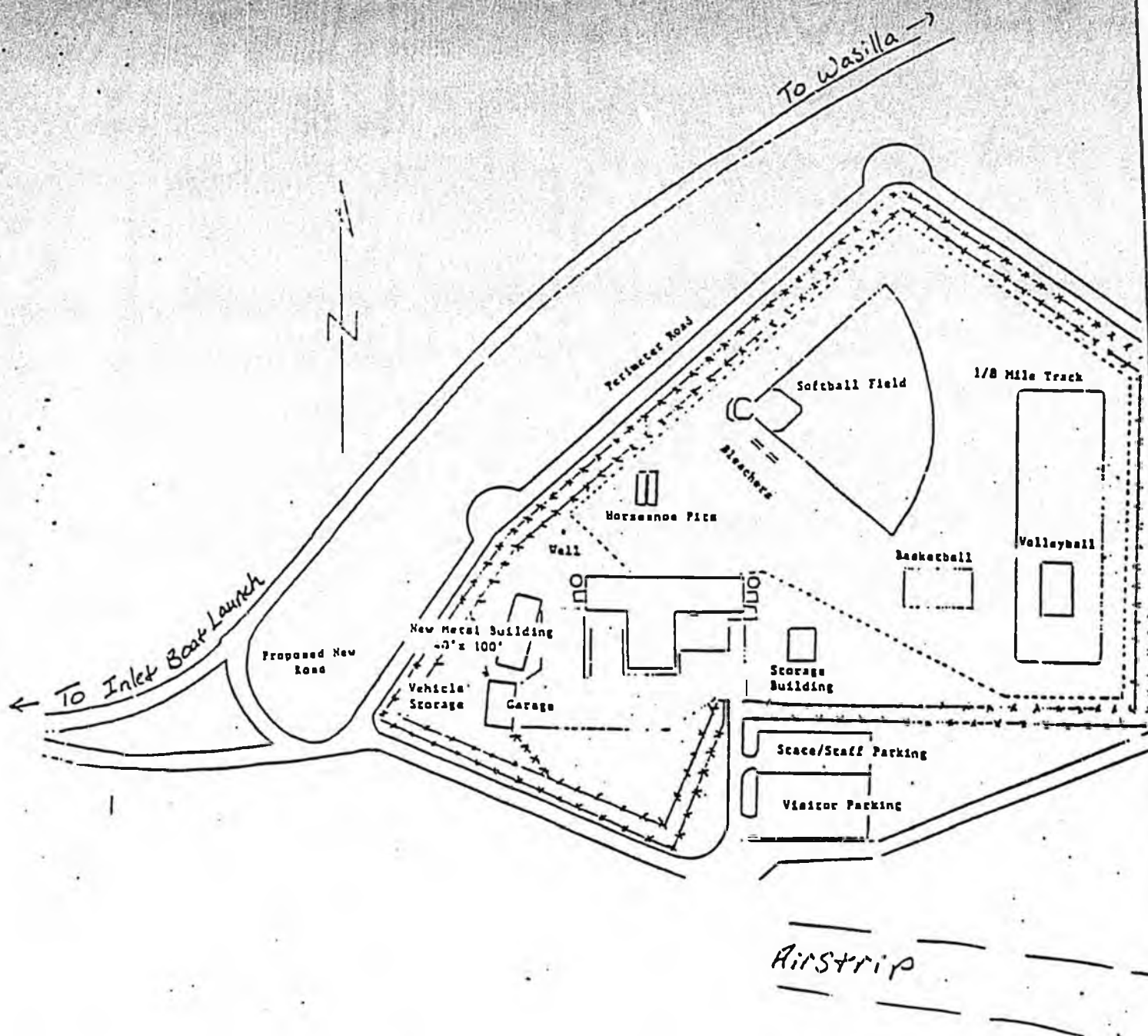
TABLE 2
 INVENTORY OF ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
 UPGRADES AT GOOSE BAY

Electric Service Upgrades	Approximate Cost \$390,000
New switching and transformer w/MEA	
Standby generator with automatic transfer switch	
New feeders & panels	
New branch circuits in: boiler room, laundry, kitchen, dining room, second floor quarters, office area, exterior lighting	
New fire alarm system	
New telephone system	
New sewage treatment plant	
 Heating System	 Approximate Cost \$105,000
New boilers, pumps, pipes, heaters & controls	
New air handling units, ductwork, air terminal & controls	
 Domestic Hot Water. New gas-fired water heaters	 \$15,000
 Sewage Treatment Upgrade	 \$12,000
 Kitchen Upgrades: range hood, air make-up, fixtures, plumbing	 \$70,000
 Fire Safety Upgrades	 \$40,000
 New Toilets & Showers & Bases to meet safety code	 \$18,000
 New Egress Windows on main floor	 \$ 9,000
 New Doors	 \$12,000
 Painting & Sheetrock	 \$50,000
 10,000 Square Feet of New Roof on main building	 \$58,000
 Baffling in Water Tanks to reduce earthquake damage	 \$12,000
 Suspended Ceiling, Light Fixtures	 \$164,000

FIGURE 2

Floor plans as of March 31, 1936





The diagram illustrates the area and buildings that are available at the Goose Bay site. Actual acreage inside the perimeter fence is 11.67 acres.

The area had been enclosed by a double fence for security purposes. The Department of Corrections has removed the inside perimeter fence, and will want to take down the outer fence of use elsewhere.

The "proposed new road" has been fully completed so that the area to the right of the diagram is a contiguous one. The road runs beyond the airstrip to a public boat launch on the Cook Inlet.

The recreation area is substantially planned but not completed. The 1/8 mile track was to contain a parcours fitness trail for outdoor exercise. Community softball teams have already expressed an interest in playing against institutional teams when it was a prison.

Reiterating earlier comments, the Goose Bay facility appears to be well suited for a potential Job Corps site. State personnel have examined numerous documents pertaining to planning and improvements on the buildings. The buildings passed various State code requirements for use as both a prison and residential training site.

Two drawbacks that we recognize are size, both in total square footage and on a per student basis and, secondly, minor potential for additional asbestos removal.

At about 35,000 total square foot, the facility does not fully meet the USDCL specifications for 200 students. It is the State's understanding, however, that turn-key options are rare and capital investment is the rule rather than the exception. The numerous improvements the Department of Corrections has made should prove to be of significant value in leveraging the federal cost share.

Regarding asbestos removal, the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation has certified the facility as safe for the former building uses. A substantial study and clean up/abatement was undertaken by the firm OceanTech, a company specializing in environmental engineering. Prior to use as a Job Corps site the State will negotiate with OceanTech to assess what certification and/or work remains to ensure a healthy environment. Documentation is on record with the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, the agency supervising previous asbestos clean-up at the site.

SOURCES

1. Unpublished Reports from the Alaska Department of Labor, Research and Analysis Section, 1968.
2. 1980 Census Report and Population Overview: 1986 and Provisional 1987 Estimates.
3. Unpublished reports from the Alaska Department of Education, Office of Data Management.
4. Alaska Department of Education, Public Information.
5. U.S. Department of Education.
6. Our Greatest Natural Resource: Investing in the Future of Alaska's Children, a Report of the Governor's Interim Commission on Children and Youth.
7. Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education.
8. Department of Health and Social Services, Division of Family and Youth Services, Palmer, Alaska.
9. "Alaska's Small Rural High Schools" Alaska Review of Social & Economic Research, Vol. XXII, No. 3, December 1985

ATTACHMENTS
DOCUMENTS IN SUPPORT

Governor's Council on Vocational Education

David Rees
Chair

Jim Schlegel
Vice Chair



Rosie Peterson
Executive Director

Mary Stone
Administrative Assistant

211 Fourth Street, Suite 101 • Juneau, Alaska 99801
(907) 586-1736

December 12, 1988

The Honorable Ann McLaughlin
Secretary of Labor
United States Department of Labor
200 Constitution Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20210

Dear Secretary McLaughlin:

The Governor's Council on Vocational Education recently took formal action recommending Governor Steve Cowper make formal application to the United States Department of Labor to be considered as a future site for a job corps center.

There is tremendous interest and enthusiasm throughout the state among commissioners, the State Job Training Coordinating Council, the JTPA/Education Coordinating Committee, the Office of Adult and Vocational Education, the University system, the State Board of Education, the business community, and of course, members of the Governor's Council, to see Alaska chosen as one of the eight new sites to be established. Given the current enthusiasm for application as a job corps site, the desire of agencies and the private sector to work together to achieve full employment, and with preference for sites being given to states who do not currently have a job corps center, Alaska would seem a top candidate for selection.

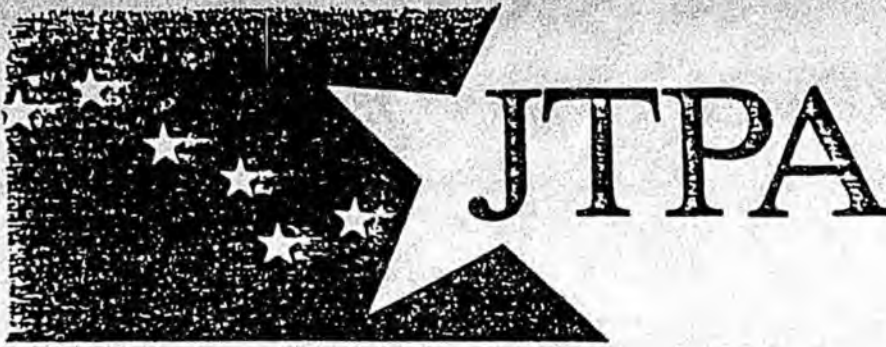
Job corps centers in other states have an enviable reputation for providing high-quality vocational training, work experience, counseling and educational services that prepare economically disadvantaged young adults to become responsible, employable and contributing citizens. Or more simply, job corps centers put people to work. We would like those people to be Alaskans.

If the Governor's Council can provide additional information on this matter please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Rosie Peterson", written over a horizontal line.

Ms. Rosie Peterson
Executive Director



ALASKA STATE JOB TRAINING COORDINATING COUNCIL

STEVE COWPER, GOVERNOR

REPLY TO: State of Alaska
Department of Community
and Regional Affairs
Rural Development Division

949 East 36th Avenue
Suite 400
Anchorage, Alaska 99508
Phone: (907) 563-1955

December 16, 1988

The Honorable Ann McLaughlin
Secretary of Labor
U. S. Department of Labor
200 Constitution Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20210

Dear Secretary McLaughlin:

One of the three goal statements from our JTPA Coordination and Special Services Plan is, "To ensure that all Alaskans, particularly youth at risk of dropping out of school, are encouraged to complete high school and are provided appropriate means to do so." Although we are a rural state, the statistics relating to youth at-risk are every bit as distressing as those representing our nation as a whole. As a result, the Alaska State Job Training Coordinating Council has been an advocate of programs and policies that address the needs of our youth.

We have been actively involved in Governor Cowper's Interim Commission on Children and Youth. And we are seeking enactment this year of legislation that would address alternative programs for potential and actual drop outs from our schools. Support for the Governor's interest in obtaining a Job Corps Center in Alaska is, therefore, wholeheartedly offered.

Attached to the State's proposal is a resolution unanimously supporting a local Job Corps site. The State Council will ensure that every effort will be made to coordinate Job Corps activities with current JTPA programs in Alaska. SDA Directors have already been alerted of the possibility and are on record to assist potential corps members with services ranging from remedial education to transportation.

The Council appreciates your consideration of Alaska for a site and are ready to assist the Department of Labor in any way possible.

Sincerely,

Sarah Scanlan
Chair

STATE OF ALASKA

STEVE COWPER, GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

GOLDBELT PLACE
801 WEST 10TH STREET
P.O. BOX F
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811-0500

December 15, 1988

The Honorable Ann McLaughlin
Secretary of Labor
U. S. Department of Labor
200 Constitution Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20210

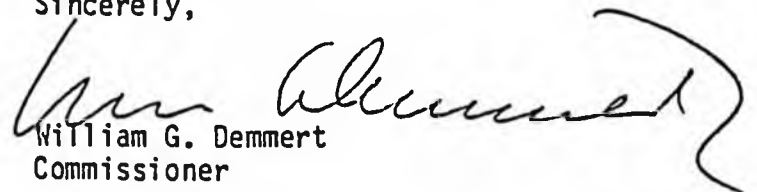
Dear Secretary McLaughlin:

The Alaska Department of Education and the Alaska State Board of Education have endorsed the effort to procure a Job Corps Center in Alaska. We are available to assist in the development of curriculum and services to meet the needs of the identified population.

As a participant in the Alaska Occupational Information Coordinating Committee, we have the ability to develop programs to meet identified labor market needs.

We appreciate your consideration of a Job Corps Center for Alaska.

Sincerely,


William G. Demmert
Commissioner

Alaska Native Coalition on Employment and Training

611 East 12th Suite 102
Anchorage, Alaska 99501
(907) 276-2121

December, 15, 1988

*Aleutian-Pribilof
Island Association*

*Association of
Village Council
Presidents*

*Bristol Bay
Native Association*

*Central Council
of Tlingit & Haida
Indian Tribes*

*Cook Inlet
Tribal Council*

Kawerak, Inc.

*Kenaitze
Tribe*

*Kodiak Area
Native Association*

Maruilag Manpower

*Metlakatla
Indian Community*

*North Pacific Rim/
Copper River
Consortium*

*Tanana Chiefs
Conference, Inc.*

David Hoffman
Commissioner
Dept. of Community & Regional Affairs
949 E. 36th Suite 400
Anchorage, Ak 99508

Dear Commissioner:

I have just learned of your departments intent to apply for assistance from the Department of Labor to operate a Job Corps Center in the State of Alaska. Although we have not had an opportunity to review DCRA's proposal, members of the Alaska Native Coalition on Employment and Training (ANCET) do support the concept of an Alaskan based and oriented Job Corps Center.

It is our understanding that approximately 50% of the Job Corps referrals from Alaska are Alaska Native's. We are also aware that training programs available in current Job Corps centers do not necessarily prepare corps members for work available in their home communities in rural Alaska. An Alaskan based center could provide a more meaningful curriculum as well as provide the necessary support facilities, such as family housing, which would allow the center to serve those truly in need.

ANCET members look forward to the opportunity to join with DCRA in the development and operation of a Job Corps Center in Alaska. Please let us know when it is appropriate to get together on this project.

Sincerely,



Richard A. Rolland
Chairman

APPROVED
Date: 11-15-88

Submitted by: Assemblyman Evans
Prepared by: Assembly Budget Analyst
For reading: November 15, 1988

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA
AR NO. 88-308

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A JOB CORPS CENTER
IN ALASKA

WHEREAS ,the Job Corps program was established in 1964 to provide intensive educational and vocational training to economically disadvantaged youth; and

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska has participated in the program by sending eligible youth to Job Corps Centers in the lower 48, primarily the State of Washington; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Labor has announced that they have funding to open approximately six new Job Corps Centers throughout the country; and

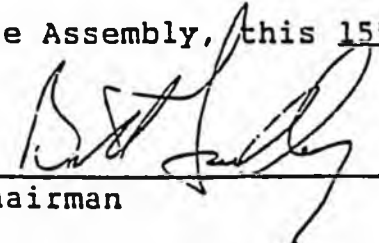
WHEREAS, the State of Alaska is one of twelve States that does not have a Center in it's State; and

WHEREAS, it is believed that if such a Center were located in Alaska that many of our eligible youth would be successful trainees gaining skills which would lead to productive livelihoods;

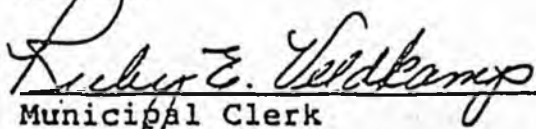
NOW, THEREFORE, the Anchorage Assembly resolves:

That we strongly support the establishment of a Job Corps Center in the State of Alaska and encourage Governor Cowper to aggressively pursue discussions with United States Department of Labor officials toward that end.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Assembly, this 15th day of November, 1988.


Chairman

ATTEST:


Municipal Clerk



ALASKA STATE JOB TRAINING COORDINATING COUNCIL

STEVE COWPER, GOVERNOR

REPLY TO: State of Alaska
Department of Community
and Regional Affairs
Rural Development Division
949 East 36th Avenue
Suite 400
Anchorage, Alaska 99508
Phone: (907) 563-1955

Resolution Number 88-2

- Whereas: Job Corps is a program in which residential and non-residential centers are authorized under the Job Training Partnership Act, with funds appropriated through the Department of Labor. The centers provide educational and vocational training to economically disadvantaged youth; and
- Whereas: Alaska has participated in Job Corps by sending its students to centers in the lower forty-eight states, approximately 2 students being sent each year through services of an out-of-state contractor; and
- Whereas: Attendance in out-of-state facilities reduces opportunities for specific employment training being geared to local economies, while also reducing opportunities for local control of curriculum and appropriate support services; and
- Whereas: The economic benefits accrued from operation of an in-state site are currently lost to other locales; and
- Whereas: Nationally, Congress has appropriated sufficient funds to construct and operate six additional Job Corps Centers with preference given to those states which do not have facilities; and
- Whereas: Sufficient time and resources are made available by the U. S. Department of Labor to perform adequate needs assessment and secure a precise site location; and
- Whereas: The State Job Training Coordinating Council is of the opinion that the matter needs immediate attention of the Governor and order for Alaska to be considered for a site;

Now Therefore Be It Resolved That: On November 3, 1988, the Alaska State Job Training Coordinating Council moved by unanimous consent to recommend that the Governor and Congressional delegation be encouraged to approach the Secretary of Labor to secure consideration of Alaska as a prospective Job Corps site.

Signed this 9th day of November, 1988.

Sarah Scanlan Chair
Sarah Scanlan

Walter J. Hickel

Box 101700
Anchorage, Alaska 99510-1700
907-270-7400

December 19, 1988

BY FAX 202-224-1044

Honorable Ted Stevens
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Ted:

Structural unemployment has been a long-term problem in Alaska because of the seasonal nature of our basic economy; there are people who would like to stay but lack skills to find year round employment. The current lull in energy development, Alaska's largest industry, also has produced an unemployment problem. For these reasons, I support your effort to bring a Job Corps Center to Alaska.

Two companies I am involved with (Hickel Investment Company and Yukon Pacific Corporation) could shortly rank in the list of the state's largest employers. Our objective is to hire Alaskans. Having a job corp facility here will help us obtain that objective.

Sincerely,


Walter J. Hickel

bc: Mr. Jim Gurke ✓

U.S. Department of Labor

Employment and Training Administration
200 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20210



JAN 13 1989

James Gurke
949 E. 36th Avenue, Suite #400
Anchorage, Alaska 99508

Dear Mr. Gurke:

We appreciated receiving your proposal to establish a new Job Corps center in Alaska. We are currently reviewing and assessing all responses received to our November 4, 1988, announcement in the Federal Register. A review panel has been established for this purpose. In order to make a substantive assessment of your response we need further information from you addressing the items listed below (which were also included in the Federal Register Notice). A response addressing these points (or those relevant to your proposal) will permit us to give further consideration to your request for obtaining a new Job Corps center.

While the Office of Job Corps fully recognizes that a new Job Corps center would benefit the local/State economy and would provide increased access for residents to a Job Corps center, the criteria cited in the Federal Register demonstrate an intent to reduce the cost to acquire and operate new centers and yet maximize services to corpsmembers through local/State linkages. Therefore, proposals should be specific regarding linkages with specific commitments for services and cost savings. Also, proposals must provide full information regarding the cost and conditions of a suitable site.

To assist you in determining appropriate linkages, it is important to keep in mind that Job Corps is primarily a residential program with an integrated delivery system of educational, vocational and social skills training. There are Job Corps academic and vocational competency-based training materials and an open entry, open exit format which allows corpsmembers to progress, enter or leave the program at their own speed, unlike traditional public education. A copy of Job Corps in Brief is included with this letter for your information.

RECEIVED
Dept. of Community &
Regional Affairs
JAN 17 1989
Rural Development Div.
Job Training
Partnership Office

In order for your proposal to have fair consideration I am asking you to respond to the following points:

1. How do you propose to link the center with other Federal, State, and local employment, training, and education programs? Please note linkages that would be cost saving to Job Corps. For example, The Department of Education and the Alaskan Native Coalition on Employment and Training both support a new center. What resources (financial, in-kind, staff, etc.) can these organizations provide that would be cost effective in the operation of the center and enhance services provided to enrollees? For example, will AFDC childcare benefits be available to corpsmembers with children? You note reliance on local providers for childcare. What JTPA Title II services will be provided to corpsmembers? At what cost to the Job Corps center?
2. How would your proposed center enhance Job Corps services for persons with disabilities? If the proposal includes services Job Corps would purchase within your community be specific in regard to cost.
3. In your proposal you note that the State views a Job Corps center as a complementary facility (to your public schools). You intend to see Job Corps succeed as a viable alternative school. Would State or Federal education funds be available to supplement the Job Corps funding? Also, since Job Corps has specific education and vocational curricula. Address how the school would accommodate Job Corps' open entry, open exit, self paced, competency-based curriculum. If training is to be obtained locally from a community school or college, the costs, or absence of costs, must be noted.
4. How many corpsmembers do you propose to serve at the center? The planned size of the new centers should generally be between 200 and 300. What percent of the corpsmembers would be residential? Non-residential? If you plan to include some non-residential corpsmembers, is the proposed center site accessible by the local transportation system? If no childcare facility is planned at the center, are adequate resources available within reasonable proximity to the center and/or the local transportation system?

5. You state that the proposal is designed with the intent of facilitating females (particularly unwed mothers) and handicapped persons to take full advantage of Job Corps. What strategies will be used to recruit and retain these populations in Job Corps? Will the program address the special needs of Native Alaskan youth (i.e., high suicide rates, alcohol and drug abuse, teen pregnancy, limited English, etc.) in an integrated, and cost effective manner?
6. You included one site in your proposal and have notified us that there may be alternative sites. Please provide the following site related information for whichever sites you wish us to consider:

Site: Describe the size and location of the proposed site. Describe the present utility services: capacity, condition, if natural gas, is the service uninterrupted? What kind of sewer system exists (municipal, septic, own plant)? What kind of water system is present (municipal, well, reservoir)? Please send a map of the area, a land use or zoning map, and photographs taken from several views.

Acquisition: Is the site available for purchase or lease? At what cost? Who owns the property?

Existing Buildings: (for 200 to 300 persons) Do you have building space or land available for:

	space	land only
education classes	-----	-----
vocational training	-----	-----
recreation facilities	-----	-----
residential housing	-----	-----
childcare (if proposed)	-----	-----

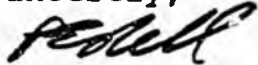
Describe the following conditions for each of the above: age (is it on the Historic Register?), gross square footage, if available; current use of the building, construction materials, heating and air conditioning equipment, floor plan, accessibility for handicapped persons, and include an asbestos survey if available. Include photographs from interior and exterior views.

Rehabilitation needed: Describe conditions and include, if available, rough estimates of costs.

Please send any other information you have available which is related to the proposed site(s).

I assure you that the additional information you submit will be reviewed in a thorough and timely manner. Please include the name and telephone number of a contact person since more information may be necessary. You may address questions to Mary H. Silva on 202-535-0568. I thank you for your interest and ask that a response be returned by February 7, 1989, so that the panel can continue to evaluate your proposal for a Job Corps in Alaska.

Sincerely,



PETER E. RELL
Director,
Office of Job Corps

Attachments

- Site specifications
- Job Corps in Brief

February 17 per Mary Silva in conference call w/ Sen. Stouens office, 1/17
JD

Suggested Net Square Footage Requirements for a Hypothetical Job Corps Center of 250 Enrollees (225 Resident and 25 Non-Resident).

<u>Functional Area</u>	<u>Required NSF</u>
Housing (225 Residents x 117 NSF)	26,325
Food Service (250 Enrollees x 19)	4,750
Education (250 Enrollees x 80)	20,000
Recreation (250 Enrollees x 83)	20,750
Medical/Dental (250 Enrollees x 9)	2,250
Administration (250 Enrollees x 20)	5,000
Storage/Support (250 Enrollees x 40)	10,000
<hr/>	
TOTAL NSF SUGGESTED FOR HYPOTHETICAL CENTER	89,075 NSF

STEVE COWPER, GOVERNOR

DEPT. OF COMMUNITY & REGIONAL AFFAIRS

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

P.O. BOX 8
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811
PHONE: (907) 465-4700

949 EAST 36TH AVENUE, SUITE 400
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99508
PHONE: (907) 563-1073

February 17, 1989

Peter E. Rell, Director
Office of Job Corps
Employment and Training Administration
200 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington D.C. 20210

Subject: Job Corps Proposal Addendum

Dear Mr. Rell:

The Alaska Department of Community and Regional Affairs is the Governor's designated agency for administration of the Job Training Partnership Act. As such, it has acted as the lead agency in coordinating the State's Job Corps proposal.

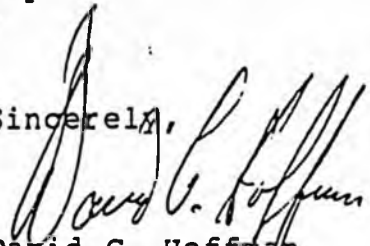
Since the submittal of the State's original proposal, numerous coordination efforts have been undertaken. The comments contained in your January 13, 1989 letter have prompted many additional collaborations; many still ongoing due to short time frames. In some cases the direct input of the Office of Job Corps would greatly enhance our information base and perspective on the type of commitments that are possible based upon your experience in operating Job Corps. This is particularly true regarding services to special need students. We trust this opportunity may occur based upon the information contained in the enclosures.

We are pleased to be able to announce that several significant commitments to financial assistance are included in our proposal. Among other things, they include a request by the Governor for a capital appropriation totaling \$1 million for facility improvements; the potential for matching operating funds using State Foundation Formula funds where students are coenrolled in a local school district program; and cash match from the JTPA community.

Peter E. Rell
Page Two
February 17, 1989

The Alaska Department of Community and Regional Affairs is pleased to support whatever effort is necessary to coordinate our proposal participants with the Office of Job Corps. If you have questions or concerns specific to the enclosures, please contact James Gurke at (907)563-1955. On behalf of Governor Cowper, I thank you for the opportunity to elaborate upon our proposal for an Alaskan Job Corps site.

Sincerely,



David G. Hoffman
Commissioner

enclosures

cc: Alaska Congressional Delegation
Mike Irwin, Office of the Governor
Kay Gowins, Governor's Office, State/Federal Relations
Commissioner Demmert, Dept. of Education
Commissioner Sampson, Dept. of Labor

STATE OF ALASKA
JOB CORPS PROPOSAL ADDENDUM
February 17, 1989

1. "Linkages with other Federal, State, and local employment, training and education programs."

Coordination with State Funds

Since receiving the USDOL critique of our Job Corps proposal the State has been working on ways to coordinate resources to help defray Federal start up and operating costs. Two significant steps have been taken to accomplish that.

1. A "decision memo" was submitted to Governor Cowper the week of February 6, 1989 which outlined the status of two proposed sites recommended for Job Corps. In either case it is assumed that some facility improvements or additions would be necessary. The Governor approved a recommended option of seeking capital funds through legislative appropriation. A sum of \$1 million will be requested within legislation to be introduced in the House of Representatives the week of February 20. The appropriation would match Federal funds on a one to one basis up to \$1 million. Should the particular legislation not pass before the session ends, the Governor would then write the appropriation into his FY 1991 budget which is introduced in December of 1989.

2. Local education costs in areas outside urban centers is predominately borne by the State. Lacking any significant tax base, a school foundation formula is used with enrollments as a factor in the equation. The Alaska Department of Education administers the program. Based upon their research, it is proposed that any Job Corps site selected in Alaska could involve a cooperative agreement between the local education agency and the Alaska Department of Education to co-enroll students who are not high school graduates. Although G.E.D. would still be available, co-enrollment would provide a high school diploma and the benefit of operating expense for Job Corps. Further detail about this option is offered in the attached letter from Commissioner Demmert, Alaska Department of Education, Attachment #1. Using an example of 100 students being co-enrolled, approximately \$800,000 would be available to the local school district for academic and vocational education of Job Corps trainees. In the case of the Mat-Su School District, where both of the currently proposed sites

are located, the board of education is already on record as willing to participate in such an arrangement.

JTPA Title IIA Linkage

The Alaska Department of Community and Regional Affairs (DCRA) is the Governor's designated agency for administration of the Job Training Partnership Act programs. DCRA also is the administrative agency for the Statewide Private Industry Council. Two other Private Industry Councils also exist in the State: the Municipality of Anchorage runs the program for the Anchorage and Matanuska-Susitna Boroughs; and the Fairbanks Private Industry Council, operating in the Fairbanks Borough. Additionally, Alaska has twelve Native American grantees, organized under an umbrella coordinating committee, the Alaska Native Coalition on Employment and Training.

All three of the SDA's and the Alaska Native Coalition are on record as supporting the location of a Job Corps site in Alaska. Both the SDA directors and the Alaska Native Coalition have been consulted about potential linkages with Job Corps. All are prepared to undertake recruitment and assessment responsibilities on an in-kind basis. The state office has inspected promotional materials developed by the "Oregon Consortium of Private Industry Councils" and would be willing to purchase them or similar advertising materials as an in-kind match for statewide distribution. In cases of special need students like teen parents, coenrollment in both Title IIA and Job Corps is proposed to provide additional support services, such as day care costs, to allow for successful training.

The SDA directors have also agreed, in principal, to a proposal to staff a vocational counselor at the Job Corps site. Being a question of policy, the SDA directors would prefer to engage a dialog between USDOL and their respective PIC's before a final decision is made. The plan, as discussed, is to use Title IIA training funds on a prorated cost basis to support the position. Job development, job shadowing and placement counseling would constitute the primary responsibilities. Reenrollment in Title IIA would need to occur to maintain performance standards but it would also allow for additional training in OJT placements. Because of the business community's interest in Job Corps, a strong partnership through OJT is expected.

The Alaska Native Coalition did not meet until February 15, so commitments beyond recruitment had not been broached. A presentation was given by Karen Ryals, Director of Adult and Vocational Education, Alaska Department of Education. All of the Coalition members are in agreement with the proposal and a planning agenda was subsequently proposed to address special needs of rural students.

Education Coordination Funds

On January 12 and 13, 1989 the JTPA Education Coordinating Committee (referenced in the original proposal) met to plan expenditures for the next fiscal year. The Committee works on behalf of the State Job Training Coordinating Council to coordinate JTPA 8% projects and Carl D. Perkins projects. The Committee voted to fund two functions related to start up of an Alaskan Job Corps site:

1. \$25,000 of "Coordination" money was set aside from the PY88 allocation for assistance in funding a curriculum specialist. The person will examine the curricula that USDOL uses and develop adaptations for specific training needs in our labor market; for instance, mining technology. The person would also serve as a facilitator to establish collaborative education options with other training institutions. The position would likely be filled by an in-house staff of the Alaska Department of Education or University of Alaska.
2. \$60,000 of PY89 money was committed to the purchase of equipment to set up a California Comprehensive Competencies learning lab at the proposed Job Corps site. Ten computer terminals would be connected via dedicated telephone line to a mainframe located at the Anchorage Adult Learning Center, the primary remediation and basic education contractor for the Anchorage/Mat-Su PIC. This particular system has proven to be an extremely successful instructional method for youth and adult clients. It covers a full range of basic and pre-employment skills training with excellent student management capabilities. Maintenance would be on a time share basis free of any lease costs. If more than ten terminals were necessary, the mainframe could be expanded at minimal cost to Job Corps.

AFDC Benefits Under Job Corps

The Alaska Department of Health and Social Services has been consulted regarding policies for clients enrolled in training. At this point it remains somewhat unclear about what the State's prerogative is regarding stipends, room and board and the readjustment allowances. Provided it is not contrary to Federal policy, the State is committed to not interpret any of these factors as income which could jeopardize child care benefits.

2. "Job Corps Services for persons with disabilities."

Coordination with Alaska Vocational Rehabilitation

Attachment #2 is a letter from the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation indicating support for an Alaskan Job Corps site. Vocational Rehabilitation maintains an office in Wasilla which is staffed by two counselors. Training for disabled individuals is expected to occur primarily among that population who are marginally handicapped. Job Corps would present a preventative opportunity for those individuals who are not so handicapped as to have already been referred to Vocational Rehabilitation. It is expected that Job Corps and Vocational Rehabilitation would engage in a cooperative agreement for assessment and referral services. If Vocational Rehabilitation training services were needed by a Job Corps client, responsibility for cost would likely be negotiated on a case by case basis. Services for the disabled remains one of those areas where the State would prefer to negotiate with Office of Job Corps to examine current methods of successful collaboration.

3. "Proposed methods of accommodating Job Corps' open entry, open exit curriculum; and linkages with other institutions."

A new development in the State's submittal is the introduction of the Mat-Su School District in the proposed scope of services. After learning about Job Corps and the State's identification of the Goose Bay Correctional Center, the Mat-Su Borough and School District approached the State to explore the use of the vacant Colony High School. When proposed and built, the Borough was one of the fastest growing areas in the country. However, the Alaskan depression reversed the trend to the point where the School District cannot justify opening the school within the foreseeable future. A description of the facility is contained in the response to question #6.

A presentation before a joint meeting of the Assembly and School Board introduced the subject. Subsequently, the Superintendent, Bruce DeMond, and State staff began to explore the potential for the District to run a Job Corps site. Contacts included the Region X Office and the Grand Rapids, Michigan Job Corps Center, the only site operated by a school district. A motion was subsequently made to the Board to explore a joint usage proposal to include Job Corps and a vocational magnet school. The plan would include housing the current alternative school for at-risk students at the site. (The program was funded originally with seed money from JTPA and the Carl D. Perkins Act.) The essential points in their proposal are as follows:

1. That the Job Corps site be located in the Mat-Su Borough.
2. That the District would seek to negotiate with USDOL about operating the Job Corps program.
3. That the Colony High School be considered as a preferred site.
4. Owing to its capacity and design, the Colony School would also be set up to handle district students desiring special vocational training including cooperative education.
5. The district would provide advanced vocational education and possibly advanced academic offerings for students as determined by experience in operating the program.
6. The use of Colony High would be a multi agency approach and cooperative venture between the USDOL, the Alaska Department of Education, the local Borough and the School District.

Open entry, open exit curricula is already being used in the district's alternative school and would not appear to present a problem. Discussion with Region X Job Corps staff indicated that the proposal appeared to be viable and that the district would at least be given priority in negotiations before a competitive bid was offered for the center's management.

The University of Alaska Anchorage operates a college in the Mat-Su Borough, located very near the Colony School. One year Certificate programs in office occupations, electronics technology and refrigeration & heating technology are offered. All of these programs are in fields where local labor market information would support training. For a number of years Alaska has used the 8% JTPA money to share costs associated with post secondary training. A similar arrangement with Job Corps could also occur for students interested in these curricula.

4. "Proposed size and resident characteristics."

An Alaska Job Corps center is anticipated to have about 200 residential members enrolled at any particular time. An additional 25 to 50 non-residential members may be expected from the local School District population. There is no mass transit system in the Mat-Su Borough but the school site is road accessible.

An on-site child care facility was proposed in our original submittal. That plan has not changed. Given current statistics, it is anticipated that as many as 25 members of a 200 resident population would be teen parents. The most likely

method of suppling day care for mothers in training would be the establishment of a satellite center by one of the private firms doing business in the Mat-Su Borough. It is expected that outside of training, child care would be handled by the mothers, with residential conditions appropriate to their needs.

5. "Strategies for special needs students."

Recruitment and retention of Job Corps members is expected to be much stronger with an in-state site because of the identification with a local institution. Under current arrangements Job Corps is perceived as a somewhat foreign program that survives on the energy of a single staff person. For as long as Job Corps has existed, it is only recently that efforts have been made at outside sites to address the special needs of Alaskan Native youth. These type of issues do not go unnoticed and have contributed a kind of reticence to fully utilizing Job Corps.

It is expected that with an Alaskan site a much higher profile will be established to match the benefits of Job Corps to special needs youth. All of the SDA's and members of the Alaska Native Coalition are willing to contribute to recruitment, including assessment and pre-entry training if appropriate. The Alaska Department of Community and Regional Affairs Job Training Office is committed to buying promotional materials specific to Job Corps for statewide circulation.

Job Corps has received the endorsement of the Alaska State Board of Education and the Governor's Council on Vocational Education. Both agencies can be instrumental in helping to carry out recruitment in the local school districts. Alternative programs for at-risk youth tend to be scarce in rural districts yet the need is often the greatest. It is expected that Job Corps could become a second chance at school completion for many of the State's rural youth, particularly with the help of the Native Coalition and their networking with other social services.

In many ways Alaska has felt as though its management of the JTPA 8% program has been exemplary in its coordination and establishment of new programs. The Education Coordinating Committee has made a special effort at anticipating the needs of a new Job Corps center. It invites the USDOL to a continuing dialog in ways that would promote Job Corps, including membership into the Committee process by the future Corps director.

Regarding special strategies for retention of youth in Job Corps, the State is eager to learn about the experiences of other Job Corps sites in dealing with the issue.

Some sites have already been contacted for information and Region X staff has invited State and School District staff to visit sites that are similar in concept to that being proposed by the Mat-Su School District.

In order to address the issues of special need students the State is proposing the use of a small negotiating team. The team will be available to design service strategies based upon discussion with USDOL. That group is tentatively proposed as follows: the Dean of the College of Career and Vocational Education, Anchorage; the Director of the Office of Adult and Vocational Education, Department of Education; a facilities specialist from the Department of Education; a specialist in rural and Native education issues; and the coordinator of the Job Corps proposal from the Department of Community and Regional Affairs.

6. "Additional Job Corps sites and descriptions."

Colony High School, Palmer

The Colony High School in Palmer, Alaska is being proposed as a second government facility potentially available as a Job Corps site. The school is located a short distance from the Glenn Highway, approximately 50 miles from the Anchorage city center. The school is owned by the Matanuska/Susitna Borough and operated by the School Board. The facility would be available on a lease basis. A majority of the bonded indebtedness is carried by the State, with the balance owed by the Borough. Whether there would be any cost to the Federal government for a lease arrangement would be subject to negotiation with the Mat-Su School Board and Assembly. The use of the facility would be subject to the School District being a partner in the operation of the Job Corps.

The building is 180,000 square feet in area, and was designed to accommodate over 1000 students. It sits on 40 acres of land dedicated to school use, with an additional 40 acres available for construction of dorms or other use. The building is two story block construction with brick facade. It was completed in the summer of 1988 and is handicapped accessible. It has its own on-site septic and water systems. The water system is drawn from two wells into a 60,000 gallon tank. It includes fire pumps and hydrants.

Electricity is provided by the Matanuska Electric Association. Enstar provides gas for the two gas fired boilers. There is no zoning in the Borough.

The building space is divided into approximately the following areas

education classes @ 80,000 square feet
vocational training @ 40,000 square feet
recreation facilities @ 60,000 square feet indoors,
including theatre, gym, wrestling room, weight training.

The facility would need to have dorms constructed adjacent to the building. Ample room is available to the south of the building near the vocational areas of the school. A floor plan and photographs of the facility are contained in the next few pages.

Privately Held Properties

After consulting with Mary Silva, Office of Job Corps, about interest shown by several private property owners, it was agreed that a representative sample be included in the State's proposal. Attachment 3 is a letter describing the Valley Fair Mall in Palmer, including a floor plan and photo. Inclusion of the material is only meant to demonstrate that many privately held properties are available, particularly due to Alaska's recent recession. This was an unsolicited proposal and is not intended to represent any endorsement by the State. It is the State's understanding that if private property were to be examined, it would be on an open, competitive basis.

Public Notification

Because of the very short time lines since the Federal Register Notice on November 5, 1988, public input into the Job Corps proposal has been limited. The State will be publishing a solicitation for public comment about its proposal and addendum in the near future. A teleconference and opportunity for submitting written testimony will occur. The proposed timeline should allow collection and analysis of information prior to the end of March. Information obtained through this method should assist the State in developing its strategies for services and knowledge about the choice of sites.

MAP, PHOTOGRAPHS AND FLOOR PLAN

COLONY HIGH SCHOOL

PALMER, ALASKA

α 20 miles
per 1/2 inch

McKinley

To Fairbanks

To
Canada

Talkeetna Mountains

Parks Highway

Glenn Highway

Houston

Colony High School

Goose Bay

Wasilla

Palmer

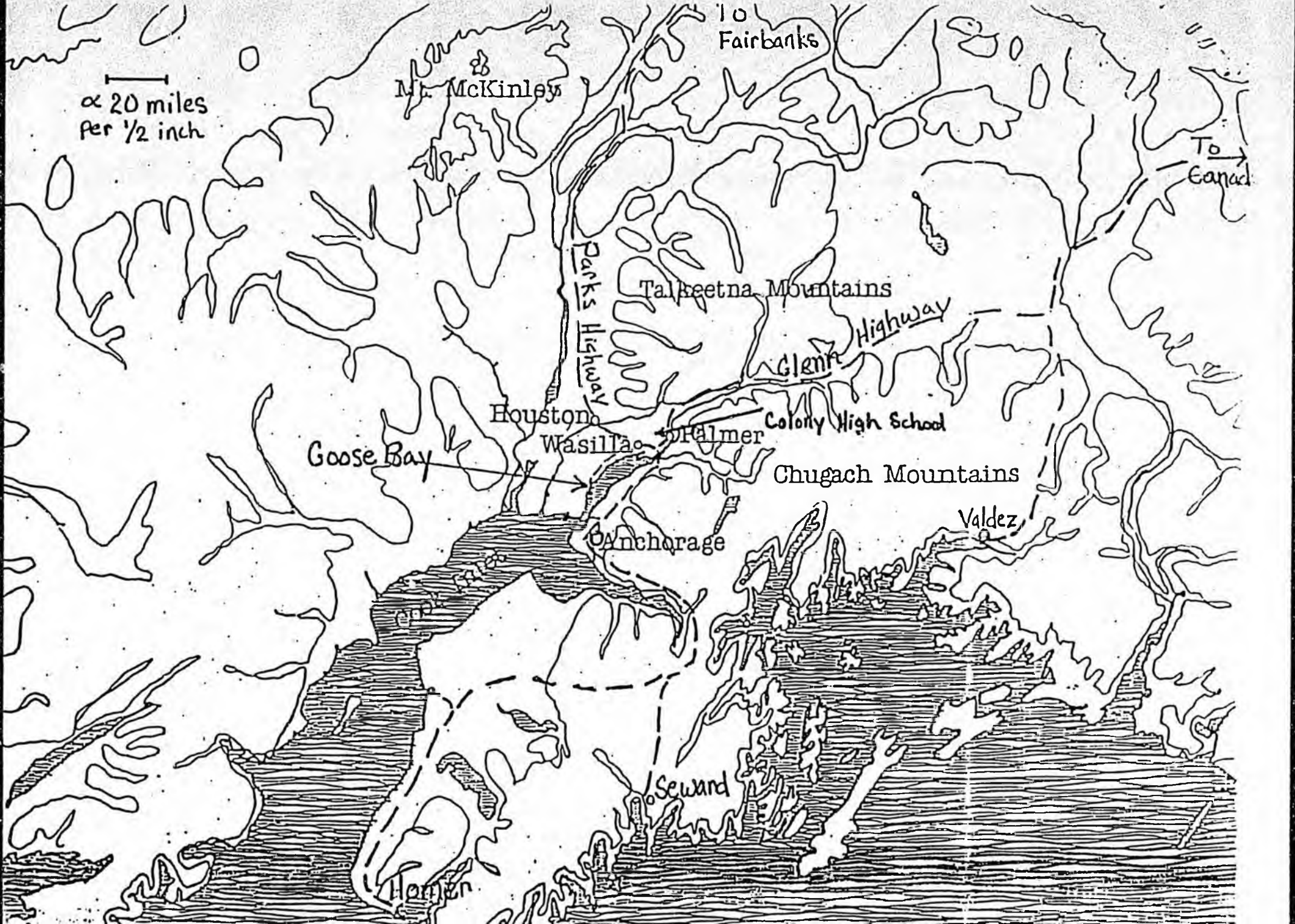
Chugach Mountains

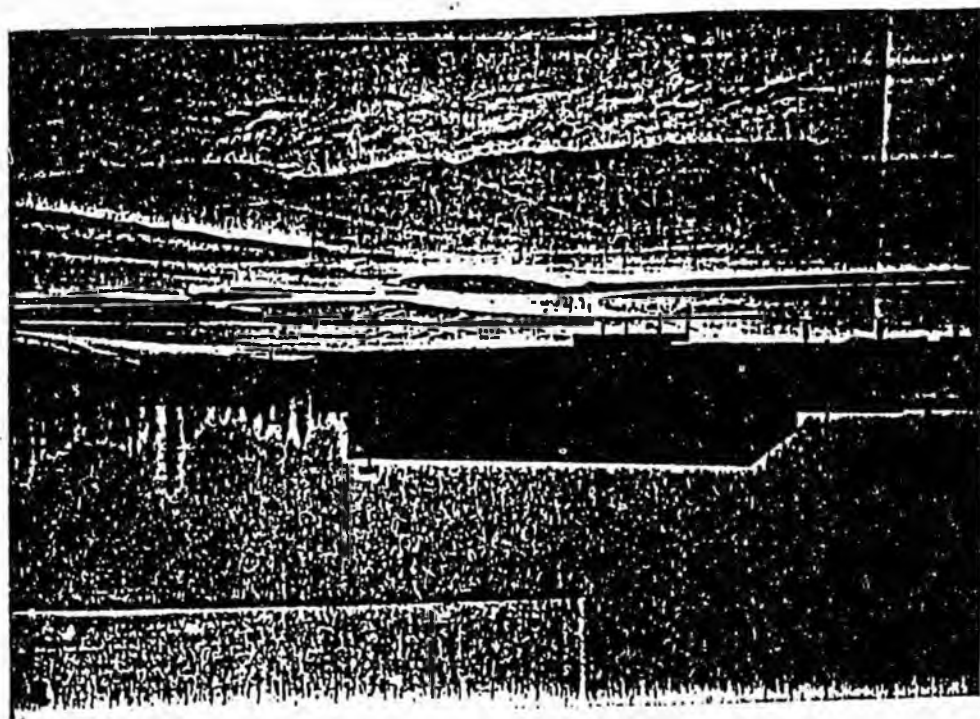
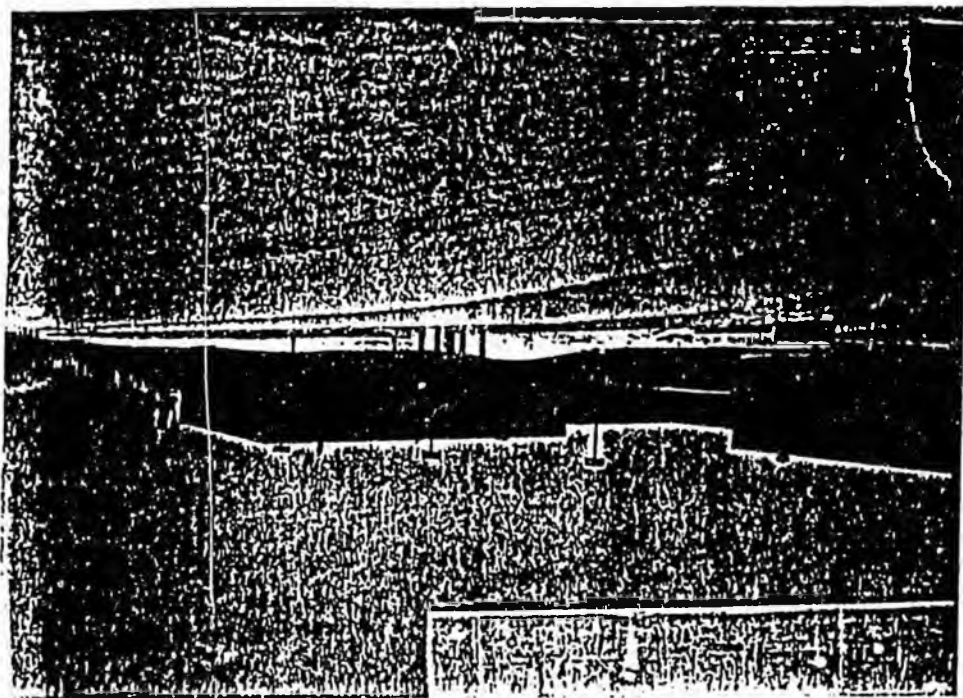
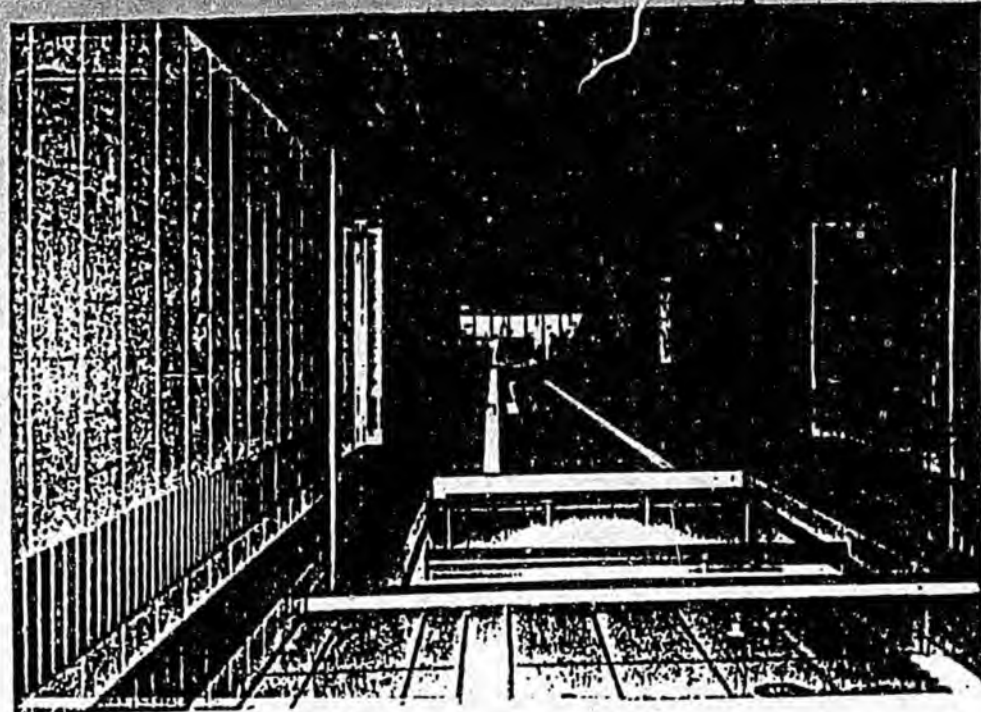
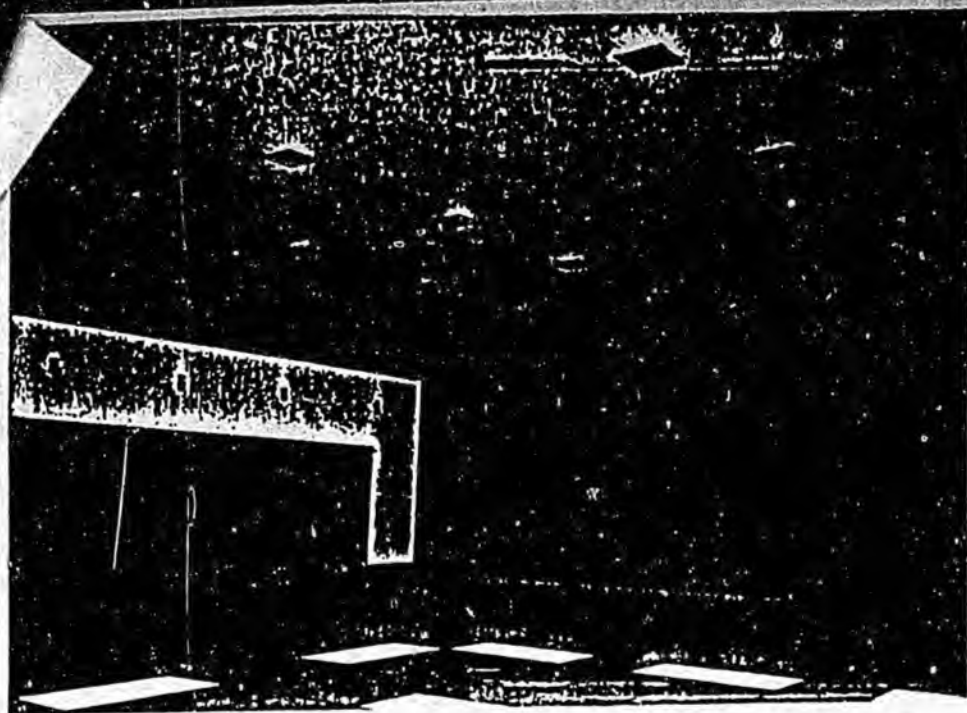
Anchorage

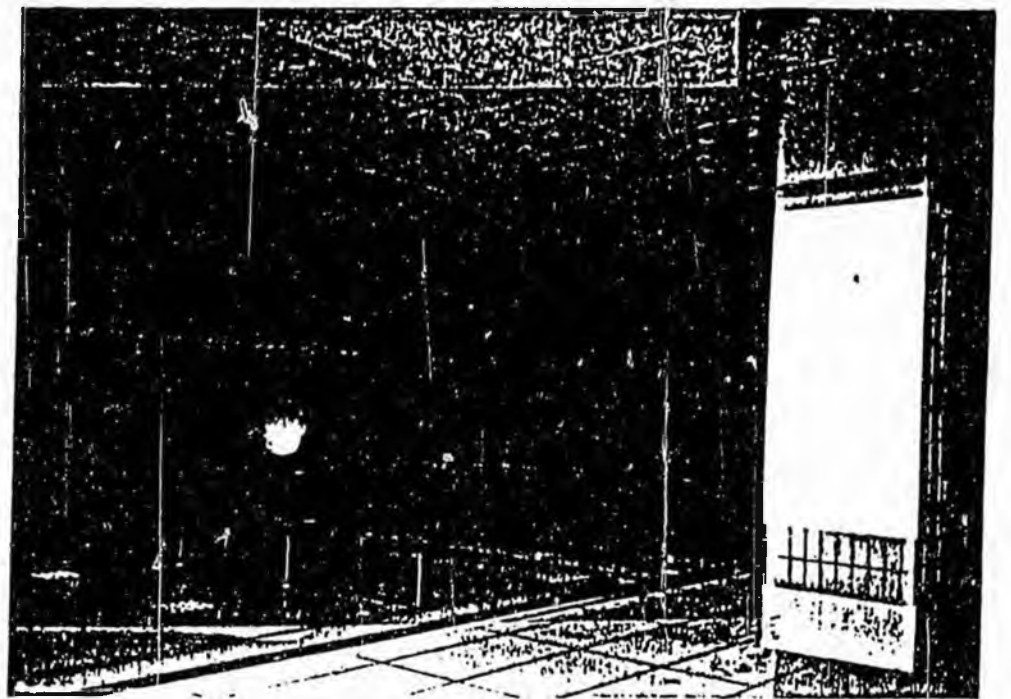
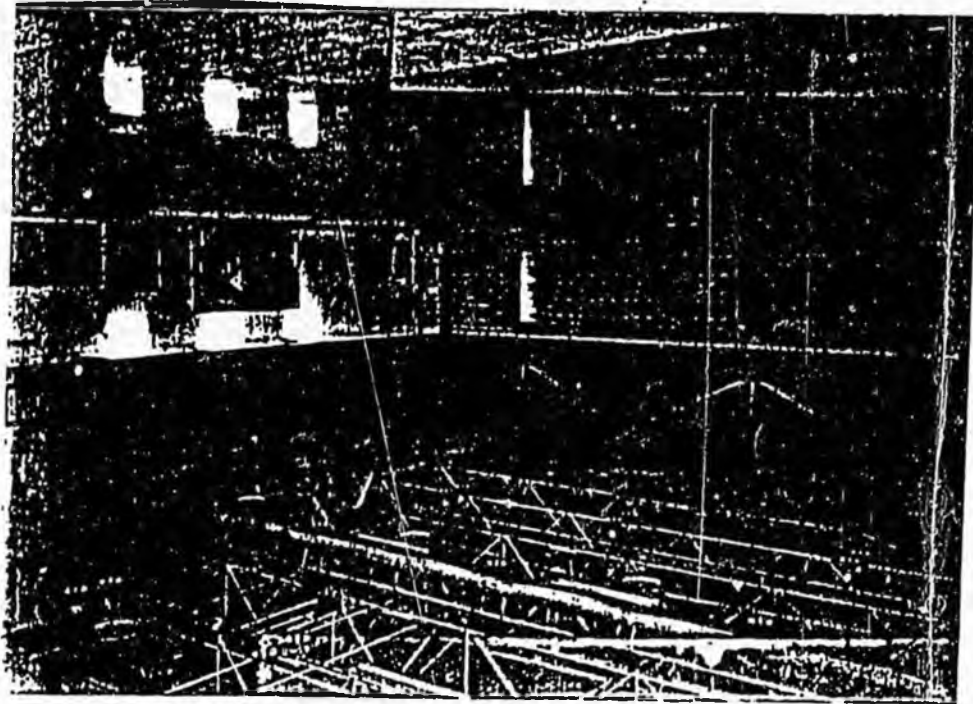
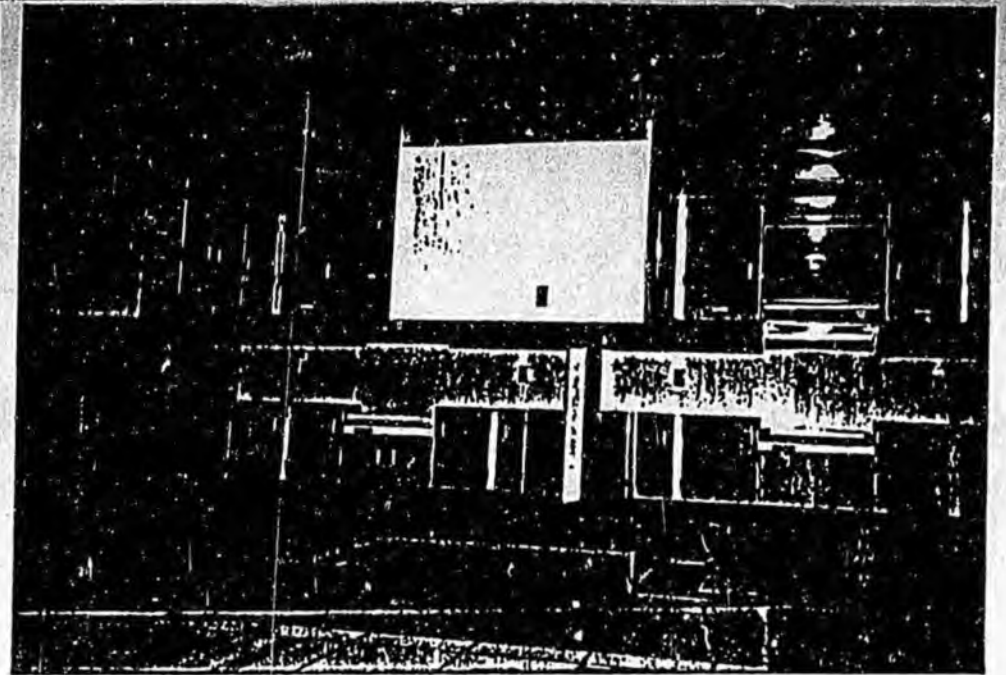
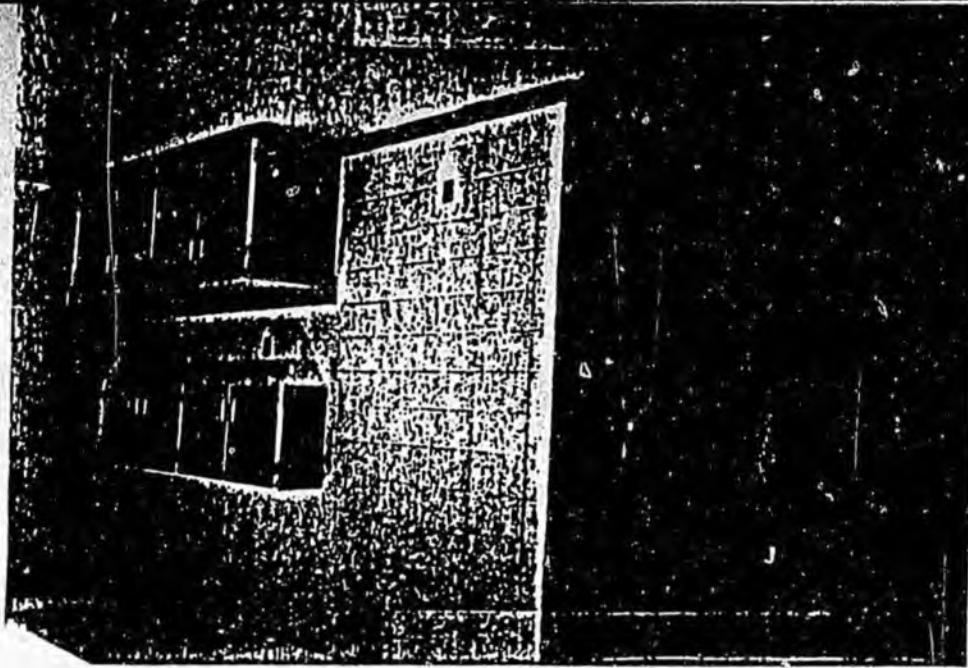
Valdez

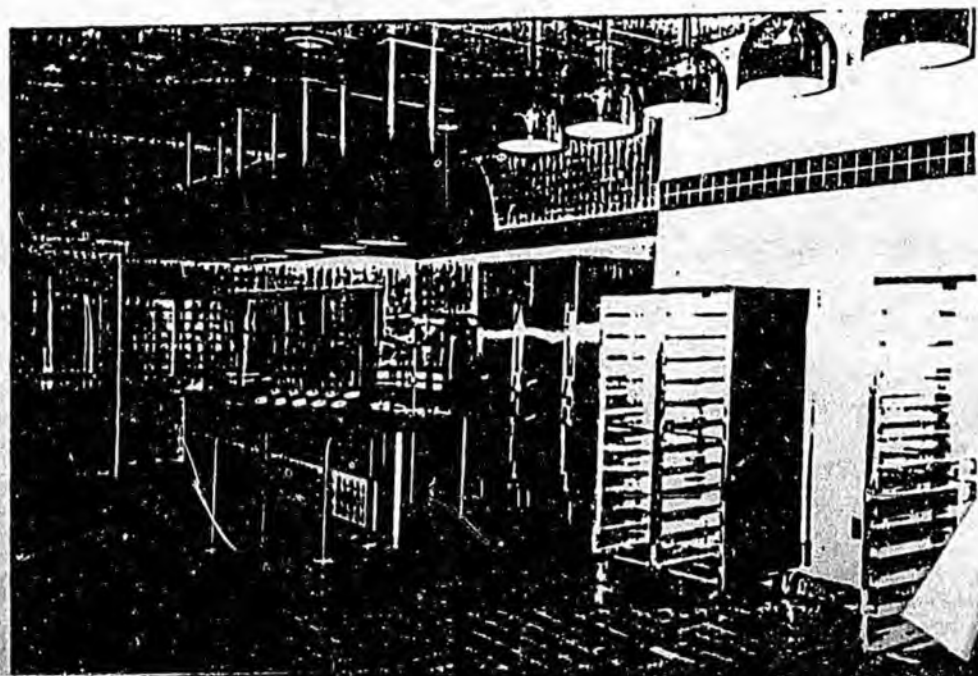
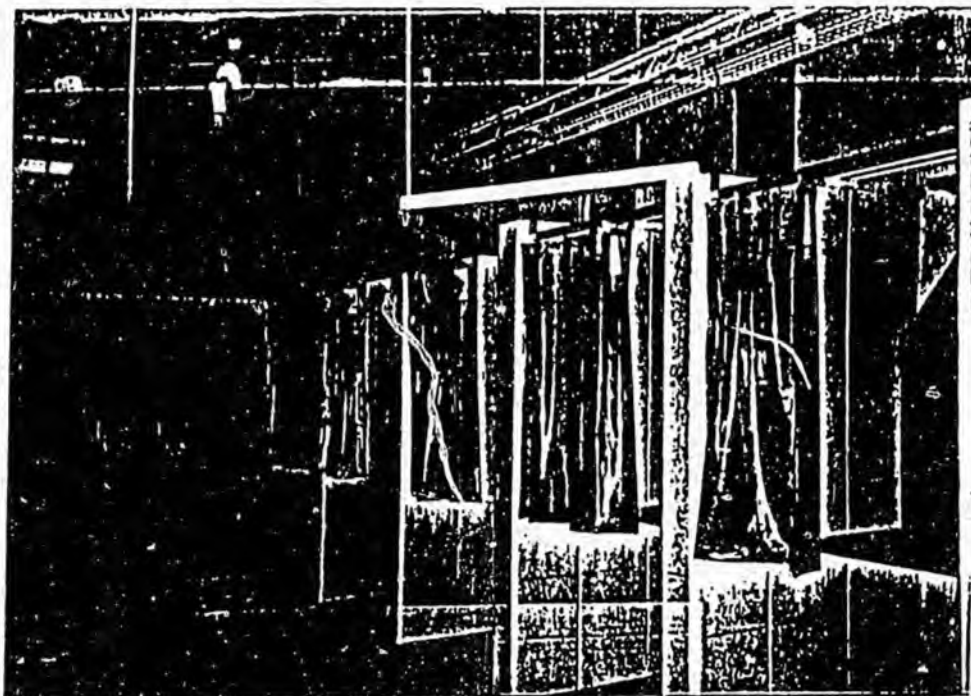
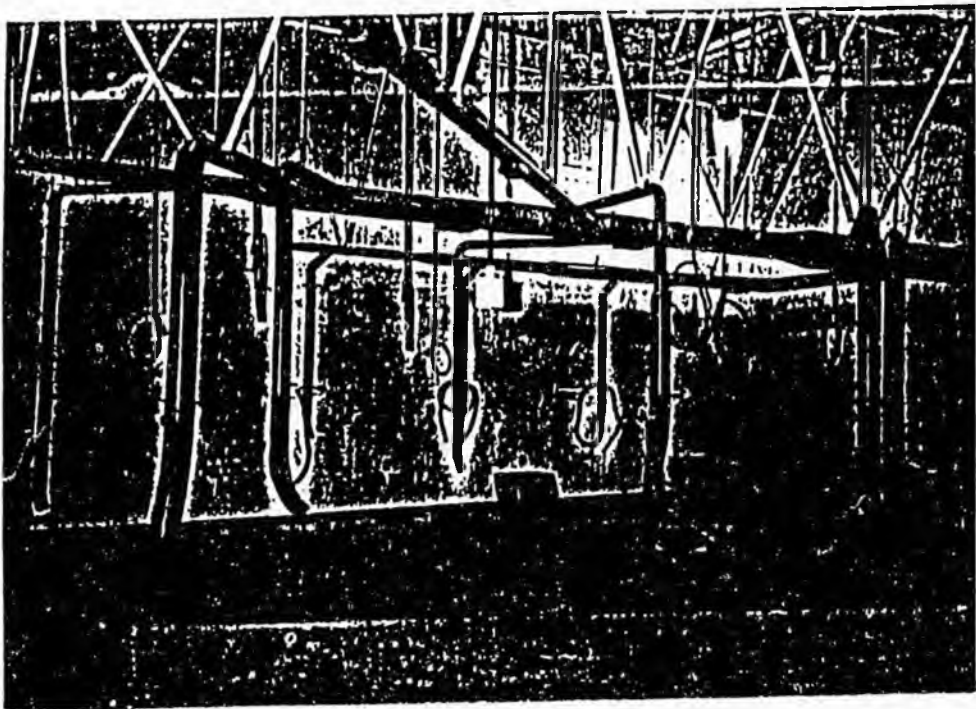
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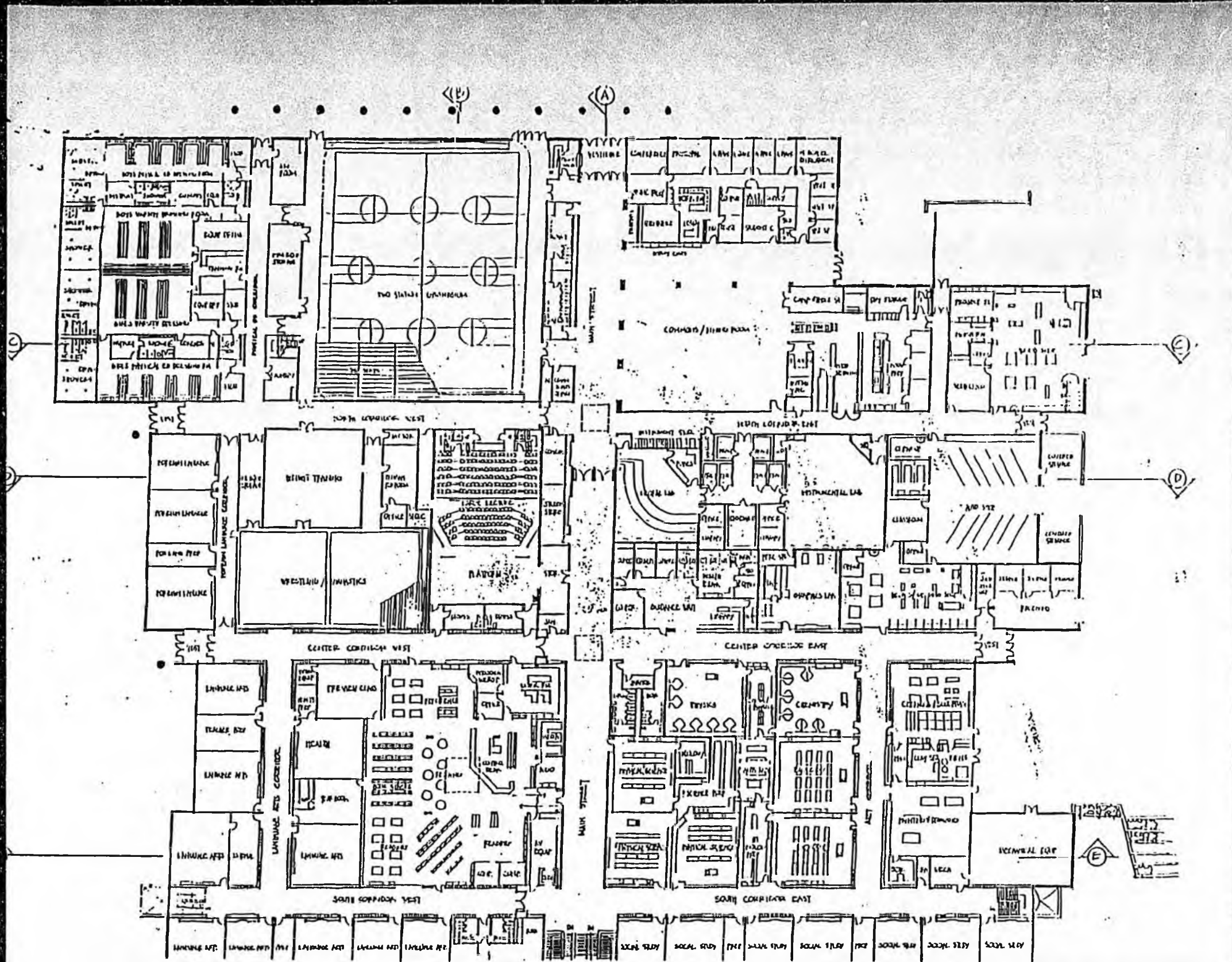
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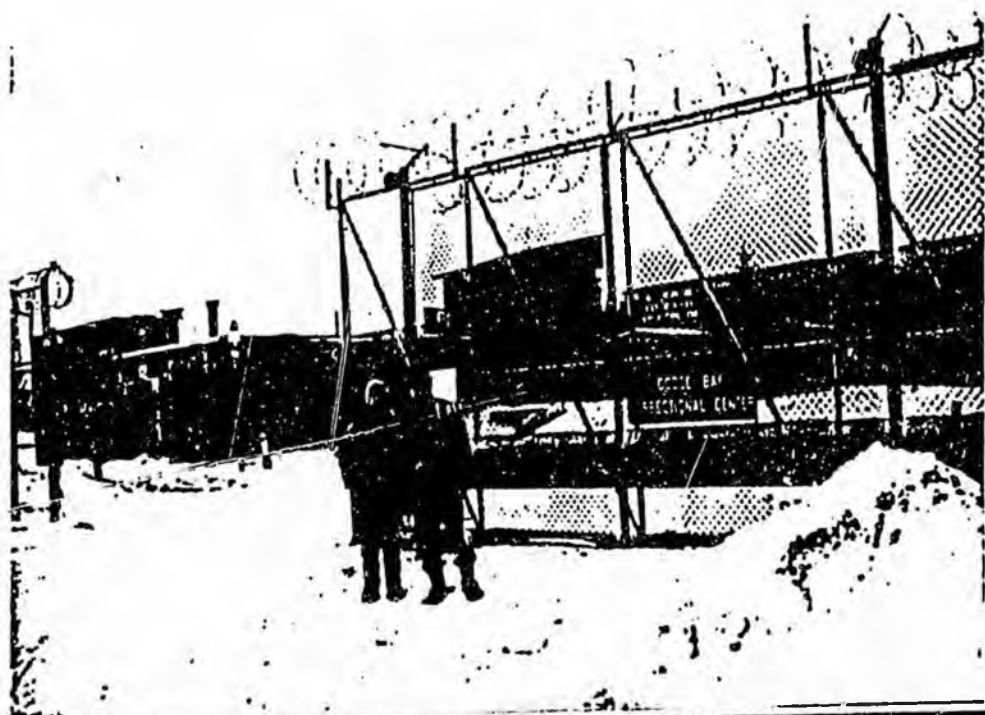
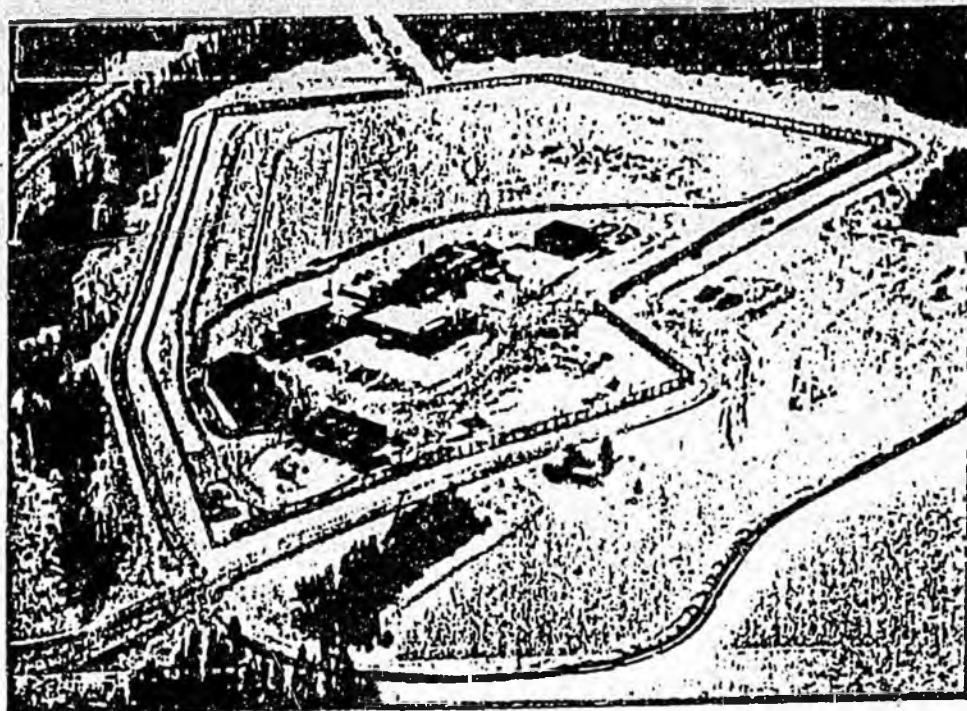
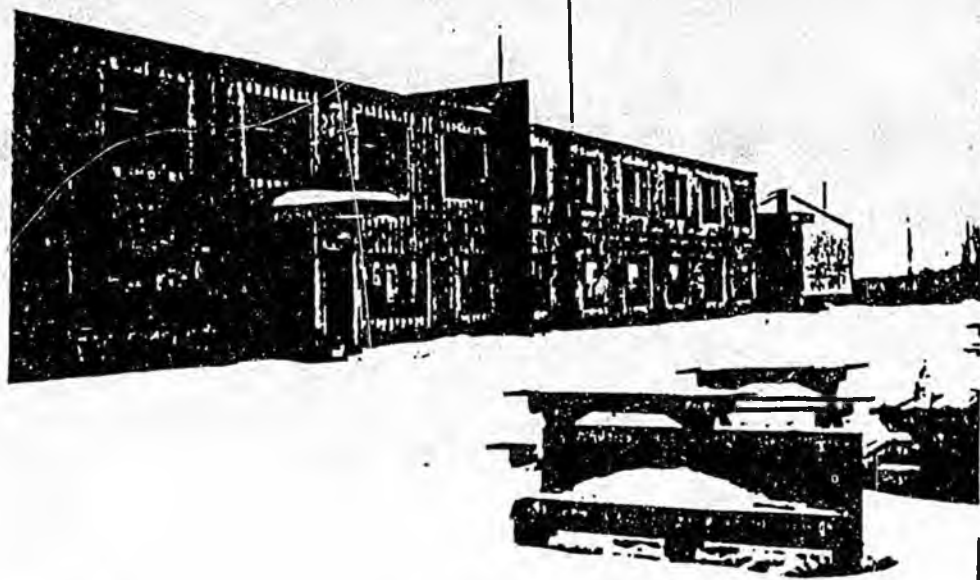


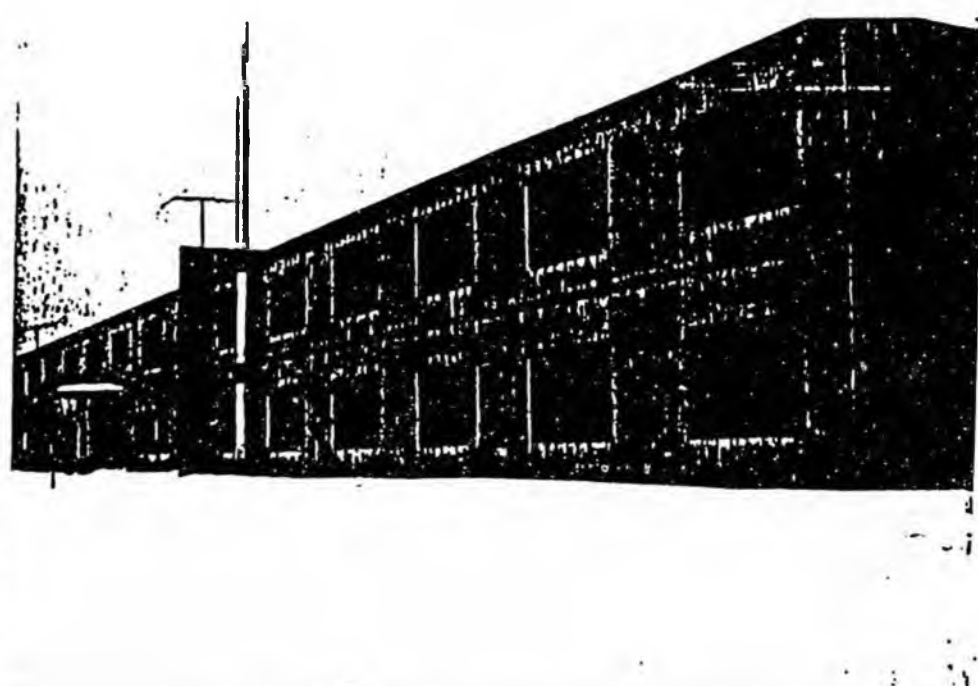






PHOTOGRAPHS
GOOSE BAY CORRECTIONAL CENTER
WASILLA, ALASKA





STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

STEVE COWPER, GOVERNOR

GOLDBELT PLACE
801 WEST 10TH STREET
P.O. BOX F
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811-0500

February 13, 1989

Mr. Peter E. Rell, Director
Office of Job Corps
Employment and Training Administration
200 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington D.C. 20210

Dear Mr. Rell:

We have prepared this in response to your questions concerning Alaska's application for a Job Corps site. Specifically, you have inquired as to whether State or Federal education funds will be available to supplement the Job Corps funding and how the State would accommodate Job Corps' open entry, open exit, self paced, competency-based curriculum. The Alaska Department of Education views the Job Corps program as an opportunity to serve at-risk youth through an alternative school program.

"School age youth," under Alaska State Law, includes youth between the ages of seven and twenty that have not completed the 12th grade. Therefore, youth who are between the ages of 16-20, and who have not graduated from high school may participate in high school instructional programs. The State program of financial support for the public schools could support students enrolled in a high school diploma program. Matanuska-Susitna Borough School district is the local education agency for the region of the proposed Job Corps Center. If the Job Corps Center is identified as a funding community, a full-time equivalent enrollment of 100 students would generate approximately \$800,000. This estimate is conditional upon the number of students, the instructional services provided and coordination with a public education agency.

Every effort will be made to allow the Job Corps site to apply for supplemental funds received by the Alaska Department of Education under the Carl Perkins Vocational Education Act and other appropriate federal acts. The Alaska Division of Vocational Rehabilitation will coordinate its services with the Job Corps Center for those individuals who meet the vocational rehabilitation eligibility criteria.

The State of Alaska currently supports individualized instruction on a open entry, open exit, self paced, competency-based curriculum format in several sites including the Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District. The Alaska Department of Education also operates Centralized Correspondence Study. Students may enroll during the school calendar year and/or summer school. Another alternative allows local service agencies to purchase the packaged coursework from the State Centralized Correspondence Study Program. This may provide an additional option for Job Corps students.

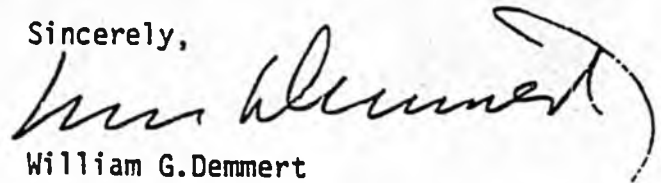
Mr. Peter E. Rell

Page two

February 13, 1989

The Alaska Department of Education will support the Job Corps program as much as possible through state and federal resource allocation. We are hopeful that Alaska is selected as one of the states to receive a new center. If you have any question or concerns, please contact me at your convenience at the above address or call (907) 465-4685.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "William G. Demmert". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the word "Sincerely,".

William G. Demmert
Commissioner

ATTACHMENT #2

STATE OF ALASKA

STEVE COWPER, GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

DIVISION OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

CENTRAL OFFICE
P.O. BOX F
GOLDBELT PLACE
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811-0581
PHONE: (907) 465-2814

February 6, 1989

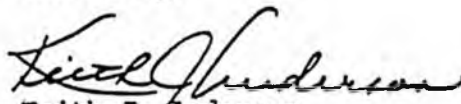
Mr. Peter E. Rell, Director
Office of Job Corps
Employment and Training Administration
200 Constitution Avenue, Northwest
Washington, D.C. ,20210

Dear Mr. Rell:

The Alaska Division of Vocational Rehabilitation is hereby offering support to the proposal that a Job Corps Center be established in the State of Alaska. If this facility is established, the Division is assuring that it will coordinate its services with the Job Corps Center for those individuals who meet the vocational rehabilitation eligibility criteria.

We are hopeful that Alaska is selected as one of the states to receive a new Center. If you have any questions or concerns, please call or write.

Sincerely,



Keith J. Anderson.
Director

Carr-Gottstein Properties
6401 A Street
Anchorage, Alaska 99518
(907) 564-2424

February 15, 1989

Jim Gurke
Department of Community & Regional Affairs
949 E. 36th Ave., Suite 400
Anchorage, AK 99508-4302

Dear Mr. Gurke:

Valley Fair Mall is located inside the city of Palmer at mile 48 of the Glenn Hwy., 48 miles from Anchorage. It is a 42,000 square foot building on a five acre parcel of land zoned "general commercial" with an adjoining 5 acres available. Educational and residential uses are consistent with the surrounding area.

It is a wood frame building with a wood exterior. Formerly an enclosed shopping mall, the building is now essentially vacant. The building is divided into two major sections: a 15,000 square foot former grocery store with dock high loading facilities, and a 27,000 square foot area divided up into what were retail stores, both with sprinkler systems. In addition there is a large area paved and lighted for parking. The building is handicapped accessible. The building, as is, provides about 80% of the optimal space required, based on 175 residents and 25 non-residents. There is ample room to expand the building to meet all needs.

Electricity is provided by Matanuska Electric Association, natural gas by Enstar, and water by the City of Palmer. The building has its own septic system for waste disposal. Heating and air handling is a forced air type with full modulating outside ventilation. The oil fired duct heaters were converted to gas in 1985. Electrical is a 1600 amp, three phase system.

Generally, the building is in good condition. It was constructed in 1974 and used as a shopping center until 1984. A complete inspection of the property would be necessary to determine what repairs are needed. Undoubtedly, some are. However, they would be relatively minor. The building contains no asbestos.

**CARR
GOTTSTEIN INC.**

Jim Gurke
February 15, 1989

page 2

The site may be purchased for \$1,700,000 or leased for \$.35 per square foot, plus operating expenses. Contact myself at 564-2424 or Jerry Dunbar at 376-6300 for further discussion.

Sincerely,



Robert Gottstein
Director of Retail Development

RG/dju



MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION SERIAL NO. 89-002

"A RESOLUTION OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH ASSEMBLY REQUESTING THAT THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR LOCATE A JOB CORPS CENTER WITHIN THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH."

WHEREAS, the State of Alaska does not have a Job Corps Center; and

WHEREAS, ~~Alaskan youths must travel great distances~~ to other States in the ~~Union~~ in order to participate in the Job Corps program; and

WHEREAS, locating a Job Corps Center within Alaska will reduce existing program costs; and

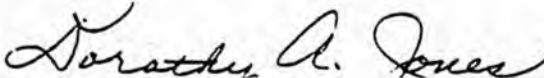
~~WHEREAS, locating a Job Corps Center within Alaska will reduce~~ program drop-out rates because students will be much closer to their homes ~~and families~~; and

WHEREAS, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough contains several existing facilities, such as the vacant public facility Colony Jr./Sr. High School Complex or the state owned military facility at Goose Bay or other private facilities that may be used as the Job Corps Center site; and

WHEREAS, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough has the highest unemployment rate in the state of Alaska.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough contains several existing facilities, such as the vacant public facility Colony Jr./Sr. High School Complex or the state owned military facility at Goose Bay or other private facilities that may be used as the Job Corps Center site.

SIGNED, this 3rd day of January 1989.


Dorothy A. Jones, Mayor

ATTEST:


Linda Daht, Borough Clerk

Bruce D. Scott
HC 30, Box 5542-Z
Wasilla, Alaska 99687

February 10, 1989

The Honorable Steve Cowper
Office of the Governor
P. O. Box A
Juneau, Alaska 99011

Dear Governor Cowper:

Thank you for appointing me last fall to the State Job Training Coordinating Council.

One of my priorities on the SJTCC at present is to support your efforts to convince the U.S. Department of Labor to locate a Job Corps Center to Alaska.

As my hometown is Wasilla, I am pleased that the State's initial application suggests the Job Corps Center be located in Wasilla. Putting aside my natural bias toward the Matanuska-Susitna Valley, I think it makes good sense from an objective viewpoint to locate the center here.

Alaskan students attending the present Job Corps Center in Washington have a high dropout rate, attributable at least in part to two factors: The students are far removed from their home state and family support network; and although most of them have grown up in the rural atmosphere of village and small-town Alaska, they are now expected to cope with educational demands while trying to adjust to a bustling urban environment.

In many ways, Wasilla is an ideal location for a Job Corps Center. It is still very much a small town, with the more relaxed atmosphere characteristically associated with rural Alaska, yet it is located conveniently near the Railbelt's major population centers.

The Mat-Su Valley has a high unemployment rate, and therefore the center would enjoy strong community support; yet there are a number of new projects coming on line during the next few years -- the Wishbone Hill Coal Mine, the Hatcher Pass Ski Resort, and possibly new developments in the timber and mining industries -- that promise the opportunity for additional training and employment.

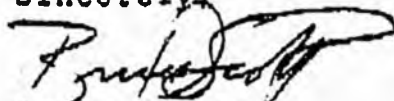
The Honorable Steve Cowper
Page 2
February 10, 1989

In short, I believe it is imperative we acquire a Job Corps Center for Alaska if our students are to successfully acquire training through that program, and it makes good sense to locate it in Wasilla.

Again, thank you for appointing me to the SJTCC. I have enclosed copies of resolutions passed by the Wasilla City Council and the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly supporting the Job Corps Center.

If I can ever be of any assistance to you, please do not hesitate to call on me.

Sincerely,



Bruce D. Scott
Member, State Job Training Coordinating Council

cc: Senator Jalmar Kerttula
Senator Mike Szymanski
Representative Ronald L. Larson
Representative Curt Menard
Sarah Scanlon, Chairman, SJTCC