

ALASKA LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE FILES, 1989-1990 8672  
6716 SENATE STATE AFFAIRS

1120

Constitutional Convention  
Committee Proposal/12  
December 16, 1955

CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION OF ALASKA

COMMITTEE PROPOSAL NO. 12

Commentary on the Article on General and Miscellaneous Provisions

Section 1. Merit Principle: Only employment in certain Federally aided programs of the Territory is now governed by the merit principle. This section would call upon the legislature to establish a system under which employment generally by the state would be governed by the merit principle. A system governed by the merit principle would be one, for example, which comprehended professional, technical, clerical, and administrative positions of the state government. The positions comprehended within the system would be classified according to duties and responsibilities. Salary ranges would be established for the various classes of positions. Appointments would be made according to merit and fitness which would be ascertained, so far as practicable, by competitive examinations.

Section 2. Employee's Retirement. This will assure state and municipal employees who are now tied into various retirement plans that their benefits under these plans will not be diminished or impaired when the Territory becomes a state.

Section 3. Disqualification for Disloyalty. This conforms with the language of the Congressional enabling bills.

Section 4. Oath of Office. The oath is self-explanatory.

Section 5. Intergovernmental Relations. This provision is recommended mainly in order to make it clear that the state can participate in cooperative programs such as the Western Interstate Compact on Higher Education even though such programs may involve the expenditure of public funds outside the state. Some states have had to amend their constitutions in order to participate in such programs.

This provision would also authorize local government units in Alaska to cooperate with Federal agencies on grant-in-aid programs such as housing and airport construction. Local government units could maintain direct relations with Federal agencies, but the Governor would serve as agent for the state in developing the intergovernmental relations of state agencies.

In view of the close relationships which Alaska will have with the neighboring Canadian provinces, explicit authority is granted to the state to cooperate with foreign nations to the extent consistent with the laws of the United States.

Question: Regarding HJR 35, could you explain why you feel that this is something that needs to be in the constitution; it would seem the state has the right to do this and putting it in the constitution will not give us additional rights.

Question: Do other states have this permissiveness? Is it understood we have this permissiveness?

Question: On HJR 35, can this be addressed in statute rather than in the constitution?

Question: If we are not sitting at the table now, it doesn't seem that it is not because we don't want to or believe we can't, but because someone else is saying we can't. If we don't amend the federal constitution or federal law, I am finding it difficult to understand how this will affect us more so than in statute?

Question: Commerce clause does impact freedom of a state. What would this help us do in our relationship in explaining to Washington that we demand to export our raw materials?

#### Rodgers

These resolutions relate to the number one recommendation of the statehood commission and that recommendation was that AK become an activist state taking a lead among states in defining the boundaries of state powers within the union. Both of the resolutions address that issue - the boundaries of state powers within the union. His favorite section in the state constitution is Article 1, Sec. 2 which begins "all political powers inherent in the people". That is a statement of the relationship of state govt. to the people of AK. It says the power is inherent in the people of the state.

What he sees in HJR 34 is a similar statement of the relationship between the state and the federal union. That relationship is one to the constitution of the U.S. and not subordinate to the federal agencies or govt. Our relationship to the Fed govt is subject to the constitution and defined by the constitution.

There are good reasons for making these changes to the state constitution. What HJR 34 does is to link the ideas of citizenship, statehood and local self-govt. There is little or no case law, nothing has been tested in Texas - it is more a statement that asserts our role now, basically in fear of future encroachments. It the fear of future encroachments that deal with HJR 35.

HJR 35 is particularly appropriate today with the increasing emphasis with this leg. on foreign trade, education, crises, I think it is very important for this to be state in the

constitution rather in statute. There is a clear difference between stated rights and implied rights. The legislature in 1972 saw the same issue with the right to privacy - that was an implied right many argued under the U.S. constitution and State constitution. but to make it an expressed right makes things very clear and has an impact on future encroachments.

A study done in 1978 did show 706 agreements between U.S. states and Canadian Provinces and there is a fair bit of leeway for states to engage in friendly relations with other nations. But the philosophy with this resolution is to lay claim to the rights which we believe are ours in the constitution and take all of the authority that is allowable to the state under the U.S. constitution.

G = Gruenberg

R = Rodgers

Question: HJR 34, this is taken from the Texas constitution, Texas was admittedly an independent country, it is the only state that has that background, even AK was not an independent country. Once in the union, Texas stands on an equal footing with all other states. The fact that it came to the union as an independent country is not relevant to our present consideration. Wouldn't you agree?

R: Yes and no. As a matter of the U.S. constitution, all states should be on an equal footing, I would argue that by virtue of a number of acts of congress, all states are not on an equal footing -

G: This amendment is designed to assert our rights on a constitutional level with the fed constitution, stakes out what we assert as a matter of fed constitution law only being limited in that respect, so Texas would stand equivalent to the fed constitution principal but AK wouldn't. If that is the premise, why is it that no other state has adopted a similar constitutional amendment that protects us. Are you certain no other state has done so?

✓ R: Cannot be certain that no other state has done so.

✓ G: Are you aware whether any other state has considered doing so?

R: I am not aware whether any other state has considered doing so, I am not aware of any other state that has had the same level of controversy over there relationship with the federal govt. than the state of AK has had.

✓ G: You said that you are not aware that this has ever been tested in court, has it ever been utilized by the state of Texas - has it ever been utilized in any negotiation with

the fed govt or other govt. Have they every found a need to use this provision of the Texas constitution.

R: I cannot answer that question.

G: What use do you see us making of this constitution. amendment?

Give me a concrete example of how you would actually use this and how it would make a difference to the state of AK in negotiations or in any other manner if we don't have it in?

R: The issue is not whether statements in the constitution are there to develop case law --

G: I am not limiting my argument to case law sir - give me an example of how this would in a practical way assist the state of AK. Where would we cite it, how would we use it, how would it effect the course of history?

R: The answer has to be that we saw continuing fed. encroachment of states rights and this was an attempt to set what we think the line between fed and states rights should be in the same fashion that all political powers are inherent in the people. I dont think there has been any concrete example of what Article 1, sec. 2 has done accept to be a statement of the philosophy relation between a state and its people, what this has done is to state a relationship between a state and the fed govt.

G: My philosophy of the constitution is that one of the strengths of the fed. constitution is the same strength of the state constitution. and that is it is short and clean, nothing that is surplus, and nothing in there that needs to be in there.

He is reluctant to amend the state constitution. unless it will have a provable effect on the future course of history and there is some necessity shown for amending the constitution. One of the problems of other states is that their constitution become cluttered and it is too easy to amend them and it looses all meaning. He wants to keep the constitution meaningful and that is why hes asking these questions and it would help him support these resolutions if you can show him how it would concretely used, and it would make a difference.

R: What a constitution is is a statement of the philosophical underpinnings of the state govt, I still feel this should be done.

(512) 463-

800-252-9693

H J R

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FISCAL NOTE CC

REQUEST:

Revision Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: Relating to amendments to the  
Constitution of U.S. concerned with Congress.  
Sponsor: Representative Pettyjohn  
Requestor: House Judiciary

Affected Agency: Legislative Affairs Agency  
BRU: Legislative Operating Budget  
Components: Legislative Operating Budget

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

OPERATING	FY91	FY92	FY93	FY94	FY95	FY96
Personal Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants, Claims						
Miscellaneous						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>CAPITAL</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>REVENUE</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0

FUNDING: (THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

General Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0

POSITIONS:

Full-Time	0	0	0	0	0	0
Part-Time	0	0	0	0	0	0
Temporary	0	0	0	0	0	0

ANALYSIS: (ATTACH A SEPARATE PAGE IF NECESSARY)

NO FISCAL IMPACT

Prepared By: Pamela A. Stoops, Director  
Division: Administrative Services

*Pamela Stoops*

Phone: 465-3850  
Date: 4/19/90

Approved By: Warren Endicott, Executive Director  
Agency: Legislative Affairs Agency

*Warren Endicott*

Date: 4/19/90

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REQUESTOR  
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT & BUDGET  
AGENCY (IES)

HJR

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## FISCAL NOTE

**REQUEST:**

Revision Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Title: Nuclear-Free Arctic and Subarctic  
 Sponsor: Koponen  
 Requestor: \_\_\_\_\_

Agency Affected: \_\_\_\_\_  
 BRU: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Components: \_\_\_\_\_

**EXPENDITURES/REVENUES:** (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93	FY 94	FY 95	FY 96
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

<b>CAPITAL</b>	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
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<b>REVENUE</b>	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
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**FUNDING:** (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
<b>TOTAL</b>	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

**POSITIONS:**

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

**ANALYSIS :** (Attach a separate page if necessary)

No fiscal impact.

Prepared by: House State Affairs Phone: 465-4963

Division: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: Jan 25, 1990

Approved by Commissioner: H. W. "Red" Sawyer, Chair Date: Jan 25, 1990

Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

**Distribution (by preparer):**

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

021084SJR038 DOCUMENT- 1 OF 33 PAGE - 1 OF 1

CHAMBER - S  
SOURCE - SJRN  
DATE - 840210  
YEAR - 84  
BILL - SJR038

*SOSIC*

DOCUMENT TEXT

SJRN021084SJR038

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 38 by Senators Vic Fischer,  
Ferguson, Moss, Kerttula and Josephson,  
Relating to a nuclear free arctic,  
was read the first time and referred to the State Affairs  
Committee and the Resources Committee.

END OF DOCUMENT

021384HJR067 DOCUMENT- 2 OF 33 PAGE - 1 OF 1

CHAMBER - H  
SOURCE - HJRN  
DATE - 840213  
YEAR - 84  
BILL - HJR067

DOCUMENT TEXT

HJRN021384HJR067

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 67, by Koponen:  
Relating to a nuclear free arctic.  
was read the first time and referred to the State Affairs  
Committee.

END OF DOCUMENT

032384SJR038 DOCUMENT- 3 OF 33 PAGE - 1 OF 1

CHAMBER - S  
SOURCE - SJRN  
DATE - 840323  
YEAR - 84  
BILL - SJR038

DOCUMENT TEXT

SJRN032384SJR038

The State Affairs Committee considered SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION  
NO. 38 (nuclear free arctic) and recommended it be replaced  
with

CS FOR SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 38 (SA)

Without objection, <CS FOR SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 38>  
<(RLS)> was adopted.

END OF DOCUMENT

052284SJR038 DOCUMENT= 9 OF 33 PAGE = 1 OF 2  
CHAMBER = S  
SOURCE = SJRN  
DATE = 840522  
YEAR = 84  
BILL = SJR038

DOCUMENT TEXT

SJRN052284SJR038

CS FOR SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 38 (RLS) was read the second time.

Senator Pettyjohn offered Amendment No. 1:

Page 2, line 10: after "region" insert ", provided that any such agreement or treaty shall not interfere with the national security of the United States, and compliance shall be mutually verifiable"

Senator Pettyjohn moved and asked unanimous consent that Amendment No. 1 be adopted. Without objection, Amendment No. 1 was adopted.

Senator Ray moved and asked unanimous consent that <CS FOR> <SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 38 (RLS) am> be considered en-

052284SJR038 DOCUMENT= 9 OF 33 PAGE = 2 OF 2  
grossed, advanced to third reading and placed on final passage. Without objection, it was so ordered.  
CS FOR SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 38 (RLS) am was read the third time.

The question being: "Shall CS FOR SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 38 (RLS) am (nuclear free arctic) pass the Senate?" The roll was taken with the following result:

CS SJR 38 RLS AM 3RD

Yeas: 15 Eliason, Fahrenkamp, Faiks,  
Ferguson, Fischer Paul, Fischer Vic,  
Gilman, Halford, Josephson, Kelly,  
Kerttula, Mulcahy, Rodey, Sackett,  
Sturgulewski

Nays: 4 Bennett, Pettyjohn, Ray, Ziegler

Excused: 1 Moss

and so, CS FOR SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 38 (RLS) am passed the Senate.

Senator Bennett gave notice of reconsideration on CS FOR SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 38 (RLS) am.

END OF DOCUMENT

CHAMBER - S  
SOURCE - SJRN  
DATE - 840523  
YEAR - 84  
BILL - SJR038

DOCUMENT TEXT

SJRN052384SJR038

Senator Ray requested the reconsideration on <CS FOR SENATE>  
<JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 38 (RLS) am> (nuclear free arctic) be  
taken up.

SENATE RESOLUTIONS IN THIRD READING

CS FOR SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 38 (RLS) am was before the  
Senate on reconsideration.

The question to be reconsidered is: "Shall CS FOR SENATE  
JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 38 (RLS) am (nuclear free arctic) pass  
the Senate?" The roll was taken with the following result:  
CSSJR 38 RLS AM RECON

Yeas: 17 Bennett, Eliason, Fahrenkamp,  
Faiks, Ferguson, Fischer Paul,  
Fischer Vic, Gilman, Halford,

Josephson, Kelly, Kerttula, Moss,  
Mulcahy, Rodey, Sackett,  
Sturgulewski

Nays: 3 Pettyjohn, Ray, Ziegler  
and so, CS FOR SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 38 (RLS) am passed  
the Senate on reconsideration.

END OF DOCUMENT

Original sponsor(s): REP. KOPONEN, Brown, Davidson, MacLean, Finkelstein

1 IN THE HOUSE BY THE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE  
2 CS FOR HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 56 (State Affairs)  
3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA  
4 SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 Relating to the promotion of a nuclear  
6 weapons-free treaty for the arctic and  
7 subarctic.

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

9 WHEREAS the unprecedented thawing of the cold war following the con-  
10 versations between former President Reagan and President Gorbachev neces-  
11 sitates a continuing restructuring of the relationship between Alaska and the  
12 neighboring areas of the Soviet Union; and

13 WHEREAS the main purpose of negotiating a nuclear weapons-free treaty,  
14 as of all rational security policies, is to prevent nuclear war; and

15 WHEREAS an emphatic expression of feeling by citizens and their local  
16 and state governments can help initiate steps by the United States, the  
17 Soviet Union, and other nuclear powers towards world peace and away from  
18 the brink of nuclear war; and

19 WHEREAS over the past five years more than 4,225 communities in 23  
20 nations have adopted resolutions calling for the establishment of nuclear-  
21 free zones; and

22 WHEREAS 42 of the 50 states in the United States have proposals for  
23 nuclear-free zones introduced or approved at state or local levels; and

24 WHEREAS there are five treaties in existence with as many as 83 signa-  
25 tories, including the United States and the Soviet Union, pertaining to  
26 nuclear-free zones in the Antarctic, outer space, Latin America, the South  
27 Pacific, and on the ocean floor; and

28 WHEREAS nuclear weapons are themselves nuclear targets, and to remove  
29 the targets will reduce the risk of destruction to the territory in which

1 they were located in case of nuclear war; and

2 WHEREAS 58.4 percent of Alaska voters in the August 1986 election  
3 expressed their strong support for Ballot Measure No. 1, which declared as  
4 the policy of the state the promotion of a mutual and verifiable nuclear  
5 weapons freeze to be followed by a reduction in nuclear warheads, missiles,  
6 and other delivery systems in order to halt the nuclear arms race and  
7 reduce the risk of nuclear war; and .

8 WHEREAS the Chernobyl nuclear power plant disaster in the Soviet Union  
9 has resulted in the spread of nuclear poison to neighboring territories,  
10 including arctic regions of Scandinavia; and

11 WHEREAS the environmental devastation of these regions has seriously  
12 jeopardized the health and lifestyle of the Saami people; and

13 WHEREAS the radioactive contamination of the region above the Arctic  
14 Circle from the previous use and testing of nuclear weapons has caused the  
15 permanent inhabitants of the arctic region to carry body-burdens of long-  
16 lived, biologically dangerous radionuclides in amounts in excess of all the  
17 world's people except for the atomic bomb victims in Hiroshima and Nagasaki  
18 during August 1945; and

19 WHEREAS any further deposition of nuclear materials in the food-chain  
20 of the arctic and subarctic regions will result in biologically unaccept-  
21 able radiation standards for people and ecosystems; and

22 WHEREAS the storage or transportation of high level radioactive nu-  
23 clear wastes in Alaska could pose serious health, safety, and environmental  
24 risks to the state's residents; and

25 WHEREAS the Inuit Circumpolar Conference and the legislative bodies of  
26 the Northwest Territories, the Yukon, and Greenland have unanimously ap-  
27 proved resolutions calling for restriction of the arctic to uses that are  
28 peaceful and environmentally safe, and prohibiting the deployment and  
29 testing of nuclear weapons in this area; and

1           WHEREAS a ban on nuclear weapons testing, the deployment of most  
2 nuclear weapons delivery systems, and the production of fissile materials  
3 can be verified with high confidence by on-site inspections, and a world-  
4 wide network of seismic monitors, satellites, and other verification tech-  
5 nology; and

6           WHEREAS the people of Alaska desire to continue to live in freedom in  
7 a world that is at peace and safe from nuclear pollution; and

8           WHEREAS the ratification of a multi-lateral and verifiable nuclear-  
9 free arctic and subarctic treaty represents a creative and meaningful first  
10 step towards establishing a nuclear-weapons free world, which is the ulti-  
11 mate intent of this resolution;

12          BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that the Governor and  
13 the Alaska congressional delegation are requested to promote and initiate  
14 efforts to

15               (1) encourage verifiable bilateral and multilateral agreements  
16 and treaties between the United States, the Soviet Union, and other nations  
17 establishing the arctic and subarctic regions as a nuclear weapons-free  
18 zone;

19               (2) obtain verifiable bilateral and multilateral agreements and  
20 treaties between the United States, the Soviet Union, and other nations to  
21 ban nuclear weapons from the arctic and subarctic regions;

22               (3) prevent all parties, including military forces, from dispos-  
23 ing of radioactive and nuclear wastes and materials in the arctic and  
24 subarctic regions;

25               (4) obtain verifiable bilateral and multilateral agreements and  
26 treaties between the United States, the Soviet Union, and other nations to  
27 prevent nuclear weapons testing ~~or the placement of nuclear weapons-related~~  
28 ~~devices~~ in the arctic and subarctic regions; and

29               (5) promote and encourage the location of the next US/USSR

1 summit conference to be in Alaska so that world attention and concern can  
2 be drawn to the environmental and security concerns of arctic and subarctic  
3 areas; and be it

4 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature does not seek to  
5 limit the use of nuclear technology for medical treatment or other safe and  
6 benign purposes; and be it

7 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature does not seek to  
8 discourage or prohibit United States Navy nuclear-powered vessels ~~from~~  
9 ~~entering~~ Alaska waters, ~~or visiting Alaska ports.~~

10 COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable George Bush,  
11 President of the United States; the Honorable Mikhail Gorbachev, President  
12 of the U.S.S.R.; the Honorable James A. Baker, III, U.S. Secretary of  
13 State; to the Honorable Richard R. Burt, Head of Delegation and Negotiator;  
14 and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S.  
15 Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the  
16 Alaska delegation in Congress.

AMEND  
PAGE 4

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14 and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S.  
15 Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the  
16 Alaska delegation in Congress.

Alaska State Legislature  
Representative Niilo Koponen

Pouch V  
Juneau, Alaska 99811  
(907) 465-4992

House District 21

119 N. Cushman, Suite 207  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701  
(907) 456-8172

SPONSOR STATEMENT  
CSHJR 56 (SA)

The world situation has changed dramatically in the last year and it would appear that the United States can now negotiate a breakthrough with regard to nuclear disarmament in the arctic and subarctic. HJR 56 is very similar to President Eisenhower's open skies proposal, recently revived by President Bush.

The House voted to pass HJR 4 (nuclear-free arctic) in the 15th Legislature. HJR 4 died in the Senate during that legislature. Last year I introduced HJR 56, an updated version of that resolution which specifically speaks to nuclear weapons. It includes most of the compromise language added to HJR4 at the request of minority members. HJR 56 also asks that a summit meeting for these negotiations be held, appropriately, in Alaska. These negotiations should lead to the commercial use of the arctic sea lanes for traffic between the Pacific Rim nations and the European Common Market. Alaska will be central to such development. The Port of Unalaska is actively pursuing Soviet and Scandinavian partners in such ventures. Unalaska's mayor, Paul Fuhs was a strong and early supporter of this proposal for precisely that reason.

INITIATIVES

1986

INITIATIVE PROPOSAL NO. 1

For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to the establishment of a nuclear freeze as the policy of the State."

Section 1. DECLARATION OF POLICY. It is the policy of the State of Alaska:

(1) to recognize that the greatest challenge facing the Earth is to prevent the occurrence of nuclear war by accident or design;

(2) to recognize that the nuclear arms race is dangerously increasing the risk of a holocaust that would be humanity's final war;

(3) to promote a mutual and verifiable freeze followed by reductions in nuclear warheads, missiles, and other delivery systems in order to halt the nuclear arms race and to reduce the risk of nuclear war.

Section 2. IMPLEMENTATION. (a) The Governor shall conduct the affairs of state and carry out state programs in conformity with this policy.

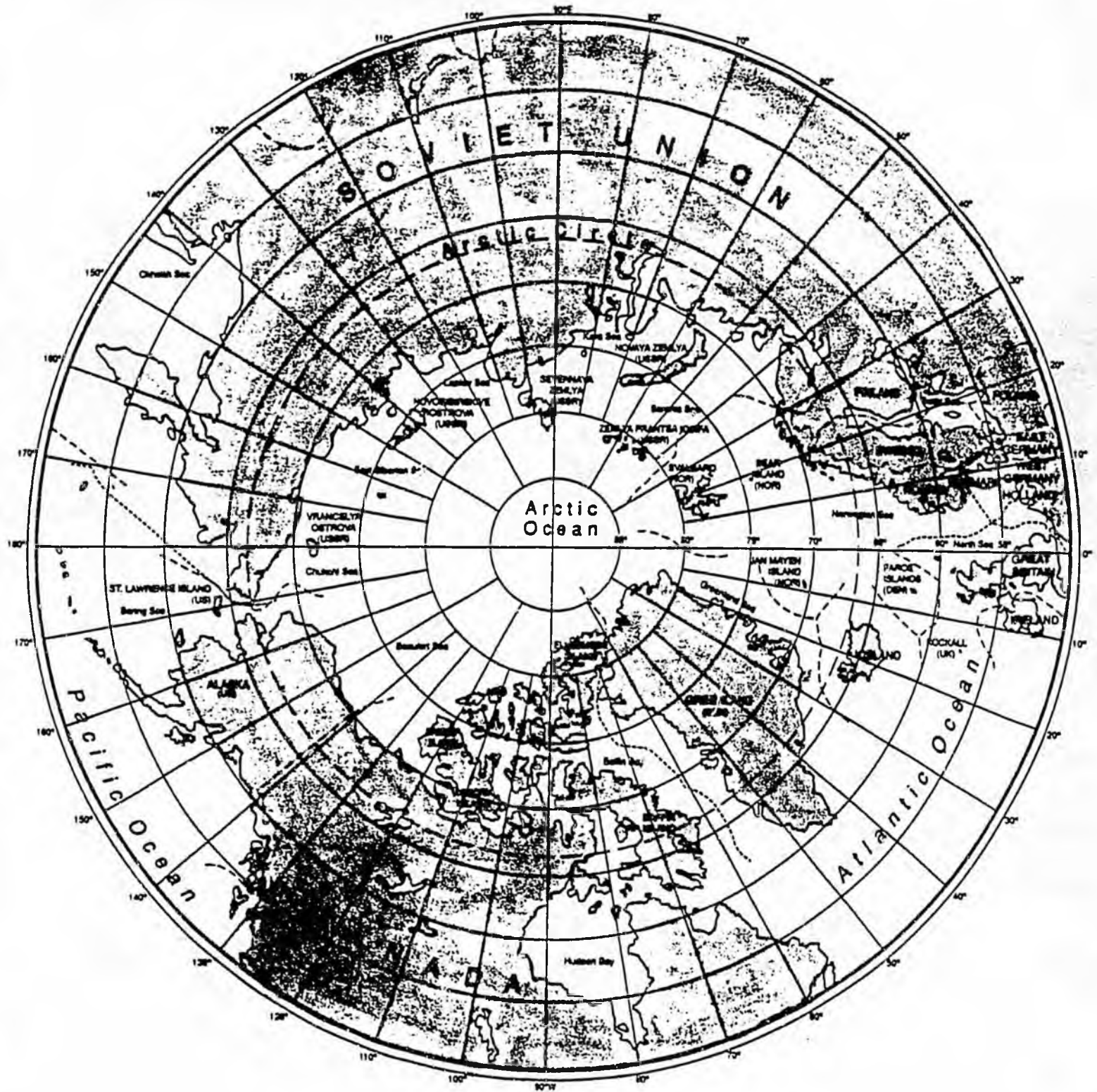
(b) The Lieutenant Governor shall deliver copies of this Act to Congress and the President of the United States.

Section 3. EFFECTIVE DATE. This initiative shall be effective when enacted according to law.

Approved August 26, 1986  
Effective December 18, 1986

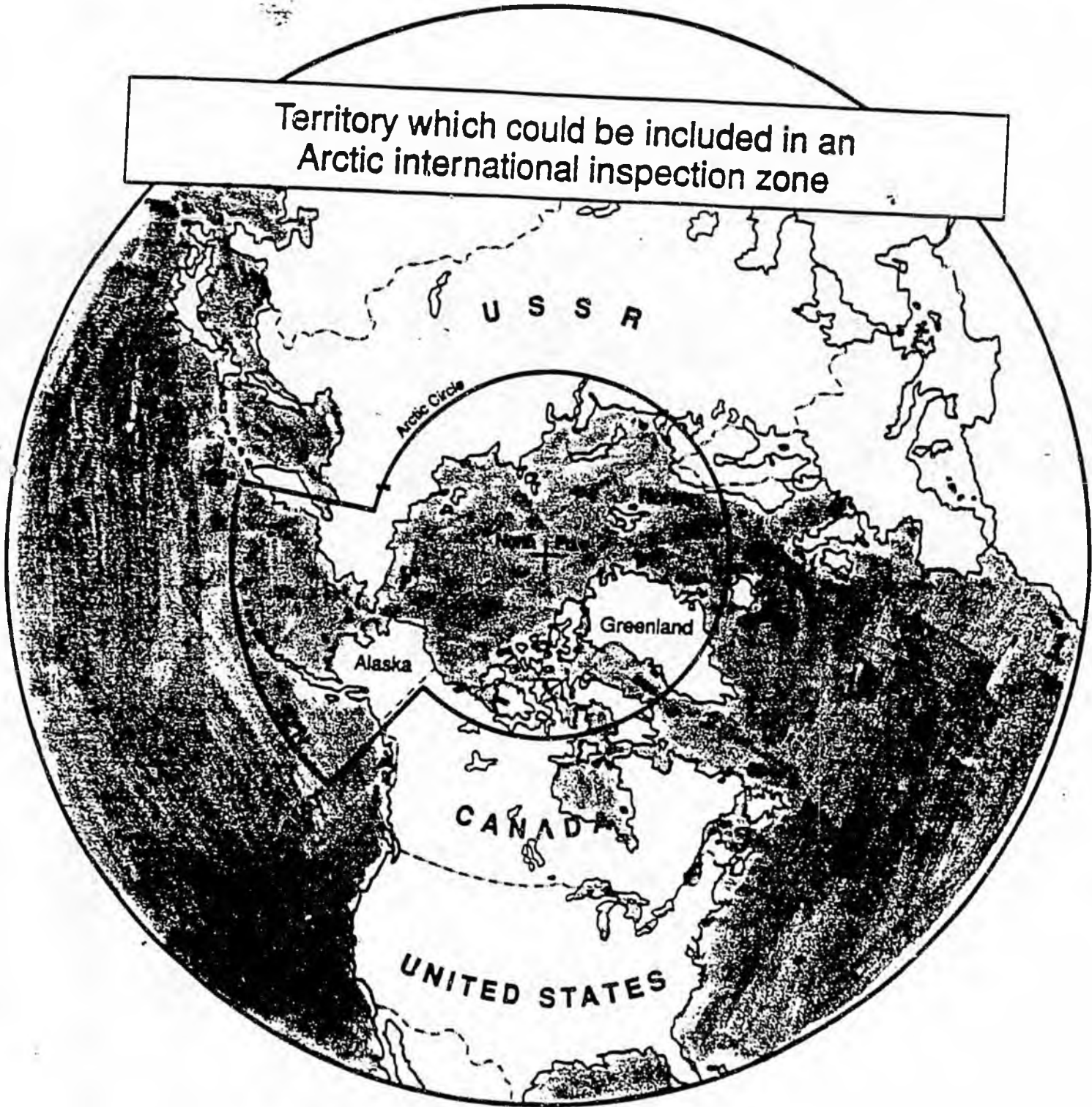
Editor's notes. — Sections 1 and 2  
have been codified as AS 44.99.120 and  
44.99.125 respectively.

# The Circumpolar Arctic



# 1958 US Open Skies Proposal

Territory which could be included in an Arctic international inspection zone



## Proposed Arctic Open Skies

Territory which could be included in an Arctic international inspection zone



*Note:* The Open Skies proposal formulated by US President George Bush in May 1989, and later elaborated on by Canadian officials and at the September meeting in Jackson Hole between US Secretary of State James Baker and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze calls for aerial surveillance of the territories of North America (Canada and the USA), Europe (NATO and Warsaw Pact countries in the area from the Atlantic to the Urals), and the Soviet Union (remaining territory east of the Urals). The Open Skies proposal in its present formulation covers only the territories of 16 NATO and 7 Warsaw Pact countries, and does not extend to the neutral countries in Europe such as Finland and Sweden; nor does it include the area of the Arctic ocean. At the time of writing, the NATO and Warsaw Pact countries were scheduled to hold a meeting on the Open Skies concept in Canada either in late 1989 or in early 1990.

592 Scatter St.

Juneau, AK 99801

30 April '90

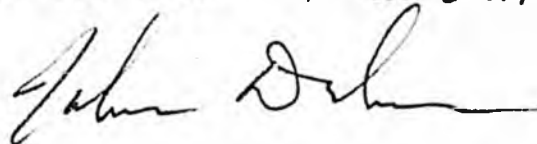
Sen. Pat Pouchot  
Alaska Legislature  
Cap. 504  
Juneau, AK 99801

Re.: HJR 56, Relating to the promotion of a  
nuclear weapons-free treaty for the arctic  
and subarctic.

Dear Senator Pouchot:

This resolution is long-overdue. I hope  
that its progress continues in your committee  
so that it reaches the floor, where I hope  
you will vote for it. Its passage could  
stimulate some vital and honorable work,  
in which Alaskans could take pride.

For us and all our children,



John Dunker

**HJR**

**63**

PASSED OUT

3.12.90

CS HJR 63, sponsored by Representative Martin.

TO TESTIFY;

Representative Martin

NOTES;

PAT, you may need a road map to understand what we are doing in today's hearing. The key is: WE ARE PROPOSING A SENATE CS FOR THE HOUSE CS FOR HJR 63 THAT IS IDENTICAL TO THE CS WE PASSED OUT OF COMMITTEE FOR SJR 61 WITH TWO ADDITIONAL CHANGES; which are adding "and certain other countries" to Page 1, Line 10 and replacing the word "sanctuary" with the word "refuge" on Page 1, lines 25 and 29.

Proposed SCS for CS for HJR 63:

Relating to persons immigrating to and requesting asylum.

Committee packets contain a proposed Senate CS for HJR 63, which matches the Senate resolution (SJR 61) we passed out with TWO ADDITIONAL CHANGES;

Page 1, Line 10: added the words "and certain other countries".  
(This addition was recommended by the woman, Peggy Bergsrud, who initiated the resolution out of Martin's office and is based on a congressional resolution concerning immigrants)

Page 1, Lines 25 and 29: replaced the word "sanctuary" with the word "refuge". (This change was recommended based on the word sanctuary being too closely tied with the "Sanctuary Movement" which the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) seems to interpret as a movement that encourages immigrants to stay in the country illegally. In other words, it is a red flag to the INS and could weaken the resolution's impact.)

Changes to SJR 61/In comparison to the CS for HJR 63 prior to developing the Senate CS for the House CS for HJR 63:

CS SJR 61	CS HJR 63
Amended to refer to general changes in Eastern Bloc countries	Specifies change from communism to democracy
Eliminated reference to consideration of changes when evaluating applications	States that consideration of changes may prevent asylum being granted because they "may not need it anymore"

The 4th Whereas in CS HJR 63  
was eliminated from SJR 61

Refers to applicants'  
fear of persecution  
by communist controlled  
military, police and  
leadership

Amended to read Legislature  
recognizes governments  
may be subject to change  
during political unrest

States legislative  
support for glasnost &  
perestroika and that  
Eastern Bloc governments  
will be unstable until  
changes are complete

\*Amended to match CS HJR 63  
from BE IT RESOLVED forward.

\*Identical to SJR 61  
from BE IT RESOLVED  
forward.

\*See next page for specific amendment language.

#### NOTES:

I have spoken with both Faiks and Martin's  
offices on changes -

Martin's Office: John Manley's response "Sounds OK, as  
long as Peggy Bergsrud agrees and she does."

Faiks office: Cheryl... when I briefly explained, she  
said it didn't sound like a problem.

Amendments: to SJR 61  
to match CS HJR 63.

PASSED by SEN. STATE AFFAIRS

SJR 61

Amendment #1: Change Page 2, (2) (A) to read (2) (B)

Add under (2):

(A) to halt the process of deportation from the United States of persons from Eastern Bloc countries who have requested political asylum and are on United States soil:

Amendment #2: Page 2 Line 21 (C)

change to read

(C) to grant amnesty or political asylum on humanitarian grounds to each person who is on United States soil, who has submitted an application for political asylum in the United States and who would have been eligible for asylum except for the recent political changes in the Eastern Bloc countries, unless the person could be considered a threat to national security or is otherwise determined to be undesirable under current United State immigration law.

Amendment #3: Page 2, Line 28

change to read

Copies of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable George Bush, President of the United States; the Honorable Dan Quayle, Vice-President of the United States and President of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Thomas S. Foley, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives; the Honorable . . .

Previous Sen. St. Affairs Actio.  
Indicates portions  
amended or eliminated  
IN SJR 61.

Original sponsor(s): REP. MARTIN, Zawacki, Leman, Gruenberg

1 IN THE HOUSE BY THE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE  
2 CS FOR HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 63 (State Affairs)  
3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA  
4 SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 Relating to persons immigrating to and  
6 requesting asylum in the United States.

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

8 WHEREAS the Eastern Bloc countries of Hungary, Poland, East Germany,  
9 the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, and  
10 Romania are moving away from communism towards democracy; and

11 WHEREAS some individuals from these countries have requested political  
12 asylum and freedom in the United States; and

13 WHEREAS the changes from communism towards democracy in the Eastern  
14 Bloc countries <sup>are</sup> [is] being considered by the Immigration and Naturalization  
15 Service when it evaluates the political asylum applications of persons from  
16 the Eastern Bloc countries, [and this approach may prevent some persons from  
17 receiving asylum in the United States because they may not be considered to  
18 need political asylum any more;] and

19 [WHEREAS elements of the military, police, and leadership in some of  
20 the Eastern Bloc countries still remain under the control of communist  
21 authorities and, if applications for political asylum from these countries  
22 are denied, the applicants fear persecution by the communist-controlled  
23 elements after they are deported from the United States] and

24 WHEREAS, although the Alaska State Legislature supports glasnost and  
25 perestroika, it recognizes that the governments of the Eastern Bloc coun-  
26 tries [will be subject to change during a period of political unrest] and  
[will be unstable until the political changes are complete]

27 WHEREAS the United States is a strong supporter of human rights and  
28 was founded on the principle of the individual's right to life, liberty,  
29 and the pursuit of happiness; and

1           WHEREAS Alaska has benefited from the immigrants who have already come  
2 to the state; and

3           WHEREAS Alaska can provide a sanctuary for persons who seek political  
4 asylum in the United States;

5           BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature

6                 (1) declares that it welcomes immigrants from foreign countries  
7 and is willing to serve as a sanctuary for persons who are seeking polit-  
8 ical asylum in the United States; and

9                 (2) urges the United States Immigration and Naturalization  
10 Service

11                     (A) to halt the process of deportation from the United  
12 States of persons from Eastern Bloc countries who have requested  
13 political asylum and are on United States soil;

14                     (B) not to use the recent political changes in the Eastern  
15 Bloc countries

16                             (i) to deny political asylum to persons from those  
17 countries, even if an application for asylum was submitted before  
18 the changes began; or

19                             (ii) to revoke the political asylum already granted to  
20 persons from those countries;

21                     (C) to grant amnesty or political asylum on humanitarian  
22 grounds to each person who is on United States soil, who has submitted  
23 an application for political asylum in the United States, and who  
24 would have been eligible for asylum except for the recent political  
25 changes in the Eastern Bloc countries, unless the person could be  
26 considered a threat to national security or is otherwise determined to  
27 be undesirable under current United States immigration law.

28           COPIES of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable George Bush,  
29 President of the United States; the Honorable Dan Quayle, Vice-President of

1 the United States and President of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Thomas S.  
2 Foley, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives; the Honorable Gene  
3 McNary, Commissioner-Designate of the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization  
4 Service; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank  
5 Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative,  
6 members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.

6-1835H  
Bannister  
3/9/90

Original sponsor(s): REP. MARTIN, Zawacki, Leman, Gruenberg, Boucher,  
M. Davis

1 IN THE HOUSE BY THE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

2 SENATE CS FOR CS FOR HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 63 (State Affairs)

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 SIXTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 Relating to persons immigrating to and  
6 requesting asylum in the United States.

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

8 WHEREAS the Eastern Bloc countries of Hungary, Poland, East Germany,  
9 the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, and  
10 Romania, and certain other countries are moving away from communism towards  
11 democracy; and

12 WHEREAS some individuals from these countries have requested political  
13 asylum and freedom in the United States; and

14 WHEREAS the changes in the Eastern Bloc countries are being considered  
15 by the Immigration and Naturalization Service when it evaluates the politi-  
16 cal asylum applications of persons from the Eastern Bloc countries; and

17 WHEREAS the Alaska State Legislature recognizes that the governments  
18 of the Eastern Bloc countries may be subject to change during a period of  
19 political unrest; and

20 WHEREAS the United States is a strong supporter of human rights and  
21 was founded on the principle of the individual's right to life, liberty,  
22 and the pursuit of happiness; and

23 WHEREAS Alaska has benefited from the immigrants who have already come  
24 to the state; and

25 WHEREAS Alaska can provide a refuge for persons who seek political  
26 asylum in the United States;

27 BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature

28 (1) declares that it welcomes immigrants from foreign countries  
29 and is willing to serve as a refuge for persons who are seeking political

1 asylum in the United States; and

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5 States of persons from Eastern Bloc countries who have requested  
6 political asylum and are on United States soil;

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19 considered a threat to national security or is otherwise determined to  
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23 the United States and President of the U.S. Senate; the Honorable Thomas S.  
24 Foley, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives; the Honorable Gene  
25 McNary, Commissioner-Designate of the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization  
26 Service; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank  
27 Murkowski, U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative,  
28 members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.

MEMORANDUM

FROM: Loren K. Stanton  
TO: Senator Pouchot  
DATE: March 5, 1990  
RE: ANALYSIS OF SJR 61

NECESSARY background:

Asylees or Refugees are aliens who have established a fear of persecution based on religion, nationality, political opinion, or membership in a particular social group, if they are returned to, or remain in their country of origin. As a result of this fear of persecution, aliens are allowed to remain in, or enter the United States.

An asylee is an alien who, having made a lawful or undocumented entry into the U.S., files an application for asylum which is granted, either by the INS or by an Immigration Judge. A refugee is an alien who applies for, and is granted permission to enter the U.S. as a refugee by an INS office abroad. The determination that the refugee has a fear of persecution is made by an immigration officer outside the U.S prior to the alien's application for entry into the U.S.

Refugee refers only to aliens in the U.S. who have already been granted refugee status by an INS office abroad. The word "refugee" is commonly used to refer to aliens who have fled from their home countries seeking refuge from oppression, persecution, or the ravages of war. A person may be applying for refugee status at a U.S. border post, or asylum if within the U.S., but if their status remains undetermined, they are not yet either refugees or asylees as defined by the Immigration and Nationality Act.

Please note that "Political Asylum" is a term that is commonly used to denote all types of asylum, even though asylum may be granted to those fearing persecution because of religious, nationality, ethnic origin, or membership of a social group, as well as for political opinions and associations.

## POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS

Whether or not an alien is granted asylee or refugee status is often determined by prevailing political considerations. The U.S. government will generally deny asylee or refugee status to aliens from countries whose governments the U.S. currently supports (e.g. Chile, El Salvador, Haiti) on the grounds that there is little persecution in those countries.

The Refugee Act of 1980 established a nonideological standard for refugee and asylum determinations. In practice, however, it remains much less likely that someone fleeing a "friendly" country will gain asylum than someone fleeing an "unfriendly," especially a Soviet bloc, country.

The Nationals from each of these countries have been treated extremely well by the Attorney General and the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) for the last decade. Approval rates for Eastern bloc countries have averaged around 40% while individuals from countries with overwhelming persecution (e.g.) Haiti, El Salvador, and Guatemala) have had a 1% success rate. This resolution asks for preferential treatment for people who have been receiving preferential treatment for many years. Many of the applications that have been approved from Polish, Czech, Romanian, and Hungarian nationals have not met the standard of proof required for "fear of persecution." Most of these people are fleeing economic conditions just as are the nationals of Mexico. Think about hockey and tennis players.

One example will be of interest: Not long ago nine Polish fisherman jumped ship in Alaska and they all applied for and received asylum. Only one stated, during the interview period, that he had any possibility of persecution for any reason upon returning to Poland. His stated reason was that he was one of 100,000 people at a "Solidarity" rally. This was the only rally he had attended. All were granted asylum! During the same time a young man from El Salvador was interviewed. He had testimony and documentation that his wife and babies had been killed by army units and he had escaped from those same units after extensive torture which he showed to the interviewers. He was denied asylum! He later was deported back to El Salvador, where a study showed that 30% of those sent back were killed.

This brings me to another point relating to "refoulement." In U.S law, "The Attorney General shall not deport or return any alien...to a country if the Attorney General determines that such alien's life or freedom would be threatened in such country on account of race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion."

It must be noted that WAR, CIVIL DISTURBANCE, and FAMINE, which up to 1922, were the MOST IMPORTANT FACTORS for immigrating to the U.S., are not a basis for asylee or refugee status.

I appreciate any attempt to get the INS to follow the laws of the United States, as they are now! This resolution, as written, asks that the INS give preferential treatment to a group of people, who under the present laws of this country, were not even qualified to enter this country. Additionally, the resolves ask for a temporary end to the recognized worldwide qualifications and burden of proof needed to prove refugee status. This for just a few specific countries. This could be called an amnesty for Eastern Europeans.

It would be more appropriate for the legislature to ask that the present laws relating to asylum be followed. Specifically, nationals from countries such as, Haiti, El Salvador, Vietnam, Cambodia, Guatemala, and China could be allowed a lesser burden of proof because of the difficult conditions there. Unfortunately, the INS, only looks at the country conditions as a starting point for an asylum application. The reason for this is that an asylum application is personal. It is for one person only. Each applicant must show that the persecution or potential persecution is meant for the individual applicant.

When conditions in a country are particularly bad and the Attorney General determines that conditions are unsafe for anyone to return he may, in his discretion, grant "Extended Voluntary Departure" (EVD) status to nationals of that country that are in the United States. EVD means that you do not have to leave the U.S. One "extends" their voluntary departure, which means they stay. During part of the last ten years, Polish nationals have benefitted from EVD. Other countries, in worse condition, have not been granted EVD status.

The resolution mentions "amnesty." Amnesty was a program that has filled volumes of books. The application deadline was November 6, 1987. It was a one shot deal. The political energy that was needed to enact the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986, of which amnesty was a part, cannot be recreated.

Additional subjects: New legal immigration bill, Hong Kong, interdiction.

My comments on and contributions to SJR 61.

First whereas: comments above on appropriate countries.

Second whereas: delete the words "and freedom"

Third whereas: delete entirely, insert "country conditions are in upheaval"

Fourth whereas: delete

Fifth whereas: OK

Sixth whereas: This is OK, however, it should be known that no asylee can be forced to live in a particular state and because of this Alaska cannot be designated a refugee for immigrants.

Seventh whereas: Same analysis as above. Additionally, if this resolution goes forward "as is" the word sanctuary must be changed to refuge or some other word. The INS has for over a decade been fighting a battle against "The Sanctuary Movement" and they despise the word and the sentiment behind it. The sanctuary movement actively worked to have immigrants stay in the country illegally. These nationals did not receive asylum and should have.

In the resolves:

Line 27 delete "from foreign countries" where else?  
delete the rest of number (1)

Page 2

Section (2) (A) delete "Eastern Bloc"

Section (2) (B) delete because this would be to ignore the world wide acceptable standard for granting asylum, one must always take into account the "country conditions" as they are not as the were or as you would like them to be.

(i) because it offers preferential treatment for some countries

(ii) because it follows the preferential treatment above however I believe that asylum should never be revoked

Section (C) delete "amnesty or" they are over and an additional note, asylum is not granted on general "humanitarian grounds" and delete starting with "and who..." on line 15

Generally, I want to know why the United States should allow persons to continue to come from a country or countries where conditions are much better than they were and are going to get even better? We cannot just ignore that the Solidarity Government in Poland is now a "friendly" government. EVD status and special amnesty status were realized for Polish nationals in the last decade when there were 14 million refugees in the world that have much more pressing cases for humanitarian treatment. This includes over 56,000 Vietnamese in camps or "jail" in Hong Kong and hundreds of thousands of Salvadorans and Guatemalans who qualify for refugee or EVD status and have been turned away. If Alaska is concerned, let us be concerned about equal treatment and justice. Let us ask the INS for impartial and equitable treatment for all nationalities.

March 3, 1990

The Honorable Terry Martin  
3111 C Street, Suite 415  
Anchorage, Alaska 99503

Congressman Martin,

This letter is written to voice my opinions regarding the passage of Resolution No. 61. I understand that you cosponsored this resolution and I personally want to thank you for your efforts.

The Anchorage office of Immigration and Naturalization Service alleges that these asylee applicants have no well-founded fears of persecution upon return to these Eastern Bloc countries due to the recent changes in the governments there. This same office assures that these applicants receive individual attention of claims for fear of persecution. Yet all of these applicants have received zerox copies of notice of intent to deport.

I have enclosed a 1989 copy of a report from Amnesty Internation siting recent beatings for peaceful demonstrations. I have listened to many of these applicants tell of horror stories that sound like something I'd see on T.V. and find offensive there, too. But there's something about hearing it from a true story that left me quite upset. It also left me acutely aware of how very precious my own freedoms were now to me.

It is my opinion that it would be a moral injustice for us to send these applicants back to very uncertain futures. In addition to whatever they did before defecting, now they are traitors. I cannot believe that one election makes a democracy nor a safe environment for these applicants to return to their homeland.

Thank you for everything that you have accomplished and please continue to use any influence that you have to pass this resolution.

Sincerely,

*Sharon Robinson*  
Sharon Robinson  
2914 East 42nd St. #1  
Anchorage, Alaska 99504  
(907) 5618706

# Hungarians, Poles to lose refugee rank

By ROBERT PEAR  
The New York Times

WASHINGTON — The United States will sharply curtail the admission of Poles and Hungarians as refugees because most of them no longer have any reason to fear persecution in their homelands, Bush administration officials said Tuesday.

Officials from the National Security Council and the White House outlined their plans at a meeting Monday with Polish-American and Hungarian-American groups.

The administration is expected to announce the changes later this week.

Nancy Bearg Dyke of the National Security Council staff told representatives of the ethnic organizations that under the new policy, "we will not consider any Poles or Hungarians for the refugee resettlement program unless they have relatives in the United States," face immediate threats to their lives or have exceptionally strong ties to this country, according to three people who were at the meeting.

Please see back Page, CHANGE

## CHANGE IN EUROPE: United States to curtail refugee status

Continued from Page A-1

The likely effect is to bar refugee status for at least 19,000 of the 20,000 Poles and Hungarians who already have filed applications at American embassies and consulates in Western Europe, U.S. officials said.

They said that perhaps 1,000 people with family or other ties to the United States would be interviewed and that some would qualify for refugee status.

Ted Kontek, founder of the Friends of Solidarity, in Washington, said, "This is a major change, and it was very poorly received by ethnic groups represented at the meeting."

Poles and Hungarians could seek visas to come to the United States as regular legal immigrants, rather than refugees, but most would have to wait several years because of the backlog of applications.

The new policy resembles one adopted earlier this year to limit the admission of Soviet refugees, but it is much more restrictive.

The Roman Catholic Church and Polish-American groups say that at least 100,000 Poles are spread through Western Europe and

are potential refugees but have not registered with the U.S. government and therefore have little chance of coming here.

Dawn Calabria of the U.S. Catholic Conference, who attended the White House meeting, said:

"Because of government changes at the top in Poland and Hungary, the administration seems to assume that nobody from those countries is a refugee."

Federal law defines a refugee as a person with "a well-founded fear of persecution" on account of race, religion, nationality, political opinion or membership in a particular social group.

Gerald Coyle, acting chief of staff at the Immigration and Naturalization Service, said:

"Conditions in Poland and Hungary have markedly improved. Most Poles and Hungarians leaving their countries of origin and seeking asylum in Western Europe and North America are unlikely to have very substantive claims to U.S. refugee status."

Administration officials acknowledged that the new policy had been prompted, in part, by financial constraints.

They say they do not have enough money to finance resettlement of the 125,000 refugees who could be admitted to the United States under the worldwide ceiling set by President Bush for the current fiscal year.

Of that number, 50,000 places are for the Soviet Union and 6,500 are for Eastern Europe.

The Polish American Congress, the Hungarian Reform Federation of America and other groups denounced the proposed policy.

In Poland, they said, communists still control the police, the militia, security forces and many local government offices, and people are still harassed for their political views and activities.

"We welcome Poland's progress toward a free and democratic society," Kontek said. "But based on evidence collected by Solidarity's own human rights commission, we are convinced that human rights violations and persecution of political activists continue."

Myra Lenard, executive director of the Polish American Congress, who also attended the meeting, said:

"It will take years for the system to change. People in

some provinces of Poland still feel the brunt of discrimination at the hands of Communist Party members."

In congressional testimony on Oct. 11, Richard Schifter, the assistant secretary of state for human rights and humanitarian affairs, reported that "there are no political prisoners" in Hungary, and he said the authorities there generally allowed freedom of speech, religion and association.

But "a secret police with a long history of violations of privacy is still in place," he said.

George Dozsa, vice president of the Hungarian Reform Federation of America, said the new restrictions on refugee admissions were "unfair to Hungarians in Western Europe who have been waiting for several years" to come to the United States.

Administration officials said some of the places denied to Poles and Hungarians might be made available to other Eastern Europeans, like Romanians or Bulgarians.

In the last eight years, 33,000 Poles and 5,459 Hungarians have come to the United States as refugees.

Taken from Anchorage Daily News  
November 22, 1989



Soviet refugee Jenia Prokhorenko said he was caught secretly filming a racist nationalist group which threatened to burn him alive.

## Man stabbed on trawler requests political asylum

By DOUG FORD  
Times Writer

Someone stabbed Igor Yelkov on the Soviet fishing trawler after he dared to discuss politics with the crew of a U.S. ship. When members of a racist nationalistic group caught Jenia Prokhorenko secretly filming their meeting, they threatened to burn him alive.

At least, that's what they claim.

Both of these men are seeking political asylum in Alaska. If the United States refuses their requests and deports them, they believe they will face years of imprisonment or even death in the Soviet Union.

Prokhorenko, 23, and Yelkov, 24, both single, are staying with an Anchorage family who has helped refugees in the past. The family asked to remain anonymous.

Yelkov has exchanged letters with his family in the Soviet Union since arriving here. He received an angry letter from his father and a supportive note from his sister.

"My father said I did wrong," Yelkov related. "You didn't think about what would happen with me, about what would happen with the family," his father wrote him.

His father is a member of the Communist Party, Yelkov said, and the KGB has been to the family's house to investigate his defection.

"I have had no contact with my family," Prokhorenko said, "but no parent wants to see his or her child go away.

Neither of them advised their parents

See Asylum, page B-8

## East bloc 'openness' closing America's doors to defectors

By Doug Ford  
Times Writer

While Glasnost, or openness, is good news in Eastern Europe, it may be bad news for Soviet-bloc defectors in Alaska.

Defectors awaiting immigration decisions in Anchorage say they are wary of their chances to remain in the United States because the warming trend in the East-West Cold War also could put an end to their quest for freedom.

Gary Johnson, the Anchorage district immigration director, insists the criteria for granting political asylum have not changed.

The defectors and their lawyers see matters differently and claim the U.S. government is turning away more and more of those who seek political asylum. They said two Soviet and 60 Polish defectors have been denied asylum by the Im-

migration and Naturalization Service's Anchorage office in the last two months.

"Gorbachev is laughing at the people," said Jenia Prokhorenko, a Soviet who defected in January. The KGB supports Gorbachev and continues to persecute the Soviet people, he said.

After receiving threats from the KGB, Prokhorenko said he fled the Soviet Union. He fears his Feb. 14 application for political asylum in the United States will be denied and he will be deported, he said, condemning him to years in prison.

"They (the INS) put out a rosy picture of the state and don't seem to realize the security forces still control things," said Daille Park, an Anchorage immigration lawyer. Defectors automatically receive 15 years imprisonment in their homelands

See Defectors, page B-8

**Times**  
**ANCHORAGE**  
**& ALASKA**

Monday, March 5, 1990

**B**

# Defectors

Continued from page B-1

just for seeking political asylum abroad, he said.

Prokhorenko joined four other Soviets and 170 Poles in Alaska who have sought political asylum since October 1968. While two Soviets and a small number of Poles were granted asylum, the majority probably face deportation.

"The vast majority of the asylum applications from Poles in the last year have been denied," Johnson said. In most cases, the applicants did not prove "a well-founded fear of persecution," he said Friday.

The Anchorage INS office has denied asylum to at least 60 of the 170 Poles and two of the five Soviets in the last two months, said Peggy Bergsrud of Anchorage. Bergsrud, who is of Polish descent,

has assisted Polish and Soviet defectors since 1984.

"I think about immigration problems and I feel sad. I know if I go back they find 100 reasons to put me in jail," said Igor Yelkov, who defected from a Soviet trawler July 6, 1989, in Dutch Harbor. The INS office in Anchorage rejected his asylum application late last year. He is awaiting a hearing, before an immigration judge.

Bergsrud and others in the local community do not believe the local INS office has treated all the defectors fairly or individually.

"It's patently wrong. It's an error," said Park, referring to the INS denial of Yelkov's application. Park has taken the Soviet's case.

It is much harder for the Polish and Soviet defectors of the past year to gain asylum than it was earlier this decade, Andy Lis said. Lis was awarded political asylum in 1984 and now has his work and residency permits.

"They have the same motives, the same facts as I did," Lis said. Since INS

policies have changed, it is not granting asylum to these new defectors, he said.

"Fifteen poles received in the same envelope denials of asylum dated Dec. 24," Bergsrud said. While they all did list the same address, the fact that INS mailed the letters out in the same envelope on Christmas eve, demonstrates that the INS is "batch processing" these defectors, she said.

Johnson denied this charge. The INS continues to evaluate each application individually, he said. While unusual, he said, it was possible that a group listing the same address could have their asylum denial letters bunched in one envelope.

The policies governing political asylum have not changed, Johnson said. Persecution based on "race, religion, nationality, political opinion or membership in a social group" must be likely, Johnson said.

"Many applicants have very little substantive information that they have been persecuted — very little beyond opinions," Johnson said.

The political situation has changed in both Poland and the Soviet Union, and the

required State Department recommendations regarding individual asylum cases reflect this, Johnson said. The condition of the defector's country at the time his application is processed is part of the decision process.

"It's as if they are saying, 'I sure hope they adjudicate my case before the situation gets better,'" Johnson said.

But Bergsrud said the INS should give defectors "the benefit of the doubt." The difficulty these newcomers have with the language, obtaining jobs and securing legal counsel warrants special consideration, she said.

"I believe our government bureaucracy at best is difficult for Americans, and these people coming here and not speaking English are voiceless people. And that is the simple reason I'm involved," Bergsrud said.

"I have no doubt that there are some individuals who have defected for economic reasons. But I also know some have been persecuted," Bergsrud said. "I have seen the scars."

# Asylum

Continued from page B-1

in advance of their plans to flee the Soviet Union. Each of them here an escape story.

"I thought I could speak my mind," Yelkov said. I spoke about God and criticized the Komsomol, the communist youth league, he said.

Yelkov spoke quietly, tensely in halting English. Andy Lis, a Pole who gained asylum in 1984, sat at the table to translate any misunderstandings.

As a result of his outspokenness, Yelkov, second radio officer on a Soviet trawler, was reprimanded by both the ship's captain and the communist party commissar on board, he said. On his last voyage, Yelkov served on the trawler Tigil, out of Sakhalin Island off the Soviet

Far East coast.

After three months of fishing in the Bering Sea, he and other sailors agitated for a U.S. port call, instead of returning to a Soviet port, Yelkov said. This further alienated him from the captain and commissar, he said.

When Tigil's captain decided to dock in Dutch Harbor, Yelkov made the acquaintance of Americans on a neighboring boat. The Americans invited him aboard and they freely discussed perestroika, he said.

"The captain and commissar pulled me off," Yelkov said. Back on the Tigil, he was denied shore leave, depriving him the thought of his chance to flee.

"Nobody gave you permission to talk like that without control. You're just a worker. You can work and I can talk," the commissar told me," Yelkov said.

Later, while he slept in his cabin, "somebody opened the door and put the pillow on my face and stabbed me," Yelkov said.

He was taken ashore in Dutch Harbor and then flown for treatment to Humana

Hospital in Anchorage. There he announced his intention to seek asylum here.

Unlike Yelkov, he had to invent his own escape route, Prokhorenko said. He paced the floor and spoke passionately as he related his escape. He said he was "nervous."

He resided in Moscow where he worked for the state-run Picture Productions and helped film "Is There Going to be Communism," Prokhorenko said.

Secretly he attempted to film Pamyat, a Russian nationalistic extremist group but was discovered, Prokhorenko said.

Pamyat discovered him secretly filming their meeting, Prokhorenko said. He likens the group to German Nazis and racists who count communist party officials among its members.

"They threatened to burn me alive in my own apartment if I did not leave Moscow immediately," Prokhorenko said.

A month after the Oct. 10, 1989 incident, he flew to Magadan because he had heard of a Soviet delegation leaving from there for Alaska, Prokhorenko said. He did not,

however, know when the group would leave, he said.

"Since I would have to wait over a month for a flight out (with the delegation), I convinced a doctor to fake a medical excuse for me so that I could wait in Magadan instead of having to return to Moscow."

Travel to Magadan is restricted as it is in much of the Soviet Far East, Prokhorenko explained. Visitors must have a reason and official permission to remain there, he said.

He also forged a KGB document from the Popular Science and Educational Studio Center in Moscow allowing him to travel abroad, he said.

"I showed the document to the head of the Soviet delegation and he permitted me to board the plane heading for Anchorage."

"With my forged documents, I bought and sneaked myself into a large delegation of people who were leaving for Alaska for a Rotary Exchange."

H J R

64

SENATE STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

BILL NUMBER <sup>CS</sup> HJR 64

SPONSOR ULMER

BILL TITLE

DATE REFERRED 1-30-90

HEARING SCHEDULED 2-5-90

FISCAL NOTE PREPARED

SPONSOR CONTACTED Katy ✓

INTERESTED PARTIES CONTACTED

OTHER

DATE: January 30, 1990

FURTHER:

DATE TURNED INTO OFFICE: \_\_\_\_\_

State Affairs Committee considered CSHJR 64 (State Aff) am

Relating to the placement of a geographically correct Alaska on national maps.

and recommended:

- replace with CS CS HJR 64  same title
- or adopt \_\_\_\_\_ CS \_\_\_\_\_  new title
- attached amendment(s)  technical title change (HB only)
- \_\_\_\_\_ letter of intent adopted

do pass

do not pass

no recommendation

individual recommendations

further referral to \_\_\_\_\_

ATTACHES NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):

APPROVES PREVIOUS:

fiscal note(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Dept/Date: \_\_\_\_\_

fiscal note(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Dept/Date: \_\_\_\_\_

zero fiscal note(s) \_\_\_\_\_

zero fiscal note(s) \_\_\_\_\_

appropriation-no fiscal note

Governor's bill w/fiscal note

SIGNING DO PASS:

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS:

*Tom Kell*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
*Max Kirk*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
*Alie Adams*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*Pat Touchette do Pass*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair: Signature and Recommendation

DRAFT # 2

PAT HAS OK'D —

Amend by adding:

(Following line 11, Page 1 add:) WHEREAS Alaska encompasses an area of 365 million acres, one-fifth of the total land area of the continental United States and is the largest state in the United States; and

NEW

Amend by adding: 20

(Following line ~~18~~, Page 1 add;) WHEREAS geographic illiteracy has become a serious concern for the American people and has been identified as a priority in educational program development; and

Amend by changing:

(Line 29, Page 1) size, (and) proportion, or accompanied with a scale reflecting proportion, and location.

SB

Terri  
Barnister:  
Legal

JEANNE —

We need a DRAFT CS reflecting these changes as written. I have a message w for Terri Barnister to call but with STATE AFFAIRS all afternoon I know I'll miss her call — so I left my name and your name. Could you read the changes to her over the phone if I'm not here. We need ASAP. THANKS,

## FISCAL NOTE

**REQUEST:**

Revision Date: 2/5/90  
 Title: Location of Alaska on Maps  
 Sponsor: Ulmer  
 Requestor: \_\_\_\_\_

Agency Affected: \_\_\_\_\_  
 BRU: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Components: \_\_\_\_\_

**EXPENDITURES/REVENUES:** (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93	FY 94	FY 95	FY 96
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

CAPITAL	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
---------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

REVENUE	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
---------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

**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						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

**ANALYSIS :** (Attach a separate page if necessary)

No fiscal impact

Prepared by: Senate State Affairs  
 Division: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: 465-3879  
 Date: 2/5/90

Approved by Commissioner: Senator Pat Pourchot  
 Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 2/5/90

**Distribution (by preparer):**

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

## FISCAL NOTE

**REQUEST:**

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 Title: Location of Alaska on Maps  
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 Requestor: \_\_\_\_\_

Agency Affected: \_\_\_\_\_  
 BRU: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Components: \_\_\_\_\_

**EXPENDITURES/REVENUES:** (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93	FY 94	FY 95	FY 96
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

<b>CAPITAL</b>	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
----------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

<b>REVENUE</b>	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
----------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

**FUNDING:** (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
<b>TOTAL</b>	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

**POSITIONS:**

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

**ANALYSIS :** (Attach a separate page if necessary)

No fiscal impact.

Prepared by: House State Affairs  
 Division: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: 465-4963  
 Date: Jan 19, 1990

Approved by Commissioner: W. A. "Red" Bauer Chair  
 Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: Jan 19, 1990

Distribution (by preparer) :

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

A very bad map, as we know Alaska has its share of earthquakes.

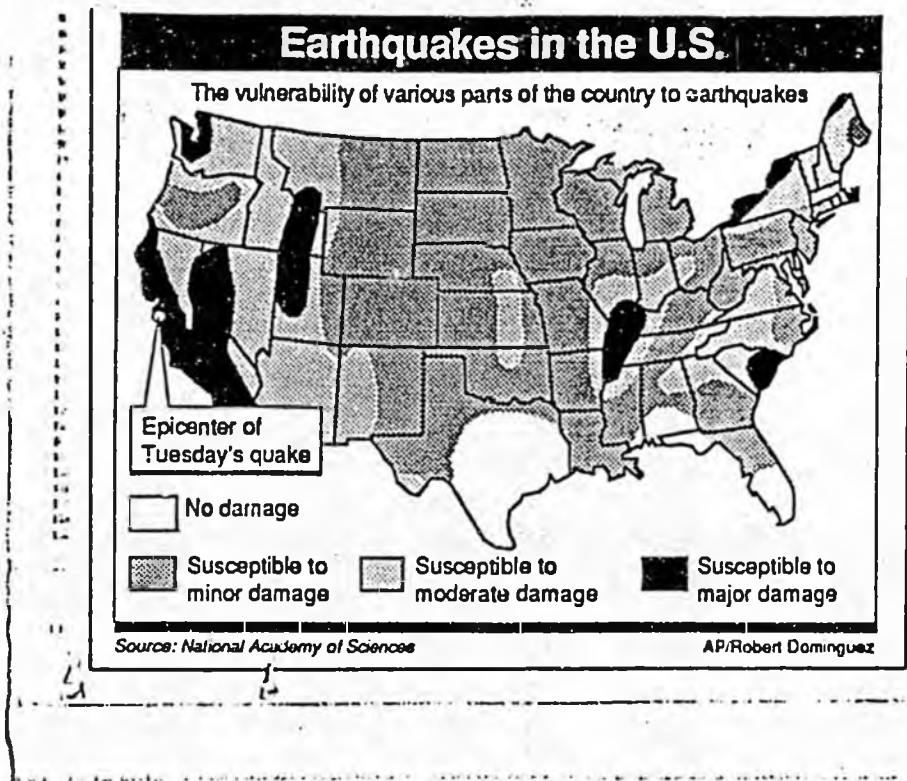
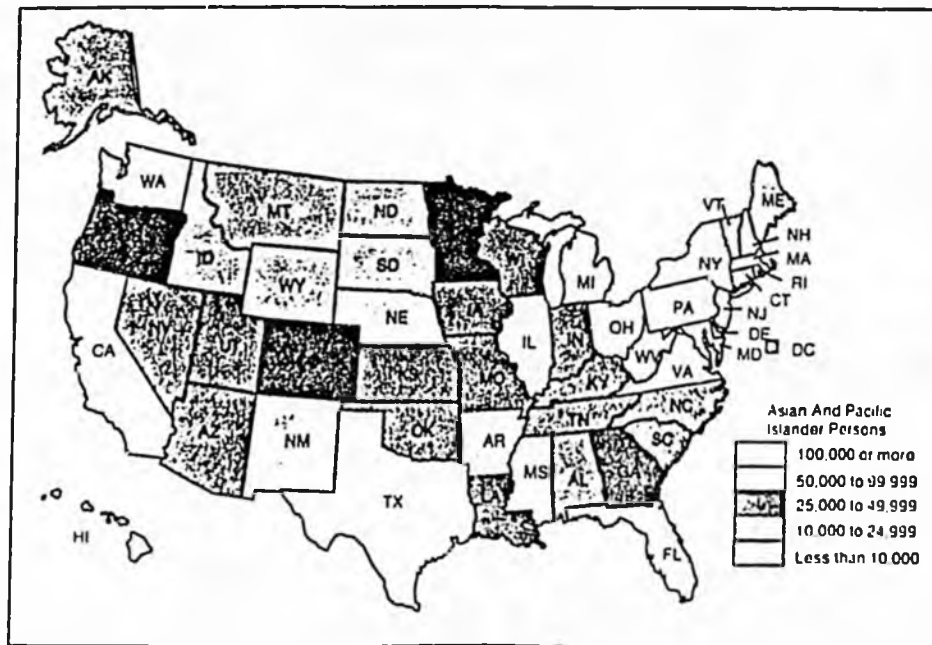


Figure 4. Number of Asian and Pacific Islander Persons by State: 1990



Finally, a very good and correct map. (It can be done.)

THE REAL SIZE OF ALASKA



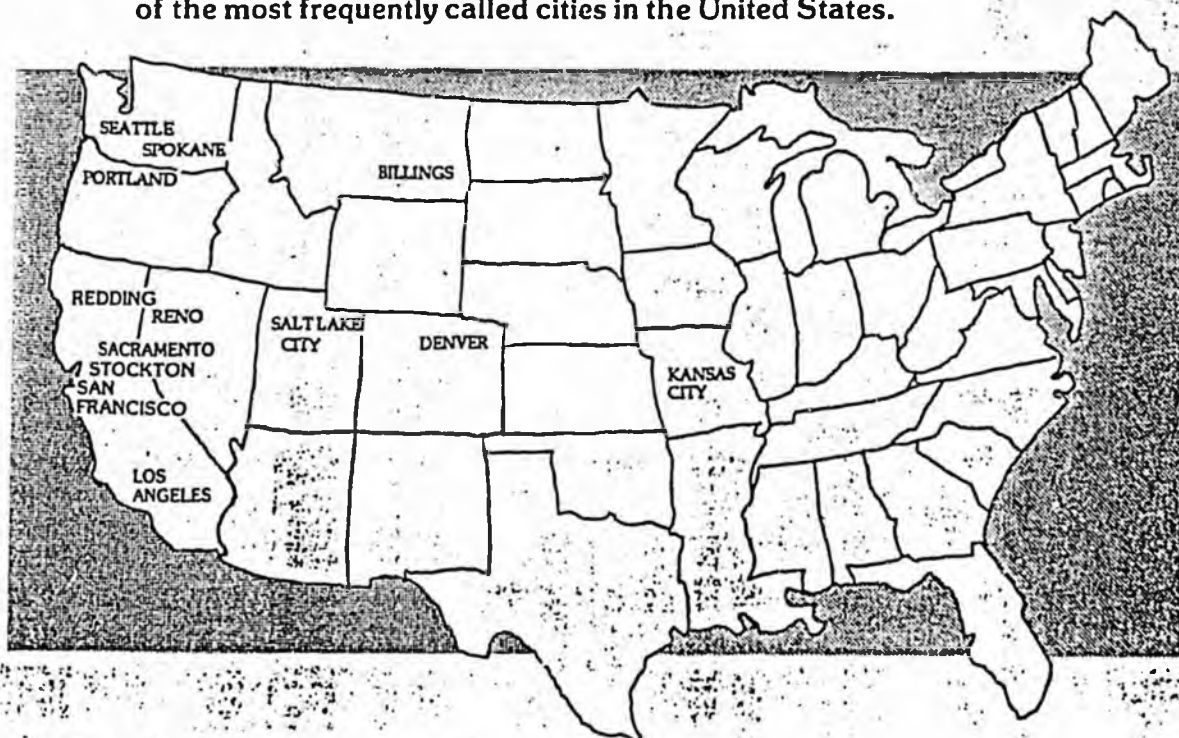
**Alaska: America's largest state**

Isn't Alaska still in the Northwest?

*Do you frequently call any of these cities?*

**EXECULINES OF THE NORTHWEST, INC. PROVIDES UP TO 40%  
SAVINGS ON CALLS MADE TO 13 CITIES**

Execulines of the Northwest, Inc., is proud to offer our exclusive "On-Net" Program to local businesses. As the only local company with its own digital network, Execulines is pleased to pass on tremendous savings on all long distance, and particularly on calls made to some of the most frequently called cities in the United States.



*PROVIDING INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS TO OUR CUSTOMERS' LONG DISTANCE NEEDS.*



**Execulines of the Northwest, Inc.**

1333 Lincoln Suite 2 Bellingham, WA 98226 (206)676-1100 or 1-800-343-5364

Don't New Yorkers know where Alaska is?

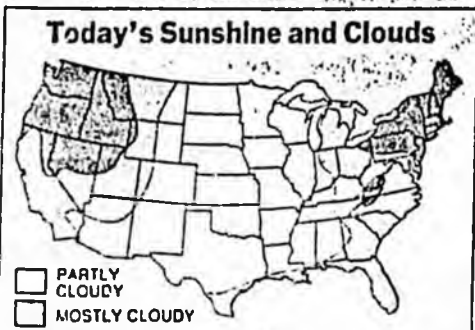
# New York Times

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1989

## Weather Report

Meteorology: Pennsylvania State University

### Today's High Temperatures and Precipitation



### Weather Highlight

Powerful Hurricane Hugo will threaten the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico today and tonight. Conditions will improve slowly in the Leeward Islands.

**Hurricane Hugo: Next 36 Hours**

ern Pacific. San Francisco reported thunder and rain, an uncommon event in September.

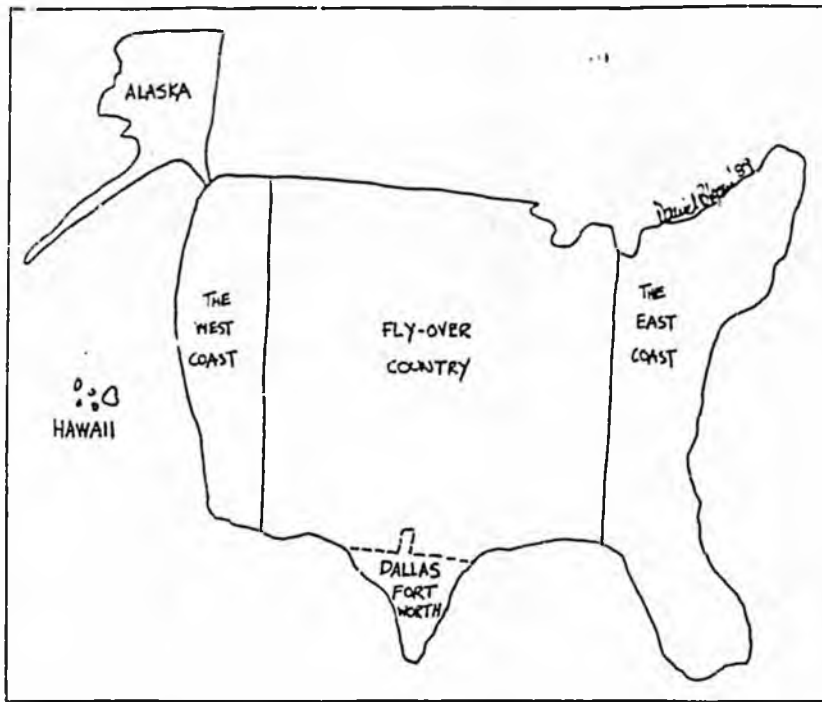
Only once in five years do thunder-

storms occur along the northern coast of California. This month is usually one of the warmest and driest for the region. More showers are expected for today

along the coast with the first snow of the season likely to fall in the northern Sierras tomorrow as very cold air aloft pushes itself inland.



# INSIDE THE BELTWAY



## Geography lesson

Dan Bloom is a Juneau journalist who was a cartoonist for The Washington Star and ex-editor of an Alaska weekly newspaper. But mostly he is a man with a cause. He wants to put his state on the map at least roughly where it ought to be: northwest of Washington state.

"A lot of maps in newspapers tend to leave Alaska off entirely or put it in a box south of California," he complained by phone the other day. Obliging, he sent a hand-drawn map (above) to show the way he thinks the media's maps should look. Sort of.

Dan is not an unreasonable man. He recognizes the space problems that newspaper makeup men face. "You could probably take a little out of South Dakota and Iowa if you needed to make room," he said. "That's all flyover country anyhow. Or maybe a chunk of Texas."

And since Alaska is one-fifth the size of the Lower 48, he doesn't expect it to be in scale.

What worries Dan is kids like the 10-year-old girl in Michigan who heard about his campaign and put Alaska northwest of Washington on a geography test. The teacher marked it wrong and told her, "Alaska belongs in a box off California."

A resolution asking mapmakers and editors to stop "mismapping Alaska" will be introduced in the state legislature next month. Attempts to canvass members of Alaska's congressional delegation yesterday were unavailing. They were either traveling or back home, and who can blame them? With the weather we've been having, wouldn't you rather be sunning yourself in Baja California — even in a box?

# Reporters from Outside become accidental tourists

1/16/90

By DUSTY RHODES  
Daily News reporter

Anchorage, Alaska

**U**sed to be, the only time Alaska got mentioned on the national morning news was when the weatherman was desperate to fill his segment. He might mention the snowfall in Anchorage by gesturing to a framed, miniature outline of our state, leading sleepy Americans to believe that Alaska is an island about one third the size of Texas, kept in a box off the coast of California.

But during the past year and a half, the national media have been forced to give Alaska more attention than rare, random reports on snowfall. Between the trapped whales and the cold wave and the oil spill and Mount Redoubt, Alaska has probably got more media attention in the past 15 months than in the previous 15 years.

Granted, most of this recent Alaska news has been patently *bad* news. Even the whale rescue has been denounced as a silly, high-priced circus.

But there was a bright side to this sudden focus on Alaska. Roving reporters from Outside became accidental Alaska tourists, and some fell in love with Alaska and Alaskans. They went back to their hometowns sounding better than cruise ship brochures, talking about our apparently unique "spirit."

(Of course, since many of them hailed from smoggy, crowded, crime-riddled cities like Los Angeles, New York or Washington,

## STORY COUNT

Number of times Alaska stories appeared in major media

**THE NEW YORK TIMES**  
1988 90 (13 trapped whales)  
1989 193 (141 oil spill)

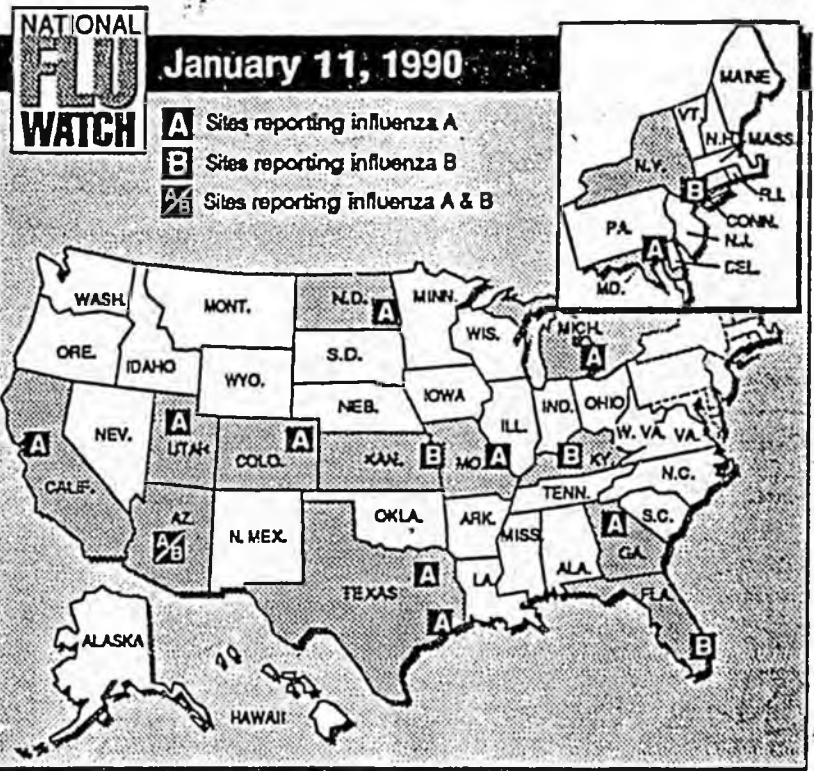
**MAJOR MAGAZINES**  
1988 60 (9 trapped whales)  
1989 120 (71 oil spill)

**NATIONAL PUBLIC RADIO**  
1987 25  
1988 37 (5 trapped whales)  
1989 125 (102 oil spill)

Sources: New York Times Index, Readers Guide to Periodical Literature, and National Public Radio.

U

Friday-Saturday, January 12-13, 1990



# Influenza hits Texas, spreads across U.S.

MR BLOOM -  
I SAW AN ARTICLE IN THE  
DETROIT FREE PRESS (10-9-86) AND 1986  
WOULD LIKE TO ADD MY SUPPORT TO  
YOUR NATIONAL CAMPAIGN TO PUT  
ALASKA ON THE MAP - WHERE IT SHOULD  
BE!  
GREETINGS FROM THE SCOGY  
METROPOLIS OF DETROIT!

Melanie A Hessens  
15333 EVANSTON  
DETROIT, MICH.  
49234

DETROIT, MICHIGAN

## Dan Bloom's mad and he's gotten USA Today to listen

By IMRE NEMETH

**W**hen Willard Scott gives the weather forecast every morning on NBC's Today Show (and in between grimaces at Bryant Gumbal), illuminated behind his athletic body is a map of the United States. All the appropriate high pressure systems, low pressure systems, warm fronts, cold fronts and storms are illustrated in graphic — although somewhat cartoony — detail.

After he points out all the hot spots and cold spots and wishes happy birthday to a few centenarians who should've died years earlier, he may lean to the left of the screen far enough so that viewers can see the last two ignored states. Usually, he pays absolutely no attention to Alaska and Hawaii and focuses on the Lower 48.

If he were to realize it, both the hot and cold spots for the nation would probably be in the 49th and 50th states.

The problem (and the point to this story) is: neither of the aforementioned states is represented geographically intact. They appear in exaggerated size and in little boxes in the lower left somewhere near Baja California. This fact is repeated on most maps purchased in this country.

Juneau resident Dan Bloom finds this altogether irritating. It's not impossible, he says, to depict the state of Alaska in its rightful position as a part of the North American continent.

Three years ago while editor of Juneau's Capital City Weekly, he took the fight to free the state from the box to the public.

The author and part-time teacher wrote an editorial calling for Juneau residents to write a letter to the national newspaper *USA Today* to convince its editorial staff of the importance of Alaska's true location. For some reason the response was strong enough to bring the editors over to Bloom's way of thinking. The current national weather maps in that publication represent Alaska as a real place -- without a box border.

"We ran a headline when they changed their policy that read, 'When Juneau talks, USA Today listens,'" Bloom said.

Subsequent campaigns to other publications weren't as successful. Bloom himself either wrote or called all sorts of major magazines and newspapers — including the New York Times, L.A. Times, Newsweek and a host of others — to enlist aid in the venture. Mostly, he met with opposition. Many were interested in the concept, even if their graphics department said it was an impossibility. His correspondence with columnists paid off. At least 25 wrote stories on the idea and many included Bloom's address as he had requested to measure the response later.

He received more than 2,000 postcards and letters from all over the country.

"One sixth grade girl wrote and said, 'I was marked wrong for putting Alaska in the Northwest. The teacher said it belonged in a box in the lower lefthand corner,'" Bloom recalled.

It's image and it suffers from being in a box, he adds.

"Since we've been a state for 30 years, you think we'd be considered part of the country," he said. "Most maps in elementary schools have Alaska in a little map south of California."

Basically, the response then, as now, from mapmakers and the news-media is that the problem is one of logistics.

The president of Rand McNally wrote Bloom and agreed in principle with his complaint but defended his industry's position saying that it was a space problem and nothing more.

"If USA Today can change its map policy then there's no problem," the Juneau resident said. "Basically, a map is a symbolic representation of a country."

Bloom hasn't been too active in his map campaigning but figures to start up again, looking to the legislature for assistance this time around

USA does it right--other publications could do it too.

14A • FRIDAY, JANUARY 12, 1990 • USA TODAY

# WEATHER ACROSS THE USA

Weather data: Weather Services Corp.

## HOW TO USE THIS PAGE

The color key shows today's high temperatures. The numbers below cities are today's forecast high and tomorrow morning's low. Temperatures are Fahrenheit.

## LEGEND

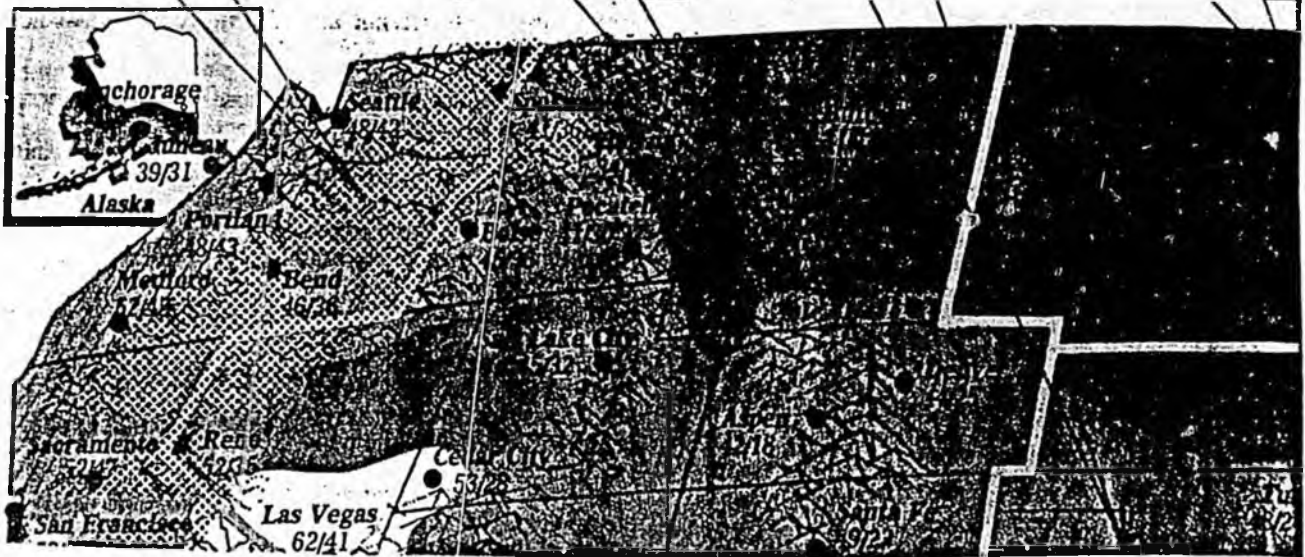
Showers  Rain 

**Pacific Coast:** Steady rain likely all day central Calif. coast into western Ore. and Wash. Showers spreading inland.

**Rockies:** Afternoon rain showers in northern Idaho, western Mont. A little wet snow in Mont. Chilly morning east of Rockies.

**South Central:** A cold morning across region except Texas, La. coasts. Sunny, pleasant day everywhere. Clear, cold tonight.

**North Central:** Sunny region. Windy morning in northern Dakotas, Minn. Windy tonight in west.



My wife and I certainly know where Juneau is. It was our pleasure along with 100 other Shriners and their ladies to visit Juneau on the first voyage this spring of the Noordam. We spent much enjoyable time on the glacier, at a salmon bake, the Red Dog Saloon, and a pleasant walk in your fine city. This was my wife's 1st visit to Alaska and my 2nd. We are looking forward to another to a great state and a great city. Did enjoy column about your problem in Fort Lauderdale News. Thought egret might be change from puffins.

Joseph Hage!in  
7527 Overlook Dr.  
Lake Worth, FL  
33463

Gulfstream Card Co. Inc. • 7801 N.W. 57 St. Miami, 33156

Yes! I support your campaign to put Alaska on the map. Last year I cut it out of my wall map and put it in its proper place. Its hard to explain to kids why its so cold in Alaska when its floating somewhere near Mexico.

Alaska sounds a beautiful place, it deserves to be on the map where it belongs. I live in Fairfax but I vacation at Harbor Beach every year so I want a postcard from there. I want one postcard from Alaska. Thank you,

Lick, Kilos  
5767 S. 175th St. 51253  
Renton, WA 98057

Gulfstream Card Co. Inc. • 7801 N.W. 57 St. Miami, 33156

DEAR GOVERNOR ALASKA,  
IN JAPAN, WE  
THINK ALASKA SHOULD  
BE ON THE U.S. MAP,  
NORTH OF SEATTLE.  
OTHERWISE, WE MIGHT  
NOT BE ABLE TO FIND  
ALASKA. GEOGRAPHY IS  
IMPORTANT IN JAPAN,  
ALSO. Your friend

Makoto SATOH  
891-7 Yitokaido  
Yotsukaido CHIBA-CHEU  
JAPAN

I READ YOUR NAME IN RON HUDSFETH'S COLUMN IN THE ATLANTA CONSTITUTION. I KEEP A WALL MAP OF THE U.S.A. HUNG IN MY OFFICE. SURE ENOUGH, ALASKA IS SOUTHEAST OF CALIFORNIA.

I WILL ACCEPT A POSTCARD SIZE MAP OF YOUR BEAUTIFUL STATE BUT WOULD REALLY LIKE TO HAVE SOMETHING LARGER.

THANK,

RUSSELL ROSS  
3139 OAKCLIFF RD, 3P.  
DORAVILLE, GA. 30340

# Alaska State Legislature

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



### REPRESENTATIVE FRAN ULMER

#### MEMORANDUM

TO: Senator Pourchot, Chairman  
Members  
Senate State Affairs Committee

FROM: Rep. Fran Ulmer

DATE: February 5, 1990

RE: HJR 64

-----

Three years ago a local Juneau editor, Dan Bloom, began a nationwide campaign to ask publications to put Alaska where it belongs on maps of the U.S., in the Northwest corner, not off the coast of California. At that time, concerned Alaskans wrote to the national newspaper *USA Today*, and convinced their editorial staff of the importance of the correct placement of Alaska on their national maps.

Subsequent campaigns to sway other publications have not been as successful, but columnists throughout the U.S. have been writing stories on this idea and have asked people to write to Dan Bloom with their comments. Already, thousands of letters of support for this idea have come to Juneau.

Last year, in a national study of high school students, an astounding number of students were found to be geographically illiterate. Considering the publications they view daily, its not surprising that they are unable to place a state 1/5 size of the country anywhere near its correct position on national maps. In a small way, HJR 64 will help America's students by asking major publications to place Alaska correctly on U.S. maps.

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



# UPDATE

◆  
"The  
imperatives  
are clear:  
It is time  
to learn  
languages.  
It is time  
to learn  
geography."  
◆

*Virginia Governor  
Gerald L. Baliles,  
Chairman,  
National Governors'  
Association*

*Layers of life abound  
in the fragile ecosystem  
of a South American  
tropical rain forest.  
(See "Tropical Rain  
Forests: An Endangered  
Resource?" on page 10.)*

*Photograph by Loren McIntyre*



Geography Frontiers

## Alaska Alliance Holds First Summer Institute

The June skies over Anchorage, Alaska, were clear and bright as the Alaska Geographic Alliance convened its first summer geography institute. For two weeks, 31 elementary and secondary teachers from throughout the state attended classes at the University of Alaska, Anchorage. Directed by Alliance Coordinators Marjorie Gorsuch and Roger Pearson, the institute focused on the geography of Alaska and the state's relationship with the Pacific and Arctic Rims.



"I believe teachers and students should go out and experience geography firsthand, through the soles of their feet, and with all of their senses," says Pearson. Putting his ideas into practice, he led the teachers on a walk through downtown Anchorage, examining

Pacific cultural influences. They also walked to Earthquake Park to examine the impact of the 1964 quake. One class was conducted on the top floor of the tallest building in Anchorage, where the teachers used aerial and historic photographs and old maps to study changes in the urban landscape of Anchorage.

A field trip to Prudhoe Bay, sponsored by BP Exploration, highlighted the institute. Institute participants flew north past Mount McKinley to the North Slope to visit the Endicott oil-producing facilities. They stopped at the beginning of the trans-Alaska pipeline at Alyeska Pump Station #1 for a group photo. The participants observed caribou, snowy owls, and other wildlife of the tundra. A few dipped their toes in the Arctic Ocean.

Co-director Pearson declares the institute a great success—one that offered a unique experience for the participants. "How many other summer institutes are there where moose graze by the dormitories, the governor stops by for a barbecue, and the participants can have a summer solstice volleyball game in natural light at midnight?"

The institute was one of 28 alliance summer geography institutes sponsored in 1989 by the Geography Education Program and state geographic alliances. Funded by state and local contributions and by the National Geographic Society Education Foundation, these institutes focus on geography content, teaching strategies, and in-service workshop preparation. ♦

—Geoffrey Underwood

*Alaska Governor Steve Cowper, an avid supporter of geography education, visits the alliance's first summer institute.*

Photograph courtesy Alaska Geographic Alliance

## Recognition Program Focuses On Geography

Since 1982, the U. S. Department of Education has sponsored the Secondary School recognition Program, which honors exceptional public and private schools. Elementary and secondary schools are honored in alternate years. Last year, 218 of the nation's secondary schools were cited for overall excellence. For the first time, geography was emphasized last year in the nationwide competition in order to stress the need for geography to play a more prominent role in the curriculum.

"Designating geography as a special emphasis sends a signal to all schools that we need to pay more attention to geography," says Jean Narayanan, staff director of the School Recognition Program.

During the 1989–1990 school year, geography will once again be emphasized. ♦

♦  
"I believe teachers and students should go out and experience geography firsthand, through the soles of their feet, and with all of their senses."  
♦



# The Alliance Reporter

## NGS INSTITUTE REFLECTIONS

**Peg Stout**—I will never see the world through the same eyes again; I will never feel the same about being a teacher again - I attended the National Geographic Summer Institute in Washington, D.C. this summer!

My teaching career started in the autumn of 1950 in Virginia, and I've been teaching most of the time since then. The only thing that rivals my experience this summer is the two years I spent teaching in an Ethiopian boys' school.

This summer I learned that geography is more than naming and locating places on maps and globes. I learned that the dynamics of geography are alive and with us everywhere; they influence everything we do.

Geography is motion-action of people, animals, machines, water, air, and ideas. Geography is humans interacting with their environment, and we need to be aware of what is going on all over the world because everywhere is our back yard today. No longer can we afford to ignore what is happening in other parts of the world because it "doesn't concern us." We must be aware of what is happening in the world and relate it to our students in such a way that they, too, will be able to see how the mosaics of the world fit together in an exciting way that involves them.

As exciting as the information we gained was, it was nothing compared to the sense of pride and dignity that was instilled in us during that month. I came away with the feeling that teachers really are important, that



Alaska team group photo at French Embassy in Washington, D.C. during NGS Summer Geography Institute. Top: M. Keene (L) and J. Marcello; Seated, L to R: P. Stout, D. Roope, B. Lowden and L. Fry.

we can make a difference, that we must make a difference. This feeling developed because we were treated with dignity; we were professionals who were treated as professionals worthy of first-class treatment at all times. I feel that it was truly an honor and a privilege to have the opportunity to attend this institute! It is my hope that I will be able to share the information, the excitement of teaching geography and the sense of pride in being a geography teacher with many other teachers in the future.

**Bobbi Lowden**—An intense four week session of geography education was promised, and it was that and so much more!

Sequestering 70 educators from across the country with a common interest in geography can't fail to produce a kaleidoscope of ideas. For me, this was one of the most valuable features of the Summer Geography Institute in Washington, D.C. The sharing of ideas and common concerns, and the memory of the bountiful humor and energy generated by this group will not soon be forgotten.

I've brought back ideas from Hawaii, Connecticut, Oklahoma, California, Massachusetts, and the other states represented; but I also have the fond memories of the people with whom I ate, walked, talked, and shopped geography during those four weeks.

Thanks to the SGI, I've returned to Juneau with a renewed interest in teaching geography and "spreading the word," and with a different eye for viewing the world.

*(I would be remiss if I failed to mention the caliber of the other members of the Alaska contingency. I was proud to be among the talent displayed by Peg, Dan, Jody, Marlene, and Lyn.)*

## The Other Census: National Geography Society Set To Count 1990 Geography Bee

### Winners

by Jody Marcello

On Friday, May 19, 1989, and three top finishers were recognized, National Geographic Society President Gil Grosvenor called all 55 state winners to the stage to be recognized as winners, too. He acknowledged that they had won a classroom competition, won a school competition, scored high enough on a qualifying examination to win a place in the state competition, and then won the state competition.

If we use that logic as we prepare for the 1990 Geography Bee, we calculate, as NGS will, that there will be 55 state winners, 5500 state qualifying winners, 25,000 school winners, and approximately 250,000 classroom winners. Now, let's stop to think about all the geography questions answered right that this translates into: I'm willing to go for 25,000,000.

The important point is that the National Geography Bee recognizes winners: kids who are doing something right. It recognizes that for each of those 250,000 plus kids, there are parents or supporting adults and at least one dedicated. If we start to add in all of the sisters and brothers, friends, principals, teachers, neighbors, etc. so on who offer support to these winning youngsters, the numbers multiply quickly.

The National Geography Bee may be the most important census of 1990. It gives us a chance to count winners and to recognize what is working in the schools and the homes in support of geography education.

The most important date for this winning census is November 1, 1989, as that is the deadline for schools to register for participation in the 1990 National Geography Bee. The competition is set up for students in grades 4-8. Schools that participated in last year's Bee are automatically registered for the 1990 Bee. Schools that did not participate must register no later than November 1, 1989. School principals should have received a mailing last spring detailing the registration process. If this mailing has not appeared, send a letter to Mary Lee Elden, Manager, National Geography Bee, National Geographic Society, 17th and M Streets NW, Washington, DC, 20036.

Details for the state competition are being finalized by a newly established Geography Bee Subcommittee

of the Alaska Geographic Alliance. Geography Bee coordinators Jody Smothers Marcello of Sitka and Daniel Roope of Wrangell are seeking three additional members for this committee. Participants from the Alaska Geographic Alliance Institute held in Anchorage in June who are interested in serving on this committee should contact Jody (801 Lincoln St., Sitka, AK 99835, 747-3623 Home, 747-8672 Work) or Dan (Box 2176 Wrangell, AK 99929, 874-3212 Home, 874-3395 Work) no later than October 1, 1989.

Don't miss the chance to have your students stand up and be counted as WINNERS in the 1990 National Geography Bee!!!

This month in  
**The Alliance Reporter**

AGA Summer Institute Photo Album ...pg 3  
National Award Recipient in Homer! ...pg 4

## The Alliance Reporter

The Alaska Geographic Alliance (AGA) logo was designed to convey a sense of the five geographic themes. The circular image represents the earth; the primary role of geographic education is to present information and facts about the world. The intersecting lines represent *location*, position on the earth's surface, as well as identification of a specific *place* with its physical and human characteristics. The intersecting lines form specific *regions*, areas of unity which are the subject of geographic study. The Alaska Geographic Alliance initials, AGA, are placed in the globe to represent members of the Alliance working together in Alaska to build *relationships within places*. The lines that flow from the globe convey a sense of *movement*, movement between and among places. The fact that the logo was designed with computer graphics expresses the commitment of the Alaska Geographic Alliance to employ the newest technologies to communicate and develop geographic literacy.

*The Alliance Reporter* is published five times a year by the Alaska Department of Education. The purpose of *The Reporter* is to keep Alaskans informed about the activities of the Alaska Geographic Alliance and issues which impact geographic education. Please send news items, comments, and stories to Karen L. Cantillon, Editor, *The Alliance Reporter*, P.O. Box P, Juneau, AK 99811, or to RMEPS on the University of Alaska Computer Network. Alliance coordinators are Marjorie Gorsuch, Department of Education, P.O. Box P, Juneau, AK 99811 (907) 465-2881, and Roger Pearson, University of Alaska Fairbanks, Fairbanks, AK 99 (907) 474-7494.

This publication is made possible through funding by the Alaska State Legislature and matching funds from the National Geographic Society.

## Ideas? Ideas???

The Alaska Geographic Alliance Steering Committee is developing a 3-year plan for Alliance activities including teacher training and curriculum materials development. The plan will be submitted to the National Geographic Society on December 15, 1989 and will be the basis for our funding from NGS for the next three years. Your suggestions for directions you think the Alliance should take are invited. Please contact any Steering Committee member with your ideas.

### Steering Committee 1989-90

Roger Pearson, Coordinator (474-7494) Fbks.  
 Marjorie Gorsuch, Coordinator (465-2888) Juneau  
 Pat Fitzgerald (789-4406) Juneau  
 Tom Gallagher (563-2560) Anchorage  
 Ron Gibbs (454-2633) Port Lions  
 Steve Haycox (786-1776) Anchorage  
 Joyce Honeychurch (786-1373) Anchorage  
 Bob Henning (206-774-4111) Edmonds, Washington  
 Jody Marcello (747-8672) Sitka  
 Rep. Terry Martin (333-6990) Anchorage  
 Doug Phillips (269-2210) Anchorage  
 Monica Thomas (474-6520) Fbks.

## National Historical Pictorial Map Contest Dates Set

The Commission on the Bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution has announced dates for the second annual National Historical Pictorial Map Contest. The contest is designed to encourage the study of geography within the context of early American history. Students are asked to use graphic or artistic representations to map historical and geographical events significant to the development of early American history. Students in grades 4-12 are eligible to participate. Cash awards are given to school winners at both state and national levels of the competition.

Last year's first place winners were Harvester Christian Academy, Anchorage (Elementary and Middle) and student Roderick Gray, Harvester Christian Academy (Secondary). Second place winners were Cantwell Elementary School, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Anchorage (Middle), and student Chris Halvorsen, Hollis School (Secondary).

Registration deadline is November 17; state judging will take place in March, and national judging is May 15. To register, contact the National Bicentennial Competition on the Constitution and Bill of Rights, Center for Civic Education, 5146 Douglas Fir Road, Calabasas, California 91302 (818-340-9320). All schools in the state should receive information on the contest from the center during September.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Alaska Geographic Alliance gratefully acknowledges the generous contributions of these organizations/businesses which helped to make the AGA Summer Geography Institute possible.

National Geographic Society  
 BP Exploration  
 Chevron  
 University Of Alaska Anchorage  
 The George F. Cnm Company, Inc.  
 Nystrom  
 Alaska Geographic Society  
 National Audubon Society  
 Hilton Hotel  
 Japanese Consulate  
 Pictures and the Computer Store  
 Ken Wray Print Shop  
 John Wiley and Sons  
 American Geographical Society

## TEACHER RESOURCES

### Alaska Maps...And More

Information on maps and services available from the Department of Interior can be obtained by contacting the National Cartographic Center at 1-800-USA-MAPS. An index of all available maps is available from the department and may be obtained by calling the U.S. Geological Survey's Distribution Center in Anchorage at 561-5555 or 271-4307. Maps of Alaska are available for \$2.50 each by calling the same number.

### Global Survival Peace Project

John Bruce, a Haines, has created an interdisciplinary curriculum project focused on global peace and is currently teaching it as a course at Haines High School. *The Global Survival Handbook*, developed by John, contains 23 self-teaching units and more than 130 hands-on projects. Typical projects include making a 20-year time capsule, developing a plan for personal management, and developing a set of social principles based on natural laws. Write to John Bruce, P.O. Box 632, Haines AK 99827 (766-2469), for additional information on purchasing the project.

### Geophysical Institute Quarterly

An excellent newsletter is published quarterly as a public service by the Geophysical

Publications Office, Geophysical Institute, UAF, Fairbanks, AK 99775-0800. (474-7863).

### TC Recommends Book

Peggy Hutchins, an AGA Teacher Consultant trained at the AGA Summer Institute, recommends the publication *Geography Education*. This volume, published as part of Phi Delta Kappa's *Exemplary Practice* series, is designed to help teachers incorporate lively, engaging, geography lessons into current curriculum. The volume is available for \$20.00 from Phi Delta Kappa, P.O. Box 789, Bloomington, IN 47402-0789 (812) 339-1156.

### U.S. Census Teacher Materials

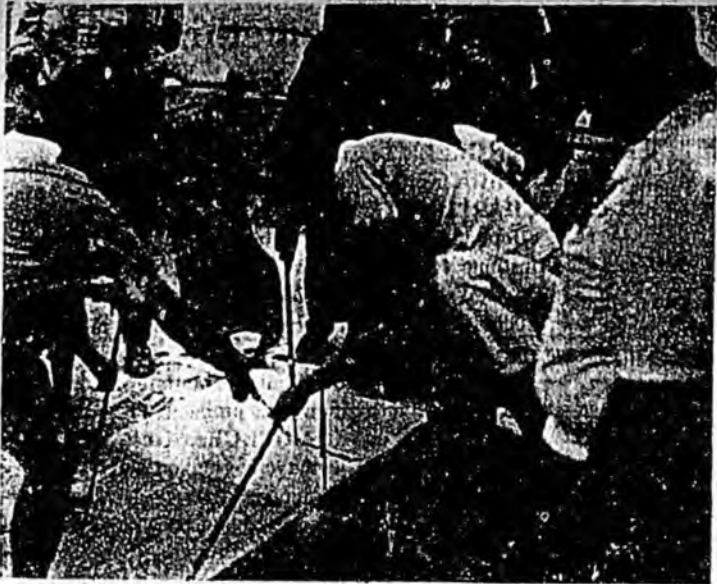
The U.S. Census Bureau has published a *1990 Census Education Project Teaching Kit*. This material will be sent to all school principals this spring. Contact the Customer Services Order Desk, Bureau of the Census, Washington, D.C. 20233. These K-12 materials are designed primarily for use during the 1990 census, but are reusable. A *Teacher Resource Guide* is also available free. Alaska data to supplement the national information is available from Kathryn Lizik, Alaska Department of Labor, P.O. Box 25504, Juneau, AK 99802-5504 (907) 465-4500.

### Culturgrams

Pamphlets on specific nations are available at nominal cost from Brigham Young University, Box 61Y FOB, Pueblo, Utah 84602. These pamphlets are comprehensive, readable, practical, and yet succinct.

### Moon Kit

A new kit of slides and information about the moon has been released by the Astronomical Society of the Pacific. The 18 slides include close-ups of craters, lava tubes and mountains as well as photos from the Apollo 11 landing. A 24-page book, which accompanies the kit, has comprehensive background information useful for the classroom. Send \$24.45 to the ASP, Moon Kit Dept. NPK, 390 Ashton Ave., San Francisco, CA 94112.



No. 1



No. 2



No. 3



No. 4



No. 5

#1—Participatory lessons were a feature of the Institute. Here a group of teachers assist Tim Peterson (center) in some "floor work."

#2—Graduation ceremonies marked the end of the two-week Institute with the faculty presenting certificates of achievement to the 31 teacher participants. Institute faculty and staff, from R to L, are: Marjorie Gorsuch and Roger Pearson, Alliance Coordinators, Geoffrey Underwood, NGS Liaison, Louie Yannotti, Rob Moore, Mary Bristol, Franklin Greenough, Harvey Brandt, and Pat Fitzgerald.

#3—Institute attendees gather at the starting point of

the Alaska pipeline during a one-day trip to Prudhoe Bay sponsored by BP Exploration.

#4—Robert A. Henning (L) being congratulated by Harvey Brandt on receiving the Alaska Geographic Alliance's first annual Recognition Award. Henning was given the award at the Institute Banquet in recognition of his pioneering efforts in Alaska geographic education and his significant contribution to our understanding and enjoyment of The Great Land. Henning, who has worked as a journalist and geography teacher, has served as publisher of The Alaska Sportsman (later renamed Alaska magazine), Milepost, Alaska Journal,

Earthlines/Tidelines, and Northwest Living. In 1968 he created the Alaska Geographic Society and has published the Alaska Geographic series of monographs since 1972 "to teach many more to know and use our natural resources." Henning has served on the Steering Committee of the Alaska Geographic Alliance since its inception.

#5—Governor Steve Cowper receives an AGA T-shirt and atlas along with thanks for his support of the Alliance's geography efforts from Marjorie Gorsuch during an informal barbeque. Dan Greer, AGA teacher participant, looks on.

## Brann Selected As Distinguished Teacher By NCGE

David Brann, a social studies teacher at Homer Junior High School, has been selected by the National Council for Geographic Education as the recipient of a 1989 Distinguished Teaching Award. David is one of only twenty K-12 teachers selected from throughout the United States for this honor. He will receive the award while attending the NCGE annual meeting in Hershey, Pennsylvania, next month.

David includes geography in all of his instruction. In addition to combining history and geography as a regular part of his eighth grade social studies class, David does extensive outdoor education involving map and compass work and even includes geography in his woodshop classes.

David concentrates on interdisciplinary approaches to his teaching and team taught with an art teacher creating maps which incorporated "good geography and good art." He has worked with the school librarian in a unit on historical fiction in which students researched their family trees and then wrote daily journals from the perspective of seventeenth century settlers. The genealogical research reaped unexpected results when David and two students discovered that they all had ancestors on the Mayflower and that, indeed, the three of them were related!

David has involved his students in the Geography Olympiad and the 1988 Geography Bee. He has been teaching for twenty years and is a member of the Alaska Council For The Social Studies and the Alaska Geographic Alliance.

## AGA Calendar

September 14—AGA Steering Committee Audio Conference

September 20 to 23—Association of Pacific Coast Geographers, Association of American Geographers, Annual Meeting, Fairbanks

September 25 to 27—Anchorage Private Schools Geography Inservice & Anchorage Area Council for the Social Studies meeting with Janet Crane, Sr. Geographer, Public & Educational Media, NGS

October 11 to 14—National Council for Geographic Education Meeting, Hershey, PA

November 10 to 13—National Council for the Social Studies Annual Conference, St. Louis, Missouri

November 12 to 18—Geography Awareness Week

November 16—Talkback on RATNET, *Geography and Our Environment*

April 19 to 21—Joint Conference "Education Partnership: Connections for the 90's"

June 10 to 23—AGA Summer Geography Institute, UAF

## Here's Something to Cheer About!

DANGREER, Seward for his careful listening skills at the AGA Institute.

CHARLIE MATTIOLI, North Pole for his creative efforts in thanking people who created summer AGA Institute.

NANCY MCCALED, 2nd grade teacher, Peterson School, Kodiak — incorporates geography into art, storytelling and celebrations.

RON GIBBS, Ouzinkie, Kodiak for forming a student-run corporation to export local products.

JULIE FROST and CHARLIE CRANGLE, 5th grade teachers, Seward, did a marvelous unit on geography of Seward involving the fishing industry.

ERNIE MANEWAL, Sitka, has done a Geoportrait Lesson on Alaska.

BARBARA SCHMIDTMAN, Central JHS, Anchorage, has a super word search about oil and oil-related vocabulary.

SYLVIA HUGHES, Anderson, Tri-Valley, wrote a fantastic theme poem on the oil spill during the AGA Institute.

DAVE HANSON, Mountain Village, plays a 20 Questions Game with his high school students using a map of Alaska.

STATORENE JACKSON, K-Beach Elementary Kenai, integrates geotaphy, English and reading in 4th grade classes.

KATHLEEN BRANDT, Baranof Elementary, Sitka, did a presentation at the AGA Institute, on mapping a town from the children's perspective.

NANCY MOTTETT, Nikiski Elementary, Kenai, integrates reading and geography through inspired teaching.

KASS FRIEND, Ravenwood Elementary, Anchorage, brings celebrations from around the world alive for her kindergarten students.

# Where is MALAWI?

"Where in the world is Malawi?" a student may ask.



A geography teacher may ask, "Where in Alaska may I go to order maps of the world, continents, nations, Alaska, etc? And how about maps of time and space (astronomy) for geo science? Or anatomy charts - maps of the body - for biology?"

There is now a place in Anchorage, Alaska which specializes in maps and globes, atlases and map games of all sorts. They take special order and purchase orders from teachers and school districts. They accept MC, Visa, American Express.

Where is this geo place? It's Maps Maps Maps: The Maps Place at 700 E. Benson Blvd. in the Country Village Mall, Anchorage, AK 99503  
Phone 907-274-MAPS

If you need some visual aids to help you teach map and geography skills so our Alaskan students improve on the Iowa Basics, you might just like to check out the Maps Place, a one stop map specialty shop.

By the way, where in the world is Malawi?

PS Do you know where to find the Iowa Basics, Chicago, Honolulu and Houston in the 48th state??? Be sure to ask about the new line of Alaskan educational maps.

A one stop map shop  
in the Country Village Mall  
700 E. Benson Blvd.  
274-MAPS

## The Maps Place

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A RESOURCE FOR STUDENTS



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Anchorage, AK 99504  
(907) 337-3543

## Geo-Themes

A world atlas activity program organized by five fundamental geographic themes: Location, Place, Relationships, Movement, and Regions

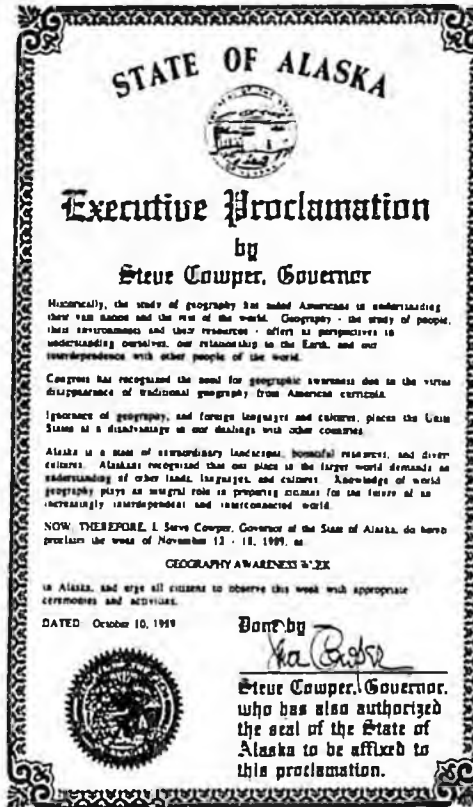


# The Alliance Reporter

## Geography Awareness Week Celebrated Statewide

Alaska's two highest elected officials will be among those taking an active role in celebrating Geography Awareness Week November 12th through 18th. Governor Steve Cowper has issued a proclamation making Alaska one of the many states joining Congress in supporting public awareness of the need for geography education.

Louie Yannotti, Chairperson of the AGA Geography Awareness Week Committee, has invited Cowper to share his interest in and knowledge of geography with students at Floyd Dryden Middle School, Juneau. Cowper will talk about his trip from Providenya to Vladivostok. He will discuss the Soviet environment, how it compares to Alaska, and how govern-



ment officials deal with common environmental problems such as pollution, rape of the land, open-cast (strip) mining, and preserving endangered species. One example of Soviet concern for endangered species is the attempt to save a giant sturgeon which inhabits the Amur River. This fish moves downstream to China where residents freely catch and eat so many that the species is endangered.

Lieutenant Governor Steve McAlpine will also take to the classroom to teach about the environment, the theme of Geography Awareness Week (GAW). He will meet with

(Continued on Pg. 6)

## Geography Bee Plans Progress

Jody Marcello reports that plans for this year's geography bee are moving right along! More than 200 of the 30,000 schools registered nationally are Alaska schools. National Geographic Society packets should be available early in January.

Of the 200 schools participating, the 100 top qualifiers will reach the state competition in March.

Additional details will be passed on as soon as they are available. Meanwhile, if you need more information, contact: Jody Marcello at 747-8672 (w), 747-3623 (h), or Dan Roope at 874-3395 (w), 874-3212 (h).

This month in  
*The Alliance Reporter*

- Lesson Plan:  
*Alaska—On the Edge?.....p. 3*
- AGA Teacher Consultants...p. 4



Alaska Geographic Alliance Vol. 2, #1 May 1988

### The Alliance Reporter

The *Alliance Reporter* is published five times a year by the Alaska Department of Education. The purpose of the *Reporter* is to keep Alaskans informed about the activities of the Alaska Geographic Alliance and issues which impact geographic education. Please send news items, comments and stories to Karen Cantillon, Editor, *Alliance Reporter*, P.O. Box F, Juneau, AK 99811, or to RMEPS on the University of Alaska Computer Network. *Alliance* coordinators are Marjorie Gorsuch, Department of Education, P.O. Box F, Juneau, AK 99811 (907) 465-2841, and Roger Pearson, Department of Geography, University of Alaska Fairbanks, Fairbanks, AK (907) 474-7494. This publication is made possible by a grant from the National Geographic Society.

## Teaching Resources Available

Educators who subscribe to *Newsweek's* Social Studies or Economics programs for their class are eligible to receive a *Geography Skills Resource Kit* free. The kit includes a world map, world map directory, detailed city and state road maps, and instructional programs and linemasters to reinforce basic map skills and understanding of key geography themes. For more information on this offer, write to *Newsweek*, Education Division, P.O. Box 414, Livingston, New York 07039-9939.

*GeoLearning* has developed a set of lesson plans to use in conjunction with their line of geography games and puzzles. *Geofile* consists of 20 hands-on learning activities which teach basic geographic concepts. More information can be obtained by writing to GeoLearning Corporation, P.O. Box 2042, Sheridan, WY 82801 (307)764-6436.

*Geography: A Resource Book for Secondary Schools*, by A. David Hill and Regina McCormick (\$35).

This book highlights disciplinary fundamentals as set forth in the widely

adopted *Guidelines for Geographic Education* of the Association of American Geographers and National Council for Geographic Education. Written in a non-technical style and from a geographer's perspective, the book features 215 figures, eight tables, maps, charts, author/title/subject index, and a glossary of geographic terms. Contact Gretchen Marks, ABC-CLIO, P.O. Box 4397, Santa Barbara, CA 93140-4397.

Cram has *Topic maps* available. These poster maps are available on a subscription basis, or you may order previous issues. They are published 10 times a year. Each month, a current issues map is made available. A subscription is available for \$85 per year. Contact the George Cram Company, 301 South LaSalle Street, P.O. Box 426, Indianapolis, Indiana 46206.

*Global Graphics and Resources* provides high quality graphic images (books/maps/posters/printers/greeting cards), objects, and prose that will increase appreciation of the planet and its peoples. Some products include Hugg-a-Planet Earth; The Changing City/Countryside; and The Earth from Space. They also do copy, layout, and design for printed communications such as newsletters, brochures, catalogs, and curriculum. Contact Global Graphics and Resources, 2108 Hillside Dr., Burlingame, CA 94010.

*Free information* is available on most Central and South American countries through the Organization of American States, General Secretariat, Washington, D.C.

For a *free map and brief information on U.S. Indian groups*, contact: Indian Rights Association, 1505 Race St., Philadelphia, PA 19102.

The *National Park Service* offers a primer on last year's fires at Yellowstone. The primer puts the fires into an historical context. The report also examines the role of fire in Yellowstone's wilderness ecosystem, and discusses why the fires burned so extensively, as well as what was done to fight them. Teachers may obtain copies of *The Yellowstone Fires: A Primer on the 1988 Fire Season*, free of charge.

Contact: *Yellowstone Fire Primer*, Division of Interpretation, National Park Service, P.O. Box 168, Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190.

*The Earth Awareness Classroom* is a resource for challenging student views of the world by presenting them with an extraordinary map. It is a 20-foot-high forced-air balloon that is painted with an accurately scaled map of the planet and features a zipper in the Pacific Ocean so that students can see the world from the inside. *The Earth Awareness Classroom* can be rented from Criteria Architects, Inc., P.O. Box 19607, St. Paul, MN 55119 (619)436-6066.

National Council for Geographic Education Membership \$25. Members receive the *Journal of Geography* and the *Perspective Newsletter* bimonthly. Contact: NCGE, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Indiana, PA 15705, (412)357-6290.

*Population Growth Rate and Life Expectancy at Birth*. Two poster kits with accompanying teaching guides and wall maps are available from The World Bank. For a catalog of World Bank publications, or to order, send \$5.95 each to: World Bank Publications, Dept. 0552, Washington, D.C. 20073-0552.

*Themes, Key Ideas and Learning Activities*. This volume presents a framework for developing courses of study for middle and secondary school social studies programs. Also presented are several sample course formats illustrating how the framework may be implemented. The fundamental themes in geographic education provide the basis for the framework. The suggested learning opportunities are designed to incorporate various levels of thinking. These opportunities direct attention to the knowledge, skills, and attitudes that result in a total geography course. Individual copies are available at only \$6.00 each. Bulk prices are available on orders of 10 or more. Order additional copies for your teacher colleagues and curriculum personnel. Write to: National Council for Geographic Education, 16A Leonard Hall, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Indiana, PA 15705.

# Alaska—On the Edge or Near the Center?

## Lesson Plan

By Charlie Mattioli, North Poie High School

### Introduction

Most world map projections show Alaska on the fringe or edge of the world, failing to reveal its geographic centrality in the air age. In this lesson, students will discover the notion of "great circle routes" and Alaska's strategic location in the jet age.

### Objectives

1. Students will understand that only a polar map projection or a globe accurately shows Alaska's strategic geographic location in the jet age.
2. Students will know that the shortest route between any two points on the earth is a great circle route or arc.
3. Students will be able to cite evidence supporting the idea that Alaska has a strategic location in the jet age.

**Time:** 2 - 3 class periods

### Materials:

World Map (Mercator type projection)  
Globes and/or polar projection map  
String or yarn

### Procedure:

1. Using some string or yarn and a Mercator type wall map of the world, have students find the distance and general route (countries traveled over) between each of the following pairs of cities:

Washington D.C., U.S.A. to Tokyo, Japan  
New York City, U.S.A. to Taipei, Taiwan

London, England to Seoul, South Korea  
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil to Tokyo, Japan  
Copenhagen, Denmark to Peking, Peoples' Republic of China

Students should take two important factors into account: 1) no route should pass over any part of the Soviet Union or China

(except for Peking route), and 2) students should plan a refueling stop in a major city about halfway along the route.

2. Based on the results of their findings from #1, students should be asked to accept or reject the following statements (take a tally of results):

- a. The shortest distance between two places on the earth is a straight line.
- b. In the jet age, Alaska is not strategically located on major air routes between Europe, Brazil, the eastern United States, and the Far East.

3. Using a globe and some string, have students repeat Activity #1.

4. Compare the results. Were there any important differences? Can you explain why? This is a good time for you as the teacher to introduce the students to what a great circle route is. "A great circle route is a line between any two points on the earth that if continued would circle the earth and divide it into two equal halves. It is the shortest distance between any two points on the earth."

5. Ask students to reassess this statement: "The shortest distance between any two places on the earth is a straight line." (The statement would be true if the earth were flat. It isn't of course, but most maps project it as such, so we run into the differences in results from Activities #1 and #2.)

6. Is there any evidence based on the comparison in Exercise #4 that Alaska may have a more strategic role along international routes than previously thought?

7. Based on what students have already learned in this lesson, have them explain:

- a. Why Emperor Hirohito of Japan stopped in Anchorage on his way to Washington, D.C. in the course of his first trip out of Japan.
- b. Why the Pope and the president met in Fairbanks in May, 1984.

The Pope was on his way to Korea; the president was returning from Korea.

- c. Why presidents Nixon, Ford, and Carter stopped in Alaska on trips to the Far East.
- d. Why Eielson Air Force Base, Fairbanks, is a support base with KC 135 tankers used to refuel B-52's in midair.
- e. Why Elmendorf Air Force Base near Anchorage has squadrons of F-15 interceptor fighters.
- f. Why a long string of Distant Early Warning radar stations is located in northern Alaska and Canada to detect ICBM's.
- g. Ask the students to reconsider this statement: "In the jet age, Alaska is not strategically located on major air routes between Europe, Brazil, the eastern United States, and the Far East."

### Debriefing

1. Why do most maps fail to show Alaska's strategic geographic location?
2. What is a great circle route? Why is it important?
3. What evidence can you cite indicating that Alaska is strategically located in the modern jet age?

### Follow-up:

1. Have students research an answer to this question: Why is it that Alaska is not as strategically located as an international port for ships in need of refueling, etc.?
2. General Billy Mitchell, who foresaw the importance of air power in the 1920's (long before others had) once said of Alaska's location, "In the air age, whoever controls Alaska can control the world." How would you evaluate that statement more than 60 years after it was spoken?



## Introducing....

Jody Marcello

Dan Roope

...**Jody Marcello**—Jody Marcello is a social studies teacher at Blatchley Middle School in the Sitka School District. She earned a Master of Education degree from Texas A&M University and taught in Texas. A four year resident of Alaska, Jody has devoted time and energy to her professional and community life since coming to the state. She is an active member of the Alaska Council For The Social Studies and served as co-chair of the ACSS 1989 Conference Program Committee. She is a member of the Alaska Geographic Alliance and chaired the first Geography Bee in the state. Community service includes involvement in Sitkans Against Family Violence, the Sitka Council on Alcoholism and other Drug Abuse, the Sitka Historical Society and other community organizations.

Below is an excerpt from the interest statement she wrote as part of her application for the NGS Summer Geography Institute.

As a social studies educator, it is my responsibility to motivate students to explore beyond boundaries that they do not even know exist when they walk into my classroom. I cannot simply be a pilot that carries them to a boundary line and then leaves them to go on beyond it alone. It is imperative that I teach them to navigate themselves not only to the boundary line to look beyond, but also out into the unknown and back "home" again.

...**Dan Roope**—Dan Roope, currently in his fifth year of teaching in Southeastern villages, is a social studies teacher at Wrangell Middle School. Dan is a graduate of Eastern Washington University and attended Idaho State University. He has travelled extensively, participated in archaeological digs, and has sailing experience, including advanced map skills, chart, and navigational expertise. He has mastered bilingual word processing (Tlingit) and uses the computer extensively in the classroom.

Excerpts of Dan's NGS Summer Institute Application essay follow:

The educational goals that I have for my students are well addressed by the teaching of geography. These goals are: to equip my students with skills and knowledge not directly learned from the natural environment; to develop character and personality; to realize and use individual talents; to achieve social harmony on a national and international level; and to increase awareness of group culture and heritage.... As America continues to strive for social harmony—national or international—our failings in the social studies curriculum are apparent. Americans continue to be intolerant of cultural diversity, and often our approach is ethnocentric rather than culturally tolerant. If we are to address our failings in cultural literacy, then we must work hard to improve our geography curriculum.

## *Sputniks Calling Water Cats!*

### Computer Links Juneau and Moscow Students Through WORLD 2000

October 11, 1989. The principal's office—now telecommunications central of Moscow School #1201—was packed with excited teachers, students, and administrators. The mood was exuberant and expectant. Twenty-five, fourteen-year-old Soviet students, the Moscow half of the *WORLD 2000* project, were about to send their first telecommunication message to their counterparts at Juneau-Douglas High School. The first student group hovered intently around the glowing computer screen as their typist entered their transmission:

Hello, Alaska! The name of our group is the Water Cats. We are

Alexey, Vanya, Olga, Lena, and Lena. We are very excited about this project. We shall do our best to manage this idea. We shall be friends! We are interested in problems of ocean. Our dreams are friendship, peace all over the world, and clean planet! Bye Bye!!!

To reach this moment, an instructional team of Juneau educators, Kathy Olegaard, Nancy Seamount, and Jason Ohler, worked intensely with Soviet students and staff for a week in Moscow. The team provided workshops, inservice training, and classroom instruction to develop cooperative learning groups, a first for

their Soviet counterparts.

*WORLD 2000* is a student-centered international curriculum development program which harnesses the power of cooperative learning and the immediacy of telecommunications to give today's children a voice in shaping their own future world. Environmental issues such as global warming, deforestation, nuclear threat, air and water pollution, and species extinction are topic areas. Students are responding with vigor and hope, viewing themselves as world citizens, comrades who together can shape their world.

### Geography Awareness Activities Presented (Continued from Pg. 1)

AGA Teacher Consultant Bobbie Lowden's students at Marie Drake Middle School, Juneau. Ms. Lowden's students have been preparing for the event by using the GAW packets developed by the National Geographic Society. They have researched global issues such as oil spills, earthquakes, and tropical rain forest depletion.

A special Talkback program, "Watching Your Waste—Garbage and the Great Land," will feature the relationship between Alaska's geography and solid waste disposal. AGA Teacher Consultant Mary Bristol will be one of three panelists answering student questions during the live, one-hour, interactive television program airing statewide on RATNET on November 16th.

Additional school and community awareness activities have been planned by members of the AGA Geography Awareness Week Committee.

### Geography Awareness Week Committee

Chairperson. Louie Yannotti,  
Juneau

Audrey Copeland, Fairbanks  
Steve Ex, Eagle River

Marlene Keene, Nikiski  
Bobbie Lowden, Juneau

Teresa Matetich, Wasilla  
Susanne Niebuhr, North Pole

Tim Peterson, Kenai

Barbara Schmidtman, Anchorage

Donna Victors, Big Lake

## Geography Reform Undertaken in the United Kingdom

The education minister in Margaret Thatcher's government recently announced the appointment of a ten-member commission charged with determining the nature of the geography component that all children will study under the national curriculum. The commission is in part a response to the poor showing on a recent survey which dem-



onstrated that too many British youngsters have limited place location skills. Sir Leslie Fielding of Sussex University and a former diplomat has been named to head the group. He pledges to return rigor to the teaching of geography. "There's got to be more mental discipline," he said, "facts, argument, evidence, rather than philosophy or opinion."

## American Express Announces Geography Competition

American Express is sponsoring two separate geography competitions to address the critical need for improved geography education in America. With one competition for teachers and another for students, more than \$125,000 in travel prizes will be awarded.

The student competition is open to all students in grades 7-12. Individuals or groups may enter projects based on one of the fol-

lowing three themes: 1) The Connected World; 2) The Geography of Earning a Living; 3) Human Impact on Planet Earth. The teacher's competition is open to individual teachers of geography or related disciplines and involves submissions of up to three innovative geographic teaching ideas. The deadline for postmarked registration forms is November 30, 1989. The project submission deadline is March 31, 1990, and winners will be selected

for both competitions in all three theme categories on May 4, 1990.

The American Express Geography Competition acknowledges the collaboration and support of the Association of American Geographers and the Geographic Education National Implementation Project (GENIP). For more information, contact American Express at (800) 782-8528 from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Pacific Time.

THURS. Feb. 1, 1990 Anch Times

## Alaska map stirs up media flap

By DAVE PATRICK

Times Juneau Bureau

JUNEAU — Alaska is back on the national media map following the introduction of a resolution by a state lawmaker that calls for the placement of a geographically correct Alaska on national maps.

"This (national attention) all started yesterday when USA Today called in the morning and said they wanted to do a story and so we did an interview," said Rep. Fran Ulmer, D-Juneau, sponsor of the House joint resolution. A call followed shortly thereafter from a radio news service, which touched off a wave of interview requests from other radio stations.

The resolution calls on magazines, newspapers, textbook publishers and map publishers to place Alaska in the northwest corner of all maps used of the United States. The idea came from the former editor of a weekly Juneau newspaper.

"I got a letter from a little school girl in Michigan two years ago, whose test was marked wrong because she placed Alaska in the northwest corner," explained Dan Blumie, former editor of the Capital City weekly. The teacher marked the student's geography test wrong, saying Alaska belonged in a box set off from the southwest corner of California, he said.