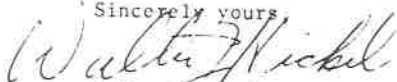


February 21, 1967

A like letter is being sent today to President of the Senate John Butrovich. A letter listing those appointments and reappointments which do not require confirmation by the legislature, will be forthcoming.

Sincerely yours,



Walter J. Hickel
Governor

SENATE AND HOUSE - SUPPLEMENT NO. 3

FEBRUARY 21, 1967

ADDRESS BY THE HONORABLE HOWARD W. POLLOCK

CONGRESSMAN FROM ALASKA

BEFORE THE

SPECIAL JOINT SESSION OF THE ALASKA LEGISLATURE

THE STATE CAPITOL, JUNEAU, ALASKA

21 FEBRUARY, 1967

My Dear Friends and Colleagues:

It is with a great deal of humility and yet with a deep sense of pride that I appear before you today. No one knows more than I the great demands upon your time, and the myriad problems which now confront you, and which you are anxious to tackle and resolve. You have accorded me a singular honor and privilege by inviting me to bring a report to you after my first few weeks in Washington where I am privileged to serve as the Congressman from and for Alaska.

I know most of you very well, and you know by my nature that I have been very busy all of my life. But, my friends, let me tell you that I have never been busier. It has been said that the place where I work, the United States Congress, is the biggest fish bowl in the world, and a very busy fish bowl it is. The challenge is enormous, and the workload is truly amazing but, most of you know me well enough to know that I wouldn't have it any other way. I am truly appreciative of the opportunity of serving the people of Alaska in Washington, and the great workload and the many problems which confront me are a challenge I dearly love. I do very much enjoy the work, and have been blessed with a very competent staff, a number of whom are from Alaska.

I would like to report to you officially that I have been given great cooperation by other members of congress and by the leadership, and have been given key assignments which will militate to the benefit of Alaska and all Alaskans.

My standing committee assignments are with the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs and the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries. I am particularly happy with the fisheries assignment, as that constitutes a first in the House of Representatives for the State of Alaska. The subcommittee assignments have not been made in the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries, but I have requested and expect to be assigned to the Subcommittees on Fisheries and Wildlife Conservations, the Subcommittee on Oceanography and the Subcommittee on Coast Guard, Coast and Geodetic Survey and Navigation. All of these will be important subcommittee assignments for Alaska. On the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, I was pleased to receive assignments on the Subcommittee on Indian Affairs and the

Subcommittee on Lands, both assignments of which will be extremely important in the resolution of the major problem which confronts Alaska today, both here and in the Congress, that of properly resolving the Aboriginal Land Claims issue. I was also assigned to the Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation.

With reference to the Native Land Claims problem, may I say that I have been working diligently on this difficult problem, as have the United States Senators I am sure, and the Department of the Interior, as well as Governor Hickel and his administration, and others. I do have a bill in preparation concerning this matter, and hope to have it in final draft form in the next few weeks. As you undoubtedly know, a bill was drafted some months ago by an Anchorage attorney and presented to the State Native Association delegates who approved it in principle. There are some serious problems associated with that proposed piece of legislation, but there are other problems also. The Governor and the Attorney General's office have some definite thoughts on the ultimate proposal, as does the Secretary of Interior.

In order to alleviate the introduction of a number of conflicting approaches, I have requested of the Secretary of Interior that he meet with Governor Hickel, Senators Bartlett and Gruening and myself, along with other key invitees, in order that we may fully discuss the total problem and arrive at something of a consensus on approach. I need not tell you that I think it vital that one or more representatives of the Alaska Native Community also be present at that meeting. Nevertheless, the Secretary informed my office that he and his staff were not yet ready for the meeting because they had not completed their study of the problem nor arrived at what they deemed to be the solution. The concern I have is different than that of the Secretary of Interior, for I do not want him or the department to come up with an ultimate solution without consultation with the representatives and officials of Alaska and the Alaska Native Community. I am, accordingly, pressing for an early meeting nevertheless.

As you are aware Governor Hickel has called for a meeting with the Native leaders in Anchorage next Sunday, and I propose to remain in Alaska to attend that meeting. Ultimately a solution will have to come through Congressional enactment, and thus I believe it vitally important that I remain here to participate in the discussion, in the hope that we can arrive at an early solution which will be generally acceptable to all segments concerned. We all know, of course, that no solution will be totally acceptable by everyone. This is probably the most complex and difficult problem which has ever confronted the state. Therefore, I believe it vitally important that we direct all of our energies toward an early and equitable solution. I pledged my efforts as I traveled Alaska last fall, and I intend to work continuously with all concerned parties toward early solution.

You might be interested to know that I introduced HR 4512 in the Congress recently to amend the Jones Act to allow for shipment of goods between American ports by the British Columbia ferry system, an exception to the provisions prohibiting the movement of goods between American ports on foreign bottoms. My bill is not as general or far reaching

as that introduced by Senator Gruening, and therefore, I believe it will perhaps stand better chance of passage. In any event, I will work diligently for passage of either or both, depending on which reaches the appropriate committees of the House first.

I have also recently introduced a piece of legislation, HR 4775 to increase the number of fish protein concentrate plants by seven, and to provide for low cost of government loans to private enterprise for construction of other such plants.

I have also introduced HR 4654, the Human Investment Act, which will provide tax credit for industries which expend money in the training of personnel to qualify them for skilled employment.

Time will not allow me to detail other items of legislation which I have in preparation, and some of which are now ready to be introduced. But I will say that I have six other pieces of legislation ready to be proofed and introduced upon my return to Washington and ten other important pieces of legislation in preparation, all of which will materially assist Alaska and Alaskans. I would be pleased to discuss these subjects or any others with you individually after the session today, should you wish to do so.

Earlier I told you of my standing committee and subcommittee assignments, but I did not tell you of the other select assignments which have been given me as the Congressman from Alaska. I am proud to say that each of these is again a first for Alaska. Shortly, after the Congress convened, I was placed on the very important Committee on Committees, which, as you know, determines member assignments to the various other committees. Also, with deep humility, I wish to advise you that I was given the singular honor by the fifty-seven new Republican Congressmen elected to the Ninetieth Congress of representing them on the very important Congressional Policy Committee. And, last, but certainly not least, I had the good fortune of also being appointed to the National Congressional Committee. My dear friends I mention these many significant assignments in deep humility, in an attempt to convey to you how very grateful I am that Alaska has been given this important recognition. It considerably enhances our national image, and I shall work fervently and tirelessly to insure that those in the leadership in Congress who have made these assignments possible will never regret having done so.

And now, there is a matter of grave concern to which I must address my remarks and call your attention - a matter which will shortly come before the United States Senate. It is perhaps not my responsibility as a member of the U. S. House of Representatives to concern myself with matters in the U. S. Senate; nevertheless, I bring before you a matter which disturbs me as an American citizen.

In the State of the Union Message a few short days ago, President Johnson laid heavy stress upon making conciliatory moves to the Soviet Union and the Communist Bloc. The theme of the day now seems to be "Bridge-Building" - to reduce cold war tensions and therefore hopefully to bring about "normalized" relations with the USSR.

The immediate focal point is the consular treaty with the

Soviet Union which, if ratified by the Senate, would allow the Soviet Union to establish numerous consulates in scattered areas of the United States.

In 1965 the Senate Foreign Relations Committee reported the Consular Treaty to the Senate by a divided vote after one prefatory public hearing, at which only Secretary Dean Rusk and one other state department witness testified. I am happy to say that the treaty was never brought to a vote in the Senate in the Eighty Ninth Congress, because the ground swell of public opinion in opposition to its ratification succeeded in persuading enough senators to vote against it to prevent its approval by the required two-thirds margin.

J. Edgar Hoover, Director of the FBI, has warned that "A cherished goal in the Soviet Intelligence Services" would be realized if the Soviet Union were allowed to establish consulates across the United States. Mr. Hoover stated that the job of the FBI, that of combating internal subversion and espionage efforts would be made much more difficult. These knowledgeable observations from the foremost expert in the United States on Soviet espionage efforts and techniques cannot be successfully contradicted by the proponents of the treaty.

Of course, communist-bloc diplomatic establishments in this country now serve as focal points for intelligence operations. Under the terms of the treaty, all Soviet personnel would be diplomatically immune from prosecution for all crimes, including espionage.

Why should we invite redoubled Soviet espionage efforts in our own country, thereby obviously assisting the nation which is the real foe in Vietnam, the nation which is now supplying all of the sophisticated weaponry and hardware of war against our troops and aircraft in Vietnam, the nation which is spending billions of dollars to supply war planes and other weapons, and provide military techniques to the North Vietnamese? Why should we assist in strengthening the apparatus of this enemy nation which has been indirectly responsible for the killing of thousands of American soldiers? Why should we give assistance to this leader of this communist world which is behind the efforts to infiltrate and subvert the governments of Latin America and the free world?

In view of the above, it is incomprehensible that we would invite redouble Soviet espionage efforts in our own country - and yet the Johnson administration and far too many misguided members of the U. S. Senate are actually giving serious consideration to the passage of this consular treaty. I earnestly hope that once again a ground swell of public opinion will rise in vigorous opposition to the ratification of this consular treaty.

I must be candid with you in saying that I have not yet discussed this matter with Senators Bartlett or Gruening, and certainly intend to do so. Nevertheless, it has occurred to me that this might be a most appropriate area in which the House and Senate of the Alaska State Legislature might give evidence of its collective attitude through a joint resolution concerning the matter directed to the Alaska Delegation in Congress, and perhaps the President of the United States and the Secretary of State also.

I firmly believe that this treaty should be shelved until the Soviet Union renounces its stated goal of world domination - which includes the destruction of our own way of life - and takes the first sincere step towards achieving honestly peaceful relations with the community of free world nations. Until such time, there can be no bridges built long enough or substantial enough to span the yawning and impassible chasm which today separates the free world from the communist world. We must not build a bridge by capitulation.

And now, in closing, may I advise you that it has been my warm pleasure to accept the speaking engagements all across the nation as opportunities continue to arise. This affords me a continuing opportunity to truly be a goodwill ambassador for Alaska. In the last three weeks it has been my good fortune to speak of Alaska and as an Alaskan in Gastonia, North Carolina, in Sacramento, California, in Las Cruces, New Mexico, and at Purdue University in Lafayette, Indiana. I must admit that I do get some devilish pleasure of telling the people "my little ole congressional district is two and a half times the size of Texas". I find that people all over the nation are very interested in Alaska, and interested in the Centennial Year celebrations which are just ahead of us this year.

I bring greetings to you from my staff and extend to you an earnest invitation to drop in for a visit if and when you have an opportunity to be in Washington, D. C.

GOD LOVE YOU AND KEEP YOU.

HOWARD W. POLLOCK
THE CONGRESSMAN FOR ALASKA