

November 15, 1983.

Dear Yuri,
I'm so sorry it took so long in
answering your letter.
Thank you for the lovely calendar.

As for the Aleuts organizing. I don't
believe any of us are. That is
Chilemon Jaitok is in charge of the Aleuts
getting there money I believe. I've been
wanting to write to him. His address is
Unalakleet, Alaska 99685.
We went to meetings here a few times after I
got back from New York, but it was so
discouraging I just quit going. I couldn't
believe the way the meetings were held. There
were people there (Japanese) whom I had talked
to when we spoke at a commission meeting
here. At the JAC (?) meeting they were not the
same. They encouraged me to speak out but
were not as supportive as I thought they'd be.
They succeeded in the leaders or speakers who
who just turned me off. They were speakers who
could care less what happened to the Aleuts.
I got so angry at the last meeting I walked
out with harsh words. The few Aleuts who
came followed & were kind of angry at me
& none of them ever went back either. They
considered me their spokesperson I guess.
Maybe I shouldn't have given up so soon,
but I have too much pressure from the
Aleut community - they've never had the
experiences with other groups like I've
had so I feel alone - it's just too
(over)

The Aleuts on the whole especially on
 the islands in other parts of Alaska &
 down here feel they're lucky to get any
 amount of money - even \$500 they pay
 we may get as individuals down here,
 because they feel the Japanese are the
 ones who should get much more because
 of losing businesses etc. my mother
 even feels we shouldn't even get a
 cent thinking the government took us off
 the islands for protection. I tried to tell her
 & others that why did they leave the Aleuts
 at King Cove in the Aleutians - because
 of a cannery there & why did they leave
 the 'white' people there. A white man
 was forced to stay back while his Aleut
 wife & children were evacuated.
 Mom forgets she had to get sister Jeanne
 & a cousin on a fishing boat from
 Funtar Bay where we were taken to Juneau
 so that they could get medical care.
 My sister had tuberculosis of the spine &
 a bad ear problem which she just
 had another operation for last week. The
 cousin died. The doctors said Jeanne
 was brought in in time or she would
 have passed away also.
 Yes, it's a long sad story & yet I haven't
 done my job. I guess I feel like the rest
 of the Aleuts - what's the use.
 I've been depressed for a long time - life is
 catching up with me & I have to get my-
 self together. It's not just the Aleuts, but
 all the peoples of the world I care about.
 The nuclear scare is enough. I'll even
 feel suicidal. I've gone to doctors, but I hate
 to take drugs that make you feel sleepy all
 the time as another Aleut says it
 does to him. He's depressed

2.
Also. I called a preventive medicine doctor & hoped to see him soon. It costs so much so I keep putting it off. They believe our diet has a lot to do with this kind of depression they call it. It is caused from the chemicals in our body. I put myself on a nine day diet of vegetables, fruits & juices - didn't smoke or drink & I felt great, but one can't stay on that diet - it's for cleaning the body of toxins.

I need to get on it again for I've been smoking & drinking too much. I can understand why native Americans have an alcoholism problem. We drink to blank our minds & kill ourselves in the process. Most native Americans in jail are there because of alcohol related problems. There's a high percentage of teen-age suicides among native Americans. It's not just among. I heard on TV that 1000 teen-agers commit suicide a day in the U.S. My daughter's friends nephew is talking suicide. The friends they said as he watched the news saying "Why do people here to kill each other?" He's seeing a therapist. I hope they help him. Even younger children are saying they probably would like to be adults. Even young as six or five at a study at a university. In New York I attempted suicide - that is cut my wrists - not that bad, but it was a cry out for help. My sister & daughter say I should stop taking the world crisis so personally. I wish I could stop worrying about other so much. It isn't just people, but events too (over)

Mr. Woods I have two dogs & 3 cats. The cats are shays. If I had my way I'd have more. I was going to be a foster mother, but after my parents became ill & Dad died I changed my mind. I felt I wouldn't be a good stable mother. I'm just getting over Dad's death - if at all. I need to analyze my life.

Sorry to tell you all this, but it's good for me to talk about it they say.

Looking at the Eskimos in the pictures they certainly look Asian don't they. I think same with a lot of Aleuts.

In an article from China they said they believe that Native Americans are Chinese or Asian by their molars which have 3 roots instead of two.

One picture of an elder Eskimo woman is holding a stick which looks like a chop stick.

Well my dear I better get my letters off I've put off so long.

Hope Phil can help you. I'm enclosing a news article I want you to read & let me know what you think of it. I know the reporter personally.

My husband wants to take us to New York, but I have an elderly dog who is old & I can't find anyone who is a true dog lover. She cries when I'm not around. If only I could take her with me. Well - well see. It would be good to see you again & I'd love to have you meet my family. Say love to your husband. Love
Deborah