



Encl.

OPERATION STATEHOOD

ANCHORAGE CHAPTER

P. O. BOX 407

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

THE WHITE HOUSE

MAY 5 9 10 AM '54

RECEIVED

May 2, 1954



Mr. Sherman Adams
The Assistant to the President
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Adams:

I thought we should let you know that Operation Statehood is trying to arrange a flight of 50 prominent Alaskans to go to Washington next Sunday, May 9, and there to join with what we understand will be a similar delegation of Hawaiians.

I enclose copies of telegrams to Sec. McKay and Gov. Reintzleman, asking their help in arranging, if possible, an audience with the President. This is the procedure we were told to follow, but I felt sure I should contact you too.

We were greatly heartened to hear yesterday that Bob Atwood, chairman of the Alaska Statehood Committee, had an audience with the President.

May I say for our part that we come to Washington not with any chips on our shoulders but only in a spirit of intense interest and wanting to help in any way possible.

I would deem it a great privilege if I could meet you. I promise no long winded speeches!

Sincerely,

Barrie M. White Jr.
Barrie M. White Jr.



OPERATION STATEHOOD

ANCHORAGE CHAPTER

P. O. BOX 467
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

THE WHITE HOUSE

JUN 7 9 24 AM '54

RECEIVED
MAY 27 1954

PM
6-3-54

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

On behalf of the 50 Alaskans who flew to Washington at their own expense on the Operation Statehood charter flight, and of their 15 representatives who met with you, I wish to thank you for taking time to discuss Alaska statehood with us.

While we agree that Alaska and Hawaii statehood are second in importance to very few of the programs on the administration's agenda, we are very conscious of the tremendous burden you carry. You may be sure your interest in meeting with us was not lost upon all Alaskans.

If our plea was couched in strong terms, we are sure you realized it was merely a measure of our intense sincerity. In turn, we came away with the strong feeling that you are in sympathy with our cause. This leads us to hope that the problems you mentioned can be solved, so that statehood may become a reality at this session of Congress.

Coupled with the recent decision on segregation by the Supreme Court, I cannot conceive of any stronger record of progress by this administration in the field of human rights.

Sincerely,

Barrie M. White Jr.
Barrie M. White Jr., pres.