

Tundra Times

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Unanguq Tunuktauq The Aleuts Speak

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Fairbanks, Alaska

HOOTCH CASE DECISION RAPPED

Native Workers: Berries Instead Of Per Diem Pay

(From Anchorage Daily Times)

The Tri-Trades Council is seeking court help for 24 of its Native members the union claims were shortchanged by the Alaska Department of Highways on per diem pay merely because the workers are Natives.

In a suit filed in Superior Court here, the union wants the state to make up for the allegedly \$35 too-low per diem pay for some 20 workers last summer near Nome and four union members who worked for the Department of Highways near Livengood last winter.

"I guess the amount the state failed to pay is somewhere around \$50,000," said Tri-Trades Secretary Treasurer, Chuck Gavin.

The issue has been a bee in the union's hard hat since last summer, according to Gavin. He said the union had to call some safety meetings in Fairbanks to "even get commissioner, Walt Parker, to answer our calls."

The union official said the 20 workers on a project about 50 miles from Nome last summer were paid \$8 per diem payments when the tri-trades contract calls for a per diem of \$43. The Livengood workers allegedly received a \$20 per diem.

"We were told by the Highway Department two reasons the pay was set at that figure," said Gavin. "One was 'the Natives weren't used to getting that much money,' so it would foul up the economy of Nome."

The other argument he says was offered was that since there was berry picking near the construction site along with good fishing, the Natives didn't need any more money.

Gavin did not say who told him the reasons, but he did say Commissioner of Administration Andy Warwick properly had told the Highway Department to negotiate a settlement of the complaint with the union.

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Eskimo-Indian Olympics Soon

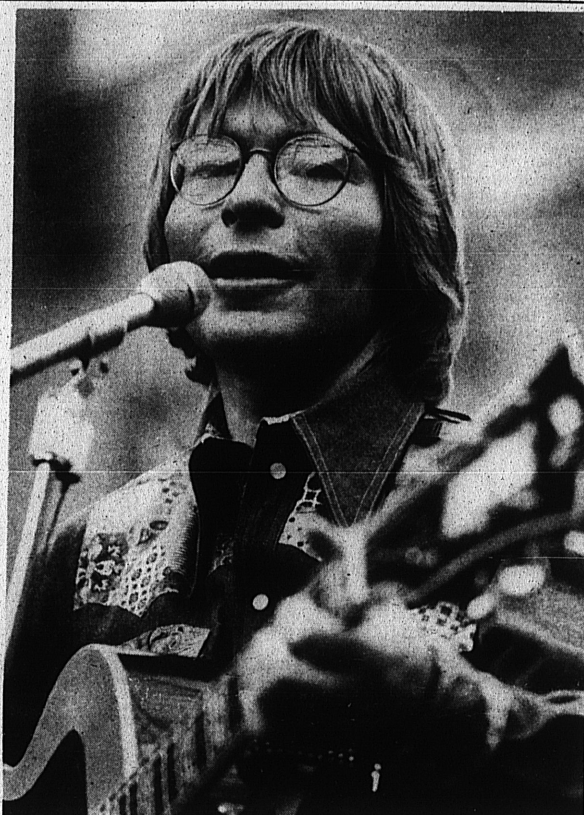
By MARC OLSON

The 15th annual World Eskimo-Indian Olympics will be held July 31 - August 2 in the Patty Gym at the University of Alaska, Fairbanks.

The Olympics, sponsored by the Tundra Times, have become a major Native event in Alaska. The Olympics have brought enthusiastic crowds from all over the state in the past, and this year promises to be no exception, with the added possibility of Canadian participants joining in the games.

Events will include the blanket toss, knuckle hop, ear pull, high kick, greased pole walk, muktuk eating contest, fish cutting contest, seal skinning contest,

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SINGER JOHN DENVER

"A Real Nice, Plain Guy"— Denver Finds Prudhoe "Far Out!"

PRUDHOE BAY, ALASKA — June 10, 1975 — Despite thick clouds and snow flurries outside, nearly 500 north slope oilfield workers got an unexpected burst of "sunshine" over the weekend — provided by singer John Denver.

Now traveling in northern Alaska with an ABC film crew, Denver flew from Barrow to Prudhoe Bay Saturday for his first visit to North America's largest oil field and an impromptu concert in

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A Space Age Study of the Environment—

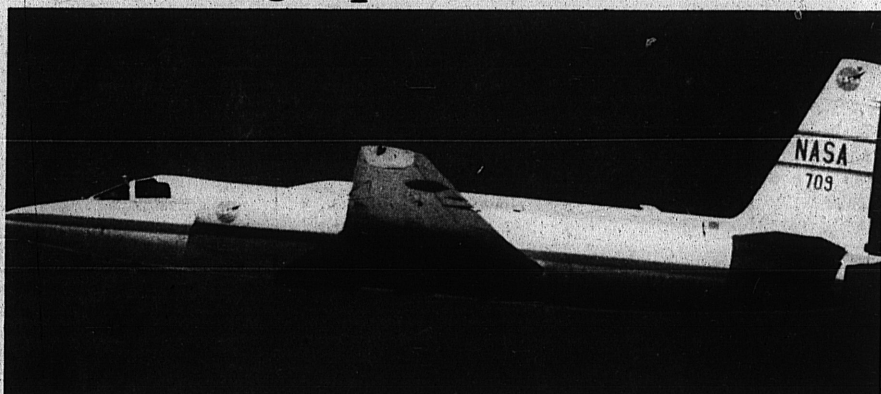
U-2 Aircraft to Photograph Alaska Coastline

Governor Jay Hammond announced recently that Alaska's Coastal Management Program will receive photographic data on critical coastal areas following high-altitude U-2 flights to be conducted by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration beginning June 9.

Prime mission of NASA's Earth Resources Survey Lockheed U-2, to be based temporarily at Eielson Air Force Base, will be to make measurements of ozone and nitric oxide in the air and sample tiny particles of natural and man-made pollutants while flying at 65 thousand feet.

The air-sampling, conducted north of Fairbanks, is to aid a national program concerned with how gasses and particles may affect the global climate over a long period of time. This year's effort is a continuation of previous detailed measurements which have been made at the same high altitudes and latitudes.

The second research objective is to use the high-altitude photographic capability of the aircraft to collect earth resources



U-2 AIRCRAFT TO SURVEY ALASKA COASTLINE — Above is an inflight view of one of two Lockheed U-2 Earth Resources Survey Aircraft belonging to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. The plane is equipped with an array of photo sensors in a compartment seen below NASA's insignia on the side of the aircraft. One of NASA's U-2 planes will be flying over Alaska for two weeks beginning June 9 taking air samples and doing photographic work. Part of the photography will be used by Alaska's Coastal Management Program in developing a land management plan for the state's shoreline areas. The U-2 has an 80-foot wingspan and is 50 feet long. It has a single jet engine and cruises at about 450 miles per hour.

— NASA Photo

photo data over several areas of the State.

Top priority is being given to flights along the Alaskan coastline to support environmental assessment of the outer

continental shelf in preparation for off-shore oil leasing. That information will be used by Alaska's Coastal Management Program to develop a viable land management program for Alaska's

shoreline areas. Program Coordinator Doctor F.F. Rick Wright said the primary area of concern is from Prince William Sound to Yakutat.

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AFN, Inc. Exec. VP Hits Recent Ruling, Praises Rabinowitz's Dissent

"It's kind of ironic," said Gordon Jackson, Executive Vice President, Alaska Federation of Natives, "you can legally smoke marijuana at home now but you still can't go to school at home in your own village."

Jackson was commenting on the recent Alaska Supreme Court decision which upheld the constitutionality of forcing children, particularly Alaska Natives, to leave their home for a high school education.

The same Supreme Court, a few days later, ruled that possession of marijuana inside a person's home fell within the protection of the State Constitution's privacy clause.

"It's my personal opinion," said Jackson, "The Alaska Supreme Court took a very narrow look at the wording of the Alaska Constitutional provision 'that the Legislature shall establish and maintain public schools open to all children of the State.'"

"The appeal we supported argued that this established the right of students to be educated in their villages. A majority in the Alaska Supreme Court, however, went back twenty years to determine what was in the minds of people back in 1955 when they were doubtful we had the revenue to support a school system that would be responsive to rural Alaska or even revenue to support a State."

"Thus came their interpretation. But how many of them could foresee in twenty years an Alaska Pipeline or Alaska

Native Claims Settlement Act? Like the times, the constitution must change and grow with the people it serves.

"If the Court took this view and determined what was in the minds of people today, their decision would have been positive and a landmark."

"As an example of this contemporary thinking and changing with the times, you need only look at their recent decision regarding the possession of marijuana. It is my personal opinion that if the same Supreme Court went back to 1955 to determine what was in the minds of people regarding Article I, Section 22, the Supreme Court would have to rule otherwise. But they didn't."

"Chief Justice Rabinowitz was the only one that didn't base his judgement on the past and should be commended," said Jackson. "What he said is worth quoting because it is the opinion of many in rural Alaska who continue to send their children hundred, perhaps even thousands of miles away to secure an secondary education. Rabinowitz stated in his dissenting opinion:

"I fail to see how a public

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