

Writer Relates Strange Struggle

- Brave Hunter Survived Encounter

By GUY OKAKOK
FAIRBANKS—Yesterday an elderly from Fairbanks area, came over to my place, and ask me, if I ever heard of a man, by the name of Shoosook, Pt. Barrow Eskimo and hunter, too.

"Why, yes," I answered him. "Where and how, have you heard of him?"

He said he was about eight years of age when he heard of this man, Shoosook. He said, this man, Shoosook, has wrestled with three polar bears, in Herschel Island Area.

He said to me, that he will tell me about this man, Shoosook, how he heard about him when he was eight years old. He said, Shoosook, and another Herschel Island hunter went out early in the morning and the weather was cold, when they left village.

On their way out they come to a lake. They both stopped

there, thinking they might see seals there. But Shoosook couldn't stay too long there as he did not have warm clothes. Shoosook tell his partner, that he can't stay much longer. Shoosook said if he didn't see lakes or water, he'll come back to him.

Shoosook never did go very far, he saw three polar bears walking toward him. Shoosook hid himself and waiting.

Shoosook never even had his brand new rifle, he bought day before he came out. He never took the grease off from gun, which he should off.

When these three polar bears came closer, he took his aim and pulled the trigger no fire. Shoosook kept on working on his new gun.

Then the mother of these two bears jump at him. Shoosook had to protect himself with his unfired new gun and spear.

Shoosook kept on wrestling

with them three bears until he could no longer fight more.

The way he heard, about Shoosook.

"That is enough," said Shoosook with a loud voice. Mother of these two bears, stood up and face her two cubs, as if she understood him.

They left him, but Shoosook had nothing to take home. His new rifle been bent, spear broke in pieces. Next day after Shoosook had told his story, six men went out to prove it. They found that Shoosook has fighting with bears alright.

He said to me, "Guy, is this story true or not?"

"Well," I said to him, that this story was quite true.

As Shoosook was my uncle and not only that, but he is brave.

This story is true, readers of Tundra Times. And this man who came over to my lodging, to find more of him, has heard of Shoosook, from the early whalers. This man name is Mr. George Pancapak, half-breed.



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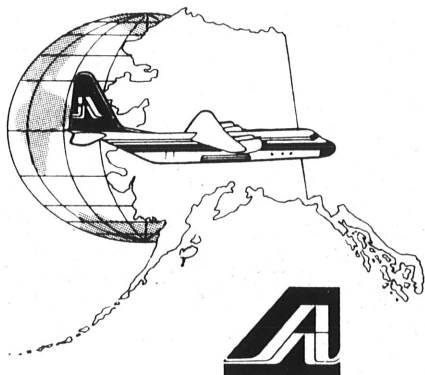
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WHALER DIES

Funeral services will be held Wednesday at Barrow for Floyd Ahvakana, 83, a life-long resident of that village. He died in Fairbanks Saturday.

Ahvakana was well-known in Barrow as a whaler.

He is survived by four sons, Rex, Floyd, Winford and Nelson, all of Barrow, and three daughters, Irene Itta, Molly Pederson and Lizzie Ahvakana, all of Barrow. There also are 29 grandchildren, 31 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild surviving.

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