

Sen. Jackson . . .

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ka Native, the resources of Alaska and the alternatives which might be followed in arriving at a settlement acceptable to all of the parties involved.

Jackson had requested the Federal Field Committee for Development Planning in Alaska to prepare both of these reports following field hearings on the Alaska Native land claims issue in Anchorage, Alaska, in February 1968.

The Senator said that he was "releasing the Federal Field Committee's confidential report on legislative recommendations because I feel that it is essential that the Bureau of the Budget, the Department of the Interior, the State of Alaska and the Alaska Natives have an opportunity to carefully review the Field Committee's proposed settlement before bills are introduced and before the parties involved become locked into set positions."

In releasing the reports, the Chairman of the Senate Interior Committee expressed high praise for its authors and hailed the Field Committee's acceptance and completion of the assignment as "a trail breaker in executive branch service to a legislative committee."

The Alaska-based interagency committee is headed by Rhodes scholar Joseph H. FitzGerald, who directed his staff of four research analysts and staffers from member agencies in conducting the study and preparing the reports.

"The dimensions of the analysis alone make this a unique contribution to Congressional decision making," Jackson said, "But, in addition, it is an inter-agency product, the result of the combined efforts of the principal federal agencies in Alaska," he said.

"And, finally," he emphasized, "it is the work of the field. We don't know all we need to know here in Washington about Alaska, so we turned to Alaska for what we needed."

The Senator said that it was his judgment that "a very important precedent was established as a result of the Field Committee's reports. Too often," he said, "the Congress acts on complex issues such as this without demanding that the Executive Branch develop and analyze all pertinent information."

"In this case, however, Congress, acting through the Senate Interior Committee, has acted on its own initiative to see that the best minds available were put to work to develop and analyze the relevant information and to make their recommendations directly to the Congress."

"The Committee's analysis," Jackson said, "stresses that consideration of claims legislation should be seen by Congress not

only as a means of settling the legal claims, but also as an opportunity to provide a foundation for social and economic advancement of Alaska Eskimos, Indians, and Aleuts, most of whom, according to the study, live under poorer circumstances than any other Americans."

Jackson characterized the Committee's study as the "most comprehensive portrayal of the Native people, the land, and the resources of Alaska ever assembled. In addition to serving the needs of his committee for factual information relating to Native land claims," Jackson said, "it would be highly useful to the Congress and executive agencies in other matters affecting Alaska such as the recently discovered oil deposits on the Arctic North Slope."

The Senator stated that he was "very concerned that a legislative settlement of the Native land claims problem should not result in a repetition of some of the problems which have been experienced by the American Indians in the lower 48 States."

He said that "a fair and generous settlement is required, but there must be provisions in the legislation which will insure that the Native peoples of Alaska get the full and continuing benefits of the settlement, and that they be given a full and fair opportunity to attain quality lives for themselves and for their children."

Jackson said that he "will allow the Department of the Interior, the Alaska Native leaders and the State of Alaska a reasonable period of time to review both reports and to prepare legislation for introduction." He said he hoped that "the concerned parties will work together and agree upon a bill which will reduce areas of disagreement."

If a reasonable agreement is not reached prior to the scheduling of hearings, the Senator said that he would introduce a bill incorporating the Federal Field Committee's recommendations so that the Senate Interior Committee could consider the measure together with any others which might be introduced.

Jackson said that his release of the Federal Field Committee's confidential recommendations for the terms of a legislative settlement did not constitute an endorsement.

"It is clear, however," he said, "that these recommendations are based on a very thorough study and they cannot be dismissed lightly. Subsequent events may require change, and it is possible that all of the parties involved may endorse and support the terms of settlement which are different than those recommended by the Field Committee."



DEAN C. GEORGE, 15-year-old Scout and a ranking student at Mt. Edgecumbe High School, is shown in Washington, D.C., where he and a group of fellow Scouts recently visited Secretary of the Interior Walter J. Hickel and presented the former Alaska governor with a Scout pin and a handcarved memento in recognition of Boy

Scout Week. Dean, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jimmie A. George, is active in the Russian Orthodox Church and is a member of his school pep club, band, track and wrestling teams, and also the Tlingit Dancers.

—U.S. Department of the Interior photo

Group Plans Meeting . .

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The AFN will press for unity among the native organizations in its effort to draft a land bill that will be satisfactory to all. The AFN is under pressure to achieve this level as congressional members have been asking that it be achieved.

"We are going to have to make a united stand if we are going to have anything near what we're asking," stated Notti.

The Juneau meeting will be discussing the confidential report by the Federal Field Committee made public by Sen. Henry M. Jackson last Tuesday in Washington.

The report said in general: The first bill on Alaska Native land claims was introduced in Congress in June 1967. When the 90th Congress adjourned there were six bills pending. The settlement proposed in the Federal Field Committee's confidential report draws heavily on these previous bills. It differs, however, in several important ways.

While the proposal confirms grants of land and important rights to surface resources for all present Native needs, it seeks to resolve the potential conflict among individual Natives - urban and rural, those residing in resource rich areas and those residing in barren areas, and those who live in Alaska and those who live elsewhere—by providing a state-wide compensation package.

Like those in some of the previous bills, this package is composed of lands, cash, and shared future revenues. Unlike earlier proposals it emphasizes money and revenue sharing as the primary form of compensation rather than land.

By this emphasis, conflict over land between Natives and the State of Alaska is minimized. An adequate source of funds would be provided by opening more lands to competitive mineral leasing.

These funds would not be distributed directly to Natives or to village groups, but would be channelled through one investment corporation owned by all Alaska Natives.

The grants of land proposed are to individuals for their use or to legally recognized communities - not to tribes or bands or to other racially defined groups.

Most existing Native reserves would be abolished. Specifically, the proposal would:

1. Give Native individuals the lands they use or occupy for homes; businesses, hunting, fishing, trapping and reindeer management camps;
2. Provide for emergency protection for subsistence hunting and fishing on public domain lands;
3. Grant to any Native Village which incorporated under Alaska State law, up to 36 square miles of land for community use and expansion;
4. Grant to a new corporation owned by Alaska Natives, \$100 million from the U.S. Treasury as payment for Native rights taken in the past; and,
5. Grant to the Native Corporation in compensation for rights taken by this legislation, 10 percent of the income from the leasing or sale of minerals and other resources from Federal lands for a period of 10 years, including lands selected by the State during the land freeze or after it is lifted.

The total lands granted would range between 4 and 7 million acres, while the money payments over a 10 year period would be a minimum of \$100 million, plus the revenue sharing up to a maximum of \$100 million each year for 10 years.

The Federal government would not make cash payments directly to Native individuals, but the corporation would pay dividends to Natives as stockholders out of the income from its investments; it could also make grants as loans to individuals, to communities, or to Native organizations.

For the first 10 years the corporation would be managed by a board of directors, some of whom would be appointed by the President and others elected by the Alaska Natives. During this 10 year period the management and investments of the corporation would be closely supervised by the government.

At the end of 10 years a new board of directors would be established, elected entirely by the corporation stockholders, and after a final review by Congress, all special supervision of its affairs would end.

The President would also appoint a five man Alaska Native Commission to supervise the enrollment of Natives eligible for a share of the settlement and the administration of land grants to individuals and communities.

CULTURAL CENTER

COLLEGE—An associate professor of education at the University of Alaska has been selected to head development of a model for a cultural and educational center for native students.

He is Dr. Victor J. Pudlowski of the University's Education Department, said Dr. Arthur S. Buswell, vice president for Public Service.

The project, proposed by Public Service, has been given \$50,000 from the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Pudlowski came to the University last year from San Francisco State College where he was a teacher in curriculum courses and seminars.

He will prepare a preliminary proposal for the center by July 1. Buswell said the project will plan for a pilot program to begin next fall.

The center would be operated for Eskimos, Aleuts, and Indians who are 17 to 20 years old and wish to pursue their education in the cultural arts.

In the project proposal to the BIA it was noted that the center would give selected students an opportunity to complete their high school education. They would draw on their own heritage to develop skills necessary to participate fully in today's society, the proposal said.

Studies have shown that native students have a 60% drop out rate in elementary school and about half of those eligible finish high school.

Potlatch . . .

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will be coming from Juneau this year and that the organization was working to organize an Eskimo dance group for this year's potlatch.

Marcelo Quinto is the entertainment chairman for the potlatch.

This year's potlatch will be the sixth such celebration sponsored by the FNA during the sled dog races. The first potlatch was held in Fairbanks March 21, 1963 at the Eagles Hall.

Donations of native foods and wild Alaska game meats are being requested by FNA for the potlatch.

Mrs. Poldine Carlo of Fairbanks is in charge of food preparation this year.

Marijuana Use . . .

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The advocates of marijuana have neglected to show that in addition to desiring youthful thrills, the keener teenagers have a desire to accomplish something worthwhile in life. They are not completely dedonistic. They realize that all of life is not on "cloud nine" and that work and responsibilities bring thrills of more rewarding nature.

In a challenging conclusion aimed at youthful citizens, Commissioner McDonald said, "Young people, if you feel cheated out of the opportunity to contribute to your family's well-being, society, or the affairs of the world at this stage in your life, you can take pride in keeping healthy so as not to infect others, and you can have satisfaction in keeping out of corrective institutions and off assistance rolls. The day will come when your good health and clear minds will be essential to the survival and progress of our state and nation."

The directors of the Alaska Divisions of Public Health and Mental Health will inform the public from time to time of approaches which may be taken toward solving drug problems.