

Slaughter House For Reindeer Now at Golovin

A tenacious Eskimo man and his fellow workers are realizing a dream to set up a reindeer slaughter house and an airfield at Golovin so that area can begin to sell reindeer meat to such places as Bethel, Barrow, Hooper Bay, Nome and the lower Yukon.

Thomas Johnson, president of the Northwest Reindeer Processing Co., announced last week that the Golovin slaughter house is now in operation. Golovin is located on Golovin Bay in Norton Sound.

Johnson has battled to have a slaughter house and an airfield big enough to enable multi-engine aircraft to land at Golovin to transport reindeer meat to locations where it is needed.

The men of the village of Golovin are preparing an airfield

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5,000 feet long and 100 feet wide on the back bay of the settlement. The work has employed every available local man to construct the field.

The venture is also employing every person with experience in reindeer herding and butchering.

Nome Nugget reported, "Weather 30 degrees below zero is no problem for the strong men of the north, Martin and Sigfried Aukongak, Jr. and their men."

The Golovin reindeer herd that numbers into thousands is rated as one of the best in Northwest Alaska.

Not long ago, 1,000 blood samples were taken from the herd and only one of that number showed reaction.

Johnson said the operation next year will come under federal inspection. He hopes that specifications will be upgraded assuring the public of the finest reindeer meat.

Johnson is also planning to purchase live reindeer from other herders in the northwest area.