



NENANA GETS ARR FREEZERS



VISTA Vol., Mayor, Editor Team Up to Get Freezer Vans

By TOM SNAPP

A VISTA volunteer, the mayor of the state's largest city, and an Eskimo editor teamed up to obtain for flood ravaged Nenana the means to preserve food from now until freeze up.

The result: two reefer type freezer box-cars are now parked at the Yutana dock near the Nenana train depot and beginning today Nenana people will begin filling them with silver

salmon and moose.

Ed Woulden of Sunrise Bakery in Anchorage sent up 100 freezer bags to the town to package fish and meats.

The problem of refrigeration facilities at the river town, hard hit by flood waters, was brought forth here Saturday by Vista Volunteer Frank Hoffman. Hoffman had worked with the Nenana people and attended a town meeting in which the need for either reefer highway vans or reefer boxcars was stressed.

When Hoffman felt that little was being done to obtain the freezer units, he brought the problem to Tundra Times Editor Howard Rock.

At first Rock was at a loss as to how to proceed. That is, until he thought of Elmer Rasmuson, mayor of Anchorage, and how he was able to get things done with the minimum of red tape.

"I also knew that he had made clear his willingness to help in every way possible in recovery from the flood," Rock said.

He sent this telegram: "Nenana village needs a freezer van like Sealand uses for merchandise. Silvers are running now but too late to dry."

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\$426,000 to Build Facilities For St. Mary's

Approval of \$426,000 in grants and loans to build a dock, cold-storage facility and a community building to open up new jobs and boost incomes in the Wade Hampton District of Alaska was announced by the Economic Development Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce.

The Village of St. Mary's was the applicant for the EDA assistance. St. Mary's is located on the north bank of the Andreafsky River, about six miles northeast of its confluence with the

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ALMOST EMPTY RACKS—The dogs of the village of Minto chained to stakes along the Tanana River are framed here by almost empty racks which normally are laden with fish in preparation for winter food storage. The village lost nearly all of the fish it had caught before the raging Tanana swept the drying racks clean.

Minto is worried about supply of food for winter for both man and dogs. As a stop-gap, prepared dog food in large quantities has been flown in by the Fairbanks District Office of the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

—AMERICAN RED CROSS Photo by MAC SLEE

Flooding Interrupts Minto's Winter Food Supply Plans

BY ROY POPKIN
MINTO, ALASKA—A quarter acre of ground next to the tiny airstrip in this isolated central Alaskan village was piled high with Red Cross

supplies flown in over the weekend to help the natives get through a winter made more difficult than usual by the aftermath of the mid-August floods.

All day Saturday, small planes hired by the Bureau of Indian Affairs ferried the supplies to Minto from the Interior Airlines hangar in Fairbanks, about 50 miles away.

The supplies, which will be distributed by the Tribal Council to families whose homes were flooded by the Tanana River in August, included mattresses, metal cots, pillows, down-filled sleeping bags, coffee, canned foods, field jackets, heavy sweaters, insulated underwear, blankets, winter mittens, overshoes, wool scarves, heavy pants, mattress covers, and miscellaneous comfort items.

This special airlift of Red Cross relief supplies followed a visit earlier in the week by a team of Red Cross disaster workers and a representative of the Bureau of Indian Affairs who flew into Minto to see what progress the villagers are making with their recovery from the floods, which washed a foot or two of water through about half

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Other Voices— Red Men Set the Pattern

Have you ever thought much about what makes the United States so distinctly different from any other country on earth? It's because of the Indians. This is why America is not a carbon copy of the European countries where most of our people originally came from. Nearly everything that is distinctively different about this country is Indian from A to Z. Cigarettes, chewing gum, rubber balls, popcorn, corn flakes, flapjacks, maple syrup—American disrespect for the eternal authority of parents, presidents and would-be dictators.

And the lack of peasants on American soil was all inherited from our Indian predecessors. Scholars are just beginning to learn that the effect of Indian culture on white customs far overshadows the effect that white methods have had on Indian practices. For instance, four-sevenths of our national farm produce today is made up of plants which were tamed by the Indians long before Columbus ever thought of sailing the ocean blue

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Native Affairs Officer Slot for Borbridge

John Borbridge Jr., long active in matters concerning Natives in Alaska, has been appointed to fill the newly-created position of Native

Affairs Officer with the Alaska Native Health Area under the program of the U.S. Public Health Service in the state.

Although similar in nature to work of the Division of Indian Health Tribal Affairs Officer in the South 48, the Alaskan post is unique.

Here instead of dealing with one tribe in a reservation situation, the appointee will work with members of several ethnic groups and many differing communities spread over a wide area.

Borbridge will work with Dr. Holman R. Wheritt, Director, Alaskan Native Health Area Office, acting as liaison to village councils and Native organizations.

Because villages are considered by PHS as dominant factors in determining the type and location of needed health services and

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John Borbridge, Jr.