

Clean up underway for fuel leak

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA, February 3, 1976—Containment and clean up operation are underway for a fuel leak detected last week at Prospect Creek pipeline construction camp.

A portion of the fuel entered a narrow side channel leading to the Jim River, next to the camp. Officials of Alyeska Pipeline Service Company estimate the leak may total up to 40,000 gallons of diesel fuel. The fuel seeped from a fuel line adjacent to a laundry building at the camp, which is about 80 miles north of the Yukon River.

The leak was first detected by a work crew during the installation of a fuel flow meter.

Upon discovery of the leak, flow in the 1 1/4 inch diameter underground line was terminated. About 24 hours later, the location of the leak was pinpointed by excavating a portion of the line. The cause of the leak was a broken pipe which apparently ruptured as a result of frost heaves. The pipe was repaired.

UA scientists study Harding Lake

FAIRBANKS—University of Alaska scientists engaged in intensive research of Harding Lake near Fairbanks are calling on the public for assistance—for any knowledge or photos relative to the historic development of the lake.

In 1973 the university's Institute of Water Resources began the project, titled "The Nutrient Chemistry of a Large, Deep Lake in Subarctic Alaska," with financial support from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Scientists hope the information developed will be useful in predicting the lake's future and the future of other similar Alaskan lakes. The multi-faceted study includes an evaluation of chemical, biological, and physical data from the relatively unpolluted lake.

Principal investigators in the project are Dr. Timothy Tilsworth, Jacqueline LaPerriere, and Lawrence Casper.

One particular facet of the study has been the gathering of information on the history of the lake. This study is being directed by graduate assistant Lucy McCarthy, who has not only researched the history of the lake but has delved into its development as a recreational resource.

"Historical source material has been very limited because the Harding Lake area was not within the immediate gold rush development or settlement area," she says. "Rather, the Harding Lake area, and its use as a recreational resource has been a slow but steady development from the 1920s to the present."

Persons who can be of assistance in this research are urged to write her, care of the Institute of Water Resources, Box 95103, University of Alaska, Fairbanks, Alaska 99701.

A company spokesman estimated fuel leaked for about 20 days before the broken pipe was discovered.

A team of government and company officials were at the site on Friday, January 30, to evaluate the situation.

Fuel from the leak was observed in the narrow side channel of water running alongside the bank of the Jim River's floodplain. A dam was constructed across the channel, and fuel on the water's surface was burned to prevent the flow

of fuel into the river.

Other containment measures instituted over the weekend included excavation of a large pit between the camp and the bank of the river's floodplain to stop drainage into the channel. Approximately 13,000 gallons of fuel were pumped from the pit.

Clean up and containment continues, and surveillance will continue to monitor potential additional effects resulting from the leak.

ARBA funds construction

Construction of native American cultural centers and renovations of tribal houses and historic grounds are among the projects which will be funded for Indian tribes in Washington and Alaska with \$571,576 in grants being distributed in this region through the American Revolution Bicentennial Administration (ARBA) Native American Programs office.

Representatives from seven tribes in ARBA's Region X received advance checks as the first installment of their grants in a brief ceremony in the ARBA office in the Federal Bldg., 915 2nd Ave. today (Friday, Jan. 23).

The funds, which were available from the Department of Commerce, were applied for and obtained through the efforts of the Native American Programs Office with the cooperation of the Bureau of Indian Affairs and ARBA Region X.

The checks were presented by Wayne Chatten of the Native American Programs office; Wesley Phillips, director, ARBA Region X; Joe Stensgard, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Portland, and Ross Miller, Bureau of Indian

Affairs, Juneau.

Receiving the grants were the Aukes and the Tlingit-Haidas of southeastern Alaska; the Colville, Nooksack, Quinault, Lummi and Squamish tribes, all of Washington state.

Plans for the various tribes' Bicentennial projects include, carving and erecting totem poles by the Aukes; renovation of tribal and community house, Tlingit-Haida; construction of Nez Perce cultural center by the Colvilles; construction of tribal cultural and education center by the Nooksacks; tribal cultural and historic study by the Quinaults; renovation of historic grounds by the Lummis and renovation of Chief Seattle cemetery by the Squamish.

Wayne Chatten said the Bicentennial grants are important steps in encouraging Native Americans to become an integral part of the Bicentennial commemoration.

"ARBA hopes to broaden the base of national unity by recognizing and acknowledging the often neglected roles and aspirations of the native American society," he concluded.

Schneider named— RCA Americom president

RCA Corporation has formed a new wholly-owned subsidiary RCA American Communications, Inc.—to own and operate its domestic communications satellite system, Howard R. Hawkins, president of the RCA Communications group announced today.

Philip Schneider, a veteran of 15 years with RCA, has been named president of RCA Americom, which will report to Mr. Hawkins.

He previously was with RCA Global Communications, Inc., where he was executive vice president and a director, responsible for development, marketing, construction and implementation of RCA's Satcom system.

Harold W. Rice, who had been responsible for RCA statcom services and special projects at RCA Globcom, has been named vice president, operations for the new subsidiary.

Both elections will become effective when RCA Americom becomes operational.

In making the announcements, Mr. Hawkins said RCA Americom was formed specifically for the RCA domestic satellite communications business and in accordance with a recent ruling of the federal communications commission authorizing the RCA system.

He said RCA inaugurated the nation's first domestic satellite communications system in December, 1973, using leased transponders on Canada's Anik II, and later on the Westar II, satellite.

In December, 1975, RCA placed into orbit its own RCA Satcom I spacecraft—the most advanced domestic communications satellite ever launched. The 24-channel satellite, which has double the capacity of any domestic communications satellite yet launched, currently is undergoing in-orbit testing and is expected to be ready for commercial operation in late February, Mr. Hawkins said.

American Bicentennial— No celebration for Indians

The Bicentennial is "no celebration" for American Indians, Phillip Deere, a Creek medicine man and spiritual leader of the American Indian Movement (AIM), told an audience of about 200 persons at the University of Minnesota this week.

"I cannot go along with that celebration until they give me the same freedom they (the white men) were looking for when they landed here," Deere said. "Until that day comes when we are all equal, there will be no freedom and, perhaps, no peace."

Deere pointed out that the last 200 years' history for Native Americans includes President Jackson's drive to remove Indians from the eastern United States, the Wounded Knee massacre and the Sand Creek massacre.

"That is called civilization," he said. "We were a civilized people in our way before the white men came. We had no jail houses or insane asylums. Can you establish a country or a nation any better than that?"

Deere, who is also the firemaker for the Creek nation in Oklahoma, said Indian people cannot be "first-class citizens" as long as their lives are controlled by the Bureau of Indian Affairs. "There is no bureau for white people, yellow people or black people," he said.

"When I talk about being free, I don't mean the freedom to go in bars or stay in fancy hotels," Deere said. "I mean the freedom to raise my children in the Indian way—the freedom to practice my religion."

"We do not have freedom of speech," he said. "The Sioux people who are now in Washington are not allowed to talk to President Ford—this is not freedom of speech." (He was referring to a delegation of Oglala people who have requested a meeting with the President. At this time their request has not been met.)

"The press has been unfair to us," Deere said. "At Wounded Knee (in 1973), they took a picture of a young Indian boy with a gun and planted seeds in the hearts of American people. Now when you hear about AIM, you think about a boy with a gun or a building being taken over."

"They say AIM is violent. If an animal is wounded and protects himself—is that violence?"

"AIM has restored pride to Indian people," he said. "Today voices of Indians are heard throughout the country."

Deere also criticized the United States for the energy crisis, pollution and dependence on other nations.

"We have gotten so far away from the original instructions of life, we are afraid to drink the water," he said. "After 200 years, we are not self-sufficient, we are dependent on others to fill our stomachs—look at the shelves in any grocery store."

"The Indian way of life has been tested over thousands of years—and I see no energy crisis, no pollution," he said. "Only Indian people are concerned about the unborn."

Deere's talk was sponsored by the American Indian Student Association.


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