



**TANACROSS CHIEF**—Famed old fighter for his people's lands is Chief Andrew Isaac of Tanacross. Help is forming for him at Sen. Mike Gravel's office in Washington where Gravel has been contacting Interior Sec. Walter Hickel. The Alaska Federation of Natives is behind Chief Isaac in the effort to hold his lands from state selections. The Chief has been the subject of Mike Wallace CBS show along with other personalities.

—THOMAS RICHARDS, JR. Photograph

# Chiefs' Executive Committee to Eye Pipeline

Al Ketzler, President of the Tanana Chiefs' Conference, this week announced that a meeting of the Executive Committee has been called for 10:00 a.m., Sunday, July 27, 1969, at the Chamber of Commerce Log Cabin in Fairbanks.

The principal purpose of the meeting is to consider a possible waiver to allow construction of the oil pipeline through the Tanana Chiefs' area.

The proposed waiver was recently discussed in Anchorage by Ketzler with Tom diZerega Assistant General Counsel of ARCO, representatives of the Arctic Slope Native Association and the Copper River Native Association and their attorneys.

It would follow the example set by the Chugach Native Association. The Native groups concerned would form business corporations to assist in both the construction and servicing of TAPS.

President Ketzler will meet Thursday morning with other leaders, attorneys, and TAPS officials in Anchorage to discuss possible contracts, following which he will attend meetings be-

tween AFN and the State Administration in preparation for the August 6 hearings before the Senate Interior Committee.

Ketzler emphasized that although the meeting was officially only the Executive Committee and representatives of the vil-

lages through which the pipeline will pass, every village is invited to send a representative.

With the conference with Tom diZerega of the Atlantic Richfield, it was pointed out that the oil companies were already committed to hiring Alaska natives.

The commitment to contract with native controlled businesses is completely separate. The indications are that the regional native corporations will follow the Tyonek example of acquiring existing businesses.

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# Chiefs Meet . . .

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Tyonek examples are the acquisition of Braund, Inc., Spernak Airways, Spenard Utilities and a title insurance company. Such an approach will give assurance to the oil companies that the contracts will be carried out in the businesslike manner.

A native control and ownership will give assurance of greater employment opportunities for Alaska natives. The principal stress will not be on employment but rather on ownership and policy control of modern businesses.

Success in this endeavor will be very important in demonstrating to Congress that the Alaska natives have the sophistication to manage the lands and money that will be coming to them under the land claims settlement.

One of the specific contracts has been discussed with Chgaach people and the TAPS (Trans Alaska Pipeline System) is the tug contract at the Valdez terminal.

The organization and its counsel envision that the companies acquired or developed to contract with TAPS would not limit the business to the pipeline but will extent their interest to the entire oil industry in Alaska and even beyond.

Just as Braund, Inc. bids on constructions contracts outside of Alaska.

The immediate example might be that native business corporations could construct, lease and operate dormitories in the regional high school programs.