



**HAPPY LOSERS**—In the incredible time of 17 hours, the Tundra Times-Fairbanks Native Association sponsored raft, captained by Frank "17-hour" Peratrovich, reached its destination Nenana, 50 miles via highway from Fairbanks. Left to right: Capt. Peratrovich, Don Billings, Phil Kelly and Dr. Earle Gladfelter. Capt. Peratrovich and Kelly are eating Cheerios out of cans although co-sponsor Howard Rock, editor of Tundra Times, doesn't remember buying Cheerios for the crew. —Photo by JIM BEDFORD

### The 'Also Rans'—

## Captain Peratrovich Sails Tundra Times, FNA Losing Raft Racer

Captain Frank "17-hour" Peratrovich, Co-Captain Phil Kelly, and Crewmen Dr. Earle Gladfelter and Don Billings piloted their craft down the Tanana River Saturday.

They displayed the flags of the Fairbanks Native Association and the Tundra Times at the great raft race from the mouth of the Chena to Nenana.

Embarking on the journey, in competition with 180 other rafts which comprised the floating armada, they fought the mighty river with a spirit derived from sheer will power and an occasional beer.

The brave crew fought the raging current, first complaining of having to maneuver the vessel by wielding the 10 pound sweeps, which then became 50 pound sweeps, until they were finally complaining of the 80 pound sweeps.

At times, when the wind permitted, the skilled raftsmen unfurled the sail which promptly blew them out of the current and into the riverbank.

On other occasions, the men would have to jump into the water in order to push the raft out of the shallows.

Midway between start and finish, the craft was crippled by the loss of its rudder. Undaunted, the men numbed themselves to the elements, continuing in the spirit of adventure.

At 11:00 p.m., some seventeen hours later, raft and men both arrived safely in Nenana. They were awarded a bottle of champagne for the successful completion of their heroic effort.

The crew returned to Fairbanks, with the exception of Phil Kelly who spent the night sleeping on the raft. Kelly is a student at the University of Alaska.

Captain Peratrovich indicated that he and his crewmen were eager to make the trip in next year's race.

"I think that everybody is talking about going next year," he said. "Except we will use aluminum oars instead of those 500 pound sweeps," Peratrovich

added.

Frank is an employment interviewer for the Alaska State Manpower Center.

Ship's Carpenter Don Billings is with the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation.

Ship's Doctor Earle Gladfelter is a Public Health Service Doctor in the Fairbanks Area Office.

### FRA Receives \$6,982 Grant

JUNEAU—Governor Keith H. Miller was informed last week by Senator Ted Stevens of a \$6,982 grant awarded to the Fairbanks Rehabilitation Association for the establishment of a rehabilitation workshop to serve the mentally and physically handicapped.

Project director is Gene F. O'Sullivan.

### Al Ketzler . . .

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"Possibly, with the bill, we could insert a provision which would provide for the cost of the attorneys. Maybe, with Goldberg, we could get more out of the settlement than would be otherwise possible.

"There are many points, pro and con, of course, but I would never believe that we would be paying him 10 per cent of the settlement if we did get the \$500 million."

When asked if he could single out what he thought would be the most important factor evolving from meeting between native leaders, Ketzler said, "I think it was at the last meeting, when we decided to ask for what was rightfully ours."

"I felt very relieved that we are going to ask for what is rightfully ours, without compromising before we go to Congress," he stated.

Ketzler has, since he was elected on May 17, been traveling and conferring with native leaders on recent developments in the land claims situation and other issues confronting the native people.

## AFN Group Unifies Position . . .

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tract with Justice Goldberg.

Immediate objection came from attorney Stanley McCutcheon of the Native Village of Tyonek who stated that there was some question as to whether the Justice would support the concept of regional corporations over a central board which would have sole responsibility and authority over funds and land matters.

McCutcheon indicated that his clients would not support Goldberg's retention until the Justice would demonstrate support for the regional concept. He further stated that the Goldberg matter should be postponed for consideration by the board at a later date.

McCutcheon's remarks were met with a flurry of responses by several native leaders who were disturbed at his suggestions.

"I think that it is improper to say that the stand of the Justice is contrary to his clients," AFN First Vice-President John Borbridge stated. "He has said on a number of occasions that he owes his allegiance to the principals who make the decisions, and that is what we have done."

"I believe that it is a necessary judgement that we have the Justice with us," Borbridge concluded in saying that confusion on the issue has arisen from "unfortunate second and third party communications."

William Hensley, delegate from the Northwest Area Native Association, said, "I believe we have practically a unanimous decision on this. We need Justice Goldberg. His departure has left a terrific vacuum in our efforts."

James Thomas, Tlingit and Haida Representative, added, "I don't think that we are properly picturing ourselves as a unit that has the power to hire, and to fire our attorneys . . . they are dispensable. We are going to have to develop the backbone and get the courage to say yes and no."

Discussion was concluded by McCutcheon who said that while AFN leaders were probably knowledgeable in many legal matters, the majority of Alaskan natives require an attorney to explain the situation.

Harry Carter took the floor. "I move that the Board of Directors of the Alaska Federation of Natives reaffirm our previous decision to seek retention of Justice Goldberg as the General Counsel for the purpose of the successful conclusion of the Alaska Land Claims issue," Carter said.

"The President is to be instructed to invite Justice Goldberg to Alaska for the purpose

of discussing contracts." The motion concluded.

A roll call vote was requested. Out of 23 votes cast, there was one dissenting vote. It came from a delegate residing in Anchorage and representing Eklutna.

Another highlight of the meeting was the appearance of Alaska U.S. Representative Howard Pollock. Pollock discussed pending House committee hearings on the land bill.

He told the board that the hearings have been postponed for one week. They had been scheduled for this past week, but are now set for early next week.

"I will testify," the Congressman said. "I want to present a good representation of the administration's stand as it compares with the AFN stand . . . I want to establish a clear delineation."

Pollock indicated that field hearings may be held in Alaska. He stated his desire that the committee schedule two days of formal hearings, with the balance of the time being spent in the villages, "Not just in Nome, Kotzebue, and Barrow, some of the smaller villages too," he added.

Alaska's sole U.S. Representative had praise for the native leaders. "The work that you are doing now is just great. It is absolutely historic," Pollock said.

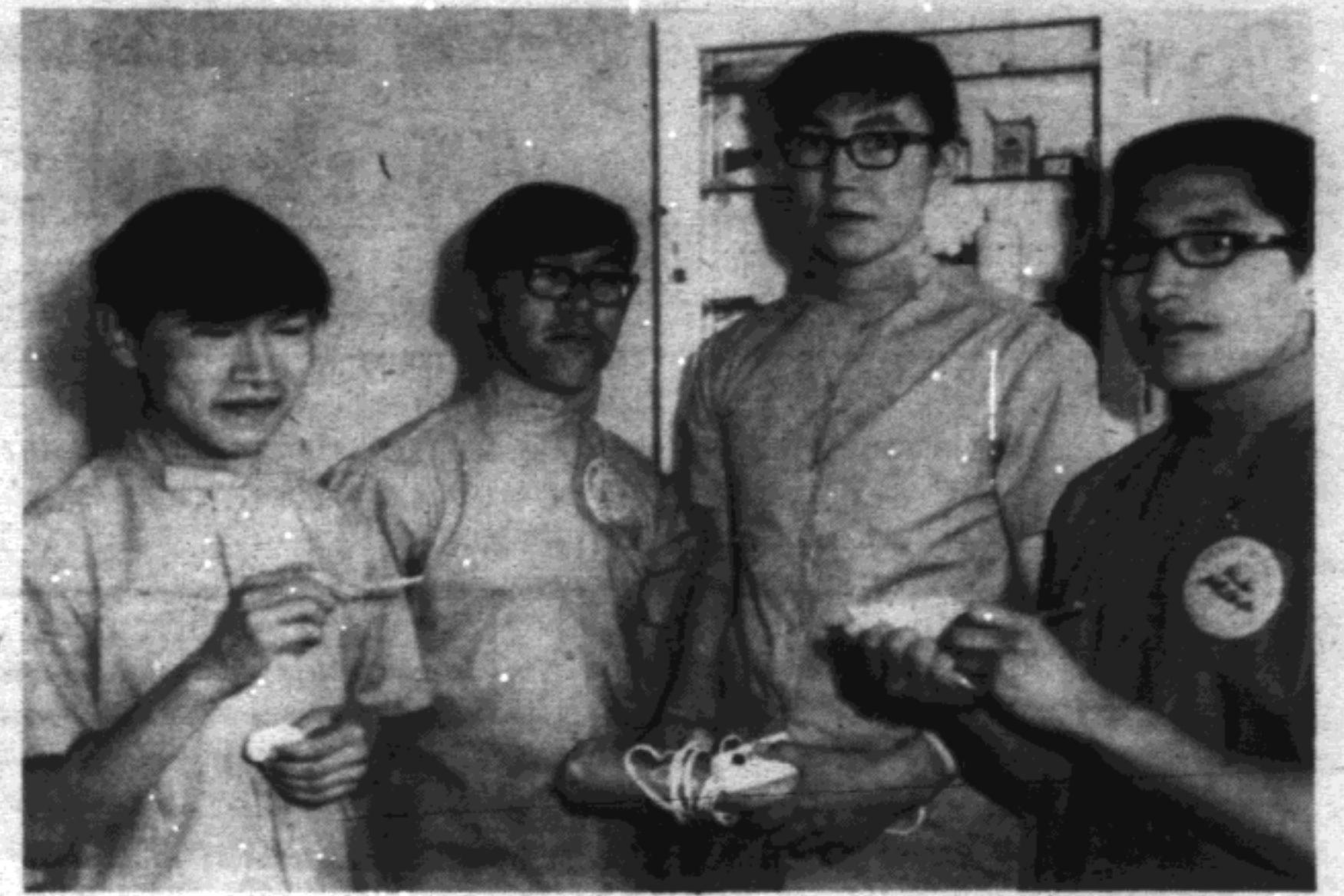
"The native land claims settlement is so different from anything that we have ever done . . . I want you to establish your position. I will do my very best to sell it," he stated.

But Pollock also indicated that problems would arise. "The fear I have about this," he said, "is that Mr. Aspinall does not meet with his committee after August 1. I think that if we could get the settlement this year, it would be a lot easier."

Another problem, Pollock added, is that "there may be a backlash" to some of the native requests. "The problem is a very real one," he stated. Pollock also said that AFN does have the right to ask for what the natives feel would be rightfully theirs.

The Congressman said that the appointment of Justice Goldberg as General Counsel may solve many of the problems. "There is no question that he can be a lot of help to us with members of Congress who might be on the opposite side."

As Pollock concluded his remarks and began to leave, AFN President Notti expressed his gratitude for the Congressman's attendance at the meeting to which Pollock replied, "O.K., Doctor."



**HEALTH AIDES**—Kwigillingok, a small Eskimo village located on Kuskokwim Bay, is fortunate indeed to have four Mt. Edgecumbe students returning home for the summer. These four boys have faithfully attended and completed a course in home nursing care and have served actively on the Health and Safety Board for their school. This summer they will be assisting in the health program in their village. All but one of them will be returning to Mt. Edgecumbe next year where they will probably continue their training. They are, left to right, Adolph and Milton Lewis, sons of Mr. and Mrs. M. Lewis; Jimmie Beaver, son of Mr. and Mrs. Albert N. Beaver, Sr.; and Fred Phillip, son of Mr. and Mrs. Roland Phillip.

He was referring to the Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters which Notti received from Alaska Methodist University on Sunday of this week.

The meeting was concluded with the passage of a resolution introduced by Willie Hensley which requested that Governor Keith Miller make available \$40,000 from the Governor's contingency fund to finance the Alaska Legal Services Program.

Hensley explained that the Alaska House voted the funds in the budget, however, it was eliminated by the Senate Finance Committee. The resolution was passed unanimously.

AFN President Notti met further with Representative Pollock Monday, discussing matters of policy. Another meeting on AFN policy decisions was held yesterday with representatives from the state.

Board members were asked to stand by and await a decision on the necessity of calling a meeting for the purpose of analyzing the results of the previous meetings.

At the conclusion of Saturday's full board meeting, most delegates felt that the next step would be to secure general counsel and present members of Congress with the position of the natives on the land settlement.

A feeling of relief at having achieved unity pervaded the delegation of native leaders. Encouraged at having reached unanimity, they are confident that they can now work toward a settlement.

### Notti Honored . .

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In 1966, Notti became the first President of the Alaska Federation of Natives when that organization was founded. He was instrumental in organizing the AFN which now represents Alaskan natives in seeking a settlement of native land claims.

Since that time, he has traveled extensively meeting with native leaders throughout the state and with legislators in the nation's capitol.

Notti currently resides in Anchorage with his wife, Lenora, and their three children.

Commenting on the presentation, Notti told the Tundra Times "It's probably the highest single honor I've received so far, and I am very proud."

A second honorary degree was presented by AMU to noted author and television commentator Lowell Thomas, Sr. Thomas was awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws degree.