



## NATIVES' FRIEND BONEY DIES

### Alaska's Supreme Court Chief Justice Worked For Better Bush Justice

By JACQUELINE GLASGOW  
Staff Writer

George F. Boney, Chief Justice of the Alaska Supreme Court, died in a tragic boating accident Wednesday, August 30, at Cheri Lake about 45 miles north of Anchorage.

Boney, 41, was the youngest chief justice in the United States. After serving on the high court two years, Boney was named Chief Justice in 1970 upon the retirement of Buell A. Nesbitt.

Fellow justices have chosen Jay A. Rabinowitz, the senior member of the Alaska Supreme Court with seven years of service to replace Boney until Gov. Egan appoints a fifth member to fill the vacancy.

Chief Justice Boney, in the short time between his appointment and his untimely death, was a crusader for upgrading justice in all areas of life in Alaska, but particularly for those living in rural communities, the Native Alaskan.

Deeply concerned about the quality of "bush justice", Boney initiated several outstanding and

innovative new programs to assure that people living in outlying areas receive a full measure of due legal rights.

Boney went through large portions of the "bush" personally, taking films to demonstrate areas of gross neglect and inadequate facilities.

In more than one community, he found that the courtroom consisted of a one-room house with two chairs: one for the judge and one for the defendant.

"Anyone else present," said one of Boney's staff, "like the arresting officer, had only one other choice of remaining seats — the toilet."

Boney felt this was indicative of poor conditions everywhere in the bush. On one trip, he saw a Native youngster in a "dark, dungeon-like cell."

When he asked what offense the boy had committed he was told, "Nothing. He's a dependent child."

Boney ordered his immediate release.

In one instance a man was



DOPPELGÄNGER DISCOVERED ON ADAK — Traveling correspondent Lael Morgan uncovers a Tundra Times "double" at the U. S. Naval Station on the Aleutian Islands. Editor Ronald

Zabowski, left, and photographer Phil Murdy put out a barracks paper with the famous name for 750 men.

— Photo by LAEL MORGAN

### And Then We Find There's Another 'Tundra Times'

By LAEL MORGAN

ADAK — Lt. William Hopkins, administrative officer for the U. S. Naval Communication Station in the Aleutians, thought his phone must be playing tricks on him.

"I have a woman here from the 'Tundra Times,'" the caller repeated.

"A woman? From our paper?"

"No," the other 'Tundra Times'.

Which was real news to Hopkins. There are no women in his outfit and the only 'Tundra Times' he knew about was published twice monthly for his military personnel.

The 'Tundra Times' reporter was equally surprised. How dare they take our name? A meeting was arranged to compare notes.

The other TT is pretty much a two man operation. CCT/3 Ronald Zabowski, a former advertising copy writer from Pennsylvania, writes, edits and lays-out the sheet. CTSN Phil Murdy, an electrical engineering grad from Massachusetts, takes, develops and prints the photos.

"We try to make it for the men in the barracks," Zabowski said. "One of our main problems is that we're so removed from the outside world it's hard to figure what to use for news."

"Plus the fact we have to staple the papers together by hand," Murdy added with a grimace. The circulation is 750.

They also handle all base news releases and take care of public relations problems like the other 'Tundra Times' re-

porter. Did such a good job of that, in fact, she decided to let

them continue to use our name, at least for the time being.

### Center Discusses 'Native and the Law'

This summer, the Fairbanks Native Center held a regularly scheduled meeting of their Monday night interest group. The subject to be discussed was "The Native and the Law."

Officer Matt Kernan of the Fairbanks city police and Scott Campbell of the Alaska State Troopers were invited to speak. Director of the Center, John Bergamaschi, was present as well as several of his staff members.

The remainder of the group consisted of about seven native participants, mostly male, ranging from eighteen to fifty, and about three non-native participants.

The officers responses to questions are indicated by their initial. The letter N signifies a comment made by a Native participant.

Q: Are most people picked up for drunkenness Natives?

K: Yes, roughly 60%.

Q: When you became an officer did you have a course in understanding Natives as a whole?

K: No, I've been on the force 10 years. It's been mostly on-the-job training.

Q: Is there anything like that now?

K: We have a 6 to 10 week basic police training course, which includes public relations.

Q: I'm aware that to some officers an Alaskan Native is

a drunk on 2nd Ave.

K: I would not assume that any of our officers have that attitude. We do instill a sense of fair play in our officers.

Q: Are there any Natives

on the city police force?

K: No, not at the present time.

C: We do have Lorry Schuerch of Barrow on the

(Continued on page 6)

### Bush Justice, White Man's Justice— Theft of Tin Trunk Illustrates Two Systems of Justice

By JACQUELINE GLASGOW  
Staff Writer

In one of the remote, small villages of Alaska, two brothers broke into an old man's cabin and stole a metal trunk. The

brothers were called before the village council.

The younger brother admitted the theft. He was fined \$5 by the council and told to cut a cord of wood for the old man in restitution.

The older brother said nothing and would not admit taking part in the theft. The state trooper was called in by the council and a felony complaint filed against the silent offender.

At great expense, he was flown to Fairbanks and booked. He could not be released on bail as he had no one to be released to and he had no money to return to the village until the trial.

Held in the state jail in a strange city, he was eventually brought before a judge in a walnut-paneled courtroom and sentenced to three weeks. When his time was up, he was flown back to the village.

When it was all over, the old man said: "Here, give him my trunk. Then they won't have to come back and steal it again!"

The theft of the tin trunk illustrates beautifully two systems of justice in rural Alaska

(Continued on page 6)

### Governor William Egan Appoints TT Editor To Historical Sites Commission

The entire staff of the Tundra Times, not a crowd by any measure, were busily working in a deserted office building in downtown Fairbanks on Monday. Labor Day, a holiday for many but a work day when you have a newspaper to get out.

When the phone rang, the secretary said "May I ask who's calling please?"

The caller was the Governor of Alaska, or as he identified himself to Editor and friend Howard Rock, "Bill Egan here."

With few preliminaries, the Governor asked, "How would you like to serve on the Historical Sites Commission?"

The commission will recommend historical sites to be included in land selection for the state of Alaska.

Egan mentioned several of the people he hoped to have serve: Ted Smith of the Division of State Parks; Mrs. Workman, an archaeologist; Bill Cashen, University of Alaska; Bob De Armand, Alaska Maga-

(Continued on page 6)