

Togiak, Twin Hills Equip. Delayed At Cold Bay

Mr. George Bernard of the Division of Aviation reported to Rep. Nels A. Anderson, Jr., Sunday, that the barge carrying the airport equipment for Togiak and Twin Hills has been delayed by mechanical problems at Cold Bay.

Bernard stated that the barge carrying the equipment ran aground and twisted a shaft that crippled the vessel for the voyage to the two western villages.

Rep. Anderson stated Monday that this means Togiak and Twin Hills are caught in the unenviable position of being without equipment of their own to keep their fields clean this winter.

"To further complicate the problems," Anderson said, "equipment that was in the village was surplused and sold in anticipation of arrival of the barge with the new equipment. I have just learned that the villages have been authorized to rent back the equipment that was surplused and sold."

Anderson said he has written the Governor requesting that regulations be adopted that will require equipment to remain in the villages until replacement equipment is on site.

In addition, the villages in which equipment is located should be given first right of refusal when the equipment is to

be surplused and sold.

"I am sure the village could use the equipment or use unworkable equipment for spare parts," Anderson noted.

Finally, Anderson said he has requested that the Division of Aviation search its inventory for a small snowblower and grader that can be flown in to the villages of Togiak and Twin Hills while awaiting arrival of their equipment that is stuck in Cold Bay.