

THREE PT. HOPE MEN DROWN

Stormy seas and possibly treacherous current at the Maryette Inlet 11 miles east of Point Hope claimed the lives of three village men last Sunday.

The men who drowned were Nick Timothy, Frank Omnik and Clyde Howarth. Nick Timothy left a wife and six children and Frank Omnik is survived by his wife and two children. Clyde Howarth was not married.

The men had been hunting caribou in the Cape Lisburne

area and had been held back by bad weather for a week before they attempted to return to Point Hope last Sunday September 15.

"Lot of our people here

thought they were coming in through the inlet. Some thought they might have come in through the inlet and might have been caught by a wave," said Andrew Tooyak of Point Hope when contacted by Tundra Times by phone.

Tooyak said the wind on Sunday had been blowing from west northwest and the wind stiffened in the afternoon. He thought the men met with the accident sometime between noon and 4:00 p.m.

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Pt. Hope Men Drown . .

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The boat, a speedboat type built of plywood, was seen washed ashore by a private pilot, whose name was not available, about a mile northeast of Maryette Inlet as he was flying from Point Hope to Cape Lisburne. It was powered by a 60 h.p. outboard motor.

After he landed at the Cape, a telephone call was made to Point Hope notifying the village of the location of the beached boat.

A search was begun at once and the searchers recovered the body of Nick Timothy. Frank Omnik's body was recovered the next day on Monday. Clyde Howarth's body had not been found at the time Tundra Times called Point Hope.

Point Hope villagers thought that the three men were attempting to enter the big lagoon east of Point Hope and into sheltered waters.

Kukpuk River empties into the big lagoon and out into the Arctic Ocean through the

Maryette Inlet. The currents are always treacherous at the narrow inlet especially when the seas are rough.

Up till late Tuesday, funeral plans for Nick Timothy and Frank Omnik were indefinite. Andrew Tooyak thought that the relatives of the men might have been waiting for next of kin to come from elsewhere to Point Hope for the funeral.

Tooyak thought that Horace Timothy, Nick Timothy's son, who now lives in Chicago had been notified.

The death of the men had deeply shocked the whole village of Point Hope as many in the village are close relatives of the men.

Nick Timothy is survived by his wife Ethel, formerly Ethel Kingik, and six children. Frank Omnik left his wife Mary, formerly Mary Woods of Kotzebue, and two children.

Clyde Howarth is survived by his father Gilbert Howarth and many other relatives.