

Ruffled Republican Senators Reject Laura Bergt

Laura Bergt, (Mrs. Neil Bergt), a well known leader in civic, charitable and Alaskan native affairs, was nominated earlier this week to replace U.S. Representative Don Young in the

Alaskan Senate. Her nomination was rejected by a caucus of senate Republicans in a 6-3 vote of that body on the grounds that her name did not appear on a list of

candidates submitted to the governor by the Fairbanks District Republican Committee. Mrs. Bergt, who was born in Candle, Alaska, and raised in Nome and Kotzebue, achieved

national recognition, in 1970, when she was appointed by President Nixon to the National Council on Indian Opportunity, to serve a two year term. This prestigious council con-

sists of 8 citizens and 8 cabinet members, with Vice-President Agnew presiding as chairman. Presently she is serving on the National Indian Arts and Crafts

(Continued on page 7)

Tundra Times

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Important Facts People's Heritage

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Uncovering Unsettling The Alutians Speak



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BLM FORM LETTER BACKFIRES

Confusion Over Native Allotments VS Primary Place of Residence

By JACQUELINE GLASGOW
Staff Writer

A department of the Interior letter has backfired, leaving Alaska Natives confused and government officials swamped by requests for explanations.

In January of this year, a form letter was sent out by the Bureau of Land Management. The letter was to explain the choice between filing for a Native Allotment or filing for a "primary place of residence".

The letter also notified Alaska Natives that they could not file for both and gave them two squares in which to mark their choice.

Far from clarifying the issue, the letter resulted in mass confusion, incomplete information, and general alarm on the part of many Native people who have been sweating out the processing of the allotments.

The first reaction of most Native people receiving the letter was that they would lose their allotment or that by keeping it, they would lose other benefits under the Land Claims Act, such as ownership of other lands within village withdrawals.

It appears that this is not necessarily the case and legal heads within the regional corporations are objecting strongly to the misleading choice presented in the letter.

Tanana Chiefs have advised all of their people to withhold

making any decision until the federal regulations are firmly fixed. Alaska Legal Service has also advised applicants to simply wait and check nothing on the form letter until further investigation of the consequences.

If there is no response to the BLM letter, the allotment will continue to be processed and the applicant has until Dec. 18 of this year to make a choice for "primary place of residence."

"A person could file a 'primary place of residence' outside of the village withdrawals and if they enroll in a village, still have another piece of property—a business site, a part-time home, a tool shed, even," said Jim Donahue, of the Fairbanks BIA Realty office, "within the village. They could have a legitimate filing in BOTH places."



LAURA BERGT — See story above.

The acreage for both primary place of residence filings and for Native Allotments must come from the 2 million acre Special Purpose Grant in the Land Claims Settlement Act.

Out of this 2 million acres (Continued on page 6)

Reject Regulations—

AFN: Int. Dept. Rules on Claims Nixed

ANCHORAGE — The Alaska Federation of Natives Inc. has rejected as unacceptable propos-

ed new rules and regulations regarding land selection, on grounds they are detrimental to the land claims settlement.

The attack on the proposed new Alaska Native land grant rules and regulations came Sunday at a board meeting of the statewide federation in Anchorage.

The board approved unanimously a resolution charging the proposed new regulations were unacceptable as written and requesting the power to sit as a committee with the Secretary of the Interior, to negotiate regulations which conform with the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act and which are acceptable to the regional corporations.

The board directed the resolution be presented Tuesday, at the start of a meeting on the regulations called by the Bureau of Land Management and Bureau of Indian Affairs.

One of the most controversial points of the new regulations surrounds eligibility requirements for status as a Native village which may select land as a village corp.

"They get you coming and going," said State Senator Willie Hensley, president of AFN Inc., as written, the regulations would eliminate 16 to 40 villages from

(Continued on page 6)

Enrollment Soon to Be History

As Domesday Book—Power Based on Land Ownership

By JACQUELINE GLASGOW
Staff Writer

In the year 1085, William the Conqueror of England, ordered the making of the famous Domesday Book. Domesday, like the present enrollment of Alaska Natives, was an enumeration made for the purpose of securing land rights.

After the great political convulsion of the Norman conquest and the wholesale confiscation of landed estates which followed, the king was vitally interested in securing the rights of the crown.

The listing and the counting of peoples of a great land have been a part of the history of many lands and most often for the purpose of who owns what.

For the Domesday survey, each county of England was visited by a group of royal officers, legati, who held a public enquiry, probably in the great assembly known as the county

court which was attended by representatives of every town-

ADE Approves Statewide JOM

The Alaska Department of Education has approved formation of a statewide Johnson O'Malley program review committee to increase Native involvement in the education of Native children.

The proposal, subsequently approved by the board of Directors of the Alaska Federation Inc. will give Natives a say in distribution of the JOM funds now in great demand. It will be implemented for fiscal year 1974.

It directs that the state department of education cease acting as a single state agency (Continued on page 6)

ship, as well as of the local lords.

The unit of enquiry was the Hundred, and the return for each Hundred was sworn to by 12 local jurors, half of them English and half of them Norman.

In the Great Enumeration of Alaska Natives, each village was visited by enumerators, official representatives of the government. They also held public meetings, sometimes in the community hall, in the village council, school, or church.

The unit to be used was called a village, or a group if it contained less than 25 persons. These units were then grouped into larger units called regions. There were 12 regions in all, some of them Indian, some Eskimo, and some Aleut.

At the present writing, there are but two days left in the history of the roll-taking of the (Continued on page 6)

George Sullivan Resigns Land Use

Anchorage Mayor George Sullivan, one of five federal appointees to the Joint Federal State Land Use Planning Commission, has resigned from the commission, citing lack of time as his main reason.

"I find that it is impossible for me to meet these demands (of mayor of Alaska's largest city) while simultaneously responding to the important responsibilities of the commission," Sullivan said.

"While the decision is a painful one for me to reach, I know it to be the correct course of action," Sullivan said. "The commission has a vital role to play in determining the future of Alaska and it is of great importance that the appointees

(Continued on page 6)