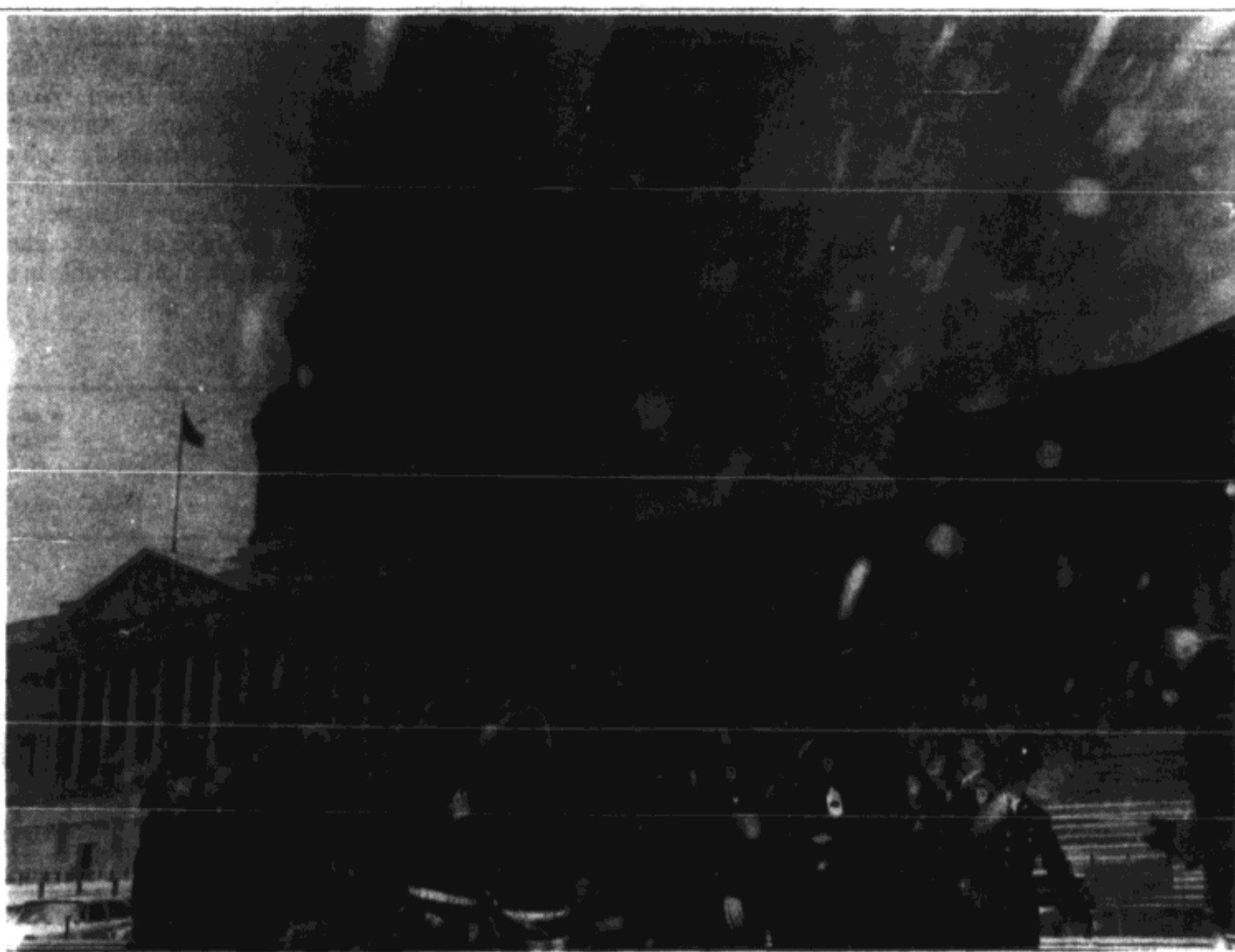


# Scouts to march at inaugural

by Barbara Crane  
for the Tundra Times

Twenty-eight years ago, a group of Eskimo Scouts flew to Washington, D.C., to represent the 2-year-old State of Alaska in President John Kennedy's inaugural parade.

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Tundra Times file photo

*The Alaska Eskimo Scouts last attended an inaugural in 1961 when President John F. Kennedy took office.*

## • Forty-eight Scouts to march in parade

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This week Alaska's Eskimo Scouts will again be marching down Washington's Pennsylvania Avenue.

The Scouts, members of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Battalions of the Alaska Army National Guard, have been invited to march in the traditional parade following President-elect George Bush's swearing-in ceremony Friday.

"We are proud," said Alaska's Congressman Don Young, "that the vital role the Eskimo Scouts play in America's first line of defense has been recognized by President-elect Bush and his administration."

Each of the 48 men and women who will be marching was selected for this honor by his or her battalion commander.

While none are old enough to have marched in the 1961 parade, most have heard relatives or friends tell stories about that day.

The Scouts are flying into Anchorage from all parts of Western Alaska and will meet today for a few days' drill and rehearsal. On Wednesday they will board a National Guard C-130 cargo plane for the 11-hour flight to Washington.

The presidential swearing-in ceremony begins at noon, followed by the parade from the Capitol Building to the White House.

While spectators may be chilled by winter temperatures that are low by Washington standards, the Eskimo Scouts should be comfortable in their traditional white fur-lined parkas.

In addition to the Inauguration Day ceremonies, plans are being finalized for the Scouts to tour the nation's capital.

The Scouts will return to Alaska on Jan. 22.