



BARROW SUPPLIES ON AIRLIFT

Round-the-Clock, 7-Day-Week Airlift Brings Needed Goods

By MADELYN SHULMAN
Staff Writer

A round-the-clock seven-day-a-week airlift started Friday morning to bring the eagerly awaited cargo of the North Star III to Barrow.

Three Hercules four-engine turboprop cargo planes from Alaska Airlines are each making three round trips daily between Fairbanks and Barrow, carrying approximately 60 plane loads of vital goods needed by Barrow residents for the coming year.

At Alaska Airlines freight loading at Fairbanks International Airport, crews are working furiously to keep the three Hercules cargo planes on their demanding three trip per day schedule.

With the round trip to Barrow taking approximately six hours, this leaves a short two hours each trip for ground crews to unload cargo in Barrow, load and refuel at Fairbanks.

According to Alaska Airlines station manager Jack Nott, the

airline expects to complete its contract to deliver the approximately three million pounds of cargo in less than the two weeks specified in its contract with the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

The weather has been good so far, an airline spokesman offered. Barring serious delays, such as might be caused by bad weather, they expect to complete deliveries as much as four days ahead of schedule.

Mudslides in Seward delayed delivery of the cargo in Fairbanks past the planned start for the enterprise on Wednesday.

The cargo from the North Star III, the BIA operated supply ship which has served remote Alaskan villages for 17 years, was unloaded at Seward when the ship was unable to reach Barrow this fall.

Heavy ice buildups along the shores of the Arctic Ocean and the Bering Sea made delivery impossible, leaving Barrow without vital supplies for the coming winter.

From Seward, the supplies were shipped by rail to Fairbanks, where the airlift takes over. A smaller shipment will go to Wainwright.

The supplies destined for Barrow, already delayed almost two months, include a vast range of articles needed to keep the community going through the coming year.

Food is an important component, but the shipment also

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WASHINGTON, D.C.—Senator Ted Stevens is sworn in as an elected Senator. Stevens (center), as a result of his November election victory, is now 76th in seniority in the Senate. Pictured

left to right are Senator Gravel, Senate Republican leader Hugh Scott, Stevens, Senate Democratic leader Mike Mansfield and Vice President Agnew, who administered the oath.

Massive Yule Fund Drive on for Beltz School

The students and staff of the William E. Beltz Regional Dormitory in Nome are conducting a massive fund raising campaign to obtain the money needed to send their 160 students home for the Christmas holidays and back to school in January.

Dubbed "Operation Christmas", the fund campaign, is trying to raise the money that many families of students cannot afford for round trip plane fares.

Parents and Regional Dormitory Board members in each village with Beltz students were contacted in November and encouraged to send money by a December 10 deadline, if possible.

Many have responded, but not enough to send all of the children at Beltz home for Christmas, some of whom have sisters and brothers also in the dormitory.

The students are trying to earn the money they need. An appeal for jobs for needy students has been launched in Nome, since Beltz students want to work for the money for their fares home.

"Nome is responding as only Nome can," according to Dormitory Director John W. Leonard. "However, Nome is a small community and jobs are hard to come by."

Students are available there for snow shovelers, plane washers, janitorial services, baby sitting, housework, skin sewing,

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5-Man Coordination Panel Set Up for Barrow Development

By SUSAN TAYLOR
Staff Writer

A mechanism designed to coordinate federal, state, and local projects in the Barrow area was set up at a two-day conference in Barrow last week.

As approved by the approximately 20 agencies represented at the meeting, the mechanism is to be known as the Barrow Intergovernmental Co-ordinating Committee.

Its major component will be a five-man panel comprised of one representative each from the Navy, the Federal Field Committee, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the State of Alaska, and the City of Barrow.

Its smaller, but essential components, will be each of the agencies represented by the panel such as the Public Health Service, the Federal Aviation Administration, the Alaska State Housing Authority, the State Department of Health and Welfare, the State Department of Fish and Game and the U.S. Weather Bureau.

Its fuel? Voluntary cooperation from each of the agencies and a desire on the part of each to make the panel work.

At stake is the orderly development of the Barrow area.

As explained by Commander J.B. Pitman of the Seventeenth Naval District and moderator for the meeting, "The panel won't work without a spirit of cooperation. It won't work if we don't want it to work."

And Capt. Emory Smith, director of the Naval Petroleum and Oil Shale Reserves: "It is up to each agency to gear up to make this thing work and to make it a viable body."

The meeting was called by the Navy and held at modern facilities at the Naval Arctic Research Lab several miles out of town.

Barrow city council members interviewed during the conference generally reacted with enthusiasm to the idea of a coordinating panel.

Sen. Gravel Makes Suggestion—

Conservationist-Native Alliance?

Alaska Conservation Society Board member Robert B. Weeden of College, Alaska has distributed copies of a letter sent to him by Senator Mike Gravel which asks for a sense of alliance between Natives and conservationists.

The letter from Senator Gravel requests Mr. Weeden's support in the cause of what he termed "our first conservationists."

"They, the Native Alaskan Eskimos, Aleuts and Indians, but for having been the first conservationists on this continent, would not be here today. Their survival under inhospitable conditions is both a monument to their tenacity and to the basic principles of conservation.

"They were the first among us to recognize that dependence on the land and water, and the resources of each, requires good husbandry.

"Their presence in Alaska over many thousands of years constitutes an eloquent record of applied conservation that speaks for itself," Senator Gravel wrote. Senator Gravel asked the Nation's conservation groups to join with the Natives in pushing for a fair settlement.

"To me," he wrote, "achieving a settlement that demonstrates the depth of our commitment to uphold the Natives' true rights, and that helps establish Native people on a sound economic footing, is more important

than quick disposal of the matter. Unfortunately, some Alaskans who are pushing so hard for immediate settlement are doing so because they have a vested interest in some phase of resource development which (correct or not) they believe is being delayed by the Native Claims."

Mr. Weeden called this "stamped" attitude a possible bar to just and fair settlement.

Mr. Weeden included his attitudes on what a just land and cash settlement should be, supporting the idea of a 2 percent overriding royalty on oil and gas revenues and expressing his hopes for a just and fair settlement of the Native Claims.