

AIRFIELD MAY BE BUILT ON ST. GEORGE ISLAND



Funds for 2500 Foot Airstrip Asked for Island

The village of St. George on St. George Island may, at last, get an airfield it has wanted for many years.

Sen. E. L. (Bob) Bartlett's office in Washington reported last week that the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries, the agency that administers the Pribilof Islands, has requested funds in its budget to finance a 2,500-foot-landing field on St. George Island.

The project will get underway if a survey shows the terrain is suitable for constructing the air strip.

Early last month, Flore Lekanof, president of the Aleut League, told the Tundra Times that St. George was the worst served native community in Alaska.

He said the only communication the island has was a ship that comes three times a year and occasional mail that is dropped from a plane.

St. George Islanders help to harvest fur seals each year handling about one-fifth of the total harvest from the Pribilof Islands.

There are 225 Aleuts who live on St. George Island.