



MUELLER TESTIMONY HEARD



MUELLER SPEAKS— Ralph G. Crews, left, attorney for the State Division of Lands, checks notes Richard Mueller is using to testify. On the other side of the table, left

to right are Wallace Mariens, Joe Franich and Melvin Braund, members of the Alaska State Personnel Board.

Show State Tried To Ignore Mistake In Tanacross Claim

By SHEILA TURNER

Richard Mueller finally had his day in court this week. Two years ago he was fired by the Alaska Division of Lands in a dispute over the sale of tentatively approved lands.

The Alaska State Personnel Board refused to hear his appeal, ruling that he could be fired without cause since he had just been promoted and was on probation.

The Superior Court concurred, but the State Supreme Court later ruled that Mueller was entitled to a hearing.

Tuesday and Wednesday that hearing took place in Fairbanks. Mueller testified for over three hours before the State Personnel Board. His former supervisors, Roscoe Bell, L.T. Main and F.J. Keenan also appeared.

Mueller contended that he had discovered a possible error in Bureau of Land Management records while working as lease and sales manager of the division of lands. A vaguely worded claim by the Tanacross Indians had been recorded incorrectly by the BLM. George Lake area was not included, though a map in the Juneau Bureau of Indian Affairs showed the area as part of the Tanacross claim.

BLM had given tentative approval to sale of the George Lake area. The state was thinking of promoting it as "wilderness estates" at the

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Set Hearing on Right to Drink

A hearing to decide if Canadian Indians may become intoxicated off reservation will be heard at Edmonton, according to the Whitehorse Star.

Crown prosecutor Orval Troy of Yellowknife has appealed a ruling by a Northwest Territory Court, June 5 that the anti-intoxication statute is contrary to the Canadian Bill of Rights and discriminates against Indians.

Governor's 5-Member Task Force Appears

An effort was made yesterday to regain a \$1 million native housing appropriation in testimony before a Senate subcommittee.

Appearing before the subcommittee on independent offices and the Department of Housing and Urban Development of the Senate Appropriations Committee was a five

member task force named by Governor Walter J. Hickel.

They were Edwin B. Crittenden, executive director of the State Housing Authority; Morris Thompson, deputy director of the State Rural Affairs Agency; State Senator Raymond C. Christiansen of Bethel; State Representative

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Anaktuvuk Strip Work Delayed By Breakdown

Work on the Anaktuvuk Pass air strip has been slowed down because of a breakdown in equipment, villagers reported last week.

They began extending and clearing their strip towards the end of June using their TD 9 caterpillar tractor. When the machine broke down two weeks ago, the men continued the clearing operation by hand.

New parts are to be provided by the Bureau of Indian Affairs. They had not yet arrived in the Fairbanks office yesterday, the day they were scheduled for delivery to Anaktuvuk.

Villagers are clearing the strip so that a large plane can land in the fall, bringing stove oil for winter. Because of the distance from willows, people had considered moving to Umiat until the Bureau of Indian Affairs offered 50,000 gallons of fuel.

Nutritionist Ethel Griggs Starts Column

Doctors have known for a long time that foods people eat have a lot to do with health. But which foods are the right ones?

This question has been a source of controversy for hundreds of years.

Beginning this week, the Tundra Times will feature a column of questions and answers about food. It will be written by Ethel Mae Griggs, public health nutritionist for the northern area of the Alaska Native Health Service.

Her first column is on page 2.

Pollock's Questionnaire Shows Claims Deserve Compensation

Congressman Howard W. Pollock (R-Alaska) Wednesday announced the results of his Congressional questionnaire mailed to Alaskans this spring. It contained several multiple choice question dealing with current international, national and state issues. Over 6,000 Alaskans returned the questionnaire.

The great majority believed that Native groups deserved some kind of compensation for their land claims. Over half (52.6%) approved of granting Native title to village sites—plus hunting, trapping, and fishing rights with monetary compensation for lands for which title was not received. It should be noted, however, that on this question some persons crossed out the phrase concerning compensation. 15.7% believed the Natives should receive title to their aboriginal lands while 14.5% thought monetary compensation alone was the answer. Only 17.2% thought the claims

should not be recognized in any way.

On our participation in the Vietnam war 60.7% of those answering would accelerate American military effort while 14.5% would continue our present course.

On the other side 19.1% would withdraw from Vietnam as soon as possible while 5.7% would stay but reduce our military effort.

16.5% agree with the Johnson Administration that social security benefits should be increased 20% with an accompanying increase in payroll taxes.

10.9% agree with the AFL-CIO proposal for raising benefits 50%. This proposal would require increased payroll taxes plus a contribution to the trust fund from general tax revenues.

Republicans have proposed an 8% increase in benefits. Such an increase could be financed out of present trust fund revenues without a

payroll tax increase. 26.1% favor this proposal. Thus, slightly over half of those responding favor an increase

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Defense Department to Conduct Underwater Nuclear Experiment

The Department of Defense will conduct an underwater seismic experiment this summer in the Aleutian Islands area as a part of the continuing VELA UNIFORM research program of the Advanced Research Projects Agency.

A series of underwater detonations of conventional explosives will be conducted by both the Navy's Office of Naval Research and the Air Force Technical Applications Center.

Plans for the Aleutian experiment have been made in consultation with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game

and the U.S. Department of the Interior. No effects of the underwater detonations will be noticeable on land areas except on special recording instruments.

Based on past experience in both oceans with detonations at sufficient depths in deep waters, no harmful effects are expected to result to fishing or other marine life, and every effort will be made to minimize interference with shipping, fishing or other marine interests.

The Aleutian experiment will consist of measurements, with ocean bottom seismo-

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Ethel Mae Griggs