

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.