



CUTS CAKE WITH ULU — Recently, the Commissioner of Indian Affairs Morris Thompson celebrated his birthday at his office in the Bureau of Indian Affairs building in Washington, D. C. Morris is probably doing "a first" by cutting his birthday cake using an Eskimo woman's knife (ulu). Some of the BIA employees are watching.

BIA Commissioner Thompson Enjoys Birthday



RUMMAGING — Thompson, left, is rummaging in his attache case during his birthday party in Washington. Seated, second from right, is Laura Bergt of Fairbanks, Alaska (close friend of the BIA Commissioner) who brought the Eskimo ulu with which Morris cut his cake.



BIRTHDAY PICNIC — Commissioner Thompson, with young daughter and his wife Thelma, right bottom corner, are joining a host of friends on his birthday.



NALUKATUK (blanket toss) — During his birthday picnic, BIA Commissioner climbed aboard the toss blanket and up in the air he went. "For the first time in a blanket toss, Morry did very well," reported Laura Bergt.



FRUIT PUNCH AND CAKE — Happily relishing the birthday goodies is Commissioner Thompson eating his cake and drinking his fruit punch. Morris is an Athabaskan Indian from the village of Tanana, Alaska located at the confluence of Tanana and Yukon Rivers.

Block Valve Experiment at UA

ANCHORAGE — A 150-foot long section of elevated pipeline will be constructed north of Fairbanks to simulate operation of an elevated pipeline block valve for the trans-Alaska pipeline.

The 28-foot-high, 60,000 pound valve will be operated throughout the winter under various climatic and operating conditions. The pipeline test section also will provide engineers with additional performance data on the thermal vertical support members, to be used in above-ground pipeline construction.

The pipe section will be 150 feet long, and will consist of the 10-foot-wide valve and 140 feet of 48-inch pipe. The section will be built in a permafrost area.

The project also will serve as a preview of the above ground construction of the pipeline. About 382 miles of the 798-mile-long pipeline will be above ground.

A gravel pipeline construction workpad, similar to workpads that will be built along the pipeline route, has been built at the Fairbanks valve site. A drill rig is at the site and will drill the two-foot diameter holes into the permafrost to receive the vertical support members (VSMs).

The pipe and valve section will be supported by the VSMs, which are 18-inch diameter pipes, averaging 50 feet in length, buried about 35 feet into the frozen ground. The pipeline support assemblies known as pipeline shoes, are being fabricated in California and will be ready for installation on the project in early October.

The pipe and valve section will be insulated with fiberglass insulation, similar to what will be used on the pipeline.

The pipe will be capped at both ends. Heated oil will be circulated through the section.

Construction at the site also will include two equipment buildings and a 20,000-gallon storage tank. Estimated completion for the project is mid-October.

The project is being built by Alyeska Pipeline Service Company, the firm responsible for the design, construction and operation of the pipeline.



A Pennsylvania court heard a case in which the defendant was accused of witchcraft in 1949!