

Close Call in Wilderness . . .

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take only five steps at a time before sitting down to rest.

Once, when Bob back-tracked to check on her, said Liz, he found her resting. "Bob said his feet were cold and he was concerned about frostbite." Estimating that they had come at least three-quarters of the way to the Dome, Bob suggested that he go on for help.

"I thought it was a good idea," said Liz. "I even told Bob that although I was moving very slowly, I thought I could eventually make it." Bob went on ahead and Liz found herself utterly alone, fighting the hip-deep snow and a powerful wind. She didn't realize exhaustion had set in.

The trail became impossible to follow. Liz wandered off to the left, believing she was heading in the general direction of the Dome, pushing ahead five steps, resting, pushing on again.

"I counted standing up as one step," said Liz, "then took four more."

When she heard five shots ring out, her mind began to entertain the illogical.

"Poachers," I thought, said Liz. "They won't want to find me. They won't want me to see that they are poaching."

Looking up, she saw several bright lights and thought with great relief that she was looking at Murphy Dome. But the lights began getting closer and were accompanied by a "monstrous" roar. It was a 10-passenger Track

Master.

Only then did it occur to her that Bob must have made it to the Dome and was coming back with help. As the vehicle approached, its engine roaring as it broke through drifts, Liz assumed she was safe. She neither yelled nor waved a hand.

A feeling of despair gripped her as the tractor went right on by. She was too far off the trail for M. Sgt. Bill Thompson, a 25-year-old Air Force veteran, to see her. Thompson, S. Sgt. Jerry Schooner and civilian Charles (Robby) Robinson continued down the trail, but soon picked up Liz' tracks.

"It was apparent that her rest stops were getting much closer together," said Thompson. He wheeled the machine around and back-tracked to find Liz walking toward him, her arms waving.

Liz spent the night at the Dome, found out that the Air Force is populated by a lot of nice people and gave thanks that she came out of her frightful experience unscathed.

"One thing that still bothers me," said Liz, "is that as soon as I set foot on that tractor, I began to minimize my situation. That was as illogical as thinking my rescuers were poachers."

Liz Murphy still loves life on the Chatanika, but she learned something the hard way that she hopes this story will help others to avoid.

Rabinowitz . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

Anchorage.

"Now the Kuskokwim-Lower Yukon region will be regularly visited by Superior Court Judge Eben Lewis of Anchorage. Trials and grand juries will be held in Bethel. Grand juries will be chosen from the area and witnesses will have to travel only to Bethel," he said.

The state court has assigned an additional administrative clerk to Bethel and Judge Lewis has been given an operating budget and complete control over civil, criminal and children's matters, as well as the calling of grand juries for that area.

Results from the Bethel service area experiment have been so favorable "that we are considering establishing a second service area for Barrow," Rabinowitz told the legislators. "In

April, members of the court system and interested executive agencies will meet at Barrow to discuss whether the concept can be successfully applied to this region.

"My own view is that the need for service areas following lines of population, transportation, and commerce but cutting across judicial district boundaries reflects the lessening importance of judicial districts in the day-to-day functioning of our courts," he said.

The chief justice also noted that funds from the Indian Desk of the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA) had provided modular judicial facilities now in operation and owned by the communities of Emmonak, St. Mary's, Kiana and Selawik.

"One has to see these facilities on location to appreciate the tremendous improvement they are over what earlier served as jails, police offices and courts in these villages," he said.

The state court system pays \$75 per month rent for magistrate offices in each of these buildings. In addition, the 840 square foot units provide jail facilities, offices for village constables, and meeting areas for village councils.

The Alaska court system is now coordinating additional grant applications totaling 350,000 dollars to gain nine more of these court facility units from the LEAA Indian Desk. They are to be installed at Point Hope, Noorvik, Gambell, Savoonga, Hooper Bay, Mekoryuk, Aniak, Galena and Angoon.

Rabinowitz emphasized that the funds from the Indian Desk are "discretionary grants which do not diminish the LEAA funds available to other opponents of the criminal justice system."

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Letters

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than one year in order to have staggered terms. The second question was whether or not the nine board members should receive compensation for attending past and future board meetings. The meeting was finally adjourned at 12:15 a.m.

With an official elected Board of Directors, our village corporation is ready to begin studying possible programming in investments of our share of the 45% monies from the Land Claims Act, and pursuing selection of our entitled 161,280 acres of surface lands. The Interim Board had prepared some recommendations so, much of the ground work has already been set for the new board.

Should you need more information on our activities here in Unalakleet, please feel free to either write or call 624-5411. Thank you for your interest and we would like to commend you on the good work and the valuable information that you and your staff are publishing in your paper.

Sincerely yours,
Unalakleet Native Corporation
Tim Towarak
General Manager



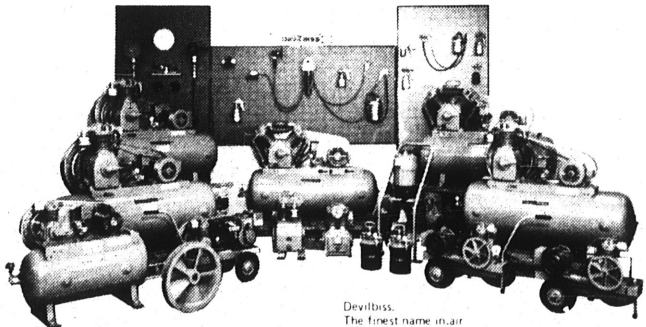
A college has to serve several masters. And when you're small, it's hard to keep everyone happy. For some Alaskans, we move too slowly; for others, we move too fast. We agree. We still believe in a Christian education, small classes and pride in one's heritage — we always will. But we also offer independent study, a flight program, foreign study in Spain and a new library and learning center. We'd like to serve you.

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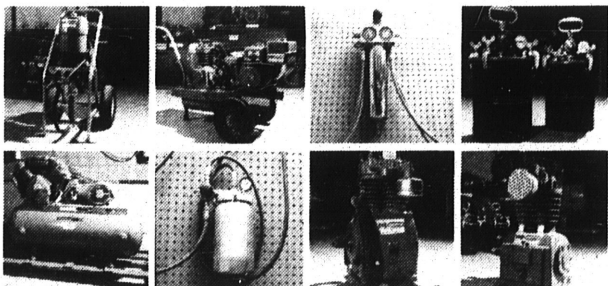
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