

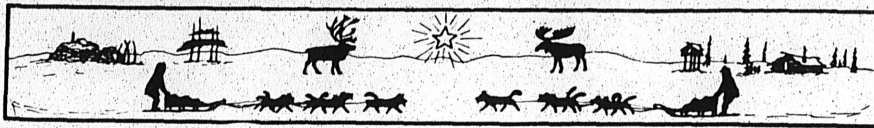
Tundra Times



Inupiat Paitot People's Heritage

Den Nena Henash Our Land Speaks

Unanguq Tunuktauq The Aleuts Speak



Vol. 13, No. 19

Wednesday, May 12, 1976

Fairbanks, Alaska

RCA spans communication gap

Bethel Eskimos say no to tourism

By LAEL MORGAN

A resounding "NO!" to tourism has come from Bethel area Eskimos, leaving would be promoters with little to promote. The veto came in answer to queries from the town's ad hoc committee on tourism which is made up of Bethel's "business elite" (a delicate label bestowed by local newspaper "Tundra Drums") which means membership is largely Caucasian.

The committee had been considering possible packaged tours and was in the process of arranging a meeting between the State Department of Tourism and Wien Alaska Airlines when protests rained in.

Robert Okitkun, a resident of Kotlik, took exception to ad hoc meetings and asked why Native representatives were passed over in deciding a central issue such as tourism.

Others, like Paul Gregory, vice president of the Bethel Native Corp., were quick to point out that the Alaska Village Council Presidents (AVCP) had issued a firm resolution against tourism in 1973.

"The presidents rejected the

(Continued on Page 6)



The new Bush Earth Station at Noorvik, Alaska.

—RCA COMMUNICATIONS PHOTO

First telephone call made from village of Noorvik to Juneau via RCA Satcom

Advanced satellite technology spanned the communications gap in many remote rural villages of Alaska on Friday. Lt. Governor Lowell Thomas, Jr. inaugurated service with the first telephone call from the village of Noorvik to Governor Jay S. Hammond in Juneau via RCA Satcom I orbiting some 22,300 miles in outer space.

RCA Alaska Communications, Inc., in agreement with the State of Alaska, set out late last summer to introduce telephone communications in every Alaskan community of 25 or more people by constructing at least 100 small earth stations—with 15-foot diameter antennas—throughout the state. In accord with the state on the locations, Alascom field crews visited 20 bush villages.

They worked throughout the sub-zero winter months north of the Arctic Circle and deep in Alaska's panhandle to lay the foundations and install the facilities for the first earth stations. Joining Governor Hammond in Juneau to receive the first call, Alascom President Ben W. Agee hailed the start of satellite service under the program as a dramatic moment in state communications history.

He said: "The inauguration of satellite communications in Noorvik through the use of the first of some 100 small earth stations that will be constructed throughout rural Alaska represents a major milestone for the people of the state."

Mr. Agee stated further: "The program demonstrates what can be accomplished to modernize long line communications, and it banishes centuries old isolation with the outside world from

rural areas of Alaska."

In addition to Lt. Governor Thomas, NANA regional corporation officials, plus Noorvik Mayor Ike Jackson initiated calls to the capitol from the village earth station to speak with legislative leaders of both houses. Six of the first 20 small earth stations are located in the Kotzebue area.

(Continued on Page 6)

Toovak missing in whaling accident

BARROW—Hunter Vernon John Toovak, 18, missing and presumed dead as the result of a whaling accident on May 7. Toovak was a member of Captain John Leavitt's seven man crew which at 3 a.m. gave chase to and struck a giant bowhead whale. The animal apparently broached when the hunter's bomb exploded, capsizing their skin boat and turning the men into the ice bordered lead.

A 15 mph wind was reported at the time, along with a -18 degree chill factor, but quick rescue efforts by other nearby crews account for survivors.

The Barrow Rescue Department mobilized with the Navy Arctic Research Lab Fire Department, the Barrow Police and Alaska State Troopers, setting up contact with the accident scene through the Coast Guard Radio station.

Barrow citizens volunteered dry, warm clothing which was rushed to the ice by snow machine and—since no helicopter was available—evacuation of survivors was also made by snow machine.

(Continued on Page 6)

Sen. John Sackett files for reelection



SEN. JOHN SACKETT

Senator John C. Sackett R-Galena, today filed for reelection to the State Senate. Sackett, an eight-year veteran of the Alaskan State Legislature has long been involved in Alaskan activities.

First elected to the House of Representatives in 1967 Sackett served for four years on the powerful Finance Committee. In 1973 he was elected to the State Senate and has served as the chairman of the Resources Committee, in addition to being a member of the Finance Committee, Labor and Management, Health, Education and Social Services, and Rules. Senator Sackett has also served on the special committees of Communi-

cations, Remote Housing and School Construction, and Special Committee on Alaskan Employment Opportunities.

Formerly president of Tanana Chiefs from 1966 to 1969, Sackett has served as the chairman and president of Doyon, Ltd., from 1972 to the present time. Doyon Ltd., is

(Continued on Page 6)

Ramos submits proposal

Elaine Ramos, vice-president, Rural Education Affairs Division, University of Alaska, is

This Higher Institution proposal will in no way affect local school—or any Regional Title VII Bilingual request for funding.

The Materials Development Resource Center as proposed will provide language development services of linguists, bilingual materials specialists, and teacher and teacher-aide training.

Community colleges who are presently engaged, in bilingual training will be supported in their endeavor by this Center. Title VII bilingual programs will have access to the services provided by the Center at their request.

The proposal will reflect the statewide concern of the lack of bilingual materials and support services to the various bilingual programs. Those wishing to provide statements or comments concerning this proposal are invited and encouraged to do so.



ELAINE RAMOS

planning to submit a bilingual proposal to provide resource services to Title VII programs.

Pulitzer Prize winner—Hammond congratulates Daily News

Governor Jay Hammond offered his congratulations to Kay Fanning and the Anchorage Daily News for winning the 1976 Pulitzer Prize for Public Service. Hammond said, "The Anchorage Daily News has long been recognized as an outstanding paper in Alaska. Now to add irrefutable evidence, they have won the most prestigious honor in journalism.

This is a great day for the reporters who researched and wrote the story of the Teamster's Union impact and

influence on Alaska's economy and politics, for Kay Fanning as editor and publisher, for all the staff members who assisted and for the public of Alaska who now each day have a Pulitzer Prize winning newspaper to read."

On behalf of the
Tundra Times
congratulations

Anchorage Daily News