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Stevens Village Authorizes Lawyers to Continue Suit

JUNEAU, (Special)—At the opening session Monday night of a House subcommittee investigation into the Stevens Village controversy, a representative of Alaska

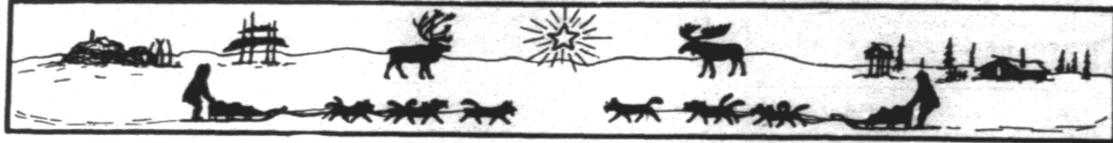
Legal Services produced a resolution adopted April 18 by the village authorizing Alaska Legal Services to continue the village's suit.

John Hedland, litigation attorney of Alaska Legal Services, and David Wolf, supervising attorney in Fairbanks, offered the resolution in contradiction to an earlier

affidavit presented by Representative Don Young of Fort Yukon. The affidavit presented by young said that the people of Stevens Village were misled and

wanted the case thrown out of court. He brought such information to the attention of the House of
(Continued on page 6)

Tundra Times



15¢

Tlingit
Ut kah neek Informing and Reporting
HAIDA
Yaunk yawn sue
Speak the absolute truth

Inupiat Paitot People's Heritage

Den Nena Henash Our Land Speaks

Unanguq Tunuktauq The Aleuts Speak

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Wednesday, April 22, 1970

Fairbanks, Alaska

AFN TO ASK FOR MORE LAND

Ramsey Clark Advises Statewide Group It Has Solid Argument Basis

By SUSAN TAYLOR
Staff Writer

JUNEAU, (Special)—Delegates of the Alaska Federation of Natives are packing their bags and going back to Washington to ask for more land than has reportedly been provided by the land claims bill, and to request the continuation of the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Public health Service.

Meeting in Juneau Sunday and Monday for the sole purpose of considering the land claims bill, the board of directors decided to send delegates to Washington, D.C. by the end of the week or the first of next week to push for the points mentioned above.

A bill has not officially come out of the Senate Interior Committee yet, but an outline which has would provide Alaska's Eskimos, Indians, and Aleuts with a \$500 million cash compensation, 2 per cent royalty on oil and gas leases until the amount of \$500 million is attained and 7 1/2 million acres of land.

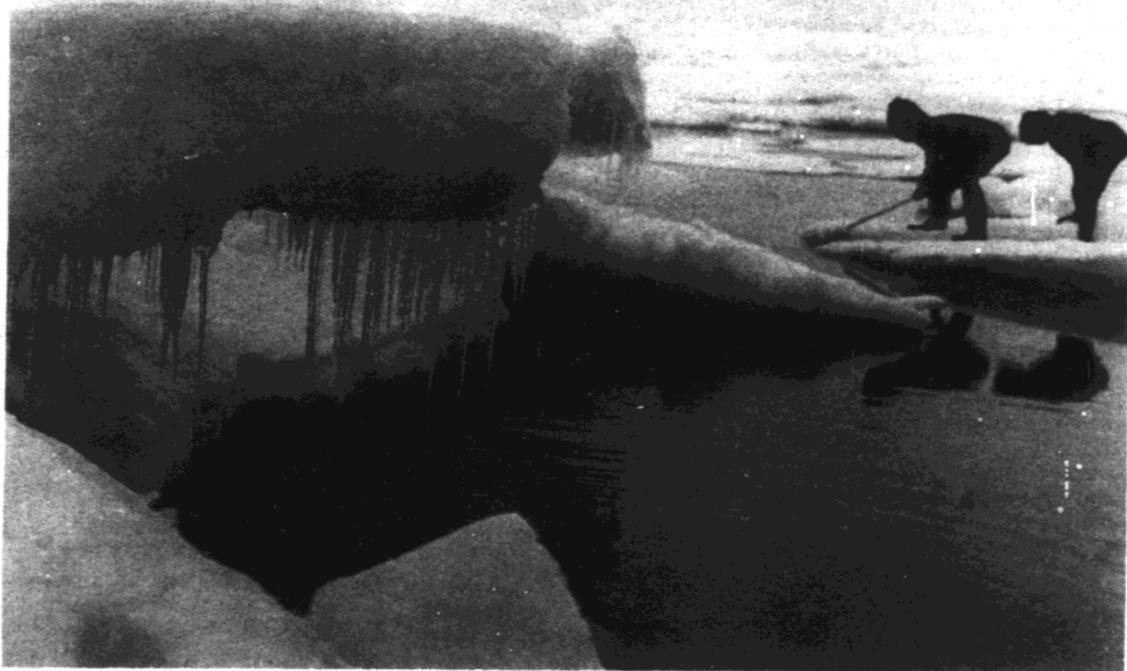
The natives had originally asked for 40 million acres.

At the Juneau meeting Monday, no figure was placed on the

amount of land that the AFN would work for. The matter was discussed at some length by the delegates and questions were directed to the former U.S. Attorney General Ramsey Clark who had flown in from Washington for the meeting. As an attorney, Clark assumed working for the AFN on the land claims bill.

He seemed to be of the opinion that the Natives had a good basis to argue for more land in certain areas without making it appear discriminatory. According to the outline of the bill, a village with less than 400 natives could select a maximum of one township and a village with more than 400 could select a maximum of 2 townships.

The North Slope in particular,
(Continued on page 6)



ESKIMO BOYS' SPRING SPORT—Spring will soon be coming to the Arctic and Eskimo boys will be looking for new sports in warmer weather. One of these is fishing for "bullheads," as they called them in English. In Eskimo they are called, "Kanayuk." Two young boys at Barrow are doing just that near the beach where one could see the sand and gravel bottom of the Arctic Ocean.

There, the boys can see the odd-looking but tasty fish on the sea bottom. The fish has a large head with a tapering body to the tail. It has formidable looking features, a rather flathead with sharp horns. The boys fish for it with barbed gaffs or hooks. It is rather small as fishes go—about seven to 12 inches.

—SP/4 P.M. HATHAWAY Photograph

Lease Rental Payments Not Tax Deductible

Deposits amounting to one-year rental payments now being held by the Bureau of Land Management on non-competitive offers to lease for oil and gas lands in Alaska are not tax deductible as rental payments, an official of the Internal Revenue Service in Fairbanks explained.

Such deposits or rental payments cannot be deducted until the lease is actually issued, the regulation reads.

According to one geologist and surveyor, some people holding Offers to Lease have been of the opinion that their deposits on such were deductible.

The importance of the Revenue Ruling is apparent upon discovering that about \$11 million in such deposits is now being held by the Fairbanks Bureau of Land Management office.

The situation occurred in the following manner: According to a spokesman at the Fairbanks BLM office, the Bureau quit issuing mineral leases after the unofficial land freeze in 1966. From that time until the official land freeze order of Jan. 17, 1969 the Bureau accepted Offers to Lease, but did not process them. Ac-

companying each non competitive offer to lease for oil and gas was a deposit amounting to a one-year rental payment of 50 cents per acre. This deposit or rental payment along with the Offer to Lease, unless withdrawn by the individual, will be held by
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Bill Insuring Natives Against Job Discrimination Passes Hurdle

A bill aimed at insuring that Natives are not discriminated against in employment cleared its first major hurdle recently with room to spare.

It was approved unanimously April 10, by the Senate in a 20 to 0 vote and has started on its way through the House.

Introduced in the Senate by Senator Ed Merdes of Fairbanks, the bill requires that "the state, employers, labor organizations and employment agencies maintain records on age, sex, and race that are required to administer the civil rights laws and regulations."

Currently, the State Labor Department prohibits any designa-

Ted Stevens Urges T-H Council To Support Senate Claims Bill

Alaska's Sen. Ted Stevens strongly urged the Central Council of Tlingit and Haida Indians to support the statewide land claims bill that has been agreed upon by the Senate Interior Committee.

"I am pleading with you to

find a way to support it, even if reluctantly, rather than destroy it," he told the 55 delegates gathered in Anchorage for the three-day annual convention ending Saturday night.

"I think this is a fair bill. It gives you more control and more self-determination than any such bill in history."

According to a brief outline released, the bill calls for a 2 per cent royalty from oil and gas revenues until \$500 million is obtained, cash compensation of \$500 million, and 7 1/2 million acres of land.

Alaska's Eskimos, Indians, and Aleuts had asked for 40 million acres of land.

In an earlier session, the delegates, representing 18 member communities stretching from Anchorage to California and more than 14,000 Tlingits and Haidas, unanimously reelected President John Borbridge to a third term. They also backed their well-known leader in his efforts to speed legislation through Congress that will release about \$7.5 million to the Indians.

In these efforts, Borbridge has
(Continued on page 6)

supported a bill that will release the funds to the Indians subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior. Before the convention, two Tlingits had voiced opposition to their president's position and said that they felt the money should be released with no government strings attached.

The money was awarded to the Indians by the U.S. Court of Claims for forest lands taken from them by the U.S. Government. A Congressional bill is necessary to release the funds.

Concerning Stevens' remarks about the land claims bill, the Senator said that if the people who consider the provisions too generous join forces with those who consider the provisions not generous enough, the bill will never get through.

He explained that a completed form of the bill had not yet been released but that before a final meeting of the committee, a copy would be made available to native groups. After being released, the bill will still face a Senate vote, House action, and a deci-

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