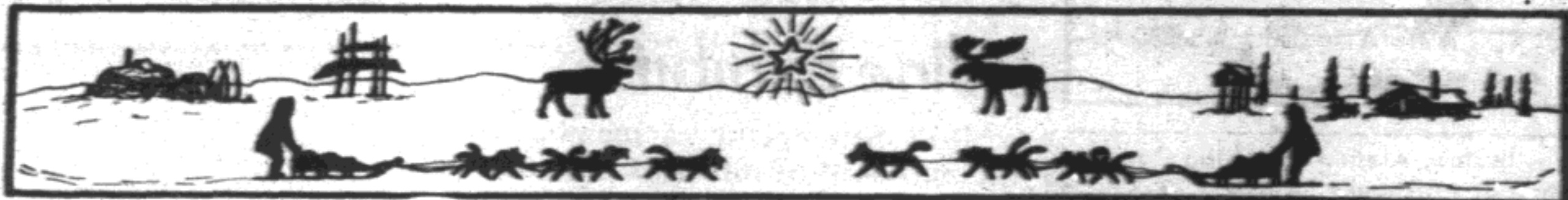


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Den Nena Henash Our Land Speaks

Unanguq Tunuktauq The Aleuts Speak

Vol. 6, No. 175

Fridya, May 16, 1969

Fairbanks, Alaska

JUSTICE GOLDBERG QUILTS AFN

Willie Tukrook Cuts Mustard on North Slope

(Special to TUNDRA TIMES)
By BETZI WOODMAN

Nothing in the young Eskimo's manner suggests the responsibility involved in his work with the BP Oil Corporation on Alaska's North Slope.

Yet, as one of three radio operators for the huge international British Petroleum firm, Willie Tukrook must act sharp to handle the communications.

We met Willie first in the small but bright dining section of BP's Mukluk Freight Camp. He was more interested in our reports of the whale-butcherer we had seen the day before at Barrow, where his family now lives, than in talking about himself.

"Gollie, I think I'll go on leave," he joked.

Actually, however, Willie knows he must apply himself seriously to his tasks. He works the same 12-hours on, 12-hours off, seven days a week shift as the others in a drilling camp and he is well aware of the need of his employers to depend on his being there.

Although his supervisors understand the Natives' deep-seated love for the excitement of a whale hunt and satisfactions it gives to a man, they also must know an employee will be on the

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SLOPE RADIO OPERATOR—Willie Tukrook of Point Lay is being employed as a radio operator by the BP Oil Corporation on the company's oil camp on the Arctic North Slope. Willie, 27, works 12 hours on and 12 off seven days a week. Plans are being made for him to get further training which will up his pay of about \$1,100 per month. —BETZI WOODMAN Photograph

Villages of Allakaket, Bettles Are Denied Townsites by BLM

The villages of Allakaket and Bettles have both been denied townsites in an action by the Bureau of Land Management. The move, made at the instruction of the Director of the BLM in Washington, D.C. is described

as a result of the land freeze.

William H. Mattice, Realty Officer in the Fairbanks District of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, attacked the BLM decision Thursday.

Referring to Public Land Order 4582, Mattice said, "If it is subject to existing rights, how can it be determined that an existing village has no right to be there. Are they trespassing?"

"This is another example of the natives getting the short end of the stick because of bureaucratic bungling," Mattice charged.

The application for withdrawal of the lands for townsites was made in the Fairbanks land office on April 12. It was filed by the Bureau of Indian Affairs in a move to protect Indian land rights.

Allakaket and Bettles are the only two villages in the Fairbanks District which had not filed for townsite withdrawals when the land freeze came into effect. When they did file their petitions, they were rejected because of the freeze.

(Continued on page 8)

Resolution Seeks Evaluation of Nuclear Blasts on Earthquakes

U.S. Senator Mike Gravel, D-Alaska, last week introduced a Joint Resolution calling for the formation of a Presidential Commission to study and evaluate the relationship between underground nuclear detonations and seismic disturbances.

In a speech to the Senate, the Alaskan Democrat noted earthquake-conscious residents of Alaska, Nevada, and California are concerned at the possible link between underground nuclear testing and earthquakes.

Recent published articles on this subject have "raised a specter

A 6.7 earthquake on the Richter scale hit near Amchitka Island last Wednesday at 10:32 a.m.

"It was a good quake. It scared us all pretty good," said a message from Anchitka.

which may or may not be valid," he said. "An independent inquiry would certainly be a modest, yet responsible answer to the legitimate questions that have been raised."

The National Commission on Nuclear and Seismic Safety would

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Famed Juror Lays Blame on Regional Organization Lawyers

The breakdown of relations between the Alaska Federation of Natives and Justice Arthur J. Goldberg is being seen generally as a definite setback by some native leaders in their efforts to help solve the complex Alaska native land claims.

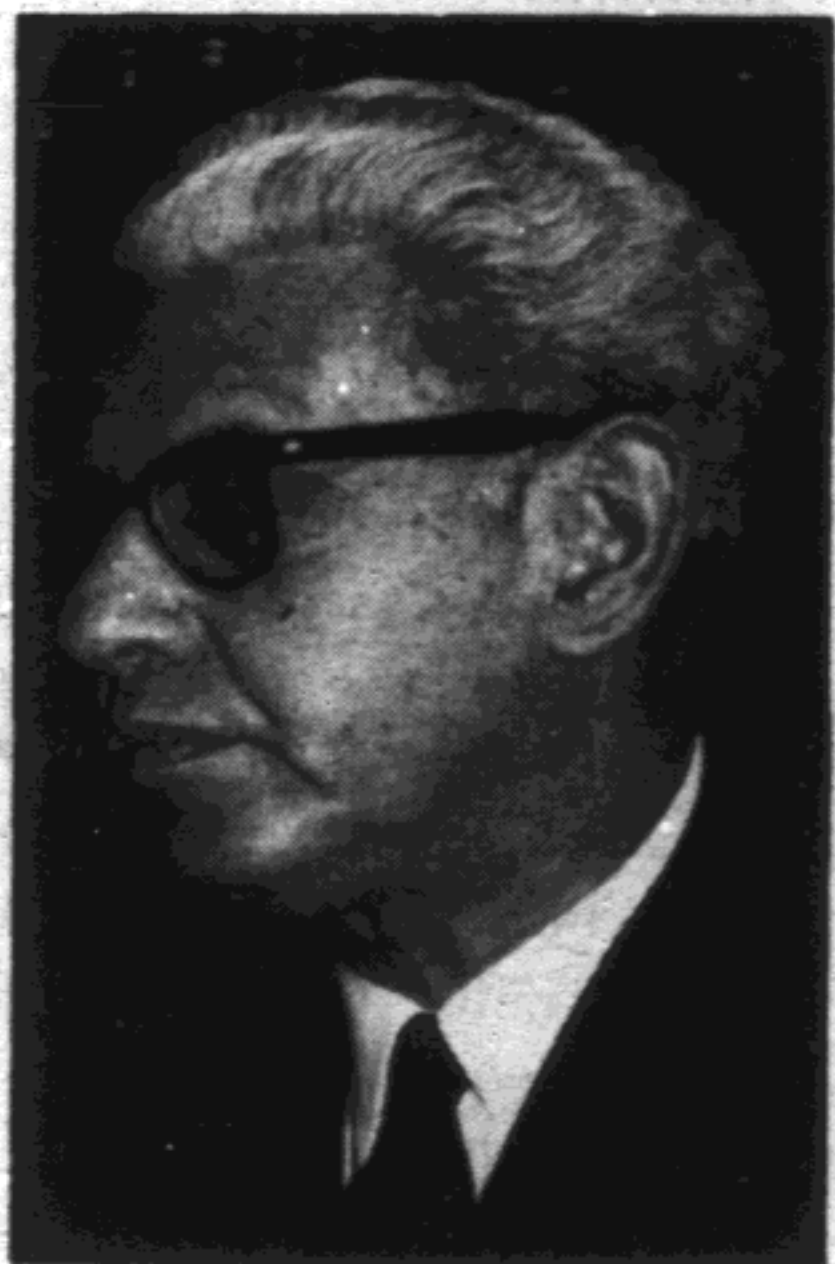
Last Tuesday, Justice Goldberg wired Emil Notti and John Borbridge that he will not be able to continue to represent the AFN. Notti is the president of the AFN and Borbridge is the first vice president of the organization.

Justice Goldberg set down his reason for resigning in the following manner:

"I am in receipt of several letters and telegrams from certain lawyers purporting to represent affiliates of the Alaska Federation of Natives. These communications are entirely lacking the respect owing to one who has served our country in three of its

highest offices, and I shall not dignify them with any direct reply.

"I agreed to represent the



JUSTICE GOLDBERG

State Placing Liens on Native Townsites

The state has been placing a lien on native allotments and restricted native townsites, BIA Realty Officer William H. Mattice charged Wednesday.

Under the State Land Registration Act, land owners are required to register their land with the state if it is not within the jurisdiction of borough or city governments. If this is not done, the act provides that the state can place a lien on the land, foreclose, and sell it.

Mattice contends that the state is using the act to secure and sell lands obtained by na-

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AFN largely as a public service, but I cannot fulfill that responsibility under these conditions.

"With great regret, therefore, I must advise you that I will not be able to continue to represent the AFN in your commendable and justifiable efforts to obtain justice and equity for the Alaska Natives from the Congress of the United States.

"However, as I told you and your colleagues on several occasions, I shall be very glad, in my

(Continued on page 6)

COMSAT Station At Talkeetna Announcement

Long-awaited action to improve communications in Alaska came Wednesday with the approval of the construction of a COMSAT station at Talkeetna and the announcement that the Air Force is now prepared to sell the Alaska Communications System.

The office of U.S. Congressman Howard Pollock revealed the two developments in Fairbanks Wednesday. Pollock said that the installations of the satellite communications station will move Alaska's communications from the horse and buggy stage "into the satellite era of the 21st Century."

Construction of the station will begin this summer and is expected to require 15 months to complete at a cost of between

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Editorial—The Rumor Mill – A Cruel Weapon

Justice Arthur J. Goldberg removed himself from the developing chief counsel status of the Alaska Federation of Natives last Tuesday without really having tried his legal skills on behalf of the native land claims and its course through congressional legislation. Many people, including many natives, have set their sights to watch what the venerable citizens would have done with the background of his great achievements behind him. Many thought that this rich backlog of experience would have stood him in good stead as he worked for the long-awaited settlement of the native land claims.

Justice Goldberg made it plain at the outset to the members of the AFN in Anchorage, that he would not have any part of the assignment if there was dissension

(Continued on page 2)