

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

Vol. 7, No. 242

Friday, January 9, 1970

Fairbanks, Alaska

POLITICS: OFF AND RUNNING

Modification Of Land Freeze By Secretary

Secretary Hickel has signed the order officially modifying the land freeze in Alaska as the first step toward granting a permit for oil pipeline connecting the North Slope and the Port of Valdez.

"While this action does not constitute approval of the right-of-way application by Trans Alaska Pipeline System, we are prepared to grant a permit when all geological and engineering conditions have been met by the applicant insuring the protection of the environment," the Secretary said.

Both House and the Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committees have reported to the Secretary that they do not object to such modification of PLO 4582 which was imposed in Alaska pending settlement of land claims by Alaska Natives.

The text of the order signed is as follows:

"PLO 4582 of January 17, 1969 withdrawing all unreserved public lands in Alaska for determination and protection of the rights of the Native Aleuts, Eskimos, and Indians of Alaska is hereby modified to permit:

(Continued on page 6)



POLITICAL OPPONENTS—Depending on the outcome of the primary election, the two men, Sen. Ted Stevens, left, and State Sen. Joe Josephson might oppose each other in the general election of 1970.

Stop Claims Backlash: Stevens

Sen. Ted Stevens cautioned that the white backlash on the native land claims issue "must stop" or the development of Alaska will be postponed for 20 to 30 years during a speech in Fairbanks on Tuesday.

Speaking at the weekly luncheon meeting of the Chamber of

Commerce at the Traveler's Inn, the Republican U.S. Senator explained that no congressional settlement on the land claims issue will be forthcoming if the backlash continues.

"And I am convinced," he said, "that a settlement in this Congress is absolutely essential."

For, if Congress does not act, the matter will go to the courts where a settlement might not come for 20 to 30 years of hiatus in its development."

Stevens, who will be asking the people of Alaska to return him to Washington in the election this year, emphasized that he had

(Continued on page 6)

Regional Org. Waivers First Step for TAPS

The initial modification of the land freeze in Alaska this week brought no reaction from the Alaska Federation of Natives.

According to Willie Hensley, executive director of the AFN, the organization has pretty much left it up to the regional organizations comprising the federation to agree or disagree to a waiver.

The waiver was the first step toward granting TAPS a permit to construct its 800-mile pipeline from the North Slope to Valdez and came as the result of an order signed by Secretary of the Interior Walter J. Hickel.

The regional organizations, Hensley said, are the bodies claiming the land, and so the AFN left it to them to decide whatever they like.

If they felt that the construction of the pipeline would be harmful to them, then they could take whatever action they felt necessary, he explained.

If they felt that it would not be harmful and if they could make an agreement with the oil companies on labor and construction companies, then that is what they have done and will do.

The AFN knows the power of the oil companies and the need of the country for fuel, he added.

"Our impression was that fighting these companies would simply get the Alaskans who want the pipeline against us and would make it difficult for us to

push for an overall settlement of the land claims issue."

(Continued on page 6)

Pribilof Youngsters Excel in Nixon's Physical Fitness Test

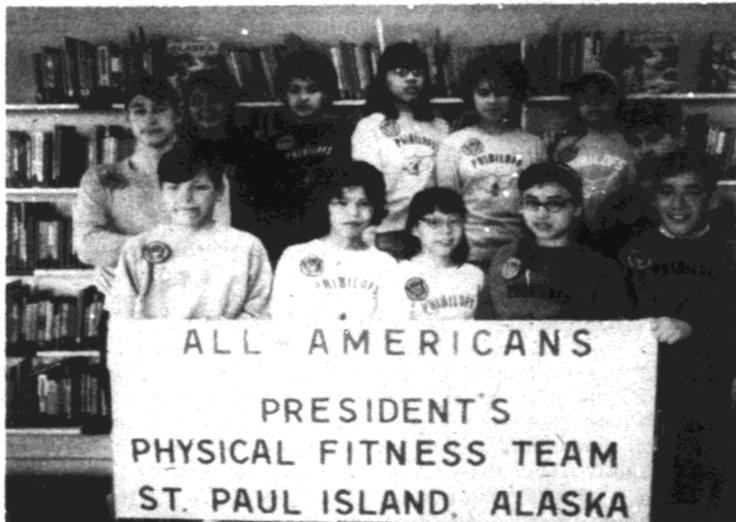
Twelve Aleut boys and girls from St. Paul Island passed each event in the President's All-American Physical Fitness contest.

As students at St. Paul Island School, the young people excelled in the standing broad jump, softball throw, 600 yard run, 50-yard dash, pull ups, sit ups and the shuttle run. National standards are set according to age.

Each student received a Presidential Physical Fitness Award emblem plus a certificate signed by President Nixon.

A total of 45 students participated in the program, but the twelve who passed every event are as follows: Macarius Mandregan, Kathy Stepetin, Carol Swet-zof, Anna Malovidov, Larry Pletnikoff, Diodor Stepetin, Laura Stepetin, Zoya Melovidov, Anna Shane, Mary Melovidov, Margie Mandregan, and Logan Tetoff.

Along with St. George, St. Paul Island comprise the Pribilofs.



PASS FITNESS TEST—Twelve students from St. Paul Island School passed the seven events in the President's All American Physical Fitness Contest and were awarded an emblem and a certificate as a result of their accomplishment. Left to right, they are: first row, Macarius Mandregan, Kathy Stepetin, Carol Swet-zof, Anna Melovidov and Larry Pletnikoff; second row, Diodor Stepetin, Laura Stepetin, Zoya Melovidov, Anna Shane, Mary Melovidov, Margie Mandregan and Logan Tetoff.

Sassara and Josephson Launching Campaigns

☆☆☆☆☆ Sassara Seeks Sec'y of State

Charles J. (Chuck) Sassara, Jr. is one politician who plans to go to the people not only during his campaign but also after the election—that is, if the people choose to elect him as their next Secretary of State.

Currently the House Majority Leader, Sassara was in Fairbanks Friday discussing his plans for the upcoming election.

In traveling around the state, he said he has come to feel that the state government is too remote from the people.

And, he continued, "I feel that the Secretary of State can be used as a liason between the government and the people," to correct this situation.

As Secretary of State, the Democrat from Anchorage explained that he would spend 99 per cent of his time on the road talking to the people and finding out what they think has to be done.

The ideas offered would then

(Continued on page 6)

☆☆☆☆☆ U.S. Senate Seat Josephson Aim

Democratic candidate for the U.S. Senate, Joe Josephson described himself as "consistent and progressive" on the native land claims issue and promised to "have lots to say about the erratic nature of his Republican opponent while in Fairbanks last week.

The opponent referred to is Sen. Ted Stevens, who was appointed to the post following the death of E.L. Bartlett.

Informally discussing his campaign plans in the Tundra Times office, Josephson said that he did not want to be too hard on Stevens since the possibility of a settlement on the land claims issue was drawing near.

"I realize that there is a process of compromise that must take place in the legislative process," he added, "and I do not want to drive him into the hands of the opposition."

The most recent position supported by Stevens called for a

(Continued on page 6)

Main Topic, Claims— AFN Board Meeting

The progress of the land bill in Washington and future efforts of the Alaska Federation of Natives on the bill promise to be

major topics of concern at the board of directors meeting of the federation Jan. 8 and 9 in Anchorage.

In discussing the meeting with the Tundra Times staff, Emil Notti, president of the AFN said, "The reading I get is that when the Senate Interior Committee members come back to Washington this month the bill could move fairly fast."

He expressed hope that the committee would make a report by the end of February.

The AFN, the interior department, the federal field committee, and the Stevens-Gravel compromise proposal have been put down on a comparative chart for consideration, Notti said.

The federation president explained that the AFN asked Gravel and Stevens to drop their compromise proposal because it called for only 10 to 12 million acres rather than the 40 million desired by the organization.

"We did not feel that this was the time to give up our fight for land," Notti said.

AFN members in Washington have been discussing their stand with every senator on the interior committee in hopes that when they cast their vote for various provisions they will have some feeling for what they are voting on.

Notti said that he will be returning to Washington the last of January to continue such efforts.