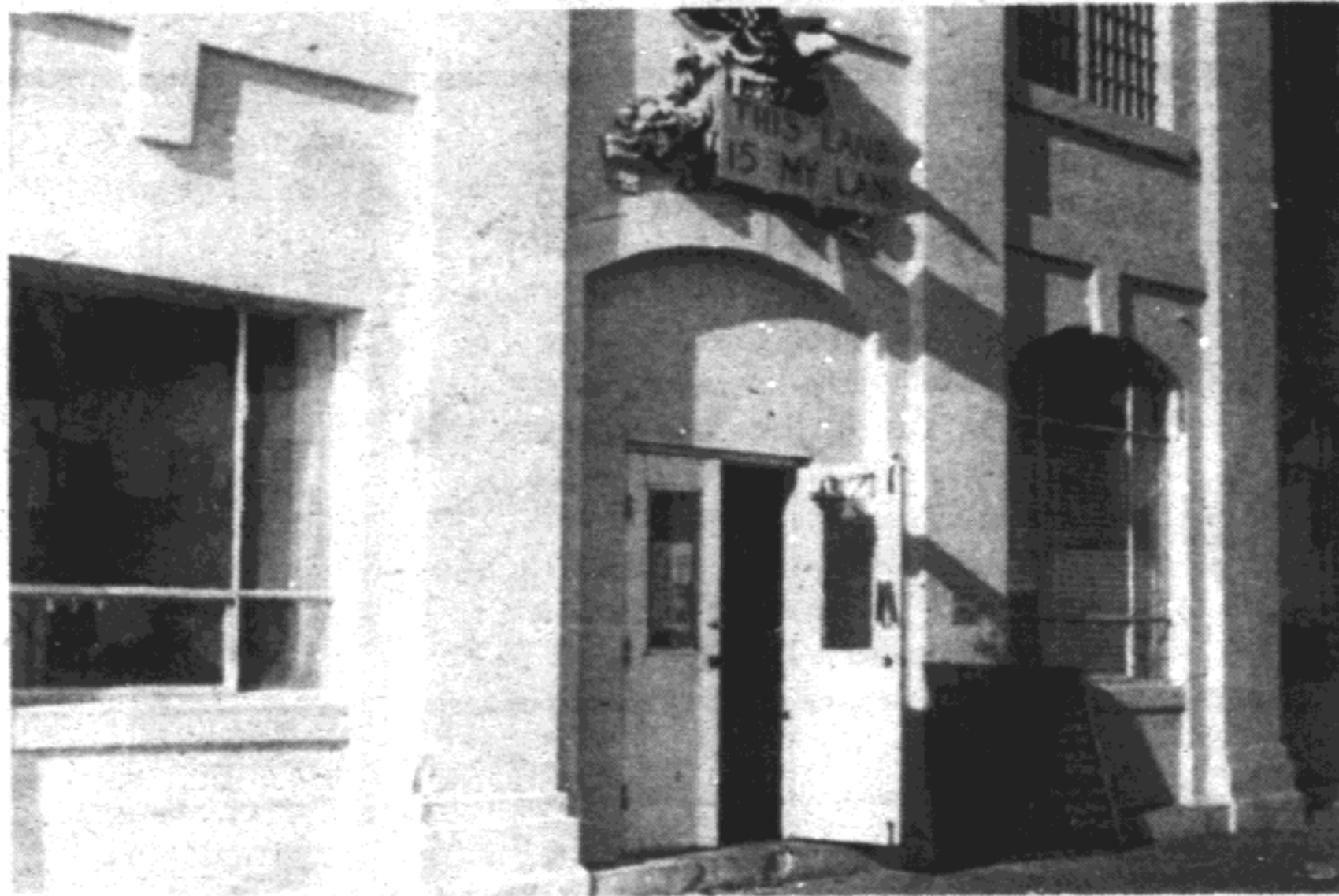


Alaskan Eskimo Takes Part in Indian-Alcatraz Island Affair



CELL BLOCK—The door is ajar where the San Francisco area Indians hold their meetings. They hope to make Alcatraz Island into an Indian Cultural center.



WATER TOWER—This was the source of water for the federal prisoners. Note the large writings on the water tank.

—All Photos by RICHARD GARCIA

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Recently, 300 San Francisco Bay area American Indians invaded the Island of Alcatraz, famous as the federal maximum security prison and which had been discontinued by the government in favor of the San Quentin Prison, to claim it as their own on the basis of prior discovery by the Indians. The incident has made national headlines. Adding interest is Richard Garcia who writes of an Eskimo who is taking part in the Alcatraz affair. Garcia's wife, Karen, worked for Tundra Times in Fairbanks two years ago. Richard is working for a degree in Anthropology and has taken interest in the native Americans of the United States.)

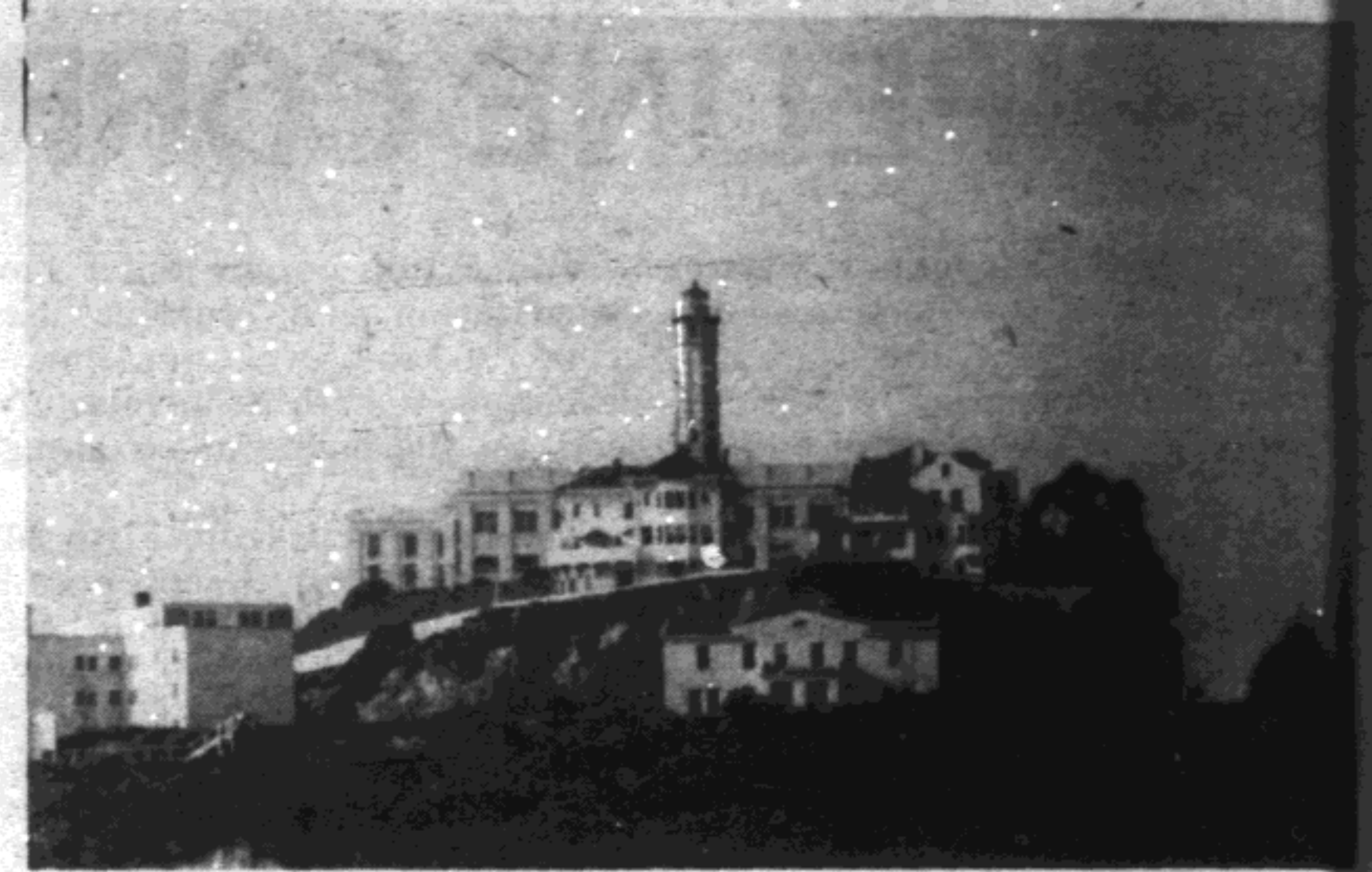
By RICHARD GARCIA
Santa Clara, California

The native American Indian is tired of being the victim of broken treaties, rustled off to reservations and exploited by his white brother.

Recently, a group of American Indians landed on Alcatraz Island, the once federal maximum security prison, to claim it in the name of all Indians in the hope of establishing a cultural center.

Included in this center would be a program of Native American Studies, an American Indian Spiritual Center, Center of Ecology and museum, where the white man may visit and learn of his Indian brother's ways.

Since their occupation of the island, state, national, and international news coverage has brought new attention and concern to the Indian problem.



ALCATRAZ—The American Indians recently invaded the Island of Alcatraz off San Francisco. Formerly federal maximum security prison, it is now abandoned.

Among those who have defied the white power structure and gained new dignity for his people by remaining on the island, is Joe Bill, a native Alaskan Eskimo.

Joe is the son of Mr. & Mrs. Tall of Hooper Bay, a graduate of Saint Mary's Mission and one who looks forward to a better way of life for his people.

He came to San Francisco in 1965 to attend San Francisco State College and major in Native American Studies. Upon graduation from State, he plans to return to his village to teach.

At present, Joe is working with the Equal Opportunity Program and Administration of San Francisco State to make possible the acceptance next year of more

Native American Eskimos.

He is also involved in the California Indian Students Union, which has representatives in nearly all universities, junior and state colleges in California.

Periodically, these representatives meet and discuss new programs and ways in which they may help to better their people.

The organization which Joe is now representing on the island is now in the process of viewing the problems of his Alaskan brother and hopes in the near future to render aid and support.

Joe is a fine example of what the future holds for the previously oppressed Indian and Eskimo of our country. His people will no longer be a silent, needy minority, they will be heard.