

FORD REPLACES NIXON AS U.S. PRESIDENT

By MARGIE BAUMAN

Gerald R. Ford took the oath of office Friday as the 38th President of the United States, less than an hour after Richard M. Nixon formally resigned from office.

"I do solemnly swear that I will faithfully execute the office of the President of the United States and will, to the best of my ability preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the Un-

ited States, so help me God," Ford said.

The transfer of powers came as Congress was preparing for impeachment debates and the anticipated trial of Nixon. Now those impeachment plans lie moot.

Ford made clear as he took office that he realized he had not been elected by the people, but was asking that the country unite behind him, nevertheless.

"If you have not chosen me by secret ballot, neither have I gained office by any secret promises," he said shortly after the oath of office was delivered by Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court Warren E. Burger.

"I have not campaigned either for the presidency or the vice presidency. I have not subscribed to any partisan platform. I am indebted to no man and only to one woman; my dear wife,"

Ford said.

(Ford's acceptance of the presidency, as well as Nixon's resignation, were heard live in Fairbanks, via radio and television).

"I have not sought this enormous responsibility, but I will not shirk it. Those who nominated and confirmed me as vice president were my friends and are my friends.

"They were of both parties, elected by the people and acting

under the constitution in their name.

"It is only fitting then that I should pledge to them and to you that I will be the president of all the people," Ford said.

".....there is no way we can go forward except together and no way anybody can win except by serving the people's urgent needs. We cannot stand still or slip backwards. We must go forward

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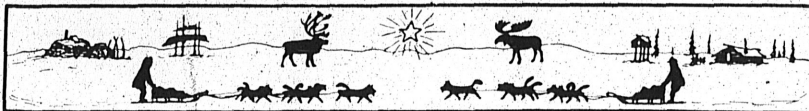
Tundra Times

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Inupiat Pitot People's Heritage

Den Nena Henshaw Our Land Speaks

Unanuguk Tunuktaug The Aleuts Speak



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PRESIDENT NIXON RESIGNS

First Resignation by a President

By MARILYN RICHARDS

History was in the making, and the Constitution in process as the 37th President of the United States, Richard Milhous Nixon announced his resignation Thursday 4 p.m. AST. His resignation, the first ever by a president, became effective Friday, August 9, noon EDT.

In a formal letter to Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, delivered 25 minutes

before Ford's inauguration Nixon simply wrote: "Dear Mr. Secretary: I hereby resign the office of the President of the United States. Sincerely, Richard Nixon."

THE SPEECH

In his speech Thursday, which was broadcast live on radio and television stations in Fairbanks, Nixon said, "Throughout the long and difficult period of Watergate, I have felt it was my duty to persevere, to make every possible effort to complete the kind of office to which you elected me."

"In the past few days, however, it has become evident to me that I no longer have a strong enough political base in the Congress to justify continuing that effort," said Nixon. Nixon apparently came to his decision after Sen. Hugh Scott and other Republican leaders in the Senate told Nixon the evening before he did not have a chance against an impeachment vote should one appear in the U.S. Senate.

"As long as there was such a base, I felt strongly that it was necessary to see the constitutional process through to its conclusion; to do otherwise would be unfaithful to the spirit of that deliberately difficult process, and a dangerously destabilizing precedent for the future."

"But with the disappearance



SMILING PRESIDENT GERALD R. FORD IS SHOWN WITH HIS WIFE. (Photos courtesy of Fairbanks Daily News-Miner)

of that base I now believe that the constitutional purpose has been served and there is no longer a need for the process to be prolonged."

"I would have preferred to carry through to the finish no

matter the personal agony that would have been involved. And my family unanimously urged me to do so," Nixon said but adds:

"But the interest of the na- (Continued on Page 6)



WITH FORD BEHIND HIM, FORMER PRESIDENT NIXON DELIVERS MESSAGE TO CONGRESS.

Politicians Vie as Election Nears

By CHUCK MALLEY

With the crucial primary elections in sight, candidates for public office in Alaska are shifting their campaigns into high gear.

And at the same time registered Native voters — as all other voters in the state — are looking harder at the choices to be made Aug. 27.

Key races involve the U.S. Senate, the U.S. House of Representatives, governorship and lieutenant governorship. Locally, interest is focused on races for the state legislature.

At least one bright spot crystallizing on the face of Native interests is the candidacy of State Senator William L. Hensley. According to the latest Anchorage area straw poll by the Daily News, Hensley's drive for the House is promising indeed.

As of Sunday, the 32-year-old Kotzebue Native piled up 57 per cent of the total straw votes cast in the struggle between himself and Anchorage lawyer John Havelock.

Both are seeking the Democratic Party's nod as the candidate to face Republican Congressman Donald Young of Fort

Yukon.

If successful in the primary and general election in November, the politically sophisticated and urban Hensley would assume the highest elective office ever achieved by an Alaskan Native.

Whether Hensley or Havelock captures the nomination, however an intense duel to gain Alas-

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Fatalities High in Bush—

Steps for Fire Protection

Special to the Tundra Times

"The recent holocaust in Nondalton is an unfortunate example of our concern over fire losses in small communities located in relatively isolated areas. Nondalton had not submitted an application for revenue funds for fire protection. The community of approximately 180 persons was eligible for about \$900," Fire Marshall Ron Hendrie said today.

The fire marshal said the following steps can be taken by villages to form a fire department.

1) The council should pass an

ordinance authorizing the operation of a volunteer fire department.

2) A fire chief should be appointed or elected by the council.

3) Training for volunteers may be obtained by submitting a request to either the Fire Marshal's Office, Pouch N, Juneau, or Bill Hagevig, Division of Vocational Education (Fire Service Training), Pouch, Juneau.

4) Bill Hagevig, Bob Smith, representatives from the fire marshal's office, or trained fire chiefs

from the closest village will be sent to instruct members of the new department.

5) The fire chief can obtain help in figuring out what equipment and programs would be best for his village, by writing to Ron Malotte, Alaska Federation of Natives, 1675 C St., Anchorage, Alaska.

6) Ron Malotte will then send representatives to the villages to talk with fire chiefs about their needs.

A recent example of a pro- (Continued on Page 6)

Sackett Endorses Jay Hammond

FAIRBANKS — State Sen. John C. Sackett, R-Galena, today announced his endorsement of Republican gubernatorial candidate Jay Hammond, "A man who through personal experience knows well the problems of rural Alaska."

Sackett said that the election of Jay Hammond, his former colleague in the Alaska Senate, would mean "a direct pipeline for rural Alaskans into the state government."

Living first in the Lake Clark area and then in Naknek, for a total of over 25 years in the (Continued on Page 5)