

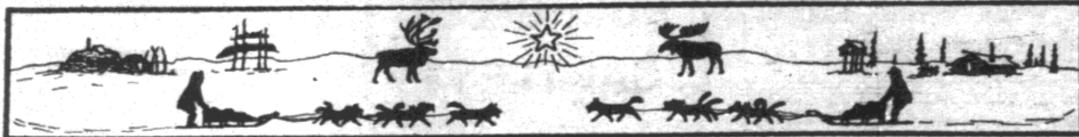
# Tundra Times

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Inupiat Paitot People's Heritage

Den Nena Henash Our Land Speaks

Unanguq Tunuktauq The Aleuts Speak



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

Vol. 6, No. 164

Friday, February 28, 1969

Fairbanks, Alaska

## ASBESTOS FEVER HITS EAGLE

### Staked Claim Stirs Eagle; Man Sets Tripod In Other Area in 1957

Asbestos fever has hit the native village of Eagle, Alaska, near the Alaska-Canadian border.

News of the Fairbanks man, Don Roberts, who had staked a claim some 42 miles from Eagle last week, stirred Willie Juneby, 56, Arthur Stevens and Charlie Biederman,

all of Eagle.

During a conversation in a taxicab, a taxicab driver mentioned the staking of a claim near Eagle and Charlie Juneby asked, "How did you know of my claim?"

The conversation started Juneby to check where the claim was staked by Don Roberts thinking Roberts might have made the claim where Charlie Juneby had put a "kind of a tripod" back in 1957.

The check showed, however, that Robert's claim was "quite a ways" from where Juneby had set up his tripod.

Back in 1957, a forest fire

had raged not far from Eagle. The firefighters made a fireline.

"Back in 1957, a fire was burning in the area and the firefighters had made a fireline with a D-8 and TD-24 and dug into the asbestos," said Charlie Juneby this week.

Juneby said that three white hunters later went into the area hunting for moose and stumbled into the mineral of which they weren't too sure. They, however, encouraged Charlie Juneby to check into it.

Juneby visited the area that same year and set up his tripod.

The three men from Eagle said they know exactly where Don Roberts had made his claim.

"It's on the Champion Creek on the bend called, 'kink,' said Juneby.

He said the country around where the claim was made last week was very rugged.

"We know every part of that country. I know exactly where that place is and I can make a beeline to it," said Arthur Stevens.

Charlie Biederman said he had trapped in the area for years.

"My trapline is all over the place," said Biederman. "I even have my gear stored up on trees so water can't get to it."

All three men have trapped in the area for years.

The three Eagle men bemoaned the fact that they have little means to properly explore the country for more thorough checkup.

"Those men and those big companies can get in there with plane and helicopters. I can't even pay one-tenth of the cost of that helicopter if I used it," said Charlie Biederman.

The three Eagle men were in  
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HOOPER BAY GUARDSMEN—A contingent of Hooper Bay Eskimo Scouts, members of the Second Scout Battalion of the 297th Infantry, Alaska National Guard, is seen boarding a Wien

Consolidated F-27 in Bethel recently on the way to Camp Carroll near Anchorage to the annual encampment.

—WCA Photo by KAY KENNEDY

## Eskimo Second Scout Battalion Flies to Carroll for Encampment

By KAY J. KENNEDY

"They're fine men and wonderful to work with," said Maj. Donald Shantz, commander of the Second Scout Battalion of the 297th Infantry, Alaska National Guard at Bethel.

I could believe it as I watched them—neat and proud in their uniforms with rifles and packs—quietly waiting to board a Wien

Consolidated F-27 that would take them to the annual encampment at Camp Carroll near Anchorage. Or when the time came, moving quickly, quietly and orderly aboard.

Sgt. Wassilie George, in charge of a group from Hooper Bay, taught me an easy lesson without uttering a word. I explained that I wanted to take a picture of the Guardsmen boarding.

The aircraft was on the ramp but not yet ready for boarding. He judged the situation, nodded and gave orders in Eskimo. The men went quickly to the plane and lined up as I ran to keep up and get the photos.

Sgt. George knew that there'd be no time for pictures when they really boarded—but I didn't until later when I saw them all get on the aircraft in a little more than a minute when the plane was ready.

This was just one group out of a total of approximately 700 Guardsmen from 31 villages in lower Yukon-Kuskowim area that were airlifted, primarily by Wien Consolidated Airlines, in a little more than two days.

They were flown by smaller aircraft to central pick-up points like Bethel and St. Mary's and then to larger aircraft bound for  
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## Borbridge to Attend Symposium In N.D. on Legal Rights of Indians

John Borbridge, Jr. 1st Vice President of the Alaska Federation of Natives and President of the Tlingit-Haida Central Council will be attending the International Symposium on the LEGAL RIGHTS OF INDIANS in Grand Forks, North Dakota on March 7 and 8.

The central focus of the symposium will be on legal problems, but it is expected that the scope of the discussions will be broad.

The goals of the annual event for this year is to provide lawyers with increased knowledge and understanding of the complex legal and social problems of North American Indians and to provide other concerned persons with an understanding of legal issues that are inevitably intertwined with the socio-economic development of Indians.

Led by distinguished group of speakers and panelists such as Robert Bennett, Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Kenneth Lysyk, Professor of Law, University of British Columbia, Adrian Par-

meter, Director of Special Subcommittee on Indian Education in the U.S., William Carmak, Director of Indian Opportunity  
(Continued on page 6)

## Non-native Land Claims Support Group Organize

"Supporter of Settlement," a non-native group working for equitable settlement of the native land claims, held a meeting at Sitka at the auditorium of Sheldon Jackson College campus last Monday evening.

The program consisted of presentation of legal aspects of the land claims by attorney Roger DuBrock. Discussion of SOS was presented by Richard A. Miller, acting chairman.

The committee selected Fr. Michael Irvin, Russian Orthodox priest, as chairman.  
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## EDA Grants Bethel \$408,000 for Fish Processing

An Economic Development Administration grant of \$408,000 was released this week to Kuskokwim Fishermen's cooperative in Bethel, Alaska, the Office of Senator Mike Gravel announced today.

The grant will be accompanied by a 15-year loan of \$102,000 accompanying the same project. The all-Eskimo co-op plans to build a fish processing plant with the grant and loan.

The purpose of the new facility, which will be placed on a semi-mobile barge, is to process, freeze and store salmon and other species of fish.

Senator Gravel praised the EDA grant for its overall intent to employ large numbers of presently unemployed Eskimo people in the Bethel region—an area with one of the highest unemployment rates in the entire United States.

## Mike Gravel Calls for Total Restructuring of the Bureau

United States Senator Mike Gravel said this week that the abolition of the Bureau of Indian Affairs is essential to any new policy that attempts to improve life for America's Indians, Eskimos and Aleuts.

Testifying Monday at hearings conducted by the Indian Education Subcommittee, Gravel said that a meaningful improvement in U.S. policy toward Indians would require a "total restructuring of the system."

Senator Edward M. Kennedy of Massachusetts presided at the hearings. In April, the subcommittee will conduct joint field hearings in Alaska with the Interior Committee at those hearings.

Senator Gravel said that fifty years ago the BIA served 235,000 dependents at an annual cost of \$30 million. Today, he said, the BIA serves 400,000 dependents at a cost of \$340 million. He said the system is not working to the

benefit of the American Indian. "The BIA," he said, "is chartered as a wardship agency to protect the Indian. . . a charter of our keeping with our sense of dignity as we recognize it today. . . and out of touch with reality itself."

"What I mean by the abolition of the BIA is not the abolition of the federal obligation to the American Indian," he continued. "What I am suggesting is  
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