

# This week in Alaska Native History

## - 5 yrs. ago -

### Banquet plans underway

Plans are underway for the eleventh annual Tundra Times Banquet, to be held on December 17 in the Discovery Room of the new Captain Cook Hotel.

The banquet, honoring Tundra Times editor and publisher Howard Rock, promises to be the biggest and most attractive dinner ever.

R. Sargent Shriver, Democratic vice-presidential candidate during the 1972 election, will be the keynote speaker. Other noted guests, including Governor

Egan, Senator Ted Stevens, Anchorage Daily News publisher Kay Fanning and Bob Atwood, will be on hand for the festivities. State Senator Willie Hensley will serve as master of ceremonies.

### Atka to get branch Post Office

After many meetings and much deliberation, the Aleutian Chain village of Atka may finally have a branch post office.

In a joint effort to establish the branch office, Dimitri Philimonof, Regional Director for the Aleutian Planning Commission, has been working alongside

Jack Hodder, Assistant District Manager in Mail Processing, and William Kobus, Assistant District Manager in Customer Services.

The branch office will bring many long-needed services to the people of Atka, including purchasing money orders, insuring valuables that will be mailed, and purchasing stamps.

There is also a possibility of a branch office being established for St. George.

## - 10 yrs. ago -

### Hickel appointed Sec. of Interior

Governor Walter J. Hickel has been appointed the new Secretary of the Interior by President Richard M. Nixon.

Hickel will replace Stewart L. Udall, a man Hickel has disagreed with on many occasions. Most recently, the two men have argued over the land freeze on much of Alaska's land area that is encompassed by Native land claims.

Hickel first rose to promi-

nence in state politics when he ran for governor two years ago and defeated the incumbent Governor William A. Egan.

### Sen. Bob Bartlett succumbs

Sen. E.L. "Bob" Bartlett of Alaska passed away last Wednesday in a Cleveland, Ohio clinic.

The cause of death was listed as a heart ailment. The senator had undergone surgery last month to correct an arterial blockage. The surgery was thought to be successful and the senator began to show improvement. Then Bartlett suffered a re-  
re-

placement. Funeral will be Saturday in Fairbanks, the city where Bartlett grew up.

### Eskimos express concern

More than 200 Arctic Slope Eskimos expressed concern about the impact the oil industry could have on their way of life in a recent meeting in Barrow.

Eben Hopson, Sam Taalak and Charlie Edwards led the discussion regarding the impact of the oil industry on the North Slope.

Among the more distressing issues discussed by the group were the effects on caribou migration of an above-the-ground pipeline. Members fear that a pipeline built above the ground would seriously alter the traditional migration routes of the caribou across the slope, thereby making it difficult for the people to hunt. Members also expressed further concern that drilling on the North Slope rivers would affect the fishing, by polluting the waters with oil

and chemicals from the oil wells.

## - 15 yrs. ago -

### Radioactivity not dangerous

The present radioactivity situation in the Arctic is not believed to constitute an immediate danger to residents, it was learned at a top-level meeting of federal officials today.

The meeting, sponsored by Alaska's Senator E.L. "Bob" Bartlett, included several federal officials and scientists concerned about the radiation problem.

However, it was agreed that the situation does bear serious watching.

"Measuring and surveillance will be stepped up and this work will be made within the framework of a systematic and comprehensive approach to the problem — for the first time," Bartlett told the Tundra Times.

### Radio operators course to begin

A course designed to qualify more radio operators in Alaska's bush areas may soon become a reality.

The course outline calls for radio club members of the Arctic Amateur Radio Club in Fairbanks to make up written material for the course, and mail this to prospective students. The students will then receive code messages and questions over a commercial radio set at home. They will relay their answers over the radio to Fairbanks for grading. At the completion of the course students will be eligible to take a standard federal operators test.