



BETHEL MAY SUE ASCAP FOR RESCINDING POVERTY FUNDS

City Sends Protests To LBJ, ASCAP Chairman, Others

"We're on our last legs..." This OEO decision is striking right at the hearts of our village people. I intend to prove to them that it can't be done; that they are being simply dishonest," so wrote Mike Rowan in an anguished note.

Rowan is the city manager of the City of Bethel. Rowan is charging the Office of Economic Opportunity of being dishonest in its words

by pulling out funds from under the Bethel Pre-Maternal Home and classifying it as "low priority."

The Bethel City Manager has sent protests to President Lyndon Johnson, Sargent Shriver, director of OEO in Washington, the Congressional delegation, State Senator Ray Christiansen, and Dan Lisbourne, chairman of the Alaska State Community Action Program.

In his protest to Johnson, Rowan wrote, "This program was initiated because of the extremely high index of infant mortality and other poverty factors in the Bethel area, among the Eskimo people."

"An OEO policy has abruptly

pulled the funds from this program....I know you agree with us that the poverty problem is bad enough, and we do not had to add distrust to it. This, however, is what the OEO is doing in Alaska."

The money was funded by OEO last June to the sum of \$137,000. Operating under the promise of financial assistance, the City of Bethel purchased a building for \$18,000 and spent an additional \$1500 to renovate it for use as a pre-maternal home.

The purpose of this project is to provide housing for women who come from ten to one hundred miles away until

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STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL BURR-- Few moments before Donald Burr, State Attorney General, left, addressed the Alaska Federation of Native Associations in Fairbanks last Friday, he posed with Phil Holdsworth, Commissioner of State Natural Resources, center, and Flore

Lekanof, chairman of AFNA. The Attorney General was subjected to sharp questioning by the delegates and the attorneys of the associations on land matters and the proposed Department of Native Affairs.

--THOMAS A. SNAPP PHOTO

Dr. Van der Velden Proposes Novel Social Services Plan for Alaska

"Most of the social service agencies work on their own," said Dr. Henry Van der Velden at the recent conference of the Alaska Federation of Native Associations. "There is little cooperation."

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Editorial--

Unilateral Action?

State Attorney General Donald Burr appeared before the Alaska Federation of Native Associations conference last Friday and ran into a veritable buzz saw of pointed questions from the Native delegates and the associations' counsel.

Burr represented Governor Walter J. Hickel who was to have been present but who changed his mind at the last minute.

The questions from the floor seemed to have established a feeling that the State may be acting unilaterally in its planned suit against the Department of the Interior to force that department to say negatively or affirmatively on the question of land claims made by the Native people of Alaska within the last few years. "You are not working for us" or "You are against us" came up from the floor more than once as a result of the Attorney General's answers.

The session also brought up a feeling that the State might be working for a "yes" from the Interior Secretary Stewart Udall. If the Secretary's answer turned out to be affirmative, the State of Alaska, we presume, would then go forward to patent the lands, Native claims or no. Which means, the State would get title to the lands and follow along the direction, as Burr said, that on patented lands, "Aboriginal title has been put to rest."

Inuvik Editor Says Trapped Whale Treatment Doubtful

(Editor's Note: Since October, last fall, many of the major newspapers and magazines have been greatly concerned about a score of belugas (white whales) that were trapped in the Eskimo Lakes on the delta of the MacKenzie River. Tom Butters, Editor of THE DRUM published at Inuvik, was requested by the editor of this newspaper to write his version of the trapped whales 29 air miles from the town of Inuvik.)

By Tom Butters

Inuvik N.W.T.

(Special to the Tundra Times)

The whales made the mistake and the Arctic should have taken them six weeks ago, however, man stepped in, and with ice chisels, kept open the whales' breathing hole and guaranteed their air supply.

White whales, or belugas, are frequently seen in Liverpool Bay about 30 miles east of the mouth of the 'Big River' (The

Committee Directs Engineers to Survey Harbor at St. Paul Island

The Senate Public Works Committee at Senator E.L. (Bob) Bartlett's request, has directed the Corps of Engineers to undertake a small boat harbor survey at St. Paul on the Pribilof Islands.

In communicating with

Iliodor Merculieff, president of the St. Paul Island council, Bartlett said that money for the survey is not in the new budget but that he will do everything he can to obtain unbudgeted funds to start the survey.

MacKenzie), Canada's Mississippi, which flows into the Beaufort Sea.

In Pleistocene times, the MacKenzie River probably debouched into Liverpool Bay, but today the foot of the bay, and on the upper lake system comprised of four lakes called Eskimo Lakes, a labyrinth of islands, channels and arcuate peninsulas.

LARGE GAM

A large gam of belugas numbering about 100 animals had been seen in the lake nearest the bay proper in August and it is thought they had entered the lake in pursuit of herring schools.

Some 20 whales found their way into the fourth, or innermost lake, through a shallow five-foot channel. Here they were in fresh water and apparently unable to find the entrance channel, or had been frightened from attempting to go out to the sea again by the

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