



LEGAL SNARES SLOW CLAIMS

Regional Leaders Blast Interior Department For Snags In Settlement

By MARGIE BAUMAN
KTVE/KFRB



REGIONAL LEADERS AND TT REPORTER — Sam Kito (Doyon), Joe Upicksoun (ARSC), and Willie Goodwin, Jr. (NANA) listen to U.S.

Representative Lloyd Meeds, of the House Subcommittee on Indian Affairs. Margie Bauman, our reporter, lurks in the background.

- Photo by LAURA BERGT

"It has been difficult enough to carry out all the planning and studying necessary to make prudent land selections," said Joseph Upicksoun, president of the Arctic Slope Regional Corporation.

"It is intolerable to be forced to divert our energies and use our limited financial resources to take the Secretary (of the Interior) to court, merely to get him to do what the act requires him to do," Upicksoun told U.S. Rep. Lloyd Meeds, D-Wash. and Chairman of the House Subcommittee on Indian Affairs at Fairbanks this week.

Upicksoun was one of more than a dozen spokesman for Alaska Natives to testify before Meeds in Alaska during the week on difficulties between Native Regional Corporations and the Interior Department over implementation of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act. Rep. Don Young, R-Alaska and a subcommittee member, also attended the hearings.

As a group they gave strong support to the proposed Indian Trust Counsel Authority, which would provide government funding for Native Americans for legal services "in regard to rights or claims of Indians to natural resources... within the United States' trust responsibility owing to the Indians."

And as a group they berated the Interior Department for causing Native corporations to spend thousands of dollars and numerous hours protecting the promises of the settlement.

"We are feeling the financial and time pressures that could be alleviated by establishment of an

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JOM Committee Releases Funds

By MARY JANE FATE

Without the release of Johnson-O'Malley funds, approximately 1500 students would have stayed at home. This would have been tragic for many of the students in the Boarding Home Program who are already sophomores, juniors and seniors. The only alternative would have been schooling through correspondence which at best would have been a hurried crash program without depth nor facilities.

However, now with this action taken by the JOM Committee, they may again attend the Boarding Home schools or have the option of the correspondence school set-up.

The students attend schools in the Boarding Home Program in about 29 different towns in Alaska, including village and urban areas, such as Fort Yukon,

Galena, Kotzebue, Nenana, Dillingham, Nome, Unalaska, Tanana, Cordova, Kodiak, Fairbanks, Seward, Anchorage, etc.

The JOM Executive Committee met before the Budget and Audit Committee on July 31st in Juneau along with representatives of the BIA, State Operated Schools, Dept. of Education, Dept. of Law, Office of the Governor and Dept. of Administration. The JOM group pressed the need of the State of Alaska meeting its responsibility in providing education for all its citizens. The need for local high schools in the rural areas, so the students will have the chance to be with their parents, and the need for recognition of the local parents involvement in their schools. Out of this meeting came immediate planning and action by the BIA, state and others for the coming fall semester.

It was at the JOM meeting August 6, 7 and 8 in Juneau that the committee voted to fund the Boarding home program. Mr. Morris Thompson, Area Director of the BIA, advised the committee at the beginning of the meeting that "the important thing is that we must get 1500 students into school this month."

Commissioner Lind read his Position Paper on the Regional School and Boarding Home Program, dated August 2, 1973, in which he stated that his

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Bristol Bay's Position On The Pipeline

The Bristol Bay Native Corporation supports the Trans-Alaska Pipeline with the following conditions:

1. That the impacted regions be guaranteed that their subsistence is not threatened. Further, that if there is environmental damage that the affected regional people be compensated for value equal to the loss.
2. That jobs related to the construction of the pipeline and its maintenance after construction be allocated to Alaskan Natives first, then Alaskan residents.
3. That the pipeline corridor be of a width that will allow the pipeline to be constructed. It is unreasonable to issue a permit that is from twelve to twenty four miles in width when you consider the final result to be a forty eight inch pipeline.

Muktuk, Maybe - Salmon Strips, No! Confusion Over Native Foods

By JACQUELINE GLASGOW
BUTLER

The Tanana Valley Fairground in Fairbanks, last year's battleground over the serving of muktuk, is the scene this year for yet another fight on the serving of native-processed foods to the general public.

The State of Alaska's Division of Environmental Health (of the Health and Social Services Department) has refused a permit to allow the serving of smoked salmon strips processed on the riverbank. In the preparation, viscerated fish are washed first in river water, then in clear creek water and brine, and slow-smoked for four to five weeks. The Department refused the permit on the grounds that adequate cold storage facilities did not exist at the site and that the available water supply did not meet the standards for public water.

Among other things which the state claimed were lacking was a cold storage "plant" with concrete floor. Paul Frith, regional head of the state's Division of Environmental Health, said that his office could not alter the existing regulations on the handling of fish products.

"I'm a regulation enforcer," said Frith, "not a regulation

setter. In the case of muktuk last year," he pointed out, "there were no existing regulations. This is not the case with fish. There are regulations



MERRILY EATING MUKTUK

and we have to abide by them." The Tundra Times, which went to battle last year on the muktuk issue again took up the native foods issue on behalf of the Tanana people. Last year, the Division of Environmental Health agreed that while muktuk could not be sold at the fair, they would allow it to be given

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Best Wishes To Howard The Rock -

This Friday, our much missed editor turned sixty-three years old. He celebrated it quietly



HOWARD ROCK

with a few friends and relatives, while recovering from surgery at Basset Army Hospital.

Meanwhile, back at the Tundra Times, the staff struggled to make this weeks deadline having missed them all since Howard's illness.

We saved this little article to be the last thing put in the paper just so we could say: "We finally made it, HAPPY BIRTHDAY, HOWARD!"

Howard is now at the 4th floor, north of the ANS hospital in Anchorage, undergoing further treatment. Friends may contact him there.