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CHIEF ISAAC FIGHTS FOR LAND

Embattled Old Chief Andrew Isaac Tries to Hold Tanacross Lands

By THOMAS RICHARDS, JR.
Staff Writer

The Tanacross Village natives are again angered and bewildered concerning the status of land on which they filed a claim for a reservation in 1950.

In a letter addressed to Interior Secretary Walter Hickel, Tanacross Chief Andrew Isaac and other members of the

Tanacross Village expressed concern over land patented to the State in the Tanacross area.

"What happened to the Claim we sent in to the Bureau of Land Management, November 30, 1950? Why was it not recognized?" they asked.

The Tanacross natives are angered over land patented to the State on which an old village site, burial grounds, trapping camps, fishing

(See Tanacross Claim in p. 2)

sites, and hunting areas historically used by natives of Tanacross are located.

"We are placing no blame on anyone personally, but we cannot help but feel there have been freezes and regulations by regulations passed to protect us and we are being slowly squeezed to death," the letter continued.

"Is it because all these rules are being made, but no one has ever come out and talked to us to see what we think or how we feel about what is going on. We are not a chess game, we are human beings and right now are a very

upset and disturbed people," the Tanacross letter stated.

"Our people in the cities feel



CHIEF ANDREW ISAAC

money and what it can buy is important, we feel our land and what it has grown has fed, clothed,

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MOSES LAUNCHES SAVAGE—Owner and Captain of the Wild Savage, Milton Moses launches his boat for the Yukon 800 Marathon. Moses and his native crew of brother Elijah Moses and Edmond

Lord won the famed race in the time of 20 hours four minutes and 25 seconds, finishing more than one hour ahead of the second place boat.

—Photo by THOMAS RICHARDS, JR.

Moses Wins Yukon 800 Marathon

"The natives are winning everything this year," one spectator was heard to comment at the end of the Yukon 800 Marathon.

After two days of dodging windbars in the Chena, avoiding logs floating on the Tanana, and navigating in near-zero visibility in the Yukon River, Milton Moses and his crew of the Wild Savage raced across the finish line at the Chamber of Commerce building near the Cushman Street bridge.

Moses, experiencing propeller difficulties at the start of the med marathon, left Fairbanks in last place. Later, with brother and Edmond Lord, he came through Nenana in fifth place.

By the time they arrived at Ruby for refueling and attempting two-hour nap, 9 hours 23 minutes and 25 seconds had been spent in traveling the 400 mile

distance. They were in first place, with five minutes over the second boat.

Leaving Ruby at 3:00 a.m. Sunday morning, the experienced crew of Interior Indians made skillful use of their mysterious river sense to widen their lead.

With a knowledge of the river, derived from a lifetime of experience and information passed to them from uncounted generations,

the river-pilots felt their way through the dense smoke and battled the boat-racking waves.

At one point, the Wild Savage literally began to come apart. The weakened bow separated slightly from the rest of the boat, so that the Wild Savage snaked along much like a supersonic jet maneuvers its adaptable nose.

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State Forest Fires Rage

The Bureau of Land Management Fire Control Center reported two new fires Thursday. The Noatak fire, with a total of 10 acres, is located near Noatak and is un-manned.

Another new fire, the Trooper fire is 25 miles west of Livengood on the Manley Road and has consumed 250 acres. It is manned with 506 firefighters.

The Fish hook blaze, near Ft. Yukon, has burned 117,000 acres and is considered out of control. 19 men are positioned on one end of the fire, with 75 firefighters protecting Ft. Yukon on that side of the blaze. No immediate threat is seen to Ft. Yukon or Chalkyitsik.

Under direct attack is the Big Denver fire, totalling 305,000 acres and manned by 220 firefighters. Other fires under attack include the "98" fire, where 18 men are working to secure all cabins along the Salcha River at the 2500 acre blaze; the King fire manned by 240 fighters and covering 3400 acres; and the Little Overflow fire which has consumed 3200 acres

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Emil Notti Declares Land Claims Effort Has Not Lost Momentum

Alaskan native leaders, following three days of intensive meetings, are returning home today from Washington, D.C. The delegation met Tuesday with Interior Secretary Walter Hickel.

Other meetings include conferences with House Interior Committee Chairman Wayne Aspinall and several members of Congress.

The AFN position as revealed in Washington had basic similarity to policy decisions reported in the May 29 issue of the Tundra Times.

The Federation requests 40 million acres in fee title, meaning all rights would be included, as well as \$500 million in compensation over a nine-year period for lands previously lost.

The establishment of a state corporation, with heavy emphasis on locally controlled regional corporations was also advocated. Based on population, AFN requested 500 acres per person surrounding each village or approximately four townships for each settlement.

Lands withdrawn without consulting native villages, such as national parks and military reservations, would be available to natives under the AFN proposal.

The leaders also are asking a 2 per cent over-riding royalty on revenues from lands as compensation for lands to the State and federal governments.

Official reaction to AFN policy by members of Congress and the Nixon administration has not been noted, although rumors persist that interest is dwindling in achieving an expedient settlement.

ing an expedient settlement.

AFN President Emil Notti notified the Tundra Times of his response to the recent statements, one of which was credited by the Alaska Scouting Service to Sen. Ted Stevens.

"Suggestions that the Land Claims Bill has lost momentum in

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Chairman Thomas Richards, Jr. Calls First Olympics Meet

The first meeting of the Eskimo Olympics Committee, Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce, will be held today at 3:00 p.m. in the Chamber Building. Any persons interested in working with the committee on the 1969 World Olympics are invited to attend.

Committee members include Olive Anderson, Peg Anderson, Laura Bergt, Guy Elliot, Mary Moses, Howard Rock, Thomas Richards, Sr., and Lee Russell. Committee Chairman is Thomas Richards, Jr.

Richards said that since organization for the program is off to a

delayed start, it is important that all committee members and prospective members try to attend.

He also stated that participation from native villages and dance groups is welcomed for the event, scheduled August 8 and 9 in Fairbanks. Information is requested from groups which are interested in joining the program.

Any interested villages, Richards said, should write to the Tundra Times or the Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce and indicate the number of participants which they would wish to send so that arrangements can be made.

Columbia University Teachers College Offers Scholarships

Columbia University Teachers College in New York City is offering a number of full tuition scholarships to Indian students for this coming fall and thereafter. The minimum requirement for application is the completion of 4 years college.

While most of the scholarships do not cover living expenses, the college guarantees part-time job placement so that students can easily meet all outside expenses. Interested students should contact: Jeffrey Newman, Association of American Indian Affairs, Inc., 2 Park Avenue South, New York, New York 10016, Phone number: (Area Code 212) MU9-20.

Collect calls will be accepted.