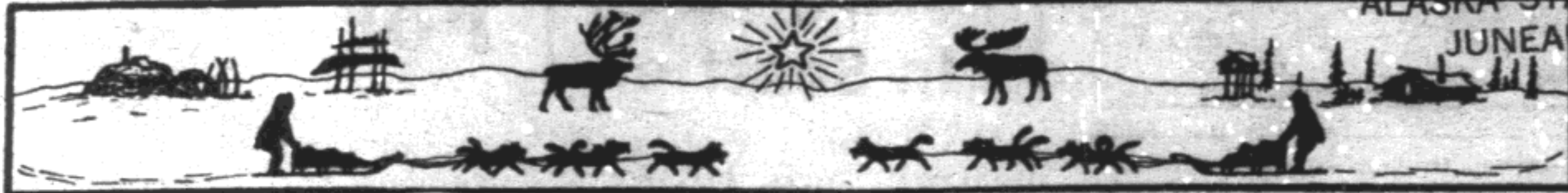


## Tundra Times

1970

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Fairbanks, Alaska

## PIPELINE EXPLORATION ASKED



'SNEAK DAY'—Thirty-four Bethel High School seniors during the past year earned \$4,000 through dances, talent shows, candy sales and other activities. When their "Sneak Day" arrived recently, they chartered a Wien Consoli-

dated F-27 and flew to Anchorage, Seward, Alyeska Ski Resort, Elmendorf Air Force Base, Ft. Richardson and flew home via Kodiak. —Wien Consolidated Photo by KAY KENNEDY

## Bethel H.S. Seniors Charter F-27 on 'Sneak Day'

Where but in Alaska would a senior class in a remote village charter an aircraft to fly more than a thousand miles on their

"sneak day"? Thirty-four Bethel High School seniors did just that April 26—May 1.

In the course of a year the kids earned \$4,000 on dances, a talent show, candy sales, the first Western Alaska rock festival and other activities. Accompanied by their senior advisor, Bob McCabe, they chartered a Wien Consolidated Airlines F-27 and spent six days on their sneak.

They visited Anchorage, Seward, Alyeska Ski Resort, Elmendorf Air Base where they went swimming, Ft. Richardson and flew home via Kodiak where they spent five hours.

While in Anchorage they toured a newspaper, a TV station,

went roller skating and folk dancing, attended shows, went sightseeing and shopping. They ate at one posh restaurant, pizza parlors, and hamburger stands and enjoyed a coke at the Top of the World at the Anchorage Westward Hotel.

Housing was no problem since they brought their sleeping bags and slept in a church.

What were the highlights? Maria Oscar said, "Shopping for gifts for my parents, brothers, sisters and friends. . . just little things, you know."

Katie and Richard Kinogak voted for Nikko Garden, the fine Japanese restaurant. Others said, "Oh, just riding around and seeing things was the most fun."

## AFN Official Raps State for Persistence Nenana Is Wrong

A native leader this week criticized a decision of the State of Alaska to press forward in the courts on the issue of the State's land rights versus the native land rights of the village of Nenana.

First vice president of the Alaska Federation of Natives, John Borbridge, said, "I think there should be much more of an air of cooperation toward a common goal, namely the achievement of a just settlement."

At a time when Congress is trying to settle the land claims issue, he continued, the State, in this action, "appears to be manifesting a sense of impatience."

And, if the native people were

to likewise exhibit the same type and degree of impatience, he continued, it is likely that the courts would be filled with proceedings involving native rights.

The State's action referred to by Borbridge involves the case of Alaska v. Udall. The case was first heard in district court in Anchorage where the State filed a suit against the Secretary of the Interior to force him to lift the land freeze on lands claimed by the village of Nenana and to give the State title to the land.

The district court ruled in favor of the State in a summary trial and disposed of the case without considering native claim to the land based on use and oc-

## TAPS Requesting to Explore North of the Yukon This Summer

By SUSAN TAYLOR  
Staff Writer

The Trans Alaska Pipeline System has requested permission from the Bureau of Land Management to do extensive exploration work along the proposed route of the pipeline north of the Yukon River this summer, a spokesman of the agency said in Anchorage last Wednesday.

Before making a decision, the BLM is awaiting a detailed proposal from TAPS outlining how and exactly where the oil companies plan to explore.

The Bureau, Henry Noldan said, has not, in the past, allowed exploration in the summer north of the Yukon River because the ground is thawed and thus can be easily damaged. Noldan is a BLM supervisor for the pipeline project.

If the work is allowed, he speculated that it would probably be on a very restrictive basis.

TAPS officials, he continued, want the exploration data as soon as possible in order to expedite the pipeline project. The Department of the Interior, which bears the responsibility for issuing a construction permit for the pipeline, has reportedly said that it does not have enough information to make a decision on the matter.

The BLM was given the authority by the Secretary of the Interior about a year ago to al-

low TAPS to explore for the pipeline, the supervisor said. And the BLM spokesman continued, under this same authority the agency can allow TAPS to do exploration this summer.

The consortium of eight oil companies did some preliminary exploration work north of the Yukon River about a year ago but has not done any since that time. Then, Noldan explained, the work was done in the winter and consisted of drilling holes about every 6 miles and cutting a preliminary line for the pipeline.

Now, he added, TAPS wants to go back and do more drilling and make a more definite determination as to the best pipeline route. Such exploration was conducted all winter in the Copper River Basin, where the route of the pipeline has now been pretty much determined by the oil companies he said.

TAPS did not ask for permission to explore north of the Yu-

(Continued on page 6)

## HUD Seeks Way to Meet Alaska's Housing Needs

Representatives of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development were recently in Alaska to discuss ways of meeting Alaska's special housing needs through on-going HUD programs.

A \$10 million special housing program for Alaska, which was introduced by the late Sen. Bob Bartlett, and authorized by Congress in 1966 was eliminated from President Nixon's 1970 Fiscal Year Budget. The first \$1 million was actually appropriated by Congress in 1968. This money was used in 1969 to begin the construction of about 160 homes in 10 villages. Approximately the same number of houses in eight additional villages are slated for construction in 1970.

According to Sen. Ted Stevens of Alaska, the special housing program, known as the Remote Housing Program, was eliminated with assurances that

(Continued on page 6)

## AEA Commends Tundra Times

At its recent assembly in the City of Anchorage the Alaska Education Association members voted to commend the Tundra Times and its editor Howard Rock for their support of education and social justice.

In summarizing the commendation, Robert Van Houte, executive secretary of AEA, wrote: "A number of teachers in Ala-

aska admire the support and dedication you have shown for education as the catalyst to improve our society.

"At our recent Assembly in Anchorage, delegates from the entire state voted to commend you and 'The Tundra Times' for your fine activities in support of education and social justice."

## Nerve Gas Has Gravel, Miller Very Worried

Senator Mike Gravel said he has learned the Defense Department is considering transporting a large quantity of lethal nerve gas from its storage depot at Okinawa to Kodiak, Alaska.

The Senator said he is moving to thwart any such action by co-sponsoring legislation with Senator Warren Magnuson of Washington to prohibit shipping the gas either to Alaska, Hawaii or the continental United States, by withholding all funds to be used for this purpose.

He said he also has wired Alaska's Governor Keith Miller and contacted Senator Stevens and Congressman Pollock to urge their support in opposing the proposed shipment.

Originally the gas was to be shipped to Bangor, Washington, and then transported by rail to Umatilla, Oregon.

Protests from Oregon and Washington, however, reportedly have caused the Defense Department to consider sending the gas to Kodiak for storage at the Naval Base there.

Part of the shipment would be in bulk and the remainder in the form of munitions.

Senator Gravel called the proposal "dangerous and totally un-

(Continued on page 6)