

Lieutenant Governor Boucher Certifies Arctic Borough

ANCHORAGE — At 4 p.m., July 1, Lt. Gov. H. A. "Red" Boucher certified the election in the recently formed and contested North Slope Borough. The signing took place at the

Anchorage Westward Hotel and was witnessed by a delegation of officials from the new borough who flew down from Barrow for the occasion. Representing the borough at

the ceremony were Joe Upicksoun, Arctic Slope Native Association president and new school board member, Eddie Hopson, Wyman Panigeo, Oliver Leavitt, Jacob Adams, Harry

Kaleak, and Larry Dineen. Officially signed into being, the new borough, encompassing some 56.5 million acres, became the largest local government in the world and symbolized a

hard-fought victory for the North Slope Inupiat Eskimos. The North Slope Borough still faces legal challenges from the oil companies to be brought (Continued on page 6)

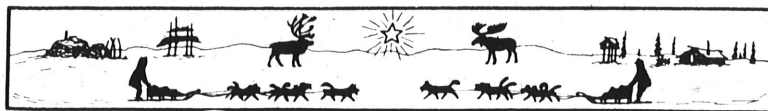
Tundra Times

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Inupiat Pitot People's Heritage

Den Nena Henash Our Land Speaks

Unanguq Tunuktauq The Aleuts Speak



Tlingit
Ut kah neek Informing and Reporting

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Fairbanks, Alaska

FIRST CLAIMS CHECKS ARRIVE

12 Regionals Receiving \$500,000 Checks Apiece

By JACQUELINE GLASGOW
Staff Writer

ANCHORAGE — "It's a beginning — an Alpha and a Genesis." The speaker was Joe Upicksoun of Barrow. The occasion was the payment of the first funds due to the Alaska Natives under the Land Claims Settlement Act. It was a six million dollar beginning.

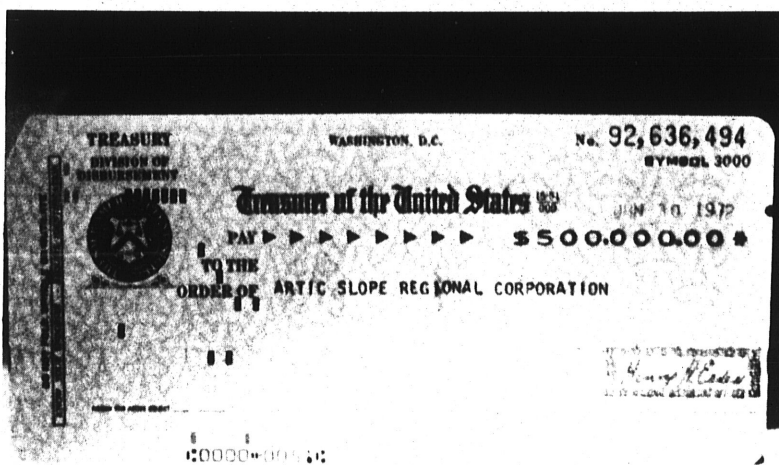
Twelve checks in the amount of \$500,000 were presented to Native corporations formed under the terms of the act. A presentation ceremony was held at the Anchorage-Westward Hotel Saturday, July 1, a landmark day in the history of the struggle to effect a just settlement.

U. S. Senator Ted Stevens arrived from Washington D. C. to present the checks accompanied by Morris Thompson, area director of the Bureau of Indian Affairs in Alaska.

Flown in on the same plane was a multi-million dollar payload.

Morris Thompson described the transfer of funds as "the first of a number of transactions which showed real faith in a people that stand together and fight together for something they have a right to fight for."

"This part settlement," he said, "is not a settlement for today, tomorrow, or the next day. The land is going to belong (Continued on page 6)



THE FIRST INSTALLMENT—This is the check Joe Upicksoun received on behalf of the Arctic Slope Regional Corporation. Appropriately, it and the 11 other regional

checks were delivered on the weekend of July 4th, Independence Day.

—Photo by TOM RICHARDS JR.

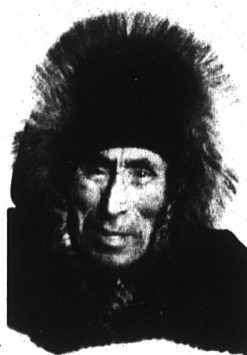
Ned Nusunginya—

Famed Dogteam Mail Carrier Dies

"I remember him carrying the mail. As a little boy in Point Hope, I remember the dog team coming in with mail." This was the memory Howard Rock had of Ned Nusunginya.

There were many, many others who remembered Ned Nusunginya last week in Barrow. They came from all over Alaska — from Barter Island, Wainwright, Pt. Hope, Fairbanks — to pay homage to a man as legendary as Alaska, as big in heart as its landscape.

Born in 1898, Ned was one of the state's last dog mushers to carry mail by dog sled, traveling miles and miles of frozen tundra, from Barrow to Kotzebue, and at least once, all the way to Unalakleet.



NED NUSUNGINYA

Muktuk Controversy Still Sizzling—

Ired Natives Want Poisoning Statistics, Bacteria Counts

By JACQUELINE GLASGOW
Staff Writer

The muktuk controversy continues in Fairbanks, Alaska.

Outraged Eskimos, Indians, and people who simply like to eat muktuk, responded vociferously to last week's edict by the Alaska Public Health Department that the Tundra Times could not serve muktuk at its

booth during the Tanana State Fair August 16-20.

Native leaders in the city concurred with Howard Rock that the state regulations were highly discriminatory in singling out muktuk, a traditional Native food from the great bowhead whale, while it allows the sale of beef, pork, and fish products of the same nature.

A local radio show sponsored by the Fairbanks Native Center, Tundra Topics, got into the act last week, completely backing the stand taken by the Tundra Times and asking listeners to write and call in their feelings on the subject.

Alan Arnold of the Fairbanks Daily News-Miner spoke of the "beauracrat with his bags of wisdom telling the Eskimo he can't eat muktuk because it's dirty and fit for consumption only if you have an iron stomach."

Even the News-Miner's humorous cartoon figure, Sourdough Jack had his say on the matter.

"Sourdough sez: Them state officials are going too far. After all the diseases white men have given the Natives, it is about time he was gettin' something back."

The state officials were getting something back alright. That something was the reaction from the Native people. They want statistics, they want figures on alleged cases of food poisoning, they want bacteria counts, they want the facts that supported Ken Torgerson's decision to ban muktuk. Torgerson is the field supervisor for the state's Division of Environmental Health, which is in charge of food concessions at the Fair.

Certainly no one, Native or (Continued on Page 6)

Demo Credentials

Committee Backs

Natives on Mammal

The national Democratic convention Credentials Committee came out in support of Alaska Natives in the ocean mammal plank that would allow Eskimos, Indians and Aleuts to hunt for subsistence.

Lydia Selkregg, Anchorage, only Alaska member of the Credentials Committee, said the ocean mammal plank "strongly supports the protection of ocean mammals from indiscriminate destruction by foreign fishermen, but specifically exempts Native Americans whose subsistence depends on the animals."

Senator Harris Changes Stand—Asks Amendment to Mammal Bill Excluding Natives

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Senator Fred R. Harris (D-Okla) announced last week his intention to amend the Senate Ocean Mammal Protection Bill to exclude the Indian, Aleut, and Eskimo Natives from its provisions if the version approved by the Senate Commerce Committee is not satisfactory to Alaskan Natives.

The Ocean Mammal Bill, which would make illegal the

slaughter of seals, porpoises, sea otters, polar bears, and other mammals, should be amended, Harris said, to allow Indian, Aleut, and Eskimo Natives to continue hunting these animals for subsistence purposes.

Under the Harris Amendment, native hunting would be allowed as long as the general level of killings remains the same on a per capita basis as in the last decade.

Speaking on behalf of the new amendment, Harris cited the target of the protection bill as "the commercial firm which butchers tens of thousands (of sea mammals) for private profit", not the Alaskan Native who kills only about 2,500 mammals per year. Harris said we should protect the interests of the Natives as well as those of the mammals.

(Continued on page 6)