

# Season's Greetings

The staff of the Tundra Times extends its wishes for a joyous Christmas to the newspaper's thousands of faithful readers and to all the faithful throughout the world.

Next Wednesday, the villages in all corners of Alaska will commemorate the birth of Christ in their unique and colorful offerings generously intermingled with their own traditions. Their own

distinctive native foods will take the place of turkeys, hams, and other holiday foods but the spirit of the homage will be no different than those offered elsewhere in the world.

THE STAFF OF THE TUNDRA TIMES OFFERS ITS WISHES FOR A JOYOUS AND HAPPY CHRISTMAS FOR EVERYONE!  
QUWEASUGICHI ILLUAPSI! KUYAANUKPUK!

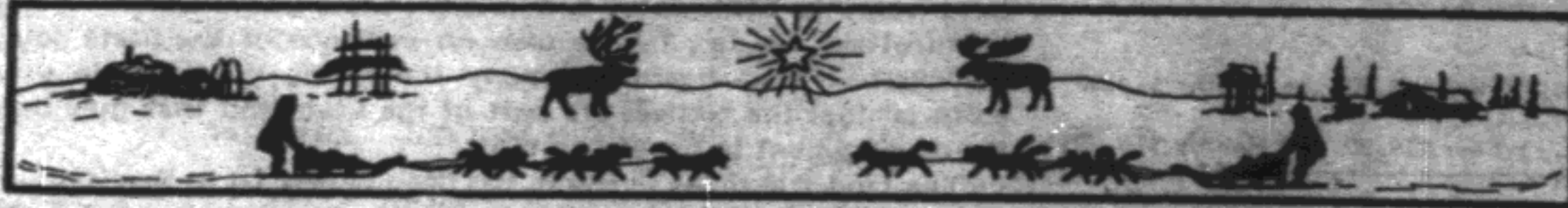
## Tundra Times

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Inupiat Paitot People's Heritage

Den Nena Henash Our Land Speaks

Unanguq Tunuktauq The Aleuts Speak



Tlingit  
Ut kah neek Informing and Reporting  
Haida  
Yaunk yawn sue  
Speak the absolute truth  
Fairbanks, Alaska

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# LBJ LIGHTS HOOPER BAY TREE

## AFN Gets \$100,000 Foundation Grant

The Alaska Federation of Natives has been granted \$100,000 by the Ford Foundation so the organization can help strengthen multi-tribal organizations.

The fund will encourage AFN to build up cooperation among native leaders so they may take greater advantage of educational and economic development opportunities.

The Ford Foundation grant was one of several totaling over \$500,000 to help American Indians, Eskimos and Aleuts.

University of Alaska was granted \$56,500 for support of

the first international conference on Cross-Cultural Education in the North to be held in Montreal in August, 1969.

The conference will be sponsored by the university and the Arctic Institute of North America. It will review the common problems and educational programs for Eskimos, Indians and natives in Alaska, northern Canada and Greenland.

Around 100 government administrators, educators, and social scientists will be at the conference which will be held

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### Editorial—

## Unselfish Servant Dies

It was 25 below zero and the leaden skies hovered the cathedral where hundreds of people gathered to pay their last respects to a man who had served Alaska well during the long 35 years of public service. Highest dignitaries of the state, as well as United States senators, many Fairbanks friends, including Eskimos and Indians paid their homage. Sen. E.L. (Bob) Bartlett at 64 years old had passed on. The gathering was a revealing testimonial that Bob Bartlett had friends from all walks of life and no wonder—he was a common man on whose shoulders rested easily one of the highest offices of his land and

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MAJESTIC AT NIGHT—The church of the Roman Catholic Immaculate Conception in Fairbanks awaits Christmas in silent majesty.  
—DIGNA JOHNSON Photograph

## President Lights Christmas Tree 5,000 Mi. Away

President Lyndon B. Johnson last Monday officially introduced the rural electrification program in Alaska when he lit a Christmas tree in Hooper Bay 5,000 miles away.

The release that came to the Tundra Times did not explain how the President performed the feat and Bonnie Ericsson, Tundra Times secretary, became inquisitive as to how it was done.

"How could the President light that tree in Hooper Bay 5,000 miles away? He must have had a long extension cord," Bonnie speculated.

Bonnie's inquisitiveness puzzled her editor boss, Howard Rock, and they discussed whether it was done by micro-wave or whether it could have been done by activating something over the telephone.

"Is there anyone we could call to find out?" Bonnie asked.

"Why don't you call AVEC (Alaska Village Electric Cooperative, Inc.) in Anchorage?" said her boss.

Bonnie made the call and contacted Bill Rhodes, manager of AVEC.

Rhodes explained that when the President lit the nation's Christmas tree at the White House last Monday, he also made a special recognition of the launching of the rural electri-

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## Sec. Udall Sets Down Reasons for Land Withdrawal

Secretary Udall December 11 announced that he has approved the filing of an application by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs for temporary withdrawal, under the Pickett Act, of all

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See President-elect Nixon's important letter on claims on Page 8

## Natives at Education Meet Want Up Edgumbe But Not Expand it

At the initial session of the Sitka education meeting yesterday, John Sackett and Mrs. Mary Jane Fate, and others, called for upgrading of the Mt. Edgumbe High School but not to expand it.

The initial speakers also ex-

pressed a desire that establishment of a regional high school in Fairbanks be made a priority.

"The general consensus of the native delegates here seems to be the upgrading of Mt. Edgumbe High School but not to expand

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unreserved public lands in Alaska except those under mineral lease.

The proposed withdrawal would be effective until December 31, 1970. The purpose of this action, the Secretary stated, is to protect the rights of the Alaska Natives by preserving the status quo of the Alaska public lands in anticipation that the 91st Congress will resolve the long-standing problem of Native claims.

The noting of the application on the records of the Bureau of Land Management office and its publication in the FEDERAL REGISTER will operate to segregate the lands from appropriation pending a final decision on the application for withdrawal.

In informing the Chairmen of the Senate and House Interior Committees and Governor Hickel of his action Udall pointed out

that, "Progress toward solution to this problem during the 90th Congress was most encouraging."

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## Calendar of Events of Native Land Problems

CALENDAR OF EVENTS - ALASKA NATIVE LAND PROBLEM

1867—Alaska acquired from Russia. Article 3 of the treaty extended U.S. citizenship to Russians remaining in the area, but withheld this status from "the uncivilized native tribes" who were to be subject to such laws and regulations as the United States may, from time to time, adopt in regard to the aboriginal tribes of that country.

1884—Alaska Organic Act. Congress declared that "the in-

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