

# Tundra Times

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Inupiat Paitot People's Heritage

Den Nenā Henash Our Land Speaks

Unanguq Tunuktauq The Aleuts Speak

Vol 8, No. 40

Wednesday, July 14, 1971

Fairbanks, Alaska



Tlingit  
Ut kah neek Informing and Reporting

## ASPINALL COOLS CLAIMS WORK



INSTANT INSTINCT—A tiny white kitten belonging to attorney Frederic Brown of Fairbanks suddenly came face to face with a mouse type Tundra Times office stapler and reacted exactly as any good cat would. The kitten poised for

a pounce on the mouse while its master was researching on the history of the Tundra Times' World Eskimo Olympics. See the outcome of the fate of the mouse in two other pictures on Page 2. —Photo by LAEL MORGAN.

### Personality Clashes May Be Reason, AFN Closes Its Washington Office

By THOMAS RICHARDS, JR.  
Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON, D.C. (July 10)—The Alaska Federation of Natives will close its office here on Monday. AFN president Don Wright reports that the reason for that action is lack of money.

The organization, which represents Alaska Natives in seeking a land claims settlement, will be without funds by July 31 Wright said.

Since it was founded in 1966, The AFN has financed its operation from foundation grants, contributions, and loans from Indian tribes.

During a meeting of the AFN board last month in Barrow, the Tlingit and Haida Central Council indicated that it may be willing to guarantee a loan to provide operating funds. That loan has not yet been finalized.

The closing of the Washington office comes during a lull in congressional action on the land claims question.

Action now rests with the Subcommittee on Indian Affairs of the House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee. The subcommittee eventually will make its recommendations to the full Interior committee, which will report out a bill for action by the House.

The Indian Affairs Subcommittee has met in executive session several times in recent weeks to mark up claims legislation, but there have been no further meetings scheduled for Native land claims.

All sixteen members of the subcommittee were on hand for last Wednesday's session. They met for two hours and, although significant progress had been anticipated, little was accomplished.

The subcommittee started mark-up proceedings on H.R. 7432, which is the Nixon Administration's proposal to settle the claims.

The administration bill provides for 40 million acres of land, \$500 million in cash, and \$500 million in mineral revenues for Alaska Natives.

None of these issues came under discussion. The bill was reviewed only to section three,

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### Army Announces Closure of Haines Pipeline

By LAEL MORGAN  
Staff Writer

ANCHORAGE — The U.S. Army has announced it will shut down a "substantial portion" of its petroleum products pipeline between Haines and Fairbanks.

"This change in our service was dictated by several conditions," Major Gen. James F. Hollingsworth reported in a tersely worded statement. Namely on the costs of current shipping methods and "the need to take all possible steps to avoid any pollution problems that might arise if the Army, Alaska, continues to operate this system."

He made no mention of official protest of the pipeline which came earlier this year from Na-

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### Satellite Communication— Villages to Have Contact with Physicians, Educational TV

FAIRBANKS—Next fall nearly two dozen Native villages will be in direct contact with physicians at major health centers through the unlikely hook-up of taxicab radios and earth satellite.

In addition, the system will be used to grapple with problems of rural schools and to provide educational broadcasting.

It all comes of some space age pioneering by the University of Alaska, a \$370,000 grant from Lister Hill National Center for Biomedical Communications and a \$113,000 grant to State Operated Schools via U.S. Health, Education and Welfare.

Three years ago some far-thinking people at the university began eyeing ATS 1, the first technology satellite of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, which was spinning around virtually unused.

"NASA projected its electronic lifetime as about two years (in 1966). The satellite has exceeded its expected life and we are fortunate to be able to make use of it," explains Glenn M. Stanley, associate professor of geophysics. "If you ask NASA how long it's going to keep working they'll tell you it's nearly as good as the day they put it up."

The university received NASA's enthusiastic permission to experiment with telecommunications and Robert P. Merritt, associate professor of electrical engineering, set to work building a ground station. Using a cast-off transmitter and considerable ingenuity, he assembled an operating system including a helical antenna that looks like a giant

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### Determination Pays Off—

### Ft. Yukon Girl Goes Firefighting

FAIRBANKS—Darlene Herbert, 22, of Fort Yukon, has always wanted to be a firefighter. Twice in the last two years she applied to Bureau of Land Management for a job and twice she got the same answer. "Girls can't go firefighting!"

Then a couple of weeks ago she got determined and went out and bought some firefighting gear, including boots.

"I decided if they turned me down this time, I'd go anyway. Get some big clothes and a fake mustache. I'd really done it, too!"

But she didn't have to. Another determined young woman, Caroline Peters, had also decided to storm the BLM. She took her case of woman's right first to the public through the press, then to a lawyer and finally directly to Bob Krumm, director of BLM.

He told her if she could get enough women together for an



DARLENE HERBERT

all-woman crew he would be glad to launch an experiment to see if they had strength and endurance for the job. She had located 23 recruits when Miss Herbert heard about the experiment on the radio.

Luckily the fast footed Ft. Yukoner made it to the bureau office just in time to get hired. The crew waited for her to go home and get her gear. She dumped out her brother's fire fighting pack, put in her own duffle and was off to a hot spot at Wickersham Dome.

Six days later she was back; tired, dirty but even more enthusiastic than before about fire fighting.

"We were the mop-up crew, cleaning up the hot spots," She said. "We walked in a line and every hot spot we found we had to turn off. The first day was

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### History of Eskimo Olympics

If you're lucky enough to get a program for this year's Eskimo Olympics, hang on to it. It could become a collectors item. The event—scheduled July 30-August 1 in Fairbanks—is the 11th Annual and promises to be a record breaker.

To honor the occasion, Olympics officials have researched and plan to list all prior winners and their feats in the program.

Some of the early records are pretty sketchy of course, because everybody was having

too much fun to write anything down.

Fred Brown, an attorney and board member of the Tundra Times which sponsors the event, has laboriously dug through back issues of stacks of dusty newspapers and recorded everything printed about the event.

The Olympics began in 1961 at the prompting of Wien Airways management which feared the old Eskimo games might be forgotten. Some of these

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