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ASNA INDICATES IT WOULD START ITS OWN FREEZE

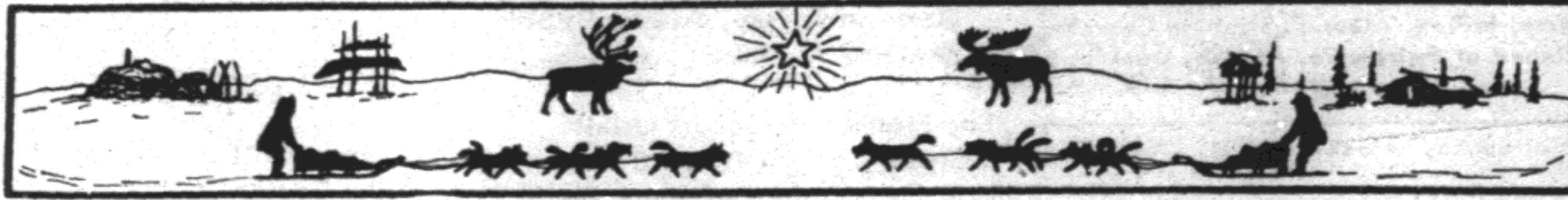
# Tundra Times

15¢

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

Vol. 6, No. 158

Friday, January 17, 1969

Fairbanks, Alaska

## HICKEL PLEDGES TO KEEP FREEZE



SHY HEROINE, Ella (Mrs. John) Kinegak of Bethel shows her fellow employes at the Alaska Area Health Service Hospital the Governor's Medal which was presented by Governor Walter J. Hickel earlier this fall at an informal ceremony in the hospital dining room. Taking an appreciative look at left is Dr. Richard Light, Medical Director of the U.S. Public Health Service Hospital and the Bethel Service Unit. The dimin-

utive Eskimo woman recieved the medal, and more recently a \$500 check from the PHS Area, for her daring rescue of a five-year-old boy from the Kuskokwim River last summer. The medal has been given only a few times and is awarded only when unusual bravery is exhibited. It is believed that Mrs. Kinegak may be the first Alaska Native to receive this medal.

(See story on Page 8) —Photo by JOHN TOOMER

### Secretary-designate Commits Self Until 91st Congress Has Acted

At the confirmation hearing yesterday morning, January 16, Secretary-designate Walter J. Hickel pledged to maintain the land freeze in Alaska.

He did this at the urging of Sen. Henry M. Jackson, chairman of the Senate Interior Committee, and after

close questioning of Sen. George McGovern, chairman of the Senate Indian Affairs Subcommittee. Secretary-designate Hickel committed himself to hold the land freeze until the 91st Congress has acted to settle the native land claims.

Sen. Jackson expressed his confidence that Congress would take such action during the cur-

rent session. During the exchange between Sen. Jackson and Secretary-designate, Mr. Hickel agreed that in the event that limited tracts of land were needed for essential public purposes, such as public roads, he would consult with and seek the consent of the congressional committee before releasing such land from the freeze.

Sen. Jackson indicated that his committee would consent to uses such as public roads but not to state selections or private use.

"This pledge," stated John Borbridge, "by Hickel to maintain the land freeze vindicates the position of the Alaska natives."

Borbridge, along with Emil Notti, Rep. Willie Hensley and Eben Hopson, is in Washington at the moment.

### Organization to Aid Land Claims

Support of an equitable and prompt settlement of Alaska Native land claims is the goal of a statewide organization formed in Anchorage last Tuesday.

Richard A. Miller of Sitka, acting chairman, said the principal activity of the group, "Supporters of Settlement," Alaska

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### Liquor Bootlegging Alarms Kotzebue Folks

One of the most pressing problems facing the city of Kotzebue is that of enforcement of the city and state laws.

This was revealed at the city council's first meeting of the year, when a group of concerned townspeople confronted city and police officials with the situation.

The charge was met with counter charges from officials. State Trooper Bob Boatright stated that he and City Policeman Bill Stevens were aware of the situation, but were helpless due to lack of local support.

"You people have to file the complaints before we can act," he continued.

"I have been after the police since last summer," one woman responded.

Several other townspeople said that they have also attempted to make complaints before without success. Another man tried to file a complaint during the meeting, then was halted by City Police Commissioner Elmer Armstrong who stated, "I will not have anyone make a complaint during this meeting."

The problem revolves around enforcement of city ordinances, as well as state law backing

Kotzebue's dry status.

At one time, the city had operated a liquor store which had been a source of much of its revenues. Since then, however, the town has voted itself dry.

Presently there is a sizable bootlegging operation which has provided serious problems for the community. The entire population admits awareness of the situation.

In a survey of several airline employees, it was discovered that one prominent bootlegger re-

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### Other Voices—

### Then as Now

During our early history, the rapid population growth gave impetus to drives to acquire additional lands for purpose of increasing the resources and wealth of our nation and for the use of our pioneering settlers, who, in ever-rising numbers, were migrating westward. Conflicts broke out between the settlers and the Indians. There were periods of great stress.

The federal government was denounced for trying

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### Leaders Deliver Open Letter to Interior Secretary-designate

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Four Alaskan native leaders delivered on January 10, 1969, in Washington, D.C., an open letter to Governor Walter J. Hickel asking for a clear statement on vital issues pertaining to the lands and land rights of 55,000 Alaskan Natives—Eskimos, Indian and Aleut.

In delivering the letter, they acted under the authority given to them by the 19-member Board of Directors of the Alaska Federation of Natives at a meeting held in Anchorage, Alaska on

January 7, 1969.

The AFN is composed of 19 native organizations which represents the Eskimos, Indians and Aleuts who have their homelands in Alaska.

The four leaders stated that "they did not desire the letter to be construed as expressing opposition to the confirmation of the nomination of Governor Hickel as the Secretary of the Interior."

Governor Hickel has requested the active public support by the AFN of his confirmation.

Accordingly, they stated that "we consider it to be our duty to ask the governor for a statement of his views and proposed policies on certain matters which will have an immediate import on the lives and lands of the 55,000 natives of Alaska."

"We are asking for a public statement because after the date of his nomination as Secretary of Interior, the press has carried remarks made by Governor Hickel which may be construed as to be dangerous threats to the

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### Attorney Prepared to Act On Orders of Group President

The Arctic Slope Native Association has instructed its attorney to prepare alternative methods to preserve its rights in the North Slope if the Interior Department should lift the freeze.

Its attorney, Frederick Paul of Seattle, who is a member of the Tlingit nation of southeastern Alaska, told the Tundra Times he is prepared to start a private land freeze on orders from the association president, Walton Ahmagak.

Paul explained that a private

land freeze means that each and every application will be contested through the hearing and appellate procedures of the Bureau of Land Management and, if necessary into the federal court

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