



VALLEY OF 10,000 SMOKES—Tour group in the Valley of Ten Thousand Smokes is enjoying the scene of an eroded cliff of the 1912 gigantic volcanic explosion ash-fall. After the eruption, some of this ash-fall fell and piled to the depth of 770 feet. The light

colored deposit can be seen in the background.

—WIEN CONSOLIDATED AIRLINES
Photo by FRANK WHALEY

Katmai's 10,000 Smokes Area Ideal for Tourism

KATMAI, Alaska: —It was fifty years ago that the Katmai National Monument was estab-

lished to preserve unique volcanic terrain created by the 1912 earth explosion here.

In 1919, a National Geographic Society expedition visited this area of the Valley of Ten Thousand Smokes. Due to lack of facilities and transportation, it wasn't until 18 years ago that average travelers were able to visit here. At that time, Northern Consolidated Airlines obtained a concession from the National Park Service and built camps.

At first, the camps attracted sports fishermen who came for the fabulous fishing of grayling, arctic char, salmon, rainbow and lake trout. Each year facilities were improved. Other travelers—photographers, nature lovers, archeologists and others—swelled the numbers of visitors but it is still an off-beat adventure. Last year 1,200 stayed at the lodges, camps or camped out here. Transportation has improved with daily flights to and from Anchorage. On clear days there are magnificent views of the Alaska Range, Cook Inlet, lakes and volcanic peaks.

A new attraction this year is a "kashim." Although the project is not entirely completed, the Park Service will open a building constructed over an old excavated "kashim" together with the artifacts. A "kashim" is a half-underground structure used as a central meeting place by the prehistoric residents of the area.

Visitor facilities are at four locations of which Brooks Camp is the largest with a central lodge, cabins, a store and campground. Reservations can be made for rental equipment. From Brooks there is a daily

guided bus tour to an overlook of the famed valley. Hikers can take an easy trail to the valley floor and walk upon deposits of pumice and ash left by the eruption.

With 150 species of birds, many nature study groups and bird watchers are attracted here. Several special charters have been arranged for this year. The salmon migration is an interesting sight. Small planes for charter are based at Brooks for flights over the district and to other lakes and camps.

This region was first described by J. E. Spurr, a geologist, who visited here in 1898, as a "broad deep valley with high sedimentary walls and floored with glacial debris."

On June 6, 1912, Novarupta, near the head of the valley, exploded to change the face of the landscape. Within 60 hours, seven cubic miles of pumice and broken rock were hurled from the volcanic vent to bury the 40-square-mile valley up to 770 feet deep.

When Robert F. Griggs visited the valley in 1916, he found thousands of steam fumaroles rising through crevices above buried streams and springs, causing him to name it the "Valley of Ten Thousand Smokes." While most of these have cooled, some smokes remain.

The Katmai season begins May 25, and runs through Sept. 7, with the exception of Kulik Camp which operates until October 1. Regular package tours of three days and two nights operate daily from

Anchorage (\$131.50 plus \$2.95 tax). Longer tours are available and there are rates for children.

Complete details, brochures and reservations are available from a travel agent or by writing Wien Consolidated Airlines, Box 6247, International Airport, Anchorage, Alaska 99502.

Alaska Legal Services Assigns Two Lawyers

Alaska Legal Services, which first opened its doors in Nome last March, last week assigned two lawyers to serve the Second Judicial District.

A special arrangement was developed between VISTA, which is funded under a special title from the Office of Economic Opportunity, and Alaska Legal Services Corporation, which is funded through the same office, to coordinate their programs.

It was through this cooperative effort that two young lawyers, who have volunteered to serve America, were sent to this area that has so few people with cash incomes above the federal poverty level.

Representatives of the villages, through local RCAP

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Rep. Hensley at D-Convention . . .

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upon. In fact he's already agreed to it."

The Kotzebue legislator said he attended some of the platform committee hearings before the convention started and listened to some of the well known figures in the American political scene today.

Some of these persons were Mayor Alioto of San Francisco, Mayor Cavanaugh of Detroit, Roy Wilkins of the NAACP and George Meany of the AFL-CIO.

"I also met chairman of the platform committee, Hale Boggs. Don Pruhs introduced me to Boggs and Fishbait Miller, Sergeant at Arms for the U.S. House of Representatives."

Don Pruhs, Fairbanks, was the chairman of the Alaska delegation at the Chicago convention.

"I also met with Phil Leo Nash, who is active in Humphrey's campaign, and with one of Humphrey's assistants, Bill Carmack," said Hensley.

Phil Leo Nash is the former Commissioner of Indian Affairs under President John F. Kennedy.

Hensley said the convention seethed with a lot of political pressure from every source in American life.

"In this convention, there were the liberal and conservative

forces—there were the young and old; there were representatives of machine politics and there were those who are proponents of the New Politics who are not particularly party oriented and they were the hawks and doves on the war in Vietnam.

"Overriding all these issues, perhaps the concern in the Democratic Party for the Negro and his place in American society—I think it made for a very exciting convention," Hensley said.

Willie Hensley commented on the demonstrations that erupted in the City of Chicago:

"The demonstrations in Chicago accompanying police action—the elaborate and extensive security on and around the convention floor seriously affected every delegate attending the convention."

On Vice President Hubert Humphrey's acceptance speech after he was nominated for Democratic presidency of the United States on the first ballot:

"I feel that Hubert Humphrey's acceptance speech was the real Humphrey speaking. I feel that the delegates were impressed by the speech. I also feel he will have a very difficult task of welding the Democratic Party before the November election."

