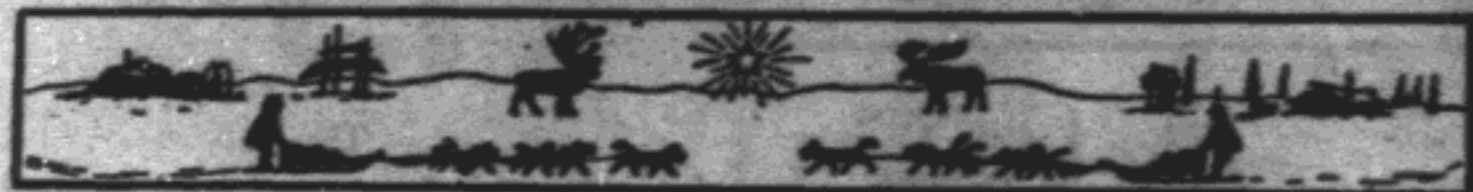


"I may not agree with a word you say but I will defend unto death your right to say it." — Voltaire

Tundra Times



Owned, controlled and edited by Eskimo, Indian, Aleut Publishing Company, a corporation of Alaska natives. Published at Fairbanks, Alaska, weekly, on Friday.

Address all mail to Box 1287, Fairbanks, Alaska 99701. Telephone 452-2244.

Entered at the Post Office at Fairbanks, Alaska, as second class matter under the Act of March 3, 1879.

Eskimo, Indian, Aleut Publishing Co., Inc. Board of Directors Executive Committee: Howard Rock, president; Thomas Richards, vice president; Clare Anderson, secretary; Jimmy Bedford, comptroller; Mrs. Ralph Perdue, assistant secretary. HOWARD ROCK, editor.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Regular Mail (including Alaska, Canada and other states)	1 Year \$ 8.00	6 Months \$ 4.50
Air Mail (including Alaska, Canada and other states)	1 Year \$19.00	6 Months \$10.00

Of Time, Space and Money ...

(Continued from Page 1)

So now we have two bills before Congress. While this may make matters more confusing, it also gives concrete alternatives to the Department of Interior's proposal.

Just what is wrong with the Interior Department's bill?

NOT ENOUGH LAND—The bill treats land claims as an abstract real estate problem, instead of a human problem. It never asks, "How much land is needed for people to survive?"

It counts acres, instead of human beings, giving villages their own sites, plus not more than 50,000 acres, regardless of population. Many villages use and occupy far more than 50,000 acres.

The bill also provides additional hunting and fishing rights for larger areas for 25 years. At worst this is an empty right. Animals do not honor government boundaries. Even over a very large area, there may be no game some years. The people may have rights, but they may not have anything on their tables to eat.

NOT ENOUGH TIME—A 25-year limit on these rights is like putting a gun at the head of the villagers. It says to them, "You have 25 years to change from a subsistence economy to a cash economy like the rest of us. If you don't do it in 25 years, tough luck buddy."

NOT ENOUGH MONEY—If the value of land is set at 1867 prices, the government will not have to compensate for recently discovered mineral deposits. The land was worth little 100 years ago. Moreover, the general policy has been to set value of land at what it was worth when taken from the natives. Most land in question has not yet been taken. Until minerals and oil were discovered, no outsiders wanted it. The native people never had to own the land, because they were able to use it without challenge.

Every nation has a right to live. So does every village. The Department of Interior bill destroys that right. It takes away their land. It takes away future use of their land.

Why must the government be so stingy? Even if every village got between 800,000 and 1,000,000 acres, there would be enough land for everyone.

It will cost the government up to a billion dollars to provide social welfare and rehabilitation for all the persons who will be jolted out of a way of life they now live without outside help.

Laws should only be made with the consent of the governed. Villages should be consulted. Whatever bill is passed should be based on the need to establish a viable economy. Nowhere does the government bill meet the test of giving natives enough land, time or money to participate as independent, self supporting human beings in the broader American society.

Legislation on Land Claims May Take 4 Yrs.

Alaska native land claims legislation will take four years or more to enact, Thomas H. Pillifant, Anchorage Superintendent for the Bureau of Indian Affairs said last Friday.

He also told the Anchorage Democratic Club that it was unreasonable to accuse native people of interfering with the orderly development of Alaska.

Native groups have not claimed land nor asked for even one dollar, he said. They have merely filed protests asking that before any final decision is reached that the federal government consider the interest native peoples have in the lands because of aboriginal possession and occupancy.

He explained that Interior Secretary Stewart Udall had taken the position that to "dispose of more lands prior to determining the native interests would only further complicate an already highly complex situation." The freeze is reasonable, he said.

ASCAP Asks OEO For Funds

A proposal to bring cash economy to the bush was approved last week by the Alaska State Community Action Program, board meeting in Bethel.

The board is requesting \$2,049,808 from the Office of Economic Opportunity. It wants to start a statewide Alaska Guild of Native Industries, Arts and Crafts owned and operated by the native people.

The guild will train craftsmen in an arts and crafts school. It will help set up industries and businesses and will provide purchasing and marketing services. Each village will have a representative on the decision making board.

Included in the proposal is a union apprenticeship program to train electricians and mechanics.

Under the plan, Togiak and Kake will receive electricity. Combination logging and saw mill schools will be established at Nulato and Aniak. Nikolaki will be given a reindeer herd.

According to Flore Lekanoff, ASCAP executive director, the program is designed to give native people an economic base by working with what is at hand.

He hopes it will help villages grow into mass production and a true wage economy.

The program is expected to be self supporting within five years.

Future plans include organized development of logging, fishing, trapping, hunting and mining.

Envisioned are processing industries for smoking, canning or freezing fish. Lumber mills, tanneries, and industrial crafts also might be developed.

A wise man does not try to hurry history.

Adlai Stevenson

MARRIAGE: A gamble that often a full house.

S. T.

The Native Bill— AN ACT

Conferring jurisdiction upon the Court of Claims to hear, examine, adjudicate, and render judgment in any and all claims which the Indians, Eskimos, and Aleuts of Alaska, or any tribe or band thereof, may have against the United States, and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED.

Sec. 1. JURISDICTION. Jurisdiction is hereby conferred upon the Court of Claims to hear, determine and enter judgment upon the claims against the United States of any tribe, band, village, community, association, or other identifiable group of Eskimos, Aleuts, or Indians, resident in Alaska, including identifiable groups of residents of a locality (all hereafter collectively referred to as Natives of Alaska or as "claimant").

Jurisdiction is also conferred upon the Court of Claims to hear, determine and render judgment upon all claims that the Natives of Alaska may have against the United States in connection with lands to which the Natives of Alaska claim Indian title by virtue of the aboriginal use and occupancy of such lands from time immemorial. In determining lands to which the Natives of Alaska had or have Indian title for purposes of this Act, the Court shall not exclude any lands solely by reason of the fact that such lands were abandoned by the Natives of Alaska involuntary or because lack of game or other changed conditions not under their control made the continued use of such lands impractical. In considering any claim pursuant to this Act, the Court is hereby empowered to conduct its own investigations into the facts as well as to rely upon the evidence furnished by the claimants.

Section 2. LANDS DISPOSED OF TO THIRD PARTIES. (a) With respect to any claim by the Natives of Alaska pursuant to this Act involving lands to which the Natives of Alaska claimed Indian title and which the United States disposed of to third parties, the Court of Claims, if it determines that the Natives of Alaska had Indian title to such lands so disposed of, shall render judgment on behalf of the Natives of Alaska for such amount as the Court shall find to be the fair market value of such lands.

(b) With respect to any claim by the Natives of Alaska pursuant to this Act involving lands to which the Natives of Alaska claim Indian title, and which have not been disposed of by the United States to any third party, the Court, if it determines that the Natives of Alaska have Indian title to such lands so claimed, shall award the Natives of Alaska judgment of ownership of such lands.

Section 3. FILING AND PRESENTATION OF CLAIMS. Any claim cognizable under this Act may be filed and presented to the Court, in a representative capacity, by any member of a claimant, or by a segment of a claimant, or by a successor organization in which the identity or interests of the claimant have merged, provided, that wherever there exists a governing body or other organization of a claimant recognized by the Secretary of the Interior as having authority to represent such claimant, such governing body or organization shall have the exclusive right to represent the claimant in the absence of fraud, collusion, or laches on the part of such governing body or organization. No filing or other fees shall be charged to claimants.

Section 4. LIMITATION OF TIME FOR FILING CLAIMS. Claims may be filed for a period of three years after the date of this Act, provided, that for good cause shown, the Court may grant extensions, not exceeding a total of one year, in which to file claims.

Section 5. DEFENSES OF LIMITATIONS AND LACHES BARRED. All claims under this Act may be heard and determined notwithstanding any statute of limitations or laches, but all other defenses shall be available to the United States.

Section 6. COMPROMISE OF CLAIMS. The United States and the claimants are authorized to compromise claims with the approval of the Court. The Court shall establish appropriate procedures to encourage the compromise of claims.

Section 7. ATTORNEY'S FEES. The fees of attorneys shall be determined in accordance with the standards established in Section 15 of the Indian Claims Commission Act (25 U.S.C. 70a) and shall not exceed ten percentum of the amount recovered in any case.

Section 8. USE OF DOCUMENTS AS EVIDENCE. In any suit instituted hereunder any letter, paper, document, map, or record in the possession of any officer or department of the United States (or certified copies thereof) may be in evidence, and the departments of the Government of the United States shall give full and free access to the attorney or attorneys for said Natives of Alaska to such letters, papers, documents, maps, or records as may be useful to said attorney or attorneys in the preparation for trial or trials of such suit or suits.

Section 9. DISPOSAL OF LAND. Following the date of the enactment of this Act, no lands with respect to which a claim is filed pursuant to this Act and over which the United States had jurisdiction shall be disposed of by the United States pending the final disposition of such claim.