

## Nixon-Hirohito Meeting Public

Alaskan Command spokesman announced that the historic meeting between President Nixon and Emperor Hirohito at Elmendorf Air Force Base will be open to the public the evening of the 26th of September.

More details will be announced as they are available.

## Musk Ox Stays Tame...

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musk oxen remained tame and trusting even as adults, when bulls weigh up to 900 lb. and cows from 500-650 lb.

Musk oxen are apparently intelligent animals, and they quickly learned the routine of farm life; indeed, some of them even learned their names and would come running across the pastures when they were called.

All the animals soon became accustomed to entering the barn to be weighed, and they tolerated the frequent physical examinations and scientific experiments to which they were subjected.

Fortunately, it was discovered that sick musk oxen responded well to drugs and treatments developed for sheep and cattle, although one advantage of the harsh Arctic climate is that many types of diseases are much rarer than further South. Because musk oxen thrive on a diet of grasses and browse species, as well as on hay, feeding them is easy.

As far as we know, most musk ox cows do not breed until they are 4 years old, and bulls may not breed until later than this, since the older bulls are often the best fighters and take all the females for themselves.

Because domesticated musk oxen are so well fed, they grow very rapidly, and most cows can be bred when they are just over two years old. Wild musk ox cows normally have only one baby every two years, for they suckle their calves for up to 12 months after birth, and therefore they do not come into heat in the same years that they calve.

On a farm, in contrast, calves can be weaned when they are four months old, and their mothers can be bred every year. Twinning is unknown for wild musk oxen, but domesticated musk oxen have already produced one set of twins.

All these points are obviously important for someone who is raising musk oxen commercially.

Since domestication means principally that animals are bred selectively, great attention was paid in the early days to working out a program of selective breeding.

This program, which is still operating, is designed to increase the quality and quantity of the annual qiviut yield, to make musk oxen as tame as possible, to create a hornless animal, and to encourage twinning.

When the Musk Ox Project started, some people said that it would be impossible to collect the qiviut. They believed that it would have to be sheared like sheep's wool, and that the qiviut and the coarse outer hairs would become inextricably mixed.

Shearing is, however, unnecessary, for musk oxen shed their qiviut every spring, but they keep the outer hairs all the year round as protection from the sun and insects in summer.

Because domesticated musk oxen are tame, collecting their qiviut is an easy task. When the qiviut starts to fall off, usually in May, the musk oxen are put into small stalls once every few

## Dixon Stewart Criticizes Story...

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But he overlooked one important fact reported in both of those publications: the fact that although the Aleutian geological area west of the Amchitka fault (which lies between Amchitka and Adak) has had its full share of earthquakes IT NEVER HAS BEEN THE SOURCE OF A DAMAGING TSUNAMI. In contrast, earthquakes occurring in the Aleutian area east of

Amchitka pass have generated waves which caused great damage, three of them since 1946.

We appreciate that you have made every attempt to present the Cannikin arguments fairly. If there is a tour to Amchitka following the test, I hope you will be able to make the trip with them.

Cordially,  
Dixon Stewart  
United States Atomic Energy  
Commission

## Confidence Shaken...

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Alaska Federation of Natives, All Indian Pueblo Council, Arizona Intertribal Council, Intertribal Council of California, Intertribal Council of Nevada, Minnesota Chippewa Tribes, Navajo Tribe, Small Tribes of Western Washington.

Observers here viewed extraordinarily rare alliance of national and regional Indian groups both as a gauge of the impact of recent Bureau personnel changes and policy changes concerning contracting and a sharp escalation in the combined power of tribal groups and organizations nationwide.

Meanwhile, other significant developments were occurring:

— Indian Commissioner Louis R. Bruce cut his vacation short to attend the meeting of the Tribal Chairmen's Association meeting in Window Rock, Ariz., Sept. 9-10.

— Water rights authority William H. Veeder refused his order to transfer to Phognix, Ariz., August 30, and stated he would "not participate in the destruction of the Indian Tribes occupying those Reservations" which rely on Southwest waterways for their existence.

Deputy Commissioner John O. Crow replied to Veeder that he was "shocked at your distortion of the issues," and stated that he expected Veeder to be in Phoenix by Sept. 19;

— Two militant groups, the American Indian Movement and the National Indian Youth Council, joined in support of tribal concern over the recent BIA administrative and policy changes, and threatened demonstrations on Capitol Hill Sept. 20 and harassment of Interior and Bureau officials when they travelled around the country.

The multiple-signature letter to the President listed six events which had recently caused many Indian leaders to fear the administration was quietly backing away from its announced policy of self-determination and quietly tolerating back-stepping by Interior administrators on the President's Indian Doctrine of July 8, 1970.

The six events considered flashpoints in the letter were as follows:

— Appointment of an Interior Secretary (Rogers C.B. Morton who replaced the dismissed Walter Hickey) who disagrees with the President's announced Indian policy and who "practically dismissed it as political rhetoric";

— Tribal governments were notified they would no longer be regarded as the "sole qualified supplier" in contracting with the Bureau, and the re-letting of contracts competitively would take their place;

— Appointments of Miss Wilma Victor as special assistant to Morton and John O. Crow as BIA deputy commissioner without consulting tribes or organizations, regarded as "old-line and non-progressive bureaucrats" by the signatories.

— "Regression" of the BIA into "old patterns of paternalism and stagnation" by the replacement of Leon F. Cook in the econo-

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Full quarter begins Oct. 1.

## Interior Committees...

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sources, will probably be decided on Wednesday.

Other major claims issues expected to be acted upon during that meeting include a decision of whether to accept the

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regional concept adopted by the AFN and provided for in the land claims bill which was reported out of the House Indian Affairs Subcommittee on August 3.

Senator Jackson has indicated dissatisfaction with the concept of regional corporations and is reported strongly in favor of statewide corporations with extensive federal controls.

Legislative aides to Senators Gravel and Stevens will meet next Tuesday with Interior Committee majority counsel William Van Ness in an effort to work out a proposal acceptable to both the Alaska Senators and Chairman Jackson.

Senate bill 35, the original Jackson bill, is expected to be endorsed by the committee with probable modifications in the land selection formula and the amount of lands provided.

The House Interior Committee is scheduled to begin markup sessions on Tuesday. The Claims bill to be reported out of the full committee is expected to be the same basic bill reported out of the Indian Affairs Subcommittee.

Representative John Saylor (Rep. Penn) is intent on introducing two amendments to the subcommittee bill which would require enactment of a five year freeze similar to the land freeze currently in effect while a comprehensive land use plan is developed.

The second amendment may require Congressional approval prior to the issuance of federal land use permits for oil development.

Action on both the Senate and House sides is expected to follow nearly the same schedule. Bills should be reported out of both committees before the end of September, for votes in the House and Senate on or about October 1, and deliberations in a joint conference committee by approximately October 15.

Members of the Alaska Congressional delegation remain hopeful that early action will be taken on a bill acceptable to the natives, the state of Alaska and to the Congress.

## Northwest Territories Brotherhood Speaks

For years the Native People in the Northwest Territories have been in second place in the eyes of the government. The extraction of raw materials such as minerals, oil and natural gas have counted more than the people who live on the land.

The Indian Brotherhood of the N.W.T. wants to make it clear that the present government policy favoring resource development over the Native People who form two thirds of the population is no good. The Brotherhood and the Native People will fight this policy if it continues.

Recently the Brotherhood was told by a high official in the Ministry of Indian Affairs and Northern Development that policies would be changed to recognize the Native majority and put its interests in first place. Since then the Federal Government has made another announcement that it has not changed its policies.

The Brotherhood insists that the Government recognize the decisions of the leaders of the Indian People at the annual conference at Fort Rae this July and, after discussions with the leaders of the Native People, make new policies recognizing that the importance of the human beings in the North take priority over the mineral wealth under the ground that these people live on.

It must be kept in mind that two thirds of the people in the N.W.T. are Native People, and that we have suffered and will continue to suffer if we are denied priority over resource development. We will not be ignored any longer while the government and corporations take all the wealth from our land.

—Indian Brotherhood of the Northwest Territories  
Box 2338, Yellowknife, N.W.T.