

Inupiat Pitot People's Heritage

Den Nena Henash Our Land Speaks

Unanguq Tunuktauq The Aleuts Speak



Tlingit
Ut kah neek Informing and Reporting

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Fairbanks, Alaska

OIL SUIT ON NORTH SLOPE

Suit Against Creation Of Slope Borough Filed By Seven Major Oil Co.'s

A suit against creation of a North Slope Borough was filed Tuesday morning, March 28, in Juneau, against Alaska's Local Boundary Commission by seven major oil companies and five private agencies.

Opposing the borough on legal technicalities of its creation are Mobil Oil Corporation, Amerada Hess Corporation, Amoco Products Production Co., BP Oil Corp. (which is not BP Alaska), Humble Oil and Refining Co., Phillips Petroleum, Union Oil of California, Frontier Rock and Sand Inc., Mukluk Freight Lines Inc., Clifford C. Burglin, Locke Jacobs and Frank Novosel.

An oil company spokesman said that the decision to contest the formation of the North Slope Borough was reached with great reluctance after receipt of legal advice that the borough, as presently proposed, was invalid because it does not meet the constitutional and statutory standards for organized boroughs.

The spokesman said that "he hopes the decision to challenge this particular proposal will not be construed as industry opposition to local government or the organization of proper borough on the North Slope."

"However," he said, "there are issues at stake in the proposed North Slope Borough involving more than the desires of North Slope residents for local government."

The suit claims that apart from the failure of the current proposal to meet statutory and constitutional requirements, the proposal to incorporate the Prudhoe Bay area, including the trans-Alaska pipeline terminal and a substantial part of the line itself into this borough "would benefit only the North Slope residents and is inconsistent with all the principals of good government."

The statement went on to say that "The disposition of taxes and other revenues derived from the North Slope Oil operation and the control of development on the North Slope are matters of statewide concern that are of vital interest to all the people of the state of Alaska, and should not be left solely in the control of the few residents of the North Slope."

"We hope," it went on, "that the broader issues will be speedily resolved and that the oil industry can look forward to many years of cooperation with North Slope residents to our mutual benefit."

This statement was given to the Tundra Times through BP Alaska, which says it is not down to business in a big way will be his own Tanana Chiefs.

When the settlement becomes a reality two years hence, TC will end up with roughly .06 percent of all the land in the United States and \$180,000,000 in cash for about 9,000 Athabaskan Indians.

The land claims act allowed no funds for advance planning so TC negotiated a loan of up to \$247,000 at eight per cent interest from Alaska State Bank and proceeded on their own.

"By March 18 we had to make our in-lieu selections of lands. These were approximately 650 townships not around villages," Sackett explained. "We had to have money for a land consultant and a land division to determine within that short period of time just exactly what land we needed, otherwise any areas including the mountain peaks would have been given to us by the Secretary of



ALASKAN OF THE YEAR — Pioneer pilot Robert Reeve is addressing a large banquet audience in Anchorage last Friday that came to honor him as the 1972 Alaskan of the Year.

—Photo by LAEL MORGAN

Pioneer Pilot Bob Reeve Named 'Alaskan of the Year'

ANCHORAGE — Robert Reeve, pioneer Alaskan pilot and founder of Reeve Aleutian Airways, has been named "Alaskan of the Year" by the vote of a committee of prominent citizens and representatives of the news media.

A banquet held in his honor last Friday at the Anchorage Westward was packed with hundreds of friends and well wishers including such famous bush pilots as Merl "Mudhole" Smith, Owen Meals, Noel Wien, Ray Peterson and Don Sheldon.

Also in attendance were four nominees for this year's honors: Dick Borch, president of the Ketchikan Rescue Squad; Judge John Dimond, retired associate justice of the Alaska Supreme Court; Dr. William R. Wood, president of the University of Alaska; and Howard Rock, editor of the Tundra Times.

Reeve was recognized for his outstanding ability and endurance as a bush pilot — "If you'll ride, I'll fly — and for his civic spirit and abilities as a "doer" in the state.

Editor Rock was saluted as a man who was "in many respects the voice of the Eskimo and Alaskan Indian people, a respected, reasoned voice of great influence."

Dr. Wood's nomination came through his long work as a leader and builder at the University of Alaska. Dick Borch was recognized as a man who "dedicated himself to saving the lives of

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Could Sign Wildwood Air Force Sta. to Natives

A delegation of Alaskans began talks in Washington D.C. on Monday, March 27, to transfer the 4300 acre Wildwood Air Force Station on the Kenai peninsula to Natives as part of the Land Claims Settlement.

Only 100 acres of the land, worth a total of \$18 million, is presently developed and Native leaders indicated that educational programs would occupy a number of the former military facilities.

George Miller of the Kenaitze Indians, Larry Oskolkoff, Cook Inlet Regional District, Inc., and Don Wright, president of the Alaska Federation of Natives, began discussing the possibility of turning the land over to the Natives last fall, when they learned the base would be closed by June 1, 1972.

Kenai city manager, Ed Glot-

felty said that his community wants to work directly with the Native people of the area on the land action.

"They are part of this community and anything we can do to provide land or help for them and their organization within the community, we are going to do."

The Alaska contingent in Washington D.C. includes Glotfelty, Miller, Wright, Kenai borough chairman George Navarre, Vince O'Reilly, executive director of the Kenai Peninsula Borough Overall Economic Development Program, and a representative of the State of Alaska from the office of Gov. William A. Egan.

The group will meet with Ernest Smalling and William J. Sheehan of the Office of Economic Adjustment within the Defense Department and with

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Strong Regional Movement-- Sackett Sees Movements Based on Money, Politics

By LAEL MORGAN

FAIRBANKS—A strong statewide native association will not emerge from the federal land claims settlement according to

Incinerator For Barrow

Senator Ted Stevens announced that the contract for construction of an incinerator at Barrow to dispose of trash and wastes was awarded last week.

Stevens had arranged for an additional \$800,000 when it was discovered that the \$2 million project would be delayed another year without additional funding.

The incinerator will be operated by the Navy for the benefit of the Naval facility at Barrow, the city of Barrow, the Indian Health Service facility and other federal agencies.

the prediction of John Sackett, newly elected president of the Tanana Chiefs (TC).

"At this point I don't see a great movement on a statewide basis. I do, however, see a very strong movement on a regional basis. A movement based on two factors: one, the influence of money and, two, the influence of politics," he said.

"I can see the regional corporations, especially the larger ones, becoming a very powerful factor in the state. The fact that the land claims settlement ended up in a business concept, corporate structure, etc. ... precludes any desire by the associations to develop on a statewide basis and probably they shouldn't."

"The settlement is based on corporate structure and in order to exist and become part of the state in the future, they're going to have to act in a business-like manner and get what they want through those methods."

One of the first regions to get

down to business in a big way will be his own Tanana Chiefs.

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