

FIVE INTERIOR OF ALASKA VILLAGES SUING TAPS

Five native villages that withdrew their permission this week for the TAPS pipeline to cross land claimed by them have filed an action in the Superior court in Anchorage requesting the court

to declare their action valid. The court action and the earlier withdrawal, native spokesman said, is based on a failure of the Trans Atlantic Pipeline System to honor its promises to pro-

vide maximum employment and contract opportunities to Alaskan Natives.

The suit also asks for \$20 million in actual damages and \$20 in punitive damages from

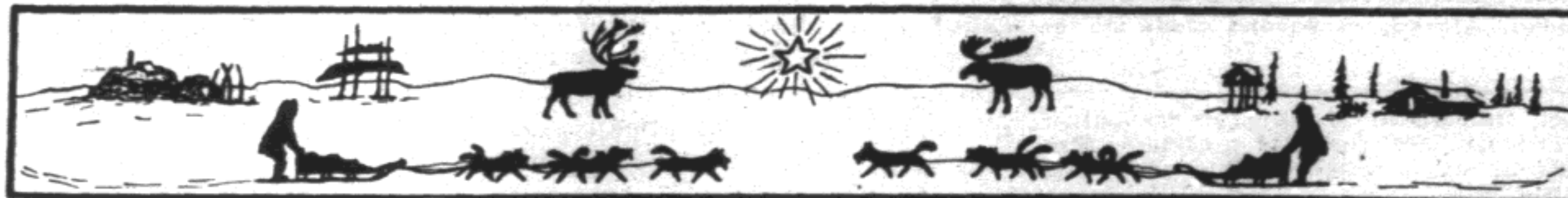
TAPS and the eight major oil companies who own pieces of the consortium.

The villages involved are Minto, Rampart, Stevens, Alakaket and Bettles. Their earlier waiver

of land rights would have allowed TAPS to construct a pipeline across land claimed by the natives. The entire pipeline is to stretch 800 miles from the North

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Tundra Times



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Tlingit
Ut kah neek Informing and Reporting
HAIDA
Yaunk yawn sue
Speak the absolute truth

Inupiat Paitot People's Heritage

Den Nena Henash Our Land Speaks

Unangut Tunuktauq The Aleuts Speak

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Fairbanks, Alaska

T-H CENTRAL OFFICE MOVING

Regional Boroughs for Bush Planned

A plan to establish regional boroughs in rural Alaska with money for improvements is scheduled to go before the state legislature soon.

Developed by an ad hoc group known as the Rural Alaska Development Group, the proposal is directed at those parts of rural Alaska which are not in an organized borough but rather are part of what is known as the unorganized borough of the state.

According to John Shively, a member of the ad hoc committee, these areas currently have no regional government officially recognized by the state.

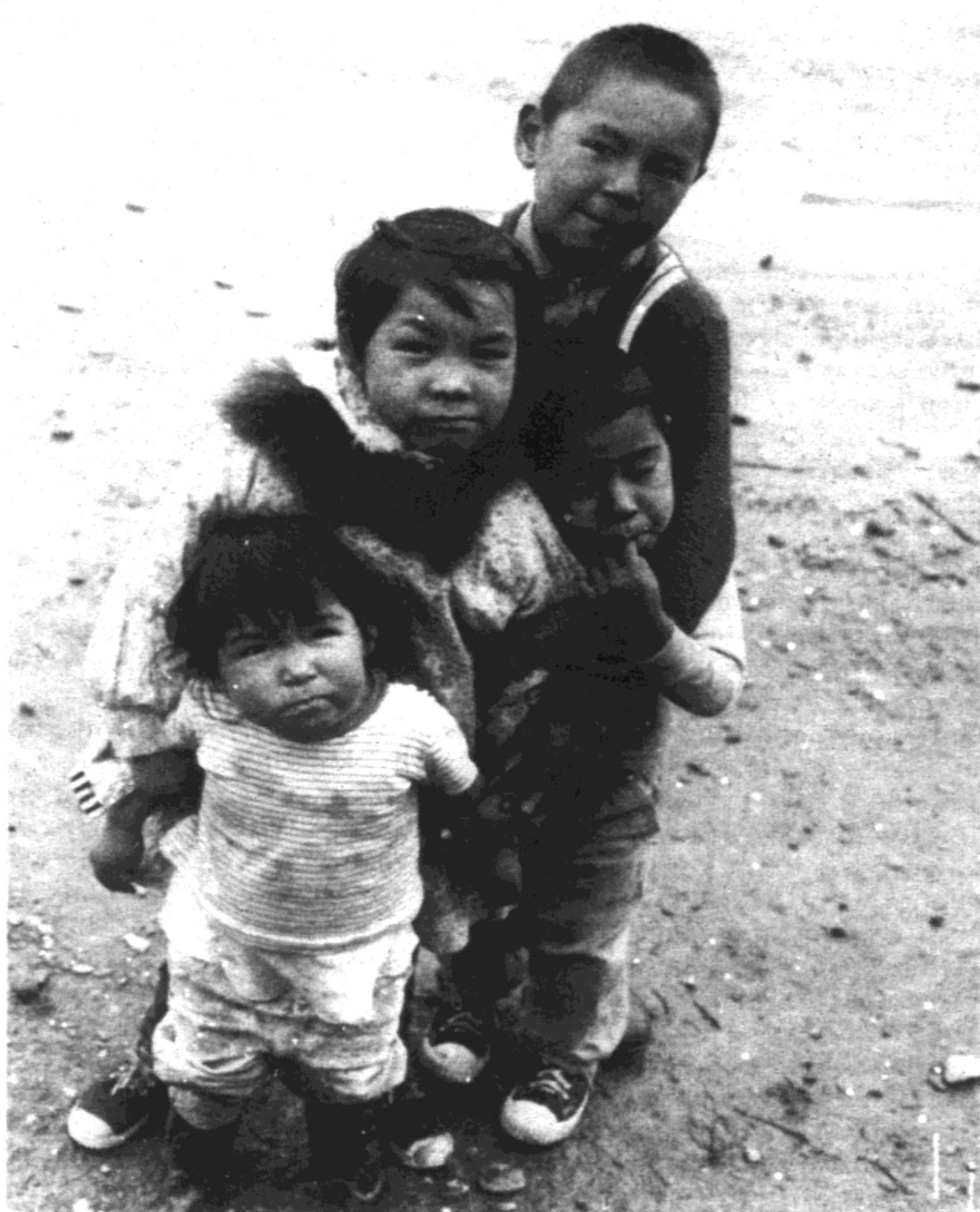
The structure proposed by the committee, he said, would provide a step between the sophisticated borough of the urban areas and the unorganized borough, which, in effect, is no government at all.

Money would go to the regional bodies under a revenue-sharing plan for all boroughs, both regional and urban.

The sharing-plan of the committee calls for 40 per cent of all revenue from any state lands leased or sold to go to the boroughs.

Sixty per cent of this amount

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A POSE IS A POSE IS A POSE—Alaska's Arctic Eskimo children dearly love to pose for pictures and these four youngsters are no exception. Told by the photographer to "get closer together," the kids from Wales, Alaska did just that. The result is a tangle of arms and fingers.

—ROBERT KOWELUK Photograph

CAB to Contact Two Airlines About Freight Rates on Snow-gos

The Civil Aeronautics Board has said that it will contact two airlines in Alaska concerning their increased air freight rates on snow machines but has indicated that it can take no official action on the matter at this time.

The increase in rates has come under recent criticism from shippers and from the Alaska Native Industries Co-operative Association (ANICA), represented by Donald S. Dorsey, manager.

Dorsey wrote a letter to Sen. Gravel on Nov. 24, 1969 explaining that during the past two years, the two major airlines serving the native villages of Alaska, Wien Consolidated and Alaska Airlines, had doubled their freight rates on snow-machines.

Contending that this increase seemed to place "an additional financial strain on the already-poor villagers," he asked the senator to furnish him with any information as to why such an increase was necessary.

Gravel then wrote the director of Community and Congressional

Relations of the CAB, John W. Dregge.

In reply, Dregge wrote that "In view of the interest expressed by Mr. Dorsey as well as a number of shippers in the increase in rates on snow machines, we shall contact the carrier and advise you further on the matter."

In a subsequent letter to Dor-

FNA Gets \$35,000 OEO Grant for Community Center

The Fairbanks Native Association has received a 12-month grant of \$35,000 from the Office of Economic Opportunity, Senator Ted Stevens announced Tuesday.

The grant to the association will fund the Fairbanks Native Community Center located at 520 Fourth Avenue.

Serving the North Star Borough area, the center furnishes referral and welfare services.

sey, Gravel said that he would in turn, contact the manager of ANICA upon receiving further information from the CAB.

"Although it appears they do not have the authority in this area, the mere fact that they will write the carrier may have some effect on this tariff," Gravel wrote.

In the letter to Gravel, the

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Anchorage Office of Tlingit and Haida to Be Moved to Juneau

Transfer of the offices of the Central Council of the Tlingit and Haida Indians of Alaska from Anchorage to Juneau was announced by president and general manager John Borbridge, Jr., who also indicated that the executive committee of the organization had unanimously approved

such a move in its meeting in Sitka on Sunday, Feb. 1.

It is contemplated that the move would be completed within 90 days.

The move was made to enable the organization to more directly and effectively serve its 14,000 southeast Alaska constituents who reside in 18 member communities that extend from Oakland, California to Anchorage, Alaska.

The Central Council, organized under an act of Congress, is granted congressional authority to develop plans for the use and disposition of judgment funds received in satisfaction of a favorable land claims decision in the U.S. Court of Claims.

Reasons for the office trans-

fer include:

a. The official position of the Alaska Federation of Natives is that participation in the land claims settlement by the State of Alaska is necessary.

Thus a close working relationship with the state is necessitated by the need to press for its participation in the settlement provisions, and the coordination that must ensue during the post settlement period. Juneau thus becomes a focal point.

b. The Alaska Federation of Natives has effectively undertaken stabilization of its in-house administrative functions, and has moved significantly for its maturity as an organization.

c. The Central Council will continue its key role in the statewide land claims, but regards the native regional organization concept as vital. The organization is formerly structuring its member communities, and will now consolidate its office functions in anticipation of future growth.

Thus, while the Congress debates as to the possibility of creating regional native corporations, the Central Council will function as one.

d. The Central Council anticipates that the necessary change in relationship between itself and the Bureau of Indian Affairs will result in government functions being contracted to the native entity. This concept will be advanced on the BIA area office level.

e. The southeast organization

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Work on Claims Set for Feb. 18 By Committee

Sen. Henry Jackson and his Interior and Insular Affairs Committee will go into an executive session on Feb. 18 to start work on the Alaska native land claims bill.

According to Sen. Ted Stevens of Alaska, the final committee version of the land settlement is expected to differ from all the various proposals now before the committee.

Stevens said he was hopeful that the Senate committee will be able to report the bill by Easter recess.

Sackett Introduces Land Bill, Legislative Council Also Plans

One bill providing state participation in a land claims settlement has been introduced in the State Legislature and another has been drawn up.

Rep. John Sackett, R-Galena, introduced a bill early Wednesday providing for a state contribution of \$100 million to a Native land claims settlement.

The Legislative Council, a bi-

partisan interim arm of the legislature, has written a bill providing for a state contribution of \$50 million or 10 per cent of whatever cash settlement the federal government makes with the natives, whichever is bigger.

The state contribution would be dependent on lifting of the land freeze on 80 per cent of the federal land in Alaska by the end

of the year.

The bill amends 1968 legislation which authorized payment of \$50 million to the Natives if the land freeze had been lifted by October, 1968.

It would establish an Alaska Native Commission to oversee distribution of funds which would go to Native corporations.

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