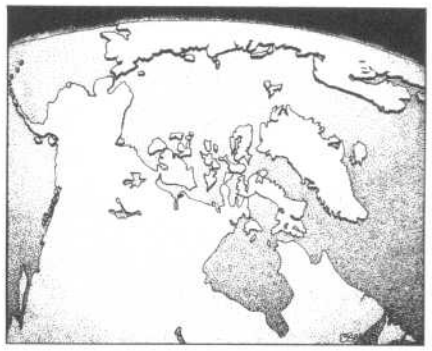
The ARCTIC POLICY REVIEW



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A Publication of the North Slope Borough, Alaska

Oil-Rig Tender Lost in Canadian Beaufort

Sunken Symbol of Arctic Debate

Capping off a series of industrial accidents that have occured in the exploration of the Canadian Beaufort Sea, a 123-foot specially-designed oil rig tender sank on 31 August 1983. The vessel had been leased by Esso Resources of Canada to guide dredge ships creating gravel islands. The incident, reported by crew- member Thomas Jesse in the 24 October issue of *MacLean's*, raises new questions about the safety of ship operations in the Beaufort Sea.

Moving through an unusually calm sea in bright daylight, the tender scraped against a steel caisson, tearing an 18-inch gap in the wall of the engine room. Although crew members scarcely noticed the impact, the 14-month old vessel *Ublureak* (Inuit for star) sank within 45 minutes, but not before the crew of 18 had been safely transferred to another tugboat, the *Arctic Nanook*, which tried to tow the *Ublureak* to shallow water. But the quickly-filling ship was too heavy, the tow ropes broke, and it 'lurched over and disappeared from sight beneath the sea,'' according to Jesse's account.

Oil Recovered

There was immediate fear of an oil spill, and the Canadian industry cooperative oil-spill response team was on the spot quickly to recover leaking oil into storage tanks. 'But the crew had nothing to do,'' the report claims. 'A system of shut-off floats worked perfectly,'' sealing the 45,000 gallons of diesel fuel within the ship. By the end of September, according to industry spokesmen, all the fuel had been safely pumped aboard another tug.

Attempts to raise the *Ublureak* before the winter ice set in failed, as an early October freezeup sealed off the ship and frustrated the Canadian Coast Guard investigation of the accident. Because the *Ublureak* was not raised, no one will say what caused the sinking, including the ship's owner, Arctic Transportation and the builder, Vancouver Shipyards. In spite of this uncertainty, Lloyd's of London and several Canadian companies sharing the risk have agreed to pay off the $9.4-million insurance policy.

Industry spokesmen cite the effectiveness of the shut-off system in the fuel tanks as evidence of the safety of such operations. The report states that although the bow of the ship was reinforced with a web of steel inside the bow, the rest of the ship was not. The *Ublureak* was not intended to operate in winter ice, but only to take the impact of loose ice on its hull.

Others admitted that industry acted well in response to the accident, but charged that the accident should not have happened in the first place, especially under such ideal operating conditions. Brian Wilson, director of the the federal Environmental Protection Service in the N.W.T., stated, ''If such human error occured on a loaded oil tanker, the results would be disastrous.''

David Brooks, an environmental consultant in Ottawa, stated, 'What concerned me was that they could have an accident in midsummer. If they could have an accident with a little ship, they could have an accident with a big ship.''

He stated that the incident would be brought before the current Environmental Assessment and Review Process (EARP) hearings on development in the Beaufort region. Brooks favors small pipelines and hopes that the EARP hearings will scuttle the proposals to use arctic tankers for the transport of Beaufort Sea oil. ■

On cover: Mannassi Mathiessen of Greenland demonstrates kayak skills on a fresh-water lake outside Frobisher Bay during last year's meeting of the Inuit Circumpolar Conference. Photo: Bill Hess, ***The Tundra Times***

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The North Slope Borough was incorporated as a first-class borough 1 July 1972. A Home Rule Charter was adopted by the Borough on 30 April 1974. The North Slope Borough is the regional local government of northern Alaska, with mandatory powers of taxation, assessment, education, planning, and zoning. Within its boundaries are eight Inupiat Eskimo communities (pop. 4,693), seven military installations (pop. 193), and the Prudhoe Bay Resource Development District (pop. 7,843), 88,281 square miles of land and nearly 800 miles of arctic coastline, constituting 15 percent of the State and the largest municipality in the U.S.

Supreme Court Rejects California's OCS-CZM Consistency Claim

Congressional Remedy Sought

On 11 January 1983, the U.S. Supreme court overturned an August 1982 decision by the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco that said then-Interior Secretary James Watt had illegally leased 29 offshore tracts near Santa Barbara to oil companies. The Supreme Court ruled that the sale of the leases is exempt from review by the state since the act of leasing itself only indirectly affects the coast.

The appeals court had ruled that Watt could not lease the offshore areas of Sale No. 53 until he determined the sale is consistent "to the maximum extent practicable" with California's coastal zone management (CZM) plan.

When Interior appealed that decision to the Supreme Court, the State of Alaska on 15 August 1983 joined 10 other states supporting California and filed "a friend of the court" brief supporting the California complaint. The brief noted that Alaska's federally approved coastal zone management program is "virtually the only legal mechanism" by which state and local officials can influence the potential effects of oil development along the coast. Alaska disputed Watt's contention that the national interest in full development of offshore resources will be thwarted if coastal zone management consistency is required.

Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, writing the majority opinion for the Supreme Court's 5-4 ruling, stated that outer continental shelf leases "involve submerged lands outside the coastal zone" governed by the state plan. She also stated that leasing allows companies 'to engage only in preliminary exploration. Further administrative approval is required before full exploration or development may begin."

The plaintiffs had argued that once the leases are approved it is too late to curtail the momentum of development. Noting these arguments, O'Connor wrote that Congress had not intended to the extend the consistency requirements to the leases themselves. In writing the 1978 Coastal Zone Act, "Congress decided that the better course is to postpone (detailed environmental) review until the two later stages," she said.

In a dissenting opinion, Justice John Paul Stevens said the court misread the intent of the law. He wrote that the provisions of the law "surely indicate a congressional preference for long- range planning and for close cooperation between federal and state agencies in conducting or supporting activities that directly affect the coastal zone." Requiring a review of the environmental impact of the leases before they are sold is "consistent with its underlying purpose," he said.

The Supreme Court decision was a big victory for the Reagan administration and the oil industry which now have a freer hand in pursuing offshore oil development. Gary Magnuson, director of the Coastal States Organization which supported California's position, said the the court ruling was devastating to states' efforts to control federal activities off their coasts. He pointed out that the decision was written so broadly that it could also block state efforts to regulate deep-sea mining, nuclear submarines, or the dumping of wastes on the outer continental shelf.

Others were quick to voice opposition to the Supreme Court decision, including Alaska State Attorney General Norm Gorsuch who said the ruling could have a direct bearing on the state's ability to protest federal OCS leasing. 'We are most disappointed," he said. 'We still have the means to express our disagreement, but they aren't very sufficient," he said. Environmentalists vowed to press for Congressional action that would clarify the law and give states clear authority to block sales.

Trustees for Alaska attorney Jeff Eustis was amazed by the decision and said, "To say a lease sale doesn't affect a state is wishful thinking at best. Once a sale is held and dollars have exchanged hands, it is difficult to reverse the momentum towards oil and gas production," even though federal law provides for the buying back of the leases at a later date.

The Alaska Struggle for Offshore Environmental Control

The Supreme Court decision has immediate significance for Alaska, where 16 of 41 federal OCS sales are scheduled to occur, representing over half of the offered acreage. Four federal OCS sales are planned to take place in Alaska this year: a March sale in the Navarin Basin, a June sale in the Beaufort Sea (Diapir Field), an October "second" Norton Sound sale, and a December "release of tracts" in St. George Basin. Four more sales are scheduled for 1986. Six sales are planned for the 13 months from March 1984 to April 1985 that will offer up to 300 million acres.

In June of last year, the U.S. Court of Appeals in Washington, D.C., turned down a case against Secretary of Interior James Watt's accelerated five-year OCS lease schedule brought by the NSB, the States of Alaska and California, and the Yukon-Kuskokwim Coastal Resource Service Area Board. The plaintiffs argued that the five- year schedule violated OCS requirements to strike a balance between oil and gas discovery potential and potential harm to the area (See APR, Sept. 1983).

Watt's ambitious five-year lease plan spawned widespread opposition among coastal states, environmental organizations, and local communities. The five-year plan offers virtually the entire U.S. coastline for oil and gas drilling by mid-1987. Under Watt's program, the size of the typical lease increase from 2 million acres to as much as 38 million, and lowered environmental protections by requiring only area-wide environmental impact statements instead of site-specific ones.

In response to these concerns, last October Congress imposed a 20-mile buffer zone along the Southern California coast which puts the area off limits to leasing throughout the 1984 budget year.

Continued next page

Clark Revises Oil Lease Program

More recently, on the day after the Supreme Court decision, Interior Secretary William Clark announced revision of the five-year plan with changes that should both reduce the areas up for auction and give the states and other groups more influence in the leasing process. 'I pledge to communicate with the states and other affected areas and interests before the sales process begins, and continuously thereafter," Clark pledged.

While many who shared the coastal states' concerned welcomed this as "good news," they still held firm plans to seek Congressional action to nullify the court's action. At least one Congressman, Rep. Leon Panetta, D-Calif., said that he would introduce such a bill, even though Clark's statement represented "a change in volume and a change in tone."

The *Wall Street Journal* reported on 11 January that at least two lease sales off Alaska in the next two years may be postponed under Clark's scaled-back leasing plan. The *Journal* also reported on Alaska Governor Bill Sheffield's earlier request that Clark delete a large number of tracts in this June's OCS Lease Sale No. 87, in the Beaufort's Diapir field northwest of Prudhoe Bay.

Clark said he still supports the concept of area-wide leases. Officials from 22 coastal states meeting in Alaska in August had asked that Interior retreat from its new OCS policy of offering huge tracts for offshore leasing and return to the policy of offering only those tracts that have the greatest oil and gas potential. The proposal came during the first day of a two-day meeting of Interior's OCS Policy Committee. The state officials argued that even though the Department narrows down offerings before the biddings, the initial huge offerings alarms the public, complicates environmental reviews, and invites law suits from the states.

Esther Wunnicke, Alaska Commissioner of Natural Resources, stated that Alaska has yet to deal with the complexities of area- wide leasing as compared to the older site-specific leasing. The 30-million-acre Navarin Basin sale, scheduled for March 1984, will be the first area-wide lease in the state. "Giant offerings raise more and real concerns in the public's mind about the future," she said.

In addressing those concerns, Clark said, "A concerted effort will be made to avoid dragging through the entire process areas where there are objections." He said that under the new procedure tracts where valid environmental or other concerns are raised will be eliminated in the fourth month of the 22-month schedule leading up to the actual sale. He said valid objections will include those from the "military, fishing concerns, environmental or scenic considerations."

Sheffield's New Delay Request

The day after Clark's statement, Sheffield released a 10 January letter to Clark renewing his request to delay OCS sales off the Alaska coast. He said the OCS leasing schedule was "much too fast, too soon." Sheffield contended that the state can support no more than three sales a year in Alaska waters and wants no more than a dozen sales in any five-year schedule.

He urged Clark to delay the controversial Bristol Bay Sale in the North Aleutian Basin for 10 years. 'This area contains some of the most productive fisheries in the world," he said. 'In the future we hope to expand the ability of this area to serve as a renewable storehouse of protein for the rest of the country, as well as Alaska."

The governor referred to Watt's deletion of an earlier North Aleutian sale and noted a state-federal panel recommendation that any leasing within Bristol Bay be deferred until 1994. 'Given the relatively low hydrocarbon potential for the area and the internationally recognized fisheries values of the area, continued deferral is warranted," he said.

The Barrow Arch sale should be delayed for two years until 1987 because "the Chukchi Sea remains one of the least understood areas of OCS nationwide." The second sale in the St. George Basin should be postponed until 1986 because the first leases remain under a court ban.

Sheffield asked that the state-review stipulations regarding oil-spill cleanup and the transportation of oil to the coast that were imposed for the Norton Sound and St. George Basin Sales be applied also to the Navarin Basin Sale, scheduled for March 1986. He also stated that acreage off the shore of Barrow and Kaktovik be deleted from June 1986 Diapir Field offering to protect the migration of the bowhead whale. He insisted that federal scientific research on OCS drilling must be improved, and that the process of public participation be reinstated by the Department.

The governor also asked Interior to stop making areawide lease offerings and limit the offerings by targetting high-potential areas. 'The research and sale preparation of efforts of state and local governments as well as your own departments, would then be focused on this reasonable sale area early on in the process, with greater practical results and much less public anxiety over the sale since the entire planning area would not be considered for lease at one time," he said.

By reducing the planning process from three years to two years for each sale, Sheffield claimed that Interior had placed severe limitations on the state's ability to carry out required studies and hearings.

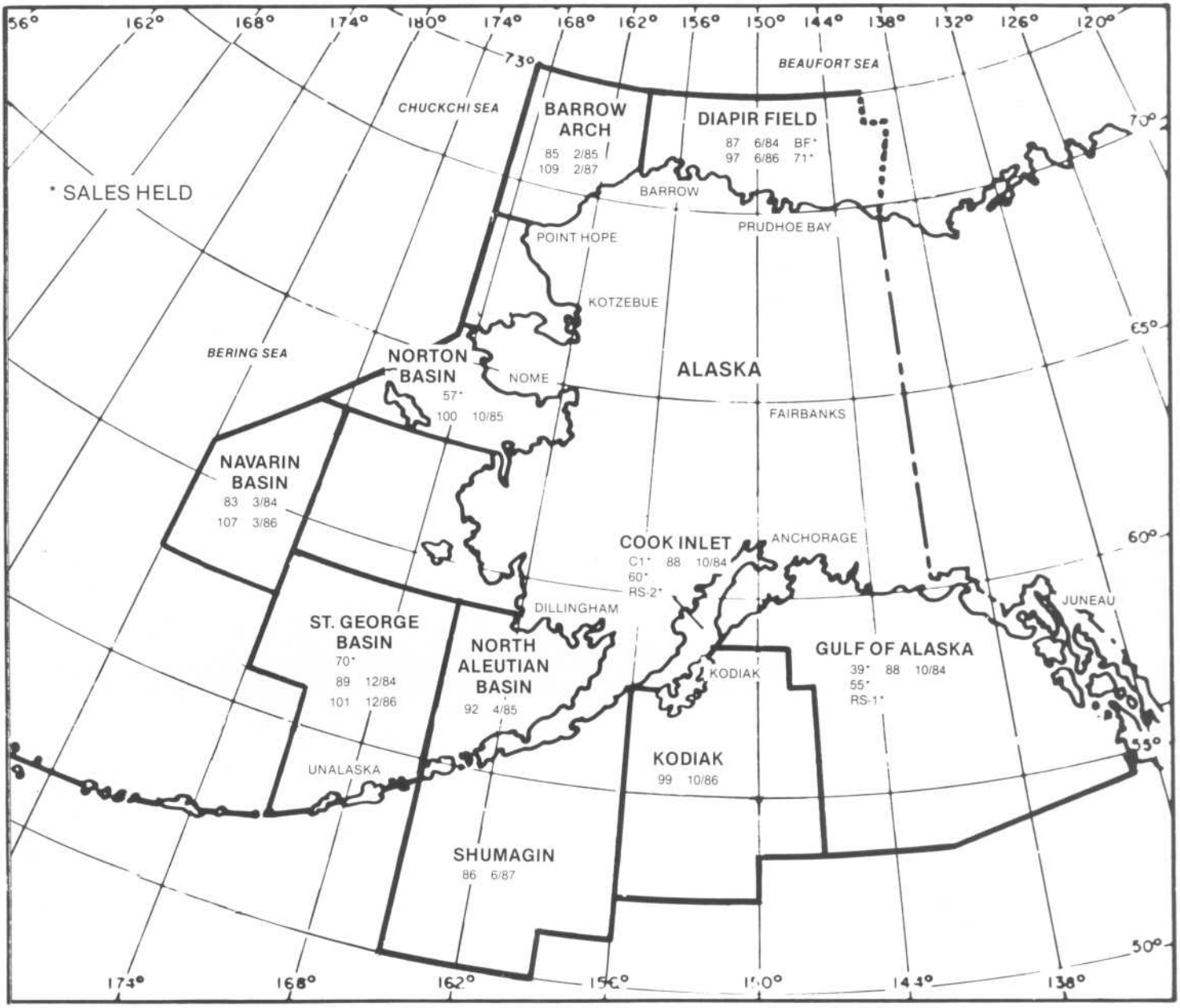
Coastal-States Revenue Sharing

Finally, the governor's letter supported the OCS revenue- sharing plan by which a portion of offshore drilling revenues would be funnelled to coastal states to help defray the costs of coastal planning and oil-development impact.

Under a bill introduced in 1982 by Alaska Senators Frank Murkowski and Ted Stevens, 6 percent of federal royalty OCS revenues and 4 percent of OCS bonus bids would be earmarked for coastal states. A limit of 15 percent was placed on the amount of funds any one state could receive from the total amount distributed to the coastal states. Forty percent of the amount received by each state would go to local coastal communities impacted by offshore oil and gas development. It was estimated that Alaska could reap as must as $40-$45 million annually under such a program.

"Offshore development will continue to be delayed by lawsuits until the local people most affected are assured that they will have the funds to help offset the impact of this development," Stevens said. 'I would love to have members of this committee come to my state. You'd see communities where there are no roads, no docks, no facilities to handle population increases, and yet these villages could be 50 miles from one of the largest offshore petroleum deposits in the world."

Under current law, the federal government shares with the states revenues from onshore mineral extrac-



Alaska-OCS planning areas showing lease-sale dates.

tion, but not from offshore activities. The Stevens-Murkowski bill would allow the states to use the federal revenues for fisheries and ocean research, coastal management and conservation, roads, schools, ports, and other facilities to support offshore development.

The bill received support from the Coastal States Organization and the 22 members of the OCS Policy Committee meeting in Anchorage in August. Committee chairman William Fisher of Texas said, "There are impacts, and also benefits that stem from OCS development, and states believe they should gain some of the revenue to help offset the costs they face."

While both industrial and environmental groups both supported the plan, it faced opposition from the administration which contends that OCS revenues belongs equally to all states. Senator Stevens speculated that the administration's opposition may be weakening, however, in the face of mounting state and local challenges to offshore leasing. 'We have some indication," he said, "that next year (1984) they'll be prepared to support some version of revenue sharing form the OCS," he said. There is speculation that revenue sharing may be the carrot used in bringing the states to a position more supportive of the federal five-year leasing plan and in derailing a Congressional drive to give OCS planning powers to the states.

Interior Department and state officials will meet this month to discuss Sheffield's latest proposals according to Bill Horn, deputy undersecretary of the Interior for Alaska. All the coastal states will be watching closely to see if Bill Clark means business or if federal OCS leasing will continue in rugged opposition to state environmental concerns. ■

NSB Wins Wetlands Suit

State-Borough Permit Review Saved

NSB Mayor Eugene Brower, on 16 January 1984 announced the settlement of the Borough's year-long litigation against the Army Corps of Engineers (see APR, March 1983).

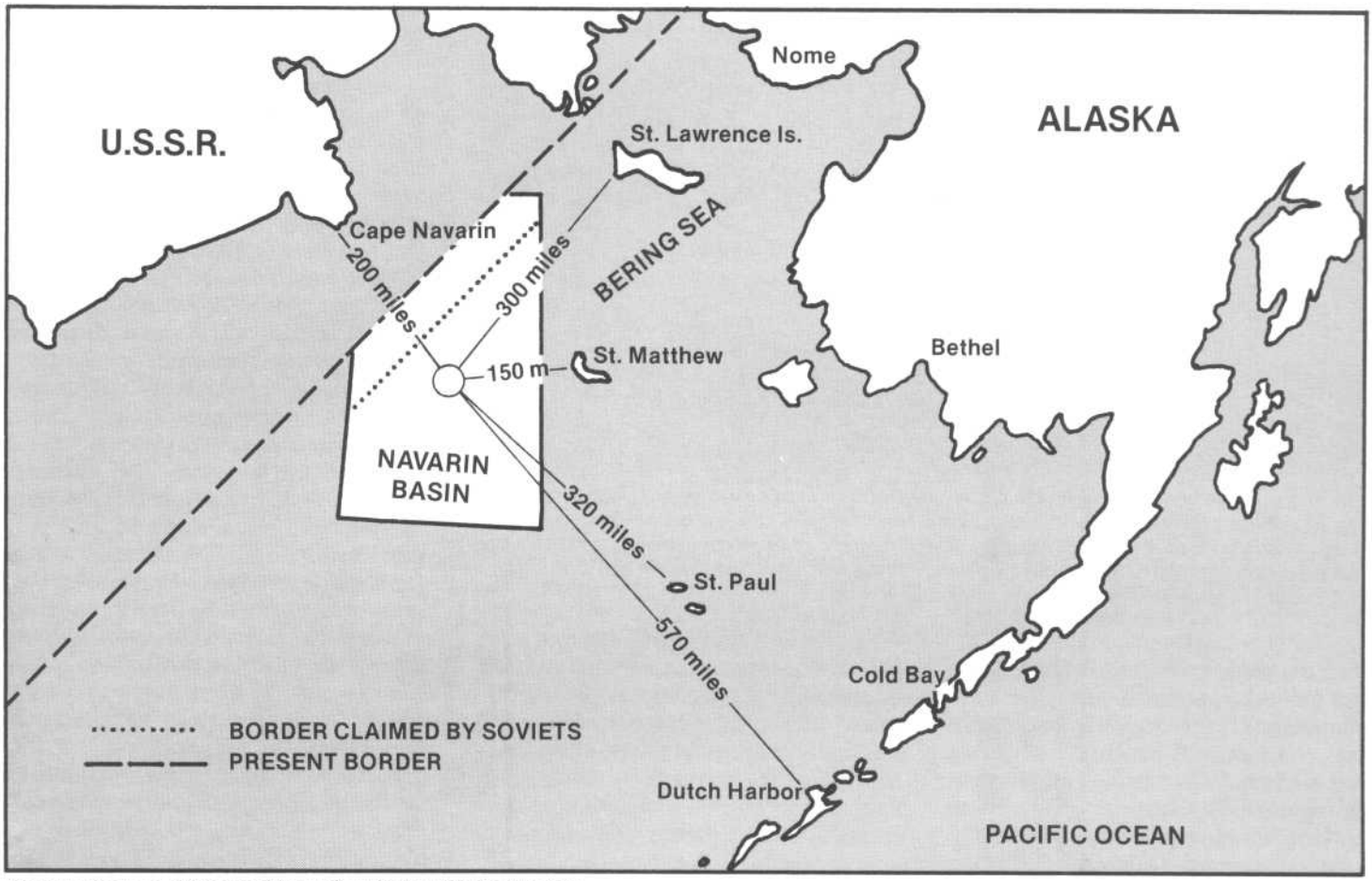
The Borough's case, filed against the Army Corps of Engineers in Federal court in Washington, D.C. last January challenged the Army Corps of Engineers' 1982 nationwide permits. The new permits which bypass the normal Corps and Borough review process would have efficiently de-regulated seventy percent of the wetlands of the North Slope, including the heavily industrialized Prudhoe Bay and other areas of the State and Nation. The permits were issued as regulations under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.

"The settlement that we have signed with the Army Corps of Engineers vindicates the position we have taken from the start," said Mayor Brower. "We told them that their new permits, drawn up by government bureaucrats unfamiliar with Arctic tundra, wouldn't work up here." The Mayor said that the settlement agreement provides for the publication of a map showing that the new nationwide permits have virtually no application in the Arctic Coastal Plain and little application in other parts of North Slope Borough. Also, all permitting of oil and gas activities under the Corps 404 Program will be conducted under a new abbreviated procedure which gives the Borough, State and Federal resource agencies the right to review all applications and have Borough concerns considered. The new regulations would have allowed permits to bypass State and Borough review. The Mayor acknowledged that the local Army Corps of Engineers was usually very cooperative in accommodating Borough concerns.

"Now that the case is settled and behind us we intend to continue to work cooperatively with the Army Corps of Engineers," said the Mayor.

The Borough's case was filed in mid-January of 1983 as part of a broader challenge brought by environmental groups to the Army's new regulations. Both the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service had pointed out that if applied on the North Slope, the new nationwide permits would eliminate from Corps' regulation over seventy percent of the wetlands of the North Slope. Thus, virtually the entire area of industrial activity in the Borough would go unregulated by the Corps. The State of Alaska, also upset over the new regulations, filed a separate case in Washington, D.C. on November 8, 1983. The State's case is aimed principally at the Corps' position on Section 401 of the Clean Water Act which gives the State the right to certify that the new permits would meet State water quality requirements. The Corps' regulations attempt to bypass this State requirement. ■

Permafrost: Fourth International Conference, Proceedings is now available for $65.00 (U.S.) prepaid from the National Academy Press, 2101 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20418. The 1,524-page volume contains 276 papers covering a wide range of engineering and scientific topics. These include roads, embankments, airfields, excavations, frost heave, ground ice, hydrology, ecology mapping, planetary permafrost, remote sensing, periglacial features, soil mechanics, pipelines, piles, terrestrial and subsea permafrost, and others. The volume was produced in conjunction with the Conference, which was held in Fairbanks, Alaska, in July 1983.



Navarin Basin and disputed boundary line in the Bering Sea.

International Boundary Dispute Clouds Bering Sea Sale

Soviet-U.S. Negotiations Opened

Controversy continues to mount over the upcoming Navarin Basin Sale, now scheduled for April 1984, on both domestic and international issues. The sale site consists of almost 30 million acres and 5300 lease blocks of 5760 acres each. The estimated amount of recoverable undiscovered petroleum is 1.2 billion barrels of oil and the amount of natural gas present is estimated at 7 trillion cubic feet.

Nine hearings were held throughout the state 8-11 August from Anchorage to Toksook Bay, during which the sale received strong support from industry. Although opposition to the sale was voiced by environmental groups, they are lacking resources to pursue the issue in the courts because of other commitments.

ARCO last year drilled a stratigraphic test well in the basin, using the Sedco 708 semisubmersible rig. The rig was supplied by two $16-million long-range Boeing Vertol 234 helicopters, which shuttled workers the 400 miles from Nome to the mid-Bering Sea well site. On 8 July 1983, the site was buzzed by two Soviet four-engine Bear bombers. The Mineral Management Service in Washington, D.C., reported subsequent overflights by smaller craft on 10 and 17 July.

The Navarin Basin structure extends to the Soviet side of the international boundary, and it was expected that the Soviets would keep a close eye on operations. The U.S. and the U.S.S.R. have disagreed for 30 years on how to draw the Convention Line of 1867, which cuts through the Bering Sea. Although informal talks between the State Department and the Soviets reportedly have failed to resolve the issue, Interior plans to proceed with the sale. The Soviets draw the line to the southeast of the U.S. line, putting it about 40 miles into the sale area.

According to a report by Ann Cony in the Anchorage Daily News, more than 50 percent of the oil potential is thought to lie in the disputed area. She also reported that the State Department had intervened, asking Interior to change the boundaries of the lease area. The extent of those changes is not public, as much secrecy and intrigue surrounds sale preparations, she said.

Border Negotiations

Late last year,the sale was delayed one month from March to April, but apparently for reasons not related to the international issue. According to the State Department, negotiations regar-

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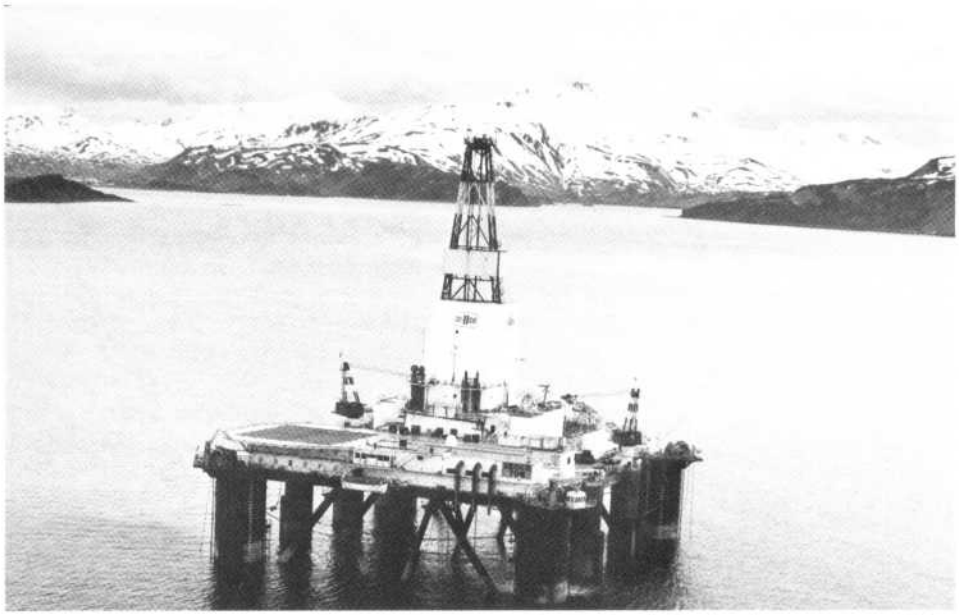


The Sedco 708 semi-submersible drill rig lies at anchor in Dutch Harbor last summer waiting tow to a drilling location in the Navarin Basin Sale area, 450 miles to the northwest. ARCO Alaska used the rig to drill a stratigraphic test well for a group of oil companies interested in the federal oil and gas lease sale planned for the area in April 1984. The drill rig was supplied by barges out of Dutch Harbor on the Aleutian Chain.

ding the boundaries are still proceeding, but will take another 2 to 4 months to complete. If not complete before the sale, Interior will probably delete the disputed tracks in the final stipulations. With the increase in the number of U.S. and Soviet military vessels prowling the area — prompted by the downing of the Korean Air Line 747 (see "The Frozen War" in *Newsweek* 23-Jan-84) — it is not likely that any company would place bids for property in the disputed area.

Nunam Kitlutsi, the non-profit corporation of the Calista Region, has recommended postponement of the sale until several legal questions are resolved, including responsibility for oil-spill cleanup in international waters. Nunam Kitlutsi director Harold Sparck said that the lease sale as now proposed could trigger an international land grab by the Soviets and other arctic nations claiming outercontinental shelf resources.

The Law of the Sea Convention gives few directives for arctic areas, and considers the Bering Sea an arctic-related "enclosed sea," over which the jurisdictional disputes were left the coastal nations to solve. The Soviets have always claimed jurisdictional 'influence" in the Bering Sea international waters, extending to the U.S. 200-mile limit. They even tax Japanese fishermen for western Alaska fish taken outside the U.S. limit.

Sparck spent much of 1982 researching the border argument and related questions for a law course at the University of Virginia. He has written a paper recommending that arctic nations follow the lead of the North Sea nations, who adopted the Northland States Accord as a means of settling jurisdictional disputes prior to development of the area. The U.S. has boundary problems also on the Canada side, with ARCO interested in territory claimed by Canada, and Dome in U.S.-claimed land.

The Interior Department reported in the environmental assessment that the basin extends into Soviet territory, even across the boundary as the U.S. draws it. If oil is discovered in the basin, it could be pumped out by either or both countries, on a first-come, first-served basis. U.S. oil companies could empty the structure as long as wells are drilled on the U.S.'s side.

But Sparck added that boundary disputes complicate the issue. He said that when countries cannot solve international border and resource disputes on their own, the matter is usually judicated by the International Court of Justice. According to Sparck, that court so far has given no hard-and-fast rules nor set any helpful precedent, preferring instead to look at the fairness of each case.

According to a 24 January 1984 article in the *Washington Post* the Soviet Union has notified the U.S. that it is prepared to resume talks on demarcation of the maritime boundary in the Bering Strait. The decision to re-open negotiations to define the precise location of the 1867 boundary and provide modern and updated cartographic documentation reflects the interests of both countries in oil exploration, mineral resources, and fishing rights in the area. The Soviets as well as the U.S. want to begin the drilling of exploration wells in the Bering Sea, according to the *Post*.

One of the two $16-million Boeing Vertol 234 helicopters used to transport crews between the ARCO drill rig in the Navarin Basin and Nome, 400 miles to the north. Although the big helicopters (civilian versions of the military Chinook) have been used to supply oil-related activities in the North Sea, this was their first civilian use in the U.S.

The Soviet-Norway Border Dispute

The Soviets face similar boundary problems on their western boundary bordering Norway. Norwegian sources recently reported that high-level negotiations in Moscow from 12 to 16 December 1983 made no headway in a dispute over ownership of a huge, strategically sensitive and oil-rich area in the Barents Sea.

According to Peter Osnos, writing in the 22 December 1983 *Washington Post*, at stake are 60,000 square miles of arctic continental shelf that both the U.S.S.R. and Norway have been claiming for more than a decade as part of their 200-mile offshore economic zone. There are estimates of substantial oil and gas reserves in the area.

But the strategic interests of the Barents Sea is even more important, perhaps as important as those in the Bering Sea. Norway is the only northern member of NATO that shares a border with the Soviets, and the Soviets have 30 to 40 percent of their naval fleet and most of their missile-firing submarines harbored in Murmansk, only 60 miles from the Norwegian border. For that reason, the Soviets seem determined to control as much area as possible near Murmansk and the Kola Peninsula, where about 2 million people live. Osnos wrote: "Their aims are plainly to guarantee strategic shipping lanes for the fleet, while limiting U.S. penetration of the Arctic region under the guise of participation in major commercial energy projects."

The Norway-U.S.S.R. border and Nunam Kitlutsisti's Sparck: energy needs plus unsettled borders mean trouble.

After six unsuccessful bargaining sessions since 1974, the Soviets last spring and again this month sent oil-drilling ships to the edge of the disputed waters in a move the Norwegians believed was to put pressure on the negotiations. Both countries previously had respected international conventions that restrict exploration in waters where jurisdiction is in doubt.

The offshore border problem resembles that between Canada and the U.S. The Norwegians and the Soviets both generally adhere to the protocol adopted by the Law of the Sea Conference, which calls for a "median line" stretching to the sea perpendicular to the coast, beginning where the countries meet. But the Soviets make an exception to this rule and hold to the "polar sector" line drawn in 1926, which extends from the point where the countries meet on the coast north to the North Pole. The difference between these two proposals includes the 60,000 square miles of disputed territory.

While the Norwegians have expressed willingness to compromise on their median line proposal there seems little hope to end the dispute after the December talks. Experts feel that future energy crises may cause unsettled offshore border disputes with the Soviets to escalate international tensions. ■

Charlie Watt Appointed to Canadian Senate

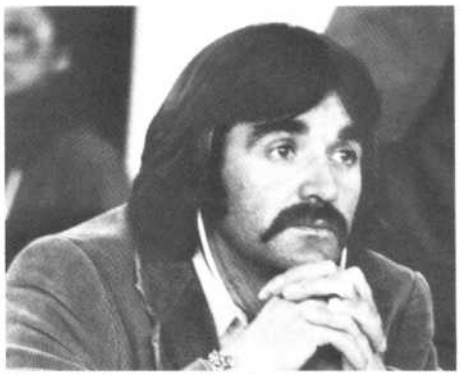
Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau announced on 23 December 1983 that Charlie Watt, co-chairman of the Inuit Committee on National Issues (ICNI), has been appointed to the Senate, effective immediately.

Watt will sit as a Liberal as the Senate convenes on 16 January 1984. He is expected to be sworn in and be introduced to the rest of the Senate at that time.

Watt was born in Kuujuaq (Fort Chimo), Northern Quebec, on 29 June 1944. In 1970, in response to a Hydro Quebec announcement about the development of the James Bay Hydro Project, he helped organize the Northern Quebec Inuit Association. He was elected president and was a key political figure in the negotiation of the James Bay and Northern Quebec agreement.

He remained with the Northern Quebec group, now known as Makivik Corporation, until 1982. He has been co-chairman of ICNI, since its inception in 1979. He is presently involved in the planning of an Inuit resource corporation with the objective of raising capital and facilitating Inuit participation in resource development. Charlie Watt has played a leading role in the Inuit Circumpolar Conference and last year was a serious contender for the organization's presidency.

(Reprinted from *Nunatsiaq News*, Box 8, Frobisher Bay, N.W.T. X0A 0H0)



Watt: Inuit land-claims leader.

Governor Sheffield and Mayor Brower at December Tier-II meeting: in face of industry oil-cleanup failures, the stress is now on prevention.

Brower Wins Delay on State's Broken-Ice Drilling Decision

State-Borough Teamwork Proposed in Offshore Planning

North Slope Borough Mayor Eugene Brower announced that, as a result of a meeting on Friday, December 9, Governor Bill Sheffield has agreed to delay the state's Tier-II decision which would allow the oil industry to drill during broken ice conditions in the Beaufort Sea. The Anchorage summit meeting also included Sheffield's top aides, Natural Resources Commissioner Esther Wunnicke, and Environmental Conservation Director Richard Neve. 'I'm very pleased with the results of this meeting,'' Brower remarked afterwards. 'I hope this marks a new and broader approach to offshore planning.''

The Tier-II restrictions are the result of 1979 court decisions related to the Beaufort Sea Oil and Gas Lease Sales, in which the courts approved federal and state seasonal drilling restrictions: no drilling from spring breakup to fall freezeup. These restrictions were relaxed in 1981 when then-DNR Commissioner John Katz extended the drilling time to include summer, ice-free, offshore Tier-I drilling — above oil bearing formations. He stipulated that Tier-II drilling could proceed during broken ice and beyond the barrier islands only after industry successfully demonstrates broken-ice oil-spill preparedness.

In May 1982, Interior Secretary James Watt followed suit by relaxing the federal seasonal restrictions. In October of that year — five days before Interior's OCS Lease Sale -71 offering 338 million acres of Beaufort Sea property — the NSB and two villages filed suit to block the easing of the restrictions, a case yet to be resolved. The brief cited an Interior memorandum that it could take several months to clean up an oil spill in the Beaufort and that the government ''cannot ensure that an oil spill can be completely cleaned up before whales are in the vicinity.''

The Oil-spill Cleanup Demonstrations

In response to Borough concerns, the state has delayed since September a decision on whether to allow offshore operators to drill into Tier II levels. Cleanup demonstrations conducted by industry on ''hypothetical'' oil spills last summer were viewed by the Borough as being both inadequate and inconclusive. All of the tests were performed under controlled conditions. While real crude oil was used for an in-situ burning test in a gravel pit, no oil was used to test the cleanup equipment in the Beaufort Sea. 'On the basis of our observation of those demonstrations,'' Brower told the meeting, 'we cannot agree that the oil industry has the capability to clean up oil in broken ice. Nor were the tests conducted as we had requested, using real oil in ice-infested waters.''

When industry spokesmen suggested the tests were good enough for the State to allow Tier II drilling, Mayor Brower made it clear the Borough would oppose such a decision in the courts. Mayor Brower said that allowing the industry to drill in Tier II with very questionable clean-up capabilities 'very seriously threatens the marine environment and the bowhead whale.''

Broader Offshore Contingency Planning Proposed

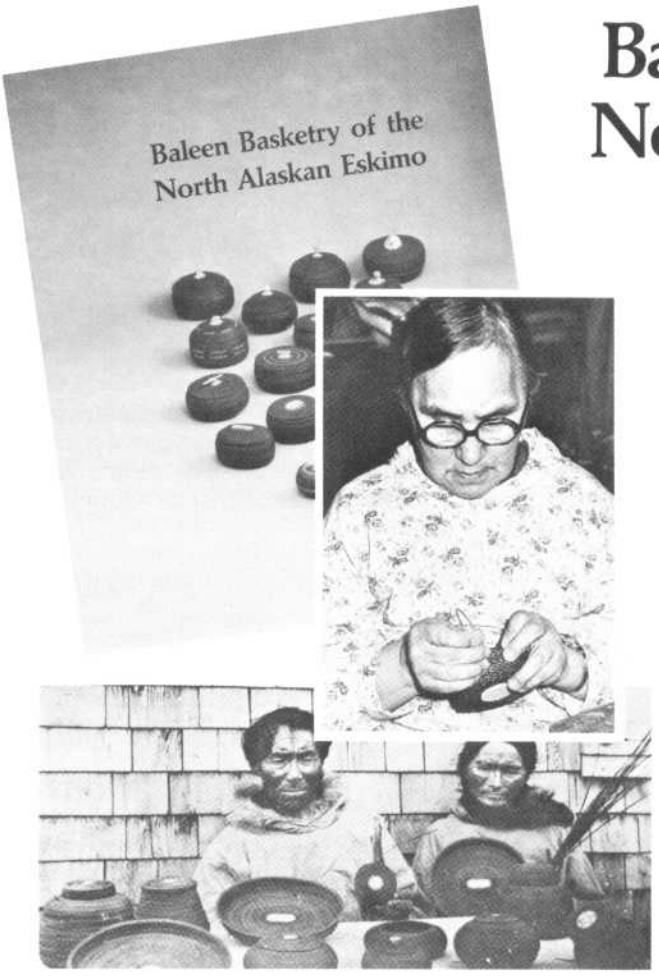
In the face of this opposition, the state was hard put to make a decision and began to downplay the need for oil-spill cleanup and began looking at well-ignition techniques instead. The Borough saw this as an opening to extending state concerns to larger issues of oil-spill prevention and possible Borough-State cooperation.

'The demonstrations indicated that crude-oil ignition in broken ice is almost impossible," Brower told the Governor, "and other prevention techniques must be more fully explored. This, I believe, is the area where the NSB, State, and industry can find common- ground solutions. Although wellhead ignition is one option, a comprehensive prevention program incorporating additional techniques is needed. We feel that this could lead to a compromise that will allow industry operators to drill at least during part of the broken-ice period. Let's begin a planning process focused on oil-spill prevention."

At the meeting, Mayor Brower also asked Governor Sheffield for a one-year delay of the Tier-II decision to study the broader question of Arctic offshore oil-spill prevention. Governor Sheffield agreed to delay the Tier-II decision, hoping progress toward a compromise can be made quickly so it would be unnecessary to delay the decision for a full year. The Governor asked his new Executive Assistant, John Shively, Commissioner Wunnicke, and Commissioner Neve to work with Mayor Brower in setting up a high-level planning session, now set for February. This meeting will focus on the means by which respective staffs and industry can begin to work together on preventative standards and technology.

A favorable Tier-II decision will provide the industry with a longer drilling season. Under present Tier-I regulations now in force exploratory drilling above threshold is generally permitted area-wide except during the fall bowhead migration, during which time drilling may continue inside the barrier islands under certain conditions. Below-threshold drilling is generally permitted area-wide from 1 November to 15 May, with open-water drilling permitted inside the barrier islands until the beginning of the fall bowhead migration. No drilling is permitted anywhere during the broken-ice period.

Tier II regulations, now under consideration, generally would allow all down-hole operations area-wide throughout the year except outside the barrier islands during the fall bowhead migration. This would extend the drilling season into the early weeks of the spring bowhead migration, which could possibly expose the whales to risk from both spilled oil and the impacts of drilling noise, on which research has only begun. ■



Baleen Basketry of the North Alaskan Eskimo

by Molly Lee

Barrow, Alaska:
The North Slope Borough Planning Department, 1983

Publication Funded by:
The North Slope Borough
Atlantic Richfield Foundation
National Endowment for the Arts
57 pages with photos and illustrations. $5 retail.

The Story of the Baleen Basket Published

The market for corset-stays brought the great Yankee whaling ships to the Alaskan Arctic in the 1800's seeking the baleen of the prized bowhead whale. Strong and flexible, baleen was for the 19th century what plastic is today.

After the bottom fell out of the baleen market in 1914, Charles Brower, an American whaler and trader and long-time Barrow resident, asked Kingutuk, a local man, to copy a willow-root basket in baleen. A new Eskimo industry was born, which lasted 50 years but now faces extinction, with only a few remaining weavers still alive.

Molly Lee has captured the story of this remarkable art form in an authentic and richly-illustrated volume now available at the Planning Department of the North Slope Borough, P.O. Box 69, Barrow, Alaska 99723, for $5.00 U.S. Discounts available to stores and institutions.

Canada Rejects Stokes Point-King Point Plans

Victory for CARC, Natives

As a result of a singular campaign waged by the Canadian Arctic Resources Committee (CARC) and Native communities of western Canada, on 7 November 1983 the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (DIAND) Minister John Munro rejected plans for industrial development on the Yukon's North Slope proposed by Gulf Canada Resources and Peter Kiewit Sons.

Gulf had proposed a temporary harbor facility at Stokes Point for support of its oil and gas exploration activity being carried out by its Conical Drilling Unit, Mobile Arctic Caisson, and supporting vessels. In July 1983, Peter Kiewit Sons, a U.S.-based corporation, had proposed development of a large sandstone quarry located 15 miles east of the Babbage River and nine miles inland of King Point. The proposal included construction of an all-weather haul road to the coast, docks, and moorings, a breakwater, and camp facilities for transportation of three million tons of gravel a year to customers drilling in the U.S. Beaufort Sea.

Munro denied the proposals because of the inability to reconcile "conservation and development policies," but mainly because of the approaching settlement of the land claims of the Committee for Original Peoples' Entitlement (COPE), representing the Inuvialuit Eskimos of the Northwest Territories, and the Council of Yukon Indians (CYI), representing the 12 bands of Yukon Indians.

CARC had sent out several mailings regarding the proposals, calling them the "most alarming proposed developments we have seen,' pointing out that the North Slope of the Yukon supports a rich wildlife and is the staging areas of millions of birds. It is utilized by large concentrations of marine animals including seals, beluga and the endangered bowhead whale. It is the calving ground of Porcupine caribou herd, one of the last great wild herds of North America.

Study Group Meets

In response to these concerns, Munro established in July 1983 the Yukon North Slope Project Review Group composed of representatives of COPE, the CYI and the Yukon Territorial Government (YTG). They were to seek agreement on a package of issues including: 1. progress on COPE and CYI land claims, 2. consensus on the boundaries for a proposed national park, 3. creation of a caribou management board; the implementation of land-use planning, 4. citing of industrial facilities for the minimization of environmental disturbances, 5. and potential economic benefits.

On 17 October 1983, the group reported to Munro that it had not been able to reach a consensus, with the four members representing COPE and CYI recommending the applications of Gulf and Kiewit be denied, while the three members representing the YTG recommended the proposals be approved.

Among other recommendations, the majority report referred to the lack of planning inherent in the proposals, stating, "While there is a pressing need for economic stimulation in the Yukon, and for the creation of new job opportunities, the dangers inherent in hurried, inadequately planned industrial development on the North Slope outweigh the northern benefits suggested by the proponents, who declined to make formal commitments in this regard."

Brower Responds

Responding to an appeal from COPE, NSB Mayor Eugene Brower then sent a letter to Munro supporting the COPE and CYI positions, citing the precedents for their position:

> We particularly concur with their conclusions to the effect that the Yukon North Slope is an area of international significance, the preservation of which has been recommended by Thomas Berger, the National Energy Board, and, indeed, the Canadian government itself, first in 1977 and again by the withdrawal order in 1978.
>
> There is no persuasive reason to overturn this carefully considered national consensus in order to advance the short-term interest of two developers. Further, you will recall that Canada's representatives to the United States, pursuant to the 1978 withdrawal, were instrumental in persuading Congress to designate the neighboring lands in Alaska as wilderness area.
>
> It would hardly be appropriate for Canada to reverse its direction in this regard now.

In announcing his decision, Munro stated: "Native groups clearly feel that their outstanding land claims must be settled before large-scale development activities can proceed. While they have never suggested that development is in-

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compatible with environmental management, or their own interests, they feel strongly that the issues of claims must take precedence... We all agree that the settlement of land claims will provide a clear, stable framework for advancing social and economic development in the North."

He went on to explain the Stokes Point proposal lies within land identified for a future national park. 'The government is committed to creating a national park," he said, "so it would be inconsistent to locate even a temporary port within its boundaries.'

Second Thoughts

A week after Munro announced his denial of the Yukon coast proposals, the Old Crow Indian Band, one of the strongest opponents of the plans said they could support the Kiewit plan in return for concessions by the Yukon government. But the Yukon cabinet promptly rejected the four demands, saying they were "blackmail" and would require renegotiating land claims deals already signed.

The demands included: 1. expanding the boundaries of the proposed wilderness park to include the entire Porcupine calving area, 2. increase CYI participation on the proposed North Yukon land-use commission to fifty percent, 3. guarantees that no road or pipeline would be built to the North Slope across the Yukon, including any extension of the Dempster Highway, and 4. the negotiation of the proposed international Porcupine caribou treaty involving the federal government. The last proposal is opposed by YTG, which is seeking a regional agreement between itself, the Northwest Territories, and the State of Alaska.

In spite of the new proposal, John Munro rose in Parliament to say that more than CYI was involved in his decision and that there still remains an impressive list of organizations still opposing the Kiewit plans. He re-stated his opinion that it was not so much for environmental reasons that he had vetoed the plan as for protecting the progress of land claims. COPE remained opposed to the plan, in spite of being offered significant economic benefits, such as supplying ships through its Inuvialuit Development Corporation. The Inuvialuit political leaders had decided that such economic benefits came way down their list of priorities, which is topped by land claims and environmental concerns. ■

St. George Basin Leases Held

Appeals Court Sustains Injunction

On 6 May 1983, U.S. District Court Judge James Fitzgerald stopped the execution of the 96 leases selected by oil companies in the 12 April 1983 St. George Basin Oil and Gas Lease Sale. St. George Basin lies between the Pribilof Islands and Unimak Island just west of Bristol Bay, one of the richest salmon fisheries in the world. The case had been filed in March by the Aleutian villages of False Pass and Nelson Lagoon, along with several local, state, and national environmental groups including Friends of the Earth and Trustees for Alaska (See APR May 1983).

Judge Fitzgerald dismissed one of the plaintiffs' complaints, however, agreeing that Interior was not obligated to produce a report including a "worst case" effects of a major oil spill in the basin. He did agree with the environmentalists' complaint that Interior had not sufficiently considered the results of seismic exploration on gray and right whales in the area, and ordered Interior to hold up execution of the leases until a new supplemental environmental draft statement had been completed.

In mid-August, the Minerals Management Service (MMS) of the Dept. of Interior issued the supplementary EIS, which stated that seismic testing posed "only a remote chance of any major adverse affects" — such as hearing impairment — on the Bering Sea whales. Loud noises produced during the testing could be uncomfortable for the whales, "although it is not unlikely to assume that whales would move away from an excessively loud noise," the statement claimed.

The supplementary report also stated that odds for a major spill in the area — over 100,000 barrels — would be slight over the life of the field, and even less during the spring and fall whale migrations. If a spill did occur at a time when whales were in the area, the statement says, "it is unlikely that an interaction (between whales and oil)... would significantly affect the gray or right whale populations. A significant effect is defined as harm or injury sustained on a population. The probable degree of regional impact is considered negligible."

In November, Judge Fitzgerald withdrew the injunction, permitting the execution of the leases. On 15 December he refused the request that he reconsider and prolong the order. The coalition then filed an appeal with the 9th U.S. Circuit Court in San Francisco. In mid-December, Interior Secretary William Clark gave the order to issue the leases, but on 27 December 1983 the appellate court in San Francisco issued the injunction, again stopping awarding of the leases.

The court held a hearing in Portland 6 January on a motion by the coalition that the injunction be changed to a temporary restraining order and on the group's complaints with the failure of the federal government in developing the worst-case scenario.

Lynn Edgerton, senior project attorney for the National Resources Defense Council, said, "Our argument is over the technical reading of federal law. But, more generally, we just believe the government should have to determine the likely effect of a bad oil spill — given the importance of the bay to fish, whales, and migratory birds — before the leases are final."

Al Powers, regional planning director of the Alaska Outer Continental Shelf office in Anchorage, said that the worst case environmental assessment is only needed when the government doesn't have enough information to predict site-specific effects of an oil spill. 'We believe we had enough information to accurately indicate the effects in our first environmental impact statement. We just don't believe such a study was needed in the first place," he said. He also pointed out that the goverment is losing interest earnings on 80 percent of the $427 million in high bids which the oil companies are not required to pay until the leases are awarded. ■

Approval Given for Exploration of ANWR Coastal Plain

The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USF&WS) granted permission in July 1983 for eight oil companies to begin surface geological work that eventually could lead to the development of a major oil field on the coastal plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR). Later, in September, two other companies were added to the list, and a third, Geophysical Services, Inc., a unit of Texas Instruments, was given approval for seismic work on the refuge.

USF&WS regional director Keith Schreiner rejected seven other plans for seismic work because he opted for a pool-type arrangement rather than allowing a number of companies onto the refuge. He also stipulated that the conventional "shothole-explosive" technique be used, rather than truck-vibrators, a move which environmentalists agree would cause less damage to the tundra and wildlife habitat. Schreiner was criticized, however, for not insisting on the use of helicopters instead of tractors for transportation over sensitive terrain.

A subsurface rock structure called the Marsh Creek anticline has already been identified by a new technique utilizing magnetic readings conducted in overflying airplanes. Anticlines can trap oil and gas. Oil seeps from the ground have also been identified on the plain.

Data from these preliminary tests will be delivered to Congress in 1986 for its use in determining whether to allow exploratory wells and eventually development wells to be drilled.

The Kaktovik Subsurface Land Swap

In August 1983, an agreement was announced between the State, the Department of the Interior, and the Arctic Slope Regional Native Corporation (ASRC) to swap 100,000 acres around Chandler Lake in the Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve for 92,000 acres of subsurface land along the arctic plain near Kaktovik. The Kaktovik village corporation already possesses surface rights to the same land. ASRC would maintain subsurface rights to the Chandler Lake property, which has been leased to Shell Oil.

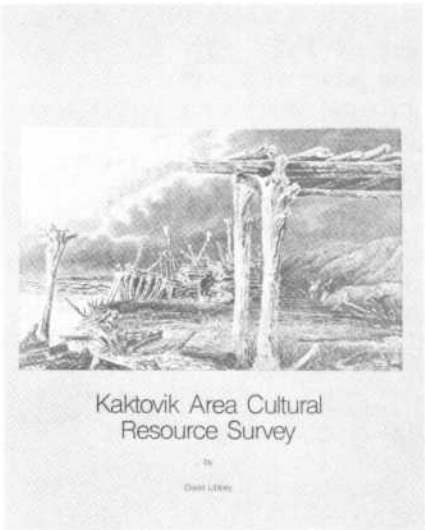
Precedent for the subsurface land swap was established in section 1431 of ANILCA, by which Congress attempted to compensate for the fact that ASRC participation in ANCSA had been compromised by the previous federal withdrawal of so much land on the North Slope. Among the list of land transfers authorized in sec. 1431 are some which deal with only subsurface rights.

Furthermore, sec. 1431(o) stipulated that "Whenever, at any time within forty years after the date of enactment of this Act, public lands in the National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska or in the Arctic National Wildlife Range, within 75 miles of lands selected by a Village Corporation pursuant to the provisions of section 12(a)(1) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, are opened for the purposes of commercial development (rather than exploration) of oil or gas, Arctic Slope Regional Corporation shall be entitled, at its option, within

Kaktovik Area Cultural Resource Survey

By David Libby

Published jointly by The North Slope Borough and
The National Park Service, 1983—78 pages with photos and maps



Wealth of Sites found in 1982 Kaktovik Study

The Alaska National Interest Lands Act (ANILCA) of 1980 authorized a preliminary resource study of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge which was published in 1982 (see APR, March 1983). To complete that work, the NSB applied for and received a grant from the State Office of History and Culture.

This report includes the extensive literature research conducted at the University of Alaska as well as the results of surveying the area from the Canning River delta to the Canadian border, using an ethnohistorian and local cultural resource specialists. Based on the initial Traditional Land Use Inventory conducted by the NSB, this report contains a more complete record of past and current land use, with documentation of consistent patterns of settlement through time.

To date, the NSB has published 13 historic and research reports, with other projects under way. This effort is inspired by the sincere desire to accumulate information about traditional Inupiat culture and to protect and enhance the Inupiat lifestyle in planning for the future. In this report and others, the relationship of subsistence resources to historic and cultural values binds the future with the present and past of the Inupiat people. *Free copies are available at the Planning Dept., NSB, P.O. Box 69, Barrow, Alaska 99723.*

five years of the date of such opening, to consolidate lands by exchanging in-lieu subsurface lands which it selected pursuant to the provisions of section 12(a)(1) of the Act for an equal acreage of the subsurface estate, identified by Arctic Slope Regional Corporation, beneath the lands of the Village Corporation."

Concurring with ASRC's argument that delaying the Kaktovik land swap until five years after the lease sale would deprive ASRC of the "speculative value of the land" the government went ahead with the land swap, utilizing the authority of sec. 1302(h) of ANILCA which provides for the authority of the government to "exchange lands (including lands within the conservation system units and within the National Forest system)" — notwithstanding any other provision of law.

On 6 February 1984, ASRC had reached an agreement with Chevron USA, Inc., Sohio Alaska, and BP Alaska on gas and oil exploration rights beneath the village corporation lands. It is expected that if preliminary seismic work is completed, up to three exploration wells will be drilled next winter. The coastal plain of the refuge is believed to have the highest oil potential of any unexplored onshore lands in Alaska, with mean estimates of 4.85 billion barrels of oil and 11.9 trillion cubic feet of natural gas.

The terms of the swap agreement requires ASRC to follow U.S. Fish and Wildlife regulations regarding seismic exploration and empower Fish and Wildlife to review and comment upon exploration plans. Chevron has already submitted one plan for exploration beneath the Kaktovik property and another for pre-exploration work in the state-claimed coastal lagoons north of the Kaktovik lands.

TFA Opposition

In spite of these provisions, the swap was attacked by Trustees for Alaska (TFA) as a ploy to side-step special federal regulations for the area stipulated in the Alaska Lands Act (ANILCA). Those regulations came out of the most bitterly fought battle in the Congressional debate over Alaska national interest (d2) lands. As part of the compromise, Congress set special provisions for exploration of the coastal plain of the range — calving grounds for the Porcupine caribou herd. Sec. 1002(c) provided for a five-year assessment of the coastal plain as well as a special baseline report on resources before USF&WS could approve seismic operations but no drilling. Drilling inside the 1002(c) area could come only after review of the study by Congress.

TFA attorney Jeff Eustis contended that the trade is not an exchange of equal value or in the public interest. He said that the drilling implications of the swap were never fully outlined by Interior, and claims that, although the Kaktovik lands lie outside the coastal plain 1002(c) study area, they come under the specific 1431(o) provisions laid out by Congress and which call for the five-year delay.

This is not the position taken by the administration, however, and USF&WS resources specialist Ted Heuer said the agency would allow exploratory drilling underneath Kaktovik, depending on approval of the exploration plans, as authorized for lands in the refuge but outside the 1002(c) coastal plain area. ■

COPE Reaches Claims Agreement

Approval Still Pending

A land claims settlement agreement was initialled 19 December 1983 by representatives of the Committee for Original Peoples' Entitlement (COPE) and the Canadian government. COPE represents the Inuvialuit Eskimos of the western Canadian Arctic and has received strong support from the Inupiat Eskimos of Alaska in their land claims struggle, sharing as they do the same language, culture, wildlife resources, and North Slope geographical area. In 1976, Arctic Slope Regional Corp. loaned COPE $50,000 to aid their pursuit of land-claims, just as the Alaska Natives had been aided in their pursuit of the Alaska Native land claims during the 1960's by the Yakima Tribal Council with a loan of $250,000.

There are about 3000 Inuvialuit living in Aklavik, Inuvik, Tuktoyaktuk, Sachs Harbor, Paulatuk, and Holman Island, all in the Northwest Territories. Details of the settlement have not yet been released.

A 1978 agreement in principle granted COPE $45 million, 5000 square miles of land with all surface and subsurface rights, and another 32,000 square miles of land with only surface rights. At that time, COPE agreed to a clause extinguishing native rights.

The new agreement must be approved by the federal cabinet and COPE membership. According to the *Nunatsiaq News* of Frobisher Bay, the agreement received mixed reaction from other Canadian Inuit leaders. John Amagoalik, President of the Inuit Tapirisat of Canada, congratulated the COPE negotiators but also expressed disappointment in the extinguishment clause.

"The extinguishment clause of the James Bay Agreement has been a source of conflict and disagreement among the Inuit of Northern Quebec ever since the agreement was signed," he said."Now it is being repeated in the Western Arctic and has the potential of creating more divisions among the Inuvialuit."

Mr. Amagoalik said the process of land claims negotiations is a detailing of the aboriginal rights recognized in the new Canadian Constitution and should not be used to extinguish them. He also added, "A special committee of Parliament has also recommeded that the doctrine of extinguishment be eliminated from the settlement of claims."

Charlie Watt, co-chairman of ITC's Inuit Committee on National Issues (ICNI), also expressed concern that the extinguishment be limited to land rights and not be extended to subsistence, cultural, and political rights. Other Inuit leaders were concerned about COPE's dispute with the Keewatin Indian Association (KIA) about which group represented the people of Holman Island. They said that the boundary dispute between the two groups should be solved before any final agreements are signed. ■

Arctic Science

NSB Puts Up Arctic Science Prize:

Recognition of Excellence in Research

On the last day of the Second Conference on the Biology of the Bowhead Whale held in Anchorage, 9 March 1983, NSB Mayor Eugene Brower announced the offering of a $10,000 Arctic Science Prize, established by the NSB Assembly on 1 March 1983.

In his statement to the scientists attending the meeting, Mayor Brower said the purposes of the Prize were:

1. to recognize an individual's outstanding work in Arctic science;

2. to stimulate excellence in Arctic scientific research: and,

3. to draw attention to our need for more Arctic research.

The prize will be awarded every other year to candidates selected by a review committee composed of representatives from universities, local, state, and federal governments, and from the oil and gas industry.

According to NSB scientist Dr. Thomas Albert, the prize was a response to the cut-back in federal science funds for the arctic. 'In the Borough we have an enormous area," he said, "88,000 square miles that have been opened up to the impacts of technology with the development of our vast energy resources. Most of our residents are Inupiat Eskimos with close ties to the environment and its wildlife resources.

"While some major research programs have been carried out on the North Slope during the last 10 years, much remains to be done. There is so much that we don't know about the impacts of energy development on wildlife and other natural resources.

"In order to help offset the federal science cutbacks, the North Slope Borough has initiated a modest program aimed at stimulating arctic science — this bowhead biology conference is part of that program. Another part will be the recognition of individual excellence by means of The Arctic Science Prize. We also hope the Prize will draw more national attention to the unique problems facing the arctic environment."

Included on The Candidate Review Committee of the Arctic Science Prize are:

Dr. Thomas Albert, Senior Scientist
North Slope Borough

Dr. Vera Alexander, Director
Institute of Marine Science
Univ. of Alaska, Fairbanks

Dr. Charles Bentley, Chairman
Polar Research Board
National Academy of Sciences

Dr. John Bligh, Director
Institute of Arctic Biology
Univ. of Alaska, Fairbanks

John Burns
Marine Mammals Coordinator
Alaska Department of Fish and Game

Dr. James M. Harrison, Chairman
Northwest Territories Science
Advisory Board

Roger C. Herrera, Manager
Exploration and Lands
Sohio Alaska Petroleum Co.

Jerry Jim, Chief
Environmental Studies Section
Minerals Management Service
Alaska OCS - Dept. of Interior

Dr. John Kelley, Chairman
NSB Advisory Science Committee
Institute of Marine Science
Univ. of Alaska, Fairbanks

Dr. Juan Roederer, Director
Geophysical Institute
Univ. of Alaska, Fairbanks

Dr. Peter Schledermann, Exec. Director
The Arctic Institute of North America
University of Calgary

The Prize is to be awarded for the first time in August 1984 at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Borough Assembly. Those wishing more information on the prize should contact:

Eugene Brower, Mayor
North Slope Borough
P.O. Box 69
Barrow, AK 99723 ■

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