

MACKENZIE VALLEY PIPELINE INQUIRY

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATIONS BY EACH OF

(a) CANADIAN ARCTIC GAS PIPELINE LIMITED FOR A
RIGHT-OF-WAY THAT MIGHT BE GRANTED ACROSS
CROWN LANDS WITHIN THE YUKON TERRITORY AND
THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES, and

(b) FOOTHILLS PIPE LINES LTD. FOR A RIGHT-OF-WAY
THAT MIGHT BE GRANTED ACROSS CROWN LANDS
WITHIN THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
FOR THE PURPOSE OF A PROPOSED MACKENZIE VALLEY PIPELINE

and

IN THE MATTER OF THE SOCIAL, ENVIRONMENTAL
AND ECONOMIC IMPACT REGIONALLY OF THE CONSTRUCTION,
OPERATION AND SUBSEQUENT ABANDONMENT OF THE ABOVE
PROPOSED PIPELINE

(Before the Honourable Mr. Justice Berger, Commissioner)

July 8, 1975
Fort McPherson, N.W.T.

PROCEEDINGS AT COMMUNITY HEARING

Volume 11

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APPEARANCES

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Pipeline Inquiry;

Mr. Darryl Carter for Canadian Arctic
Gas Pipeline Limited;

Mr. Glen W. Bell for Northwest Territories,
Indian Brotherhood and Metis
Association of the Northwest
Territories;

Mr. Ellwood for Foothills Pipelines Ltd.;

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1 July 8, 1975
2 Fort McPherson, N.W.T.
3 (PROCEEDINGS RESUMED PURSUANT TO ADJOURNMENT)
4
5 JOHN CHARLIE, Interpreter,
6 sworn;
7 TADIT FRANCIS, Interpret
8 sworn;
9 CHIEF JOHNNIE CHARLIE, sworn;
10 MIKE PASCAL, sworn;
11 ELIZABETH COLIN, sworn;
12 NEIL COLIN, sworn;
13 CHARLES KOE, sworn;
14 JOHN SIMON, sworn;
15 THE COMMISSIONER: Ladies and
16 gentlemen, I will call our hearing to order today. I
17 am Judge Berger. I am conducting an Inquiry to
18 consider what the impact will be of the pipeline that
19 Arctic Gas wants to build to bring natural gas from the
20 Arctic to the south.
21 I am holding hearings in
22 community in the Mackenzie Valley, the Mackenzie Delta
23 and the northern Yukon likely to be affected by the
24 pipeline. That is why I am here.
25 I want to hear from the
26 Native people and the white people, from the old people
27 and the young people.
28 Canada and the United States
29 have a great appetite for oil and gas.
30 That is why the Government of Canada is considering

1
2 "Dear Justice Berger:..."
3 On April 19, 19 4, the last Minister, Jean Chretien, re-
4 ferred to you the application by Arctic Gas to build a
5 pipeline.
6 I will repeat that, shall I?
7 THE INTERPRETER: Can I see
8 it and read it?
9 THE COMMISSIONER: Oh, yes.
10 I will read it and then you can --
11 THE INTERPRETER: You read it
12 first and then I will bring it in --
13 THE COMMISSIONER: I will
14 just read it and then the interpreters can read it.
15 This is a letter from the
16 Honourable Judd Buchanan, Minister of Indian Affairs
17 and Northern Development.
18 "Dear Justice Berger:
19 By a letter dated April 19, 19 4, my
20 predecessor, the Honourable Jean Chretien,
21 formally referred to you, further to your
22 appointment under Order-in-Council P.C.
23 1974-641, dated March 21, 1974, an applica-
24 tion made on March 21, 1974, by Canadian-
25 ,Arctic Gas Pipeline Limited for grant of
26 certain lands in the Yukon and Northwest Ter-
27 ritories and for necessary authorization to
28 construct, own, and operate a pipeline and
29 connected works.
30 The order-in-Council which established your

1 Inquiry, designated you to 'inquire and re-
2 port upon the terms and conditions that
3 should be imposed in respect of any right-of-
4 way that might be granted across Crown lands
5 for the purpose of the proposed Mackenzie
6 Valley pipeline...'

7 By letter dated May 23, 19 5, I advised you that
8 I was sending, for your information, copies of
9 applications in the same matter by Foothills
10 Pipe Lines...and Alberta Gas Trunk Line...in re-
11 spect of a Grant of Interests in Territorial
12 Lands.

13 I am of the opinion that these more recent ap-
14 plications, because of their smaller scale,
15 would generally have a lesser social, environ-
16 mental, and economic impact than the application
17 by Canadian Arctic Gas Pipeline... which has
18 been formally referred to you.

19 As a consequence, any terms and conditions
20 that you may recommend should be imposed in re-
21 spect of a right-of-way that might be
22 granted across Crown lands for the purposes of
23 the proposed Mackenzie Valley pipeline should
24 have equal or lesser application to these appli-
25 cations than to the application of Canadian Arc-
26 tic Gas Pipeline Limited. Nonetheless,
27 there may be areas of significant difference be-
28 tween the two projects which would
29 warrant you recommending quite different
30 terms and conditions.

1 It is, therefore, with these considerations
2 in mind that I am now formally referring to
3 you the applications of Foothills Pipe
4 Lines...and Alberta Gas Trunk Line...with the
5 view to your examining any areas of signifi-
6 cant difference and recommending appropriate
7 terms and conditions thereto."

8 If you have any difficulty
9 with this letter, I'll sum it up for you in a couple
10 sentences and you can translate the sentences, but you
11 do your best with the letter.

12 Thank you.

13 The Minister's letter will be
14 marked as an exhibit.

15
16 (LETTER DATED JULY 4, 1975, FROM MINISTER BUCHANAN
17 MARKED EXHIBIT C-28)

18 The Minister has then sent a
19 letter to the Inquiry referring the application by
20 Foothills Pipe Lines to the Inquiry. I have read the
21 Minister's letter. The Inquiry is already considering
22 the social, economic, and environmental impact
23 of the pipeline proposed by Arctic Gas. The Minister
24 has now referred to the Inquiry the applications made
25 by Foothills and Alberta Gas Trunk to the Inquiry,
26 so that where the impact of these applications differs
27 significantly from the application of Arctic Gas,
28 the Inquiry can examine those areas and
29 recommend appropriate terms and conditions in
30 relation to them.

1 I want to make it clear
2 that the function of this Inquiry is to concern
3 itself with matters of social, economic and
4 environmental impact and report upon them and to
5 recommend appropriate terms and conditions with
6 respect to each pipeline proposal. But it is not for
7 this Inquiry to choose between these proposals. This
8 Inquiry is no arbitor of these proposals. I have
9 said before that it will be for the Government of
10 Canada to decide whether a Mackenzie Valley pipeline
11 should be built. If they decide they want a pipeline
12 it will be for the Government of Canada upon the
13 recommendation of the National Energy Board to decide
14 whether they want Arctic Gas or Foothills to build
15 it.

16
17 Now, I want to hear from the
18 Chief and the members Of the Council and from the
19 people of Fort McPherson.

20 THE COMMISSIONER: Chief.

21 CHIEF CHARLIE: Thank you
22 very much, Mr. Berger.

23 I am the Chief of McPherson
24 and my band council. I want to welcome you to
25 Fort McPherson and I want to thank you and
26 your peoples who have come with you to listen to
27 my people.

28 This is the first time
29 that we Indian people have had someone to tell us,
30 someone to come to listen to us about how we feel

1 | here, they'll have something to say, and then our
2 | peoples, and then we will come back and talk about our
3 | land more. So with this I want to than": you for
4 | listening.

5 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank
6 | you, Chief. (WITNESS ASIDE)

7 | You may be seated, or you may
8 | stand, whatever makes you most comfortable.

9 | TADIT FRANCIS Thank you.

10 | Chief, Justice Berger. I
11 | have followed the Berger hearings down the Mackenzie
12 | Valley since its beginning. I sort of sense what the
13 | Native people of all what they have in their mind, in
14 | regards to the construction of the pipeline.

15 | I hope that -- please
16 | sympathize with the Native people in your
17 | recommendations to the Federal Government, in the
18 | important decisions that you will make at the end of
19 | these hearings.

20 | I have heard all of the
21 | effects-of the Alyeska Pipeline in Alaska by hooks, by
22 | radio, and I pretty well followed you through your tour
23 | of Alaska.

24 | In particular I am concerned
25 | about the social impact, that it has had on the
26 | residents of Alaska and the possible effect that will
27 | remain in the future.

28 | In short, I would simply like
29 | to say in your recommendations to the Federal
30 | Government that you comply with the wishes of the

1 Chief Johnnie Charlie, ladies and gentlemen. I
2 would like to comment a little on the social impact
3 that the pipeline would bring if a pipeline was
4 built.

5 From what we hear from
6 Alaska pipeline, all the trouble that it is causing
7 over there, I think we are bound to expect that here
8 too. You might say how come it didn't happen when
9 the highway came through. Well, now, there was no
10 way that people could get down here to build the
11 highway and now they have got the highway coming
12 through so that will bring all the problems that we
13 are going to go through while they are building that
14 pipeline, and we are going to see a lot of things
15 that we never saw before. Part of which I saw when
16 I was out travelling across the country, and so far
17 it hasn't reached us, but by building that pipeline
18 it's going to come down here and all our young
19 people will get into trouble. There is going to be
20 gambling, drinking, probably dope peddling and all
21 of this is going to keep our young people from going
22 out on the land or going on the jobs. And this adds
23 on to our request that we do not want the pipeline
24 to come through.

25 So those are just a few
26 thoughts that you could think about during the next
27 two days and that is all I have to say for now.
28 Thank you.

29 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you,
30 sir. Would you like to translate that. (WITNESS ASIDE)

1 | place here, it is about 850 people, and you can see
2 | one big trouble in the 850 people. Look at the
3 | sewage and garbage and I asked one gentlemen down
4 | here when they were going to put the pump station
5 | down at the Destruction City -- that's just where
6 | the people used to travel through there -- you can
7 | see they go through about this deep through the
8 | ground for hundreds and hundreds of years ago. That
9 | is the proof right there. There is one right around
10 | this hill up there where the highway is going now
11 | and this thing is road river -- all of that people
12 | have been travelling there through a hundred years
13 | just to make their living and some white people say,
14 | "How many years ago is that done?" But remember, we
15 | haven't got no airplanes, we never go no place for
16 | anything, no highway, or no vehicle, or no Skidoo or
17 | nothing, we just use our legs. So you see how much
18 | people that they worn that ground down through that
19 | country and they say 800 people. Now, 850 people's
20 | sewage down here in Fort McPherson and they're
21 | really busy, there are guys there -- there are all
22 | kinds of people who are taking it down and did you
23 | ever see a mess down there. How in the heck they
24 | are going to clean our country? -- There is no way.
25 | Garbage and sewers, that's destroying the country,
26 | so this is what I just had in my mind. Thank you
27 | very much, that is all that I have to say. Until
28 | later on. THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you.

29 | Do you want to translate that.

30 | A I can translate that

1 | myself.

2 | THE COMMISSIONER: Certainly.

3 | A I am a Loucheux, that's
4 | all I learn. I've never been to school so I guess I
5 | wouldn't make no mistakes.

6 |

7 |

(WITNESS ASIDE)

8 |

9 |

DORIS ITSI sworn:

10 |

A First of all I'd like to
11 | welcome Mr. Berger and his people, my chief, all my
12 | people for coming to this meeting. I haven't got very
13 | much 11 to say. I got lots to say, but everytime I put
14 | my glasses on it seems to fog up with me and I just
15 | can't see pages of it, so I'll have to leave it until I
16 | get all this sweat off my face. That's all I have to
17 | say.

18 |

19 |

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THE COMMISSIONER: Thank

A Thank you.

(WITNESS ASIDE)

THE COMMISSIONER: We have
23 | heard from the Chief and the members of the council.
24 | If anybody who is here today wishes to say anything now
25 | you may do so. If you want to come and speak at this
26 | microphone where the interpreter is you may, or if you
27 | want to use one of the other microphones, you may.

I think we will just take a
29 | break for five minutes while those of you who want to
30 | speak are collecting your thoughts, so we'll just stop

1 | for five minutes and stretch our legs.

2 |

3 | (PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED)

4 | (PROCEEDINGS RESUMED PURSUANT TO ADJOURNMENT)

5 | THE COMMISSIONER: Well, I
6 | think we are ready to begin again, ladies and gentlemen
7 | and to hear from any of you who are anxious to say what
8 | you have to say this afternoon.

9 | MR. FRANCIS: This is a brief
10 | presented to you, Justice Berger, by Mrs. Mary
11 | Vittrewka of Fort McPherson.

12 | THE COMMISSIONER: Excuse me,
13 | I couldn't hear you.

14 | MR. FRANCIS: Yes, this is a
15 | brief presented to you by Mrs. Mary Vittrewka of Fort
16 | McPherson.

17 | THE COMMISSIONER: Mrs.
18 | Mary--?

19 | MR. FRANCIS: Mary Vittrewka,
20 | This will probably be given to you.

21 | THE COMMISSIONER: Oh, fine,
22 | fine -- well, you carry on then.

23 | MR. FRANCIS: John here would
24 | like me to read the whole thing right through through
25 | then I will hand it to him and he can translate that
26 | back into Loucheux.

27 | THE COMMISSIONER: Is the
28 | lady who wrote it here today?

29 | MR. CHARLIE: Yes, she is here,
30 | but it is hard for her to speak.

1 THE COMMISSIONER: Oh, I know
2 that, but -- I see, well, fine. I quite understand
3 that you would want it read by someone else, but I just
4 wanted to know that you were with us today, so H that
5 is fine, you carry right on.

6 MR. FRANCIS: "It's hard for
7 me to speak --"

8 THE COMMISSIONER: Oh, excuse
9 me. I wonder if we could just swear in Mrs. Vittrewka
10 and she could say that this is her statement. Would
11 that be all right?

12 MARY VITTEWKA, sworn.

13 (Interpreter, Mr. Francis)

14 THE COMMISSIONER: Carry
15 right on,

16 THE INTERPRETER: Thank you
17 very much.

18 A It is hard for me to
19 speak English well. When a white man talks to me I
20 cannot understand very well, so I have taken this
21 person to write for me.

22 All my life since I was our I
23 grew up in the bush and never really lived in town. so
24 all my life I really enjoyed bush life and always
25 stayed out in the bush.

26 On this land of ours we have
27 caribou. The white man called them "wild animals,"
28 The caribou is good to eat, we have always had
29 it as one of our main food. Now, after the pipeline
30 is built if it ever gets built, the caribou may stay

1 Gabe Andre, and they go right through the fish
2 lake, that is quite a -- sometimes my mother, she
3 just cries and talks about this land, about the
4 fish, living on the good fish, every lake a fish
5 lake, and us too, we just worry about our living,
6 There would be something wrong with the pipeline,
7 around the Travaillant Lake, but not only destroyed
8 over there, destroyed right down the Mackenzie and
9 right down the whole Mackenzie delta and down the
10 coast -- all over. That's what the people talk
11 about. They just talk about this land and about
12 the pipeline too.

13 That's all I could say.
14 Maybe I am going to say a few words after.

15 Now I talk Loucheux to the
16 Indians. I can talk Loucheux easy.

17 THE COMMISSIONER: I will
18 be visiting Arctic Red River later this year to hear
19 what the people there have to say and of course to -
20 - hear from you again at that time. Michael Jackson
21 of my staff will be talking to you about coming
22 there later in the year. Thank you again.

23 A Okay, thanks. (WITNESS ASIDE)

24 CHIEF JOHNNY KAY; sworn.

25 (Interpreter, Mr. Charlie)

26 A Judge Berger, I would
27 like to say welcome to McPherson and I thank you for
28 coming and being with us today.

29 I lived many years and how
30 people living, I am going to tell a little about it.

1 Long ago people lived in 3
2 the country, that time they have only bow and arrow.
3 They have stone axe. Them days they have caribou
4 skin, what they call wigwam and to bring that, he says
5 he is now making the poles for that. It was long
6 after that, he said, the Hudson's Bay people first
7 came and that time is the first time they are starting
8 to see gun.

9 After that first gun came
10 was next they brought muzzle loaded, They start to
11 bring -- first start bringing axes. After they bring
12 muzzle loader it was many years after this start
13 bringing what like rifles, like a 30-30 or guns like
14 that.

15 In them days people used to
16 go all over wherever they know there is caribou and
17 they go all over the country living off the land.
18 from there on there is many changes. Us were young in
19 them days and now we are older people and we are 1
20 still living -- trying to still live off the land.

21 Today, with all the
22 different things that we buy from store, we are living
23 better than them days.

24 Now, if they put the
25 pipeline through, our land is going to be destroyed,
26 this why don't want to see pipeline come through.

27 Seismic work going through
28 the country, they really do some damage. Where I stay
29 down river, I don't stay there now, but one time ago
30 I stayed there. I built a house right at the mouth of

1 | year in September to catch fish. He stays there and
2 | fishes in September. From there he hunts up on the
3 | mountains. He said he is very much in opposition to
4 | this because he makes his living there every fall
5 | and he hears these 800 workers are going to set up
6 | camp here and then he said that he will have no
7 | place to go.

8 | THE COMMISSIONER: Did you
9 | say at the mouth of the Rat River?

10 | A Up the Rat River -- not
11 | right at the mouth of it. Right at the foothills.
12 | Destruction City -- that is really the name for it.
13 | Right at the foothills.

14 | He is in opposition to this
15 | because he says, it is not only him that makes his
16 | living there, but he says that it is almost everybody
17 | in McPherson that has to rely on that Rat River.

18 | He says that he doesn't
19 | expect to live there too much -- very long; what he
20 | is concerned about, is his children.

21 | That is all he has to say
22 | and if he thinks of anything else he will come back
23 | tomorrow.

24 | THE COMMISSIONER: I wonder
25 | if we could go to the map and you could show us where
26 | your camp is? Could you do that?

27 |

28 |

(WITNESS ASIDE)

29 |

30 |

JIM THOMPSON, sworn.

1 (Interpreter, Mr. Charlie)
2 A Judge Burger, this is
3 Jim Thompson. Before I going to say a few words, like
4 to tell two short stories.

5 The white people come from
6 south and they say we are stupid, so they call us
7 "rabbit ". The people that study, the scientists, they
8 say we come from monkey. That's why I think we are
9 called stupid.

10 Long ago Christopher
11 Columbus,, he was going to India and he got lost, is
12 how he came to Canada, is how he found it, where he
13 first landed, is place where he first came to Indian
14 people.

15 When they see South America
16 and the other one -- the other one it is called Panama,
17 and this Columbus, he was running low on food and they
18 were going hungry.

19 What I am mentioning is not
20 what somebody told me. I never been to school and
21 still I could read and all what I read is what I see
22 myself. So he went and asked these Indian people for
23 food and they told him that they are not going to give
24 him any. So he told these Indian people if they don't
25 give him any food he is going to make that moon dark.
26 Well, he got these Indian people scared so they gave
27 him food that he wanted. So this is how the white man
28 was -- he was starving and the Indian people gave him
29 food, this is how they helped him out.

30 When the white people first

1 I don't want that pipeline to go across Mackenzie
2 Delta.

3 Tomorrow he says he has
4 written brief which will be presented tomorrow and that
5 is about the land and this is what I have to say for
6 the pipeline.

7 Last of all I would like to
8 say thank you very much for coming here and if you
9 didn't come we would never seen you, so I am happy that
10 you are here with us today.

11 Thank you very much.
12 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you,
13 sir.

14 ANDREW KUNNIZZI, sworn.
15 (Interpreter, Mr. Charlie)

16 A First of all I would
17 like to say that I am very pleased to have you sitting
18 with us on this Inquiry. Before you came here pretty
19 near every night on the radio I hear you, so when you
20 came it was just like I seen you already. That is how
21 I know.

22 When you came yesterday, I
23 saw you going by and we went down to you and I shook
24 hands with you. That time when I think when I seen
25 you, you are going to talk to us and I thought you are
26 going to help us.

27
28 Exploration work has done lots of damage to our
29 country. You heard many times now and I'd like to
30 say a few words on that myself. I was born in this

1 cattle, raise pigs, and got sheep and they grow on
2 the farm and they got that and if there is no fish
3 and no game in the country, they wouldn't worry one
4 bit about that. So we don't want to lose our fish
5 and our game and our fur. This is why we don't want
6 to see pipeline coming through.

7 Even that if they are going
8 to put the pipeline through, I hope they put it where
9 it is not going to do any damage.

10 That is all I have to say.

11 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you,
12 very much, sir.

13 BELLA ALEXEI, sworn.

14 THE COMMISSIONER: Can you
15 translate that as we go along

16 THE INTERPRETER:

17 A First of all he said I'd
18 like to mention as she is 82 years old ad never been to
19 school, I don't understand very much, I a going to say
20 a few words.

21 When a small child talks to
22 his grandmother, she say his grandmother listen to him
23 and look after him good.

24 Before you came to McPherson
25 we heard you was coming and we are glad that you
26 are sitting here with us and what we mainly want I hope
27 you help us a lot on it. One of the thing is this
28 land, when we say this land is our land it's many
29 years -- many years since our people live on it and
30 we still living on it and there is one person he

1 she says.

2 That is all I have to say and
3 thank you.

4 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you
5 very much, ma'am. (WITNESS ASIDE)

6 It is almost 5 o'clock.
7 Chief. Maybe we should stop now until this evening.
8 Would that be all right?

9 THE CHIEF: When would you
10 like to come back?

11 THE COMMISSIONER: Eight
12 o'clock, would that be all right?

13 THE INTERPRETER: Do you want
14 this announced?

15 THE COMMISSIONER: Yes.
16 Ladies and Gentlemen, I think we will stop now, so we
17 can have some supper. But I want to start again
18 tonight at eight o'clock so if we could all come back
19 here to the gym at eight o'clock tonight we'll just
20 carry on, and anybody else that wants to speak can come
21 tonight at eight o'clock I'll be ready to listen to
22 each one of you then.

23 May I add that these people
24 here work for me and they are making a record of what
25 is said so that I will have what each of you has said
26 in writing and when I leave Fort McPherson I can read
27 what you've said and re-read it so that I will not
28 forget it. Maybe you could translate that.

29 THE COMMISSIONER: We will
30 adjourn then until eight o'clock tonight, so thank you

1 | all And I-will see you then.

2

3 | (PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED)

4 | (PROCEEDINGS RESUMED PURSUANT TO ADJOURNMENT)

5

6 | THE COMMISSIONER: Well,
7 | ladies and gentlemen, we will call our meeting to order
8 | this evening and just before we go ahead I think the
9 | chief has something to say to you.

10

11 | THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you
12 | very much, chief. So we will start again then, and
13 | those of you who wish to speak please feel free to come
14 | forward and go right ahead.

15

MARY FIRTH, sworn.

16

(Interpreter, Mr. Charlie)

17

18 | A She said her name is
19 | Mary Firth from Fort McPherson and she'd like to
20 | say a few words. She said we all should come
21 | forth with some of the things that we are
22 | concerned about this pipeline and I'd like to say
23 | a few words myself.

23

24 | What I mainly have in mind
25 | is mainly concerning the pipeline. We've been
26 | hearing that the pipeline is going to come through
27 | and we're all opposed to have it and even that if
28 | it's going to come it's going to come. If the
29 | pipeline is going to come through, the main thing we
30 | would like to see is we get more, more -- more than
anybody else will get on this job, and what I like

1 I'd like to mention is all I have to say about the
2 pipeline, and with a pipeline coming through we
3 are worried that we are going to lose all our game
4 and fur, how come they can never finish the
5 mosquitoes?

6 THE COMMISSIONER: Have you
7 got an answer to that, Mr. Carter?

8 MR. CARTER: You should
9 ask Mr. Ellwood that, now that he's part of it.

10 THE COMMISSIONER: Well,
11 you weren't here the last time we asked a question
12 of the oil -- the pipeline companies, so I thought
13 I'd ask you first this time.

14 I should say that the
15 gentlemen I was just speaking to are the gentlemen
16 who represent the pipeline companies, so, Mrs.
17 Firth, I asked them to answer your question, but
18 didn't get an answer.

19 (LAUGHTER)

20 (WITNESS ASIDE)

21 JOHN BLAKE, sworn.

22 A My name is John Blake
23 and I would like to thank Mr. Justice Berger for
24 being here with us tonight. I heard you were coming
25 but the way the things were going I thought you'd
26 never get here, but I guess you made it.

27 First of all I'd like to
28 talk on the pipeline. HOW many people here tonight
29 been telling you we don't like the pipeline. You
30 have travelled through the whole Mackenzie District,

1 I guess everywhere you went you heard the same
2 thing, we don't want the pipeline. But I know for
3 certain myself and I know other peoples know the
4 pipeline is coming whether we like it or not, it is
5 coming, there is too much money involved in it,
6 there is millions of dollars been spent on this
7 pipeline already and there is going to be billions
8 more spent on it.

9 If you go along with us now
10 and say it is not coming, the pipeline outfit will
11 come back on you because there is too much money
12 involved in it, been spent on it and I know the
13 white people they don't throw away five cents for
14 nothing, they have to come back and collect it. So
15 I know therefore the pipeline is going to work with
16 us until they get it.

17 Take for instance, they
18 have a small pipeline from Norman Wells to
19 Whitehorse. It was a four-inch pipe. Now, what
20 they are asking is for a four-foot pipe. In between
21 Norman wells and Whitehorse there is vehicles strewn
22 from one end to the other which is not picked up
23 yet. Will that happen to this pipeline that is
24 going to be built now?

25 But before I go any further
26 I would like to ask you one question. If I ask that
27 lawyer for the pipeline any questions during my
28 speech here could they answer me?

29 THE COMMISSIONER: Yes,
30 they'll certainly try.

1 | been doing damage which they don't come back and
2 | clean up. There's gas drums strewn all over the
3 | lakes and the rivers, on the portages, anywhere you
4 | go you find gas drums, not only that -- you'll find
5 | this ad that that the gas people left behind.

6 | I am kind of tongue-tied now,
7 | but I'll catch on to it, but right now I'd like to ask
8 | the lawyer for the oil outfit, could I ask them a
9 | question?

10 | THE COMMISSIONER: Certainly.
11 | Why don't you and Mr. Ellwood and anybody else you
12 | need sit --

13 | A Sorry for interrupting.
14 | Mr. Berger, could I ask Tadit to translate that one
15 | before I get onto this lawyer?

16 | THE COMMISSIONER: Sure,
17 | yes.

18 | THE INTERPRETER: That is a
19 | long one there, John.

20 | A I'm sorry for that.

21 | THE INTERPRETER: That's a
22 | might long, on because I didn't get most of it, but I'll
23 | try to cover most of what he said, the basic part of it.

24 | A Could I mention another
25 | thing here. Like I told him, the trappers of the
26 | Northwest Territories is the one that's going to
27 | suffer.

28 | THE COMMISSIONER: Mr. Carter
29 | and Mr. Ellwood, maybe you would like to sit over there
30 | and just answer these questions, and Mr. Workman. This

1 THE COMMISSIONER: It would
2 probably catch fire?

3 MR. WORKMAN: It would
4 probably catch fire, yes.

5 THE COMMISSIONER: All right.

6 MR. WORKMAN: However, the
7 equipment that would have would shut off the pressure
8 very quickly and the fire would not last any length of
9 time. But there would be definitely a fire if there
10 was a break, but I would like to emphasize that it is a
11 very, very remote possibility that the line would
12 break.

13 THE COMMISSIONER: Do you
14 want to translate that.

15 THE COMMISSIONER: Do you
16 want to add anything, Mr. Ellwood?

17 MR. ELLWOOD: Yes, I would
18 just add that if the pipeline should break the gas
19 that escapes, if it does not ignite, is lighter than
20 air and will rise. It doesn't stay near the ground
21 and it is non-poisonous -- it doesn't kill vegetation
22 outright or animals, etc. The experience that we have
23 had with operating pipelines in the south indicate to
24 us that we would not expect the pipeline to break any
25 more than once every fifteen years about, as a worst
26 condition.

27 THE COMMISSIONER: Feel free
28 to ask any further questions, sir, if you wish.

29 A Like this four-foot
30 pipe, you are talking about, how thick is that four

1 gentlemen, represent Arctic Gas -- Foothills wants
2 to bring gas from the delta south, but they haven't
3 said, they haven't proposed to bring Prudhoe Bay gas
4 across along the coast and then down past McPherson
5 to Travaillant Lake. So the Foothills project would
6 be some distance from McPherson.

7
8 Do you want to translate
9 that? I hope I am doing justice to these proposals.

10 Mr. Carter, you feel free
11 to add anything to what I have said. As I
12 understand it the Foothills pipeline would be some
13 distance from McPherson and yours would be nearby,
14 and I think these people should know that, but if
15 you want to add anything to what I have said, you go
16 right ahead. I don't want to --

17 MR. ELLWOOD: Perhaps, Mr.
18 Commissioner, I should indicate on the map where
19 ours is and I could probably get the scale at that
20 time too.

21 THE COMMISSIONER: All
22 right.

23 Mr. ELLWOOD, on that map
24 when you get up on your chair there, point out to us
25 where McPherson is to start with.

26 MR. ELLWOOD: Fort
27 McPherson is right here. Here is Inuvik.

28 THE COMMISSIONER: So
29 where would your pipeline be?

30 MR. ELLWOOD: The Foothills

1 | pipeline would roughly follow the line as far as
2 | here, it goes farther east of Travaillant Lake about
3 | four miles farther east as shown here. Joins there
4 | and then again roughly follows this line and so the
5 | Ebbutt Hills were on the west side, and over the top
6 | of the hills, following that line to the south. And
7 | this is roughly 100 miles from Fort McPherson on the
8 | east side of Travaillant Lake.

9 | THE COMMISSIONER: All
10 | right. Do you want to translate that.

11 | MR. FRANCIS: Where is that
12 | bend in the river where you come close by the Mackenzie?

13 | MR. ELLWOOD: That's here,
14 | away at the Ebbutt Hills.

15 | MR. FRANCIS: No, way up
16 | north -- right there.

17 | MR. ELLWOOD: Right, just
18 | south of Travaillant Lake is where we come close to the
19 | river again. Here is Little Chicago, just north of
20 | Little Chicago.

21 | THE COMMISSIONER: Well, your
22 | questions have really started something here. You carry
23 | on, sir, if you have any further questions.

24 | MR. CARTER: Sir, just
25 | before that perhaps -- we didn't mention the cross
26 | delta proposal that is being considered as well, and
27 | perhaps Mr. Workman could point that out, the fact
28 | that both interior and coastal would come near Fort
29 | McPherson.

30 | THE COMMISSIONER: Yes, all
right, we'll do that. Just hang on a minute and

1 | to the people of the Northwest Territories. You had
2 | your trial bases on the short run. I never seen you
3 | going over mountains, through swamps and over
4 | glaciers. I am going to ask you right now. Have you
5 | ever had a break in the south? Ever had a break in the
6 | pipeline in 60 below? I know you never had no 60 below
7 | in the south.

8 | MR. ELLWOOD: To the best
9 | of my knowledge we have never had a pipeline break
10 | at that temperature. As you say it rarely gets that
11 | cold down south.

12 | A What would happen if
13 | you had in 60 below?

14 | MR. ELLWOOD: I think very
15 | much the same thing would happen at that
16 | temperature. The temperature really makes no
17 | difference to the way the gas behaves. There is
18 | still the possibility of a fire. If there were no
19 | fire the gas would still rise. The temperature has
20 | very little effect on that.

21 | THE COMMISSIONER: You had
22 | better translate this.

23 | A Another thing I'd like
24 | to ask you, how far apart would be your shut-off
25 | valves?

26 | MR. WORKMAN: I am not
27 | positive of the answer to that, but I can say
28 | definitely that they are at least every fifty miles.
29 | I believe that they are more frequent than that, but I
30 | know definitely at least every fifty miles.

1 MR. ELLWOOD: The
2 Foothills' proposal calls for shut-off valves at
3 each compressor station which is approximately every
4 fifty miles as well.

5 A You say fifty miles
6 apart. What if it broke half way between, which is
7 25 miles and there is nothing between that fifty
8 miles and it is broken in half way. How much is
9 going to come out in that 25 miles? It is going to
10 run forward and the other out from the other end is
11 going to run backward. Either way you shut it off
12 it is coming back to that half way mark where it is
13 cut off. How much damage is going to be done in
14 there?

15 MR. WORKMAN: As Mr.
16 Ellwood explained, the gas that will leak out of the
17 line if there is a break, will go up in the air. It
18 is lighter than air, so it will rise. So there'd be
19 very little more damage from, say, one mile of gas
20 escaping -- or pardon me, there would be very little
21 more damage done from fifty miles escaping than
22 there would be for one mile escaping. If there is a
23 fire that fire would be right in that local area and
24 the gas, if there is no fire, would still go
25 straight up.

26 THE COMMISSIONER: Well,
27 Mr. Workman, you say that if the gas doesn't catch
28 on fire it goes straight up and we'll never see it
29 again. We won't see it in the first place, but we
30 won't hear of it again. But if it does catch fire,

1 | in the air must come back down, and you say it
2 | takes an hour and twenty minutes from the time you
3 | shut it off for it all to evaporate. In that one
4 | hour and twenty minutes it can do a heck of a lot
5 | of damage. You see the delta here, it's nothing
6 | but willows and trees, it is really brushy, it is
7 | not like out in the barren lands. If it ever -- if
8 | it so happened to catch fire even six miles from
9 | here down river, the whole delta is going -- there
10 | is no stopping it.

11 | THE COMMISSIONER: Do you
12 | want to translate that?

13 | THE INTERPRETER: Yes.

14 | THE COMMISSIONER: Mr.
15 | Ellwood, could you answer a question for me while we
16 | are on this subject. The -- you say that if there
17 | were a break in the line the gas would keep coming
18 | out of the line for an hour and twenty minutes.
19 | What are the chances so far as Foothills is
20 | concerned of that gas catching on fire rather than
21 | just being dissipated into the air?

22 | MR. ELLWOOD: I couldn't
23 | answer that question. I am not familiar with those
24 | statistics.

25 | THE COMMISSIONER: Do you
26 | know, Mr. Workman?

27 | MR. WORKMAN: I believe that
28 | it is a pretty high chance that it will catch fire, just
29 | from the friction of the gas going past the torn metal.

30 | THE COMMISSIONER: I am

1 | sorry, you say a pretty good chance it will catch
2 | fire, and what was the reason for that?

3 | MR. WORKMAN: Well, the
4 | friction, the heat of the -- the heat produced by
5 | the force going by the jagged end of the pipe, and
6 | so on.

7 | MR. ELLWOOD: I would just
8 | like to point out to Mr. Blake, if I may, that in
9 | the event that a pipeline break did occur, this
10 | would be noted in our Operations Control Centre in
11 | Yellowknife and we would immediately have crews in
12 | the field to correct the situation to fight the fire
13 | if one occurred. The chances of a major fire
14 | spreading over the delta are very, very slur indeed
15 | with the forces that we could mobilize to combat the
16 | situation.

17 | MR. WORKMAN: I would like
18 | t take this opportunity to emphasize to everyone the
19 | difference between gas and gasoline. I think that a
20 | lot of people think that this is a liquid that is
21 | going to be in the pipeline and when it goes up in
22 | the air it will fall back down as droplets of
23 | liquid. That is not the case. The gas is like air.
24 | It is not a liquid. It is not like gasoline. It's
25 | like air and it will go right up.

26 | THE COMMISSIONER: Do you
27 | want to translate that.

28 | MR. FRANCIS: No, I was just
29 | speaking to the Chief here.

30 | I would like to say here at

1 | this point that this is a very, very touchy thing -
2 | and it is not a touchy thing, it is a tongue-
3 | twister. There is no -- you have got to have some
4 | sort of visual way to say it. There is no way I can
5 | explain gas -- natural gas and gasoline for the
6 | people. You just have got to say "gas" and the
7 | people think it is gasoline. There is no word for
8 | natural gas. So it is very difficult.

9 | THE COMMISSIONER: Yes,
10 | well, you are doing certainly the best you can. I
11 | think that we'll let this gentleman ask his
12 | remaining questions and then we might take a break
13 | for a minute or two because I know you have run into
14 | some pretty tough going here, Mr. Interpreter.

15 | Do you have any more
16 | questions? I have the feeling you have. Go ahead.

17 | A Yes, I'd like to ask
18 | two or three more questions. I hope that I don't
19 | take all night, but how big a crew would you have on
20 | hand in case there was a fire?

21 | MR. ELLWOOD: There would
22 | be approximately 60 people stationed in Inuvik, 53
23 | people, I think, in Norman Wells and 90 people in
24 | Fort Simpson. I am not sure how many of those we
25 | could mobilize right away. Some of them would of
26 | course have to remain on their jobs at those
27 | places to run the compressors. Certainly we could
28 | get I would think 40 people from each location if
29 | we had to on an emergency situation.

30 | MR. WORKMAN: With Arctic

1 Gas we would have 80 employees, approximately 80
2 employees in Inuvik, 60 in Norman Wells, 60 in Fort
3 Simpson, a total of around 200 in the Northwest
4 Territories, but -- do you want to translate that --

5 In the event of a break in
6 the line and a fire, we would be recruiting people
7 as fast as we could to help fight the fire and we
8 would co-operate with the Forestry Department to
9 bring in extra people too.

10 A Supposing there was no
11 break in the gas line and a fire occurred and the
12 pipeline was, say, two or three feet above the
13 ground level, maybe more, maybe less. Would it
14 cause an explosion without a break in the line?

15 MR. ELLWOOD: This pipeline
16 will not be above ground. It will all be buried
17 except for a few short feet of pipe at each
18 compressor station and those are on a gravel pad
19 where there could be no forest fire or ground fire
20 in the area -- right around the pipe.

21 A Would there be
22 people there at all times where you have it above
23 ground?

24 MR. WORKMAN: When we first
25 start up the pipeline we will have somebody at all
26 these compressor stations doing one job or the other
27 to get the bugs out of the system. Someday we might
28 get to the point where the line is completely
29 running by itself and not have people in these
30 compressor stations. But there will usually be

1 maintenance people around the compressor stations
2 even when we don't have operators at each station.

3 A And another thing I
4 would like to ask. Who would be paying for the
5 firefighters if there was a fire occurred? Would the
6 gas company pay for all firefighters or would the
7 Government pay for the firefighter?

8 MR. WORKMAN: If the fire
9 was the responsibility or caused by the pipeline we
10 would certainly pay for the cost of fighting it. I
11 think though, if there is any doubt as to what the
12 cause of the fire was we wouldn't worry about who
13 was going to pay it. We would first get our people
14 in and try and put the fire out. But certainly if
15 it is caused by the pipeline we would pay for the
16 cost of putting the fire out.

17 MR. ELLWOOD: I should just
18 add, Mr. Commissioner, that Mr. Workman's answer
19 would be applicable to Foothills as well.

20 A Like you say, it all
21 depends on how the fire started. That will depend
22 on who pays for it. How would -- who is going to
23 pay for it if the lightning starts the fire?

24 MR. WORKMAN: I think if
25 lightning struck on the pipeline right-of-way or on
26 the compressor station, we would certainly put a
27 fire crew out there and put it out and pay for the
28 cost of that. If lightning strikes out in the
29 forest somewhere, away from the pipeline, I think
30 would be treated the same as a fire today.

1 THE COMMISSIONER: Do you
2 agree, Mr. Ellwood?

3 MR. ELLWOOD: Yes.

4 A The last question, I
5 guess that is what you are waiting for. Each and
6 every one of the trappers living in the Northwest
7 Territories have their own trapline. They go criss-
8 cross every which way but they still have their own
9 trapline. If and when the line do break on an
10 individual trapper and his trapline gets damaged by
11 the pipeline, will he be compensated -- if so, by
12 whom will he be compensated?

13 MR. ELLWOOD: Certainly if
14 any of our operations or facilities or any action
15 coming out of that damaged the trapline or other
16 activities of the local people here, we would
17 compensate. We don't have any fixed procedure for
18 how this would work yet. We hope to be able to work
19 that out in the coming year or so with the people
20 here as to how the claim should be submitted. But
21 certainly we would compensate these people and as
22 quickly as we possibly could.

23 MR. WORKMAN: I'd like to
24 say that Arctic Gas would follow the same procedure,
25 yes.

26 A You say you are
27 willing to pay the compensation to the trapper if and
28 when it breaks out and damages his area. Could you
29 give it to us black and white here tonight in writing
30 that you are willing to pay for it, or just say "yes"

1 | now and wouldn't give it to us in black and white and
2 | take off tomorrow?

3 | MR. ELLWOOD: The statement
4 | that I made to the effect that we would pay
5 | compensation is in our application which has been
6 | filed with Indian and Northern Affairs, the National
7 | Energy Board, and has just today been referred to
8 | Justice Berger. That statement is in that
9 | application, written down. There is a copy of the
10 | application in the settlement office here. So if
11 | you wish to see that.

12 | MR. WORKMAN: I would
13 | like to say that our president, Mr. Forte, I think
14 | has already made that statement and you have a
15 | statement made here tonight which will be in the
16 | transcripts too and I think that is as good as a
17 | letter to me.

18 | THE COMMISSIONER: These
19 | people over here are taking down what these
20 | gentlemen say and it will be in black and white
21 | written down, and we will send that transcript to
22 | Chief Charlie as soon as it is typed up.

23 | A If you are so worried
24 | about building the pipeline, why don't you people be
25 | backing us up for the land claims and wait until the
26 | land claims before you build a pipeline?

27 | MR. WORKMAN: Well, I
28 | would like to see the land claims settled too, but I
29 | am afraid this is not in our area. This is
30 | something that has to be settled, I think, between

1 | the Government and the Native peoples, and all I can
2 | say is that I would sure like to see it settled.

3 | THE COMMISSIONER: Is that
4 | your position too, Mr. Ellwood?

5 | MR. ELLWOOD: The Foothills
6 | position on the question of the land claims has been
7 | that we feel it would be beneficial if this issue
8 | could be settled before construction begins. We
9 | recognize that this is between the Native people and
10 | the Federal Government and that we really have no
11 | input into how this land claims settlement works and
12 | we also recognize that the connecting of the
13 | Mackenzie Delta reserves to the existing pipeline
14 | system ,:can't wait forever. The land claims would
15 | have to -- the land claims and construction of the
16 | pipeline would have to fall together here somewhere

17 | A Instead of building a
18 | pipeline, why don't you build a refinery down north
19 | instead of taking all the gas and oil south? You
20 | take it south they'll only have to bring it back
21 | north to sell to the northern people.

22 | MR. ELLWOOD: Most of the gas
23 | that will be moving down this pipeline is in its
24 | finished state already. It needs no further refining.
25 | It's used just as it is in the pipeline for home
26 | heating, driving thermal power stations, etc. It is
27 | not refined any further, so to that effect you can't
28 | do anything more with it up here. The products that
29 | would be coming back to the north from such a thing
30 | might include plastics and fertilizers which can be

1 | produced in factories already in the south.

2 | A Well, may I ask you a
3 | question. Could you build a refinery down here and
4 | then take it south instead of taking it through by
5 | pipeline?

6 | MR. WORKMAN: I think we
7 | are getting into a little confusion here between gas
8 | and oil again. This is gas that we are talking
9 | about, like air. The oil is something else again
10 | and maybe someday there might be enough oil to have
11 | a refinery in the north, but right now there isn't.
12 | There'll be -- the gas that comes out of the ground
13 | comes out like air and that will be what we call
14 | "treated". It will be cleaned up in a gas plant,
15 | and the finished product, the material that comes
16 | out of it will be suitable for burning in a stove
17 | and there will be nothing else coming down the
18 | pipeline, just this vapor material that you will
19 | burn in the stove. There won't be oil and so on.
20 | There won't be any liquid or any oil or diesel fuel.
21 | That is not in the pipeline. There is no diesel --
22 | just strictly a vapor.

23 | A Thank you very much
24 | for answering, my questions and I would just like to
25 | make another comment to Mr. Justice Berger and thank
26 | you very much.

27 | Mr. Justice Berger, I
28 | know that I have been taking up quite a bit of your
29 | time, but that was on my mind and I finally got it
30 | off my mind.

1 The reason, it is not the
2 only reason, but there is one reason I don't like to
3 see the pipeline coming through. Like I said
4 before, it is coming through whether we like it or
5 not, there is too much money involved. It is coming
6 through for sure. I know most of the younger
7 generation here realizes it is coming whether we
8 like it or not.

9 You take for instance the
10 last few years. The caribou have been getting
11 scarce -- except for last winter, you might as well
12 say they came to our doorstep here in McPherson. It
13 is not going to happen every year. The waterfowl
14 are getting less and less in the last five years. I
15 know because I am quite old -- I don't look that
16 old, but I am getting quite old anyway but I know
17 that they're getting scarce all the time. There has
18 got to be a reason behind that, that they are
19 getting scarce.

20 These oil exploration,
21 what they are leaving behind is doing a lot of
22 damage. It is not only the waterfowl. It is the
23 rabbits that come around on the road. They get to
24 these seismic wires and they start eating, chewing
25 at it, anybody here in this place will tell you that
26 they seen it with their own eyes. They have been
27 chewing at these seismic lines. Any more
28 exploration that has been done in the Northwest
29 Territories, especially down here, I hope they pick
30 them all up. That is all I have to say for now. I

1 | will be back again, speaking a little more to you
2 | tomorrow, and I hope that it is shorter tomorrow.
3 | Thanks very much. (WITNESS ASIDE)

4 | THE COMMISSIONER: I think
5 | that we should stop for a few minutes. Did you want
6 | to say something before we stopped? I was going to
7 | ask when we -- I thought that we'd stop for about 15
8 | minutes and then start again about 15 minutes from
9 | now and Mrs. Sarah Simon, I think is going to show
10 | us some slides about Fort McPherson, so, if that is
11 | all right, Chief, perhaps we could do that.

12 | Did you want to say
13 | something before we --

14 | CHIEF CHARLIE: No, that is
15 | quite okay with me if you want to stop for awhile,
16 | but just before we go on, I was handed a letter here
17 | from one woman that I'd like to read to you and then
18 | we'll break.

19 | THE COMMISSIONER: Certainly.
20 | CAROLINE KAY, sworn.

21 | CHIEF CHARLIE: This letter
22 | here reads:

23 | "Dear Berger.
24 | We are glad to see you and we listen to
25 | you all spring on the radio. We live out
26 | in the bush all the time. We make our
27 | living that way. My husband goes hunting
28 | and gets caribou or moose. When he brings
29 | the meat home we dry the meat. We
30 | pound the bone for grease, tan the skin,

1 we make babish out of the skins, we also
2 get sinew so that we can sew our shoes and
3 mitts. I also have hundred caribou leg
4 skins. That much I can't throw anything
5 away.

6 We mostly live on meat and fish.
7 We make dry fish and use it in the winter.
8 My husband and I leave for the foothills
9 in September. We stay up there until De-
10 cember 24. We come to town and leave
11 again in January back to our camp. We
12 come to town for Easter and go to our camp
13 again. We went back to our camp on May
14 the 2nd. We live on the Husky Channel.
15 We start fishing in July and goop the Rat
16 in September and trap there and get our
17 meat there.

18 We have fourteen dogs to feed.
19 If the pipeline comes through I don't know
20 how we will be doing. Maybe all the ani-
21 mals will go and what then? My dogs will
22 go hungry and myself. The pipeline peo-
23 ples they couldn't feed me or my dogs. My
24 husband and I are over 60 years. We don't
25 want our land destroyed. Thank you for
26 listening to me."

27 This is Caroline Kay.

28 (LETTER OF CAROLINE KAY MARKED EXHIBIT C-30)

29 THE COMMISSIONER: Thank
30 you, Mrs. Kay.

1 (WITNESS ASIDE)
2 THE COMMISSIONER: We
3 will adjourn a few minutes now just to get a cup of
4 tea and stretch our legs and we will start again,
5 say, about 15 minutes after ten and Mrs. Simon will
6 set up her slide show and we can all watch that
7 then.

8 (PROCEEDINGS ADJOURNED)

9

10 (PROCEEDINGS RESUMED PURSUANT TO ADJOURNMENT)

11 THE COMMISSIONER: We will
12 call our meeting to order again and I think that if
13 you want to see the slides you should all come
14 forward and it is all right with me if you want to
15 come up -- if the children want to come up and sit
16 at the front here so that they can see the screen
17 that is okay with me and everybody else, if you want
18 to move forward and take a seat, wherever you can
19 find one, you are certainly welcome to do that.

20 Would you translate that
21 and I'll just have Mrs. Simon sworn now.

22 SARAH SIMON sworn.

23 A This picture you see
24 on the screen now is taken in 1952 and this is your
25 old town. All these houses are made of logs. The
26 people builder themselves, and you see our church and
27 you see that big white building way up there, that is
28 the community hall, and up there three big white
29 buildings are Hudson Bay, and all these down here are
30 Native houses. This is before -- this is in 1952.

1 square logs and they built the church and when the
2 summer came, the month of July the people went away
3 fishing and the mens went too and put their nets in
4 and fixed up all their fish camps ready then we made
5 some smoked fish for them to have for their food.
6 They all came back. There is no such motor boat or
7 canoe with kicker on it. There is just paddling.
8 They came back up to town and they're working here
9 for one week. They go home on Saturday, then the
10 other bunch come up and their wives give them
11 bannock and fish to eat and we send them fish. They
12 don't work for money, they just do it for their
13 church and they rebuilt it and the first they worked
14 there all summer long and the inside is not
15 finished, but the first man that got married in the
16 new church is John Robert and Rachael Robert, They
17 got married inside that church, first. I always
18 remember them there. And now that is the one you
19 see down here right now. It has no bell and belfry
20 on it. It is just half broken down. It is really
21 pitiful for me. I am greedy of my church, and then
22 later on in 1940 sometime a missionary was here, Mr.
23 Dewdney, a good carpenter. He made all the chancel
24 walls very modern and the baptistery that Peter
25 Thompson donate the money for it and he fixed all
26 inside so it was beautiful and now it is just half
27 torn down. Sometimes I wonder if the men's could
28 get together and do something about it.

29 And now this is the time
30 when we have a day school here, that little day

1 school. The people have to stay right in town with
2 their children because the teachers don't want them
3 to take their children out into the bush. They
4 want the children -- she wants the children to be
5 right in town all the time, so people in the
6 summertime they try hard for dried fish and all
7 fall they are trying hard for frozen fish and meat
8 and fur like that so that they can leave their
9 children in the winter with some other friends, but
10 some of them stay right in town with them. This,
11 you see in this picture there is one girl lying
12 down there, Annie Firth, and this sitting up is
13 Florence Peterson, and that one, that setting rat
14 trap, name is Laura Thompson, sitting right in
15 here, in this room now. Laura Thompson and I, our
16 teacher asked us if we could teach the school
17 children how to trap rats and on this lake, back of
18 the settlement, that lake you see over -- which you
19 call Sewage Lake new, I am very very sorry and very
20 ashamed when I see that lake. It was a beautiful
21 lake, lots of rats on it and it kept clean all the
22 time, it was right close to the settlement, but --
23 and there's a creek from it on the north side
24 running to the river and it is good water. In
25 wintertime we get snow from there for drinking
26 water and in the spring, in the fall time with
27 Laura Thompson take half the children and I take
28 half and we take them on that lake and I go on
29 the north side and Laura takes them on the south
30 side and then there is a little lakes right around

1 teacher had a small little garden beside her house
2 and her and I we think it is really wonderful to
3 have a little garden there and that little birch
4 fence around the school, childrens -- school boys
5 made it for her . They don't ask for pay, they just
6 do it for their school teacher, and that is the
7 little garden she has.

8 Now, this is that new
9 school. You see it was building now. It is all
10 completed and she moved into there and this is the
11 first big school we call it, and you see those wood
12 around there, that is what we call relief. She give
13 it to the poor old people or sick people or somebody
14 that is really need wood. She give them wood from
15 this.

16 Now, you see this is old
17 town again. All these buildings, you see, the Indians
18 built it for themselves. They bring their own logs
19 and build it themselves. They even saw their own
20 lumber and that big clear place behind the settlement
21 you see, that was started by this same teacher too
22 and she wanted the community to have their own garden,
23 so she got that plowed and she started the garden
24 there and for about two years she tried hard with
25 it and I think only one person that had something
26 to eat from it is George Vittrewka, I think, and
27 we tried hard for potatoes and carrots and things like
28 that but the people are away in those days,
29 fishing and they have no time to come back and weed
30 the garden and so it didn't work out very good, and we

1 | were hoping that it will continue until the community
2 | will have big garden, but I left here, Fort McPherson,
3 | 1959 to Yukon, Whitehorse 1961 when I came back here -
4 | - 1962, when I came back here. It really made me feel
5 | sad to see that garden all gone and the houses are
6 | built on it and that's where we started a real good
7 | garden, but it didn't people just didn't have time to
8 | look after it.

9 | This boy -- and this boy is
10 | going away ratting. A big load of -- such as dog
11 | feed and groceries and all his equipment for hunting
12 | rats. I think this is Neil Snowshoe that is going
13 | away ratting.

14 | And this is the community
15 | feast. You see there, part of that house showing,
16 | that is the community hail, and all the rest is just
17 | Native houses around and this is one of the feasts,
18 | we call it feast. In those days, no traffic of any
19 | kind. All we have on our feet is moccasins made of
20 | moose hide. We don't even wear rubbers, I don't
21 | remember, just only on rainy days. That much of Fort
22 | McPherson's ground was good green grass, it is not
23 | dirty, so instead of in the house everybody sit
24 | outside on the grass and the mens served with
25 | whatever food is cooked, and you see that boy coming
26 | out with pot of something -- I think that's Johnny
27 | Charlie, and those mens are serving. In those days
28 | the womans are -- they are too embarrassed to get up
29 | and join the mens, whatever they do, so the womans
30 | are sitting down and the mens do the serving. Now

