

**Why Project Chariot?**

**In 1945, the US dropped nuclear bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.**

**In the following decade, the US carried out many nuclear bomb tests. One test site was in Nevada. Another was in the Marshall Islands, an island country in the Pacific.**

**In 1954, the US dropped the first hydrogen bomb on the island of Bikini. Winds blew the radioactive fallout farther than the researchers had predicted. It fell on the inhabited island of Rongelap, and on a Japanese fishing boat, causing burns, radiation sickness, and cancer.**

**By 1957, the US and Russia were preparing to stop nuclear testing.**

# Project Plowshare

A 1957 project by the Atomic Energy Commission to find peaceful uses for nuclear weapons

And they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more (Isaiah 2.4)

**If your mountain is not in the right place,  
drop us a line**

- Edward Teller, the director of Project Plowshare, also known as “Father of the H-Bomb” for his work in developing the hydrogen bomb.

**Project Chariot** was a loophole that allowed the AEC to continue experimenting with nuclear bombs, since peaceful uses of nuclear weapons did not fall under the test ban.

The project got tentative approval from President Eisenhower.

William Ransom Wood, President of the University of Alaska, supported the project.

AEC researchers began conducting tests at Cape Thompson, studying the effects of radiation on lichen, caribou and people(O'Neill, 1994).



Cape Thompson. Wikimedia commons

# Who opposed the project?

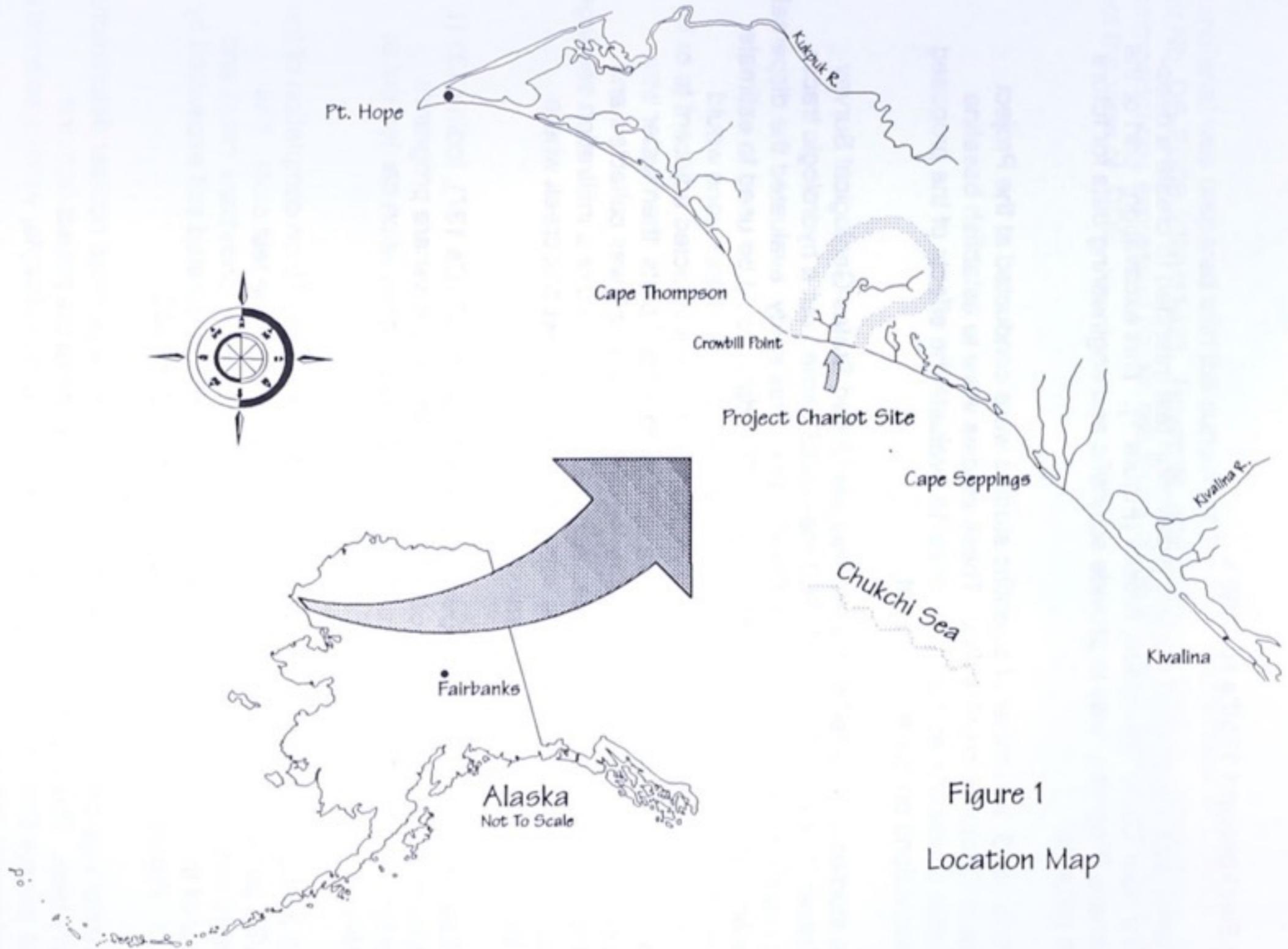


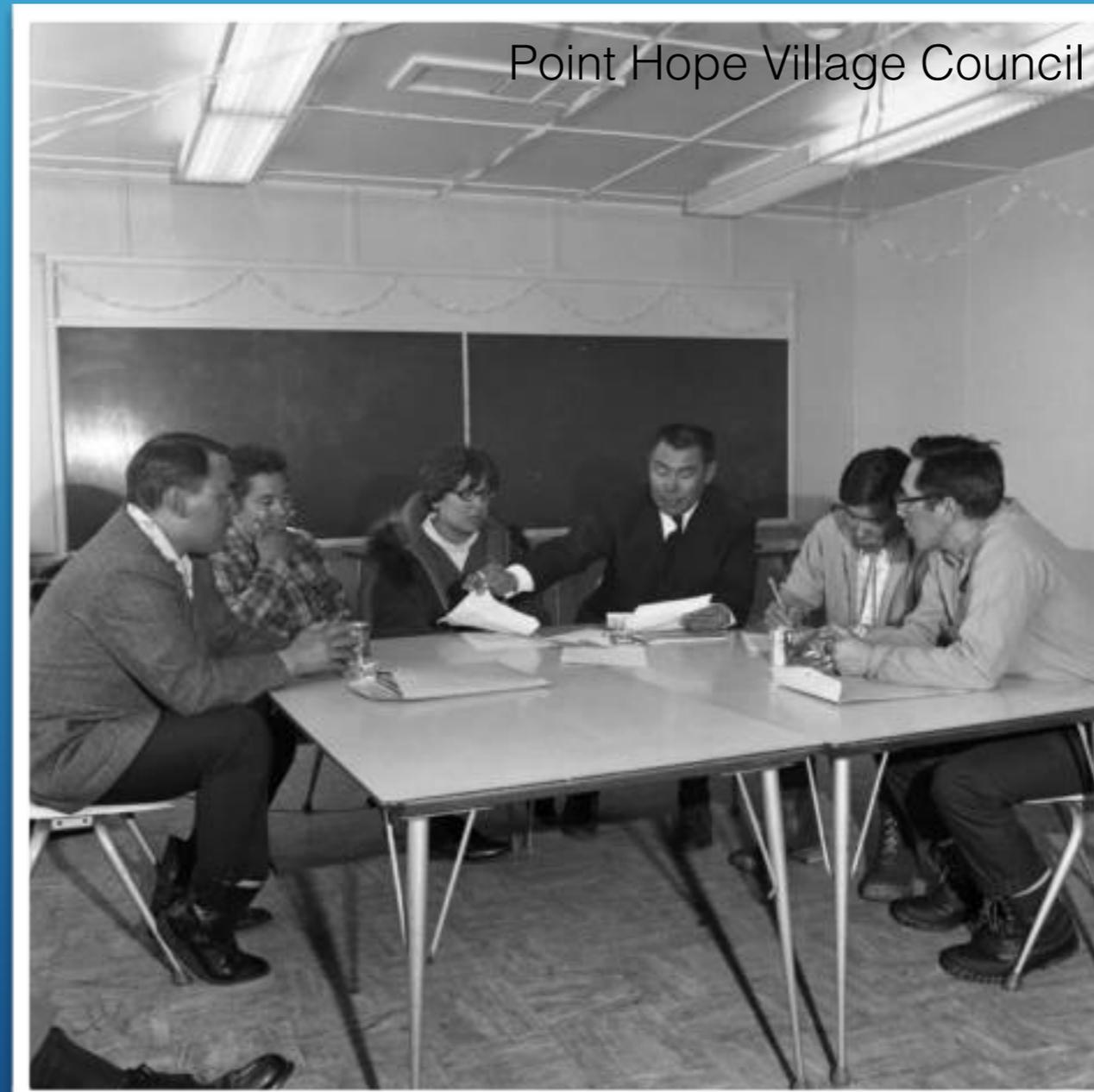
Figure 1  
Location Map

FIGURE I

**The Point Hope Village Council opposed Project Chariot.**

**Point Hope is thirty miles away from the blast site at Ogotoruk Creek.**

**The people of Point Hope hunt caribou and gather eggs near the blast site.**



# References

Location Map: ADEC Project Chariot Remediation Report Executive Summary.  
Courtesy of SLAM Archives.

Cape Thompson. Wikimedia Commons. Retrieved June 28, 2016.

O'Neill, Dan (1994). The Firecracker Boys. New York: Basic Books.

Point Hope Village Council (1968) AMRC, Steve McCutcheon Collection.  
Retrieved June 28 from <http://vilda.alaska.edu/cdm/singleitem/collection/cdmg2/id/6711/rec/1>