

# Borbridge for diplomatic post

JUNEAU--John Borbridge, Jr., Juneau, has been nominated to serve on a prestigious United States diplomatic mission to Belgrade, Yugoslavia.

Borbridge, president of Sealaska Corporation, was nominated by Ambassador Arthur J. Goldberg to serve as a member of his United States delegation to the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) which convened in Belgrade this week.

The Conference, scheduled for Oct. 4 through Dec. 22, will analyze and evaluate the implementation of the Final Act of the CSCE, more popularly known as the Helsinki Accord. The CSCE Conferences opened July 3, 1973 in Helsinki, Finland, and continued in Geneva, Switzerland throughout late July, 1975.

In a White House meeting on Sept. 23, attended by Borbridge and other members nominated to the Belgrade delegation, Justice Goldberg was sworn

in as Ambassador at Large to the United States diplomatic mission. In naming Borbridge, Goldberg said that to the best of his knowledge Borbridge is the first American Indian to be named as an official member of a diplomatic mission to another country.

Borbridge's nomination, which already has White House approval, will become effective upon completion of routine clearance procedures.

"The earlier work of the nations involved in the CSCE Helsinki Accord covered three major substantive areas," Borbridge explained. "There are political and military questions; economic, scientific and technological cooperation; and cooperation in expanding human contacts, information flows and cultural and educational relations."

Borbridge said the Conference will also evaluate the implementation of Helsinki Accord provisions and issues pertaining to Mediterranean countries.

According to Borbridge, all 35 nations involved in the signing of the Helsinki Accord are expected to participate in the Belgrade meeting.

Speaking for the State Department, Cyrus Vance, Secretary of State, said that the CSCE efforts should create an awareness of the administration's interest in promoting more stable and mutually beneficial relations between East and West, adding a comment that, "You are also aware of our commitment to honor and promote the rights of individuals, the human rights of all peoples, no matter what their political and social origins and affiliations."

The U.S. delegation consists of six members of the Senate and six members of the House of Representatives, together with five public members and three representing the executive branch of government.

"The presence of five public members (of which Borbridge

(Continued on page 8)

## Borbridge . . .

(Continued from page 4)

is one) makes very clear the prestige and the importance that the Nation attaches to these meetings," said Goldberg, adding that the public members would be official participants in both the plenary and the working sessions.

Borbridge said that "Human rights has always been a matter of top priority to me," citing his years of work on the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act and, more recently, his service as Commissioner on the American Indian Policy Review Commission.

"I accept this nomination with a deep sense of humility, gratification and commitment," he said. "It heightens the awareness of my own responsibilities, and the responsibility we all face, in the ongoing effort to improve the lifestyles of people everywhere, not just within our own borders."

Borbridge will not attend the preliminary sessions of the Belgrade Conference, he said, explaining that he had corporate matters to attend to first, and that he planned to join the other members of the delegation in Belgrade by Nov. 1.