

Nome radio station KNOM wins distinguished journalism citation

Nome radio station KNOM has won a Distinguished Journalism Citation from the Scripps-Howard Foundation. In presenting the award, Foundation president Matt Meyer commended the station for "meritorious efforts in dealing with the assimilation of Alaskan Natives into American life."

With the citation comes honorable mention in the Roy W. Howard Public Service Award competition for 1976, for which 772 radio stations had been considered.

Specifically honored were KNOM's production efforts for 1976, including the daily series

"Northwest Community College Word of the Day," sixty-two episodes of "Eskimo Stories and Legends," 850 subjects treated by "KNOM Encyclopedia," and hundreds of "Native Heritage", health, alcoholism, sanitation, safety and other public service spot announcements.

Presentation of the engraved citation was to have been made at an awards luncheon April 19th at the Union League Club in New York City, but, understandably, none of the KNOM staff was able to attend. The citation arrived by mail this

week.

About to enter its sixth year of service to Western Alaska, the 10,000 Watt KNOM is staffed by unpaid volunteers. The station is educationally oriented and broadcasts no commercials, funded instead by individual contributions and the donated salaries of five registered nurses who work at Norton Sound Regional Hospital in Nome and live as volunteers.

The station is owned by the Catholic Bishop of Northern Alaska.