



**AWARDED MEDAL**—Brigadier General Elmer P. Yates (right), Division Engineer of the North Pacific Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, congratulates Colonel Ernest L. Hardin, Jr., Alaska District Engineer, after presenting him the Army Commendation Medal (First Oak Leaf Cluster) for exceptionally meritorious service during the Tanana Valley flood restoration.  
—U.S. ARMY Photo

## Col. Hardin of US Engineers Earns Meritorious Medal

For exceptionally meritorious service during the Tanana Valley flood and damage restoration, Colonel Ernest L. Hardin, Jr., Alaska District Engineer, was awarded the Army Commendation Medal (First Oak Leaf Cluster) on December 7 by Brigadier General Elmer P. Yates, North Pacific Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Colonel Hardin received the award for his outstanding performance from August 15, 1967 to October 31, 1967. As

District Engineer, U. S. Army Engineer District, Alaska, he was directly involved in the search and rescue and flood fighting operations.

Subsequently he was fully responsible for the rehabilitation of all public utilities and buildings in the City of Fairbanks and the village of Nenana, a task requiring the negotiation of 69 contracts and completion of \$7,500,000 of work.

The rehabilitation work was so effectively coordinated

and executed that all schools and public buildings were repaired and public utilities, such as sewer, water, and power, were restored to full operation prior to the advent of freezing weather.

The citation accompanying the Army Commendation Medal reads in part, "... Through his dynamic leadership, superior organizational ability, tireless energy, and personal attention to detail, he was able to achieve outstanding success in his assigned mission."