

# ***US Government Asks Dismissal of State Land Suit***

The Federal Government has asked the U.S. District Court to dismiss the State's land claims suit.

The motion says, in part, that the Federal Government and the Nenana Indians cannot be sued without their consent. If this is accepted,

(continued on page 6)

# *Asks Dismissal . .*

(Continued from Page 1)

it would take an act of Congress to allow the State to resume its legal action, an attorney reports.

The State filed its suit to force the Secretary of the Interior to grant title to lands selected under the statehood act when such lands were included in Native land claims.

The Federal motion asks that the suit be dismissed because: the Secretary of the Interior cannot be forced by a court to rule one way or another on an appeal; the Federal Government and the Natives of Nenana have sovereign immunity, and cannot be sued without their consent; and the Nenana Indians were not named as defendants in the case.

The Nenana Indians have not yet intervened in the suit, and are waiting for the outcome of this motion before making any decision. This will probably take two weeks, and the State may ask for more time to answer the motion.