

AFN HEAD URGES COHESION

'Crucial Time Now' States Emil Notti On Land Situation

The Native people of Alaska must band together to make their voice heard on the land issue, says Emil Notti, President of the Alaska Federation of Natives.

"This summer important decisions will be made on the land issue that will affect the lives of our children and grandchildren," Notti reports.

"If we fail to stick together we will be standing on the sidelines when the land issue is settled and we will be the losers by default for not acting fast enough at the crucial time. The crucial time is now."

He notes that both the Federal Government and the State of Alaska have people working full time to draw up solutions to the land issue. However, their viewpoints may not agree with those of the Native people.

"The native people must also have people work full time on the land issue. They can do this through the Alaska Federation of Natives. But they must give their support now because the

land bill will be law before we know it if we wait."

Notti is presently sending copies of the AFN constitution and by-laws and minutes of the April meeting to villages across the State, inviting them to join the Federation.

"Villages may join directly into the Federation or... several villages may band together and join the Federation as one group," he writes.

"I urge each and every village to join and plan on sending delegates to the next meeting. I also urge all native people who want more information or want to support the Alaska Federation to write to me."

The AFN's mailing address is Box 515, Anchorage, Alaska, 99501.