

SIX DIE AT SAVOONGA CRASH

ALASKA'S FIRST CONSTABLES GRADUATE

Alaska's first constables graduated in ceremonies Thursday, May 8, at the Public Safety Academy in Sitka. Completing the six week, 280 hour session were: David Drvenkar, Unalakleet; James Gallen, Northway; Abraham Grey Bear, Chitna; and Roger Whitaker, Eagle.

These officers will be returning to their home areas to carry out a law enforcement program created by the Department of Public Safety to better meet the needs of rural Alaska and the pipeline communities. The constables will be uniformed, and be furnished with vehicles and standard police equipment.

The full-time mid-level law enforcement constable position falls between that of state trooper and village policeman. It carries the same police power as the trooper the the responsibilities for a larger geographic area than the village policeman.

The constable session, which included both in-class instruction and practical application, covered such diverse subjects as patrol and observation, emergency medical techniques and family disputes.

Department of Public Safety Commissioner Richard L. Burton commented, "I am extremely proud of these men. They did an

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Re D-2 Lands—

Permanent Body Asked

WASHINGTON, D.C. — A permanent planning body similar to the present Joint Federal-State Land Use Planning Commission should be a "key element" in the legislation dealing with the D-2 lands, said Sen. Mike Gravel, D-Alaska.

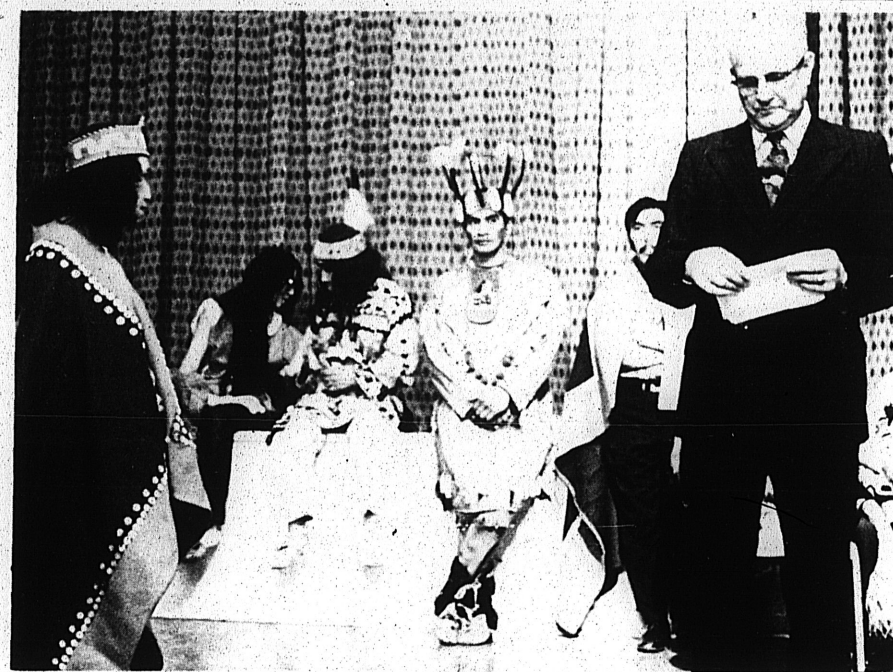
Gravel today again urged extension of the present joint commission until December 1978 to coincide with the deadline established in the Alaska Native Land Claims Settlement Act for treatment by Congress of the D-2 lands question.

He said the value of continuing commission activities in "not arguable" among major groups interested in the commission's activities.

Beyond that date, Gravel said in testimony submitted to the Senate Interior Committee, "I would suggest the need for the presence in Alaska of a body similar in character to the present planning commission, but with somewhat differing responsibilities."

The committee conducted a hearing on a number of bills related to the settlement act.

The Alaska democrat also called for reopening the settlement act



SJC PRESIDENT Dr. Merton D. Munn (right) reads speech at the closing session while Elaine Ramos (left), SJC Vice President for Institutional Development, translates the words into Tlingit for the audience. See more pics on Page 8.

Live and Fine Arts Conference at SJC a Success

(Special to the Tundra Times)

Over 60 Native artists, historians and teachers from across the state were registered in a Live and Fine Arts Conference April 24-26 at Sheldon Jackson College. In addition, over 200 persons attended the closing session which featured Eskimo

and Tlingit songs and dances.

The conference was scheduled to evaluate current instruction of Alaska Native Studies and to create some sharing of experiences and thoughts regarding many aspects of Native arts and culture.

Sixteen older Eskimo and Tlingit men and women came to Sitka as resource people.

These included Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Amouak and granddaughter of Fairbanks, who won first prize in the recent

Native Arts Festival for Eskimo Dance; Mr. and Mrs. Paul Tiulanna of Anchorage, a carver, Eskimo dancer and former chief of King Island Village; George Davis of Hoonah, an authority on Native history; Harry Bremner of Yakutat and Mr. and Mrs. George Jim of Angoon

Conference participants represented Eskimo, Tlingit, Haida and Tsimshian cultures. They attended individual sessions

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Bush Pilot Chuck Fagerstrom One Of Casualties

(From THE NOME NUGGET)

One of the worst disasters in Northwest Alaska aviation history occurred at Savoonga Monday evening. It took the lives of six people, including Charles (Chuck) Fagerstrom of Nome, the pilot.

Others who died in the take-off accident 1,500 feet north of the Savoonga airstrip were three Gambell school teachers and two teachers' aides.

They were Mike Carr, 32, principal teacher in the Bureau of Indian Affairs school; his wife Gloria, 29, a teacher; Gail Braden, 29, also a teacher; Virginia Osauk 27, a teachers' aide; and Lois Kaniingook, 38, also a teachers' aide.

All but Fagerstrom apparently died instantly; he remained alive only briefly after would-be rescuers reached the scene of the crash.

Representatives of the National Transportation Safety Board reached Nome Tuesday and were to investigate the accident as soon as they could reach the St. Lawrence Island community, some 170 air miles southwest of Nome.

Fagerstrom was considered to be one of the most experienced pilots of multi-engine planes in the area. The plane was an Aztec.

At 36 he had flown the Alaska bush for many years and was owner of about every flight rating in the book.

The teacher group had been attending a bilingual workshop at Savoonga where the Walrus Carnival was under way.

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Selawik Graduates Its First High School Seniors

By DARLENE SKIN

SELAWIK — The first graduation of Selawik High School as an independent city

school district, was held at the Friends Church in Selawik on Thursday afternoon May 8.

The high school in Selawik

began in the fall of 1972. Last year eight students graduated and this year there are eleven graduates.

They are Ben Foxglove Sr., Gene Foster, Tommy Ballot, Mildred Berry, Minnie Jackson, Patsy Knox, Vida Sheldon, Agnes Smith and Georgianna Foster of Selawik and Hazel Cleveland from Ambler.

The graduation speaker was Aggie Harrison, who works as personnel director of Atlantic Richfield in Anchorage.

One graduate was unable to get home for graduation because she had begun training for a job with Alaska Legal Services and was in Bethel for training and unable to make plane connections to be in Selawik in time for the ceremony.

Several awards were given at the graduation. Alfred Foxglove received an attendance award, Christina Douglas, a math award and one in English. Eleanor Loon received an award in Science and Gary Ramoth an award in math.

Basketball letters were earned by Gary Ramoth, Willard

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SELAWIK CLASS OF 1975 — Second row: Charles Foster, Gene Foster, Ben Foxglove Jr., Tommy Ballot and Patsy Knox. First row: Vida Sheldon, Agnes Smith, Hazel Cleveland and Minnie Jackson. Not shown: Mildred Berry, Georgianna Foster.