

OEO CHIEF ALVIN ARNETT TO VISIT APRIL 18

Will Hold Conference With Egan, CAP Staff

Mike Harper, Executive Director of the Rural Alaska Community Action Program, today announced a visit from Mr. Alvin Arnett, National Director for the Office of Economic Opportunity.

As scheduled, Mr. Arnett will arrive in Alaska on Thursday evening, the 18 of April, meet with Governor Egan and his staff on Friday morning, and be the honored guest at a banquet to be held in Anchorage on Friday evening. Saturday morning, he will leave for California.

According to Harper, the decision by Mr. Arnett to travel to Alaska originated with a meeting held in Seattle on the first of April.

At that time, Harper and members of the Rural CAP Board, including Jonathan Solomon from Fort Yukon and Dick Whittaker from Ketchikan, as well as Mr. Ed Anders, Special Assistant to Governor Egan, met with Arnett and impressed upon him the importance of the OEO anti-poverty effort in Alaska.

Subsequently, Arnett requested a meeting with Governor Egan and the dates for his travel were set.

Mr. Arnett will have a very busy itinerary. Arriving in Juneau Thursday evening, he will immediately board a charter aircraft to the small village of Angoon, where he will meet with the community mayor and members of the Southeast Alaska Community Action Program staff (SEACAP is one of ten Regional Development Corporations established by Rural CAP.) After Friday morning's discussions with the Governor, the topic of which is expected to cover a broad spectrum of concerns including the energy crisis, housing and rural problems, Arnett will fly to Anchorage and then by chartered aircraft to the village of Nondalton.

There he will meet with the staff of the Bristol Bay Area Development Corporation as well as with the City Council and the Mayors of Nondalton.

Nondalton has been severely impressed by the diminishing fish and game populations within the region. Also, Nondalton has recently opened a cooperative store, created with assistance from the Community Enterprise Development Corporation, another OEO sponsored Alaskan project.

Friday evening, there will be a banquet in Mr. Arnett's honor to which, according to Harper, local and state-wide dignitaries have been invited.

Says Harper: "We are especially pleased that Mr. Arnett can find time from his busy schedule to travel to Alaska to see some of our problems firsthand. This is especially so because of the uncertainty of the future of OEO and the real need that still exists in many of our rural communities. Also, we are delighted that Governor Egan can find time to meet with Mr. Arnett in order to explain the State Administration's commitment to rural poverty."

Traveling with Arnett will be Mr. John Finley, Regional

Director for OEO in Seattle and Mr. Chuck Hodges, the Alaska Field Representative for OEO.

* * *

ALASKA ITINERARY

Alvin Arnett, National Director
Office of Economic Opportunity

THURSDAY, April 18, 1974

6:05 PM — Arrive in Juneau from Seattle.

6:30 PM — Leave via charter to Angoon.

Meet with Mayor, SEACAP staff, and community members — salmon dinner in community hall.

8:30 PM — Return to Juneau.

FRIDAY, April 19, 1974

8:30 AM — Meet with Governor's staff.

9:30 AM — Meet with Governor Egan.

1:15 PM — Leave for Anchorage.

12:50 PM — Arrive in Anchorage

2:30 PM — Leave for Nondalton.

View film, "No More Fish", Visit with Bristol Bay Area Development Corporation Staff, Nondalton Council and Townspeople.

5:30 PM — Return to Anchorage.

8:00 PM — Banquet, Royal Inn.

SATURDAY, April 20, 1974

9:20 AM — Depart for Seattle