

In this course, each day lasts 18 hours

by Barbara Crane
Tundra Times reporter

CAMP CARROLL — By the end of their eight-day Basic Noncommissioned Officer Course, 17 members of the Alaska Army National Guard knew they had really accomplished something.

Each day began at 5 a.m. and ended with lights out 18 hours later.

"Once the day starts, the time flies by," said Sgt. Harberg Paul of Kipnuk on the third day of the course. "We're busy the whole time with classes, studying and barracks maintenance."

Class topics such as "Battlefield Leadership" and "The Leader as a Teacher" improved the men's leadership skills, while "Property Accountability" and "The NCO Evaluation Report" walked them through some of the forms and military paperwork they will need to be able to complete.

There were also classes on map reading and a land navigation performance exam.

"These men were selected for the BNOC class because they were identified as having potential for higher level leadership," NCO Academy commandant Command Sgt. Maj. Dennis Metrokin explained, "and they need to complete the course to qualify for promotions."

Eight men from Togiak enrolled in the Phase I BNOC course: Timothy Active, Albert Bavilla, Henry

'Once the day starts, the time flies by. We're busy the whole time with classes, studying and barracks maintenance.'

—Sgt. Harbert Paul

Kanulie, Benjamin Coopchiak, Carl Evon, Walter Kuku, Carl Smith and Isaac Taday.

Also attending were Preston Apangalook and Jason Nowpakahok from Gambell, Jeremy Lilly from Anchorage, Lee Ballot from Noorvik, Wilbur Esenituk and Gus Nelson Sr. from Kotzebue and Gary Paul, Harberg Paul and Thomas Mesak from Kipnuk.

After finishing this Phase I BNOC course, the men will return to Camp Carroll in December for Phase II.



photos by Barbara Crane



Days began at 5 a.m. and ended with lights out 18 hours later during the eight-day Basic Noncommissioned Officer Course at Camp Carroll. Above, top photo, Sgt. Isaac Taday of Togiak finishes a classroom exercise. Other photos, moving clockwise include, Staff Sgt. Joey Miller of Kongiganak, teaches a class on property accountability, Staff Sgt. Lee Ballot of Noorvik listens to a lecture. Sgt. Harberg Paul from Kipnuk enjoys his 30-minute lunch break before heading back to class. Staff Sgt. Wilbur Esenituk of Kotzebue takes notes.

