

## **Soviets say 'nyet' to Kotzebue ICC gathering**

Inuit from the Soviet Union will not be allowed to attend the Inuit Circumpolar Conference in Kotzebue July 28 through Aug. 3, according to ICC officials.

The conference, held once every three years is expected to draw well over 1,000 people from Alaska, Canada and Greenland, according to Dalee Sambo, head of the ICC Alaska office.

Sambo said the announcement about the Soviets came this week from Aq-qaluk Lynge, vice president of the ICC from Greenland. Lynge met with Soviet Embassy officials in Copenhagen recently and was told of the denial.

"I am still hoping that our diplomatic efforts will succeed in 1989 when the next ICC Conference takes place in a more 'neutral' country like the home-ruled Greenland," said Lynge.

Delegates to the assembly and the Second International Inuit Elders Conference, held in conjunction with the general session, will focus much of their attention on reviewing draft principles for an Arctic policy statement and an environmental strategy document, a long-term approach to Arctic environmental concerns.