

Editorial—

AFN Cohesion Develops

Although there had been some troublesome obstacles and threatening barriers, in the efforts of the regional native organizations to work together, there are now some important signs that the native groups in all areas of Alaska are attaining the much needed cohesion of group effort toward working for common goals. This was clearly in revelation at the series of meetings in Anchorage last week of the Alaska Federation of Natives board of directors and its executive committee and other AFN members. The AFN board also serves as the member of the Governor's land claims task force.

The willingness to listen to each area's concern by other group representatives has been attained and strained relationship tendencies up till recently have been largely, or entirely, eliminated. This is an excellent sign when calls for unity among groups have been heavily demanded from all quarters in recent weeks.

Since this degree of cohesion has been attained, any group within the regional associations that might wish to bolt for some reason would be a lonesome group indeed because of the top-heavy spirit of agreement within the AFN is very much evident at this time and this attainment is not likely to change easily.

Those quarters who have doubted that the AFN regional membership may have a hard time getting together for unified efforts can rest easier as of last week in Anchorage. Perhaps Justice Arthur J. Goldberg, if there should be doubts within himself as to the unity of the AFN, should give it a good thought and give it a new consideration along with other entities he has been dealing with.

The spirit of unity within the statewide organization could not have been attained at a more opportune moment. It cannot help but be a blessing in view of momentous times in the future of the native people.