

Air Force Hands \$750,000 Equipment to BIA

JUNEAU—The Air Force has turned over about \$750,000 worth of equipment and supplies at Wildwood Air Force Station to the Bureau of Indian Affairs for use in converting the base to a civilian education center, Governor William A. Egan said

he was informed today.

"This is tremendous news," Egan said, "because it means the center will have the physical capability from the very first to become a fully functional facility which can help Alaskans equip themselves to improve their lives. This would not have been possible without the donation of vital equipment and supplies by the Air Force."

Plans call for the base, scheduled to be closed by the Defense Department on July 1, to be transferred to the Denaitze Indian Association.

The educational center, with boarding facilities, is being established in a cooperative effort between native groups, the BIA and the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District.

The federal Economic Development Administration has approved a \$75,000 grant to the Kenai Peninsula Borough to help plan for the conversion of the base.

Egan said he was informed by a borough official that the donated equipment and supplies will provide for services and operation including fire protection, road maintenance, medical and dental service, food service, boarding accommodations, library facilities including 15,000 books, and recreational facilities.