Near Gambell— **Spring Whales Arrive**

By GRACE SLWOOKOO

Gambell Correspondent
GAMBELL — Spring whale
hunting days are very exciting
here in Gambell. As this is the
month when the whales are passing by this way at the sea northwest of Gambell.

First the little ones would be passing by, a few ton ones. Every time the ice has moved away farther apart there would be more whales

Sometimes in groups, the little blue whales be splashing around, they say they are playing.

Then it is when this happens, the boats do get out on pursue. Oh, everyone would run around and to their walrus hide boats to be going.
Over the hills of snow and down

the slides of slippery ones, everyone run around.

It is a very scarce chance when one might kill this monster and bring it home for food and other

Our ancestors use to use the bones for housing poles and other durable uses before we knew of

There also is lots of work, for the men to do. It is making path for the walrus hide boats to go As the snow is thickest this

month the path has to be pretty wide 10-15 feet wide and solid white snow walls are over 5 feet some places.

There still are no snow removing tractors to work here, only one that works here is for the airport. Men still shovel at the ice shores to make paths to go out hunting.

So it is happening this way now. And on April 23, three whales have been lost. First it was Willard Kaningok's that lost one, next was

Alex Oozeva's boat and the third and most sure of was Daniel Iyakitan's. When the boats all were ready to bring it home, it sunk! How disappointing.

Everyone sadly and very tired, tried to sleep that night.

Salmon for Army

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Department of Defense closed bids on April 25 for the purchase of 983,808 cans of salmon, a department spokesman said recently.

The military services decided to make salmon available to the troops again after a three-year deletion from the menu, when told that an inventory of Alaskan salmon was available.

Paul H. Riley, deputy assistant secretary of defense, told Sen. Mike Gravel, D-Alaska, that the Department of Defense would solicit the salmon industry for bids.

Gravel had told Defense Secretary James R. Schlesinger that Pacific Northwest and Alaskan salmon packers had an inventory of over one million cases of salmon valued at

approximately \$80 million.

Because of its large inventory, Gravel explained, the salmon packers are in a capital bind and may not be able to support a salmon fleet this year unless they can sell their present inventory.
In the past, the Department of

Defense had purchased substantial quantities, but due to increased costs it had not bought salmon for several years. The present cost of the salmon is less than in recent years, and Gravel suggested that the military reinstitute its purchase of salmon.

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Coast Guard Advises Charter Boatmen Need Licenses

- With the boating season now in full swing, many



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fishermen without boats will be chartering vessels. The Coast Guard reminds you that a license is required to carry passengers for hire. Before closing any agreement, examine the operator's license.

In order to carry six or less passengers for hire on a motorboat, the operator is required to hold a valid Motorboat Operators License issued by the U.S. Coast Guard. The vessel need only be equipped to meet pleasure boat standards with one exception: Personal Flotation Devices (PFD's) must be Coast Guard approved Type I

be Coast Guard approved Type I Life Preservers.

Persons who gamble on saving a few dollars by chartering a non-licensed operator run many risks. Before the Coast Guard will issue a Motorboat Operators License, the applicant is required to pass a written test.

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first-aid, knowledge of local

weather, and pollution control.

A \$500.00 penalty may be invoked against persons carrying passengers for hire without a license.

For further information

concerning Federal requirements for carrying passengers for hire, contact the Coast Guard Marine Inspection Office at P.O. Box 1286, Anchorage, AK. 99510 or telephone 265-5371.

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