Wampum Gets Tribal Chief in Hot Water

MINNEAPOLIS-(AIPA)-An Indian territorial map was mistaken for a bomb aboard a North-Central Airlines flight

here April 21.

Roger Jourdain, Tribal Chairman of the Red Lake Chippewas, was arrested and questioned by FBI agents on the complaint of a North-Central Airlines stewardess.

Jourdain, who was carrying the map in a tube, told the agents he explained to the stewardess that the tube contained

"wampum".

The stewardess charged that Jourdain said he was carrying a bomb.

Several members of delegations headed for the April 22-24 National Tribal Chairmen's Conference in Pierre, S. D. deplaned at the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport in protest of the arrest.

Jourdain, after his release, was not allowed to board another North-Central flight because of the airline's policy of not allowing a passenger, who has been accused of a bomb threat, to board a flight for 24 hours.

Douglas Hall, Minneapolis attorney who represented Jourdain during the questioning, said he would contest the airline passenger policy.

According to a traveling companion. Jourdain told the stewardess that the tube contained wampum (historically a belt fashioned from seashells recording an important event).

The tube actually contained a map of the Yakima Indian Territory in Washington State.

The protesting delegates in-

cluded: Leo Vocu, acting director of the National Congress American Indians: Benny Atencio, chairman of the All-Indian Pueblo Council; Marvin Sargent, secretary of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribes and president of the White Earth Tribal Council; Jim Bluestone, NCAI; Don LeGarde, Grand Portage Indian Territory, Minn.; Mrs. Lorraine Oberg, Secretary-

treasurer of the Grand Portage Indian Tribe, and George Goodwin, NCAL.