Aleut Mobile Dental units will offer service year around

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Two mobile dental clinics will be serving communities in the Aleutian chain, and Aleut offi-

cials met in Anchorage Friday to participate in ribbon-cutting ceremonies and to inspect one of the Mobile Clinics.

The clinics are housed in mo-

dern vans which are about the

size of normal school buses. Complete with drills, dentist chairs, sinks and other dental hardware, the vans were purchased for about \$150,000, according to Dr. Kenneth Soelberg an Anchorage dentist who will accompany the vans by air to the Aleutians where he and his

staff will offer regularly scheduled service. The vehicles will be moved among the islands by barge, said Dr. Soelberg and he is hopeful that they will operate 365 days a year.

The Aleutian and Pribilof Association, which is the non-profit native association, had sought the vans for over a year. The mobile clinics seat two patients and an equipped surgery. The vehicles were purchased by the Association with the help of a sizeable state grant.

The wandering dentist team will make its first stop at St.

Paul Island, where it will offer its service to residents for about three weeks before moving on. Mike Zacharoff President of Panadgufik Village Corporation of St. Paul, helped cut the rib-

bon at the Anchorage ceremony.
"I'm really afraid of dentists!" he quipped.