

Alaskan Broadcaster Wins Acclaim for Quake Coverage

An Alaskan broadcaster has been responsible for focusing the attention of journalists throughout the nation on the 49th state. Genie Chance of KFQD, Anchorage, who remained on the air continuously for 59 hours during the 1964 earthquake providing rescue information, was named the Top Award winner of the 1964 McCall's magazine "Golden Mike" awards.

The "Golden Mikes," the most coveted awards to women in broadcasting, will be presented at the

Awards Banquet of the American Women in Radio and Television convention on Saturday, May 8th, at the New York Hilton Hotel.

The vivacious blonde associated with the station's News and Public Affairs Department, was called upon four times this year to accept awards presented by the Alaska Press Club for outstanding journalism. Jay Perry, general manager of KFQD, said, "Mrs. Chance is representative of the calibre of broadcaster responsible for bringing con-

stant recognition for public service to the station." KFQD received the Alaska Press Club award for outstanding public service to the state of Alaska through the medium of radio.

Shortly after the devastating Good Friday Earthquake, Mrs. Chance's voice was heard throughout the world with some of the first factual reports to leave the state. An eyewitness to the destruction, she volunteered her services and her mobile broadcasting unit to city officials. Mrs. Chance was working with emergency civil authorities when the commercial station began transmission. Acting in her capacity of volunteer information officer for local authorities, she sent information to KFQD from her post at the Anchorage Public Safety Building. The young woman remained on the air for 59 hours providing rescue information and helped in reuniting separated families. At the same time, she directed the efforts of other volunteers, helped organize a transportation corps and coordinate the establishment of public shelters and rescue units. An Alaskan Senate resolution commended her for having executed "professional functions with extraordinary skill and devotion, despite extremely trying conditions."

Her voice was heard throughout the world on the three major American networks and foreign broadcast facilities. At the time Mrs. Chance was with KENI, Anchorage.

Mrs. Chance will be featured in the May issue of McCall's magazine, on next Thursday. McCall's, working closely with the American Women in Radio and Television, created the "Golden Mike" awards in 1952. They were designed to honor "women of the broadcasting industry who, through public service programming on radio and television, have made exceptional contributions to the family, the community and the nation."

As a news reporter in Alaska, Mrs. Chance has covered varied assignments. Among them she lists as some of the most interesting the glacier landings via helicopter to report on arctic warfare training of the U.S. Army, flying with smoke-jumpers to a 2,000-acre forest fire near the Bering Sea, traveling to native fishing villages along the coast on a crab boat, and flying with the Air Force on a sup-



GENIE CHANCE
... wins McCall Magazine's 'Golden Mike' award

ply run bound for St. Lawrence Island.

In the nomination made for the Golden Mike Award, general manager of KFQD, Jay Perry, referred to her as a "dedicated public servant whose professionalism in the field of radio is a credit to the entire broadcast industry." He stated

that McCall magazine's choice of bestowing upon her the top Golden Mike Award in the nation is not only a tribute to her own unselfishness and courage, but also to every citizen in Alaska who showed in his or her own way their own individual courage during the disastrous 1964 earthquake.