

RurALCAP Lauded For Excellent Bush Programs

In a recent letter to Senator Mike Gravel, Carl W. Shaw, Acting Western Regional Director of the U.S. Office of Economic Opportunity, stated that, "vast improvements are now being made in the operation of RurALCAP and its subsidiary regional corporations."

The letter also stated, "We are encouraged by the excellent work now being done by the staff. Many internal improvements in fiscal management personnel and staff assignments have been made. In addition, the CAA (RurALCAP) has just completed an outstanding planning cycle for its 1970 grant application submitted to this office."

Shaw's letter was written in response to an inquiry by the Senator.

Byron Mallott, Executive Director of the Rural Alaska Com-

(Continued on page 6)

RurAL CAP...

(Continued from page 1)

munity Action Program (RurAL CAP) in a memorandum to the RurAL CAP staff on Christmas Eve, referred to Shaw's letter stating, "This expression of confidence and support has been echoed by others as well during recent months. I am confident that the staff dedication and zeal which has reflected credit on RurAL CAP during my short time as Executive Director will give this agency the ability to perform in an excellent manner in 1970."

A funding request totaling eight hundred and eleven thousand dollars for program operations in 1970 was submitted to the Office of Economic Opportunity by RurAL CAP in November.

The funding request was approved by OEO recently and has been forwarded to Governor Keith Miller for his approval. The Governor has until January 15 to either approve or veto the RurAL CAP grant.

The grant will allow RurAL CAP to provide operating funds for nine locally controlled and operated regional development corporations whose boundaries encompass most of rural Alaska.

Funding will be available also for the administration and operation of a heavy equipment program utilizing surplus government tractors, dozers and trucks in rural community development projects.

The grant will also fund the overall administration of RurAL CAP which maintains its central office in Anchorage and among other programs administers Head Start, Operation Mainstream, an Emergency Food and Medical project and a Housing Program active in homeowner organization in a large housing project in Bethel and in assisting other agencies establish a similar housing project in Nome.