

Flood-damaged Native Homes to Be Repaired

Congressman Howard W. Pollock announced this week that the 1968 supplemental appropriation bill which passed the House of Representatives late Tuesday night by a vote of 324 to 33 provided \$1,107,000 for vital welfare assistance to Alaskan natives through the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Included were \$683,000 to augment the income of some 912 Eskimo, Aleut and Indian families living in 70 different Alaskan native families who were dependent upon the salmon run for cash to meet basic living needs.

This appropriation became necessary when the 1967 salmon was only about the half the average over the last ten years, thereby virtually eliminating the major source of income for the 912 families.

Also included were \$424,

000 to help restore 305 native houses which were damaged by disastrous flood in Fairbanks, Nenana and Minto last August.

Congressman Pollock stressed that this supplemental appropriation would be to restore the 305 native homes to their pre-flood conditions.

Pollock also said in reference to some Alaskan news coverage on this supplemental appropriation that \$1,107,000 for Alaska native assistance was not a cut from the \$2,226,000 requested by the President earlier this year but rather revised estimates of what would be needed for the remainder of this fiscal year which ends June 30.

Pollock reaffirmed his determination to assure better houses for Alaskan natives.