

# Earth station in place

Anchorage (July 23) —As of Friday, July 20, Alascom, Inc., had turned up its 101st small earth station in Alaska. Three years after it applied for a permit to build the facility at Shishmaref, Alascom was granted permission by the FCC to put up the station, but on a temporary basis.

The earth station had to be flown into the village piecemeal because the local airstrip can't accomodate large transport planes. Shishmaref is approximately 150 miles north of Nome on the Seward Peninsula and has about 300 people.

Due to competing applications for the small earth station, there had been considerable de-

lay in getting the FCC to award any permit. Earlier this year the Alaska Public Utilities Commission, concerned about service

On July 3, the FCC gave to the village, urged the FCC to remedy the situation.

Shishmaref originally was provided with a single telephone by the old Alaska Communications System (ACS), but since the installation of a local telephone exchange, it has suffered from a lack of long distance trucks.

permission to Alascom to install the facility which has a 15 foot dish antenna, common to bush areas served by a small earth station.