

Unjustified Criticism

Chief Counsel for the AFN in Washington is Justice Arthur Goldberg. This distinguished American is serving the Native cause without fee.

His presence has been a great boost to Native efforts to secure a just and equitable land claims settlement. He and his partner former Attorney General Ramsey Clark and former Senator Thomas Kuchel, their associates, and all our regional attorneys have made a difference.

Some Alaskans have resented the fact that the Native cause can command such distinguished and high powered representation. They try to turn other Alaskans against us by calling our attorneys "Easterners" or "Outsiders" and they repeatedly refer to the

AFN legislative proposal as "The Goldberg Bill."

We think they're trying to hide one form of racism behind another.

Most recently the lawyers of Anchorage held a Christmas party. The invitations were signed by an Anchorage lawyer, presumably as a joke, as "Attorney for the Devil, of counsel, Satan, and Goldberg."

Justice Goldberg has only one client in Alaska, the Native peoples. If the lawyers think he is counsel for the devil then what are the Natives?

The attorneys of Anchorage owe the Native People and Justice Goldberg an explanation and an apology.