

Human Awareness

A national conference attended by Tribal Indian leaders from throughout the United States has resulted in the formation of a National Council of Indian Awareness, according to Flore Lekanof.

Lekanof, who attended the meeting which was held in Washington, D.C., December 12th, represented the Alaska Federation of Natives and Alaska, one of the twelve regions which comprise the group.

The conference was sponsored by Commissioner Louis Bruce of the BIA, and partially funded by Arrow, Inc., a non-profit Indian interest organization of which Bruce is a director.

The goal of the newly formed national council is to create a better image of the American Indian (including the Alaskan Native) by informing the public on the needs of the Indians by publicizing what various Indian

groups are doing.

As part of the dispersal of information on Indian activity, the group sponsored a dinner during the conference which featured foods from the Pueblo people of New Mexico.

Alaska will be featured at the next dinner, which will be held in Washington, D.C., during the last week in February. The menu will include Alaskan foods such as moose, caribou, reindeer, muk-tuk and other foods from Alaska.

About 150 people including members of both houses of the Interior and Insular Affairs Committee are expected to attend and hear about the Alaska Native Land Claims issue.

Considerable press coverage is expected, says Lekanof, adding that anyone wishing to contribute food to the dinner should contact him at the AFN Public Relations Office in Anchorage.