

***No Cuts in Funding—***

# **Ongoing BIA Prog.s**

"No ongoing BIA programs in Alaska will suffer any reductions in funding if the BIA's budget request for fiscal year 1976 is approved," according to the office of Congressman Don Young.

In spite of an overall reduction in the BIA budget from 1975 of nearly \$104 million, the reductions will affect road construction and loan and trust fund categories, not regular programs. The total budget request for FY 1976 for the BIA is \$827,392,000.

Young's office said since the budget contains no large funding increases as well as an overall reduction, "speculation is justified that it will survive the appropriations process pretty much as it is."

The 1976 BIA budget does not contain a provision for the purchase or construction of a new North Star supply ship. The fate of the North Star is under study by the area office of the BIA.

Young said he was confident that Congress would support a budget request for a new North Star. He added, "Although the

North Star should have several years service left, I will wholeheartedly support replacing it with another."

Other items in the 1976 budget pertaining to Alaska include requests for:

- \$2,645,000 for construction of St. Michael's Day School;

- \$1,525,000 for Mt. Edgecumbe Sewage Treatment Facility (Sitka);

- \$300,000 for second phase construction of Diomed Day School;

- \$420,000 for a water system, modular barracks, and remodeling of mess hall facilities in McGrath;

- \$30,000 for a utility hookup to existing facilities in Galena;

- \$708,000 for the Joint Federal-State Land Use Planning Commission.