AFN Solves Unique City Transportation Problem of Natives

How do you get around in a big city without public transpor-tation and without a car? What if it's a strange city to you? Or if you're from a small village and the whole way of life is strange?

Anchorage, with its spread out locations and nonexistent public transportation is a major problem for the villager who is

problem for the villager who is new to the urban way of living. Transportation may not be the first priority, but it is certainly third or fourth. Thus, one job of the Alaska Federation of Natives, under the department of Special Services, is drivers training and transport tation for rural-natives coming tation for rural-natives coming to Anchorage

Supplemental Services pro-Supplemental Services pro-vides transportation and drivers training to BIA Field Employ-ment Assistance office clientele in the Anchorage area. This includes Alaska Business College, Beauty College, Anchorage Com-munity students, Adult Voca-tional Training stuc-ents, Direct Hires and Project Hires. The original AFN Supplemen-tal Services contract was for

tal Services contract was for \$198,250 for the year beginning June 22, 1970. When the contract ran out last June it was extended three times. Last extension is till December 31, 1977.

Recreation was another service to be provided, but was deleted due to insufficient funds.

Providing transportation for hundreds of people is a big job. Our Supplemental Services fleet comprises 2-fifteen passenger buses, 1-eleven passenger bus and 2 driver's training vehicles (one with dual controls). Bus routes with dual controls). Bus routes cover a 10 mile radius from the center of town. A bus drivers day begins at 6:00 a.m. and ends at 6:00 p.m.

Staffing this fleet (we bussed 402 individuals last year on 23,057 passenger trips) and providing drivers training is a staff

of nine at our offices in the Kaloa Building.

Kaloa Building.
Our director, Iliodor Philemonof is an Aleut born at St.
George Island, Alaska. Coordinator Robert W. Rude is an
Athabascan from Flat, Alaska.
Drivers include Murphy Nuglene (Eskimo) of White Moun-

gene (Eskino) of White Moun-tain, Arthur Outwater (Eskino) of Deering, David Herrmann (Aleut) of Levelock Christopher Steik (Kenaitze) of Ninilchik, and temporary driver Anatoly Lekanof Jr. (Aleut) of St. George.

Donald W. McFarlin of St. Paul, Minnesota is a driver's

Donald W. McFarlin of St. ul, Minnesota is a driver's at Mare Island, California. El-iner. Delicote Calcoute, our secre-pelicote Calcoute, our secre-

ter having been with the program about a year as a bus driver.

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Last year 125 people took

drivers training classes and 46 received their drivers licenses. At least one day, we carried 102 people on our daily buses.

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Some of the finest examples of early Indian carving were taken out of Southeastern Alaska by traders many years ago. A large collection of such art is now

Collection of such art is flow housed in two Russian museums. Many local citizens—Humble, for one—would like to see this art form continued. So a project is currently underway to dup twelve of these pieces and return them to Alaska.
The collection consists mainly

of ancient Tlingit ceremonial masks. Native artists from Port Chilkoot-Haines are working to reproduce the items. The carvers will follow pictures and detailed measurements provided by the Russian museums

When the authentic copies are finished, plans are to place them in a traveling display and show them at selected museums in the Lower 48 and Alaska

Bringing part of Alaska's past back home will hopefully, en-courage younger Indians to appreciate the values of their artistic heritage. And it will make all of us more aware of our state's rich and diverse past.

Humble is glad to provide sup-port for this project. Because we've learned, as we go about our business of making good products and a fair profit, that there's added satisfaction in doing something more for people. Humble is doing more.



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