



**MORRIS THOMPSON**

## ***Thompson chosen new AFN chief***

The Board of Directors of the Alaska Federation of Natives has selected Morris Thompson of Anchorage as President of that organization effective February 1, 1979. Byron Mallott, who has held the Presidency for two years, will leave office on that date.

Morris Thompson, 39, an Athabascan Indian born in Tanana, recently resigned the Alaska Vice Presidency of the Northwest Gas Pipeline Company. Prior to that, he served in Washington, D.C., as Commissioner of the United States Bureau of Indian Affairs. He earlier served in top level positions in the Hickel administration.

Thompson currently lives in Anchorage, with his wife, Thelma, and their three daughters.

According to outgoing President Mallott, Thompson's choice was unanimous. Mallott stated that AFN is extremely fortunate that Mr. Thompson has accepted the Presidency and will bring to AFN top level government and business experience.

In brief remarks to the Alaska Federation of Natives Board of Directors, Thompson said he looks forward to working on the issues pressing the Native community such as D-2 and subsistence and indicated his desire to work closely with the Native profit and non-profit corporations, the Alaska business community and the government.