

# Enrollment Shoots Past 25,000—

## Inquiries Coming from as Far Away as Chile

By MARGIE BAUMAN  
(Courtesy of Anchorage Daily News)

ANCHORAGE — Upwards of 25,000 Eskimos, Aleuts and In-

dians are enrolled so far for benefits of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act and inquiries on enrollment have arrived from 46 states, Europe

and Chile.

Enrollment coordinator Gary T. Longley, Sr. said Sunday that his assistant, Geroge Walters, would leave Anchorage about May 1 to begin outside enrollment, with stops at Bureau of Indian Affairs schools in Haskell, Kansas, Chemawa, Oregon, and Chilocco, Oklahoma, where Alaska Natives are studying.

Walters will also visit west coast Native associations to speed enrollment there.

Enumeration has been completed in all villages of the Bristol Bay region and the Tlingit-Haida Central Council in Southeastern Alaska, and the work is near completion for the Northwest Alaska Native Association, and Chugach Area Native Association. The Copper River Native Association is 70 per cent done and over 50 per cent of the Arctic Slope Native population has enrolled.

Otto Thiele, regional coordinator for the Cook Inlet Region, Inc. said over 5,000 persons are signed up for his region, where enrollment ends Friday.

Persons within the Tanana Chiefs Conference have until the

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# Over 25,000 Enroll...

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end of May to enroll, but their regional coordinator, Lucy Carlo of Fairbanks, said 2,200 persons are already signed up in Fairbanks and all villages but Ruby were through enrolling.

Severe weather, transportation problems and the Russian Orthodox Holidays have delayed enumeration in the Aleut League, Association of Village Council Presidents and Bering Straits Native Association.

BIA officials in Juneau said the AVCP had planned three training sites but due to bad weather the Aniak training session was cancelled and a second training period was held in Bethel to include 14 enumerators who missed the first Bethel training and three who couldn't reach St. Mary's on time.

The BIA also announced the appointment of several new employees to the enrollment coordination office, to work under Longley and Walters, who was active in organizing the AFN Washington Chapter before returning to Alaska for his present job.

Richard Lopez, a Native of Clarks Point employed until recently in Seattle, is an enrollment officer specializing in work with confidential sealed state records, such as the birth records of adopted Native children.

Floyd Kugzruk, formerly of Nome, and a recent graduate of the University of Nebraska with a masters degree in physics, is an enrollment officer supervising the encoding staff who will transmit enrollment information to the BIA Data Computer Center in New Mexico.

Frances Degnan, of Unala-

kleet, who was acting coordinator for the enrollment officer, is now an enrollment officer responsible for village correspondence and completion of applications for the Nome, Kotzebue and Kodiak areas.

Enrollment expert Mona Michael, transferred from the BIA area office in Minneapolis to assist in the Alaska enrollment, has been involved with tribal operations since 1963 and is now an enrollment officer.

As soon as village enumeration is completed, the coordinating offices staff of 22 persons will notify every village and region indicating the name and other information of every applicant who has applied for enrollment in the village or region and handle protests from villages and regions on these matters within the next 30 days.

This will determine the eligibility of every applicant.

After appeals by petition from individuals, villages and regions, the final roll must be prepared, certified and submitted for final approval by the Secretary of the Interior.