

Project Hire Seeks More Applicants

Sidney C. Swerman, coordinator for Project Hire of the Department of Defense at Eielson Air Force Base near Fairbanks, revealed this week that the project was in the process of recruiting native workers, both men and women.

Project Hire was established by the Department of Defense to help to alleviate Alaska native unemployment situation.

Swerman said that there were 200 positions in the defense installations overall in Alaska. Although quite a number of them have been filled, there has been constant turnover.

He said he would like to see interested native persons apply for work and take up what amounts to on-the-job training in 50 categories of work assignments.

Swerman pointed out that the starting salary for the men was slightly over \$8,000 per year and those for girl typists and clerk typists was over \$4,800 per year.

"It is not necessary that they

be qualified in any way," Swerman stressed. "We will try to bring them into work areas where they have an interest. Maybe someone might like to learn the principals of heat and power."

"We are interested," he added, "in serious-minded people who are interested in making a career as U.S. government employees. They can come on board to be trained."

Swerman said that applicants can specify where they would like to go such as Anchorage, Fairbanks or some other place where there are agencies of the Department of Defense.

"The way to apply would be for them to contact the nearest Bureau of Indian Affairs or State Employment Office or write to the Civil Service Commission Interagency Board at Ft. Wainwright for applications," Swerman pointed out.

There are 50 different categories of work for men and women such as for heavy equipment operators, carpenters, electricians, secretarial work and

many others.

Swerman said that those who take the training seriously can eventually wind up as journey-men craftsmen.

"When they get to be journeymen," Swerman explained, "they will have something to sell, then they can go to work any place they wish."

He said workers who stay a year will automatically get an advancement or promotion.

For additional information, contact Sidney C. Swerman, Coordinator for Project Hire, Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska, Care of Civilian Personnel Office.