

ARCO creates native relations post

ANCHORAGE — Agnes Harrison has been named Community Affairs Coordinator for ARCO Oil and Gas Company in Alaska.

Her job, new in the company, will be to assist and advise ARCO in developing and strengthening relations with native Alaskans, their communities and organizations, according to Robert A. Crosky, ARCO's Alaska Affairs Manager.

"She will help identify local issues that impact our business opportunities and will help develop projects and programs that would be more effective in preparing communities for the entry of our exploration and development activities," Crosky said.

Mrs. Harrison joined ARCO nearly 12 years ago and has held various positions in the Employee Relations Department of the Alaska Region. Her most recent assignment was Affirmative Action Coordinator.

In 1973, she became the first woman to receive a Gold Pan Award from the Anchorage Chamber of Commerce in recognition of her community service.

She served for five years on the Anchorage Human Relations Commission and represented Alaska at the White House Conference for Children and Youth in 1960.

Born and raised at Crooked Creek on the Kuskokwim River, Mrs. Harrison attended high school in Anchorage and was graduated from Western Washington State University, majoring in education.

She returned to Alaska to open several non-English speaking schools for the Bureau of Indian Affairs in rural villages.

Some years ago, she visited 250 Indian reservations in Canada, in which she stressed the importance of education and religious teaching and instilling pride in their heritage. In recognition of her efforts, she was given the Indian name Pitake, or Eagle Woman.

Her father came to Alaska from New Brunswick, Canada. Her mother, born in Alaska, was



MRS. AGNES HARRISON

of Athabascan and Eskimo descent.

Mrs. Harrison's daughter, Gai Agwiak, and son, Denis Harrison, both live in Anchorage. In addition, Mrs. Harrison has been a foster mother to 36 children over the years. One child, Kosmos, a fifth grader, is still at home.

An active member of ARCO's Speakers Bureau, Mrs. Harrison also is a volunteer in the Anchorage School District's Community Resource Program.