

# WHALING CAPTAINS SUBPOENAED

During the whaling captains' convention in Barrow last week, the government subpoenaed Arnold Brower Sr. for the first time, and re-subpoenaed Lloyd Ahvakana, Rossman Peetook, and Roger Silook.

Arnold Brower, Sr. was very ill with trichinosis from eating polar bear meat and was excused from the grand jury session held in Anchorage Tuesday, February 17.

Lloyd Ahvakana testified for

two hours. He declined to answer several questions infringing on his right to his private associations. Many questions were asked about North Slope Borough Mayor Jacob Adams concerning whether or not

Adams urged whaling captains to violate IWC quotas. Ahvakana testified that he certainly did not hear Mr. Adams make any statements of that nature.

Rossman Peetook also testified to questions about how the AEWC approached the IWC to set a different quota based on what the Eskimos thought was more reasonable and of what the IWC's response was. Peetook was also asked questions concerning NSB Mayor Adams.

Many questions were put to Ahvakana and Peetook concerning the government structure of the North Slope, mainly of how the borough government related to the city government of Barrow.

At the end of Mr. Peetook's questioning, the government did not question Roger Silook, who was present.

Marie Adams, IWC member, is flying to Seattle to attend a meeting of the IWC, Tuesday.

The government subpoenas served during the AEWC meeting last week in Barrow are called illegal by the whaling captains' attorneys.

Barrow's public information officer William DuBay said that the whaling captains met to discuss strategy in the face of increasing attacks on the subsistence bowhead whale hunting. "Many feel the bowhead whale hunt is under siege by the federal government," he said. "And the people are gathering here to protect the rights of the Inupiat to hunt."

The investigation of possible IWC violations drew fire from local, state and national officials who felt it should have been pursued as a civil matter, instead of by grand jury proceedings.