



AWARDED MEDAL—Brigadier General Elmer P. Yates (right), Division Engineer of the North Pacific Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, congratulates Colonel Ernest L. Hardin, Jr., Alaska District Engineer, after presenting him the Army Commendation Medal (First Oak Leaf Cluster) for exceptionally meritorious service during the Tanana Valley flood restoration.
—U.S. ARMY Photo

Col. Hardin of US Engineers Earns Meritorious Medal

For exceptionally meritorious service during the Tanana Valley flood and damage restoration, Colonel Ernest L. Hardin, Jr., Alaska District Engineer, was awarded the Army Commendation Medal (First Oak Leaf Cluster) on December 7 by Brigadier General Elmer P. Yates, North Pacific Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Colonel Hardin received the award for his outstanding performance from August 15, 1967 to October 31, 1967. As

District Engineer, U. S. Army Engineer District, Alaska, he was directly involved in the search and rescue and flood fighting operations.

Subsequently he was fully responsible for the rehabilitation of all public utilities and buildings in the City of Fairbanks and the village of Nenana, a task requiring the negotiation of 69 contracts and completion of \$7,500,000 of work.

The rehabilitation work was so effectively coordinated



STATEWIDE DELEGATES—Shown is part of the audience of delegates from all parts of Alaska at the Nome Employ-

ment Development Conference held on November 31 and December 1.

—Photo by TIMES EDITOR

Indian Affairs Minister Named Honorary Chief

For the first time, a Minister of Indian Affairs in Canada has been invested with an honorary Kainai Chieftainship. Arthur Laing, Superintendent General of Indian Affairs was accorded the honor recently by the Blood Indians of Alberta in a colorful ceremony at Standoff, Alberta.

The investiture was part of and executed that all schools and public buildings were repaired and public utilities, such as sewer, water, and power, were restored to full operation prior to the advent of freezing weather.

The citation accompanying the Army Commendation Medal reads in part, "... Through his dynamic leadership, superior organizational ability, tireless energy, and personal attention to detail, he was able to achieve outstanding success in his assigned mission."

the Blood Band's Centennial and Indian Days celebration. Kainai is the Indian name for the Blood Band who are members of the Blackfoot Confederacy. (Band is the equivalent of tribe.)

The special ceremony, which originated around the year 1919, is performed by medicine men of the Band. Members of the Kainai, which is limited to 40 living non-Indians, promote goodwill and work for the betterment of the Blood Indian people.

As an honorary Chief, the minister will join ranks of other outstanding members of the Kainai, notably H.R.H. The Duke of Windsor; Prime Minister Lester B. Pearson;

Rt. Hon. Vincent Massey; the now retiring RCMP Commissioner George V. McClelland; and Gordon R. McGregor, president of Air Canada.

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