



ALASKAN CONSERVATION RECOGNIZED—U.S. Army Alaska and the Alaskan Sea Frontier shared honors when the Alaskan Command's first annual conservation awards were presented June 11 by the commander in chief—Alaska, Lt. Gen. R.A. Breitweiser, c. The award for unit achievement, accepted by Col. B.E. Edwares, 1, U.S. Army Alaska's chief of staff, went to Ft. Richardson's Post Engineers, Rear Adm. D.M. White,

commander of the Alaskan Sea Frontier, accepted the award for individual conservation effort on behalf of Lt. R.B. Thabes, conservation agent at Adak NS. The trophies, carved of Alaskan ivory by a native artist, depict the polar bear seen on the command's emblem. The awards are part of an Alaskan Command program undertaken by personnel of all the Armed Forces to preserve and develop the state's natural resources.

BIA in Fairbanks Awards Wright Noel for 30 Years of Services

Wright H. Noel, Employment Assistance Officer in the Fairbanks Area Office of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, was awarded a pin for 30 years of service in ceremonies Wednesday.

Noel joined the BIA in 1937 at Tuba City, Arizona, where he taught agricultural methods to Navajo people. Since that time he has worked in the area of vocational training and job placement in Oakland, Los Angeles, and Chemawa.

Born to a Navajo trader on a New Mexico reservation, Noel moved to Utah at the age of 6. He is a graduate of Utah State Agricultural College, now known as Utah State University.

In October of this past year, Noel came to the Fairbanks office to work in employment assistance. It has been estimated that he has placed nearly 100 Alaskan natives in jobs since that time.

Noel indicated that he has no plans to retire in the immediate future. "I have enjoyed my service very much and plan to stay with it for a while yet," he said.

He noted that he has seen a significant change in the attitudes of both the Indians and the majority of the American people.

"There were three high schools for 60,000 Navajos on the Arizona reservation in 1937. There schools were not filled. A big percentage of the people still drove wagons," he said.

"Now they drive pick-ups and are building new homes, and the schools are filled to capacity," he added.

"In 1937, hardly anyone was interested in Indians. Now almost everyone is interested in seeing the Indian receive a complete



30 YEARS OF SERVICE—Wright H. Noel, Employment Assistance Officer for the Fairbanks Area BIA Office, was awarded a 30 year pin Wednesday by the BIA. He is pictured here with four girls who were trained in the Neighborhood Youth Corps and have been placed in the Fairbanks BIA Office. The girls, left to right, are Shirley Thomas, of Kotzebue; Josephine Herbert, from Ft. Yukon; Cheryl John, of Minto; and Janet Charlie, from Minto.

education," Noel said.

Also awarded a service pin Wednesday was Mrs. Betty Feagins, secretary to Fairbanks BIA Superintendent Wallace Craig. Mrs. Feagins was recognized for 10 years total service, all of which has been in Alaska.

Coming to Alaska at the age of 6 months with her parents, Mrs. Feagins spent her childhood in the Juneau area.

She worked for the Territory of Alaska, in the Bureau of Public Roads and the Department of Welfare before joining the BIA.

Mrs. Feagins resides in Fairbanks with her husband, who is with the State Highway Depart-

ment.

She termed her work with the BIA "one of the most interesting jobs which I have ever had."

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LUNAR TV SOUGHT

Sen. Mike Gravel lauded a recent proposal by the American Broadcasting Co., to provide direct television communications through the use of ATS satellite.

At a meeting called last Friday by NASA, ABC proposed that a portable station be moved to Anchorage to provide Alaska with its first direct television link.

Gravel expressed confidence that NASA would give serious attention to the proposal.

"We have an even more urgent opportunity that meshes well with what ABC has proposed," Gravel said.

"On July 16 this nation plans to send three men to the moon on one of the most important adventures in human history," Gravel said. "That event will be witnessed by Americans everywhere," he said, "everywhere but Alaska."

"Our nation in 1968 arranged to have the Olympic Games seen

in Japan, the Pope's visit to Bogota seen in Europe and the World Series seen in Puerto Rico—all by portable ground station deployment and use of the ATS satellites.

"It would certainly be a fitting use of this capability if our nation were to arrange for Alaskans to see an event that for significance and drama will never occur again: man's first landing on a body in space other than earth."

Gravel said he has contacted owners and operators of ground stations to determine their availability. He said he also had contacted the U.S. Navy hoping to arrange for shipboard reception equipment.

"I plan to do everything I possibly can in the weeks ahead to bring Alaskans the opportunity to see directly as other Americans will, man's first landing on the moon."

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