

Would Build 1200 Units—

# Extensive Native Housing If Money Appropriated

An extensive program of rural Native housing is in the works for Alaska this year if money already appropriated in Washington can be freed in time to start work this summer.

Last week, according to Senator Mike Gravel (D-Alaska)'s office, the federal government approved the building of 1200 houses, including water and sewerage facilities, for rural villages in Alaska. The project, which is part of an 8,000 dwelling Housing and Urban Development Housing Program is by far the largest ever planned for Alaska.

Money for the housing has been designated for fiscal 1972, the government fiscal year which begins July of this year (1971).

The problem which may arise in a housing project of this type, according to Senator Gravel is that the money for the project may be held up by the administration.

During the past week, Senator Gravel has sent letters and telegrams to village councils in Alaska, informing them of the project and asking for their help in his fight to obtain the housing facilities as soon as possible.

In his letter, he explains the project and that "the final decision on how much money will go into this project is up to the President."

"I want to assure you," Senator Gravel writes to the village councils, "that I will continue to push for the money required. Too often money which has been approved by the Congress for this sort of thing has been held up by the administration."

The Senator asks village councils to read his letter at their council meeting and vote a resolution, if they approve, in support of this program.

"If you will send these resolutions to me personally," he writes, "I will see that they are forwarded to the people who will make the decisions on where the housing will go."

The federal project, besides being larger than any village housing project ever attempted before, will require an entirely new method of administration. Some discussion has taken place on asking the Alaska Federation of Natives to contract part of the necessary survey and supervisory work on the project. However, nothing definite has been planned, according to Senator Gravel's office.

## Technical Assistant Barrow Grant

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Senator Mike Gravel (D-Alaska) has urged the Economic Development Administration to approve a technical assistant grant for the City of Barrow.

In a letter to Robert A. Podesta, Assistant Secretary of EDA, Senator Gravel noted that "In recent years the City of Barrow has been impressive in its efforts to upgrade community facilities and stimulate economic development."

"Indicative of this fact are the recent proposals for a composite air terminal building, the hiring of a full time City Manager, the development of a community plan and the implementation of a part of this plan through a multi-agency approach."

The Senator said he strongly supports Barrow's current application for a technical assistant grant, "in which the City is contributing \$10,000 and the Economic Development Administration will grant \$20,000."

"I urge that funds for this much needed project be granted as soon as possible," Senator Gravel concluded.

## Air Force Site Use Study At Unalakleet Sought

A \$40,000 study of the use of surplus Air Force property at Unalakleet radar station by five villages has been requested by U.S. Sen. Ted Stevens.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs evaluation would be designed to put the property at the station to the best use.

Included in the surplus property are 16 buildings including a 90-man dormitory, multi-purpose recreation building, warehouse, storage facilities, water supply and sewer system.

Leaders of Unalakleet, Stebbins, Shaktoolik, St. Michael and other communities have indicated interest in the equipment.

Stevens, in testimony before the Senate Interior Appropriations Subcommittee, said the urgency of his request is emphasized by the fact the station has been only temporarily winterized and could become unusable if left vacant very long.

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Bruce A. Campbell  
Commissioner of Highways

Publish April 14, 21.

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Publish April 7, 14, 21.

Applications are now being accepted by AFN for food educator positions in Nome, Kotzebue, Unalakleet, Galena, and Fort Yukon. Information obtained from Manpower Center, Village Council, or Native Association representative. Deadline for applying: April 23.

Publish March 31, April 7, 14, 21.

"From time to time, the Bureau of Indian Affairs has vacancies for clerk-typists, elementary teachers, engineers, light plant mechanics and maintenance men." For qualification requirements, immediate vacancies, and how to apply, write Personnel Officer, Bureau of Indian Affairs, P. O. Box 3-8000, Juneau, Alaska.

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