



# NORTHWAY POISED TO PROTEST SEGREGATED VILLAGE SCHOOLS



TANANA CONFERENCE—Al Widmark, right, and Byron Mallott of the Alaska Local Affairs Agency addressed the Tanana Chiefs' Conference last Saturday. They spoke on the aid their agency could

give villages, especially for villages that want to incorporate as cities. At far left is Ralph Perdue, who presided at the conference. —Photo by Merv Mullins

## Village May Deposit 40 Pupils to State School in Protest

By Tom Snapp

Kenneth Albert, president of the village of Northway, says his people are ready to protest a deplorable "de facto" school segregation situation.

And he called on Alaska native groups for support should the people of Northway carry through the protest and transport on masse all the students from the BIA school at the village of Northway to the state school located near the Northway Federal Aviation facilities.

He said the Northway village council earlier had discussed pulling off the protest move next fall but, in light of recent developments, might pull it off before the end of this school year.

"We want to mix our kids with the non-native kids so they can learn a better way of living," Albert said.

"We're tired of this double-shifting. We're tired of having our kids packed in a 19 by 25 ft. classroom—of receiving an inferior education."

"We're simply going to take all forty kids at the village and deposit them at the state school. It will be their head-

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## Alaska Peninsula Land Claim Filed By Three Groups

Three Southcentral Alaska Native groups have joined in a 40 to 50 million acre land claim filed on land and water around the Alaska Peninsula.

The claim includes the Peninsula, Kodiak and the Shumagin Islands, and a portion of the mainland west to Cape Newenham.

It overlaps lands to the north that are claimed by the Nondalton and the Lime Hills Indian Group.

The claim includes lands, waters islands, shoals,

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## Hartman Prefers Smaller High Schools in Rural Areas

"I don't like to see kids go too far away to school, especially at the ninth and tenth grade levels," announced acting commissioner of education Dr. Clifford R. Hartman to the Tanana

## U.S. Fish Catch \$454 Million Last Year

The value of the United States commercial fishing catch in 1966 was nearly 21% above the average for the previous 10 years, but total landings of 4.3 billion pounds were 435 million less than in 1965, according to the Department of the Interior's Bureau of Commercial Fisheries.

Value of last year's catch was close to \$454.4 million, and with few exceptions, prices to fishermen were significantly higher than in 1965.

Fishermen were paid nearly \$96 million for their shrimp catch—the first domestic fishery to approach the \$100 million mark.

Important species showing declines in catch from a year earlier were menhaden, tuna, shrimp, jack and Pacific mackerel, Atlantic and Pacific her-

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Chiefs' Conference last Friday.

Hartman continued that he preferred to have more, smaller high schools up to the tenth grade level, with students then having the opportunity to transfer to consolidated high schools for preparation for college or for vocational education. Graduation from the smaller schools would also be possible.

Hartman was one of many State and Federal officials who spoke to the Chiefs in Tanana. In addition to education, they covered health, communications, rural

development, fish and game, and land.

The formal talks were followed by lively question periods—in one case, a BIA official not only agreed that a Native complaint about welfare was valid, but asked the Natives to apply pressure to help officials make changes.

The discussions stretched the program out until the delegates finally re-elected last year's slate of officers so that they could catch the plane from Tanana.

In addition, there was no time

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## New Alaska Federation of Natives Formally Organized in Anchorage

The Alaska Federation of Natives, formerly AFNA, was formally organized during a meeting in Anchorage last weekend. The association adopted a constitution and selected a full slate of officers.

Fifty-five Natives attended the congress, including a few from the Tanana Valley Chiefs' Association, which also met last weekend.

The delegates reviewed a proposed constitution presented last October, and made several changes before adopting it. A set of by-laws was also accepted.

The group also adopted a resolution urging the Alaska Congressional delegation to introduce the Native land claims bill in Congress as soon as possible.

Officers of the Federation will be elected every two years, with the first terms expiring in Oct. 1968. Only the president will draw a salary; he is charged with the jobs of recruiting and handling the administrative duties.

Emil Notti of Anchorage was elected as first president. Other officers are: Don Wright, first

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## Rep. Evaluates Native Role in Legislature

"Although it was rather hectic, it was an eye opener in many ways," said Rep. William Hensley. "It's good to realize that politics is the overriding consideration is the legislature."

The recently adjourned state legislative session was the first in which four freshman native legislators served. Along with Hensley, there were: John Sackett, Jules Wright and John Westdahl.

Hensley was asked what role he and his fellow native lawmakers played in the recent session.

"Our role has been on one of informing and educating urban legislation, but reapportionment has left us no other choice."

Governor Walter J. Hickel has called the session "productive" and Willie Hensley commented.

"Many of the bills are yet to be proven. It will take time

whether this has been a productive session. Much of what was passed has been considered before. There was really no

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## Bill to Increase Tax Exemption Introduced

A bill to increase from \$600 to \$1,000 the personal income tax exemption of a taxpayer was introduced last week by Senator Ernest Gruening (D-Alaska).

The bill would include exemptions for a spouse, a dependent and for old age or blindness, now allowed under the Internal Revenue Code, Senator Gruening said.

"Taxpayers in my state of Alaska, more than most," he said, "suffer a disadvantage from the \$600 personal income tax exemption provision. The cost of living in Alaska is nowhere less

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