



# Central Council Tlingit and Haida **PRESS RELEASE**

May 30, 2002

## *Alaska Native Veterans Memorial Dedication Ceremony*

Sealaska Plaza, Juneau Alaska



Southeast Alaska Native Veterans were honored Thursday afternoon during the dedication of the new Alaska Native Veterans Memorial located at the Sealaska Plaza in downtown Juneau.

The memorial includes six headstones along with a marble centerpiece reminding observers to "not dwell on their passing but remember their shining spirits that will live on forever." Three headstones display the Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian words for courage, and three display "Gitwaalkt," "Gaayhldaa la aayga," and "X ega Kawu" - the Tsimshian, Haida, and Tlingit words for warrior.

Alaska Natives and American Indians were honored for serving the U.S. in every major war in the nation's history. Many proudly serve in the active forces today.

###



**For more information contact:**  
George Walters, Commander  
Southeast Alaska Native Veterans  
(907) 790-5521 / (907) 463-7132