

Introduced: 3/19/63

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE RULES COMMITTEE

2 HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 15

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 THIRD LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5 Relating to the national defense
6 system in Alaska.

7 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

8 WHEREAS, the Governor and Congressional delegation of Alaska
9 have again urgently renewed their representations that there is a
10 defense gap in the national defense system in western Alaska; and

11 WHEREAS, the existence of this gap was demonstrated last
12 week when Russian reconnaissance aircraft were allowed to violate
13 American territory in western Alaska without challenge; and

14 WHEREAS, while it has been known for years that Alaska, the
15 defense frontier of the nation, has been ringed with Russian air
16 and ground bases in Soviet Siberia 40 miles from American terri-
17 tory, national defense officials have been giving their attention
18 to a handful of Russian troops located 90 miles from Florida; and

19 WHEREAS, existing American bases in Alaska are located from
20 700 to 1,000 miles from Alaska's defense perimeter leaving
21 western Alaska with meager radar coverage and completely without
22 on-the-scene fighter interceptor and reconnaissance support; and

23 WHEREAS, an adequate airfield for Air Force interceptor and
24 reconnaissance planes already exists but is unused at Nome;

25 BE IT RESOLVED that the Honorable John F. Kennedy, President
26 of the United States, is respectfully urged to direct that immedi-
27 ate action be taken to effect a realistic defense of Alaska as the
28 continent's and nation's defense frontier through the placement of
29 two or three interceptor and reconnaissance squadrons along the

HR #15

1 northwest coast of Alaska; and be it

2 FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be directed
3 to the Honorable Lyndon B. Johnson, Vice President of the United
4 States and President of the Senate; the Honorable John W.
5 McCormack, Speaker of the House of Representatives; the Honorable
6 Robert S. McNamara, Secretary of Defense; the Honorable Richard
7 Russell, Chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee; the
8 Honorable Carl Vinson, Chairman of the House Armed Services Com-
9 mmittee; and the members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

HR #15

-2-