

H J R

69

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON STATE AFFAIRS

RECAP OF HJR 69

Alaska-Soviet Natives Visa Free Travel

Received February 12, 1990
by the House Special Committee on Foreign Trade

Heard February 22, 1990

Adopted CSHJR 69 (FT) February 22, 1990

Passed Out of Committee February 22, 1990
4 Do Pass
2 No Recommendation

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HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

(7)

Date Referred: February 12, 1990

FURTHER REFERRALS:

Date of Committee Action: _____

The STATE AFFAIRS Committee considered:

HJR 69

HOUSE JOINT RES. NO. 69

ALASKA-SOVIET NATIVES VISA FREE TRAVEL

Encouraging the United States government to include the Aleut people under future Native visa free travel agreements with the U.S.S.R.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- be replaced with AS HJR 69 (FT) the same title
- a new title
- have attached amendment(s)
- do pass
- do not pass
- no recommendation
- individual recommendations
- additional referral to the _____ Committee

ADOPTS: _____ letter of intent

ATTACHES NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):
(Dept)

APPROVES PREVIOUS:

(Date/Dept)

- fiscal impact _____
- zero fiscal note _____
- zero with analysis _____

- fiscal note(s) _____
- zero fiscal note(s) 2/12/90 . CED
- zero fn/analysis _____

SIGNING DO PASS:

David Donly
[Signature]
[Signature]
Eileen P. Maclean

SIGNING:

(Check approp. column)

	Do Not Pass	No Rec	Amend
<u>David Donly</u>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<u>Jim Edwards</u>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

Eileen P. Maclean
Vice-Chairman's Signature

STATE OF ALASKA
1990 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL VERSION: _____

PUBLISH DATE: _____

FISCAL NOTE

REQUEST:

Revision Date: _____

Agency Affected: _____

Title: Alaska-Soviet Natives

BRU: _____

Visa Free Travel

Sponsor: Hs Spl Comm Foreign Trade

Components: _____

Requestor: _____

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93	FY 94	FY 95	FY 96
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

CAPITAL	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
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REVENUE	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
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FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

ANALYSIS : (Attach a separate page if necessary)

No fiscal impact.

Prepared by: House State Affairs

Phone: 465-4963

Division: _____

Date: Feb 20, 1990

Approved by Commissioner: H. A. "Red" Boucher

Date: Feb 20, 1990

Agency: _____

Distribution (by preparer) :

- Legislative Finance
- Legislative Sponsor
- Requestor
- Office of Management and Budget
- Impacted Agency(ies)



Official Business

Alaska State Legislature

House of Representatives

Special Committee On Foreign Trade

Item 3

RECEIVED

P.O. Box V
500 Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99811
907-465-4942
FEB 12 1990

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Representative Red Boucher, Chairman
House State Affairs Committee

FROM: Representative *George Jacko*, Jr., Chairman
House Special Committee on Foreign Trade

DATE: February 12, 1990

SUBJECT: Request hearing for HJR 69

I would like to respectfully request a hearing for HJR 69, which would allow Aleuts to be included under the Native Visa-Free Agreement in the event of another future agreement. HJR 69 passed out of the Foreign Trade Committee on Tuesday. The resolution would encourage the United States and Soviet governments to include the Aleut people among the Natives allowed to travel between the Soviet Far East and Alaska under the Native Visa-Free Agreement.

This agreement was signed last September to allow Inuit people on both sides of the Bering Strait to travel back and forth visa-free. Historically, the Aleut people have had the longest contact with the Soviets and it would be appropriate to include them if the agreement is renegotiated.

I've included background information on HJR 69. If you have any questions please contact my office.

Thanks for your prompt attention to this request.

NATIVE AFFAIRS

STATUS:

The Native Visa Free Agreement signed by Secretary of State Baker and Foreign Minister Schevernadze in Jackson Hole, Wyoming last September should be implemented within the year.

Many of the Native regional and village corporations in Northwest Alaska have established cultural and business ties with the Soviet North East. Kawerak Regional Corporation has had a particular interest in bringing together Siberian Yupik relatives from St. Lawrence Island and the Soviet North East. The North Slope Borough has been planning to invite several dance groups over and has experienced difficulties in Soviet bureaucracy. NANA Corporation has been active in contacts with the town of Lavrentiya.

Unfortunately, Soviet authorities have been slow in helping the Soviet Natives get visas to travel to Alaska. Local authorities are predominately non-native and local native representatives expressed that they have little interest in helping Native groups get their visas.

Work is being done to bring together the Aleuts on the Admiralty Islands, USSR together with Alaskan Aleuts.

SOVIET CONTACTS:

Dimitry Karave
Head of the Department on Northern Nationalities
Magadan Executive Committee
Telephone: 2-31-00

Kagak Serikova
Teacher in charge of bi-lingual education in Chukotka
Otko St. 33-a Apt. 27
Anadyr, Magadan Region 686710 USSR

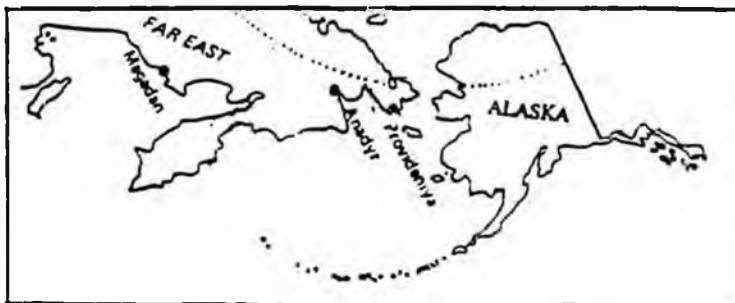
NATIVE GROUPS OF THE SOVIET NORTH EAST



THE SOVIET UNION



THE SOVIET FAR EAST AND ALASKA



*Native Visa Free
Agreement*

OF 19 89 17:22 ELR DAN NO. 475 #001001

Bering Straits Travel Discussions

The United States Government began discussions with the Soviet Government on a restoration of visitation rights for related Alaskan and Siberian Inuit in February, 1989 in Anchorage, Alaska. They produced a joint statement pledging both governments' commitment to restoring such travel rights. Inuit persons played prominent roles in both delegations, which were headed by Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic Ministry of Foreign Affairs officer Stepan Malepa on the Soviet side and State Department officer Wayne Neill on the U.S. side.

Negotiations took place in Moscow in April, headed by Senior State Department Deputy Legal Advisor Mary Mochary on the U.S. side and senior Ministry of Foreign Affairs legal advisor Yuriy Rybakov on the Soviet side. Substantial progress was made on an agreement for limited visa-free travel for related Inuit. It is expected that these negotiations will resume in August in Washington, D.C.

The agreement was signed in September in Jackson, Wyoming between Secretary of State Baker and Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze.

Agreement

Between the Government of the United States of America and
the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
Concerning the Bering Straits Regional Commission

The Government of the United States of America and the
Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics ;

Desiring to promote cooperation in the Bering Straits
Region; and

Desiring to provide a mechanism for resolving minor
disputes at the local level;

Have agreed to create the Bering Straits Regional
Commission (hereinafter Commission) for the settlement of local
minor incidents which shall be established and function as
follows:

Article 1

1. The Commission shall be composed of three U.S. and three
U.S.S.R. members. The Government of the U.S. and the
Government of the U.S.S.R. shall each appoint three
Commissioners, and each designate one of them as the Chief
Commissioner.

2. The Commissioners shall cooperate in performing the duties
arising from this agreement and shall maintain direct working
contacts with a view to resolving expeditiously matters which
arise within their jurisdiction under this Agreement.

Article 2

1. The official seat and district of operation of the Chief
Commissioners shall be as follows:

on the part of the U.S., the Commissioners shall have
permanent seats in Gambell and Nome. ~~The district of operation~~
shall be the Nome and Kobuk census areas of Alaska.

on the part of the U.S.S.R., the Commissioners shall have
permanent seats in Provideniya and Anadyr. The district of
operation shall be the Iultinskiy Rayon, Providenakiy Rayon,
and Chukotsky Rayon, as well as the eastern part of the
Anadyrakiy Rayon, bounded on the south by the Anadyr River and
on the west by the Tanyurer River, including the city of Anadyr
(Chukotsky Autonomous Okrug).

2. Each party shall communicate the names of the Commissioners
to the other party through diplomatic channels.

Article 3

1. The Commission shall:

A. Investigate and, where appropriate, resolve all local minor incidents including:

(1) The unintentional entry by individuals into the territory of the other party without the permission of that party or other legal basis;

(2) In cases not covered by the U.S.-U.S.S.R. Agreement on Mutual Fisheries Relations, the return of fishing equipment, including crab pots, in the national territory of the other party as a result of natural causes;

(3) As appropriate, the return of property which, in connection with an incident, is found in the territory of the other party.

B. Assist in arranging emergency services for citizens of one party visiting in the other party's national territory. Such emergency services may include:

(1) checking and verifying the welfare and whereabouts of individuals who are detained, arrested, lost, or ill;

(2) assisting in the transmission of funds for the repatriation of destitute individuals;

(3) assisting in matters arising from the death of an individual; and

(4) assisting in arranging medical treatment for individuals who take ill.

C. Cooperate to prevent incidents of a local character from arising.

D. In furtherance of the U.S.-U.S.S.R. Maritime Search and Rescue Agreement, cooperate in the search for persons, vessels, and property which are lost in the territory of each other.

2. The Commission shall refer any incident where there is a dispute over the location of the maritime boundary for resolution through diplomatic channels.

Article 4

1. Persons who have been detained for unintentionally crossing into the territory of the other party without the permission of that party or other lawful basis, shall be returned as soon as possible to the Commissioners or appointed representative from whose territory they have crossed.
2. Vessels, means of conveyance, floats, hunting and fishing gear, and other articles in the possession of the detained person shall be returned at the same time such person is returned.
3. The Commission shall decide on the procedure and designated meeting points for the return of persons and property referred to in paragraphs 1, 2, and 3 of this Article.
4. The Commissioners shall not refuse to accept the persons returned.
5. Questions concerning the return of persons who have intentionally crossed into the territory of the other party without the permission of that party or other lawful basis, which cannot be handled directly by the Commission shall be dealt with through diplomatic channels.

Article 5

1. Each Chief Commissioner may, at his/her discretion, refer any matter of particular importance for settlement through diplomatic channels.
 2. All incidents of particular gravity, such as homicide, serious bodily harm, or unauthorized overflight, shall in every case be referred for settlement through diplomatic channels.
 3. Incidents which cannot be settled by agreement of the Commission shall be settled through diplomatic channels. In such cases, the Commission shall make the necessary inquiries into the incident and register the results in a common record.
 4. The Commission shall undertake activities in settlement of local incidents and record their activities.
- 11/11

5. When incidents are referred for settlement through diplomatic channels, Commissioners shall, at the direction of their Governments, cooperate in providing relevant information.

Article 6

Commissioners shall provide information to visitors concerning resources available for the settlement of claims. Commissioners shall in no way be held liable, or involve themselves in, the settlement of matters relating to claims for damages.

Article 7

Each Party will fund its own expenses for activities pertinent to this Agreement.

Article 8

1. Periodic meetings will be scheduled. Additional meetings may take place at the request of a Commissioner. The agenda of a meeting shall be settled by means of preliminary discussions or by correspondence. Items not on the agenda may be dealt with by mutual consent.

2. The Commission shall keep a record of each meeting which shall briefly indicate the proceedings of the meeting and actions taken at the meeting. The record shall be in the English and Russian languages, with each text considered as equally authentic.

3. Location of meetings shall alternate between the U.S. and the U.S.S.R.

4. Commissioners may enter into the territory of the other party for the purpose of attending Commission meetings by giving appropriate notification to the other Party's Chief Commissioner. The documents authorizing such visits are:

For the U.S.S.R. Commissioners, a Soviet passport or identification document and written authorization issued by the chief of the U.S.S.R. Border Troops;

For the U.S. Commissioners, a U.S. passport and written authorization of the U.S. Department of State.

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Article 9

Commissioners shall inform each other as soon as possible of actions taken in accordance with the decisions adopted at a meeting.

Article 10

1. The Commission shall decide on the procedure for the exchange of official correspondence.
2. Official correspondence shall be accepted at any time of day or night, including holidays and other non-working days.
3. Communications and logistics capabilities of agencies of the parties, including the U.S. Coast Guard and the U.S.S.R. Border Troops, may be utilized in furtherance of this Agreement.
4. For the purpose of implementing this Agreement, the Chief Commissioner may bring to the meetings one assistant and one interpreter, who shall be entitled to enter the territory of the other Party with at least ten days prior notification to the other Party's Chief Commissioner. The documents authorizing the visit by an assistant and an interpreter shall be passports or identification documents and the written authorization of the Chief Commissioner identifying the person as an assistant or interpreter. Such persons shall depart with the Commissioners.
5. The crew of the aircraft or vessel transporting the Commissioners to meetings may disembark and remain in the area designated by the Chief Commissioner of the Party hosting the meeting until the meeting is concluded. The crew shall depart with the aircraft or vessel transporting the Commissioners. The documents necessary for disembarkation shall be passports or identification documents and written authorization by their Chief Commissioner identifying the person as a crew member.

Article 11

1. Nothing in this agreement shall prejudice the ongoing maritime boundary negotiations between the two parties or any agreements or understandings resulting from those discussions.
 2. Nothing in this agreement shall derogate in any way from the rights and obligations provided for in other agreements between the parties.
- 11/11

Article 12

1. This Agreement shall enter into force on the date the Parties exchange letters notifying each other in writing that necessary internal procedures have been completed.
2. This Agreement shall remain in force unless terminated by either Party upon six months' advance written notice to the other Party of its intention to terminate this Agreement.
3. This Agreement may be amended by written agreement between the Parties.

Done at _____, on _____, in duplicate, in the English and Russian languages, both texts being equally authentic.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

11/11

Agreement

Between the Government of the United States of America
and the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist
Republics Concerning Mutual Visits by Inhabitants
of the Bering Straits Region.

The Government of the United States of America and the
Government of the Union of the Soviet Socialist Republics (the
"Parties")

Recognizing that native inhabitants live on both sides
of the American-Soviet border;

Noting that these inhabitants have relatives on both
sides of the American-Soviet border; and

Striving to promote contacts between U.S. and U.S.S.R.
inhabitants of the Bering Straits Region;

Have agreed as follows:

MM

Article 1

For the purposes of this Agreement:

1.1 "Inhabitants of the U.S." shall mean U.S. citizens who are permanent residents of the designated U.S. area.

1.2 "Inhabitants of the U.S.S.R." shall mean U.S.S.R. citizens who are permanent residents of the designated U.S.S.R. area.

1.3 "Designated U.S. area " shall mean the Nome and Kobuk census areas of Alaska.

1.4 "Designated U.S.S.R. area" shall mean the Tuitinakiy Rayon, Providenskiy Rayon, and Chukotsky Rayon, as well as the eastern part of the Anadyrskiy Rayon, bounded on the south by the Anadyr River and on the west by the Tanyuzer River, including the city of Anadyr (Chukotaky Autonomous Okrug).

1.5 "Relatives" shall mean blood relatives, fellow clan or tribe members, or native inhabitants who share a linguistic or cultural heritage with native inhabitants of the other territory.

MM

1.6 "Designated U.S. authorities" shall mean designated representatives of the U.S. Secretary of State.

1.7 "Designated U.S.S.R. authorities" shall mean the internal affairs authorities of the Magadan Oblispolkom and the departments of internal affairs of city and rayon Ispolkoms of the Magadan Oblast.

1.6 "Chief Commissioner" is as defined in the Agreement between the Government of the United States and the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics of 1989 Concerning the ~~Western~~ Bering Straits Regional Commission.

Article 2

2.1 Upon invitation of relatives, U.S. and U.S.S.R. inhabitants may travel to the designated areas in accordance with the procedures established by this Agreement.

2.2 U.S. inhabitants desiring to visit relatives residing in the designated U.S.S.R. area shall notify the U.S.S.R. Chief Commissioner, through the U.S. Chief Commissioner or through the U.S.S.R. relative who has extended them a written invitation to visit, a minimum of ten days in advance of the visit. They shall provide their names and passport numbers, the name and address of the relative who has extended them an invitation to visit, the date of their intended visit, their method of travel, and their intended checkpoint of entry.

2.3 Upon notification of the U.S.S.R. Chief Commissioner, U.S. inhabitants may enter and exit the designated U.S.S.R. area, including passage through U.S.S.R. territorial waters, using a U.S. passport and an inset to the passport stating that they are inhabitants of the designated U.S. area.

2.4 U.S.S.R. inhabitants desiring to visit relatives residing in the designated U.S. area shall notify the U.S. Chief Commissioner, through the U.S.S.R. Chief Commissioner or through the U.S. relative who has extended them a written invitation to visit, a minimum of ten days in advance of the visit. They shall provide their names and passport numbers, the name and address of the relative who has extended them an invitation to visit, the date of their intended visit, their method of travel, and their intended checkpoint of entry.

2.5 Upon notification of the U.S. Chief Commissioner, U.S.S.R. inhabitants may enter and exit the designated U.S. area, including passage through U.S. territorial waters, using a U.S.S.R. passport and an inset to the passport stating that they are inhabitants of the designated U.S.S.R. area.

2.6 Unmarried children under the age of sixteen may travel only when accompanying their parents or another adult. An inset stating that such children are inhabitants of the designated U.S. or U.S.S.R. areas shall be placed in the passport of the parent or accompanying adult.

2.7 The Chief Commissioners shall determine the air and sea routes permitted for travel.

Article 3

3.1 The inset referred to in Article 2 of this agreement shall be issued by the designated authorities of the U.S. and the U.S.S.R. in their respective territories.

WMM

3.2 The Chief Commissioners shall exchange samples of the inset, and shall notify each other of any modifications to the inset thirty days in advance of the issuance of such modified inset. The inset shall be in English and Russian and a photograph shall be attached.

Article 4

Duration of stay for U.S. and U.S.S.R. inhabitants in the territory of the other shall not exceed ninety days.

Article 5

5.1 Crossing by the inhabitants of the U.S. and U.S.S.R. into the designated areas shall be made through the following checkpoints:

In the designated U.S. area, the checkpoints for crossing the border shall be Nome and Gambell, Alaska. *INVALIK
DIOMEDE*

In the designated U.S.S.R. area, the checkpoints for crossing the border shall be Provideniya, Anadyr, Lavrentiya, and Uelen (Chukotsky Autonomous Okrug).

5.2 U.S. and U.S.S.R. inhabitants may enter only at the checkpoint provided in the prior notification of the Chief Commissioners.

5.3 Different procedures for operation of checkpoints may be established by agreement in writing signed by the Chief Commissioners.

Article 6

6.1 U.S. and U.S.S.R. inhabitants crossing into the designated areas pursuant to this agreement shall be subject to border and customs control.

6.2 Customs control at the checkpoints shall be carried out in accordance with the laws of the parties and bilateral agreements in force.

6.3 U.S. and U.S.S.R. inhabitants may bring in with them items intended for personal use or for gifts. These items cannot be sold in the country of visit.

Handwritten initials or signature in the bottom left corner.

6.4 Procedures for taking items, including currency and financial documents, in and out of the country shall be subject to the laws of the parties and bilateral agreements in force.

Article 7

7.1 In the event that passports or insets of a U.S. or U.S.S.R. inhabitant are lost or destroyed during a visit in the territory of the other party, such person shall notify the designated authority of the country of visit.

7.2 After consultation with the designated authority of the other country, the designated authority of the country of visit shall issue a document to facilitate return travel.

Article 8

8.1 U.S. and U.S.S.R. inhabitants while visiting in the territory of the other party pursuant to this agreement are subject to the laws of the latter.

U.S.S.R.

8.2 Persons acting contrary to the provisions of this agreement or laws of the country of visit may be denied permission to enter the country or to stay further in its territory.

8.3 In those cases referred to in paragraph 2, the designated authority of the country of the visit shall notify such person of the grounds for such decisions.

Article 9

In exceptional circumstances, such as epidemics and natural disasters, a party may temporarily restrict or suspend entry to its territory, by notifying the other party through diplomatic channels. Such party shall give notice of the lifting of the restrictions as soon as possible.

Article 10

Questions relating to application or interpretation of this agreement shall be resolved through diplomatic channels.

11/11

Article 11

11.1 This agreement shall enter into force on the date the parties exchange letters notifying each other that the necessary internal procedures have been completed.

11.2 This agreement shall remain in force unless terminated by either party upon six months' advance written notice to the other party of its intention to terminate this agreement.

11.3 This agreement may be amended by written agreement between the parties.

Done at _____, on _____, in duplicate, in the English and Russian languages, both texts being equally authentic.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST
REPUBLICS

signed Sept 15, 1989 in Jackson, NY

11/6/89

Communications Between the Soviet Embassy and
the United States Department of State Establishing
Procedures Governing Visits to Siberia by Alaska Natives
in the 1930's and 1940's

VISITS TO SIBERIA BY AMERICAN ESKIMOS

*Soviet memorandum dated at Washington February 7, 1938; exchange
of notes at Washington March 26 and April 18, 1938*

Entered into force April 18, 1938

Terminated May 29, 1948

Department of State files

The Soviet Embassy to the Department of State

MEMORANDUM

According to information at the disposal of this Embassy every year during the summer months various settlements of the Chukotsk National Region of the U.S.S.R. (Wellen, Dezhnev, Chaplino, Naukan and others) are visited by American Eskimos in groups of 25 to 35 men who come by motorboat from St. Lawrence Island and Little Diomedé Island, territories of the United States, with the purpose of meeting their relatives, citizens of the U.S.S.R.

In addition to gifts for their relatives the visitors bring for sale seal and walrus skins, sable furs, raw hides and other products of their craft. They exchange these products in Soviet trading posts for different consumer goods (flour, sugar, tobacco, underclothing, etc.). For instance, American Eskimos who came from Little Diomedé Island to Cape Dezhnev in the summer of 1937 sold their furs and raw skins for the sum of 2300 rubles and acquired consumer goods to approximately the same amount.

In view of the foregoing and taking into consideration the fact that until the present time the arrivals of American Eskimos on Soviet territory have not been legalized by due procedure, the Government of the U.S.S.R. intends to introduce the following simplified procedure for temporary stay on Soviet territory of American Eskimos residing on the above-mentioned islands of the Bering Straits, territory of the United States of America, provided that these Eskimos carry certificates issued by local United States authorities which certify their nationality, occupation and place of permanent residence:

1. The entrance of American Eskimos into the territory of the U.S.S.R. shall be permitted under condition of possession of group lists or individual certificates issued by local United States authorities. These certificates (or

¹ Pursuant to notice of termination given by the U.S.S.R. May 29, 1948.

lists) shall be presented for registration at the frontier guard station nearest to the point of entrance. At places without frontier guards the registration of Eskimos arriving from the United States shall be performed by the local Soviets.

2. The registration of the certificates (or lists) shall give the American Eskimos the right of stay on Soviet territory within a definite limit not to exceed three months, as well as the right of exit after the expiration of the permit and of free movement along the coast of the Chukotsk Peninsula and on the adjacent Soviet islands.

3. The number of American Eskimos arriving at different points in the Chukotsk National Region shall tentatively not exceed 100 persons during one year.

4. American Eskimos arriving on Soviet territory to visit their relatives shall be permitted to bring them as personal gifts walrus, seal and other skins and other products of their craft. These gifts shall enter in non-commercial quantities, the limits of such quantities to be fixed at the discretion of the local authorities.

Skins, furs and raw hides entering in commercial quantities shall be brought to the nearest Soviet trading station to be exchanged for different consumer goods which in these cases the trading station shall sell to the native Soviet citizens for exchange with skins and furs. The prices for this exchange of goods shall be fixed by mutual agreement of those trading.

5. The following goods shall not be permitted to be imported into the territory of the U.S.S.R.:

- a) firearms of all kinds including hunting rifles in personal possession
- b) narcotics
- c) Soviet currency
- d) printed matter
- e) liquor and wines
- f) objects of religious worship (with the exception of those in the personal use of the visitors).

6. The following goods shall not be permitted to be exported from the territory of the U.S.S.R.:

- a) firearms including hunting rifles
- b) Soviet and foreign currency (with the exception of those amounts of foreign currency which are brought by the American Eskimos and registered by them with the local authorities of the nearest settlement)
- c) valuable furs (with the exception of a reasonable quantity found to be in the personal use of the visitors and received by them as gifts from their relatives, Soviet citizens. These quantities are to be established by the local authorities).

February 7, 1938

EXCHANGE OF NOTES

The Secretary of State to the Soviet Ambassador

The Secretary of State presents his compliments to His Excellency the Ambassador of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and has the honor to refer to the memorandum dated February 7, left at the Department by the Ambassador, with respect to the desire of the Soviet Government to establish a certain procedure governing the visits to the Siberian mainland of American Eskimos residing on St. Lawrence Island and Little Diomedé Island.

The contents of this memorandum have been brought to the attention of the competent authorities of this Government, who have expressed themselves as being in accord with the desire of the Soviet Government to regularize the temporary visits of American Eskimos to Siberia and with the procedure which has been suggested by the Ambassador with a view to achieving this end.

The Eskimos residing on St. Lawrence and Little Diomedé Islands in Bering Strait are quite isolated from contact with Eskimos and whites residing on the mainland of Alaska. The only representatives of the United States Government on these two islands are teachers and a nurse employed by the Office of Indian Affairs of the Department of the Interior.

The teachers in charge of the American Indian Service schools on St. Lawrence Island and on Little Diomedé Island will be instructed to prepare and to issue to such Eskimos under their jurisdiction as may wish to make temporary visits to Siberia during the summer months, group lists or individual certificates setting forth their names, occupations, and places of permanent residence. They also will be instructed to advise the Eskimos to take these documents with them when they visit Siberia and to present them to the Soviet authorities upon demand.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Washington
March 26, 1938

The Soviet Ambassador to the Secretary of State

The Ambassador of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics presents his compliments to the Secretary of State and has the honor to acknowledge receipt of his note dated March 26th stating that the contents of the memorandum of February 7 left at the Department by the Ambassador, with respect to the desire of the Soviet Government to establish a certain procedure governing the visits to the Siberian mainland of American Eskimos residing on St. Lawrence Island and Little Diomedé Island, have been brought to the attention of the competent authorities of the United States Government.

It has been noted by the Ambassador that the United States authorities have expressed themselves as being in accord with the desire of the Soviet Government to regularize the temporary visits of the American Eskimos to Siberia and with the procedure which has been suggested by the Ambassador with a view to achieving this end.

THE AMBASSADOR OF THE
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS
Washington, D.C.

April 18, 1938