

HJR

27

HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

(7)

Date Referred to Committee: April 1, 1999

FURTHER REFERRALS:

Date of Committee Action: 4/8/99

The STATE AFFAIRS Committee considered:

HJR 27

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 27

ALASKA/RUSSIA MARITIME BOUNDARY

Relating to the maritime boundary between Alaska and the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

recommends it be replaced with the following committee substitute CS HJR 27 (STA) the same title a new title

additional referral to _____ Committee
 attached amendment(s)

ADOPTS: _____ Letter of Intent

ATTACHES NEW FISCAL NOTE(s): (Dept) _____ APPROVES PREVIOUS: (Dept/Date) _____
 fiscal note(s) _____ fiscal note(s) _____

zero fiscal note(s) _____ zero fiscal note(s) WTR

SIGNING WITH RECOMMENDATIONS	DP	DNP	NR	AM
<i>Jeannette James</i>	✓			
<i>Bill Hudis</i>	✓			
<i>John C. Hill</i>	✓			
<i>Bob Stettula</i>				✓
<i>Pat Smalley</i>			✓	
	✓			

CHAIR'S SIGNATURE *Jeannette James*

Alaska State Legislature



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Representative John Coghill

HJR 27 Maritime Boundary Dispute between Alaska and Russia Sponsor Statement March 10, 1999

HJR 27 explains the boundary dispute between Russia and Alaska and requests the Governor and Attorney General to actively pursue resolving the problem.

The current boundary dispute arises from two sources. First, when the United States acquired much of Alaska from Russia in 1867, no boundary line was established since no land areas of Russia and the United States touched each other. Secondly, additional islands in the Arctic were added to Alaska in 1881, including Wrangell, Bennett, Jeannette, and Henrietta. Equal in size to Rhode Island and Delaware combined, Wrangell was discovered by the U.S. Revenue Marine ship Corwin commanded by Captain Calvin Leighton Hooper, whose landing party included the famed naturalist John Muir. The other three islands were discovered by the U.S. Navy expedition aboard USS Jeannette commanded by Lt. George Washington DeLong and the island group still bears the name of DeLong Islands. These additions to the United States were reflected in official territorial records, and much American activity was conducted in and around them. In 1924, Soviet Forces invaded Wrangell Island and interned the American inhabitants. The United States has never relinquished sovereignty over these islands to the Russians.

These areas became more valuable in 1976 when international law established the 200 nautical mile fishery conservation zones from every country's coasts. In 1983 the exclusive economic zones (EEZ) were added that gave countries the rights to seabeds and below. Thus any small island would have 125,000 square miles of ocean resources inside its 100 nautical mile radius. The disputed seabeds in the Arctic and Bering Sea amount to an area the size of Texas.

Because the U.S. and the former Soviet Union were within 400 nautical miles, it became necessary to negotiate a maritime boundary extending over 1200 miles. The U.S. and the former Soviet Union started boundary discussions in the late 1970's, but never invited the State of Alaska to participate in any negotiations despite the fact that the potential maritime boundaries would significantly affect Alaska's territorial, sovereignty, and property rights. The public and the U.S. Congress were also excluded from any knowledge or input. The negotiations extended over 10 years, consisting mostly of disagreements about how to draw a 1000-mile diagonal line from the Bering Strait to the end of the Aleutian Islands.

In 1990, an executive agreement was reached between the U.S. State Department and the Soviet Foreign Ministry on a maritime boundary, and at the same time a proposed treaty was signed with the same provisions. This proposed treaty has never been ratified by the Russians and thus is not in force. The Russians are now demanding that the maritime boundary be moved even closer to Alaska so that it can get another 300 million pounds of fish per year from the American side and the State Department seems ready to concede to it.

The maritime boundary between Alaska and Russia thus remains unresolved, as does the status of the islands in the Arctic Ocean and at the end of the Aleutians. Under Constitutional principles, Alaska has the right to participate in any negotiations that affect its territory, sovereignty, or property, and consent to the terms of any agreement. California has passed resolves supporting Alaska's rights in this matter, and Idaho is anticipating passing a resolve on our behalf. The Governor and Alaska State Legislature cannot continue to stand by and allow the United States government to encroach any more on its states rights and valuable economic resources.

THE
FOLLOWING
DOCUMENT(S)
ARE
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The Wrangle over Wrangell

A treaty proposing the most disgraceful surrender of U.S. territory and economic interests since the surrender of the Panama Canal is now pending in the Senate. Hearings were held in mid-June and the pact, titled the "Soviet Union-United States Maritime Boundary Agreement," could soon be sent to the floor for debate and a ratification vote.

The agreement was signed on June 1, 1990 by Secretary of State James Baker and then-Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, and transmitted to the Senate by President Bush on September 26th. At first glance, it may appear innocuous, since it merely seeks to establish a maritime boundary between the U.S. and USSR that would eliminate existing disputes regarding sea, continental shelf, and economic jurisdictions in the Arctic Ocean, Bering and Chukchi Seas, and a portion of the North Pacific Ocean. But when closely scrutinized, it becomes shockingly apparent that what it amounts to is a willing capitulation by our government to Soviet demands.

Surrendering U.S. Soil

Although the treaty does not specifically say so, one of its effects would be to surrender to the Soviets sovereign control of five islands, including huge Wrangell (often spelled "Wrangel") Island off the northeast coast of Siberia. Four of the five islands were discovered by Americans; all of them became part of the U.S. in the last half of the 19th Century.

The treaty would establish as the maritime boundary line between the two countries the demarcation line defined in the 1867 treaty that transferred Alaska to the United States for the "Seward's folly" sum of \$7.2 million. The demarcation line terminated all Russian claims to sovereignty to the east, but had absolutely no bearing on future U.S. claims on as yet undiscovered territories to the west. At the time, four of the five islands affected by the pending treaty



had not been discovered. In 1924, State Department Solicitor F. M. Anderson reviewed documents leading to the 1867 treaty, and the treaty itself, and confirmed (in a memorandum dated November 25, 1924), "The Emperor of all the Russias ceded to the United States certain territories, [while] the United States in its part entered into no commitment which could be interpreted as an undertaking not to press claims to any land west of the particular line above described [the demarcation line]."

The question today is whether the 1867 demarcation line should become a formal maritime boundary line between the U.S. and USSR. That is what the pending treaty would do, and should it be ratified, the five Alaskan islands situated west of the line would become Soviet territory.

The State Department, always anxious to protect Soviet interests when they conflict with those of the U.S., has for more than a decade contended that the 1867 line is already a legal maritime boundary.

The language of the 1867 treaty, however, does not even hint that the

demarcation line could serve as a boundary line. In 1978, Dr. William E. Butler, dean of the faculty of law at University College in London, wrote in the authoritative *International Straits of the World*: "The Russo-American Convention Line of 1867 is not regarded as a state frontier, and the continental shelf boundary in the Chukchi Sea and northward remain to be negotiated." And, as we shall see shortly, in 1984 the Interior Department admitted that there is no maritime boundary between the U.S. and USSR (or its Russian predecessor). The pending treaty would establish one for the first time, on terms stacked heavily in favor of the Soviets.

Startling Claim

Negotiations regarding the maritime boundary line began in 1981. They were conducted in strictest secrecy. It was only by chance that the scheming came to light. Mark Seidenberg, who is today vice-chairman of State Department Watch (the organization most responsible for keeping Americans informed about

in 1916, 1924 and 1925, and have "occupied" Wrangell Island since 1924. (As we shall see, the term "occupied" to describe the Soviet presence on Wrangell is indeed appropriate).

Wrangell Island is located some 155 miles off the northeast coast of Siberia, and 270 miles northwest of Cape Lisbourne, Alaska, in the Chukchi Sea. It covers about 2,800 square miles, making it slightly smaller than Delaware and Rhode Island combined. It, and nearby Herald Island, are collectively called the Chukchi Sea Islands. Bennett, Henrietta and Jeanette Islands are located farther northwest, in the East Siberian Sea near the East Siberian Islands. Collectively, they comprise the De Long Islands. Herald Island was discovered by British Captain Henry Kellett in 1849, and was later acquired by the U.S. when the initial claim was abandoned.

On August 14, 1867, while searching for whales, Captain Thomas Long of New London, Connecticut sailed his whaling bark *Nile* within sight of an unfamiliar land that he named "Wrangell's Land" in honor of the famed Russian Arctic explorer Baron Ferdinand Petrovich von Wrangell. The Baron, who had heard rumors of the island's existence from some Chukchi chiefs of Siberia, conducted a number of vallant (but unsuccessful) expeditions to find it between 1820 and 1824.

Other U.S. whalers later confirmed the sighting, and the rumor spread that the large land mass was actually an undiscovered frozen continent similar to Antarctica. That exciting possibility prompted *New York Herald* publisher James Gordon Bennett to cooperate with the Navy in outfitting an expedition in 1879 led by Naval Lieutenant George Washington De Long. In June and July 1881, during the search for the new "continent," De Long discovered Bennett, Henrietta and Jeanette Islands (he named them for, respectively, publisher Bennett and Bennett's mother and sister). Shortly thereafter, De Long's ship, the *Jeannette*, met a tragic fate when it became trapped in ice floes, drifted westward past Wrangell, and was crushed and sunk. Fearing the worst,

Congress had already appropriated funds to finance a search by two of the vessel's relief ships, the *Thomas Corwin* and the *John Rodgers*.

Captain Calvin Leighton Hooper commanded the *Thomas Corwin*. At the time, Hooper also headed the Bering Sea Patrol of the U.S. Revenue Marine, thereby making him the de facto governor of Alaska (the District of Alaska was under jurisdiction of the Treasury Department, which had placed Alaska under the charge of the U.S. Revenue Marine). Hooper had full authority to discover and claim sovereignty over land on behalf of the United States.

While searching for the *Jeannette*, Hooper and his crew (which included John Muir, the renowned naturalist) landed on Wrangell Island on August 12, 1881. It was the first time on record that man had set foot on the island. Hooper and his fellow officers raised the American flag and took possession of the island in the name of the United States. Crew member William Reynolds later recalled: "I had the flag and with the Captain's permission waved it and took possession of the new land in the name of liberty and of the Government of the United States of America. I planted the flag on a bluff a little to the northwest of our landing place and left it there together with a record of our visit." And naturalist John Muir would later write in his book *The Cruise of the Corwin* that "a notable addition was made to the national domain when Captain Calvin L. Hooper landed on Wrangell Land and took formal possession in the name of the United States."

Captain Hooper renamed the island New Columbia. He meant no offense to Baron von Wrangell, but believed that since it had become, "by our act of landing upon it, a part of the United States," a name reflecting that national character was more appropriate. But custom prevailed, and Wrangell Island it has remained.

On August 26, 1881 a party from the *John Rodgers* landed on Wrangell and, by September 13th, completed an official U.S. government survey. The ship's crew also raised the American flag and confirmed that the new U.S. possession was merely a large island, not a continent.

The chief of the U.S. Revenue Marine Service informed the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey in 1881 that Wrangell Island had been annexed to the United States, and determined that it should be included in the District of Alaska (along with the three islands discovered by De Long). In 1884 the Departments of the Treasury, Navy and War, as well as the U.S. Coast Survey and the Smithsonian Institution, listed Wrangell Island as part of Alaska, and therefore U.S. territory. U.S. Geological Survey Bulletins Nos. 169 (1900), 187 (1902), and 274 and 299 (1906) included the island as part of the United States, as did Russian naval maps and encyclopedias at the turn of the century.

Russian Claim

The first visit to the island by Russians occurred in mid-September 1911, when the ice-breaker *Vaigach* took shelter from a storm at the southwest corner of the island. A landing party was sent ashore, and the ship subsequently circumnavigated the island. But the crew made no claim of discovery.

On November 13, 1916 the Imperial Russian Embassy in Washington wrote a memorandum to the U.S. State Department, claiming that Wrangell Island (and the other four as well) belonged to Russia. The memorandum claimed that the islands "form an extension Northward of the Continental tableland of Siberia," a contention that had no validity in international law. Today, the State Department implies that when the U.S. did not respond to the Russian memo, it agreed to its terms, which is nonsense, since the memo became moot within a few months when the Russian government was booted out in March 1917.

Great Britain, Japan and the United States formally opposed the Bolsheviks. In 1920, Vilhjalmur Stefansson, a Canadian who had led an earlier, unsuccessful expedition to Wrangell, became concerned with the prospect that the Japanese government might attempt to grab Wrangell Island as part of its designs on eastern Siberia. Stefansson met in Michigan with a Canadian (Alan Crawford) and the British ambassa-

torical record to the contrary, beginning with the first "claim" by Captain Hooper in 1881.

The Department also contends that "discovery itself is not sufficient to establish a right of sovereignty over or valid title to territory not already under the sovereignty of a country." Discovery must be followed by "effective occupation by which the claimant nation exercises the actual, continuous, and peaceful display of the functions of a state over the territory." The Soviet invasion was hardly peaceful. And the Americans who were kidnapped could reasonably be regarded as the nucleus of a valid settlement which might have matured and expanded had it been allowed to do so.

In 1959, the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission, a U.S. government agency, ruled that personal property confiscated by the Soviets from the American fur trappers on Wrangell in 1924 had been illegally expropriated. The Lomen company was granted compensation. While, as the State Department now contends, "the Board's decision did not address the question of the island's sovereignty," the conclusion that the Soviets acted illegally would indeed seem to have implications for the sovereignty issue.

Nixonian Protocol

Today, wildly exaggerated environmental concerns (about ozone, global warming, acid rain, etc.) are serving as the excuse for international agreements that are seriously eroding our national sovereignty and independence. Such use of environmentalism is not new. In 1972, President Richard Nixon and Soviet President Nicolai Podgorny signed an Agreement on the Cooperation in the Field of Environmental Protection. A protocol under the agreement falsely described Wrangell Island as being "in the USSR." The protocol's stated objectives included: "To study the ecological problems associated with the expansion of muskoxen populations into new areas of the Arctic. It is planned to prepare for and execute a transplant of muskoxen from Junivak Island in Alaska to Wrangell Island and the Taimyr Peninsula in the USSR." The protocol was ap-

proved by President Gerald Ford on November 24, 1974 and on December 12th of that year then-Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Russell Train signed an "environmental protection" memorandum which included the text of the protocol. On April 14, 1975 our government gave the Soviets formal use of Wrangell Island during an airport ceremony in Bethel, Alaska. Using the appeal of "environmental cooperation," those involved apparently intended to mislead the American people into believing that Wrangell Island had belonged to the Soviets all along. Thanks to the courageous and persistent efforts of such groups as State Department Watch, and legislators like Senator Helms, it didn't work.

Gulag Expansion Project

Not only have the Soviets occupied Wrangell Island, there is also compelling evidence that they have extended their gulag there. On February 2, 1973 Avraham Shifrin, who was imprisoned for many years in the USSR at the height of Josef Stalin's anti-Jewish campaign, testified before the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee. He asserted that he had a decade earlier met a new group of prisoners who told him they had been transferred from a concentration camp on Wrangell Island, and that there were "three concentration camps for prisoners of war" on the island. Shifrin did not believe them, but in 1971 he received a letter from a man who (in Shifrin's words) "was also on Island of Wrangell in 1962 and he have [sic] seen there three concentration camps with thousands of prisoners of war," in one of which there was an "atomic reactor, and they make experiments on the live people with radiation." In another "they have experiments with physicians on the people and in third they have submarines and they have experiments with live people under water."

In a sworn statement dated December 15, 1977 given to the American consul in Tel Aviv, Efim Moshinsky (a former operative of SMERSH, a Stalin-era division of Soviet intelligence, who was arrested by the KGB and imprisoned in 1958)

asserted (with spelling errors in the original corrected) that he "was transferred, through a deportation prison in Vladivostok, to the Wrangell Island; this happened in May 1958." Moshinsky claimed that there had been "one huge concentration camp divided into three separate camp zones for prisoners with whom I had many opportunities to communicate." At one such zone, "prisoners were sometimes transferred for some experiments the essence of which the prisoners did not know."

The most famous prisoner believed to have served time on Wrangell Island was Raoul Wallenberg, the Swedish diplomat noted for his efforts to save 100,000 Hungarian Jews during World War II. In 1988, Soviet officials claimed that Wallenberg had died in a Soviet prison in Moscow in 1947. But Moshinsky claims that Wallenberg was among the prisoners on Wrangell Island while he himself was there.

According to the *Anchorage Times* for November 18, 1990, a "Hungarian who had been a prisoner at a different Soviet camp in Siberia claimed to have met Wallenberg in 1967. He reportedly said he [Wallenberg] had just been transferred from Wrangell Island."

The *Anchorage Times* also reported that in "1975 Simon Wiesenthal, the head of the Nazi-hunting Jewish Documentation Center, located another prisoner from Wrangell Island who heard about a Swedish inmate when he was on the island in the 1960s."

To sum-up, the Soviets, in illegally annexing Wrangell Island, invaded U.S. territory, kidnapped the Americans they found, then apparently established concentration camps that included Nazi-like experimentation. Our State Department responded to all of this by offering to give the Soviets Wrangell, the other four U.S.-owned islands, and vast areas of oil-rich seabed.

In his September 26, 1990 message transmitting the proposed U.S.-USSR Maritime Boundary Treaty to Congress, President Bush stated: "I believe the agreement to be fully in the United States interest." Those who disagree are letting their senators know about it without delay. ■

Anch
D. News

3-8-97

Russians rethink boundary

Nationalists attack Bering Sea treaty

By DAVID WHITNEY
Daily News reporter

WASHINGTON — A Bering Sea boundary agreement between the United States and the former Soviet Union is in danger of unraveling, raising fears that Russian nationalists will assert fishing rights in areas that now are under U.S. jurisdiction.

U.S. Sen. Ted Stevens, a key player on fisheries issues in Congress, described Russian opposition to the 1990 agreement as "a most difficult and dangerous situation."

The U.S. Senate ratified the treaty in 1991. Stevens, R-Alaska, said the Russian legislature is opposed to the deal because it "believes their negotiators gave away too much."

State Department sources, speaking on condition they not be quoted by name, said the Clinton administration is working furiously to rescue the agreement.

But they acknowledged that the dispute poses a serious diplomatic difficulty that may only be resolved with concessions to the Russians.

"Opposition to the treaty has emerged on the Russian side," a State Department source said. "It reflects the view of Russian fishing interests that the agreement disadvantaged them and that they lost opportunities to fish in the Bering Sea.

"We have engaged in informal negotiations to see if there is some way to deal with the opposition on the political side, recognizing that some of the (fish) stocks are on both sides of the boundary," the source said.

RUSSIANS: Nationalists

Continued from Page B-1.

At stake is the Bering Sea's huge pollock fishery, which many believe is being overfished.

The North Pacific Fishery Management Council, which regulates the commercial pollock fishery in U.S. waters, is under pressure to drastically reduce harvesting. In Russian waters, the concern is that young pollock spawned in U.S. waters are being overexploited to raise cash for Russia's sputtering economy.

The dispute has the American Factory Trawler Association on edge. The association represents factory ships that fish pollock in U.S. waters off the Alaska coast.

"There's a possibility of them moving the boundary line to take fishing grounds from us," said the association's lobbyist, Jim Gilmore.

Greenpeace, an environmental group that has targeted pollock fishing by the factory ships as the culprit in the collapse of the Steller sea lion population, is concerned that the negotiations could lead to increased fishing in the U.S. zone.

"The last thing we need is an agreement that brings more boats in," said Gerry Leape, Greenpeace's legislative director. "If the Russians insist on fishing in the U.S. zone, we'd insist on a comparable reduction in U.S. fishing effort."

The 1990 boundary agreement, reached after 10 years of negotiations, was initiated by President George Bush and former Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev during a 1990 summit in Washington, D.C. It was one of the last bilateral agreements before

the Soviet Union's collapse.

The agreement clarified the boundary left fuzzy for more than a century after the \$7.2 million purchase of Alaska from Russia in 1867.

The impetus was settlement of increasing competition over Bering Sea fishing grounds and the ownership of subsea areas of the Navarin Basin of the Chukchi Sea where U.S. companies had bid \$108 million for oil-development rights in 1984.

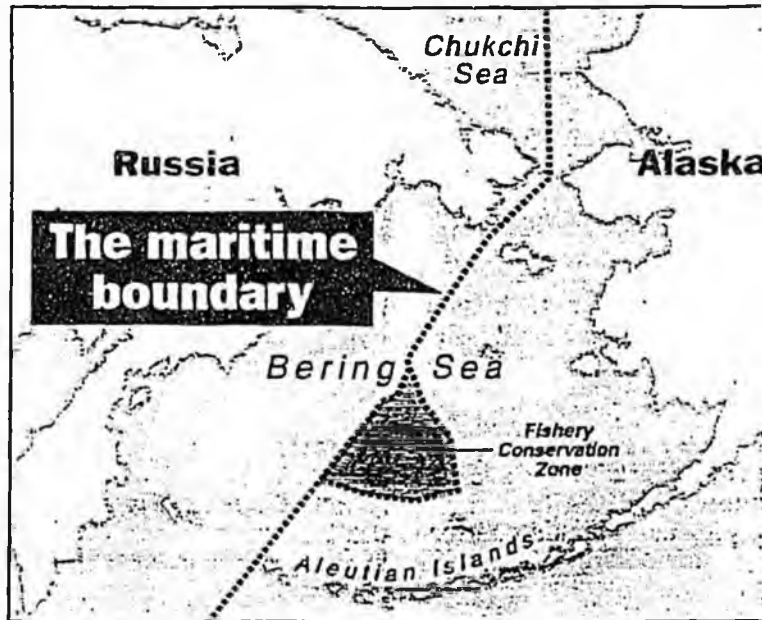
The negotiations centered on a difference of opinion between the countries on how to interpret a convention line cited in the 1867 agreement. The Soviets believed that the line should be fixed closer to the Alaska mainland while the United States said it belonged closer to the Russian shore.

The overlapping areas involved about 21,000 square nautical miles. The disagreement was resolved basically by splitting the difference. That agreement left an area north of the "donut hole," which is international water in the center of the Bering Sea, under U.S. control even though it fell within Russia's 200-mile territorial limit.

If the treaty collapses, Russia most likely would reassert its jurisdiction over those waters, opening them to foreign fishing. But there are some indications that Russian nationalists believe that the boundary should be even closer to the U.S. mainland than the U.S.-Soviet negotiators contemplated when the talks began in the early 1980s.

The best hope of the United States now is that the Russians can be persuaded to ratify the 1990 treaty by negotiating a broader Bering Sea fisheries management plan that would reduce fishing for

unhappy with 1990 treaty



“Opposition to the treaty has emerged on the Russian side. It reflects the view of Russian fishing interests that the agreement disadvantaged them and that they lost opportunities to fish in the Bering Sea.”

— State Department official

underage pollock in Russian waters in exchange for additional fishing rights on the U.S. side of the border.

But no one seems confident now that such a deal can be struck because of sentiments in the Russian Far East that the former Soviet regime gave up legitimate territorial claims.

The dispute has been simmering for several years but only now seems to be nearing a boiling point because of the growing nationalist fervor against Russian President Boris Yeltsin and the country's worsening financial cri-

sis.

Stevens raised the dispute with Secretary of State Madeleine Albright in a meeting this week and with Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin earlier this year. Later this month, Stevens heads for Russia on a fact-finding trip as chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee.

“I intend to raise this issue when I'm there,” Stevens said, declining to say more because of what he and the State Department described as the “extremely sensitive” nature of the negotiations.

MAR 1 / 1997

WATCH STATE DEPARTMENT

NEWS RELEASE
For immediate release
March 17, 1997
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CLINTON ADMINISTRATION PLANS EVEN BIGGER GIVEAWAY OF 8 ALASKAN ISLANDS AND VAST OIL-RICH SEABEDS IN FACE OF RUSSIAN DEMANDS OVER MARITIME BOUNDARY BETWEEN ALASKA AND SIBERIA

The Clinton Administration is threatening an expanded giveaway of 8 Alaskan islands and vast oil and fishery rich seabeds to the Russians, it was charged by Carl Olson, Chairman of State Department Watch, a nonpartisan foreign policy watchdog group headquartered in Washington, D.C.

Reacting to the Russian government's demands for even more seabeds than were agreed to in 1990, the U.S. State Department proposes further concessions for the maritime boundary between Alaska and Siberia without any quid pro quo from the Russians.

Negotiations are scheduled in Moscow aimed at signing a new agreement in Petropavlosk in May, though the State Department refuses to name the members of the negotiating team or allow for input from the public or the State of Alaska. "If the U.S. has won the Cold War, why is the Clinton Administration in such a rush to appease the Russians' overreaching demands?" questioned Olson. "We deserve a much better deal for the American side."

A major flaw in the 1990 proposed maritime boundary agreement was that it placed on the Russian side the Alaskan islands of Wrangell, Herald, Bennett, Jeannette, and Henrietta in the Arctic, and Copper Island, Sea Otter Rock, and Sea Lion Rock at the western end of the Aleutians. Along with the islands went the 200 nautical miles of seabeds around them with billions of dollars of oil, fishery, and other resources at stake.

Alaskan officials have complained for years about the arrogant and unconstitutional treatment that the State of Alaska has received from the U.S. State Department over the 1990 agreement. State Representatives Al Vezey (R-Fairbanks) and Joe Ryan (R-Anchorage) have led the campaign to reverse the threatened giveaway. A resolution toward this end (House Concurrent Resolution 22) passed the House 38-1 in early March and it expected to pass the Senate shortly. It notes that the 1990 maritime boundary agreement was signed by Secretary of State James A. Baker III without any participation or consent by the State of Alaska, even though it impacts heavily on Alaskan territory, seabeds, and boundaries.

In Congress, the 1990 agreement was opposed by the current chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee Jesse Helms (R-North Carolina), who stated, "Unfortunately, past experience has shown that the State Department frequently regards legitimate American interests as obstacles to accomplishments of its grandiose plans for an international order based upon the subordination of national sovereignty to a global governmental regime. ... I intend to vote against the treaty."

Circumventing the constitutional requirement for the State Department to seek prior advice of the Senate during any negotiations over a treaty, the State Department refused to do so for the 1990 agreement and has repeated this failure for the new negotiations.

Also brought into question is the State Department's secret 1990 side agreement with the Russians which stated that pending the ratification of the maritime boundary agreement treaty the two governments would abide by the terms anyway. This is a direct threat by an executive agency to give itself the power that only the Senate and President have under the constitution, and makes the ratification of the agreement a mockery. For the past 7 years the State Department has secretly been enforcing the flawed maritime boundary agreement and expects to continue.

###END###

#15
 Journal of Commerce
 4 September 1997
 (for personal use only)
 Russians set to go on the offensive in US fish dispute=20
 BY JOHN HELMER
 JOURNAL OF COMMERCE SPECIAL

MOSCOW — Russian officials believe the 18-day detention of a Russian trawler by the U.S. Coast Guard will trigger parliamentary demands for renegotiation of the Bering Sea economic zone.

In a front-page report this week, the Moscow daily newspaper Izvestia charged the U.S. arrest of the Chernyaev was due to the "unwise policies of Moscow," claiming "temporary" concession of a 40,000 square kilometer zone of the Bering Sea to the United States was costing the Russian Far Eastern fishing fleet an annual catch of 150,000 tons of fish.

Foreign Ministry official Vladimir Sinitsin confirmed that Chernyaev was in Russian territorial waters on the night of Aug. 15, when a Coast Guard cutter ordered the vessel into the Alaskan Port of Kodiak, where it remains today. U.S. officials say the Russians had earlier been detected fishing in the American zone. Mr. Sinitsin did not dispute the claim. He regretted that so far efforts by officials on both sides had failed to secure the release of the ship and crew.

Russian officials in Moscow speculate that the Chernyaev incident, coming soon after First Deputy Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov discussed the territorial waters issue on a visit to the United States, is intended to pressure the government into accepting permanent American control of the disputed zone. Izvestia editorialized that the United States was "confirming agreements by scaring the Russians with a show of force."

According to Mr. Sinitsin, the first concessions to allow American fishing in Russian waters of the Bering Sea were granted by Leonid Brezhnev in 1977. This was followed, he said, by an agreement in 1990 between Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and U.S. Secretary of State James Baker. Mr. Sinitsin emphasized this "temporary" arrangement was approved by President Mikhail Gorbachev and President Reagan in Washington that year.

Legally, however, the Russian Foreign Ministry's position is that without parliamentary ratification, there is no American right to continue fishing in the concessionary zone.

Legislative jurisdiction over the continental shelf agreements is exercised in the Duma, Russia's lower house of parliament, by the Committee on Geopolitical Issues, which is a bastion of opposition sentiment. The Duma resumes after its summer recess this week, and it is expected Chairman Alexei Mitrofanov will go on the offensive, attacking the Foreign Ministry for failing to recover the Chernyaev, and insisting on the cancellation of the Shevardnadze-Baker agreement.

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From Russia Today press summaries

<http://www.russiatoday.com>

Izvestiya

September 1997

Lead story

Russia Can Lose One More Alaska

Summary

More than 40,000 square kilometers of the Russian continental shelf, rich with fish, oil and gas, may pass to the United States as the result of the unwise policies of Moscow, the daily wrote.

The U.S. Coast Guard in the Alaskan port of Kodiak continues to hold the Russian trawler "Chernyaev," which was seized on Aug. 15 in Russian waters of the Bering Sea. The Russian government has yet to receive an answer from the U.S. administration to its official request that the trawler be released.

The trawler belongs to the collective enterprise "50 Years of October." It was seized by a U.S. patrol boat. The daily wrote that if anything like that had been tried on an American schooner, the U.S.'s Seventh Fleet would be at Russia's borders immediately.

The trawler incident is another episode in the long controversy over delineation of the Bering Sea, which Russian and U.S. representatives drew up in a 1990 agreement. Russians in the Far East were angered at the agreement and at Eduard Shevardnadze, who signed it as head of the Soviet Foreign Ministry.

The pact has not yet been ratified by the Russian side, because it means large territorial concessions to the U.S. It is only in effect temporarily. If the agreement really had taken force, the U.S. would gain 40,000 square kilometers of continental shelf in the open part of the Bering Sea, which is rich with oil and gas.

Russia has, in fact, already been deprived of its annual catch of 50,000 tons of fish in the waters, the daily said. The Russian economic zone in the region is less than 200 miles, while the American zone is much greater.

After the memorable sale of Alaska, this was another act of idiccy on the part of Russia, Izvestiya wrote. The excesses of the American Coast Guard against Russian fishing boats are aimed at confirming the agreements by simply scaring the Russian side with a show of force.

Russians won't back sea boundary

Scrippo-McClatchy Western Service

WASHINGTON—A Bering Sea boundary agreement between the United States and the former Soviet Union is in jeopardy of unraveling, raising fears that Russian nationalists will assert fishing rights in areas that now are under U.S. jurisdiction.

Alaska Sen. Ted Stevens, a key player on fisheries issues in the Congress, described Russian opposition to the 1990 agreement as "a most difficult and dangerous situation."

The U.S. Senate ratified the treaty in 1991. Stevens said the Russian legislature is opposed to the deal because it "believes their negotiators gave away too much."

State Department sources, speaking on the condition that they not be quoted by name, said the Clinton administration is working furiously to rescind the agreement.

But they acknowledged that the dispute poses a serious diplomatic difficulty that can be resolved only through economic concessions to the Russians.

"Opposition to the treaty has emerged on the Russian side," a State Department source said. "It reflects the view of Russian fishing interests that the agreement disadvantaged them and that they lost opportunities to fish in the Bering Sea."

"We have engaged in informal negotiations to see if there is some way to deal with the opposition on the political side, recognizing that some of the (fish) stocks are on both sides of the boundary," the source said.

At stake is the Bering Sea's huge pollock fishery, which many believe is being over-fished.

The North Pacific Fishery Management Council, which regulates the commercial pollock fishery in U.S. waters, is under pressure to drastically reduce harvesting. In Russian waters, the concern is that young pollock spawned in U.S. waters are being over-exploited to raise cash for Russia's sputtering economy.

The dispute has the American Factory Trawler Association on edge. The association represents factory ships that fish pollock out of U.S. waters off the Alaska coast.

"There's a possibility of them moving the boundary line to take fishing grounds from us," said the association's lobbyist, Jim Gilmore.

Greenpeace, an environmental group that has targeted pollock fishing by the factory ships as the culprit in the collapse of the Steller sea lion population, is concerned that the negotiations could lead to increased fishing in the U.S. zone.

"The last thing we need is an agreement that brings more boats in," said Gerry Leape, Greenpeace's legislative director. "If the Russians insist on fishing in the U.S. zone, we'd insist on a comparable reduction in U.S. fishing effort."

The 1990 boundary agreement, reached after 10 years of negotiations, was initiated by President George Bush and former Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev during a 1990 summit in Washington, D.C. It was one of the last bilateral agreements before the Soviet Union's collapse.

The agreement clarified the boundary left fuzzy for more than a century after the \$7.2 million purchase of Alaska from Russia in 1867.

The impetus was settlement of increasing competition over Bering Sea fishing grounds and the ownership of subsea areas of the Navarin Basin of the Chukchi Sea, where U.S. companies had bid \$108 million for development rights in 1984.

The negotiations centered on a difference of opinion between the two countries on how to interpret a convention line cited in the 1867 agreement. The Soviets believed that the line should be fixed closer to the Alaska mainland while the United States said it belonged closer to the Russian shore.

The overlapping areas involved about 21,000 square nautical miles.

up to 200,000 acres of land, some of it in the Tongass National Forest. Hearings on that bill are scheduled for September in Washington, D.C.

Ongoing, responsible harvesting of the forest is in keeping with the variety of uses the forest can provide the people of Southeast Alaska. If landholders work together, they will be able to attract the business needed to make several small logging operations add up to a worthwhile business endeavor.

—Juneau Empire, Aug. 28,

locked bedroom for the Chris Foote and his 20-year-old girlfriend, Spring Wright.

The bound hostages were screaming warnings to Foote and Wright. Police said Foote reached for his 9-millimeter handgun and began firing as the bounty hunters burst into the bedroom. Two of the intruders were wounded before the bounty hunters returned fire, killing Foote and Wright.

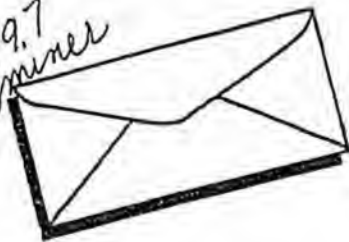
Later it would be learned that the whole thing was a mistake.

spokesman for the Association of Criminal Lawyers in Washington. The bail bondsman said you agree that if you abscond with any reasonable you to the jurisdiction. That is U.S.

The term "reasonable" is very loosely.

"Some states have restrictions on King. "But if the one of those states you back to a

9/8/97
Newsminer



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Biggest ever

Sept. 4, 1997

To the editor:

The Labor Day Committee is a group of individuals that come together every year in the weeks before Labor Day to plan the annual Labor Day Parade and Picnic.

As a member of the Labor Day Committee, I was very pleased to see so many people at Alaskaland to celebrate this important day for all working families.

Many factors combined to make this year's parade and picnic the biggest ever. The location of the picnic was changed to Alaskaland, more advertising was used, and the weather was perfect. Thank you to all the volunteers who did everything from planning to clean-up. Special thanks to our cooks who served some 3,000 people—great job!

To everyone who attended: thank you for showing such patience while waiting to be served. Planning for next year's picnic has already started and we will be better prepared, so that lines are not so long. Thank you Fairbanks, John S. Brown Member Labor Day Committee Fairbanks

Russian rip-off

Sept. 2, 1997

To the editor:

An extensive rip-off of Alaska

in the Bering Sea is being urged by the Russian newspaper Izvestiya. The current maritime boundary is bad enough as a giveaway to Russia, but now the Russians want even more seabeds with 150,000 tons of American fish catch annually. The real tragedy is that the U.S. State Department is vigorously working to deliver this additional giveaway to the Russians.

Fortunately for Alaska, two members of the House, Al Vezey of North Pole and Joe Ryan of Anchorage, have spearheaded the drive in the Legislature to halt these giveaways and make sure the state of Alaska gets to participate in any deals setting a maritime boundary with the Russians. Their House Joint Resolution 22 passed the House overwhelmingly last spring, and it awaits Senate action when the Legislature reconvenes in January.

In the meantime, it is absolutely essential for all Americans to speak out against any further concessions to the Russians. Sens. Ted Stevens and Frank Murkowski and Rep. Don Young must be pressed to defend the United States' interest. After all, who won the Cold War anyway?

Sincerely,
Carl Olson
Chairman
State Department Watch
Woodland Hills, Calif.

Land grant

Sept. 4, 1997

To the editor:

Southeast Alaska Conservation Council inaccurately criticizes this writer, Sen. Frank Murkowski and the University of

Alaska regents for seeking a larger land grant to support the university, 250,000 federal acres.

Ordinance of 1785 specified that land west of Ohio be surveyed into townships composed of 36 sections of 640 acres. Every Section 16 would be set aside for "maintenance of public schools."

The 1842 Morrill Act dedicated land to states for "agriculture and mechanic arts" based on population with 30,000 acres per member of Congress. In 1848, the 1785 Ordinance was amended to double the section grant to two—Sections 16 and 36. Three of the last four states admitted to the Union—Utah, New Mexico, and Arizona—each received four. Under that formula, Alaska's grant for public schools would exceed 40 million acres.

Alaska never received title to specific sections because the territory was unsurveyed. So in the 1950s, Congress rejected section grants and substituted quantity grants for Alaska. That meant 100 million acres of a general grant plus specific acreage for prisons, schools, asylums, pioneers homes, and 500,000 acres for the university and 500,000 acres for a teachers college.

In the final Statehood Act in 1958, all were rolled into a single land grant to Alaska. The Statehood Act also canceled all unsurveyed land grants. That reduced the university's federal land grant from 360,000 acres it had received under earlier legislation, to 112,000 acres.

We urge Alaskans to read Senate Bill 660. When he introduced it, Sen. Murkowski stated

that most of the "would stem from acres of uncommenced under current of Land Restrictions, a series of hearings and reports by the Secretary of Education protectively SEACC is concerned

It offers a challenge to join in a matching up to with another 2 acres.

Remember, the UA seeks to assure a state education in the UA adequately funded. Sincerely,
Lew M. Williams
UA regent
Ketchikan

Family right

To the editor:

Regarding Dan's letter (Sept. 4). I'm the only one this has happened to and you won't be fighting the most four years but happened to me by the same person friend.

I've joined an organization called Guardian Rights, every day about two calls per lawfully accused person

But the most horrible can happen to anyone any attention from need people by the we can continue to laws as they are written

Russians set to go on the offensive in US fish dispute

BY JOHN HELMER
JOURNAL OF COMMERCE SPECIAL

MOSCOW — Russian officials believe the 10-day detention of a Russian trawler by the U.S. Coast Guard will trigger parliamentary demands for renegotiation of the Bering Sea economic zone.

In a front-page report this week, the Moscow daily newspaper Izvestia charged the U.S. arrest of the Chernyaev was due to the "unwise policies of Moscow," claiming "temporary" concession of a 40,000 square-kilometer zone of the Bering Sea to the United States was costing the Russian Far Eastern fishing fleet an annual catch of 150,000 tons of fish.

Foreign Ministry official Vladimir Sinitsin confirmed that the Chernyaev was in Russian territorial waters on the night of Aug. 15, when a Coast Guard cutter ordered the vessel into the Alaskan Port of Kodiak, where it remains today. U.S. officials say the Russians had earlier been detected fishing in the American zone. Mr. Sinitsin did not dispute the claim. He regretted that so far efforts by officials on both sides had failed to secure the release of the ship and crew.

Russian officials in Moscow speculate that the Chernyaev incident, coming soon after First Deputy Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov discussed the territorial waters issue on a visit to the United States, is intended

to pressure the government into accepting permanent American control of the disputed zone. Izvestia editorialized that the United States was "confirming agreements by scaring the Russians with a show of force."

According to Mr. Sinitsin, the first concessions to allow American fishing in Russian waters of the Bering Sea were granted by Leonid Brezhnev in 1977. This was followed, he said, by an agreement in 1980 between Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and U.S. Secretary of State James Baker. Mr. Sinitsin emphasized this "temporary" arrangement was approved by President Mikhail Gorbachev and President Reagan in Washington that year.

Legally, however, the Russian Foreign Ministry's position is that without parliamentary ratification, there is no American right to continue fishing in the concessionary zone.

Legislative jurisdiction over the continental shelf agreements is exercised in the Duma, Russia's lower house of parliament, by the Committee on Geopolitical Issues, which is a bastion of opposition sentiment. The Duma resumes after its summer recess this week, and it is expected Chairman Alexei Mitrofanov will go on the offensive, attacking the Foreign Ministry for failing to recover the Chernyaev, and insisting on the cancellation of the Shevardnadze-Baker agreement.

From Russia Today press summaries
<http://www.russiatoday.com>

→Izvestiya

1 September 1997

Lead story

→Russia Can Lose One More Alaska ←

Summary

More than 40,000 square kilometers of the Russian continental shelf, rich with fish, oil and gas, may pass to the United States as the result of the unwise policies of Moscow, the daily wrote.

The U.S. Coast Guard in the Alaskan port of Kodiak continues to hold the Russian trawler "Chernyaevo," which was seized on Aug. 15 in Russian waters of the Bering Sea. The Russian government has yet to receive an answer from the U.S. administration to its official request that the trawler be released.

The trawler belongs to the collective enterprise "50 Years of October." It was seized by a U.S. patrol boat. The daily wrote that if anything like that had been tried on an American schooner, the U.S.'s Seventh Fleet would be at Russia's borders immediately.

The trawler incident is another episode in the long controversy over delineation of the Bering Sea, which Russian and U.S. representatives drew up in a 1990 agreement. Russians in the Far East were angered at the agreement and at Eduard Shevardnadze, who signed it as head of the Soviet Foreign Ministry.

The pact has not yet been ratified by the Russian side, because it means large territorial concessions to the U.S. It is only in effect temporarily. If the agreement really had taken force, the U.S. would gain 40,000 square kilometers of continental shelf in the open part of the Bering Sea, which is rich with oil and gas.

→ Russia has, in fact, already been deprived of its annual catch of 150,000 tons of fish in the waters, the daily said. The Russian economic zone in the region is less than 200 miles, while the American zone is much greater.

After the memorable sale of Alaska, this was another act of idiocy on the part of Russia, Izvestiya wrote. The excesses of the American Coast Guard against Russian fishing boats are aimed at confirming the agreements by simply scaring the Russian side with a show of force.

Alaska State Legislature



Interim:
119 N. Cushman, Suite 211
Fairbanks, AK 99701
(907) 456-5081 - Phone
(907) 456-8245 - Fax

Session:
State Capitol, Room 416
Juneau, AK 99801
(907) 465-3719 - Phone
(907) 465-3258 - Fax


Representative John Coghill

Date: March 31, 1999

To: Representative Jeannette James, Chairman
House State Affairs Committee

From: Representative John Coghill

Re: Scheduling HJR 26 & HJR 27 for hearing



Representative Coghill is requesting that HJR 26, "Relating to establishing maritime boundaries with Canada", and HJR 27, "Relating to the maritime boundary between Alaska and the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republic", be heard in the House State Affairs Committee.

I have enclosed the resolutions, sponsor statements, and additional back up information.

Thank you for your assistance.

AMENDMENT

OFFERED IN THE HOUSE

BY REPRESENTATIVE COGHILL

TO: HJR 27

Bill drafter:
Please make these
changes as a (STA)
CS, FINAL, +
deliver to Rm 102 -
Thanks,

1 Page 1, Line 9:

2 Delete "Wrangel"

3 Insert: Wrangell

5 Page 2, line 26, after the word "have":

6 Delete: "failed to"

7 Insert: not

8 (+ add "d" to "approve")

Barbara Coughing
6822

9 Page 3:

10 Delete Lines 6 thru 8

12 Page 3:

13 Delete Lines 14 thru 30

14 Insert:

15 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that, because the proposed
16 United States - U.S.S.R. maritime Boundary Agreement has not been put into force,
17 negotiations for the proposed treaty should include participation by the State of
18 Alaska, and ^{discussing} terms in a new proposed treaty regarding Alaska's territory,
19 sovereignty, or property should involve representatives of the State of Alaska; and

20 be it

21 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature considers participation

22 of the State of Alaska to be essential to the validity of the executive agreement,

23 requests the United States Department of State to report any and all acts and

1 directives regarding implementation of the executive agreement, and respectfully

2 requests the Govenror and the Attorney General of Alaska to in~~x~~vestigate whether

3 any actions in this matter are not consistent with law and to report on their findings

4 to the Legislature prior to the next regular session; and be it

5 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature urges the Alaska

6 delegation in the United State Congress to promote and pursue the views expressed

7 in this resolution, especially the need for Alaska representation in negotiations over

8 setting a maritime boundary between the state and eastern Russia; and be it

9

10 Page 4:

11 Delete: Line 1

12 Insert:

13 maritime boundary between Alaska and eastern Russia is a constitutional issue of

14 states' rights and

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 27**IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA****TWENTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION****BY REPRESENTATIVE COGHILL**

Introduced: 3/10/99

Referred: House Special Committee on World Trade and State/Federal Relations, State Affairs

A RESOLUTION

1 Relating to the maritime boundary between Alaska and the former Union of
2 Soviet Socialist Republics.

3 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

4 **WHEREAS**, on June 1, 1990, United States Secretary of State James A. Baker III
5 signed the United States - U.S.S.R. Maritime Boundary Agreement without the participation
6 or consent of Alaska in the negotiations or terms of the proposed treaty agreement; and

7 **WHEREAS** the maritime boundary described in the proposed treaty agreement places
8 on the U.S.S.R. side the following eight islands and their entire territorial seas and seabeds:
9 Wrangel, Herald, Bennett, Henrietta, and Jeannette Islands in the Arctic, and Copper Island,
10 Sea Lion Rock, and Sea Otter Rock on the west end of the Aleutian Chain; and

11 **WHEREAS** the maritime boundary described in the proposed treaty agreement
12 delimits the territorial sea and seabeds of Little Diomedede Island at less than the normal 3-mile
13 or 12-mile extent; and

14 **WHEREAS** Alaska has sovereignty and potential or actual property interests in these
15 islands and their territorial seas and seabeds; and

16 **WHEREAS** the Fifteenth Alaska State Legislature unanimously passed Senate Joint

1 Resolution 12, which requested that a representative of Alaska be included in the United States
2 Department of State's negotiations on setting a maritime boundary between Alaska and the
3 Soviet Union; however, a reply was never received from the United States Department of
4 State, and a representative of Alaska was never included in the negotiations; and

5 **WHEREAS** the views of 28 bipartisan members of the Alaska House of
6 Representatives and eight bipartisan members of the Alaska Senate were expressed on the
7 proposed treaty agreement in a letter dated May 17, 1991, to Senator Joseph Biden, Jr., of the
8 United States Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, stating in part:

9 "We firmly believe United States interests and Alaskan interests are at stake
10 and in jeopardy in the proposed treaty. . . No Alaskan official has ever been
11 invited to participate in the treaty negotiations, in spite of abiding Alaskan
12 interests in fisheries, petroleum and other potential continental shelf resources
13 and the considerations of navigation in the area. In the entire history of the
14 treaty negotiations, Alaska has had no official voice. Alaska has not been fully
15 consulted in the entire matter. . . It is our purpose to urgently recommend that
16 the presently-proposed treaty not be ratified by the U.S. Senate, and that
17 negotiations be continued to include appropriate Alaskan officials and current
18 United States and Alaskan historic, territorial, and resource interests";

19 and

20 **WHEREAS** the California Legislature unanimously passed in 1991 Senate Joint
21 Resolution 20 supporting Alaska, and the resolution requested the President to withdraw the
22 proposed treaty agreement from consideration by the United States Senate and requested the
23 United States Senators from California to decline to consider the proposed treaty agreement
24 until Alaska has been able to participate fully in negotiations and has been guaranteed that its
25 consent will be required for any agreement affecting its boundaries; and

26 **WHEREAS** the U.S.S.R. and its successor, Russia, have ~~failed to~~ ^{not} approved the
27 proposed treaty agreement, and the agreement has not been put into force as a treaty; and

28 **WHEREAS**, at the same time he signed the proposed treaty agreement on June 1,
29 1990, Secretary of State Baker signed an executive agreement with the U.S.S.R. Foreign
30 Minister that stated that, pending the entry into force of the proposed treaty agreement, the
31 two governments agreed to abide by the terms of the proposed treaty agreement as of June 15,

1 1990; and

2 WHEREAS the executive agreement was not publicly revealed at the time or
3 mentioned in the transmittal of the proposed treaty agreement to the United States Congress;
4 in the United States Department of State testimony to the United States Senate Committee on
5 Foreign Relations, in the committee report, or in the Senate floor debate; and:

Delete

6 ~~WHEREAS the authority of the Secretary of State to establish on his own a maritime~~
7 ~~boundary that has implications for land territory, seabed jurisdiction, sovereignty, and Alaska~~
8 property raises questions of constitutionality and personal culpability; and

9 WHEREAS the United States Department of State is currently negotiating with the
10 Russian government over its demand to redraw the maritime boundary under the executive
11 agreement so as to take from the American side and give to the Russians an additional 40,000
12 square miles of ocean and seabed that would yield 300,000,000 pounds of fish a year without
13 any quid pro quo for the United States;

14 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Alaska State Legislature that, because the proposed United
15 States - U.S.S.R. Maritime Boundary Agreement has not been put into force, the proposed
16 treaty should be rescinded, new negotiations must include the participation by the State of
17 Alaska, and terms in a new proposed treaty regarding Alaska's territory, sovereignty, or
18 property should require the consent of the State of Alaska, and be it

Replace

19 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature considers null, void, and
20 nonbinding on the State of Alaska the executive agreement requiring the two governments to
21 abide by the proposed treaty agreement pending its entry into force, requests the United States
22 Department of State to reveal any and all acts, directives, and reports regarding
23 implementation of the executive agreement, and respectfully requests the Governor and the
24 Attorney General of Alaska to investigate whether any actions in this matter may have
25 violated state law and to report on their findings to the Legislature within 120 days after
26 passage of this resolution; and be it

27 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature urges the Alaska delegation
28 in the United States Congress to promote and aggressively pursue the views expressed in this
29 resolution, especially the need for state representation in any negotiations over setting a
30 maritime boundary between the state and eastern Russia; and be it

31 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature finds that setting a

1 maritime boundary between ^{Alaska} ~~the state~~ and eastern Russia is a ^{Constitutional} states' rights issue and ^{1-L5058AD} ^{issue of}
2 respectfully requests the Governor and the Attorney General of Alaska to actively pursue the
3 matters described in the previous resolves; and be it

4 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the current negotiations by the United States Department
5 of State with the Russian government over conceding more seabed and fishing rights to the
6 Russians under the executive agreement on the maritime boundary should be opened to
7 include representatives of the State of Alaska and to provide hearings for public input before
8 signing.

9 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Bill Clinton, President of the
10 United States; the Honorable Madeleine K. Albright, U.S. Secretary of State; the Honorable
11 Janet Reno, Attorney General of the United States; the Honorable Jesse Helms, Chair of the
12 U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations; the Honorable Benjamin A. Gilman, Chair of
13 the U.S. House Committee on International Relations; the Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr.,
14 Ranking Minority Member of the U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations; the Honorable
15 Sam Gejdenson, Ranking Minority Member of the U.S. House Committee on International
16 Relations; and to the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Frank Murkowski, U.S.
17 Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska
18 delegation in Congress.

FISCAL NOTE

No: 2

Version: HJR 27

(H) Publish Date: 4/1/99

STATE OF ALASKA
1999 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Revision Date: _____
Title: Maritime Boundary between Alaska and
the former Union of Soviet Socialist Rep.
Sponsor: Rep. John Coghill
Requester: WTR

Dept. Affected _____
BRU _____
Component _____
Component Serial No. _____

Expenditures/Revenues

(Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03	FY 04	FY 05
Personal Services	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims						
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
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CHANGE IN REVENUES []						
------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

FUND SOURCE

(Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
1091 Designated Program Receipts						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY98) cost: _____

POSITIONS

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

No fiscal impact.

Prepared by D. Mark Riehle

Phone 465-6643

Mark Riehle

Phone _____

House Special Committee on World Trade and
State/Federal Relations

Date March 29, 1999