

House Land Hearing Highly Satisfactory

Although the House hearing on native land claims was scheduled for two hours originally, the House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee heard testimonies that lasted all day in Washington, D. C. yesterday.

"One of the finest hearings Interior and Insular Affairs Committee that we have had in a long, long time," said Frank

Albert, administrative assistant to Congressman Howard Pollock.

"I can tell you," he continued, "that everything went very smoothly and the native boys that you people sent down made an outstanding presentation. The native leaders were very articulate in presenting the position of the Alaska natives."

Albert said that it was the first time in 101 years that Congress is giving serious consideration to resolve the perplexing land claims problem.

It was also the first time that a committee of the House of Representatives has scheduled and heard formal testimony from the affected native communities.

"That is very unusual that a committee of Congress holds hearings while the House is in session. The House was in

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HEARING . . .

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session today," said Frank Albert. "The testimony by the proponents established an excellent record for the committee consideration."

The first witness to testify was Congressman Pollock. Pollock is a member of the committee.

He was followed by Sen. Ernest Gruening and Governor Walter J. Hickel.

Others who testified were: Rep. Willie Hensley, Roger Connor, Flore Lekanof, Emil Notti, Laura Bergt, Clifford Groh, Don Wright, John Borbidge, Barry Jackson, Charles Edwardson, and William Paul, Sr.

The hearings are continuing in the Senate today.

Man's capacity for justice makes democracy possible, but man's inclination to injustice makes democracy necessary.

Reinhold Niebuhr