

EVE APPROACHES UPON THE VILLAGE—Tiny settlement of Cape Prince of Wales, the nearest mainland point of Alaska from Soviet Russia's Siberia—about 51 miles—is bathed with the rays of the setting sun over the Chukchi Sea. From the top of the cape above the village, Siberian mainland can be easily seen on clear days across the Bering Straits. Prior to 1918, Wales is said to have about 700 inhabitants

but when the great flu epidemic of that year hit the village, around 200 Eskimos survived. Wales men, like many villages like it, make their living on the combination of cash income and subsistence hunting. In older days, the men of the village were some of the most skillful in the use of the kayak which they rode even in choppy ocean waves.

—ROBERT KOWELUK Photograph