

Indian Claims Commission To Hear Aleuts

Flore Lekanof told the Tundra Times last week that Aleut hearings are scheduled to be heard in Washington, D. C. on February 21 in the offices of the Indian Claims Commission.

The hearings will be concerned with the Justice Department's position that the Aleuts are not identifiable Indian group and cannot legally pursue their claims

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To Hear Aleuts . . .

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they made back in 1951 for taking of the aboriginal title.

Through their attorneys, Roger Connor of Juneau and Don Green of Wash., D. C., the Aleuts will argue that they are included in the generic term "Indians" as native inhabitants of Alaska.

The attorneys are expected to point out, along with other arguments, that even William H. Seward, Secretary of State at the time of the Alaska purchase from Russia in

1867, declared in a memorandum that "...the Indians to be on the footing of Indians domiciled in U.S. ..."