

Panel OKs reparations

Aleut leaders got what they were asking for last week when a Senate Interior Appropriations Subcommittee approved a Fiscal Year 1991 spending bill that includes \$15.3 million for World War II reparations.

The House earlier backed \$15.3 million for the Aleuts, and Aleut officials had feared the Senate would support only \$12.5 million.

The \$15.3 million Senate appropriation was announced by Sen. Ted Stevens, R-Alaska, who said the amount would be used to provide individual payments of \$12,000 each to about 450 surviving Aleuts.

The remaining \$9.6 million would be provided to the Aleut Corp. for the loss of Attu Island, which is now wilderness, and \$300,000 would be used to administer the compensation program.

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legislation, Aleuts who survived the internment would receive their payments this year.

An additional \$12 million will be needed next year to finish compensation for the Aleut project, including a trust fund for Aleut villages and elderly, disabled and ill Aleuts, scholarships and the rehabilitation of church property destroyed during the war.

The Aleut people lost virtually all of their personal property as a result of their relocation to abandoned canneries in Southeastern Alaska during World War II. In addition, many died as a result of the conditions in the unsanitary and inadequate camps.