



GREENPEACE TARGET -- Two Aleut children race up a hillside at the Aleut Community of St. Paul in the Pribilof Islands. The environmentalist organization, Greenpeace, has mounted an effort to halt the fur seal harvest at the islands' rookery. The attack, if successful, would destroy the existence of these Aleut communities, the villagers have said. The Greenpeace project is the latest in many severe challenges the island Natives have faced since the Russians brought the Aleuts as slaves to the Pribilofs in the late 1700's. The U.S. Government, and the commercial interests who received its franchises, continued the maltreatment practices against the Priblovians, according to a lawsuit filed by the Natives in 1953. Last year, the Aleuts were awarded a monetary settlement by the U.S. Court of Claims for abuses suffered between 1876 and 1946. Saint Paul village corporation president Larry Merculieff said the Greenpeace effort is based upon "misleading publicity" and would "mean the eventual death of the largest and most viable Aleut Community in the world" and the "loss of one of the last Aleut cultural strongholds in the world." A Greenpeace entourage has scheduled a protest demonstration at St. Paul for June 16.

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