

# \$2 Million in Timber Shipped to Japan

KLAWOCK, Ak. — Sealaska Timber Corporation's first load of Alaskan logs — valued at more than \$2 million — was shipped from Klawock, Ak., Saturday, Sept. 13, aboard the M/V Young Seagull bound for Japan.

Sealaska Timber, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Sealaska Corporation, the regional corporation for Southeast Alaska, handled contracts for cutting, yarding and sorting of the timber. Logs were cut on land belonging to Sealaska Corporation; Klawock-Heenya, the village corporation for Klawock; and Shaan-Seet, the village corporation for Craig.

The Young Seagull, a ship of the Yamashita Shinnihon Steamship Company of Tokyo, sailed late Saturday afternoon with slightly less than three million board feet of spruce and hemlock logs bound for Ishinomaki, Japan. Her estimated date of arrival is September 25.

"The loading of the ship went very well," Sealaska Timber Corporation President Frank Roppel said. "Everything went according to schedule."

The logs were purchased by Marubeni America Corporation, a Japanese trading company, and will be marketed in Japan by Marubeni.

"Marubeni officials were complimentary about the quality of the logs in the load and we feel that during the current adverse market situation, the quality of our logs will hold their own and help us establish ourselves in the market," Roppel said.

More than 40 Sealaska Corporation shareholders or shareholder spouses were involved in the logging and loading operation, Roppel said, with 27 working on the longshoreman gangs loading the ship and 16 involved in the logging operation.

"We were very pleased to see so many shareholders involved in the operation," Sealaska Corporation President Michael Chittick said. "Shareholder em-



ployment is a priority with us and this kind of activity fits in with our goals."

In addition to handling the cutting, yarding and sorting contracts, Sealaska Timber Corporation also handled road building, engineering and development of the logging areas for the village corporations. Sea-

laska Timber Corporation was formed early in 1980 to develop and market Native-owned timber.

The M/V Young Seagull was built in 1977 with a deadweight tonnage of 17,215 longs tons. The ship is just over 475 feet long with a maximum draft of 30 feet.