

WALRUS HUNTERS COME HOME—Cape Prince of Wales walrus and seal hunters are pulling up their big umiak (walrus skin covered boat) out of the Bering Straits. King Islanders use such seaworthy skinboats to make their annual trip from Nome to King Island, a distance of about 75 miles out in the Bering Straits from Nome. There they hunt for walrus, their traditional staple food. The large skinboats are about 30 feet long. Whale hunters of Point Hope and other whaling communities use smaller, easily paddle-propelled 24 foot umiaks for whale hunting and which are more maneuverable for quick action if the occasion calls for it.

ROBERT KOWELUK Photograph