

# American, Siberian Eskimos Visit—

## *Little Diomedé and Big Diomedé Islanders Meet on Ice*

Little Diomedé Island Eskimos met with their Siberian counterparts from Big Diomedé on the ice between the two islands last week for the second time.

Last year, the two groups met in a similar fashion, exchanging gifts. This year, one Little Diomedé traded his Timex watch for a Russian's 21 jewel timepiece, with both sides in laughing agreement that the American had gotten the better of the deal.

They also exchanged cigarettes, reindeer meat, artifacts, candy, and vodka.

Little Diomedés met for the

first time on Monday of last week with a small group of Native Siberians and agreed to meet again on Tuesday.

It is believed that the Russians are seeking passports so that they may visit Little Diomedé by skinboat this coming summer.

Little Diomedé, for its part, would like to secure landing rights on Big Diomedé in order to obtain year-round air service. In the summer, their small island is not suitable for a landing field, and their only means of reaching the mainland is by walrus skin boats. During winter, aircraft land on the ice.

No one was certain whether the meetings were observed by the Russian look-outs on Big Diomedé.