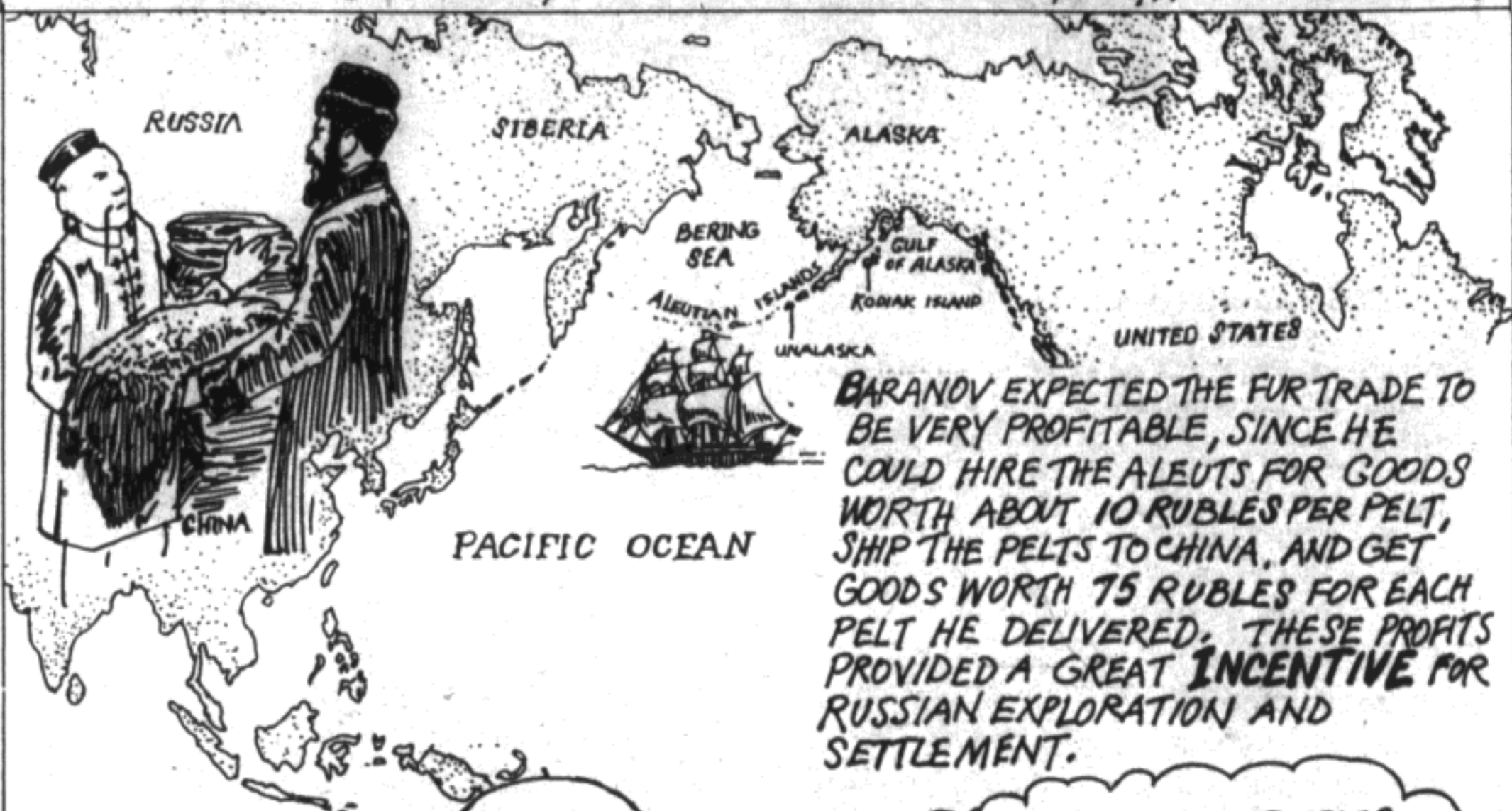


EPISODE II: THE ALEUT MEETS BARANOV IN

LORD OF ALASKA



THE FURS WOULD BE SHIPPED TO RUSSIA AND TRADED TO CHINESE MERCHANTS. THE CHINESE VALUED THE FURS— ESPECIALLY SEA OTTER PELTS — FOR CLOTHING AND ROBES. IN RETURN, THE CHINESE OFFERED TEA, SILK, AND OTHER GOODS.



BARANOV EXPECTED THE FUR TRADE TO BE VERY PROFITABLE, SINCE HE COULD HIRE THE ALEUTS FOR GOODS WORTH ABOUT 10 RUBLES PER PELT, SHIP THE PELTS TO CHINA, AND GET GOODS WORTH 75 RUBLES FOR EACH PELT HE DELIVERED. THESE PROFITS PROVIDED A GREAT INCENTIVE FOR RUSSIAN EXPLORATION AND SETTLEMENT.



	RUBLES
Payment From Chinese	75
Less Payment to Aleuts	10
Less other costs (Transportation, Labor, etc.) ...	15
PROFIT	50

Episode II Lord of Alaska

In the years immediately following Bering's discovery of Alaska Russian hunters and traders made numerous voyages across the Bering Sea to the Aleutians. They enslaved the Aleuts and forced the men to hunt sea otters by holding their wives and children hostage. When the Aleuts resisted the Russians they were massacred. Spears were no match for muskets.

As the Russians killed more and more otters they moved further and further eastward along the Aleutian chain in search of fresh killing grounds. Soon Russian ships were reaching Kodiak and the Alaskan mainland.

FINALLY, BARANOV WAS READY FOR THE BIG HUNT. HUNDREDS OF BAIDARKAS SET OUT FROM KODIAK TO FIND FURS.



THE BAIDARKA FLEET PADDLED OVER THREE HUNDRED MILES, FROM KODIAK TO PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND.

WE BUILT A BASE AT NUCHEK ISLAND AND BARANOV SENT OUT MANY HUNTING PARTIES TO FIND FURS ALL ALONG THE COAST.



BUT OUR TROUBLES WERE NOT OVER.

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