

**STATEMENT OF DONALD R. WRIGHT, FIRST VICE PRESIDENT OF
ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES**

Mr. WRIGHT. Mr. Chairman, in connection with my testimony, I have a series of maps with various overlays that are self-explanatory. With your permission, I would like to bring the map stand over and present those.

Mr. HALEY. Very well.

Mr. WRIGHT. I have a prepared statement that is before you, and I will use this as a guide as I go through my testimony.

To begin with, I want to point out the State of Alaska and the significance of the mountainous terrain in certain areas, this is a large mountain range and a large mountain range here, and the Alaskan Range going down to the Alaskan Peninsula in the Aleutian Island area. The north slope is permafrost barren type of country. Western Alaska is swampy, permafrost country also.

On this overlay each village that is in existence today is noted there. The square around the village designates 500 acres of land per person residing in those villages today. You can see where the native population is. It is on the north coast, southwestern Alaska, along the coast lines, along the river drainages.

With that we will go to these other overlays. This map shows the Federal withdrawal up through 1964. Petroleum reserve in northern Alaska, wildlife refuge, the military withdrawals, McKinley National Park, another national park here, and all of southern Alaska forest is withdrawn; and the part of south central, around Anchorage, is forest reserve. The rest is game preserves and wildlife refuges. Again you can see where the population is, with each village named on the map. These very small dots that you see would be the amount of land that was proposed by Secretary Udall. It is very insignificant.

The areas of Alaska that the native people reside in, the biggest population concentration, is in relatively poor land. The withdrawn areas are valuable land. The people are entitled certainly to land around their villages. This overlay shows the State-selected land. The State has selected primarily the land around what we call the rail belt area. The Alaska Railroad runs from Anchorage to Fairbanks, Alaska. The highway runs in the same general direction. The State for all practical purposes has selected most of its lands within the rail belt area. They have selected some between the reserves up here and leased it out as oil leases. They have taken what little land they could from outside of Federal reserves. Remember that the native people of Alaska have no land—they have title to no land at all—anywhere in Alaska, under the present status.

Once again the red-shaded areas on this map are the areas that we are requesting Congress to grant title to the native villages. The black dots represent other populated areas in Alaska.

As you can see, the rail belt area and the highway system is highly populated and the southern area is. These maps were drawn based on a survey done by the Federal Field Committee in cooperation with the Bureau of Indian Affairs. So the populations may not be quite accurate. These red areas represent 202 villages. In addition to that there are native people residing in some of the larger communities in the urban areas of the bigger cities amounting to about 25. At one time