

THE NOME NUGGET

Published Monday, Wednesday, Friday, by The Nome Publishing Company, Nome, Alaska.
Telephone Main 114 P. O. Box 518

Entered in the Post Office in Nome as 2nd Class Matter

Subscription Rates Payable In Advance
Delivered by carrier in Nome and Little Creek for \$2.00 per month.
By mail, postage paid, outside of Nome & vicinity, \$1.50 per month.

MEMBER OF ASSOCIATED PRESS

A Convoy For Cohoes

The job of patrolling Alaska's coastline, protecting its merchant ships on their coastal runs, supplying a watch far out at sea against any attempt at invasion, is the chore the navy is now performing.

But providing protection for scores of salmon canneries, fleets of deep-sea halibut fisherman, a full schedule of cannery tenders plying between packing plants and Puget Sound, and the many other varied plants and crafts of the fishing industry is going to be a much more ambitious undertaking for the nation's bluejackets.

When the navy supplies this protection for the fishing fraternity, which it is pledged to do, Alaskans are bound to see a great deal more activity along the waterfront than even today. Where we are now aware of bombers roaring across our skyline and patrol boats off our coasts, the challenge of the fishing industry will see navy ships poking their dark prows into our little inlets, guarding our straits and narrows and playing the part of marine watchdogs for any indication of attack from without or sabotage from within.

As completely as any military division can guarantee security in event of a war, the navy has given their word to protect the fishermen. A recent statement from national naval sources said:

"The navy fully appreciates the situation with which the salmon packing industry is confronted and is in full sympathy with its desires. It will do everything in its power to provide the protection required, but it must be understood that the contingencies of war are not predictable and that the situation prevailing at any given time must be the governing factor in any operation."

In a relatively few weeks the transporting of the season's supplies for the northern operations would logically commence. With that in mind, a number of cannery operators last month, soon after the outbreak of war, got in touch with the Navy Department and asked what assurance they might have of protection for their operations. The answer was quite satisfactory. The naval heads admitted that at the time they were unable to provide protection against any contingency. They declared, however, that within three months, it was planned to have in Alaska "sufficient air and surface craft to provide the needed safeguards for the season's operations."

This is no gesture on the part of the navy to offer protection to just any civilian industry. The fisheries interests are receiving consideration far above anything which might be accorded other business enterprises in Alaska or elsewhere.

There is a good reason. Already in this war, as in the first World War, Alaska canned salmon has become an important item in food supplies for the nation's armed forces. Of the total 1942 pack of six and a half million cases, the navy, army and lend-lease agencies have taken more than a million and a half already and are calling for bids on requirements from an already depleted stock in cannerymen's warehouses. Their requirements from the 1942 pack, with the nation now at war and military forces rapidly expanding, are logically expected to be several times the amount of canned salmon purchased during the past year. Alaskans may recall that in 1918 the government established a prior claim on the entire output of the canneries at fixed prices.

Most vulnerable spot, from the standpoint of Japanese invasion, is the Bristol Bay fishing area, which usually accounts for 20 percent of the total Alaska pack, especially supplying the larger part of the reds, the species in heaviest demand by both the military and civilian consumers. That Bristol Bay must and will be protected is, then, a foregone conclusion, and to make Bristol Bay accessible, so crews may be taken there and the pack shipped south, the entire Alaska coast must be made secure.

The navy is fully aware of this responsibility, and from all statements is ready to do its stuff when the men who mine the silver horde start their migration north, a few weeks from now.

—Daily Juneau Empire

Natives Make Huge Bond Buy

In a demonstration of loyalty to the Government of the United States and to the Territory, Alaskan natives recently made arrangements for the largest single purchase of Defense Savings Bonds in the northland to date when, the Office of Indian Affairs turned over to Gov. Ernest Gruening, Territorial Administrator, two checks totaling \$110,645.72 for the purchase of Series F and G bonds. The sale was consummated after week-long negotiations between the Defense Savings Staff and the Indian bureau.

Thirty-one native stores, seven corporations, five reindeer accounts, the Native Arts & Crafts and the Nome Skin Sellers' Association are represented in the purchase.

Those In Deal

Stores participating in the deal are Atka Native Village, Barrow Native Store, Chanega Native Store, Diomed Cooperative, Elim Cooperative, Buckland Eskimo Cooperative, Kivalina Reindeer and Trading Co., Kuskokwim Reindeer Co., Mekoryuk Native Store, Native Village of Nikolski, Noatak Native Store, Noorvik Cooperative, Nunapitchuk Trading Post, Point Hope Trading Co. and Point Lay Branch Store, Perry Tative Store, Reindeer Commercial Co. of Savoonga, Native Village of Shaktoolik, Shishmaref Native Store, Stebins Commercial Association, Association of Teller Unit Herds, Tanunak Native Store, Native Village of Tetlin and Tanacross Branch, Unalakleet Native Reindeer Association, Unalakleet Native Store, Venetie Trading Co., Wales Village Store, Wainwright Reindeer and Trading Co., and White Mountain Native Cooperative. The seven corporation included in the purchase are the Angoon Community Association, Craig Community Association, Hydaburg Cooperative Association, Hoonah Indian Association, Organized Villages of Kasaan, Ketchikan Indian Corporation and the Sitka Community Association.

"This contribution by Alaska natives to the cause of democracy against the forces of totalitarian evil is a high expression of the loyalty of these original Americans to the Government which has tried so hard to help them," Gov. Gruening said. "It is typical of the whole-hearted generosity and sincerity of Alaskans everywhere, and it is gratifying to be thus assured that in purchases of this sort, and countless others that are being made daily throughout the Territory, our people are demonstrating their determination to crush the Axis gangsters."

Of the two checks handed to Gov. Gruening, one, in the sum of \$10,058.70, represented a single purchase by the Reindeer Commercial Co. of Savoonga, located on St. Lawrence Island in the Bering Sea. The other check, for \$100,587.02, represents surplus funds in the possession of the Indian office of cooperative and individual accounts in which several hundred natives participate.

"The purchase of Defense Bonds for the natives of Alaska seems, from a purely financial standpoint like the best possible investment we could make for them at this time," Claude N. Hirst, general superintendent said, "At the same time it affords ample evidence of their feeling and loyalty to the United States. The Alaskan Native will never be found wanting in patriotism and a desire to serve in any way whatsoever."

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WAYS OF WARFARE

Planes, tanks, scout cars and motorcycles advance over the Nazi panzer onslaughts—those swift-stabbing attacks coordinating planes and combat cars. In March Chief of Staff Marshall envisaged 10 armored divisions; now there are five with more soon to be formed. After war began, draft law was changed: overseas ban was lifted; service is now "for the duration" plus six months; Congress planned registration of men 18 to 64, widening of draft limits.

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