



## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### INFORMATION SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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From the lonely fog-swept, treeless islands of the Pribilofs in Bering Sea--famed as the summer home of the Alaska fur seal--37 natives have responded to the Sixth War Loan Drive's slogan of "We're Still Fighting" by investing \$2,175 in war bonds, according to a report submitted to Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes by the Fish and Wildlife Service.

This feat was achieved in spite of the fact that the natives are now in the process of rehabilitating their homes, and their only cash income this year was 90 cents per sealskin, earned during the sealing operations in June and July. Many of the bond purchasers were school children.

Buying a bond on the Pribilofs is not the simple matter that it is in the States, the Fish and Wildlife Service points out. There are no banks, postoffices, theaters or department stores in which to purchase them. Communication difficulties make bond campaigns impracticable. The natives must obtain the bonds by giving power of attorney to Fish and Wildlife Service officials in Seattle, Wash., where the purchases are made.

The war has come very close to the Pribilof natives. In 1942 it was necessary to evacuate them to Funter Bay in southeastern Alaska because of their close proximity to the Aleutian war zone. They were not repatriated until the spring of 1944. Some 30 of the 470 native population are now bearing arms for Uncle Sam.

These natives, or Aleuts, are virtual wards of the United States Government and earn their livelihood by helping in the sealing operations and in the taking of the blue arctic foxes which roam the islands. They are descendants of the people moved to the Pribilofs in the early days by the Russians for the purpose of utilizing the fur resources of the islands.