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"WAIT", WE WERE COUNSELLED. "LET US ATTAIN STATEHOOD FIRST; OTHERWISE THE RESOLUTION OF THIS COMPLEX ISSUE MAY DELAY AND POSSIBLY INDEFINITELY POSTPONE THIS NECESSARY EVENT." THE ALASKA NATIVES BELIEVED AND THEY WAITED. THE STATEHOOD ACT PASSED, AND UNDER ITS PROVISIONS, THE STATE BEGAN TO SELECT LAND, INDIAN LAND, ESKIMO LAND, ALEUT LAND. TRUSTFULLY, THE ALASKA NATIVES LOOKED TO THE DISCLAIMER CLAUSE WHICH PROMISED TO PRESERVE THE STATUS QUO FOR A FINAL DISPOSITION BY THE CONGRESS; AND YET, AS OF MARCH 1, 1969, THE DISPOSITION OF THE STATE SELECTED LANDS WAS AS FOLLOWS:

PATENTED (TITLE GRANTED)-----	5,467,694
TENTATIVELY APPROVED-----	8,640,251
SELECTED, BUT NOT APPROVED-----	<u>11,579,575</u>
TOTAL-----	25,687,520

THE TIME FOR A JUST AND EQUITABLE SETTLEMENT IS NOW. THE ISSUE CAN NO LONGER BE DEFERRED AND THE NATIVES WILL NOT BE IGNORED. THE ALASKA NATIVES SEEK JUSTICE AND NOT CHARITY. THEY DO NOT ASK TO BE GIVEN LANDS, BUT THEY ASK FOR THE RIGHT TO RETAIN A PORTION OF THAT WHICH BELONGS TO THEM. THEY DO NOT ASK TO BE GIVEN MONEY OR COMPENSATION; BUT THEY ASK, AS A MATTER OF JUSTICE, THAT COMPENSATION BE PAID TO THEM IN RETURN FOR THEIR AGREEMENT TO EXTINGUISH THEIR ABORIGINAL CLAIMS TO VAST PORTIONS OF THIS STATE.

IN SEEKING A 2% OVERRIDING ROYALTY PROVISION, THE NATIVES SEEK TO PARTICIPATE IN THE RETURN FROM THE FRUITS OF THE LAND. ALSO, THROUGH THIS MECHANISM, THEY SEEK TO FORESTALL THE NEED FOR EVER RETURNING THROUGH THE COURTS ON THE BASIS OF AN UNCONSCIONABLE