

Claims Commission and the result has been protracted litigations which seem to go on forever and totally disillusion the Natives involved. We have tried reservations and the result has been abysmal poverty and alienation from the mainstream of American life. We have tried the Bureau of Indian Affairs and various other forms of paternalism and the result has been a large and costly bureaucracy and a failure to develop Native self-sufficiency. In short, our past attempts to resolve Native land problems have been tragic failures.

Now, as a result of the unique aspects of the Alaska problem, and as a result of what we have learned from the past, Congress has the opportunity to come up with a solution which will work. This cannot be achieved by trinkets or doles, by passing the problem off to some slow-moving adjudicatory body, or by imposing some modified form of reservation or paternalism upon the Alaskan Natives. But it can be achieved by a bold and imaginative approach which fully and finally resolves all claims, ties the settlement to the lands in question, and permits the Natives to improve themselves and their land and determine their own destiny.

Such an approach would not be costly. On the contrary, it would be an investment which would substitute self-help for paternalism. The fruits of boldness and