

SEGMENT FOUR: *The Hardest Childhood Days* for Teachers (11 minutes)

1. In what ways did Aleut Americans share the American Dream? Give an example?

Possible Answers:

- Flore Lekanof describes his mother's "dream home"
- Andronik Kashevarof left Funter Bay, against the wishes of authorities, for a job in Juneau
- Aleut men joined the military in order to help protect democracy
- Mary Bourdukofsky observed people living freely in Juneau and decided that "one day I was gonna live like that"

2. Flore Lekanof, an Aleut internment survivor, described the experience as "a big educational process." What did the Aleuts learn?

- The Aleuts learned they were not being treated as full citizens,
- Other Americans had greater freedom of speech, movement, and self-determination

3. Why did the federal government want to control the Aleuts movements?

Possible Answers:

- Furs harvested from seals in the Pribilof Islands were a major source of government revenue, and Aleuts were expert at harvesting seals
- The federal government considered Aleuts a source of high quality, cheap labor
- The federal government had managed the islands much like a plantation for decades and some officials did not see any reason to change the system
- Some officials did not consider Aleuts full citizens

4. A conference was called in Washington, D.C. to discuss whether Aleuts should be allowed to leave the camps to work. What was the outcome of that meeting?

- Government lawyers concluded there was no legal right to confine the Aleuts
- Some Aleuts began leaving looking for work outside the camps, others joined the military
- Despite the government lawyers warnings, federal agents continued their efforts to control the Aleuts, telling them they would not be allowed to return home to islands if they did not remain in the camps or help with the fur seal harvest

5. An estimated 10 percent of Aleut evacuees died in the camps. Describe how that affected the people and the culture.

Possible Answers:

- People felt profound loss
- The loss of Aleut Elders resulted in the loss of some cultural knowledge and traditional practices
- The death of children made the future seem bleak
- People felt betrayed by their government