

## TJRR 2<sup>nd</sup> Question IPNC IHRAAM

**2. Please indicate which measures have been established in the concerned country to inquire on and establish the truth about gross violations of human rights and serious violations of international humanitarian law committed in colonial contexts. If such mechanisms were established, please indicate how was the outcome of the inquiries made public and conveyed to victims and civil society in the affected country as well as to civil society in the former colonizing power. If such mechanisms were not adopted, please explain why. Please indicate the challenges and opportunities encountered in this regard, whether victims and affected communities have been effectively consulted in the design and implementation of these measures, and whether a gender perspective was adopted.**

The United States of America did not disseminate any information concerning the international legal and political status of Alaska prior to the 1958 referendum to remove Alaska from the list of Non-Self-Governing Territories. The referendum only called to create the state of Alaska without any options of equal participation or proper consent by the Indigenous Peoples. Nor did the USA disseminate information on humanitarian law or the laws of foreign occupation and laws of armed conflict.

The USA was concentrated on annexing Alaska. No one, not even the recipients of the 1933 Matanuska Colonization Project in the interior Alaska near Wasilla and Palmer were informed of the international status. Large tracts of land were granted with huge sums of money to assist in the colonization of Alaska as part of the New Deal legislation of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt to address the economic crash of 1929. This decolonization project was declassified near the end of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Whenever we raised the question of violations of human rights, especially the right to subsistence or the right of self-determination, we come to the United Nations and the USA and its allies calls us the “trouble-makers” or the USA diplomats or its surrogate NGO agents associated with the CIA made death threats. See the full Human

Rights Defender Report with all the attachments submitted to the joint Inter-American Commission Human Rights (IACHR) and Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) submission by Ambassador Ronald F. Barnes.

Since the opportunity was denied to first assist in disseminating the truth about history that would result in the truth about the legal and political status, one cannot hope to for a gender perspective when the is not about to be told in the colonizer's history books.

The mechanism of Justice to address colonialism in Alaska was convened by a grassroots tribunal entitled the *Sovereign Alaska Indigenous Nations Tribunal* (SAINT) with an important contribution by the Tlingit Kuiu Kwan Rudy James and his brothers from Southeast Alaska with the support of the Elders of Tununak and Ambassador Ronald F. Barnes. The Kuiu attorney James Bailey, a well-respected land title expert presents the “smoking gun” document entitled the *Confidential Memorial* from Volume II record of the 1903 Alaska Boundary Tribunal that drew the line of demarcation, or boundary line between Canada and Alaska. The set of diplomatic communications is the record of United States of America denying the Monarchy of Russia had acquired possession of Alaska and the Tribal Governments of Alaska remained “independent” from the Russian Empire. The judgment of the SAINT was presented to the 1998 Working Group on Indigenous Populations (WGIP). Ambassador Ronald Barnes, believing he would deliver the intervention before the lunch break gave a copy to the United States diplomat. This was passed to another who basically threatened Ambassador Barnes about how “The United States of America will fall on its sword before Alaska and Hawaii will ever be re-enlisted to the list of Non-Self-Governing Territories”. This created a diplomatic spur with questions of why would an Indigenous be threatened at the WGIP. This spread like wild fire to the Geneva Missions who returned to a packed meeting in the afternoon when at 3 pm the Chair Erica I. Daes called on Ambassador Ronald Barnes, the first speaker in the afternoon to deliver the intervention. At 3 pm the judgement of the SAINT held that

the full right of self-determination of Alaska Indigenous Peoples to independence still remains intact.

Without the initiatives of the grassroots in Alaska, as far as we know, George Washington chopped down the cherry tree before becoming the first President of the United States of America and Abe Lincoln freed the slaves. Nothing is ever taught in the schools at any level of the true history or international legal and political status of Alaska (or Hawaii), except for a developing curriculum at Alaska Pacific University today.

With the adoption of Alaska Inter-Tribal Council (AITC) resolution 2005-10 and the National Congress of American Indians resolution on Alaska that fully supports to move to harness our international legal and political status, Alaska is moving toward realizing our rights. Alaska knows we must take the initiative to take what is ours.

As far as gender perspective, Alaska has many women supporting our international legal and political status. Alaska supports both men and women in this pursuit; both men and women and Elders have risked their freedom willing to sit in jail for have sat in jail for our rights.