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TWO RUSSIAN SCIENTISTS ARRIVE ON PRIBILOF ISLANDS

Two Russian scientists and an interpreter have arrived on St. Paul Island in the Pribilofs for a two-week study of the fur seal rookeries and the U.S. harvesting installations and management practices on the islands, the Department of the Interior reported today.

Two American scientists, both members of the staff of the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries, Fish and Wildlife Service, are already on Robben Island off the coast of Siberia making a similar study of the Russian fur seal resource.

The exchange of scientific information and personnel is provided for in the fur seal convention signed in 1957 by the Soviet Union, Canada, Japan and the United States. The convention provides for a six-year study of the northern fur seals as a means of obtaining information necessary for improved management of both the American and Asian herds.

Both Russian and American sealing operations have been completed for the year but the seal herds are just starting their exodus for the high seas where they will intermingle to some extent during the winter months. In the spring the seals will return to their respective rookeries to breed and bear their young.

The American scientists are Dr. Victor B. Scheffer, biologist from the Bureau's laboratory in Seattle and Eugene M. Maltzell, biologist-interpreter from Portland. The Russian scientists are from the Soviet installations on Kamchatka. They are Timofei Mikhailovich Kantatnov, an engineer, and Petr Georgievich Nikulin, manager of the Kamchatka Laboratory on Oceanography. The translator is Leonid Vasilevich Kostin. Fukuzo Nagasaki, Tokyo biologist, and Sergei V. Dorofeev, Moscow biologist, have joined the Americans on Robben Island.

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