

North-West Mounted Police,

Ref. No. _____

Churchill March 13th 1911

To the

Cortlandt Starnes Esqr.
Commissioner of Customs
Churchill

Sir:-

I have the honor to submit the following report re the census of the tribe of Eskimo known as the Padlimuit, who alone inhabit the country north of Churchill to Ranken Inlet, along the west shore of Hudson Bay.

In making a Police patrol along the coast of Hudson Bay from Churchill to connect with a patrol from Fullerton at Ranken Inlet. I took the census of the above mentioned natives that were in the line of travel, which is near the coast. Of which I attach herewith schedule A I. As I had with me on this patrol only two natives that spoke very little English, it made it very difficult to obtain the desired information. The information in regards the fur, it is impossible to obtain from them, as they keep no account of it themselves.

It is impossible to visit all these natives as they are continually hunting, moving from one place to another. The information that I have obtained necessitated travelling 750 miles which took 38 days.

I attach also a schedule of the tribe taken from information received from Interpreter H.T. Ford in the summer of 1910. when these natives were south on the annual seal hunt. Of this number, twenty are camped near the Sabeiljay Lake for their winter quarters.

A number that make their winter quarters at Egg Island were absent on hunting trips at the time of my visit there, but as they have no particular place to camp it would

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be difficult to say whether they would return there again this season.

I estimate the total number of the tribe of Padlimuit Eskimo at 236 persons, besides six families living at Churchill and enumerated there.

These natives depend on the bear for their food and clothing and I can say from personal observation that there are only two reasons why they should want, viz: Lack of energy to hunt or want of ammunition, which is obtained from the Hudson Bay Company in exchange for fur which they bring in, in large quantities. Bear, although at the time of my passing through this country were not there in large numbers, were sufficient for the wants of all natives that are living in that part of the country.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your obedient servant.

Arthur H. Ford
Enumerator.

Forwarded

Churchill 2
17 March 1911 2

Cortlandt Starnes

a Commissioner