

Ayalik should be shot out of hand, and would be, if not for our laws. I told them that unfortunately that would make serious trouble for whoever did that, so better to leave it to the RCMP. Kinmiuk was a very good man, a successful hunter and a leader of the people. He was also a kind type of person, not likely to incite trouble.

I learned from some people coming in that Ayalik had been seen 25 miles east and said he was heading for Sturt Point. An immediate chase seemed like a good idea so I headed east with Ekpakohak and his dogs. When we got to Back's Point at around 7 a.m. we found Elatiak camped there and he told us Ayalik had been by about two hours previously. Of course nothing had been said about the assault on Kinmiuk but Elatiak indicated that he thought Ayalik was afraid. It must be remembered that I had no interpreter with me but was able to converse in a very simple form of Inuktitut at that time.

We headed on to Sturt Point arriving at 11 a.m. having covered 80 miles since leaving Cambridge Bay. The dogs were very tired by now and had not been fed as it had been snowing and no seals were up sunning themselves on the ice. There was a four-man DEW Line site at Sturt Point and Ekpakohak and I left the dogs on the edge of the sea ice and walked up to it. The occupants could not figure out where we had come from, so I had to persuade them we were not from Russia! We had seen no dog team tracks and learned that no one had been seen out on the ice except us. They gave us a good meal in any event and I was able to scrounge a case of canned tuna off them upon requesting dog food. Of course Ekpakohak thought the tuna was way too good for the dogs, so they were not fed pending us finding a seal.

We rested the dogs for six hours at Sturt Point then headed back west. This time we followed the coast, as it was obvious that Ayalik had seen us out on the sea ice and headed to the coast to hide out. We left at around 5 p.m. and came to the half-tent cabin where Ekpakohak usually lived in Anderson Bay, about five hours later. Here we found that

someone had been here before us, broken in and stolen some articles, including another rifle. We headed on, following the dog team tracks, and soon found a tent on the shore. This was Ayalik's tent but there was no sign of Ayalik or his dogs. By now it was 11 p.m., July 1, and we were starting to feel wet and tired. However, resisting the temptation to stay in his tent, we went on and found Ayalik's dog team abandoned on the sea ice around midnight.

We had managed to shoot a seal that day so we unharnessed the dogs and fed them and made camp for a little while, hoping for Ayalik to claim his dogs. We were not comfortable, as we had no tent with us in order to travel fast and light. Ekpakohak was certain Ayalik would not be far away and felt he was probably watching us from some rocks where a small creek ran in, about 500 yards inland. I remember there was a strong wind and it was raining. We ate a couple of the cans of tuna but we had very few comforts. Ekpakohak, who was older and wiser than me, said that it would be very dangerous to take Ayalik's dogs. He had seven dogs and they had been taken out of their harnesses and left on the dog-line with the anchor, as is the usual manner. This indicated that Ayalik had not left them in a hurry. Of course he could see a team for a couple of hours coming over the sea ice while he would have been much less visible along the snowless shore.

Well, enough seemed to be enough and so at around noon I suggested we take the team. Ekpakohak, being sensible, would have nothing to do with this. However, I persuaded him to hide behind a rock with my .306 rifle and telescopic sight, to cover me like in the Western movies. He was more than happy to do this and I knew he would be an accurate and unhesitating shot. We had harnessed up Ekpakohak's dogs and were ready for a quick getaway with the lifting of the anchor. I then went out to Ayalik's dogs, without looking around, and started to harness them up. The dogs were pleased to see me and gave me no trouble; I had given them rabies shots only about three weeks before and they might have even remembered me. I had some