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Sep15/17

Tagak Curley
MLA for Rankin Inlet North
Legislative Assembly Precinct
Iqaluit NU
XOA OHO

Dear Mr. Curley:

I am writing to update you on what my officials have been doing further to your inquiries earlier this year concerning the disappearance of Qangualuk and his family in 1943.

Justice Department Assistant Deputy Minister Rebekah Williams as well as a Policy Analyst Barbara Ann Tierney reviewed a binder of research materials provided by the Deputy Minister of Culture and Heritage regarding the disappearance of Qangualuk and his family.

Deputy Minister Tarnow, and Assistant Deputy Minister Williams, met with Commanding Officer Lindsey Brine and Criminal Operation Officer Maureen Levy, of the RCMP, and briefed them on this matter on July 2nd, 2013.

On July 22nd, 2013 Deputy Minister Tarnow and ADM Williams met with RCMP Sgt. Pierre Caron and the Officer in Charge of Criminal Operations for "V" Division, Inspector Maureen Levy to discuss the case. Sgt. Caron said that he would do more research and that he and an interpreter will arrange to visit Qangualuk's daughter, Ruth Siakuluk, in Hall Beach.

On August 26th, 2013 the following update was received from Sgt. Pierre Caron:

- Read all materials provided.
- Request sent to RCMP Archives in Ottawa and receipt of missing pages of Lake Harbour report (1944).
- Attended Nunavut Legislative Library to obtain report.
- Request sent to Kimmirut RCMP for possible investigation file (nil)
- Request sent to Yellowknife RCMP for possible investigation file (nil)
- Request sent to Pangnirtung RCMP for possible investigation file (nil)
- Consultation with an experienced RCMP pilot about possibility of Russian

aircraft flying to area of disappearance in 1943 and return to Russia

- Internet research on Russian aircrafts and Russia's activities during that period (World War II)

- Internet research in general on the area of the disappearance.

After analyzing all the information available Sgt. Pierre will be preparing a report which is expected to be completed in the next few months. During this time frame, he will also be making arrangements for he and ADM Williams to meet with Mrs. Siakuluk and her grand-daughter in Hall Beach.

Sincerely,

Daniel Shewchuk Minister of Justice