

Adak Army Base and Adak Naval Operating Base National Historic Landmark
Adak Island, Alaska

Adak Army and Navy operating bases provided significant support for WWII U.S. military efforts to retake Attu and Kiska, the western most Aleutian Islands. Built in response to the Japanese invasion and occupation, Adak's airfield provided proximity to the islands, which allowed fighter plane protection of the bombers to intensifying bombing of the Japanese garrisons. Ships and submarines of the North Pacific Force aided in the fight against the enemy in northern waters. As combat soldiers amassed on Adak in preparation for retaking Kiska, the island's rugged tundra-covered terrain and fierce weather provided ideal conditions for training the Allied amphibious invasion force. Military personnel lived in canvas tents and Quonset huts and made the most of their recreational time including playing baseball (Illustration inspired by a 1943 photograph taken by a soldier serving on Adak and Kiska, NPS Sam Maloof WWII in Alaska Photograph Collection).