

John Fahey: But I wanted to tell you, in Dutch Harbor, you know, after they - the Japanese - bombed Dutch Harbor, they found this one Japanese Zero in a field [on Akutan Island], and where that guy had tried to land. But, he thought it was a nice open field to land in, but it was a, a kind of a bog. And when he hit, the plane flipped over and it broke the Japanese pilot's neck. You know, and somebody found it a month or so later. And they retrieved it and brought it back into Dutch Harbor. Our ship was there at the time when they brought it back and they put it on board our ship. And we took it back to Seattle, where it was turned over to the authorities there. And they reconstructed that ship and sent it down to San Diego; that plane, rather.

And it was flown, and they got all the information off ... how the Zero operated and what its capabilities were and what its shortcomings were and everything. So, that helped 'em design ships to fight the Zero later on in the war. And, it was the first one that they'd - flyable one - that they'd had ... were able to obtain. So, that was kind of exciting.