

National Historic Landmark Kodiak, Alaska

Kodiak Naval Operating Base, with its air station, submarine base, North Pacific Force, and joint operations center for the Navy and Army Air Force, was operational at the time of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941. Kodiak served for a time as the main forward operating base for the defense of Alaska, and for operations and planning to drive the Japanese out from the Aleutians during WWII. U.S. Army Forts Greely and Abercrombie, with their coastal artillery, and infantry troops, stood ready to defend the base. Coordinating with the naval establishments at Sitka and Dutch Harbor, aircraft from the base made vital patrols of the Gulf of Alaska, Bering Sea, and North Pacific Ocean. Ships and submarines also played important roles. Today's U.S. Coast Guard Station Kodiak, operating within the historic installation, provides vital aerial search and rescue in Alaska's vast waters.